

Scottish Natural Heritage

Sharing Good Practice



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Finding our place – reconnecting with nature in a time of uncertainty **21 October 2009, Battleby**

Purpose: Climate change poses the greatest global challenge of the modern age. How will nature conservation respond and adapt? Can we move from strong ecological knowledge and understanding to ecological 'being', where a new interconnected environmental ethic takes its place equally alongside science and technology? Join key thinkers in nature conservation, human ecology and environmental education to explore how our relationship with nature may be at the core of our capacity to address climate change.

Who is it for? This event is aimed at people already engaged with climate change as educators, conservationists, land managers, policy makers and concerned individuals.



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Content: The aim of this day will be to get beneath the surface of the usual debate and into areas of understanding that can rekindle a sense of meaning and purpose in the small steps that we take in trying to tackle a seemingly intractable problem.

Climate change challenges the principles which underpin our decision-making on so many levels – how we manage land, energy and other resources, and most of all ourselves.

- What principles do we need for the future?
- How does the political agenda match up with people's expectations and the reality of the underlying issues such as consumerism?
- How do we reconnect natural and human communities to develop the social resilience we need to respond with dignity to whatever comes?

Keynote speakers:

Author of *Ecological Literacy* and *Earth in Mind*, **David Orr**, Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics at Oberlin College, Ohio, has interests in environment and politics, environmental education, green building, ecological design and climate change.

Author of *Soil and Soul* and *Hell and High Water*, **Alastair McIntosh**, Visiting Professor of Human Ecology, University of Strathclyde, has had an equally varied career as a writer, lecturer, social activist, broadcaster and campaigning academic.

Other contributors:

Editor of the *Canadian Journal of Environmental Education*, **Bob Jickling**, Associate Professor of Education at Lakehead University, Ontario, will also contribute to the discussion. An outdoor pursuits instructor and wilderness traveller who derives much of his passion from journeys on foot, ski, and canoe, his research interests include the relationships between environmental ethics, education, and teaching.

Discussions will be chaired by **Kenny Taylor**, naturalist, writer and broadcaster.

Times: The event will start at 10:00 (registration at 09:30) and finish by 16:15

Venue: Battleby Conference Centre, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW

Organisers: Scottish Natural Heritage with VINE and the SpeyGrian Educational Trust

Cost: £55 – lunch & refreshments will be provided

Booking: To book a place, please complete the booking form and return it to Suzanne.kilbane@snh.gov.uk by Monday 12 October.



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All of nature for all of Scotland

