



Let's connect!



AUGUST

Weather approaching autumn



NEWSLETTER - August 2025 No.3

IOL International Conference 2025 21 – 22 November ONLINE

This is an online event for **international partnership working** and **cultural exchange**.

The Conference will encourage interaction between **outdoor learning practitioners** from around the world and be **inspiring and relevant** to practitioners.

Theme: 'What is
Outdoor
Learning for?'

Objectives

The Conference will encourage interaction between **outdoor learning practitioners** from around the world and be **inspiring and relevant** to practitioners.

Some of our guest Speakers...

National and international thinkers from different continents, including:

Naila Kiani

Pakistan's foremost female high altitude mountaineer, aerospace engineer, banker, tech startup co-founder, Mum of 2 and adventure athlete. First ever female in Pakistan's history to summit 12 of the world's 14 8,000m peaks. She champions the education of women & girls, and the empowerment of young people through sport.



Dr. Pat Maher

Managing editor of the Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning (JAEOL) and Full Professor of Physical and Health Education at Nipissing University.



Dr. Hellen Nkatha Muthomi (Ph.d)

Sports & recreation management scholar and a full time faculty in the Dept of Recreation & Sports Science, School of Business, Economics & Tourism, Kenyatta University, Kenya.



Some of the workshops...

- **The impact of Health and Safety Legislation on outdoor learning opportunities in schools.** Presenter: Chris North, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Health at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- **Developing reciprocity with Country: Biosecurity in Australian outdoor environmental Education.** Presenters: Sam Price-Rees & Robyn Fox, Associate Lecturers - Bachelor of Ed (Sec) / Bachelor of Recreation & Outdoor Environmental Studies and the Bachelor of Recreation & Outdoor Environmental Studies. Australia. (Photo of Sam Price-Rees)
- **The Healing Power of Chasing the Sun: Guiding Boys to Roaring Courage through Outdoor Learning.** Presenter: Hawi James Ouma, a Professional Co-Active Coach in Kenya.



Bookings open soon!

Keep an eye on the
Conference webpage
for programme updates.



Horizons Revisited

The Horizons archive is a huge collection of **hundreds** of articles that have been published in Horizons. This week we'd like to share this one with you. It looks at the cause and prevention of accidents in adventure activities.

Human Error Accidents in Adventure Activities: Cause and prevention by Marcus Bailie (2010).

Marcus discusses the causes of accidents in adventure activities, emphasizing the importance of understanding human error and improving safety practices through effective management and training. See [the full PDF here](#) and the [full archive here](#).

Human Error Accidents in Adventure Activities: Cause and prevention



"The biggest threat to the future of adventure activities". (Chris Loynes, circa 1999)

44 Whilst accidents, and especially serious accidents, in the Adventure Activity sector are thankfully very rare, they represent a disproportionate threat to it. Moreover, when we scrutinise those which do occur we find a number of common threads. Mechanical failure is seldom a significant cause of accidents. Nor does lack of knowledge feature highly, nor inappropriate operating procedures. Very occasionally, Risk-Benefit expectations go wrong, the Likelihood and Consequence considerations do not pan out as expected, or all the Lemons finally line up. Given the high rate of participation there are very few of any of these types of accidents. The majority of accidents, some of them serious, are those which simply should not happen, but do. The silly, easily preventable ones. The ones which were just plain dumb! And this leads us to the study of errors. 55



IOL Adventure For All Conference

28th-30th November at Bendrigg Trust, Cumbria.

Join us for dynamic two-day event at Bendrigg, a specialist outdoor centre for disabled people. Whether you're an educator, practitioner, or centre manager, this event is packed with inspiration, insight, and opportunity.

Three key booking options:

- Full event Friday to Sunday
- Saturday to Sunday
- Saturday only

BOOK NOW ➔

Discounted early bird member rates if booked by 1st Sept.

Non members also welcome. Exhibitor option.

Not to be missed if you're looking to develop /ensure inclusive outdoor learning.



Early Bird ends on Sept 1st

Contribute to Horizons

Contributions are welcome!

If you are part of the Outdoor Learning community we welcome your stories, no matter whether you are starting out, mid-career, or a veteran with a wealth of experience.

Contact the [Horizons Editor](#).

FIND OUT MORE ➔

Association for Outdoor Therapy Conference 2025

'Sharing practices and building perspectives' in Outdoor Therapy.

8-9th November 2025 at Plas y Brenin.

With a diverse range of presentation topics across a wide range of outdoor workshops in nature, indoor presentations, and main speaker session topics, this is an exciting opportunity to engage, network, reflect and learn with like-minded professionals, in developing understanding and sharing practice, and contributing to the shaping of future developments of outdoor therapy in the UK

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW! (Members, Non Members, Concessionary rates)

Download the brochure to share.

Join the AOT (free for IOL members)



Bushcraft PPG Autumn Conference

7th, 8th, 9th Nov 2025

At Robin Hood Activity Centre near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. [WATCH THIS SPACE](#) for info and ticket launch.

Bushcraft Assessments diary

Bushcraft Competency Assessments (BCC). Places are limited so book ASAP.

