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CAREER PROFILE: FIELD PROGRAMME COORDINATOR - MADAGASCAR & THE MASCARENES

Name: Claire Raisin

Job title: Field Programme Coordinator -
Madagascar & the Mascarenes

Relevant qualifications: PhD, MSc, BSc
Management and Leadership Diploma - Level 5 (OCR)
Certificate in Leadership and Management - Level 5 (ILM)
Planning and Practice in Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (Bond)

Work experience: Field Programme Coordinator
Director, Size of Wales
Geneticist Operation Wallacea
Partnership Manager Size of Wales
Research Assistant Durrell Institute of Conservation & Ecology

Interests outside of work: Renovating my house, playing korfball

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job? I manage conservation projects overseas that directly conserve threatened species and habitats

Top tip for getting a career in conservation: Say yes to every opportunity you are able to - you never know where something will lead



CAREER PROFILE: REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY COORDINATOR

Name: Ronnie Cowl

Job title: Reproductive Biology Coordinator

Relevant qualifications: BSc, PhD

Interests outside of work: Baking bread and exercise

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

My role is to support breeding programme coordinators with achieving their population sustainability goals i.e. I support them to ensure that populations aren't growing too slowly or too quickly.

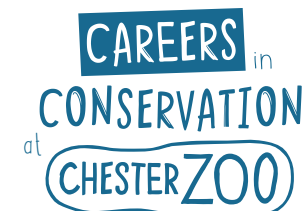
Interesting fact: I've just started woodworking - I'm currently building a dining table

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Making a good impression! Whether it's carrying out a boring task or meeting people at a conference, show that you're enthusiastic. You never know who will be sat in the interview panel of your future job interview.



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CAREER PROFILE: DIGITAL LEARNING MANAGER

Name: Lauren Walker

Job title: Digital Learning Manager

Relevant qualifications: 1st Class Honours BA Creative Sound and Music

Work experience:

Work experience with 4D creative whilst at university, developing immersive sound and visuals for educational settings.

Went on to work for 4D immersive (same company) as their Creative Multimedia Producer - creating immersive environments with sounds and visuals. As well as developing learning resources for schools to use.

Freelance audio-visual practitioner - working with clients to create film content and creative solutions to promote their own businesses.

Interests outside of work: Theatre, galleries, walks with my family, socialising with friends, escape rooms and detective style city wide games!

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

I am privileged to be able to develop educational video content for the team at Chester Zoo so I'm constantly learning about our conservation efforts and mission. It's great to be able to use my skills as a creative and apply them to engaging people with preventing extinction. I also work on developing new and innovative ways to engage including games, digital interventions and working with our graphic designer to produce tools for the education team and to support other education partners.

Interesting fact: I play piano and sing and used to do lots of gigs around the North West under a pseudonym!

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

I never expected to be working at a zoo or within conservation with the skills I pursued through higher education! I'd say, follow the things you enjoy doing, follow your passions in terms of subjects at school, college, university and in life and if you would like to work in conservation using the skills you attain, think outside the box. Conservation is a diverse area of work, I never thought I could use my skills as a musician and audio visual artist to benefit others through conservation education - but here I am!



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CAREER PROFILE: EXHIBITIONS AND INTERPRETATION MANAGER

Name:	Fred Howat
Job title:	Exhibitions and Interpretation Manager
Relevant qualifications:	BA in History MA in Museum Studies
Work experience:	Retail, supervisory and management roles - Morrisons PLC Short volunteer placement at Wiltshire Heritage Museum 8 week intern placement - Chester Zoo Interpretation Officer - Chester Zoo Senior Exhibitions and Interpretation Officer - Chester Zoo Exhibitions and Interpretation Manager - Chester Zoo
Interests outside of work:	Sailing and skiing. Hiking, camping, fell walking. Classic cars and renovation. PC gaming, building, modifying
How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?	One of the biggest parts of my job is enabling visitors to make pro-conservation choices by making just small changes in their daily lives. Everything I research, write, design and create stories for all work towards the goal of empowering people to work towards preventing extinction. This might be in the form of a whole exhibit that explores the issues with illegal wildlife trade, to a simple sign which explains how unsustainable palm oil is causing deforestation. These will always contain a form of messaging around what visitors can do about issues like these.
Interesting fact:	An adult giraffe's heart weighs around 11kg. This is about the same as an adult beagle.
Top tip for getting a career in conservation:	Say yes to any opportunities that come your way. There are so many ways to get involved in conservation, often in ways you might not expect. Take these experiences, as they'll increase your skillset and make you a better conservationist.



