

THE GREEN GAZETTE



The Sustainability Newsletter for MWL Trust



In this issue, we look at how the NHS is aiming to make its transport fleet **fully decarbonised by 2040**

We also show you how you can have a more eco-friendly **spring** as well as some suggestions for how you can **make Easter a little bit greener**. We also feature **Warp It** and show you how easy it is to recycle your unused or unwanted equipment at work

And finally we have our **In the News** section, as well as the **Quick Reads** and **Journal Articles** sections, which aim to inform and keep you up to date with all things sustainability



If you have any **ideas** or **features** you'd like us to showcase in forthcoming issues, please contact MWL Library and Knowledge Service at:

 library@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk

We'd love to hear from you!



WELCOME

A very big welcome to the latest issue of **The Green Gazette**, the sustainability and environmental newsletter for MWL staff

This **quarterly** newsletter, compiled and created by the Library, aims to bring sustainability issues, initiatives and ideas to MWL staff in a friendly and accessible way

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IN THE NEWS

Cannibalistic jellies and aggressive blue crabs: Invasive species threaten Venice's fragile lagoon

[Read More](#)

Balayage to biodiversity: Are Europe's hairdressers the secret weapon in tackling climate change?

[Read More](#)

'Rarely seen moments': Winners of the British Wildlife Photography Awards revealed

[Read More](#)

Your dog's dinner could be warming the planet. Wet, raw and meat-rich foods made for dogs are adding a significant amount of excess emissions to Britain's carbon footprint

[Read More](#)

Love, fear, anger and hope: how emotions influence climate action

[Read More](#)

Why walking in a national park in the dark prompts people to turn off lights at home

[Read More](#)

Large tortoiseshell butterfly confirmed no longer extinct in UK

[Read More](#)



GREEN TRANSPORT IN THE NHS

Did you know the NHS runs the second-largest vehicle fleet in the country - just behind Royal Mail? With over **20,000 vehicles clocking up more than 460 million miles each year**, our fleet plays a vital role in delivering NHS services

From **ambulances** and **patient transport** to **maintenance** and **essential deliveries**, these vehicles help keep the health service moving



But while our fleet is essential, it also comes with a cost: Every year, **air pollution contributes to around 30,000 deaths in the UK**, affecting the most vulnerable in our communities - people with existing health conditions, older adults, and children. That's why the NHS is committed to transitioning to a **fully decarbonised fleet by 2040**

As part of the Government's investment of £63 million in electric vehicle infrastructure, the NHS will receive **£8 million to support our own fleet's decarbonisation**. By investing in electric chargepoints across NHS sites, we'll reduce fuel and maintenance costs - savings that can be redirected straight back into frontline care



This latest investment - spanning **62 NHS Trusts** and around 224 sites - is expected to save the NHS **£130 million over the next 25 years**, with a return on investment in just 4 years

Why not set yourself the task of **reducing your environmental impact** this year?

A great place to start is to complete the **WWF's environmental footprint calculator** which will help you to work out what your current impact on the environment is and some of the many ways you can improve it



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DONATE YOUR BRAS!

Melanie Pinnington, Practice Educator at ICU Southport tells us about the fabulous Bra Bank recycling initiative!



Did you know you can **recycle your unwanted and unloved bras** for good causes?

At Southport Hospital, you can pop your old bras into to the **Bra Bank**, located at the **Hanley Library** in the Clinical Education Centre or deliver them straight to **Mel in ITU at Southport**. Alternatively, you can drop them directly off to Jan and Lucy at **Busybodys in Birkdale village**

The bras are then sorted, collected and weighed. The weight of material cost is then made as **a donation to breast cancer charities** such as the Marina Dalglish Appeal



The bras themselves are then **shipped to Third World Countries** and distributed to women who would not normally have access to bras

So this Spring, why not have a clear out and take part in this wonderful initiative. You'll help to **save more fabric from going to landfill** as well as **doing good locally**

If any other team, at any site, would be interested in **having a Bra Bank in their department**, or you have any other questions about the initiative, please contact Mel

 mel.pinnington@merseywestlancs.nhs.uk



Did you know.... Switching from the font 'Arial' to 'Century Gothic' saves **30% ink** on printing!

QUICK READS

Staff at Great Ormond Street Hospital **reduced use of plastic gloves**, and in doing so saved 21 tonnes of plastic and £90,000!

[Read More](#)

Rooftop hives have been installed at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust's Oxford Road site to encourage staff to **connect with nature** through beekeeping and to **aid biodiversity preservation**

[Read More](#)

An initiative to reduce waste arising from **single use of nasoendoscopes** has been implemented at South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust with the introduction of new green recycling bins in a number of departments

[Read More](#)

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust have introduced **reusable theatre hats** instead of single-use disposable ones for staff to wear. Since the project began they have been able to save **84,000** disposable hats previously incinerated each year

[Read More](#)



JOURNAL ARTICLES

'Moving toward a more sustainable diagnostic and interventional radiology department' (2025) [Read in Full](#)

'Impact of climate change and air pollution on childhood respiratory health' (2025) [Read in Full](#)

'Health impacts of climate change and role of the health sector in mitigating carbon emissions' (2025) [Read in Full](#)

'Reducing regulated medical waste: A roadmap for process improvement' (2025) [Read in Full](#)

'Sustainable AI in medicine: navigating innovation, challenges, and environmental impact' (2025) [Read in Full](#)

"Understanding knowledge, perception, attitude and behaviour on sustainable healthcare waste management practices in selected National Health Service Trusts in the Northwest of England" (2025) [Read in Full](#)

You will need an **NHS OpenAthens account** to access some of these articles in full

Don't have one? Click [here](#) to sign up for an account



STAFF STORIES



Rob Williams, Head of eCommerce, Procurement Logistics & Transactional Service tells us about the fabulous **Warp It** initiative!



