



SUSTAINABLE·WARWICK·NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

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Warwick News

Earth Day 2021 (22nd April)

Many important environmental events have happened on Earth Day since 1970, including the recent signing of the Paris Agreement, as Earth Day continues to be a momentous and unifying day each and every year.

We investigate [what Earth Day is](#) and join in the [celebration](#)

Find out more events that have been organised for Earth Day [here!](#)

Earth Day 2021 Webinar

To celebrate Earth Day 2021, why not learn about some exciting local environmental initiatives in Birmingham and join important conversations on the ways we can influence councils to take action to combat climate change?

On April 22nd, co-hosts Kamran Shezad (BAHU Trust sustainability lead) and Marilyn Hull (Birmingham Anglican Climate Action) will be facilitating a discussion about how lessons learned in Birmingham are applicable elsewhere, covering a range of topics including:

- connecting with our local environment & learning about local initiatives;
- inspiring and learning from the next generation;
- influencing the city council to fulfil its climate emergency commitments;
- examples of local actions you could take tomorrow.

Find more details and sign up [here!](#)

Voting for Change

Don't fancy getting "back to normal" as we recover from the pandemic? This is your chance to change things and ensure a more sustainable future! Drive Climate Action by voting this May, in your local council elections, [West Midlands Mayor election](#) and [Police and Crime Commissioner](#); you can demand more from your local representatives!

We have shared a short video on this via [our Instagram](#).

Easter Monday: Greenest Day Ever!

On Monday 5th April, Great Britain's electricity system recorded its greenest day ever, with solar panels and wind turbines contributing to the renewable generation of 60% of all electricity. For power plants generating electricity, only 39g of CO₂ was produced for every kilowatt-hour of electricity, which is the lowest carbon intensity recorded. Simultaneously, nuclear reactors provided an additional 16% of the electricity mix.

The greenest day ever follows a year of low carbon intensity with 181g of CO2 produced for every kilowatt-hour of electricity, though this is in part due to the impact of the coronavirus lockdown.

Read more from the Guardian [here](#).

Green Week

We have more events and information available in video form from Green Week this year which can be found via the [Green Week Youtube channel](#).

We also wanted to give you all a heads up for next year's **Green Week 2022**, which will be on **7-13th March 2022** so make sure you get that in your diary.

Costing the Earth

We were recently briefly featured on BBC Costing the Earth for the e-scooter trial that is taking place across campus. You can catch up now on the episode [Lockdown Planet](#).

We also fully recommend subscribing and listening to some of the amazing content from the [Costing the Earth podcast](#).

Stronger UK Commitments are here

The UK has enshrined new target in law to slash emissions by 78% by 2035. The UK's sixth Carbon Budget will incorporate the UK's share of international aviation and shipping emissions for the first time, to bring the UK more than three-quarters of the way to net zero by 2050. Many will be glad to hear about the addition of aviation and shipping to this but will be also looking forward to seeing the action plan for achieving this new target. [More information](#).

Events

City Nature Challenge

Coventry will be taking part in the [City Nature Challenge](#) for the first time this year and we are encouraging people to get involved on campus and in the local area. Between 30th April and 3rd May naturalists, bird watchers, conservation groups and keen wildlife spotters from over 400 cities worldwide will be out and about recording the nature in their local areas so why don't you join them? Whether you're an expert or novice it couldn't be easier to take part.

Simply download the iNaturalist app and take pictures of plants, trees, insects, or animals that you observe out in the wild around campus, Canley and Coventry, and upload. Teams of experts will be reviewing and verifying the information submitted and on 9th May, it will be announced which city made the most observations, identified the most species and had the most participants.

This is an exciting opportunity to play your part in a global study to help gain a better understanding of nature in our urban areas. It will also help us to more closely understand what species are present on campus. The information you share will play a role in helping to shape conservation efforts, assist with scientific studies and land management.

If you aren't on campus, or even in the UK, [cities across the world are getting involved](#) so have a look to see if yours is. Get out and explore!

[Find out more](#).

FabLab Coventry Workshops

Take a look at the [upcoming workshops](#) being run by FabLab, which will provide you with training and access to a range of digital fabrication manufacturing equipment!

With a range of production equipment, technical staff and courses on offer, FabLab can help you to gain new digital and manufacturing skills, helping you to enhance your skills and hobbies, support on your way to skilled employment, starting up your own business or even improving your current manufacturing processes.

