

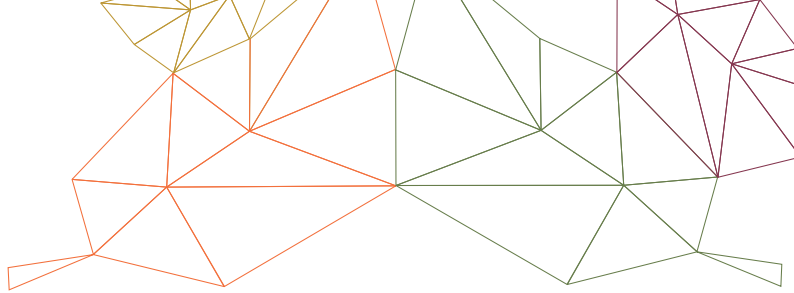
# Vice-Chancellor's Environmental Sustainability Awards 2022



Image by Lauren Neville  
Sustainability Photographer of the Year 2021

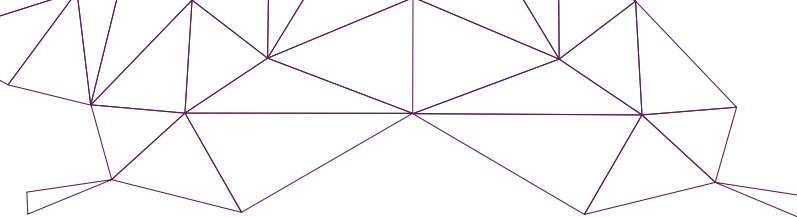


## Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Environmental Sustainability



### Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	4
<b>Special Awards</b>	7
Environmental Sustainability Project Awards	8
Environmental Sustainability Staff Awards	13
Environmental Sustainability Students	19
<b>Engagement Awards</b>	23
Green Impact Awards	24
Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF) Awards	26
LEAF Champion Awards	29
<b>Sustainability Photographer of the Year</b>	31
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	36



## Introduction

### From Dame Professor Louise Richardson, Vice-Chancellor

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and that of my colleagues for the talent and commitment of all those involved in our work to promote environmental sustainability.

With each passing year the evidence of the negative effects of environmental crisis mounts inexorably.

I think we can all take pride in what we as a University have achieved thus far. We have launched our new Environmental Sustainability Strategy, committing to achieving net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain by 2035. We created a new governance body, the Environmental Sustainability Sub-committee, to embed



sustainability in the University's high-level decision-making, track our progress, and report publicly in our Financial Statement on our greenhouse gas emissions and impact on biodiversity. We are now setting up the new Oxford Sustainability Fund, which will make £200 million available for environmental initiatives over the next 15 years.

It goes without saying that a great deal remains to be done at a personal, local, national and global level. Across the University many individuals are leading the way. The Environmental Sustainability Awards give us an opportunity to recognize and to celebrate some of the work of our colleagues and students to minimise our negative impact on the environment and promote positive change. We hope that they will also inspire others to become involved in working together to address the greatest challenge of our time.



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability

## Introduction

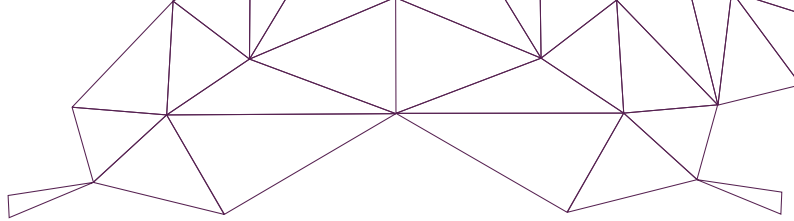
### From Harriet Waters, Head of Environmental Sustainability



In March 2021, the University council approved the Environmental Sustainability Strategy with the dual goal of achieving net zero carbon and net biodiversity gain by 2035. It was the completion of a complex and interesting 18-month process, but just the beginning of another process, the actual implementation.

In the past year, the University had adopted targets for waste reduction, recycling and international travel reduction. We launched an international travel policy and Oxford Sustainability Fund is being set up.

We further developed our carbon accounting and included carbon emission data in the University's Financial Statement for the first time. We developed an approach to measure and report on our



biodiversity impact, assisting us in planning better our approach to biodiversity net gain.

The environmental sustainability team is here to advise, enable and support you, the University community, in achieving our strategic goals of net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain. It is you who are making the day-to-day work and decisions that will eventually allow us to achieve our commitments.

Nearly one hundred LEAF and Green Impact teams worked this year, with hundreds of students, and staff members from all across the University and colleges. These colleagues are part of the growing movement in the University, dedicated to doing the right thing and, in many ways leading the way for environmental sustainability.

I believe this is a fascinating time to be working on environmental issues within the University. Implementing the Strategy over the coming years is not going to be easy, and in some areas, we are not yet sure how to do it, but there is a real sense of hope and enthusiasm, which we hope to harness. Thank you all for taking part in this incredible work.

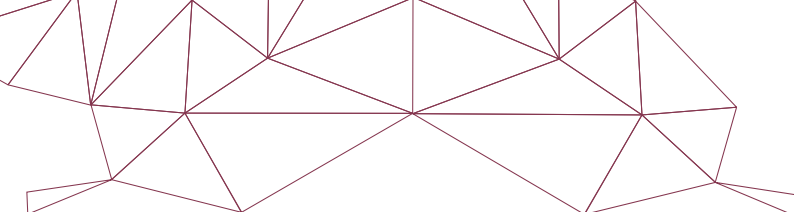




Image by Stefania Monterisi  
Sustainability Photographer of the Year 2021

The background is a solid maroon color. Overlaid on this is a complex, abstract geometric pattern of thin white lines. These lines form a series of interconnected triangles and polygons of various sizes, creating a faceted, crystalline appearance. The pattern is centered horizontally and extends across most of the width of the image.

# Special Awards



## Special Awards Environmental Sustainability Project Awards



### WINNERS

#### Wolfson Zero Carbon Project

**Project Lead:** Richard Morin, Bursar; Sir Tim Hitchens, President

Wolfson College has the ambitious aim of eliminating carbon emissions from its Grade II listed estate, making its facilities operation fossil fuel free.

The Wolfson Zero Carbon project cuts 75% of carbon emissions on the main college estate by replacing gas boilers with heat pumps and going all electric with additional refurbishments and energy savings means.

The project has been a collective effort from students and the wider college community. It is a part of a broader zero carbon campaign in the College, working with the Climate Emergency Research Cluster and student-led Green Team.



