



Issue 18 | January – February 2021

Welcome back and get ready for a step up in Sustainability in 2021!

Sustainability is front and centre at the University of Tasmania with our continuing focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, implementing our Strategic Framework for Sustainability and embracing our new holistic sustainability mission integrator approach. We are collectively working across teaching and learning, research, community engagement, and operations to deliver sustainability improvements across environment, society and economy. We achieved a Silver STARS rating in 2020 and we are on track and working hard to achieve a Gold rating by the end of 2021 while putting in place programs, guidelines, and approaches that will ensure these changes are here for the long term and provide the holistic base that will support our continuing sustainability journey.

There are lots of exciting specifics coming in 2021 from mapping our curriculum to sustainability, full divestment from fossil fuels, water rain rationalisation to support towards zero waste to landfill, building-specific blitzes to address sustainability performance, deployment of Tasmania's first car share program as a stage 1 in Hobart, and amazing reductions in embodied carbon in our new campus developments, integration of environmental sustainability and social responsibility into the Communities Model, among many others. Research in climate change, environmental and social sustainability remain a hallmark of our University as well. Our Sustainability Integration Program for Students (SIPS) and the Green Impact engagement program are both expanding through strategic resourcing allocations to allow even greater student and staff participation in delivering sustainable outcomes.

On behalf of the Sustainability Team as well as all those working towards a more sustainable future, we look forward to sharing this year's journey with you.

Associate Director – Sustainability
Corey Peterson

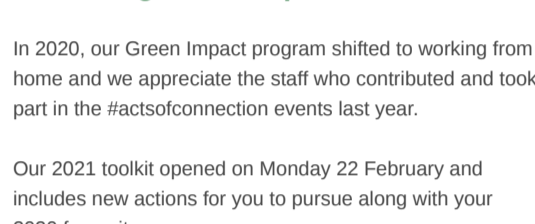
Re-Use Program geared up for 2021!

In 2020 the UTAS Re-Use Program saved the University \$105,108, diverted 22,771kg of waste from landfill, and in doing so, prevented over 52 tonnes of CO₂ emissions. The program has already had a strong start to 2021 too, recently delivering literally two truckloads of claimed items from the Hobart Clearinghouse for use in the new Henry House CoBE teaching space in Launceston.

Savings in 2021 thus far are a whopping \$42,687 - over a third of last year's total savings so far. January and February are busy times for the Re-Use Program, with lots of new items being listed for UTAS staff to claim. If you need something for your workspace, or need to fit out an office or teaching space, please register on the **UTAS Re-Use Program website** or get in touch to see how we can help you. Why buy new when you can re-use?



Will Plaister and Duncan Napier with their Re-Use haul



Launching Green Impact in 2021

In 2020, our Green Impact program shifted to working from home and we appreciate the staff who contributed and took part in the #actsconnection events last year.

Our 2021 toolkit opened on Monday 22 February and includes new actions for you to pursue along with your 2020 favourites.

Due to the great work of our Green Impact Project Assistants in 2020, we will be offering the same program for students this year and hope to encourage more teams to work with student project assistants this year.

"Andrea has been our student assistant for the 2020 Green Impact program. She has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the program and to the success of our team..... She has been friendly, professional, and has really motivated our overworked team to stick with this project..."
Jenni Klaus from Reach Out! CoSE community

To prepare for the year ahead, we encourage you to:

- Book in for your pre-audit** to tick off the actions that remain completed from 2020. We also know many of you continue to undertake sustainable actions beyond the end of the program, and your efforts deserve to be recognised. The pre-audit will also help you to plan for the year ahead, helping you to identify actions you can take to incorporate sustainability into your everyday decision-making and practices. The pre-audit is a simple process that should take no more than 30-60 minutes of your time. To organise a pre-audit, please email green.impact@utas.edu.au
- Attend a Green Impact 2021 information session** to hear what's in store for this year. Whether you're new to the program or have been participating since the program began, come along to one of two information sessions to learn more about the program for 2021 and to have any questions answered. We will be holding two information sessions: Thursday 4 March from 12:30-1:30pm and Wednesday 10 March from 11am-12pm. Register your attendance via these links:
 - Staff Green Impact session Thursday 4 March 12:30-1:30pm
 - Staff Green Impact session Wednesday 10 March 11:00-12:00
 - Student Green Impact information session on Wednesday 10 March 2:30-3:30pm.

