

# 19TH NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY NETWORK CONFERENCE

## SPEAKERS:

WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2019



### Sir John Lawton FRS

NBN Trust Patron, President of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Vice-President RSPB

“ Thoughts from a boy birdwatcher, bug-hunter and botanist

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

*The talk will explore the importance of amateur recorders ('citizen scientists') in monitoring and protecting the UK's wildlife through the eyes of a passionate natural historian and conservationist.*

John is a retired environmental scientist. He was Chairman of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (2005-2011), Chief Executive of NERC (1999-2005), and Chair of Making Space for Nature (2010). John trained as a zoologist at Durham, and subsequently held posts at Oxford and York Universities, and Imperial College London.



### Dr. Jo Judge

NBN Trust, Chief Executive Officer

 @jo\_judge / @NBNTrust

“ The NBN, a year in review

In this talk we will review the major milestones and achievements of the NBN Trust and Network, along with a look to the future.



### Daniel Hayhow

RSPB Conservation Scientist

 @DBHayhow / @RSPBScience

“ State of Nature 2019

State of Nature 2019 presents an overview of how wildlife is faring, looking back over 50 years of monitoring to see how nature has changed in the UK.



**Richard Fox**

Associate Director Recording and Research,  
Butterfly Conservation

 @RichardFoxBC

“ What do recorders think about open data?

The results of surveys on the attitudes of UK butterfly and moth recorders towards open data will be presented and ways to alleviate concerns discussed.



**Caroline Van Dierkson**

NBN Atlas Project Manager

 @NBNTTrust / @NBNTAtlas

“ NBN Atlas: recent and planned developments

The talk will be an overview of the recent updates and bug fixes to the NBN Atlas, what we are working on at the moment and our planned development projects for the year ahead including improvements to our Infrastructure.



**Sophia Ratcliffe**

NBN Atlas Data Manager

 @NBNTTrust / @NBNTAtlas

“ Measures of data quality to monitor the success of the NBN Atlas as a resource for high-quality wildlife records across the UK

Metrics of taxonomic completeness and data quality to determine and monitor the success of the NBN Atlas over time and space will be presented.



**Dr. Erika Newton**

Managing Editor, British Ecological Society

 @ErikaLNewton

“ Increasing the preservation and discoverability of management-relevant information: introducing Applied Ecology Resources (AER)

Data archiving is widespread, but other information sources aren't preserved or shared widely. AER aims to facilitate information exchange, building more effectively on the existing knowledge base.

# SPEAKERS:


THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2019

DAY 2



## Dr. Sandy Knapp

Natural History Museum and Botanist  
and President, Linnean Society of London

 @SandyKnapp

“ Building knowledge and narratives through  
open networks

KEYNOTE  
ADDRESS

*Sharing data and stories is essential for furthering biodiversity knowledge. I will explore how networks of various sorts – from tight to loose – can assist this process, and how open data leading to open science is critical for future progress in both understanding and conserving the Earth's diversity.*

Dr. Sandy Knapp is a botanist who is a specialist on the taxonomy and evolution of the nightshade family, Solanaceae, and she has spent much time in the field collecting plants, mostly in South America. She works at the Natural History Museum, London, where she arrived in 1992. She is the author of several popular books on the history of science and botanical exploration, including the award-winning *Potted Histories* (2004), and more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers. She is actively involved in promoting the role of taxonomy and the importance of science worldwide. She is currently working on in-depth taxonomic treatments of members of the family Solanaceae in New Guinea and South America.

Sandy is a trustee of several conservation and scientific organisations, and in May 2018 took office as President of the Linnean Society of London. In 2009 she received the Peter Raven Outreach Award by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists for her work in public engagement with science and received the Sir John Burnett Memorial Medal for delivering the annual lecture at the NBN Conference.



## Philip Stephens

Associate Professor (Reader), Department of Biosciences,  
Durham University

 @PS\_Applied\_Ecol

“ MammalWeb: public participation in monitoring  
the UK's wild mammals

Wild mammals are elusive and difficult to monitor. I describe the challenges and opportunities of MammalWeb, a platform to allow widespread participation in mammal monitoring.



**Dave Raffaelli**

The Woodmeadow Trust and Emeritus Professor,  
University of York

“ How useful are biodiversity data for assessing natural capital?

