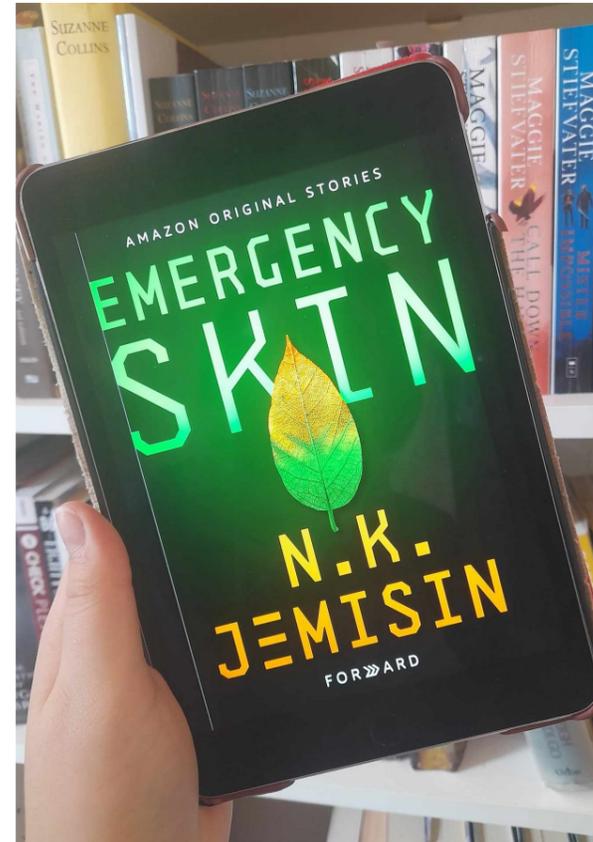


Do you want to be on The Greenhouse's mailing list and receive the newsletter as a PDF each month? Or get a hard copy sent directly to your office? Let us know via sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk. Plus - do you have Christ Church-related sustainability news? We'd love to know so we can feature it in the newsletter or on our blog! Get in touch!



SUSTAINABILITY BOOK REVIEWS #7



by Bethany Climpson

"Six billion people working toward a goal together is much more effective than a few dozen scrabbling for themselves."

In 2019, American author Blake Crouch posed three questions to six writers – How does it feel to change the world? How does anyone know at the moment of discovery where their work will ultimately lead? And should we let that uncertainty stop forward momentum, or do we roll the dice and let the chips fall where they may? Obsessed with rapid change and technological advancement, he curated six short stories by these writers into the collection known as *FORWARD*.

Of these six stories, my favourite is *Emergency Skin* by N.K. Jemison, of *Broken Earth Trilogy* fame. Her novelette sits firmly – which is a rarity – in the genre of solarpunk; crafting a civilisation of technology and nature working in tandem, of social and political equality.

In *Emergency Skin*, the civilisation of billionaires who escaped into space when the planet was near its end send

back a scout to check on Earth's state, and instead of finding a desolate hellscape, discover a flourishing world of community and technological advancement. Instead of succumbing to the end, the people of the world were able to come together in their hour of need and find a way to thrive alongside the environment and each other.

With six science fiction stories, the *FORWARD* collection spans from a take on random number generators in casinos by *The Martian* writer Andy Weir, to a stunning piece on grief at the end of the world, when you're tasked with saving the last genetic samples of plants from across the planet by Veronica Roth, creator of *Divergent*.

The climate crisis and themes of sustainability are consistently prevalent in science fiction, but they tend to be displayed in the mournful longings of dystopian survivors who regret what they have lost; however it is *Emergency Skin* that offers a new take, a hopeful take, on what could be if humanity only comes together to forge it (and billionaires are eradicated once and for all).



WELCOME TO THE NEW STUDENT GREEN OFFICE

A new academic year means a new Student Green Office! Over the summer, the Academy for Sustainable Futures recruited across the University for four new student Project Officers to join them in creating events and campaigns for the next year. The first three were hired during the summer, and the fourth was advertised across Welcome Week and recruited during the first teaching week of the year.

This year's group is made up of (from left to right) Halle Mills, a 2nd year Games Design student; Harry Cooper, a 3rd year Film Production student; Jenny Hall, a 1st year Archaeology and Forensics student; and Jack Swan, a PGCE Further Education student.