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CAREER PROFILE: AQUARIUM TEAM MANAGER

Name: Hannah Thomas

Job title: Aquarium Team Manager

Relevant qualifications:

Zoology B.Sc. Hons
A levels: Music, Drama, Biology, Chemistry
10 GCSEs
IZVG Fish health course
Effective leadership program
Pool plant operator course
Team leadership course
IOSH Managing safely course
Handling crocodilians course
Gentoo penguin husbandry course

Work experience:

Chester Zoo - Team manager/Assistant team manager,
Chessington World of Adventures - Aquarium supervisor,
Alton Towers Resort - Senior aquarist/Curator, Sea Life
London Aquarium - Aquarist, Oban Sea Life Sanctuary -
Aquarist, Anglesey Sea Zoo - Volunteer, Blue Planet Aquarium - Volunteer, Rhyd-y-creuau Field Studies Council Centre
- Volunteer, Conwy Butterfly Palace - Volunteer

Interests outside of work:

Running, geocaching, canoeing

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

We house some species in the aquarium that are critically endangered or extinct in the wild so maintaining ark populations for those species is the most direct way I prevent extinction

Interesting fact:

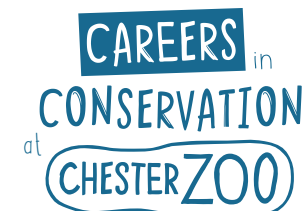
Seahorses synchronise giving birth with particular phases of the moon, despite being born in captivity and never seeing the moon!

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Try to enter in to every conversation ready to learn something new. Subscribe to relevant podcasts or emails so your knowledge moves with current practices



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CAREER PROFILE: LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Name:	John O'Hanlon
Job title:	Laboratory Technician
Relevant qualifications:	BSc Hons. Zoology MSc Molecular Biology of Parasites and Disease Vectors
Work experience:	Voluntary - Research assistant for lecturers and PhD students
Interests outside of work:	Baking, cycling and playing Planet Zoo!
How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?	I help support husbandry decisions made by curators, vets and keepers not just here at Chester but by zoos and safari parks across Europe through the use of the endocrinology here at the zoo.
Interesting fact:	I work in the only zoo based endocrinology lab in Europe!
Top tip for getting a career in conservation:	Never give up, it is hard and challenging but is extremely rewarding!



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CAREER PROFILE: LEAD CONSERVATION SCIENTIST: SOCIAL SCIENCE

Name:	Andy Moss
Job title:	Lead Conservation Scientist: Social Science
Relevant qualifications:	PhD, MSc, BSc
Work experience:	18 years at Chester Zoo
Interests outside of work:	Fishing, gaming, playing guitar
How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?	To use science to maximise the conservation benefit of visiting, or engaging with, zoos. This applies to our Conservation Education and Engagement work as well as our field programmes.
Interesting fact:	My favourite species is the bowhead whale as it mirrors my own behaviour. Most whales travel to and from the poles each year. Not the bowhead - it just stays in the arctic and gets really fat to cope with the cold. Good plan I say.
Top tip for getting a career in conservation:	Qualifications is one - e.g. an MSc will make you stand out more than a BSc. But have the confidence to pester people - most people in the conservation world are lovely and are quite happy to respond to an email from an interested person just starting out.



