

## The University's sustainability newsletter

### Turning Green into Gold!

The second annual Cambridge University Green Impact awards ceremony took place on Wednesday 18 June to honour the achievements of all the staff and students who have been working hard all year to green their workplaces.

The environmental award programme, now in its second year at Cambridge, enables participating departments and colleges to use an online workbook to take small, tangible actions to reduce their impact on the environment in a number of areas.

From labelling light switches, removing disposable cups, promoting recycling and running staff 'green' inductions, the actions help raise awareness amongst staff and students, encouraging both to make easy changes to their recycling and energy use habits and to embed sustainability within the working practices of the institution.

This year 40 teams took on the challenge, collectively completing 1,586 actions in their colleges and departments. This is a massive increase on last year, which saw 14 teams take part and 606 actions completed.

The annual award ceremony was hosted by Jamie Agombar, Ethics and Environment Manager at the National Union of Students and winner of this year's Guardian Award for Inspiring Leader.

#### Inside this issue:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Turning Green into Gold                      | 1-2 |
| Results from this year's Green Impact awards | 2   |
| Special Award winners                        | 3   |
| Green Impact Gallery                         | 4-5 |
| Roll out of purple bin                       | 6   |
| On yer bike                                  | 6   |



Some of the 43 slate awards that were presented to participating teams at the Green Impact award ceremony

Working for over ten years in the sector, Jamie has transformed sustainability in higher education. From the beginnings where the only involvement was investigating the ethical credentials of some union suppliers, Jamie has since brought Green Impact to over 100 students' unions, secured £5 million of funding for student-led sustainability, and leads a department with over 20 members of staff.

Jamie thanked the audience for their involvement in the scheme and reminded them of the importance of their work, which affects not just their own

immediate environmental impact but, through their influence in lecture rooms, canteens and student accommodation, helps to create a culture and legacy of sustainability in the next generation of business leaders, politicians, scientists and opinion makers.

Teams were presented with handmade awards recycled from Victorian roof slates, printed with their names to display proudly in their buildings.

Six teams were awarded Gold awards, fifteen Silver, seventeen Bronze and two with 'Working Towards' awards. Three lab teams achieved an award, with IMS-MRL



and Hutchison/MRC achieving Silver and Cancer Research UK Li Ka Shing Centre achieving Gold.

Certificates were handed out to students who have volunteered with Green Impact to help support its success.

Fifty students formally volunteered in Green Impact 2013-2014, either as a Project Assistant, allocated to a team to provide guidance and support, or as an Auditor, to visit participating teams and verify their submissions.

Winners and runners-up were announced for the three Special Award categories, the winners being presented with a large organic fruit box, wine and chocolates to share with their colleagues, or keep to themselves! For a full list of all winners see pages 2-3.

Green Impact 2014-2015 will be launched in Michaelmas Term and we hope that it will be even bigger and better than before. Staff and students in any corner of the University can start a team and join the existing number of champions

making this University greener. For more information visit: <http://www.environment.admin.cam.ac.uk/getting-involved/green-impact-staff-and-student-engagement-programme>, or email [greenimpact@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:greenimpact@admin.cam.ac.uk).

For photos from the Award ceremony, visit our Facebook album: <http://on.fb.me/1jilyzm>.

## 2013-2014 Award winners

### Gold

- Clare College – Gold Colleges
- Downing College – Gold Colleges
- Newnham College – Gold Colleges
- Cancer Research UK – Gold and Gold Labs
- Clinical School Building Team – Gold
- Estate Management – Gold

### Silver

- Churchill College – Silver Colleges
- Darwin College – Silver Colleges
- Robinson College – Silver Colleges
- Alison Richard Building – Silver
- Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership – Silver
- Counselling Service – Silver
- Criminology – Silver
- Department of Land Economy – Silver
- Disability Resource Centre – Silver
- Green Dream (Health and Safety) – Silver
- Hutchison/MRC Research Centre – Silver and Silver Labs
- IMS-MRL – Silver and Silver Labs

