INTRODUCTION FROM CHRIS OLDHAM

Many thanks and well done for your incredible efforts in the preparation and implementation of Arrivals Day and Welcome Week. It is a monumental task to ensure everything is set up for these events and to welcome such a large volume of students into our community. You should all be very proud of your contribution.

NEW ACCOMMODATION IS UNVEILED IN COLCHESTER

The Copse welcomed its first students this month. This new student accommodation at the Colchester Campus comprises 643 new single ensuite bedrooms laid out in cluster apartments for between four and 12 students. The development continues Uliving's partnership with the University and extends the Knowledge Gateway, the research and technology park at our Colchester Campus.

ESSEX SPORT GYM REFURBISHMENT

Essex Sport welcomed new and returning students with a refurbished gym and activity studios. State-of-the-art equipment, supplied by Technogym, enables all members to revolutionise their workouts. Take a look at the Skillrun in action and see why Olympic and Paralympic athletes have been using Technogym as their official supplier for the past 18 years.
brand. Over 300 fitness classes are now available, including new Mind & Body classes to enhance overall wellness, as well as a selection of high-energy cycle fit classes in the new, dedicated cycle studio, ensuring that Essex Sport offers a range of classes suitable for all.

A BUSY SUMMER PAYS OFF

The Estates teams have led a packed programme of refurbishments at Colchester and Southend over the summer months. Accommodation was the big focus with just 13 weeks to carry out the work before students arrived.

The majority of the work was in Anne Knight House on the north side of Campus, where the flats now have new kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms and communal areas. A number of disabled rooms in Harwich Court and three DDA kitchenettes in University Square at Southend were also refurbished. The lift lobbies, reception area and common room were redecorated in a style chosen by students.
The Constable Building has received a facelift in preparation for the arrival of the University of Essex International College students. The building has a new roof and refurbished clock tower, as well as extensive internal redecoration.
The bridge at Square 1 on Colchester campus has been out of action for a number of years. A programme of work started on the bridge in July, which included grit blasting to remove rust, cleaning and decoration. This work is now complete and the bridge is open for use.
For all updates on our campuses, please follow the Estates social media pages (@Essex_Estates) or visit the works on campus page on the University website.

WIVENHOE HOUSE FILM SCREENING

In September, Wivenhoe House held their first outdoor film screening. The 300-strong crowd watched The Greatest Showman and enjoyed food and drink stalls, including a pop-up pizza outlet run by Essex Food. The next screening of Mamma Mia 2 will take place in May.
SAVING THE PLANET, ONE COFFEE AT A TIME

Have you got your hands on your FREE, reusable, Essex Food Rewards Keep Cup yet? Visit one of the Essex Food outlets and show a member of staff you have the Essex Food Rewards
app to collect yours. When you reuse your cup in any Essex Food outlet on campus, you’ll get 10p off your hot drink.

If you haven’t got the Essex Food Rewards app yet, just follow the four easy steps here.

BEST FEET FORWARD

Gary Gibbons and Mark Bones explain the duties of the Traffic and Patrol Officers who are out and about all day monitoring the 2,000 parking spaces for staff and students.

What’s a typical day like?

Gary: During term time, every day is a busy day. The north side fills up first, mainly with staff, and by 9.30am, we are re-directing people to the south side of Campus. We try to get people to park in the Valley car park and then direct them to other car parks to avoid people having to reverse when there are no spaces. There is always a rush just before lectures start and, if the weather is nice, people tend to stay on Campus so the car parks are busier.

Mark: We aim to help everyone have a good start to his or her day. Finding a place to park your car should not have a big impact on your day. We help people who get a bit anxious when they
can’t find a space and we help visitors who don’t always know where they are going. We often walk visitors down to the Silberrad Centre to help them get their bearings.

**What do you do if you spot a problem?**

Gary: There is a safety element to our job and we keep our eyes open for flat tires etc. We’ve been known to help change the odd tyre or even jump-start the odd car!

**How far do you walk every day?**

Gary: In the morning, we walk between 12,000 and 17,000 steps, totalling about 25,000 steps each day. We are currently walking across Europe by measuring our step count. We’ve reached Italy already!

**What was it like last winter when it snowed?**

Gary: When we had the snow last year the grounds staff did an excellent job. By the time we arrived Campus had been gritted in all the right places; it was a brilliant example of us all working together.

**What advice would you give to drivers?**

Mark: If you can’t find a space, keep calm and look for someone in an orange high visibility jacket. If we don’t know of a space we will be able to get in touch with someone who does.

Gary: We now have a new overflow car park on Boundary Road near the Knowledge Gateway. This is opened when all other car parks campus wide are full. If you do bump into another car please don’t panic. Leave a note and report the incident to Security at the Information Centre on Square 3, email secspvrs@essex.ac.uk, or come to see one of us and we will help.

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**NEW STARTERS**
Welcome to Chrissie Quilty who joined the marketing and communications team as Marketing Assistant. Gavin Barker has started as an Electrical Craftsperson, alongside James Mann and Jack Coates as Mechanical Craftspersons.

We hope that you enjoyed the latest Estates and Campus Services newsletter. If you’d like to contribute to the November edition, please send your story to ecscomms@essex.ac.uk by 28 October 2018.