Wolfson College

*"This has been a transformative experience for Wolfson, turning one of Oxford's worst emitting colleges into the best performing. It has involved disruption for many of us who live all year round at college; but it's also shown that you can reach net zero if you collectively set your mind to it."*

**Sir Tim Hitchens**





Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## RUNNERS-UP

### The Classroom with Leaves

**Project Lead:** Kim Polgreen, Youth  
Educator in Residence

The 'Classroom with Leaves' project offers meaningful connections with nature for hugely diverse groups of young people from all backgrounds, as well as teachers and carers, through opportunities that include field studies, nature learning, well-being awareness, work experience and green careers workshops.

The project develops approaches to environmental education that support the new GCSE in Natural History, by exposing young people to the world-leading science that takes place at Wytham, and the Woods themselves provide a unique blend of different habitats in which to deliver this. With an ethos of 'Equality of Education for all', the project has created an extensive network with schools, other parts of Oxford University, local businesses and charities. It endeavours to create a self-funding education programme that supports individuals' well-being whilst also widening their appreciation of the natural world and their understanding of sustainability.



Wytham Woods

### OxPOCH – Oxford Partnership for Operationalising the Conservation Hierarchy

**Project Lead:** E.J. Milner-Gulland, Tasso Leventis Professor of Biodiversity

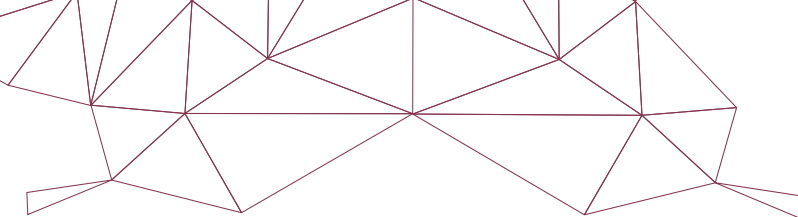
OxPOCH is a research initiative focused on documenting the biodiversity impacts of the collegiate University's food consumption and landholdings and exploring scenarios to reduce the environmental impact these cause. The project brought together many stakeholders including colleges, every division, Estates Services and GLAM to develop and test a framework for planning, implementing and monitoring progress towards the environmental sustainability goals. The project has gone beyond Oxford, and now the Conservation Hierarchy has been recommended as an approach for the upcoming UN Global Biodiversity Framework negotiations by the IUCN World Conservation Congress. The success of the project has ultimately led to new funding and to Oxford taking a leadership position in environmental sustainability nationally and internationally.

*"It was a great privilege to work with the OxPOCH team, I loved that it represented the whole range of members of the University"*

**EJ Milner-Gulland**



Ox-POCH team



## NOMINATIONS

### GLAM Sustainability Champions Network

**Project Lead:** Emma Webster & Emma Thomas, GLAM Divisional Office  
Green Impact Leads

The GLAM Divisional Office seeks to become a central hub for creating connections and enabling collaborations around environmental sustainability across GLAM through the Sustainability Champions Network. The network meets regularly to discuss environmental issues, share best practices and support each other in the Green Impact programme and other environmental initiatives.

*"The Sustainability Champions Network helps to remind us that there are people doing great work around us, which helps us all to feel more inspired to make positive changes both at work and at home"*

**Emma Webster**



GLAM Sustainability Champions  
Network meeting

### Bleeding Green

**Project Lead:** Elize Richards, Linda Kempson, SanYuMay Tun, Wesam Alyeddin, Adriana Zembrzycka, Sarah Peters, Laura Hudson

The Bleeding Green initiative has transformed environmental waste associated with medical education and clinical skills teaching. The project has developed successful methods to clean, repackage and reuse non-sharp, traditionally 'single-use only' equipment, offering students the same experience as using unopened, 'first-use' items, without creating the associated waste.

*"It has been my long-term dream to reduce, reuse and recycle the single-use equipment in the skills lab. We now have a system of making this work. The initiative inspired interesting conversations about sustainability with the students."*

**Elize Richards**



Linda Kempson in the skills lab



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability

## Sustainable Food at Queen's

**Project Lead:** Seth Whidden, Coordinator,  
Sustainable Food at Queen's

Sustainable Food at Queen's is a year-long project dedicated to thinking about every aspect of the food system in the college. The project included internal working groups, collaboration with distinguished guest chefs and talks from external academics. The entire initiative was open to everyone in College: students, staff, and academic tutors have all been active participants.

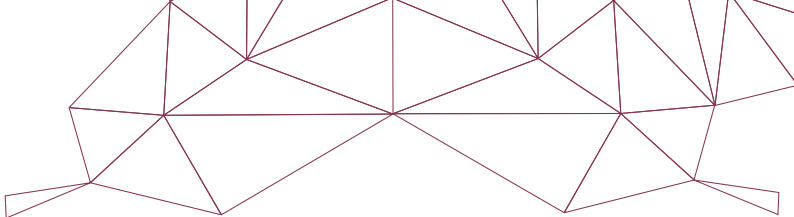


Queen's Dining

## Access to Employers' Sustainability Credentials

**Project Lead:** Jonathan Black, Director, Careers Service & Internship Office

The University of Oxford Careers Service have set out new, ambitious objectives for promoting environmentally friendly organisations within its recruitment platform. This initiative provides students, researchers and alumni with easy access to potential employers' environmental policies and sustainability credentials as well as encouraging the organisations to embed sustainability into their core operations.



## Working Towards a Sustainable Future: Building an Impactful Career

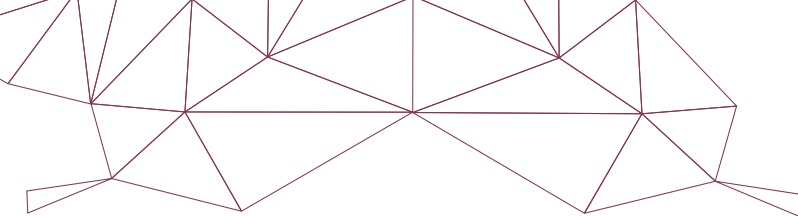
**Project Lead:** Julia Hilton, Abby Evans,  
Careers Advisers, Careers Service



Working towards a Sustainable Future:

Building an Impactful Career was a week of events and workshops dedicated to careers in sustainability which coincided with COP26. The week's events were organised by Oxford University Careers Service. They covered a wide range of career routes available in organisations from sustainable start-ups to large corporations, all working towards net zero targets.

*"It was clear that our menu of activities at the Careers Service touched on sustainability roles across different sectors but I wanted to actively do something in the careers space to acknowledge COP26."* – **Julia Hilton**



## Freezer Energy Study Report

**Project Lead:** Darren Blase, Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM),  
Building and Facilities Manager

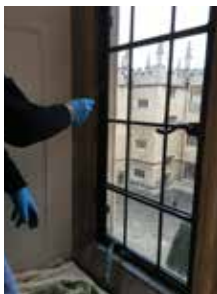
The Freezer Energy Study report evaluated the performance and energy usage of ULT (Ultra Low Temperature,  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) freezers. ULT freezers use huge amounts of power – a single old design one can consume as much as four average UK households. Oxford University has almost 600 ULT freezers, accounting for a huge portion of the energy use in labs.

