

# SUSTAINABLE

ISSUE 9  
AUTUMN  
2020



DERWENT  
LONDON

# Welcome to the 2020 Sustainable newsletter

Well we think it's safe to say that 2020 hasn't unfolded the way we thought it would. Here at Derwent London, we have taken time to reflect on the challenges which the pandemic has created for people and focused on supporting our occupiers and communities as a priority. At the same time, we are also embracing the opportunities it presents – developing our work on mental health, diversity and inclusion and to ensure we deliver on our new net zero ambition.

## In this issue...

- Our team
- Remote volunteering
- The Great British September Clean
- Our progress on Net Zero
- Dates for your diary

# Meet the team



## John Davies

Head of Sustainability

John steers the sustainability ship here at Derwent. Joining the business in 2013, his work has involved developing and refining our approach to sustainability. Under his leadership, Derwent has pushed forward to lead the pack on a number of initiatives – from the Community Fund, achieving its first BREEAM Outstanding, publishing science based targets, being the first UK REIT to launch a credit facility with a 'green' tranche and now - committing to becoming net zero carbon by 2030.



## Helen Joscelyne

Sustainability Manager

Helen leads our community work. Whether talking to individual charities about a project for our Community Fund, organising a volunteer clean-up on a canal, or rounding up colleagues to let sixth-formers in on their tricks of the trade, Helen is tireless in her vision to help. In lockdown, somehow she developed extra powers to look after her young children at the same time as working from home – some of you may have seen her zoom backdrop and the wonderful school artwork...



## Justyna Tobolska

Sustainability Manager

It is down to Justyna to review our energy, carbon and environmental work across our managed portfolio. She assesses the carbon data and prepares the feedback in our reporting to ensure we are meeting industry compliance. If you are struggling with these acronyms – CDP, GRESB, SECR, SBTi, ESOS – then Justyna is your go-to!



## Herman Wa

Sustainability Manager

Herman is our data king, ploughing through endless monitoring systems connected to our buildings to ensure that our environmental ambitions are on target. At the end of each quarter, he unfathoms this minefield to help make everything easy for us to understand.

# Zero ambition!

In May of this year a government survey of nearly 2,000 people discovered that, despite more than three quarters of people being concerned about climate change, many of us don't actually know what Net Zero Carbon really means for us. In addition, although the government require the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, their survey revealed that a mere 3% of us feel we know "a lot" about the net zero agenda and why we need to take action against rising global temperatures.

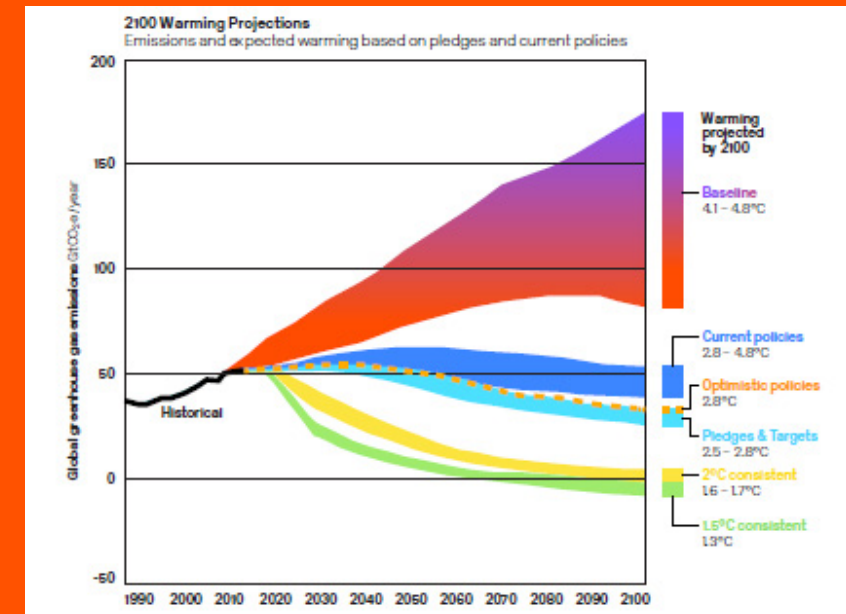
Here at Derwent London we have stated our ambition to become Net Zero Carbon by 2030 - by reducing our energy consumption and subsequent greenhouse gas emissions in line with a 1.5°C scenario and offset any residual emissions we cannot eliminate through verified schemes. Our commitment includes assessing our corporate activities, evaluating our development pipeline and, last but not least, examining landlord and occupier energy and water consumption.

