

New Story Newsletter: Summer 2026

Keying off a recurring theme of **Interdependence** in many New Story programs, most recently by Gwen Noyes in June on “*How Community Supports a Healthy Future: The Cambridge Cohousing Example*,” we’ll be exploring the worlds of **fungi** and **plants**, two kingdoms without which we humans could not survive. As you know, we have a lot to learn from them, particularly as generators of reciprocity!

All meetings will be on the same Zoom link [HERE](#): or provide Meeting ID 875 6881 1869, and Passcode 101225, You can call in on 1-646-558-8656

1. **The first opportunity will be next Wednesday, the 15th:** On Wednesday, 15 July, 3-4:30pm, we’ll show - two thought-provoking videos to provide optional but stimulating background for our program on the 27th of July:
 - a. ***Science of Fungi: How Fungi Make Our Worlds*** with Merlin Sheldrake (24”), and
 - b. ***Entangled Life***: conversation with Merlin Sheldrake, Michael Pollan and Louie Schwartzberg, about Sheldrake’s book *Entangled Life* (1’17”)
 - c. At any time, you can also read an [Interview with Merlin Sheldrake, Author of Entangled Life](#), by J.P. Harpignies, Bioneers, 2020
2. On Monday, 27 July, 7-9pm, our next New Story program evening, we’ll watch:
 - a. ***Fantastic Fungi*** - a widely acclaimed film “to discover the magic beneath us” (part 1), and
 - b. ***Plants Have Personalities. We're Only Learning to See It*** | Conversation with Merlin Sheldrake & Zoë Schlanger (part 1) done at the 2025 Harvard Divinity School conference: *Thinking with Plants and Fungi: Celebrating the voices of the more-than-human world*
3. On Thursday, the 13th of August 3-4:30pm, we’ll again show two thought-provoking videos to provide optional but stimulating background for our program on the 31st.
 - a. Dialogue with **Zoë Schlanger on *The Light Eaters***
 - b. ***Fantastic Fungi*** (Part 2)
 - c. At any time, you can also read [The Light Eaters: An interview with author Zoë Schlanger](#), by Jon Letman of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, 2025
4. On Monday, the 31 August, 7-9pm, at our New Story program evening, we’ll watch:
 - a. ***New Science of Plants*** - interview with Zoë Schlanger
 - b. ***Plants Have Personalities. We're Only Learning to See It*** | Conversation with Merlin Sheldrake & Zoë Schlanger (part 2)

On September 28th, Arthur Klipfel will share his observations and personal experience in Cambridge Cohousing as a starting place to understand **approaches to decision-making and governance** that best fit community settings and align with Thomas Berry’s three principles of differentiation, subjectivity & communion with a focus on subjectivity.

Capping the theme of *interdependence*, Betty Kissilove will, on October 26th, lead us in a conversation about **generating & holding a 250-year vision of Interdependence**, using as a catalyst *The Declaration of Interdependence: A Pledge to Planet Earth*, described by David Suzuki [HERE](#)