

Community Action for Nature Webinar Series

Speaker Biographies

Webinar 4: Connectivity – understanding Surrey's landscape

Wednesday 25th January 3.30pm-4.45pm



Surrey
Wildlife Trust



Emma Rothwell

**Wilder Schools Team Leader,
Surrey Wildlife Trust**

Emma is a qualified Primary teacher who has worked both in the UK and Internationally; teaching in Milan, Moscow and Istanbul. Since being back in the UK she returned to college to complete a Foundation Science Degree in Animal Behaviour and Welfare, which led her to work as an Education Officer at Kew Gardens. She is now the Wilder Schools Team Leader within Surrey Wildlife Trust's Education and Engagement Team delivering the Wilder Schools programme with several project schools in Surrey. This involves training teachers to take their learning outdoors whilst working with the children to improve the school grounds for biodiversity and bioabundance. She is a keen outdoor swimmer and loves nothing more than dipping in cold water....especially in the winter!



Ben Siggery

**GIS, Research and Monitoring
Manager & Space4Nature
Doctoral Practitioner, Surrey
Wildlife Trust**

Ben has worked for the Trust for 6 years - now in the Research and Monitoring team, after initially working in the Education team - and is currently undertaking his PhD at the University of Surrey as part of the Trust's revolutionary Space4Nature Project. His work in recent years has mainly been on using GIS to inform conservation strategy and policy, in particular working on topics such as modelling habitat connectivity and natural capital. This work has been fundamental in underpinning the Trust's understanding of our landscape connectivity and providing evidence to support the implementation of various conservation projects. In addition, he has been running a GIS course for the Trust's adult learning team for the past four years and is passionate about using GIS to improve science communication.



Katy Fielding

**Hedgerow Heritage Project
Manager and Conservation
Manager for the Central area,
Surrey Wildlife Trust**

Katy has worked for SWT since 2016 and before that for the RSPB. Through the Hedgerow Heritage project, she works with and advises landowners and partners on how to better care for and manage their hedgerows, adopting the lifecycle approach. She is passionate about spreading awareness of the brilliance of hedgerows; both for biodiversity and for people through ecosystem services. Katy is hoping to see more hedgerows in Surrey but most importantly more healthy, well managed hedgerows which will live for many more hundreds of years.



Tim Hopkin

Founder and Director, Land App

In this role, Tim leads the overall company vision, new business development, and market engagement. Tim founded the Land App in 2015 to address the challenges he faced first-hand on his family's 90-acre farm in Surrey: how to decide on the best land use strategy, where to find new sources of income, and how to work collaboratively with advisors, peers, and other stakeholders across the land sector to deliver environmental uplift. Tim has a keen interest in regenerative agriculture, permaculture design, and systems thinking.