



Headteacher's welcome

Hello and welcome to the Easter 2023 newsletter. I hope you can find a few moments to look at the contents to find out what the school has been up to over the last term.

First, a **very warm and special welcome to the students** who will be joining us in September. We can't wait to welcome you to UCC. Over the next 5 or 7 years you are going to have the chance to experience so many wonderful milestones and we can't wait to be a part of them. In the near future we'll be sharing information about your transition day on Thursday 6 July, and we look forward to meeting you then. There will be a parents'/carers' event after school to share the **sUCC**esses of the day, meet staff and welcome parents/carers to the school.

As always, every term at UCC is an exciting one and this term has been no exception. Charity, caring and being part of our wider community is at the very heart of what Ullswater Community College is about and I'm sure you will join me in passing on my sincere thanks to all those involved.

I also want to thank everyone for their ongoing support of the school. You're probably aware of the challenges schools have faced nationally in terms of the impact of the strike action and perhaps more recent events related to Ofsted inspections. At UCC we have done our best to ensure there has been as little disruption as possible for students, and in particular for our year 11 and 13s, who will soon be sitting their exams.

We are anticipating a visit from Ofsted in the not too distant future, at which we hope to secure the GOOD rating that reflects the efforts of the students, the school and the whole community that makes up our wonderful school.

It was inspiring to see so many students attend the recent awards evening. To be able to catch up with them and hear their stories is another privilege of being a part of this great school. We were lucky to be joined on the evening by two guest speakers – CFM's Robbie Dee and ex-student Charlotte Fenton.



The second live draw of Golden Ticket prize winners on the last day of term was a fantastic way to finish the term too – well done to all our winners!

As always, stay in touch and let us know if you need anything. I hope you enjoy the Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone return safe and well for the summer term

on Monday 17 April, when students should go to their form room for a short tutor period.

Issue xx – March 2023

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NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK 2023

As part of #NCW2023 students took part in the UCC Careers Fair 2023. Right2Work (Part of the Oaklea Trust) supported us in the organisation of the event as part of their Youth Futures programme in the Eden area.

We were joined by over 30 local employers, colleges, training providers, and universities. Organisations provided information to students about different routes into employment and the wide range of opportunities that are available in the local area.



PROUD TO BE – THE FIRST NWS PARAMEDIC CADET FROM UCC!

The Paramedic Cadet scheme is an amazing opportunity for anyone who wants to become a paramedic. As part of my Health and Social Care work placement I have been working with North West Ambulance Service as a Paramedic Cadet.

On my first day I was on patient transport, which was a great way to develop my communication skills and meet a variety of people. Patient transport is part of the Ambulance Service and is responsible for getting people to and from their appointments safely and on time.

After completing my placement at patient transport services I have moved on to the emergency ambulances, which will be challenging but very exciting. I will be in the back of the Ambulance waiting for emergency calls with the qualified paramedics.

Being a paramedic cadet allows you to experience the different professions that work for the ambulance service. However, you have to be organised and able to manage your time efficiently as you will miss days of school and have to ensure you keep on top of your work! It is a great opportunity and sought after by many people across the north west. I feel really proud to be the first paramedic cadet from UCC. I will be studying BSc Paramedic Science at university in September and this experience will put me ahead of the game!

Olivia Armstrong

Year 13 – proud Health and Social Care student!



YEAR 7 FOOTBALL STARS!

Year 7 won their County Cup match v Millon this week 4-2. Great team performance, goal scorers were Leo, Thomas, Noah and Alex and the Man of the Match was Cole. Also a big well done to Georgio who refereed the game brilliantly!

