

Thu 23/01/2025 08:33

Dear Colleagues,

Closure of Kingswood Centres

On Friday it was announced that the company who owned Kingswood had gone into administration with the immediate closure of seven Kingswood residential centres. Three other centres have been purchased by PGL. This is quite a shock for the sector and obviously a very difficult time for Kingswood staff. None of us are immune to the difficult trading conditions that we are operating in, with customers and schools struggling to fund trips. It's one of the reasons that there is so much emphasis on 'Resilience' in our new five-year strategy.

Whilst we have acknowledged that it's a sad day for the sector, we will be contacting the schools who may have been impacted unable to take advantage of the PGL rescue package. Ian's teams reacted swiftly, working hard to put together a suitable offer and then target those schools to persuade them that we can certainly offer a range of alternative experiences.

Rhyd-y-creuau staff to the rescue

Over 3,500 residents in the local town were cut off from their water supply for several days. In response, the dedicated team at Rhyd-y-creuau stepped up to assist. Leveraging equipment from the centre, staff ensured that vulnerable adults within the community received the essential water supplies they needed during the crisis. Here they are in action, and I'd like to recognise and thank them for their hard work.



Staff Conference Documents

There's already a Slack Channel set up for people to share photos of the recent staff conference. As mentioned, my presentation has been uploaded to a new folder in the

Document Archive on the intranet which you can [find here](#). It's best to view it in slide-show mode due to the transitions and animations.

New Patron

I'm really pleased to say that we have just received a letter from Buckingham Palace to let us know that HRH The Princess Royal has agreed to become our Patron for the next three years. She was Patron of other charities that I have been involved with previously and was fantastic. Her focus is very much on the beneficiaries of her charities, and she is particularly keen to use her patronage to support that area of our work. In the meantime, she has sent her best wishes to everyone. We will be working through all the templates and letterheads to update them in the coming days.

Field Studies Council in the media

We are waiting for a number of recorded interviews about the Signs of Spring survey to go out, but in the meantime the figures for 2024 show that our media work included 204 media pieces with a total audience of 22 million. Thank you to everyone who worked to make that happen and we hope to see more as part of our 'Recognition' strand of work in 2025.

Welcome for Field Studies Council

Becky Broyd has joined the team at Bishops Wood as Tutor.

Hector Clarke has joined the team at Preston Montford as Tutor.

Logan Scott has joined the team at Millport as a Casual Hospitality and Catering Assistant.

Previous catch ups can be found on the staff news page [here](#), and the Occasional Staff Newsletters [are here](#).

Best regards

Mark