Evidence from the report justify the need to replace inefficient ULT freezers the and suggest the next step in which labs will increase the overall temperature to  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  which would result in significant energy savings for the University.

## Innovative Draught-Proofing System

**Project Lead:** Martin Wall, Facilities Project  
Manager, Bodleian Libraries

Martin oversaw the implementation of an innovative approach to reduce draughts through glazing which assists in reducing heat and energy



Draught Profing a window  
at the Bodlian Library

losses. The system has been successfully installed in the Weston and Old Bodleian buildings. Since its successful introduction the system has been approved for installation in more than 60 further University buildings.

## All-Natural Cleaning Products

**Project Lead:** Hector Delcuratolo, Head Butler, Dining Services Department,  
All Souls College

The Dining Services team has set up an innovative initiative to replace toxic chemical cleaning products with eco-friendly locally developed alternatives. The project has made a huge impact by reducing the typical risks of exposure to chemicals and limiting their negative impact on the environment. Impressively, the staff have developed eight natural cleaning products of their own that are environmentally friendly.

*"The new products are harmless, reducing migraines and contact with dangerous substances, and are a cost-saving measure."*

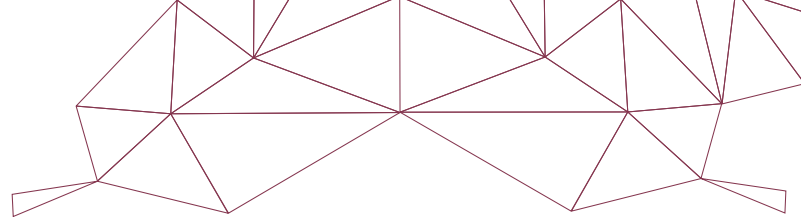
**Hector Delcuratolo**



All Souls made  
eco-Friendly  
cleaning products



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Special Awards Environmental Sustainability Staff Awards



### WINNERS

#### Alex Black

Facilities Manager, School of  
Geography

As building manager for the Dyson Perrins Building, Alex has made an extraordinary contribution to several energy saving pilot projects. Some of these projects include, a large solar panel installation on the roof, a trial of active room heating controls, fume cupboard heat recovery and free air-cooling of an IT suite.

Solar panels on the roof of  
the Dyson Perrins



Alex's colleagues know him for his enthusiasm, knowledge and dedication to exploring every opportunity for carbon reduction projects. Many of the technologies are at early stages of development and Alex patiently guides implementation around multiple obstacles. By his activities, Alex demonstrates the enormous potential of technological solution to save energy and reduce carbon emissions.

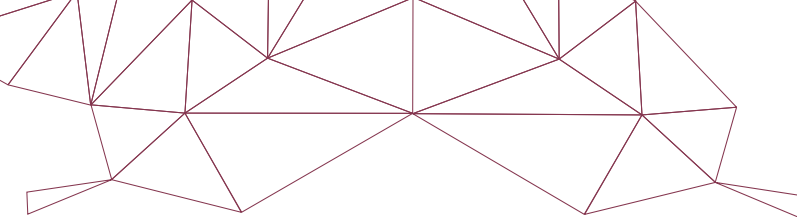
#### Dawn Burnham

Research Coordinator, WildCRU,  
Zoology

Dawn has been an outstanding champion of sustainability efforts for WildCRU for over a decade. During this time, she has contributed to multiple projects including working with students from the Climate Society to envision and scope long-term green energy solutions for the Tubney Panthera Buildings. This has since led to the development of a decarbonisation plan for which installation works







are scheduled to continue this summer, eventually culminating in an annual saving of 66 tonnes of carbon – a fantastic achievement.

Dawn has also convened a Sustainability Working Group for the Zoology Department, with a view to producing a departmental policy document in response to the University's Environmental Sustainability Strategy and calculating a baseline for future monitoring.. The positive impact of her teams' works led to a Silver Award for Green Impact in 2020-21.

## Harriet Quint

Food and Beverage Manager,  
Green Templeton College

Harriet has made huge strides for environmental sustainability at Green Templeton College, pursuing a wide range of high-impact environmental initiatives. With her dedication and creativity, Harriet was able to maintain traditions associated with college life, without compromising sustainability. These include sustainable centrepieces for student welcome events made with herbs and edible plants, which were subsequently planted in the college gardens and used in the college kitchen. During Christmas Harriet introduced

crackers and hampers that were completely recyclable and clearly labelled to raise awareness among the college community. She also implemented 'bring your own box' initiative for takeaway food, in order to help cut down on single-use items.

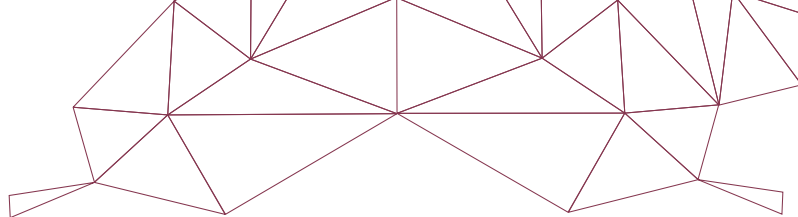
Harriet worked with colleagues and contributed to the move to fully compostable or recyclable packaging for all unavoidable single-use containers. A move in the right direction.

*"Sustainability plays a big part in my creative ethos. I try to channel this into each and every event we create at Green Templeton."*

**Harriet Quint**



Green Templeton College's new sustainable centrepieces



## Sue Henderson

Executive Assistant to the Head of Department and Head of Administration, Department of Chemistry

Sue has been recognised for her exceptional contribution to her department's sustainability agenda over the last five years. She has been a tireless champion for sustainability in the department, quietly leading and effecting change.

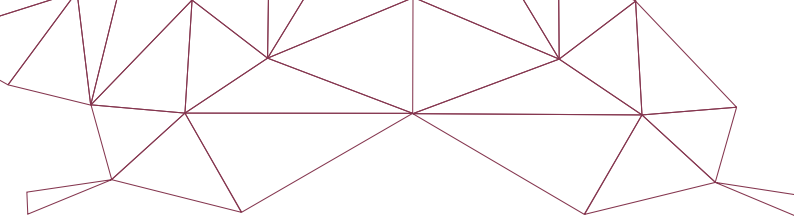
Examples of her achievements include, forming the Green Impact Team of volunteers, leading the department to a Beyond Gold Award, and actively promoting the Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF). In her personal time, Sue is now participating in the Open University's *"Transforming your Organisation for Sustainability"* programme – a sign of her inspirational commitment to promoting sustainability.

