

## **Chat from Recognising Nature Rights with Paul Powlesland, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

18:56:45 From Charles Rowe to Everyone : Hi from East Herts (Friends of the Rib and Quin)

18:57:33 From Anita Jassi to Everyone : Evening all, from Anita in Oxfordshire :)

18:57:44 From Beneath British Waters to Everyone : Hi Everyone, looking forward to this, regards Mark.

18:58:58 From Nick Hunt to Everyone : Hello from Bristol, between Rivers Frome and Avon

18:59:02 From Paul Powlesland to Everyone : Hello everyone, I'm Paul from the River Roding, Barking!

18:59:09 From Libby Ranzetta to Everyone : Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

18:59:13 From Jo McGowan - CPRE Cambs to Everyone : Hi Jo here from CPRE Cambs and Peterborough

18:59:13 From Emma Blowers to Everyone : Hello from East Herts, Rib valley

18:59:17 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : Hi from West Dorset

18:59:21 From Polly Waterfield to Everyone : I am in Cambridge.

18:59:26 From roscoward to Everyone : Hi everyone. A Londoner here! Still fighting the same issues..

18:59:35 From SurfacePro to Everyone : nick cambridge

18:59:49 From Dennis Willis to Everyone : Hi. Dennis Willis, in the heart of the Norfolk Broads

18:59:50 From Clare Mcphee to Everyone : Hi Iain McPhee Meldreth, outside cambridge

19:00:02 From Chris to Everyone : Chris and David in South London. Hello to everyone.

19:00:05 From Adrian Edgington to Everyone : i have to leave at 7.30 for a trades council meeting

19:00:07 From betty to Everyone : Gorthugher da

19:00:12 From betty to Everyone : from Kernow

19:00:28 From Dodie to Everyone : Dodie from Cambridge

19:00:46 From Ben to Everyone : Ben from Cambridge here

19:01:14 From Monica Bijok to Everyone : I'm Monica, grew up on the Lea, now fighting for the Cam!

19:01:47 From Carolyn (she/her) to Everyone : I'm Carolyn from Colorado, in the US. I'm here to learn about the rights of nature and rivers in a more general sense- this opportunity was passed on to me by my Geography professor at CU Boulder. Thanks for letting me join! :)

19:01:50 From Claire Preston to Everyone : Claire from Cambridge

19:02:14 From Carolyn (she/her) to Everyone : Thank you!

19:06:24 From Scott Moncur to Everyone : Dundee, Scotland

19:06:29 From Willox to Everyone : Hi, Hazel from Northumberland

19:06:31 From Julia Shaw to Everyone : Hi, Julia Shaw, Archaeologist of South Asia, UCL

19:06:33 From Jan Arger to Everyone : Hi, Jan Arger, Chair CPRE North Yorks

19:06:47 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : Ian from Cambridge

19:06:48 From Lizzie to Everyone : I'm from Cambridgeshire

19:06:52 From David Stoughton to Everyone : David Stoughton, Living Streets Cambridge

19:06:52 From Emma Wiik to Everyone : Hi, Emma Wiik, North Wales. freshwater ecologist

19:07:02 From irene Desborough to Everyone : From Orwell

19:07:07 From Nicola Hallows to Everyone : Nicky, Burwell Cambridgeshire

19:07:13 From Damian Benskin to Everyone : Hi all! Damian from New York City here.

19:07:21 From tessa to Everyone : Hi everyone - I'm in Newcastle upon Tyne

19:07:29 From Mali to Everyone : Thank you all for holding this webinar, great to see so many people here ;)

19:07:35 From Mali to Everyone : Mali, London

19:07:52 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone :  
<https://www.friendsofthecam.org/news-and-events>

19:07:55 From irene Desborough to Everyone : Irene Desborough from Orwell

19:08:29 From Mandi to Everyone : Thank you for holding the meeting - Mandi from near Hampton Court, Surrey

19:09:18 From Gudrun Crawford to Everyone : Gudrun & Robin Crawford in Newnham, Cambridge

19:09:42 From Mario Shimbov to Everyone : Mario Shimbov, field biologist from Cambridge here.

