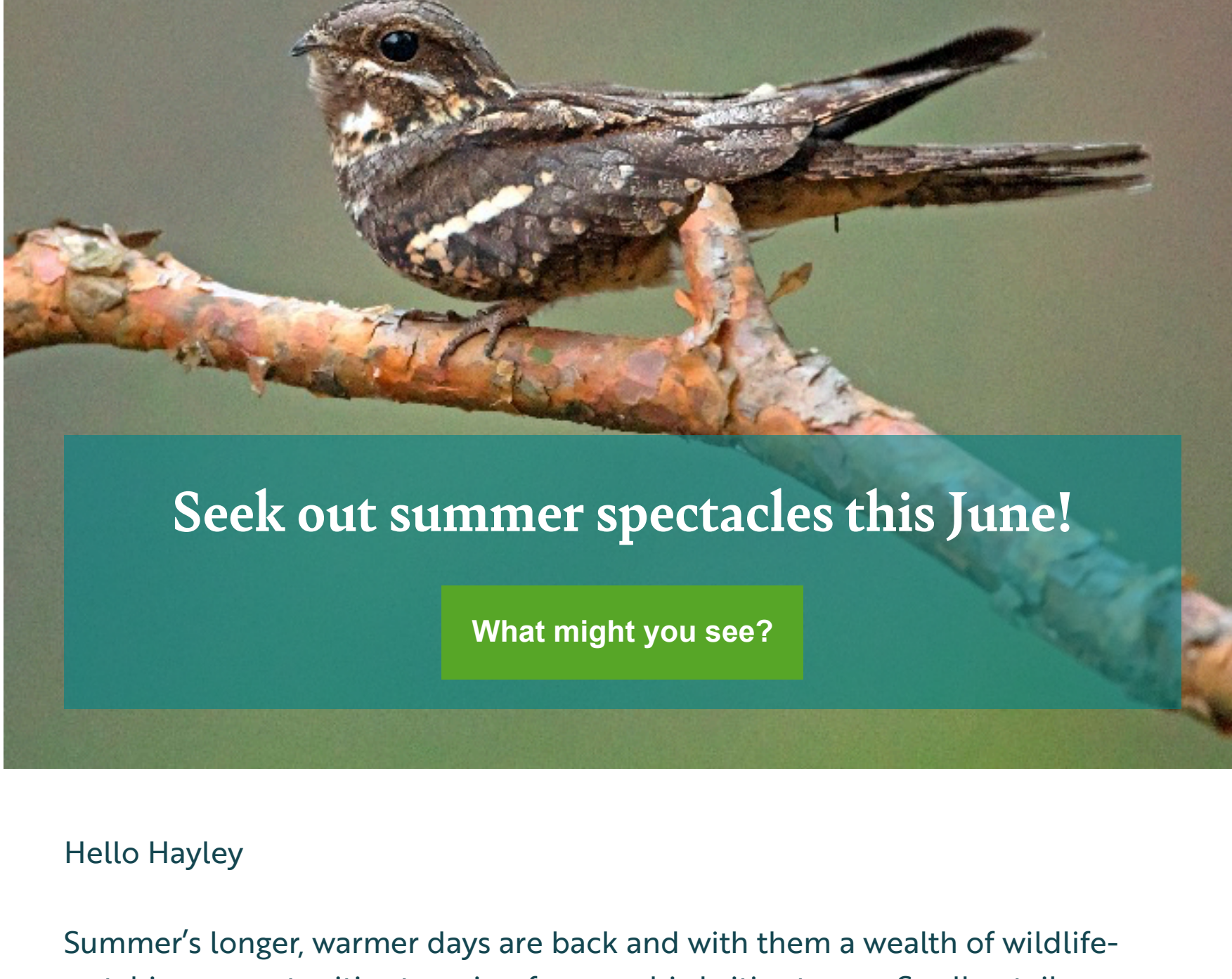


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Seek out summer spectacles this June!

