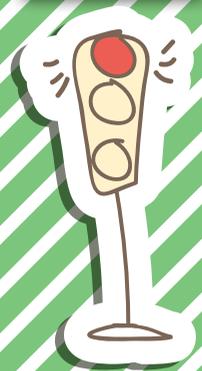
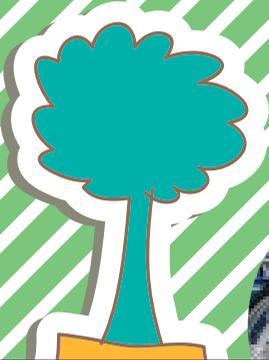


RGU GREEN TIMES



VICE PRINCIPAL GETS CYCLING AT THE GREEN FAIR



RGU hosted a Green Fair in February to promote sustainability and demonstrate what the university and local organisations are doing to help the environment.

Among the exhibitors was Edinburgh Bicycle Cooperative who came along with a bike which used pedal power to make smoothies. There was also advice and information from RGU's sustainability team, the Student Union Climate Change team, Aberdeen City Council Waste team and Getabout.



GO
GREEN

WITH RGU UNION'S

NEW CLIMATE CHANGE TEAM



RGU Students' Union is committed to lowering Scotland's carbon emission. Funded by the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund – which is managed by Keep Scotland Beautiful – Go Green is the Union's new carbon footprint initiative. Go Green aims to provide students and staff with the opportunity to significantly reduce the environmental impact of the University whilst gaining valuable experience and qualifications.

To achieve this goal, Go Green is running four projects: The Bike Hire Scheme will offer a low-carbon link between the city centre and campus. The Halls Energy Challenge will support and inspire students in reducing their domestic energy consumption. The Community Allotment will facilitate local growing, engaging students and staff with the environment. The Energy Ambassadors Scheme will train students to carry out energy audits for local groups, organisations and companies that will result in buildings becoming more energy efficient.

The Go Green Team consists of Anthony Browne, Mhairi Mackintosh, and Natalie Stypa, who come from a variety of backgrounds:

Anthony is the Manager of the initiative. Originally from Staffordshire, he holds a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering and a Doctorate in Low

Carbon Energy from the University of Nottingham. Prior to joining RGU, he worked as a researcher on carbon capture projects. His work with a multi-disciplinary research group at Nottingham focused on generating affordable, secure and low carbon electricity for the UK.

Mhairi is the initiative's Project Co-ordinator. Having grown up in in Muchalls, a village just outside Aberdeen, she obtained a BSc (hons) in Conservation Biology and a MSc in Ecology and Environmental Science from the University of Aberdeen. Her previous roles with various conservation agencies involved practical reserve management, running engagement events, environmental education, monitoring habitat condition and carrying out wildlife surveys.

Natalie's role is that of Engagement Co-ordinator. Hailing from Germany, she came to Aberdeen to complete a Master's degree in Creative Writing at the University of Aberdeen. She also holds a Master's in Philosophy and Literature from the Freie Universität Berlin. Previously, she worked as a volunteer in a nursery in Poland where she organised projects on environmental education and as a voluntary teacher in Ecuador.

Despite their diverse backgrounds, all three are excited to make a real impact by promoting practical and easy methods that will reduce the carbon footprint of Robert Gordon University and the wider community.

To find out more, email gogreen@rguunion.co.uk or follow RGU Go Green on Facebook and Twitter.



PROPERTY MATTERS YOUR GREEN ESTATES UPDATE

RGU's Strategic Planning and Resources Group (SPARG) have approved a procedure that will allow RGU Estates to invest in energy and carbon reduction projects using funding provided by the Scottish and UK Governments.

This funding is in the form of loans to be paid back from the savings generated through a reduction in energy consumption.

Estates are driving forward this initiative and have identified two initial projects that have the potential to reduce RGU's carbon footprint by 266 tonnes every year.

Estates are also working with the Student Union on their Energy Challenge and have committed resources in support of this.

Look out for the consumption graphs on the display boards in the reception areas of the faculty buildings. These are updated monthly giving a comparison on the energy performance compared to the previous year.

Watch this space for news of future developments on the energy front.



FURNITURE RECYCLING

A major exercise has been undertaken to clear out the remaining furnishings and fittings at St Andrew Street. In keeping with the University's recycling policy, as many of the items as possible have been separated and sorted for recycling.

This included taking furniture apart to sort it into metal and wooden parts, as well as disposing of fridges and freezers in an environmentally efficient way.

