

## 101 ENVIRONMENTALISTS: OUR INTERVIEWEES

**Maria Adebawale-Schwarte** is founder of Capacity Global and the Living Space Project. She has been a commissioner of the UK Sustainable Development Commission and the English Heritage Commission and was previously Director of the Foundation for Future London.

**Rosamund Adoo-Kissi-Debrah** became a campaigner after her daughter Ella died from asthma, making legal history by successfully arguing to have air pollution listed as a cause of death. She continues to be a leading voice in the campaign for clean air.

**Zarina Ahmad** is Co-Director of the Women's Environmental Network. Previous roles include Climate Change and Environment Officer at the Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations (CEMVO) Scotland, supporting minority ethnic groups to take action.

**Paul Allen** is Knowledge and Outreach Co-ordinator at the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Mid Wales. Since 2007 he has spearheaded CAT's flagship 'Zero Carbon Britain' research and education project, exploring net zero scenarios for the UK.

**Jen Anderson** worked for Scottish Environment LINK from 1987 to 2019, initially as coordinator, later becoming Chief Executive. Throughout this time, she was instrumental in bringing together organisations from across Scotland in joint campaigns.

**Phil Asquith** was a key member of the team of trade unionists who created the 1976 'Lucas Plan', an alternative corporate plan for Lucas Aerospace that advocated the production of socially useful products. He has also been involved in the New Lucas Plan project.

**Andy Atkins** is CEO of A Rocha UK, a Christian nature conservation body that supports churches and faith groups to take action on the environment. Previous roles have included Executive Director of Friends of the Earth and Advocacy Director at Tearfund.

**Lloyd Austin** is an expert in environmental policy and legislation with 40 years' experience in the movement. He was previously Head of Conservation Policy at RSPB Scotland and has been a Trustee of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland and Scottish Environment LINK.

**Maxwell Ayamba** is a journalist and academic championing countryside access for minority ethnic communities. He is co-founder of the walking group 100 Black Men Walking for Health and founder and co-ordinator of the Sheffield Environmental Movement.

**Craig Bennett** has been CEO of the Wildlife Trusts since 2020. Previous roles include Chief Executive and earlier Director of Policy and Campaigns at Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland and Director of the Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group on climate change.

**Stella Bland** is Director of LDA Design. Previous work has included roles at the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, Forum for the Future, and the Environment Agency. Stella was also involved in Sustainable Hackney for many years.

**Sandy Boyd** was a key organiser of the Scottish Schools Climate Strike as a teenager and has been involved in the international school strike movement, Climate Camp and Extinction Rebellion, among other campaigns and groups.

**Gail Bradbrook** is a co-founder of Extinction Rebellion (XR), which she helped grow into a global grassroots environmental movement based on non-violent direct action (NVDA). Prior to this, she was involved in animal rights activism and the Transition Towns movement.

**Zoe Broughton** is a radical video-maker who uses video as a tool to fight for social and environmental justice. She has documented the environmental movement for more than 25 years, including working with activists, protestors and community groups.

**Tom Burke** has been involved in the movement since the 1970s, with roles including Friends of the Earth Executive Director, Director of the Green Alliance, and founder of E3G. He has also had government and corporate advisory roles and has co-authored several books.

**Chris Butler-Stroud** is CEO of Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) and has been campaigning on the protection of cetaceans for over 30 years, including working to stop whaling, captivity, bycatch and other threats to their survival.

**Sue Christie** was CEO of Northern Ireland Environment Link from 1991 to 2014, having previously worked with Ulster Wildlife and Northern Ireland 2000. More recently, she has been Chair and Interim CEO of Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

**Chris Church** is Co-Director of Community Environment Associates supporting local action, working with many NGOs and councils over 30 years. He chaired the Low Carbon Communities Network and London 21, helped set up Community Energy England, and is a co-founder of the OHM project.

**Sue Clifford** was an early Trustee of Friends of the Earth and co-founded arts and environment charity Common Ground in 1983. She has worked in environmental planning and architecture for the past 40 years and has an MBE for services to the environment.

**Ruth Davis** is a campaigner, political analyst and conservationist with over 20 years' experience in the environment sector. She has worked with Plantlife, the RSPB, Greenpeace UK and as a government advisor. She was awarded an OBE for public service in 2022.