Green Impact gives us an opportunity to celebrate the interesting, creative and sustainable actions you take. So, assemble your colleagues and register your **Green Impact 2021 team** without delay!

A big congrats to students and staff in the UTAS Gardening Society who were successful in their Hobart City grant for \$8000!

The grant is for funding to create a community food garden at the Sandy Bay Student Living site. Connect with the group through **UTAS Gardening Society Facebook page** to find photos of their past workshops and gardening bees.



Members of the Gardening Society tending to the worm farm.

Moving on and welcome!

After a great three years run with the Team, our lovely Sustainability Project Officer (South), Varru, is moving on to the next great thing! Here is her goodbye to the team:

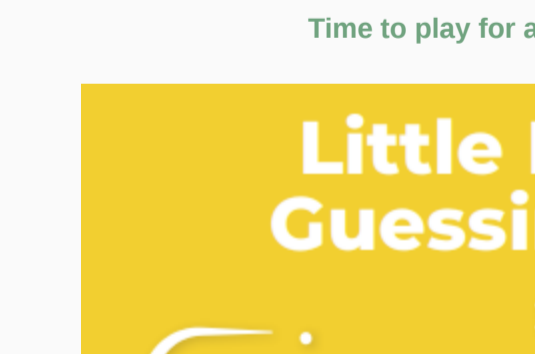
"A Ride2Work volunteer in 2017, a SIPS intern organising Ride2Work in 2018 and a Susty team member from 2019. It's been 3 eventful years and now it's come time for me to say goodbye and start on my next chapter of life.

I'm thankful to all current and previous staff members of the sustainability team for giving me the opportunity to be part of an incredible experience and being wonderful mentors. I have enjoyed my years with the team, meeting other passionate staff and students and witnessing an inspiring movement towards a more sustainable future.

I would like to congratulate fellow SIPS intern and fellow Kaminrit Kitpallawattanapol (Ink) who will be taking on my role and continuing the story.

After 3 years and organising two cycling events you'd think I would have learnt to cycle but I'm still on training wheels!"

We will miss her dearly! We will make sure to visit her at her new permanent role at Zoodoo! As to the new Project Officer, Ink, they will be continuing Varru's incredible work and building on to her journal for the role. Ink is a wildlife conservation ecologist who will also be working on biodiversity engagement and strategic plan for UTAS. Welcome Ink!



Team photo at the goodbye morning tea for Varru. Left to right: Will Plaister, Catherine Elliott, Varru Jaysenath, Ink Kitpallawattanapol, and Corey Peterson

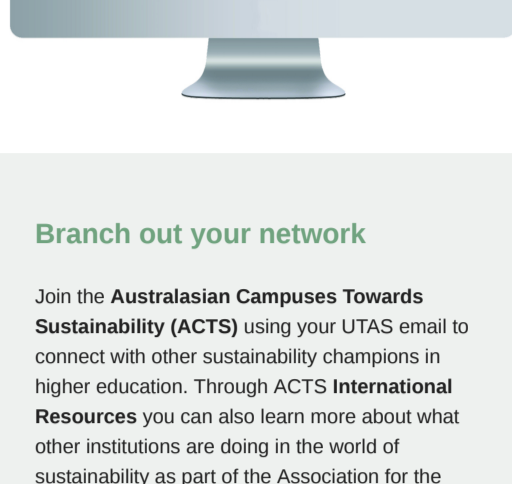


ISD Facilities Management and Sustainability teams work as one. Left to right: Mark White, Catherine Elliott, Carmen Prieto Perez, Corey Peterson, and Will Plaister

Looking for information?