*"In the early days we used the Plastic Bag Monster to highlight the damage that plastic bags can cause, that being one of the many schemes our team 'The Green Meanies' devised to promote sustainability across the department."*

**Sue Henderson**



Plastic Bag Monster



## NOMINATIONS

### Laurence Wainwright

MSc Course Director, School of Geography  
and the Environment

Laurence has created a new MSc degree this academic year, the MSc in Sustainability, Enterprise and the Environment. The degree is a game changer and really pushes the frontier of innovation and research on net zero sustainable development, aiming to nurture future environmental sustainability leaders.

*"The course equips current and future thought-leaders and decision makers to lead impactful change toward net-zero sustainable development for all."* - **Laurence Wainwright**



### Saroj Saurya

Lab manager, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology

Saroj received multiple nominations for her sheer enthusiasm in the pursuit of an environmentally friendly University. She is the Chair of the Dunn School's Green Group, and inspires activism not only within the group, but in the department as a whole. Lobbies staff, students, and senior academics to change behaviours; and demands PIs and departmental leadership invest in equipment and resources to support reuse and recycling.

### Lana Strmecki

Research Administrator, Department of Biochemistry

Dr Strmecki has successfully lead sustainability efforts within the Department of Biochemistry. A lab based department producing large amounts of waste material. Dr Strmecki has formed an active and effective network with the central Environmental Sustainability team and other departmental teams to provide practical advice, which has enabled a collective approach towards reducing environmental impact.



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability

## Barbara Rossi

Associate Professor, New College

Professor Barbara Rossi's research focuses on how the construction industry can use metals in a more sustainable and resilient way. As a Sustainability Fellow in New College, Barbara is leading all the college's efforts to reach net zero carbon by 2035.

Led by Prof. Rossi, the New College Gradel Quad project team, responsible for sustainability, has implemented numerous measures to integrate sustainability throughout the construction process including emphasis on the durability and local sourcing of key construction materials, massive use of recovered materials as replacement of cement, and more. At a wider level, Barbara Rossi is engaging with construction industries to champion sustainability within the sector.



## Jo Peel

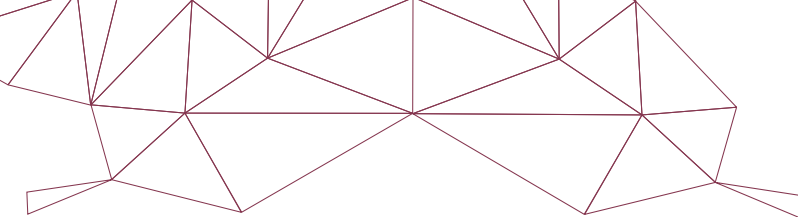
Executive Assistant to Head of Department, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology.

She is the organizer of the Dunn School Bike Doctor service and participates in all group events. Through various activities such as notice board postings, creation of the group flag and t-shirt, Jo has helped raise the profile of the Green Group.

## Jill Brown

Research Assistant, Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine

Jill Brown has been nominated for her impressive achievements in advocating for more recycling and sustainability changes in the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine (WIMM). Her research lab was the first in the Institute to sign up for LEAF (Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework) so that the WIMM can become more environmentally friendly and reduce waste.



## Kok Siew Ng

UKRI/NERC Industrial Innovation (Rutherford)  
Research Fellow, Department of Engineering  
Science

Kok Siew Ng has been actively promoting environmental sustainability through his research vision, which develops sustainable solutions from a systems engineering perspective. Furthermore, he is pursuing a project that explores innovative approaches to address challenges in organic waste management and achieving a circular economy.



## Helen Sanders

Technician, Zoology

Helen is nominated for her tremendous efforts as Chair of the Green Impact team for the Wytham Field Station. Some of her achievements include meetings with recycling companies to discuss the possibilities for recycling nitrile gloves, arranging trials of eco-friendly cleaning products and purchasing wildflower seeds for the Wytham Wild Flower Meadow Project.

## Sam Cornish

Oxford University Polar Forum Coordinator

Sam is the Oxford University Polar Forum coordinator and has reached out with impressive creativity to the Oxford community and beyond. Sam actively contributed to OxfordSU Environment & Ethics and Oxford Fossil Free campaigns. In 2019, Sam participated in MOSAiC, joining an expedition which took the closest look at the Arctic as the epicentre of global warming, an impressive achievement which provided important insights.

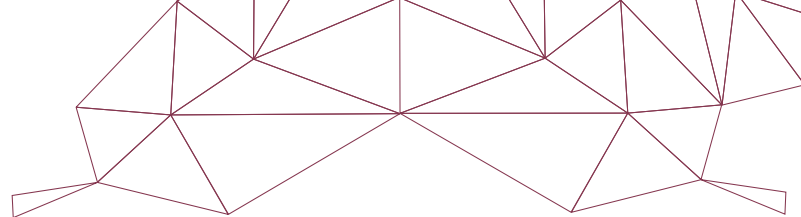


Green Impact  
at Wytham Field Station





Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Special Awards Environmental Sustainability Students Awards



**WINNERS**

### Hannah Chase and Sarah Peters

Clinical medical students, Green Templeton and Somerville colleges

Hannah and Sarah have succeeded in making Education for Sustainable Healthcare (ESH) a key educational theme across all six years of Oxford Medical School through their hard work, tenacity and inspirational leadership.

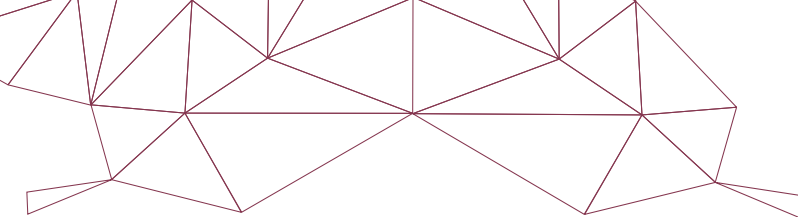
This has led to the Oxford Medical School transforming its approach to the delivery of the theme. This is an extraordinary achievement for any initiative, more so as it is student-led.

The initiative includes the creation of a new post, a programme of workshops, revision of curricula and innovative approaches to implementing sustainability. Their work has achieved national prominence.