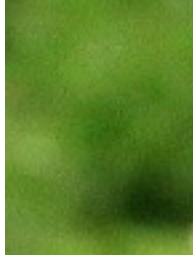
[What might you see?](#)

Hello Hayley

Summer's longer, warmer days are back and with them a wealth of wildlife-watching opportunities to enjoy, from seabird cities to rare Swallowtail butterflies. Plus, we bring you our pick of the best RSPB nature reserves to visit for a summer spectacle – don't forget, **RSPB members enjoy free entry!**

We're also reflecting on the huge challenges facing our wildlife right now. It might sometimes feel like we're powerless to make a difference, but there are things you can do. Next month's General Election is a vital moment for wildlife, but we can't tackle the nature and climate emergency alone. Read on to find out why we're asking **all** candidates to commit to protecting and restoring our natural world.

Whatever you do, have a wonderful wildlife-filled time!



Hayley Hawes
Notes on Nature editor

[Enjoy nature this June](#)

Puffin

Your Puffin pics in ground-breaking study

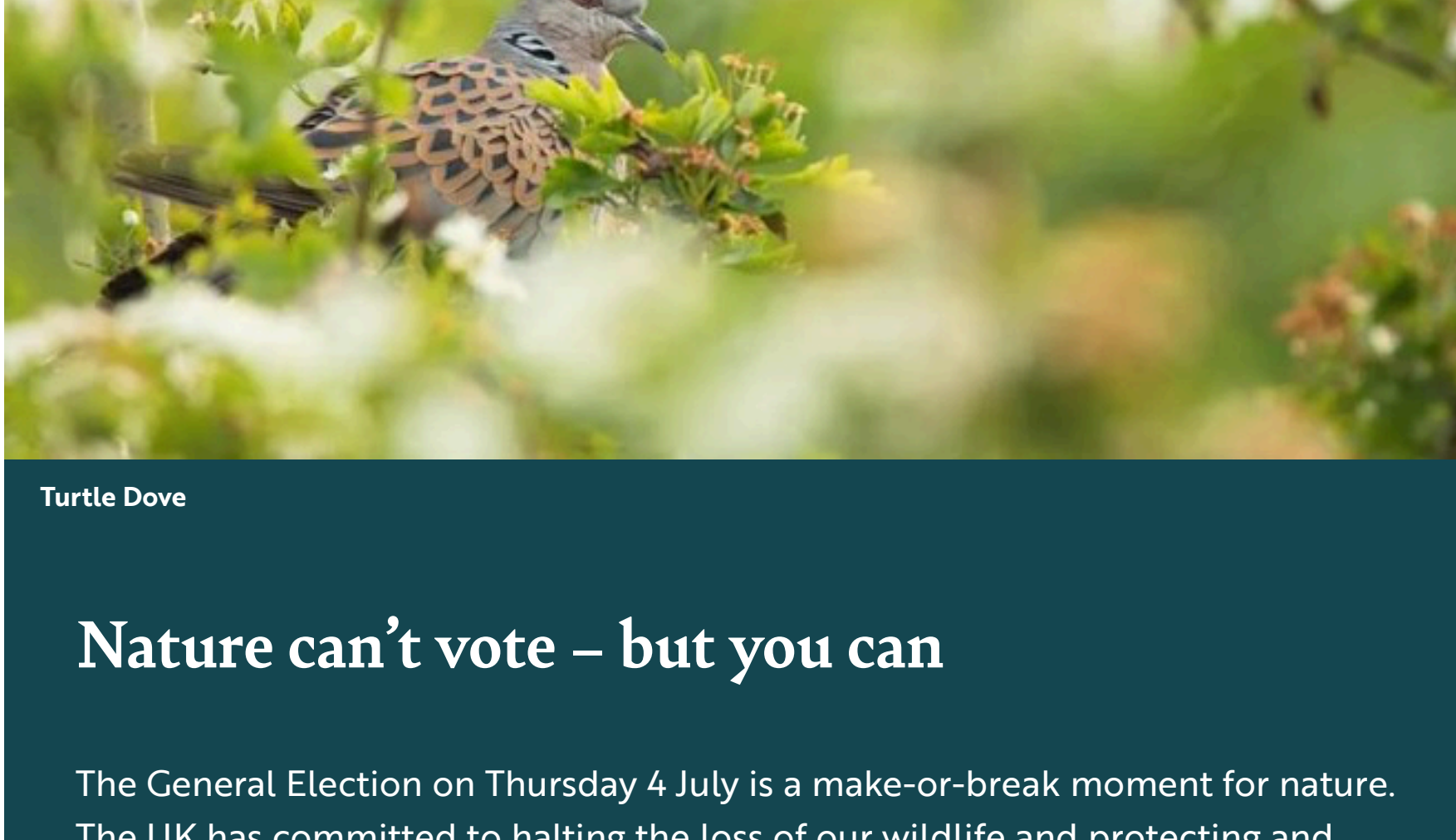
Results are in for an innovative study into the feeding habits of one of the UK's best-loved seabirds, the Puffin. In this ground-breaking citizen science project, we asked you – the 'Puffarazzi' – to send in your photos of Puffins carrying food for their chicks. An incredible 602 people submitted 1,402 photos from across the UK. Thank you! But what was discovered is even more intriguing.

