



“Data – what is it good for?”

**17TH NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY
NETWORK CONFERENCE**

2016 – 2017

National Museum Cardiff

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th November 2017

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We would really appreciate your feedback on this year's NBN Conference. Please complete the form online at: tinyurl.com/yc7unssf or scan the QR code to go straight to the survey.

Wi-fi – free public access is available in the Lecture Theatre and no code is needed to connect

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



Professor
Michael Hassell

Welcome to Cardiff for the National Biodiversity Network's annual conference, which this year has the theme of:

“Data – what is it good for?”

We would like to thank you for attending this year's two day event, which continues to move around the country and which brings us to Wales for the first time.

It has been a significant year for the NBN with the launch of the NBN Atlas, NBN Atlas Wales and NBN Atlas Scotland and this will be discussed in greater detail within the workshops on Thursday afternoon. We have included workshops again this year as we feel it is important to allow people the chance to give feedback and put across their views to the wider Network. I hope that you will find these useful and worthwhile.

In addition to the workshops, we have a full programme of presentations so, I hope that you will find this a valuable event. We also have the ceremony for the UK Awards for biological recording and information sharing, which will see us recognise those on whom we rely so deeply, our network of recorders.

As we come together to hear more from our Network colleagues at this Conference, we thank you for your ongoing support and hope that the next two days will once again allow us to celebrate our combined successes and to look forward to future developments positively.

With warm regards,

Michael Hassell

THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

09:30 Registration and coffee

Morning session: NBN progress and partnership

Chair of morning session: Jen Ashworth, NBN Trustee

10.00 Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell

10.05 **Keynote address**
“Why I joined the Twitterati - Making entomology and natural history visible using social media” – Professor Simon Leather, Harper Adams University

10.35 “Through partnership, a lot *can* be achieved in 12 months!” – Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

10.55 “The SBIF Review: reimagining our data infrastructure” – Ellen Wilson, Chair of the Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum

11.15 Tea / coffee break

11.45 “A bold step: building on the past to meet new approaches in Wales” – Helen Wilkinson, Manager, Knowledge and Information Management and Barnaby Letheren, Specialist Adviser, Enterprise Data Management, Natural Resources Wales

12.05 “LERC Wales: Delivering an Evidence Base Fit for Wales” – Adam Rowe, Manager, South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre Limited (SEWBReC)

12.25 “Verification - next steps and an opportunity to feedback to the partnership” – Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

12.35 Q&A

12.45 Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations

Afternoon session: How is the NBN Atlas supporting your data needs?

Chair of afternoon session: Andrew Wood, NBN Trustee and Treasurer

14.00 Discussion workshops

Five parallel sessions. At the end of each workshop a set of clearly defined actions will be made, with responsibility for taking the actions forward determined and agreed by the group.

1. How can the NBN Atlas work better for marine data?
Workshop lead – Paula Lightfoot
 2. An Atlas for all – is the NBN Atlas supporting different uses and different users? Workshop lead – Tom Webb
 3. How can the NBN Atlas better support the NBN Data Flow Pathway?
Workshop lead – Barnaby Letheren
 4. The NBN Atlas – a demonstration and future development discussion
Workshop leads – Holly York and Jo Judge
 5. What are the barriers to sharing data on the NBN Atlas and how can we overcome them? Workshop lead – Ben Deed
-

15.45 – 16:15 Tea / coffee break

16:15 – 16:45 Workshop feedback to the auditorium – what are the next actions?

16:45 – 17:00 Q&A

17:00 – 17:05 Chairman’s summing up of day 1

17.15 – 17.45 NBN AGM

As the AGM is taking place as part of the NBN Conference, anyone, including non-members, is able to join this meeting, but only the eligible members are able to cast a vote on relevant items.

