Johnstone, Catherine

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Subject: Sustainability at Warwick Newsletter January 2023



JANUARY 2023

Warwick News Opportunities

<u>Events</u> <u>News and Events from further afield</u>

Warwick News

Student Green Champions Network Relaunch

The University's Sustainability Team is relaunching the <u>Student Green Champions</u>

<u>Network</u>, a community of students who recognise and embrace that sustainability is at the heart of their future whatever career path they choose to take as it is becoming more and more important to every aspect of our lives. Green Champions have the opportunity to develop transferrable skills, meet like-minded people, see more of campus and the surrounding area, learn more about how the University operates and how decisions are made.

Green Champions can choose from a wide range of activities to participate in - they can raise awareness on energy and water consumption, advocate for sustainable travel options, engage with plastic-free initiatives, promote sustainability in creative and engaging ways to the wider community, and much more. In addition they'll earn skill points towards their Warwick Award. You can find the full list of activities covered by the role here. **Join**

the relaunch event 12-1pm on the 24th of January in OC0.01 (Oculus)! Find out more here.

Green Week 2023

Green Week will be taking place from Monday 6th March until Sunday 12th March. It is an annual partnership between Coventry University, the University of Warwick and our Student Unions. The aim of the week is to raise awareness of sustainability and what's going on in the area, as well as to provide information on how everyone can make a difference and get involved. Events will be taking place in person and online to allow for more people to attend. Sessions are currently being finalised but are likely to include:

- Lunchtime talks on research and projects at the University;
- A transport and sustainability fair with internal and external groups in attendance;
- · Workshops on getting involved and taking action; and
- Tours of the campus.

To reach as many people as possible we encourage everyone to get involved. If you are part of a society, a sports team, a Green Action Team or a local community group it would be great if you could run your own. Please contact sustainability@warwick.ac.uk if you'd like to get involved and have ideas we could discuss further. Keep an eye out on our social media pages and the official page of Green Week for updates.



Claycroft ponds enhancement

Did you know that there are a couple of ponds by Claycroft residences? If you didn't, you're not alone. In recent years vegetation has grown up and they were getting quite hidden. During November the University commissioned a specialist contractor to undertake some work to enhance the habitat for biodiversity.

The aim of the project was to increase the flow of water into the larger pond and increase biodiversity. It involved:

- 1. Vegetation clearance in the small channel linking the ponds and around the small pond;
- 2. Revetment creation to act as a filter for all water entering the pond; and
- 3. Planting more than 1,800 marginal plants to add colour and increase biodiversity.

The works have made a visible difference to the area and come the spring/summer plants will become established and add extra colour to enhance the area further. Why not visit the ponds on your lunch break for a walk or picnic and watch the wildlife move in. To find out more about biodiversity projects on campus email Katherine Mayfield, Sustainability Champion.





Hedgehog Friendly Campus – silver submission

The <u>Hedgehog Friendly Campus</u> initiative recognises universities who are working to provide habitats for hedgehogs and raise awareness of the issues they face and how we can all make a difference. We were awarded with the bronze award in early 2022 and submitted for silver in December; we'll find out in February if our submission has been successful. Some of the activities we undertook as part of the initiative included:

- Warwick Accommodation providing information to students on hedgehog friendly gardens;
- The Outreach Team including hedgehogs in their sustainability trail for primary schools;
- Working with Warwick Volunteers to promote litter picks in the local community;
- Supporting Plant Life's No Mow May initiative;
- Undertaking hedgehog surveys at Wellesbourne and on main campus;
- Raising awareness of hedgehogs to the community through radio coverage; and
- Being involved in the Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge when more than 60 volunteers collected more than 60 bags of litter on campus.

If you're interested in getting involved join the 'Hedgehog Friendly Campus volunteers' Teams group or email sustainability@warwick.ac.uk.

Veganuary Workplace Challenge

We're participating in the Veganuary Workplace Challenge. Find out more about this initiative and the different ways you can get involved at Warwick <u>here</u>.

Cut the Flow Winners

Congratulations to the term 1 winners of the <u>Cut the Flow</u> energy and water consumption challenge:

	Energy	Water
1 st place	Arthur Vick 1	Emscote
2 nd place	Tocil 5	Sherbourne Block 6
3 rd place	Bluebell 1	Lakeside Residences 1

Each flat in the winning blocks will be rewarded a hamper of sustainable goodies, from local shop Zero. Look out for our Cut the Flow Assistants in term 2 who'll provide top tips on how to reduce your energy and water consumption!

Ten Sustainable New Year's Resolutions

Would you like to reduce your environmental impact? Setting a sustainable new year's resolution can be a great way to make positive changes in your life. We can often go big on our resolutions and then struggle to stick to them, that's why we want to suggest 10 easy and simple resolutions you can start to ease sustainability into your daily life.

Events

Recycle Your Cycle Bike Sale

Recycle your Bike returns from 12pm on the 26th of January. If you'd like to buy a used cycle, come to the University Road (outside Humanities B). All staff and students are welcome!