19:09:46 From Mario Shimbov to Everyone : Cambridge\*

19:09:46 From Sarah Smalley to Everyone : Sarah Smalley from Newnham Labour Party

19:09:52 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Galway, Ireland

19:10:02 From Ruth Lambert to Everyone : Ruth Lambert from Paradise on the banks of the Granta which flows into the Cam

19:10:33 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Jonathan Hill from Whitstable in Kent.

19:10:47 From Lizzie to Everyone : I do a lot of things! CPRE, new nature reserves, environmental politics. access ect, ect lol

19:11:32 From Catherine's iPad to Everyone : From Horningsea- facing industrial scale development on the green belt - thank you Paul Powlesland

19:14:14 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Is the problem Christianity removing any force of resident spirit or animism from each individual living being. Including the various trees and other entities

19:14:57 From Lizzie to Everyone : how did animals get their rights - through acts eg against cockfighting?

19:15:58 From Tim Evans to Everyone : Hackney Marshes and the Old River Lea

19:17:05 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : you also had rights not being recognised for supposedly lesser ethnicities and classes. hung for a loaf, enslaved person put to death about petty issue

19:18:22 From Mali to Everyone : Earth is alive <3

19:18:37 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : and there was lynching more recently

19:20:00 From Mali to Everyone : druids believe Nature is alive too?

19:20:44 From Irene Desborough to Everyone : can a farmers field have rights

19:20:59 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : I think there was more understanding of nature having some presence prior to Xianity coming along and imbuing understanding with man standing alone

19:21:24 From Mali to Everyone : everything alive should have right to life really no?

19:22:00 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : well it gets subverted into anti abortion spiel doesn't it.

19:23:01 From Mali to Everyone : I am the River and the River is me <3

19:23:22 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : would hope if there was a right to life it would extend beyond birth and include some form of looking after the newly born. Otherwise would respect abortion

19:24:50 From SurfacePro to Everyone : Can you sue a river?

19:25:26 From Lizzie to Everyone : animal sentiment is now legally recognised : D  
19:25:49 From Tony Booth to Everyone : All questions are welcome  
19:26:20 From Mali to Everyone : SurfacePro - Can you explain why you would sue river?  
19:26:33 From Lizzie to Everyone : the Church dominated the Middle Ages...  
19:26:37 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : No, can't sue a river in the same way you can't sue a child, presumably. Lack of awareness even though both have rights.  
19:26:45 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Unfortunately the idea that people believing in abolition saw all those enslaved as their equals is romantic  
19:26:53 From SurfacePro to Everyone : It floods your house?  
19:27:14 From Claire Preston to Everyone : where does it end? can all animal species have legal personhood? how about the air?  
19:27:54 From Mali to Everyone : Everything is interconnected <3  
19:27:57 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : It ends once you get beyond living entities.  
19:28:09 From Catherine's iPad to Everyone : What is the best practical approach to challenging unsustainable development?  
19:29:03 From Sam Davies to Everyone : People might be interested in this:  
<https://www.waterstones.com/book/zoopolis/sue-donaldson/will-kymlicka/9780199673018>  
19:30:03 From Mali to Everyone : we need rights of Nature <3  
19:30:07 From Lizzie to Everyone : I've always been a bit critical of green industrialisation too lol  
19:30:15 From Jean Glasberg to Everyone : If a river has a right not to be abstracted, how does that fit with the legal abstraction rights of water companies?  
19:31:14 From Lizzie to Everyone : what about animals' rights? would that help?  
19:31:39 From irene Desborough to Everyone : it's what we put in the river. Irene  
19:31:44 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : seriously hoping that a move toward renewable energy has the recognition of mining the components in mind as something that needs to be progressed beyond. further exploitation should be avoided where possible and viewed as something that shouldn't be viewed as acceptable if not avoidable  
19:32:23 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : sorry, last bit of that not articulated right  
19:32:47 From Mali to Everyone : Water is life. River gives you and everything around you a life. We need to clean them and protect them - UK rivers are the most polluted rivers in the World!  
19:33:45 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : was at a talk on blue spaces earlier. talking about importance of water spaces in city planning  
19:34:02 From Lizzie to Everyone : changing how we live would help eg less work-orientated,  
19:34:43 From Glen Brown to Everyone : I'm all for that!  
19:35:03 From Willox to Everyone : The law is subject to interpretation as I have found out when dealing with the Environment Agency in relation to pollution  
19:35:21 From Emma Wiik to Everyone : Question to Paul: In some workplaces, activism can become very difficult due to social media policies. I've recently had a "concern" raised about my tweets that I'm dealing with at work, and I'm dealing with an update to my declaration of interest with my workplace that will outline how I'll deal with my private life interests that intersect with my work in the future. I'm of course seeking to be on the freedom of speech side of the freedom of speech vs reputation seesaw. Do you have any advice for activists who are struggling to marry their activism with their work?  
19:35:59 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : we need to be,.  
19:36:00 From kristina smith to Everyone : <https://www.rightsofrivers.org/>

