

# SUSTAINABLE·WARWICK·NEWSLETTER

November 2020

## Warwick News

### One Planet Pledge

The University has signed the [One Planet Pledge](#) as it has made a public commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030, for direct emissions, and by 2050, for indirect emissions.

The One Planet Pledge is the sister campaign of the [Social Mobility Pledge](#), to which the University has also committed. This pledge encourages organisations to be a force for good by putting social mobility at the heart of their purpose.



### Warwick Enterprise – finalist in the Green Gown Awards 2020 Enterprise category

Warwick Enterprise is pleased to announce that their “Summer Programme 2020 – Inspiring SDG Innovators” has been shortlisted as one of the Finalists in the Enterprise category of the 2020 Green Gown Awards UK & Ireland.

The new extra-curricular bespoke Summer Programme 2020 was focused on key enterprise skills and knowledge, and was designed as an agile response to the pandemic that would support our students by offering a source of inspiration, hope, resilience and positivity in a time of need for many. In light of the social restrictions, the programme was designed to be fully digital and accessible, despite the circumstances.

The Summer Programme 2020 highlighted key enterprise skills such as creativity, innovation, resilience, opportunity recognition and self-determination as crucial elements for success. Further, it provided a pool of inspiration for students to draw ideas from, by showcasing how their peers have used these skills to move forward as entrepreneurs or as part of other society project teams.

As part of the University of Warwick’s Innovation Group, Warwick Enterprise recognises the importance of developing the next generation of socially and environmentally conscious education leavers who can rise up to the 21st century’s economic, environmental and social challenges. [Find out more.](#)

The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony in March/April 2021.



### Start of term sustainable transport successes



The new [National Express number 14 bus service](#) connecting campus with Coventry City Centre, Tile Hill railway station, Eastern Green and Cannon Park shops, has seen a four-fold increase in passengers since the start of term. The service is heavily subsidised by the University so staff and students can catch the bus for a fare of only £1 when University ID is shown.

The number of new memberships for [Unicycles](#) is one of the highest Septembers since it launched in October 2015. Despite a changing campus there were 1,500 hires in September compared to 2,300 last year. The bikes are a great way to travel around campus and the local area and a great option to keep active and enjoy the fresh air. Bikes are sanitised every day and NextBike have provided some useful tips on [how to stay safe](#). On campus and not yet registered? You can still take advantage of the monthly membership offer - £3/month and first 30 minutes free.



The University has worked closely with travel providers to [increase public transport capacity](#) so that there are now bus services to and from Leamington every five minutes during peak times. Usage of buses has increased since the start of term but we are pleased to confirm that there is still capacity to use public transport safely during peak hours.

### **Pumpkin Soup and Sustainable Halloween**

Climate Reality and RAWKUS are tackling food waste in [their recent video](#), demonstrating how to make a very nice pumpkin soup out of all of those pumpkins you might still have lying around. If your pumpkin is bit too far gone to be edible don't forget you can compost it.

Also if you still have costumes etc lying around for the festivities remember you can donate them to charity or even keep them to be reused next year. Its haunting how much plastic waste is produced each year!

With Christmas coming up keep your eyes peeled for more information from us on how to have a greener Christmas this year and if you are thinking about organising Secret Santa remember there are many ways you can gift to people without negatively impacting on the environment.

### **USS Sustainability Survey**

For those who are part of the USS Pensions Scheme please be aware that they currently have a [survey on sustainable investments](#). Please ensure to lend your voice/views to this. The survey closes at 23:59 on 20th November 2020.

## Events

### **Sustainability Summit incoming!**

We are currently in the process of organising this term's Sustainability Summit which will be an online affair. Keep an eye out on our social media [@WarwickUniSust](#) for more information on how to book your seat.

### **Cut the flow ambassador training**

Calling more campus dwelling students to join our Cut the Flow Ambassador Team. We would like to get the word of Cut the Flow further into blocks across campus to support people learning good energy and water saving practices and prepare everyone for paying bills next year. [Join us on 17<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> November](#) to find out more about the competition, tips on how to save and how you can become a change agent.

## Environmenstrual Events

We have been working with the SU to bring you new events to help you tackle your monthly carbon footprint, protect the environment and save you money. Many will have heard of reusable period pads, or period pads, or diva/moon/she Cups.

Join '[How to be EnvironMenstrual](#)' (24th November 5:30-7pm) for a discussion surrounding the reality of period poverty, alternative environmentally friendly period products and, a Q&A session about all things EnvironMenstrual.

And then take part in '[EnvironMenstrual: Stitch & Learn](#)' (2nd December 5pm-7pm) where you will be learning how to make your own reusable pads, and discussing all things periods. Please register your attendance as there is a limited capacity & all items will be delivered to you for free.

One of our speakers at the events is currently researching the psychosocial effects of menstruation, which are thought to negatively affect the confidence, dignity and self-esteem of many school girls. Across the globe, most adolescent girls face challenges in dealing with their periods, and we know that in places where they have limited access to pads or toilets, they may drop out of education in order to be able to cope.

She is calling for Female and Male participants, aged 16 – 19 years old, who have lived in the UK for the last 2 years to complete [this survey](#) (there is also the chance of winning 3 x £100 in a prize draw!)

