



Community

**Introduction from Mike Shore-Nye,
Registrar and Secretary**

**Summer
2023**

As term three comes to an end, we wanted to take this opportunity to look back at what has been another busy year for us all. The Community Newsletter provides us with an opportunity to take stock of key activities and projects, as well as looking ahead to September and plans for next year.

We understand that term three can be a disruptive time for local people as students celebrate the end of exams and prepare to leave Exeter after graduation. Please be assured that Estate Patrol and our Community Engagement Team will be working in close collaboration with the Police and City Council to address issues of concern. Do take some time to read through the full list of initiatives that form part of our 'Students on the Move' waste collection scheme, highlighted in this newsletter.

It has been another busy year for student volunteers and the Community Engagement Officers who support students living in private accommodation. We encourage residents with ideas for community projects to make contact with our Community Engagement team at any time of the year. They are always keen to provide help and support with community projects where they can.

I have also continued to Chair the University's Community Panel and I am grateful for the continued advice and guidance provided by this group of community representatives. I am particularly pleased to see the breadth and range of projects that received Community Fund support, via the Community Panel.

As we look ahead to term one in September, I am pleased to say that plans are already underway to help manage the new intake of students through further collaboration with the Police and City Council. September will also see us host the British Science Festival (in association with British Science Association) from 7 – 10 September 2023. The September edition of our newsletter will contain further details of what events will be on offer for our local community to engage with.

I hope you all have an enjoyable summer.

Mike Shore-Nye
Registrar and Secretary

STUDENTS ON THE **MOVE** 2023

The 'Students on the Move' (SOTM) scheme provides a series of University-paid refuse collections for students during June and July.

The scheme was first piloted in 2009 because students living in the community expressed concerns about rarely finishing their tenancy contracts on the correct bin collection day. The council's move to a bi-weekly recycling cycle also made it less likely that students would leave on the correct grey/green collection rota. The SOTM scheme helps address this gap – by providing two extra refuse collections per week (each Monday and Friday) throughout June and July.

If you have any queries about waste at an address (and are unable to make contact with the occupants), feel free to pass details to our Community Engagement Team (email at the end of this newsletter).

At this time of year we appreciate that some landlords and builders will also be turning properties over. In the vast majority of incidents, bulky items like bedding, mattresses and furniture will be placed outside by builders or cleaners. Again, we can help investigate if direct contact with the occupiers/tradespeople isn't possible.

Our scheme also pays for two 'community clear-up days' for twelve streets in the St James Ward. These will occur on June 17 and July 22. Participating streets will receive an information leaflet closer to the time. These collections will be for all residents. We will also be working with the British Heart Foundation to collect some re-usable items during these days. **For more information email: communityengagement@exeter.ac.uk**

Community Engagement Team Updates

It has been another busy year for our Community Engagement Team, advising and guiding students living in private accommodation across the city. When our CEO Team are not interacting with students directly, they are often working directly with Resident Associations and Community Groups on community 'greening' projects. We'd like to share a sample of the projects we have been working on this year:

Mount Pleasant Makeover

Polsloe residents assembled a team of artists, gardeners and makers to breathe life into the streets and alleyways of this beautiful yet often neglected corner of our city, with artists Steve McCracken and Chloe Farrant working on some murals in the streets and alleyways.

The Community Engagement Team will be helping continue this makeover work, helping to install planters and pots on the streets and in front gardens. If you'd like to get involved please email: mountpleasantcb@eci.org.uk

St Luke's Volunteer Garden

The team have been promoting St Lukes volunteer garden to student residents during Go Green Week. This hidden gem is located at the rear of the Medical School extension. On Wednesday 15 March they rolled up their sleeves with volunteers to spruce up the garden and dig a frog abode near the pond.



Two members of the team litter-picking on Howell Road.

Bury Meadow Gardening

Each month our team have been helping Bury Meadow 'wake up the park', planting bulbs, weeding etc. with help from additional student volunteers. Bury Meadow Residents' Association are always happy to receive extra volunteer help. They can be contacted via their website: burymeadow.co.uk

Spring Cleaning

As the spring term begins to wrap up, and to coincide with Go Green Week and Keep Britain Tidy, we've been encouraging students to litter pick Exeter streets. Our team have been initiating lots of large-scale litter picks to ensure walkways and pavements are clear. We'd like to thank the student volunteers who have been helping our team each session this term.



Student Recycling Panel

A new Student Recycling Panel is being established to better understand what new approaches could be adopted to boost recycling amongst the student population.

The new group, which was endorsed by the University's Community Panel, was set up following requests from several external organisations seeking feedback from students about new recycling initiatives. These requests coincided with the introduction of new funding themes for our Community Fund, including: 'reducing waste on campus and in the city'.

