



annual review for 2006/07

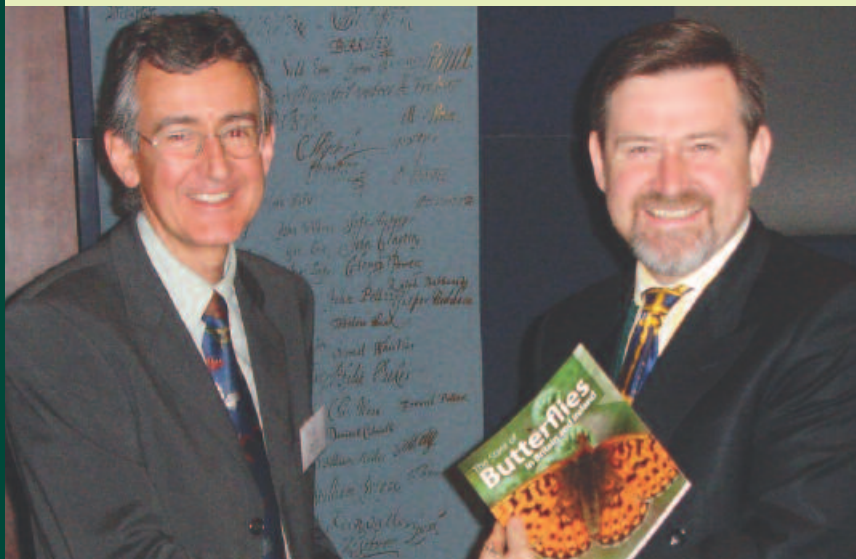


Saving butterflies, moths and their habitats

Highlights of the year

- ◆ Published *The State of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland*, a major new book based on five million records from over 10,000 recorders
- ◆ Achieved the adoption of butterflies as indicators within the England Biodiversity Strategy, based on UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme data
- ◆ Recruited our Moths Count team of experts in preparation for the National Moth Recording Scheme, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund
- ◆ Pressed ahead with 67 landscape scale habitat conservation projects for the UK's most threatened butterflies and moths
- ◆ Demonstrated we can reverse the decline of threatened species including the Large Blue, Heath Fritillary and Silver-spotted Skipper
- ◆ Acquired, after a 10 year campaign, a 60 hectare reserve at Prees Heath in Shropshire for the Silver-studded Blue and other wildlife
- ◆ Developed our network of specialist conservation staff to complement the efforts of our 32 UK volunteer Branches
- ◆ Generated nationwide publicity with Save Our Butterflies Week and boosted our membership to a record high of over 12,000
- ◆ Ranked one of the Top 10 charities out of 1,200 by the intelligentgiving website based on details presented in annual reports
- ◆ Invested £1.7 million in our conservation programmes, accounting for over 84% of our expenditure
- ◆ Our volunteers, who are the key to our success, contributed person-hours equivalent to 350 full time staff to the value of £5 million

Dr Martin Warren, Chief Executive, presents a copy of the State of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland to Barry Gardner MP, Biodiversity Minister.



Overview by the Chairman and Chief Executive

We are pleased to report another highly successful year, with volunteers and professional staff making substantial advances towards our goal of conserving butterflies, moths and their habitats. A significant achievement has been the adoption of butterflies and moths as official government indicators of biodiversity.

This is important because butterflies and moths are very sensitive to environmental change and are valuable early warning indicators of our impact on the planet. Trends in their populations will also be crucial in helping to evaluate overall progress towards the government target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010 as well as for assessing the growing impact of climate change.

During the year we produced another landmark publication, *The State of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland*, which shows the impressive strength and depth of our recording effort. Our schemes to monitor butterflies are the largest in the world. They provide us with a unique capacity to assess biodiversity change. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the many thousands of dedicated volunteers who contribute to these and our other conservation programmes.

Meanwhile our landscape approach to conservation is bearing fruit with several species showing signs of recovery after decades of decline. The successful re-establishment of the Large Blue has been widely reported in the media, but thanks to thriving partnerships we are making good progress with many other highly threatened species.

As we approach our 40th anniversary, Butterfly Conservation is now in better shape than ever to face the challenges ahead. We have an immensely skilled staff overseen by a dedicated group of Council and Committee members. We are deeply grateful for their contribution and the backing of our many supporters and funders.