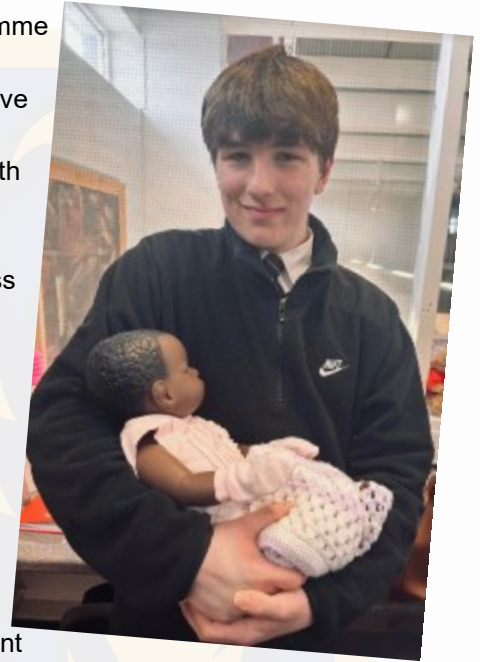
ALUMNI TALKS

Year 13 students have welcomed ex-students to their assemblies over the Spring term as part of the 'Alumni Talks' season. With thanks to Leanne Lowdon, Arran Barber, Alice Christie, Charlotte Fenton and Emma Kellet, for an inspirational series of presentations on topics as diverse as veterinary nursing, degree apprenticeships, routes into teaching and setting up your own film company. The students were truly inspired and appreciated their alumni's time and experience.



VIRTUAL BABY PROGRAMME

Our virtual baby programme enables students to experience meta-cognitive growth in practical parenting skills along with better understanding of dealing with babies' needs, coping with stress and time management. Year 10 child development student, Denny, achieved 100% when he took the baby home for an overnight stay! Well done Denny, you demonstrated care, compassion, competence, commitment and courage!



Mrs McCormick

YEAR 12 COMIC RELIEF SUPERHEROES

Year 12 Uniformed Services students led the school's Comic Relief efforts this year, running a Superhero Cakes and Cars event. The Year 12 superheroes of the future planned this event as part of the volunteering unit on their UPS course – some even wearing full superhero costume for the event, with others in their uniforms.

Cakes were baked on Thursday morning, decorated in the afternoon and then sold in double-quick time at break-time on Friday.

Monday is where the cars came in – and they certainly came in! Staff generously (and bravely) allowed Team UPS to blitz their cars to a military shine, after which they moved on to the school mini-buses!

Everyone had great fun and the students are one step closer to completing their volunteering unit. More importantly, more vital funds were raised for this great cause. Teacher Mr Bellamy was delighted:

"I am so proud of these young men and women. They've shown great



teamwork, leadership and oodles of selfless commitment, which is exactly what you need to progress in each of the Uniformed Services."

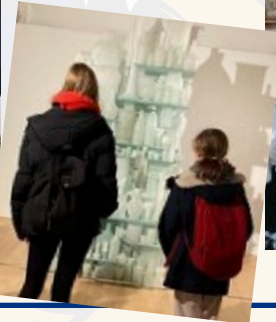
Thank you to all those who participated and/or donated to the cause.

Mr Bellamy, Teacher of Uniformed Services



YEAR 8 ART TRIP

Year 8 students enjoyed a great day out to look at Art. They visited Crosby Beach to see Anthony Gormley's Sculptures in 'Another Place' then onto the Liverpool Tate and the Walker Art Gallery.



YEAR 7 UPDATE!

It has been another full-on term for the year 7s with loads going on both in and out of the classroom.

The year group has experienced their first set changes in core subjects following "higher stakes assessments" and have now settled well into their new classes.

The year group's total positive ATL count now stands at over 100,000, which is an incredible achievement; the number of Year 7 golden tickets entered in the next grand draw is also very high and hopefully it will be one of our year group that scoops the big prize of a PS5!

Outside the classroom the year group enjoyed a performance and workshop from Zak Hull, a teenage sensation who uses his music to deliver a strong message about the important issues of online safety, cyber bullying and mental health – an experience that everyone enjoyed very much.



As we enter the summer term (can you believe it!) I would really encourage all of the Year 7s to get ...continued...

HELPING TO SAVE LIVES!

The sixth form welcomed the Anthony Nolan charity last week, to find out about its work saving the lives of people with blood cancer and blood disorders.

Following presentations on Monday and Thursday, and a recruitment event on Friday, it was impressive to see so many students signing up to join the stem cell register. For someone with blood cancer, a stem cell transplant from a matching donor could be their last chance of survival. Equally impressive were the volunteer school champions, Olivia, Poppy, Liam and Mia who supported the Anthony Nolan speaker and helped run the recruitment drive.



