

## FUTURES2022

### WP2 Activities report.

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### Activities Summary

FUTURES2022 ultimately comprised 25 different activities and events,<sup>1</sup> designed to offer a wide range of people interesting, accessible, and appropriate opportunities to engage with research, and 291 researchers took part (participating in 298 individual sessions). We delivered a blended programme, with 19 in-person activities and 6 remote activities. This included events that were delivered online such as talks; written Q and As; and a quiz, and included activities that were off-line, such as radio shows; research fairs; hands-on experiments; guided walks; and a mural. This combination of activities and methods of delivery helped to mitigate against digital inequalities and provided varied ways to engage with research. To increase accessibility and inclusivity, all pre-recorded video material had closed captions, and where possible captioning was provided for live video. In total, at least 71,919 people engaged with FUTURES activities. The engagement with individual activities is described in the summary of the FUTURES2022 programme below, and in Table 1: Overview of activities.

### Management of activities

Activities were coordinated by the University of Bristol (UoB) and developed in collaboration with the University of Bath (UoBa), the University of Exeter (UoE) the University of Plymouth (UoP), and Bath Spa University (BSU).

The consortium Steering Group met regularly to discuss the development and evolution of the activities. The consortium built on the strong collaborative ethos developed since 2020 and all consortium members shared their understandings of how online delivery platforms and other methods could be utilised to provide effective engagement. The FUTURES project manager liaised regularly with staff coordinating activities for each consortium member and ensured appropriate activities were delivered in the most effective way possible.

Coordinators were in regular communication with external partners involved in delivering activities. These partners included the S.S. Great Britain in Bristol, numerous radio stations, media content creators, and artists and creative practitioners. External expertise was sought where appropriate. For example, when developing new activities intended to reach school children UoB received

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<sup>1</sup> Some events had more than one session, meaning there were more activity or event sessions in total.

training from Curiosity Connections, an expert network supporting the promotion of STEM education in primary schools.

### Researcher Recruitment

Calls to action to recruit researchers were distributed widely to reach researchers from all faculties and career stages. At UoB, UoBa, BSU, UoE and UoP, calls to action were circulated within university-wide newsletters and networks, through university faculties and research institutes, and through groups like the Bristol Doctoral College. UoB, BSU, UoE, and UoP approached specific researchers about involvement in specific appropriate events. UoB and UoBa, UoE and UoP also sent direct emails to all participants in previous FUTURES events, and disseminated calls to action using their Public Engagement Team websites, university websites and social media. In addition, UoBa advertised training activities through the Public Engagement Unit webpage, blog, staff homepage and through social media. This helped recruit researchers who were interested in professional development opportunities. UoB circulated calls to action to recruit researchers through the GW4 Alliance, which brings together four of the most research-intensive and innovative universities in the UK: Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter.

Calls to action for specific activities, such as UoP's 'Big Earth Quiz', were circulated by consortium partners and beneficiaries. Bath Spa sought to recruit researchers for activities organised by other partners, particularly Bath and Bristol (because of their geographical proximity). UoB and UoBa public engagement staff also promoted FUTURES2022 to researchers who they interacted with in their day-to-day work and used their working relationships with research institutes and their knowledge of on-going projects to recruit researchers. UoP utilised the relationships senior professional services staff have with researchers to invite participation and UoE presented FUTURES to Directors of Research for information to be cascaded.

Recruitment calls provided a link to a central consortium-wide Expression of Interest form, managed by UoB. This eased researcher data collection and to enable more inter-university collaboration. In total, 291 researchers took part in FUTURES2022: 134 from UoB, 56 from UoBa, 49 from UoE, 25 from UoP, 13 from BSU and 14 from 14 other institutions. 225 researchers provided information about their gender identity: 90 identify as men; 118 identify as women; and 1 person identifies as non-binary.

### Researcher Support

Each partner offered a range of bespoke support and tailored advice to enable researchers to participate in their FUTURES2022 activities. Where relevant and practical partners extended this support to researchers taking part in other consortium members' activities.

All researchers taking part in UoBa activities were provided 1:1 support by the UoBa Public Engagement Unit. For example, this included supporting the writing of 'scripts' for the creation of the video content for *Test Tubes and Time Travel*. UoBa also held several 'surgeries' for researchers who were taking part in the activities to get feedback and input on their activities as they were developing them in advance of delivery of the events. Public Engagement Unit staff were also available throughout events to assist with any technical problems and support researchers if they had any questions. All researchers taking part in UoBa activities were offered Public Engagement training organised and delivered by UoBa, which covered the basics of public engagement and how

to create effective activities that engage people with research, and were able to access the Public Engagement Knowledge Hub, an online set of 8 e-learning resources, covering topics including 'How do I manage my event?' and 'How can I facilitate a workshop?'.