Learn more about what your university is doing to enhance sustainability on campus by visiting the **Sustainability Portal**.

Keep up to date with the latest news and developments by signing up for the **Sustainability Bulletin**.



Branch out your network

Join the **Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS)** using your UTAS email to connect with other sustainability champions in higher education. Through ACTS **International Resources** you can also learn more about what other institutions are doing in the world of sustainability as part of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and EAUC - The Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education.

Connect with fellow Tasmanians through **Education for Sustainability Tasmania**.

And within UTAS for staff and HDR students - check out the **Education for Sustainability Community of Practice** (a working group of the Sustainability Committee).

Interact and Engage

Help us remain carbon neutral by installing the browser extension **UCapture** and using it while you shop.

Keep up to date with the latest SIPS activities by liking and following the Facebook page **Students for a Sustainable UTAS**.

Tune in to community events and projects by joining the Facebook group **Sustainability at UTAS**.

Want more hands-on action? Join the **Green Impact** program for staff and students.

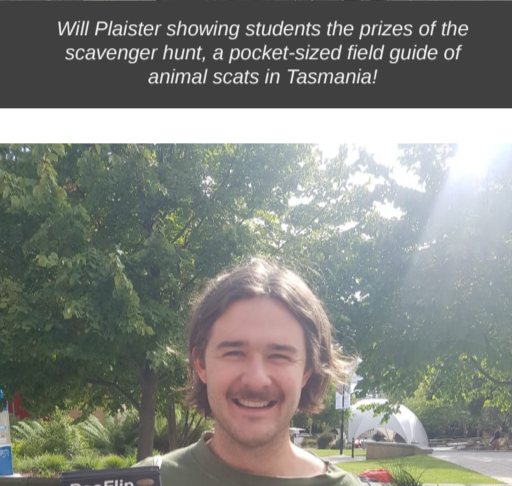
Look up our **Engagement and Resources** webpage for more opportunities.

Starting this semester by exploring the wonders of Tasmania

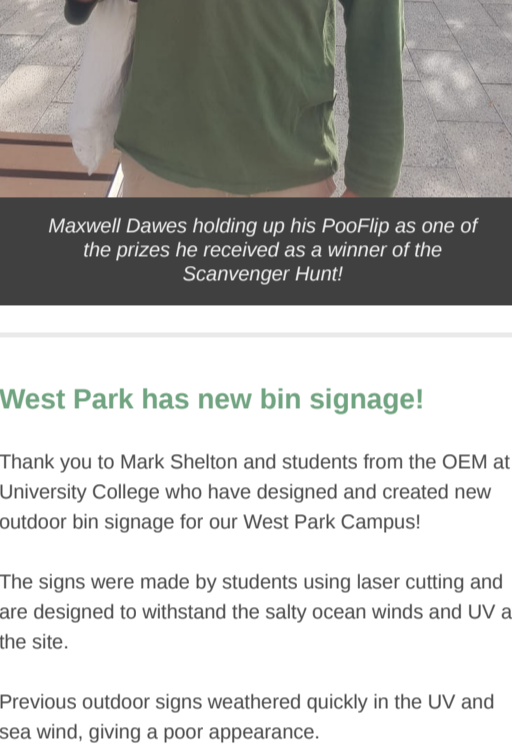
The Natural Values Scavenger Game 2021 was organised for Orientation Week Semester 1 in partnership with the **UTAS Biological Sciences Club**, **UTAS Landcare Society**, **UTAS Avian Club** and the **UTAS Sustainability team**.

