

Urban Forest Resilience Conference:  
“Ensuring London remains green for future generations”  
4<sup>th</sup> June 2014 Kew Gardens

## Speaker Profiles

### **Sir Harry Studholme: Forestry Commission Chairman**

Sir Harry Studholme has owned and managed forests in South West England for over 20 years. He has been a GB Forestry Commissioner since 2007 and was Deputy Chairman of the Independent Panel on Forestry, which reported in July 2012 on the future of English forestry. He also chaired the National Tree Safety Group. His current commitments include chairing the Phaunos Timber Fund, a quoted investment trust owning forestry across five continents. Sir Harry was Chairman of the South West Regional Development Agency from 2009 to 2012.



He chaired the Finding Sanctuary project, working with environmentalists and the fishing industry on proposals for marine conservation from 2007 to 2011. He is an Engineering graduate of Cambridge University, a Chartered Accountant (FCA), a Chartered Tax Adviser (CTA) and accredited Commercial Mediator (CEDAR).

### **Jago Keen: Keen Consultants**

Jago Keen has qualifications and experience in arboriculture and nature conservation and applies complex system thinking to the challenges presented by town planning, green infrastructure management and projection planning; two decades spent in the ‘natural capital’ sector, managing our natural assets to ensure ecosystem services are delivered.

In private practice, Jago Keen is consulted by clients in local government, healthcare trusts, property development companies and private individuals, throughout the UK and Eurasia, to deliver pragmatic solutions to build resilient ecosystem provision.



### **Jake Tibbetts: London Tree Officer Association Chairman**

Jake has worked in Arboriculture for over 15 years and currently manages the London Borough of Islington's tree service having previously worked for Camden, Ealing and Wokingham district council. He is the current Chair of the London Tree Officers Association.



### **Tony Kirkham: Head of the Arboretum and Horticultural Services, RBG Kew**

Following an apprenticeship in the forestry industry and 2 years as an arborist, in 1978 Tony started at The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew on the 3 year Diploma course, graduating in 1982.

In 2001 he became the Head of the Arboretum and Horticultural Services, responsible for the management and curation of the 14,000 trees in the collections. He has participated and led several plant collecting expeditions to Chile and the Far East of Asia, including China, Taiwan, Japan, S. Korea and Russia. In 2004 he completed the revision of the "Pruning of Trees Shrubs and Conifers" with Timber Press.

He featured in the BBC2 series "A Year at Kew" and presented the "Trees that made Britain" for BBC2. He represents Kew on the RHS bursaries and woody plant committee, Castle Howard Arboretum Trust, International Dendrology Society, and is a trustee of TROBI, (Tree Register of the British Isles). In 2009 he was awarded the Associate of Honour by the RHS for distinguished service to horticulture.



### **Dr Joan Webber: Principal Pathologist & Head of Tree Health, Forest Research**

Joan Webber graduated from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, with a BSc in Botany and Microbiology in 1975. She studied for her Ph.D in tree pathology as a SRC CASE student with the University of Wales and the Forestry Commission from 1975-78.

From 1979 Joan then worked as a research fellow and lecturer employed by the University of Southampton where her research focussed on Dutch elm disease and the interplay between the tree pathogens and insect vectors.

She joined Forest Research in 1989, initially as Head of Forest Products research and then transferred to Pathology in 1996, becoming Principal Pathologist in 2001.

In her current role as Principal Pathologist and Head of Tree Health Research Group, Joan is responsible for leading and managing research into the health of trees, with particular emphasis on recently arrived pests and pathogens.



### **Dr Richard Jinks: Project Manager, Forest Research**

Richard Jinks is from the Forestry Commission's Research Agency and is based at Alice Holt Research Station in Surrey, where he is a project leader within the Centre for Sustainable Forestry and Climate Change.

Richard works on several research projects, including investigating potential species and provenances that might be useful for helping forests adapt to climate change. He is also carrying out research on the regeneration biology of trees, and is involved in managing a portfolio of long-term experiments that include many species trials.