**Nigel Doar** is Head of Science and Research at the Wildlife Trusts. He has been involved in nature conservation since the 1980s, with previous roles at the Nature Conservancy Council, local Wildlife Trusts and the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

**Shlomo Downen** has been working to oppose the expansion of waste incineration in the UK for over 20 years and is co-founder of the UK Without Incineration Network (UKWIN), which helps coordinate and support local community action.

**Graham Duxbury** is Chief Executive of Groundwork UK, having been involved with the organisation since the 1990s in a range of policy and development roles. He was awarded an OBE for services to communities and the environment in 2020.

**Ian Egginton-Metters** was involved with the city farms and community gardens movement for over 40 years, including serving as Chief Executive of the National Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens. He was awarded an OBE in 2013.

**Haf Elgar** is Director of Friends of the Earth Cymru and Vice Chair of partnership organisation Healthy Air Cymru. She sits on the Climate Cymru and Fuel Poverty Coalition steering groups and was previously Chair of Stop Climate Chaos Cymru.

**Liz Eliot** has been an environmental activist since the 1970s. She helped set up Glastonbury Festival's Green Fields in the 1980s and has been involved with running the area since the 1990s, helping inspire much of the festival's environmental ethos.

**Lisa Fagan** has been involved with the environmental movement for over 30 years, and has worked with Conservation Volunteers, Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland and Christian Aid Ireland, with roles including campaigning, development and communications.

**Jyoti Fernandes** is an agroecological smallholder farmer, living and working at Fivepenny Farm, Dorset. She is co-founder of the Landworkers' Alliance – where she coordinates policy, lobbying and campaigning – and a spokesperson for La Via Campesina.

**Angela Francis** is an economist and researcher working within the environmental movement. Roles have included: WWF-UK Director of Policy Solutions; WWF-UK Chief Advisor, Economics and Economic Development; and Green Alliance Chief Economist.

**Sheila Freeman** is an activist who has been part of many actions and organisations across several decades, including Friends of the Earth, the 1990s roads protest movement, Earth First! UK, Reclaim the Streets and Extinction Rebellion.

**Mathew Frith**, who died in 2025, dedicated his career to urban wildlife conservation and its role in environmental and social justice. He was involved with the London Wildlife Trust from the 1980s onwards, most recently as Director of Research.

**Maggie Fyffe** is Secretary and Chair of the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust. The trust led the community buy-out of Eigg in 1997 and has since worked to improve the environment of the island, including a unique renewable energy grid system.

**Nicholas Gardner** is Executive Director of the Environmental Funders Network, having previously been Head of Climate Action at the National Lottery Community Fund. He is also the co-founder of ActionFunder, a platform which helps connect communities and funders.

**Joss Garman** works at the intersection of campaigns, policy, politics and media. He has had roles at the European Climate Foundation, Greenpeace, the Institute for Public Policy Research and as a Labour Party advisor. He is a co-founder of Plane Stupid.

**Emma Geen** is a climate activist specialising in disability climate justice. She co-produced the world's first community climate action plan by and for Disabled people and co-authored the Bristol Just Transition Declaration.

**Ray Georgeson** has been involved in recycling since the 1980s, with roles in Community Recycling Network, Waste Watch, WRAP and Zero Waste Scotland, among others. He has been an advisor to governments, playing a key role in the development of legislation.

**Zac Goldsmith** is a Conservative Party politician and Member of the House of Lords. He has previously been a Member of Parliament, a government minister, and a London mayoral candidate. From 1998 to 2007 he was Editor of *The Ecologist* magazine.

**Jane Goodall**, who died in 2025, was a leading primatologist who spent over 60 years studying wild chimpanzees. She worked extensively in conservation and animal welfare, including through the Jane Goodall Institute and the Roots & Shoots educational programme.

**David Green** spearheaded a pioneering home insulation programme with Friends of the Earth Durham as a student in the 1970s. He has held senior roles in sustainable energy organisations and is currently Vice President of the Association for Decentralised Energy.

**John Grimshaw** was Chief Executive of Sustrans for 30 years until 2007, overseeing the organisation's growth and the development of the National Cycle Network. He has remained involved in walking and cycling initiatives, including co-founding Greenway and Cycleroutes.

