

Thu 26/09/2024 08:32

Dear Colleagues,

Geographical Association's Senior Geography Quality Mark

I'm really proud to say that we have again been successful and received high praise for our submission for the Geographical Association's Senior Geography Quality Mark. Given the vital importance of senior geography to the business this organisational wide award is really important. It has required a huge amount of work to submit all the information required. Some of it, but by no means all can be [seen here](#).

We have been rewarded with some great feedback:

"Many thanks for your detailed and well organised submission...You have provided a wealth of detail on how the reaccreditation has involved you working with each centre to revisit provision and support for staff and students who visit the centres... A range of centres have their 'moment in the sun' in this submission, which is pleasing to see, as it shows the breadth of activity in the different environments within which you operate, but the degree to which this is coordinated from HQ"

So well done to Education Manager Jo Harris and those who have worked so hard on the submission. In 2025 and 2026 we will put centres through the individual Centre of Excellence awards as well, but before that happens there is an award ceremony in London which Jo can't attend at The British Library Learning Centre, 96 Euston Road, London on Friday 8 November, 4 - 8pm. If you have been involved with the submission, are in the London area and would like to go, please contact Jo.

Slapton Ley Research Seminar

Slapton Ley would like to extend an invitation to all staff to attend our annual Research Seminar, taking place on Saturday 9th November. The event consists of a morning of talks, with UK-based reintroduction expert and author, **Derek Gow** as the keynote speaker. In the afternoon there will be a 'meet-and-greet' style session where people can network, share ideas and learn more about wider projects taking place in South Devon - what we are calling a '**Marketplace of Ideas**'. We have invited an array of individuals, organisations and charities to the Marketplace of Ideas to showcase their research and projects, allowing a much larger number of people to be involved with the seminar. Along with some of the speakers from the morning, they will be set up with 'stands' and lots of exciting resources and samples to engage with. Please find the poster attached.

The event is free to attend. The welcome talk will begin at **10am**, with refreshments available from 9:45am in the village hall. The seminar will end **by 4pm**. As always there will be a delicious vegetarian/ vegan lunch spread available. You can find further information on the event Facebook page here: <https://fb.me/e/5tAnt8mbW>

We appreciate it is a long way to travel for most, but if you have friends or family in Devon, please do extend the invitation to them. We'd really like to make as many people aware of the seminar as possible, especially as we aim to reach a younger audience of passionate individuals.

If you wish to attend or be involved, please do send Em an email at e.kendall@field-studies-council.org.

Finance System

After nearly 25 years with the same accounting system the Field Studies Council is to go live with a new system called Ipllicit from the 1 January 2025. The largest change for staff users is that they can have access to the main accounting system should their role warrant it. We are designing the system to make it as user friendly as possible, with maximum input from relevant stakeholders to help with the functionality. We are also looking to incorporate an expenses module into the system. These changes should make the finance system and processes much better for everyone.

Having said it is for the better, it is still a big change, so if you have any concerns please email: accounts@field-studies-council.org. If you would like a preview of the system, the company has some promotional videos: [See the software | ipllicit](#)

Special Mention

I have been asked by Sam at Castle Head (CH) to give a special mention to Georgia Hunter, the Castle Head apprentice tutor. Sam says, “She is coming to the end of her tenure here and has been quite fabulous. I have been her mentor throughout and she has pulled hard with the CH team for the last 14 months, worked and played hard and as you can see from the images below, really does make exceedingly good cakes!



Previous catch ups can be found on the staff news website [here](#)

Best Regards

Mark