We realise that we cannot achieve this last aspect of our commitment without collaborating with you, our occupiers. We believe that, in partnership, we can minimise our carbon impact.

To this end we have been working on a Charter that we will be shortly sharing with you which outlines the steps we believe are necessary for us to take together.

In the meantime head to our website to read more about our [Net Zero strategy](#).

If you wish to discuss this further we would be happy to do so; please contact [John Davies](#).



OUR JOURNEY TO  
**NET ZERO**  
2030

# Volunteering in the community

## Out and about and online



Remote Volunteering – working together for the greater good Volunteering is a key part of our commitment to supporting our communities and as community groups were forced to close their doors during lockdown we wondered how we were going to be able to continue our volunteering programme.

Just as places of work turned to video calls to carry on and keep in touch, so did groups supporting others, intent on continuing their services and maintaining a lifeline. We found ourselves busier than ever taking part in a range of activities, albeit remotely. From March to July Derwent employees took part in:

- 2 online training sessions for staff at Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee School
- 2 website support sessions with Paddington Development Trust/Grand Junction
- 4 telephone discussion groups with Neighbourcare, Open Age and Penfold
- 3 careers seminars at King Solomon Academy
- 1 telephone IT support session with Grand Junction
- 8 colleagues reviewed 17 CVs for students at Marylebone Girls School

### Our occupiers supporting the frontline

We have also seen tremendous examples across the portfolio of occupiers turning their hand to supporting the NHS and the wider community.

- Carousel opened their kitchen to Hospitality for Heroes preparing over 5,000 meals
- Leon turned their Tottenham Court Road location into a Feed the NHS site
- Daisy Green staff baked over 30,000 Lamingtons and cakes for NHS frontline workers around London
- Make Architects used their 3D printers to make 100 headbands a day to create headshields for NHS workers
- Method at Tea Building offered free remote business consultation to help businesses digitalise their offering
- Ten Health & Fitness provided free classes via Instagram Live

Volunteering, remotely or otherwise, is still the best way we can work together to help others. If you are looking for ways your business can get involved Business in the Community's Responsible Business Network may be the ideal place to start. It connects organisations offering support to groups looking for help, with 2,000 matches having already been made. Offering our time, skills and expertise has never been so important.



# The Great British Clean Paddington Basin

As part of the Great British September Clean, Derwent London staff took to the waterways on 22 September by paddleboard and boat to help clean up the Paddington Basin section of the canal system to keep it free from plastic pollution. Originally set up for March, but cancelled due to the lockdown, it was great finally to take part in this event, organised by the Paddington Partnership, and be out together in the September sunshine.

Not only did volunteers have a great time on the water they also did their bit for the environment, with the volume of plastic and litter returned to the canal side being testament to their efforts. The canal system in London is an integral part of the city's heritage and events such as this ensure that the canals can continue to be enjoyed by everyone.





## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### NOVEMBER:

November  
14-20 November

Mens Health Awareness Month  
London Climate Action Week

### DECEMBER

11 December

Christmas Jumper Day for Save The Children

### PLUS

How you can help while doing your Christmas shopping

### EASY FUNDRAISING

sign up, choose your favourite charity and then shop with the likes of Amazon, John Lewis and Marks & Spencer