All researchers taking part in UoB activities were given the opportunity to discuss and develop their engagement plans with the FUTURES Team and UoB Public Engagement Associates, and were encouraged to attend activity briefings where researchers could share their knowledge, ask questions and trouble-shoot problems. They were also provided with a briefing document for the activity/ies they were participating in which explained the aims and structure of the activity and offered suggestions about how they might approach it/engage their audience. Participants in UoB's Schools Fair or Up Late or Conversations On activities were able to practice their communication skills with peers and learn how to engage different audiences at training delivered by an external specialist. Public Engagement Associates (PEA) in the Public Engagement Team at UoB provided extensive one-to-one support in developing activities as part of all our activities, especially Conversations On... which required further investigation of both the research and the methods of delivery. Researchers were also signposted to a range of pre-recorded video modules which covered specific areas of public engagement skills and techniques which were an important feature of FUTURES, such as our module "Engaging at Festivals and Fairs".

All researchers taking part in UoE activities were offered 1:1 support, including the opportunity to discuss and develop their engagement plans with the Agile Rabbit team, and they were signposted to online videos and written guides to help them with public engagement ideas.

Researchers involved in BSU events met 3 times or more with BSU's project coordinator to discuss their activities and progress, and to answer any questions.

The UoP FUTURES team helped researchers to formulate their activity by providing 1:1 guidance, for example, ensuring the talks and exhibits delivered were accessible, engaging and relevant.

Training and resources specific to particular activities were also offered to participating researchers:

- Participants in UoBa's Science Showoff received a science comedy training session with Steve Cross, followed by two 'surgeries', to help researchers prepare.
- Participants in UoBa's Reddit AMA events were provided with a briefing explaining how Reddit AMA's work and giving guidance on how to have productive interactions with Reddit users.
- Participants in UoB's Discover and Discuss activity and/or Do Try This At Home activity were provided with guidance and templates for developing downloadable resources aimed at Key stage two children. UoB's Public Engagement Associates also provided extensive 1:1 support to help researchers refine their resources and activity plans. Researchers who were interested in Discover and Discuss or Do Try This At Home were also offered the opportunity to attend training about how to engage young people, their families, and school groups. This was delivered by primary STEM network organisation, Curiosity Connections, run by the University of the West of England and STEM Ambassadors West of England. The training covered how to make links to the curriculum, safeguarding, and developing engaging activities which can work in person or online. Curiosity Connections provided resources and

signposted researchers to other educational curriculum based resources and tips around engagement and participation for school children.

- Participants in UoB's Researcher's Tales were required to attend two days of training with professional storyteller, Clare Murphy, to develop their confidence, speaking skills, and storytelling skills. They also took part in a full rehearsal, supported by the UoB PE team. This was an opportunity to practice delivering their story and receive some feedback.
- UoP's host of The Big Earth Quiz, Professor John Spicer received a training session to lead the quiz. The Events team ensured researchers were comfortable using Zoom and Kahoot and the FUTURES team ensured they understood the structure of the event how to field questions most effectively.
- UoB, UoE, and UoP provided researchers with the access to assistance to move equipment to and from venues, and all partners ensured specialist technical equipment and resources required were supplied.

## Changes to the original programme

### Alterations

#### **Walkie Talkies UOE-22-20-WALKTALK**

The intention was to host more walks, but researchers were unavailable. We are planning to stage more walks at other times.

#### **Will Exeter Ever Be A Smart City UOE-22-21-CITY**

*The topic was changed from Smart Cities to **The Psychedelic Renaissance** because we had the opportunity to host David Nutt, a well-known researcher with a big following, and to address a theme featured in the news cycle. The location changed from Exeter Phoenix to reach a new rural community and engage a more diverse public. The date changed due to venue availability.*

#### **Nature-Gram UOBA-22-3-NATURE**

This activity is collaboration with the Natural History Consortium and was a repeat of activity that took place in the 2020 and 2021 editions of *FUTURES* and was due to run in 2022. However, because of the changes to the funding arrangements and the delay in funding being awarded, the NHC did not have capacity to run this event in time for *FUTURES* in 2022. It was agreed this would be postponed to 2023.

#### **Science Showoff UOBA-22-16-SHOW**

This event had to be postponed due to sickness of both the University of Bath event organiser and the host of Science Showoff with COVID-19 in the immediate run-up to *FUTURES*. It is currently scheduled to be delivered in January 2023 as a result of having to navigate venue and researcher availability.

#### **Reimagining the Town Hall UOBA-22-18-TOWN**

In discussion with the partner, Trowbridge Town Hall, after successfully securing the funds, it was established that the format originally proposed would no longer be suitable for the intended audience. The primary reason for this was the change of focus for the organisation because of successfully securing funding from both the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Future High Street Fund from central government. The exact nature of this event is still in the planning stages, as

it was paused in the run-up to the delivery of FUTURES. The current idea for this activity is for a yearlong programme of engagement with research and researchers culminating in a showcase of work during *FUTURES 2023*.

### **Building a Digital You UOBA-22-17-YOU**

This event was originally planned as a large-scale family hands-on activity with the Centre for the Analysis of Motion, Entertainment Research and Applications' partner, Bath Rugby. As a result of uncertainty around funding and timings of the award, the format and audience had to be modified due to availability of the partner venue at Bath Rugby.