[Say cheese!](#)

Celebrate someone special this Father's Day

If you'd like to celebrate someone who has had a positive impact on your life, then a donation to the RSPB is the perfect way to help protect nature in their name. Why not leave a message to a loved one on our [dedication page](#) to mark Father's Day on Sunday 16 June? Plus, leaving a dedication is a green gift that keeps giving back to nature on behalf of your loved one.

We understand that Father's Day can be a difficult time for many. Grief resources are accessible through the link below.

[A gift to nature](#)

Turtle Dove

Nature can't vote – but you can

The General Election on Thursday 4 July is a make-or-break moment for nature. The UK has committed to halting the loss of our wildlife and protecting and managing 30% of our land and sea for nature by 2030. That's just six years away, so the decisions made by the next UK Government will play a crucial role in whether we hit these game-changing targets.

Right now, the UK is one of the most nature-depleted places on earth. We've lost 38 million birds from our skies in the last 50 years, and a quarter of all our mammals are at risk of extinction from the UK. But we can turn this round – if the next UK Government acts for nature. Let your candidates know they must urgently commit to protecting and restoring our natural world.

[Nature can't wait](#)

Come along to a banner workshop

Are you planning to show your support for wildlife at the [Restore Nature Now](#) march on 22nd June? Or perhaps a friend or loved one is attending?

To prepare for the event, we're inviting everyone to get creative for nature by joining us for an in-person or online banner-making session. Whether you're a pro banner maker or new to painting placards, at our interactive events you can enjoy a fun atmosphere and get creative while discovering why we're mobilising for nature and what being at a march is like.

These sessions will leave you with a placard, tips on what to bring and expect at a demonstration, and perhaps even some new nature-loving connections! They're open to everyone and if you can't come to the march, please still join us and make a poster to display in your window instead.

[Book your place](#)

Little Tern with chick

Support our seabirds by playing the RSPB Summer Raffle

You could brighten up your summer with a £10,000 top prize in our Summer Raffle. It's easy to play and just £1 a ticket.

Plus, every ticket you buy supports our work to help struggling seabirds. The latest [seabird survey](#) found that almost half of UK breeding seabirds are in decline, but when we take action, they can recover.

