



CONSERVATION OPTIMISM SUMMIT 2019

2-4 SEPTEMBER
OXFORD, UK

SUMMIT.CONSERVATIONOPTIMISM.ORG



WELCOME

from the
Conservation Optimism team

Conservation is inherently challenging. The struggle to preserve our natural world and its inhabitants against the myriad threats can often seem overwhelming. In both the academic literature and the popular news, headlines are filled with stories of loss and dire predictions about the future.

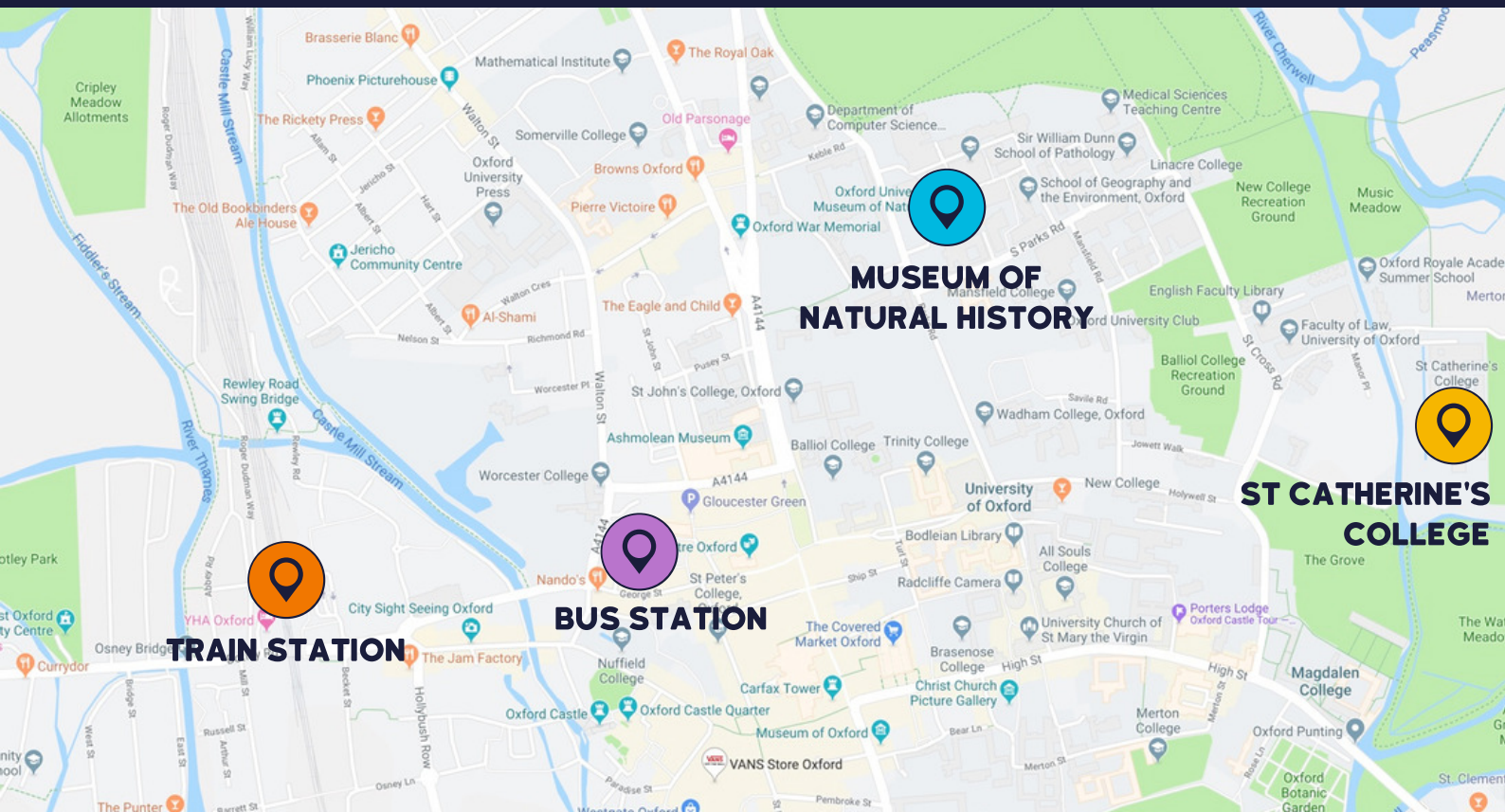
Conservation is also inherently inspiring. Around the world, people from all backgrounds, disciplines, and cultures are winning victories both large and small each day. At this year's Conservation Optimism Summit, we are delighted to have brought together a diverse selection of these voices to share their stories and build unique collaborations.

