

# **Renewable Energy Association Bioenergy 2008**

**7th—8th October 2008  
Aston Villa, Birmingham UK**

**The following pages are speaker biographies available at the time  
of going to print.**

**Renewable Energy Association  
Bioenergy 2007 - Day 1**

**Philip Wolfe,  
Chief Executive, Renewable Energy Association**

**Chair**

Philip Wolfe MA has over 25 years experience and an international reputation in the renewable energy industry.

A first class Cambridge engineering graduate, Philip has broad management and marketing experience in various manufacturing and engineering industries. Before entering general management, he worked in export marketing and international logistics with Tube Investments, Raleigh Bicycles and Lucas Industries. He was founder general manager of Lucas Energy Systems Ltd in the late 70's and then negotiated their joint venture with British Petroleum, becoming the first Chief Executive of what is now BP Solar.

In the early 1980's Philip Wolfe left to lead a small group of private investors in setting up Intersolar Group. He served as its Chief Executive while it expanded its business from industrial systems engineering into solar product marketing and thin film solar cell manufacturing. From 1993 to 2003, when the business was sold, Intersolar was the sole UK manufacturer of photovoltaic cells.

In 2003 Philip established WolfeWare Limited, offering development and consultancy services in renewable energy and business software. He is also Chief Executive of the Renewable Energy Association, the UK's leading trade body for the renewables industry.

He has served on the Board of Directors of European and British renewable energy associations, and on bodies advising ministers, the European Commission and the British Government. He has many publications on the application of renewable energy technologies and has featured on television and radio.

**Michael Woods,  
Eversheds**

**Speaker**

Michael is joining Eversheds LLP as a Partner and Head of Climate Change in its Clean Energy and Sustainability Group having been head of the environment group at Stephenson Harwood. He has extensive experience in all areas of environmental law and policy with particular expertise in climate change, renewable energy and emissions trading. He was listed as a 'leading individual' in environmental law in the Chambers Legal Directory 2008.

As well as having previously been in private practice in the City, he has been an advisory lawyer with the UK Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Law and the Environment at University College London, where he worked on implementing new EU environmental legislation and high profile policy proposals. He has also worked at the international UN climate change negotiations with the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD) and authored the chapter on 'Global Climate Change' for the UN Environment Programme's 'Training Manual on International Environmental Law'. He is currently the Co-Chair of the United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA) Climate Change Working Party and Chair of the International Financial Services London (IFSL) Carbon Markets Group.

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**Prof Tony Bridgewater**  
*Aston University*

**Speaker**

**Biography unavailable at the time of publishing**

**Tom Heap**  
*Rural Affairs Correspondent, BBC*

**Speaker and Chair**

Tom Heap is now a freelance presenter, specialising in the areas of environment, agriculture, science and animals. He presents 'Costing the Earth' on Radio four which has, in the recent series, tackled both the carbon credentials of biofuels and their potential impact on food.

On television, Tom works regularly for Countryfile alongside a BBC Daytime show: Animal 24 / 7.

Most of his career has been spent as a journalist with BBC News, starting with a formative 3 years on the Today Programme before joining in with the birth pangs of News 24. This was followed by a year as transport correspondent, before settling in to three years as Science and Environment correspondent. His first day in that job was somewhat scary as it was the moment they finished the human genome project. The next post was as Rural Affairs Correspondent tackling foxhunting, GM, farm payments, bird flu and much, much more.

**Michael Feliks**  
*BERR*

**Speaker**

Michael formerly worked on the Office of Climate Change's Heat Project, focussing on renewable heat. The resulting document - the 'Heat Call for Evidence' - was published 31 January 2008. Following the Heat Project Michael moved to BERR's recently-established heat policy team, again focussing on renewable heat. He worked on the renewable heat chapter of the Renewable Energy Consultation document, published 26 June 2008.

Prior to joining the OCC Michael worked on Energy Policy in HM Treasury 2005-2006, and before that in other areas of the Treasury and elsewhere in Whitehall.

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**Oliver Schäfer**  
*European Renewable Energy Council*

**Panellist**

**Biography unavailable at the time of publishing**

**Bennet Northcote**  
*Greenpeace*

**Panellist**

Benet Northcote is Chief Policy Adviser to Greenpeace UK, one of the world's leading environmental NGOs. He specialises in climate change issues, especially energy policy and transport.

Prior to joining Greenpeace he served on the board of the Conservative Party's Quality of Life Policy Group, chaired by John Gummer and Zac Goldsmith.

