



## Obituary: Lewis Scott, 1956–2021

IT was with profound sadness that I heard that Lewis Scott, one of the founders of Woodland Heritage, had passed away at the end of November.

Some 30 years ago, Lewis, along with the late, great Peter Goodwin, were discussing the poor state of the nation's broadleaf forests. While there was considerable demand for high-quality broadleaf timber, much of what was being planted would only produce squirrel and deer food, and, eventually, poor-grade firewood.

From their initial discussion the seed was sown, and Woodland Heritage was born, with its first members being wood users.

Woodland Heritage's remit has always been to grow high-quality trees, whether broadleaf or conifer, and to emphasise that good forestry, good wildlife conservation, rural employment, and the eventual production of high-value trees are all compatible components of a successful British timber industry.

All of this was achieved on top of Lewis' day job as a regional director of the Department of International Trade.

From its initial small start, Woodland Heritage, through its many members and supporters, has initiated research projects into acute oak decline, and created the well-received Woodland to Workshop course, which has helped many hundreds of individuals from diverse backgrounds start on a firm foundation in the timber and forest industries.

The charity also operates Whitney Sawmills and runs yearly field weekends, which I have to say are exceptional.

Lewis would always tend to be more in the background of the field weekends,



going around, chatting to the membership, hearing their comments, criticisms, and encouragement, while other, more vocal members might sometimes whip up a hornets' nest of controversy, to the enjoyment of all present.

After the death of Peter Goodwin, Lewis took on the role of chairman of Woodland Heritage, with its considerable workload. But, as the saying goes, behind any great man is a greater

woman.

Often at WH HQ, the happy voice answering the phone was Belinda Scott, otherwise known as 'B'. To all during those times, Woodland Heritage felt like a large family, with its share of unique family members. So it would be good to thank Belinda and the children for having shared Lewis with us.

It's worth remembering the scriptures tell us a good reputation is something of high value. Lewis' legacy to the forests of Britain is something which will be treasured by many.

**Arwyn Morgan**

*Donations to a Founders' Appeal in Lewis' and Peter's memory can be made at [www.woodlandheritage.org/make-a-donation](http://www.woodlandheritage.org/make-a-donation).*

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