### **Voyage of Discovery #2 UOP-22-25-VOYAGE**

The venue changed from Plymouth Albion Rugby Club to Plymouth Guildhall due to the rugby fixture schedule clashing with the Futures weekend. The Guildhall occupies a city centre location and had great success with people engaging with the event during the day.

### **Walking tours UOP-22-26-TOUR**

The 'History and Heritage' walking tour was unable to go ahead due to lack of researcher participation. It was replaced by Dr Jodie Fisher's 'Stories in the Stone Geo Trail', a guided tour of Plymouth Royal William Yard. The event sold out very quickly and had very positive feedback from participants.

### **Public Conversations, UOB-22-13-PUB and UOB-23-13-PUB**

Public Conversations was originally designed to be informal talks in pubs across the city. 3 major changes were made to the design and delivery of this activity. These were:

1. **To combine 2022 and 2023 and bill the activities as a series.** This would enable us to recruit more researchers and be able to offer a larger programme to the public.
2. **To change the delivery method.** The bid envisaged events similar to a Pint Of Science format, but to enable more in-depth two-way conversations between researchers and small groups of the public the format was changed to a round-table, round-robin with conversations prompted by provocations from researchers. This reduced the potential audience size but with the benefit of deeper and more valuable engagement.
3. **The name was changed to prevent barriers to access** associated with pubs and alcohol consumption that could prevent community members joining in. Some of the events were planned for other venues; some were ultimately cancelled due to researcher availability, but one went ahead.

### **Bridging Divides – Public Talks UOB-22-10-DIVIDES**

This activity was renamed 'Bridging Histories and Bridging Gaps' to reflect the research projects leading the content and was familiar to people who had previously engaged with these projects. Keeping the branding consistent enabled us to market the project and event and ensure that more people attended.

Additional content was also added. In addition to the planned programme of short talks and poetry readings, the event also involved creative workshops including stations for sharing poetry, recipes, waterway histories and family histories and a film premiere all of which represented curated activities around the topic of Bridging Divides. The event culminated in an open mic invitation to the audience to share their reflections and poems.

### **Additions**

Images of Research, UOBA-22-31 - was an addition to the programme in the bid to capitalise on opportunities available to UoBa.

This is our Island – BSU-22-29-ISLAND, detailed below, was an addition to the programme in the bid.

#### Cancellations

##### **Research Without Borders Exhibition UOB-22-12-BORDERS**

The Research without Borders exhibition was due to be delivered in 2022 as an online exhibition focusing on online interactions, enabling the public to ask researchers questions inspired by images. This activity was due to be organised in partnership with UoBs Bristol Doctoral College (BDC). Unfortunately, due to staffing changes, BDC did not have the capacity to support the development and delivery of this event in 2022.

#### FUTURES2022 programme

##### **Biology in Action! – BSU-22-5-BIO, General public, (1 October 12:00-16:00)**

5 Researchers from Bath Spa University hosted a variety of workshops on BSU grounds to discuss biology and biodiversity. There were 20 participants from the public, including several children. Participants got a tour of BSU biology labs and learned about eating insects as a sustainable protein source, with the option to try mealworms, crickets, or cricket flour biscuits. They also looked at seeds under a microscope and made wildflower seed bombs that were friendly to bees. There was also a nature tour of campus, and a bee workshop.



**Gaming Climate Change – BSU-22-15-BIO, General public (1 October 15:00-18:00)**

This virtual event consisted of 2 parts: 1) a virtual lecture explaining the context of the melting icebergs and the high north and why it matters and 2) an online simulation where 19 participants from various sectors took part in a role play, each representing a certain country with a part in the “great game.” Politics, power, and climate change were all at play and participants had to negotiate their role in the changing arctic landscape. The audience was highly relevant, including people with a professional interest, and highly engaged and the discussion and reflection continued after the event as evidenced by several emails to the lead researcher. 2 researchers from BSU took part, along with a guest lecturer from the Greenway Partnerships. In addition, 244 people have watched a recording of the lecture online.

**This is our Island – BSU-22-29-ISLAND, Children ages 4-10 (2 October 11:30-16:00)**

3 workshops at The Egg Theatre in Bath gave primary-school-aged children chance to learn about industrial fishing and its effects on the ecosystem and on local communities. Three researchers from BSU organised the event and built an “island” and local village using a pool, fish, lego people, and real seaweed. Children were given the opportunity to go “fishing” and put themselves in the mindset of a local fisherman when the big industrial boat came in. They were also shown a presentation of the dangers of industrial fishing on the ecosystem due to the materials used and the impact on the size and health of the fish. The children were given some seaweed to try upon the conclusion of the workshop. Each workshop had approximately 12 children plus their supervising adult/s. 43 people took part in total.



