

## **Sustainability Working Group**

This Earth Day, the Sustainability Working Group Society (SWG) reflects on a year filled with collaboration, community and a shared commitment to making sustainability more accessible students. Throughout the year, the SWG delivered a series of events that brought sustainability beyond theory and into everyday student life. From outreach and education to hands on environmental action, each initiative was designed to encourage meaningful engagement while developing awareness of wider sustainability challenges.

One of the highlights was our Green Crawl event, where members visited local Canterbury businesses that prioritise sustainable practices. This provided valuable insight into different sustainable options in Canterbury and was an opportunity for students to meet and socialise in a low-pressure environment.

Environmental action was further supported through a litter picking collaboration event with ResLife at Seasalter Beach. This event not only contributed to cleaning the local environment but also linked nature and mental wellbeing. It was amazing to get students together to spend time outdoors in a relaxed and social setting.

Later on, the SWG hosted the Textbook Swap event, delivered in partnership with the Kent Student Law Society. This event was hosted just before exam season and students were able to trade old textbooks for new ones at no additional cost. By encouraging students to reuse and share resources, the event demonstrated how small changes can contribute to more sustainable consumption habits.

Another standout event was our Parky's Takeover event, hosted in collaboration with GOLD, Parky's Preloved, and the DJ Society. This event celebrated sustainable fashion and offered students an alternative to fast fashion through second hand clothing. With live music from the DJ Society alongside refreshments and snacks, the event created an engaging and vibrant space that made sustainability both enjoyable and accessible.

Alongside these events, the SWG continued to support ongoing initiatives on campus, including efforts to uphold the single use plastics ban and increase biodiversity. These longer-term commitments reflect the society's focus on creating lasting impact beyond individual events.

This Earth Day serves as a reminder that sustainability is not only about large-scale change, but also about everyday actions, community engagement and collective responsibility. The SWG is honoured to be a space for student led initiatives playing a meaningful role in shaping a more sustainable future.