We look forward to sharing the next few days with you, as we are educated, entertained, inspired and empowered to build on each other's successes and make a positive impact for conservation.

Special thanks to our sponsors:



WELCOME TO OXFORD!



CONSERVATION OPTIMISM SUMMIT



**ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE
MANOR RD, OXFORD**

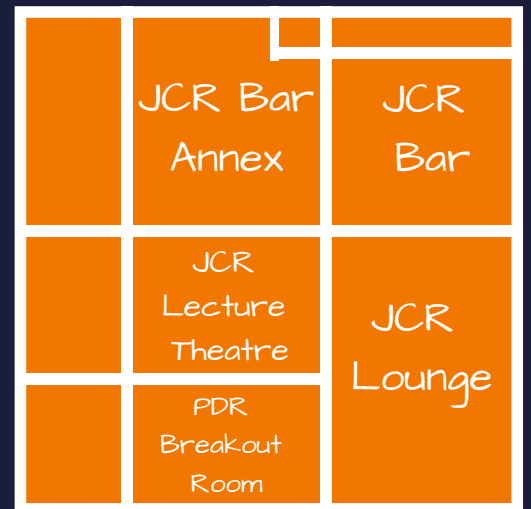
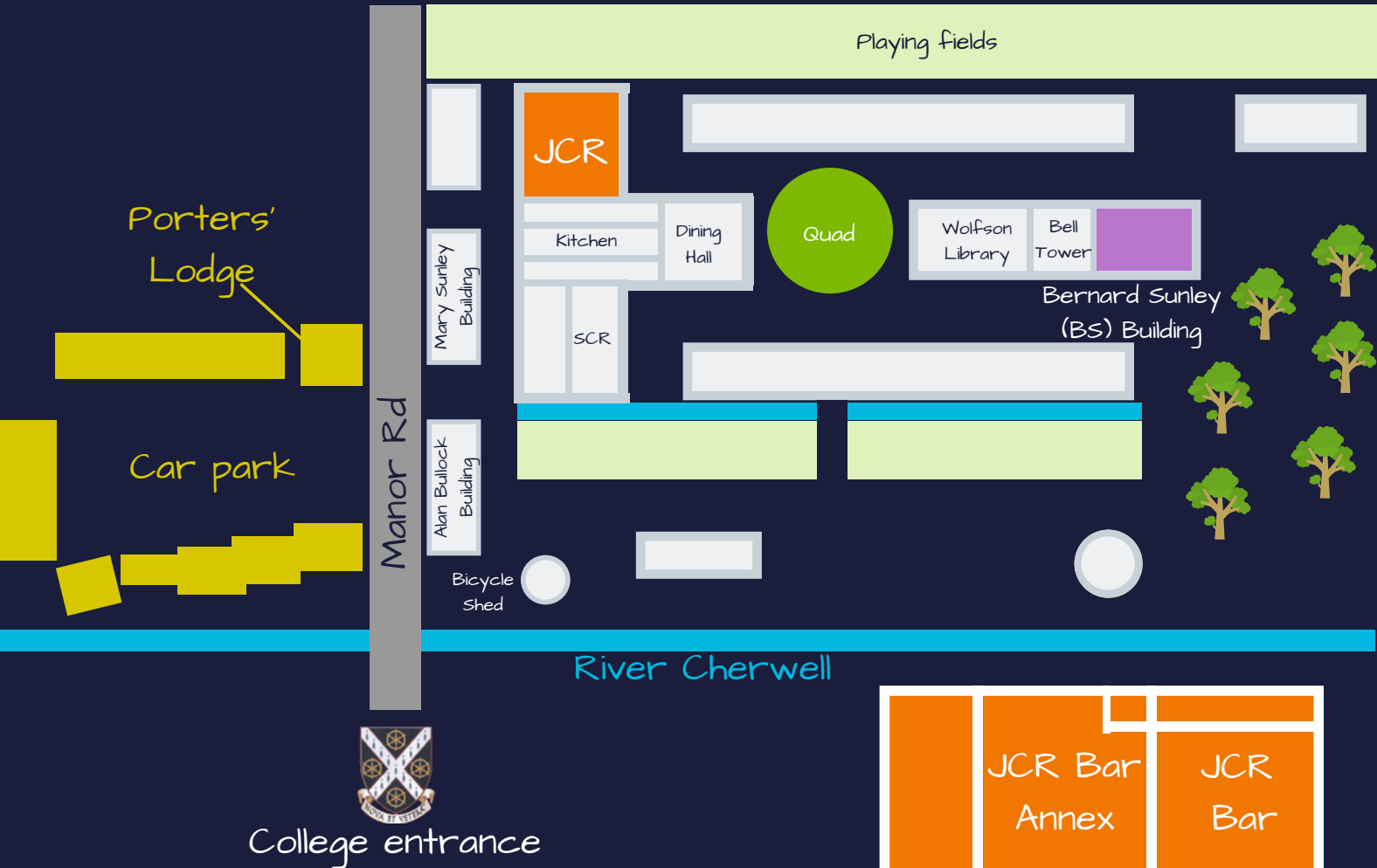
FILM FESTIVAL



