

ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY, UK & IRELAND, No. 23, May 2016

Welcome to the ***ESEH UK & Ireland Newsletter*** No. 23.

Please send us notice of events, issues, announcements, and reviews, etc. for the next issue by October 2016, or before then for supplementary notes. We need your input – otherwise there is a bias towards the activities that I am involved in!

Hope to see you at some of the events. Thanking you all in advance!

Ian

EVENTS

Planning for ESEH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2017:

28th June – 2nd July 2017, Zagreb, Croatia. ‘Contact/Conflict Environments – Environments in areas of contact among states, economic systems, cultures and religions’.

ESEH’s 9th biennial conference will be held in Zagreb, Croatia. Due to its long and dynamic history as well as many historical and relatively recent border changes, Croatia is a borderline area par excellence, and perfectly in line with the proposed topic of our conference. All conference sessions will be held at the Faculty of Science, whose buildings are located around Marulić Square and Roosevelt Square, all within 2 minutes of walking distance from each other, as well as the main city square. This gives all of the participants an opportunity to enjoy the cityscape during breaks between sessions.

Because of unusual shape of Croatia’s territory and because of its historical development as a contact or conflict area of different worlds – Christianity and Islam, maritime and continental tradition to name a few – Croatia is a great place to study contact environments. Different cultures and different economies have different ways of using the environment and its resources. Such heterogeneity can be seen in present and past landscapes. Croatia is also a prime example of a conflict environment due to its characteristic of a “border-country”: due to historical circumstances and conflicts of major European powers during the last 500 years, it is shaped as a crescent and there is no place within Croatia that is located more than 70 km from an international border. Borders between different cultural groups and historical political entities have created visible marks in the landscape, including in urban and peri-urban areas. Excursions planned for the conference will highlight zones and places of contact and/or conflict.

2017 Conference: Registration for the conference will open in January 2017.

FEES & DEADLINES see <http://eseh.org/event/next-conference/2017-conference-registration/> for details of fees and early bird discounts etc

The fee includes a welcoming drink at the opening ceremony, promotional materials, daily refreshments and a lunch pack and a guided city tour of Zagreb. There will be a possibility to book a gala-dinner for the closing ceremony for the price of 20 Eur.

A limited number of fellowships will be available for junior scholars and students in order to cover totally or partially the conference fee. Details on application procedures will be available when

2017 Conference: Call for Papers

We encourage proposals that explore the general theme from various environmental history perspectives, such as:

1. Environment in areas of contact among states, economic systems, cultures and religions
2. Environmental history of post-socialist countries of Eastern Europe
3. Environment shared among cultures: spatial and temporal dimension
4. Environmental history of borders and borderland areas
5. Environmental history of the Mediterranean
6. Urban environmental history
7. Forest history
8. Industrial and post-industrial environmental history
9. Production, consumption and waste: commodity chains in environmental history
10. Cultural values and economic interests: retrospective environmental analyses
11. Theories and methods in environmental history

The conference covers all periods and all areas of the globe. In keeping with a cherished tradition of the field, the conference is open to scholars from all disciplines and backgrounds. We especially encourage submissions from graduate students who will be offered a special reduced fee. The conference language is English; no submissions in other languages will be accepted. All proposals will be reviewed by a scientific committee.

All proposals should be submitted through our online submission system. The online submission system will open in July 2016. The deadline for submittals is 1 October 2016.

*Note—due to a limited number of sessions, individual scholars can only submit in one category (paper, roundtable, or poster) though individuals can appear as chair (not commenter) of a second session. This is to ensure diversity and breadth of participation.



Proposals will be accepted in the following categories:

1. Sessions

Sessions will usually consist of three to five papers, not more than 20 minutes each. Other formats (debate panels, roundtables) are possible, but please note that all sessions will need to conclude after 120 minutes. Session proposals should include a session title, list of contributors and a chair, and individual paper titles; a session abstract of 200-300 words; three individual paper abstracts of 200-300 words. Session proposal may also include a commentator/discussant. Nevertheless, all sessions should include sufficient time for general discussion.