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CAREER PROFILE: PEOPLE OFFICER

Name:	Zoe Prendergast
Job title:	People Officer
Relevant qualifications:	MA Personnel & Development Chartered CIPD member
Work experience:	A wealth of experience working in HR generalist roles in charity and private organisations
Interests outside of work:	Spending time with family & friends, watching too much reality TV
How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?	Leading and advising on the recruitment, development, reward and management of our community of employees who are mission motivated and passionate and who work together to prevent extinction.
Interesting fact:	I'm the proud owner of 3 Blue Peter badges

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Establish what jobs are of interest to you and what skills and experience are required; be prepared that it may take some time for you to secure your dream job and have determination to develop the skills and experience needed, be that through working in other roles in the field/organisation, studying, volunteering or engaging in related hobbies. Polish up your CV writing and interview skills to showcase yourself in the best possible way and make you stand out from others.



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CAREER PROFILE: REGISTRAR'S ASSISTANT & RECORDS COORDINATOR



Name: Liz Ball

Job title: Registrar's Assistant & Records Coordinator

Relevant qualifications: BSc (hons) Animal Behaviour & Welfare

Work experience:

15 years at Chester Zoo. Started in November 2006 as a seasonal Presenter in the Education Department and worked in most Departments seasonally for 5 years, gaining contacts and knowledge. Volunteered one day a week for 2 years in the Registrar's office during that time until a paid, Part-Time, role came up. 2 years later, the Records role was added to my role after the previous job holder left.

Interests outside of work:

Salsa and Argentine Tango dancing, attending music gigs, and 17th century Historical Re-enactment

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

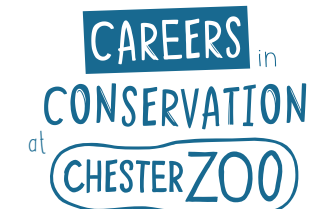
Every part of my job focuses on 'Preventing Extinction'. Our animal transfers directly link through successful breeding of endangered species & transfers, as well as successful reintroduction too! Our animal records also feed into it, as without knowledge of your species and its history, you cannot build on your successes and failures into the future. I am proud that our records & animal transfer knowledge are highly thought of throughout the Zoo world.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Don't be afraid to take a job that does not directly link with what you want to do! I spent 2 winters in a shed selling tickets for the Zoo's ice-rink!



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CAREER PROFILE: REGIONAL FIELD PROGRAMME MANAGER - LATIN AMERICA

Name: Paul Bamford

Job title: Regional Field Programme Manager - Latin America

Relevant qualifications: BTEC National Diploma in Animal Management BSc Ecology and Conservation Post Graduate Certificate in Education

Work experience: 2002-2008 Worked at various UK zoos, initially as a keeper, subsequently in education roles 2009 Animal Management Lecturer - Sparsholt College 2010-2012 Community Project Manager - Payamino Project, Ecuador 2012-2013 Conservation Education Projects Officer - ZSL 2014-2015 Freelance Environmental Education Consultant - Chile 2016-2019 Science Communication Manager - Austral University, Chile 2019-present Regional Field Programme Manager - Latin America, Chester Zoo

Interests outside of work: Music, hill walking, cycling, cooking, family life



**How do you apply
'preventing extinction' in
your job?**

My job involves coordinating and administering the support that we deliver for our conservation partners in Latin America - that can be anything from developing proposals, writing reports and processing funds, to engaging with the wider CZ team and other partners to coordinate technical support in elements relating to applied conservation, research and community outreach and engagement, or working with partners to facilitate planning, in order to build strategies to help them reach their conservation goals. Not only do these activities help prevent extinction by actively facilitating conservation, but in some cases we have even returned extinct in the wild species back to their natural habitat through reintroduction programmes, eg, in the case of the tequila splitfin and golden skiffia fish in Mexico.

**Top tip for getting a career
in conservation:**

There are many different roles within a conservation team - research, habitat management, community outreach, project management, etc. Find out the one that is of most interest to you and take every opportunity to learn about it, either through direct work experience (could be paid or voluntary), or through opportunities for training and study - never hold back from asking questions and speaking to people who already work in those roles.