<u>Wednesday Warwick Wombles – Monthly Litter Picks</u>

After the success of the Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge during October and November when more than 60 volunteers got involved, we have decided to organise monthly litter picks with the Waste and Recycling Team. They will generally take place on the third Wednesday of every month in different locations and booking will be essential. The sessions will help make the campus a safer place for wildlife and support the Hedgehog Friendly Campus initiative. Staff and students who attended previous events found them really rewarding, a great way to meet new people and get some fresh air. Available dates:

- 18th January 12-1pm
- 15th February 12-1pm
- 15th March 12-1pm
- 19th April 12-1pm
- 17th May 12-1pm
- 21st June 12-1pm
- 19th July 12-1pm

Pop-up sustainability Stands

The Pop-up Sustainability Stands return in term 2! Members of the Sustainability team and the Transport team will be available to answer your questions, at the following timings and locations:

- Social Sciences Building (Ground Floor) 24th January 1430-1530
- Warwick Medical School (Atrium) 31st January 1300-1400
- WMG (IMC Reception area) 7th February 1300-1400
- Learning Grid, Rootes Building 14th February 1300-1400(to be confirmed)
- Library (First Floor) 23rd February 1300-1400
- Students' Union (Atrium) 2nd March 1400-1500
- Senate house (outside) 16th March 1300-1400

We hope to see you there! For further updates, follow <a>@WarwickUniSust.

Opportunities

FREE Cycle Training

The University has partnered with Sustrans as part of a Community Engagement Programme to provide a number of cycle training and skills sessions for the local communities hosted on main campus from November 2022 to March 2023. The training sessions are at two different levels: Learn to ride & Cycle skills.

Learn-to-ride sessions: These sessions are for complete beginners and will teach you balance and pedal action to get you riding and making sure you can start/stop independently.

Cycle skills: These sessions are for people who can already ride a bike and will help to increase your skills taught include riding at different speeds, observing hazards all around whilst stationary and moving, control of the bike in different circumstances, effective use of gears, and communication including signalling.

Upcoming sessions:

- Monday 16th January: Learn to ride from 11:30 to 13:00
- Cycle skill from 09:30 to 11:00 and 14:00 to 15:30

Interested? Book your places here!

Climate Reality Sports Club Competition

Join the Climate Reality sports club competition and you could win a prize worth hundreds of pounds for your club! Participating sports clubs can earn points by completing sustainable actions like using public transportation and eating plant-based foods. You can track your club's progress on the live leaderboard. Follow Climate Reality Warwick's Instagram account (@climaterealitywarwick) for updates. At the end of term 2, the winning club will be announced and they'll get to claim the prize!

Join SOS-UK's Sustainability Summit

Become a Mock COP Campaign Coordinator

Applications are now open for Students Organising for Sustainability's Mock COP Campaign Coordinator roles. It's open to young people and students anywhere in the

world. Find all the details and apply here Deadline: 8 Jan, 12pm.

Become a Student Home Energy Auditor

The <u>2023 Homes Fit for Study</u> will run at the end of January 2023. There is a chance to get involved with the research and understand your students' perspective on the accommodation they live in as part of their time at your university or college. The research from the 2021-22 survey showed that:

- 31% say they have experienced damp or mould on the walls or ceilings of their current accommodation
- 30% have experienced condensation in their current accommodation
- 33% say their accommodation is poorly insulated or draughty
- 57% agree they limit the amount of time they have their heating on to save on energy bills
- 39% agree that they have felt uncomfortably cold in their current accommodation

Sign up now to become a Student Home Energy Auditor <u>here</u>. Successful applicants will be invited to one of our 3-hour online auditor training sessions, which will be held online on either the 1st or 2nd February 2023.

Student Campaigns Workshop - Hedgehog Friendly Campus

HFC supports students to create impactful Campaigns that tackle issues hedgehogs face. The workshop is delivered remotely in three sessions that help you understand the issues hedgehogs face, choose an impactful campaign topic, and create a plan of action. They provide support and resources to help you deliver your Campaign. No experience is necessary - just bring your enthusiasm. Interested? Send an email to lnfo@hedgehogfriendlycampus.co.uk to book your places!

Become a Youth Advisory Council member for the Clean Growth Leadership Network

The <u>Clean Growth Leadership Network</u>, an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to connect innovative thinking with swift action in order to decarbonise our economy, is looking for Your Advisory Council members. Joining their Youth Advisory Council is an excellent opportunity for students to promote themselves as leader within the clean growth space, expanding their professional networks and helping to shape solutions for a sustainable future. Applications to join our 2023/24 cohort are now open – more information and the link to register can be found here - https://www.cgln.earth/youth-advisory-council-23-24.

News and events from further afield

COP15 - "peace pact with nature"

United Nations agreed to adopts 4 goals and 23 targets for 20130 in landmark UN Biodiversity Agreement. By 2030, they pledge to protect 30% of lands and waters, coastal areas, and cut food waste in half. Find out more here.











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