



Youth Representative

British Trust for Ornithology

BRITISH TRUST FOR ORNITHOLOGY

'A DIVERSE, VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF YOUNG BIRDERS SUPPORTED BY THE BTO, WITH ACCESSIBLE, YOUTH-LED OPPORTUNITIES INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENGAGE WITH NATURE AND SCIENCE.'

WHAT IS BTO?

BTO studies the bird populations in the UK with the data collected by of tens of thousands of volunteer birdwatchers. We want to increase our knowledge of birds and other wildlife, as well as how they're linked with the environment and people. To do this, we want to enable more people to learn about birds and science and take part in our citizen science projects.

OUR PRIORITIES

We will reach our goals by:

- Providing more and better opportunities for people to contribute to our work.
- Monitoring the status of species, researching their ecology

and understanding how they respond to change.

- Communicating great stories that bring our science to life

OUR IMPACT

Our scientific research is carried out by expert scientists to answer some of the most important questions about birds and their habitats. Because we don't campaign or 'take sides', we can share our science to inform decision-makers (such as the government), teach people, and support conservation action.

OUR FOUNDATIONS AND VALUES

The success of BTO is thanks to our brilliant staff and volunteers and a good understanding of the environmental sector and how we fit within it.

As an organisation we are:

- Inclusive and supportive
- Impartial
- Passionate
- Collaborative and open to new ideas

BTO is a Registered Charity Number 216652 (England & Wales), SC039193 (Scotland).



YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

To help BTO reach and engage young people local to you, through delivering activities and events, liaising with local partners and other volunteers in the BTO network.

You will work alongside members of the Youth Advisory Panel, BTO staff, and your local Regional Representatives (RR).

Please note you must be between the ages of 16 and 24 to apply.

WHAT YOU WILL DELIVER

Networking

- Liaise with local bird clubs, organisations, nature reserves and bird observatories to collaborate on making local nature more accessible for young people
- Work with BTO's Regional Network and volunteers to ensure young people have access to BTO events in the region

Events & engagement

- Organise 1–2 events per year to engage local young people in nature or birdwatching, e.g.:
 - Bird or nature walks
 - Training events
 - Fundraising events
 - Social events
 - Bioblitzes or clean-ups
 - Trips to conferences, events, or observatories

- Work with 1–2 schools or universities in the area to engage young people in nature education, e.g. through:
 - Speaking at assemblies about BTO
 - Helping set up a school Garden BirdWatch
 - Setting up a birdwatching or nature club
- Attend BTO events such as Birdfair, our Annual Conference, and other events

Social Media

- Liaise with the RR about posting content on the local BTO Twitter account or set one up if it doesn't exist
- Create youth content for BTO's main social media accounts, such as blogs, Q&As and takeover

Admin

- Help manage and maintain any schemes under the responsibility of the Youth Representatives
- Attend meetings every 6–8 weeks

WHAT YOU WILL BRING TO THE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM

- Enthusiasm about the natural world
- Confidence in your skills
- An outgoing, approachable attitude
- Experience with social media platforms
- A passion for engagement and a hands-on approach

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ROLE

For an informal chat about the position please contact our Youth Engagement Team (email: youth@bto.org)

WHAT WE WILL OFFER IN RETURN

You will get a full welcome pack upon appointment, which will include a bird guide, t-shirt, cap, and BTO membership.

BTO will cover any costs associated with the work you do, including travel expenses and material costs.

We will support you by providing references upon request, a paid-for DBS check where appropriate, and through training on topics such as:

- Networking
- Leadership skills
- Partnership working
- Working in a professional team and environment
- First Aid
- Bird identification
- CV writing
- Data analysis
- GIS
- Social media content creation
- Child safeguarding

MAKING AN APPLICATION

If you have what it takes then we look forward to hearing from you – send your answers to the five questions (no more than 150 words per answer) below to youth@bto.org stating “Youth Representative application” in the subject line. If you are happy to do so, please also attached the Monitoring Form available at www.bto.org/jobs. This will help us learn more about the audiences we reach.

Q1. Which area of the UK would you represent for BTO?

Q2. How have you shared your enthusiasm for nature with others?

Q3. If you had one big idea to bring to the BTO, what would it be and why do you think it’s important?

Q4. What do you think the barriers are for young people in engaging with nature, and how can BTO address these?

Q5. Why would you want to be a BTO Youth Representative?

Closing date for receipt of applications is 11.59pm on Sunday 11 October 2020.

We will contact all applicants on the outcome of their application. Shortlisted candidates will be expected to be available for an informal Zoom interview in the week starting 19th of October.

As users of the disability confident scheme, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria for the vacancy.



We are an equal opportunities employer and are especially keen to encourage applications from people currently under-represented in the environment movement.

If you have a disability or long-term illness that otherwise prevents you from meeting any of the criteria, please contact us to discuss whether a reasonable adjustment could be made. If you are uncomfortable submitting a written application, please contact us at youth@bto.org for alternative options.

MEET THE TEAM

BTO Staff



Faye Vogely
Social Media Manager
She / her

Ieuan Evans
Director of Engagement
He / him



Nick Moran
Training Manager
He / him

Deb Lee
Head of Engagement
She / her



Youth Advisory Panel



Arjun
17, London
He / him



Ellie
17, Shropshire
She / her



Greg
25, Cambridge
He / him



Maura
19, London
She / her



Samuel
20, Dorset
He / him



Conor
25, Cardiff
He / him



Emma
19, Surrey
She / her



Matt
20, Norfolk
He / him



Megan
16, Buckinghamshire
She / her



Sorrel
21, Lothian
She / her