

18TH NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY NETWORK CONFERENCE

"The NBN in a changing climate"

ALBERT HALL, NOTTINGHAM

WEDNESDAY 21 & THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2018

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@NBNTrust

Follow us on Twitter and get involved throughout the Conference and Awards using **#NBNTConf18** and **#NBNAwards18**

We would really appreciate your feedback on this year's NBN Conference. Please complete the form online at: **<https://tinyurl.com/y8clze5d>** or scan the QR code to go straight to the survey.

Wi-fi – free public access is available.

The network is: **ALBERTHALL** and the password is: **conference2018**

COVER PHOTO CREDIT: Hazel Catkins - Dave Kilbey

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



Welcome to the National Biodiversity Network's 18th annual conference, which this year has the theme of:

The NBN in a changing climate

I would like to thank you for attending this year's event, which for the first time in its history brings us to Nottingham, the home of the NBN Secretariat.

When we took the decision to move the Conference around the country each year, our aim was to make it accessible to as many people as possible. Clearly, the location benefits some people one year and others the next, and so it's always great to see a mix of old and new faces at these events, with numbers increasing year on year.

This year's programme is probably as diverse as it's ever been as we have purposely tried to involve sectors and speakers that have not participated in our Conference before. As the sharing and use of data becomes increasingly important within our Network, I think it's vital that we spread the word about the NBN further afield to include as varied an audience as possible in our discussions. I hope that the next two days will help us to do this.

As we aim to cater for all our delegates, we have adapted the afternoon of workshops to become Network Knowledge Exchange sessions. Some of these will be interactive and hands on, others will be less so. I trust you will find these to be both interesting and engaging.

I am pleased that we are once again including the AGM in the Conference proceedings, as it is the best opportunity we have to involve as many of our members as possible in the business matters of the NBN Trust. Following the AGM, I look forward to presenting the UK Awards for Biological Recording and Information Sharing. What a wonderful opportunity it is to recognise our worthy winners, so I do hope you will stay with us for the ceremony.

So, thank you once again for attending the NBN Conference and for being part of the Network. Here's to an inspiring and fun couple of days.

With warm regards,

Michael Hassell

Professor Michael Hassell

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME – DAY 1

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

| | |
|-------|--|
| 09:30 | Registration and coffee |
| | Morning session: Engagement, involvement and facilitation Chair of morning session: Dr. Jo Judge, NBN Trust Chief Executive |
| 10:00 | Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell |
| 10:05 | Keynote Address: Professor Adam Hart, University of Gloucestershire "Monitoring and the Public: A Beautiful Synergy – But Tread Carefully..." |
| 10:35 | Dr. Jagoba Malumbres Olarte, University of the Azores "Making the most of BioBlitz: CEBRA - optimised and standardised sampling for citizen science" |
| 10:55 | Janice Ansine, The Open University "iSpotnature.org: building and maintaining a citizen science community for biodiversity" |
| 11:15 | Tea / coffee break |
| 11:45 | Dr. Rob Baxter, EPCC, the University of Edinburgh "The Automated Data (Layer) Harvester – Adding scalability to the NBN system" |
| 12:05 | Gill Dowse, Scottish Wildlife Trust "Introducing the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels Community Hub" |
| 12:10 | Laura McCoy, Manx Natural Heritage "The launch of NBN Atlas Isle of Man and Manx Wildlife Week" |
| 12:15 | Dr. Sara Goodacre, University of Nottingham "Spider Science: from academic research to public engagement" |
| 12:35 | Q&A |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 12:45 | Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations |
| | Afternoon session: Network Knowledge Exchange Chair of afternoon session: Roddy Fairley, NBN Trustee |
| 14:00 | Six parallel sessions 1. Taking on The Challenge: new horizons for BioBlitz – Session lead is Matt Postles 2. Data formatting for upload to the NBN Atlas – An introduction to Darwin Core – Session lead is Sophia Ratcliffe 3. The challenges and solutions of running a successful local recording scheme – Session lead is David Nicholls 4. Identification good practice and future solutions – Session lead is Sue Townsend 5. A day in the life of a LERC – Session leads are Pauline Campbell and Lizzy Peat 6. Build your own data collection app with Coreo – Session leads are Dave Kilbey, Joe Woodhouse, Jamie Forsyth |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Tea / coffee break |
| 16:00 – 16:50 | Sessions continue |
| 16:50 | Move back to the Great Hall |
| 17:00 – 17:05 | Chairman's summing up of day 1 |
| 17:15 – 17:45 | NBN Trust 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. |
| 18:00 – 19:30 | UK Awards for Biological Recording & Information Sharing Prize-giving Ceremony |