## COP26 is postponed, so what is happening instead?

### **MockCOP – 17<sup>th</sup> Nov-1<sup>st</sup> Dec**

From the 19th November to the 1st December the youth lead MockCOP will be running an online event. The University of Warwick has students and alumni helping to organise and take part in the event. Each country has been asked for 3-5 delegates and over the two-week event will comprise empowering and informative keynotes and panels by global names and youth activists, followed by high-level opening statements by the youth delegates and facilitated workshops and regional caucuses. The discussions will be framed around five conference themes: climate justice; education; health and mental health; green jobs; carbon reduction targets. The event will culminate in a powerful conference statement to world leaders from the youth of the world, raising ambition for COP26. Fridge events are open to all, and the event is still looking for funding from those able. [More information.](#)

**The Race to Zero Dialogues – [9 November to 19 November](#)**

**The Youth Climate Summit - 9 November to 13 November**

**The ClientEarth Summit – 9 November to 11 November**

**Net-Zero Live 2020 – [10 November to 12 November](#)**

## Society Run Events and Talks

Many of our sustainability based societies have been running talks recently. The next is by Climate Reality on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> talking of [Climate Change: Impacts & Solutions](#) with special guests Jonathon Porritt and David Griggs, certainly not one to be missed.

Keep an eye on our social media as we share these as events come up, please also get in touch with us if you have any sustainability related events you would like to promote or think others should be made aware of.

## Midlands Mobility Event – Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 12-1pm

WMG are running a themed lunch: Midlands Future Mobility on Tuesday 10th November via Teams. To find out more and register your place please click [here](#).

## Second hand bike sale - Cancelled

We have recently been informing you all via social media about a Bike Sale by Recycling Your Cycle on 12th November. Unfortunately due to new restrictions we have been forced to cancel this sale. We hope we can bring this back to you early in the new year.



RECYCLE today  
FOR A HEALTHIER tomorrow

## Opportunities

### Travel Habits Survey

Warwick's vision is to create a distinctive 'cosmopolitan in the countryside' campus experience, transforming regional transport connectivity to campus. We plan to create an accessible, inclusive, and people-focused environment and become a SMART carbon-neutral campus.

As a leading global research University, we're working with Transport for West Midlands on a two-year pilot research project to understand your typical travel behaviours and your attitudes towards travel to, from and around the University campus. Transport for West Midlands are investing in the campus transport and mobility experience and will use this insight to bring in a new, better, wider range of trial transport services on campus which will be available as optional modes of travel for staff and students.

[Complete the survey](#) to share your travel behaviours and future travel preferences to inform your future campus experience.

### Sustainability Skills Survey

The [annual NUS Sustainability Skills survey](#) is running until 15<sup>th</sup> November across the University sector. We would like to encourage as many students as possible to take part in the survey to be in with a chance to win £500 cash or one of ten £50 runner-up prizes.

This is the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the research, which in 2019-20 showed the following notable changes:

- How seriously the university takes environmental and global developmental issues is reported to be a factor influencing student choice of place to study by **52%**, up from **45%** in 2018-19.
- **91%** say they agree their place of study should actively incorporate and promote sustainable development compared to **88%** in 2018-19.
- **79%** recognise the positive action their place of study is taking to address negative impacts on the environment and society compared to **74%** in 2018-19
- **73%** say the chance to work in an organisation / company that makes a difference to environmental and social issues is a factor they'll consider when applying for jobs, compared to **69%** in 2018-19.
- **77%** say they're willing to accept a salary sacrifice of £1000 to work in a company with a positive environmental and social record, compared with **75%** in 2018-19

Please share the survey link with your students and our posts on social media.

### **Warwick Enterprise – Ingenuity and Planet Warwick**

Want to make an Impact? This exciting enterprise competition (aimed at staff, researchers, students and graduates) will help you create impactful ideas/solutions to real-life issues, along with offering a bespoke package (including potential funding) to support you at the start and during your entrepreneurial journey.

To find out more attend one of Warwick Enterprise's [information sessions](#). Don't delay, deadline Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

For aspiring innovators interested in the following areas: climate change, creating prosperity, building community, and health and well-being, keep an eye out for the launch of Planet Warwick, a series of workshops on the relevance and applicability of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to the University of Warwick campus.

### **Volunteer with the Energy and Sustainability Team**

The Energy and Sustainability Team are currently looking for a student to volunteer for 3-4 hours per week to support the Team with creating regular/daily social media content. The student will require a working knowledge of the various social media platforms and have an interest in sustainability. There may also be an opportunity to create marketing materials such as posters so experience of using Canva would be useful.

Volunteers will be required to sign a Volunteer Commitment Form.



Instagram

### **Join the SDG Microsoft Teams group**

Following on from the launch of the University's first report on progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals, a Microsoft Teams group has been set up. This is a place for exchanging information and ideas, and collaborating and having discussions about the University's contribution to the UN SDGs. There are various channels to pursue conversations around the key areas defined in the report: Operations, Public Engagement, Research, and Teaching and Student Opportunity.

If you would like to join this group search Sustainable Development Goals in Teams or contact [sustainability@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@warwick.ac.uk)

## News and events from further afield

### **Biden wins US elections but what does this mean for the Global Climate Emergency?**

This subject has been explored by [Edie](#) and also by our resident online Student Magazine [GLOBUS](#)

**Coventry sees the gearing up of the new £130m battery facility** – [read more](#)

**Scottish Widows are divesting from fossil fuels.** – [read more](#)

**How lockdown has affected our views on fashion and its environmental impacts**– [read more](#)

**Penguins in South Georgia in danger from large ice sheet** – [read more](#)

### **Green Homes Grant Scheme**

You can now apply for the Governments Green Home Grant Scheme which provides a £5000-£10000 for various energy improvements. Learn more about [this here](#).

