



SBBOT Governance – Badges Policy

Background

The policy was adopted (14.03.2022) as there was general agreement that SBBOT needed to improve accessibility in the widest sense; the Field Centre not being perceived as being approachable.

For a newcomer turning up in SBBOT carpark it was very unclear where to go or who to ask. A number of people may be standing around or sitting at picnic tables, but it was generally impossible to see who might be formally associated with SBBOT. A newcomer might approach someone who knows as little as they do about the Trust or the Field Centre.

Even by making entry easier and more obvious, entering the field centre would not necessarily mean it would be easy to ask about us. If no one is in the entry lobby or corridor and one walks into the main lecture hall it might still be impossible to know who to ask, or where to go.

Someone wearing an SBBOT sweatshirt might be a member, a trustee or a new volunteer or have no other association with SBBOT than a new user who just bought a shirt.

Even those of us who have known and used the centre occasionally over a couple of decades may well know very few SBBOT people and, on any given day, not recognise anyone.

Having names and designations on a badge worn on a lanyard instantly shows that a person is associated with SBBOT. This breaks the initial barrier to an approach. Being able to see the designation will, as one gets to know the centre, enable people to understand who is who. Having a name on a badge makes it easier to remember who is who over time and clear confusion.

Policy

The field centre accessibility to be improved by all staff, trustees, volunteers etc being issued with and wearing name badges including their designation, when in or around the field centre. Further, that all people associated with SBBOT should have their pictures on the website and, in the case of key staff and trustees on an information board within the observatory.