He provides scientific and technical support to the management of the tree collections at Westonbirt National Arboretum and Bedgebury National Pinetum.



### **Dr Gabriel Hemery: Chief Executive, Sylva Foundation**

Gabriel is a forest scientist, author and tree photographer. He co-founded and is Chief Executive of the Sylva Foundation. He is also a founding trustee of Fund4Trees, and formerly a trustee of Woodland Heritage and Secretary of the British & Irish Hardwoods Improvement Programme. A fellow of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, Gabriel has written more than 70 technical articles and worked widely in collaborative science programmes, ranging from genetic tree improvement to silvo-poultry research. He created a centre dedicated to hardwood research centre at Paradise Wood in Oxfordshire.

Gabriel played a lead role in Our Forests, campaigning to save England's public forests from government disposal. He writes a popular forestry blog and his first book, *The New Sylva*, was published by Bloomsbury in April 2014.



### **Keith Sacre: Sales Director, Barcham Trees**

Over 20 years experience in local government as nursery, parks and operations manager. Keith spent eleven years with Notcutt's Nurseries with responsibility for tree sales to local authorities and other trade outlets. Currently Sales Director with Barcham Trees, the largest container tree nursery in Europe.

Is a member of the Chartered Institute of Foresters and a Chartered Arboriculturist. Has an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, BSc in Arboriculture, BSc in Social Science and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management.



### **Martin Gammie MIC For. Dip.Arb(RFS) F.Arbor.A**

Having been dedicated to a career in the world of forestry, landscape and arboriculture for over 30 years Martin has attained a wealth of experience from his work in both the public and private sectors of these disciplines in the UK and overseas. Specialising in the integration of green infrastructure within in the built environment, his consultancy practice, Consulting with Trees Ltd. is at the forefront of innovative design and working practices that facilitate effective establishment and compatible longevity of trees in the urban environment.



Promoting his industry and improving professionalism within it is at the heart of Martin's work. Currently he is working with the Trees and Design Action Group (TDAG) developing best practice guidance documents, he established the first Tree Warden scheme in Oxfordshire and was responsible for the launch of the South Oxfordshire Arboricultural Industry Forum. Most recently Martin has become a founding trustee of the charity Fund4Trees which seeks to raise money for tree related research and educational material. Martin is a Chartered Forester and Fellow of the Arboricultural Association

**Professor Julian Evans OBE, BSc, PhD, DSc, FICFor:  
President of the Institute of Chartered Foresters**

Julian Evans graduated in Forestry from Bangor (1968) and was formerly Professor of Forestry at Imperial College London and, previously, the Forestry Commission's Chief Research Office(S) at Alice Holt. He is author of many technical books, was a principal editor of the Encyclopedia of Forest Science (Elsevier 2004), and a past editor of the Institute's journal, Forestry. He has a long-term research interest in plantation sustainability in Swaziland and silviculture of broadleaved woodland in UK. Julian chaired two UN Intersessional conferences on the Future of Planted Forests (Chile 1999 and Wellington, NZ 2003). He is a vice-president of Commonwealth Forestry Association. Julian owns a 12 ha wood in Hampshire. In 1997, he was appointed OBE for services to 'Forestry and the Third World'.



**Andrew Jones: Policy & Programmes Manager, Greater London Authority**

Andrew has over 20 years of working in the natural environment sector. He has worked at the GLA since 2006 where he has held a number of roles including managing the urban greening and food teams. He currently manages the GLA's Environment Delivery Team where he is responsible for the delivery of a number of environmental programmes including mayoral commitments to increase tree cover in



the capital including the planting of a further 10,000 street trees and improving parks and green spaces including establishing 100 pocket parks.

He is also a member of the Forestry Commission's Forestry and Woodland Advisory Committee in London and a founding Trustee of the London Parks and Greenspaces Forum. Prior to joining the GLA in 2006 he was Head of Natural Environment, Coasts and Countryside Partnerships for Kent County Council. He is a past chair of the Association of Local Government Ecologists and was a founding Trustee of the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre.

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