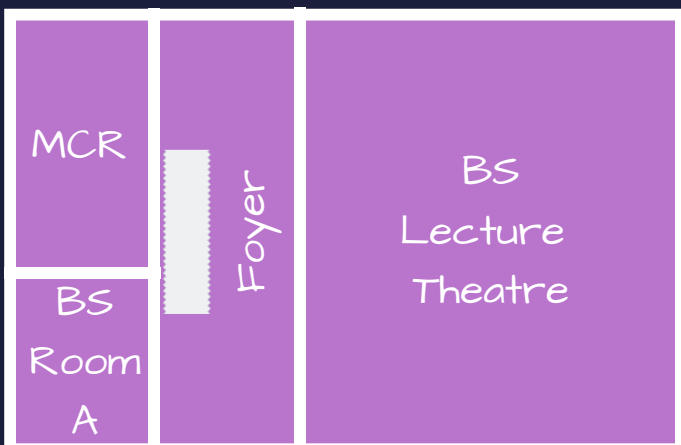
**MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
PARKS RD, OXFORD**



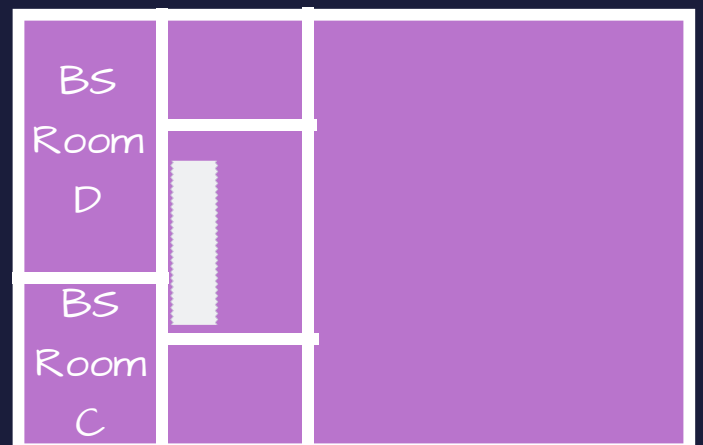
ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE MANOR RD, OXFORD



