



The Future of Outdoor Learning in a Changing World

6th to 8th November 2014

How do we learn about the world around us? Can we deliver better learning using the outdoors? How can science help to change behaviours towards a more sustainable world? These are just some of the questions that the Real World Learning Network is exploring.

Conference Themes

The conference will reveal a new model for outdoor learning that effectively combines values, science and competencies. The Real World Learning approach demonstrates why outdoor learning is an essential element to becoming resilient in the face of a changing world.

What will you get from attending?

- **Keynote** speakers will share their thoughts and inspiration.
- **Workshops** will enable participants to test out new ideas and practical approaches, and apply them to forest schools, field studies, bush craft and other outdoor learning approaches.
- **Outdoor** activities to take away to use in your own centre or school.
- **Forums** to debate the latest developments across Europe.
- **Exchange** of ideas and creativity to inspire and inform...tell Europe what you are doing.
- **Meet** leading outdoor learning organisations from the UK, Germany, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Hungary.

Who should attend?

This conference is for anyone involved in outdoor learning or wishing to develop programmes for schools and adults: education providers, teachers, centre managers, education decision makers.

Quotes from the last RWL Conference

'It was totally inspirational and I have met a wonderful bunch of people whom I intend to collaborate with.'

'Connecting young people to nature is a focus for my outdoor work at the moment and the conference gave me real ways to do that.'

'The highlight for me was to come together with so many equal-minded people and making new contacts.'

Keynote Speakers

A range of speakers from across Europe will be sharing their thoughts. Amongst the speakers will be Peter Higgins, University of Edinburgh, Justin Dillon, King's College London and Elena Blackmore, Public Interest Research Centre

Where?

The conference will take place at Castle Head Field Centre on the edge of the Lake District National Park in England.



What is the Real World Learning Network?

The Real World Learning Network is a consortium of outdoor learning providers across Europe. Our goal is to explore and share successful approaches to outdoor learning that increase action for sustainable development. We believe that outdoor learning offers one of the best approaches for young people to engage with the world around them, and provide a stimulating context to explore how we can all contribute to a more sustainable present and future.

Language

The conference will be in English.



Conference Fee

To keep the costs as low as possible we are only charging for accommodation and meals. The conference fee includes four nights accommodation and all meals plus conference materials.

€250 or £210

About the Conference Venue

Castle Head Field Centre lies in its own grounds between the southern fells of the Lake District and the shores of Morecambe Bay. The Centre has a number of large indoor spaces including 6 workrooms, student common rooms, a separate staff lounge and a sports hall. Within the 20 hectares of grounds there are a wide variety of habitats, purpose built activity sites and a fully equipped observatory.

Explore the centre [here](#).



Free Resources

All participants will receive a free copy of all the Real World Learning Network results. These will include support to integrate science, values, and competencies into your outdoor learning programmes. You will also receive advice on the best pedagogies for outdoor learning and assessment.

Conference Contacts

Email: global@field-studies-council.org

Website: www.rwlnetwork.org

Phone: +44 1743 852126



A new model for outdoor learning

We will be launching a new model for outdoor learning. Be amongst the first to experience the model and learn how it can help you create more exciting and meaningful outdoor learning.



Workshops

Integrating values and science into outdoor learning

Practical research shows that the values we promote have a significant impact on environmental behaviour. Workshops will explore how we build a values perspective into outdoor learning whilst still delivering scientific understanding.

Approaches to Outdoor Learning

A series of workshops will explore how to deliver effective outdoor learning approaches that integrate science, competences and values, and explore tools that help us prepare more effective outdoor learning programmes.

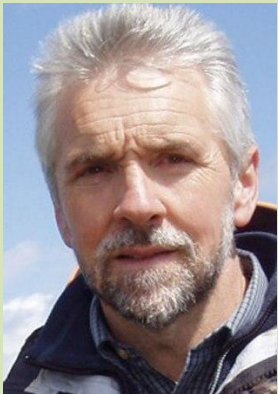
Open Workshop Sessions

We will be launching a call for workshops from participants...more details soon.



Keynote Speakers

We will be joined by leading practitioners of outdoor education. We are pleased to announce the following keynote speakers:



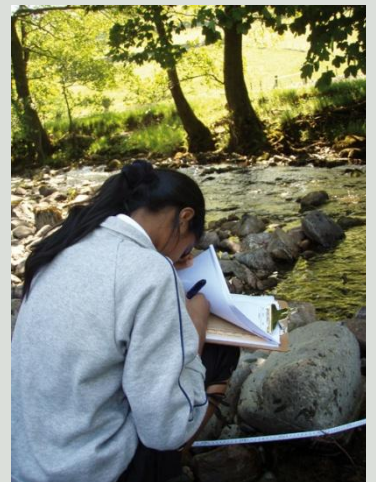
Peter Higgins holds a Personal Chair in Outdoor and Environmental Education at Moray House School of Education at the University of Edinburgh. The department has an international reputation and is one of few in the world with both a practical and teaching orientation as well as substantial research interests in the field of 'learning outdoors'. He has taught at several UK outdoor education centres as well as in New Zealand, and is a member of a number of national and international panels and advisory groups on outdoor and environmental education and education for sustainable development.



Justin Dillon is a Professor of Science and Environmental Education and Head of the Science and Technology Education Group. He is one of the co-ordinators of the ESRC's Targeted Initiative on Science and Mathematics Education (TISME) and a member of the SPIRES project. He was President of the European Science Education Research Association and co-edits the International Journal of Science Education. He is a trustee of the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom and Secretary of Bankside Open Spaces Trust.



Elena Blackmore followed a BA in Psychology with an MSc in International Development at the University of Bath. Elena Blackmore is a researcher at the Public Interest Research Centre, working on a number of projects centred on the role of values in society. Elena co-authored *The Common Cause Handbook* and *Common Cause for Nature* and is particularly interested in how our institutions and policies shape our cultural values. Prior to joining PIRC in early 2010, she also worked in South Africa in children's homes and in Luxembourg.



Conference Programme (draft)

Wednesday 5th November 2014

	Arrivals
1900	Dinner
2000	Entertainment

Thursday 6th November 2014

0900	Welcome
0930	Introduction to Real World Learning
1000	Keynote Speaker – Justin Dillon
1100	Break
1130	Outdoor learning workshops
1330	Lunch
1430	Outdoor learning workshops
1630	Break
1700	Reflections on effective outdoor learning (until 1800)
1900	Dinner
2000	Entertainment

Friday 7th November 2014

0900	Keynote Speaker – Peter Higgins
1000	Break
1030	Outdoor learning workshops
1230	Selection of trips and adventures (packed lunch): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake District exploration • Raft building • Forest Schools
1600	Break
1630	Reflections on effective outdoor learning (until 1730)
1900	Dinner
2000	Entertainment

Saturday 8th November 2014

0900	Keynote Speaker – Elena Blackmore
1000	Break
1030	Redefining outdoor learning for the future
1230	Lunch
1400	Share Zone – a mixture of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Presentations • Poster displays
1600	Break
1630	Reflections on the conference
1730	Close of conference (until 1800)
1900	Dinner

Sunday 9th November 2014

	Departures
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