

Sustainability Bulletin



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sTUUdent op shop at Newnham!

Gabrielle Stannus, Sustainability Projects Officer

I am constantly inspired by the efforts of UTAS students to come up with innovative solutions to tackle local sustainability problems. For example, what to do with those household items that students moving out of on-campus accommodation no longer need? And those moving onto campus or nearby accommodation might want? Eliza Kimlin, Tasmania University Union (TUU) Environment Officer, came up with the idea of starting the sTUUdent op shop on the Newnham campus. Fresh from a week-long trip out at sea on the Bluefin, Eliza, a third-year Marine Environment student, is busy juggling studies, TUU commitments and this initiative. Each Friday during semester, Eliza opens up the op shop from 10am to 12pm on the third level of the TUU building at Newnham. Students are welcome to browse and take from a wide range of goods, including kitchenware, living ware, linen or blankets. All that is asked in return is a gold coin donation (\$1 or \$2).

Donations needed

Supply is not quite keeping up with demand. "We desperately need donations", said Eliza, "We are getting a lot of demand for bedding, pots and pans, and kitchen knives". If you can donate goods in good condition, please drop them off at the op shop or the TUU Office, Level 3, TUU Building, Newnham campus (NH AW22 L03).

More info?

Would you like to know more? Check out the [sTUUdent op shop Facebook page](#) or contact Eliza on ekimlin@utas.edu.au.

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OPEN EVERY
FRIDAY



10am - 12pm
At the TUU
3rd Floor TUU/Z building
facebook.com/thesTUUdentopshop



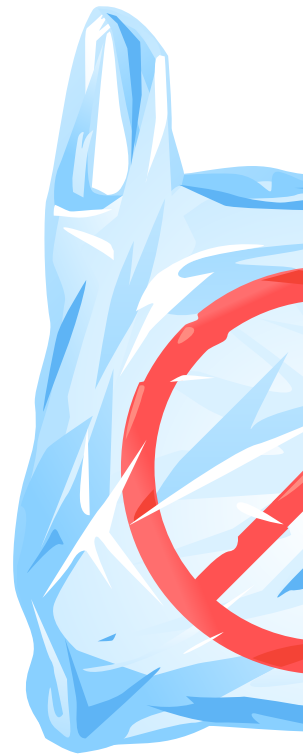
What will you find at the sTUUdent op shop?

The sTUUdent op shop – Open every Friday from 10am until 12pm during semester at the Newnham campus

Plastic Free July

Plastic Free July! The purpose is to 'choose to refuse' single use plastics (e.g., straws, cups, bottles, etc.) for the month of July (and beyond, once you find how easy it is) to reduce landfill and plastic finding its way to the oceans.

Please consider taking part in the program.



Transport

We've had e-bike charging for years, but thanks to a fund matching ChargeSmart grant from the Tasmanian Government, we have now an electric vehicle charger available at Sandy Bay campus (TUU carpark). Chargers at Newnham campus (near the entrance of the AMC carpark) and at the West Park campus will be installed soon. Just bring your own charging cable!



SDG commitment

Congratulations to the University of Tasmania for signing the University Commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals!

The SDGs aim to bring an end to extreme poverty, promote prosperity and well-being for all, protect the environment and address climate change, and encourage good governance and peace and security.

- Universities have a responsibility through their teaching to equip the next generation of leaders, innovators and thinkers to understand the global challenges facing the world and the role they can play in rising to meet these challenges.
- Through their research and training of research leaders, universities are at the forefront of finding sustainable social, economic, environmental and technical solutions to global problems.
- Finally, through their own operations universities can pioneer innovation and can set an example to other sectors and businesses.

An exciting time for collective action with our staff, students, alumni and communities to contribute to this important global effort.



UTAS Avian Club Highlighted

**Interview with Peter Vaughan,
Vice-President of the UTAS Avian Club
By Laura Smith- 2019 SIPS Biodiversity Intern**

Peter Vaughan is an ornithological enthusiast (“Bird Nerd”) studying honours on the responses of pelagic seabirds to climate change. He tells me (Laura Smith, SIPS Intern) that the Sandy Bay campus is a great place to see birds, including a lot of our endemics and even a few threatened species.

