

Cashback from uni's vending green machines

Voucher bid to increase recycling on campus

By Tristan Stewart-Robertson
news-sport@theglaswegian.com

A CITY university's vending machines are now doing more than taking student money – they're giving it back.

Glasgow Caledonian University launched "reverse vending" machines where cups, cans and bottles can be recycled. They give out discount vouchers as an incentive.

The uni is one of nine companies and organisations in Scotland to pilot the idea, provided by Encore Hospitality Services.

The firm were given £90,000 by government-run Zero Waste Scotland to install six machines on campus.

The uni's refectory and Café Roots each have a set of three machines – a Flex Interactive to collect crushed cans, a Flex Interactive to collect and crush PET soft drinks bottles and an EcoVend to collect paper coffee cups.

The idea has been successful in Germany, South Australia and Scandinavia.

Frank McCabe, Encore's catering manager at the university, said: "We cater for 17,000 students and 1500



Innovative.. The machines take bottles, cups and cans and dish out vouchers

staff at Caledonian, who use 2000 paper cups, 1500 plastic bottles and 500 aluminium cans each day.

"In this pilot project, we aim to make all of our customers aware that reducing waste and recycling will mean less going to landfill. To help with that, the reverse vending machines will give rewards.

"Our research suggests that 80 per cent of our population will take advantage of our reward, which is substantial.

"For every bottle, can and cup which is put through the machine you receive a voucher for 5p, which

can be redeemed in any of our outlets on campus."

The machines recognise the composition of the products which are flattened and sorted into a designated bin, saving up to 15 times the volume compared to a non-compacting unit.

Holyrood Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead said: "By offering customers incentives such as vouchers, I hope we can encourage more people to recycle on the go.

"Even small steps like recycling more drinks containers can have a big impact on our environment."



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TICKETS TO SEE PAUL OAKENFOLD

WE have teamed up with Colours to give TEN lucky readers each a pair of tickets to see a very special show from one of the scenes most legendary artists.

On Easter Friday, March 29, the one and only Paul Oakenfold will be doing a FULL ON FLUORO show at the O2 Academy Glasgow.

He's the man responsible for some of the biggest anthems in dance music and he has gone from strength to strength.

His set at Coloursfest 2012 was one of the highlights of the event and we can't wait to see him at one of Glasgow's best venues this Easter.

Alongside John Askew and a host of amazing Scottish DJs, this event promises to be a trance lovers dream.

Tickets are only £16 plus booking fee (Standard) from O2 ABC Box Office, Tickets Scotland, MyGigTicket and Ticketweb usual outlets.

HOW TO ENTER

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- (2) Chocolate Fingers
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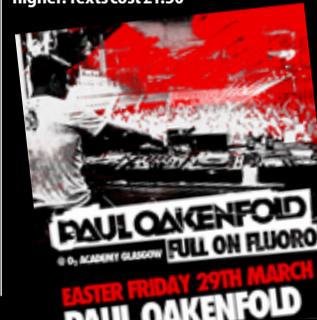
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