

Community Action for Nature Webinar Series

Speaker Biographies

Webinar 2: How to increase habitat biodiversity

Wednesday 9th November 3:30pm–5pm



Surrey
Wildlife Trust



Helen Harris

Biodiversity lead, Guildford Environmental Forum
Committee Chair, Rosamund Community Garden

Helen is a biologist who worked for 15 years as a sustainability consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers working with clients to develop sustainability strategies, ethical sourcing programmes and industry codes of practice.

Currently on career break to spend time with her children, Helen has re-trained as a forest school leader and is enjoying getting involved with local community environmental projects. Helen is currently chair of the committee for Rosamund Community Garden, a nineteen acre no-dig, organic, wildlife friendly garden and downland site on the edge of Guildford.

She also runs the Guildford Environmental Forum biodiversity group and supports the development of biodiversity related content and events at Guildford's Zero Carbon Hub.



Lucy Bryce

Nature Based Solutions Manager, Surrey Wildlife Trust

Lucy started with SWT as a volunteer whilst working in TV. This experience inspired her to go to Merrist Wood College and Study Conservation Management.

After Lucy completed the course, she worked for a year as a trainee at Ashted Common for the City of London before being recruited for two part time roles, one with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and one for SWT. Lucy went on to work full time with SWT as an assistant Ranger, then a Ranger, a Liaison Officer and she now work as a Nature Based Solutions Manager.

Lucy's current role involves talking to wide range of landowners about how they can help connect Surrey's nature through enhancements which benefit them, local communities, and biodiversity. Lucy's greatest achievement is her son, and he is what inspires Lucy to do what she can in the hope we can make a difference, even in a small way, to improve things for the future.



Glen Skelton

Wetland Projects Manager, Surrey Wildlife Trust

Glen has been working on the SWT wetlands team since 2013 and sits on the steering group for both the Wey and Mole Catchment Partnerships.

Partnerships.

His specialism is river catchment management and restoration and finding landscape scale solutions to flooding, drought, water pollution and biodiversity loss. He works closely with landowners across Surrey to restore natural processes into degraded stretches through instream habitat restoration and creation.

He is also involved in citizen science projects to monitor water quality across the catchments through Riverfly and phosphate sampling. His key goal for Surrey is to create resilient river catchments that can adapt to climate change whilst benefitting both people and wildlife.



Rob Hutchinson

Manager - Ecology Planning Advice Services, Surrey Wildlife Trust

Rob has worked in ecological consultancy since 2012, and is currently the Manager of Surrey Wildlife Trust Ecology Planning Advice Service (EPAS).

He is responsible for ensuring that the department provides high quality technical advice to Local Planning Authorities and the County Council. EPAS is a vital component of Surrey Wildlife Trust's Mission Statement, at a time when biodiversity is under pressure from development, but also at a time when there is the opportunity promote sustainable development and excellent ecological practice and design across the whole planning industry. Rob has a particular fascination with the 'make-up' and balance of ecosystems, with particular specialisms in reptiles, amphibians, water voles and badgers. Outside of the office, Rob is either running, thinking about running or watching Leeds Rhinos.