

TIME FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

# ESSEX GREEN WEEKEND

OTHONA BRADWELL-ON-SEA



14-17 JUNE 2024



# WELCOME TO THE OTHONA COMMUNITY



- 1 Motley building
- 2 Sofar building
- 3 The bank
- 4 The mens hut
- 5 Yurts
- 6 Art room
- 7 Core block
- 8 Polytunnel
- 9 Coastal Park
- 10 Peace garden
- 11 Herb garden
- 12 Tool shed
- 13 Chapel
- 14 Marquee



# FRIDAY

ARRIVALS FROM 3PM

WHEN		SPEAKER OR SUBJECT	WHERE
4:30pm	Zoom Talk	A Rocha – Andy Lester: "This shouldn't happen to a Greenie"	Central Space
5pm	Activity	T-Shirt Screen Printing	Central Space
6:45pm	Talk	Welcome and Introduction	Central Space
8pm	Music	Barn Dance with The Famous Potatoes	The Marquee
10pm	Activity	Campfire chat/ open mic/ singalong/poetry reading	The Beach

## FRIDAY TO SUNDAY MEALS SCHEDULE

Breakfast	8:30am	Dining Hall
Lunch	1pm	Dining Hall
Supper	7pm	Dining Hall

## HIGH TIDES

FRIDAY: 18:28

SATURDAY: 7:33 & 19:27

SUNDAY: 8:36 & 20:40

MONDAY: 9:35

# SATURDAY

WHEN		SPEAKER OR SUBJECT	WHERE
8am	Workshop	Morning Mindfulness - Maria Constantinou	Central Space
<b>8:30am</b>		<b>BREAKFAST</b>	Central Space
9:30am		The Chapel - Morning service: Rev Imogen Nay	The Chapel
10am	Talk	Dr Simon Lyster: Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Central Space
10am	Workshop	T-Shirt Screen Printing	Marquee
10am	Workshop	Eco Dyeing with Emma Anderson & Fiona Clapperton	Art Room
10am	Workshop	Buglife Activities	Outdoors Field
10am	Workshop	Moth trapping & identification with Cindy Lawes	The Veranda
11am	Talk	The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group: Lucy Jenkins and George Gillot	Central Space
<b>1pm</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	Central Space
2:30pm	Talk	Green Christian: Howard Gardener & Kate Clifton	Central Space
2:30pm	Music	The Fishermen's Chapel Gospel Choir	Marquee
2:30pm	Workshop	TOMA Art Workshop: Designs for a light sculpture with Jonathon Rust	The Bank
2:30pm	Workshop	Rachel Summers: Family Forest Schools	Outdoors Field
3:30pm	Talk	Penny Davis - The Labyrinth	Central Space
3:30pm	Music	Masal	Marquee
4pm	Workshop	Labyrinth workshop with Penny Davis	Outdoors Field
4:30pm	Music	Under the Bridge	Marquee
5:30pm	Talk	Tarot Couzen "Hedgerow and community making at Othona with the Lifelines project": ZOOM	Central Space
5:30pm	Music	The Calmers	Marquee
<b>7pm</b>		<b>SUPPER</b>	Central Space
8pm	Music	Dead City Athletic	Marquee
8pm	Workshop	Biochar Workshop with Jonney Aldridge	Outdoors Field
9:30pm	Music	The Remedy	Marquee

# SATURDAY MARKET STALLS

FIND OUR STALLS IN THE MAIN OUTDOORS SPACE

Essex Climate Action Commission	Life in Abundance Trust
Dengie Climate Action	SEEOG
Beautiful Healthy Home	Buglife
The Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group	Trust Links
Green Christian	Community Energy South
Mid Essex Quakers	

# SUNDAY

WHEN		WHAT	WHERE
8am	Workshop	Morning Mindfulness - Maria Constantinou	Central Space
<b>8:30</b>		<b>BREAKFAST</b>	Central Space
9.30am		The Chapel - Morning service: Rev Imogen Nay	The Chapel
10am	Activity	T-shirt Screen Printing	The Bank
10:30am	Workshop	Labyrinth walk with Penny Davis	The Beach
10:30am	Workshop	Scything workshop with Ron Bates & Jonney Aldridge	Outdoors Field
<b>1pm</b>		<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>Central Space</b>
2:30pm	Music	Isabel Inkcapp	The Chapel
2:30pm	Workshop	Watercolour Workshop with Steve Jordan	The Marquee
2:30pm	Workshop	Coastal Ecology with Malcolm Hardy	The Beach
3:30pm	Music	Lost@Sea	The Chapel
4pm	Talk	Chelmsford Diocese Environmental Officer: Sandra Eldridge	Central Space
5pm	Music	Paul Lucas	The Marquee
5pm	Talk	Bats with Christina Ravinet	Central Space
6pm	Talk	Spencer Christy: Lauriston Farm	Central Space
<b>7pm</b>		<b>SUPPER</b>	<b>Central Space</b>
7:45pm	Screening	Film: "Six Inches of Soil" and panel discussion	Central Space
9:30pm	Workshop	Bat Walk with Christina Ravinet	Outdoors Field

