



# Countryside Jobs Service Weekly®

CJS - The original, the biggest and the best in the field,  
*THE* countryside specialists since 1994

The original weekly newsletter for countryside staff

**Every Friday : 17 April 2020**



CJS is endorsed by the Scottish Countryside Rangers Association and the Countryside Management Association.



**Featured Charity:** The Mammal Society

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CJS®, The Moorlands, Goathland, Whitby YO22 5LZ    Created by Anthea & Niall Carson, July '94

<b>Key:</b>	REF	CJS reference no. (advert number – type – delete date)	JOB	Title
BE4		Application closing date IV = Interview date	LOC	Location
PAY		£ range - usually per annum (but check starting point)	FOR	Employer

Main text usually includes: Description of Job, Person Spec / Requirements and How to apply or obtain more information  
**CJS Suggestions:** Please check the main text to ensure that you have all of the required qualifications / experience before you apply. Contact ONLY the person, email, number or address given use links to a job description / more information, if an SAE is required double check you use the correct stamps. If you're sending a CV by email name the file with YOUR name not just CV.doc



## An early birthday present - cheaper subscriptions.

CJS's official birthday is in July and we had intended to give everyone a 26th birthday present then but we could all do with a boost right now - so why wait?

**We're reducing the price of CJS Weekly electronic subscriptions to 50p\*** a week and moving everyone onto email subscriptions (you can opt out).

### Why are we doing this?

It was always CJS Founder Niall's aim to have a rate of less than £1 per week which we managed a few years ago with the 11+ digital copies option and now with improved technology and some new software it's cheaper and easier to email everyone.

Although you pay 75p a week (for digital) the Government takes 12.5p of that in VAT, but not for much longer; after a long campaign by newspapers and publishers the Chancellor announced in

the last budget that the VAT element on electronic publications (that's books for your e-reader, newspapers online and electronic publications like CJS) will no longer be charged from December, until then we'll need to add it so it will actually be 60p per week I'm afraid but only for a few months.

**We're simplifying rates** too, no more two tier rate it's a flat 50p per week with a minimum subscription of 5 weeks, so that's £2.50. (£3.00 including the VAT).

## Keeping CJS Weekly going during the lockdown

It's not easy we'll admit that, searching high and low for jobs, sourcing information for the website, little to no income like so many other SMEs and rapid adjustment to the new remote working practices. However, one subscriber emailed us last week to say: "Thanks for keeping CJS Weekly going in these difficult times. The additional articles and news are really useful and I've actually got a chance to read them all as work isn't so busy at the moment." And that's all the reason we need.

**And finally we received this lovely message** on 27 March just as the covid lockdown realities began to bite, it could not have come at a better time, it gave us a reason to keep going:

Hi kind folk at CJS,

I just wanted to say thank you for the fantastic service you provide and for carrying on during this really difficult time.

It is thanks to you that a number of my friends have found amazing jobs.

I recommend your services to others whenever I possibly can.

Thank you once again, your hard work and brilliant information service for careers and training within the countryside sector is very much appreciated.

Take care of yourselves

**We'll echo that: take care, be well and let's keep the countryside thriving.**

**Please note:** Group subscriptions (5 or more readers) will also be transferred to email and again can opt out.

No change for postal copies.

\*50p plus VAT until December

REF	775-DIRECT-1/5	JOB	<b>FINANCE MANAGER</b>
BE4	30/4/20 IV wb 4/5/20	LOC	CHEW MAGNA
PAY	£11.26 / hr (£23421 FTE)	FOR	THE COMMUNITY FARM

Fancy using your stellar finance skills for something truly good? Here at The Community Farm we're experiencing an exciting period of fast growth and, as a result, we're looking for a talented and confident new Finance Manager who'll be able to hit the ground running and autonomously develop this role to best fulfil its objectives. You'll be responsible for maintaining and managing our financial accounts and budgets, working closely with the Managing Director and Senior Team, and you'll also act as Line Manager to the Administrative Assistant. Please download the job description: <https://c-js.co.uk/2Vg1IRP> and if you think you'd ace this role please fill out the application form and email it to [jobs@thecommunityfarm.co.uk](mailto:jobs@thecommunityfarm.co.uk). Please note: due to the current Coronavirus situation we will be conducting interviews over the phone, and the job will likely be home-working for the foreseeable as we work to Government guidelines.

## Freelance, self-employed and contracts out to tender

REF	776-CONTRACT-22/5	JOB	<b>EVALUATION CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY</b>
BE4	22/5/20 (midnight)	LOC	BOURNEMOUTH
PAY	YES	FOR	BOURNEMOUTH PARKS FOUNDATION

Bournemouth Parks Foundation, partnering with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, is seeking fee proposals and expressions of interest to fulfil a consultancy brief for evaluating our Future Parks Accelerator project. The project's aim is to find new, inspiring ways to develop and manage our greenspaces. To increase the abundance and variety of wildlife in our spaces and make them financially secure for future generations. A critical factor is evidencing what works and sharing this with partners nationally and influencing stakeholders to invest. For the full brief, please go to the Bournemouth Parks Foundation website via <https://c-js.co.uk/2xFnV2u>. Fee proposals will be evaluated on a 60% quality v 40% price basis with a budget of £20,000. Any queries should be directed to: Janna Bloice, Future Parks Accelerator Project Manager Environment, BCP Council. 07384 790054 [janna.bloice@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:janna.bloice@bcpcouncil.gov.uk), [www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk). Submissions should be sent to [info@bournemouthparksfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@bournemouthparksfoundation.org.uk).

