AMY RUSHTON

Head of Business Development:
Suffolk Wildlife Trust

DESCRIBE YOUR JOB IN FIVE WORDS...

Busy | Diverse | Rewarding | Challenging | Interesting

WHERE DO YOU WORK?

SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY LIKE?

There is never a typical day! I could be working on a funding application, out on a reserve meeting people, at an event, or supervising my diverse team. It is rare for there not to be lots of meetings but they are all different. The overall focus for each day is about raising money for the Trust's work across lots of different methods (trading, fundraising,bids, legacies, membership).

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

- Fundraising for a charity is always challenging as there are so many worthy causes out there.
- People have less disposable income at the moment because of the cost of living crisis.
- Charities are challenging places to work because they tend to have fewer resources than other types of business – everyone has to pitch-in everywhere.

WHAT DO YOU GENERALLY WEAR TO WORK?

Depends on who I'm meeting – if I'm out on site I'll be in outdoor clothes and boots. Our office is very casual so smart jeans are OK for there. If I'm meeting funders or major donors in an indoors I would wear a shirt and blazer – but rarely do I need a full suit!

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Knowing that my hard work ultimately generates money to protect wildlife and nature.

What is a general career route for this job?

There is no typical route – I came from a project management/leadership background in local government, then moved sideways into charity. People might start out as a fundraiser and work their way upwards. People often work for lots of different charities during their career.

What attributes and skills did you need to get the job?

Good attention to detail, being really well organised, and good at writing compelling stories were the most important things – and a genuine interest/passion for wildlife/nature.

What advice would you give someone interested in this type of job or career?

- Do some volunteering for a charity to see if that environment feels right for you.
- Develop an understanding of how charity/business finances work.
- Develop your writing skills above all else.

FIND OUR MORE:

HTTPS://WWW.COUNTRYSIDE-JOBS.COM/JOBS

HTTPS://CIOF.CHARITYJOB.CO.UK/JOBS/FUNDRAISING

The Brecks
Fen Edge & Rivers
Landscape Partnership

TheBrecksLP

Made possible with
Heritage Fund