This talk reflects on the potential and limits of wildlife data, like that made available through the NBN, for assessing aspects of natural capital for informing conservation and management.



**Thomas Doherty-Bone**

Independent conservationist

🐦 @TommyDBone

“ Using the NBN Atlas to plan conservation and research

How the NBN Atlas enables rapid identification of important localities when time in the field is limited, especially for invasive and threatened species projects.



**Dr. Roddy Fairley**

Area Manager – Southern Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage

🐦 @SNHbiodiversity / @NBNTrust

“ Turning data into urgent action

A climate emergency was announced this year and IPBES called for ‘Transformative changes’ to restore nature. Biological recording and data have a role to play.



**Rachel Tierney**

SBIF Development Officer, Scottish Wildlife Trust/SBIF

🐦 @SB\_Info\_Forum / #SBIFReview

“ Collaboration, integration and innovation: shaping Scotland’s data future

An update on the call for a sustainable biodiversity data network in Scotland - the SBIF team is working across Scotland to realise this vision.



### Tim Corner

Manager, Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre (BRERC)

@BRERC\_Official

#### “ How rubbish am I?

BRERC wishes to see all of its data on the NBN Atlas at full resolution. What is needed to enable this?



### Ian Wallace

UK Caddis Recording Scheme Organiser

(affiliated to the Biological Records Centre and the Freshwater Biological Association)

#### “ The best caddis maps possible

Producing distribution maps is arguably the main purpose of recording schemes. The talk describes networking issues in assembling caddis data for mapping.



### Tony Juniper CBE

Chair, Natural England

@TonyJuniper

#### “ Conservation successes, challenges and future directions

SIR JOHN  
BURNETT  
MEMORIAL  
LECTURE

*Despite notable achievements, conservationists face continuing bad news. The need for new approaches is clear, but what those might be and how they might work is more elusive.*

Tony Juniper CBE is Chair of the official nature conservation agency Natural England. Before taking up this role in April 2019 he was the Executive Director for Advocacy and Campaigns at WWF-UK, a Fellow with the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership and President of the Wildlife Trusts. Until January 2018 he was an independent sustainability and environment advisor, including as Special Advisor with The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit.

Tony speaks and writes widely on conservation and sustainability themes and is the author of many books, including the multi-award winning bestseller 'What has Nature ever done for us?' published in 2013.

Tony began his career as an ornithologist, working with Birdlife International. From 1990 he worked at Friends of the Earth, initially leading the campaign for the tropical rainforests, and from 2003–2008 was the organisation's executive director. From 2000–2008 he was Vice Chair of Friends of the Earth International.

He was the first recipient of the Charles and Miriam Rothschild medal (2009) and was awarded honorary Doctor of Science degrees from the Universities of Bristol and Plymouth (2013). The Ladybird guide to climate change, co-authored with HRH The Prince of Wales and Emily Shuckburgh, was published in January 2017. His latest book, 'Rainforest', was published in April 2018. In 2017 he was appointed a Commander of the British Empire (CBE).



**Kimberley James**

Collections & Marketing Manager,  
Gilbert White & The Oates Collections

@GilbertWhites

“ Gilbert White 300

One of the pioneers of nature recording Gilbert White turns 300 in 2020. The museum in his name is planning a year of celebration, including some wonderful opportunities for today's naturalists.



**Dr. Philip Wheeler**

Senior Lecturer in Ecology, School of Environment Earth and  
Ecosystem Sciences, The Open University

@Treezilla\_org / @Om\_Phil

“ How to map a million trees

With over a million records, Treezilla.org is the world's largest open tree map. The project aims to engage people in mapping, measuring and monitoring urban trees. We will talk about how we collected these data and our plans for collecting tens of millions more records.



**Loreena Jaouen**

Student intern – Geospatial Analyst, 2Excel geo

@2excelgeo / @JaouenLoreena

“ Quantification of Birch and Bracken Encroachment  
on Heathland using Airborne Hyperspectral Imagery  
and Sentinel-2 Satellite Imagery

Combining Phase1 and airborne hyperspectral data to quantify heathland fragmentation and comparison with Sentinel-2 classification to aid in the RSPB heather restoration work.



**Harriet Carty**

Director, Caring for God's Acre

@godsacre

“ The Beautiful Burial Ground

The Burial Grounds portal is the first location based, single partner portal live on the NBN Atlas. We will showcase the system and update on our project progress.