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Hello {FIRST\_NAME|Subscriber}

Welcome to our second newsletter. Read about our latest news and developments for this season. Use the menu on the right hand side to link to specific stories.

For more news and events please visit the [Latest News](#) section on the [Wildscapes website](#).

For more information on involving Wildscapes with your business call 0114 2792667

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## Book your Spring Surveys now...

Here at Wildscapes we are saying goodbye to the dark snowy winter days and looking forward to the wonders of spring. Bats and great crested newts will soon be waking; birds will be nesting and the season for spring vegetation flowering is approaching.



The UK is an important location for bats, great crested newts, otters, birds, water voles, and white clawed crayfish so if you're planning any construction developments we can help you adhere to international legislation and protect these magnificent species.

In the spring we can also deliver Phase 1 Habitat Surveys and National Vegetation Classification (NVC) surveys. They identify different habitats and give suggestions on how they should be managed for priority species, safeguarding the environment, enhancing business reputations and benefiting people.

To book now email [info@wildscapes.co.uk](mailto:info@wildscapes.co.uk) or call our Senior Ecologist Belinda on 0114 279 2667

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## An Invitation to our Business and Biodiversity Breakfast Seminar

*"The biodiversity that surrounds us is fundamental to the survival of mankind. It enriches our lives, is a source of wonder that stimulates curiosity, helps us relax, and provides us all with a sense of wellbeing. It also plays an essential role in our nation's economic success, being an integral part of sustainable development"* - Yorkshire and Humber Regional Biodiversity Strategy, 2009

**Date:** March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Registration:** 8:30 for 9am start until 10.30am

**Venue:** Victoria Centre Church, Stafford Road, Sheffield S2 2SE. [Click here for directions](#)

**Entry:** £10

Biodiversity loss is a growing concern. It is becoming more important to understand how working to preserve it can affect your company. Companies of all sizes across the world are now taking steps to halt and reverse the decline of biodiversity. As users and beneficiaries of biodiversity, businesses are increasingly involved in its management as it can be an influential factor in their success.



You are invited to attend our Business and Biodiversity Breakfast Seminar; to gain an expert insight on how conserving and enhancing biodiversity will help your business and your green credentials grow.

Using the Forge Masters' Forge Garden as a case study, the seminar will look into the practical steps that can be taken by a business to conserve biodiversity

*"Proximity to high quality green space has been shown to increase the value of residential properties by up to 15% and increase occupancy rates of business premises by 5 to 7%" - Sheffield's Great Outdoors, Green & Openspace Strategy 2010-2030*

[Click Here](#) to find out more or call Joe on **0114 279 2667**

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## Confused about environmental legislation?



There are many different laws surrounding our protected species and failing to obey them can have costly and time consuming effects. At Wildscapes we are aware of these problems and are here to help you. We are publishing a series of articles on our website which will clearly outline the legislation surrounding each of these species. The first publication on bat legislation will be available [here](#) in early March.

Alternatively, please give us a call to discuss any problems you feel we can help with. Involving our Ecologists from an early stage can save problems arising in the future.

To find out more call Belinda on **0114 279 2667**

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## Meet the Parents

Interview with Nigel Doar: Chief Executive of Wildscapes' parent organisation, the Wildlife Trust for Sheffield & Rotherham.

*Can you explain why Wildscapes was set up?*

Basically, Wildscapes was set up by the Wildlife Trust for Sheffield and Rotherham as a way of bringing the Trust's knowledge, expertise and commitment to a commercial audience who could benefit from what we do and how we do it. The Wildlife Trust was increasingly approached by; developers, local authority departments, land owners and managers, and by private businesses for advice, support and professional help to improve their natural assets. They could see the health, economic, and social benefits of doing things naturally (whether through landscaping, sustainable drainage schemes, community planning of activities, or better managed and more accessible natural parks). These businesses wanted to work with a company that re-invested its profits back into the local communities and the natural environment. They wanted to be associated with an organisation that genuinely cared about the natural world. They wanted to access a particular set of knowledge, expertise, and professional skills to help improve developments and land for people and nature, without compromising their value for either. It soon became obvious that it was necessary to set up a new company which could do all these



things... generating income for the Trust without threatening our charitable status, and at the same time helping other businesses and organisations to achieve their environmental ambitions, giving them access to high quality, principled services all geared towards making their projects and businesses more sustainable. In 2007, Wildscapes CIC was born.

*What is the connection between Wildscapes and the Wildlife Trust for Sheffield & Rotherham ?*

There is a very strong connection as Wildscapes is owned entirely by the Wildlife Trust for Sheffield and Rotherham. Its ethos and moral stance on things is very much influenced by the Trust, and it prides itself on being local, creative, knowledgeable, passionate and trustworthy, just as the Trust does. A lot of government funding was spent on the economic, social and environmental regeneration of South Yorkshire during the last few years of the 1990's and the first few of the new century. The whole point of that was so it could create a place where people, communities and organisations did business and generated economic activity that would rebuild and sustain a healthy, happy and inclusive society, living and working in a green and natural environment. The Wildlife Trust grew its charitable activities and increased its capacity to do good things during those years, and now that the big regeneration programmes are over, it makes perfect sense for our knowledge and skills to be made available to a wider market, through Wildscapes. The recent economic downturn makes it even more important for businesses to think sustainably, and for the Trust to have a strong and effective consultancy generating income for the charity.

*In what ways can businesses benefit from the expertise offered by Wildscapes?*

There aren't many places where you can get high quality, cost effective services which will help your service or business do what it wants to do, while at the same time contributing to making your town, city or village a better and more sustainable, healthier place for people and wildlife. Working with Wildscapes gives you access to the staff, knowledge and expertise of Wildscapes, and also to the staff, volunteers, knowledge and expertise of the Wildlife Trust, and through us, to the UK-wide network of 47 Wildlife Trusts which cover the whole country. If you want a natural landscape designing or constructing, then Wildscapes can do that. If you want local people to be engaged in the planning and design (including your staff, clients and customers), or consulted on your plans, then Wildscapes can do that. If you want to know the best way of addressing the needs of otters, badgers, bats, newts, or watervoles, in a development, or in the management of some land, then Wildscapes can do that. Or they can tell you where your wildlife is, where the most important things are and how to look after them. They can produce management plans or deliver practical management on site. They can improve public access routes and rights of way and make sure they give people what they need while avoiding harm to nature. Better still, Wildscapes can bring all of this together in one place at the same time, to deliver a joined up all-in-one service. Best of all, though, whatever you get out of working with Wildscapes, we can guarantee that it will be generating funds for South Yorkshire's number one nature conservation charity, and contributing directly to the creation of the Wildlife Trust's vision of a Living Landscape in which people and nature prosper.

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## Seminar and Bat Class



### Environmental Legislation

**Date:** May 12<sup>th</sup>

**Registration:** TBC

**Venue:** Victoria Centre Church, Stafford Road, Sheffield S2 2SE. [Click here for directions](#)

**Entry:** £10

Penny Simpson, an environmental lawyer at DLA Piper UK LLP will be our guest speaker. She advises many developers on protected species issues, particularly in relation to EPS strategy and EPS licence applications; and others on protected site and "appropriate assessment" issues. [Check this space for further information.](#)

### Bat Class Coming Soon...

Our senior Ecologist will also be running a Bat Class. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about the fantastic creatures on a dusk stroll around some great locations. The date is yet to be confirmed but check our events page for updates on this.

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[www.wildscapes.co.uk](http://www.wildscapes.co.uk)

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