

News from the Sustainable Earth Institute

Discover how research can ignite sustainability action in organisations

Sustainable Earth 2018 gives academics and professionals the chance to develop effective research partnerships to share knowledge and expertise to create a sustainable future.

Why attend?

- Build networks to support research and innovation
- Broaden academic collaborations beyond your discipline
- Develop ideas for future funding
- Catch up on cutting-edge research from sustainability leaders
- Get involved with University projects
- Connect your research with community groups and organisations

The conference takes place on 28 and 29 June in the Rolle Marquee at the University of Plymouth. The standard rate for the conference is £80, with a concession rate of £50. University of Plymouth staff, students and collaborators can attend free of charge.

- [Register your place now](#)

Keynote speakers

Baroness Bryony Worthington (Executive Director, Environmental Defence Fund Europe), **Dr Christopher Shaw** (Senior Researcher, Climate Outreach), **Dr Mike Maunder** (Director of Life Sciences, The Eden Project), **Dr Vanessa Lawrence CB** (Senior adviser to governments and Non-Executive Director of the Satellite Applications Catapult), and **Professor Virginia Murray** (Consultant in Global Disaster Risk Reduction, Public Health England; Vice Chair UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group)

Free evening talk: The Sterling Lecture (28 June 2018)

In the first annual Sterling Lecture, Professor Iain Stewart will be discussing geoscience communication. This lecture is open to all and is free to attend. [Find out more and register](#)

FREELANCE OPPORTUNITY.....



Blast from the Pasties : a food heritage project for Plymouth!

Set Fee: £1500

Brief : As part of a two year project at The Box, we are looking for someone to undertake a small piece of research work for us around food and heritage particularly focusing on the 20th Century.

We require:

- Written content and images for a community educational unit (approx. 15 small a3 panels)
- Relevant objects identified and/or purchased to complement the panels

Ideally, we would like all this complete by October 2018.

If you are interested in applying for this opportunity please call 01752 304773 Wed- Friday for an informal chat. The successful applicant will be able to access our existing resources for inspiration!

Deadline for applications of interest: 1/7/18

AIR QUALITY

We are still trying to source the evidence used by the World Health Organisation on PM2.5 pollution in the city so as soon as we have any updates we will let you know. Research shows that the recently published claims of high levels are unlikely to come from a single source – it is more likely they come from traffic. The data in the report appears to come from roadside monitoring. The Working Group is to support a public debate on the issue later in the year and a meeting is planned with the new Cabinet Member for Street Services on the topic.



FAIRTRADE PLYMOUTH

The Fairtrade Steering Group is meeting on Friday 15th to discuss how Fairtrade issues might be better represented by Food Plymouth. News next month.

A Future for Coastal Communities

The topic of this month's discussion emerged from a meeting with Sue Hayman MP, Shadow Minister for the environment who was visiting Plymouth as part of her work with the Government's Working Group on 'Coastal Communities'. Over the years these, often traditional, communities have faced a range of challenges and, as almost every one is different, Sue was wondering how a city the size of Plymouth is coping with change. She was asking about four key topics – Governance (what is needed from Government and local Councils) and what the key challenges are, local economic development, Brexit and, particularly, the impact on fisheries and, lastly, tourism and transport.

The questions were circulated before the meeting and a substantial number of replies were received prior to the meeting on the 11th June. The workshop responses gathered on Monday will now be added in to the report and the outcome will be circulated for final comments before being circulated to Sue Hayman and a range of local interested parties.

NB : The report raised the issue of how Environment Plymouth 'signs off' collated views that represent the ideas of a range of members; bearing in mind that people will not always agree. Your views are welcome on this as we will be asked for further responses and we need to ensure we engage everyone fairly and equally. The Coastal Communities Report is a pilot (edited with the benefit of considerable experience) but how do we take this part of Environment Plymouth's role forward? Should reports be signed off by the Steering Group or, perhaps, an Editorial Board? Let me know

The Final Draft Report will be circulated asap and comments, additions and amendments are welcome.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Monday 9th July, 10.00am, Upstairs at the Oggy Oggy Pasty Shop, 161 Armada Way : Plymouth's Carbon Footprint – how can we become a carbon neutral city? The latest national estimates are to be released on 28th June so can we maintain the city's downward trend? Guest speaker is Paul Elliott from the Council's Low Carbon Team.

Thursday 16th August, 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Environment Plymouth On Tour : On the beach! A rockpool ramble and nurdle hunt with the Wembury Marine Centre. Thanks to Coral for her help with this. Please note there is a charge to park in the National Trust Car park unless you are a member of the NT. We will also be promoting public transport links for the day and opportunities to car share

Monday 10th September, 10.00am, Upstairs at the Oggy Oggy Pasty Shop, 161 Armada Way : Harry Barton of the Devon Wildlife Trust will lead a look at the relationship between the city and the habitats and species of Dartmoor.

NB : Environment Plymouth's Bank Account has been established and we are waiting to hear from POP about Esme Fairbairn funding and from Awards for All. Watch this space !



The Children's Common Goal

Is a new book (available on Amazon) that encourages children all over the World to plant trees and help the bees.

There is a local connection so keep an eye out for it as they are using the book to raise funds. (Not to be confused with Manchester United's Common Goal initiative). Find them on Facebook at One Common Goal



Keep an eye out for regular beach cleans.....

The next ones are :

Saturday 16th June at 12.00 Noon at Mount Batten Beach

Saturday 16th June at 7pm along the Hoe Waterfront

PLASTIC FREE PLYMOUTH WATERFRONT

SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

We did it !

A massive vote of thanks goes to the 70 plus businesses pioneers and community ambassadors whose pledges secured Plastic Free Community status for the Waterfront last week...just in time for the launch of the citywide Plan for Plastics on Friday night.....and to Penny and our Working Group members who worked so hard to get there !

Plymouth's Waterfront is the first 'city district' in the UK to secure the status and, on World Ocean's day we shared this with Chepstow in Gwent and Lake Huron in Canada – highlighting how global this campaign has become.

Over 130 people attended the event at Plymouth Dome that saw the promotion of Britain's Ocean City's Plan.

Environment Plymouth hopes to be leading the **AVOID** category of the Plan that will tackle community engagement and we'll be continuing the promotion of the SAS template so that we can recruit enough support to extend the Plastic Free status to the whole of the city as soon as possible. The other categories in the Plan, Innovate, Recycle and Connect will also be led by BOC Task Group members.

Our next steps will be to convene a Plastics Education Working Group, to start researching the content for an online Directory of Local Alternatives for Devon and Cornwall and to organise the first of a series of business workshops (Plastic Surgeries) to be run throughout the Summer. We are really grateful to both South West Water and Sea-Changers whose sponsorship is helping this to happen.



Join us for a Plastic Free Picnic on Saturday July 7th, from 3.30pm at the Liner Lookout Café on the Hoe.

We are now looking for all sorts of feedback on plastic free events, local suppliers, local successes, new Pioneers and Ambassadors and good news stories in general.

See our Facebook Group page for more info :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/140911630099135/>