2. Individual papers

Contributors may also submit individual papers of max. 20 minutes, which will be combined into sessions of three to four papers in case of acceptance. However, scholars should take note that the scientific committee has a certain preference for session submissions, and that it cannot guarantee thematic coherence for the resulting sessions. Paper proposals are to consist of an abstract of 200-300 words.

3. Roundtables

Scholars can also propose 90-minute roundtables, which differ in form and goal from regular paper sessions. Roundtables are panels ranging from 3-6 people and a chair who speak to a common question or theme. Successful roundtables involve interaction between the panelists, the active involvement of the chair in shaping the conversation, and ample time for the audience to interact with the panel and pose questions

4. Posters

Poster proposals will include an abstract of 200-300 words and a one-page CV. Poster session will have a designated area for display, but a special time and venue will be given to all authors of posters to present their research in 2 minutes time per poster.

5. Experimental sessions

We welcome proposals for non-conventional sessions through which proponents wish to experiment with creative formats. To submit a proposal for an experimental session, please provide a 300-400 word abstract, describing in details the activity. Please include in the proposal any special logistic request you might need.

In addition, conference participants are invited to submit items in two other categories: photographs and movies.

For more information and updates check: <http://eseh.org/home/>

Other events and workshops supported by ESEH

The KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory, in collaboration with the Rachel Carson Center and the Nelson Institute Center for Culture, History, and Environment at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, is currently seeking submissions for the ***Stories of the Anthropocene Festival*** (SAF), which will take place on 27th -29th October 2016 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Scholars, artists, writers, filmmakers, and activists are invited to propose a single story that can represent or encapsulate the Anthropocene. The deadline for submissions is 15 June 2016. For further information, please see the full, attached call on the ESEH website.

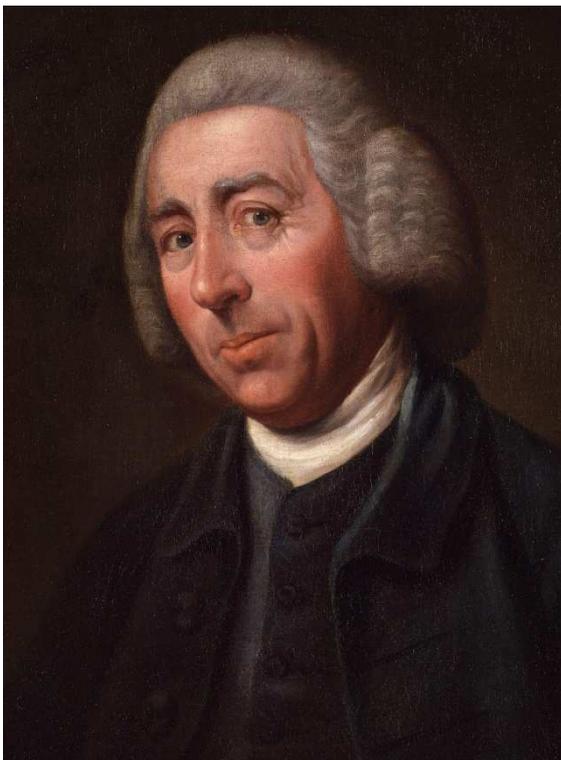
The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm is organizing a workshop titled '***From above: on a scientifically privileged position***'.

The workshop, which aims to "explore the modern history of scientific technologies, cultural practices and aesthetic conventions that produced extra-ordinary views from above," will take place on 12-13 January 2017. Deadline for submissions is 16 June 2016.

Further information is available on the ESEH website.

'What Capability Brown did for Ecology: the legacy for biodiversity,

landscapes, and nature conservation': MAJOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 15th to 17th June 2016 at Sheffield Hallam University, with partners such as the Ancient Tree Forum, the British Ecological Society, Historic England, Natural England, Sheffield Hallam University, and others, and organised by the Biodiversity and Landscape History Research Institute, South



Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group, and the Landscape Conservation Forum, and promoted by ESEH UK & Ireland network.

From preservation of veteran trees to the drainage of marshes and peatbogs, and from the creation of lakes to the unleashing of invasive alien flora – there is much more to Capability Brown's legacy than is often realised!