He has a long track record advising companies and NGOs on communicating environmental and sustainability issues, and was responsible for the Virtual Exhibit at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

After University, Benet joined the BBC as a trainee, working across the corporation in Television and Radio. After a spell at London's Capital Radio, he moved to ITN, where he played a key role in building the broadcaster's online presence.

**Matthew Carse**  
*Preenergy*

**Panellist**

Matthew has raised the profile of Preenergy at a political level through meetings with key frontbench spokesmen and special interest MPs and been invited to speak about the REP at a number of Parliamentary receptions.

Matthew is also a co-founder of PostScriptum one of the cornerstone investors in Preenergy which has a strong track record operating in the renewable energy sector. Matthew's previous experience includes working in the shipping and commodities marketplace whilst at Marc Rich.

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**Angela Duignan**

**Speaker**

***The Forestry Commission***

Angela Duignan is head of wood fuel implementation for England at the Forestry Commission where her role is to lead on the delivery of the wood fuel strategy, which was published in 2007.

Angela studied at Leeds University and Imperial College and has worked on renewable energy projects for over a decade in various capacities as development director of Energy4All, Carbon scientist at Forest Research, NZ and project manager of hydro schemes at ESD.

**Gloria Esposito**

**Speaker**

***London Borough of Camden***

Air Quality Policy Officer at London Borough of Camden since 2006, providing advise across the Council regarding air quality issues, responsible for local air quality management covering monitoring and reporting air quality, regulating industrial processes, assessing planning applications and managing projects related to reducing air pollution. Between 2003 and 2006, Senior Air Quality Consultant at Bureau Veritas specialising in industrial air pollution, air quality monitoring and dispersion modelling. 2001-2003, Senior Environmental Consultant, Environmental Research Group, King's College London - assisted in operating London's Air Quality Monitoring Network and undertaking enforcement work relating to industrial air pollution control.

**David Maunder,**

**Speaker**

***Renewable Energy Systems***

Building on an engineering background, most of David's 25-year career has been spent in the power generation, renewable energy and waste management sectors. He has worked in commercial project development, in manufacturing industry, in policy support for governments, and in the management of technology R&D and commercialisation.

Over the last 15 years or so, much of David's work has been focused on various aspects of bio-energy. His experience includes:

- commercial and engineering input to the development of a range of renewable energy projects, including wood-fuel heating, biomass power generation, energy from waste, and landfill gas schemes;
- technical adviser for lenders providing finance to such projects;
- strategic support in the formulation of renewable energy policy for national and local government.

David is a member of the BSI committee on quality standards for solid biomass and solid recovered fuel, and he is chairman of the North East of England's Biomass Forum. He has also represented the UK on a number of international forums addressing R&D and technology transfer in the bio-energy sector.

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**Susan Pelmore,  
REA**

**Speaker**

Susan Pelmore has over six years experience in the energy sector. Susan graduated from Bath University with a degree in Economics in 2001 and is now completing a part time MSc in energy and environmental technology and economics at City University. Susan's first introduction to renewable energy policy was when she worked for a year in the energy and the environment and industrial teams at Cambridge Econometrics as part of her economics degree. After leaving university Susan joined Ofgem. She spent the majority of her time in the renewables team which administers the Renewables Obligation and other environment programmes. Susan has experience of all aspects of the Renewables Obligation from issuing ROCs to supplier compliance. In the last couple of years there she specialised in biomass and waste. Susan joined the Renewable Energy Association in July 2007 as an electricity policy analyst.

**Gaynor Hartnell,  
REA**

**Speaker**

Gaynor is Deputy Director at the REA and heads the policy division dealing with renewable electricity power generation. Gaynor Hartnell has a decade of experience in the renewable energy industry. She graduated with a first class degree in Environmental Science, from the School of Chemistry at Sussex University, in 1989. She spent a further year at Sussex, doing an MSC at the Science Policy Research Unit. She then worked for a brief spell in the water industry, before returning to Sussex University as a Research Fellow, where she worked on the impacts of environmental regulation on innovation in sectors as diverse as agrochemicals and ferrous foundries. She left Sussex to join the British Wind Energy Association, as Technical and Policy Analyst, in 1995. She became self employed in 1998, specialising in services for renewable energy trade associations. She ran the Landfill Gas Association, which was later renamed the Biogas Association and she co-coordinated CREA an umbrella group of RE trade associations. Gaynor was involved in the formative stages of the Association, and became its first executive in the summer of 2001. Gaynor lives with her husband and two children in Sussex.

