

WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE TO GUIDE NEW NNR

A new board, under the chairmanship of Chris Woodruff, the manager of the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership, has been established to guide and advise the operational management partners – the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust, Devon Wildlife Trust and the RSPB – in the management of the new NNR.



CHRIS WOODRUFF,
East Devon AONB
Partnership

A former RAF engineer turned countryside manager, Chris has worked for nearly 30 years in countryside management roles in Berkshire, Surrey, Merseyside, Lancashire and Devon, where he moved to in 2002 with his wife and two young children to take on the role as Manager for East Devon AONB.

Much of the work of the AONB Partnership revolves around working with others so as Chair for the Pebblebed Heaths NNR Board Chris is looking forward to playing his part, alongside his fellow board members, in guiding and advising the operational management partners in the successful management of the site



CHARLOTTE RUSSELL,
Historic England

Charlotte is an archaeologist at Historic England where her role is centred around protecting heritage at risk and working with partners to encourage positive management of nationally important historic places and sites so that they are conserved for the future. She is pleased to support the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths NNR Advisory Board by providing advice on the management of the historic environment. The nature reserve is located within an important historic landscape which is home to a number of nationally important archaeological remains, including a significant relict prehistoric landscape with early settlement and funerary features.



CHARLOTTE WALLIKER,
EDPH Conservation Trust

The daughter of a Royal Marine, Charlotte was born in East Devon and the Heaths feature in her earliest recollections. She served in the Royal Navy before working in the food industry and as a management consultant. She has a BSc in Environmental Science and an MBA. She joined the Board of Trustees of the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust in 2019. Charlotte represents the Conservation Trust on the NNR board, is an EDPHCT conservation volunteer and a Friend of the Commons. She is committed to helping the new National Nature Reserve thrive for the future.



COLONEL SIMON CHAPMAN
Royal Marines

Royal Marines have trained on parts of East Devon's Pebblebed Heaths since World War 2. The Commando Training Centre Royal Marines (CTCRM) still uses the heaths extensively for initial and specialist training today and, as such, Service representation on the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths NNR Advisory Board offers another unique perspective for the land's conservation, use and evolution, including for military activity.

Colonel Simon Chapman, the current Commandant at CTCRM, first stepped onto the heaths in 1990 and has since served twice at the Centre. In the intervening period, he has deployed across the globe, most recently to Afghanistan and the Middle East.



CLARE JAMES,
Clinton Devon Estates

Clare is a Chartered Surveyor and part of the Property and Land team at Clinton Devon Estates. On the Advisory Board she represents the interests of the Estate's owners. She has worked with the Conservation Team on the Estate to update the public access under the CROW Act 2000, and support them with licencing the many activities that are carried out on the heaths. She says the heaths are a wonderful mix of all that our countryside has to offer; a space for nature, a place to exercise to find peace and a place to learn about our history and sense of place.



DAGMAR JUNGHANNS,
Natural England

Dagmar is a Senior Advisor for National Nature Reserves (NNRs) covering the South West, and leads on NNR declarations in this area. She has been working with Clinton Devon Estates, Devon Wildlife Trust and the RSPB to create this new NNR; a fitting accolade for the work they each do to manage this fantastic area. Her role with the Board is to help them get the NNR off to a flying start as one of the top nature reserves in England, developing a shared vision for the whole site that will make it even better for wildlife and people.

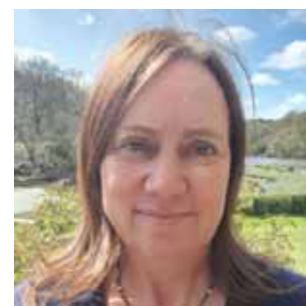


NEIL HARRIS,
East Devon District Council

As the Habitat Regulations Delivery Manager for East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge Councils, Neil and his team work hard to deliver effective, specialised and lasting projects to protect the internationally important East Devon Pebblebed Heaths, Exe Estuary and Dawlish Warren.

Neil's career in conservation began in 2005 as a volunteer with the Scottish Wildlife Trust. He later went on to become Countryside Ranger for Teignbridge District Council, managing 40 hectares of SSSI lowland heath.

Neil says he is honoured to have a place on the NNR advisory board and to work alongside such qualified and experienced members.



SARAH SLADE,
Devon Countryside
Access Forum

Sarah is a Chartered Surveyor and the Chair of the Devon Countryside Access Forum. Her professional roles have included South West Regional Surveyor and National Access Adviser at the CLA, and she remains a member of Defra's Rights of Way Advisory Group. She farms organic dairy shorthorn cattle and has an interest in minority breeds and their role in conservation, having previously been Breed Secretary for the Longhorn Cattle Society. Sarah grew up close to the Pebblebed Heaths and has fond memories of walks and rides across 'Woodbury Common'.

She is delighted to be able to contribute towards this next stage in the heaths' restoration and enjoyment.



PETER BURGESS,
Devon Wildlife Trust

Peter has spent more than 26 years living, working, learning, and exploring in Devon. He finds the habitats and species supported in the county infinitely inspiring and says there are few counties which support such diversity, in both land and sea. Peter says a jewel in the crown are our lowland heaths such as the East Devon Pebblebeds – some of the most rare and threatened habitats in Europe.

He is experienced in developing and delivering conservation and land management projects in the South West and played a key role in one of the earliest landscape-scale projects – the Greater Horseshoe Bat Project in 1999.



CLLR GEOFF JUNG,
East Devon District Council

As District Councillor for the East Devon District Council and Parish Councillor for Woodbury for some years, Geoff's experience has enabled him to be involved in many biodiversity projects. His local knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues in this area will allow him to facilitate communication to local people, councils and management teams for the Pebblebed Heaths.

Geoff believes we all appreciate the importance of the biodiversity of the Pebblebed Heaths and must continue to acknowledge the juxtaposition of public access for health, well-being and education, whilst protecting fauna and flora, addressing the effects of global warming, and working towards a carbon neutral 2040.



SIMON STENNETT,
RSPB

In the early days of Simon's career, he worked on the Dorset Heaths, the Norfolk Broads and in the Yorkshire Coalfields, before moving to Devon to take on a role leading the RSPB's reserves operation in SW England 16 years ago. In 2018 he became the West Country Area Manager, leading the RSPB's work in Somerset, Devon & Cornwall.

He says he has been lucky enough to deliver some very exciting and cutting-edge projects including the development of major new visitor operations, large-scale creation and restoration of nature rich habitats, the development of strategic partnerships and the acquisition and set-up of new nature reserves.