

'LOVING THEM TO DEATH?' RTD 14

University of Plymouth

16-18 September 2018

This conference is the 14th annual Responsible Tourism in Destinations conference and this is only the second time it has been held in the UK. The theme of this conference is 'Loving them to Death', exploring the impacts of tourism on our protected areas, both terrestrial and marine. The conference will explicitly explore the relationship between tourism and biodiversity and the issue of 'over-tourism'.

As well as being a global concern the conference theme is highly relevant to the region with Devon and Cornwall being the vacation destination for millions of tourists every year who come to enjoy the sea, beaches, landscapes, nature, history and culture of this beautiful and much-loved part of the world. Yet only a few weeks ago the head of Visit Cornwall was expressing his concern that in a few parts of Cornwall at least we were seeing examples of 'over-tourism'.

It was a natural decision to include marine environments in the conference theme given both Devon and Cornwall have lengthy coastlines and the growing concerns with the impact of plastics and waste in the ocean. It is also appropriate given that the University of Plymouth has a worldwide reputation for its expertise in marine science and marine conservation.

The conference has been designed as an integrated two-day event so it is important that people attend as much of the two days as they can. It has also been designed to stimulate ideas for research projects and encourage the development of new partnerships.

The venue for all sessions is MAST House, 24 Sutton Rd, Plymouth PL4 0HJ, which is part of the University of Plymouth. MAST House is located on the waterfront on Sutton Harbour with impressive views of the harbour and the Barbican. It is a few minutes' walk from the city centre and not far from most city centre hotels.

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

1830-2000 For those in Plymouth on Sunday evening there will be an informal get together at a typical Plymouth pub on the waterfront in the historic Barbican, the **Crown and Anchor**, 10, The Barbican, Plymouth. PL1 2LS. After a drink or two together you will be free to eat where you wish but the Crown and Anchor itself does offer food.

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MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2018

Time	Event	Speakers
9.00-9.30	Coffee and Registration	
9.30-11.45	<p>Biodiversity versus Tourism and Recreation</p> <p>The keynote presentations are designed to stimulate discussion. Participants will also be welcome to contribute examples from their own experience which relate to the topic.</p> <p>An attempt will be made to identify key issues that can be taken forward to be discussed on the second day of the conference.</p> <p>Coffee will be available on ‘free flow’ throughout this session</p>	<p>Justin Francis, Managing Director, Responsible Travel</p> <p>Professor Michael Hall, University of Canterbury, New Zealand, by skype</p> <p>Professor Iain Stewart MBE, Director of the Sustainable Earth Institute, University of Plymouth</p>
11.45-12.30	Individual short ten minute presentations and mini case studies	<p>Derek Robbins, Bournemouth University</p> <p>Niki Clear, Cornwall Wildlife Trust</p> <p>Emma Parkman, Cornish Mining World Heritage</p>
12.30-13.30	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Invitations to join this lunch will be sent to selected people who have been unable to attend the whole conference. This will hopefully be a good networking opportunity for participants</p>	
13.30 - 17.00	<p>Guided Tour of the Dartmoor National Park – Impacts of tourism in a protected landscape</p> <p>http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/</p> <p>Again, this represents an excellent opportunity for networking amongst participants</p>	<p>Richard Drysdale, Head of Visitor Centre, Devon Wildlife Trust, formerly of Dartmoor National Park</p>
18.00-19.00	<p>Tour of the Plymouth Gin Distillery - overview of the history of the Distillery and an introduction to the Plymouth Gin distillation process and the botanicals which are used</p> <p>https://plymouthdistillery.com/age-gate</p> <p>And a tasting of course!!!</p>	
19.30	<p>Conference Dinner at Quay 33 http://www.quay33.co.uk/</p> <p>Please ensure you have reserved a place at this dinner and given us your menu choices in advance</p>	

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TUESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2018

Time	Event	
0900-1030	<p>'Over tourism' Discussion. This follows on from the RTD 13 conference held last year in Iceland with the theme of 'over-tourism'.</p> <p>Again, these keynotes are designed to stimulate discussion and examples from participants will be welcome</p>	<p>Professor Richard Butler, University of Strathclyde, by phone conference Professor Harold Goodwin, Responsible Tourism Partnership</p>
10.30-10.45	<p>Coffee break</p> <p>Participants are invited to propose topics for the afternoon discussion groups</p>	
10.45-12.30	<p>Individual short ten minute presentations and mini case studies</p> <p>Agreeing the discussion groups for the afternoon session. These are a vitally important part of the conference.</p>	<p>Jeff Dalley, New Zealand Department of Conservation Richard Tyler, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Nick Powe, Kents Cavern Prehistoric Caves Ester Dobbins, National Trust Anna Dora Saeporsdottir, University of Iceland Jennifer Philips, University of Plymouth</p>
12.30-13.00	<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Yana Wengal, Leeds Beckett University Introduction to Ketso and Lego Serious Play and their potential role in tourism planning</p>
13.00-15.30	<p>Discussions Groups as agreed in the morning</p> <p>Report back by each Discussion Group</p>	
15.30-15.45	<p>Closing ceremony and agreement on the next steps</p>	<p>Professor Harold Goodwin and Professor John Swarbrooke</p>