Laura Baldwin: Achieving the Impossible – lessons from an Olympian turned climate activist and unlocking your potential workshop

Laura Baldwin achieved the seemingly impossible when she qualified to represent Team GB at Athens 2004. The Olympic sailor and two-times Olympic sailing coach turned to climate activism in 2019 and is now a spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion and Ocean Rebellion. Laura is a member of the Green Party of England and Wales Executive Campaigns Committee and representative of the Green Party of England and Wales on the Global Greens Climate Emergency Working Group focused on COP27, and is the founder of an active Transition Town group and a co-founder of GreensCAN. A World Olympians Association Environment Committee member and a driving force in Champions for Earth, Laura is also a desperately protective mother who stepped out in front of an oil tanker in April in an attempt to stop this suicidal system in its tracks. Laura is involved in the Just Stop Oil campaign.

www.greens-can.earth/laura-baldwin

Maddy Harland: Fertile Edges – cultivating hope in the time of collapse

How do we stay energised and maintain a sense of personal and collective agency in a world of dangerous climate change and geopolitical conflict? How do we remain engaged without resorting to despair or ‘toxic positivity’? Maddy Harland brings tales of fertile edges, grassroots activism and transformative adaptation framed with a realistic sense of the possible and a smattering of the seemingly impossible.

Maddy is the editor of Permaculture magazine. She started her first business in 1991, a natural food shop in Portsmouth. She was practising wildlife gardening at the time and came across Bill Mollison’s ideas about permaculture: ideas that changed her life. Maddy and her husband Tim founded Permanent Publications in 1990 to publish information that would empower people. By 1992, they had launched Permaculture magazine – ‘inspiration for sustainable living’. Maddy also co-founded an educational centre for sustainability in East Hampshire in 1995. Her book Fertile Edges celebrated 25 years of Permaculture magazine. Her writing shows a profound connection to the land – as she herself says, to the ‘fertile edges' where things are wilder and a bit more interesting.
Satish Kumar: The Power of Love
As gravity holds the physical world together, love holds the metaphysical world together. Love provides solutions to all our problems. Through love we can find the meaning of life.

Satish Kumar is editor emeritus of Resurgence & Ecologist. A former monk and a long-term peace and environment activist, he has been quietly setting the global agenda for change for over 50 years. Inspired in his early twenties by the example of the British peace activist Bertrand Russell, Satish embarked on an 8,000-mile peace pilgrimage. Carrying no money, he walked from India to America, via Moscow, London and Paris, to deliver a humble packet of ‘peace tea’ to each of the leaders of the world’s then four nuclear powers. In 1973 Satish settled in the UK and became the editor of Resurgence magazine. He has been the guiding spirit behind a number of internationally respected ecological and educational ventures. Satish co-founded Schumacher College in South Devon, where he is a Visiting Fellow. His autobiography, No Destination, first published by Green Books in 1978, has sold over 50,000 copies.

Lisa Schneidau, in conversation with Marianne Brown
Lisa Schneidau is a storyteller, author and environmentalist based in Devon. Originally trained as an ecologist, she has worked in the Nature conservation sector for the last 25 years across the UK, in roles including farm adviser, river surveyor, political lobbyist and conservation director.

Lisa has been a storyteller for over 15 years, with stories that inspire, provoke curiosity, and build stronger connections between people and Nature. She is the author of Woodland Folk Tales of Britain and Ireland (History Press, 2020) and Botanical Folk Tales of Britain and Ireland (History Press, 2018). Her latest book, River Folk Tales, will be published this summer.

Marianne Brown is editor of Resurgence & Ecologist magazine. Prior to that she was Vietnam Bureau Chief for Deutsche Press-Agentur and a freelance radio and print journalist for the BBC, The Guardian, Voice of America and Deutsche Welle, and she has covered breaking news in the UK, Kenya and Vietnam. She has a keen interest in the medium of audio as well as print, and has produced a series of podcasts for Resurgence.

Ian Tennant: Humans and Machines – what’s guiding your wellbeing in 2022?
We crave time in the natural world away from the hustle-and-bustle of our ‘normal’ lives. Why is this quality time so important to us?

The modern world bombards us with unhealthy human-made signals and rhythms – such as artificial light – that distract us from the natural rhythms that have supported us for millennia. There is growing evidence that we should be very cautious about exposure to too many of these artificial stressors.

