



# Precious Plastic Plymouth & Tavistock



**Our vision is of a world where creative energy drives environmental change**

**Our mission is to provide a tool for local recycling and creative engagement to empower the community to live sustainably.**

Well an awful lot has happened since our last Zooms and Newsletters. Lots of exciting news to tell!

## Precious Plastic Plymouth & Tavistock !!

Firstly, we are really pleased to have the amazing Ursula Mann on board and have merged our projects into one bigger, more powerful, happy family. This means that we have an expert, and machinery too.

### Precious Plastic Tavistock

Ursula spent 2019 and 2020 setting up a Precious Plastics Project in Tavistock funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. This was a labour of love and a bit of a rollercoaster! The amazing project involved the Robey Trust and Tavistock Scrapstore and was then located in a creative community hub called the Arch nestled under the viaduct in Tavistock.

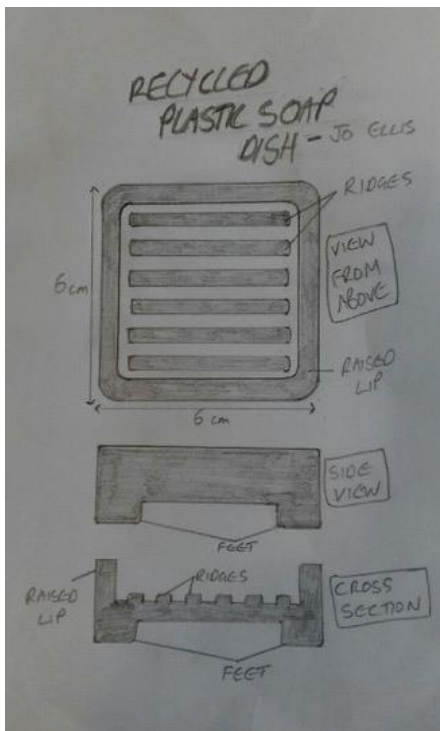
Ursula worked with a talented team of engineers to build the shredder using the Precious Plastic design blueprints. This was actually more difficult than the PP team make out. As a result, the injection moulder was purchased in parts from a Precious Plastic inspired Austrian team called Plasticpreneur and then put together in Tavistock.



*Ursula and James Dyson attaching the shredder to the base at Robey Trust*

The injection moulder frame is made entirely from 18 and 21 mm plywood which makes it strong but lightweight, and therefore portable. It also features two big improvements over the standard Precious Plastic design - a rotary injection mechanism and a chambered injection nozzle.





Winning Design for Soapdish

Part of the project involved a contest for an injection mould design, which resulted in a soap dish mould being created. This was just being tested when lockdown happened so Ursula is hoping to bring the soap dishes to life as part of our project.

The Precious Plastic online community

<https://community.preciousplastic.com/academy/intro.html> and UK community <https://www.facebook.com/groups/962388833866425/>

is a wealth of information and this can be used to source parts, whole machines, strategies. In fact, through the UK group, Ursula was able to share the injection moulder while in lockdown with a group in Lancaster who needed help to get back up and running making their no touch tools and some other projects. Working together and supporting each other is the way that all of the groups in the UK work.

Sadly, the space in Tavistock was no longer viable for the project after lockdown but when one door closes another opened and the machines will be coming together to support our joint project.



Plastic experiments with West Devon Arts Workshops at the Robey Trust Steam Fair



# Recycle Week event



So on 26<sup>th</sup> September we had an opportunity to demonstrate the Tavistock machines, kindly brought down to Plymouth in the Scrapstore van, and were joined by Eli Zahoui with Fab Lab equipment and Scrapstore staff. The event planned for Recycle week serendipitously coincided with Plymouth Art Weekender bringing us an audience and an opportunity to be spontaneously creative, and a bit silly!



Maybe it was the hats, maybe the shredder, maybe the banner, anyway it was very engaging! We had a gentle flow of passers-by, no crowds, all very well distanced. People were drawn in by the exciting plastic shredding and melting, and we had many interesting and fruitful conversations around plastics, waste, recycling and the environment.

Plus we had Kitty's amazing **MINI-ZINE !** to hand out!

Kitty McEwan, from Plymouth Zine Library <https://www.instagram.com/plymzinelibrary/> was commissioned to produce a mini-zine (that is a leaflet, for the older generations!). From our ramblings she brought Dr Dot to life, and created a sidekick, Polly the bag, for her. This zine explains what PPP&T are trying to do, how to find out what recycling codes mean and which plastics are easier for us to recycle with our machines. We can't express how impressed we are with Kitty's illustrations and the characters she has created! It has been really exciting working with her and we hope that she can be our link to the Youth!