This year Britain celebrates the tercentenary of its greatest ever gardener.

For more information, please check www.ukeconet.org or

email info@hallamec.plus.com or telephone 0114 2724227

With Uplands, Peatlands & Raptors, to be held in Sheffield in early September, we will address the hugely controversial issues of why Britain has lost its upland hen harriers, and much more besides. This is a major national conference with relevance to wider international issues as well. This landmark event will bring together key academics and practitioners to examine the ecological and conservation issues of raptors on uplands generally, and peatlands specifically, from bogs to heather moors. This is the first of two major events, the second being a 3-day national conference in 2017, on issues for the conservation of birds of uplands & peatlands.



Picture courtesy of wild-scotland.org

For more information, please check www.ukeconet.org for the great programme of speakers or email info@hallamec.plus.com or telephone 0114 2724227

Dates for the diary 2016

- 14th - 16th June 2016: ***CHeriScape conference V: Landscape in Imagination and the Virtual Future.*** Newcastle (UK)
- 15th to 17th June 2016: ***What Capability Brown did for Ecology: the legacy for biodiversity, landscapes, and nature conservation. MAJOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE:*** at Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK
- Friday September 9th & Saturday September 10th 2016: ***Raptors, Uplands & Peatlands – Conservation, Land Management & Issues.*** Sheffield & the Peak District
- Thursday 7th July to Friday 8th July 2016: ***Ancient Tree Forum summer conference.*** Kingston Maurwood College, Dorchester, Dorset, UK

- 26th – 29th September 2016: ***IUFRO International Conference: Between Tradition and Increasing Challenges - Future Development of Small-scale and Community Forestry in Times of Global Change.*** Foz do Iguacu, Brazil
- 27th-29th October 2016: ***Stories of the Anthropocene Festival (SAF)***, Stockholm, Sweden.
- ***Arboricultural Association Amenity Conference 2016 – Planning for the Future.*** Keele University, UK, Sunday 4th – Wednesday 7rd September 2016
- July – November 2016: ***Workshops on Identification and Ecology of Sphagnum Mosses.*** Sheffield & the Peak District – see www.ukeconet.org ,
- September – November 2016: ***Autumn Workshops on Identification and Ecology of Waxcap Fungi.*** Sheffield & the Peak District – see www.ukeconet.org
- December 2016: ***Issues of Energy, History, Landscape & Environmental Change:*** – 2-day event to be held at in This will consider issues of peatlands and their exploitation in relation to carbon sequestration, and the implications for climate and land-use. York University, UK

*****Issues of Energy, History, Landscape & Environmental Change*****

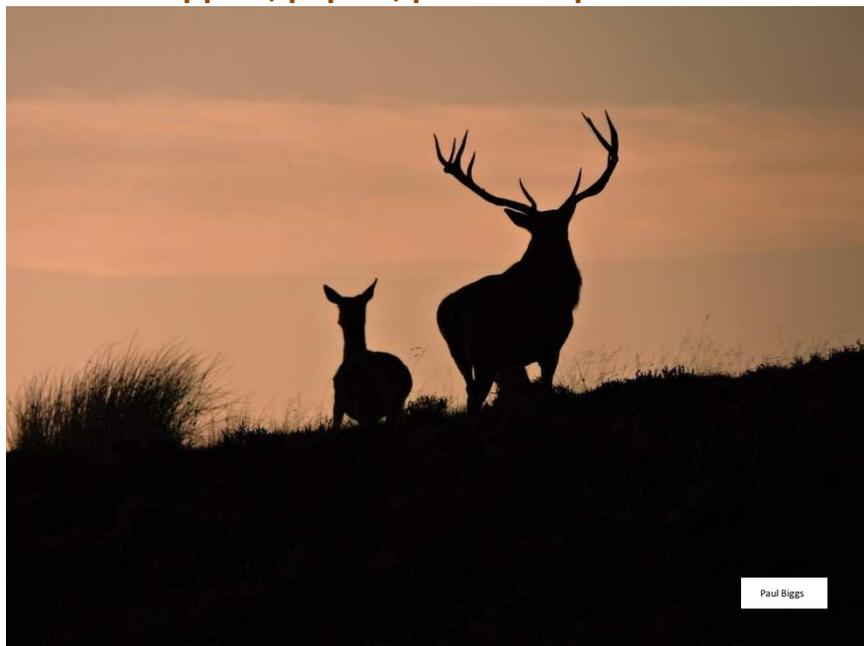
The first event will be at the University of York in December 2016 – watch out for more details – www.ukeconet.org