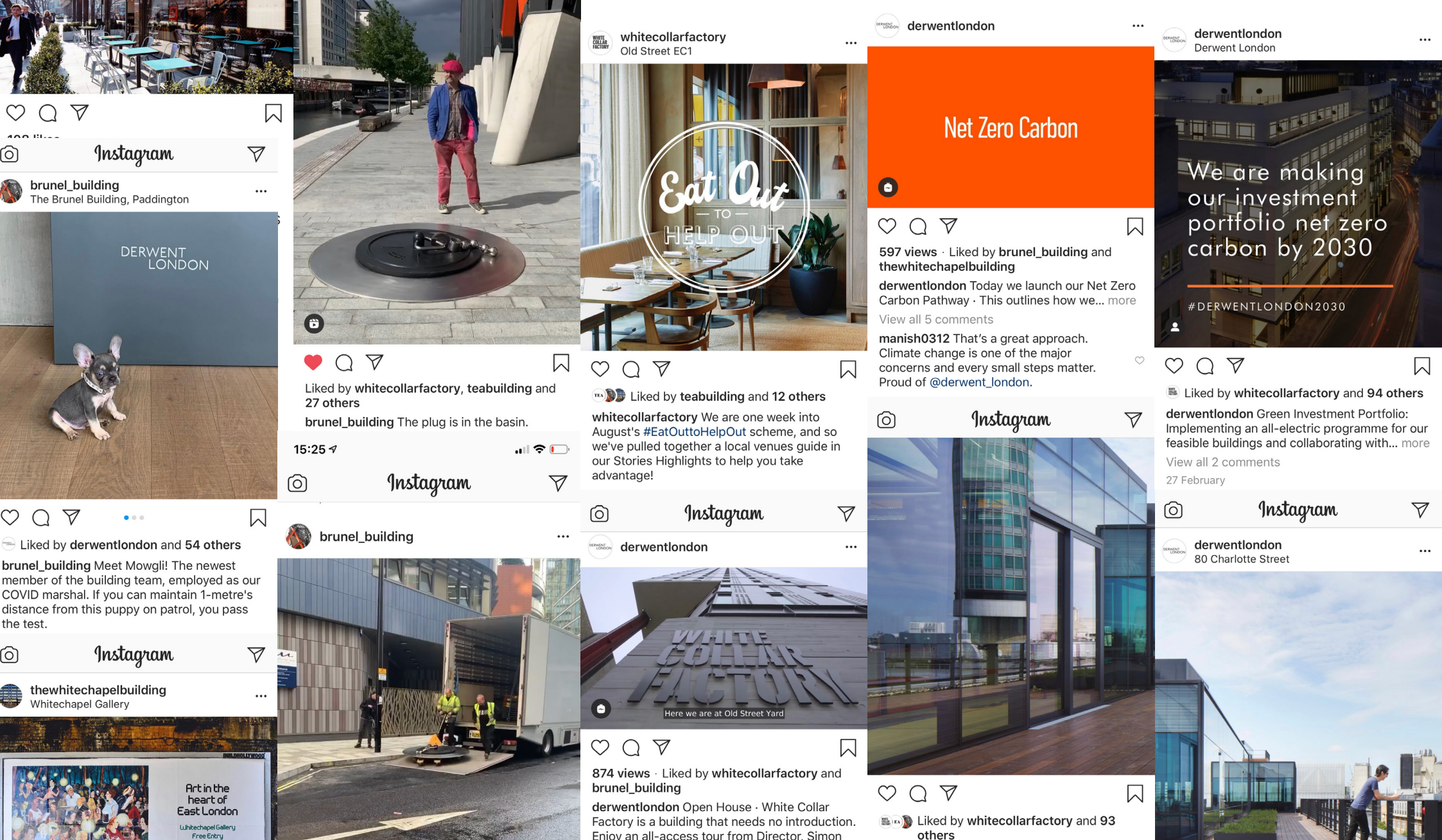
### AMAZON SMILE

if Amazon is your comfort zone then choose your favourite charity, shop at Smile and Amazon will donate to your charity.

### GIVE AS YOU LIVE

sign up and register a charity's details, shop with over 4,000 shops on their site, and they will make a donation to your chosen charity.





Be sure to follow us on all of our channels for the latest news updates etc...