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CAREER PROFILE: LEARNING DESIGNER



Name: Lucy Templeton

Job title: Learning Designer

Relevant qualifications: BA (Hons). Graphic Design Extended Diploma. Art, Design and communication

Work experience: Chester Zoo - Learning Designer (Maternity cover) - 6 months
Ameritz Music Ltd - Graphic Designer - 4 years
Newforms Training & Development - Graphic Design & marketing placement - 9 months
JD Sports - sales assistant - 4 years

Interests outside of work: Arts and crafts, decorating, camping, walking, travelling, food, spending time with family, friends and my dogs!

Interesting fact: I have a love for Pangolins... I once spotted one in the wild in Singapore! Baby Pangolins are called pangopups!

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

I use my design and illustration skills to create visually appealing and engaging signage throughout the zoo, which will deliver a clear message to the public about our animals and conservation. I create fun and exciting learning resources such as games and activities that are used to educate and connect children with all things conservation and wildlife. It's really important that our Chester Zoo brand captures peoples attention and communicates worldwide about the problems we are facing and what we are doing and can do to help prevent extinction.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Work hard at what you are most passionate about. I'm passionate about both design and conservation, so I based a lot of my previous design projects on zoo and conservation related topics. I had no idea that I could work in a zoo as a designer! Take every opportunity that you can whether it's volunteering or small projects to enhance your experience and show your enthusiasm! There are so many ways to pursue a career in conservation.



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CAREER PROFILE: ZOO RANGER

Name: Holly Cushen

Job title: Zoo Ranger

Relevant qualifications: Multiple GCSE's Level 3 extended diploma in Performing Arts (Dance) Fdsc Animal Behaviour and Welfare (animal collections) San Diego zoos global academy programme - Working with volunteers course San Diego zoos global academy programme - Plant conservation course San Diego zoos global academy programme - Understanding attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) course San Diego zoos global academy programme - Conservation education: History, challenge course Alzheimer society dementia friends course

Work experience: Retail work whilst still at college - LUSH cosmetics Volunteer placement - WFFT Thailand (team leader on bear and elephant teams) Blackpool Zoo - Work experience mammal keeper Sealife Blackpool - Entertainments and education team Blackpool Zoo - Project Elephant basecamp (elephant researcher) And my current role - Chester Zoo - Zoo Ranger

Interests outside of work: Outside of work I love travelling to new places within the UK and having a rummage through charity and vintage shops to see what treasures I can find! I love seeing and exploring new places with my friends and family too.

Interesting fact: I used to be a dancer, and even moved to Leeds to study it at university. I did a sharp u-turn to follow my passion and study animal welfare instead, and I've never looked back!

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job? Creating an awareness for environmental issues is so important in protecting our planet and making a change for the good. Conservation education gives the opportunity to enhance the public's understanding of wildlife and the need to conserve the places that plants and animals live. Changing everyday behaviours and habits is difficult, but when you give people the tools and knowledge to do so it becomes much easier, and also allows people to experience a stronger connection to nature. It allows people to see themselves as part of the solution rather than part of the problem, and in turn, prevents extinction of some of the most endangered species in the world.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation: Never turn down an opportunity because you don't think it's in line with your end goal. For example, if your dream is to work with a specific type for animal, but you get offered a job with an animal that's maybe not your favourite, don't be afraid to try it out! All experience is good experience, and who knows you may turn out to love it!



