

Previous VINE events

VINE events to date have included:

- The inaugural exploratory two day event at Schumacher College in March 2005. The key outcome from this was the decision to set up VINE. The project brief resulting from this meeting can be viewed under **News & Info/notes of meetings**.
- A two day event at Plas tan y Bwlch in Snowdonia in January 2006. The aim of this workshop was to provide the opportunity for conservationists to explore their personal motivations and inspirations for working in conservation in a supportive and stimulating environment. Individual outputs from this will be posted under creative writing on the **Personal Inspiration** page. Please **contact us** if you would like to post up your own philosophy of or motivation for conservation.
- In December 2007 we held a two day event, again at Schumacher College, lead by Stephen Harding and exploring our personal philosophies of conservation, using Arne Naess' Ecosophy approach. Please see **News & Info/notes of meetings** for a write-up.
- In April 2008 we held our first **conference** "Inspirational Nature" please see conference page under **Events** for the proceedings.
- In August 2009 VINE held a **farm visit** to Fordhall Farm, near Market Drayton, north Shropshire; and Fenns National Nature Reserve, near Whitchurch, Shropshire together with IOTA (Institute of Organic Training & Advice) – this was a look at farm and nature reserve management in a world that is trying to be 'green'. See http://www.vineproject.org.uk/notes_of_meetings.html for an account of the day.
- In October 2009 we held a **leadership workshop *Aligning passion and purpose: rediscovering your influence and leadership in nature conservation*** at Hawkwood college. This was aimed at leaders and managers in conservation and lead by Philip Goodwin and Tony Page, authors of "from Hippos to Gazelles: how leaders create leaders". Participants rediscovered their influence as leaders, reconnecting their passion for nature conservation with the purpose of their organisation and connecting with like-minded others. Further information can be found at http://www.vineproject.org.uk/notes_of_meetings.html

- Also in October was the joint event with SpeyGrian and Scottish Natural Heritage ***Finding our place: reconnecting with nature in a time of uncertainty*** at Battleby, Perthshire. Keynote speakers Bob Jickling and ALastiar Mackintosh worked with participants to consider how 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. Further information can be found at http://www.vineproject.org.uk/notes_of_meetings.html