

# Summary CV of Alastair McIntosh (updated Jan 2018)



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Literary Agents:  
Watson, Little, Ltd, London

For a full academic CV and publications see:  
[www.alastairmcintosh.com/general/my\\_cv.htm](http://www.alastairmcintosh.com/general/my_cv.htm)

## Background and Education

Born 1955, grew up on the Isle of Lewis. Village school in Leurbost. Nicolson Institute, Stornoway, highers in Physics, Chemistry, Maths, Geography, English and co-curated natural history museum.

Graduated 1977, University of Aberdeen, with a Degree of Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Geography, submajoring (as Designated Degree) in Psychology & Moral Philosophy. SRC Science Faculty Convenor.

Graduated 1981, University of Edinburgh, Degree of Master of Business Administration (MBA), specialising in Accountancy, Finance & Investment and Management Science.

Graduated 2008, from the Academy of Irish Cultural Heritages, University of Ulster, with degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) by Published Works: *Some Contributions of Liberation Theology to Community Empowerment in Scottish Land Reform 1991-2003*.

## Principal Posts

- 1969-1977 - Seasonal estate work as a ghillie (rowing on salmon lochs) and pony boy (deer stalking); shift work at Alginates seaweed factory; builder's labourer; boatman to Loch Erisort scallop divers
- 1977-1980 - Deputy-Head, St Peter's Extension School, VSO, Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea and setting up micro-hydro electric schemes
- 1981-1984 - Scottish Organiser, Leprosy: British Leprosy Relief Association, Edinburgh
- 1984-1986 - Financial Advisor, South Pacific Appropriate Technology Foundation, Moresby, PNG
- 1986-1990 - Business Advisor to the Iona Community; and, simultaneously, Co-Director, Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific. (From 2008, serving on the Iona Community Board)
- 1990-1996 - Teaching Director (initiating and directing the MSc degree and PhD supervision) Centre for Human Ecology, Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Edinburgh
- 1996-2001 - Joseph Rowntree funded Fellow of the Centre for Human Ecology (Open University)
- 2001-2001 - Executive Director, Centre for Human Ecology (CHE) - interim troubleshooting post
- 2006-2012 - Visiting Professor of Human Ecology, Strathclyde University.
- 2013-now - Honorary Fellow, School of Divinity (New College), University of Edinburgh.
- 2013-now - Senior Honorary Research Fellow (Professor), College of Social Sciences, Uni of Glasgow.
- 2013-2016 - 10% time in AHRC funded post as Research Fellow with School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh, on climate change and ancestral time project.
- 1996-now - Freelance as a campaigning academic, broadcaster, speaker, writer, poet, consultant - on climate change, poverty, community empowerment, peace studies & spirituality in our times.

## Books, Papers and Articles – details at [www.AlastairMcIntosh.com/publications.htm](http://www.AlastairMcIntosh.com/publications.htm)

Over 200 books, scholarly articles and ephemerae in journals including Accounting, Business & Financial History, Environmental Values, Edinburgh Review, Scottish Affairs, The Ecologist, Resurgence, Interculture (French/English), Oceania (Sydney Uni. Dept. of Anthropology), Cencrastus, Ecos: Brit. Assoc. Nature Conservationists, J. Oral History, Psychoenergetic Systems, J. for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture, Fishing News, Fishing Monthly, J. of Law & Religion, Ecotheology, Theology in Scotland, Bres (Holland), Encyclopaedia of Nature and Religion, J. of the Society for Psychical Research, United Nations Proceedings, IUCN, INSEAD, The Herald, Scotsman, Guardian, Le Monde Diplomatique.

- *Soil and Soul: People versus Corporate Power*, Aurum, London, 2001 (Trans. 2004, Editions Yves Michel: *Chronique d'une alliance: peuples autochtones et société civile face à la mondialisation*).
- *Love and Revolution* (collected poetry), Luath Press, Edinburgh, 2006.
- *Hell and High Water: Climate Change, Hope and the Human Condition*, Birlinn, Edinburgh, 2008
- *Rekindling Community: Connecting People, Environment and Spirituality*, Green Books, 2008.
- *Radical Human Ecology: Intercultural and Indigenous Approaches* (co-editor), Ashgate, 2012.
- *Island Spirituality: Spiritual Values of Lewis and Harris*, Islands Book Trust, Kershaw, 2013.
- *Parables of Northern Seed: Anthology from BBC's Thought for the Day*, Wild Goose, Iona, 2014.
- *Spiritual Activism: Leadership as Service* (co-authored), Green Books / UIT Cambridge, 2015.
- *Poacher's Pilgrimage: an Island Journey*, Birlinn, Edinburgh, 2016 (Cascade USA, 2018).

**Praise for Soil and Soul:** "This is a world-changing book, one of the most important I have ever read, which will transform our perception of ourselves, our history and our surroundings ... the work of a great thinker and a great poet" - *George Monbiot*. "Elegant and Prophetic" – *Sunday Times*. "Gripping" – *Observer*; "Truly mental" – *Thom Yorke, Radiohead*.

**Praise for Hell and High Water:** "Very scientifically rigorous ... a kind of rage and optimism" – *Radio 4's Open Book*; "It's psychological and spiritual insights make such an important contribution to climate change" – *Jonathon Porritt*; "A profoundly important book" – *Michael Russell MSP, Minister for Environment*; "Inspiration" – *Archbishop (Williams) of Canterbury*.

**Praise for Poacher's Pilgrimage:** "Fascinating, provocative and, occasionally, very funny" - *Times Literary Supplement*; "This is a lovely book, book to savour, a book to give, remarkable in its deep knowledge and spiritual versatility" – *Church Times*.

## Other Achievements and Activities - See current itinerary at [www.alastairmcintosh.com/#itinerary](http://www.alastairmcintosh.com/#itinerary)

- Regular broadcasting, including BBC Radio Scotland & Radio 4 Thought or Prayer for the Day.
- Founding and community-elected trustee of the Isle of Eigg Trust (for land reform), a founding trustee and treasurer of the GalGael Trust (for cultural regeneration) in Govan, Glasgow.
- Fellowships: Centre for Human Ecology; Schumacher Society; University of Ulster (07-09); University of Glasgow (Research Fellowship nomination pending 2013).
- PhD External Examiner to University of Dundee and Murdoch University, West Australia.
- Special advisor on "Combating Islamophobia" to the (now ex-) President of Glasgow Mosque.
- Since 1997, have annually addressed c. 400 senior military officers from 60 countries at the *Joint Services Command and Staff College*, Britain's Defence Academy variously on the Intermediate, Advanced and in 2013, the Higher Command & Staff Course. Also military/diplomatic lecturing in Geneva (NATO PfP) and Ireland (Military College). My chapter, "A Nonviolent Challenge to Conflict," is published by MacMillan in the UK Defence Academy's ethics textbook.
- Consultant (Quaker) to the World Council of Churches' *Decade for Overcoming Violence*.
- A leader in the campaign that stopped the proposed Lafarge-Redland Isle of Harris superquarry, and 2003-13 serving (unpaid) on Sustainability Stakeholder Panel.
- Work on on identity/belonging in Scotland incl. co-author of politically key reports - *People and Parliament* (1999); *Embracing Multicultural Scotland* (2000) and *The Dream Job Report* (2005).
- Commissioner to Scotland's *Poverty Truth Commission* (2009-12, Church of Scotland).
- Consulting editor for *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*, University of Florida.
- Member/signatory of Geneva-based agencies' Coalition for a Green Economy and regular teaching/consultancy/guest lecturing with WWF International, including One Planet Leaders.