The Natural Values Scavenger Game was launched in 2020 by SIPS Fellow Ink Kitpallawattanapol to introduce the UTAS Biological Sciences Club. The game was designed to encourage students to connect to place and inspire students to learn more about Tasmania. The game features unique and interesting species and features of Tasmania. Ink worked together with Riawhina for permission for palawa kani animal or plant names to be included on the corresponding posters. Lucky participants will go into a draw to win a 'flap' species guide created and designed by UTAS lecturer Rob Whitshire.

For more information on natural values on your campus **click here**



Will Plaister showing students the prizes of the scavenger hunt, a pocket-sized field guide of animal scots in Tasmania!



Maxwell Davies holding up his PooFap as one of the prizes he received as a winner of the Scavenger Hunt

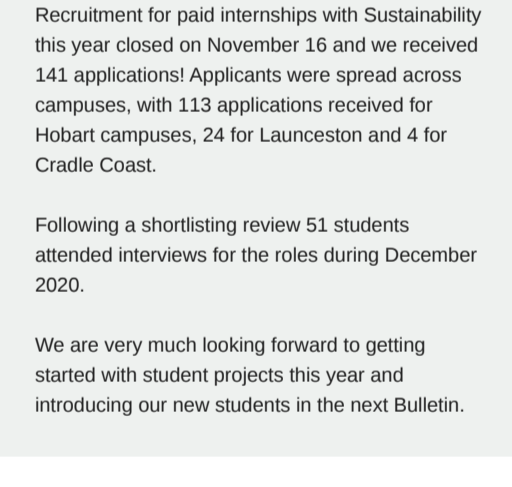
West Park has new bin signage!

Thank you to Mark Shelton and students from the OEM at University College who have designed and created new outdoor bin signage for our West Park Campus!

The signs were made by students using laser cutting and are designed to withstand the salty ocean winds and UV at the site.

Previous outdoor signs weathered quickly in the UV and sea wind, giving a poor appearance.

Although the signs used virgin plastics, the students are keen to investigate using recycled plastics and have been supplied with bottle lids collected by University staff to trial this material.



New outdoor bin signage. Photo credit: Tina Walker

Thank you to all the students who applied for paid SIPS roles for 2021

Last year was a big year with 268 students involved in sustainability projects with the Sustainability Team during the year. These projects included 22 paid roles, 26 curricular placements, 1 honours project, 220 students undertaking in-class projects and 1 co-curricular placement through I-PREP.

Recruitment for paid internships with Sustainability this year closed on November 16 and we received 141 applications! Applicants were spread across campuses, with 113 applications received for Hobart campuses, 24 for Launceston and 4 for Cradle Coast.

Following a shortlisting review 51 students attended interviews for the roles during December 2020.

We are very much looking forward to getting started with student projects this year and introducing our new students in the next Bulletin.

Pictures from Orientation Week in Launceston!



Rani, Carmen and Jakob demonstrating the pop-up recycling game at Newnham Campus for Orientation

The Mind Games 2021

ISD Facilities Management and Sustainability teams work together at The Mind Games: Race for Research 2021. A day covering 11 challenges requiring teamwork, patience and a whole lot of laughter! All proceeds from the day go to the Menzies Institute for Medical Research into mental health.

Time to play for a chance to win a prize!

Little Penguin Guessing Game

If the average Little Penguin weighs 1kg, can you guess how many 'Little Penguins' worth of recycling were collected at UTAS recycling walls in 2020?

Submit your guess to go into the draw for a prize!
sustainability.utas@utas.edu.au

Little Penguins
Tasmania is home to the largest population of Little Penguins in Australia.

Plastics in the environment can harm animals, including Little Penguins, as they mistake them for food or become tangled.

What is a Recycling Wall?
Recycling Walls collect hard to recycle items that cannot go in your co-mingle recycling.

Recycle here to prevent waste to landfill and avoid plastics ending up in our waterways.

Upcoming Events

TBLUG (Tamar Bicycle Users Group) is planning a lot of activities for Bike Week on 7-14 March, including BBQ, women's ride, beginners ride, children's ride, night ride, maintenance workshop and more!



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