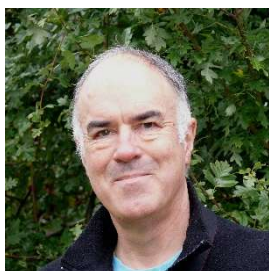


Talks by Laurence Rose

Updated July 2026



Laurence Rose is a Yorkshire-based writer, researcher and conservationist. He worked for the RSPB between 1983 and 2022 in roles as varied as volunteer development, international partnerships, international law and policy, regional and country leadership, area reserves management and strategic project management. To discuss your organisation's requirements, contact laurence@laurerose.co.uk

Windhover – a year among kestrels Laurence's next book is due in 2026. He wanted to devote a year, 2023, to really getting to know one species well, from among the relatively common birds in his home area. He chose the kestrel – or rather, the kestrel chose him.

A Tale of Three Raptors In three very different ways, the red kite, the kestrel and the peregrine have provided some of the most inspiring stories of spectacular nature in its own right, and of conservation challenge. Laurence takes a personal view of two of them, while also celebrating the 2026 centenary of JA Baker, author of the ground-breaking *The Peregrine*, and the 60th anniversary of its publication in 1967. Other raptors are available and may make an appearance!

Notes from the Field Laurence Rose's writing always starts with close, careful observation of nature wherever it is found, and whatever its context. His prose has been described in reviews as lyrical, mindful, inspiring and eye-opening. This talk focuses on the wildlife, describing specific encounters that became the starting point for passages in books and essays. Versions of this talk can be adapted for different groups depending on whether a wildlife focus or a literature focus is required.



Framing Nature – conservation and culture. Based on the book of the same title. Through the stories of nine species – four birds, three mammals and two insects – Laurence Rose explores the roots of our relationship with nature, revealing much about us. Includes scientific detective stories, cultural revelations, stories of loss, recovery and hope.

The Long Spring – tracking the arrival of spring through Europe. Based on the book of the same title. Between February and May 2016 Laurence Rose followed the progress of spring, starting at the northern tip of Africa and ending his journeys on the north coast of Arctic Norway. This talk is a homage to the diversity and beauty of his home continent, with a focus on wildlife. A new version

marking the publication of the revised edition in March 2026. An alternative is **Connections: the nature of Europe** which takes in a few countries not included in the book.

Perspectives of India This talk takes us to central India, Assam, Gujarat and Mumbai. Laurence Rose claims to be an expert in “how little I know about India” which is hardly surprising, given the vast scale and diversity of this amazing country. Birds and big cats feature strongly, alongside the people for whom daily life revolves around nature; or **Leopard Moon Rising – distant views of India**. Based on the book of the same title. A version of *Perspectives of India* but with more of a cultural focus, exploring the relationship between people and nature and how this influences conservation issues.



Wild Spain Laurence Rose has visited Spain around 80 times, for work and pleasure. This talk is a tour of some of the special places of this endlessly fascinating country, and its special wildlife, some of which is found nowhere else.

Iberian fox ©Laurence Rose

Bringing them Back – stories from the brink Laurence Rose retired from the RSPB in early 2022 and immediately started a new ‘job’ as a volunteer, writing up the stories of some of the RSPB’s very-long-term work to recover threatened species. White-tailed eagle, curlew, bittern, red kite, common crane and corncrake are among the subjects to be explored. 2026 version incorporates a previous talk *Birds on the Brink* - the Red, Amber and Green Lists of Birds of Conservation Concern explained, and their implications for the future.

Nature and the Imagination. (Previously titled *Rethinking Nature*) Our relationship with nature has been repeatedly re-evaluated over the last 250 years. This talk is a personal perspective, while also looking at nature as an inspiration throughout human history and into the future.

British Birds: the first 10,000 years Britain's birdlife has rarely stayed the same for very long. Of course, there were people and birds here before the last Ice Age, but the present relationship between birds, land and people started only 12,000 years ago. What has changed and what has stayed the same? How have birds shaped our lives and how have we shaped theirs?

Birds and Music. An occasional composer and regular collaborator with musicians and fellow composers, Laurence Rose has created this talk for music clubs and societies, or joint meetings. It explores the contribution birds and nature have made to inspiring classical and contemporary music. The title and content can be adapted according to the interests of the audience, including university/conservatoire students. Particularly suitable for venues with a good sound system.

Conference keynote speeches, presentations, panels, festivals, workshops and academic lectures.

Please contact Laurence Rose to discuss your requirements. laurence@laurerose.co.uk

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