Upcoming Workshops

Blended Online & Face-to-Face

Booking is essential:
<https://fablabcov.coventry.ac.uk/booking>

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Online Coffee Mornings Every Tuesday 10am – 12pm drop in			
Digital Fabrication level 1 Course 6 th – 9 th April 2021 10am – 2pm each day				
Getting started with: Logos & Computer Graphics 12 th April 2021 10am – 1pm	Getting Started with: Vinyl Cutting 13 th April 2021 1pm – 2pm	Getting Started with Laser Cutting 14 th April 2021 11am – 12pm	Getting Started with 3D Printing 15 th April 2021 10am – 11am	Repair Café 16 th April 2021 10am – 2pm
Jewellery Making 19 th April 2021 10am – 2pm		Getting Started with DIY 21 st April 2021 1pm – 2pm	Getting Started with Furniture Renovation 22 nd April 2021 11am – 12pm	3D Modelling Workshop 23 rd April 2021 10am – 1pm
Kev's Corner: General DIY Tips 26 th April 2021 10am – 11am		Carpentry level 1 Course 27 th – 30 th April 2021 10am – 2pm each day		

GreenTalk LIVE: The Pathway to a Circular Economy

Don't miss this webinar with speakers from Coventry City Council, the University of Warwick and Coventry University, focusing on the development of a circular economy and the opportunities this can create for business!

Objectives of the event:

- Re-think your business model to achieve a more sustainable business model
- Discover real-life examples of business model transformation to eliminate waste
- Understand how to engage consumers and suppliers on your circular economy journey
- Explore innovative ways to switch to alternative materials
- Understand how to engage your employees to create a 'resource efficient' culture role
- Discover the role the circular economy can play in addressing inequalities and creating a path to employment for the unemployed or low skilled workers
- Discover ways to reduce waste and increase re-use and recycling
- Uncover details about funding and grants which are available for small and medium sized organisations (SMEs) through the [Coventry and Warwickshire Green Business Programme](#)
- Ask your own questions and network with speakers through this live webinar

Date and time: **22nd April, 12:00-13:00.**

Find more details and register [here!](#)

International Symposium: Humanitarian Engineering Challenges and Approaches

Join the 1st International Symposium on Humanitarian Engineering Challenges and Approaches, hosted by the University of West Attica, Athens, in collaboration with the ENHANCE Project - ENabling Humanitarian Attributes for Nurturing Community-based Engineering. The Symposium will comprise two sessions of talks and discussions on Humanitarian Engineering, the challenges faced by engineers globally, and approaches that offer sustainable solutions.

Date and time: **18th and 19th May, 09:00-12:00.**

Find more details and register [here!](#)

Women's Voices in Climate Justice (webinar)

Don't miss this important webinar hosted by the Applied Negative Emissions Centre, at which a range of global perspectives on women's power in climate action will be explored, emphasising the necessity to create a just and sustainable future for all. This event will offer an opportunity to hear from incredible women and share knowledge on how we can secure a low carbon, socially and racially just future.

Date and time: **28th April, 17:30-19:00.**

Find more details and register [here!](#)



Opportunities

Warwick Internship Programme Incoming

Departments are currently applying for funding for the WIP funding which means you will soon see roles from across campus appearing on MyAdvantage, We hope this will include 3 roles within the Sustainability Team looking at engagement, carbon accounting and biodiversity. We will provide more information and links to these when we know more

Climate Action Training: Brush up on your campaigning skills!

Are you keen to get involved in Climate Action but could perhaps use a refresher on climate issues and campaigning skills?

Well, Friends of the Earth have got you covered! Take a look at the [free and exciting webinars](#) they've got lined up to introduce you to the Climate Action movement and provide you with tools and resources to support and develop your local campaign!

Competition time!

The Productivity and the Futures of work GRP have launched two competitions open to all undergraduate and postgraduate Warwick students.

Essay competition:

Using your experience of the pandemic, submit an essay of up to 1500 words that addresses the question:
What did the perfect day look like in the different stages of the pandemic? What does it mean for future productivity at work?

There are two categories, the Best Essay Undergraduate Award and Best Essay Postgraduate Award. The winning candidates of each category will receive **£500!**

Find more details [here!](#) **(Closing date 30th June, 2021)**

Video competition

Submit a short video exploring how we may work, live and thrive in the post-pandemic future for the chance to win up to **£700** prize money!

Your video should answer the question:

What would constitute a "perfect" day at work for you post-COVID-19?

Finalists will be announced on the 14th June and a live event will be held on 30th June.