The group will be creating projects, running events and writing blog posts all around the themes and topics of sustainability, in whatever ways interest them. To keep up with their endeavours this year, check out the sustainability blog or follow our socials. If you'd like to run a project or collaborate with the SGO, feel free to send us an email at sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk - we'd love to hear from you.

Twitter: CCCUSCN Instagram & Facebook: ccusustainability

Blog Posts You Might've Missed This Summer:

[The grass is greener: a year in the SGO](#) - 13 June

[What's the Deal with Palm Oil?](#) - 16 June

[Why Do We Need Bees?](#) - 21 June

[An Introduction to Solarpunk](#) - 27 June

[Oh, the places I've been: my final year in the SGO](#) - 23 August

[Cheese, Gromit, Cheese!](#) - 29 August

[Monthly Sustainability Book Recommendations](#)

[Monthly Good News Round-Ups](#)

THIS MONTH @ CCCU

THE GREENHOUSE

cultivating sustainability at Canterbury Christ Church University



6 October 2023

- [Saluting Our Sisters, BH365](#) - month-long for October; *find the book collection in Augustine House*
- [BH365: We Celebrate You](#) - October-February; *photography exhibition in Verena Holmes; full range of Black History Month events on the student events portal*
- [Café Social](#) - 2-4pm, every Wednesday in Daphne Oram; *drop-in midweek activities including Creative Workshop (11/10), Open Mic (18/10) and Mini photo and postcard Workshop (25/10)*
- [Potter and Prune](#) - 3-4.30pm, every Wednesday in the Johnson Wellbeing Garden behind Johnson Building; *drop-in gardening sessions*
- [Wellbeing Café](#) - 2-4.30pm, every Thursday in The Food Court
- [Give it a Go: Craftivism](#) - 1-4pm, every Thursday, see student events page for locations; *drop-in crafting activism sessions*
- [Climate Café Nature Walk](#) - 1-1.45pm, first Thursday of every month, meet outside Verena Holmes
- [Mental Health Lego Session](#) - 12-2pm, 11 October, StressLess Zone on Augustine House 2nd floor
- [Carbon Literacy Training Workshop Part 1 & 2](#) - 2-5pm, 20 & 27 October, Er1.14 - *book via carbonliteracytraining@canterbury.ac.uk*
- [Tea @ 3](#) - 3-4pm, every weekday in Chaplaincy
- [Soup and Serenity](#) - 12-1pm, 20 October, The Chapel; *free community meal*
- [Chai Tea Developer Workshop with Melanie King](#) - 12-3pm, 21 October, Daphne Oram; *make a photographic developer with chai tea for black and white film, book via the student events portal*
- [CV and Cover Letter Workshop](#) - 1-2pm, 23 October, Careers & Enterprise Hub, Augustine House, *book via the student events portal*
- [Eco-Anxiety TED Talk Screening](#) - 1-5pm, 25 October, OS.0.01; *drop in any time to see this 15 minute TED Talk, refreshments provided*
- [Refillable Van](#) - 11:30-12:30 outside Augustine House, 1-4pm outside Verena Holmes, last Thursday of every month



NEW OUTDOOR SUSTAINABILITY SPACES

In circular-buildings-on-Anselm-Lawn-related news, the sustainability Roundhouse has its roof! Originally built on the grounds of the University of Kent by staff and students from readily available materials from their woodland space, the Roundhouse was generously donated to Christ Church to be a space for relaxation and socialising as much as a space for outdoor learning and holding events. Construction commenced over the summer, and the roof was added in the final week of September.

Plus, the sustainability yurt has made its triumphant return, since being damaged by Storm Claudio in November 2022. The yurt has made annual appearances on our campus for the better part of a decade, and thankfully will continue to do so now it's fixed. Both the yurt and the Roundhouse are free for staff and students to use, relax in, or engage in teaching. We also intend to run events out of them for years to come!

SGO APPLE PICKING



For the first event of the academic year, our new SGO Project Officer, Halle, ran an impromptu apple picking afternoon in the Golden Jubilee Orchard outside Ramsey. A number of students passing by joined in on the fun, picking fruit from our heritage orchard, which grows apples, pears and cobnuts.

The orchard was planted for Christ Church's fiftieth year, in 2012, and is inspired by the monks who lived in the Abbey that once stood on the site of our campus, and tended to an orchard in a similar spot.

While lots of fruit was picked, students ensured plenty was left for the birds and other local wildlife.