Peter, what’s the most interesting bird you have seen on campus, and why?

The Swift Parrot is a clear first candidate! They are difficult to see, endangered, and very aesthetically pleasing. A small flock were hanging around on campus for a few weeks in 2015, after some reasonably good breeding seasons. I saw four in a tree near the Morris Miller library, so close to the ground I could have reached out and touched them! I actually ran home to grab my camera, but they were gone by the time I got back.

What connection does birdwatching have with sustainability?

Even if it’s a bit nebulous conceptually, birdwatching is one of the best ways that people can develop a connection to wildlife and nature. Awareness and developing a sense of intrinsic worth is the first step towards inspiring people to conserve and sustain the environment. Birdwatching can easily connect with sustainability actions too, like environmental cleanups. The Birdlife Australia National Twitchathon (N.B. Peter is the coordinator for Tasmania) has some categories based around zero emissions, such as “most birds seen without driving a car”, to incentivise environmental consciousness and sustainable practices.



Does the Avian Club do “Citizen Science”?

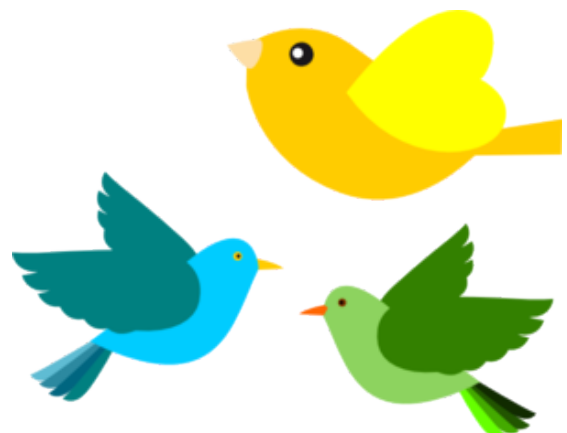
The UTAS Avian Club add our sightings to Birddata, which is Birdlife Australia’s standardised survey portal. We also submit general observations to eBird, a global citizen science project with more flexibility in submissions. These are two complimentary approaches to obtaining data, which are then used in real scientific applications. In your opinion, what are actions that people can take to reduce negative impacts on birds?

I would say:

- Keep dogs and cats confined and away from beaches.
- Try not to disturb nesting and roosting birds
- Please don’t feed birds bread – it can make them reliant on less nutritious food sources. If you want to attract birds to your garden the best thing to do is plant native plants.
- Rat poison can have lethal effects on raptors, including owls. Investigate better alternatives like multiple dose rodenticides or manual traps. You can find more info on this from Landcare Tasmania.
- Moving roadkill off the road minimises the risk of road strikes on raptors, and if you check the pouch at the same time you’ll be helping marsupials too.

How can people become involved with the UTAS Avian Club?

We are always looking for new members, and you don’t have to be a student or have prior knowledge of birds! Just message us on Facebook or email utasavianclub@gmail.com to join. Our trips are a fun opportunity to get out and about in nature, meet likeminded people and observe some birds!




