

# EFM NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 17th edition of the EFM Newsletter



## IT'S HELLO FROM RICHARD

It is good to be at Brookes and part of the Estates and Facilities Management Team. I look forward to building on the success that you have achieved already to create a team that actively supports the achievement of the University's 2020 vision.

I am a civil engineer by profession but I have not practised for many years. I have a broad experience across the public and private sectors, mainly in property, value for money and customer service. This has included working in the higher education, health and housing sectors.

Outside of work my main interest, other than my family, is keeping fit. I have even started circuit training at our Centre for Sport at Gipsy Lane Campus. Although commuting from Northampton at the moment leaves little time for much else.

My wife, Caroline, is a secondary school teacher of English. We have two children, Chris and Alex. Chris is in his second year at university and wants to be a criminal barrister. Alex is in her last year of A levels. She is thinking of going to university to study psychology but has told me that she will not be considering Brookes now that I am here!

I have met many of you already and I look forward to meeting everyone as I get around all the divisions and all the campuses and of course this Friday evening after work for a social drink in the Cape of Good Hope.

**Richard Monk**

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# SMOOTH OPERATORS

Arrivals Weekend for Sept 2011 has been one of the smoothest operations we've seen in recent years across all Halls. Of particular note were the changes to the Operational Plan at CBSV and PKH.

## CLIVE BOOTH STUDENT VILLAGE (CBSV)

With student numbers moving in to CBSV boosted to just shy of 1500 residents with all areas of the PGC being available for occupation there were numerous challenges that we faced. Working closely with local residents of John Garne Way and Thames Valley Police we implemented a new traffic management plan for the first time and managed to accept a record level number of students moving in on Saturday 17th Sept, around 900 with no usual problems effecting the local areas / roads. Due to the increase in these numbers we also employed a "happy chappy cone head" - yes, that's right it is Gary Carter showing off his new Reception trailer which was introduced and installed for this years Arrivals. A special thank you to the Adrian Moroney / Stephen Holtom and their respective teams for their assistance in providing the necessary to install the so called cabin.



## PAUL KENT HALL (PKH)

Due to historical challenges with local residents and the detrimental impact Arrivals has on the local traffic situation we again implemented a different Operational Plan which allowed students to arrive early and with the assistance of Corporate Affairs and Thames Valley Police, liaised with the local residents in the run up to the weekend to make it the smoothest possible experience with the restrictive parking available to those moving in to PKH. A special thanks to Tom Williams and team for their work before and after the weekend too.

Naturally, my thanks go to all those Halls Teams, Accommodation Office and the wider EFM teams for making the whole weekend such a success.

**Harmohinder Bahl,**  
**Accomodation Business Manager**

## A BIG THANK YOU

The members of staff from the Inter Site Bus Office which is temporarily based in Gibbs during Freshers Week did an excellent job. Thanks to Lynn Money, Shannon McCann and various Student Ambassador's together with Oxford Bus Company staff who provided useful advice to the students on timetables, bus routes and the options available on bus passes,

A big thanks also goes to those members of staff in the Halls who distributed the Brookes Key to all the students living in the various residences.

**Geoff Handley**



# FRESHERS FAIR

It was a very successful Freshers Fair for the Sustainability Team who managed to sign up around 1,000 students to their mailing list and get over 200 to answer a questionnaire.

Dressed in very trendy fair-trade t-shirts with the latest 'Net Positive Impact' campaign image printed across the front, the team were busy encouraging students to take part in a questionnaire in return for a cupcake. This tactic worked well as the number of cupcakes quickly lowered from 100 to 0 in the space of a couple of hours on the first day!

The questionnaire asked students about their knowledge of sustainability, its importance in their studies and future career and whether they had heard of Net Positive Impact. The questionnaire will be asked again to students at the end of the academic year, with the expectation that their knowledge of sustainability will have increased.

The students who gave their e-mail addresses were equally as happy to do so in return for a Net Positive Impact memory stick, badge and pencil made out of recycled money! These e-mail addresses will be used to send out information on the Environment Forum, Student Switch Off and communications about volunteering and other events.

A big thank you to everybody who helped out with this

**Caitlin Hopes**



# FAREWELL RICHARD SUMMERS AND WENDY BARRETT

On Tuesday 27th Sept a heartfelt farewell party was held for Richard Summers who retired last month (Oct) after some 26 years at Brookes. Beginning and his career in Catering, Richard has worked across all the main sites of Brookes and seen many many changes in his time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard for his dedication and contribution whilst at Brookes and wish him the very best for his future and I believe his wife, Pat has a rather long to do list waiting for him!

Wendy Barrett, Richard's Deputy also retired last friday, Richard came back for the retirement speech and many of the Warneford staff, attended to say farewell to Wendy after an amazing twenty five years at Brookes.

