



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes
Environmental Records Centre
Annual Recorders' Seminar 2021

Home is where the wildlife is...

Saturday, 13th March 2021

Online conference

SEMINAR OPEN from 9:45

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00 **Chairman's Welcome** *Mick Jones*
- 10:05 **Identifying Important Freshwater Areas in the River Thames catchment**
Dr Pascale Nicolet
- 10:30 **Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership (NEP) Updates** *Nicola Thomas*
- 10:40 **Monitoring the Noble Chafer using pheromones** *Dr Deborah Harvey*
- 11:00 **Lockdown Learning: Taking field studies online** *Keiron Brown*
- 11:20 Refreshments break – Photo competition entries will be playing in the break
- 11:30 **Pond restoration and Norfolk Ponds Project** *Professor Carl Sayer*
- 11:50 **BMERC Updates** *Claudia Bernardini, Fiona Everingham, Emma Foster*
- 12:25 Lunch Break – Photo competition entries will be playing in the break

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 13:05 **Introduction to the afternoon session** *Mick Jones*
- 13:10 **Saproxylic Stepping Stones: Investigating habitat connectivity for deadwood insects** *Stephanie Skipp*
- 13:30 **On the origin of species recorders: how wildlife recording is evolving**
Martin Harvey
- 13:55 **New perspectives: Young recorders' journeys into recording**
- 14:05 **BSBI: Recording our plants** *Louise Marsh and Lynne Farrell*
- 14:25 **Tracking the Impact and other new survey work in the Chilterns**
Nick Marriner
- 14:40 **BMERC Updates** *Neil Fletcher, Julia Carey*
- 15:05 Refreshments break – Your last chance to vote in the photo competition!
- 15:20 **Recorders' Updates**
- 15:55 **Results! Photo competition winners** *Julia Carey*
- 16:10 **Closing remarks** *Mick Jones and Julia Carey*

To vote in the photo competition, please visit the following link:

<https://forms.gle/8Tyde8jsxXCKFKL5A>

Voting will be open from 11:20 am until 15:20 pm, so don't forget to vote!

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre
Walton Street Offices · Walton Street · Aylesbury · Bucks · HP20 1UY
01296 382431 · erc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk · www.bucksmkerc.org.uk



SPEAKERS

Mick Jones MBE, *Chairman*

Mick Jones MBE has been volunteer warden at BBOWT's Dancersend Nature Reserve in the Chilterns for the last 40 years. His interests have developed over this period from birds and plants, through fungi and butterflies, to slime moulds, plant galls and beetles. He is currently chairman of the BBOWT Chilterns Group which organises events and co-ordinates volunteer activity in the area. He has chaired the annual Recorders' Seminar since 2009 and is involved in a number of other BMERC activities.



Nicola Thomas, *Bucks & Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership*



Nicola is the Partnership Manager for the Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership (known as the "NEP"), the area's Local Nature Partnership. She works to bring together organisations from many sectors to set a clear direction and work collectively towards improving the local environment. Nicola will be presenting an update on the key areas of the recent work of the NEP. Much more information is available on the NEP's website: www.bucksmknep.co.uk

Dr Pascale Nicolet, *Freshwater Habitats Trust*

Technical Director at Freshwater Habitats Trust and trustee of the River Thame Conservation Trust. Pascale works on the protection, management and creation of freshwaters, with a focus on small waters: ponds, streams, ditches and small lakes. Pascale will present the Important Freshwater Area (IFA) concept, which aims to identify the best of the best of our freshwaters to support practical conservation.



Dr Deborah Harvey, *Royal Holloway, University of London*

Postdoctoral research fellow at Royal Holloway, University of London working on developing pheromones to monitor conservation status saproxylic beetle species. Deborah works with both adults and larvae to develop methods that are non-invasive.

Keiron Brown, *Field Studies Council*

Keiron works for the Field Studies Council managing the FSC BioLinks project, combining his two passions: biological recording and invertebrates. In his spare time he is the National Recorder for Earthworms and Chair of the Ecology and Entomology section on London Natural History Society.



Professor Carl Sayer, *University College London*

Lectures on aquatic conservation in the Department of Geography at UCL where he leads the Pond Restoration Research Group. He is the founder of the Norfolk Ponds Project and is passionate on transferring aquatic restoration science into on the ground restoration action.



