

**A new era for country parks?  
23rd November 2009, Worcester Woods Country Park**

Title: .....First Name: .....Surname:.....

Job/Position:.....

Organisation:.....

Address:.....

.....Postcode:.....

E-mail:.....

Tel: .....Fax:.....

Dietary or other requirements: .....

- Please tick** if you **do not** want us to hold your details on file. This information will not be passed to third parties.
- Please tick this box** if you **do not** want to receive information on future CRN events
- Please tick this box if you would like to subscribe to 'Countryside Recreation' journal, published twice a year (subscription is free)**

**Cost: £150 (£125 for CRN sponsoring members on confirmation of membership)**

- £150 GBP
- £125GBP (Membership price)

An invoice will be sent to you once we receive your booking.

Please include details of invoice address (if different than above) and booking reference if any. Payment options to be found on the reverse of the invoice.

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A copy of the conference proceedings publication is also included in the price

More information about the event/ venue will be sent to you prior to the event.

*Cancellations: Refunds (less 25% cancellation fee) will only be made for written cancellations received before 9th November 2009*

Please complete and return the form by post, fax or email your details to the address below:

Countryside Recreation Network  
Sheffield Hallam University  
Unit 1 Sheffield Science Park  
Howard Street Sheffield S1 2LX  
Email: [crn@shu.ac.uk](mailto:crn@shu.ac.uk) Tel: 0114 225 4494 Fax: 0114 225 6319



Countryside Recreation Network

**A Countryside Recreation Network Event**

**A new era for country parks?**

**Target Audience**

This event is aimed at managers of country parks and organisations considering developing country parks who have responsibility for sites that do/could deliver the functions of county parks. This event is also aimed at landscape architects, designers and consultants involved in country park development or refurbishment, policy officers from local authorities and leisure services managers.

There are 50 places available for this seminar

**Monday 23rd November 2009  
Worcester Woods Country Park**

Delegate Fee: £150

**For CMA members, this event attracts  
10 Continued Professional Development (CPD) points**

## **Background:**

Country Parks were developed as a concept during the 1960s - on the one hand in response to fears that an increasingly mobile population was damaging national parks and conflicting with forestry and agriculture, and on the other to respond to a more altruistic belief that urban populations would benefit from some sort of "countryside" experience. During the 1970s Country Parks sprang up on disused collieries, old railway lines, stately homes and in many other locations and were a great hit with the public. Over the years the demands and expectations placed on Country Parks by successive government agencies has changed and, despite following their masters around like a faithful old dog, by the 1990s financial titbits from those masters and any clear sense of direction had largely evaporated. Country Parks seemed to be a dog that had had its day; however, publication of the Countryside Agency commissioned "Towards a Country Parks Renaissance" report in 2004 began a revival of the fortunes of Country Parks and recognition of their value in terms of health and well-being, social inclusion, economic regeneration and environmental awareness. Most recently this has led to the development of a Country Parks Network, the opportunity for accreditation by Natural England and an increase in the number of Country Parks attaining Green Flag status. It is clear that you can teach an old dog new tricks and that some of his old tricks are pretty neat too!

## **Aims of the event:**

- To raise delegates awareness of the place of country parks in the family of greenspaces.
- To appreciate the potential that country parks have in terms of health & wellbeing, social inclusion, economic regeneration and environmental awareness.
- To raise awareness of country park accreditation.

## **Chair:**

Andy Maginnis, Worcester County Council

## **A new era for country parks?**

09:30 *Registration and Refreshments*

10:00 **Welcome from the chair**

Andy Maginnis, Worcester County Council

10:15 **A Historical Perspective**

David Lambert, The Parks Agency

10:45 **Country Parks - their relevance today**

Lucy Heath, Natural England

11:15 *Refreshments*

11:30 **Accreditation of Country Parks**

David Solly, Natural England

12:00 **Benefits of Green Flag Award**

Paul Todd - Keep Britain Tidy

12:20 *Lunch*

13:20 **Welcome back from the chair**

13:30 **Case Study 1**

Liz Nether, Worcestershire County Council

14:00 **Case Study 2**

Bob Bleakley, Northern Ireland Environment Agency

14:30 **Case Study 3**

Eirwen Hopwood, West Lothian Council

15:00 **Questions to the panel**

15:30 **Summary from the chair**

15:45 *Close*