19:36:14 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : What was the website with the rights of rivers?

19:36:19 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : way too many things becoming polluted in the interim

19:36:22 From Lizzie to Everyone : I try and recyle more and made a poster to be put up but poster hasn't been put up stupid work

19:36:41 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Thanks.

19:36:55 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone : We will be declaring the rights of the river Cam at an event in Cambridge on 21st June:

19:36:58 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone :  
<https://www.friendsofthecam.org/news-and-events>

19:37:24 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : would hope the idea of interconnectedness of life was a central tenet in why things like rivers need rights

19:37:52 From Mali to Everyone : Thats amazing Susan <3

19:38:35 From Stephen Olende to Everyone :  
 & do wonder on the nature of rights since surely a right with no form of enforceability is scarcely a real right. Though it should be and may benefit a lot of people if it was

19:38:42 From Lizzie to Everyone : I agree : ) WE HaVE POWER!!

19:39:27 From Willox to Everyone : Rivers should be free from sewage

19:39:38 From Mali to Everyone : River Thames is the most polluted river in the world

19:40:03 From Julia Shaw to Everyone : Legal jurisdiction accorded to the river Ganges has had very little impact on environmental protection unfortunately, largely to do major clashes between religio-cultural constructions of purity versus those of environmental science

19:40:43 From Julia Shaw to Everyone : however on the other hand, sense of place and collective social memory, together with beliefs in the sacrality of springs and wells are for example central to discourse on heritage and landscape conservation in the Scottish Highlands... e.g., Johnston, J. 2017. "Stone-Agency: Sense, Sight and Magical Efficacy in Traditions of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland." Religion. doi:10.1080/0048721X.2017.1294523; Northcott, M. 2015. "Myth, Ritual, and the New Universe Story in the Inner Hebrides." Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture 9 (2): 192–198. doi:10.1558/jsrnc.v9i2.2140 and many others....

19:40:58 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : trying to work out leverage on those who can be worked upon is useful isn't it. I mean who to address and how

19:41:01 From David Stoughton to Everyone : What relationship does or should the idea of rights have to the concept of ecocide and movement to make it a crime?

19:42:22 From Clare McPhee to Tony Booth(Direct Message) : Question, under current legislation could activists bring water companies to book when e.g., sewage effluent is released into chalk streams against water company legal discharge consent? Something the Environmental Agency appear not prepared to do after repeated reporting.

Iain McPhee

19:42:31 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : the idea of stewardship including protection and interaction should be more widespread.  
 Like the idea of indigenous people as part of the local environment elsewhere

19:42:49 From Samantha Morley to Everyone : Thames Water - bad reputation for degradation of waterways

19:43:10 From Claire Preston to Everyone : do people who live on rivers have more existing legal power to challenge abuse of that river?

19:43:33 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : probably have more investment in trying to do something about it though

19:43:47 From Mali to Everyone : Thank you Paul - really informative and well put <3

19:43:52 From Anita Jassi to Everyone : Powerful words, and very inspiring, thank you Paul!