Hannah Chase (on the left) and Sarah Peters

*"The process has given me confidence and cemented the fact that you don't have to be in a senior position to make a difference, but the student voice, if used wisely, can catalyse systemic change in a large (and often very slow moving) machine."* – **Hannah Chase**



## RUNNERS-UP

### Josh Ettinger Alexis McGivern and Marcus Spiegel

DPhil, MPhil and Current Graduate Research, School of Geography  
and the Environment

Josh, Alexis and Marcus have initiated a global campaign to promote and encourage interpersonal climate conversations, as a powerful yet forgotten form of climate action. The campaign, *Talk Climate Change* ([talkclimatechange.org](http://talkclimatechange.org)) invites people to have a conversation relating to climate change and to write messages to the COP26 conference to make their voices heard. Altogether, 500 of these messages were brought to COP26 as part of Oxford's delegation.

*"We learned to leverage the knowledge of experts while also opening out to different opinions and ways of viewing the climate crisis by encouraging people to submit their conversations to our collaborative website."*

**Alexis McGivern**



The team outside of the COP26 conference centre.



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## NOMINATIONS

### Shariq Haidery and Alexandra Hartless

Undergraduate students in Philosophy, Politics and Economics,  
St Hugh's College

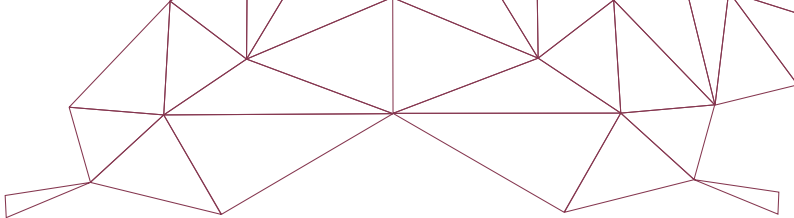
Shariq and Alexandra started a new charity initiative in Oxford called Food Rescuers, which aims to address both food poverty and food waste in Oxford. The charity takes perfectly edible leftover food from cafes, pubs and restaurants, and gives it to those who need a meal.

So far, after operating for less than one academic year, the charity has saved over 300 meals and used them to feed the homeless. Their partners range from large national chains like Franco Manca to small independent businesses such as the Oxford Sandwich Co (in the covered market).

### Elizabeth Biggs

Masters student in Biology, Wadham College

Elizabeth has been investigating how small tweaks can influence students and staff to make more sustainable dining choices. She is working with



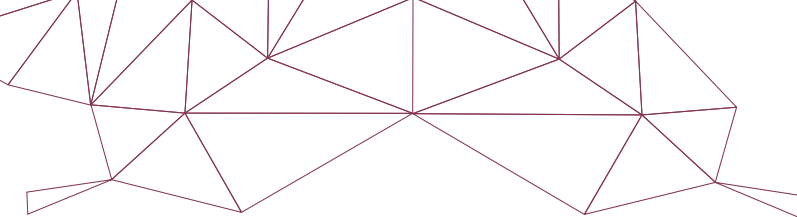
college kitchens on changes in display, signage, and experimental designs for behavioural change in food consumption.

*"Trialling a behavioural intervention in busy canteens provided a set of challenges, but also exciting engagement events and fruitful conversations with caterers who are important decision makers in the context of college food consumption."* – Elizabeth Biggs

### Juliette Caucheteux and Sugandha Srivastav

DPhil in Economics, Somerville College and DPhil in Environmental Economics,  
Oriental College

Juliette and Sugandha have created a popular seminar on Environmental Economics, which has become one of the most attended seminars at the Department of Economics. The seminar offers a forum where members of the University can gather to share ideas on the topic of climate change and the environment, across disciplines and open to all who are interested. This has resulted in interesting dialogue and sharing of diverse perspectives and ideas from fairer economy to satellite imaging technology in the service of solar energy studies.



## Lilli Hahan

DPhil student, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology

Lilli has played an active role in promoting environmental sustainability by assisting the Dunn School Green Group with various initiatives, such as creating questions for the Dunn School environmental survey. She also helped during the School's 2020 Green Week to raise awareness among staff and students. Currently she is helping with an initiative to collect gloves and masks from different labs as well as handling the team's Twitter account.

## Mukhlish Jamal Musa Holle

DPhil student in the Zoology Department

Mukhlish has been conducting research focusing on strengthening conservation in tropical regions, with a particular focus on tropical agriculture. This work is critical because tropical regions are where sustainability efforts are needed the most, due to the complex biodiversity of these regions and their vulnerability to natural destruction and climate change.

## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Challenge

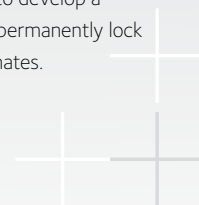
Oxford University is a partner in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Challenge, along with 20 other universities and colleges in the UK.

The challenge aims to accelerate the decarbonisation of UK universities and help the sector towards net zero. As part of this initiative, students were offered the opportunity to develop an innovative project to reduce carbon emissions at the University.

This unique and prestigious challenge appealed to many of our students and received some interesting and impressive entries.

### The winning project from Oxford University:

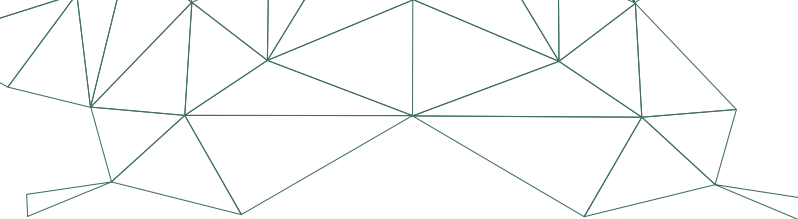
**Adam Wells and Richard Chatterjee** with their project initiative to develop a biological carbon capture system, which uses a natural enzyme to permanently lock away carbon, convert it and permanently fix carbon as solid carbonates.



The background is a dark teal color with a complex, abstract pattern of white lines. These lines form a series of interconnected triangles and polygons of various sizes, creating a geometric, crystalline structure that spans the width of the image. The lines are thin and white, contrasting sharply with the dark teal background.

# Engagement Awards





Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Engagement Awards

### Green Impact Awards



Green Impact is a national scheme providing simple and effective ways for staff and students to make their buildings, departments or colleges more sustainable. Actions range from changing the type of paper used to creating a biodiversity garden. These teams are accredited with either Beyond Gold, Gold, Silver or Bronze awards, based on their progress through the years.

In the past two years, the teams encountered additional challenges due to the recent pandemic. However many of them continued to work on their Green Impact activities throughout.



