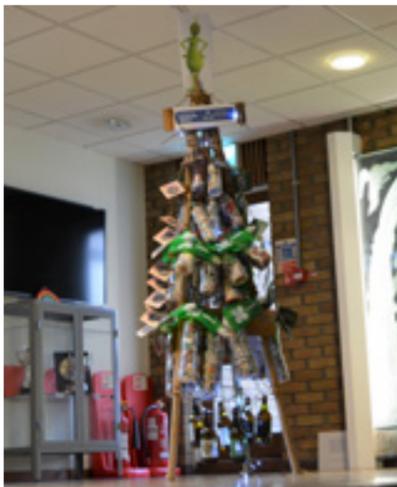


## CCCU in Pictures



During December, the Canterbury Christ Church Creatives ran a wrapping paper-making workshop in the food court before Christmas; staff and students used pens, paints and printing to design their own wrapping papers for their presents! Photos by Adriana Consorte-McCrea.



The Student Green Office got up to several events during December: a (failed) Christmas dinner in the pizza oven experiment that resulted in little more than a half-raw Yorkshire pudding (but lots of fun memories); the creation of the sustainable Christmas tree for the Chapel's annual competition (made from recycled and borrowed materials); and a Three Choughs beer tasting at the Student Union's Café 41 Green Day, in which a whole host of students got to try the ale we make on campus!

# Us in the World

## WISE WORDS FOR THE EARTH: GEOPOETRY

by Victoria Field and Helen Natrass

The following is a report of the Canterbury and East Kent Wise Words workshops - Fabric of the Earth and Life on Earth - that took place in the Beaney Library during the Canterbury Festival on Saturday, 29th October:

The Wise Words for the Earth workshops were run by Victoria Field - a writer, poetry therapist and researcher who founded Wise Words for Wellbeing in 2012 - and Helen Natrass - a geologist, engineer, and the current co-ordinator of the weekly Wise Words for Wellbeing workshops in Canterbury Library. Both participated in the Geological Society's Geopoetry event in London in 2011, and Helen was a speaker at Geopoetry 2020.

The aim of the geopoetry workshops was to engage with the questions of deep time and human creativity, using the material wonders of rocks and fossils alongside poems and creative writing. The intention was to bring mind and body, soul, imagination and emotions into an exploratory space.

Geopoetry is the poetry with the Earth at its centre; and for these workshops, the attendees were all given a variety of rocks and fossils to guide them in their writing.

The workshops were each attended by 11 people, 8 came to both workshops and 3 each attended either morning or afternoon. There was a wide age range (20s-over 90), experience and background. Around half were attendees of local writing groups and others came via the festival or CCCU.

A handling set of rocks and fossils were loaned by the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences in Cambridge. Helen introduced these and gave some background history of rock formations and the geology of Kent in the morning, and of fossils, ephemerality and persistence. Victoria introduced poems by Alyson Hallett, Mary Oliver and P.K. Page and text by Robert Macfarlane, using these as prompts for writing.

The workshops were offered on a donation basis and raised £112.24 for Canterbury & East Kent Wise Words, which offers writing and wellbeing opportunities in the Canterbury area. Thank you to the Library for use of the room and the festi-



val for publicity. The following pieces of creative writing were produced during the workshops:

"I FEEL ALIVE WHEN: I swim in the sea. I feel part of earth's bounty in the ocean, looking around me at the beauty of the indented landscape with its lovely coves and bays, cliffs and rocky shores. The common terns don't take much notice of me when I float on my back or do a gentle breast-stroke towards them. It is good to watch them diving for small fish not far from the surface of the calm, translucent water.

I feel far more alive, though, when the sea is rough with cresting waves and surf crashing on to the shore."

Wendy Blanchet

### FOSSIL FROG

long agile legs  
eye sockets – you can see  
large mouth  
traces of webbed toes  
bulbous body  
space for air or not-air  
special lungs  
living on land, in water  
amphibian filigree skeleton  
a swimmer a hopper  
rana rana  
I can swim and hop  
but not as well as you  
rana rana

Helen Natrass

For more information on geopoetry, we recommend taking a look at [geopoetics.org.uk](http://geopoetics.org.uk).

