

Dr Tony Juniper CBE

is awarded the
CIEEM Medal 2023
for his

Outstanding Contribution to Elevating Environmental Issues, Increasing Public Understanding and Influencing Policy

Dr Tony Juniper is a British environmentalist, campaigner, ornithologist and sustainability adviser.

Throughout his distinguished career, Tony has worked for change toward a more sustainable and nature-friendly society at local, national and international levels. He has campaigned on a wide range of issues including species conservation, recycling, tropical rain forest conservation, climate change and plant-based alternatives to plastics. He has written a number of award winning and influential books including *What Has Nature Ever Done For Us?* (2013) and a sequel *What Nature Does For Britain* (2015). Other titles include *Rainforest: dispatches from earth's most vital frontlines* (2018) and *The Ladybird expert guide to climate change* (2017) co-authored with HRH The Prince of Wales (now HM King Charles III) and Emily Shuckburgh.

An ornithologist by background, his specialist area is parrots and he is a global ambassador for the World Parrot Trust. He co-published the definitive identification guide to the parrots of the world in 1998 and spearheaded a programme with Birdlife International to try to prevent the extinction of the critically endangered Spix's macaw in 2003.

Tony has held a plethora of senior organisational management and adviser roles. From 1990 he worked at Friends of the Earth, initially leading the campaign for tropical rainforests. In 1998, he became Policy and Campaigns Director and, in this role, played a leading part in many initiatives, including on genetically-modified crops, world trade policy, industrial pollution and biodiversity. From 2003 to 2008 he was the organisation's Executive Director and from 2001 to 2008 he was elected Vice Chair of Friends of the Earth International. He contributed to many of the charity's most important achievements, including legislation enacted to protect the UK's finest wildlife habitats, new laws to require more recycling and policy changes in the transport and farming sectors and a very effective campaign to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Tony went on to become Executive Director for Advocacy and Campaigns at WWF-UK, a Fellow with the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership and President of the Wildlife Trusts. Until January 2018, he was an independent sustainability and environment advisor, including as Special Advisor with The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit having previously worked (2008-2010) as a Special Advisor with the Prince's Rainforests Project.

In 2019, he was appointed Chair of Natural England, the statutory body that works for the conservation and restoration of the natural environment in England. He has provided strong leadership to Natural England, bringing his passion for biodiversity and the environment more generally as well as a wealth of knowledge and experience to the organisation. In this role he has helped to restore energy and direction to the organisation, creating a clearer strategic plan and mission and securing a significant increase in resources to implement it. Major achievements under his stewardship include making progress toward realising England's ambition to create a Nature Recovery Network, working towards the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain in the planning system, the declaration of new National Nature Reserves and notification of new SSSIs, better public connection with nature as well as advising government on nature-based solutions to climate change and how best to join up new farming policy with nature recovery.

In summary, Tony Juniper is one of the top environmental figures of the last 30 years. He has had a major role in elevating environmental issues including biodiversity conservation and has influenced the policies, programmes and agendas of governments and a wide range of organisations in the public and private sectors. He has increased the public understanding of the environment including wildlife. Importantly while he stresses the seriousness of the biodiversity and climate crises, he manages to do so in a way that suggests hope and a positive outcome if we have the courage and determination to take the necessary action.



Dr Richard Handley CEng MCIEEM, President