JCR (Junior Common Room)



BS Building Ground Floor



BS Building First Floor

WE'RE ONLINE

JOIN THE
CONVERSATION

#ConservationOptimism

FOLLOW
CONSERVATION
OPTIMISM



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MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER



BS Lecture Theatre

REGISTRATION

9.00am



WELCOME

9.30am



10.45am



BRISETHA HENDRICKS



9.45am



SESSION 1

11.15am



12.45pm



LAURIE PARMA



2.00pm



SESSION 2

3.00pm





MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

**MEET THE
PRESENTERS**

4.30pm



**DRINKS
RECEPTION**

7.00pm



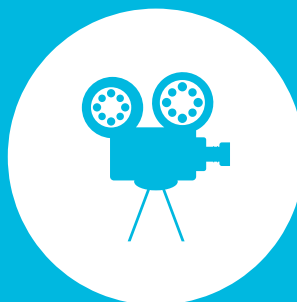
**FILM FESTIVAL
PANEL DISCUSSION**

8.00pm



**SHORT FILM
SCREENINGS**

8.45pm



AWARD CEREMONY

10.00pm



PLENARY SPEAKER

Monday 9.45 - 10.45am
BS Lecture Theatre



BRISETHA HENDRICKS

Vice-chairperson, Uibasen Twyfelfontein Conservancy
Chair, Southern Kunene Conservancies Association

EXPLORING HOW COMMUNITIES DEFINE CONSERVATION SUCCESS IN NAMIBIA

"Communities are intricately connected to the wildlife with which they coexist, today and always. In remaining optimistic, it is imperative that we acknowledge that there was a time where conservation efforts trampled the interests of these local communities."

Brisetha has been an activist for the better part of her adult life and has taken on numerous leadership roles in varying areas specifically in her local community in Khorixas. With her work in conservancies, she seeks indulgence and recognition of the life stories she represents. Ultimately her mission is to empower these communities and to amplify their voices.

SESSION 1

Choose a panel/workshop



Click for more information about each session



Monday

11.15-12.45 am

WORKSHOP



Live storytelling:
An old tool for new conservation

PDR Breakout Room

PANEL

Meet the changemakers of today:
An intergenerational discussion of the future
of nature in the UK

BS Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Failure opportunity:
How to be optimistic about fails

BS Room C

WORKSHOP

An emerging ocean ethic:
A new generation of marine citizens

BS Room A



PLENARY SPEAKER

Monday 2.00-3.00pm
BS Lecture Theatre



LAURIE PARMA

Founder of LifeCloud
Wellbeing Researcher (Neuropsychologist)

SUSTAINABLE WELL-BEING: THE CHALLENGE OF ALIGNING PEOPLE, PLANET AND PURPOSE

"If the science of well-being has taught us one thing it is that happiness, vitality, and well-thinking are precursors of performance and success. This has nothing to do with the absence of problems, it is about the ability to deal with them."

A neuropsychologist by training, Laurie strives to bring the science of well-being to the workplace. Her work addresses the challenge of how to thrive in a world of perpetual transformation, change and urgency, which is particularly acute in conservation. She asks the hard question of reaching organisational performance and delivering on the bottom line with agility but without coming at the expense of people and planet.

SESSION 2



Choose a panel/workshop



Monday

3.00-4.30pm

WORKSHOP



Changing the 2020 outcome for nature:
Policy, advocacy and campaigning

BS Room A

PANEL

The Green List of Species:
A high-profile assessment of conservation
success stories

JCR Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Are you optimistic?
Measuring optimism in conservation

PDR Breakout Room

WORKSHOP

Visualising community conservation in Nicaragua

BS Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Bottlenecks to breakthroughs:
Reasons for optimism

BS Room C



Monday 7.00-10.15pm



FILM FESTIVAL

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Come have a drink at 7pm and get the chance to stroll around the museum while interacting with artists Jane Mutiny and the Under The Skin team.