**27 teams** reporting  
actions, with  
**21 teams** submitting  
for audits



**268** people led  
these Green Impact  
teams- your average  
team size was **9**



Provided training and  
development for **47**  
students in their roles  
as student auditors  
and GIPAs



Teams reached **4,177**  
colleagues across the  
University through their  
departments and colleges



**816** actions completed,  
**567** as a direct result  
of Green Impact



## Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Environmental Sustainability

### Beyond Gold Award

- Lady Margaret Hall
- Osney One
- OUP Environment
- Department of Chemistry
- Oxford University Innovation
- Primary Care Health Sciences

### Gold Award

- Saïd Business School
- Department of Biology
- GLAM Divisional Office
- Green Templeton College
- Oxford Botanic Garden & Arboretum
- Trinity College

### Silver Award

- Lincoln College
- INET Oxford
- Pembroke College

### Bronze Award

- Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences
- Planning and Council Secretariat (PACS)
- Radcliffe Humanities
- Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit (ORAU), School of Archaeology
- St Antony's College
- Oxford Alumni Office



**12 teams** promoted Fairtrade events and switched to **Fairtrade** items



**13 teams** improved campus biodiversity by adding wildlife habitats



Teams promoted **sustainable food**, with more meat-free, local and responsibly sourced

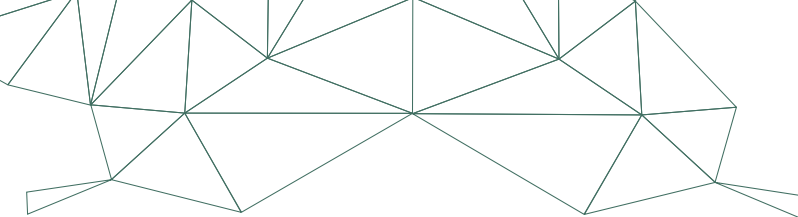


**14 teams** took practical actions to reduce waste and increase recycling



Teams **organised events** such as litter picks, food workshops and upcycled craft sales

Staff promoted **sustainable travel** and took part in cycling and walking initiatives



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Engagement Awards

### Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF) Awards

The LEAF (laboratory efficiency assessment framework) is a laboratory sustainability standard that encourages lab users to implement changes in areas such as water consumption, energy use, and single use plastic. LEAF is supported by the UKRN (The UK Reproducibility Network) in recognition that high quality research is sustainable research.

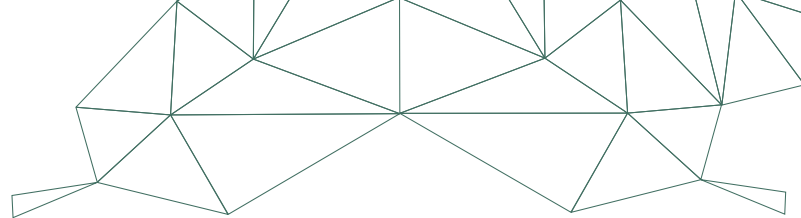
Using the framework, each lab has to self-assess their current practices and chooses whether to aim for a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. A lab on LEAF can save on average £3,700 and approximately 3 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. If all labs across the university took part, it would equate to a huge reduction in our carbon emissions, supporting the net zero carbon target by 2035.

This is our second year of LEAF. Last year 23 laboratories submitted an award, this year 77 submissions were received.





Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Gold Award

### Chemistry

- Williams Lab

### Radcliffe Department of Medicine (RDM):

- Kusumbe – Lab (WIMM)

### Sir William Dunn School of Pathology:

- Carvalho Lab
- Esashi Lab
- Freeman Lab
- Genome Engineering Oxford
- Gromak Lab
- Hassan Lab\*
- IOI Walsh Lab\*
- Luis Alberto Baena-Lopez
- Raff Lab
- Tang Lab

## Silver Award

### Biochemistry Department

- Gibbs-Seymour Lab\*
- MGSL Lab

### Chemistry

- Anderson, E Lab
- Robinson, Bencsch, Baldwin and Kukura  
(Kavli Lab)

### Oncology

- McHugh Lab (WIMM)

### Physiology, Anatomy, & Genetics (DPAG)

- Wade-Martins Lab

### Radcliffe Department of Medicine (RDM)

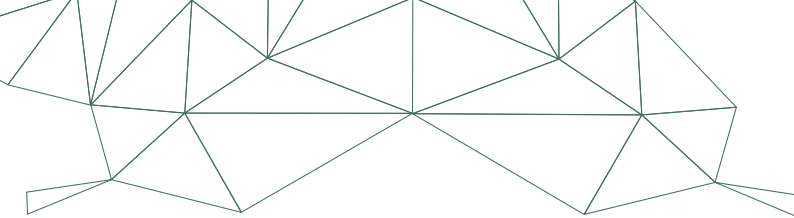
- Chapman
- Patel Lab (WIMM)

### Sir William Dunn School of Pathology

- Cellbank/Washroom/Store
- Cook Lab
- Dunn School IT
- Dunn School Workshop
- EM facility
- Fodor Lab
- Hunt Lab
- Ivan Ahel Lab
- James Lab
- Lea Lab
- Light Microscopy Facility
- Molecular Immunology Group
- Murphy/Norbury
- Sanyal Lab
- The Don Mason Facility of Flow Cytometry

### Zoology

- Foster Lab
- Walsh Lab



## Bronze Award

### Chemistry

- Anderson, H
- Bouard and Burt Lab
- Clarke Group
- Faulkner
- Gouverneur Lab
- Langton
- Mackenzie Lab
- McCulloh Group
- NMR
- O'Hare Lab
- Oxford Colloid Group
- Perkin Lab\*
- Robertson Group
- Russell
- Teaching Lab
- Vallance Group
- Willis Group

### Engineering Science

- IBME – Tissue Engineering

### Nuffield Department of Clinical

#### Neurosciences (NDCN)

- Yin Dong Lab (WIMM)

### Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences

- Business Admin Unit
- IGF (Macaulay)
- Stress resistance and cancer evolution (Mills)\*

### Oncology

- Olcina Lab

### Paediatrics

- Oxford Vaccine Group

### Paediatrics

- Berry Lab

### Radcliffe Department of Medicine (RDM)

- Higgs Lab (WIMM)

- Rehwinkel Group (WIMM)
- S Davis Lab (WIMM)

### School of Archaeology

- Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit
- Stable Isotope Lab

### Sir William Dunn School of Pathology

- D.Ahel Lab
- Greaves Lab
- Gruneberg Lab
- Gullerova Lab
- Isom Lab
- Proudfoot Group\*
- Sattentau
- Stracy Lab\*
- Vaux Lab

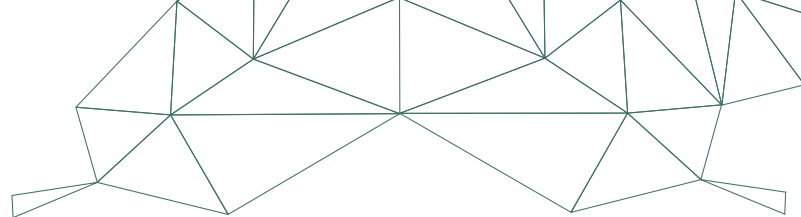
### Zoology

- Maiden

\* Pending audit results



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## LEAF Champion Awards

### Dunn School Green Group

The Dunn School Green Group is a very successful grass roots environmental group from the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology. Following their work, 34 labs, out of 35 in the Dunn School, registered to the LEAF scheme, including the washing and workshops facilities.