**Walkie Talkies Across the South West, UOE-22-20-WALKTALK, Adults; older people; rural communities (30 Sept & 1 Oct 2022, multiple times)**

4 researchers from the University of Exeter were involved in 4 Walkie Talkies, which 101 people participated in. The participants heard insights into everything from history and botany to climate change and biodiversity. Researchers from University of Exeter guided a walk across Exeter, exploring the city's 2000-year history. The walk specifically focused on Exeter's diverse historical occupants; the Romans, Saxons, Normans, Jews, 'Aliens', Africans, visitors and migrants who have enriched the city. The public also joined researchers on a gentle walk and conversation about the value of play in innovation and creativity, and played some games too. They learned how while many of us might think play is left behind in childhood research shows that it is valuable throughout life and sometimes in unexpected ways. Play can be used for creativity, as well as compassion and wellbeing. There was also a gentle walking tour along Teignmouth seafront and hear about the fascinating history of traditional seaside entertainment. This format particularly appealed to older people, and those concerned about indoor events because of the risk of contracting COVID-19. Rain affected attendance at one walk.



**Pop-Up Curiosity Shop of Science and Culture, UOE-22-19-SHOP, Families; young people (30 Sept & 1 Oct 2022 10:00-16:00)**

The public were invited to drop in to this 2 day, multi-event, mini research fair, to enjoy the demonstrations set up by 40 researchers from University of Exeter, play games and listen to music which were continuously running all day, and to listen to talks scheduled throughout the day. 788 people engaged with a variety of demonstrations for everyone from young children to adults. Participants not only had the chance to enjoy hands-on activities, but also to talk to artists and



scientists- from a range of backgrounds and disciplines - about their research/art, life, and career. They also had the chance to watch the creative process and talk to artist Marta Zu, who worked with 29 researchers to paint a mural on the shop window, viewed by an estimated 30,000 people using Exeter's main Bus Station. Local school children visited on Friday and were thrilled and absorbed. Research topics included Antibiotic Resistance, Ancient Eggs and Climate Change, Indian Coins, radical poetry, and open science. This informal format was chosen to engage as many people as possible.



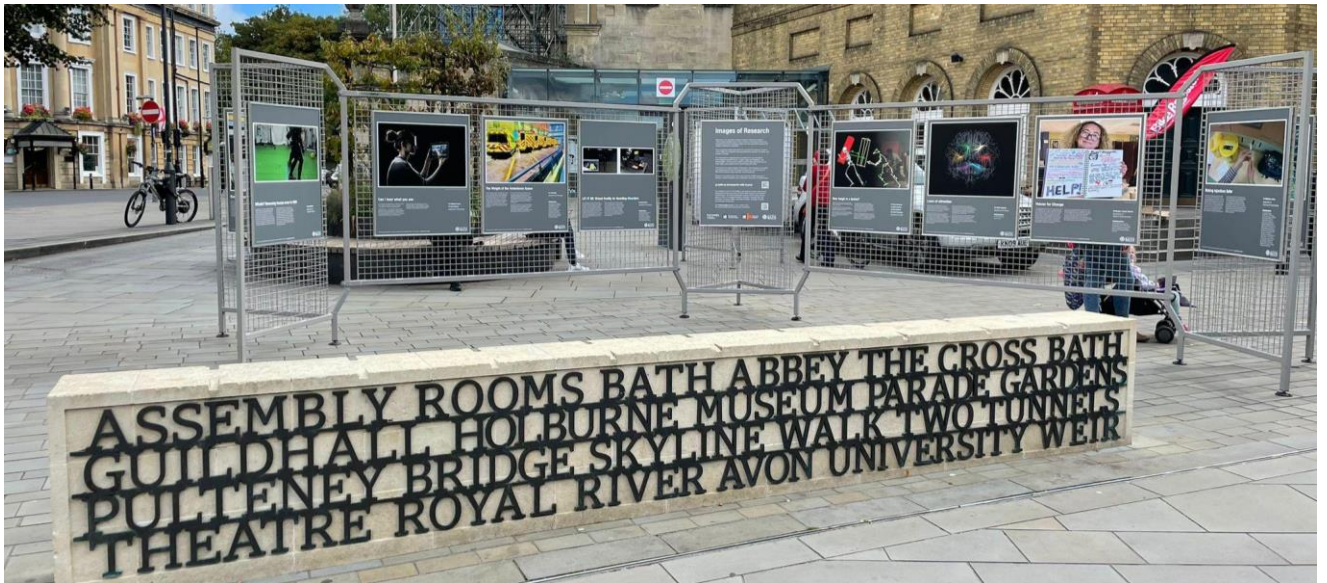
**The Psychedelic Renaissance, UOE-22-21-CITY - Families; young people; rural communities; older people. (20 October 2022, 19:00-20:30.)**

3 researchers took part in this live panel talk, attended by 280 people, which was also recorded for a podcast and video to maximise the legacy through online engagement, which has been engaged with 141 times so far. The topic was Psychedelic drugs, which are gaining attention in the pharmaceutical industry because of increasing scientific evidence of their potential benefits for people suffering with psychiatric disorders. The event was timely as there was a lot in the news about this topic around the time of the event. We allowed a third of the time for audience questions to help break down the barriers between researchers and public. This took place in a small Devon town, so it was a valuable way to engage a new community.



