

# SUSTAINABLE·WARWICK·NEWSLETTER

March 2021

## Warwick News

### Green Week 2021

After 7 exciting days packed with over 50 virtual events, we're thrilled to say that Green Week 2021 was a huge success! Throughout the week, we had a wide variety of talks, workshops and panels covering all things sustainability.

In case you missed it, catch the Green Week [Launch video](#) by Provost, Chris Ennew, which summarises Warwick's sustainability progress so far!

You can also catch up on many of the events on the [Green Week YouTube Page](#)



### Warwick's Sustainability Summit

A highlight of Green Week 2021 was Warwick's Sustainability Summit, at which a range of inspiring speakers spoke on issues spanning eco-anxiety, refugees, the role of Universities in fighting climate change, and beyond!

Deserving of particular mention, 21-year-old climate activist and founder of Force of Nature, Clover Hogan, gave her insights on eco-anxiety, discussing her experiences lobbying decision-makers to combat climate change. In addition to this, we heard from Provost, Chris Ennew, about Warwick's sustainability progress so far amongst others.

[Watch the full recording now](#)

### Sustainability at Warwick YouTube Channel

With so much going on in the world of sustainability and so many of our events now being held online, we've created our very own [Sustainability at Warwick YouTube channel](#)! You can now find all the recordings for our events in one dedicated space, ensuring you stay up to date with everything going on at Warwick and beyond.

Included here, you'll find recordings of Warwick's **Food Waste Action Week** events, which went ahead at the beginning of March as part of WRAP's campaign to raise awareness and action to end food waste. Find out more at: <https://wrap.org.uk/taking-action/citizen-behaviour-change/love-food-hate-waste/key-campaigns/food-waste-action-week>.

### **The Future of Transport at Warwick!**

Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), the region's transport authority, are researching and commissioning innovative new ways to travel more sustainably and we're proud to be pointing the way again with the launch of a two-year Future Transport Showcase at Warwick, the first trial of its kind in the region.

Our pilot will offer alternative travel options for staff, students and local communities which we hope will reduce reliance on cars and enable you to take up new environmentally friendly transport options when travelling to, from and across the Warwick campus or local areas. Throughout the pilot, we'll be gaining insights and assessing the pilot's impact in order to inform future regional and national transport strategies.

#### **What's coming up and how can I get involved?**

- **e-scooters are go!** - We now have a fleet of electric powered scooters for you to try out around campus, thanks to Voi, Coventry City Council and Transport for West Midlands. They'll operate in the same way as our bike hire scheme – turn up and hire them via the app. Find out more about them and how to access them. (link to hub)
- **Get going with green car hire** - Our subsidised green car share scheme means you can hire a car to get to and from campus. By using our hire cars, instead of using your own car, you'll help us to explore whether a service like this might change travel behaviours for good. (link to hub)
- **Better by bus** - In April, a new demand responsive transport (DRT) bus service will be introduced and operated by Via & Coachscanner. Whether you're a member of staff, student or local resident, you'll be able to book a bus journey via a dedicated app in a similar way to booking a taxi – at a time and location that suits you -as long as the trip lies within the service route. The DRT route extends out to Warwick's Wellesbourne campus providing better connectivity between the two campuses
- **Travel champions ready...** - Last year we ran a travel survey, working with consultancy Atkins; the goal was to understand how our Warwick community felt about using sustainable travel modes and to understand existing travel behaviours. The survey gave us a good baseline for our two-year pilot and we're now going to be recruiting a group of volunteers from across our communities to become official travel champions. Travel champions will test out new travel and mobility ideas and technologies around our campus, over the next two years and will share their feedback, insights and lived experiences with behavioural analysts from Atkins. We'll provide updates at key points during the trial.
- **Green points mean prizes** - In late March, we're introducing a new campus travel app for you to collect points for choosing green travel options. Your green points will add up to a number of exciting rewards. We're testing the app with selected travel champions first before rolling it out to the wider community so watch this space!

Find out more on our brand new [Transport and Mobility Hub!](#)

### **SU Spring Elections: Results announced!**

In the last week of February, the SU held its annual Spring Elections for a number of full-time and part-time positions, including the Environment and Ethics Officer. Since then, the results have been announced, deciding who will lead the next chapter of the student experience at Warwick and drive change in a whole host of areas, including sustainability.

We're thrilled to announce the **incoming Environment and Ethics Officer is Hannah Micuta!** Hannah's manifesto includes points on lobbying the University to achieve, or exceed, its 2030 carbon neutrality target, pushing for more sustainable food options, and investigating opportunities for rewilding on campus. A passionate activist,

Hannah also spoke at the [University's Sustainability Summit](#) during Green Week. We look forward to working with her over the next year and can't wait to see what she'll achieve!

All of the remaining successful candidates [can be found here](#).

### **How Warwick research are reusing materials for future construction**

Every year, landfills around Europe receive around 50m tonnes of waste that is too large for facilities to recycle or process. More than half of all this waste is from plastic, textiles, wood and composites.

