

**Press release with picture and video for immediate use**

**Date:** 5th May 2017

**Site Manager appointed to manage one of Europe’s rarest landscapes**

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| **FOR NEWS WEBSITES****Hear Kim speak in this short video clip about her new role managing one of Europe’s rarest landscapes** [**https://youtu.be/fkOeSQRCKqo**](https://youtu.be/fkOeSQRCKqo) |

Clinton Devon Estates has appointed Kim Strawbridge as Site Manager of the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths (EDPH) - one of the rarest landscapes and habitats in Europe.

Kim returns to her West Country roots from a senior role with the Eastern Moors Partnership, a collaboration between the RSPB and the National Trust within the Peak District National Park. Kim, who grew up on a dairy farm near Launceston, will work with Dr Sam Bridgewater, Clinton Devon Estates’ Head of Wildlife and Conservation, and the team of EDPH wardens to manage the seven commons and one moor which span 2,800 acres of East Devon’s Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty between Exeter and Budleigh Salterton on the Jurassic Coast.

The EDPH support 3000 species including the Dartford Warbler, Nightjar and Southern Damselfly and have UK and European designations including Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation Area (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA).

Dr Sam Bridgewater, Head of Wildlife and Conservation at Clinton Devon Estates said: “Kim joins us with a wealth of experience and a real passion for the environment and the natural world. We welcome Kim to our highly dedicated team and we look forward to working together to manage one of the country’s most important wildlife areas.”

Kim, who has a double MSc in Sustainable Forest and Nature Management will be responsible for protecting and maintaining the EDPH whilst promoting its value and helping to enrich the lives of the public who use it. As Public Open Access land, the Pebblebed Heaths are highly valued by local communities, particularly for walking, horse riding, cycling and birdwatching.

Commenting on her new appointment, Kim said: “I’m originally from this part of the world so I’m very pleased to be returning to my roots to work with a highly professional team to manage this extraordinarily beautiful and ecologically important site that is so loved and enjoyed by a wide range of people.”

As a registered charity, the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust, established by Clinton Devon Estates over 10 years ago, manages the heaths to ensure all wildlife associated with the heathland flourishes, whilst protecting public access and promoting responsible public enjoyment of the site.

The Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust works alongside and in partnership with a number of public and private organisations such as the Ministry of Defence – as the land is used as the primary training site for the Royal Marines – District and County Councils, RSPB, Devon Wildlife Trust and East Devon AONB.

To find out more about the Pebblebed Heaths or the work of the Clinton Devon Estates, please visit [www.clintondevon.com](http://www.clintondevon.com)

**ENDS**

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Annette Richman at annette.richman@korcommunications.co.uk or call 01392 466733

**The attached images may be used in connection with this story, photo credit: Guy Newman**

**About the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust**

The East Devon Pebblebed Heaths are managed by the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust, a charity set up by Clinton Devon Estates to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the Pebblebed Heaths and the Otter Estuary for the benefit of future generations.

The East Devon Pebblebed Heaths are located in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and have both UK and European designations, including a Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area (SPA) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). **For more about the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths, please visit** [**www.pebblebedheaths.org.uk**](http://www.pebblebedheaths.org.uk)

**About Clinton Devon Estates**

Clinton Devon Estatesis involved in farming, sustainable forestry and timber products**,** deer management and residential property. It has a portfolio of commercial property across the South West and provides one of the region’s best equipped equestrian event venues at Bicton. It also owns commons at Woodburywhich form the major part of the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest).

Clinton Devon Estateshas been awarded the prestigious Queen’s Award for Enterprise in the category of Sustainable Development in 2005, 2010, and 2015, reflecting its commitment to conservation management through Countryside Stewardship Schemes and privately funded Estate led environmental initiatives.

For more information, please visit [**www.clintondevon.com**](http://www.clintondevon.com)