**Images of Research, UOBA-22-31 - Adults (Wed 28 Sept – Wed 5 Oct)**

Images of Research was a competition for University of Bath staff to use visual imagery and a simple short description to tell people about their research and its benefits to society. 32 researchers' entries were shortlisted and then formed the Images of Research exhibition. Originally hosted on campus at the University, the exhibition moved to a central location in Bath city centre outside Bath Spa railway station and attracted an estimated 6,000 visitors.



**Test Tubes and Time Travel, UOBA-22-15 – Families and Adults (Fri 30 Sept and Sat 1 Oct, 10:00-19:00)**

Developed as part of the 2021 edition of *FUTURES*, *Test Tubes and Time Travel* was relaunched in 2022 during *FUTURES* night. *Test Tubes and Time Travel* is an immersive location-based digital theatrical walking tour of the City of Bath led by award-winning theatre company, Kilter. Participants went on a ‘choose your own adventure’ tour and, using innovative app-based technology on their smart phones, were taken across the city to visit locations to discover the stories behind Bath’s historic scientific pioneers. Along the way they met 3 contemporary scientists and engineers from the University of Bath working on some of the big issues in society today such as vaccine production, sustainable building development and technology to detect cancer. 103 people went on the walk on Friday 30 September and Saturday 1 October.



**Building a Digital You, UOBA-22-17–Adults (Fri 30 Sept and Sat 1 Oct, 18:00-20:00)**

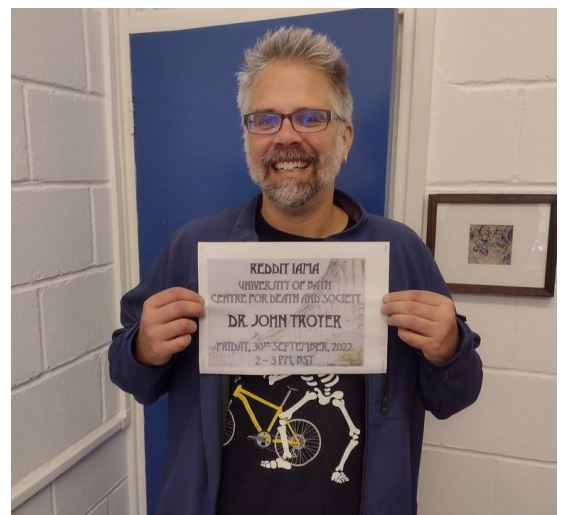
12 researchers and technicians from the Centre for the Analysis of Motion, Entertainment Research and Applications took equipment out of their studios and labs and took over a venue in the Bath city centre. Using lightening talks, hands-on exhibits and demos using state-of-the-art equipment, 47 participants had the opportunity to immerse themselves in digital worlds and discover how digital technology is changing the worlds of healthcare and entertainment.

**I'm a Researcher Ask Me Anything, UOBA-22-4 – Adults (Fri 30 Sept, Sat 1 Oct, Mon 3 Oct, Tues 1**



**Nov, various times)**

Users of the r/IAMA Reddit pages were invited to ask researchers questions about their work on several dates over the Autumn, beginning on *FUTURES* night. Researchers then logged in and spent one hour answering questions and having conversations with Reddit users. The sessions featured a range of research including death and dying; biomedical research, specifically the creating of artificial red blood cells; primatology; the maths of biology; and the development of healthcare technologies. In total 11 researchers engaged with 6267 Reddit users.



**FUTURES Invention Challenge, UOBA-22-2 – Families with children under 12 (premiered Wed 28 Sept)**

In collaboration with the popular YouTube channel Kids Invent Stuff (57,100 subscribers), children and young people were invited to submit an invention for the *FUTURES* Invention Challenge. Five-year-old Noah's submission of an automatic hair washer/brusher/dryer was selected by the Kids Invent Stuff team with hilarious consequences. The team worked with 2 engineers at the University

of Bath to explore the idea of failure and shared with audiences what happened to them when their work goes wrong and what they learn from failure. The film has received 3,735 views and continues to attract views on the [Kids Invent Stuff YouTube channel](#).



#### **FUTURES On Air, UOE-22-1 – Adults (various dates Sept to Dec)**

In 2022 the *FUTURES on Air* team developed an approach and a programme that built on the work of 2020 and 2021 and became more responsive to the needs of both community radio stations and the programme makers. The core project team included radio practitioners Stellaria Media, the Deputy Head of Public Engagement at the University of Bath, and community groups from 6 community radio stations. The community groups identified topics they were interested in including sustainable tourism, international community media, seagrass conservation along the South West coast and replanting trees in Dartmoor. Working with 15 researchers from across the five consortium universities and using participatory methodologies, community programme makers co-created a series of 7 radio programmes that explored their shared interest in these topics. As part of the programmes, a series of third-sector organisations were also involved in creating the programmes including UNESCO, Natural England, South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and Trees for Climate Now. A further 10 community radio stations across the South West from the Isles of Scilly to Bristol were part of this project and were *FUTURES on Air* broadcast partners. The first programmes were launched as part of *FUTURES* night and across dates between September and December the remaining programmes were broadcast. It is estimated across the 16 stations involved 21,633 listeners tuned into the shows including online streaming on the *FUTURES on Air* Mixcloud and Soundcloud channels.