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME – DAY 2

THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| 09:00 | Registration and coffee | 12:30 | Award of NBN Trust Honorary Membership |
| | Morning session: Working together for our national biodiversity Chair of morning session: Wilma Harper, NBN Trustee | 12:35 | Lunch, posters, displays and demonstrations |
| 09:25 | Welcome and introduction by NBN Trust Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell | | Afternoon session: Adapting to change Chair of afternoon session: Professor Michael Hassell, NBN Trust Chairman |
| 09:30 | Keynote Address: Deborah Boobyer, Defra "Developing the indicator framework for the 25 Year Environment Plan" | 13:50 | The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture, 2018: Professor Jane Memmott, University of Bristol "Ecology and conservation at the community level" |
| 10:00 | Jenny Dadd, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation "A tour of a functioning funding ecosystem" | 14:20 | Dave Spencer, Arcadis Consulting (UK) "Arcadis' current and future plans relating to data collection" |
| 10:20 | Rich Burkmar, Field Studies Council "FSC Identikit – a tool for building online ID resources" | 14:40 | Danielle Connor, Pocket Pals "Using technology to engage children with wildlife" |
| 10:40 | Rachel Tierney, Scottish Wildlife Trust "The SBIF Review: Re-imagining our biological recording infrastructure" | 14:45 | Tea / coffee break |
| 10:45 | Tea / coffee break | 15:10 | Stephanie Dickens, Newcastle University "Understanding species' responses to changing environmental conditions using citizen science approaches to data gathering" |
| 11:15 | Martin Lines, Nature Friendly Farming Network "Making data work for farmers to help them improve biodiversity on their farms" | 15:15 | Professor Bill Kunin, University of Leeds "Shifting population and biodiversity patterns in a changing world" |
| 11:35 | Paula Lightfoot, Newcastle University "Monitoring recreational activities in marine protected areas – a case study of collaborative research" | 15:35 | Mark Gray, Welsh Fishermen's Association "Fishermen recording marine invasive species" |
| 11:40 | Chris Gerrard, Anglian Water "Joining the dots – A bigger, better, joined approach to prioritising Anglian Water assets" | 15:55 | Q&A |
| 12:00 | Leonardo Gubert, Highways England "Roadside biodiversity and conservation in the southwest of England" | 16:05 | Chairman's summing up |
| 12:20 | Q&A | 16:10 | End of conference |

AWARDS' PROGRAMME

UK AWARDS FOR BIOLOGICAL RECORDING AND INFORMATION SHARING – PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER



| | |
|-------|---|
| 18:00 | Welcome drinks* |
| 18:20 | Introduction to the Awards by NBN Chairman, Professor Michael Hassell |
| | The shortlisted nominees will be announced and the following Awards will be presented: |
| 18:25 | Gilbert White, Adult Award |
| 18:35 | Gilbert White, Youth Award |
| 18:45 | David Robertson, Adult Award |
| 18:55 | Adult Newcomer Award |
| 19:05 | Lynne Farrell Group Award |
| 19:15 | John Sawyer NBN Open Data Award |
| 19:30 | Event close |

* A cash bar will be available throughout the ceremony along with complimentary nibbles**

** Please note that there are numerous bars and restaurants in the area for those wanting to eat after the ceremony.

Sponsors of the Awards:



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Conference lunch sponsor

Habitat Aid Ltd. promotes and sells British native trees, hedging, aquatic plants, wildflower seed and heritage fruit trees, which we buy from a community of small specialist UK nurseries and growers. We think local provenance and distinctiveness isn't just important for biodiversity, but also culturally.

We have close links to a number of UK conservation charities, to whom we donate half of profits from online sales.

Habitat Aid also works with corporate clients and landscape and ecology professionals.

www.habitataid.co.uk

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Wildcare is the UK's foremost supplier for professional ecologists. We stock a wide range of wildlife survey and monitoring equipment, and our friendly staff are always happy to advise on the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions. We take pride in our excellent service and fast delivery.

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Sponsor the 2019 NBN Conference

If you are interested in sponsoring next year's NBN Conference or wish to donate to the National Biodiversity Network, please contact us for more information at support@nbn.org.uk

Student sponsorship

Named the Times Higher Education University of the Year 2017, Nottingham Trent University has over 28,000 students from over 160 countries across the globe. Our School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences is based at Brackenhurst Campus, where we are currently building a state-of-the-art environment centre. We're working with partners and funders around research themes that aim to respond to a range of challenges in business, industry and society.