Dudley Cheesman Chairman
and **Dr Martin Warren** Chief Executive



Conserving threatened species

We are continuing to take a holistic approach to saving threatened species by conserving their habitats at a landscape scale. This is essential to ensure that species, and the ecosystems on which they depend, have the resilience to respond to climate change.

We have continued our involvement in 67 key landscapes across the UK and raised funds to start two new projects: to conserve woodland butterflies in south-east England and to conserve grassland habitats in Oxfordshire. Butterfly Conservation staff have also given detailed advice on over 400 important sites. As a result several species are recovering well after decades of decline, including the Large Blue, Adonis Blue, Silver-spotted Skipper and Heath Fritillary.

Following our submissions last year, based on new information on the decline or threat to numerous species, 14 butterflies and 131 moths have been provisionally accepted as new Priority Species in the review of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Many of these species are already targeted within existing landscape projects but the development of further conservation programmes will be a major challenge in coming years.

Success on our Nature Reserves

Butterfly Conservation manages 31 Nature Reserves across the UK. These were established to protect key sites and demonstrate habitat management for butterflies, moths and other wildlife.

After a campaign lasting over 10 years, we finally purchased 60 hectares at Prees Heath Common in Shropshire to establish a nature reserve. This is the last refuge in the region for the threatened Silver-studded Blue butterfly as well as containing rare heathland habitat. In addition, we signed agreements for new reserves at Mabie Forest in Dumfries and Galloway, and at Ryton Wood Meadows in Warwickshire. Mabie Forest will be run jointly with the Forestry Commission Scotland and will offer easy access for the public to enjoy rare

species such as the Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Forester moth. Ryton Wood Meadows is a former industrial site with important populations of species such as the Dingy Skipper.

The Reserves Working Group continued to oversee the management of our reserves and provide advice, including on health and safety. We registered our eligible reserves within the government's Single Payment Scheme for farmland and established a Reserves Management Fund.



Several threatened species showed signs of recovery following targeted conservation effort. The globally endangered **Large Blue** has now been restored to over 11 core UK sites where more than 10,000 adults flew in 2006.



The **Heath Fritillary** is one of our most threatened butterflies, but is recovering well throughout its range following practical advice from Butterfly Conservation.



On **Exmoor** the number of Heath Fritillary colonies has increased from 5 to 12 since 2001 following guidance from Butterfly Conservation and new management by the National Trust, Exmoor National Park Authority and other partners.



Wildflowers on former arable land at our **Magdalen Hill Down Reserve** in Hampshire, where we are restoring 16 hectares of downland.



Habitat restoration gets under way at our new **Prees Heath Reserve**. A deep plough brings up the sandy sub-soil ready for seeding with heathland plants which require acidic and nutrient poor conditions.



Our new Mabie Forest Reserve is home to the beautiful **Forester** moth

Monitoring change

Butterfly Conservation runs a series of recording and monitoring schemes to document changes in butterfly and moth populations, and to help us target our conservation effort.

During the year we published *The State of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland*, which brings together for the first time complete data from the *Butterflies for the New Millennium* recording scheme with population trends from the *UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme*, both run jointly with the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. Together they form one of the biggest datasets on an insect group anywhere in the world with over five million records.

Using butterflies as indicators

Butterflies are valuable indicators of environmental change and we published a suite of butterfly indicators based on the new collated dataset from the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme.

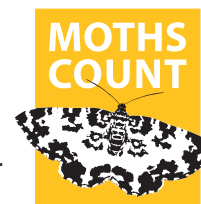
This comprises standard transect counts of butterflies from over 1,000 sites, some with data stretching back over the last 30 years. Full details are available on www.ukbms.org

The Butterfly Indicator was adopted for the first time by government in its report *Working with the Grain of Nature - taking it forward*. It shows that habitat specialist butterflies have declined on average by 30% over the last 15 years, while generalists may be increasing due to climate change.

Making Moths Count

Thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a range of other funders, we started Moths Count, a major new initiative that includes a National Moth Recording Scheme.

The project will collate a wealth of data from existing recorders as well as encouraging public participation through an online Garden Moths Count to be fronted by Alan Titchmarsh, one of our Vice Presidents. For details see www.mothscount.org



International activities

Butterfly Conservation is a leading member of Butterfly Conservation Europe, which acts as an umbrella body to stimulate and co-ordinate action across Europe.

