


Thu 15/06/2023 08:09

Dear Colleagues,

### **Staff Reps Needed**

One of the ways in which we are transparent about decision making in this charity is our system of  [Staff Reps](#) on every committee. Those who do the role have many good reasons why. These range from simply being curious about what goes on, wanting to understand the larger picture and how the jigsaw fits together, why certain information is needed and why certain decisions are made. Reps also felt that being able to speak on behalf of staff and linking the strategic to day to day activities was really valuable, as was meeting trustees.

There are two reps for each committee so that the work can be shared. The role involves reading the committee papers in advance, attending the meeting, sharing any staff concerns that have been brought to your attention and being a point of contact if any member of staff has questions arising from the minutes. We currently need two reps for the Board of Trustees in time for the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October and one for Audit and Risk Management for 2<sup>nd</sup> November. You can find out more about the committees [here](#).

There were a number of comments at the staff conference and in staff surveys about our decision making process, so here is the perfect opportunity to step up and get involved. If you are interested, please drop a line to our Senior Administrator Carina [c.parkinson@field-studies-council.org](mailto:c.parkinson@field-studies-council.org)

### **Beyond Social Media**

The marketing team gathered in person last week to look at how we can further exploit print and broadcast media opportunities. Staff from BeBold who work with us on press and PR gave us an insight from a journalist's point of view. Two senior staff from our local BBC Radio station kindly gave up their morning for the team to freely pick their brains on the kind of content that gets their attention.

A take home message for all staff is that the more notice you can give the team about an event or project, the better. There is far more involved in setting up interviews and sending out press releases than attaching a document and hitting send on a mass email. Emails to named journalists and contacts at papers are all individually crafted which takes time but yields better results. So as soon as you think you might need help with press and media work, please contact the team so that it can be programmed in, no matter how far in advance.

### **Congratulations to:**

Olivia Watts from the above team who volunteered to do her first ever radio interview on making gardens more wildlife friendly. Olivia's interview is an excellent example of how to "paint pictures" for the listener and also make the subject accessible. You can hear how she has increased wildflowers in a tiny back yard by lifting a couple of slabs and much more [here 2 hours 45 mins in](#) just after Kylie Minogue.

### **Green Fund 2023**

The Green Fund supports projects developed by our staff at FSC locations. Previous projects include equipment to make Biodiesel for mowers at Flatford Mill and Swift boxes at Dale Fort. Here are  [further details](#) including how to apply and the selection process. Sustainability Coordinators are expected to lead on developing projects and applications but support from other staff members would be very welcome. The deadline for applications is 5pm on 30th July. Sustainability Manager Sam Thurston is also available to discuss potential project ideas.

**Westfield Health and Westfield Rewards All Staff Dial-in Later Today**

Don't forget that the second of these events will start later this morning at 11.30. Meeting invites are in your inbox.

**Distance Calculator Tool**

Charles Roper has created a distance calculator tool which has proved popular with staff and therefore deserves to be shared more widely. I know it's essential travel only at the moment but this calculates the distances from where you are to any of our key locations across the country. You can access it [here](#).

**Welcome to Field Studies Council**

Stella Wharton and Becca Wellington have both joined Slapton Ley as General Assistants.

Mark