Carbon Emissions update

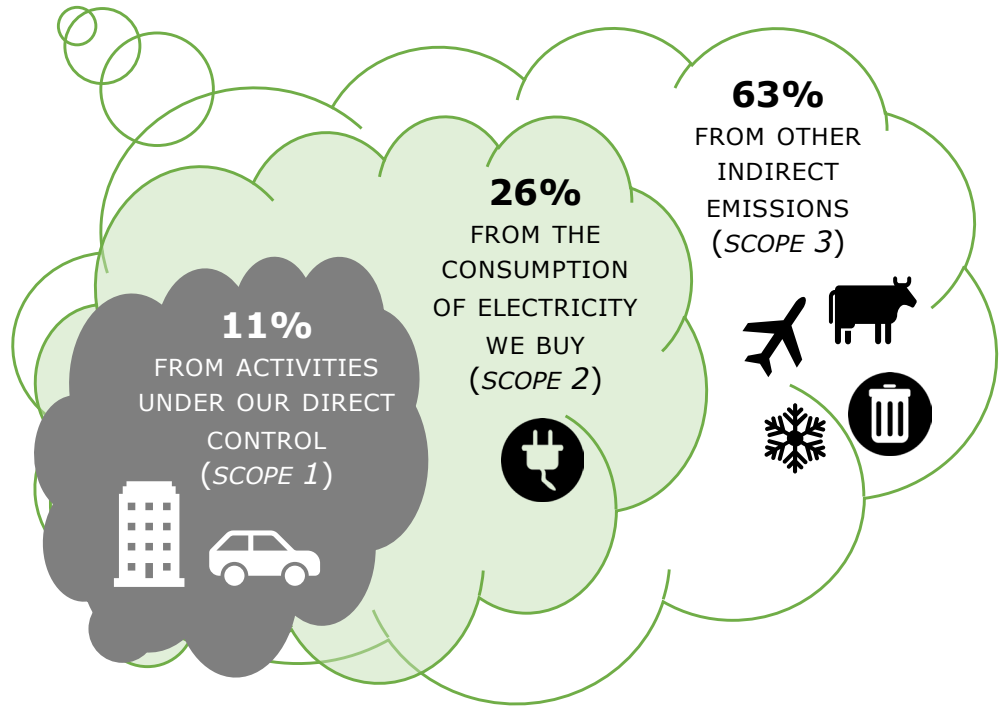
Total= 35,614 t CO₂-e

Per student = 1.76 t CO₂-e/EFTSL*

[A decrease of 1% since 2015 (baseline year)]




Offsets support biomass/biogas to energy, savanna burning, avoided deforestation, biodiversity protection and wind energy projects in six countries



*EFTSL=equivalent full-time student load

Offset sources (for 2018 GHG Inventory)



Bagasse Based Co-generation Power

Wind Grouped project Hero Future Energies

Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve (includes Biodiversity certification)

ALFA Savanna Burning Various projects

Paroo River North Environmental Project

Rice husk based thermal energy generation project at Thot Not

The Kasigau Corridor REDD+ Community Ranches (includes Biodiversity certification)

Isangi REDD+

SIPS project highlights

The Sustainability Integration Program for Students (SIPS) had a big start to the year with over 100 applications for Semester 1 internships. The 13 selected students have been working on sustainability challenges in a broad range of areas. The SIPS interns are joined by two SIPS fellows, Ella Hilder (South) and Will Plaister (North). For the first time the SIPS students include two students based in the North West on the Cradle Coast Campus.

The Semester 1 SIPS interns had the exceptional opportunity to present their experience to members of the Sustainability Committee and their project mentors, who were highly impressed with the quality of the students' work.

For information or to get involved contact SIPS.utas@utas.edu.au or visit www.utas.edu.au/sustainability/sips



Sustainability Team (South) Semester 1 2019 (left back to front right): Jasper McCormack, Anna Zimmern, Ella Hilder, Varujani Jayaseelan, Thi Kim Anh Nguyen (Kim), Min-ting Chou (Mandy), Laura Smith, Kawinwit Kittipalawattanapol (Ink), Christoph Kartzoff, Hannah Birch, Jing Fan and Catherine Elliott

