

# Support for young entrepreneurs

The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT) is Scotland's leading charity in youth entrepreneurship.

Established in 1989, the charity supports young people aged 18-25 into business and has provided £34 million in funding to more than 11,000 people into almost 10,000 businesses, alongside a package of other assistance tailored to the needs of each individual and delivered by one of the 800 volunteers that work with the Trust.

As "lenders of last resort" to aspiring young entrepreneurs, and with a particular commitment to help support the most

disadvantaged members of society, the charity often works with individuals who may otherwise struggle to access mainstream banking products and services.

However, working in partnership to build a tailored package of support to the 600 or so young people that PSYBT helps each year, the organisation is proud to report some stunning results and a vote of confidence in Scotland's small business sector.

As well as offering grants and "soft" loans, a critical additional element of PSYBT's offering to young people is its unique package

of "aftercare" support, or ongoing business mentoring. A team of 800 volunteers from Scotland's business community help to deliver this invaluable, free advice and support.

Supporting these young people often provides economic security for them and in some cases employment for others in their local communities.

Volunteers are involved at the start, assessing the business plans for funding or supporting the young person for a minimum of two years with key areas like bookkeeping and sales and marketing. It is a role which requires great sensitivity,

understanding and dedication.

PSYBT support a wide variety of businesses including Loch Visions, a wildlife and digital photography business owned by Philip Price. Loch Visions was awarded the "Best Enterprise of the Year" at Countryside Alliance Awards in 2009. To learn more, visit [www.lochvisions.co.uk](http://www.lochvisions.co.uk).

**If you would like to find out more about PSYBT or learn more about volunteering opportunities, please visit [www.psybt.org.uk](http://www.psybt.org.uk) or call headquarters on 0141 248 4999.**

## Demo Day will put you in the picture

Aldourie Castle and Highland Council will jointly host our next SRPBA Rural Enterprise Demo Day on 9 November.

The Highlands and Islands Film Commission will be our partners for this event entitled "Are you in the picture?"

We will examine the opportunities and challenges for land managers and country house owners in working with film and TV projects.

SRPBA members with experience of film crews arriving on their estates, such as Jean Maskell at Ardkinglas and Frank Spencer-Naim in Beaulieu, will join some of the UK's top film location managers in an exciting and novel event. Scotland's leading legal advisers in this field, Tods Murray LLP, will provide a sober assessment of the pros and cons of having Hollywood on your doorstep.

For more information, see ??????



## Mountain bike conference looks at opportunities to diversify

Members looking for diversified business opportunities might be interested in a conference being held in Perth on 28 October.

The "Developing Mountainbiking in Scotland" event is being organised by the Scottish Mountainbiking

Development Consortium. Workshops at the event will include increasing participation, tourism and economic development and sporting development and success.

One of the speakers is SRPBA member Guy Wedderburn of

Callendar Estate, who will talk about his BeSpoke project, which is based on the outskirts of Falkirk.

**For more details, visit [www.developingmountainbikingscotland.com](http://www.developingmountainbikingscotland.com)**



# New wildlife tourism advice service launched by Wild Scotland

With a gross economic impact of £267 million, wildlife tourism in Scotland is becoming an important part of the Scottish economy.

Responding to the growing interest in wildlife tourism, Wild Scotland, the Scottish wildlife tourism operators' association, has launched a new advice service to help people get involved in this growing sector.

The Wildlife Tourism Advisory Service was developed by Wild Scotland in response to recent wildlife tourism workshops, including one hosted by SRPBA in November 2009.

The service is available to any business or organisation looking to develop or diversify into wildlife tourism. Advice might relate to providing appropriate facilities for wildlife photographers, the logistics of running wildlife safaris, attracting wildlife watching tour groups or simply finding

out about the requirements of the wildlife tourism market. Enquiries will be matched to relevant experts (mainly drawn from Wild Scotland's membership) already working in the field so they can be assured of first-hand experience and practical advice.

Caroline Warburton, Wild Scotland's manager, explained: "We were receiving more and more requests from people interested in developing wildlife watching activities and realised that there was a lack of specific advice available to them.

"There are plenty of opportunities to develop wildlife tourism in Scotland and many of our members have decades of experience providing first-class wildlife watching activities.

"We hope that by providing practical and relevant advice, we can support organisations getting involved in wildlife tourism and



welcome more visitors to Scotland."

Atholl Estates was one of the first to take advantage of the offer and met with Wild Scotland member, wildlife photographer Peter Cairns of Northshots, to discuss options relating to photo stalking and catering for the amateur wildlife photography market.

General manager Andrew Bruce Wootton found the advice extremely useful. "By speaking to someone who already runs holidays for amateur photographers, we knew that the advice was both relevant to our situation and realistic about what we should aim for. There's no substitute

for first-hand comments and I'm confident we are going to move the project forwards as a result."

Thanks to support from Scottish Natural Heritage, the service is being offered at a subsidised rate of £150 + VAT for a day's consultancy. Full terms and conditions can be found at [www.wild-scotland.org.uk](http://www.wild-scotland.org.uk) To take advantage of the service, complete the short enquiry form and Wild Scotland will match you to a suitable adviser.

More info is at [www.wild-scotland.org.uk](http://www.wild-scotland.org.uk) or 0845 226 0978 or [info@wild-scotland.org.uk](mailto:info@wild-scotland.org.uk)

## Funding available for rural broadband



The Rural Broadband Challenge Fund is being delivered through the LEADER programme, which supports small-scale, community driven projects in rural Scotland.

Applications should be made to your LEADER Local Advisory Group. Projects have to be in keeping with the LEADER principles and applications made should have a positive rural

development impact which they consider improved broadband access would bring.