19:43:54 From Willox to Everyone : I was only reading today, Thames Water vs EA and a decision by the ECJ regarding waste

19:43:55 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : Anglian Water obfuscates the issue by not having sewage discharge monitoring equipment on some of its (older?) sewage treatment plants.

19:44:03 From Lizzie to Everyone : is using how animals gaining rights helpful?

19:44:08 From Charles Rowe to Everyone : That was very powerful Paul - much food for thought!

19:44:09 From SurfacePro to Everyone : Thanks, very interesting

19:44:24 From James Murray-White to Everyone : Thanks a lot Paul! really inspiring. See ye soon x

19:44:39 From Damian Benskin to Everyone : At what point do you think a river with standing and the right to be free from pollution would have a good case to sue for this right to be enforced? Would it likely be saved for cases when there's a particularly egregious offense (e.g. new large-scale toxic waste dumping) or would it have a case for saying the current level is unacceptable and cleanup must immediately start/polluting must immediately cease?

19:44:41 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : Thanks Paul, loads to think about.

19:44:41 From roscoward to Everyone : How does this work for trees?

19:44:42 From Claire Preston to Everyone : yes very inspiring

19:44:54 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : thanks, yes very interesting

19:45:34 From Terry Macalister to Everyone : Really, really interesting and thought-provoking. Thank you Paul.

19:45:35 From irene Desborough to Everyone : can the surrounding land be protected too.  
irene

19:45:41 From Mark Cheetham to Everyone : please sign this and share it  
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/582336>

19:46:24 From Jan arger to Everyone : Inspirational stuff, thanks Paul. I have a question regarding covenanted land, left in the care of a local authority in perpetuity for the health and well being of local residents (green wedge) How can LA remove the covenant and then proceed to allow built development on it? Advice please?

19:46:38 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Was it christinaity in its understanding of man having dominion over the world the point at which people lose that respect for the spirit of nature?

& therefore why people think they can destroy the nature that surrounds them

19:47:13 From Mandi to Everyone : Really interesting talk - what is the name of the river you protect - fb page - Friends of the river Roedean?

19:47:33 From SurfacePro to Everyone : Paul, have you thought of personhood of a child rather than an adult? It seems to imply guardianship duty more than for an adult

19:47:34 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone : Mandy - I think it's the Roding

19:47:36 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Roding I think

19:47:37 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Do people not feel a sense of vitality coming from the green around them

19:47:39 From Jonathan Parr to Everyone : River Roding

19:48:24 From Wendy Blythe to Everyone : Landscape architect Kim Wilkie told friends of the Cam that the Thames Landscape strategy which set up a planning body for the Thames in London originated from community groups organising litter picking. What does Paul think about setting up a planning body that protects a river's rights as part of a landscape strategy?

19:48:56 From Monica Bijok to Everyone : We have the Cam Conservators, who have their own act of parliament and legal responsibilities. However, its unclear who appoints them. They are failing to protect the River, only concerned with licensing boats.

19:49:00 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : I think they are the same thing

19:49:10 From Lizzie to Everyone : Ta Tony!

19:49:27 From Carolyn (she/her) to Everyone : I know you won't get to everything- and I feel more like it's a food for thought point rather than a question, but: How can we center the knowledge of Indigenous people in activism surrounding the rights of nature? I want to constantly be aware of not pressing forward in these movements without acknowledging that aspect of environment and environmental rights.

19:49:40 From Mali to Everyone : We are just consciousness in human form

19:49:52 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : would think that the rights of a river to be clean had directly practical consequences for those resident in the space around it anyway. One does not want to be living with a polluted river because it passes on that pollution to its surroundings doesn't it?

19:50:19 From tessa to Everyone : The river Tweed is interesting case - crosses Scottish/English border. The traditional 'indigenous' steward/guardians were net-fishers of salmon for millennia. Since the 1980s they've been forced off by lucrative rod-fishing interests. Could this constitute a similar 'indigenous' guardian tradition to the maori - but in a UK context?