Position	Student	Description
SIPS Fellow (South)	Ella Hilder	Sustainability workshops for students (Semester 1)
SIPS Fellow (North)	Will Plaister	Sustainability workshops for students (Semester 2)
SIPS Semester 1	Kawinwit Kittipalawattanapol (Ink)	Water resources on campus
SIPS Semester 1	Ngoc Duy Vo (Yugi)	Sustainable Procurement – Preparing for the Modern Slavery Act
SIPS Semester 1	Hannah Birch	Communicating with students about TUU investments
SIPS Semester 1	Laura Smith	Biodiversity on campus
SIPS Semester 1	Thi Kim Anh Nguyen (Kim)	Food gardens on campus (all campuses)
SIPS Semester 1	Jing Fan	Sustainability Tour Map (Sandy Bay campus)
SIPS Semester 1	Christoph Kartzoff	Waste reduction to landfill
SIPS Semester 1	Anna Zimmern	Waste reduction to landfill
SIPS Semester 1	Min-ting Chou (Mandy)	IT Services preparing laptops for donation to students
SIPS Semester 1	Nha Ky Huynh (Nya)	Foodscape Mapping (Newnham campus)
SIPS Semester 1	Kalen Holdaway	Tackling food waste with students (Newnham Campus)
SIPS Semester 1	Jessica Flint	Green Impact staff engagement (Cradle Coast Campus)
SIPS Semester 1	William Howcroft	Tackling food waste with students (Cradle Coast Campus)

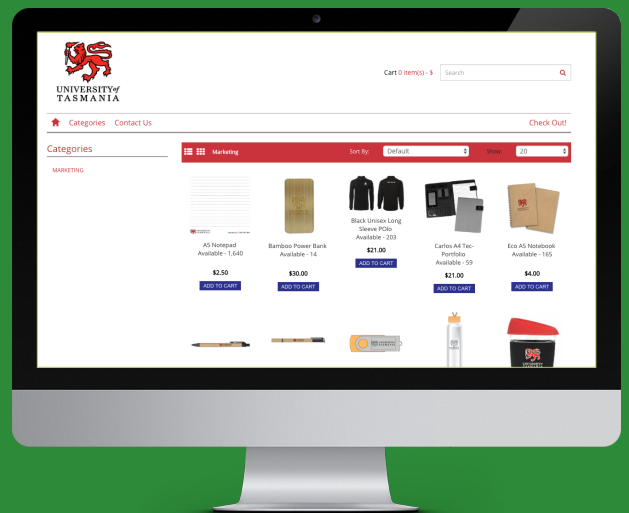
Sustainability around UTAS

University Leaders Network focuses on safety and sustainability

opting out of 40+ cars that might have been used to get to the gathering in Launceston in favour of buses. This will also support connections and community above and beyond the lowered carbon emissions and safer travel. Thanks to Clare Monks in Geography and Environmental Science for taking the lead!

Marketing Leading the Way

UTAS Marketing steps up with sustainable marketing products



Green Impact Launches

After a successful trial in 2018, with eight teams participating across Sandy Bay, Newnham and Cradle Coast campuses, we are bringing Green Impact back!

Green Impact is a behaviour change and engagement program where individuals get into teams and work together to undertake a diverse range of sustainability actions – the program is designed to help people understand sustainability and social responsibility, as well as demonstrating, supporting and celebrating the changes you are keen to make.

In 2018 staff from a broad range of disciplines and departments participated in the program, including professional staff, academics and higher degree candidates. Sustainable initiatives were undertaken in offices from the Vice Chancellor's Office, Student Mobility, the TUU, the English Language Centre and the Rural Clinical School.

Incorporating feedback from masters and undergraduate students who evaluated the staff teams' efforts last year, the online Green Impact toolkit has been updated and relaunched.

Registrations are now open for this year's program! Create a team (between 3 and 15 people) and start some healthy competition with other University teams. The toolkit will close in November and a Sustainability Awards Event will be held in December. This year participants are also eligible to compete for Australia wide awards. For more information and to register go to <https://www.utas.edu.au/infrastructure-services-development/sustainability/green-impact-program>.



Events and Activities

Plastic Free July	01 – 31 July
Green Impact staff information session	24 July
Green Impact student information session	Mid August
Sustainability Representatives Meeting	27 August



Coming up in the next Sustainability Bulletin

- Highlights from the all new Strategic Framework for Sustainability
- Travel Behaviour Survey 2019 results
- More Wednesday Workshops from our SIPS Fellows!
- Climate Reality training with Al Gore