

Wildlife trust boss is set to leave



THE chief executive of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is moving to pastures new.

Dr Robert Stoneman (pictured left with Sir David Attenborough) is leaving to take up a position with Rewilding Europe.

Dr Stoneman's job has been advertised by the trust who described his time at the charity as "12 successful years". He was previously the boss of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and director of Sheffield Wildlife Trust.

In the applicant pack for the role, the trust says: "Our current chief executive, Rob Stoneman, leaves a great legacy on which to build and we can promise the successful candidate one of the very best jobs in British nature conservation."

The information says the role of chief executive for the trust "appeals to visionary leaders with a passion for wildlife and creating a Wilder Yorkshire".

The package will include a salary up to £80,000 per year.

College students try out for The Voice

STUDENTS from Bradford have been given the chance to audition for a place on TV talent show The Voice.

Production staff from the hit series visited Bradford College to check out the musical talent on campus.

Budding singers and rappers from the college auditioned for the 2020 series, and the best will be invited to the next round of auditions later this year.

Among those to audition was talented singer and Performing Arts student Nandu Sathiapol, who sang Adele's hit single, Hello.

"She said: "It is great that College managed to get the Voice to come along and hear the talent that we have."

"Auditioning in itself is a great experience. I was more excited than nervous. It was a brilliant opportunity for us to see if we have got what it takes. I would be amazing to get through."

Lisa Edwards, Performing Arts tutor, added: "It was very exciting to have the team from The Voice in college and we are proud of all the students who took the opportunity to audition."

Improving school wins major prize



Principal Gary Dreher with sixth form students at Dixons Allerton Academy, which will receive a SSAT award

By David Jagger

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A BRADFORD school has been given a prestigious national award recognising its success in last year's GCSE exam results.

Dixons Allerton Academy, the former Rhodesway School in Allerton, has been handed the SSAT Educational Outcomes Award by the Schools, Students and Teachers Network.

The improving school will receive the illustrious award at a ceremony later this school year where other high-performing schools across the country will also be honoured.

Last year saw a new grading system brought in for GCSEs, with students achieving a grade 1 to 9 (9 being the highest), rather than traditional A* to F grades.

Dixons Allerton celebrated the best results the school has had in the past 20 years, with average results improving by a full grade and 60 per cent of students achieving grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in their results, and two

students achieving straight 9s.

In the school league tables released earlier this year, the school's sixth form also placed in the top one per cent of schools nationally for student progress, and in the top 0.4 per cent if private schools are discounted.

The SSAT Educational Outcomes award recognises the school's achievement of being in the top 20 per cent of schools nationally for progress.

SSAT compared schools in England across a range of key measures, with the highest performing centres receiving awards.

Gary Dreher, principal at Dixons Allerton, spoke of his pride at the achievements of his students.

He said: "We are delighted to receive this recognition for the effort and commitment of our scholars and the staff who support them so tirelessly to achieve the best they can be in everything they do."

"This award further demonstrates the progress we have made at Dixons Allerton Acad-

emy and I am extremely proud of all we have achieved."

Sue Williamson, chief executive of SSAT was also full of praise for the school.

She added: "I am delighted that Dixons Allerton Academy has won an Educational Outcomes Awards."

"This recognises one important aspect of the school's work but at SSAT we believe an outstanding school has deep social justice at the heart of its plan; it subjects that plan to constant challenge and innovation; and it liberates teachers to perform brilliantly in the classroom."

"SSAT is pleased to recognise the quality of leadership and the hard work of all staff to ensure the success of every child. A big thank you and well done to students, parents, staff and governors."

SSAT is an organisation that for the past 30 years has worked with its members to drive school improvement and innovation, supporting members with further training and school improvement programmes.

Accountants raising BRI money

BRADFORD accountancy firm, Watson Buckle, will spend the next 12 months taking part in and hosting events to raise money for the Bradford Neonatal Unit.

The Neonatal Unit provides life-saving care to babies and supports families whose children are brought to Bradford Royal Infirmary.

The firm, which is located in Cottingley Business Park, has its first major fundraising event for the Neonatal Unit at the Dragon Boat Festival in Roberts Park.

That takes place on Sunday, June 23, 2019, where a team from Watson Buckle will compete and hope to raise up to £1,000.

Hayley Collis, Head of Fund-

raising for Bradford Hospitals' Charity, said: "Our hard-working neonatal staff care for more than 500 babies every year and they are committed to providing the very best care and treatment."

"Your donations will help them make a real difference in providing a home-from-home for parents and siblings."

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