

# “THE HUB” @ GLOBAL BIRDFAIR

FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026

**09:30 - 10:15**

## **THE OSPREY LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION: SOCIAL CONNECTION & INTRODUCTIONS**

Refreshments and social connections: Meet other young members of the Osprey Leadership Foundation and learn about our work.

**10:30 - 11:15**

## **RECLAIMING THE INFLUENCER: FROM CONTENT TO CONSERVATION**

Discover how social media is being used to change what it means to be an influencer and inspire real action for nature. This interactive session explores impactful content creation in the nature space and gives young people the opportunity to hear from Conservation Influencers. *Emily Askew, panelists TBC*

**11:30 - 11:50**

## **DANIEL HILL: REWILDING A SOMERSET DAIRY FARM**

Broken, misused, and ecologically denuded of all natural function. How do you turn an old dairy farm into a wildlife haven? Join Daniel Hill, Rewilding Ranger for Heal Rewilding, as he takes you through the journey.

**12:00 - 12:20**

## **KELLY HUNT: LAND SHAPED BY TEETH AND HOOVES: CONSERVATION GRAZING FOR LANDSCAPE RECOVERY**

A short talk by Kelly Hunt, Wilder Landscapes Officer for Dorset Wildlife Trust, on how grazing is being used to benefit wildlife, from traditional habitat management practices on nature reserves, to rewilding and entire landscape-scale restoration projects. Large herbivores are needed now more than ever.

**12:30 - 13:15**

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO CURLEW CONSERVATION**

General Manager of Curlew Action, Flo Blackburn, will run a panel session with individuals working and volunteering in the world of Curlew conservation to talk about people's career paths, experiences, aspirations, and what the world of wader conservation is like!

*Panellists: George Cook (Communications Officer – WWT), Ryan Burrell (Director – Curlew Recovery Partnership & Dexter Painer-Coates.*

**14:00 - 14:45**

## **TECHNOLOGY – PANDORA’S BOX OR THE REMEDY FOR NATURE RECOVERY)?**

How does the human quest for ever-advancing technologies affect our connection with nature and wildlife? While the trickle-down and tailored development of new equipment and software have helped to unveil biological mysteries and enhance our ability to understand the natural world, we are facing a crisis which may redefine the way modern communities access and interact with nature. This panel discussion will try to unpick one of the most

important matters of this generation.

*Panellists: Elliot Frost (Nattergal)...TBC.*

**15:00 - 15:45**

### **RANGERS AND WARDENS: ARCHITECTS OF WILD BRITAIN**

Critical to nature recovery in the UK is the role of the many rangers, wardens, and countryside officers who turn up day-in-day-out to protect our natural world. Hear from those who are working within the field covering topics such as habitat creation and management, biodiversity monitoring, and community engagement and education.

*Panellists: Daniel Hill (Heal Rewilding), Seniz Mustafa (Urban Beaver Officer – Ealing Beaver Project), Kelly Hunt (Wilder Landscapes Officer for Dorset Wildlife Trust) .*

**TBC 16:00 - 16:20**

### **ROSIE THOMPSON: MY BIRDING JOURNEY**

Rosie Thompson shares how she got into birding at the age of 12 and how it has remained an important part of her life ever since, especially since becoming a mother.

**TBC 16:30 - 17:15**

### **ALICIA HAYDEN: WHY CREATIVITY IS ESSENTIAL FOR CONSERVATION SCIENCE & COMMUNICATION (AND HOW YOU CAN DO IT TOO!)**

An interactive presentation exploring different artists' approaches to communicating science and conservation, and showcasing how you can do it too! From ballet dancing to theatre, installations to artwork - the arts play a vital role in species conservation. Followed by a mindful art session, where you can learn how to draw wildlife species found in Rutland, suitable for all ages from beginners to professionals.

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# SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026

**09:30 - 10:15**

## **THE OSPREY LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION: SOCIAL CONNECTION & INTRODUCTIONS**

Refreshments and social connections: Meet other young members of the Osprey Leadership Foundation and learn about our work.

**10:30 - 11:15**

## **GO BIRDING WITH eBIRD!**

Your birding can help power bird conservation! Join staff from the Cornell Lab to learn how data from eBird are used to study bird population trends and inform policy, and then go on a short birding walk to make an eBird checklist together.

**11:30 - 12:15**

## **YOU BELONG IN CONSERVATION – EVEN IF YOU THINK YOU DON'T!**

Join UK Youth 4 Nature for a 45-minute session exploring youth voice, belonging, imposter syndrome, and inclusion in conservation. Through short presentations, a panel discussion, and a breakout activity, participants reflect on barriers, share positive stories, and reimagine what conservation could look like if everyone truly belonged. You don't need permission to belong to nature—you already do.

**12:30 - 13:15**

## **WORKING ON CONSERVATION TRANSLOCATIONS**

A panel discussion of different conservation translocation projects, including Lynx, Beaver, and White-tailed Eagle, looking for experiences and lessons learnt. Followed by table based discussions on what skills might be needed for each project. *Panelists: Katiana Saleiko, Seniz Mufasta, Anna Williams, Sophie Common, James Cartwright*

**13:30 - 14:15**

## **CAREERS & NETWORKING SESSION**

The OLF Team join forces with CIEEM and Green Jobs For Nature for a careers and networking session, exploring how you can begin, progress or level up your career in the nature sector. A guided presentation about how to get the most out of your network, before an opportunity to gain personal career advice from specialists in the field, from ecology, to species reintroductions, engagement and project management.