**Get the Dirt on!, UOP-22-24-DIRT – families with young children, (30 September 2022, 10:00-15:00)**

The [Get the Dirt on!](#) event took place on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00-15:00 at the Eden Project, Cornwall. Research support team [Reconsoil](#) based at the University of Plymouth, Eden Project Learning, and the FUTURES team, led a series of interactive demonstrations and engagement activities designed by the Futures project team and the Reconsoil team, including three UoP researchers. These included prepared planting activities, crafts, word searches, colouring and Pepper robots for visiting families. One postgraduate researcher took part in the delivery of activities on the day, Plant Scientist Chloe Betts. Engagement was particularly around soil and plant science, and conversations with Chloe Betts and the Reconsoil team. 289 people from a wide range of age groups, including school groups and tourists from across the region, took part in the activities on the day. The event was made accessible by setting up the activities in the Core Café, which drew many visitors.



**The Big Earth Quiz - online, UOP-22-27-QUIZ - families, (30 September 2022, 18:00-19:00)**

[The Big Earth Quiz](#) took place on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 18:00-19:00. This interactive, engaging online family quiz focussed on earth, sustainability, and environmental science. The activity was led by Professor of Marine Zoology John Spicer, with 7 researchers involved in total. The platform used was Kahoot; it is an accessible way to present questions and answers online. Six rounds, by six University of Plymouth researchers on topics ranging from Plant science to shipworms were read aloud by John and families answered multiple-choice questions using their mobile phones. Engagement with John took place in the application's chat function, and John summarised the scores, sharing positions on the leader board every two rounds. Delivery online using the platform made the event accessible for families and children to engage. 14 families took part in The Big Earth Quiz in total.



Username	Score
MelodicAnt	11855
WiseCrane	11570 ▲
SpeedyFerret	11028
WiseLark	10511 ▲
RapidOtter	10411

ArcticHawk has the highest Answer Streak of 8!

### **The Big Talk: Why antimicrobial resistance needs a global persistence, UOP-22-23-BIG - adults, (30 September 2022, 19:00-20:30)**

Associate Professor Tina Joshi delivered [The Big Talk: Why antimicrobial resistance needs a global persistence](#) took place on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September online. Joshi gave a brief introduction to the pre-recorded talk which was filmed on location across the city of Plymouth. The screening of the pre-recorded talk was followed by a live Q&A. The talk was also featured on the University of Plymouth YouTube channel from 11<sup>th</sup> October. Joshi is highly experienced in public engagement and is involved in several engagement initiatives in Plymouth and beyond, and a nationally recognised researcher in the field of AMR and infection control. The talk shared how microbes transfer in everyday life and what we can do to prevent the transfer of viruses. A number of prominent health professionals such as Diane Ashiru-Oredope and researcher Dr John H. Rexwere interviewed in documentary style segments, featured at the end of the pre-recorded talk. 34 people took part in the live event and 322 viewed the event following the FUTURES weekend via our University of Plymouth YouTube channel. The live event was delivered on the Zoom Webinar platform and the audience had the ability to interact via chat.



**Voyage of discovery, UOP-22-25-VOYAGE families, (1 October 2022, 13:00 – 14:00)**

The [Voyage of discovery](#) event took place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October from 10:00-17:00 at the Plymouth Guildhall, a prestigious venue in central Plymouth, located close to the main shopping area in central Plymouth. Both the location and the venue are accessible to families. Families were invited to drop-in and learn about the immersive world of science, technology, and art in an interactive showcase for all ages. 10 Researchers offered hands on activities and talks in robotics, history, the environment, and even dentistry. At 11:00 Director of music Robert Taub led a demonstration of music composition using the Plymouth Guildhall's piano and children participating in the activity with knowledge of the piano played pieces from popular film and musicals. At 14:00 Chloe Betts, Plant Science researcher, led a talk on the topic '*What do plants need to grow?*'. 389 people attended the event including the talks throughout the day; the majority were families and some students and older people also attended.

**Stories in the Stones Geo trail walking tours, UOP-22-26-TOUR - adults, (1 October 2022, 14:00 – 16:30)**

The [Stories in the Stones Geo trail walking tours](#) took place in person on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October from 14:00-16:30 at the Royal William Yard, Plymouth. The venue is a popular local heritage site located on the South West Coast Path, overlooking Plymouth Sound. Researcher and geologist Dr Jodie Fisher led two tour groups of 15 adults around the site, to share her knowledge about Plymouth's once-tropical climate, to see evidence of ancient sea creatures and to feel the fossilised remains of old coral reefs. A QR code was also provided to access content linked with the tours online. 30 people took part in the tours in total, with some requesting a second round on the tour as it was so enjoyable.