19:50:21 From Mali to Everyone : Trees give us air

19:50:23 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : yes agree as you keep bumping against responsibility

19:50:26 From Terry Macalister to Everyone : There is a need to wrench the Cam away from its corporate "guardians" who pretend to support it and publish pretty pictures of it while despoiling it behind our back.

19:50:28 From Nick Hunt to Everyone : A river being sacred and a river being alive/animate are connected, but separate, concepts. I can imagine Christian or other religious groups supporting the former but being uncomfortable with the latter (implying that rivers have souls). Do you see any difficulty in 'selling' the idea to people who might have theological objections?

19:50:47 From Julia Shaw to Everyone : as well as looking at 'indigenous traditions' etc, important also to look at deep history of our own engagements with places and landscapes of which there is ample discourse, especially when it comes to rocks, hills, springs, bogs, waterways and other such 'portals' in time and space

19:51:04 From Mark Keir to Everyone : River Misbourne in particular but also the Rivers Colne and Chess, three beautiful chalk streams flowing from the Chilterns and through West London have their very existence very threatened by HS2 drilling the 10 mile long Chiltern Tunnel as little as 20m below them. Environment Agency absolutely complicit. Legal case building right now. If anybody has anything to add to this campaign please do! #StopHS2. #HS2Rebellion. We need so much help urgently. X

19:51:25 From Lizzie to Everyone : maybe "rights" will be "the essentials" because how do having rights help society?

19:51:31 From irene Desborough to Everyone : I love the countryside around me, not the 25,000 houses proposed around Orwell which covers the river Camb.

19:53:20 From Terry Macalister to Everyone : I like the idea that Cambridge Water and Anglian Water are both fictitious...just legal ghosts unlike the river.

19:53:21 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : it is about energy exchange isn't it. clean energy circulating through an environment or alternatively whatever anima circulating. an interconnected life cycle water coming in somewhere, sunlight coming in somewhere photosynthesising and that passing onto another lifeform etc etc

19:53:56 From Jane C Cambridge to Everyone : Fantastic talk! Really engaging. My q is from a legal perspective how is a "rights" declaration like in eg NZ more enforceable than other environmental laws? You spoke about laws being ignored but does a rights declaration have more "teeth" - Kieran

19:53:58 From Lizzie to Everyone : but golfing is important to people's wellbeing ... ..

19:54:21 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Very small, wealthy minority

19:54:38 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : the flooding is probably caused by humans anyway

19:54:54 From Mark Keir to Everyone : yes, very aware!

19:55:07 From Mali to Everyone : Many Indigenous people believe that Water has memory too

19:55:11 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : it normally has to do with balances being disturbed doesn't it. people living in flooding areas

19:55:28 From irene Desborough to Everyone : Good walk doesn't use water

19:55:53 From Dodie to Everyone : Shouldn't there be much more publicity about the privatisation of the water companies that is for profit and not for the public good? The companies therefore are interested in maximisation of profits and allow eg the lack of damaging and expensive maintenance.

19:55:57 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : Restorative justice for nature

19:56:31 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : like you having to pay off debt to nature by working with it etc

19:56:41 From Willox to Everyone : The Environment Agency isn't fit for purpose

19:56:53 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : or at least giving nature some respect

19:56:57 From Malcolm Noble to Everyone : Could we not extend the concept of "the polluter pays" principle ?

19:57:39 From Terry Macalister to Everyone : Can a legal way be found to secure the rights of future (human) generations and in that way protect the existing river system.

19:58:00 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : EA has good people working for it, but massive, deliberate, government cuts to its funding and manpower have turned it into a regulatory chocolate teapot...

19:58:06 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : If we want to start a group to protect the river who should we contact for help

19:58:24 From Mark Cheetham to Everyone : will Phillip Dunne's Private Members bill going through parliament help ?

