



TIME FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

ESSEX GREEN WEEKEND

OTHONA BRADWELL-ON-SEA

23 - 26 MAY 2025



TrustLinks



WELCOME TO THE OTHONA COMMUNITY



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

FRIDAY

ARRIVALS FROM 3PM

WHEN		SPEAKER OR SUBJECT	WHERE
4pm	Activity	T-Shirt Screen Printing	The Bank
5pm	Activity	Tour of Othona and the new ponds with Lucy Jenkins from the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	Meet on the Veranda
5.30pm	Film	"Oyster Land" A film about the oystermen of Mersea Island and the estuary that has sustained the trade for thousands of years. Q&A with Filmmaker Matthew John Harrison.	Central Space
6:45pm	Talk	Welcome and Introduction	Central Space
8pm	Music	Barn Dance with The Famous Potatoes	The Marquee

WEEKEND MEALS SCHEDULE

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

HIGH TIDES

SATURDAY: 10.42AM
SUNDAY: 11.35AM

SWIMMING IS ONLY ADVISABLE WITH AN EXPERIENCED OTHONA PERSON

MARKET STALLS

FIND OUR STALLS IN THE MAIN OUTDOORS SPACE

Bird Aware Essex Coast	Bangladesh with Peter Musgrove
A Rocha	SEEOG
Essex and Suffolk Water	Mid Essex Quakers
Green Christian	Trust Links
Sage Crafted	Natural Dyeing with Edwina Hughes

SATURDAY

WHEN		SPEAKER OR SUBJECT	WHERE
8am		Morning Meditation with Amanda	The Chapel
8:30am		BREAKFAST	Dining Hall
10am to 12.30pm	Talks	Green Christian - John Clifton A Rocha - Sarah Leedham Roger, Bishop of Colchester The Essex Wildlife Trust Seagrass Project - Alex Smith	Central Space
10am to 12.30pm	Workshop	Wise Ram Theatre 2 shows - 10am to 11am child friendly 11.15am to 12.15pm for Adults	The Marquee
10:30am to 12pm	Workshop	T shirt and tote bag printing	Stalls Area
10:30am to 12pm	Workshop	Candle Making with Emma Anderson & Fiona Clapperton	Art Room
10.30am to 12.30pm	Workshop	"Future Times" Art Workshop with Angenita Teekens	The Bank and the Beach
1pm		LUNCH	Dining Hall
2:30pm	Talks	Essex and Suffolk Water - Laurence Dunn Bird Aware Essex Coast - Chloe Turner	Central Space
3pm to 5.15pm	Music	3.00pm - Lost @ Sea 3.45pm - Out of the Mist 4.20pm - M G Boulter	The Chapel
2:30pm	Workshop	Introduction to Permaculture with Graham Burnett	The Bank and outdoors
2:30pm	Workshop	Family Forest School with Rachel Summers	Meet on the Veranda
5.20pm	Music	5.20pm - The Fisherman's Chapel Gospel Choir 6.15pm - Cover Stories	Marquee
7pm		SUPPER	Dining Hall
8pm	Music	8.15 - The Remedy Band 9.00 - The Calmers	Marquee

SUNDAY

WHEN		WHAT	WHERE
8.30am		BREAKFAST	Dining Hall
9.30am		The Chapel Morning Service with the Rev Susan Sayers	The Chapel
10.30am	Activity	T-shirt Screen Printing	The Marquee
10.30am	Workshop	"Future Times" Art Workshop with Angenita Teekens	The Bank
10.30am	Workshop	Suminagashi (marbled prints) with Nastassja Simensky	The Art Room
10.30am	Workshop	Creating habitat piles by the new ponds	Meet on the Veranda
10.30am	Workshop	Family Forest School with Rachel Summers	Meet on the Veranda
11am	Talks	Water Aid - Chris Cuff	Central Space
1pm		LUNCH	Dining Hall
2:30pm	Workshop	En plein air watercolour painting with Stephen Jordan	Meet at the Art Room
2pm	Music	2pm - Elijah Summers 2.45pm - Dave Warren Jazz Quartet 3.45pm - Southend Jazz Co Operative 5pm - John Seeley's Jazz Workshop 6.15pm - Goodnight Crow	The Marquee
7pm		SUPPER	Dining Hall
8pm	Music	Alfie Firmin and Band	The Marquee
9pm	Film Showing	"Don't Fight the Land That Feeds You " A film about the people of Essex and the land that nourishes them. With a Q&A with Marley Karazimba the film maker	Central Space
10pm	Activity	Bonfire on the beach	The Beach