Here is a taster of the Mini-Zine and you can find the whole Zine [here](#)

## WHAT IS 'PRECIOUS PLASTIC PLYMOUTH AND TAVISTOCK'?



## WHAT ARE 'PLASTIC RECYCLING CODES'?



It was really lovely that Eli Zahoui from Plymouth College of Art Fab Lab joined us for the Recycle week event with some high-tech equipment. She was demonstrating a mini 3D printer and scanner and creating lovely small objects. Fab Lab have an excellent opportunity for everyone to get involved as a Smart Citizen. This is a **free** programme of workshops which will enable you to design and make **"Almost anything!"**. You will receive training in digital design and fabrication- **interested?!** Follow this [link](#)





# Start Something!

Our other piece of amazing news is that we applied for a **start something** project with **RIO, the Real Ideas Organisation** and we got it!

So now we have a home at Ocean Studios, Royal William Yard, Plymouth!

<https://realideas.org/our-spaces/ocean-studios/>



This project will give us a proper space to work in for a year, a creative community to be a part of, a cohort of other interesting projects just starting out, business advice, networks, connections within education, expert advice and more! We have started making connections with the other projects, some of which are on an eco-mission like us and the feeling that “together we are stronger” keeps coming up. Within our cohort are several cooking businesses which will move into Devonport Guildhall and a diverse range of exciting new projects. I really enjoyed meeting everyone at our first team event last week and look forward to the new, exciting collaborations which will come out of this opportunity. Thank-you RIO for picking us!

Once we have moved our machines in to The Royal William Yard we would love you to come and get creative with us.

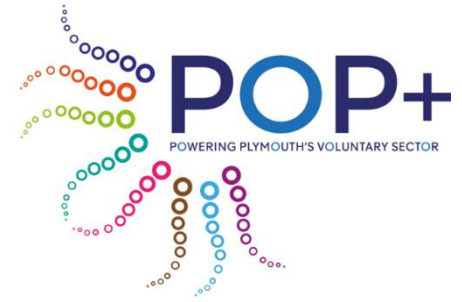


We also have a competition! Ursula has funding for the design and manufacture of a new mould for the injection moulder which will come back from a holiday in Lancaster where it was being used by PP Lancaster to produce door pulls, for opening doors without touching them when Lancaster was really hard hit by a wave of COVID-19. So we have so far, a soap dish, a paper clip and a small plant pot. We want your ideas for a small useful object that we can create a mould for. The prize will be for you to get a chance to design and make it and see your design come to life!



## POP+ AGM & Festival week

We have been busy with Plymouth Octopus Projects AGM and festival week, learning exciting ways to connect and make excellent networks. There is so much energy in Plymouth for human centred, social, sensible, community driven projects trying to make a difference. POP+ and RIO are brilliant co-ordinators, channelling the energy which could easily fizzle out if people and organisations don't connect. Thanks POP+, especially Charlotte who has mentored us with our quirky project and silliness! We have started making connections, through another POP+ project brief, with some other eco-minded groups which is generating new ideas and energy.



## Other news and opportunities

This is an exciting new website showcasing local businesses urging us to shop locally to support the local economy. Which should also reduce waste, transport and packaging. I hope in the run up to Christmas that we think wisely about what we choose to shop. With the financial troubles caused by COVID on top of environmental concerns I hope we can move to simpler, more thoughtful and creative ways of giving and celebrating. <https://shop4plymouth.co.uk/>



Seadream education have an opportunity for over 16s not in education or employment to engage in Free, Fun, activities. These are designed for each individual to help them find rewarding and achievable life and career learning opportunities. Contact Juliette on [jjackson@seadreameducation.com](mailto:jjackson@seadreameducation.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/Seadreameducation/>



**We have missed you all and we would love to see you all again at a**

# ZOOM

**21<sup>st</sup> October 6-8pm, link below**

**Topic: PPP&T Update and What Next Time: Oct 21, 2020 18:00 London**

**Meeting ID: 869 5291 2252 Passcode: 610533 Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86952912252?pwd=MWxuUnRIUVITbG05ZzJmTFU0NINEUT09>**

We hope to have a guest speaker from the Globe Foundation, Uttoxeter

<https://www.globefoundation.org.uk/> This excellent project has a Precious Plastic workshop and also Zero waste shop, Eco hub, Eco education centre and is a Terracycle recycling hub. We look forward to learning from them!

We have moved forward a lot but we still have many choices of the direction we take next. We would love your input and to know how you would like to connect with us. Look forward to seeing you all again!!

Our new Facebook page is Precious Plastic Plymouth & Tavistock: <https://www.facebook.com/Preciousplasticplymtavi>

If you are connecting with us for the first time, read about our journey and project in our previous newsletters [here](#)