19:58:30 From Alan to Everyone : Perhaps we should start with trees. Recent research in Canada indicates that trees are exhibiting properties that increasingly look like trees are sentient:

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg25033320-900-suzanne-simard-interview-how-i-uncovered-the-hidden-language-of-trees/>

19:58:32 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : having the interchange be more cyclical like EA fines being paid back into the environment damaged should be like mandatory or something

19:58:37 From Ben to Everyone : great talk thanks Paul keen see a proper challenge to our local water authorities as you have

19:58:38 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone : If the Cam - this is what we are doing, Debbie: <https://www.friendsofthecam.org/news-and-events>

19:59:10 From Damian Benskin to Everyone : Since we are facing the potential of major water shortages due to the effects of climate change, could that be a source of major pushback on the rights of bodies of water (e.g. people worried that rivers' rights not to be dried could conflict with humans' needs for water)

19:59:13 From Willox to Everyone : I sit at a river often and know downstream a number of septic tanks are discharging directly in to that river which is now illegal

20:00:18 From Mali to Everyone : If we don't clean and protect our rivers, lakes and seas... there won't be any life left. No money can buy it back

20:02:22 From tessa to Everyone : Have to go - but really fascinating - thank you Paul. Will look up your site pages.. T

20:02:26 From Malcolm Noble to Everyone : like the point which" the jury is one of us"

20:02:33 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : And, of course, we have the issue of development partnerships, such as the Greater Cambridge Partnership (an alliance between developers, landowners, business interests and local Councillors) carving up regions to maximise 'growth' with precious little real consideration been given to damage to the environment.

20:02:43 From Stephen Olende to Everyone :

No, seems reciprocative dunnit

20:02:55 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : No

20:02:57 From Richard Cushing to Everyone : But is that right explained to the jury by the judges?

20:03:21 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : don't they have an invested interest though

20:03:23 From Charles Rowe to Everyone : Can we just block all the storm sewage overflows or whatever they're called?

20:03:50 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : @Charles Rowe Naaaasty... but I like it :)

20:04:34 From Mark Keir to Everyone : Anybody want to help stop the HS2 Tunnel Boring Machines?

20:04:59 From Willox to Everyone : Permits to pollute

20:05:23 From Mali to Everyone : Gosh how on Earth can those be allowed to go ahead?!

20:05:50 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : I just wrote this morning to my water company and MP about cso as joined a swim group and none of us can swim because of the 🦌

20:06:02 From Mark Cheetham to Everyone : why not all buy one share in each water company and then take over the shareholder meetings?

20:06:17 From irene Desborough to Everyone : Sadly had raw sewage running down our street in Orwell last winter. irene

20:06:17 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : has been done with Shell before

20:06:53 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : @Debbie Legge Excellent!

20:07:10 From Lizzie to Everyone : Watch Erin Brockovitch, love that film!!



20:07:58 From Willox to Everyone : Any property rights in relation to sewage onto the surface of land compared to sewage in water?

20:09:15 From Mali to Everyone : No one owns the water

20:09:31 From Mali to Everyone : We all do

20:09:42 From Claire Preston to Everyone : Where a river has a swimming or fishing club it sounds like there would be room for legal challenges that work in same way as those for people living on the river

20:09:59 From Dodie to Everyone : I have to go. Many thanks to Paul, to all.

20:10:53 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Sewage will be needed as a resource instead of industrially produced fertilisers.

20:10:58 From Terry Macalister to Everyone : Got to go but thanks you so much Paul and all those participating.

20:11:20 From Mark Keir to Everyone : why are we wasting gallons of water to flush toilets and then having to treat it. composting toilets seem the best way forward. Sarah

20:11:35 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Absolutely

20:11:44 From Mali to Everyone : yes

20:12:15 From John Latham to Everyone : Thanks very much Paul and all. Very interesting and thought provoking.

20:12:43 From Mark Cheetham to Everyone : so basically we take too much water out of our rivers, spend resources cleaning it and then pour dirty water back in the rivers.....