In this talk and workshop we’ll explore the new understanding of humans as bio-electric beings and what this means for our wellbeing. You’ll have the chance to reflect on a set of healthful lifestyle habits you can adopt as a ‘precautionary principle’ to reduce your exposure to human-made threats without having to flee for the hills.

Ian Tennant is the author of Restoring Balance: A Guide to the Evolving Field of Human Wellbeing. He has 20 years’ experience working in the field of human and environmental health. His early career included post-doctoral research at the Medical Research Council Centre for Inflammation Research based at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. He went on to work on regional and national environmental initiatives, including several years at The Resurgence Trust. These days he works face to face with people, helping them make simple choices that are inexpensive and improve their health.

restoringbalance.life
Tony Whitehead: Wonderful Voices – how and why birds sing and what happens when we listen

The world is full of birdsong. But how do birds make these sounds? And why? What do they tell us about the natural world? And what do they tell us about ourselves? In this talk, naturalist Tony Whitehead introduces the beauty of birds and their song and how listening is more important than ever in the climate and ecological emergency.

Tony lives and works on Dartmoor. He has had a lifelong passion for birds and their song. For over 20 years he has led walks and run courses in Devon that help people discover birdsong. He works for the RSPB.

MUSIC, STORYTELLING AND POETRY

Michael Stanton Band

Michael Stanton plays soulful music, inspired by a wide variety of world and traditional folk music styles. He is a songwriter, teacher, music producer and multi-instrumentalist, playing guitar, piano, keyboards, bass, percussion and santoor.

His music finds expression in many different situations, ranging from conventional gigs in various bands, to singing circles, festivals, workshops and ceremonies. Michael's music has been described thus:

“A sound reminiscent of the folk traditions of Celtic Europe and Armenia, Brazil and Native America, Zimbabwe and West Africa; a sound to remind us we are all connected in this great mystery of life.”

“Inspired by love for Nature and ancestral wisdom, Michael's soulful music offers a sincere voice to the heart of the world.”

Michael first came to Resurgence Summer Camp as a guitarist with Ombiviolum and makes a welcome return with his new band, George Fogel, Lizzie Ogle and Arjun Magee, who play music with Celtic, West African, Afro-Brazilian and Latin American influences.

Geoff Robb: The Music of Trees (music and performance)

Geoff Robb, winner of the 2018 Brighton Fringe Live Music Award, shares an evening of magical storytelling and virtuoso guitar that promises to transport you out into the woods.

A master of the acoustic guitar, with an intricate, richly harmonic style, he has performed to audiences across the UK and Europe, at venues ranging from Buckingham Palace and The House of Commons to Glastonbury Festival. ‘The Music of Trees’ show earned him rave reviews at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe.

Inspired by the wonder of the natural world, ‘The Music of Trees’ weaves together tales of our woodland folklore and history with a suite of new original compositions featuring Geoff’s signature blend of classical, jazz, Celtic and Spanish influences.

geoffrobb.com
‘The Music of Trees’ trailer: www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8J9GUH5UjY

Lisa Schneidau: The Tangle of the Commons (performance storytelling)

‘The Tangle of the Commons’ tells the story of the British landscape and our relationship with the wild things around us, seen and unseen. Who really owns this place, how well do we share it, and what happens if humans push things too far? Here are some of our ancient folk tales, laced with history, ecology and a hefty dose of the ridiculous, to provoke thought and inspiration about
the land we usually take so much for granted. Expect malevolent fairies, dastardly robber kings, determined farmers and a particularly disgruntled wild pig.

Lisa Schneidau is a storyteller, author and environmentalist based in Devon. Her storytelling is a warm mix of ancient tale and keen observation of the natural world, casting traditional stories in a contemporary context. With an ecological background and over 25 years working in wildlife conservation, Lisa brings a wealth of knowledge and infectious enthusiasm to her audience.

lisaschneidau.co.uk

Matt Harvey

Poet, lyricist, and columnist Matt Harvey has been a familiar voice on BBC Radio 4 for two decades – most recently as guest of Roger McGough on Poetry Please – performing all over the country and appearing frequently on TV. During lockdown his *Hi Corona Virus* poem went viral and *Can You Hear Me?* his collaboration with composer Thomas Hewitt Jones, reached no. 1 in the Classical Charts. Most recently Praise the Whale was a big hit at COP26, inspiring world leaders to reassess their core values – or so he claims.