Find more details [here!](#) **(Closing date 28th May, 2021)**

Recruitment Opportunity: Project Worker (Local & Community Empowerment)

The Centre for Sustainable Energy's 'Local & Community Empowerment' team are seeking to recruit a Project Worker to support a range of community groups, local authorities, town and parish councils, and voluntary sector organisations to take action on energy.

Find more details and apply [here!](#)

(Closing date 26th April, 2021)

Recruitment Opportunity: Energy Analysts

The University of Birmingham is looking to fill two part-time (0.6 FTE) Energy Analyst roles.

One role is a **fixed term contract** until the end of May 2022 which will focus on budgets, forecasting, carbon reporting and compliance (including carbon trading), managing energy suppliers and contracts including accuracy of invoices. Find more details [here](#).

The other post is **permanent**, also 0.6FTE, and will focus on the performance of our buildings. Find more details [here](#).

Recruitment Opportunity: Sustainability Project Officers

We are looking for four motivated and committed students (or recent graduates) interested in working on an exciting sustainability digital resource development project, to take on **temporary part-time** roles as Sustainability Project Officers.

These roles include:

- **3x E-learning and Development** (30 hours in total to be completed by 15th September)
- **1x Project Administration** (15 hours in total to be completed by 15th September)

Find more details and apply [here!](#)

(Closing date 25th April, 2021)

Artists wanted for 'My Carbon Family' public art project!

Creative Giants on behalf of Coventry City Council, in partnership with Coventry City of Culture Trust, are seeking to commission **four artists, designers or makers** to each create a sculpture for the public art project 'My Carbon Family'.

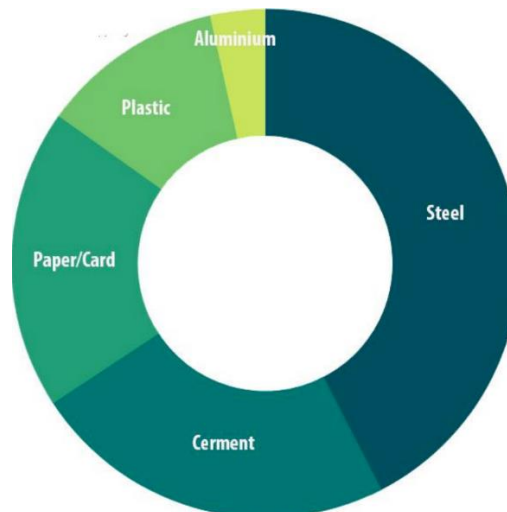
Project details:

You will work with the artist, Simon Bingle, to deliver the project, initially proposed by BBC journalist, Roger Harrabin, and Simon Bingle. The project and creation of these artworks will be widely covered by the BBC, including a BBC World Documentary. Each of these sculptures will be made using one of five materials - steel, aluminium, plastic, paper/card and concrete – which represent the five main materials contributing to climate change due to the amount of carbon-intensive energy used in their manufacture. Sculptures will be installed within Coventry City centre.

The closing date for these opportunities is **23:59 on Sunday 25th April, 2021.**

If you have any immediate questions about the open call, please email Cara Flynn:

carbonfamily@creativegiants.art



News and events from further afield

Solihull Climate Action Launch

Get involved with some local climate action by joining the Solihull Climate Action kick-off event on Thursday 29th April! Activists will be planning the road forward and looking at ways to mobilise the local community.

Find more details and sign up [here!](#)

Reboot the Future: Campaign Launch and Film Premiere

Join the campaign launch and film premiere for 'How Will You Reboot the Future?' with Jonathon Porritt CBE in conversation. The campaign will feature a series of five short films ('Rise Up') - following the lives of five young people who, over the next five years, each play a role in rebooting the future. These films were inspired by a book written by Jonathon Porritt, and offer inspiration, hope, resilience and action.

Find more details and register [here!](#)