**Robin Grove-White** was previously Professor of Environment and Society at Lancaster University, where he established the Centre for the Study of Environmental Change in 1991. He has also been Director of CPRE and Chair of Greenpeace UK.

**Nigel Haigh** has worked in the sector since the 1970s, helping found the European Environmental Bureau, the London office of the Institute for European Environmental Policy, and the Green Alliance. He has authored several books on environmental policy.

**Areeba Hamid** is Co-Executive Director of Greenpeace UK, having previously had senior campaigning roles in Greenpeace offices around the world. She has also worked with the Sunrise Project, leading their global finance programme.

**Vicki Hird** has worked on environment, food and farming campaigns and policy for over 30 years, with roles at Sustain, Friends of the Earth, and War on Want. She has also been an independent advisor to a range of organisations and is author of 'Rebugging the Planet'.

**Daniel Hooper** is an activist better known as 'Swampy'. He became the face of the 1990s road protests when he and others took part in direct action to try to block the UK-wide road-building programme. More recently he was involved in direct action against HS2 and now works in forestry.

**Maria Hornsby** is a founder member and previous Director of Social Farms and Gardens. Other roles have included Director of Rice Lane City Farm and trustee of Collective Encounters arts and social change charity.

**Jeremy Iles** has worked at Friends of the Earth, London Wildlife Trust, Sustrans, and as CEO at the Federation of City Farms and Community. Founder of the Local Food Consortium, and the Urban Agriculture Consortium and is a co-founder of the OHEM project.

**Ewa Jasiewicz** is an activist, writer and union organiser who has been involved in a range of climate justice organisations – including Fuel Poverty Action, No Dash for Gas, and Reclaim the Power – and in solidarity initiatives in Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Jay Jordan** is an art activist and author who co-founded direct action organisations Reclaim the Streets and the Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army, and was previously Co-Director of activism organisation Platform.

**Stephen Joseph** was Chief Executive of Campaign for Better Transport (formerly Transport 2000) from 1988 to 2018. He is now a transport policy adviser, trustee of the Foundation for Integrated Transport, and a visiting professor at the University of Hertfordshire.

**Tony Juniper** has been Chair of Natural England since 2019, having previously held senior roles in prominent environmental organisations, including Friends of the Earth, WWF and the Wildlife Trusts. He has authored a number of books and was awarded a CBE in 2017.

**Roy Kareem** is Director of Bright Green Future environmental leadership programme for young people based at the Centre for Sustainable Energy. He is an alumnus of the Black and Green Ambassadors programme and trustee of the Bristol and Bath Parks Foundation.

**Hirra Khan Adeogun** is Co-Director of Campaigns and Impact at climate charity Possible, having previously led their car-free cities project. She has also worked for Amnesty International UK and has been a Trustee of the Women's Environmental Network.

**Satish Kumar** has devoted his life to campaigning for ecological regeneration, social justice and spiritual fulfilment. He is a founder of the Resurgence Trust and Schumacher College, previously edited *Resurgence & Ecologist* magazine, and has authored several books.

**Bleddyn Lake** is a campaigner with Friends of the Earth Cymru and has been involved successful campaigns such as the Welsh Government's Action Plan for Pollinators, the Bee Friendly scheme, the UK Climate Change Act, fracking, and the plastic bag charge.

**Jean Lambert** has been involved with the Green Party (originally the Ecology Party) since the 1970s. She has had a range of roles within the party, including Principal Speaker and Chair of the Party Executive, and was a Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2019.

**Natalie Lartey** is an advisor on racial and gender justice within the sustainable development sector. She has worked with the IIED, Concern Worldwide, Action Against Hunger, Living Space Project and Greenpeace, and is founder of social enterprise Wood & Water.

**John Le Corney** co-founded Heeley City Farm in Sheffield in 1981 and was the farm's Chief Executive until 2018. He has played a key role in the development of the UK city farms and community gardens movement.

**Judy Ling Wong** was the UK Director (now Honorary President) of Black Environment Network. A leading advocate for diversity and equality, she has won many accolades, including an OBE for pioneering multicultural environmental participation and a CBE for services to heritage.

**Maddy Longhurst** has been involved in community, land and soil initiatives for over 20 years. She is Coordinator of the Urban Agriculture Consortium and has been involved in Tiny House Community Bristol, the Bristol Commons, and Constructivist regenerative design school.