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



TALKS

**SPEAKER &
ORGANISATION
BIOGRAPHIES**

ROGER MORRIS, BISHOP OF COLCHESTER

The Rt Revd Roger Morris is the Diocesan Bishop with lead on the Environment. He has been Bishop since 2014 and was previously Archdeacon of Worcester. He is also Chair of the Chelmsford Diocese Board of Education.

HOWARD GARDNER - 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.

SARAH LEEDHAM - A ROCHA

Sarah is manager of the A Rocha nature reserve, Foxearth meadows in Sudbury. She is a Reserve Manager with over 25 years experience in conservation. A Rocha is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world.

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.

ALEX SMITH - ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST SEAGRASS PROJECT

Alex is Marine and Coastal Engagement Officer for EWT working on this project. Healthy seagrass meadows are essential to biodiverse ecosystems. They keep seas clean by absorbing nutrients and are climate superheroes, absorbing carbon from the atmosphere. One hectare of seagrass may store two tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) a year and hold it for centuries.

The EWT is working with ReMEDIES Save our Seabed and Project Seagrass to raise awareness to reduce the pressures on seagrass meadows and help restore them.

CHRIS CUFF - WATER AID

In 1981 WaterAid was established after The Thirsty Third World Conference brought members of the UK water industry together. They agreed to work to reach the millions of people living without clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

Chris Cuff is a retired Essex Headteacher who began his association with WaterAid nearly 20 years ago. In those years he has given well over a hundred talks to various groups, mostly in Essex

CHLOE TURNER - BIRD AWARE ESSEX COAST

Chloe is the Lead Coastal Ranger for Bird Aware Essex Coast. They are an initiative to raise awareness of the birds that feed and breed on the 350 miles of Essex coast, so that people can enjoy the coast and its wildlife without disturbing the birds.

WORKSHOPS, FILMS & THEATRE

"OYSTERLAND" A FILM BY MATTHEW JOHN HARRISON

Oyster Land is a film that spends time with the oystermen of Mersea Island, Essex and explores the ancient oyster culture of the city of Colchester. It's an atmospheric journey of working on the waters of an estuary that has sustained a local trade for thousands of years. Matthew John Harrison is an independent Colchester filmmaker whose company is Eudo Films.

"DON'T FIGHT THE LAND THAT FEEDS YOU."

A short film about the people of Essex & the land that nourishes them.

Marley Karazimba is an Essex born artist, filmmaker & photographer based at Cuckoo Farm Studios in Colchester. Marley's latest film project is created in response to Essex County Councils 'Extraordinary Essex' artist commission which Marley received in October 2024. The film features landworkers, community growing projects & regenerative farming practices taking place at various sites across Essex.

WISE RAM THEATRE

Wise Ram Theatre is a neurodiverse theatre company based in Colchester that makes theatre about the climate crisis with humour, nerve and heart. Launched in October 2022, we work regionally in East Anglia, across the country and internationally. Our first production 'Decommissioned' premiered in 2023 at Pleasance Theatre. In 2024 we collaborated with climate researchers at UCL, on Using Theatre To Explore Extreme Heat through UCL's Performing Planet Activism programme. We deliver workshops for children, young people, university students, community groups and professional creatives on making climate theatre.

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.

EMMA ANDERSON

Emma Anderson has been working for Trust Links since 2021 and is now Community Development & Engagement Lead, 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 6 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.

GRAHAM BURNETT

An activist for social and environmental justice since leaving school in the late 1970s, Graham Burnett has regularly co-organised and taught permaculture workshops and courses for over 20 years. Graham has held the Diploma in Permaculture Design since 2001, and was a member of the Council of Management of the Permaculture Association (Britain) from 2006 to 2011. He founded Spiralseed in 2001, and is a regular contributor to many diverse publications. He has written a number of books including The Vegan Book of Permaculture and Permaculture A Beginners Guide .

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.