Madingley Hall – Silver and Honourable Mention for their work in catering and grounds

- Maintenance Unit – Silver
- PDN Green Team – Silver

### Bronze

- King's College – Bronze Colleges
- Pembroke College – Bronze Colleges
- Cambridge University Medical Library – Bronze
- Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology – Bronze
- Development and Alumni Relations – Bronze
- Faculty of Education – Bronze
- Faculty of History – Bronze
- Fitzwilliam Museum – Bronze

Green Futures Group (University Library) – Bronze

- Modern and Medieval Languages (MML) – Bronze
- MRC Epidemiology – Bronze
- Obs & Gynae Green Team – Bronze
- Personal and Professional Development – Bronze
- Pharmacology – Bronze
- Psychology – Bronze
- The Green Genies (Institute of Public Health) – Bronze
- William Gates Building Team – Bronze

### 'Working Towards'

- Physical Science – Working Towards
- Registry Offices – Working Towards



Green Impact Project Assistants and Green Impact Auditors collecting their certificates



## Environmental Improvement Award

### Winner

Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership is the winner of the 2014 Environmental Improvement Award for their vegetable garden. What was a patch of barren land has been transformed into a vegetable garden, providing low-carbon food for their

office and a new habitat for insects and wildlife as well as a place to compost teabags and other food waste.

### Runners up

Cancer Research UK, for the extensive work they have undertaken to improve the energy efficiency of their building.

Estate Management, who have been working to green the University's cafes and canteens through their reusable cup scheme.



## Environmental Hero Award

### Winner

Nan Taplin, MML, is the winner of the Environmental Hero Award. This Award received many strong nominations, which really goes to show how active Nan has been. As the main driving force behind her team's submission for the Bronze Award, Nan has also managed to engage both staff and students in her building as well as surrounding departments on the Sidgwick Site to get more involved. She is full of enthusiasm, a great communicator.

### Runners up

The Sidgwick Site Facilities Team for working tirelessly every single day to support energy saving and recycling across the site. They turn lights off, shut doors and windows, fix dripping taps, ensure correct use of recycling bins, and support recycling across the University by enabling central events and initiatives.

Carolyn Appleton, Estate Management, for her drive, determination, commitment and enthusiasm! She worked endlessly to organise a University-wide Swap Shop, and gave up her own time to collaborate with teams from across the University to help promote and run it.

## Student Leadership Award

### Winner

Philipp Braeuninger-Weimer, Darwin College, has been leading change within and beyond his Green Impact role, inspiring and motivating students to rethink their everyday actions to help create a more sustainable society. Running his own project, the 'One World Challenge', Philipp has tapped

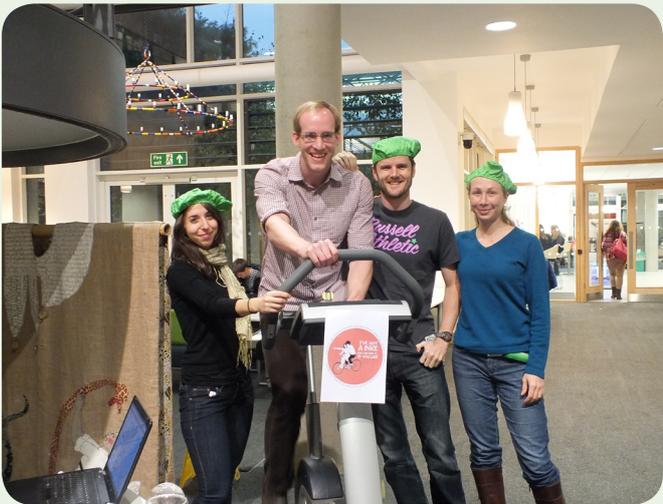
into social media in order to set fun challenges for small teams of students from all over Europe, thus creating more sustainable habits.