Applications will be accepted from:

- ◆ individuals
- ◆ constituted community groups
- ◆ public organisations and agencies
- ◆ partnerships, trusts and other non-governmental organisations
- ◆ social enterprises
- ◆ collaborative businesses/ community organisations.

Applications will be assessed

by LAGs using their existing procedures. LAGs will then submit suitable bids to the Scottish Government for final assessment by an independent panel in October.

It is important to note that LAGs have different closing dates, many of which are within the next few weeks.

More information can be found on the National Rural Network website and details of LAGs is available at [www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/farmingrural/SRD/LEADER](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/farmingrural/SRD/LEADER)



## Green Tourism Business Scheme

The Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) is the national sustainable tourism certification scheme for the UK. Developed in partnership with VisitScotland, it is the only certification scheme validated by VisitBritain, through the International Centre for Responsible Tourism (ICRT).

The scheme has been running since 1997 and with more than 2,000 members across the UK and Ireland, it is the largest and most established scheme of its type in the world.

In Scotland, the GTBS was

developed in partnership with VisitScotland and it is recognised by UK national and regional government as a crucial part of its drive towards sustainability. Its aim is to build on this strong position and ensure the UK remains at the forefront of sustainable tourism in the future.

Businesses opting to join Green Tourism are assessed by a qualified grading adviser against a rigorous set of criteria, covering a range of areas, such as energy and water efficiency, waste management, biodiversity and more.

Those businesses that meet the required standard receive a Bronze, Silver, or Gold award based on their level of achievement. The current network of members comprises a range of business types, including accommodation providers, visitor attractions and corporate offices.

The GTBS website states that the scheme has proven its use, time and

again as a powerful tool for businesses, delivering demonstrable environmental benefits, operating efficiencies and cost savings; as well as by providing consumers with a clear and credible signpost to sustainable tourism products and services.

"GTBS is a proven tool, which:

- ◆ reduces your environmental impact
- ◆ identifies cost savings through efficiencies
- ◆ improves your public image
- ◆ offers a credible sustainable choice for consumers
- ◆ clearly links quality with the environment."

**GTBS has a FAQ information sheet for businesses in Scotland – it can be found at: [www.green-business.co.uk/ PDF\\_2007/FAQ\\_Fee\\_Application/Scotland\\_Sept07\\_FAQs.pdf](http://www.green-business.co.uk/PDF_2007/FAQ_Fee_Application/Scotland_Sept07_FAQs.pdf)**

### CONSULTATION PAPERS

**Long Leases (Scotland) Bill**  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/26131302/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/26131302/0)

**Central Scotland Green Network – changing the face of Central Scotland**  
[www.centralscotlandgreennetwork.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=26&Itemid=26](http://www.centralscotlandgreennetwork.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=26&Itemid=26)

**Tree Preservation Orders**  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/04/16114715/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/04/16114715/0)

**Planning Obligation & Good Neighbour Agreement Regulations 2010**  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/04/26150418/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/04/26150418/0)

**Stirling local development plan**  
[www.stirling.gov.uk/localdevplan](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/localdevplan)

**Quality in Common Residential Property Managers and Land Maintenance in Scotland: Core Standards for a Voluntary Accreditation Scheme**  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/311576/0098311.pdf](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/311576/0098311.pdf)

**Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2010**  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/312585/0098844.pdf](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/312585/0098844.pdf)

### CONSULTATION RESPONSES

CNP Designation Order consultation

Scottish Wild Salmon – Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) Application

Housing Bill

The Royal Society of Edinburgh Inquiry, Facing up to Climate Change  
 Scottish Government Consultation on the Implementation of the EU Pesticides Legislation

Guidance for Developers of Run-of-River Hydropower Schemes Consultation

East Loch Lomond Camping Byelaws Consultation

Renewable Heat Incentive: Consultation on the Proposed RHI Financial Support Scheme  
*All available at [www.srpba.com](http://www.srpba.com)*

### NEW BRIEFING NOTES AND INFORMATION SHEETS

**LE32** – Hill Tracks and Planning  
**LE14** – New Charges for Septic Tanks. Please note this information has been updated  
**BN69** – Consultation on a proposed Long Leases (Scotland) Bill  
**BN70** – Land Use Strategy  
*All available at [www.srpba.com](http://www.srpba.com)*

## Summer Budget 2010 – significant points for SRPBA members

At the SRPBA's Royal Highland Show Business Breakfast, Jamie Younger of Chiene & Tait outlined the significant points for SRPBA members of the recent Emergency Budget. Mr Younger highlighted the following items:

- ◆ increase in standard rate of VAT from 17.5 per cent to 20 per cent with effect from 4 January 2011
- ◆ capital allowances: annual investment allowance (AIA) – the amount of expenditure on plant and machinery that qualifies for a

- 100 per cent immediate deduction – will be reduced from £100,000 to £25,000 from 6 April 2012 and also the rate of writing down allowance on general pool plant and machinery expenditure from 20 per cent to 18 per cent
- ◆ retention of favourable treatment for furnished holiday lets for 2010/2011 (this issue will be consulted on over the summer)
- ◆ employer's NIC holiday for new businesses in Scotland, and other areas of the UK, from

September 2010 (further information on eligibility will be contained within the forthcoming Finance Bill)

- ◆ immediate increase in rate of CGT to 28 per cent for higher tax payers
- ◆ increase in lifetime limit for entrepreneurs' relief to £5m
- ◆ cuts in corporation tax rates from April 2011 – main rate down to 24 per cent over four years.

**The summary is available at [www.chiene.co.uk](http://www.chiene.co.uk)**