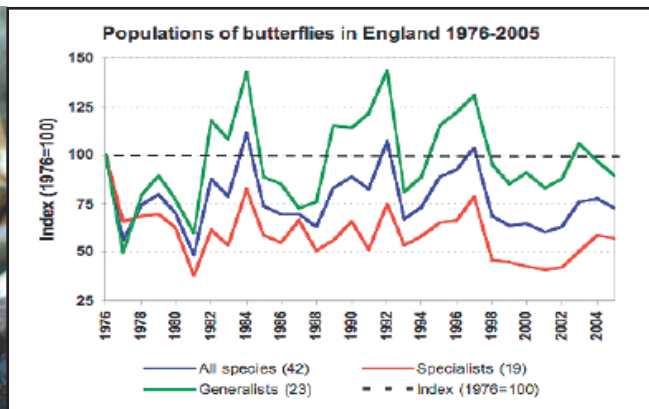
During the year, 21 organisations from 20 countries agreed to join as Network Partners and an inaugural meeting will be held with them and representatives from other countries in Laufen, Germany, during October 2007. For details see www.bc-europe.eu



Once a familiar sight in woodlands, the **Pearl-bordered Fritillary** symbolises the plight of many butterflies in Britain. Its population halved between 1995 and 2004.



Our new Wider Countryside Monitoring pilot project, funded by Defra and other agencies, aims to develop ways to more effectively monitor widespread species such as the **Wall** butterfly.



Last year we published data showing that over two-thirds of common moths, such as the **Garden Tiger**, are in decline. Moths Count will help us understand these declines and identify areas to target conservation action.



Moth trapping events organised by Butterfly Conservation have become a huge attraction to all ages.



Grassland butterflies like this **Mazarine Blue** have been adopted as indicators of biodiversity across Europe. Their trends, collated by Butterfly Conservation Europe, will be a key method of measuring progress towards the EU target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010.

Members and volunteers are vital to our success

Butterfly Conservation has an extremely active volunteer force organised through our UK Branch network. A repeat volunteer audit showed that volunteers continue to contribute 77,000 person days/year, equivalent to 350 staff.

Key achievements during the year include:

- ◆ Implemented new Membership Strategy and increased membership by over 1,000 to reach a record high of over 12,000.
- ◆ Maintained a very high retention rate of 94%.
- ◆ Conducted a random questionnaire of members to help profile our members and target future recruitment effort.

Supporting Butterfly Conservation

A large number of organisations and individuals have kindly supported Butterfly Conservation during the year. We are very grateful for their ongoing support of our vital conservation work.

Each year Butterfly Conservation receives valuable income from gifts left by our members and supporters in their Wills. If you would like to learn how to make a difference for butterflies and moths by remembering Butterfly Conservation in your Will, please contact David Bridges by telephone on 01403 256175 or write to him at our Head Office in Dorset.

Butterfly Conservation was rated in the top 10 charities

This was based on the transparency and quality of our annual report, according to the independent website www.intelligentgiving.com



We were also voted Charity of the Year 2007 by staff at the company Cemex and began a new funding programme with them.

Key targets for 2007-08

Conservation

- ◆ Take action for threatened species and deepen our involvement in landscape scale projects, for example through the South-east Woodlands Project
- ◆ Launch Moths Count in May with our President, Sir David Attenborough
- ◆ Hold a public involvement project, Garden Moths Count, during late June
- ◆ Publish a UK butterfly indicator with the Department for Food and Rural Affairs
- ◆ Open our new reserves at Prees Heath and Mabie Forest
- ◆ Hold the inaugural meeting of Butterfly Conservation Europe partners in October and continue to seek funding, including to develop a pan-European Butterfly Indicator
- ◆ Underpin our conservation work through evidence-based research, collaborating with universities and research institutes
- ◆ Publish reports, research and management information

Volunteers and members

- ◆ Further increase membership and maintain high retention rate
- ◆ Maximise membership opportunities from Moths Count
- ◆ Introduce Branch pages on the website to replace the old Branch Handbook
- ◆ Continue to run training courses and provide support for our volunteers

Publicity and education

- ◆ Hold Save Our Butterflies Week from 21-29 July 2007, maximising publicity opportunities
- ◆ Plan our 40th anniversary celebrations for 2008
- ◆ Increase the number of Press Releases and mentions of Butterfly Conservation in the media
- ◆ Maximise publicity opportunities from Moths Count
- ◆ Launch a new, improved Butterfly Conservation website
- ◆ Develop interactive section of our education website, aimed at involving children



Raising awareness of butterflies is important to enable us to achieve their lasting conservation. TV presenter **Chris Packham**, who is one of our Vice Presidents, launched Save Our Butterflies Week in July to mobilise Branches for a concerted push on publicity and membership. This alone achieved over 100 mentions in the press and on television and radio. During the year we also issued over 24 press releases and greatly increased coverage in media.