Jane Mutiny



Under The Skin

JUDGES

The evening will kick off with a panel discussion between our judges around the importance of film making to raise awareness of conservation issues.



Lucie Muir

Chief Executive,
Wildscreen



Prasenjeet Yadav

Explorer & Photographer,
National Geographic



Peter Venn

Programme Leader
MA Wildlife Film-making



Monday 7.00-10.15pm



FILM FESTIVAL

OXFORD UNIVERSITY NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

SCREENINGS

We will then screen an array of excellent short films belonging to the following categories:



Super Shorts



Animation



Student film



People & Nature:
Communities,
Heroes &
Wellbeing



Conservation Works:
Learning from
Success & Failure

TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

10.00am



SESSION 3

10.30am



1.00pm



SESSION 4

2.00pm



ALEX DEHGAN

9.00am



ROBIN MOORE

12.00pm



TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER



**MEET THE
PRESENTERS**

3.30pm



SPEED TALKS



4.00pm



NOT A POSTER

5.00pm



PLENARY SPEAKER

Tuesday 9.00- 10.00am
BS Lecture Theatre



ALEX DEHGAN

CEO, Conservation X Labs
Chanler Innovator, Duke University

HACKING CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

"New tools such as machine vision and learning, powerful low cost sensors, and robotics can increase the leverage and power of conservation to better monitor and protect rare species. Conservation needs reframe itself, and draw in new solvers, new disciplines, and new solutions to create a new class of conservation innovators, engineers, and entrepreneurs."

Alex was the founding country director of the Wildlife Conservation Society Afghanistan Program and helped create Afghanistan's first national park. Alex is the author of the book, The Snow Leopard Project, which describes the effort. Alex holds a Ph.D in Evolutionary Biology from The University of Chicago.

SESSION 3



Choose a panel/workshop



Tuesday
10.30-12.00am

WORKSHOP



Think BIG:
An optimistic approach to conservation

BS Room C

PANEL

How emerging conservation technology is
providing optimism in conservation
BS Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Cultivating joy:
Finding and sharing the joyous stories of
conservation work

PDR Breakout Room

PANEL

Lost and found:
Rediscovered species as flagships for
conservation optimism
JCR Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Catastrophe or transformation?
The relationship between hope and
hopelessness

BS Room A

PLENARY SPEAKER

Tuesday 12.00pm
BS Lecture Theatre



ROBIN MOORE

Director of Communications, Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC)
Senior Fellow, Intl League of Conservation Photographers

THE ART OF SURPRISE: ENGINEERING THE UNEXPECTED TO ENGAGE AND INSPIRE

"How do we tell hopeful stories that spread? Changing the frames through which we tell our stories can generate surprise to win the attention of a distracted audience and engage action-oriented emotions."

Robin uses visual storytelling to challenge prevailing narratives and offer new and hopeful ones.

In 2010 Robin spearheaded the innovative 'Search for Lost Frogs' which dispatched teams to find some of the world's missing amphibians. The campaign formed the inspiration for GWC's successful 'Search for Lost Species' campaign. In Bolivia his team partnered with Match.com to help find Romeo, the world's loneliest frog, a Juliet.

