



The University of Exeter has launched its' own **Birds and Bees Campaign**, in recognition of the United Nations Decade for Biodiversity. The campaign aims to:

- identify biodiversity enhancement projects
- provide opportunities to use the campus as a living laboratory
- develop engagement projects for the staff, students and the local community.

Through implementing visible biodiversity enhancement initiatives within the campus grounds, the University is in an excellent position to promote positive biodiversity action to students, staff and the wider community.



In October 2010, the broadcaster and naturalist Nick Baker led a group of over 150 volunteering students, academics, members of the public and Devon Wildlife Trust experts for the first ever Bioblitz at the University of Exeter. The Bioblitz was a quick census of species in one small area of the Streatham campus, and in a mere two hours they found more than 250 different species!



For further information please visit our biodiversity website:
www.exeter.ac.uk/sustainability/campus/biodiversity

or email Alison Spreadborough, our Birds and Bees Campaign Manager:
aspreadborough@devonwildlifetrust.org



Biodiversity

at the University of Exeter



A guide to the Streatham and St Lukes Campuses

The University prides itself on having one of the most attractive grounds of any university in the UK

A wide range of species and over 15 habitats can be found on our Exeter campuses, ranging from County Wildlife Sites and registered botanic gardens, to extensive woodlands and ponds.

The University estate makes an important contribution to the Exeter biodiversity network

The University has an important role to play in conserving the biodiversity of the city – not only does it own a significant area of ground within the city where enhancing biodiversity can make a real difference, but it also has responsibility for educating people about biodiversity.

The University aims to promote biodiversity through working in partnership with other organisations across Exeter

We are also working with Devon Wildlife Trust and Exeter Wild City to enhance biodiversity on our campuses. The University also has its own Biodiversity Statement and Campus Management Principles, and we are currently producing a Biodiversity Enhancement Plan for the future.

The University is keen to develop its campus as a Living Laboratory

Academics, students, staff and stakeholders are all collaborating on projects to use the campus as a community based 'Living Laboratory', for identifying, evaluating and assessing indicators of progress toward greater sustainability.



Exeter Wild City Swift Project

Swifts rely on urban environments to nest in holes and cracks in eaves and high walls, but as these are repaired and blocked swifts are struggling to find alternative nest spaces. The University will be hosting some new swift boxes to help the swift population in Exeter to recover.

Augmented Reality Project

Visitors to the campus equipped with suitable smartphones or tablet devices will be able to explore a variety of our habitats and areas of particular interest, through an overlay superimposed on a viewing screen fed by the devices built in camera.

Future Development

The impact of construction work on biodiversity is carefully evaluated for each project, and where possible enhancement measures are introduced. An annual bird survey is undertaken on campus, and despite the ongoing construction work, these surveys continue to show high numbers of birds, including several on the RSPB *red* and *amber* lists. Biodiversity also features in our master plan.

Crocus Planting

A planting event was organised in partnership with the Rotary Club of Great Britain to support their Eradicate Polio Campaign, engaging with schools and members of the public in planting purple crocus bulbs on the Streatham Campus. These bulbs reflect the Purple Dye used to inoculate children in countries where Polio persists.