We organised over **700 educational events** and field visits during the year, averaging two events per day. We also started work on a new education website aimed at providing materials for teachers and children.

Financial Statements

The Council confirms that the summarised accounts on the pages overleaf are a summary of the information extracted from the full accounts which were approved on 14 July 2007.

The summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full annual accounts, the auditor's report and the Report of the Council on those accounts should be consulted. Copies are available at www.butterfly-conservation.org or may be obtained free of charge from the charity.

The summarised accounts do not constitute full accounts within the meaning of the Companies Act 1985.

A copy of the statutory accounts of the charity, upon which the auditors have reported without qualification, will be delivered to both the Charity Commission and Companies House.

By order of the Council

David Hanson, Honorary Treasurer

14 July 2007

Auditors' statement to the Council of Butterfly Conservation Independent auditors' statement to the members of Butterfly Conservation.

We have examined the summarised accounts of Butterfly Conservation.

Respective responsibilities of the Council and independent auditors

The Council members are responsible for preparing the summarised accounts in accordance with the recommendations of the charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised accounts with the full accounts and Report of Council. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised accounts.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised accounts are consistent with the full accounts and the Report of Council of Butterfly Conservation for the year ended 31 March 2007.

Buzzacott Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

12 New Fetter Lane London EC4A 1AG

14 July 2007

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and the Balance Sheet have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005.

The SOFA records the results of a very successful year, although one not entirely without some significant concerns. Every income line in the SOFA except one records an increase, the only exception being the heading 'Other primary purpose trading', which in 2005/06 included receipts of £39k from our International Symposium. Excluding the necessarily variable figures for legacies, total income rose by over 30% to just over £2.6 million.

The largest increase, of 47%, was achieved in 'Grants receivable for Conservation', where the significant new grants were of £300k from Grantscape for the acquisition of the reserve at Prees Heath, £158k of new funding from Natural England, £41k from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation for our regional work and £38k from the Heritage Lottery Fund for early work in setting up the National Moth Recording Scheme. We are grateful to these funders for their support and proud of this endorsement of the quality of our work.

A healthy 14% increase in Membership Subscriptions reflects the impact of modestly increased subscription rates and changes in membership categories introduced in 2006, together with the very pleasing results of our new Membership Strategy. Our continued efforts to increase the proportion of our subscriptions and donations received under the Gift Aid scheme have also been fruitful with approaching 75% of members now signed up. It is to be regretted that the Chancellor of the Exchequer's decision to lower the basic rate of tax will reduce the amount of Gift Aid benefit to charities by 11% from April 2008.

Total expenditure in 2006/07 rose by 11% to exceed £2 million for the first time. Even more pleasing than the achievement of this numerical milestone was the fact that spending on Conservation rose by 13% to £1.7 million, 84% of the total. Our staff numbers increased by 6 in 2006/07 and all of these are involved in Conservation.