**Caroline Lucas** was the first elected Member of Parliament for the Green Party of England and Wales, serving as MP for Brighton Pavilion from 2010 to 2024. She has also been a Member of the European Parliament and leader of the Green Party.

**Helen Lynn** has been involved with the Women's Environmental Network since the 1980s, working at national, European and international levels on issues linking gender, health and the environment, including campaigns on period products and breast cancer prevention.

**Richard Macrory** played a key role in the development of UK environmental law. He was Friends of the Earth's first legal advisor, the UK's first Professor of Environmental Law, and the founder and director of the Centre for Law and the Environment.

**Amy and Ella Meek** co-founded Kids Against Plastic in 2016 at ages 12 and 10, empowering young people to tackle environmental issues. They have spoken at UK parliaments and UN youth summits and have received a number of awards for their work.

**Margaret Minhinnick** co-founded Friends of the Earth Cymru in 1984 and was chief spokesperson for several years. She also founded Sustainable Wales Projects Ltd and SUSSED Wales and presented an environmental television series in the 1990s.

**George Monbiot** is a journalist, author, and environmental and political activist. He has authored influential books on topics including climate change, agriculture and rewilding, and writes a regular column for the *Guardian*.

**Andy Moore** coordinated the Community Recycling Network and led the Campaign for Real Recycling in the early 2000s, having been involved in Friends of the Earth's recycling development programme. He was Director of UK Recyclate Ltd and a Green Party District Councillor.

**Emma Must** is an environmental poet who was involved in the 1990s road protest movement. Emma co-founded Road Alert! and worked with ALARM UK, Transport 2000 (now Campaign for Better Transport), and the World Development Movement.

**James Orr** has been Director of Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland since 2010, having previously been Northern Ireland Director of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. He is an Honorary Professor in Natural and Built Environment at Queen's University Belfast.

**Chris Packham** is a naturalist, television presenter, photographer, author and activist, perhaps best known for the BBC's Springwatch series. Activism has included organising and supporting protests as well as legal action against UK governments through Wild Justice.

**Doug Parr** is Chief Scientist and Policy Director at Greenpeace UK. He has been involved in the environmental movement since the 1980s, with previous roles in campaigning at both Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace.

**Norman Philip** is a local campaigner with Falkirk Friends of the Earth who has been focused on action around the Grangemouth oil refinery for over 20 years, as well as campaigning on divestment, a just transition, and other issues.

**Jonathon Porritt** is a writer and campaigner with a long history in the movement. He has held senior roles in the Green Party, Friends of the Earth and Forum for the Future, chaired the UK Sustainable Development Commission and has authored many influential books.

**Afsoon Kabir Rashid** is co-founder and CEO of Repowering London and Chair of the Brixton Energy Solar Co-operatives. She has previously been Chair of Community Energy England and a Senior Policy Advisor at the Department of Energy and Climate Change.

**Asad Rehman** became Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth in 2025, having previously been Executive Director of War on Want. Prior to this, Asad worked with Friends of the Earth and Amnesty International, campaigning on environmental, social and racial justice.

**Fiona Reynolds** is Chair of the Governing Council of the Royal Agricultural University and of the National Audit Office. Previous roles include National Trust Director General, CPRE Director, Council for National Parks Secretary, and Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

**Pete Roche** has been an anti-nuclear campaigner since the 1970s, including co-founding the Scottish Campaign to Resist the Atomic Menace (SCRAM) which organised some of the largest anti-nuclear power demonstrations in the UK in the 1970s and early 1980s.

**Chris Rose** is a campaign strategist who has been active for over 40 years, including Greenpeace Programme Director in the 1990s. He has also had roles in Friends of the Earth, WWF, the British Association of Nature Conservationists, and the London Wildlife Trust, and authored several books.

**Tina Rothery** is a journalist and anti-fracking activist. She has been spokesperson for Anti-fracking Nanas and Frack Free Lancashire, and was previously a Green Party parliamentary candidate and Co-Chair of Green Party Women.

**Robin Russell-Jones** is a medical doctor who has influenced public policy on health and the environment since the 1980s, including campaigns on lead-free air and ozone depletion. He was one of the first health professionals to publicly voice concerns about global warming.