Since 2020, the Dunn School Green Group have organised and promoted many activities to reduce its environmental impact including researching innovative practices. These include washing and re-using of plastic consumable items, recycling of glove and facemask, and having sustainability issues as part of new staff inductions.

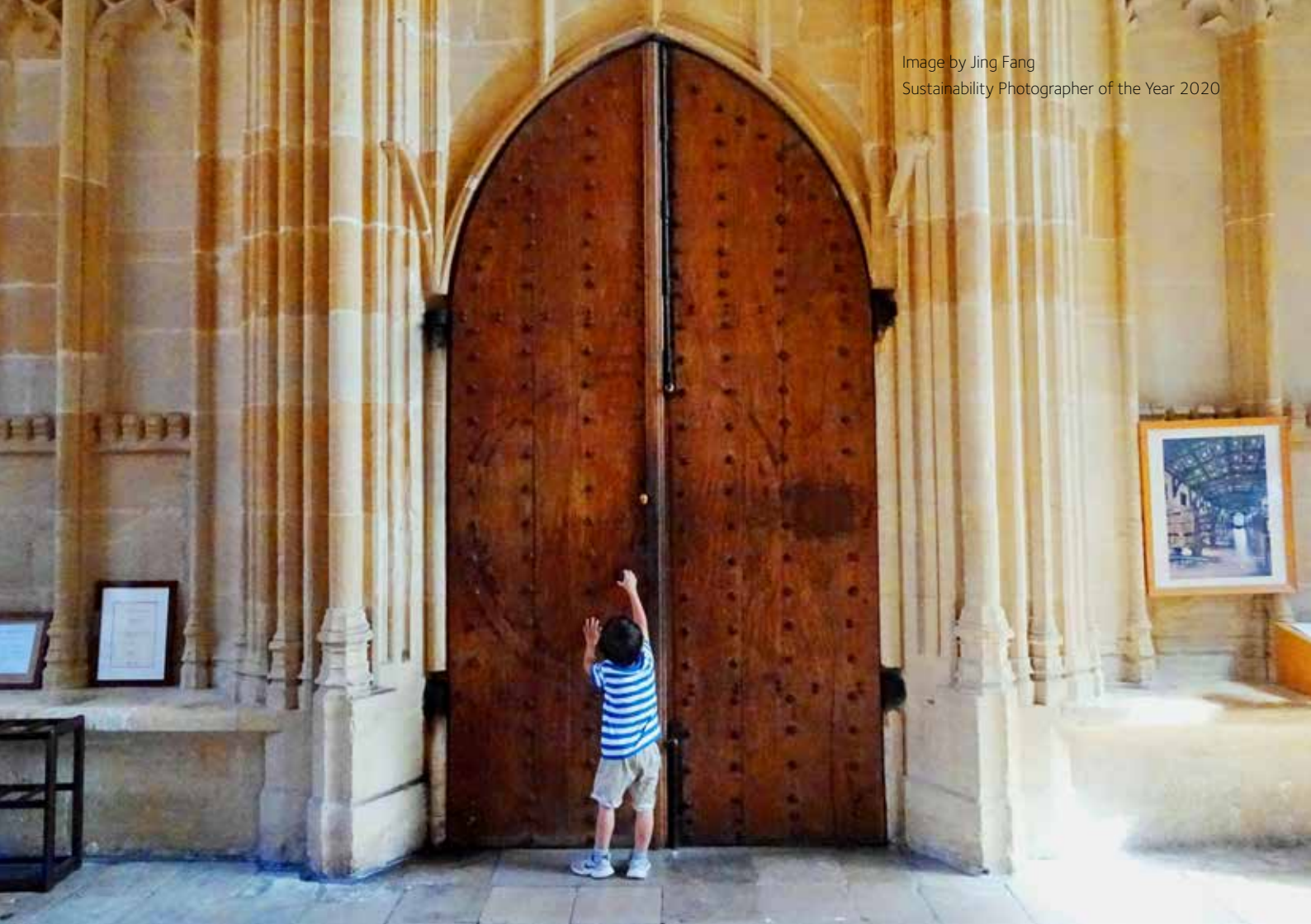
Dunn school labs achieved gold award (10), silver (14) and bronze (9). Using average figures for LEAF labs' carbon reduction, Dunn School LEAF labs are saving approximately 100 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.



The Dunn School Green Group

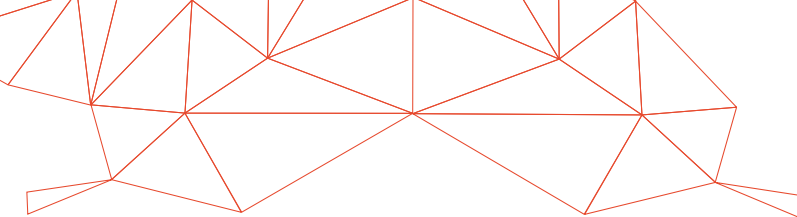


Image by Jing Fang  
Sustainability Photographer of the Year 2020



The background is a solid red color. Overlaid on this is a complex, abstract pattern of thin white lines. These lines form a series of interconnected, irregular polygons and triangles, creating a geometric, crystalline or molecular structure that spans the width of the image. The lines vary in length and orientation, giving the pattern a dynamic and organic feel despite its geometric nature.

# Sustainability Photographer of the Year Award



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Sustainability Photographer of the Year Award

The Sustainability Photographer of the year award is a wonderful opportunity to see Oxford through the eyes, and camera lenses, of students and staff. It also reminds us to stop and appreciate the wonders of our immediate environment, as we often focus on the dangers and loss.

As always, the competition receives dozens of remarkable entries, showing the creativity of the photographers and the appreciation to our environment. Thank you to all those who participated in this year's competition. It is our hope that you enjoyed the process of going out, observing, and capturing your interpretation of the theme.