**14:30 - 15:15**

## **URBAN AND RURAL WILDLING**

Exploring the stories behind the wildlife places special to Ajay Telega and David Lindo (the Urban Birder) through an interactive panel discussion: what are the challenges, successes, similarities and differences when it comes to creating and celebrating wild spaces in both urban and remote locations?

**TBC 15:30 - 16:15**

## **LEADERSHIP (AND THE TRANSFERABLE SKILLS THAT MAKE IT POSSIBLE): GAINING EXPERIENCE EARLY IN A CONSERVATION CAREER**

Join us for an engaging panel discussion about how highly valued, transferable “power skills” can empower you, prevent burnout, enhance your impact, and help you become a leader who truly makes a difference. Our panel features accomplished professionals from across the conservation sector, sharing practical tips and strategies to help you take charge of your professional development and thrive in your role.

*Panellists: Becky Park, Brian Heppenstall, Liv Elwood*

**16:30 - 17:15**

### **SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS AND POWERFUL PROJECTS: HOW TO BUILD A YOUTH COMMUNITY**

A panel discussion and interactive workshop exploring how to build supportive nature communities and launch your own impactful environmental projects. Drawing on Generation Nature’s journey, we’ll inspire young people to forge authentic connections, overcome barriers, and launch creative, grassroots initiatives that drive real change for nature.

*Panellists: Generation Nature members Kae Wrenn, Galatea Hoyle, & Natasha Ballantyne*

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# SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026

**09:30 - 09:50**

## **GROUP WORKSHOP: MOULT IN PASSERINES**

Moult is the process of feather replacement in birds; it's integral to survival and breeding. Join BTO Bird Ringing Trainer Sam Pitt Miller (S Permit) to learn about patterns of moult in passerines, and how these can be used to ascertain a bird's age. This will be of particular interest if you are a trainee bird ringer, but is open to anyone.

**10:00 - 10:20**

## **DEXTER PAINTER-COATES: NATURE – THE TEEN YEARS**

Dexter is a 14-year-old lifelong nature lover, finding his way as a teenager breaking into the nature sector. In this session, he talks about some of the work he has done and the things he hopes to do in the future, and he hopes to inspire you to start your journey too, because you can't leave everything to the grown-ups!

**TBC 10:30 - 11:15**

## **AVIAN ADVENTURES: WRITING ABOUT MIGRATORY BIRDS**

A writing workshop for young people hosted by poet and nature writer Emily Hunt. Come along to explore the journeys and challenges faced by migratory birds, and tell their stories. Open to all abilities, with a relaxed, fun and supportive atmosphere.

**11:30 - 11:50**

## **BEING A WOMAN IN BIRDING**

This year, Mya Bambrick and Amy King are filming a documentary on amazing women within the birding space. This panel will discuss the challenges, barriers, and inspiring stories from women making waves in the world of birding, prior to the documentary being released towards the end of 2026.

*Panellists: TBC*

**12:30 - 12:50**

## **ALICE MARLOW: FINDING BIRD NESTS: SUPPORTING THE BTO NEST RECORD SCHEME**

**Description TBC:** I would like to present on the importance of nest recording in informing conservation measures to help protect breeding birds and inform habitat management. Having worked for the RSPB monitoring breeding waders and as a keen BTO Nest Recorder, I would use my experiences to try and persuade young people to improve their field skills and contribute to the BTO Nest Record Scheme. Despite being one of the UK's most important citizen science projects, participation by younger volunteers is low and there is a danger of losing much of the knowledge and expertise surrounding nest recording in the years to come.

**13:00 - 13:20**

## **AMY SQUIRE & JAMIE WARD: RINGING THROUGH THE HANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

Ringling Through the Hands of Young People is a whistle-stop tour of bird-ringing from the perspective of two young trainee bird-ringers, aiming for a career in conservation. This talk will explore what bird-ringing is, what we do and how any young person can get involved, as the future of conservation is literally in our hands!

**13:30 - 14:15**

**QUIZ: BIRDFAIR LEGENDS VS THE NEXT GENERATION**

Enjoy a challenge of the ages - young conservationists take on some of Global Bird Fairs most experienced naturalists! You can even test your own knowledge against the experts with opportunities for the audience to answer too.

**14:30 - 14:50**

**TARA McEVOY-WILDING: WILDLIFE DISTURBANCE ON LUNDY ISLAND**

**Description TBC:** Hello I'm Tara and I am the assistant warden on Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel. A lot of the work I do is trying to tackle the issues of wildlife disturbance on and around the island. Lundy is quite a unique place, steeped in history and tradition so solutions aren't always easy to find. My talk will focus on this, starting with an introduction to conservation on Lundy before moving on to the issues of Atlantic Grey Seal and Seabird Disturbance and what we are doing to tackle this.

**15:00 - 15:20**

**FEEDS FOR FEATHERS – USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO INSPIRE ACTION!**

Join this RSPB Youth Panel to explore how social media can spark real impact for nature in this interactive, ideas-driven workshop. Using birds as our focus, we'll experiment with building bold, memorable 'characters' for species, taking inspiration from the RSPB's humorous, empathy-building approach, and test what could resonate with younger audiences online. Packed with creative activities and linked to RSPB channels, this session will generate fresh, co-designed content ideas to help us tell stronger stories for nature.

*Panellists: Jess, Katie, Hannah, Alfie, & Taalu from RSPB Youth.*