

**25th National Biodiversity Network Conference**  
**Thursday 20 November 2025**  
**SS Great Britain, Bristol**  
**25 years of “Making data work for nature”**

---

08:45 - 09:20 Registration

**Morning session**

09:20 - 09:25 Welcome and introduction by Pete Tomlin, NBN Trust Chairperson

09:25 – 09:35 Dr Gareth Thomas, NBN Trust CEO – *“Sharing a vision for the future”*

**Session 1: 25 years of collaboration**

09:35 – 10:00 Keynote address – Dr John Tweddle, Head of Centre for UK Nature, Natural History Museum – *“Looking back, looking forward: reflecting on 25 years of partnering with the NBN Trust”*

10:00 – 10:15 Tim Corner, Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre – *“Kestrel’s fluffy ears”*

10:15 – 10:30 Martin Harvey, UKCEH Biological Records Centre (BRC) – *“From field observation to global data: (some of) the many links between recorders, schemes, organisations and portals”*

10:30 - 10:45 Simon Pickles, National Forum for Biological Recording (NFBR) and North and East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre (NEYEDC) - *“Rooted in Data, Growing Through Time”*

10:45 – 10:55 Q&A

10:55 – 11:25 **Tea / coffee break**

**Session 2: The here and now**

11:25 – 11:40 Christine Tansey, Biodiversity Data Manager (NBN Atlas) – *“The NBN Atlas: building capacity and connections”*

11:40 – 11:55 Dr Ben Holt, The Rockpool Project – *“The Big Rock Pool Challenge - A UK wide marine citizen science adventure”*

11:55 – 12:10 Emma Squire and Devmini Bandara, PhD students, University of Exeter (RENEW Biodiversity Programme: Renewing biodiversity through a people-in-nature approach) – *“iNaturalistUK User Survey and Observation Records”*

12:10 – 12:25 Dr Damian McFerran, Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR), National Museums NI – *“CEDaR, what has it all been about?”*

12:25 – 12:40 Dr Carlos Bedson, Natural England – *“Designing a climate change resilient landscape connectivity network from a multi-species perspective”*

12:40 – 12:45 Q&A

12.45 – 14:00 **Lunch, posters and displays and other optional activities**

Art corner – “Draw Your Study Organism / Favourite Species” with Dr Lauren Cook – Sir Marc Brunel room

NBN Record Manager – demo with Josh Keenan – main lecture theatre – end of lunchbreak (Time to be advised on the day)

Self-guided tour of SS Great Britain.

**25th National Biodiversity Network Conference**  
**Thursday 20 November 2025**  
**SS Great Britain, Bristol**  
**25 years of “Making data work for nature”**

---

**Afternoon session**

**Session 3:**     Chair of session - Pete Tomlin

**The Sir John Burnett Memorial Lecture 2025**

14:00 – 14:30     Katie-jo Luxton, RSPB, Executive Director, Global Conservation - *“Making data work for nature; the value of monitoring and recording to inform State of Nature reporting, drive recovery action and influence systemic change”*

**NBN Awards for Wildlife Recording 2025**

14.30 – 15:15     Announcement of winners and highly commended nominees

15:15 – 15:45     **Tea / coffee break**

**Session 4:**     **Beyond the now – what’s next?**

15:45 – 16:00     Kate Ingenloff, Scientific Officer, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) – *“Advancing Biodiversity Data Sharing in GBIF”*

16:00 – 16:15     Duncan Allen, Defra – *“From Observation to Action: Using iNaturalist to help Monitor and Elevate Plant Health Awareness in the UK”*

16:15 – 16:30     Dr Lauren Cook, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology – *“Translating environmental DNA (eDNA) for monitoring nature”*

16:30 – 16:45     Fireside chat – Dr Gareth Thomas, NBN Trust CEO and Tom Gray, BBC, Head of Nature – *“Engaging the widest audience for nature”*

16:45 – 16:50     Chairperson’s summing up

**16.50     End of NBN Conference**

**17:00 – 17:15     NBN Trust AGM**

**NBN Conference is organised by:**

**With huge thanks to our 2025 NBN Conference partners:**