

## **Outreach, Culture & Education Special Interest Group (SIG) 2025**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2025**

**Learning Centre, Level 4, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh**

### **Programme**

- 09:00 Registration
- 09.15 Welcome and Introduction**  
Wendy Harris, SIG Convenor & Fran Sconce, RES Senior Outreach & Learning Officer
- 09:30 KEYNOTE: 10 Years of The Bug Farm**  
Dr. Sarah Beynon, Entomologist, Farmer and Conservationist
- 10:10 Biocapture: Connecting People with Nature through Co-created Student Science Communication**  
Clara Montgomery, Queen Mary University of London
- 10:30 Dear Earth: Using Storytelling to Inspire Action for Insect Conservation**  
Yanet Sepúlveda, University of Sussex
- 10:40 Queering Entomology: Connecting the LGBTQ+ Community with Invertebrates**  
Connor Butler, Freelance Entomologist & Educator
- 10:50 Enthusiastic entomology: the power of passion in outreach and education**  
Ella Curry, NIRAS
- 11:10 Refreshments
- 11:30 Posters
- 11:50 WORKSHOP: Wild Wings of Hope taster**  
Ashleigh Whiffin, NMS Curator (Entomology), Ashley Mackenzie-White, NMS Engagement Manager and Ed Harrison, Artist.  
**(Studio One, Learning Centre, Level 4)**
- 12:50 Lunch
- 13:40 WORKSHOP: Designing insect experiences: lessons from Giant Insect World**  
Jessica Symons, Anthropologist and Digital Consultant  
**(Studio Two, Learning Centre, Level 4)**
- 14:40 Refreshments

## Programme Continued...



- 15:00**      **Click, Zoom and Create: Skills for Inclusive Insect Outreach**  
Kumari Riya Pati, The University of Edinburgh
- 15:10**      **Children can help monitor spread of an invasive hornet**  
Tomas Ditrich, Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia
- 15:30**      **How the Invertebrate Pet Hobby Inspires Young Naturalists, and Why Responsible Ownership Matters**  
Armando Rosario-Lebron, Swansea University
- 15:40**      **Friend, Foe or Freeloader: Using molecular methods and community science to investigate the ecological outcomes of a potential arachnid-plant commensalism**  
Rosy Christopher, Newcastle University
- 15:50**      **Incredible Insects – a challenge badge for Girlguiding and other youth groups**  
Hayley Jones, Royal Horticultural Society / RES / Girlguiding Surrey West
- 16:10**      **KEYNOTE: Making big with little**  
**The challenges and technique to making the seemingly insignificant insects relevant to a larger (non-entomologically savvy) world**  
Nick Baker, Naturalist, Ecologist and TV presenter
- 16:40      Closing remarks
- 16:50      Finish