**Do Try This At Home, UOB-22-6-DTAH, Online (Website), Children, (September 2022 to end of project, with updates in 2023).**


Building on the success of this activity from previous years, Do Try This at Home was expanded further to incorporate more researchers from across the consortium. We created activity sheets based on different research topics with instructions that carers could download and do at home with children. These resources could be printed out and completed using everyday household items. Children completing the activity were also given a completion certificate to download. The activity was hosted on the FUTURES website when website traffic was at its highest, and will remain throughout the project delivery period. Do Try This At Home was promoted to forums for parents, particularly those who are home-schooling their children, via Curiosity Connections, the Children's University and a Bristol Home Schooling Facebook Group. UoB continued its position as a Children's University learning destination, [Children's University \(childrensuniversity.co.uk\)](http://childrensuniversity.co.uk), where any child completing a resource activity are able to gain credits against their learning journey. 22 resources were made available by 31 researchers from 7 institutions across the UK. These resources have been accessed a total of 131 times.



HERE'S A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS ALIKE CAN ENJOY. SUPERVISION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IS ADVISED.

A FREE DOWNLOADABLE CERTIFICATE IS AVAILABLE TO SHOW YOU HAVE COMPLETED AN ACTIVITY.


PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THOUGHT ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU DID BY FILLING IN THIS SHORT SURVEY - [MENTI.COM/ALDITXWSKH/0](https://www.menti.com/alditxwskh/0)



**TASTING WITH OUR EYES? (ADULTS)**

Find out how our vision affects our sense of taste in this interesting experiment with white wine (ADULTS ONLY)


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**TASTING WITH OUR EYES? (KIDS)**

Find out how our vision affects our sense of taste in this interesting experiment with flavoured water!


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**GEOCHEMISTRY GARDENING PART 1**

Separate out the colours of nature using household materials and some seaweed!


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**SEEING INSIDE OUR BODIES**

Use this paper craft activity to build your own model MRI Machine


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**THE EATWELL GUIDE**

For families with children 8-12 years old


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**LET'S BE MELODRAMATIC!**

Try out interesting acting techniques from the world of 19th Century Theatre!


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**USING HELA CELLS TO STOP VIRUS INFECTION**

We want you to design your own virus, we created the Giggletly virus - for a virus that gives you the giggles!


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**GEOCHEMISTRY GARDENING PART 2**

Learn about how molecules of the Earth help us answer questions about the past when they happened 1000s of years ago!


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**CREATE AN AEROFOIL**

Using food dye and a hair dryer to learn about how wings create lift on planes.


[VIEW RESOURCE](#)



**BENDING RAINBOWS: DETECTION OF TINY PLASTIC**

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**Schools Research Fair, UOB-22-7-SRF, (SS Great Britain) School Children (Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 09:30 - 14:30)**

The Schools Research Fair for Bristol Key Stage 2 and 3 school pupils took place over three sessions (09:30-11:00, 10:30 – 12:30 and 13:30 – 14:30) with 38 researchers engaging 287 children on 15 exhibits. Sessions were attended by primary school students. 15 interactive stalls covered a variety of research topics including Robotics, Bacteria and DNA, History, Environments (sewage, forensics, and edible food) and muscles and bones. School children met researchers and explored the impact of cutting-edge research across science, engineering, social sciences and humanities through hands-on activities. The students also explored a range of STEAM careers and meet role models, with researchers from a range of backgrounds taking part. As in previous years, schools from low socio-economic backgrounds and in areas with low uptake of higher education were prioritised and free coaches provided.



**Up Late, UOB-22-8-LATEFAIR, (SS Great Britain) Families (Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 18:30 – 21:00)**

On Friday evening, FUTURES “took over” the grounds of Isambard Kingdom Brunel’s historic ship, the SS Great Britain. Families visited for free (normally SSGB costs £48 for a family) and took part in a host of fun interactive hands-on demonstrations. Families received a map which led them through different areas of the SS Great Britain grounds through the Ship itself, the Being Brunel Museum, and the Virador Theatre. The 55 researchers from UoB, UoBa, and University Hospitals Bristol & Weston NHS Foundation Trust were based amongst the maritime exhibits and immersive historical environment. The 19 exhibits including titles such as; *Crushing It: Be a Composites Engineer*, *How to defeat snake venom*, *The slimy world of biofilms* and *Do I have property rights in my library book?* Visitors could also attend *Researchers Tales* in the Library and the *Bridging Divides Workshops* on the lower deck in the Dining Saloon on the Ship. The evening was attended by a diversity of local families, particularly those with younger children, young people and adults attending with friends. We also had three coaches with communities from St Pauls and Wellspring Settlement. 439 people attended.



