

# PLASTIC: TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

**EVENT: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – SOAS, University of London**

**Through workshops and an expert panel discussion, students will increase their understanding of the issues surrounding plastic pollution, biodiversity and how different forms of communication can help them to become the next generation of change-makers.**

- This **free** educational event is open to Key Stage 3 students
- 203 student places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis
- Each school can request up to 24 student tickets (plus up to three accompanying teachers/staff).

## Learning objectives

- To describe the impact of plastic pollution on biodiversity
- To develop skills that can be used to influence and persuade
- To identify personal and collective actions that can be taken to reduce plastic pollution.

## Venue

Brunei Gallery SOAS  
University of London  
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square  
London WC1H 0XG

<https://www.soas.ac.uk/gallery/visit/>



## PROGRAMME:

- 11.45: Arrival
- 12.10: Welcome address
- 12.30: Workshop session one
- 13.15: Break
- 13.30: Workshop session two
- 14.15: Break
- 14.30: Panel discussion: Plastic: Taking Responsibility
- 15.30: Mingling and one-to-one questions
- 16.00: Departure

## WORKSHOPS

Each student will have the opportunity to attend two of the 45-minute workshops available during the day – places will be allocated, based on interest, nearer the time.

In addition, students will be able to share their views through a Born Free Podcast (interviews to be recorded on the day) and a graffiti wall.

## FROM BEACH CLEANS TO OCEAN DREAMS – How to use stories to help change the world

Passionate about conservation? Furious about the plastic polluting our seas? Join bestselling children's author, Lauren St John, for a creative writing masterclass and learn how to tell stories that move hearts and minds.

### FACILITATOR

#### Lauren St John, children's author

Lauren grew up surrounded by horses, dogs, cats, a warthog and a giraffe on a farm and game reserve in Zimbabwe, the inspiration for her bestselling *White Giraffe*, *Laura Marlin* and *The One Dollar Horse* series. *Kat Wolfe on Thin Ice*, her third Wolfe & Lamb mystery, will be out in October 2020. Lauren is an Ambassador for Born Free and the founder of Authors4Oceans, a coalition of children's authors campaigning against plastic pollution and dolphins in captivity.



## STORYBOARDS

### – Visualising your film

Videos and vlogs can be a great way to share messages and educate your audience. We will explain why storyboards are a great tool for visualising ideas in order to create a captivating video. The workshop will be divided into a theoretical and practical elements and, working in groups, students will create a brand new storyboard.

#### FACILITATOR

### Filip Fortuna, Video Production Manager at Born Free

Filip Fortuna is a filmmaker and photographer. After finishing his broadcast journalism studies in Croatia, Filip moved to the UK to study journalism and documentary film at Cardiff University. Following a successful spell with the *Financial Times*' video team in London, he joined Born Free in 2018.



## HOW TO BE A PLASTIC CHANGEMAKER

Plastic impacts everything that lives on our planet. How are we going to fix this? In this fast-moving interactive session we will explore the connection of plastic to the climate crisis and all wildlife. Is it possible to switch to other materials? How will this affect how we live in the future? And discover your true power as a plastic changemaker.

#### FACILITATOR

### Sian Sutherland, Co-Founder of A Plastic Planet

Sian's passion is igniting social change, creating brands, campaigns and businesses with soul. A multi-award winner Sian is a serial entrepreneur with a varied background in advertising, Michelin star restaurants, film production and brand creation design agencies. In 2017 Sian co-founded A Plastic Planet; a social impact non-profit with a single goal – to ignite and inspire the world to turn off the plastic tap.



## **BIODIVERSITY UNDER THREAT**

### **– What are the solutions?**

In this workshop, we will explore some of the biggest threats facing biodiversity today, including pollution and habitat loss, and what we can do to solve them. We will traverse continents, looking at the state of biodiversity across the world, before delving in to the complex lives of chimpanzees in a small area of Uganda, Africa.

### **FACILITATOR**

---

#### **Penny Banham, Conservation Projects Officer at Born Free**

Penny Banham joined Born Free after graduating from the University of Oxford with an MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation and Management. Penny's field experience includes researching the ecology of elephants in southern Tanzania and rhinos in South Africa.



## **CREATIVE CATCH**

### **– Art that inspires change**

Students can join artist John Dyer and be guided through both an individual and collective art project which together will highlight the impact of plastic on our oceans. Helping to form a personal connection with the subject and demonstrating the power of sharing messages through art.

### **FACILITATOR**

---

#### **John Dyer, Artist**

John Dyer is Cornwall's best-known and best-loved contemporary artist and his work is known all over the world. He has a unique way of capturing the essence of his subject and through his naïve style makes his work stand out as a celebration of the song of life.



**All workshop facilitators will hold enhanced DBS checks.**

The day will also be supported by volunteers from Woodhouse College's Environmental Action Group (London).

## PANEL DISCUSSION

**What can we do, individually and together, to reduce plastic pollution?**



### **Baroness Natalie Bennett** **Green Party, House of Lords**

Natalie Bennett is a Green member of the House of Lords. She was leader of the Green Party from 2012-2016, after spending 20 years working as a journalist, including on the *Bangkok Post*, *The Times* and as Editor of the *Guardian Weekly*. She shaped and developed Green Party policy on issues such as supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals and ending all unnecessary single-use plastics.



### **Sian Sutherland** **Co-Founder of A Plastic Planet**

Sian's passion is igniting social change, creating brands, campaigns and businesses with soul. A multi-award winner Sian is a serial entrepreneur with a varied background in advertising, Michelin star restaurants, film production and brand creation design agencies. In 2017 Sian co-founded A Plastic Planet; a social impact non-profit with a single goal – to ignite and inspire the world to turn off the plastic tap.



### **Andrew Thornton** **Founder at Thornton's Budgens and Heart in Business**

Andrew started his career at Mars, was a founder director of social enterprises The People's Supermarket and Food from the Sky, founded and ran the retail consultancy SRCG and is a fellow of the Royal Society for Arts, Commerce and Industry. In addition, Andrew has spearheaded Thornton's Budgens in North London becoming the first UK supermarket (and the second in the world) to launch plastic-free zones.



### **Alex Bruce** **Founder of Turtle Straws**

Alex Bruce founded Turtle Straws in May 2018. After growing up in Portsmouth and working overseas in childcare – teaching children how to sail and windsurf – he developed a passion for all things active and ocean. In 2019, Turtle Straws supplied two million biodegradable straws in over 35 countries. Alex also has a passion for educating and helping people understand the minefield of waste reduction.

**SIGN UP FORM**

**Contact details**

School name:

.....

Contact teacher:

.....

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode:

.....

Phone number:

.....

Contact teacher email address:

.....

**Students**

*Each school can request up to 24 student tickets (plus up to three accompanying teachers/staff)*

Age of students:

.....

Number of student places requested:

.....

Number of teachers/staff accompanying the group:

.....

Subject of study (if applicable):

.....

.....

Complete and return form to [greatdebate@bornfree.org.uk](mailto:greatdebate@bornfree.org.uk) ASAP

Tickets will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Once your places are confirmed, we will be in touch with more details and to request workshop choices and necessary student information.