



Older People Active Lives

# REACH



For comments, articles & info contact your Organiser or [opalreach@opalservices.org.uk](mailto:opalreach@opalservices.org.uk)

## GO WILD

In a week where the National Trust announced plans to plant blossom trees and Captain Sir Tom's daughter invited people to be part of an environment initiative to plant trees as a way of creating a living legacy, OPAL Reach is taking the opportunity to consider other green topics.

**Plant Britain** is a campaign launched by the BBC's Countryfile programme with the aim of planting 750,000 trees across the UK over the next 2 years. Prince Charles and special celebrity guests including Dame Judi Dench are supporting the project.



WORLD WILDLIFE DAY  
3 MARCH

3rd March 2021 marks **World Wildlife Day** and this year's theme is "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet", as a way to highlight the central role of forests and sustaining the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people globally.

Closer to home, it was good news in the recent roadmap to ending lockdown that many attractions, including zoos are able to plan opening to the public again. Jamie Christon from **Chester Zoo** said this week that 97% of the Zoo's income is made up from visitor ticket sales so they are looking forward to reopening on 12th April. This will enable them to also continue their work preventing the extinction of many species.



## BLAST FROM THE PAST - this week in history..

- 1776 Adam Smith publishes the influential economics book "The Wealth of Nations".
- 1861 Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated as the 16th US President.
- 1876 Alexander Graham Bell receives a US patent for the telephone.
- 1960 The film "Ben-Hur" wins Best Picture at the 17th Golden Globes.
- 2006 Nature documentary "Planet Earth", narrated by David Attenborough, premieres on BBC television.
- 2016 Russian tennis star Maria Sharapova reveals that she failed a drug test taken at the Australian Open in January.

## FAIRTRADE



Coinciding with *World Wildlife Day* in the UK is **Fairtrade Fortnight** and in many supermarkets there is an increasing range of Fair Trade produce, where a fair price is paid to producers. This year, in *Fairtrade Fortnight 2021*, they are highlighting the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities they work with. "The climate crisis is an immediate and ever-increasing threat and those in climate vulnerable countries are already seeing its impact from droughts and crop disease to floods, heatwaves and shrinking harvests."

## PLASTIC POLLUTION

Remember the outrage at plastic pollution a few months before the global pandemic? Greenpeace have just published a report on how well supermarkets are doing with their pledge to reduce plastic packaging. 12.7 million tonnes of plastic enter our oceans every year and is the biggest killer of marine life. Aldi and Sainsbury's have committed to halving their plastic footprint by 2025. Greenpeace is urging the other major supermarkets to do the same.



## Pet's Corner

Here's a beautiful photo of OPAL volunteer Lynn's black Labrador 'Fara', named after one of the Orkney Islands. She's 12 weeks old and looking forward to getting out for walks.



## What's On?

Sunday 7th March:

*David Attenborough- Life in Colour- Part 1 Repeat*, BBC 1, 3.35pm

*A Service of Celebration of Commonwealth Day, The Queen's Annual Message*, BBC 1, 5pm

*David Attenborough- Life In Colour- Part 2*, BBC 1, 7pm



## Quizzical

- 1) Which nuts are green inside their shells?
- 2) What does it mean 'to give the green light'?
- 3) Name a green gemstone.
- 4) Greenland is considered part of which continent?
- 5) Name an emotion associated with the colour green.

LAST REACH ANSWERS: 1) Snowdon, 2) Richard Jenkins, 3) Cardiff, 4) Port Merrion, 5) Dylan Thomas, 6) Aled Jones

## Who Am I?

1ST MARCH 1904

I was an American big-band leader, trombonist, arranger and composer. I was the best-selling recording artist from 1939 to 1942. Some of my hits included *In the Mood*, *April in Paris*, and *My Blue Heaven*.

My entertainment of the Allied force earned me a rank of major in August 1944. Then in December 1944, I made arrangements to conduct a BBC-broadcast Christmas show in London. I boarded a single-engine US-64 Norseman in Paris. My plane disappeared in bad weather over the English Channel, never to be found.

## This is Your Life.....

### DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

#### Birth place

David Frederick Attenborough was born on 8th May 1926 in Isleworth, Middlesex

#### Early Life

David was the middle born of three boys. He grew up in Leicester where his father was a university principal. His older brother Richard was the Academy Award-winning actor and director, and his younger brother John found success as a top executive at the Italian car company Alfa Romeo.

#### Career

David studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge University. In 1952, he joined the BBC at Alexander Palace and in 1954 started the Zoo Quest series. In 1965, a year after BBC 2 started, he was promoted to the Controller of BBC 2, where he was responsible for the introduction of colour TV into Britain. In the 1970s, he returned to programme making and in 1979, made the most ambitious series ever produced at the time- *Life on Earth*. He continues to astound viewers with his amazing wildlife documentaries to this day and is a lead spokesperson on climate change.

#### Personal life

Attenborough was married to Jane Oriel in 1950 until her death in 1997. They had two children.

#### Quote

"The natural world is the greatest source of excitement. The greatest source of visual beauty. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living."



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Think about me, not my age