UCC 6th form language students took part in the North East Express Yourself festival of languages at Durham University. Our students were given a taster of life as a language student, learning about the different pathways to study and also at where language learning can take you beyond school and university.

stuck into at least one extracurricular club every week; well done to those who do this already (I know many of you do multiple clubs!) as you really are making the most of your time at UCC! Happy Easter everyone!

Mr Castle, Head of Year



FIRST PRIZE FOR THE BRASS GROUP!

UCC musicians are on a roll! The Brass Group won the Cyril Lowe trophy at the recent Carlisle Music and Drama Festival, playing "Rolling in the Deep" and "Raiders March". Fantastic! Very well done to all involved!

Mrs Ridley



YEAR 11 UPDATE

There are just a few weeks to go until the summer series of exams begins. Year 11 students have received their individual timetables; a timetable of the entire exam series can be found on our website <https://ullswatercc.co.uk/exams/>

This a busy time for the Year 11s. I hope the following information is helpful:

Easter revision sessions: any students invited to these sessions will be emailed with details.

In the run-up to the exams: UCC does not operate study leave prior to the exams and students are expected to be in all their lessons, in full school uniform, every day until their last exam. When they are not sitting an exam, students will follow their normal timetable or take part in revision sessions. It is vital students attend their lessons and revision if they are to achieve the very best they can.

Year 11 prom: a celebratory prom is planned for Year 11 students on Thursday 22 June. Tickets will be made available in three phases after the Easter break and will be sold through www.ipayimpact.co.uk. Students will be told when tickets become available.

Year 11 leavers hoodies: these are being organised and information on how to place an order will be distributed in the near future.

Leavers photograph: a group photograph has been taken of Year 11 and will be available to purchase.

Awards ceremony: an awards ceremony will take place

after the summer for both Year 11 and 13 leavers – more details will follow later in the year.

Moving to sixth form: those students who have been offered a place in the UCC sixth form will be expected to attend the Sixth Form induction sessions on Monday 3 July and Tuesday 4 July 2023

GCSE results day: Thursday 24 August 2023. Students who cannot collect their summer exam results in person should email exams@ullswatercc.co.uk stating the email address they would like results sent to. Doing this in advance will enable us to email results on the morning of August 24th. Any results not collected will then be posted home.

Finally, I hope all Year 11 students have a Happy Easter – and work hard to prepare for their exams!



Mr Cooper, Head of Year 11

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Year 11s and 13s: you are rapidly approaching the final phase of your time completing your GCSEs and A-levels. It will be a hard few weeks but with the support of those around you I know you are going to be successful in the summer and will receive the grades you deserve. Focus, work hard and let us know if you need anything. Make sure you capitalise on everything that is offered to you as we approach the exam window.

Mr Gilby



TEACHING AND LEARNING LIFE STAGES

Our amazing Year 12 Early Years students boldly took on the role of 'teacher' to plan activities to demonstrate how to support the holistic development of infants and children to the Year 10 Health and Social Care students, who are currently learning about life stages.

Alongside the lesson, the Year 10 students also had an opportunity to learn about the development of babies. They enjoyed a visit from 10-month-old twins to observe developmental milestones, and took part in some play and singing activities.



GREAT NORTH RUN – FOR THE AIR AMBULANCE

Year 13 student Tom Gale will be running the Great North Run later this year and is aiming to raise £750 for the Great North Air Ambulance.

Tom says: "I often see the Great North Air Ambulance flying over my house to go and help the people that need their care. I would love to be able to contribute to helping this amazing team carry on saving lives, especially with the new 24/7 critical care service."

Use [this link](#) if you'd like to donate to help Tom raise this total.

SUPPORT PENRITH CINEMA – £2.50 TICKET OFFER!

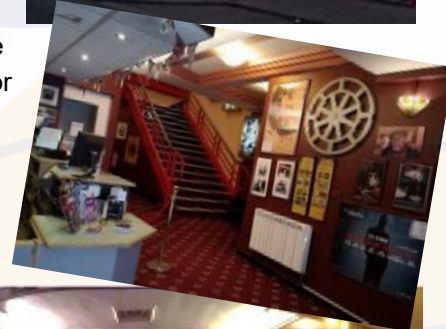
The Alhambra Cinema in Penrith town centre is trialling £5 tickets in an effort to increase audience numbers and stave off closure. With low attendance and rising energy costs, the cinema is finding it hard to keep going and could close as early as June this year.

