



DAVID STUBBS

CIEEM Medal

for

Outstanding Contribution to the Development of Ecologically Sustainable Sports Facilities and Sports Event Management

28 June 2013

The prestigious CIEEM Medal is awarded in 2013 to David Stubbs in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of ecologically sustainable sports facilities and sports event management. David is an internationally renowned specialist in the field of sport and environment.

He graduated from King's College, University of London in 1980 with a Joint Honours degree in Botany and Zoology. From here his career started in the field of conservation biology. His early work on the conservation biology of Hermann's tortoise *Testudo hermanni* is of particular significance for its combination of original ecological research and popular conservation initiatives. Through both peer-reviewed publications and the formation of the 'Tortoise Village' – a conservation, research and visitor centre in the south of France, with subsequent related initiatives in Corsica and Africa – he has made a notable contribution to tortoise conservation. In these early, and still ongoing activities, David showed his skills in securing that essential, although rare, synthesis of popular engagement and sound science, setting an enabling route to progressive and long-lasting gains in sustainable development and conservation.

In 1984 and 1985, David successfully led the London Wildlife Habitat Survey team to complete the first complete ecological database for all of Greater London's natural green spaces – a database and associated publications that are still of use today.

During the late 1980s David was instrumental in the formation of what would become the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and served on the fledgling organisation's Council from its formation in 1991 until 1997. He became a Chartered Environmentalist in 2005, was awarded Fellowship of the Institute in 2013, and was awarded Chartered Environmentalist of the Year for 2013 by the Society for the Environment.

During the 1990s he continued his career development, with considerable energy and foresight, by applying ecological principles and environmental sustainability to sports developments and activities, commencing with golf courses and extending into other sporting areas. At the time this was a particularly pioneering approach, a field that David has virtually made his own. He was Executive Director of the European Golf Association Ecology Unit from 1994-1999, and founder of the Committed to Green programme for golf courses of which he was Executive Director from 2000 to 2003.

From this sporting background it was a natural but significant progression for David to become involved with the Olympics. In 1998 he began advising the British Olympic Association on environmental matters and in 2000 he worked with the Environment Team at the Sydney Olympics. In 2003 he joined the London 2012 Bid team and was subsequently appointed in 2005 as Head of Sustainability for the London 2012 Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. In this role he was responsible for developing and co-ordinating the sustainability programme for the 2012 Games.

That the London Games have been heralded as the most sustainable ever, with innovations in the delivery of low-carbon construction and operation, and a legacy green space and amenity facilities, is testimony to David's all-round skills, experience, application, integrity and resilience.

Through 2013 David is serving as an expert member of the International Olympic Committee's Evaluation Commission for the 2020 Olympic Games Candidate Cities.

Since January 2013 David has worked as an independent sustainability expert providing specialist support to help major projects and organisations implement effective and credible sustainability programmes. This includes assessing their environmental and social impacts, reputational risks and opportunities, and advising them on how to integrate sustainability into their business culture, processes, products and promotional activities.

David's contribution to the environmental fields in which he has worked range from the significant to the outstanding. While David's achievements with the London Olympics must rank as an outstanding contribution by a trained ecologist to the broad area of sustainability, he has extensive experience in dealing with decision-makers and opinion-formers among politicians, public authorities, businesses, specialist organisations and the media. Throughout his career, in all of the areas indicated above, David has gained particular respect for his dependable and consistent leadership, application, skills and integrity and his particularly personable nature in securing the best from his colleagues.

David Stubbs is an unquestionably worthy recipient of the 2013 Institute Medal.

John Box CEnv FCIEEM, President