Our research in the Environmental Engineering and Sustainability area is applied in nature, and involves understanding the ecological consequences of environmental change caused by human activity. The findings are used to inform current and future conservation management.

Currently, Nottingham Trent University offers two conservation focused postgraduate courses: MRes/MSc Biodiversity Conservation and MRes/MSc Endangered Species Recovery and Conservation.

www.ntu.ac.uk

The Department of Animal and Plant Sciences at the University of Sheffield is home to one of the highest concentrations of whole-organism biologists in the UK. Our world class research and excellent undergraduate and postgraduate teaching includes expertise on a wide range of ecosystems, from tropical forests to urban parks, and we have a particular interest in the responses of biodiversity to global change.

www.sheffield.ac.uk/aps

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER



Monitoring and the Public: A Beautiful Synergy – But Tread Carefully...

Citizen science provides excellent opportunities for engagement and data collection. But can we trust the data and is all engagement necessarily good?

Adam has been involved with UK-wide citizen science projects on flying ants, house spiders, starlings and wasps. A regular broadcaster and commentator in the media, his most recent series for BBC Radio examined the ethics of insect collection.

 @adamhartscience

Notes:

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**



Making the most of BioBlitz: CEBRA - optimised and standardised sampling for citizen science

This talk will present the CEBRA project, which aims to design sampling protocols that can generate more useable and comparable data that facilitate monitoring.

 @jago_mo

Notes:



iSpotnature.org: building and maintaining a citizen science community for biodiversity

www.iSpotnature.org, a citizen science platform for biodiversity, has engaged and empowered many through an interest in wildlife since 2009. Unique in its approach, iSpot helps participants identify species and learn while contributing biological records. This talk explores the challenges and successes maintaining this community; the approaches used, as well as opportunities for the future.

 @iSpotnature @JaniceAnsine

Notes:



Dr. Rob Baxter
Group Manager, EPCC, University of Edinburgh

“
The Automated Data (Layer) Harvester – Adding scalability to the NBN system

EPCC and NBN (along with Scottish Natural Heritage and SEPA as additional stakeholders), have been working on a project, to provide an Automated Data (Layer) Harvester for the NBN Atlas Scotland. This software checks for changes in a provider's layer by using the Scottish Spatial Data Infrastructure portal; this automatically pulls the data layer into the NBN Atlas and uploads it, ready for an administrator to perform intersections with species data.

This talk will present our work to date, and also talk about how we wish to expand it in the future, to allow the NBN Atlas to grow with the addition of predictive data analytics. This project was funded by the University of Edinburgh's Data Engineering Programme at EPCC.

🐦 @EPCCed

Notes:



Gill Dowse
Knowledge and Evidence Manager, Scottish Wildlife Trust

“
Introducing the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels Community Hub

The Scottish Wildlife Trust's new online hub is providing a better way to support volunteers and a smarter way to manage red squirrel conservation data.

🐦 @ScotSquirrels

Notes:



Laura McCoy
Curator of Natural History, Manx Natural Heritage

“
The launch of NBN Atlas Isle of Man and Manx Wildlife Week

An introduction to one of the newest members of NBN Atlas, how we promoted our accomplishment and encouraged involvement.

🐦 @CuratorLaura @manxheritage

Notes:



Dr. Sara Goodacre
Associate Professor, University of Nottingham

“
Spider Science: from academic research to public engagement

What makes a spider fly and why is this important to us? We use spiders as tools to engage diverse audiences and challenge public perceptions.

🐦 @ArachNotts

Notes:

NETWORK KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SESSIONS

You will have signed up to one of the Network Knowledge Exchange sessions when registering for the Conference. The six sessions taking place simultaneously are:

1. Taking on The Challenge: new horizons for BioBlitz
 - Session lead is Matt Postles **@bioblitzuk**
2. Data formatting for upload to the NBN Atlas – An introduction to Darwin Core
 - Session lead is Sophia Ratcliffe **@NBNTTrust**
3. The challenges and solutions of running a successful local recording scheme
 - Session lead is David Nicholls **@Nature_Spot**
4. Identification good practice and future solutions
 - Session lead is Sue Townsend **@SueTownsend3 @FieldStudiesC**
5. A day in the life of a LERC
 - Session leads are Pauline Campbell and Lizzy Peat **@Hants_BIC @cedarnmni**
6. Build your own data collection app with Coreo
 - Session leads are Dave Kilbey, Joe Woodhouse, Jamie Forsyth **@natapp_uk**

Notes:

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THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER



Developing the indicator framework for the 25 Year Environment Plan

Deborah Boobyer has worked as a scientist for Defra for 17 years in a range of areas including biodiversity, science policy and now natural environment policy. Prior to that, Deborah worked for the Joint Nature Conservation Committee as a habitats adviser.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

18TH NBN CONFERENCE



A tour of a functioning funding ecosystem

 @esmee**fairbairn**

[illegible]

FSC Identikit – a tool for building online ID resources

 @FSCBioLinks

[illegible]

17



Rachel Tierney
SBIF Development Officer, Scottish Wildlife Trust

“
The SBIF Review: Re-imagining our biological recording infrastructure

The SBIF Review has created a blueprint for improving the biological recording infrastructure in Scotland. The business case has been submitted to Scottish Government. What now?

