

Thu 26/06/2025 08:01

Dear Colleagues,

Surveys

Firstly, thank you to all those who responded to the HR & Payroll System Replacement Survey. The team had a large number of responses along with plenty of offers to be involved in shaping that area of work.

Secondly there have been over 100 responses to the [Staff commuting survey - how do you travel to work?](#) which is good, but more would be even better. The last time we did a similar survey we ended up with 170 responses, so we'd like to beat that total this time round. Sharing your information helps us understand and track our organisational carbon footprint, but ultimately to reduce it.

Access Unlimited Coalition Continuing Work

Access Unlimited brought together us, the YHA the Outward Bound Trust, Girlguiding, Scouts, National Landscapes Association and the National Parks Authorities. Our common aim is to ensure all children and young people can experience the benefits of nature, regardless of their background. As part of that we delivered Generation Green 1 and 2 - the results of which are soon to be published.

Whilst there is no sign of any funding for Generation Green 3, we continue to meet as a group of CEOs, as do those working in policy and public affairs. As part of this we have agreed to jointly fund some additional political agency support to boost our Westminster presence at a time when there are some big opportunities for outdoor learning across several departments - Education, Health, DEFRA and the Department of Culture Media and Sport - all of which need coordinating.

Visit of HRH the Princess Royal

At the time of writing, we are just waiting for final sign off on the programme and timings of the security searches, but I'm aware that many of you are keen for some more details. These will be coming thick and fast in the next few days so do look out for them as we'll need you to respond quickly. There will be lots of background information, practical protocol advice and a minute-by-minute plan of the day detailing where everyone should be and when. We'll also be organising briefings and rehearsals for those involved.

The planning team are looking to leave nothing to chance except the weather and were sent this helpful picture which has led them to thinking about removing every possible comfortable chair on the day of the visit.



The Herald
11h · 🌐



A couple of farmers sleep as The Princess Royal tours cattle stalls in the Highland Hall during a visit to the Royal Highland Show in Ingliston, Edinburgh

IMAGE: Jane Barlow/PA Wire



Special Mentions

We have two this week and do please keep sending them in.

You may have seen in the news that there was a tunnel fire on the A55 in Conwy on Thursday last week. This clogged up the whole of North Wales roads with traffic and delayed some groups returning from fieldwork for up to 6 hours. Special mention to the whole Rhyd Y Creuau team for ensuring everyone got back safely and were fed an evening meal by 10pm. A long and tiring day for everyone in the middle of our peak season. A BIG THANK YOU for a big team effort to provide excellent service for our customers - perfectly demonstrating our values in action.

Well done to Tony Godbert, Maintenance Officer at Rhyd-y-creuau. Tony has really got to grips with the new site action plan, enthusiastically getting behind our nature recovery strategy. Over the last few months Tony has removed large areas of invasive laurel and bamboo and replanted the hedges around the site. The only thing Tony hasn't done is mow the grass! This is making Rhyd-y-creuau a haven for wildlife. Staff and visitors are commenting on the amount of insect and bird life around the grounds this summer. Well done, Tony.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

Chris Newsham has joined the team at Castle Head as Casual Administrative Assistant
Paige Phillips has joined the HR team at Head Office as Payroll Officer.

Best regards

Mark