Call for interest & support:

2017 & 2018: Wilder Visions:

Re-constructing Nature for the 21st Century – An International Symposium on transforming nature, landscapes, & economies

Call for support, papers, partnerships and more.....



When: feeder events in 2017, major symposium 2018
Where: feeder events 2017 @ Sherwood, Doncaster, Sheffield; major 2018 symposium in Sheffield plus regional site visits – Sherwood, Humberhead Levels NNR, Pennine Moors, Dearne Valley, National Forest.

Partners so far: BES, IUFRO, Ancient Tree Forum, Natural England, JBA Consulting, Environment agency, Forestry Commission, Wildlife Trusts (various), Landlife, RSPB, Society for Ecological Restoration (hopefully), International Union of Forest Research Organisations, European Society for Environmental History, International Peat Society, IUCN, Sheffield Hallam University, SYBRG, The Landscape Conservation Forum, The National Forest, the Sherwood Forest Trust, Moors for the Future, The Shropshire & Cheshire Meres & Mosses, Thorne and Hatfield Moors Conservation Forum, Hagge Woods Trust, *etc.* & various local authorities.

We already have a list of individuals interested in taking these ideas forwards – about 45 key players from universities, agencies, NGOs, and local authorities etc.

The Vision: With major challenges for the future in terms of climate change, land-use, biodiversity, heritage, economy and community, we are bringing together a unique group of experts, academics, researchers and practitioners to debate the issues. The focus will be on a wilder and more connected future to halt the decline of species and environmental quality, yet recognising the cultural nature and heritage value of many landscapes. This series of meetings emerges from over 30 years of seminars and conferences organised by our team and partners.

Context of the event: The Humberhead Levels NIA & the Dearne Valley NIA were two top scoring locations from 78 applications submitted nationally. The Sherwood Forest area, having come second to Leicestershire in the 1900s as the New National Forest site, has proposals for a Regional Park development. North of the Humberhead Levels, the Yorkshire Wolds and Holderness link to the east coast, the Derwent, to North Yorkshire and beyond. South, the Rivers Dearne and Don extend to the South Pennines and the Dark Peak. The latter is developing a funded programme of environmental improvement works. On the eastern edge of the Levels, the River Trent forms a major corridor linking former floodlands and restored gravel workings, to Sherwood and associated areas with ancient forest and restored heaths, and reclaimed coal-mining sites. Immediately east are the Lincolnshire Marshes, Wolds and the Coversands. At the heart of this complex web of sites and connecting rivers, lies the massive Humberhead Levels with Europe's biggest wetland restoration project. To the west are the Rivers Don, Sheaf and Rother catchments and Peak District, to the east, the Humber Estuary.



The idea & concept: By 2018, the first phase UK Govt NIA funding has ended, with Government money ceasing in 2015. This concept and vision take these innovative projects to the next level: ***bigger, better and more joined-up, becoming larger, bolder, more interconnected.***



Through recognition and support for existing sites and projects, and by identifying critical areas to create and connect key habitats as landscape—level necklaces, this new vision develops **ecological stepping stones** and **critical environmental nodes** in the landscape through which ecological gain can be delivered. The exemplar of this unconstrained vision extends across a region of approximately 160 square miles, encompassing two UK Government regions and seven local authorities: true landscape-scale conservation. Importantly, the event will stress the need to set the context for re-construction – to understand the past, to inform the present, and to guide the future.

2017: Feeder meetings of researchers and stakeholders across the demonstration areas. Some funding bids are already in place for specific projects but these events provide focus for discussion and individual plans within an agreed over-arching conceptual context. Further funding bids will develop as part of this process with a planned launch in 2018.