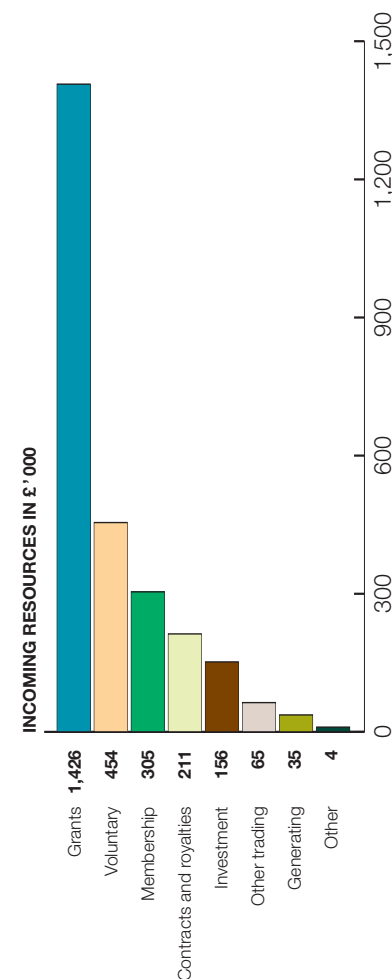
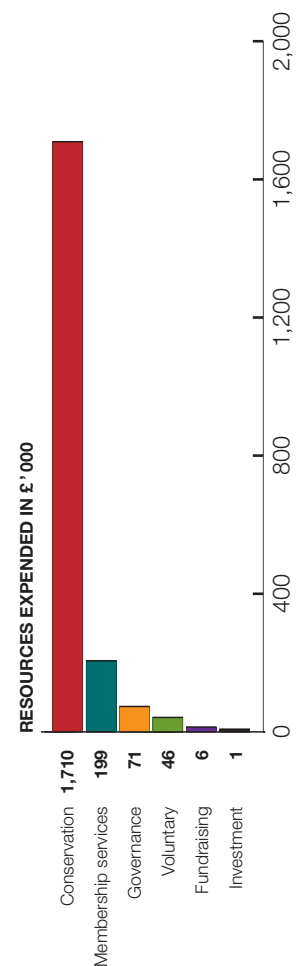
The concerns referred to earlier arose towards the end of the financial year as agreements with two of our major funders in the statutory sector approached their termination date of 31 March 2007. Both agencies raised doubts about the level of their support beyond that date, which in turn raised doubts about our ability to continue with present activities into the current financial year. In both cases we have secured new agreements, although in one case, where a new four-year agreement has been reached, the terms include a three-month notice period, which is an unsettling development for Council members and staff alike.

Such significant uncertainties are much in our minds when we consider our Financial Reserves Policy and our Fundraising Strategy. As recorded in the Financial Reserves Policy (which can be obtained from the Annual Report and Financial Statements), we held £868,826 of unrestricted general funds at 31 March 2007 and judge that the prudent level needed to support our planned activity is £1,020,000. The gap has been narrowed significantly in 2006/07 but we remain mindful that it has not been closed. Council members are pleased to record their thanks to all staff for their work in securing an excellent financial result for 2006/07, achieving both the substantial conservation gains recorded in this Report and an increase of £249,732 in the unrestricted general funds of the charity.

David Hanson Honorary Treasurer 14 July 2007

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2007

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2007 Total £	2006 Total £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
• Voluntary income	326,539	127,312	-	453,851	374,476
• Activities for generating funds	33,370	1,257	-	34,627	33,217
• Investment income and interest receivable	129,459	26,980	-	156,439	134,134
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
• Conservation activities - grants receivable	22,769	1,403,641	-	1,426,410	967,830
• Contracts and royalties	163,415	47,801	-	211,216	148,525
• Other primary purpose trading	62,631	2,399	-	65,030	79,987
• Membership subscriptions	305,107	-	-	305,107	268,814
Other incoming resources	2,859	754	-	3,613	2,123
Total incoming resources	1,046,149	1,610,144	-	2,656,293	2,009,106
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds					
• Costs of generating voluntary income	35,854	10,311	-	46,165	39,486
• Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	4,488	1,448	-	5,936	5,911
• Investment management costs	916	263	-	1,179	1,179
Charitable activities					
• Conservation	380,126	1,329,569	-	1,709,695	1,513,463
• Membership services	151,323	48,142	-	199,465	199,119
Governance	52,430	18,669	-	71,099	65,290
Total resources expended	625,137	1,408,402	-	2,033,539	1,824,448
Net incoming resources before transfers	421,012	201,742	-	622,754	184,658
Transfers between funds	(100,564)	100,564	-	-	-
Net incoming resources before net investment gains	320,448	302,306	-	622,754	184,658
Net investment gains	1,127	-	48,550	49,677	238,125
Net movement in funds	321,575	302,306	48,550	672,431	422,783
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2006	1,419,127	827,590	1,733,300	3,980,017	3,557,234
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2007	1,740,702	1,129,896	1,781,850	4,652,448	3,980,017