As well as the resolutions, the AGM will include updates on the NBN Governance Review, NBN Membership Review, NBN Action Plan Business Priorities Update and an open Q&A session

18:00 – 19:15 UK Awards for Biological Recording & Information Sharing

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

09:00 Registration and coffee

Morning session: Data, data everywhere – sharing and using data across the NBN

Chair of morning session: Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

09:25 Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell

09:30 **Keynote address**
“Assessing the state of nature: past, present and future” – Dr Mark Eaton, Principal Conservation Scientist, RSPB Centre for Conservation Science

10:00 “Let’s Talk about Data” – Matt Postles, Bristol Natural History Consortium

10:20 “Recorder 6 and all that” – Steve Whitbread, ALERC Director

10:40 “Collection, Collaboration, Collation & Circulation of plant records in West Glamorgan” – Barry Stewart, Bryophyte Recorder for Glamorgan & Plant Recorder for West Glamorgan

10:50 “The Wet Bit Around the Edge: Are Marine Data Different?” – Dan Lear, Head of Data, Information & Technology, Marine Biological Association

11:00 Tea / coffee break

11:30 “Data Sharing – The Earthworm Perspective” – Keiron Derek Brown, Earthworm Society of Britain

11:40 “Summary of questionnaire: What do ecological consultants want from GCER?” – Linda Moore, Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records

11:50 “NBN Atlas: A Consultancy Perspective” - Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, The Environment Partnership (TEP)

12:00 **Student speed talk**
“How a student-led society can inspire a community’s perception on biodiversity” – Anna Moulin, University of Exeter

12:05 **Student speed talk**
“Identification Trainers for the Future – a trainee’s perspective” – Steph Skipp, ID Trainer for the Future

12:10 “Bridging the skills gap in UK species identification – lessons learnt and next steps” – Stephanie West, UK Biodiversity Training Manager & John Tweddle, Head of Centre, Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity, Natural History Museum

12:30 Q&A

12.35 Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations

Afternoon session: Looking forward – opportunities for data and the NBN

Chair of afternoon session: Professor Michael Hassell, NBN Trust Chairman

13:45 Award of NBN Honorary Membership

13.50 **The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture, 2017**
“Data – what is it good for? Insights from network ecology” – Professor Yvonne Buckley, Chair of Zoology, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin

14.20 “How to find Treasure” – Maria Longley, Community Manager, Greenspace Information for Greater London

14.40 “NBN as a global player enabling biodiversity research through GBIF” – Tim Hirsch, Deputy Director, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Secretariat

15.00 Tea / coffee break

15.30 **Student Speed talk**
“Project Splatter: Using Citizen Scientists to Monitor Wildlife Roadkill” – Amy Schwartz, PhD Student – Cardiff University

15.35 **Student Speed talk**
“Climate change and checklists – monitoring natural colonists through biological recording” – Jamie Cranston, NERC iCASE PhD Student, University of Exeter

15:40 “Looking forward – mammal data and its potential at a national and international scale” – Dr Graham Smith, Lead Scientist and Head of Wildlife Epidemiology and Modelling, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Defra

16.00 “FSC BioLinks – 5 more years of caring and sharing THANK YOU HLF!” – Sue Townsend, FSC Biodiversity Learning Manager, Field Studies Council

16.20 Q&A

16.25 Chairman’s summing up.

16.30 End of conference

UK AWARDS TO CELEBRATE BIOLOGICAL RECORDING AND INFORMATION SHARING

Thursday 16th November 2017
National Museum Cardiff



| | |
|-------|---|
| 18:00 | Welcome drinks |
| 18:30 | Introduction to the Awards by NBN Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell |

The following awards will be presented:

| | |
|-------|---|
| 18:35 | Terrestrial and freshwater Awards Gilbert White, Adult Award |
| 18:40 | Terrestrial and freshwater Awards Gilbert White, Youth Award |
| 18:45 | Marine and coastal Awards David Robertson, Adult Award |
| 18:50 | Marine and coastal Awards David Robertson, Youth Award |
| 18:55 | Adult Newcomer Award |
| 19:00 | Lynne Farrell Group Award |
| 19:05 | John Sawyer NBN Open Data Award |
| 19:15 | Event close |

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www.exeter.ac.uk

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Helen Wilkinson, Manager; Knowledge and Information Management and Barnaby Letheren, Enterprise Data Management; Specialist Adviser at Natural Resources Wales

“A bold step: building on the past to meet new approaches in Wales”

A reflection on the use of biodiversity data in Wales and the changes required to deliver new legislation which has the environment and sustainability at its core.

