Edition 01 March 2024

# TENANTS' NEWS



An exciting update of what's been happening in our centres - and how to get involved in more!

## Introduction

## Another six months have passed since our last newsletter, and once again it's time to celebrate what it means to be an Ethical Property tenant.

Firstly, we want to say thank you for being with us – by being our tenant, you are supporting a genuine social enterprise, a company whose mission it is to use property for the best interests of the planet, economy and society.

But more importantly, you help make our centres what we envisioned them to be – places where people can come together, united by a commitment to positive impact.

In this issue we've collated some of the highlights of activities across our centres. From therapeutic gardening sessions to underground music lessons and art exhibitions re-examining homelessness, you'll find stories of space being used to its potential.

Remember, we want to hear from you – so if you feel inspired to run an event, set up a new scheme in your building or shine a light on something you've been doing, we're all ears!

THEATRE hotspots

update

**Environmental** 

EXCITING events

CONTACT US WITH NEWS

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According to our 2023 reports, our offices on average used 70% of the energy of other office spaces, and produced only 1.65% of the carbon emissions.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR TENANTS?



We have now released individual reports on the energy usage for each of our centres. This means that, knowing your space usage, you can calculate exactly what resources your organisation is using while you are with us.

We know how important it is to be able to accurately audit your environmental impact – for investors, for funders, and for reaching your own goals – and it's part of our mission to facilitate that here at Ethical Property.

## Centres

#### ST PAUL'S LEARNING CENTRE, BRISTOL

### **THERAPEUTIC Garden**

Early last year an overgrown garden at the back of the centre was taken into the hands of a lady named Sasha from **Roots n' Fruits**, who has since transformed it into a therapeutic haven.

The space is now usable by anyone who's looking to hone their gardening skills or just spend more time outdoors to improve their wellbeing. Our open sessions run every Tuesday from 1.00-3.30pm and everyone is welcome!

#### **THEATRE Hotspot**

As of 2023, not one but two theatre groups have been filling the centre with their enthusiasm and energy.

**Misfits** hold weekly drama and wellbeing workshops in the main hall, specifically for people with learning disabilities.

**Lightbox Theatre** offer low-cost theatre workshops in everything from writing to production, aimed at young people trying to enter the creative industries.

St Pauls staff report that the theatre groups have made the centre an even more joyful place to be than usual.





#### ST PAUL'S LEARNING CENTRE, BRISTOL

## Tenant Collaboration supports those who are lonely



St Pauls Learning Centre tenants the **Marmalade Trust** carried out an impactful campaign at Christmas by sending hampers to people experiencing loneliness. Goodies included candles from fellow tenants **Lovewell**, a Social Enterprise that supports women recovering from trauma while handmaking luxurious beauty products.

We're delighted that, by working in a space committed to social impact, they were able to support two excellent causes at once.

#### OLD MUSIC HALL, OXFORD

## **NEW WALKING CLUB** for Tenants

Two Ethical Property staff have set up a new 'walk and talk' on Wednesdays at lunchtime. The aim is to bring tenants together, get people away from their desks for a little while, and get some fresh air and exercise while exploring local green spaces. Current routes include Aston's Eyot nature reserve, South Park and Headington Hill Park. Contact Esmee to find out more!



#### **Ruskin School of Art to take** downstairs space

There's set to be an exciting new injection of energy and talent in the building with **Ruskin School of Art** taking up the downstairs space in a few months' time. The ground floor area will be used as an art space for their students – we can't wait to see what they make of it.

#### **Gallery Bouldering Centre**

A bouldering centre is due to open in late March around the back of the Gallery, which is right next door to the Old Music Hall. It's going to be open until late, meaning it'll be available for post-work socialising and exercise. A discount for OMH tenants is currently under discussion!

#### **Migrant Help Art Day**

On 22 February, OMH tenant **Migrant Help** turned what is normally a plain meeting room into a thriving art exhibition. Clients and staff came together to celebrate the role of art in mental health, as well as draw attention to the plight of refugees and asylum seekers in the current UK hostile environment. Their work included everything from cards, evocative portraits, poems and detailed etchings.

#### GREEN PARK STATION, BATH

### Works underway post fire

Staff at Green Park Station have shared the exciting news that construction works are underway following the terrible fire in June last year. Traders and Ethical Property staff alike are thrilled to have an end date in sight, with works predicted to finish in April. It won't be long until Green Park Station is back to its old self!



#### **Tenants thriving despite pressures**

We are delighted to hear that tenants are still doing well despite pressures caused by the fire damage. Most tenants are still trading, and we've done our best to help with this – with some having been able to adapt to working from different spaces.

**Green Park Brasserie** is redeveloping its function rooms and is looking to expand its offering by setting up a new restaurant that hosts comedy nights. Some of the downstairs vaults – the area that suffered most damage – are now being used to give music lessons.

#### THE FOUNDRY, LONDON

### **Exciting events**

A dynamic range of events has been in full swing at The Foundry. These included a day of opera-singing workshops, led by a team of young professional performers. The organisers use these interactive classical music projects to help participants develop communication skills, foster creativity and broaden their imaginations. They believe that music can be used as a powerful professional team-building tool.

There was also a free posture assessment for tenants, led by SpineWorks Chiropractic, to assess their deskworking habits and provide guidance on protecting their wellbeing.

#### **New exhibition opens**

On 29 February, a new exhibition launched in The Foundry atrium. 'One Percent', by the multidisciplinary artist and ceramicist Agata Nowak, pulls away the dehumanising lens that is so often used to view those experiencing homelessness. Her aim is to refocus this perspective – to invite us to reconsider the universal possibility of homelessness. The artist encourages us to think deeply about everyone's right to have their basic human needs met, while being seen as an individual. The new exhibition follows on from another thoughtprovoking show in the atrium, which documented the lives and experiences of homeworkers in the garment supply chain.



Find out more here.

#### THORN HOUSE, EDINBURGH

## Environmental reporting in the Scottish cultural sector

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Creative Carbon Scotland's latest environmental report responds to and reflects the huge changes there have been not only in the quantity and types of data required for environmental auditing, but also in the cultural sector's climate actions.

The report focuses on three core groups – venues, museums and workshops, festivals and producers, and sector support – and includes several new reporting areas such as digital emissions, governance and adaptation.



#### You can read the full report here.

#### **Promotion opportunity on Ethical Property website**

Every three months we will be promoting our tenants' work on the 'From our tenants' page on our website. It's a free, low pressure opportunity to shine a light on your activities, among an audience of social impact investors.

We will be sending out reminders a month before each update, so if you want to be involved, please send us the following at **marketing@ethicalproperty.co.uk**:

- Around 300-400 words of information on a latest piece of news from your organisation whether that be a project, a campaign, a new piece of research, or even just an update of what you've been up to recently.
- Links to your social media channels.
- An image.

We're always happy to help showcase your fantastic work!