The Panel will consist of students, with the aim of providing feedback on new recycling projects suggested by University departments and external organisations. The Panel will also suggest new ideas for projects and campaigns themselves.

We look forward to sharing Panel updates in future editions of the Community Newsletter.

Community Fund Projects

The University offers a Community Fund for community groups seeking to develop projects that relate to one of four themed funding areas. This year, those four themes are:

- Increasing biodiversity and enhancing green space
- Reducing waste on campus and in the city
- Communicating the ecological and climate crisis to residents
- Social events that promote student engagement with the city

We are delighted to announce that the following projects have received funding support this year:

The Fun A Day community art show

Open to everyone – ‘Fun A Day’ was a project where anyone (regardless of age or art skill!) could create something every day and document them throughout February and then share work in the community art show.

Forty-five people from all over Greater Exeter have exhibited their creative skills in the Fun A Day and the results went on display at Positive Lights Projects in Sidwell Street in a weekend-long show on March 18 and 19.

“It’s been a fantastic way of bringing people together, and we are thrilled by such a wide response to the challenge,” said Stephen Fisher, who co-organised the event with Ali Lucas.

Polsloe Residents Association: Garden Makeover

This ongoing project has provided gardening makeovers for some houses in the Monks Road area, to encourage residents to take pride and encourage biodiversity, with bulb planting in the local park. The scheme has also incorporated an additional ‘mural’ project with local artists, to help rejuvenate some walled areas in the community.

International Women’s Day Celebration

A group of students worked with Exeter City Community Trust to organise a dinner for International Women’s Day, raising money for period poverty in Exeter. Women from Exeter City Women’s Football club also attended the event to speak about their journeys and how they have overcome stereotypes to achieve their goals.

Save the Date!

We are excited to announce that the University will be hosting the British Science Festival in September.

There will be over 80 events happening on campus and in the city to celebrate the latest research – with talks, demonstrations, interactive events, music, poetry and all manner of events!

In the next edition of the Community Newsletter we will include more details about the festival with a focus on some of the events that will be on offer.



Prospect Park Residents’ Association

Association members sought funding to cover the costs of ‘Road Closure Accreditation’ – a vital kind of accreditation that allows residents to close off Prospect Park in preparation for their community events and social activities. This group traditionally holds an annual street-party to welcome new student residents and invest in early introductions.

‘Alright Mate’

Working with the Community Interest Company ‘Alright Mate’, Exeter City Community Trust ran a mental health awareness workshop for local people and students at the University of Exeter. Ultimately seeking to raise awareness of men’s mental health, whilst also promoting student engagement with the city and charitable organisations.

If you have an idea for a Community Fund Project, please contact Rory Cunningham, Community Liaison Manager, for an initial discussion: r.j.cunningham@exeter.ac.uk

BRITISH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

University
of Exeter
7-10 September
Exeter



Term dates 2022-23

Summer Term 2023

Monday 1 May – Friday 16 June

Autumn Term

Monday 25 September – Friday 15 December

Spring Term 2023

Monday 8 January – Friday 29 March

Resident Liaison Group

The Resident Liaison Group meets once a term with resident group leaders, councillors and other community partners to discuss a range of community topics and queries.

To find out more about the format of these meetings, please contact Community Liaison Manager, Rory Cunningham: r.j.cunningham@exeter.ac.uk

Key links and contacts

University of Exeter Covid-19

mini-site: exeter.ac.uk/coronavirus

Police Emergency: 999

Police Non-Emergency: 101

The City Council's Environmental Health Team: exeter.gov.uk/clean-safe-city

Estate Patrol

01392 723999 e.patrol@exeter.ac.uk

The University's Estate Patrol team can sometimes assist with noise disturbances from student premises after 10pm (if direct contact is not possible). Please note that Estate Patrol cannot investigate disturbances in parks and other public spaces. These concerns need to be passed to the police for investigation.

Noise concerns can also be reported to the council if direct contact with tenants is not possible: exeter.gov.uk/clean-safe-city/anti-social-behaviour/noise-complaints

General daytime queries

For general daytime queries relating to students living and socialising in the community please contact our Community Engagement Officers: communityengagement@exeter.ac.uk / 01392 723721.

The Community Engagement Team provide peer-support to students living in private housing. They also conduct follow up visits to any student addresses that Estate Patrol interact with out-of-hours, and can speak with student households regarding waste management and storage.

PC Richard Jephcott

PC Richard Jephcott is our acting Neighbourhood Beat Manager (NBM) for the University, Duryard, Pennsylvania and Stoke Hill. You can contact him by emailing exeterneighbourhood@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk or call 101 and ask for PC Richard Jephcott – 17186.