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Dear Colleagues,

Slapton Research Seminar 2023 – call for contributions

This particular event has been held for over 30 years and brings together researchers, academics, members of the community and those who simply have an interest in the wildlife and landscape of the area. The 2023 event will be held on [Saturday 11th November](#). Although that's a while away, Anna Harrison has put a call out for presentation proposals and research poster contributions from researchers who wish to share their work at the seminar. If you know anyone who has some research findings, insights or ideas relating to Slapton Ley and its surroundings, please encourage them to submit a 200 word abstract to a.harrison@field-studies-council.org by 1st August. More details about this and about attending on the day itself can be [found here](#).

Trees for Cities

Field Studies Council has transformed how 13,000 people got to know their local trees in seven coastal UK towns. Coastal trees are underappreciated and under threat in the face of a changing climate. Using external funding, we have worked with communities with little knowledge of coastal urban trees to co-design and post three identification guides and deliver 21 training courses online and in-person. We focused on tree identification across seasons, tree care, pest and disease, and tree-related volunteer/career roles. The impact of this project was outstanding. We reached twice as many people as planned – most new to our charity – and evaluation shows huge changes in knowledge and behaviours. See stats at <https://www.field-studies-council.org/2023/03/28/the-impact-of-forgotten-places/> Based on this success, our Biodiversity and Publication teams extended delivery in Glasgow and Bradford using a similar model. So far, we have engaged 5,500 people through guides and training. See the project overview at: <https://www.field-studies-council.org/about-us/projects/trees-for-climate-action/>

GLEE

Last week FSC Publications were at the Garden Centre Trade Show – GLEE. Over 250 retail outlets stock our WildID guides. Helping to inspire a wider audience about wildlife, and growth into Garden Centres is part of our current business plan. Jacob Robinson, Simon Norman and Rebecca Farley-Brown manned the stand for three days talking to Garden Retailers from across the UK as well as Europe. Three Garden Centres placed orders on the day, and Suzanne Jones and Juliet Dunne quickly packed the orders so they would be with the customers by the end of the week. Publications are now busy following up contacts and enquiries to see how many they can convert to new customers.

Fundraising

We're promoting updated fundraising asks for individuals and businesses. Please spread the word and discuss specific leads with Philip Turvil:

- Grants for Schools: <https://www.field-studies-council.org/donate/>
- Young Darwin Scholarships and Nature Subsidies: <https://www.field-studies-council.org/donate-sponsor-a-scholar/>
- Legacies: <https://www.field-studies-council.org/about-us/leave-a-legacy/>
- Corporate Giving: <https://www.field-studies-council.org/corporate-giving/>

Teachers' Focus Group

Having direct access to teachers' opinions is an important part of getting our offers right and gives us a chance to sense check ideas. It also helps us identify trends or issues early on, even if it's as straightforward as a quick yes/no question online. I'm pleased to say that we've had a really good

response to our recent campaign with nearly 400 teachers and lecturers expressing an interest in being a member of our focus groups.

Special Mention

This week's nomination comes from Slapton; two fabulous comments this week for Jon Read, tutor at Slapton. The comments were almost identical, but came from different customers which just goes to demonstrate the effort that he has gone to.

"Jon was an excellent tutor. He got the measure of our students very quickly and was excellent in both the classroom and in the field. He went above and beyond our expectations" and "Jon went above and beyond, when we asked the students about the course they said the best thing was Jon! Can we book him next year please. An amazing tutor makes all the difference." Well done Jon.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following staff:

Returners:

Stephen Taylor to Millport as Head Chef and Alice Shrimpton as a Tutor to Juniper Hall

New Starters:

Eleanor Cooke to Flatford Mill as a Hospitality and Catering Assistant, Annette Smith to Slapton as an Administrator, Anthony Carr as the west regional Senior Tutor, Mina Katouzian to Castlehead as a Hospitality and Catering Assistant and Oliver Kent to Epping Forest/London as a Tutor

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