🐦 @SB_Info_Forum @RachelASTrout

Notes:



Martin Lines
UK Chair, Nature Friendly Farming Network

“
Making data work for farmers to help them improve biodiversity on their farms

We are a group of farmers who have come together to champion a way of farming which is sustainable and good for nature.

🐦 @nffnuk @linesmartin

Notes:



Paula Lightfoot
Research Associate, Newcastle University

“
Monitoring recreational activities in marine protected areas – a case study of collaborative research

Newcastle University and Natural England are using biodiversity data, local stakeholders' knowledge and GIS modelling to predict extent, intensity and potential impact of recreational activities in marine protected areas.

🐦 @NCLDoveMarine @newcastlemarine

Notes:



Chris Gerrard
Natural Catchment and Biodiversity Manager, Anglian Water

“
Joining the dots – A bigger, better, joined approach to prioritising Anglian Water assets

How Anglian Water used species and habitat data to prioritise biodiversity action across its estate, following principles set out in Making Space for Nature.

🐦 @chrisgerrard

Notes:



Leonardo Gubert
Senior Ecologist, Highways England

“
Roadside biodiversity and conservation in the southwest of England

Making sense of biological data to promote biodiversity of road verges and conservation initiatives along trunk roads and motorways in the southwest.

Notes:

[illegible]

Professor Jane Memmott
Professor of Ecology, University of Bristol

“ Ecology and conservation at the community level

This talk will introduce a series of big questions in ecology and conservation which can be answered using a community level approach.

Jane is a Professor of Ecology at the University of Bristol. She runs a research group at Bristol that asks about the impact of environmental change and she works in a variety of research fields including pollination ecology, agroecology, invasion ecology, urban ecology and restoration ecology.

Notes:

[illegible]

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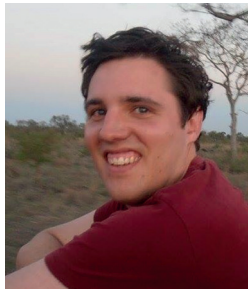
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Dave Spencer
Senior Ecologist, Arcadis Consulting (UK)

“
Arcadis’ current and future plans relating to data collection

How Arcadis is reviewing its previous data collection methods and transferring to the Darwin Core as the standardised data collection approach.

@ArcadisGlobal

Notes:



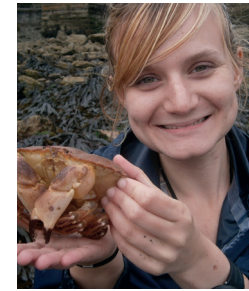
Danielle Connor
Co-founder, Pocket Pals

“
Using technology to engage children with wildlife

Children are increasingly spending less time outdoors. It is important we find new methods to connect children with nature with the use of technology and gaming. Pocket Pals is an app that engages children with wildlife through mobile phones.

@PocketPalsApp

Notes:



Stephanie Dickens
Capturing our Coast Project Coordinator, Newcastle University

“
Understanding species’ responses to changing environmental conditions using citizen science approaches to data gathering

This presentation will overview the ecological findings of the Capturing our Coast project, and discuss the potential capacity of citizen science in marine evidence gathering.

@CapturingRCoast

Notes:



Professor Bill Kunin
Professor of Ecology, University of Leeds

“
Shifting population and biodiversity patterns in a changing world

This talk will focus on how climate and land use change affect insect and plant populations and species richness, and the ways spatial scaling patterns can shed light on these dynamics.

Notes:



Mark Gray
Project Manager, Welsh Fishermen's Association

“
Fishermen recording marine invasive species

As fishermen are at sea all year constantly “sampling” their nets and pots, they can be sentinels providing early warning of invasive species.

🐦 @Welsh_Fishermen

Notes:

LUNCHTIME DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS



Association of Local Environmental Records Centres

Tom Hunt

Come and visit the ALERC stand to find out more about Local Environmental Records Centres and what they do.

www.alerc.org.uk



The Beautiful Burial Ground Project

Liam Taylor

Caring for God's Acre is a non-religious charity dedicated to conserving and celebrating the burial grounds found across Britain in almost every community. There are about 20,000 burial grounds in the UK, a precious refuge for biodiversity, heritage and social history within our increasingly nature-deprived landscape.