SESSION 4



Choose a panel/workshop

Tuesday
2.00-3.30pm

WORKSHOP



Innovative approaches for reducing by-catch
in small-scale fisheries

PDR Breakout Room

PANEL

Small but mighty:
Small groups can make a difference

JCR Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



Creating an effective conservation behaviour
change programme

BS Room A

PANEL

For optimism to be unleashed,
conservation must transform

BS Lecture Theatre



WORKSHOP



7 storytelling tips for
conservation communicators

BS Room C



SPEED TALKS

Tuesday 4.00-5.00pm



BS Room A





SPEED TALKS

Tuesday 4.00-5.00pm



BS Room C



Conserving
clams and
culture



Using beavers
and community
partnerships for
restoration



The comeback of
Europe's large
mammals



Honey
monitoring: The
golden flow of
citizen science



SPEED TALKS

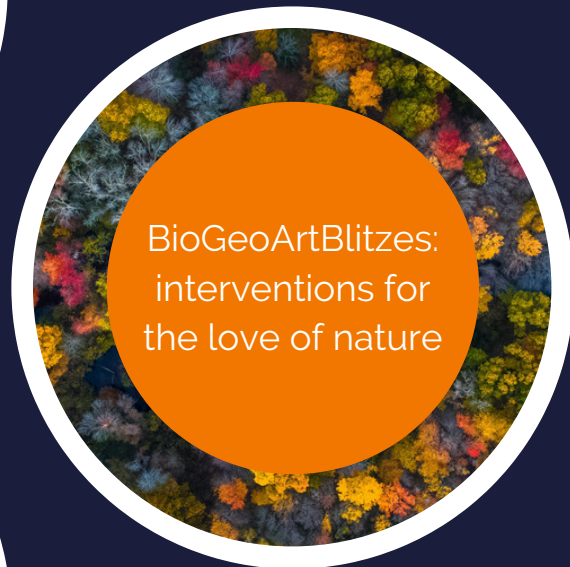
Tuesday 4.00-5.00pm



JCR Lecture Theatre



Emotions-based
Planning Tool for
conservation
collaboration



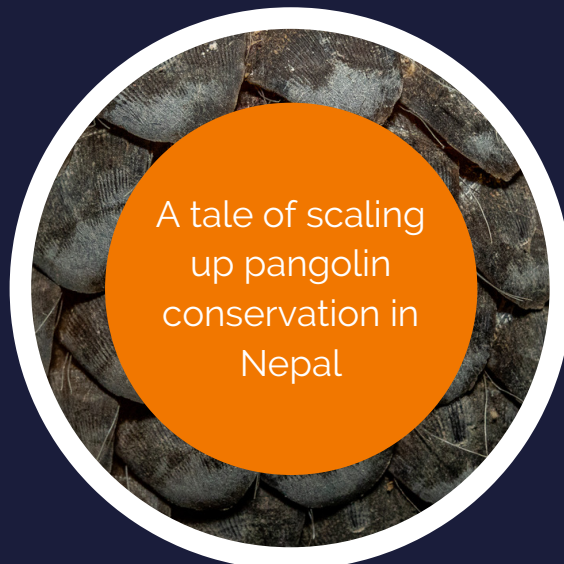
BioGeoArtBlitzes:
interventions for
the love of nature



Restoration of the
European native
oyster



The return of the
Great Bustard:
Once again the
pride of Wiltshire



A tale of scaling
up pangolin
conservation in
Nepal



NOT A POSTER

Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm



JCR Bar



THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER

This session will showcase the widespread national efforts to restore the UK's only native oyster population back from the brink, and encourage attendees to help build a conservation optimism oyster reef.

CONSERVATION, COLLABORATION AND CATCHING COLDWATER PRAWNS

Participants will be invited to play 'tricky trawling'; a 'flappybird'esque game, learning how to avoid sensitive habitats and species.

THAT ONE JAGUAR PASSING BY MY BACKYARD, MEANS MY WELFARE

A puzzle will summarise a process to generate benefits for rural towns to coexist with jaguars and pumas in Costa Rica.

Can you solve it?



NOT A POSTER

Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm



JCR Bar



LIVING IN HARMONY

Be a penguin who needs to catch enough krill to feed their chick, a seal trying to eat the penguins, or the researcher wanting to get foraging data and make a trip to the rather isolated toilet without getting bitten by the seal in this board game set in the Antarctic Peninsula!

