

# EXPLORERS AGAINST EXTINCTION

**You are invited to an exclusive evening of travel & conservation at:**

The Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR

Thursday 14 November 2019

**Join Explorers against Extinction along with special guests, including leading conservationists and species experts, explorers, artists, photographers and celebrity supporters as they pledge to make a stand against extinction.**



6.30pm Doors open

Access to exhibitions available until 10pm

7pm Presentations in the Ondaatje Theatre

There will be an interval 7.45pm - 8.15pm

10pm Doors close



## Notes

Entrance to the RGS is from Exhibition Road.

Nearest Tube station is South Kensington.

We expect presentations to conclude at approximately 9.30pm.

*Timings and line up subject to change.*

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## Keynote Speakers



**Ian Redmond** is a tropical field biologist and conservationist, renowned for his work with great apes and elephants. For more than 35 years he has been associated with Mountain Gorillas, through research, filming, tourism and conservation work. He was mentored by the late Dian Fossey and introduced Sir David Attenborough to the gorillas of Rwanda and Zaire in 1978, for the famous BBC 'Life on Earth' sequences. Ian even taught Sigourney Weaver to grunt like a gorilla in 1987, for her award-winning role in the film 'Gorillas in the Mist.' He has served as Ambassador for the UN Year of the Gorilla in 2009 and for the UNEP Convention on Migratory Species since 2010. He is currently campaigning to save the critically endangered Tapanuli Orangutan in Sumatra, a project supported by Explorers against Extinction 2019.



**Dr Julian Fennessy** co-founded Giraffe Conservation Foundation, the only NGO in the world that concentrates solely on the conservation and management of giraffe. Julian coordinates all giraffe conservation efforts as the technical expert and has over 20 years' experience in species/habitat ecology, conservation and land management across the African continent (and Australia). His experience in the field of giraffe conservation is something few others can boast.



**Peter Blinston** became fascinated with painted dogs at age eight while watching a Jane Goodall BBC documentary. He eventually moved from the UK to Zimbabwe to found Painted Dog Conservation which now has 60 local employees. Peter's work was recently the subject of the BBC television series, "Dynasties" with David Attenborough. While working on the documentary, Peter was inspired to write Painted Wolves, A Wild Dog's Life with friend and photographer, Nick Dyer.

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## Conservation Exhibitions

The Map Room, Sunley and Drayson Rooms

### Sketch for Survival – 26 minutes to make a difference

Professional wildlife artists and celebrities help to raise awareness about species extinction by donating a **26-minute sketch** or other original artwork of an endangered species, because an elephant is poached for its tusks in the wild every 26 minutes.

In 2018 artists from more than 30 countries and celebrities (including Nick Park, Dames Judi Dench and Helen Mirren, Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Levison Wood, Mary Berry, Frederick Forsyth, Stephen Fry, Sophie Thompson) contributed. This is the last chance to see the 2019 collection before it is auctioned in aid of EAE projects.

- Look out for our **Schools against Extinction Sketch for Survival gallery** at the RGS – artworks donated by partner schools (1 artwork per school) will be displayed and be part of the auction on 17 Nov.

### SFS Introducing – free-to-enter art competition showcasing new artists

100 artworks will be selected from all submissions received by an expert panel, led by Gary Hodges, the UK's best-selling wildlife pencil artist. These 100 pieces will tour the UK alongside our core Sketch for Survival collection – full details at [explorersagainstextinction.co.uk](http://explorersagainstextinction.co.uk)

### Focus for Survival – wildlife photography exhibition

Professional photographers have been invited to make a stand against extinction by donating a compelling image of an endangered species to our collection. Photographers include Peter Ian Chadwick, Andy Rouse, Margot Ragget, Will Burrard Lucas and celebrity contributors Gordon Buchanan and Levison Wood.

### Sign for Survival – 26 seconds to make a stand against extinction

High profile supporters join us in making a stand against extinction by autographing one of our campaign postcards and adding an inspirational quote or message. We invite you to stand with them – please sign our visitor book when exploring this element of the exhibition, thank you.

The exhibitions are open to guests from 630pm – 10pm



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## TRAVEL & EXPLORATION

### Meet our Young Explorer

Meet Jack O'Shea, the first recipient of Explorers against Extinctions Young Explorer award. Jack will have just returned from a 5-month expedition to Africa cycling from Kenya to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. Explorers against Extinction offers mentoring and financial assistance to young people with a passion for travel and conservation. Perhaps you have a budding explorer in your school who would like to apply to the Young Explorer programme? You can find details at [explorersagainstextinction.co.uk](http://explorersagainstextinction.co.uk)

Both Colonel John Blashford Snell and Sir Ranulph Fiennes are patrons of the programme and we hope to be joined by several of our patrons, explorer and celebrity supporters on the night. Jack will be in the foyer throughout the evening with his expedition kit.

### Visit the Explorer Trail

We are delighted to be joined by William Stanley, great grandson of H.M Stanley, who will be curating select items from the RGS Stanley/Livingstone Archive and talking about his ambition to walk in his great grandfather's footsteps to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famous Stanley/Livingstone expedition. You can meet and chat to William in the Map Room during the interval and before and after the theatre presentations.

### About Explorers against Extinction

Explorers against Extinction is the working name of the Real World Conservation Trust (UK registered charity No 1177505). Its primary objective is to promote the conservation of rare and endangered species and their environments with funds raised by the campaign going to safeguard iconic species and to fight wildlife crime. Find out more at [explorersagainstextinction.co.uk](http://explorersagainstextinction.co.uk)