2018: MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE / SYMPOSIUM CENTRED on the Humberhead Levels and a larger, unconstrained vision. The international context is through speakers and presentations on re-construction projects and lessons learned from around the world.

Outputs from this event will form a valuable resource of best practice guidance, conference volumes, and a major book. This resource will form an invaluable repository for the knowledge gained in developing landscape-scale conservation in the Humberhead Levels and similar projects worldwide that can support future funding bids.

The Vision: the event itself will take a ***hugely positive view of the role of ecology in guiding re-construction and re-creation projects in the face of global environmental change and other challenges.***

However, the event will **not merely consider ecology and landscape heritage**, but also aspects of ***resource economics, politics, community engagement and involvement, and intimately related issues such as leisure and tourism and the provision of ecosystem services.***

Some emerging themes:

1. Wilding & culture
2. Considering the past, to understand the present and inform the future
 3. Landscape characterisation
 4. The need for cross-disciplinary approaches
5. The potential for re-wetting landscapes such as peatlands
 6. Mopping up water & holding carbon
 7. Re-constructing new nature sites
8. New nature networks - re-connecting nature
 9. Recombinant ecologies & future feral
 10. Managing the uplands
 11. Sustaining biodiversity
 12. Growing resilience
 13. Mitigating climate change
14. Pop-up or flat-pack wilding with pick & mix ecologies
 15. Transforming landscapes & farming
 16. Regional economic impacts
17. Growing tourism & leisure & wildlife spectacles
 18. Growing the skills base
 19. Engaging local people
 20. Engaging wider stakeholders
 21. Working with the media
 22. Educating the educators
 23. Transforming rural economies
 24. Delivering ecosystem services
25. The need for demonstration projects
 26. Wilding the city

Ian Rotherham, May 2016: Contact us for more details: info@hallamec.plus.com, i.d.rotherham@shu.ac.uk, www.ukeconet.org for more information and regular updates.

FUTURE EVENTS:

IUFRO 125th Anniversary meeting: Freiburg, Germany in exactly two years on 19th – 22nd September 2017.

2017 & 2018: Wilder Visions: Re-constructing Nature for the 21st Century – An International Symposium on transforming nature, landscapes, & economies

28th June – 2nd July 2017, Zagreb, Croatia: ‘Contact/Conflict Environments – Environments in areas of contact among states, economic systems, cultures and religions’ – ESEH 2017.

IUFRO International Conference: Between Tradition and Increasing Challenges - Future Development of Small-scale and Community Forestry in Times of Global Change: Foz do Iguacu, Brazil, 26th – 29th September 2016, and organised by Mónica Gabay.

monagabay@yahoo.com

14th - 16th June 2016, CHeriScape conference V: Landscape in Imagination and the Virtual Future, Newcastle (UK)

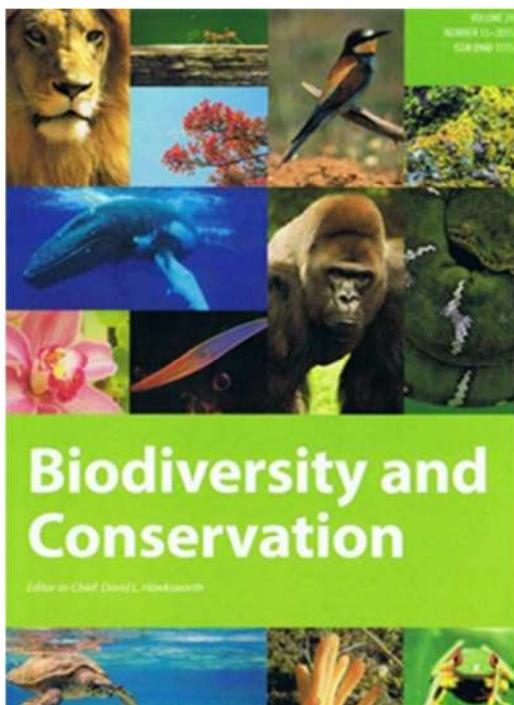
CHeriScape is a landscape-focussed network funded within the European Joint Programming Initiative for Cultural Heritage. Our members come from a wide range of landscape and heritage related disciplines and areas of practice. You can find more about the project and the event on the CheriScape web site - <http://www.cheriscape.ugent.be/>.