20:12:45 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : how about the rights if the sea as well

20:13:21 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : It seems from the talk I was at earlier as thought here is more and more weight behind the sea being treated right

20:13:38 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : people recognising the damage being done to marine nature

20:13:55 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : really it should be the rights of the water ecosystem

20:14:03 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : also the amount of plastic being disseminated through it

20:14:23 From Mali to Everyone : There are Rights of Mother Earth

20:14:44 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : are people not seeing that the river is an interconnected thing

20:15:00 From Damian Benskin to Everyone : Thank you for answering my question, and very good point about "why is it considered okay for our rivers to be completely unusable?"

20:15:03 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : atomistic thought is too pervasive

20:15:28 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : like nature doesn't see hard borders between areas

20:15:38 From Susan Buckingham to Everyone : I have to leave for a political meeting with some important votes....sorry. But fantastic and inspiring talk. Thanks Paul, and Tony for managing questions.

20:16:00 From Monica Bijok to Everyone : Does Paul know anything about the act of parliament that covers the Cam Conservators?

20:16:13 From Ian Ralls to Everyone : Got to go now, sorry. Thanks so much Paul, great talk and loads to think about.

20:16:21 From Lizzie to Everyone : yes you need to allow people to get into contact with nature

20:16:35 From Lizzie to Everyone : otherwise they won't care basically

20:16:46 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : would be so nice if people saw that actually trying to keep things balanced would be a much better way of dealing with things rather than some cosmetic surface thing going on

20:16:48 From Alan to Everyone : Perhaps we could ask all the rowing clubs, the sailing club and the swimmers to start collecting and reporting data on occurrences of illness for FotC to collate.

20:17:09 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : interaction between different groups good thing

20:17:48 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : indigenous people should be seen as part of the environment. local residents should see themselves as being part of their environment too

20:18:10 From Mali to Everyone : Connect with your local Water, find out where is your drinking water coming from.

20:19:28 From Jean Glasberg to Everyone : The interaction between humans and nature is a question of balance and environmental capacity - so people can enjoy it without doing harm.

20:20:19 From Anita Jassi to Everyone : Earthwatch offer a platform for people to do Citizen Science projects, that may be one way to coordinate a data gathering exercise.

20:21:01 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : reciprocal/circular relationship with nature. trying to first do no harm etc would be good policy but can you talk everybody into taking it onboard

20:21:13 From Alan to Everyone : I mentioned the research on sentience of trees earlier. If that becomes proven, how will it affect their rights?

20:21:37 From irene Desborough to Everyone : how do I get in touch with Earthwatch

20:22:36 From Anita Jassi to Everyone : <https://earthwatch.org.uk/>

20:23:15 From Lizzie to Everyone : trees noisily suck up water so maybe they have a voice lol

20:23:17 From Mali to Everyone : Ha ha yes they are

20:23:35 From Mali to Everyone : Trees are alive and they talk to each other

20:23:36 From Mark Keir to Everyone : How do we protect against impending damage?

20:24:03 From Lizzie to Everyone : do they walk around when no one is looking?? #LOTR

20:24:10 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : unless you find an ent who wants to represent himself like

20:24:48 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : sybchronicity

20:24:54 From irene Desborough to Everyone : Thankyou Paul. Irene

20:24:56 From Mali to Everyone : Not only that trees speak to each other but they can interact with humans too

20:25:13 From Carolyn (she/her) to Everyone : I'm heading out, since it's lunch time here! I really appreciated being a part of this!! Thank you so much! :)

20:25:16 From jan arger to Everyone : Really interesting , thankyou. Look forward to the recorded version.

20:25:20 From Debbie Legge to Everyone : Inspiring want to support our local rivers now

20:25:30 From Stephen Olende to Everyone : yeah, seeing that turning up in books recently. communication between different trees in an ecosystem. alongside fungi

20:25:52 From Jane C Cambridge to Everyone : Yahoooooo yes! Thank you so much Paul. And Tony for hosting. So fascinating!

20:25:53 From Mali to Everyone : Thank you Paul for this webinar and best of l

20:26:03 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Thanks very much Paul.Very stimulating talk. Hopeful too. Inspiring.

20:26:17 From Monica Bijok to Everyone : Thank you Paul. Really interesting.