The cinema is keen for people to visit and is offering discounted prices for some shows. During April, tickets for all films (apart from Event Cinema screenings, for which the Alhambra can't set prices) will be £5, while family favourites will be shown over weekends for £2.50 per person.

Since putting a post on Facebook, the support has been encouraging. Current showings include *John Wick: Chapter 4*, *Puss in Boots: the Last Wish*, *Mummies*, *Peter Rabbit* and *Super Mario Bros. Movie*.

The cinema is central to life in Penrith, both as a school resource for students but also for the general public, showing mainstream films and also live streaming arts events from national and international venues.

Please visit and help keep the cinema open!



HOMEWORK ON CLASS CHARTS

Thank you to those parents who took part in the recent survey. We are working on a number of the responses, most notably a new approach to homework. As a result of parental comments, teachers now use Class Charts for all homework.

The Class Charts app enables parents to track and support their children – [download this here](#). so that parents can see what access information about the homework their child has been set.

If you have a question about the homework your child is set you should contact the class teacher, via email, in the first instance.

The sign-up instructions and log-in details for Class Charts are given below.

CLASS CHARTS LOG-IN INFORMATION – PARENTS

Parent log-in reminders were emailed out earlier this term, if you still require your unique code, please contact admin@ullswatercc.co.uk.

CLASS CHARTS LOG-IN INFORMATION – STUDENTS

Students have been given their log-ins. They should speak with their Form Tutor if they've forgotten how to access Class Charts.

CONTACT US

We're always pleased to hear from parents:

E-mail: admin@ullswatercc.co.uk

Or visit the **school website:**
www.ullswatercc.co.uk to send a message.

SAVE THE DATE – SCHOOL CONCERT

The summer concert to raise funds for the forthcoming UCC London Music Tour will take place on Tuesday 4th July in the Cumberland Hall.

Tickets will soon be available on ipay.

Mr Bryant



CHAMPIONS LEAGUE EXPERIENCE

What an amazing experience for our students to watch Manchester City win 7–0 in the Champions League. We had amazing seats and got to witness Haaland score 5 goals!

The students loved the atmosphere and sang their hearts out cheering on 'The Citizens'.



YEAR 9 UPDATE!

The Year 9s have enjoyed another fantastic term at UCC.

The spring term is always incredibly important as this is when the students select their options for Key Stage 4. The Year 9s approached this process with maturity and confidence and are now looking forward to taking the next step in their secondary career. They thoroughly enjoyed the careers fair recently and have been contributing to some really worthwhile conversations and tasks in form time focusing on their future aspirations and career choices.

The way the year group continues to approach their studies is simply outstanding – they have recorded another 32,000+ positive ATLs, second only to the Year 7s.

Outside of the classroom, we have seen students take part in musical festivals, art trips, U-Dance, a visit by Dutch exchange students and sporting fixtures to name a few. Each and every time they are exceptional representative for UCC.

Well done Year 9 – you really are making everyone so proud! Keep up the hard work and have a lovely Easter break.

Mr Key





U Dance FESTIVAL

Dancers from Years 7 to 11 performed at the recent U Dance Festival at The Sands Centre, Carlisle. UCC's dance piece was inspired by life before, during and after Covid. Over 60 schools took part across the 3 days and UCC danced alongside 19 other schools on the day. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to perform in a professional setting and every single one of them did UCC proud! They had an amazing time and danced beautifully. We are looking forward to entering again next year.



COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

With the cost of living on the rise, there will be people locally who are struggling, whether that's emotionally, financially or just because they need practical help to get in touch and seek support.

It can be daunting to search through what is on offer and to find what you need. The last page of this newsletter contains links to organisations that offer help and support.

We will update this with local links when the new local authority – Westmorland and Furness – comes into being on 1 April 2023.

PARKING near THE SCHOOL

Please could parents be aware of our neighbours when collecting their children from school. In particular, please try not to block access to driveways at the front of the school and on Wetheriggs Lane. Thank you!