Following previous conferences in (Ghent, July 2014; Amersfoort, November 2014; Oslo, May 2015 and Madrid, September 2015) the CHeriScape network's final conference will provide discussion space for exploring the synergy of landscape and heritage and what in combination they can contribute to science and public policy. Like all our conferences, the Newcastle conference will feature presentations from experts and formal interactive discussion sessions, including discussion on a wide range of poster presentations. This fifth conference however will also involve a range of innovative creative and performative work, as CHeriScape turns its gaze inwards and forwards, and connects landscape and heritage to the creative and visual arts and to virtual imagination.

Registrations are still open and can be done at the registration webpage. We hope we will meet in Newcastle. If it is not possible for you join us, we invite you to follow our work, and contribute to its success, in other ways. Please send this around in your own networks.

Kind Regards, Niels Dabaut, Prof. Dr Sam Turner, Graham Fairclough & Vic Christie

Publications:



A special issue of the journal Biodiversity and Conservation has been produced dedicated to "Landscape and Biocultural Diversity".

A book on Biocultural Diversity in Europe has been published in the Environmental History Book Series of Springer Verlag.

<http://www.springer.com/series/10168>

And finally a reminderother useful cross-disciplinary networks to engage with:

A new research network:

IALE Working Group on '*Historical Landscape Ecology*'

Message and invitation from Matthias Bürgi:

You might be interested in hearing that an IALE Working Group on "Historical Landscape Ecology" (<http://www.landscape-ecology.org/index.php?id=90>) has recently been founded.

As you can see on the WGs webpage, one of the activities planned is to set up an e-mail list to share announcements, launch discussions, etc. I herewith invite you to become a member of this IALE Working Group and to sign in the e-mailing list, by letting me know that you want to be included in it. If there is anything you would like to share with other members of the WG, just send me a mail and I am happy to forward it to the other members.

If you have any questions - just let me know.

Best wishes

Matthias Bürgi

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Bridging the Gap managed by Jane J Bunting @ University of Hull (M.J.Bunting@hull.ac.uk)

Email Jane to be included on mailshots.

European Association for Environmental History UK

The European Association for Environmental History was founded in 1989. The UK Branch has held annual Meetings nearly every year since the early 1990's. The parent organisation was closed down in 1995, but the UK Branch continued as an informal grouping, and if you would like to be on the distribution list, just email the contacts below. There is no membership fee. The meetings provide a forum for academics and professionals from the physical, natural and social sciences, as well of course as the humanities, to discuss their work in the field of environmental history, which we define very inclusively.

Contacts: Peter Brimblecombe P.Brimblecombe@uea.ac.uk , University of East Anglia;
Raymond Smith RJSmith@envirohistory.waitrose.com

For the ESEH UK & Ireland Newsletter:

Please forward all announcements, notes, calls for papers, book reviews etc., rather than my university email, note the dedicated email: esehbrit1@hallamec.plus.com or directly to i.d.rotherham@shu.ac.uk

Also, feel free to send links to your websites to my own research website www.ukeconet.org, where you will find more information, announcements and newsflashes. We will shortly have a dedicated ESEH page on the UKECONET website.

Feel free to circulate this newsletter & call to other interested persons and importantly, to put it on your own websites too.

Ian

Ian D. Rotherham

Professor of Environmental Geography, Reader in Tourism & Environmental Change, International Research Coordinator, Sheffield Hallam University; Distinguished International Visiting Scholar, National Sun Yat Sen University, Taiwan

European Society for Environmental History, UK & Ireland Representative; Editor, International Journal of Urban Forestry, Journal of Practical Ecology & Conservation, International Urban Ecology Review, Landscape Archaeology & Ecology; Editorial Boards: Global Environment & Landscapes; British Ecological Society Chair of the Peatlands Special Interest Group