- IOL BCC Assessment - DERBYSHIRE
14th October 2025 2 places available.
- IOL BCC Assessment - KENT
23rd October 2025 2 places available.

[Read more...](#)



Countryside Code Stakeholder Survey 2025 - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space

As ambassadors for the outdoors, the countryside code is a critical tool. If you believe it does its job well as it is, or could be approached in a different way considering the changing demographic (and volume) of visitors to the outdoors, this looks like you opportunity to voice your opinion - and those of any organisations you represent! The survey closes on 28 September. [Find it here....](#)



**Cod Cefn Gwlad
PARCHU • DIOGELU • MWYNHAU**
**Countryside Code
RESPECT • PROTECT • ENJOY**

CLOtC Conference - 12th November 2025 - IOL Member Discount

CLOtC National Conference 2025 on Wednesday, 12th November the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds.

Don't miss your chance to be part of the CLOtC National Conference 2025: Creating Connections, Engaging All, Enriching Lives. The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom (CLOtC) is offering a special 10% discount for just 10 IOL members – but be quick, there are only 65 tickets left in total and this offer is strictly first come, first served: contact Emily at emily.carlill@lotc.org.uk with your IOL membership number. (CLOtC members receive an additional discount!). Find out more about the CLOtC National Conference [here](#).

IOL Member discount

Strategic Leadership - 2 day workshop

7th - 8th Nov 2025

Only 2 places left.

BOOK NOW ➔

only 2 places left!

At Humphrey Head OEC, Cumbria. For those with a senior and strategic role in their organisation, or who are seeking to develop their career to take on higher levels of responsibility. Location at the rocky end of the Grange Peninsula, overlooking the sea on both sides. Cost: £265pp for IOL Members

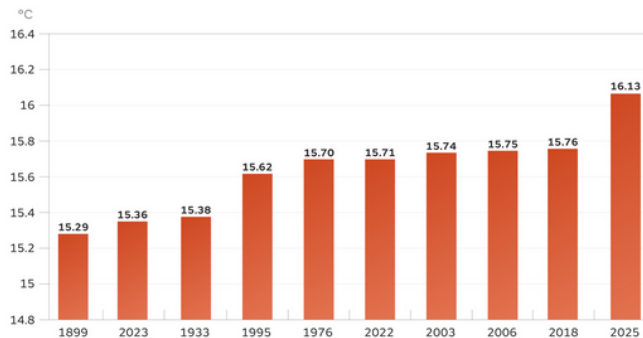
Options to book for accommodation or camping. [Read more and book here...](#)



Summer 2025 will 'almost certainly' be UK's warmest on record, Met Office says

We have all enjoyed (or coped with!) the hot weather this summer. But, the mean temperature is tracking at 16.13C after four heatwaves, significantly above current record of 15.76C. [Read more...](#)

Met Office Top 10 UK warmest summers



PRINTED! High Quality Outdoor Learning

THANK YOU everyone who has ordered printed copies.

The printers have the order and will get going on the printing.

If you'd like to order one of the **very few** spare copies [ORDER NOW!](#)

We will not be holding a stock.

High Quality Outdoor Learning 2025 is aimed at practitioners, providers, decision-makers, and non-specialists. It brings together research, standards and practitioner experience from the UK and further afield. IOL Members get a huge discount on the RRP of £19.50.

Log in to the website and get your HQOL25 for £11!

For more information on why you need HQOL25 in your life, go to [HQOL 2025](#).



IOL Members
£8.50 off RRP

Magic mushrooms: how scientists discovered fungi are the secret ingredient for restoring the world's forests

Healthy fungal networks help trees and plants grow, making them key to successful reforestation. The only problem? Almost nothing is known about this subterranean ecology.

[Read more...](#)



FREE webinars: Call for presenters for the winter series

The Winter programme is taking shape but we still have a few slots available for more webinars.

Do you have skills, knowledge, best practice, activity ideas or sector updates that you'd like to share with IOL Members?

Would you like to host a webinar in the Winter series?

[Contact Fiona at IOL.](#)

CALL for PRESENTERS
FREE webinars for IOL Members

Do you have skills, knowledge, best practice, activity ideas or sector updates that you'd like to share with IOL Members?

Would you like to host a webinar in the Winter series?

Our Winter Programme 2025/26 of free webinars for members (£50 for non members) will start after the IOL National online Conference in November 2025.

Webinars are hosted on a weekday and typically last about an hour. We aim to programme one per week from mid-November 2025 to late February 2026.

Contact [Fiona at IOL](#) to find out more.

Help women in Scotland facing adversity take their next steps

A donation can provide essential kit for women taking part in the Next Steps programme with IOL Members, Venture Trust. [Read more...](#)



It is World Water Week

It will shine a spotlight on water's vital role in both climate mitigation and resilience. From glaciers to oceans, from source to sea, water connects it all. Freshwater ecosystems underpin all human social and economic activity. [Read more...](#)



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Who to contact at IOL

- Jo Barnett, CEO
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- Dave Brooks Membership
- Fiona Exon Job Adverts & Events
- Steve Ulllyart IT & Accounts payable