# CCCU RANKS 42ND IN SUSTAINABILITY LEAGUE

At the beginning of December, the [2022 People & Planet University League ranking](#) was released. People & Planet has been around since 1969, under their then-name "Third World First". They are the largest student network in the UK that campaigns for social and environmental justice, and have, in recent years, achieved a host of impressive accomplishments, including pressuring 1 in 3 UK universities to divest from the fossil fuel

industry and forcing the education sector into taking climate change seriously.

The yearly league table ranks 153 UK universities on their environmental and ethical performance; assessing many aspects of the institutions, from their auditing and environmental policy, to their engagement and sustainable food options.

In 2021, Christ Church ranked 78th as a 2:2 class university, scoring only 42.3%. This year, Christ Church has improved 36 places, to 42nd in the ranking, at 53.7%. At a 2:1 class, we are ranked higher than 101 other universities in terms of sustainable and ethical conduct.

Places to improve, according to the league table, include updating our environmental policy and strategy, and pushing our carbon and water reduction further.

However, we have improved in almost every category in the past year, and look forward to doing even better in the 2023 league table.

# VEG BOX ON CAMPUS

After a successful first term, The Veg Box Project is back this January!

The project aims to deliver local, organic fruit and veg straight to you on campus.

Upcoming dates to collect your very own assortment of fresh, organic and local fruit and veg are as follows:

Thursday 19th January, 3-5pm

Thursday 26th January, 3-5pm

Thursday 2nd February, 3-5pm

Thursday 9th February, 3-5pm

Ordering closes at 11am the Tuesday before

collection. Bring a box or bag to carry your veg home, and a card for the £6 payment on collection!

To sign up to order your own veg boxes and be added to the mailing list, email [emily.nurden@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:emily.nurden@canterbury.ac.uk). [Or order through this link.](#)

Plus, on the last Thursday of every month, the Refillable Van will be up at Verena Holmes, 1-4pm, selling sustainable items and refilling household products and dried goods.



# Us in the World

## TEACHING RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

by Bethany Climpson

Welcome to 2023!

With many teaching activities on pause for January while students sit exams and write assignments, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the resources available that you can use to teach, to share, and to help embed sustainability into your curriculum.

For starters, our [sustainability collection](#) of books and resources resides on the second floor of Augustine House Library, just on the right of the staircase. This collection was the result of the library's Shape Our Library initiative, in which they request feedback and ways to improve. In response to the feedback of needing "more resources on climate change", the sustainability collection was curated, with over 100 4-week loan books covering climate, environmental and sustainability topics. The entire collection can be found on the online LibrarySearch, with availability included.

Next, the Academy for Sustainable Futures has produced a [webpage of teaching resources](#), to aid with embedding sustainability within the curriculum. This contains a number of useful links, videos and guides to how sustainability can be taught, and also how it can be threaded through other subjects.

The teaching resources that we provide include (but are not limited to):

- An entire 'Teaching Resources for Sustainability' Blackboard aiming to help embed sustainability into the formal and informal curricula



- The 'Introducing Sustainability' Q&A video series, of which we have multiple: long, ten-minute videos with in-depth answers; short, minute-long overview videos; and a playlist of thirty-second Tik-Toks

- 'Sustainability Education: A Classroom Guide', co-authored by Academy for Sustainable Futures member, Stephen Scoffham – which is available through the CCCU Bookshop and other retailers, and comes alongside a series of free, open-access PowerPoint presentations and additional resources to support and expand on the subjects within the book

- The Exploring Sustainability resource guide to help aid discussion and thinking around sustainability issues

- Plus a number of blog posts, Expert Comment articles, events, sustainability spaces, educational games, resources and more – all available through the website or upon request

Finally, to support the incorporation of sustainable perspectives into the curriculum across disciplines and courses, there is an Education for Sustainability development and review tool to help identify opportunities for curriculum enhancement and barriers to further progress.

In 21/22, five undergraduate Education courses embedded sustainability modules into their curriculum, which we hope will inspire discussions going forward about how sustainability can feature in other courses and faculties.