



FLAC

*Fungi, Veteran Trees and Ancient Woodland in the Planning System:
Lessons from Nature & 20 Public Inquiries*

Mind-altering substance delivered by 18 hours of apex-predator CPD

FLAC. The Seminar, 2026

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Haresfield, Gloucester
13—15 October 2026

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13-15 October, Haresfield, Gloucestershire –

Fungi, Veteran Trees and Ancient Woodland in the Planning System: Lessons from Nature & 20 Public Inquiries

Presented by: **Julian Forbes-Laird**
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INDICATIVE PROGRAMME

Day One

Time	Item	Title	Presenter	CPD est.
0845	<i>Arrival & Registration</i>			
0915	Lecture 1	Welcome; The importance of fungal identification in planning surveys	JFL	0.25
9045	Fungi ident test A	Recognition of potentially hazardous wood decay fungi – Skills benchmarking	BPA	0.75
1030	Lecture 2	Identifying potentially hazardous fungi on trees, Part 1	BPA	0.75
1115	<i>Break</i>			
1130	Lecture 3	Veteran tree identification toolkit: VANTAGE and RAVEN for desk based & in-field assessment	JFL	1.0
1230	Lecture 4	The identification & ecology of woodland & grassland fungi of higher conservation significance	JFL	0.75
1315	<i>Field trip briefing & lunch</i>			
1400	Outdoor session I	Walkabout: trees of interest within the venue's grounds	BPA/ JFL	1.0
1500	Lecture 5	Lichen on trees: key species, substrate requirements, assessment of development impacts	JFL	0.5
1530	<i>Refreshments</i>			
1600	Lecture 6	Saproxyllic invertebrates: ecology, habitat, and conservation	JFL	0.5
1630	Lecture 7	Ancient Woodland: Applying historic landscape investigation to test the Inventory	JFL	1.0
1730	Discussion	Brief round-up of the day and departure	BPA/ JFL	-

Day Two

Time	Item	Title	Presenter	CPD est.
0845	Lecture 8	Identifying potentially hazardous fungi on trees, Part 2	BPA	0.75
0930	Lecture 9	WISDOM – A unique method for recording & analysis of ancient woodland vascular plants	JFL	0.75
1015	Lecture 10	The morpho-physiology and crown management of veteran trees	JFL	0.75
1100	<i>Break</i>			
1115	Lecture 11	Identifying potentially hazardous fungi on trees, Part 3	BPA	0.75
1200	Lecture 12	Veteran tree management & succession plans	JFL	0.5
1230	<i>Field trip briefing & lunch</i>			
1330	Outdoor session II	In-field identification of veteran trees for planning & BNG purposes	BPA/ JFL	2.25
1615	<i>Refreshments</i>			
1630	Lecture 13	Fungi, veteran trees & ancient woodland in the planning system: recent S.78 Appeal decisions	JFL	0.75
1715	Discussion	Brief round-up of the day and departure	BPA/ JFL	-

Day Three

Time	Item	Title	Presenter	CPD est.
0900	Lecture 14	Trees and Decay Fungi – Decision-making in the data void	JFL	1.0
1000	Lecture 15	Decay assessment: the futile quest for The Answer (aka why you should buy a jet ski)	JFL	0.75
1030	<i>Break</i>			
1100	Fungi ident test B	Recognition of potentially hazardous wood decay fungi – Skills progress assessment	BPA	1.0
1200	<i>Field trip briefing & lunch</i>			
1300	Outdoor session III	Fungi foray & identification under field conditions	BPA/ JFL	2.0
1500	<i>Refreshments</i>			
1530	Lecture 16	Ancient woodland: the identification and mitigation of pathways to harm	JFL	0.75
1630	Wrap-up	Final review & team photo	BPA/ JFL	-