**Harmohinder Bahl,**  
**Accomodation Business Manager**



## FROM RICHARD

### To All My Friends and Colleagues

I am writing to thank you for the wonderful send-off you gave me, I would also like to thank you for lovely gifts. The rose is shooting and looking very healthy, with the garden vouchers we will look for something that will also last a long time, and remind me of the very happy time I spent working at the University and of course the Poly before that! The Kindle I have made great use of already as we have just come back from Cornwall and I was able to take 40+ books with me in case the weather turn as bad as some forecasters predicted, I was also able to take the instruction manuals for my camera and camcorder in case I needed them and for some reason I also found I had downloaded Mrs Beaton's Household Management onto the Kindle (old habits die hard). As we travel to Sussex at least once a fortnight I can see this as a great boon (the Kindle not Mrs B).

I shall miss working with you all and it was lovely to see so many of you at my retirement party including some faces from both the near and the more distance past even if it was a little daunting to have six current and past bosses in the room at the same time.

May I thank Gillian for the very kind and flattering words she said about me.

Finally, I wish you all the best and good luck for the future

**Richard Summers**

# ONE DIFFERENCE

The Hospitality Departments recently ran a 'One Difference' competition within the Estates and Facilities Management Directorate, giving someone the opportunity to visit the 'One Water' Projects in Malawi. Sarah Kerrigan won this trip and will be keeping a personal blog of her experiences. For those who wish to follow please use this web link: <http://sarahonedifference.blogspot.com/>

Sarah will be joined by John Stimpson, also an Oxford Brookes University member of staff and Ben Wilkins, an Oxford Brookes University student who won the best vegetable plot competition from the new garden at Wheatley campus. While on their trip Sarah, John and Ben will help to build a vegetable garden adjacent to the playpump donated from profits of sales of One Water at Brookes. They will further be given the opportunity to visit some of the other One Difference projects in Malawi. Keep track of Sarah's blog and look out for an article in the next newsletter which will detail some of the amazing experiences from the trip.

More information on the One Difference Charity can be found here: [www.onedifference.org](http://www.onedifference.org)

**Sarah Kerrigan**



## BAKING CAKES FOR MACMILLAN

This is Ann Chase's fifth year of running her amazing cake stall at Harcourt Hill (she starts baking in September!) in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Together with contributions from Linda and her special diet cakes, Headington Catering, Harcourt Catering and both Christine and Carol from Harcourt, a record breaking £572.63 has been raised this year!

**Monica Seeney**



**RECORD  
BREAKING  
£572.63  
RAISED  
THIS YEAR!**

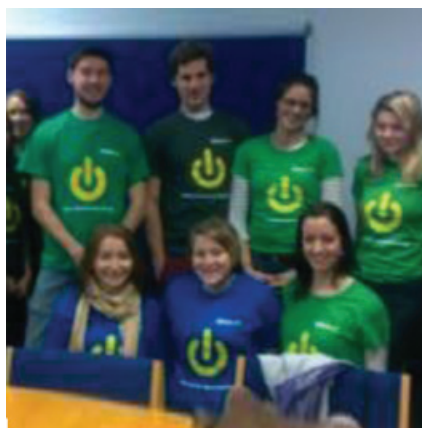
# Being green is possible!



The daily grind might seem overwhelming at times, but there are some real success stories that we can be proud of. Thanks to your dedication and perseverance we've been particularly successful in taking the first steps towards reducing our carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions.

## SINCE THIS TIME LAST YEAR...

- 1** Hospitality services has had controls fitted to most vending machines and open fronted chillers saving an estimated 29 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.
- 2** The electrical services team has fitted ultra-modern LED lighting in the post-graduate building at Wheatley, the refectory at Harcourt hill and Headington Hill Hall saving an estimated 21 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.
- 3** The halls managers have worked with Student Switch-off to run an energy saving campaign which saved an amazing 105 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, with the students in Warneford also winning a bunch of prizes for reducing their emissions the most.
- 4** The projects team in property services identified the opportunity to extend the combined heat and power plant to the sport centre at Harcourt – which when delivered should achieve a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 140 tonnes each year.
- 5** OBIS worked with the projects team to make major improvements to the University's server room in Abercrombie, installing a new uninterruptible power supply, cold aisle containment and de-commissioning old servers... saving an estimated 140 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over the coming year.
- 6** This year is also just as busy, with improved lighting controls being installed in Crescent and Warneford; and the lighting specifications in the new-halls of residence at Harcourt being upgraded to LED. There are also many other projects which EFM plans to take forward.



## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

Achieving a 50% cut in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2020 is a tall order and presently we are only 4% towards our target.

