



Against Waste in Academic Research Environment  
School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Issue 13, February 2018

In Issue 13, we will cover the following topics:

WELLBEING	REDUCING WASTE	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cycling to work</li><li>• CSB Roof Garden</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recycling reminder</li><li>• Green Week 12-16 Feb</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Importance of water</li><li>• Sustainable travel reminder</li></ul>

## WELLBEING

### Cycling to work

Cycling is good for both your health and the environment. We have a number of cyclists regularly commuting to EEECS. For more information on cycling in Belfast and the Belfast pathways, please check out the [QUB cycling guide](#). For anyone thinking of cycling to work, here are some tips and links to further information:

- **Cycle storage:** bicycle racks are available across campus, including ECIT, CSB (rear)
- **Shower and changing facilities:** available in ECIT (1<sup>st</sup> floor), CSB (rear)
- **Cycle Plus:** enables QUB Staff to hire a bicycle or safety equipment, see the QUB website [Cycle+](#) for further details on the scheme and other cycling information.
- **Flat tyre?** Cycle pumps are available for use at the Security control room (Level 1 Admin Building) or at ECIT
- **Bike-to-work events:** regular cycle-to-work breakfasts at QUB Old Staff Common Room (see [here](#) for information), further QUB and School events during cycle to work week (June). Follow **Green at Queen's** on Twitter ([@greenatqueens](#)) for further information or updates on University wide events, such as second hand bicycle sales.



### Roof Garden: Good News Story

EEECS is committed to protecting and enhancing our natural and cultural environment on campus. As part of the AWARE activities, the Computer Science Building now has a new addition of a **roof top garden**, which provides a natural place for birds to feed. This special project has a positive impact on our local environment and wildlife, and ultimately our wellbeing. There are also plans to expand this garden in the near future to cater for other creatures and plants, so watch this space! Congratulations to all involved with the development of the garden.

## REDUCING WASTE

### Recycling reminder

Within EEECS, we encourage everyone to try to firstly **reduce** our waste and **reuse** items where possible, and finally **recycle** if there are no other alternative uses for the waste material. We have *banned the bin* and removed individual office desk bins, to invite everyone to think more about reducing waste.



You can recycle the following materials in the recycling bins found throughout the school buildings:

- **Paper:** newspapers, junk mail, envelopes, catalogues and post it notes (*no paper cups or paper with grease or food residue*)
- **Cardboard:** cereal boxes, egg boxes (*to be left in the cardboard bins behind the buildings*)
- **Plastic:** any empty plastic bottles, clean plastic food containers, supermarket carrier bags
- **Tin:** empty, clean aluminium and steel tins or cans
- **Glass:** empty, clean glass bottles and jars of any colour (*glass bags in Ashby 7<sup>th</sup> floor common room, ECIT 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor kitchen, CSB Staff room 03.040*)
- **Batteries:** including single use and reusable AA, AAA, C, D watch batteries, 6V, 9V batteries (*bins are found at ECIT reception, Ashby Level 1, CSB office, CSB Staff Room 03.040*)

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

### Free Drinking Water

The School provides free drinking water. Please inform any guests or visitors of the nearest drinking water supply. Drinking water stations are available in all buildings across the School:

**ECIT:** Ground Floor, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**CSB:** Ground Floor, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**Ashby:** 7<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Please reduce waste by using reusable water bottles**

**Minimising Water Wastage** Water is essential to all life, and saving water will not only protect our natural resources, but can also save money and energy. Everyone uses water daily. Here are small actions everyone can make to save water:

1. Fill the kettle with **only** the amount of water you need.
2. **Turn off the tap** when brushing teeth, washing hands or shaving. This can save over 5 litres of water per minute.
3. Use **full loads** in washing machines.
4. Do not flush inappropriate material down the toilet. For further information see the NI WATER [Baq It and Bin it](#) Campaign.
5. **Fix leaking taps**, which can waste over 60 litres of water a week.



## Faulty Taps

Please turn off any dripping taps within the school. Report any faulty taps or any other water wastage to your local Building Liaison Officer (BLO):

- **Ashby:** Jim Norney (Ext 4073/ [j.norney@ee.qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.norney@ee.qub.ac.uk))
- **ECIT:** Emma Patterson (Ext 1701/ [blo@ecit.qub.ac.uk](mailto:blo@ecit.qub.ac.uk))
- **Computer Science Building:** Keith Stewart (Ext 4810/ [k.stewart@qub.ac.uk](mailto:k.stewart@qub.ac.uk))

## Sustainable Travel Reminder

All staff and students are reminded to consider the environmental costs of travelling to meetings. The school has a range of alternative solutions, such as teleconferencing or video-conference facilities, which can be used for cross-site meetings or external meetings.

**Why not give the bus or the bike a go?** You can save on petrol and increase your daily step count, by using bike, bus or rail services. [Belfast Bikes](#) offer services around campus, as far as Belfast Metropolitan College, Titanic Quarter. QUB and ECIT are also served by several [Translink](#) bus and train services. For QUB staff, a Travel Plus Salary Sacrifice scheme is available for bus travel, and an Annual Commuter Travel Card Loan scheme is available for train travel. For more information, check out the [QUB Transport & Travel website](#).

Tips for travelling to and from the School of EECS and around the Queen's campus can be found in the [QUB Travel Guide](#). You can also expand your email signature to share sustainable travel information with your visitors to the University using the following link: [Travelling to Queen's – Think Sustainable](#).

## ECIT Shuttle Bus Service

The School of EECS offers staff and students a direct bus route link between QUB campus and the ECIT building. Please see full schedule below:

Time	Departing From	Arrive
0900	Elmwood Ave (side of Queens Union)	ECIT Building 0920
1230	ECIT Building	Elmwood Ave 1250
1340	Elmwood Ave	ECIT Building 1400
1715	ECIT Building	Elmwood Ave 1735

## Green Impact Team

The School has two green impact teams; AWARE and ECIT AWARE who meet regularly to progress the EECS action plan for the Gold Award. The



### AWARE:

Neil Anderson (CSB)  
David Laverty (Ashby)  
Ian O'Neill (CSB)  
Harry Ritchie (Ashby)  
Maire Bowler (CSB)  
Sandra Scott-Hayward (ECIT)  
John Ashe (Ashby)

### ECIT AWARE:

Pushpinder Chouhan (ECIT)  
Jill Doherty (ECIT)  
Emma McLarnon (ECIT)  
Ciara Rafferty (ECIT)  
Richard Ruddock (ECIT)

teams are made up of the following volunteers:

Please check out the EECS and ECIT Blogs for further information: <https://blogs.qub.ac.uk/aware/>  
If you have any ideas or suggestions of environmental actions that the University can take to reduce our carbon emissions and provide a sustainable working and learning environment for students and staff, we'd love to hear from you! Please email any member of either team.