Balance sheet 31 March 2007

	2007 £	2006 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	639,582	392,472
Investments	1,781,850	1,733,300
Current assets	2,421,432	2,125,772
Stocks	13,514	12,451
Debtors	423,429	375,359
Investments	157,072	165,945
Cash at bank and in hand		
• Short term deposits and interest bearing accounts	1,252,141	1,052,360
• Current accounts	502,364	415,677
	2,348,520	2,021,792
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(117,504)	(167,547)
Net current assets	2,231,016	1,854,245
Total net assets	4,652,448	3,980,017
Represented by:		
Funds and reserves		
Charitable funds		
Capital funds		
Endowment fund	1,781,850	1,733,300
Income funds		
Restricted funds	1,129,896	827,590
Unrestricted funds		
• General fund	868,826	619,094
• Tangible fixed assets (including freehold nature reserves) fund	332,716	323,717
• Designated funds	539,160	476,316
Total funds	4,652,448	3,980,017

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf by: **Dudley Cheesman** Chairman 14 July 2007

Organisations making donations, grants and providing sponsorship or gifts-in-kind

A & N Daniell Charitable Trust
Action Earth
Anglian Lepidopterist Supplies
Apollo Books
Argyll and Bute Council
Association for Study of Animal Behaviour
AstraZeneca
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Awards for All
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British Trust for Ornithology
British Wildlife Publishing
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Cairngorms Biodiversity Partnership
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Captain J.G.G.P. Elwes Charitable Trust
Carmarthenshire County Council
Catfield Parish Council

Cell Creative
Center Parcs
Chalk and Cheese LEADER +
Colin Reid Trust
Countryside Council for Wales
D G Albright Charitable Trust
Dartmoor National Park Authority
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Devon Wildlife Trust
Dorset AONB
Dumfries & Galloway Biodiversity Partnership
Durham County Council
East Kent Farms
Environment Agency
Environment and Heritage Service
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Exmoor National Park Authority
Forestry Commission
Forestry Commission Scotland
Frampton Country Fair
Friends of Boxhill Association
Gatwick Airport Community Trust
Glamorgan Moth Recording Group
Glasgow City Council
Grantscape
Hampshire County Council

Herefordshire Rivers LEADER +
Heritage Lottery Fund
Higher Heath Retirement Club
Highland Biodiversity
Isle of Man Government
Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Kenneth Hargreaves Trust
Leach No14 Trust
Leggett Trust
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Mrs E M Davidson Trust
Natural England
Natural Environment Research Council
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Naturetrek Ltd
NFU Mutual
North Highland LEADER +
Northern Ecological Services
Objective 1 (European Fund)
OWNWOOD woodlands.co.uk
Peregrine Productions

Portchester Civic Society
Portsmouth City Council
Restore UK
Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews
Royal Entomological Society
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
S Hatch Charitable Trust
Scarborough Field Naturalists' Society
Scottish Natural Heritage
Scottish Power
Shropshire Wildlife Trust
Snowdonia National Park Authority
Southern Water
The 1989 Willan Charitable Trust
The Bromley Trust
The Craignish Trust
The Ernest Cook Trust
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust
The Hugh Fraser Foundation
The Jack Patston Charitable Trust
The Llysdinam Trust
The Manifold Trust
The Mitchell Trust
The Nádair Trust
The O J Whitley Trust
The Robertson Trust

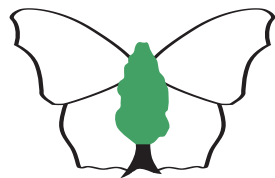
The Russell Trust
The Slater Foundation Limited
The Swire Charitable Trust
The Vincent Wildlife Trust
The William Williams Charity
Tomkins Plc
Ulster Museum
University of Warwick
UshopUgive
Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council
Watkins & Doncaster
Welsh Assembly Government
Welsh Development Agency
West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership
Whelk LEADER +
Wildguides
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Francis Christian Craske
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Pamela Ann Mary Hervey
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E M Redhead
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Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and their habitats



NFU Mutual

INSURANCE PENSIONS INVESTMENTS

It's an NFU Mutual understanding

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Butterfly Conservation Scotland

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Allan Park
Stirling
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Other Council Members (Directors and Trustees): Dr Jim Asher, David Barrie, Hugo Brooke, Martyn Davies, David Dennis, David Dunbar MBE, Mandy Gluth, Neil Jones, Jenny Mallett, Roy Neeve, Dr Andrew Pullin, Dr Simon Spencer, Marjory Taylor, Neil Thompson, Dr Mark Young.

Chief Executive: Dr Martin Warren

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