HELP FOR STUDENTS at UCC

- In light of the financial squeeze the country is experiencing at the moment, we would like to highlight some of the support available to UCC students :
- Free breakfast for every student – free toast, jam and water; tea, coffee, and juice are available in the Westmorland hall from 8:15am.
- Period products – are freely available in the girls' toilets and from the student hub.
- Stationery – every classroom has a box of pens, pencils, rulers, etc. for students to borrow during the lesson; for sixth form students, folders, dividers, plastic wallets and lined paper are available in the study room.
- The sixth form bursary is available for families who are finding it a challenge to provide their young people with books or equipment to support their studies, with the cost of transport to and from school or with the cost of lunches. Bursary guidance and forms can be collected from the sixth form office or downloaded from the school website.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 17 April 2023. Term dates can be found on our website: <https://ullswatercc.co.uk/info/term-dates/>

CULTURE BAZAAR 2023

International Culture and Heritage Event



Saturday 22nd- Sunday 23rd April 12pm-6pm
Carlisle College - Victoria Place - Carlisle CA1 1HS



FREE ENTRY

**MUSIC, DANCE, ARTS, ACTIVITIES
WORKSHOPS & PERFORMANCES**

INTERNATIONAL FOOD

MARKETPLACE

ARTS & CRAFTS

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

multiculturalscumbria.org.uk 0300 054424

Celebrating diaspora communities in Cumbria

Family Connector
Project



HSBC

NHS
North Cumbria
Integrated Care
NHS Foundation Trust



WRAGG
MARK-BELL
SOLICITORS



**COMMUNITY
FUND**

Ambitious • Caring • Equal



#proudtobeUCC



ucc musicians at RNCM, manchester

Key Stage 3 musicians took part in a regional session of the Modulo programme run by Orchestras for All. This programme helps music leaders create an environment where young people from any background can thrive and enjoy making music with others, regardless of what instrument they play or their previous experience or ability.

Students from UCC travelled to the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester to meet with musicians from six other secondary schools in the north west to rehearse and perform two pieces of music.

The day was made up of sectional and whole orchestra rehearsals led by professional musicians on an enormous variety of instruments.

The students had a fantastic time and were a real credit to the school. They were totally engrossed in the day and learnt so many skills about performing in ensembles, posture, technical and physical skills required for performing.

We will return in July for the final regional meet and we are hoping to perform the two pieces – *99 Red Balloons* and *Merry Go Round of Life* – at the UCC Summer Concert on Tuesday 4 July.



Attendance Matters

At UCC we aim to fully develop the gifts and talents of each student. In doing so, we also prepare children for life after school and into the future. Attendance at school is a **legal requirement** and a crucial aspect in preparing for the future.

At UCC we work hard to promote good attendance for the students in our school and to raise awareness of the importance of this to support their development and academic achievement. As parents, we need your help and support to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

What does Good School Attendance look like?

We take school absence very seriously. We identify students whose attendance drops below 96% and offer support and intervention to help improve this. It is important for parents or carers to work together with school when a student is near the 10% persistent absence threshold.

365
days in a
year

190
school
days in a
year

175
non school
days in a
year

190
school days
in each year

180
days of
education

171
days of
education

161
days of
education

152
days of
education

143
days of
education

0
days
absence

10
days
absence

19
days
absence

29
days
absence

38
days
absence

47
days
absence

100%
Attendance

95%
Attendance

90%
Attendance

85%
Attendance

80%
Attendance

75%
Attendance

WE'VE DONE IT!

WE ARE CONCERNED

WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED

Meet the UCC Attendance team



Mrs Broomhall
Attendance Officer



Mrs Higgins
Senior Attendance Lead



Mr Davies
Attendance Lead

Who to contact to report absence or discuss any barriers that may impact on your child's attendance.

- **Attendance Team**
01768 210206 option 3
- **Email**
attendance@ullswatercc.co.uk
- **Text**
07860 095537
- **Form Tutor/Head of Year**

visit **BEST in County**

Ambitious

Caring

Equal

UCC is an ambitious, caring community where everyone is equal

#proudtobeUCC

visit **BEST in County**

Ambitious • Caring • Equal



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Do you #NeedMore?

