

# It's not *just* about us: It never has been

The *Ecological Citizen* has moved towards publishing semi-themed issues, with most articles given over to a relatively well-defined theme. With this issue we return, for now, to welcoming all comers. And what a richly varied lot they are! So let me introduce you to original and challenging reflections on subjects from education, fantasy, eco-political strategy and plant sentience to cultural anthropocentrism, the capture of environmentalism by capitalism, going child-free, thoughts inspired by George Floyd's shameful death and a defense of steady-state economics by its pioneer, Herman Daly. We are also proud to host an interview with eco-activist legend Doug Peacock (aka Hayduke) and, most unusually, a letter to humanity from the Earth.

Just as themed issues always had a few stray threads which resisted corralling, however, there is a common thread even

in this issue. I would say it concerns Earth-human relationships: moving away from the dysfunctional and abusive modes that have for so long dominated how humans relate to the Earth and its other creatures, towards the caring and nurturing modes which have always provided a poignant counterpoint of what might have been, and still could be. We want to turn the major to minor, so to speak, and the minor to major. That's what all these articles, in one way or another, are about.

So is a cartoon, reproduced below, which I found in the archives but which still speaks to our situation. In his gentle but pointed way, Schulz confronts us with where we have been going wrong. And that includes many who think of themselves as environmentalists. Welcome to the new/old truth, ladies and gentlemen, in the world of BLM, Covid-19 and ongoing ecocide: it's not *just* about us. It never has been. ■

## Patrick Curry

### About the author

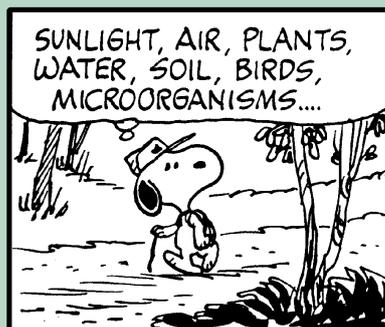
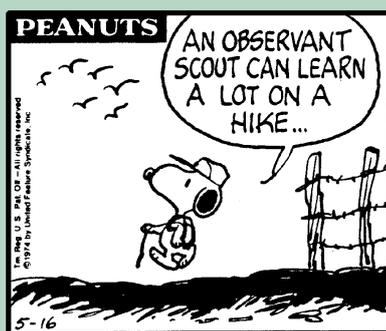
Patrick is a writer and scholar based in London, UK, with his works including *Ecological Ethics: An Introduction* (Polity Press, 2018). He is Editor-in-Chief of *The Ecological Citizen*.

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