International Model Citizens' Assembly

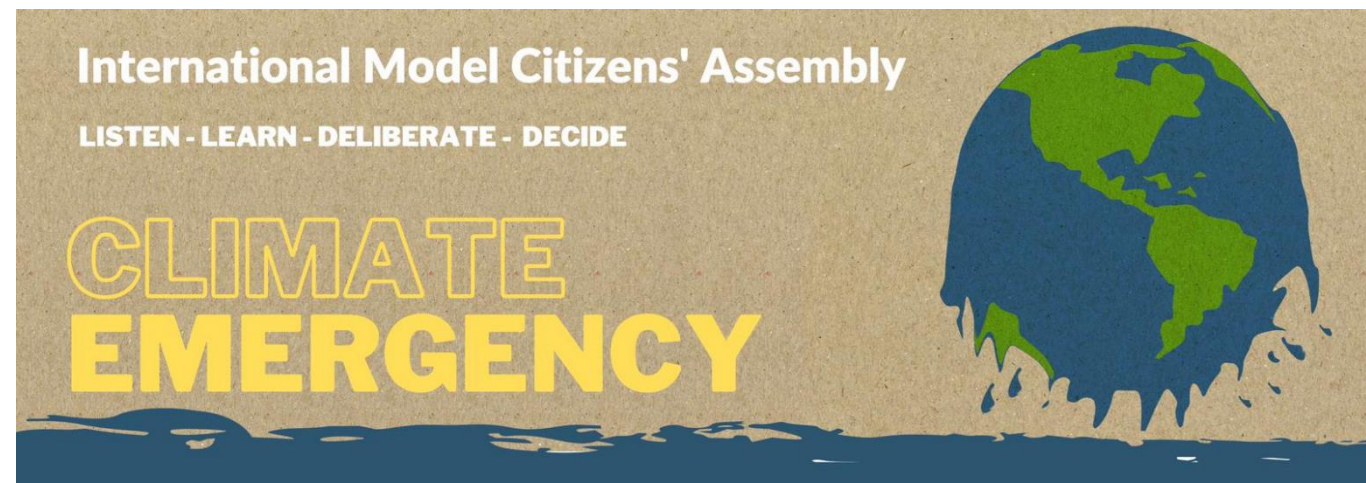
Are you keen to find solutions to the Climate Emergency? Join the International Model Citizens' Assembly to deliberate and decide solutions to combat climate change!

This International Model Citizens' Assembly explores priority solutions to the Climate Emergency. If you apply to be a member of the Jury, you may be selected to be a member of a group of 21 citizens balanced by age, gender and other criteria who put questions directly to the experts. If you apply to be an audience member, you feed your questions through the Jury. Both then get to deliberate and, at the end of the Assembly, use the online polling facility to determine their priorities. All Jury Applicants who do not get selected as Jury members are automatically enrolled as audience members.

Closing date for applications is the **22nd April, 2021.**

Event will be taking place on the **25th April, 19:00-21:30.**

Find more details and register [here!](#)



Great Big Green Week

In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week, a national week of events celebrating action on climate change. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK, and everyone's invited.

Events will range from art installations, to concerts to community stalls, to climate cafes, and everything in between; hosted by teachers, bus drivers, sport clubs, artists, community groups, places of worship, builders and anyone who cares about climate change. Additionally, Great Big Green Week community hubs will celebrate local activity, raise the profile of climate change and show why it is relevant to your community and local decision makers.

Dates: **18-26th September, 2021.**

Find more details about the events and sign up to organise an event yourself [here!](#)

**THE GREAT
BIG GREEN
WEEK** 

West Midlands Cycle Hire

25 new sites around Coventry have just been launched, holding new docking stations for hired bikes. Providing a fun, healthy and sustainable way to travel, it's hoped that this initiative will encourage greener travel and help people become more active.

The bikes are simple to use and perfect for enjoying an easy ride. Cushioned saddles are easy to adjust to your preferred height. They have 3 gears to tackle any hill, mud and chain guards to protect your clothes and keep them clean, and laser lights for your added safety. Additionally, you can find handy storage at the front of the bike. Electric bikes will also be available later in the year!

It costs £1 to unlock a bike and then just 5p per minute of cycling (i.e., 10 minutes = £1.50, 20 minutes = £2.00, 30 minutes = £2.50). You are able to pay for your ride by linking a credit or debit card to the Beryl Cycle Hire app, 'Beryl Bikes'.

How does this work?

1. Unlock - using the Beryl Cycle Hire app, 'Beryl Bikes'.
2. Ride - have fun and be safe!
3. Dock - find your nearest docking station to park up.
4. Lock - close the lock to end your ride.

Find more details [here!](#)



New Zealand introduces climate change law for financial firms in world first

New Zealand has become the first country to introduce a law that will require banks, insurers and investment managers to report the impacts of climate change on their business, minister for climate change James Shaw said on Tuesday.

All banks with total assets of more than NZ\$1 billion (\$703 million), insurers with more than NZ\$1 billion in total assets under management, and all equity and debt issuers listed on the country's stock exchange will have to make disclosures.

"We simply cannot get to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 unless the financial sector knows what impact their investments are having on the climate," Shaw said in a statement.

[Find out more.](#)