

## Ben Raskin

- Background as organic vegetable grower, now focussed (in no small part due to Martin Wolfe's inspirational work) on Agroforestry.
- Head of Agroforestry at Soil Association.
- Agroforestry project manager at Helen Browning's farm.
- Author (most recently "Silvohorticulture" and "The Woodchip Handbook"), and independent consultant.
- Chair of the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Network UK
- Current hobbies, playing the banjo and table tennis, though not at the same time.

## Chris Darby

- background – semi-retired, formerly Senior Civil Servant, Diplomat and Registered Nutritionist, now working at the Norwich Institute for Sustainable Development;
- interests – current work on sustainable wheat;
- experience – relevant experience includes working for MAFF (1990s), being CEO of a charity - the Nutrition Society (2000s) and working for the John Innes Centre;
- any particular relevant skills – writing (general), writing grant applications (largest research grant for which he was PI was >£2m); engaging politicians and officials;
- anecdote – “On 12 September 2021, I stayed in the attic room of the farmhouse – the first really good night's sleep after the pandemic!”

## Jeremy Gugenheim

- Left school at 16 with one O level.
- Ex programmer, semi-retired film maker and photographer, one-time helicopter pilot for fun, thing maker, inventor, self-employed or working for own company for most of my working life.
- Jeremy spent quite a while parachuting into troubled projects and became adept at working with stressed unhappy people at all levels in an organisation.
- He plays a few instruments, mostly quite badly.
- He possibly knows more about MS Word than is safe for one person: laid out a 5,500 page accountancy bible every year for 19 editions in it, writing some quite big macros to automate a lot of the process.
- Oh, yes, and Jeremy took “That Photo” of Wakelyns.

## Donald Peck

- Donald, after a career in finance and development, now works in social investment and charities.
- Founder of Lok Capital and Lok Foundation, a social investor in India
- Chair of the Organic Research Centre in the UK, which is a long-term partner of Wakelyns
- Chair of the Foundation Rachel & Pamela Schiele, which is an estancia-based organic farming and conservation research and education charity in Argentina.

## Di Warne

- Music teacher for 18 years in inner London Secondary Schools, then a deputy headteacher.
- 20 years in school improvement transforming failing schools in all phases, across London and running education services in Tower Hamlets.
- Now retired but seemingly still working as the Chair of Fressingfield [where Wakelyns is located] Parish Council for the last six years.
- From a farming family for many generations.
- Has 2 horses and 8 hens and a bouncy German Shepherd dog. With partner tries to manage their 6 acres to create as much biodiversity as possible.
- Currently hosting little owls, turtle doves, hares, muntjac, swallows, a grass snake and numerous smaller birds.

## Will Simonson

- Leads the agroforestry research programme at the Organic Research Centre, participating in UK and European collaborations such as Horizon funded AGROMIX (2020-2024) and REFOREST (2022-2026).
- Interested in the intersection of farming, nature conservation and climate change adaptation, working in such fields in both the statutory sector (English Nature) and NGOs (ORC, UNEP-WCMC, A Rocha International), in the UK and overseas. Cambridge has been my home/work base since 2009.
- “I enjoy writing!”

## Gyan Sagar Saraswati

- UK born ... worked in India, Australia, Indonesia and Tuscany
- Lived in Communities since 1984 ... monastic, ecological, organic, Buddhist
- Set up several non-profit associations ... and helped dissolve several others.

- Main academic work and interest in dry-land agricultural rainwater management ... maybe not so useful in the UK at present, but possibly more important in the future.
- Passionate about the role of Regen Agric in restoring a natural healthy balance between humans and the Earth.
- Studied with Australian aboriginal elders ... their societies and their cherishing of the land.

#### Daniel Hudson

- Co-founder and Exec Chair of Proposition, a charity imagining a world where human beings create ecological abundance in the process of producing what we need to thrive. We have a community of more than 430 studio artists and setup 7 art centres in London across 182,000sq ft.
- Studied 1-2-1 with Martin Wolfe at Wakelyns over a 2 year period 2017-2019. The focus was to use the farming at Wakelyns to develop a commercially viable model into which conventional farmers could transition - aiming for masse adoption of versions of the systems.
- Led the organisation of a meeting in UK Parliament in collaboration with the Landworkers Alliance and Ecological Land Cooperative where we brought 70 smallhold farmers to meet with the Defra minister, several lords and Cllrs. The campaign was aiming to make it easier for smallhold farmers to live on their land.