AMANDA MACKENZIE

Amanda lives and works at Othona with a particular interest in gardening and growing food. She has explored and practiced meditation from a variety of cultures and philosophies for many years.



WORKSHOPS & MUSIC

ANGENITA TEEKENS

Angenita is an established artist with 25 years of experience facilitating environmental community art projects. She is passionate about using creative expressions and environmental research as a way of connecting people to the natural environment. The workshops she is presenting at the Essex Green Weekend are part of her current project "Future Timelines"

NASTASSJA SIMENSKY

Nastassja is an artist, PhD researcher and lecturer who often works collaboratively to make writing, place-specific performances, events, sound work and films as a form of ongoing fieldwork exploring the unevenly distributed impacts of global energy regimes and extractive processes on particular geographies over time.

JONNEY ALDRIDGE

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

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.

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.

OUT OF THE MIST

Out of The Mist's blend of folk, jazz, blues and their spiritually driven lyrics is both emotive and inspiring. The combination of Lloyd's mastery on guitar and Emma-Jane's captivating vocals, is a delight for both ears and heart.

The pair will be performing their latest single 'Woman Don't Tear Me Down' which was recently featured on BBC Introducing.

M G BOULTER

Serving his apprenticeship in numerous bands in the hotbed of the Southend-on-Sea pub rock scene M G has been quietly working at creating rich and evocative story songs since 2013. Garnering praise from reviewers like Uncut describing his work as "gorgeous in a word" and R2 listing him as "a weapons grade songwriter", M G creates vignettes of suburban lives and seaside communities and is a contemporary voice in the long tradition of the singer-songwriter.

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.

COVER STORIES

We are a group of friends from Colchester and around who have played together for the last decade. We play modern jazz standards, some soul, blues, latin and reggae and some French chansons.

MUSIC

CONTINUED

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.

THE CALMERS

The Calmers, from Southend-on-Sea, will get you on your feet with original grooves, funk and soul! Formed in 2021 and playing their uplifting original tracks, this exciting band delivers funky vocals, a sizzling horn section and a super tight rhythm section. You can listen to their single "Rochford Avenue" on YouTube.

DAVE WARREN JAZZ QUARTET

DWJQ (formerly Dave Warren Jazz Quintet) are a quartet playing well known Latin and jazz standards. They play regularly at Southend Jazz Festival, and venues around South Essex.

SOUTHEND JAZZ CO-OP

The Southend Jazz Co-operative has brought together local amateur jazz musicians in weekly rehearsal sessions and public performances for 30 years. Under the musical direction of local professional saxophonist John Seeley, they meet at Hadleigh Old Fire Station on Saturday mornings, often welcoming top national musicians to put them through their paces.

ELIJAH SUMMERS

Elijah is a 16 year-old musician from East London. Inspired by the folk music of songwriters such as Adrienne Lenker and Bob Dylan. A composer himself, his music is the result of folk tradition that has been churned through a multitude of genres, viewed through a contemporary lens.

JOHN SEELEY'S JAZZ WORKSHOP

The Jazz and Saxophone Workshop is led by professional jazz saxophonist John Seeley and practices at Workshops in Leigh and Hadleigh. We play big band, blues, hard bop, contemporary jazz and soul classics. We are a relaxed, friendly, welcoming group of musicians and we are always looking for more members to join our Jazz family!

GOODNIGHT CROW

Goodnight Crow are duo Dan Forbes (vocals and guitar) and Kate Waterfield (vocals, strings and concertina). Their song writing combines vivid storytelling with driving guitar, poignant viola and striking harmonies. You can expect original folk songs and tales of woe with some fresh interpretations of trad. and the odd cover.

ALFIE FIRMIN

Alfie Firmin is a singer-songwriter from Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Alfie's sound blends the timeless influences of 60s and 70s pop, folk, and singer-songwriter traditions, with touches of Harry Nilsson, Paul McCartney, and Brian Wilson throughout. He has released 4 Albums on indie labels and received strong reviews for the last 2, "Absentee" and "Time Time Around"



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.



**HELP US TO CONTINUE TO
HOLD THIS AMAZING
EVENT BY MAKING A
DONATION**



TIME FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

**ESSEX GREEN
WEEKEND**

OTHONA BRADWELL-ON-SEA

23 - 26 MAY 2025

