

Update

Thought for the Update

You have to admire Pope Francis. Faced with deciding what to give Donald Trump as a gift to celebrate the President's recent visit to the Apostolic Palace, the Pontiff chose a copy of his 2015 encyclical letter on the need to protect the environment from the effects of climate change. The Pope has history when it comes to the environment. Last year he described the destruction of the environment as a sin and accused humankind of turning the planet into a "polluted wasteland full of debris, desolation and filth". Francis has also linked climate change to the refugee crisis noting that "The world's poor, though least responsible for climate change, are most vulnerable and already suffering its impact." So what will Trump, whose grasp of climate change science is at best, minimal, make of the Pope's gift? I'm not holding my breath but I admire the Pope's optimism almost as much as his sense of irony.

Justin Dillon, Director

Welcome, Justin!

Justin has recently become a director of SWLfSC. Justin is Professor of Science and Environmental Education at the University of Bristol. His research originally focused on teaching and learning about chemistry in England and Spain. Over the past 15 years he has focused more on science learning outside the classroom particularly in museums, science centres and botanic gardens in the UK, Europe and elsewhere. Together with two colleagues at King's, Justin co-ordinated the ESRC's *Targeted Initiative on Science and Mathematics Education* (TISME) and he was a member of the highly influential ASPIRES project.

Justin co-edits of the International Journal of Science Education. He is a trustee of the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom and was Chair of the London Wildlife Trust many years. Justin has co-edited a number of books including the International Handbook of Research on Environmental Education. He was given 'The Outstanding Contributions to Research in Environmental Education Award' by the North American Association for Environmental Education in 2013.

We look forward to sharing the ideas and expertise he brings to the coalition.



**FILM Review -
International film which
began in Bristol!**

A Plastic Ocean is the recently released documentary film by Craig Leeson and the Bristol based Jo Ruxton. It dives into and investigates the devastating impacts that plastic has caused to our environment, especially our marine life. If you see this film you will never think about the plastic, especially single use plastic, we buy and throw away each day

What starts off as an adventure to film the blue whale, the largest animal on the planet, leads to the shocking discovery of a thick layer of plastic debris floating in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Craig, alongside Tanya Streeter, a world record-breaking free diver and environmental activist, then travel across the globe to report on the havoc caused by decades of plastic use. For example, they show the stark truth of animals and birds dying because their stomachs are full of plastic; the level of plastic and plastic particles floating in the ocean and discuss how plastic is entering the food chain.

The film presents beautiful shots of the marine environment contrasted with footage of heavily polluted cities and beaches, large floating 'islands' of plastic in the sea and dumps full of plastic rubbish. The challenging message is that our actions and choices severely impact the planet and we *all* need to reduce our use of plastics. Want to see the film ?

FILM plus Q&A Panel - **June 28th 2017, 7.30pm** Curzon Community Cinema, Clevedon North Somerset

Visit the plastic.oceans.org website for details of other dates, see a trailer and find out how to book tickets or to arrange to screen the film yourself.



**JUNE Challenge!
Reduce your Plastic
Footprint Month**

The Marine Conservation Society are launching June as the month to reduce your 'plastic footprint'. We can easily think that because we can't go completely 'plastic

free' then its not worth doing anything. But that's not the case! A little rethinking and organsiation can make big make a difference to the amountg of plastic we use, paricluarly single-use plastic which has hugely increased over the last twenty years. We can also learn more about plastics and their effects on their envionment as well as supporting campaigns to reduce plastic use. If you think nothing can change, think of the campaign to reduce use of plastic bags which really has made a change in the UK.

For more information, free resources, how to join *the plastic challenge community* visit <http://www.mcsuk.org/plasticchallenge/> and also put your thinking caps on. Simple wins include getting your water bottle and lunch box out (and using them!); re-using the plastic wrappers food does come for other uses; enjoying your tap water; investigating products available not wrapped in plastic; using storage boxes, or foil for food storage in the fridge; considering ways to enjoy more fresh food and less pre-packaged food. These are easy ideas that most of us have thought of already - the challenge is making ourselves do this. So make June the month to make the effort. All these ideas save you money too as well as encoraging healthy eating!

Get children involved in the challenge too - their ideas might surprise us.



Profile of a Local Organisation

One Year in Transition (OYT) is a challenging, contemporary, hope-filled programme for people (over 20) who want to make change happen. We turn ideas about what learning is upside down. Because change for a more equitable and sustainable world needs people who can think and act in ways that are counter-intuitive, who don't wait to be told what to do, who ask questions, who bring the whole of themselves, go slowly (and go fast when necessary), push their comfort zone and aspire to be authentic. And who earn money doing it. OYT was started by Devon-based Isobel Carlisle.

One year in Transition are now taking enquiries for their September start. Email Isobel on info@oneyearintransition.org or visit their website <http://www.oneyearintransition.org/> for more information about this opportunity and to learn about OYT.

Events



Festival of Nature - Embark on a wild adventure up the River Avon at the - Events from 8th to 25th June

Lots of family friendly activities to explore and celebrate in the Bath and Bristol area. Visit their website [here](#)

Learning Innovation for Tomorrow – Education for Sustainability Showcase Thursday 8th June, University of Gloucestershire, Park Campus, Cheltenham

Announcing our Sustainability Showcase event which celebrates our new *LIFT: Learning Innovation for Tomorrow* projects and marks the release of our Sustainability Strategy 2017-2022. Do join us to learn about our academic enhancement programme which forms part of our wider University commitment to best practice in sustainability.

This free event includes presentations of 8 new LIFT projects across our academic portfolio, guest panel speakers from the HE and sustainability sector, and a public lecture with polar explorer Mark Wood. For registrations and Information please contact - Barbara Rainbow: brainbow@glos.ac.uk

SEED –New Sustainable Door on Nature and Biodiversity

Free Consultation Event for teachers and all those involved in sustainability and environmental education and outreach. Friday 23rd June 10-3 in York. For more information Visit their website [here](#)

Jobs

Bristol Zoological Society- Lecturer in Conservation Science FT

Salary £25, 658, Closing date for applications Friday 16th June 2017

For more information visit website [here](#)

Great Trees Project Officer

£20,661 per annum pro-rata. Location: Cranbrook, Devon

Part-time (22.2 hours per week), Fixed Term for up for 2 years

For more information visit website [here](#)

Natural Estates Project Officer (maternity cover)

Salary: Salary band: £20,000-£24,000 per annum, dependent on experience.
Maternity cover, full time from August 2017. Location: Bristol

Closing date: Monday 5th June 2017

For more information visit website [here](#)

RSPB -Volunteering Development Officer- Devon

Starting salary range is £19,602 to £21,236 per annum (Pro-Rata) Hours: Part time, 30 hours per week. Contract: Permanent. Closing date: 4 June 2017
Interview date: 29 June 2017

For more information visit website [here](#)

Wetlands Trust– Engagement Officer

Location, WWT Steart, Avon Estuary. **Salary** £21,053 - £22,635 per annum (FT)
Fixed Term Contract for 18 months with the possibility of extension

For more information visit website [here](#)

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Currently several opportunities– visit their website [here](#)

Your contributions are welcome

Share your ESD-related work with interested colleagues across the region.
A paragraph with contact details and a link for further information is ideal.
Please send comments and contributions to Sarah Chave: ssc203@exeter.ac.uk
To **unsubscribe** please write to the same address

This edition was edited by Sarah Chave

Visit our new website at: <http://www.swlfsc.org/>