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**Roger Unwin**

**Chair**

Roger Unwin is recently retired from a career in ADAS and more recently in Defra, where he provided technical advice to policy divisions. Trained as a soil scientist he has specialised in soil management and the use and control of fertilisers and organic manures and other wastes to land. This has included the development of Codes of Good Agricultural Practice, Cross Compliance measures, Environmental Stewardship options and both BSI and CEN/ISO standards for soils and sewage sludge. He also has 20 years experience of operating and controlling certification schemes through his involvement with organic farming. Now acting as an independent consultant he has been assisting WRAP in the development of the Compost and Digestate Quality Protocols. In the early 1980s he was involved in a previous MAFF attempt to encourage anaerobic digestion.

**Michael Chesshire,  
*Greenfinch Ltd***

**Speaker**

Michael is MD of Greenfinch Ltd a UK AD manufacturing company operating from Ludlow, Shropshire. Since 2005, the company has built 7 farm plants in Dumfries, a demonstration plant at Ludlow, a farm based facility at Kemble, Cirencester, and is currently building substantial AD installations in Somerset and Bedford and a demonstration plant in Northern Ireland.

**Nina Sweet,  
*Organic Waste and Resources Action Programme***

**Speaker**

Dr Nina Sweet currently works as the Anaerobic Technical Specialist at WRAP (Waste Resources and Action Programme). She is currently leading the Brew funded project which is aiming to develop a quality protocol for the outputs from anaerobic digestion. Nina is seconded to WRAP from the Environment Agency where she has been a policy advisor in the waste regulation and water regulation teams for the past ten years. Nina has a background in the biological treatment of waste and in the recycling and reuse of biosolids and biofertilisers.

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**Bryan Lewens,  
*Summerleaze***

**Speaker**

Brian graduated from Reading University with a Degree in agriculture in 1968. From 1969-73 he conducted Market Research for Beecham Pharmaceuticals (now Glaxo Smith Kline). Brian then took on the management of the family farm. After 24 years under Brian's management the farm ceased milk production and full time farming in 1997.

In 2005 Brian took over an Andigestion plant and took responsibility for liaising with farmers and compliant return of digestate to land. He gained his FACTS qualification in 2006 taking his 1<sup>st</sup> exam for 38years!

Brian, alongside a colleague who is a farmer's daughter, deal with the return to land of up to 80,000 tonnes of digestate per year.

**Jorgen Fink,  
*Xergi***

**Speaker**

Jorgen has worked for Xergi since 2007. He is the Country Manager for Xergi, responsible for the UK and Ireland. He has extensive years of experience in biogas and has lived in the UK from 2001 to 2006.

Jorgen is responsible for establishing UK's largest biogas plant.

**Aaron Berry,  
*The Renewable Fuels Agency***

**Speaker**

Aaron Berry is head of carbon and sustainability at the newly formed Renewable Fuels Agency. Aaron joined the RFA in March this year where he's been leading on the development of the Agency's reporting on the carbon and sustainability performance of the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation. He was also a co-author of the Gallagher review into the indirect effects of biofuels production which was published in July. Before joining the RFA Aaron held a variety of environment related posts within several central Government departments. This included several years working on biofuels policy where he helped develop the RTFO legislation. Aaron studied at Keele University where he graduated with a first class degree in environmental management and business. He is married and lives in London with his wife and their three young boys.

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**Ausilio Bauen,  
*E4Tech***

**Speaker**

Dr Ausilio Bauen is a director of E4tech, and a Senior Research Fellow at Imperial College London's Centre for Energy Policy and Technology. He has extensive research and consulting experience on technical, economic, environmental and policy issues relating to decentralised generation and alternative fuel production and infrastructure. His focus is on biomass energy, fuel cells and related fuels for stationary and transport applications, and decentralised generation integration into energy systems. He has recently worked on input to the Gallagher Review, and on development of the carbon reporting methodology for the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation. Ausilio has worked with industry, government, non-government and international organisations. He has co-authored journal articles and books, including two Financial Times Energy reports. Ausilio holds degrees in Physics and Engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, in Environmental Technology with Energy Policy from Imperial College, and has a PhD on techno-economic and environmental aspects of biomass energy from King's College London.