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk



Field Studies Council courses and information about the BioLinks project and publications

Sue Townsend, Keiron Brown, Rich Burkmar, Charlie Bell and Holly Dillon

The Field Studies Council has been running natural history courses for 75 years. Visit our stand and feel free to pick up a brochure/ information on our latest HLF funded project. The BioLinks project is on our Biodiversity website at <https://www.fscbiodiversity.uk/> and is designed to help share information across the sector on identification, training and resources.

www.field-studies-council.org



iSpotnature.org: a citizen science platform for biodiversity

Mike Dodd and Janice Ansine

There is a fascinating world of biodiversity around to explore, and The Open University (OU) provides online citizen science tools and practical science investigations; extending beyond the field, laboratory or lecture hall. Join us to hear more and contribute ideas to enhance www.ispotnature.org's role as a gateway to identifying and learning about nature.

www.iSpotnature.org



National Forum for Biological Recording

Teresa Frost and Graham Walley

NFBR is an independent voice for the UK's recording community; we promote the value and fun of biological recording to meet the country's biodiversity needs.

www.nfbr.org.uk



Natural Apptitude

Dave Kilbey, Joe Woodhouse and Jamie Forsyth

Natural Apptitude specialises in making user-focused, bespoke and beautiful smartphone apps and websites. We are experts in the field of producing software for citizen science and biological recording projects. We are also the creators of Coreo - an ecosystem of services designed to make citizen science projects both powerful and easy to operate. Our new CoreoPWA project allows you to create your own app and website for data collection projects.

www.natural-apptitude.co.uk



The Angela Marmont Centre for UK Biodiversity

Chris Raper

The Centre for UK Biodiversity aims to support natural historians at all levels of skill and experience. Find out how we can help support your identification and recording.

www.nhm.ac.uk/take-part/centre-for-uk-biodiversity.html



Newcastle University

Paula Lightfoot

Newcastle University and Natural England are using biodiversity data, local stakeholders' knowledge and GIS modelling to predict extent, intensity and potential impact of recreational activities in marine protected areas.

www.ncl.ac.uk/nes/



Pocket Pals

Danielle Connor

Pocket Pals is an app that engages children with wildlife through mobile phones. The app utilises GPS on devices, allowing players to walk and locate digital animals. Through the excitement of exploring real world locations, users learn about British fauna, from quirky pine martens to less known, but equally marvellous animals such as the great-crested newt.

www.pocketpalsapp.com



Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels Community Hub

Gill Dowse and Richard Siller

Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels is working with local communities to ensure red squirrels will always be a part of Scotland's native wildlife. The Community Hub will be a place for our supporters and volunteers to record their activities, sightings, and get more involved with the project, connecting with like-minded people.

www.scottishsquirrels.org.uk



Scottish Biodiversity Information Forum Review

Rachel Tierney

The SBIF Review has consulted extensively on transforming the biodiversity data infrastructure in Scotland in terms of data flow, service provision, governance and funding. Here you can catch up on progress of the Review, read through the recommendations, meet our Development Officer and hear about planned next steps.

www.nbn.org.uk/about-us/where-we-are/in-scotland/the-sbif-review/



Seasearch

Charlotte Bolton and Paula Lightfoot

Seasearch is a project for scuba divers and snorkellers who have an interest in what they're seeing underwater and want to learn more.

www.seasearch.org.uk



The Wildlife Information Centre

Graeme Wilson, Natalie Harmsworth and Jackie Stewart

The Wildlife Information Centre (TWIC) is the Local Environmental Records Centre for south-east and central Scotland. Our display demonstrates the work of the record centre and showcases our latest public wildlife survey – the Scottish Spider Search – a joint initiative with the British Arachnological Society. Survey postcards will be available.

www.wildlifeinformation.co.uk



WILDside Project

– Northamptonshire Biodiversity Records Centre

Ryan Clark

The WILDside Project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and is successfully enthusing, enabling, and inspiring biological recording in Northamptonshire. We do this through running workshops, delivering talks and supporting biological recording in the county in whichever way we can.

www.northantsbrc.org.uk/Wildside

DELEGATE LIST

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NOTES

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines across the entire width of the page, providing a guide for writing. The background is a clean, solid white color. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

NBN VISION:

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Biological data collected and shared openly by the Network are central to the UK's learning and understanding of its biodiversity and are critical to all decision-making about nature and the environment.

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Working together to share UK wildlife data