Matt’s books include *The Hole in the Sum of my Parts, Where Earwigs Dare* and *Mindless Body Spineless Mind*, two picture books for children, *Shopping With Dad* and *Beastie and the Boys*, and a picture book for adults, *Sit!* with artist Claudia Schmid. Their new collaboration, *Careless Whisker*, is out soon. For three years he wrote the Desktop Poetry slot in the Guardian and later the *Qwerty Something* column for *Resurgence & Ecologist* magazine. He was nominated for a P.E.A. Award for *The Element in the Room* – energy-inspired poems written while Poet-in-Residence with RegenSW, and *H Ain’t Heavy*, inspired by green hydrogen, comes out this year.

mattharvey.co.uk

MEDITATION AND MOVEMENT

**Resurgence Earth Festival: Georgie Gilmore**

We will host our first in-person Resurgence Earth Festival at this year’s Summer Camp. Let us gather to celebrate the high time of summer and the abundance of Nature and honour the powerful energies of Earth and sun with guided meditation, self-reflection, and Nature-connection practices.

Resurgence Earth Festivals are an opportunity to honour our nature and the Nature of the Earth. Embark on a journey that will bring you into greater harmony with yourself and with the natural world.

**Qi Kong Bamboo sticks: June Mitchell**

June will be teaching *Qi Kong* with bamboo poles, a form of *Quigong* that she learnt at Plum Village, the first monastic community founded by Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh in the West. The 16 movements were devised by an elderly master. Through the practice of *Qi Kong* we can become aware of our breathing and come home to our body, fully present for ourselves and whatever we are doing. June is the life partner of Satish Kumar and is a former co-editor of *Resurgence* magazine.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pluOjzBHS4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pluOjzBHS4)

**Yoga: Joanna Al-Zuhairi**

Joanna Al-Zuhairi is a mental health nurse, yoga teacher, homeopath and meditator. She organises stress management classes and spiritual mental health workshops. Joanna has taught yoga for 15 years in various settings: health clubs, mental health groups and private classes.

[naturelax.co.uk/facilitator.php](http://naturelax.co.uk/facilitator.php)
WORKSHOPS

Printing workshop: Rachel Marsh

A T-shirt and banner printing workshop, suitable for beginners. Inks and materials for banner printing will be provided. Please bring a T-shirt that you would like to print on. Spend as long as you like or just drop in to join us – but we promise you’ll be hooked in no time.

Rachel Marsh is a letterpress printer working from a print shed at the bottom of her garden in north Devon. She makes artist’s books and print ephemera (such as postcards, posters and cards), often exploring using type as image. Rachel has recently been on sabbatical from her role designing Resurgence & Ecologist magazine.

www.semplepress.co.uk/about

Voice Workshop: William Tooby and Awantika Dubey

William Tooby is a founding director of The Fold CIC. He is an eco-facilitator and a voice coach and is passionate about singing raga. Originally drawn to India to better understand music in the seventies before becoming an organic farmer, he went on to sing a cappella with various groups before focusing on raga. He loves to facilitate others in finding their own unique and embodied voice.

www.thefold.org.uk/about-us/our-team

Awantika sings Classical Indian Ragas, and Semi-Classical and Bundeli folk songs, of which she has collected some 2,000 from around her home town of Khajuraho. She is an exceptional Kathak dancer. Awantika won the University Youth Festival of Indian Classical Vocal competition and regularly sings on All India Radio. She sensitively combines song and dance and is inspired by Nature. She founded the Awantika Arts Centre for Music and Dance in Khajuraho, where she trains local and international students. Awantika composes, performs and directs internationally.

Please wear loose comfortable clothes.

Open space sessions

Open space is an opportunity to work together with whatever comes up from our weekend. You can choose to offer sessions or to attend sessions, which can be on something you are passionate about (for instance Extinction Rebellion or the roll-out of 5G), or perhaps a continuation of a talk or workshop that you would like to explore further. If you have something that you would like to share, come along and participate in an interactive session. If there’s something you’d really like to know about, you can suggest a topic and see what emerges.

Open mic around the fire

Open mic around the fire returns this year. This is your chance to share music, words or dance, or to perform solo or with friends. Bring an instrument, a poem or a song and join in the entertainment.