

It's Better OFF

...To be up to date

January 2012



www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability

It's Better OFF – for further information please contact [Jenny](#)

As a team we'd like to welcome you back after the Christmas holidays, we hope you all had a restful break. As you will notice the newsletter has had a little bit of a facelift, we are intending to use the newsletter to replace a number of the frequent e-mail communications we send out.

We have also made some changes to the [resources section of the website](#) – any feedback welcomed

It's Better OFF @ Christmas...we saw a reduction in Electricity consumption of a massive 10%! This equates to around £4,000. Well done, a fantastic result for us. [Click here for results...](#)



Sustainability – For further information please contact [Jo](#)

We are looking for an environmental champion or two to give 2-3 hours on Friday 17th February to work alongside Anne-Marie Culhane, the artist coordinating the Fruit Route Project. This will be a session to brief you on the planting programme for Saturday and Sunday where you would be required to lend a hand.

It does not have to be for both days but if you can give some time you would be very welcome. Contact [Jo Hasbury](#) direct if you are interested.



If Champions would prefer to volunteer for the actual main event details are as follows:

- Fruit Routes Plant and Celebration weekend
- Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th February planting 10am – 3pm
- Sunday 19th February Celebration Walk 3pm – 4pm

All equipment and tools provided. Planting a range of fruit and nut trees sensible ear will be required. More info at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/fruit-routes> and posters to follow.

Do you live in Loughborough and have a pond? We want to survey it....

As part of a PhD research project being undertaken within the Department of Geography, Matt Hill is studying the freshwater invertebrates inhabiting ponds in Loughborough and the surrounding villages. One aspect of this research aims to assess the biodiversity and conservation value of garden ponds compared to other types of ponds in the area. Matt is currently trying to locate garden ponds within the local area for this research. If you have a garden pond and would be willing to allow Matt to sample the invertebrates within it as part of this research project please contact him by email (m.j.hill@lboro.ac.uk).

Environment League – for further information please contact [Amy](#)

Term ones results put Robert Bakewell Hall in the lead over the reigning champions Towers by a single point! Towers saw a phenomenal energy reduction of 11.53% compared to the same period last year, but Bakewell stole the top place with an unprecedented level of proactivity from their students, hall committee and staff. One of the highlights of the term was Bakewell's very own farmers' market!



Significant Results... Overall in the first term we have seen a reduction of over 6% in electricity consumption, which is over 81,286 kWh, £6,500 and 42 tonnes of carbon!

We've also seen some significant improvements in recycling in halls. After a door knocking programme in the worst offending Hall, John Phillips, we've seen the quality of their recycling improve threefold! After such a positive first term we've got high hopes for the rest of the year!

WARPIT Your Waste Action Reuse Portal

In other news, this month we begin rolling out a new resource for the disposal of redundant office furniture.

WARP-IT is an online resource which will allow departments to easily find a new home for items they no longer need. Desks, chairs, filing cabinets and all manner of office furniture can be uploaded to the site where they can be offered to other departments, Universities and local charities for reuse. We'll be updating you all with more details in due course, and running some training sessions once the site is up and running.

Travel – For further information please contact [Elliott](#)

The Christmas period is over and with the New Year health kicks starting, now is the perfect opportunity to swap your car for your feet. Why not try [walking](#) or [cycling](#) to work once or twice a week? Not only does this have great health benefits it will also help reduce the impact our cars have on the environment.

Looking to commute to work using the trains? We have successfully negotiated a 15% discount on Annual season tickets on many East Midlands Trains routes. This could save you up to £200 on certain fares. All University staff and students are eligible for these discounts.



Have you got [a BiTEcard](#)? A BiTEcard gives you a 20% discount at rail station food and drink outlets. It is free and can be used nationwide. For more information please get in touch.

Get involved!!

Liftshare are finalising their new personal travel plan software designed to provide you with a comprehensive report on all the alternative modes available to you. They will be piloting it at the University on Feb 15th. This would normally be at a cost but we are offering this for free to 50 members of staff on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested in this then please contact [Elliott Brown](#) 01509 228085

Coming this Month...

- **Green Impact Workshops,**
 - Waste and recycling
 - Travel
 - Procurement, greening teams, action plans and the wider community



[Click here for more information](#)

- **Liftshare Pilot 15th February**
 - Contact Elliott for more info
- **Fruit Route Events**
 - 17th, 18th and 19th February

[Click here for further information](#)

This Months Seasonal Foods

Cale, Carrots, Cauliflower, Sprouts, Savoy Cabbage, Spring Green Cabbage and Leeks

<http://eatseasonably.co.uk/what-to-eat-now/calendar/>

FairTrade

FairTrade Fortnight 27th February – 11th March.

Look out for events and promotions on the campus from imago, CAFF (Charnwood Action For FairTrade) and It's Better OFF.

refresh are looking at availability for departments to purchase, FairTrade tea, coffee and sugar through them for you to use in your departments to help fulfil Loughborough's commitment to FairTrade. More details to follow on this.

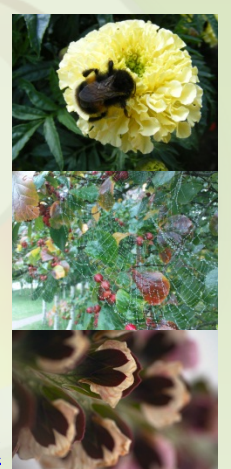
Picture of the Month

This could be your spot...

Take a picture of anything on campus that relates to sustainability or the environment and you could see your picture here.

Closing date is the last working day of the month

Send your pictures to... Environment@lboro.ac.uk



Sustainability facts of the Month...

- Transport accounts for 27% of UK greenhouse gases
- Transport emissions already make up 70% of air pollution in towns and cities
- Gentle cycling will burn up about 300 - 600 calories an hour
- Walking can burn off anything from about 150 calories an hour up to as many as 420 calories an hour

For further information about anything in this newsletter please contact us at Environment@lboro.ac.uk or visit www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability