

Event speakers

Chris - Area Ranger at the National Trust Formby

Chris obtained his degree in BSc Geography, gained from the University of Leeds, and has since gone into both wildlife and environmental conservation, working for a variety of organisations in the north of England. Having started as a volunteer for the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, supporting the reserves officers to manage multiple sites, Chris also worked as a support worker, assisting adults with mental health challenges to gain independent living skills. Chris combined these interests when he began working for Open Country, a Yorkshire-based disability charity that supports people to enjoy and access the countryside. He has since moved to Merseyside to look after the most dynamic coastline in the UK at National Trust Formby on the Sefton Coast, as a ranger and area ranger.

Lauren - Coastal Project Engineer at Coastal Partners

Lauren Burt is a member of the team responsible for the initiation and design of flood and coastal erosion risk management projects, working on behalf of 5 local coastal authorities on the South Coast of England. This role draws upon a higher understanding of coastal processes to ensure that the dynamic coastline is managed effectively and sustainably. Lauren is involved in projects which align her knowledge of coastal management and coastal processes, her experience in communicating flood and erosion risk, and her interests in ecological enhancement and coastal habitat creation. Lauren previously worked for New Forest District Council and the Channel Coastal Observatory, has a BSc in Geography from the University of Exeter and a MSc in Coastal Engineering from the University of Southampton.



Grace - Senior Tutor and Digital Training Officer at the Field Studies Council

Grace has always been passionate about outdoor education and the benefits of studying geography in the real world. Having studied Physical Geography and Geology at Plymouth University, Grace was able to develop her skills and love for fieldwork. Since graduating Grace has focused on working outdoors in environmental education and then moving into becoming a surveyor for Ordnance Survey, living out the geographers dream of collecting data on the ground to feed into national mapping. In more recent years Grace has re focussed back into outdoor environmental education working for the Field Studies Council providing hands on engaging experiences for young people. Focusing on fundamental skills in geographical fieldwork and environmental engagement through real world experiences in some of the Devon's most stunning landscapes. Within the Field Studies Council Grace works with education teams to develop the digital best practice through GIS and other education applications, whilst also spending time out in the field supporting visiting schools out in the field.