#### Andy Hall

- Business and estate manager based in Scotland
- Former practice manager for barristers in London
- Interested in the environment, sustainability and liberal politics
- Keen to be involved in this fascinating project surrounded by engaging and inspirational people
- In spare time, fond of eating cheese

#### Richard Stein

- Richard used to be a London solicitor specialising in judicial review challenges, including in the environmental field. I worked a lot with David Wolfe.
- Richard knew Ann & Martin Wolfe well and was a regular visitor to Wakelyns for many years. "I love the place!"
- Since stopping working Richard moved to an island in Scotland with his wife Sally. He has become involved in a range of third sector bodies, including running the local community council (the Scottish equivalent of the parish council) and resurrecting a historic pre-clearance township museum.

- “I’m looking forward to playing my part in setting up the Wakelyns CCBS and making it a thriving charity.”

#### Ruth West

- Ruth West has been a community campaigner in London's East End; a consultant for WHO, UNEP, and the Commonwealth; an advocate for indigenous peoples' rights and knowledge; and most proudly, a drop-out working as a vegetarian cook for a Sufi community in the heart of the English countryside.
- It wasn't though until her marriage to Colin Tudge that she discovered the world of farming, and in particular of agroecology, founding with Colin the Real Farming Trust and then the Oxford Real Farming Conference.
- She now helps run Parliamentarians for Agroecology and Nature Friendly Farming.

#### Gavin Sturge

- Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants with experience in risk management and its application
- Over the last 15 years worked primarily as an Interim Finance Director and have done so across various sectors including the Department of Culture Media and Sport, Royal Albert Hall, and number of charities in the domestic violence, mental health and education sectors; also in the digital media arena and barristers’ chambers.
- Interested in taking experiences of ways of working and financial thinking from one sector and applying it to others, in particular, to areas in which Gavin does not have direct experience.
- Used to working with and reporting to corporate boards, trustees and community groups and enjoy explaining finances to those who need to understand but to whom it does not come naturally

#### Ben Evans

- Background is in academia and research although recently had to start learning some land management and business skills.
- Studied Geography BA, Environmental Science MA. PhD in coastal biogeomorphology - or how physical and biological processes interact to control coastal dynamics. Worked in that field for a decade before moving to the British Antarctic Survey to work in the artificial intelligence lab.
- Interests are in how we can mix machine learning, diverse data streams and getting ourselves muddled to understand and improve the world around us.

- With partner, Elinor, bought an 80 acre farm outside Ipswich in 2020; trying to learn how to make it contribute as much as possible to the environment and society.
- Looking to Wakelyns as an inspirational example of the possible and keen to see it thrive and evolve.

#### Ulrich Schmutz

- Ulrich is a professor at Coventry University and former colleague of Martin Wolfe's.
- He is a co-founder of the university's research centres on agroecology (CAFS, CAWR) based at Ryton Organic Gardens, a 10 ha certified organic horticultural farm, which Coventry University bought in 2019.
- Ulrich is an agricultural and horticultural scientist and economist and has 35 years experience in organic horticulture, food and farming research.
- His research is transdisciplinary combining social and natural science with practical knowledge and co-designed with innovative ecological food and farming businesses of any size and complexity (e.g. community supported agriculture).
- In his academic work Ulrich has specialised in organic/agroecological horticulture and agriculture and ecological economics. A recent key project planned together with Martin is the 7 million AGROMIX.
- Non-academic professional work is as organic farm inspector and ecological farm business consultant during the transition in Eastern Europe and for Labour (SPD) both as employee and politician.
- Ulrich holds an agricultural engineering and economics Diploma (MSc) and a BSc in Philosophy from Bonn and Munich universities (TU, LMU) in West-Germany.
- His family farm is in Bavaria, near Ingolstadt on the Danube, halfway on the Roman road from 'Old' York to Istanbul.