Ecobulk, a Pan-European project that was created in response to resolve the issue of large bulky waste are in partnership with our researchers from the Sustainable Materials and Manufacturing Group and the Innovative Manufacturing and Future Materials Global Research Priority, which aims to respond to complex global challenges that can only be tackled through research excellence. You can find an example in the heart of campus, where we've used upcycled materials from wind turbine blades that have reached the end of their life to build a shelter unit near the Oculus building (pictured below). This will become a resting area open for all communities visiting campus.

[Find out more](#)



### **Warwick signs Memorandum of Understanding to form a UK-Indonesian research consortium established to build global resilience against pandemics, the climate emergency and natural hazards**

On 25 February, the University of Warwick signed a Memorandum of Understanding as one of six founding members of the UK-Indonesia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Sciences (UKICIS), which aims to become a beacon for knowledge exchange and tech transfer between the two countries.

In its first online forum, held immediately after the MoU signing, UKICIS and the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia gathered academics, policy makers and industrialists working across the spectrum of vaccines provision. Together the experts discussed the challenges that new COVID-19 virus variants pose to vaccination efforts, and brainstormed ways to raise public awareness on the importance of vaccines. Keynote speeches were given by Amanda Solloway MP, UK Minister for Research, and Innovation and Prof. Bambang Brodjonegoro, Indonesian Minister of Research and Technology. Panel members included Prof. Lawrence Young, Prof. Ali Ghufroon Mukti, Prof. Dame Jessica Corner and Prof. Dr. Eng. Kuwat Triyana, M.Si.

[Find out more](#)

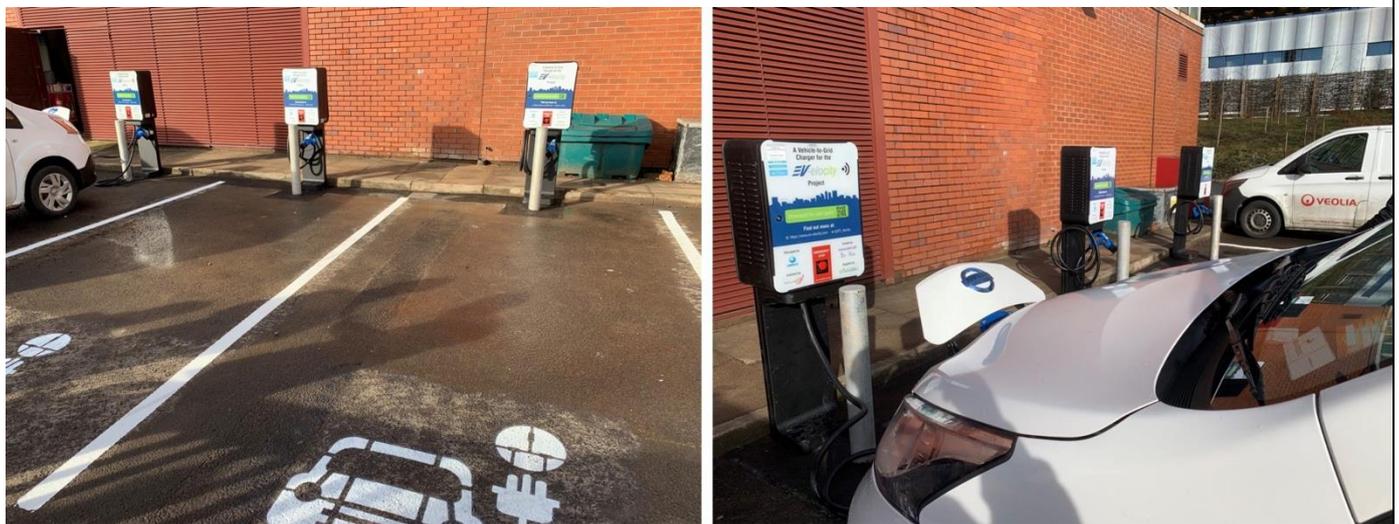
## **Installation of three Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) chargers at the University of Warwick**

As part of the Innovate UK funded EV-elocity project, WMG at the University of Warwick has installed three eNovates Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) chargers on campus, located at The Boiler House Car Park. This comes as part of a planned programme of applied research that revolves around analysing real-world data garnered from vehicle usage and battery performance to create new models of battery ageing and degradation bespoke to V2G operation. Three Nissan ENV200 vans from the University's Estates fleet have been fitted with data loggers and will be utilising the three V2G chargers. Usage data from the vehicles and the V2G chargers will then be stored in a data warehouse managed by Cenex, Crowd Charge and Hangar-19.

