

PRESS RELEASE – For immediate release

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Celebrated naturalist Nick Baker comes to Hereford

Nick Baker will be giving Herefordshire Wildlife Trust’s annual lecture this autumn. His talk is entitled *Building a Naturalist* and is part autobiography, part hard hitting call to action

Best known as a TV wildlife presenter on shows such as *AutumnWatch Unsprung*, Nick Baker, is also an author and one of the UK’s foremost naturalists. *Building a Naturalist* represents the development of a life-long biophile. Nick will touch on subjects as broad as how keeping caterpillars in a jam jar led to working with Britain’s rarest butterfly, how playing with grass-snakes helped him tackle a cobra, the similarities between badgers and a black rhino and how the most endangered species in the world is a child playing free in nature. This talk explores why this is and suggests how we go about rewilding a young generation and in doing so - save the world!

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust’s Anastasia Calder commented: “Nick is a really inspirational presenter and his enthusiasm for the natural world is surely unsurpassed. We are delighted he has agreed to come to speak for us and have no doubt that it will be both a thought-provoking and entertaining evening!”

Nick’s has recently published his tenth book, *ReWild: The Art of Returning to Nature* (available to purchase on the night.) A mix of personal experience, sound advice, and some of the science behind our ‘wild’ senses, *ReWild* is written with passion, humour, boundless knowledge and a lifelong love of science and nature. It will inspire humans of all ages to “strip life back to the essentials” from time to time and truly connect with the natural world around us. The result, to once again discover the great outdoors and all that it beholds.

The talk will be held at the Kindle Centre in Hereford, beginning at 7.45 pm, on Wednesday 18th October. It follows Herefordshire Wildlife Trust’s Annual General Meeting which runs from 6pm to 7pm, though the bar will be open from 6.30pm for those coming just for Nick’s talk. Tickets cost £12 and are available through the Trust’s website: www.herefordshirewt.org/NickBaker or by calling 01432 356872. All funds raised during the evening will be invested in wildlife conservation and the sustainable management of traditional orchards in Herefordshire.

ENDS

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Notes to Editor:

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust (HWT) is part of the federation of 47 Wildlife Trusts based across the British Isles. Formerly known as Herefordshire Nature Trust, it is the largest member based nature conservation organisation in the county, with nearly 5000 members and 55 nature reserves across Herefordshire. HWT has over 50 years experience of managing sites valuable to wildlife and people, and successfully run a variety of partnership initiatives from environmental education programmes to conservation projects celebrating Herefordshire's natural beauty. For more information visit www.herefordshirewt.org or email enquiries@herefordshirewt.co.uk or tweet [@HerefordshireWT](https://twitter.com/HerefordshireWT)

Nick Baker is an expert naturalist and world renowned wildlife presenter with decades of experience in teaching and exploring the natural world. Edgy, exciting and with incredible drive and passion, his knowledge and experience encompasses the wild in its broadest sense – serious natural history and science, explorations of land and ocean, conservation, extinction. Nick considers himself a self-taught naturalist and has shared natural history in every way possible through TV, radio and the written word. Preferring hands-on real experiences, he leads various natural history trips and courses both in the UK and abroad.

He is Duncan Louis Stewart Fellow of Natural History at Winchester College and has a wealth of broadcasting experience as a presenter on many popular TV programmes including The Really Wild Show (BBC1), Springwatch and Autumnwatch Unsprung (BBC2), Killer Shark Live (C5), Test Your Pet (CBBC & BBC1), Under the Skin (BBC2) and Deep into the Wild (Animal Planet). His ITV production Weird Creatures continues to enthral television audiences around the world and he is currently working on a series about life on the Tibetan plateau. He is also a columnist for BBC Wildlife Magazine.

In the US, Nick was one of the Ultimate Explorers (National Geographic/MSNBC) in which he covered anti-poaching patrols in Cambodia, the Yellowstone to Yukon natural area, Ebola outbreak in the Congo, and emergent zoonotic viruses (he was subsequently voted the most eligible presenter on cable by readers of People magazine).

Nick lives in Devon with his family and is heavily involved with various organisations including The National Trust, Wildlife Trust, Bug Life, and the RSPB - with whom he works on the 'coal face of conservation' leading a study of the declining Ring Ouzel on his home turf of Dartmoor. He is also the "wailin' vocalist and honkin' harpist" for Dartmoor based band Skinny Dog who play "a raunchy, graunchy mix of funky rockin' blues"! ReWild is his tenth book.

Nick is also the President of The Wildlife Trust's junior membership club, Wildlife Watch.

