

Thu 25/01/2024 12:10

Dear Colleagues,

One of the best things about my job is getting out and about, visiting centres and taking time to talk and listen. It's no secret that my dog also thoroughly enjoys herself too. I'll be visiting a number of centres in the next couple of weeks and other members of the SLT are also doing the same. In a large, geographically scattered charity like ours with many moving parts it's essential to keep building a sense of all being part of a larger charity and working towards common goals. I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Ongoing Media Coverage

Amy has continued her tour of radio stations with Radio Gloucestershire being the latest to feature [Signs of Spring](#). Over 1,300 records have already been submitted, smashing last year's total of 253 and considering the non-spring like weather so far, that's impressive. The One show and Morning Live interviews saw a big spike in traffic to our website.

Our 80th Anniversary is also still attracting attention and I particularly like the article in [School Travel Organiser](#) which used our archive photos including one of the nuns who came to study at Dale Fort. Shropshire Life Magazine is looking to do a feature on Preston Montford. Our kitchens are somewhat different to the ones that usually feature in that publication, but it's always good to seize the opportunity to build relationships with the media whether locally or nationally.

England's Biodiversity Indicators

This isn't usually an area of government policy full of good news or startling progress. For those of you with an interest in biodiversity and biological recording this [short, handy update](#) has been published on what's happening with plans to publish a new suite of indicators this year. It also gives a short history of key global frameworks, international and national strategies, how they fit together, and the players involved. It's good that the role volunteers play in collecting data is recognised.

Youth in Nature Summit 17th – 18th February

Ellen Monaghan, our Biodiversity Learning Development Officer along with three members of our Youth Council Bonita, Theo and Amelie, are attending [the event](#) in Cambridge. Ellen will be running a stand as part of the Youth Empowerment Fair on the second day, where the focus is on upskilling and empowering young people. Ellen will be promoting our courses, ID guides, youth programmes and subsidies. The line up of speakers is impressive too. If you know anyone who may like to go, it's good that tickets are free for those aged 25 and under, in full-time education or unemployed and those wanting to go may also be eligible for a travel bursary. All the information you need is [here](#).

Email Security

You will all have received an email from Gary Foster yesterday on how we can all help protect the charity from increasingly sophisticated scams and viruses. Please do take time to read it. It is quite a lot to take in so please do let Gary know if an infographic or some other way of presenting the dos and don'ts would be helpful.

A reminder to update your medical information form

If they haven't done so already, managers will soon be asking you to make sure that your medical information form is up to date and reflects any changes in your personal circumstances, especially those changes that could impact your health and wellbeing. I'm guessing that most of us have not updated that information since we first joined the charity, and a lot may have changed since then. It's important if, for example, reasonable adjustments need to be made in the workplace to support

you in your role. To update the information, go to your MyView account - click on 'My Personal Details' and select the 'Medical Information Form'.

Congratulations

There are no new starters this week, but Charlotte Foster has been promoted to Education Team Leader at Flatford Mill.

Mark