Don't buy it, don't bin it, WARP IT!

Warp It encourages staff across MWL to **advertise equipment** they have in their ward, department or area **that they no longer need**. Other people can then claim that equipment

Users can also create a **wish list** so they're alerted when something they need is added



The system assigns **attributes to items** e.g. cost, weight and so on so we can monitor and report the **sustainability and financial benefits** of reallocating items instead of disposing/buying new

Since 2018, using Warp It, MWL has...



Signed up **500** members of staff

Transferred **645** items of equipment

Saved **23,529 kg** of CO2

Diverted **11,312 kg** of waste

Saved the Trust **£62,477**

So if you've got items cluttering up your ward or department you no longer need, or a stationery cupboard full of things you don't use, add it to Warp It. **Sign up** here!



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SEASONABLY SUSTAINABLE

Celebrate Easter sustainably.

If you celebrate Easter, think about doing it in a more **eco-friendly way** this year. Easter celebrations are often very wasteful and environmentally unfriendly. So why not try making your Easter greener this year? Get some tips [here](#)



Try buying ethical **Easter gifts and treats**, or re-purposing natural materials instead. [Wild Magazine](#) has some great ideas of how to be green at Easter

Easter crafts are another thing you can do more consciously. For instance, why not decorate eggs with your kids using a non-toxic egg dye? Get some more suggestions for other Easter crafts [here](#)

Finally get some ideas for eco-friendly Easter entertaining and dining from the [Social Pantry](#).

Get Growing!

Spring is the best season to start a garden and plant some veggies, herbs, or fruit trees. And MWL Library can help!



There is a **Seed Library** at Hanley Library, Southport, where you can collect seeds to plant in your own garden or in a pot at work for **FREE**. All we ask is that you consider donating any seeds back to us after you've grown your produce. We also welcome any donations of bought seeds too!

So what can you plant in **Spring**?

Vegetables

Lettuce, spinach, carrots, beetroot, beans, tomatoes, chillis

Fruit

Blackberries, gooseberries, pears, strawberries, peaches, cherries

Flowers

Marigolds, dahlias, primroses, sweet peas, hyacinths



LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Dawn Chorus Day Walk at Lunt Meadows, Liverpool

[Find Out More](#)

Guided Forest Bathing Experience, Lytham Hall

[Find Out More](#)

Guided Walk: Wildflowers of the Fylde Dunes

[Find Out More](#)

Mindful Forest School for Grown-Ups, Lymm

[Find Out More](#)

Beginners Five Week Sewing Course, Liverpool

[Find Out More](#)

World Earth Day at the Farm, Tatton Park

[Find Out More](#)

Spring Wreath Making Workshop, Rufford Old Hall

[Find Out More](#)

Botanical Craft Session, Liverpool

[Find Out More](#)

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USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES



GREEN GARDENING

[RHS 10 Ways to Be More Sustainable in Your Garden](#)

[28 Ways to Create an Eco-Friendly Garden](#)

[40+ Pictures of Sustainable Garden Ideas for Inspiration](#)

[Designing a Sustainable Garden: Eco-Friendly Ideas for UK Homes](#)

[Eco-friendly Gardening on a Budget: 6 Sustainable Choices that Make a Difference](#)

[No Mow May Campaign](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

18th [Earth Day](#)

29th [Stop Food Waste Day](#)

MAY

20th [World Bee Day](#)



JUNE

6th - 14th [Great Big Green Week](#)

LKS

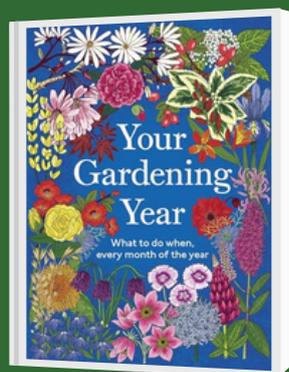


GREEN TIPS!

- To water your garden more sustainably, consider installing a **rainwater collection system**. You don't need to spend a fortune - you can **install your own** simply and cheaply
- Replace your old **bin bags** with **certified compostable bin bags**
- Did you know you can recycle some **old makeup** at Boots? Find out more and download the app **here**
- **Buy more sustainable fish**. Check the Marine Conservation Society's **Good Fish Guide** for a range of sustainable alternatives to your usual cod, haddock, tuna, salmon and prawn
- Take a minute to consider how many plastic cartons of milk you buy each month. Perhaps it's time to go old-school and **book a weekly delivery** from the milkman? To find one near you, visit the **Find Me a Milkman** website



GREEN BOOK



[Your gardening year: What to do when, every month of the year](#)

Alice Patullo

2025

ISBN: 978-0241796849

[Please contact your MWL Library to borrow](#)