



Let's connect!



NEWSLETTER - July 2025 No.2



A HAIKU FOR THE
SUMMER
the sun pours herself
into the sea and the
world
overflows with light

PRINTED! High Quality Outdoor Learning

Following popular demand we are printing High Quality Outdoor Learning. This will be a limited print run and you can place your orders through our website (follow the link below!).

IOL Members get a huge discount on the RRP of £19.50.

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

There are generous quantity discounts too.



IOL Members

£8.50 off RRP

Orders will be open until Wednesday 23rd July. We will then print and distribute all orders. We will not be holding a stock. So, if you want a copy, you need to order now! Click here to order: [Buy HQOL at the IOL Members Rate](#) For more information on why you need HQOL25 in your life, go to [High Quality Outdoor Learning 2025](#).

NOLA User Survey



NOLA has been used widely across our sector since 2018 and we are keen to understand more about how it is being used. If you use NOLA, please help us by completing a short anonymous survey. The objectives of the survey are to identify:

- who is using the award
- how many learners are receiving the award
- benefits of using the award
- ways in which the award could be improved.

Use [this link](#) or barcode >>
Please forward to anyone else whom you know is using NOLA. Thank you.



FREE webinar for IOL Members

**A Master Class in
developing effective &
efficient teams.**

30 September at 4.30pm.

Another excellent webinar hosted by Bob Larcher.

Aim: To provide participants with concrete hints & tips to create efficient and effective teams; how to "consciously" move a team along the Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing and beyond continuum.

Ideally, participants will have some experience of leading/managing a team.

Free for IOL Members. £30 non members.

Places are strictly limited - don't miss out.



BOOK NOW

SAVE THE DATE

**21 - 22
November**

**Bookings will open
on August 11th**

More details to follow soon.
Keep an eye on the
Conference webpage
for info as we have it.

**IOL International
Conference
2025
ONLINE**

Conference Theme
'What is Outdoor Learning for?'

Follow the Sun
The conference will be themed according to continents and move eastwards over the two half days.

Guest Speakers...
... will be national and international thinkers.

More details soon!



#GOLD2025
Objectives
The Conference will encourage interaction between outdoor learning practitioners from around the world and be inspiring and relevant to practitioners.

Reach
This is an online conference for international partnership working and cultural exchange.

Strategic Leadership - 2 day workshop

7th - 8th Nov 2025

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.

The course venue is an inspirational location at the rocky end of the Grange Peninsula, overlooking the sea on both sides.

Cost: £265pp for IOL Members with options to book for accommodation or camping.

[Read more and book here....](#)



BOOK NOW



Bushcraft PPG Autumn Conference 7th, 8th, 9th November 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](#)
(23rd August 2025)
- IOL BCC Assessment - [KENT](#) (23rd
October 2025)

[Read more....](#)

IOL Adventure For All Conference SAVE THE DATE!

Look out for the
annual in-person
conference at the
28th-30th November
at Bendrigg Trust,
nr Kendal, Cumbria.
For those with a
specialist or general
interest.



**Not to be missed if you are looking to
develop /ensure inclusive outdoor
learning.**

[Look out for the details and
bookings opening.](#)

Unique fundraising canoeing challenge

Rich Ensoll, senior
lecturer in Outdoor
Studies at the
University of
Cumbria and



outdoor expert Johan Hoving have set off on
a unique challenge – to canoe around the
entire coastline of Ireland. They are paddling
a traditional skin-on-frame canoe whilst
raising funds for Oxfam Ireland and The
Keppleway Trust's Participation and
Inclusion fund. To learn more about Rich and
how this interacts with research into coastal
communities, [visit here...](#)

Association for Outdoor Therapy Conference 2025

**'Sharing practices and building
perspectives' in Outdoor Therapy.**

8-9th November 2025 at Plas y Brenin.

This will be a weekend event where we will
come together in person to share our practices
in outdoor therapy, debate topics and issues
that are key in the developing landscape of
outdoor therapy, and build perspectives in developing an ethical
and engaged community of Outdoor Therapy.

We will be inviting AOT members to contribute with talks and
workshops about their outdoor therapy work and practices.

BOOK NOW to get Early Bird rates!

Call for Presenters!

Join the AOT (free for IOL members)



BOOK NOW ➔

John Muir Trust celebrate 25 years of caring for Ben Nevis

Find out more about this
special wild place and how
you can help JMT work to
restore it.

As the highest mountain in the
UK, Ben Nevis is a natural
source of inspiration to many.

A place of adventure and
achievement, spectacular
beauty and rare wildlife, it's somewhere that leaves visitors with a

true sense of wildness. [Read more...](#)



The IOL JobSite

- the premier website for
outdoor learning job vacancies

- **Supporting** the outdoor learning sector
- **Signposting** for job seekers
- Helping to **fill workforce vacancies** with
free adverts for organisational IOL Members
- Job adverts on the IOL JobSite are
searchable by category, region,
contract type and salary

Job adverts are also posted onto X, BlueSky and
also on the IOL Jobs & Careers Facebook page.

[See the JobSite here](#) and
How to Advertise, [here...](#)



School Grounds in Scotland Report

A major new report has revealed concerns about the state of Scotland's school grounds, highlighting significant challenges that could impact children's learning, play, and wellbeing. "Scotland's school grounds collectively cover an area the size of Dundee,"

said Matt Robinson of Learning through Landscapes, the national school grounds charity. "It raises some concerning facts, while also giving cause for celebration in some areas."

[Link to survey page and background.](#)



Royal recognition for Field Studies Council



IOL Members, the Field Studies Council at Preston Montford, Shropshire, which provides outdoor education to thousands of school children, welcomed Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal as its new patron earlier this week. The environmental education charity operates a network of field study centres and works with schoolchildren right across the UK – engaging some of the most deprived young people in outdoor learning and giving them access to nature. During the visit, The Princess Royal met charity trustees, senior management, centre managers from across the UK, education team leaders, hospitality, catering, office and maintenance staff who play a pivotal role in keeping the charity's centres fully operational. [Read more...](#)

Ten years of nature-friendly breakfasts helps rare birds, bees and butterflies return

Survey of 27 farms across 14,600 hectares shows increases in rare orchid and red-listed nightingale. Pond restoration, native tree planting and wildflower field margins encourage wildlife back and show food production and nature can go hand-in-hand. [Read more on the Wildlife Trust webpage....](#)

Scientists discover what's driving record die-offs of US honeybees

Experts scrambling to understand losses in hives across the country are finally identifying the culprits. And the damage to farmed bees is a sign of trouble for wild bees too. [Read more...](#) Hopefully this research will help worldwide.

Temperature advice for Outdoor activities

When working outdoors, the weather can have a serious impact on worker's health if the risks have not been properly managed. There are several factors to consider when planning sport and activities for young people which may occur during hot weather. There are simple actions you can take to protect people working outdoors. [Read more...](#)

Also see Sunguarding: Sun and heat protection for sports and outdoor recreation.



Have your say: help make nature a regular part of every child's education

The **Nature Premium Campaign** is calling for regular and ongoing nature experiences for all children and young people. To strengthen this analysis, we need input from organisations across all sectors.



[Please complete our short survey.](#) Your responses will help demonstrate the breadth of support for the Nature Premium and will be anonymized and included as an appendix to the analysis. **Together, we can help ensure every child benefits from time in nature.**

Please share the link with your contacts. Find the survey [here](#).

Who to contact at IOL

- Jo Barnett, CEO
- Richard Retallick Business & Operations Manager
- Dave Brooks Membership
- Fiona Exon Job Adverts & Events
- Steve Ullart IT & Accounts payable

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