James Marco, Professor of Systems Modelling and Simulation at WMG, University of Warwick, has said:

*"The V2G projects represent a significant step towards the transition to a low carbon transportation and a smart energy system. Allowing EVs to return energy to the Power Grid when parked and plugged for charging, will increase Grid resilience, allow for better exploitation of renewable sources and lower the cost of ownership for EV owners, leading to new business opportunities and clear advantages for EV users and energy consumers."*

[Find out more](#)



## **Opening our new Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building**

The University of Warwick's new £54.3m Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building (IBRB) is now complete, bringing to life the University's commitment to delivering world-leading research in neuroscience, microbiology and infection, cell biology, and disease models, supporting and facilitating interdisciplinary biomedical research of the highest quality. The new building will also create a dynamic teaching and learning environment for life sciences students and those studying medicine at Warwick.

The IBRB is our most environmentally sustainable building on campus to date, surpassing the award-winning credentials of the Sports and Wellness Hub and demonstrating the University's continued commitment to addressing the climate emergency.

[Read more here](#)

## **Sharing our Knowledge and Expertise**

The Sustainability Team at Warwick understand how important it is to work with everyone on the issue of sustainability, not just on campus and in the surrounding area but with other countries as well.

Recently Sustainability Champion, David Chapman, working with Paulo Cruz of Glasgow Caledonian University and the EAUC met online with students from Bosphorus University and Altinbas University in Turkey. These Universities were the two winners of the Green Campus project which comprises a Turkey-wide competition where students work in small groups (2 to 5 students) to assess their campuses in order to diagnose their environmental challenges and propose an action plan to make their campuses greener and more sustainable.

David and Paulo kindly agreed to mentor these students and we look forward to finding out how the students progress with their projects that focused of waste and transport.

## Opportunities

### Global Sustainable Development postgraduate programmes

Warwick's Global Sustainable Development department is excited to welcome new students and familiar faces to the community as they open their doors to postgraduate students for the first time.

#### MASc in Global Sustainable Development -

Warwick's MASc in Global Sustainable Development is a unique opportunity to join a community of transdisciplinary research and teaching experts. On this course you'll combine academic learning with practical application to help you tackle problems of global sustainable development.

#### MPhil/PhD in Global Sustainable Development -

Warwick's MPhil/PhD in Global Sustainable Development offers you the opportunity to cross disciplinary boundaries to address complex challenges of global sustainable development. Working with experts from GSD and the Institute for Global Sustainable Development, on this programme you'll deliver impactful, lasting sustainable development research.

More information, including how to apply and dates for upcoming postgraduate study live chats, can be found [here](#).

## News and events from further afield

### Adam Tranter (Cycle Mayor) talks on Cycling in Coventry

Coventry's Cycle Mayor, Adam Tranter, has recently released a short [15-minute documentary](#) on Coventry's cycling history - and its future.

He also has shared a call to action, asking everyone of any age who lives, works or studies in Coventry to sign this ePetition and show support of the Binley Cycleway and encouragement for the council to build a more comprehensive cycle network.

[You can sign the ePetition now.](#)

### COP26 – Applications still open to volunteer at COP26

As part of COP26, Glasgow City Council is looking to enlist the help of friendly, outgoing and enthusiastic volunteers to contribute to the success of this momentous event.

Find out more, including how to apply, [here](#).



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

## **Cannon Park Cycleway – Consultation Open!**

Funding has been secured to make improvements to the existing cycle route linking Coventry city centre with the University of Warwick campus. This will involve:

- Improved facilities for people cycling along the eastern section of Charter Avenue, by making the existing temporary two-way cycleway into a permanent facility. This will make it easier and safer for people cycling to travel along Charter Avenue and to connect with the cycle route towards Tile Hill via the crossing on Sir Henry Parkes Road.
- Provision of a new section of cycleway along Lynchgate Road.
- In addition to this, one lane of Charter Avenue from the A45 towards Sir Henry Parkes Road will be resurfaced as part of the Council's highway improvement programme.

Please provide your feedback for the plan by completing the survey at:

<https://letstalk.coventry.gov.uk/cannonparkcycleway>. (Survey deadline is Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.)

## **Warwickshire Wildlife Trust 30by30**

In 2020 Warwickshire Wildlife Trust celebrated its 50th anniversary. Over the last 50 years the charity has established 65 nature reserves, saving some of the rarest habitats, home to some iconic species. However, in the wider landscape wildlife has been facing significant declines, leading to 15% of all of the UK wildlife now being under threat from extinction and the UK now being regarded as one of the most nature depleted countries on earth.

As a result the Trust are embarking on an ambitious new strategy as part of their the Wildlife Trusts' new national '30by30' initiative which, aims to ensure that 30% of land and sea is supporting nature's recovery by 2030.

WWT have developed an ambitious plan to help bring wildlife back to the area and help tackle the ecological, climate and human health crises. They have launched an appeal to create a Nature Recovery Fund to enable them to buy land of low wildlife value, improve this land by restoring lost habitats and reconnect people with nature at a scale they have not done before.

Find out more <https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/appeal>

### **Urgent £3million Nature Recovery Fund Appeal**

Donate now, and let's  
bring our wildlife  
back to Warwickshire!