**MONDAY: BREAKFAST AT 8:30AM  
DEPARTURES BY 10AM**



# TALKS

**SPEAKER &  
ORGANISATION  
BIOGRAPHIES**

## **DR SIMON LYSTER**

Author of the textbook International Wildlife Law, for which he was awarded a PhD, Simon worked for WWF for nearly a decade and was then Director General of the Wildlife Trusts for a further eight years. Simon is a Commissioner on the Essex Climate Action Commission and is Chair of the Essex Local Nature Partnership.

## **HOWARD GARDENER & KATE CLIFTON GREEN CHRISTIAN**

Howard is on the Board of Green Christian, a charity with local groups all over Britain. The aims are to offer insights to Churches about environment issues, and Christian insights to the green movement. Kate is a Colchester native, with a lifelong love of gardening, wildlife, tides and seasons. Kate is the Environmental Advocate for Colchester Deanery, which brings together her faith, environmental campaigning and practical community gardening.

## **SPENCER CHRISTY LAURISTON FARM**

Spencer Christy is one of the founders of Lauriston Farm Limited, a Charitable Community Benefit Society near Maldon, Essex. He has been practising biodynamic on the 210 acres since 2004 through vegetable growing, animal husbandry and community building with people with a learning disability. He has also been a Trustee with the UK Biodynamic Association.

## **CINDY LAWES**

A birder since the 90's, I became interested in moths in 2013 when a birding mate loaned me a light trap. Since then I've trapped over 500 species of moth at various locations in Britain. I began trapping at Othona in 2022 and have now trapped nearly 300 species from this site alone. Aside from being a fascinating hobby for me the trapping data is contributing to the environmental management of Othona's property including the rewilding project.'

## **THE FARMING & WILDLIFE ADVISORY GROUP**

FWAG was first established as a charity in the 1960s by a group of forward thinking farmers who saw that the environment was an important part of a successful farming business. The organisation helps farmers understand the environmental value of their land and make the most of the agri-environment options available.

## **TAROT COUZEN**

Tarot Couzyn is Co-Director of St Ethelburga's and runs the Lifelines project, which brings people of different faiths together to plant trees and hedgerows across British farmland. At this time of ecological unravelling, she is interested in the meeting point of large-scale collective action with individual values and transformation. She loves working with diverse groups, bringing people together in shared passion and service.

## **ANDY LESTER: A ROCHA**

Andy Lester is Head of Conservation for the Christian charity A Rocha UK. He has two degrees in ecology and green economics, is a trustee and conservation lead for Hampshire Ornithological Society, and writes regularly for three newspapers as the Environment Correspondent for South Atlantic News Group, and two UK papers. Andy regularly speaks on environmental and climate issues, and features frequently on Premier Radio and UCB.

## **SANDRA ELDRIDGE**

Sandra has had a lifelong concern for the environment since reading Schumacher's "Small is Beautiful" in 1974. She worked as an academic medical researcher until 2021 but now focuses on addressing the environmental crises we face, largely in her role as Chelmsford Diocese's Environmental Officer.

# WORKSHOPS



## JONATHON RUST: TOMA

Jonathon studied Fine Art Sculpture at Brighton University (2004) and more recently MA Fine art in Southend-on-Sea with TOMA (2020). He is interested in perception and how we make meaning and experiments in digital image making, sculpture and collective creative expression.

## BUGLIFE

Buglife is the only organisation in Europe devoted to the conservation of all invertebrates. We're actively working to save our rarest little animals, everything from bees to beetles, worms to woodlice and jumping spiders to jellyfish.

## PENNY DAVIS

Penny Davis is a Tutor at Trust Links' Recovery College and a trained Veriditas Labyrinth Facilitator. Penny has worked therapeutically with clients in private practice as a registered counsellor for the past 6 years and is passionate about facilitating safe spaces for mental health recovery.

## RON BATES

Ron Bates has a background from "special education" - outdoor and environmental, mental health, and politics for a future planet wellbeing ecology. Ron is experienced in natural food growing, kitchen work in a vegan café, and perennial fruit growing.

## STEVE JORDAN

Stephen Jordan is an artist based in Southend-on-Sea, he featured in series 6 of Sky's Landscape Artist of the Year in 2021. Stephen describes himself as a plein air painter and has exhibited in the Mall and Bankside galleries in London as well as locally. Stephen's paintings are concerned with a playful approach to scale and humanity's relationship with the environment, where abstraction, realism and landscape can meet.