**Researchers' Tales - Up Late, UOB-22-9-TALES, (SS Great Britain) Families (Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 18:35 – 20:30)**

A group of 8 researchers from UoB doing research in Aerospace Engineering, Neural Dynamics, Digital Health and Care, Medical, Physics, Engineering Maths, Veterinary, and the School of Sociology and Politics performed their short stories in the immersive Library on the grounds of the SS Great Britain. These researchers worked with a professional storyteller to develop skills in storytelling to share their stories with the public. The two-day training course to prepare the researchers. The stories aimed to explain their research and their lives as researchers to help break stereotypes. The researchers, compered by professional performer, performed their short stories which created an intimate atmosphere for visitors to discover the people behind the research. The performances were done in two groups of four and a total of 109 people attended the Tales.



**Bridging Histories and Bridging Gaps – Up Late, UOB-22-10-DIVIDES (SS Great Britain) Families (Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 18:35 – 20:30)**

A programme of short talks, poetry readings and creative workshops around the topic of Bridging Divides was codeveloped by University of Bristol and the SS Great Britain. Based on the Bridging Histories (UoB) and Bridging Gaps (SS Great Britain) projects, the event provoked thought and invited reflections on multiple histories and identities of Bristol's citizens and Bristol as a port city, migrations, the ship's history and how the city can move towards a more inclusive and just society

for future generations. Each project included a cohort of community researchers (citizen scientists) and poets, who spoke at the event. The First Class Dining Saloon was turned into a creative space with stations for sharing poetry, recipes, waterway histories and family histories. Audiences were invited to plot their family migration journeys on large maps of the UK and the world that were dotted around, whilst younger visitors could engage in drawing and colouring in activities. Film by artist Jasmine Coe was premiered, sharing an extraordinary family's history of activism for Aboriginal rights. The Bridging Gaps community researchers shared their findings from the SS Great Britain's archives, highlighting the history of this passenger ship, including 32 journeys to Australia that carried up to 15,000 people from Liverpool to Melbourne, and new research findings into the history of people of African descent who worked on the SS Great Britain. Dr Joanna Burch-Brown (UoB) and George Francis, Bridging Histories Ambassador, curated the evening celebrating migration stories through poetry and communities' histories, with contributions from ten other poets and speakers (Shani Whyte, Fazey, Wiz, Lord, Relly, King, Saili, Soumia, Iwona and Dee). The evening culminated in an open mic invitation to the audience to share their reflections and poems. Community Ambassadors were key participants in the event, which 369 people of all ages took part in.



**Conversations on..., UOB-22-13-PUB, adults (13th October, 19<sup>th</sup> October and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 19:00 – 20:30)**

This series of interactive conversations in pubs and cafes across the city offered participants a chance to discover more about three subject areas: Science and Media, Fashion and Sustainability and Health. These events, led by 16 researchers, allowed 43 participants to find out how research affects society, ask a burning question and join conversations around the table in a series of informal, short and thought-provoking discussions. We encouraged discussion around what happens to our physical bodies when our minds are immersed in the fictional worlds of television and film; how the fashion industry affects people, other species and the environment; and what health means to you.

**Table 1: Overview of activities**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
The Big Earth Quiz	<i>Online</i>	56
FUTURES on Air	<i>Radio</i>	21,633
The FUTURES Science Show (Kids Invent Stuff)	<i>Online</i>	3735
Images Of Research	<i>Bath Spa Train Station</i>	6000
Ask me Anything	<i>Online</i>	6267
Building a Digital You	<i>CAMERA Lab, Bath</i>	47
Do Try This At Home	<i>Online</i>	131
Research Fair	<i>S.S. Great Britain, Bristol.</i>	287
Up Late	<i>S.S. Great Britain, Bristol.</i>	439
Researchers' Tales - Up Late	<i>S.S. Great Britain, Bristol.</i>	109
Bridging Histories and Bridging Gaps	<i>S.S. Great Britain, Bristol.</i>	369
Conversations On...	<i>Various, Bristol</i>	43
Test Tubes and Time Travel	<i>Bath city centre</i>	103
Science Showoff		<i>Delayed until Jan 23; added to 2023 WP2 report</i>
Pop-Up Curiosity Shop of Science and Culture	<i>Make Tank, Exeter</i>	788
Walkie Talkies	<i>Exeter and region</i>	101
Pop Up Mural	<i>Make Tank, Exeter</i>	30000
The Psychedelic Renaissance	<i>The Great Hall, Dartington, Totnes</i>	421
A Voyage of Discovery	<i>Guild Hall, Plymouth</i>	389
Get The Dirt On	<i>Eden Project</i>	289
The Big Talk 22	<i>Online</i>	356

Biology In Action	<i>Bath Spa Campus</i>	20
Gaming Climate Change in the High North	<i>Online</i>	263 (oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2022)
Our Island	<i>The Egg, Bath</i>	43
Stories in the Stones Geo-trail walking tours	<i>Royal William Yard, Plymouth</i>	30