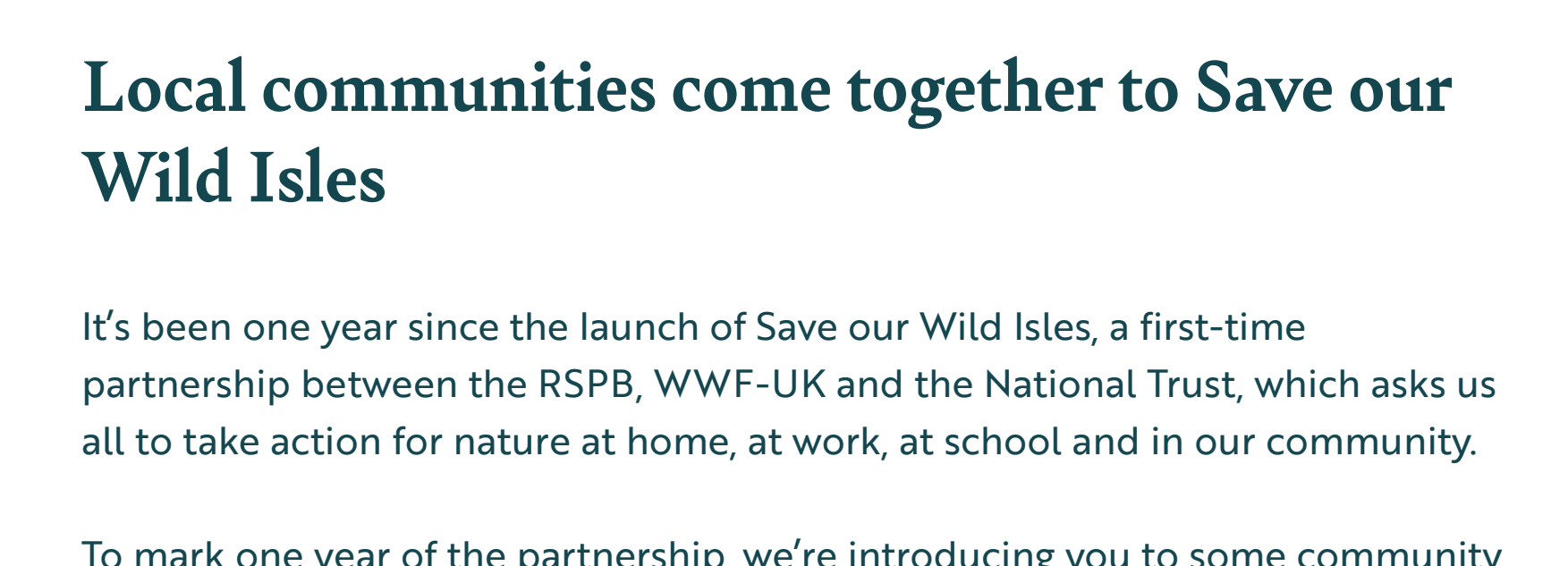
By playing the [RSPB Summer Raffle](#) you could help seabirds and be in with a chance of winning a cash prize too.

[Buy a ticket](#)

£1 million award gives people power for nature

Thanks to funding raised by players of the People's Postcode Lottery, we've just received a £1 million award. This great news means we can connect more people to nature and show them how powerful it can be for wellbeing.

The closer people feel to nature, the more likely they are to act to save it, and that's why it's important that everyone, whoever they are, can get close to it. Our new 'People Power for Nature' projects will help more people access nature, from efforts to boost wellbeing in Cardiff to running Big Garden Birdwatch in urban areas.

[Explore the projects](#)

The Knockbreds community gardeners. © Rachel Palmer / WWF, RSPB & National Trust

Local communities come together to Save our Wild Isles

It's been one year since the launch of Save our Wild Isles, a first-time partnership between the RSPB, WWF-UK and the National Trust, which asks us all to take action for nature at home, at work, at school and in our community.

To mark one year of the partnership, we're introducing you to some community heroes from across the UK who are making a real difference to the nature in their local area – and making lasting friendships at the same time!

[Be inspired](#)

Celebrating our volunteers

As part of Volunteers' Week, we celebrated the wonderful work of our volunteers with our annual Presidents' Award Ceremony.

Winner of our Most Outstanding Volunteer Award is Jean Ward, who volunteers at RSPB Flatford Wildlife Garden.

The garden runs two-hour Family Adventure sessions to visitors, and Jean saw the opportunity to give refugee families a fun day out in nature. After approaching a local refugee organisation, she planned an event, supplied her own activities, volunteered at the event and made the children RSPB Flatford bracelets to take home. These trips are now part of the garden's yearly events calendar.

[Discover the winners](#)

And finally...



Swift

Watch our live Swift box cam!

Get up close and personal with Mart and Martha II, a pair of Swifts in Greater Manchester. Just days after Mart's solo return, he was joined by his partner from last year, Martha II, who swooped into the UK, reuniting with Mart in their new, upgraded love nest. The pair renewed their bond, and now with three eggs laid in the nest, it looks like we might be welcoming some Swiftlets soon.

While Swifts might be a familiar sight in our spring and summer skies, this live camera offers you a rare opportunity to get a close-up look at the private lives of this pair – don't miss it!

Did you know that it's Swift Awareness Week on 29 June – 7 July? We'll be running a series of events to celebrate – [find an event near you](#).

[Watch now](#)

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