

**Saturday 29th April 2017- Saving Planet Earth - a serious role for the Church?
CRES Day at Ripon College Cuddesdon with Andy Atkins and Margot Hodson**

Dear All,

We have now fixed the programme for our CRES Day in April. We are very pleased to welcome Andy Atkins the Chief Executive Office of A Rocha UK as our guest speaker. Andy will speak on the theme of "Saving Planet Earth - a serious role for the Church?" He will look at whether it is worth mobilising the church on the environment and how to do it.

In the afternoon one of our resident environmental theologians, Rev. Margot Hodson, will look at the topic "Why Environmental Ethics?" This is an absolutely crucial area for understanding how we should treat the world, but is rarely discussed by Christians. So while Andy will look at "How?" Margot will consider "Why?" The themes explored will be highly relevant to those on the CRES course, but could be taken as a stand-alone day for all interested in the environment. Places are limited so book soon!

Best Wishes,

Dr. Martin J. Hodson (Principal Tutor, CRES)

PROGRAMME

10.00-10.30 Arrive and Coffee.

10.30-10.45 Welcome and Introduction to CRES (Martin Hodson)

10.45-11.30 Andy Atkins Lecture: Mobilising the church on the environment: is it worth it? Is it possible?

11.30-11.45 Break

11.45-12.15 Group work: What do you think? Sharing experiences, response, ideas and questions

12.15-12.45 Discussion with Andy

12.45-13.00 Break

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.15 Rev. Margot Hodson lecture and discussion: "Why Environmental Ethics?"

15.15-15.30 CRES News.

15.30-15.45 Short service

15.45-16.00 Tea and depart.

THE SPEAKERS



Andy Atkins has a track record of campaigning and mobilising the public for a number of human rights, development and environment charities. Andy began as CEO of Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK in January 2016. This followed 7 years as CEO of Friends of the Earth, in which time the organisation won campaigns to establish the UK's Climate Change Act, increase government support for renewable energy, and to establish a nation Bee Action plan. Prior to that Andy was Advocacy Director at Christian relief and development charity Tearfund, where he initiated Tearfund's work on climate change and development. He was a founder member of the 2005 Make Poverty History campaign. Son of missionary parents, Andy's childhood was spent in the remote Torres Strait Islands of north Australia, before living in rural Worcestershire, the east end of London, and doing a year's voluntary work in Argentina shortly after the Falklands War. Andy is married to Sarah, a lawyer by profession, now training for the Anglican ministry. They have three young adult children.



Revd Margot Hodson is Rector of Wychert Vale Benefice (six churches) in Buckinghamshire, and was previously Chaplain of Jesus College, Oxford. She has degrees in Geography and Theology. Margot is on the management boards of both JRI and A Rocha UK. She teaches environmental ethics and theology. Margot has published widely and has several books including 'Cherishing the Earth' (2008, with Martin Hodson), and A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues (2015, with Martin Hodson).

BOOKS

If you borrowed books from the Principal Tutor travelling collection last time, please bring them back! You can only borrow further books if you do so! The Hodsons will be bringing along some of their books for sale. There will also be a variety of other relevant literature for sale.

TRAVEL

a) By Car

Ripon College Cuddesdon (RCC) is located in the small village of Cuddesdon about 4 miles East of Oxford. The postcode is OX44 9EX, for those of you who use on-line maps. Full directions are given on the RCC web site:

<http://www.rcc.ac.uk/>

We want to use as little carbon as possible, so sharing cars seems sensible! If you can offer a lift, or would like one, let us know and we will see if it is possible. Students and Local Tutors might benefit from travelling together- lots of time to chat!

b) By Train to Oxford Station. We will arrange lifts from the station, but allow at least 30 minutes to get out of Oxford and over to Cuddesdon. So aim to arrive before 9.30 a.m. Let us know time of arrival.

c) Both the Oxford Tube (<http://www.oxfordtube.com/>) and Oxford Bus Company (<http://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/espress1.shtml>) run many coaches out of London from Victoria station stopping at a few places in London on the way. You need to get off at the Thornhill Park and Ride just East of Oxford. We will arrange lifts if you tell us a time. Aim to be there before 9.45 a.m.

d) Emergencies on the day. Martin Hodson will base himself at RCC from about 9.00 a.m. on the day. He will turn his mobile on- 07794-631927. Note- he very rarely puts his mobile on, and messages left on it may only get picked up weeks later!! So it is not a standard route to contact Martin, but will be useful on this occasion.

e) We are in the Graham Room, which is the room we used for the residential and is near the common room. If you are coming from Oxford this is off the second car parking area- the one where the large beech tree used to be!

BOOKING

This day is FREE (included in fees) for the speakers, present CRES students, tutors and members of the CRES steering group and is £25 for everyone else. Lunch and refreshments are included. Persons with special diets should let us know so that we can inform RCC. Please note that ALL who intend to come to Cuddesdon must book by 13th April 2017 (this means CRES students, tutors and steering group must book even though they will not pay). Bookings will be dealt with by the CRES administrator, Lynda McKeown.

If you do need to pay then please email (or write) to Lynda saying that you will be coming and then pay in one of these ways:

1) By bank transfer into the JRI account using the following account details:

Sort code: 40-52-40

Account: 00098437

Bank details: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Reference: CRES and your surname.

2) Please send a cheque made out to THE JOHN RAY INITIATIVE to our address:

The CRES Administrator, THE JOHN RAY INITIATIVE (JRI), City Works, Alfred Street, Gloucester, GL1 4DF, UK

Telephone (mobile): 07583 481759. Email: cres@jri.org.uk