

Citation of Professor Helen Roy, Biological Records Centre CEH Wallingford, for Honorary Membership of the National Biodiversity Network Trust

I am delighted to award Helen Roy with Honorary Membership of the NBN Trust for the following reasons:

This nomination is to recognise Helen's unique contribution to biological recording since having taken on the running of the Ladybird Recording Scheme, as well as recognising her important role in the wider NBN data-provision process.

While her professional role at CEH Wallingford has inevitably ensured that her work is central to the acquisition of biological data, in particular, for use within the NBN, we would especially want to draw attention to her extra-curricular work. She supports a wide range of biological recording activities, and is a great advocate, especially through ladybird monitoring encouraging engagement with 'citizen science'.

Over the last ten years or more, she has been a tireless enthusiast for public engagement in biological recording. She has pioneered development of online recording, and been a primary advocate at meetings, conferences and public engagement events. She has championed the uptake of modern systems of recording, particularly iRecord and its associated developments. Her high public profile, especially in the area of insect recording, has benefited the NBN through engaging with very disparate groups of people.

Her academic work has also demonstrated to a wide audience, and not just academics, the value of broad-scale NBN data in analyses of biodiversity functions and impacts. She has an enthusiastic willingness to share her insights with a wide range of people, amateur as well as professional. This has included frequent engagement internationally with other scientists, especially developing standards and analytical methods relating to biological recording and the data it produces.

Her advocacy for, and support of the NBN's long-term aims has been crucial in maintaining engagement with the NBN through a period of change, when so much especially invertebrate data might not have made its way to the NBN Gateway and more recently the NBN Atlas.