To identify the volume and range of projects needed to achieve this target the University has brought on-board a consultancy to undertake detailed energy audits of all buildings. The final output of this work will be an investment grade proposal which will take into account the condition of our buildings, our estates strategy and of course costs. It is also intended that the energy profiles for each building will be made available on the Brookes website for staff and students to digest.

This thermographic image taken from the air overnight shows the current insulation levels at Gipsy Lane – you can clearly see that the Buckley Building is better insulated than our older buildings.

Our improved energy efficient campuses in 2020 will have had a mixture of insulation improvements and upgrades to buildings services undertaken. In addition to this a number of buildings may receive a wider package of holistic improvements (e.g. externally insulation being undertaken to Abercrombie) and new innovative technologies such as a mains gas fuel cell energy centre potentially being deployed. All of this will change the look and feel of our campuses and how we interact with them.

Some options for improvement have already been kicked into touch, for example wind turbines at Harcourt Hill are not being progressed due to planning restrictions and plans for electricity production using photovoltaics panels have also been scaled back due to changes in the subsidies available.

Throughout all of this the University will be supporting staff and students to help them 'do their bit' through engagement programmes like student switch-off. Other departments in Oxford Brookes are also making a defined contribution to reducing the University's carbon emissions – with OBIS making a particularly large contribution as more efficient technologies are rolled out.

## WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

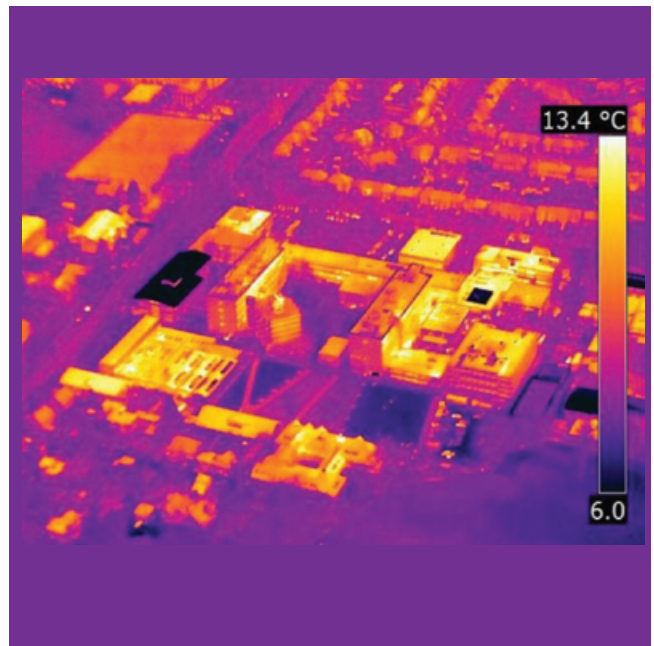
**Gavin Hodgson**

Energy and Carbon Reduction Manager

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[www.brookes.ac.uk/about/sustainability](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/about/sustainability)



**50%  
CUT IN  
CO<sub>2</sub>  
EMISSIONS  
BY 2020**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Report problems and opportunities to the maintenance help desk and the University's energy manager.
- Switch-off lights when you leave a room.
- Use the provided hot water heaters to make tea and coffee and avoid the use separate kettles.
- Make as few trips as possible between your different places of work.
- Use a power saving profile for your PC and switch it off overnight.
- Manage your space, close windows and adjust the thermostatic radiator valves (TRV's) on your radiators to suit.

# GARDENING PARTY AT SOBELL HOUSE

I would be really grateful if you could pass on my thanks to all of the team from last week who came to the hospice to garden. Everyone did a fantastic job and I really hope that you all enjoyed your time here.

Here are a few photos I took which we will use for our next newsletter.

Thanks so much again for your support.

Kind regards

**Kelly Houghton**, Corporate/Community Fundraiser, Sobell House Hospice Charity Limited



## NEW TO THE SUSTAINABILITY TEAM



Hi there!

I am the newest member of the Sustainability team and will be working for three days a week. I am mainly assisting with events which include Lift Share Week, Waste/Recycling Awareness Week and Fair trade Fortnight. I will also be doing some marketing work and helping to implement a communications/social media strategy.

This is actually my 6<sup>th</sup> year at Brookes! My first 3 years were spent as a student studying English Literature with Communication, Media and Culture. My other two were spent as a Marketing Assistant in the Careers and Employment Centre where I started out as an Intern and progressed!

I still work in the Careers Centre on a Thursday and Friday where I arrange Careers Fairs; look after the social media pages; create booklets/leaflets/posters and advertise job vacancies and volunteering opportunities.

I think the best thing about both jobs is that I am able to think creatively and that I am regularly in contact with students!

**Caitlin Hopes**