## RACHEL SUMMERS

Rachel is a forest school practitioner and teacher based in East London. She loves exploring nature with humans of all ages, and her hands are never quite mud free.

## MARIA CONSTANTINOU

Maria works at Trust Links: "Practising mindfulness allows us to relate to ourselves and others with greater care and wisdom. As we engage with our world differently, we notice our own experience of life shifting in fulfilling ways."

## REV CANON IMOGEN NAY

Rev Imogen is Vicar of St Paul's Church in Cambridge, a silver eco award winning church with an active eco group. She has been instrumental in enabling a number of Christian communities to progress their green vision, has organised conferences on green issues, and is researching the relationship between wild swimming and spirituality.



# WORKSHOP

## BIOS

### MALCOLM HARDY

Malcolm Hardy is a marine biologist with ten years of postdoctoral experience researching estuarine ecology and conservation with the University of Essex. Specialising in the impacts of sea-level rise on coastal habitats and nature-based mitigation; (blue) carbon cycling and ecological connectivity across temperate coastal habitats.

### JONNEY ALDRIDGE

Jonney has been part of the Othona community since 1961! He is a keen environmental advocate, with a passion for wildflowers.

### EMMA ANDERSON

Emma Anderson has been working for Trust Links since 2021 and now leads their Greening Southend project working with communities to improve green spaces. She is passionate about permaculture, building communities and skill sharing.

### FIONA CLAPPERTON

Fiona Clapperton has worked for Trust Links for 5 years and now runs the Trust Links Eco Days project which delivers workshops for people to learn new skills and encourage discussion about the impacts of climate change.

### CHRISTINA RAVINET

Christina has worked for many years in science education. Her love for bats began during a her biology degree and continued through her Master's thesis in fruit bat evolution.

## MUSIC

### THE FAMOUS POTATOES

The Famous Potatoes play lively old style tunes and songs from American and British traditions on accordions, fiddles and recorder with punchy guitars and a washboard. The eight of them, mainly from the Southend area, will be playing for your barn-dancing pleasure hoping to give you an old time good time.

### THE FISHERMEN'S CHAPEL GOSPEL CHOIR

The Fishermen's Chapel Gospel Choir is a community choir that sings monthly at our Methodist Chapel at the Gospel Service. The choir's directors are Grammy-nominated arranger Dave Cooke and jazz singer Heather Simmons. They perform gospel songs from the early Spirituals to modern songs from Graham Kendrick and Stormzy.



# MUSIC

## BIOS

### MASAL

Masal weave Harp, Theremin and electronics into beautiful aural journeys. Özlem is a Turkish multi-instrumentalist whose middle eastern background is entwined with her western studies in classical music. Alastair performs psychedelic electronic music as Alien. Alien's first productions were released on the label Shiny Beast.

### LOST @ SEA

Brother and sister duo Lost@Sea weave old time tunes drawn from traditional gospel, bluegrass and folk blues. Playing banjo, guitar and harmonica, their voices will take you on journey of everlasting life, love, dust bowl blues and hard times.

### UNDER THE BRIDGE

Under The Bridge is a four piece acoustic band playing ukulele, double bass, washboard, assorted percussion and kazoo. They play an eclectic mix of easy listening, mostly modern songs with strong vocal harmonies, a folk/country vibe and a good dollop of silliness!

### PAUL LUCAS

Paul Lucas is an acoustic self accompanist, singer/song writer. A player of fretted string instruments since my mid teens, influenced by Dylan, his contemporaries, and the UK folk scene,

### DEAD CITY ATHLETIC

Dead City Athletic is the collaboration of three seasoned singer/songwriter/musicians. Each coming from different musical directions, bringing their own unique voice and flavour (and performing songs written both individually and together), they create something new, something magical: a collective sound and harmony that is unmistakably Dead City Athletic. An unlikely trio, with a vintage Folk/Americana sound!

