

# AT ONE WITH THIS WORLD

# EARTH MATTERS

A NEW COURSE ON TUESDAY EVENINGS FOR FIVE WEEKS  
FROM 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2012, 7.00 PM to 9.30 pm

at School of Economic science,  
11 Mandeville Place, London W1U 3AJ.

IAN MASON, barrister, Principal of the School of Economic Science,  
is joined by guest speakers to present this unique course explaining a new  
philosophy that can change the way we relate to planet Earth.



DR SUSAN CANNEY, Oxford University zoologist and ecologist will outline new scientific perspectives and the lessons that can be learned from them.



POLLY HIGGINS, barrister and environmental campaigner brings us up to date with new international initiatives to safeguard the Earth.



LIZ HOSKEN of the Gaia Foundation describes how indigenous peoples apply ancient wisdom to nurture and keep sacred natural places and why they do it and why it matters now.



Charity Nos 313115 and SC039950

## **EARTH MATTERS** *at one with our world*

### **PROGRAMME AND EXTENDED SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **PROGRAMME**

##### **Session 1**

21st February

- a) Wonderful Earth: A look at the central importance of Earth to all life and at how it can shape our laws and practices. Ian Mason
- b) Indigenous wisdom and sacred places: Liz Hosken

##### **Session 2**

28th February

Insights from Gaia Science: Dr. Susan Canney on implications of some of the most recent developments in the field of Earth sciences

##### **Session 3**

6th March

Earth law – a challenge for the judges: Ian Mason

##### **Session 4**

13th March

- (a) Wild Law: Could Nature possibly have rights? Ian Mason
- (b) Ecocide: Recognising crimes against Nature: Polly Higgins

##### **Session 5**

20th March

Earth Jurisprudence: A whole new outlook – re-discovering our unity with Earth: Ian Mason

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### **EXTENDED SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES**



**Ian Mason** is a practising barrister whose interest in Earth Jurisprudence stems from life-long studies in practical philosophy and economics-with-justice with the School of Economic Science in London. Ian is a former Director of the Gaia Foundation's Earth Jurisprudence Resource Centre and has given lectures and workshops on Earth Jurisprudence for the Gaia Learning Centre. He has also worked with the UK Environmental Law Association and co-authored with Begonia Filguera, the 2009 report, *Wild Law: Is There Any Evidence of Earth Jurisprudence in Existing Law and Practice?* In 2008 he was one of the teachers of the first Earth Jurisprudence course at Schumacher College in Devon, UK and has been a regular participant in and contributor to the annual UKELA Wild Law weekend conferences.



**Dr. Susan Canney** has worked in science and conservation for a variety of projects in Africa, Asia and Europe; while an interest in integral approaches to environmental problems has led to master's degrees – in zoology, landscape design and environmental policy – and a doctorate in conservation ecology.

A research associate of Oxford University's Zoology Department, she is particularly interested in approaches to complex problems that combine a whole socio-ecosystem perspective to guide the “bottom-up” action that is required to effect change. She currently directs the Wild Foundation's Mali Elephant Project, which finds ways to achieve the peaceful co-existence of humans and a unique population of elephants in the sub-Sahara of Mali; and collaborates with researchers in the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit.

Dr. Canney teaches at Oxford University and the Green Economics Institute and has served as a research officer at the Green College Centre for Environmental Policy & Understanding. She is the secretary and a co-founder of the Earth Systems Science Special Interest Group of the Geological Society of London, and of the Gaia Network. Dr. Canney is also part of Forum for the Future's 'Reconnections' team delivering a programme for business leaders that focuses on the values needed for a sustainable world and our reconnection with nature.



**Liz Hosken**, from South Africa, was active from a young age in both environmental issues and the anti-apartheid movement. She was exiled to the UK and co-founded the Gaia Foundation in 1984. The first decade of her work with Gaia in the Amazon, was more a profound training in ecological thinking than any of the University degrees she had received earlier. The experience reinforced her commitment toward holistic ways of thinking and reverence for our beautiful planet home. It inspired her to share lessons and search for ways to restore Africa's rich cultural, spiritual and ecological heritage. In 1991, Liz received the Jameson Award and, on behalf of Gaia, has received the Schumacher Award and a One World Award for media work on biodiversity related issues. She is a fellow of the Findhorn Foundation, Advisor to the Goldman Environmental Prize, and on the Board of International Funders for Indigenous People (IFIP).



**Polly Higgins** is a London-based international environmental lawyer, barrister and author of *Eradicating Ecocide: Laws and Governance to Stop the Destruction of the Planet*, 2010. In November 2008 Polly was invited to address the United Nations on the call for a Universal Declaration of Planetary Rights. Polly founded the campaign *Trees Have Rights Too*. In April 2008 Polly also founded *WISE Women in Sustainability and the Environment* – an international network set up to provide a voice for more women in the environmental field. In 2009 Polly was voted by *The Ecologist* magazine as 'One of the Top Ten Visionaries to Save the Planet' for her work on Planetary Rights, Polly is a renowned international speaker and expert on the integration of Earth Jurisprudential principles into global governance systems.