

Thu 30/03/2023 11:41

Dear Colleagues,

Exec Weekend

This week I'm starting with a special mention. I'd like to thank Elke at Millport and *all* of her team for the huge amount of work that went into hosting the Exec Weekend and Leadership Forum. So many commented on how welcome they were made to feel by the Millport staff, and all the little touches that went into a very full-on event. The team arranged everything from boat trips to a piper and even managed to find some sunshine. Whilst I sometimes hesitate to name individuals because I know it's always a team effort I'd also like to mention Head Chef Stacey Sewell who hasn't been at Millport very long and did us proud on the catering front.

It was quite a long journey for many but thank you to both staff and trustees who turned up or zoomed in, fully prepared to get involved in the discussions.

BBC Radio Suffolk from Flatford Mill

In response to our media work on our 80th Year, Radio Suffolk spent time at Flatford Mill interviewing enthusiastic pond dippers and equally enthusiastic Education Team Leader Jo Harris. It went out this morning and makes great radio. You can [hear it here](#) and Jo's clip starts 3hrs and 14 minutes in.

2023 Young Darwin Scholarships

To celebrate our 80th Year, there will be 80 scholarship places made available and the scheme is [now open for applications](#). If you know of any young people who would like to deepen their knowledge and hone their fieldwork skills, do encourage them to apply. Five-day residential trips or a series of days at locations across the UK will help scholars learn in a wide range of environments with experts and fellow enthusiasts. These heavily subsidised experiences will be particularly welcomed by scholars and their parents alike.

A readymade media pack has been prepared with copy and images for newsletters and social media. It's proving very popular. If you know of any organisations that could make use of it, please contact Liv in the Marketing Team O.Watts@field-studies-council.org for a copy. The deadline for applications is 9pm on the 4th of June.

Spring Cleaning Email Signatures

I have commented before that there are numerous opportunities for self-expression in this charity, but that email signatures are not one of them. Please don't add your own signature blocks to sit over the top of the centrally managed one or add in extra logos, text, or links to your signature or out of office messages. I'm sure good cases could be made for each exception to the rule, but a balance is needed and a lot of thought goes into what is, or is not included. So now is a good time to please declutter to maintain a clean, unfussy look. We don't want recipients to end up with a sprawling message with additional links and 'bumper stickers', especially if they read emails on their phones.

As already agreed, simple messages about your working hours are fine as is the addition of your preferred pronouns in the same font and colour as the rest of your signature.

Last Chance to Redeem Your Amazon Voucher

As I mentioned in my Catch Up of 16th March, if you are one of the few eligible members of staff who has not yet redeemed your voucher, you need to do so and apply it to an amazon account by tomorrow.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

Hospitality and Catering Assistants Sharon Inglis at Millport and Iryna Delimarska at Nettlecombe.

Jenna Poole is our new Biodiversity Course Administrator

Emma Wood has changed from being a Tutor at Blencathra to become our new Senior Biodiversity Learning Development Officer

Becky Langman is Slapton's new Tutor

Harriet Smalley is returning to Blencathra as Seasonal General Assistant

There will be no catch-up next week as I am on leave and I'm taking the advice that I should set an example and leave non urgent emails alone whilst on holiday.

Best Regards

Mark