### Runner up

Satowa Kinoshita, St. John's College, for her work as Green Impact Project Assistant which helped support Estate Management to achieve Gold.



# Green Impact Gallery



Alison Richard Building held a travel awareness day



Medical Library implemented a book swap area.



Disability Resource Centre held a Valentine's "Wear your jumper day" to work.



Development and Alumni Relations swapped homemade cakes for an environmental pledge.



The William Gates Building launched Green Impact with cakes and thermometers.



Criminology held a Halloween bake off to launch Green Impact in the Institute.



Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership held a planting day to get staff out into their new vegetable patch.



## Green Impact Gallery



The University Library held an environmental awareness event, where staff could come speak to members of the Green Futures Group about all things environment and energy.

### Green Impact in numbers

- 40 teams
- 8 Green Impact workshops
- 1,586 actions completed
- 231 staff and students joined teams
- 3,471 staff and students reached
- 50 students received training



Modern and Medieval Languages invited staff and students to share in a green cake for World Environment Day.



Estate Management installed a bird box onto the side of their buildings.



Faculty of History held a sunflower growing competition.



Physiology Development and Neuroscience held a "Love to be green" day for Valentine's Day.



Obstetrics and Gynecology held a "wear green to work day" to launch Green Impact in their department.

**Congratulations again to all our winners, and here's to  
Green Impact 2014-15!**



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CHALLENGE

[www.admin.cam.ac.uk/environment](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/environment)

✉: [environment@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:environment@admin.cam.ac.uk)

🐦: @CambridgeSust

## Roll out of new purple bin

Keep an eye out on your site for the latest in outdoor bin excitement – over the summer, the City Council will be rolling out their new trade mixed recycling bins.

The new purple bin will replace the darker blue bin that is currently used for dry mixed recycling. The attractive shade means that it's easier than ever to identify how to recycle your waste.

Remember, almost all office waste can be recycled. Only food, polystyrene (and other expanded plastics), wood, and reinforced glass needs to go to

general waste. Even yoghurt pots, crisp packets and shopping bags can go in the recycling! If relevant, please check whether your lab or research space has other instructions, though.

For more information or with any questions, contact us ([environment@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:environment@admin.cam.ac.uk)), or check out our website's 'Waste and recycling A-Z': <http://bit.ly/Ti7ij6>.



Coming to a building near you!

## Travel event round-up: On yer bike

An exploration of sustainable commuting options for University staff was held on Friday, 20th June as part of Bike Week 2014. Open to all, the event at the Department of Geography saw members of staff chatting to representatives from the Travel for Work Partnership on discounts and road confidence, the University's HR team on CAMbens benefits, the County Council transport team on local road and cycle network consultations, and the University's Environment and Energy Section.

Outspoken Cycles did a great job outside the Department, running a well-attended Dr Bike service. Bikes were checked for

general safety, had basic maintenance carried out and any bigger issues highlighted. Many thanks to Rob and Catherine for successfully upgrading their various patients!

If you would be interested in increasing your confidence on the road, or taking part in future cycling proficiency training, please email Catrin on [travel@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:travel@admin.cam.ac.uk). All general enquiries or issues can also be sent to this address.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/Tlyw8h>.



Outspoken Cycles fine tuning a bike.

## Did you know?

- University staff and students get a 10% discount on cycle and safety equipment at a number of local shops: <http://bit.ly/TvNyZp>.
- There are two loan schemes that can help you get to work: the University's 'Travel to Work' scheme is interest-free for annual tickets, or bikes. The 'Cycle to Work' scheme is an interest- and tax-free salary sacrifice scheme for bikes, valid at various shops: <http://bit.ly/1pDMthd>.
- The County Council is consulting on changes to Trumpington Road, aiming to make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/trumpington-road](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/trumpington-road)
- If you are looking for a new car, consider the University's new fuel efficient employer-provided car scheme: [www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/staff/benefits/cars/](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/staff/benefits/cars/)



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