Join the team at Penrith Fire Station as an On-call Firefighter

Come To Meet The Crew

**Open Days 15th and 16th April 10am to 4pm
@ Penrith Fire Station**

Or

**Call in to one of our drill nights to meet the
team and find out more**

**Drill Nights - Monday 18:30 - 20:30
@ Penrith Fire Station**

**Find out more and apply:
www.cumbria.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters**

Applications open from 30 March, closing date 30 April 2023

If you have any queries or would like more information, please
contact Alasdair.Guthrie@cumbriafire.gov.uk

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

We know that many families are going through a tough time and as a school we want to do everything we can to help you and your child. If you're struggling with your finances, please get in touch to let us know, as there may be things we can suggest which will help. Email: admin@ullswatercc.co.uk or speak to your child's Head of Year.

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU (CAB): You don't have to be a UK citizen to get support from your local CAB, you just need to be a resident of the local area. The CAB can help you with:

- Getting benefits or other financial support
- Accessing support for essential costs (food, bills, rent)

Visit the [Citizens Advice](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) website or contact your local branch to book an appointment..

FAMILY HUB: Contact your local Family Hub to get help accessing all the support you might need as a family. [Find your local hub](#).

CHECK YOU'RE PAYING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF TAX: Make sure you're on the right tax code. If you aren't, you might be due a refund. Use the [Money Saving Expert's](#) free tax code calculator to find out.

CLAIM ANY BENEFITS YOU'RE ENTITLED TO: Use one of these benefits calculators to determine whether there are any benefits you could be claiming:

- [Turn2us](#)
- [Policy in Practice](#)
- [Support for migrant families](#)

You may be able to get benefits paid early if you need cash urgently – this is known as 'a short-term benefit advance'. You will need to contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) office that is handling your claim.

CHECK YOU'VE RECEIVED ALL THE GOVERNMENT'S COST-OF-LIVING PAYMENTS: The government's [cost-of-living payments](#) are for those receiving certain benefits or tax credits. You don't need to apply for these – if you're eligible the money should go straight into your account. If you think you're due a payment but haven't received one, [report a missing payment](#) to the government.

Be aware of scams! If you receive any emails, texts or phone calls asking you to fill in an application form or asking for your bank details to receive a cost-of-living payment, **do not talk to them or send a reply.**

Get more information on [cost-of-living scams](#) on the Money Saving Expert's website.

FIND OUT WHAT HELP YOU CAN GET WITH YOUR ENERGY BILLS: Look at these resources from the [British Gas Energy Trust](#) and the [Money Saving Expert](#).

CHECK IF YOUR CHILD IS ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM): If your child is eligible for FSM you need to get them registered. This will allow them to get a free meal at school and, as a school, we'll get extra funding (known as the pupil premium) to support your child's learning.

Go to [this government website](#) to check if your child is eligible.

OTHER SUPPORT YOU CAN GET FROM YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY: Local authorities have many schemes that you might be eligible for, including:

- The [Holiday Activities and Food Programme](#) – access to food and activities over the school holidays. Note that if your child is eligible for free school meals (see above), they'll also qualify for this programme
- [Help with transport to school](#)
- [Help with school uniform costs](#)

GET FREE OR LOW-COST FOOD: If you're worried about not having enough food to feed your family, you're not alone. A number of places offering support:

- If you have a child under 4 you might be entitled to [healthy start food vouchers](#)
- Find your local food bank: [Bankuet](#), [The Independent Food Aid Network](#), the [Trussell Trust](#), or your local [community fridge](#)
- Use food waste apps and websites like [Olio](#), [Too Good To Go](#) or [Low Price Foods](#)

FREE HYGIENE PRODUCTS: Food banks may offer free toiletries and sanitary products. Find the cheapest disposable sanitary products on [Sanitary Saver](#)

REPLACE OR REPAIR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AT A LOW COST OR FOR FREE: Check if you can get broken household goods replaced or repaired by your local community.

- Get free household goods on [Freecycle](#)
- Get help with DIY repairs at a [Repair Cafe](#)

FIND A WARM SPACE TO BEAT THE CHILL: Some community spaces open their doors to provide a safe and warm space for a few hours. Many also offer hot drinks and WiFi. Find a warm space on:

- [Warm Welcome](#)
- [Warm Spaces](#)