

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019- Rewilding- A Christian Perspective. A day conference at Ripon College Cuddesdon with Rev Prof Andy Gosler, Dr John Bimson and Chris Naylor**

For this meeting CRES and JRI will join together to look at the topic of Rewilding. We are very pleased to welcome Rev Prof Andy Gosler (Oxford University), Dr John Bimson (formerly of Trinity College, Bristol) and Chris Naylor (A Rocha International) as our guest speakers. Andy and John will give us an excellent introduction to the issues surrounding rewilding and what a Christian perspective might look like. Chris will update us on the work of A Rocha from around the world.

Places are limited and this is likely to be a VERY popular day so book soon!

Best Wishes,

Dr. Martin J. Hodson

**PROGRAMME**

10.00-10.30 Arrive and Coffee.

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

10.45-12.00 Rev Prof Andy Gosler, Lecture and Discussion 'Rewilding: Reality, Nostalgia and Fantasy'

12.00-12.15 Break

12.15-12.45 Chris Naylor will speak on 'A Rocha - Putting Creation Care into practice around the world'

12.45-13.00 Book Launch, Rev Dr Tim Howles will introduce his new Grove booklet on "Christianity at the Time of the Anthropocene: Responding Faithfully to the Contemporary Environmental Crisis"

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.15 Dr John Bimson, Lecture and Discussion 'Rewilding - can Christians embrace it as Creation Care?'

15.15-15.30 CRES News

15.30-15.45 Short Service

15.45-16.00 Tea and depart.

## THE SPEAKERS



**Rev Prof Andy Gosler** is Associate Professor in Applied Ethnobiology and Conservation at the University of Oxford, a position which evolved out of his work as a field ornithologist studying bird ecology in Wytham Woods and his teaching of ecology, evolution, ethnobiology and conservation for the BA degree in Human Sciences. He is employed jointly by the Department of Zoology and the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, and Fellow in Human Sciences at Mansfield College. It was through this work that he found faith, was baptised in 2000, professed as a Franciscan Tertiary in 2017, and having trained at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, was ordained Deacon in 2018. He is Curate in the Benefice of Marston and Elsfield, Oxford.



**Dr John Bimson** was Tutor in Old Testament at Trinity College, Bristol, from 1981-2015. From the 1990s he also developed and taught modules on environmental theology, and he occasionally returns to the college to lecture on that subject. He and his wife Maya now live in Mid-Wales, where John pursues his hobbies of bird-watching and writing and they both enjoy walking in the Cambrian Mountains.



**Chris Naylor** has been Executive Director since April 2010. He joined A Rocha in 1997 working, until 2009, as Lebanon Director where he co-founded the work. He oversaw the habitat restoration programme at the Aammiq marsh, the development of the environmental education project and the field research programme; identifying 11 new Important Bird Areas nationally. Prior to joining A Rocha, Chris had a wide experience of science teaching and schools' management in the UK and the Middle East, attending Bible College and learning Arabic (in Jordan) along the way. He holds a Master's degree from Cambridge University and a PGCE from Nottingham. He was born in 1961 and is married with three children.

## **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 Harriett Monsell Room, which is the ground floor room in the new block that we have used for some of our previous meetings. If you are coming from Oxford this is nearer the first car parking area!

## **BOOKING**

This day is FREE (included in fees) for the speakers, present CRES students, tutors and members of the CRES steering group and is **£30** 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 12th April 2019 (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 ([cres@jri.org.uk](mailto:cres@jri.org.uk)) 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; Reference: CRES and your surname;  
Bank details: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

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](mailto:cres@jri.org.uk)