WHAT'S THE DEAL? BLANDING'S TURTLE HEADSTART PROGRAM

Schoolchildren and teachers raise threatened Blanding's turtles in their classrooms, giving them a headstart before they are released into the wild. Learn about the success of this project using playing cards and toy turtles!

VISUALISING CONSERVATION SUCCESSES DIFFERENTLY

This session is about interpreting milestone moments of a women-led conservation enterprise project for Snow Leopard conservation in India through visual storytelling.



NOT A POSTER

Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm



JCR Bar



ROLLING WITH THE TIDES

Try 'Rolling with the Tides', a game designed to teach students in Scotland and Honduras about the possible adaptations of corallith corals in the face of climate change.

BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The British Ecological Society is an innovative and inclusive community with membership opportunities for everyone involved in ecology. Come and learn more about what we can do for you and try your hand at the People and Nature buzz wire game to win a year's free membership.

SHOCK, WONDER AND OPTIMISM – THE ENGAGING STORY OF OYSTERS

This session will discuss how balancing the pessimism and optimism can build an enticing narrative. Using history, imagery and video, delegates will learn about a communications strategy for diverse audiences who didn't even know they cared about oysters.

LET'S MAP OUR NETWORK

What does your network look like? How does that help you to gain inspiration and share your passion? Draw your personal network with you as one of the nodes, mapping your connections with others who work in conservation.

WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER



ALICE BELL

9.00am



10.00am



FUTURE VOICES



10.30am

1.00pm



**CREATIVE
SESSION**



11.30am

**RETURN TO
THE WILD!**



PLENARY SPEAKER

Wednesday 9.00- 10.00am

BS Lecture Theatre



ALICE BELL

Co-director, 10:10 Climate Action

ARE WE APPROACHING A TIPPING POINT FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH CLIMATE CHANGE?

"New protest groups are forming. Television specials are being commissioned. New people are pouring into the movement from a host of directions. Old orthodoxies about how we talk about global warming (or is it heating now) are being smashed. Climate emergencies are being declared across the globe.

"To some extent, we've been here before; in the run-up to the Copenhagen talks in 2009. That crashed and burned quite quickly."

Climate change communications and campaign expert Alice Bell asks how we can weather the inevitable fluctuations in public concern over climate change, and ensure this wave is one that sticks.



FUTURE VOICES PANEL



Wednesday 10.30am

BS Lecture Theatre



Our panellists will discuss how they are working towards reframing the conservation narrative in their countries and their involvement with Conservation Optimism, chaired by Conservation Optimism's Founder E.J. Milner-Gulland.

CHEN PELF NYOK

Freshwater turtle researcher and conservationist (via Skype)



MUNIB KHANYARI

PhD student
(Wildlife conservation and livestock health)

OLYA ESIPOVA

Community conservationist
(saiga antelope)



ELLIOT NEWTON

Youth and community
conservationist

CALEB OFORI-BOATENG

Herpetologist and founder of
Herp Conservation Ghana





CREATIVE SESSION



Wednesday 11.30am-1.00pm



Wildeverse - Exploring the rainforests with mobile games

Outdoor

Meet-up: JCR Bar Annex

Mammal tour- wildlife of Oxford

Outdoor

Meet-up: BS Lecture Theatre



Empowering HOPE Through the Arts

BS Room A



OR

PICK & MIX



11.30-12.15 am

12.15-1.00pm

Igniting the Wonder of Quiet Ecosystems with Animation



BS Room C

Making space for the future



BS Room C

Naturehood – connect with the wildlife on your doorstep

Outdoor

Meet-up: JCR Bar



Play:
Our Adaptive Wildcard

Outdoor

Meet-up: JCR Bar



THANK YOU



for joining us for

CONSERVATION OPTIMISM SUMMIT 2019

WHAT'S NEXT?



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contact@conservationoptimism.org



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