20:26:22 From Lizzie to Everyone : Great talk, thank you, great to have more knowledge and thinking, and p-o-w-e-r....

20:26:44 From Beneath British Waters to Everyone : Thanks Paul and Tony, Very interesting.

20:26:47 From kristina smith to Everyone : Thank you, this was so informative!

20:26:52 From jo sinclair to Everyone : Thank you Paul and Friends of the Cam. So inspiring philosophically and practically.

20:27:08 From Claire Preston to Everyone : Thanks Paul, great talk

20:27:30 From Polly Waterfield to Everyone : Brilliant talk, thanks so much.

20:27:42 From Malcolm Noble to Everyone : Thank you Paul and all

20:27:48 From Anita Jassi to Everyone : Be the change you want to see, stay peaceful, and keep sharing knowledge. Thank you!

20:27:56 From Charles Rowe to Everyone : Thank you so much for the evening!

20:27:58 From Jonathan Parr to Everyone : Thank you Paul for your inspiring words, and to the Friends of the River Cam for organising

20:28:04 From Catherine's iPad to Everyone : Thank you, much appreciated

20:28:35 From Wendy Blythe to Everyone : Thank you Paul. Great talk.

20:28:38 From Mark Keir to Everyone : Thank you all, thank you Paul x

20:28:40 From William Bock to Everyone : Thanks so much - great talk Paul!

20:28:49 From Al Dixon - Cambridge to Everyone : Absolutely brilliant, thank you

20:28:52 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : Can I get a copy of the recording of the talk?#

20:28:53 From betty to Everyone : thanks/meur ras

20:29:11 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : How will it be available?

20:29:22 From Alan to Everyone : Thank you Paul.

20:29:27 From Jo Lucas to Everyone : thanks everyone

20:29:45 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : How will the recording be available?

20:31:04 From Tony Booth to Everyone : you will get a link to it on Youtube

20:31:22 From Tony Booth to Everyone : on our new FriendsoftheCam channel

20:31:23 From Jonathan Hill to Everyone : A river floods due to action further up stream so the river itself will not be responsible

20:35:05 From Mandi to Everyone : Have you had any thoughts about joining with Keep Britain Tidy (litter picking) and Help Hands Environmental (provides litter picking equipment) to help clear up river banks - there are lots of litter picking groups to engage with to help strengthen voices and supporters - and water sports activities etc - Magnet Fishing Groups are also great to engage with - happy to chat about as I have contacts in these areas - Mandi

20:35:43 From Tony Booth to Everyone : Thanks Mandi - we should do clean ups

20:36:20 From Wendy Blythe to Everyone : Keep Britain Tidy believe their partner is Anglian Water!

20:44:19 From alicewillitts to Everyone : This was a protest I sent to the EA

20:45:02 From Mandi to Everyone : another contact is the Rivers and Canals Trust - Tony - I am sure that Helping Hands Environment would 'gift' you a 6ft litter picker to help to clear the river, all great PR opportunities - happy if you want to contact me as I have a contact there who gifted me a litter hoop and folding litter picker - I am asking for litter picking kits for all if people want them - they shouldn't have to buy them - maybe the water boards and

councils could provide the funding - love the idea of all the Toolkits and Guides no point rewriting everyone can share - loving you PR ideas :-)

20:45:09 From Alan to Everyone : Conservators legal framework:

20:45:16 From Alan to Everyone : <https://www.camconservancy.org/legislative-framework>

20:45:32 From Tony Booth to Everyone : Thanks Mandi

20:51:13 From alicewillitts to Everyone : Friends of the Cam may well be exactly that entity to hold all those groups. With On The Verge Cambridge we find that more and more other biodiversity groups are using us as a central link

20:53:15 From alicewillitts to Everyone : It was pretty brilliant Paul. I was punching the air at regular intervals. The examples were very useful. Examples are important for helping us imagine what steps can practically be taken

20:53:55 From Mandi to Everyone : How do we keep in touch via the FB site Friends of the Cam?

20:54:04 From Monica Bijok to Everyone : The toolkit will be really useful... Where will you make that available?