Stephanie Skipp, University of East London

After completing her degree in Ecology, Stephanie pursued her interest in invertebrates through a year-long traineeship with the London Natural History Museum. Here, she further developed her study of beetles, leading her to become involved with the national recording scheme for soldier beetles and their allies. She has since begun a PhD with the University of East London where she is studying the beetles of deadwood habitats. Her project focusses on the habitat requirements of these insects, and methods for their protection. Her fieldwork has incorporated a range of wooded landscapes including the ancient forests in Windsor, as well as the pasture woodlands of National Trust Landscapes such as Stowe in Buckinghamshire.

Martin Harvey, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Martin Harvey is an entomologist and biological recorder based at the UK CEH Biological Records Centre. His main areas of work include the iRecord online recording system, liaison with national recording schemes, and the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme. He also teaches for Field Studies Council and on the biological recording MSc at Manchester Metropolitan University. As a volunteer Martin runs the national Soldierflies and Allies Recording Scheme, and is County Moth Recorder for Berkshire vice-county (even though he lives in Buckinghamshire!).



Luke Marriner, Young Recorder

Luke Marriner is a 15 year old bird watcher and a trainee bird ringer with an interest in moths and butterflies. He lives in Thame which is just over the border, but does a lot of his recording in Buckinghamshire. He has been interested in wildlife since he was 7-8 years old. Luke currently works with BTO as a Youth Representative to engage more young people in recording.

Danny Sedgwick, Young Recorder

Danny is a 16 year old young naturalist and aspiring ecologist who lives in Wolverton, Milton Keynes, with a keen interest in birds and butterflies. Danny has been officially recording for just over a year and has recently become the WeBS counter for the Floodplain Forest Nature Reserve.



Lynne Farrell, BSBI

Lynne Farrell was elected BSBI President in 2019. She is a life-long botanist with an interest in many other groups. She has worked throughout the British Isles and Ireland, mainly with the official nature conservation agencies, starting her career at Monks Wood, and working there in the Biological Records Centre for several years. Since retiring and moving to Cumbria, she has become involved in butterfly recording, practical site management, and running local natural history groups. Lynne is County Recorder for Mid Ebudes - Mull, Coll and Tiree, and has contributed to the new Atlas of the British and Irish Flora 2020.

Louise Marsh, BSBI

Louise Marsh is BSBI's Communications Officer, responsible for promoting the society's work to a wider audience and supporting the growing numbers of members and supporters. She has oversight of the BSBI website, and leads on social, print and broadcast media and on a range of outreach activities. Originally from Ayrshire, Louise is now based in Leicestershire where she also teaches a Botany for Beginners course.



Nick Marriner, Chilterns Conservation Board

Currently working for the Chilterns Conservation Board delivering a number of landscape scale habitat and recording projects across the Central Chilterns. Nick is also a Trustee of the River Thames Conservation Trust where he is managing both a river focused Wetland Bird Survey and a catchment wide Atlas project. A keen birder and surveyor Nick also carries out regular surveys for BBOWT on their Upper Ray Meadows reserves, and both WeBS and Breeding Bird Surveys for BTO locally.

Recorders' Updates

Mike Wallen, Buckinghamshire Bird Club – County Recorder

bucksbirdclub.co.uk

Alan Nelson, British Dragonfly Society – County Recorder

british-dragonflies.org.uk

Nick Bowles & Sue Taylor, Butterfly Conservation – Upper Thames Branch

www.upperthames-butterflies.org.uk

Martin Albertini, Joint County Moth Recorder

Derek Schafer, Buckinghamshire Fungi Group – Joint County Recorder

www.bucksfungusgroup.org.uk

Thank you from the BMERC Team!

The BMERC Team is Claudia Bernardini, Julia Carey, Fiona Everingham, Rhiannon Fleming, Neil Fletcher and Emma Foster.

Thank you to our wonderful community of volunteers and recorders! Your contributions of time and records are essential to our work.

If you want to keep up to date on BMERC activities, please visit our website: bucksmkerc.org.uk or email us to subscribe to our newsletter: erc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. You can also contact us by telephone to request a paper copy if you do not have access to email: 01296 382431. We're also on Twitter: @BucksMKERC

We would also like to thank our partner organisations:



Buckinghamshire
Council



Environment
Agency