@NatResWales

notes



Adam Rowe, Manager of South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre Limited (SEWBRc)

“LERC Wales: Delivering an Evidence Base Fit for Wales”

Looking at the unique aspects of the LERC Wales consortium and how we work with Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales to support the new Welsh environmental policies and their commitment to evidence-based decision-making.

@SEWBRc

notes



Jo Judge, NBN Chief Executive

“Verification – next steps and an opportunity to feedback to the partnership”

We present the outcomes from the most recent working group meeting which discussed the display of verified and unverified data on the NBN Atlas and ask for your feedback on the proposals.

@jo_judge

notes

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Barry Stewart, Bryophyte Recorder for Glamorgan & Plant Recorder for West Glamorgan

“Collection, Collaboration, Collation & Circulation of plant records in West Glamorgan”

A case study of plant recording in a small area of Wales focussing on what motivates recorders to become data hogs.

@Gowermoss

notes



Dan Lear, Head of Data, Information & Technology, Marine Biological Association

“The Wet Bit Around the Edge: Are Marine Data Different?”

Exploring the history and current state of marine data on the NBN Atlas and looking at some of the unique challenges faced in the marine domain.

@thembauk

notes



Keiron Derek Brown, Recording Officer, Earthworm Society of Britain

“Data Sharing – The Earthworm Perspective”

The National Earthworm Recording Scheme presents its views on open data and data sharing, and what happens to earthworm records once they’ve been submitted.

@KeironDBrown

notes



Linda Moore, Development Manager, Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records

“Summary of questionnaire: What do ecological consultants want from GCER?”

Some results from an online survey carried out by Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records in March 2017. We asked ecological consultants about what they want most from our commercial data service. What happened next will astound you!!

@Glos_Records

notes



Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, The Environment Partnership (TEP)

“NBN Atlas: A Consultancy Perspective”

Dr Rachel Roberts, Associate Ecologist, will summarise how consultants use NBN Atlas and its use in determining survey and mitigation requirements.

@TEP_Ltd

notes



Anna Moulin, Zoology Student, University of Exeter

“How a Student-led society can inspire a community’s perception on biodiversity”

EcoSoc is a student led society that aims to enthuse and educate students and the community to conserve the local environment through biodiversity monitoring.

@anna_moulin1

notes



Steph Skipp, ID Trainer for the Future, Natural History Museum

“Identification Trainers for the Future – a trainee’s perspective”

Steph Skipp, one of the final cohort of trainees, will give an update on her experiences of this Natural History Museum-led UK species identification and training delivery skills programme.

@StephSkipp

notes



Steph West, UK Biodiversity Training Manager, Natural History Museum and John Tweddle, Head of Centre, Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity, Natural History Museum

“Bridging the skills gap in UK species identification – lessons learnt and next steps”

As the Identification Trainers for the Future project draws to a close, we take this opportunity to reflect on what we have learnt from the project and where the Natural History Museum is heading next in terms of supporting UK natural history skills development.

@BatGirlSteph78 @NHM_ID

notes



Amy Schwartz, PhD Researcher on Project Splatter at Cardiff University

“Project Splatter: Using Citizen Scientists to Monitor Wildlife Roadkill”

Project Splatter is a research effort to quantify and map wildlife roadkill across the UK, through the use of records submitted to us by ‘citizen scientists’.

🐦 @lizardschwartz 🐦 @ProjectSplatter

notes



Jamie Cranston, NERC iCASE PhD Student, University of Exeter

“Climate change and checklists – monitoring natural colonists through biological recording”

Since 1900, over 100 species colonised the UK, arriving through natural dispersal. What are the implications of these “Natural” Colonists for British biodiversity?

🐦 @cranston_p

notes



Dr Graham Smith, Lead Scientist and Head of Wildlife Epidemiology and Modelling, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Defra

“Looking forward – mammal data and its potential at a national and international scale”

Can we use NBN data to determine national population size and distribution? How much data do we need and how do we get there?

notes

Sue Townsend, FSC Biodiversity Learning Manager at the Field Studies Council

“FSC BioLinks – 5 more years of caring and sharing THANK YOU HLF!”

FSC training and support including events in two regions with further developments in open access to share ideas and data with communities.

🐦 @SueTownsend3

notes

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