### ISABEL INKCAP

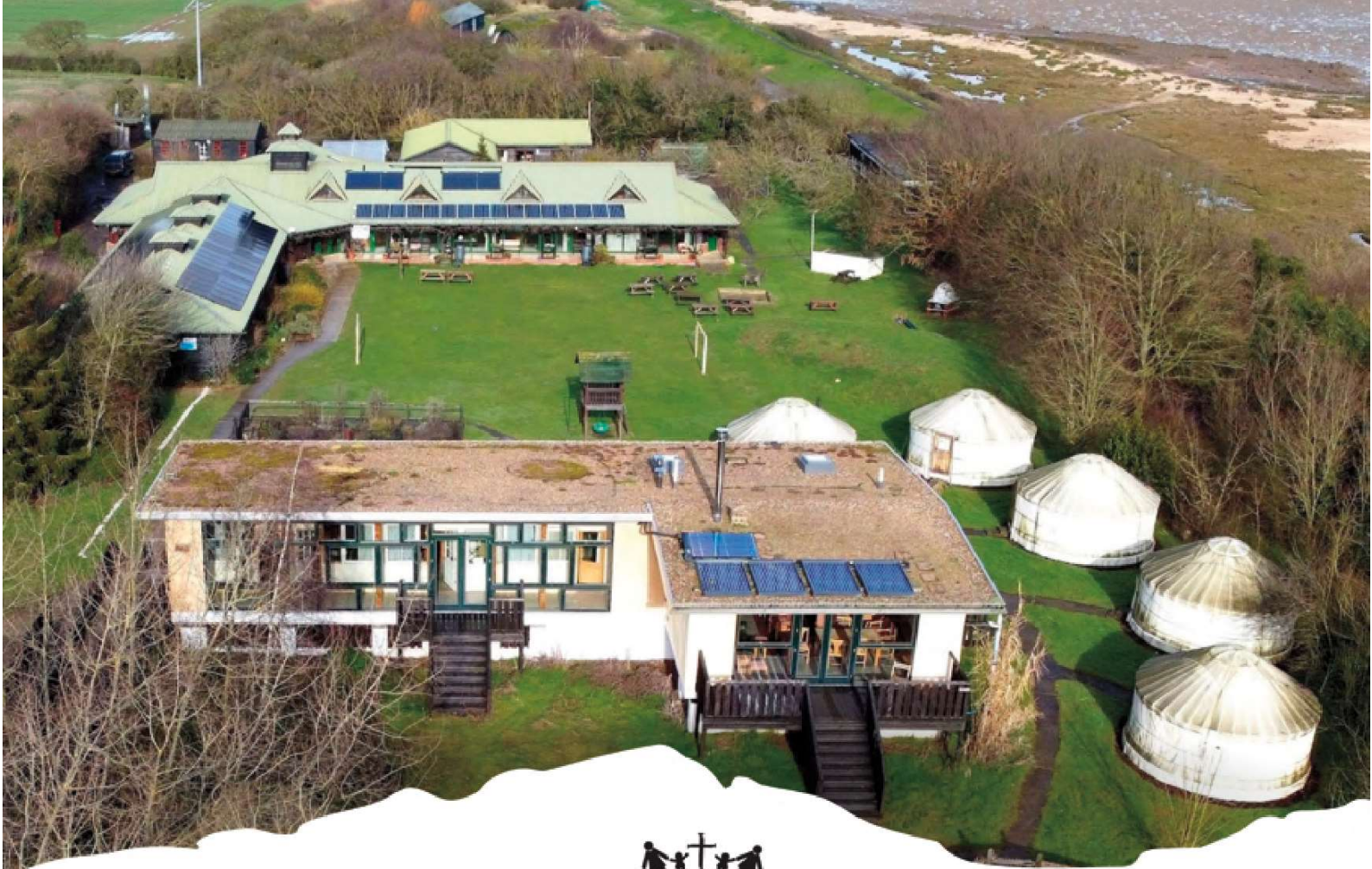
Isabel Inkcapp is an up and coming Folk artist, writing and singing songs from the soul. She grew up following her Dad around folk clubs where her first taste and inspiration for music began.

### THE REMEDY

We are a four piece male & female vocal and guitar band from South East Essex. We are able to perform a wide variety of music spanning the decades, mainly focussing on popular songs from the 1950's to 1980's. We have also written and recorded a number of original compositions, some of which can be found on our YouTube.

### THE CALMERS

The Calmers, from Southend-on-Sea, will get you on your feet with original grooves, funk and soul!



The Othona Community was established in 1946 to promote peace and reconciliation after WWII. It continues to be a place where people explore community, faith and sustainability.

Othona is an off-grid community so we have to generate all our electricity. At the moment we use a combination of solar panels, a wind turbine and a diesel generator. We are hoping to build a new bigger wind turbine to minimise our use of diesel. Space and water heating uses a biomass generator. There will be an opportunity during the weekend for a tour and discussion of our energy systems.





Trust Links is your local mental health, wellbeing and environmental charity. We work across Essex to support people experiencing mental health difficulties, families, and other community members with main bases in Southend, Castle Point, Rochford and Basildon.

We're committed to building stronger communities and transforming lives.

Supporting the environment through sustainable living is at the core of our work. Each of the Trust Links sites feature environmentally beneficial features including green roofs, heating systems, insect habitats, composting toilets and more. Through our Eco Days project we have worked to engage the local community with leading a more sustainable lifestyle.



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