

Thu 20/11/2025 08:31

Dear Colleagues,

Leadership Forum

I'm currently with the Leadership Forum at Blencathra where we have been warmly welcomed and well looked after by Katy and her team. There's a packed programme looking at developing Forum members' skills during a time of change. As you can see, there were also opportunities to see the National Park at its best.



News on the National Parks Campaign

I recently wrote about how over 200 organisations and individuals were galvanised by the Campaign for National Parks to ensure that a proposal to water down a duty to protect nature didn't get passed into legislation. Since then, in letter to the Campaign, government has now reaffirmed its commitment to *"Making our National Parks and National Landscapes greener, wilder and more accessible to all – in recognition that these special places are essential to our health, climate and economy"* and *"that further legislation is being developed to strengthen National Parks' purposes, improve governance, and ensure that every Park can lead on nature recovery and accessibility for all."*

This is good news in itself but also because our ongoing relationship with National Parks and National Landscapes has helped unlock some of our externally funded large scale projects. We continue to work in partnership with them and other like- minded organisations to deliver more residential. We know that government U turns are not exactly unknown, so a close eye will be kept. There's more on the campaign in the article [10 days that saved national parks](#).

Slapton Research Seminar

I'm pleased to report that last week's event was even bigger and better than last year's. Around 140 people attended, filling the village hall. The Marketplace of Ideas was a buzz of conversations for many hours after lunch and 18 attendees enjoyed the first ever B&B package. They all had a really good time and wished they could have stayed longer.

The attendees thoroughly enjoyed hearing more about our other centres and experiences that they offer too. Thank you so much to Em Kendall, the team at Slapton and the tutors and trainee tutors from Epping, Juniper Hall and Nettlecombe who put on such a good event that proudly showcased our charity.



Case Study: from scholar to tutor

Case studies are a vital part of our fundraising, advocacy and media work because they tell a story of our impact through an individual's lens. It's why you see regular requests to produce them. We have recently uploaded this case study of Tutor Kelsie Cooling who joined us via a music degree, Young Darwin Scholarship and Trainee Tutor programme. You can [read her story here](#), and if you have ideas for a case study that can show how this charity makes a difference, please contact Gemma Edmonds our Fundraising Manager.

Double Your Donation with the Christmas Challenge 2025

The Christmas Challenge 2025 allows us to double any donations made to the charity between 2nd - 9th December. It starts with **#GivingTuesday**. So if you have any family or friends that like to give to a charity at Christmas, the Challenge is an ideal opportunity to make their gift go so much further. You can [find out more here](#) and please do share the Challenge on your social media channels.

The 12 Days of Christmas Charity Giveaway - reminder to nominate us

There's still time to nominate us for a chance to win £1,000 from the Movement for Good. The more individual nominations, the greater our chances. Please [click on the form here](#) and choose 'Field Studies Council 313364' from the suggestions that will come up when you start typing in the name.

There are no new starters this week but you can click [here](#) for previous catch ups, and [here](#) for the latest Occasional Staff Newsletter.

Best regards

Mark