## FIRST PLACE

### **"Resilience"**

**Taken by Daphne Parramon-Dhawan**

Nuffield Department of Clinical  
Medicine (NDM)

Lead for IT Systems and Data  
Management

*"Resilience is an important part of sustainability  
– this graceful robin who survived neck injuries but  
still keeps singing is for me a beautiful example  
and an inspiration to keep going."*

**Daphne Parramon-Dhawan, 2022**





## SECOND PLACE

### **“Bee Positive” Taken by Shukria Rezaei**

Mansfield College, Communications Officer

*“‘Bee Positive’ features a bee buzzing on a Turkish Sage. There are currently many challenges that wildlife face, I know that the bee population is rapidly declining; we can all do our bit by planting more bee attracting plants like this, I’d like to think that this is an effort to stop the decreasing population at the very least.” – Shukria Rezaei*



## THIRD PLACE

### **“For the Future”**

**Taken by Richard Parton**

Department of Biochemistry,  
Post Doctorate

*“A blue tit raising its young in a birdbox hung under the eaves of a shed. In Oxford we are fortunate to have a very green city with many parks and gardens, however, throughout the UK, habitat loss is having a major impact on our native wildlife. Increasingly, our gardens are becoming a crucial haven for many animals, especially insects and birds. Whether it is large or small, or even just a terrace, we can all make the most of these spaces for nature.”*

**Richard Parton**





## RUNNERS-UP

### “Wings” Taken by Aimee Stewart

Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences, Executive Assistant

*“‘Wings’ has captured a gorgeous Red Kite; flying through the sky represented by a deep dark shadow between the suns lit clouds. This picture represents to me an incredible portrayal of the success that is possible when we do the right thing in wanting to create a sustainable environment for all living beings.”*

**Aimee Stewart**

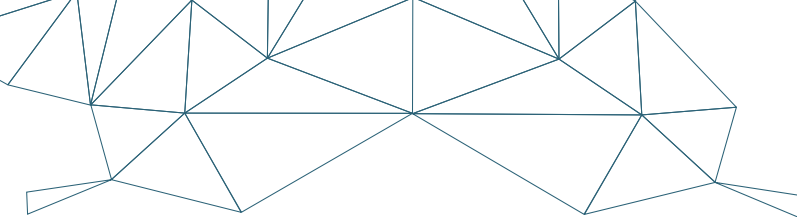


## RUNNERS-UP

### “Let it grow!” Taken by Jack Frowde

Finance Division, Insurance Officer

*“Whilst I was lying on the grass in my garden, I noticed that one small patch which had only been growing for two weeks was absolutely teeming with insects and pollinators. When I grabbed my camera and took a closer look, it was like a completely different world down there. Grasshoppers, crickets, damselfly, bees and butterflies were all busy in the hidden community thriving amongst the grass, clover and wildflowers that had established in the small patch. It drives home the idea that small changes by individuals really do make a difference and help towards a more sustainable future.” – Jack Frowde*



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## How to take part

Sustainability is not abstract. It begins with the small practical choices each of us makes every day and the impact these have on the world around us.

The Environmental Sustainability Team runs a diverse range of engagement and training activities throughout the year, as well as campaigns and events designed to educate and inspire staff and students on all aspects of sustainability.

We are proud of the positive environmental changes our staff and students already make through our programmes. However, with your help, we can do even more! There are plenty of ways for everyone across the University to become better informed and make more sustainable choices and support others to do the same.

The sustainability website offers a lot of information about engagement opportunities, campaigns, interesting initiatives and more. We have a monthly newsletter that will keep you in the know without overloading you with information.

**You are welcome to email the team at [sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk)**

**[sustainability.admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk)**





Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability

## Making Sustainable Choices

In the process of planning and producing this event, we made several sustainability led decisions.

Feel free to ask for details for your next event.

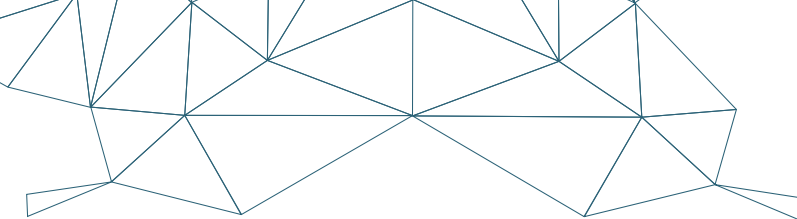
- 1) Our choice of venue – The Sheldonian theatre, like all of the University facilities, purchases its electricity from renewable sources.
- 2) As much as possible we use in-house equipment and services to prevent unnecessary transport.
- 3) The staging equipment is rented from a local carbon-natural company.
- 4) Zero waste vegetarian canapé menu served by Compass Group, the University's main caterer, is based on the menu they designed for COP26 Conference in Glasgow, 2022. The menu aims to use elements from the supply chain that would usually be waste products and contribute to food waste.
- 5) Our gin bar offers local gin that is produced "from seed to still" within 50 miles of Oxford. Our apple juice is from an Oxfordshire farm.

- 6) We decorated the stage with seasonal wild flowers in crates made out of reclaimed wood. The items you see on the stage are reused from a wedding earlier this week and will go back to the farm to be reused as much as possible. The cut flowers will be composted, the boxes and the potted plants will continue to be used for future events and weddings.
- 7) All printed products are printed on 100% recycled materials in a printing process that uses no water, generates no landfill waste, and is powered by 100% renewable energy by a Net Positive printing studio.
- 8) The award slates are all recycled slates from a restored worker's cottage in Swansea, and are cut to size using a hand guillotine or slating pliers rather than heavy machinery. They are printed using non-oil-based finishes and the company uses the lowest impact packaging available to them.



### What is your sustainable choice?

Share with us a sustainable alternative you apply and we will highlight your good practice. This helps us learn from each other.



Vice-Chancellor's Awards for  
Environmental Sustainability



## Thank you

We wish to thank all the people who were involved in this event.

**The presenters** (in order of appearance): Professor E.J. Milner-Gulland, Dr David Prout, Dame Professor Louise Richardson, Gill Aitken, Professor Susan James Relly, Isobel Hughes, Professor Chas Bountra, and Harriet Waters.

**The Judging Panel:** Dr Andy Gilchrist, Dr Linda Flores, Junior Proctor, and Professor Susan James Relly, Harriet Waters. Apart from their academic roles, Andy and Susan are members of the Environmental Sustainability Subcommittee and head the subgroups to promote environmental sustainability in our research and curriculum respectively.

### Our local suppliers:

Fusion Events and Weddings, That Event Company, Skylark Flower Company, Ed Nix Photography, Jazz Collective, Seacourt printing, Joe Graham Balancing Act, Waterperry Farm Shop, The Oxford Artisan Distillery

All of our **University partners**.

**Moreover, thank you all for taking the time to celebrate with us.**

Image by Gurinder Punj  
Sustainability Photographer of the Year 2021

## Environmental Sustainability team

Estates Services, The Malthouse,  
Tidmarsh Lane, Oxford OX1 1NQ

Email: [sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk)

Phone: +44 (0) 1865 614605

Website: <https://sustainability.admin.ox.ac.uk>



@OxfordEnvSust

Our purpose is to advise, enable and support the University community to achieve its environmental strategic goals of net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain.

Image by Gudrun Jakobsdottir