**Ralph Ryder**, who died in 2025, was involved in anti-incineration campaigns for over 30 years after becoming concerned about pollution from a local waste incineration plant. He founded Communities Against Toxics and the European anti-incineration network KITE.

**Charles Secrett** was Executive Director of Friends of the Earth from 1993 to 2003, having joined the team as a campaigner in 1981. He has also been a government advisor, a trustee of several organisations, and has authored a number of environmental books.

**Peter Shirley** helped pioneer urban wildlife conservation in the 1970s and 1980s. He was co-founder and Chair of the Urban Wildlife Group, a national Director of the Wildlife Trusts, and Regional Director for the West Midlands Wildlife Trusts.

**Ashok Sinha** is CEO of Ashden climate charity, having previously been Director of Stop Climate Chaos (now the Climate Coalition) and Chief Executive of the London Cycling Campaign. He led the Jubilee Debt Campaign and co-founded Make Poverty History.

**Amy Slack** (now Fairman) is Campaigns Manager at River Action, having previously been Head of Campaigns and Policy at Surfers Against Sewage. Amy spearheaded the #EndSewagePollution campaign, highlighting sewage pollution in rivers and the ocean.

**Lynn Sloman** is founder of Transport for Quality of Life, a leading independent research body. She previously worked for Transport 2000 and has been Chair of the Campaign for Better Transport and the Welsh Government Roads Review Panel.

**Beccy Speight** has been Chief Executive of the RSPB since 2019. Prior to that, she was Chief Executive of the Woodland Trust, and previous roles have included Director for the East Midlands and Midlands regions for the National Trust.

**Jane Stephenson** has spent over 30 years in the sector, focusing on recycling and resource management. She has had senior roles with Waste Watch, the Recycling Consortium, and Resource Futures Ltd.

**John Stewart** is a longstanding transport and environmental campaigner who has been involved in the roads protest movement – including co-founding ALARM UK – and in campaigns against airport expansion. He has been Chair of Campaign for Better Transport and Transport 2000.

**Isobel Stoddart** is a sustainable transport consultant who has been involved in promoting cycling for over 30 years, with roles at Sustrans, Transport for London, Cycling England and Bikeability. In 2011, she co-founded a series of Electric Bicycle Networks around the UK.

**Olivia Sweeney** is programme manager for Everyone's Environment at New Philanthropy Capital (NPC). She has worked for waste consultancy Resource Futures, for Lush Cosmetics and the Clean Air Fund, and helps promote engagement in STEM roles.

**Alice Swift** is a co-founder of the UK fossil fuel divestment movement and has been involved in People and Planet and Reclaim the Power. She is currently undertaking a PhD on the use of protest camps in the European climate movement.

**Hugo Tagholm** is a surfer, campaigner and environmentalist. He is Executive Director of ocean conservation organisation Oceana UK, and was previously Chief Executive of Surfers Against Sewage, having been involved in the organisation since the 1990s.

**Jason Torrance** is a campaigns and public affairs specialist who has worked with UK100, Sustrans, Campaign for Better Transport, Greenpeace and the Department for Transport. In the 1990s, Jason co-founded Earth First! UK and Reclaim the Streets.

**Pam Warhurst** is a founder of the Incredible Edible movement. She was previously Chair of the Forestry Commission and has been a Board member of Natural England and the Countryside Agency.

**Joanna Watson** has been involved with the environmental movement for over 30 years and has worked in promotion, events and communications roles at Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland since the early 1990s.

**Pete Wilkinson**, who died in 2025, was co-founder and Campaign Director of Greenpeace UK and one of the first volunteers at Friends of the Earth UK. His key interest was campaigning against the nuclear industry, which he continued to be involved in throughout his life.

**Rebecca Willis** is Professor of Energy & Climate Governance at Lancaster Environment Centre, where she leads the Climate Citizens research group. She has been an expert adviser to government and has served as a Director of the Green Alliance.

**Dee Woods** is an award-winning cook, food educator and urban agroecologist. She is co-founder of Granville Community Kitchen, a winner of the BBC Food and Farming Awards, a Slow Food Ambassador, and Food Justice Policy Coordinator at the Landworkers' Alliance.

**Sacha Workman** set up Paper Round, the UK's first office wastepaper recycling company, in 1988 while volunteering for Friends of the Earth, before going on to focus on community engagement around wind energy and community food growing in Northern Ireland.