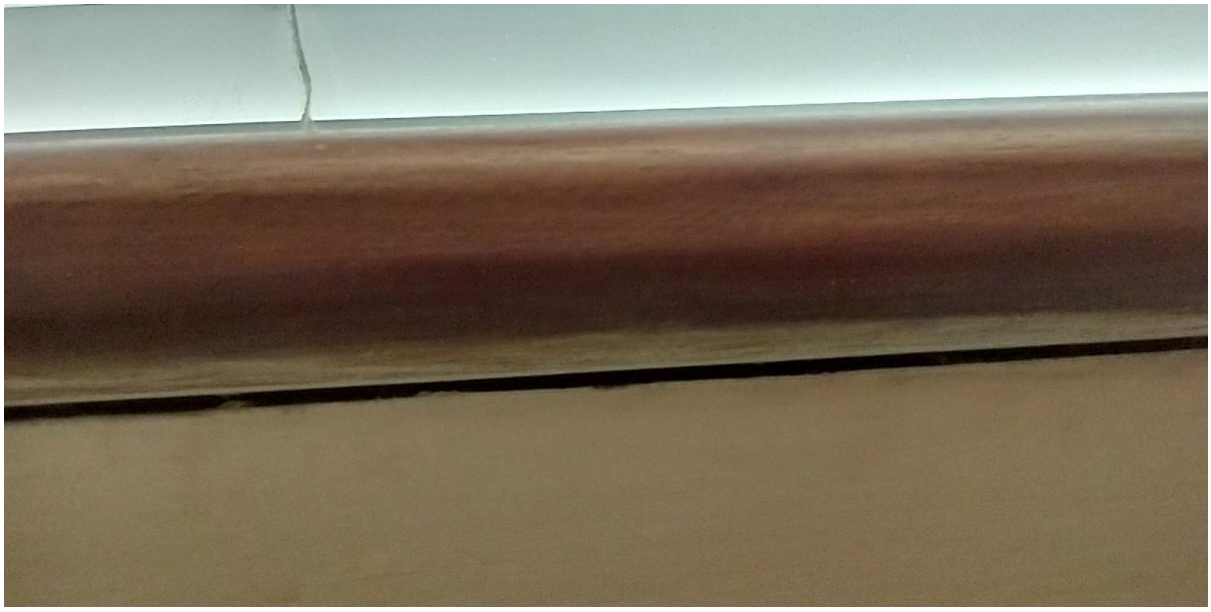
Domestic Heating Project report for 1960’s detached bungalow

It's one thing to see a thermal image of the various parts of your home being colder than other parts - it's quite another thing to feel the cold air being sucked in onto your hand, from the most unlikely places, and knowing that in normal circumstances that would be hot air you have paid for, leaking out into the neighbourhood! It's been quite a revelation!

I've got 100% double glazing and a year or four back had the kitchen and bathroom refurbished – but that is not going to be the solution to my problems. Wherever, and I mean wherever, anything meets external floor or wall – skirting boards, windows, doors, pipes, cables – is where heat will find a way out. In my house the greatest concern is where skirting boards meet the floor, and underneath window sills, as demonstrated in this close-up. This is being solved by the judicious application of caulk.



We also discovered a 15cm x 15cm hole underneath the kitchen sink unit where the water and drain transfer from the underfloor, and the cold air accesses the unit over the top of the back panel, leaving only how well fitted and sealed the unit door is to block that air from flowing into the kitchen. The only protection against the cold air accessing the kitchen directly is the plinth and how well fitted it is.

The other cold spot was the incoming cables and pipes in the utility cupboard. Pipe insulation foam is the easy answer to those myriad causes of draughts.

I'm keen to see what difference these changes will make to the comfort level in my home