



NATIONAL FORUM  
FOR  
BIOLOGICAL RECORDING



# National Recording Schemes and Societies – celebrating the past, looking to the future

12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May, University of Lancaster

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## Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May

9:30 Registration and refreshments

**10:00 Welcome and Introduction.** Chair: Sarah Whild, National Forum for Biological Recording

10:05 Stuart Roberts, Bees, Wasps and Ants Recording Society

**Keynote address: *Biological Recording: The role of volunteers in the conservation panoply***

### Session 1: Collaboration and common goals

10:35 Louise Marsh, Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland

*Collaboration between BSBI and other organisations at a national and local scale.*

10:55 Thom Dallimore, Edge Hill University

*Perceiving the imperceptible: can modern technology open doors for uncharismatic species?*

11:15 Damian McFerran, Centre for Environmental Data and Recording

*Folded-in, CEDaR and the NSS, a case study*

11:35 Craig Macadam, National Ephemeroptera Recording Scheme and Buglife

*The Riverfly Monitoring Initiative – public engagement and river water quality monitoring*

11:55 Questions

**12:00 Lunch**

Posters, displays and demonstrations

### Discussion workshops: Challenges and opportunities for National Schemes and Societies

13:30 Introduction to workshop.

13:35 Introductions to workshop topics:

1. Matt Smith (BWARS): **National Recording Schemes and Social Media**
2. Martin Harvey (BRC) and Damian McFerran (CEDaR): **NSS and LERC collaboration**
3. David Roy (BRC) and Jon Webb (Natural England): **Using species data to assess site quality**
4. Tom Hunt (ALERC) and Rachel Stroud (NBN Trust): **NBN Data Sharing badges**
5. Stuart Roberts (BWARS): **Does size matter?**

**14:00 Open Space workshop**

The speakers above will facilitate discussions about their topics. Delegates can move from one discussion to another as they please.

**15:15 Coffee / tea break**

15:45 Feedback from workshops

16:35 Discussion

17:00 Close

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**19:30 Conference dinner**

Followed by:

**"From I-Spy to iRecord - ramblings from two veterans"**

Steve Garland and Derek Whiteley take a light-hearted look at over 40 years of biological recording.

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## Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May

09:30 Registration for new arrivals

10:00 **Welcome and Introduction.** Chair: David Roy, Biological Records Centre

### Session 2: Celebrating the diversity and achievements of National Schemes and Societies

10:05 Garth Foster, Balfour-Browne Club and Aquatic Coleoptera Conservation Trust  
*Water beetles – towards the end of Phase 2*

10.25 Keiron Brown, Earthworm Recording Scheme  
*Wriggling into recording – setting up the Earthworm Recording Scheme*

10:45 Esther Hughes, Marine Biological Association  
*Marine life recording at the Marine Biological Association: developments and plans for the future*

11:05 Carol Inskipp, Weardale Wildlife Group  
*Wildlife Recording in Weardale* ⚡Quickfire talk⚡

11:15 Ian Winfield, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology  
*Mapping fish tomorrow: The BRC Freshwater Fish Recording Scheme* ⚡Quickfire talk⚡

11:25 Stephen Murphy, Natural England  
*Using technology to aid conservation: life history analysis of the hen harrier in England*

11:45 Questions

### 12:00 Lunch

Posters, displays and demonstrations. NFBR Annual General Meeting at 12:45

### Session 3: Resources for NSS and their recorders

Chair: Jodey Peyton, Biological Records Centre

13:15 Jon Webb, Natural England  
*An Introduction to Pantheon: the invertebrate online analytical database*

13:35 Chloe Smith, Edge Hill University  
*Using the BSBI database to explore the impact of climate change on the British flora*

13:55 Darren Mann, Oxford University Museum of Natural History  
*Museum collections – just a load of dead stuff?*

14:15 Chloe Rose, Identification Trainers for the Future, Natural History Museum  
*Developing an ID resource with support from a museum* ⚡Quickfire talk⚡

14:25 Pete Boardman, Natural England Field Unit  
*Accidental or ‘meant’ mentoring, the art of paying it forward*

14:45 Keiron Brown, Field Studies Council  
*BioLinks: Providing biodiversity training in the West Midlands and South East* ⚡Quickfire talk⚡

14:55 Rachel Stroud, National Biodiversity Network  
*Making the most of the time, hard work and expertise that volunteers donate* ⚡Quickfire talk⚡

15:05 Questions

### 15:15 Coffee / tea break

### Plenary discussion: Looking to the future – supporting National Recording Schemes and Societies

15:45 Steve Prentice, National Forum for Biological Recording  
*Introduction and results of NFBR survey of National Recording Schemes and Societies*

16:00 Plenary discussion

16:50 Closing remarks by NFBR and BRC

17:00 Close

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