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CAREER PROFILE: LEAD CONSERVATION SCIENTIST: POPULATION BIOLOGY

Name: Leah Williams

Job title: Lead Conservation Scientist: Population Biology

Relevant qualifications: BSc (Hons), MRes, PhD

Work experience:

Lead Conservation Scientist: Population Biology at Chester Zoo (10 months) Conservation Scientist: Behaviour & Welfare at Chester Zoo (4 years) Scientific Officer at Chester Zoo (2 years) Conservation Scientist at RSPB (2 years) Teaching Support Officer at Liverpool John Moores University (3 years) People Engagement Officer at RSPB (2 years)

Interests outside of work: Weightlifting and walking my dog

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

My role is to develop and lead a scientific research program ensuring the animal and plant populations that Chester Zoo works with are sustainable and viable for the future. This involves species at Chester Zoo, in zoos across Europe, and in countries across the world with our in-country partners. I also run the European Ex-situ Program (EEP) for blue-throated macaws.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Don't have your heart set on the 'perfect' job or career, there are so many different opportunities out there to work in conservation, and you might end up doing something you never expected!



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CAREER PROFILE: LEAD CONSERVATION SCIENTIST: BEHAVIOUR AND WELFARE



Name: Lisa Holmes

Job title: Lead Conservation Scientist: Behaviour and Welfare

Relevant qualifications: PhD Evolutionary biology, animal behaviour and physiology BSc Animal Behaviour

Work experience: Scientific Assistant - Chester Zoo Learning Assistant and trainee Primary School Teacher Office and Finance Manager - Education sector Customer Advisor and Bankage Officer - Nationwide

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job?

I work closely with the Curators and Animal teams to optimise wellbeing for the animals in our care. Everything we learn is shared with other zoos to inform husbandry practice, as well as learn more about species that might be critically endangered and therefore difficult to study in a field setting.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation:

Don't be afraid to apply for positions that might not be the 'dream' job but will give you a stepping stone to reach your goal. You need as much experience as you can get to learn more about the industry and everything you have done so far will be valuable, even if it's in a different discipline.



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CAREER PROFILE: CONSERVATION SCIENTIST - BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE



Name: Kat Finch

Job title: Conservation Scientist - Behaviour & Welfare

Relevant qualifications: BSc (Hons) Zoology with Industrial Experience MRes Advanced Biological Sciences - Evolutionary and Behavioural Biology

Work experience: One year placement in Behaviour & Welfare at Chester Zoo
Elephant Researcher at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo Scientific Assistant - Behaviour and Welfare at Chester Zoo.

Interests outside of work: I love spending time outside and walking with my miniature dachshund Toulouse.

Interesting fact: I grew up on my parents small-holding farm. Every Spring I take some annual leave to help with our busy lambing and calving seasons. Last year we welcomed nearly 200 lambs onto the farm in just under 6 weeks!

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job? I spend my working day collecting and analysing data on the behaviour of our animals here at the zoo. This information then gets fed back to keepers and animal managers to ensure the management decisions that we make are based on scientific evidence. I also manage and supervise a variety of student research projects so we can learn more about the amazing species we have at Chester Zoo.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation: If you are able to, say yes to any opportunity that comes your way, even if you don't think it is directly relevant at the time. The conservation industry needs people from all backgrounds with all different types of skills and you never know where something might lead!



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CAREER PROFILE: CONSERVATION SCIENTIST

Name: Gregory Counsell

Job title: Conservation Scientist

Relevant qualifications: BSc, Zoology MSc, Ecology, Evolution and Conservation

Work experience: Songwriter - SONY BMG / Universal Music Group Consultant
- House-on-the-Hill software British Ecological Society - Policy
Intern Natural History Museum - Research assistant Chester Zoo -
Scientific assistant

Interests outside of work: Music, science, football, anything outdoors

How do you apply 'preventing extinction' in your job? No one field has all the answers, as such, I apply social research theory and approaches from fields as varied as healthcare, sustainable development, resource management and education in the design and evaluation of conservation interventions. These projects aim to achieve real world change in human factors responsible for current extinctions.

Top tip for getting a career in conservation: Skills! GIS, statistical modelling, project management, research design, foreign languages, etc. Conservation is a practical field, so equip yourself with the practical skills needed to bring value to a project. Never turn down a training opportunity, skills always come in handy, no matter how unrelated they might appear at the time.