**Alastair Dickie,  
*Home Grown Cereals Authority***

**Speaker**

A graduate of Glasgow University and the University of London (Wye College), Alastair Dickie has spent the last 35 years as an economist and trader in the world's commodity markets. His experience includes trading in grains, soya beans and meals, all vegetable oils (including managing soft seed crushing plants), sugar, metals (ferrous and non-ferrous). He is also experienced in international foreign exchange and interest rate futures.

In November 1998 he was appointed as Chairman of the new HGCA Market Information Committee and is now the Director of the Crop Marketing department of the HGCA, the statutory body responsible for the cereal and oilseed industries in the UK.

In 2002, he became involved with the infant biofuels industry and has subsequently been involved with the Treasury, DfT and Defra with regard to industry needs from government. Working closely with biomass companies and other investors he has been closely involved in the hedging problems, market assessment and potential of bio-fuels (both bioethanol and biodiesel). Since the establishment of the UK RTFO and EU targets, he has been a regular contributor to the international discussions about biofuels, most recently involving the 'Food v Fuel' debate at conferences in the UK and Brussels.

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**Peter Crowe,  
*Ceres Partnership***

**Speaker**

Peter Crowe is a Director of Ceres, a business-to-business and consumer PR and marketing consultancy with particular experience in the agri-food supply chain and biofuels. He runs the company's Northampton office, and works with clients such as HGCA, Wessex Grain and Green Spirit Fuels. He led the Ceres' team that work on the 'Biofuels Day' activity run in conjunction with HGCA, REA and NFU. Peter has more than 30 years experience in PR and marketing communications. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations, and was chairman of their Marketing Communications group for a number of years. He is also a member of the Guild of Agricultural Journalists.

**Jim Gannon BE MSc CEng MIEI  
*Associate, Energy and Resource Management  
RPS Group, Dublin***

**Speaker**

Jim is an Associate and Chartered Engineer in the Waste and Energy Section of RPS Group who has worked in both the energy and waste sectors.

Jim has been involved in the Dublin Waste to Energy Project for the past eight years and has contributed a range of waste and biomass to energy projects including Anaerobic Digestion, Plasma Arc, Pyrolysis and Gasification and Landfill and Tallow utilisation for private sector. His Public and Local Authority work has included the technical and economic review of funding applications to the DEFRA UK New Technologies Demonstrator Programme, contributions to the Scottish Power Longannet Biomass Power Station EIS and the Project Management of the Pollboy and Gortadroma Landfill Gas Utilisation Projects. He is currently Project Manager for RPS input to Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) Built Environment, Industry and Renewable Energy Divisions and a member of the SEI Panel of Technical Experts for Anaerobic Digestion and Biomass CHP Projects. Jim sits on the Council of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland as the representative of the Energy and Environment Division Committee.

**Dr Mairi Black,  
*Imperial College***

**Panellist**

Mairi has worked on non-food applications of plants for over 15 years for Reckitt & Benkiser, Du Pont Ltd and for the UK arable levy board HGCA. She has been working on biofuel policy, biofuel feedstocks and carbon and sustainability reporting since 2004. She currently works for the Porter Institute, Imperial College on GHG and sustainability aspects of advanced technologies for biofuels. Mairi has a B.Sc (Hons) Horticulture and Ph.D on the physico-chemical properties of polysaccharides, from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland.

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**Jonathan Scurlock,  
*Policy Advisor  
National Farmers' Union***

**Panellist**

As a senior adviser to the NFU, Jonathan's broad range of policy duties draw upon his technical expertise on energy and climate change policy, the global carbon cycle, renewable energy and, in particular, bioenergy. He advises the NFU President and management on national energy and rural affairs policy, including Climate Change Levy sector agreements, and continues to do occasional government consultancy work for DBERR (formerly Department for Trade and Industry).

Dr. Scurlock was formerly renewable energy project manager, North East Community Forests, and consultant to The Mersey Forest, where he facilitated biomass energy and other renewables projects, working closely with regional and local government as well as private sector partners.

Jonathan is also a Visiting Research Fellow at the Open University's Energy and Environment Research Unit. The author of more than 50 research papers and book chapters, he was educated at Oxford and London Universities. He spent five years as a government scientist in the USA, and prior to that he was in the academic sector, specialising in biomass energy, the carbon cycle and plant physiology. He has worked in more than 30 countries, particularly on the African continent.

**Rebecca Cowburn  
*Defra***

**Panellist**

**Biography unavailable at the time of publishing**