



GIRTON GREEN SOC

presents

*Girton  
Green  
Society*

NEWSLETTER

LENT 2022

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

## ELLA - EVENTS

Last term we hosted Will from the Carbon Literacy project to kick off our first meeting which provided a great insight into sustainability at the University. We then discussed our main aims and project areas for the term and year, and appointed project managers!

We also hosted a panel of fellows for a very successful COP26 event, discussing the outcomes and politics of such a conference from a number of different perspectives. Thanks to all who were involved!



## HOLLY - DIVESTMENT

We followed up with the Bursar at the start and end of last term, and the College is making good progress on finding a new sustainable investor to divest from fossil fuels and other sensitive sectors. A few members of the project team, as well as the JCR and MCR officers and the JCR president attended a meeting with a potential investment firm, where the college's finance and investment options were discussed.

We will be following up soon to receive an update on the progress, but our aims seem to strongly align with those of the College, so it's moving in a very positive direction!





## AUSTIN - ENERGY

We made lots of progress on identifying what not to work on: Swirles Court (it's a new building with great insulation), changing the college's energy supplier (the university purchases electricity collectively from 100% renewables), and adding double glazing to the windows on main site (Girton is a listed historic building so we can't change the windows). We're still discussing how to better monitor the college's energy usage and doing a heat-loss study of the main site

This term's plan is to pick a specific project to start with and meet with college staff to make an execution plan. We can use previous reports on Girton's insulation and energy usage made by engineering students. Please reach out if you have advice, questions, or if you'd like to get involved! We could really benefit from having more people :)

## CLAIRE - SWIRLES COURT ALLOTMENTS

The allotments at Swirles Court were a great success last year - we even had a waiting list! The allotments are open to anyone from both sites. As spring approaches, it's time to start clearing the allotments and propagating seeds ready to be planted after we've had the last frost. Gardening is such a good stress reliever and gives you a reason to get outside - plus we love locally grown organic produce!

If you would like an allotment this year, or want to know more, please let me know ([cc2065@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cc2065@cam.ac.uk)) and I can put you in a group of other green fingered buddies. You are also very welcome to apply as a group!





## LISA- CATERING

The catering project is ready to be revamped this term! We aim to get the college in consultation with a local company called Cambridge Food Hub. This relationship should help the catering department source local food, and improve aspects of its sustainability.

We are also focusing on behavioural prompts to encourage people to eat more sustainably, such as promoting and subsidising the veggie/vegan meals!

## JOHANNA - REUSABLE CUPS AND CONTAINERS

Weza, Mariella and I made good progress on the 'reusable cups & containers project'. We found out that catering had been working on implementing an even larger-scale project last term (they even got reusable pizza boxes ready!). We spoke to the head of catering and the librarian, to figure out the feasibility of implementing a borrowing scheme similar to the library's (it isn't, because they don't use any kind of cloud). There are currently discussions about a fair refundable tax per container, simply using the existing Upay infrastructure.

Our plans for this term are to implement the proposed scheme, have followup meetings with Mr Foreman and advertise the use of reusable items among students, e.g. via posters.



If you would like to get involved in any of our projects, or start one yourself please find our contact details at the end of the newsletter!

# WHAT'S COMING UP?

This term is very exciting as we have Green Week coming up on the 10th-16th Feb!!

An outline of the dates and events planned is [here](#), with more information about each event to follow closer to the date.

## **Thursday 10th - Green Formal**

Dining Hall, 7pm; includes a big plant raffle, sustainable food and an exciting theme to be released!

## **Fri 11th - Intersectional climate event**

Old Hall, 7pm: run in collaboration with **Pink Week** and other members of the JCR and heads of societies such as FemSoc, LGBTQ+, BAME, Socioeconomic etc.

## **Sun 13th - David Attenborough movie night**

Old Hall 7pm, specific showing tbc, includes free snacks and refreshments!

## **Mon 14th - Plant Post (Valentine's Day)**

All day: do you have a Valentine in mind? Send them a sustainable gift in the form of a small plant!

## **Wed 16th - COP26 event**

Old Hall, 7pm: this event will discuss the international politics of climate activism post COP26



GIRTON GREEN SOC

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS  
EDITION OF THE  
GREEN SOC TERMLY  
NEWSLETTER!

LOOK OUT FOR US IN THE  
FUTURE AND THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR EFFORTS TO MAKE GIRTON  
GREENER!

LOVE JOSIE XX

***Want to contact us  
or join our team?***

***insta: @girtongreensoc  
fb: Girton Green Society  
email: ech71 (Ella, JCR) or  
ajt212 (Austin, MCR)***