**Down to Earth- the Land and the Soil. CRES Day 8th November 2025**

Our next CRES in-person day (open to all) is on Saturday 8th November 2025 at Ripon College Cuddesdon (RCC) near Oxford. Our speakers are Rev. Margot Hodson and Martin Parsons (biographies below). So book early with Lynda to ensure your place (details below).

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

10.00-10.30 Arrive and Coffee.

10.30-10.45 Welcome and Introductions (Martin Hodson)

10.45-12.15 Rev. Margot Hodson will speak on "Sacred Land? Integral Ecological reflection on the sale of church land at Langford, Oxfordshire."

12.15-12.30 Break

12.30-12.45 CRES News (Martin Hodson)

12.45-13.00 Free Time

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Martin Parsons will speak on "Rewetting Peat in the Fens - The complex interdependencies of water, carbon and food in a landscape under threat."

15.30-15.45 Short Service

15.45-16.00 Tea and depart.

**Booking** For CRES students, tutors, and steering group, the day is included in student fees. The fee for those not associated with the CRES course will be £30. But EVERYONE wanting to come MUST book with the CRES Administrator, Lynda McKeown, by 27th October at the latest. Email cres@jri.org.uk Further details will be sent out to those who have booked in November.

**SPEAKERS**

**Revd Margot R Hodson** is Director of Theology and Education at the John Ray Initiative, and is focused on teaching and researching how faith, community and the environment connect. She is associate tutor for Environmental Theology at Ripon College, Cuddesdon. Margot is ordained in the Anglican Church and has previously been Rector of Wychert Vale in Buckinghamshire and Chaplain of Jesus College, Oxford. She is a member of Grove Ethics Committee, Chairs the steering group of the Theological Colleges Environment Network (TCEN) and is on the Glebe Committee of the Oxford Diocese. Margot has published several books including Cherishing the Earth (with Martin Hodson, 2008), A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues (with Martin Hodson, 2015, 2nd edition 2021), and The Ethics of Environmental Management: Does Stewardship Lead Us Down a Blind Alley? (with Martin Hodson, 2024).

**Martin Parsons** took his first degree in Mechanical Engineering, and his first career was at Perkins Engines, mainly working on exhaust emission reductions. From 2014-2016 he took the CRES Certificate course. He went on then to take an MSc Applied Wildlife Conservation (2018-2022), with a focus on landscape restoration. This included a year volunteering with the Great Fen project. Since December 2018 he has been Peatland Restoration Officer with Natural England and the Fens East Peat Partnership, endeavouring to rewet peat to reduce the huge quantities of carbon dioxide being emitted from drained peat.