## Voluntary Opportunities, online here: [c-js.co.uk/CJSVols](http://c-js.co.uk/CJSVols)

REF [V777-ONLINE-15/5](#)

**Trustee** wanted for wildlife conservation charity

Vincent Wildlife Trust has been at the forefront of innovative techniques for wildlife conservation for over 40 years, and our specific niche is the smaller native mammals. We provide scientifically sound, practical solutions to conservation problems locally and internationally. Our work to date has focused primarily on British and Irish mammals, notably the rarer bats and members of the mustelid (weasel) family, including the pine marten and polecat. Historically, the pioneering work of VWT helped in the recovery of the otter to most of Britain's river systems. More recently, VWT has re-established a viable pine marten population in mid-Wales. Over the last two years, the CEO and Chair have been developing a Ten-year Strategy to give VWT a clear base to increase its impact. Published this year, the strategy will take the charity through its next developmental phase, as it plays an integral role in conserving threatened mammals in Britain, Ireland and wider Europe. Due to the retirement of one of our long-standing trustees, there is a vacancy on the Board. We are looking for a new trustee with specialist skills in investment management to join us and complement the skills and experiences of the existing six trustees and to help move VWT through a period of growth based on the new Ten-year Strategy. Whilst an interest in the conservation of wildlife is important, there is no requirement for experience or specialist knowledge of wildlife or conservation. Preference will be given to those who have good connections in their field and who can bring a new perspective to help navigate the Trust through the challenges ahead. For a recruitment briefing pack and further information, please email: Chief Executive: Lucy Rogers at [lucyrogers@vwt.org.uk](mailto:lucyrogers@vwt.org.uk) or call 01531 636441.



REF	778-VOL-29/5	JOB	<b>CHAIR OF THE BOARD</b>
BE4	1/6/20	LOC	HOME BASED
PAY	0	FOR	CHAGOS CONSERVATION TRUST

The Chagos Conservation Trust is searching for a Chair. This is an important, voluntary, officer role that ensures CCT is running efficiently and effectively. Do you have a love of the ocean and the right skills to join our team? The Chair is responsible for: leading the board of trustees and the organisation to work as a team to enable it to fulfil its purpose; acting as a spokesperson and figurehead as appropriate; leading on fundraising for CCT's flagship programme, Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs; managing and supporting the director and maintaining an effective working relationship between staff, trustees and all other stakeholders. Start date July 2020, 1 - 2 days a month. Work from home, UK. Attend quarterly board meetings in London. Further information: Helen Pitman, Director, Chagos Conservation Trust, [helen.pitman@chagos-trust.org](mailto:helen.pitman@chagos-trust.org). Please send a CV and cover letter to the above email address.

REF	779-VOL-15/5	JOB	<b>REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE</b>
BE4	15/5/20	LOC	UK WIDE
PAY	0	FOR	A FOCUS ON NATURE

Since its formation in 2011, A Focus on Nature (AFON) has sought to encourage and connect young people aged 16 to 30 with a passion for the natural world. The A Focus on Nature (AFON) Regional Rep scheme is designed to create a sustainable network of young conservationists across the UK. This is a great opportunity to develop your CV with a nationally recognised organisation, learn new skills and help to bring together like-minded individuals with a love of the natural world. The aim is to establish AFON with a local presence within your regional district and create events that bring young conservationists together. 2 hours per week. If you are passionate about your local patch and are keen to connect young conservationists in your area, please email [projects@afocusonnature.org](mailto:projects@afocusonnature.org) or more information.

## Countryside Alliance bringing you community cheer



The impact that COVID-19 will have on our lives is starting to unfold, showing that there are going to be some uncertain months ahead of us where there will be many more unknowns than knowns. It is in the face of times like this however, where the strength of our rural communities must pull together and act as one. Despite the response to the virus requiring us to distance ourselves physically from one another, it is where communities are closest that its impact can be mitigated the most. Here at the Countryside Alliance, we'll be on hand to support you, listen to your concerns and act where necessary to ensure that our countryside, and its communities, remain strong, resilient and safe.

Community groups and local businesses are responding to the needs of the many people in rural areas who have followed the government's advice to self-isolate on the basis of age or an underlying health problem. Food, medication and contact, even if by phone or social media, are going to be the fundamental necessities for many over the coming months. In some ways those of us living in the countryside are lucky to have the sort of close communities, both geographic but also built around activities like farming, shooting and hunting, that will ensure people are not forgotten. And how lucky we are to be able to see sky and countryside even if we have to distance ourselves from friends and neighbours. Loneliness and isolation are, however, already a problem across the countryside and without the regular rituals of markets, shows, matches and fairs it will be a very long and lonely summer for many. We must, and I am sure will, all take responsibility for connecting in whatever way we can with those who face a long period of isolation.



*Countryside Alliance launches COVID-19 hub  
(The Countryside Alliance)*

With this in mind, we've created a hub of information where we can support those within our rural communities by providing them with the information they need during this time. From clear signposting to relevant information published by government as well as other essential services to ideas on how to support your own community, our [COVID-19 Hub](#) will keep you up-to-date on all of the latest guidance that will keep you and your community safe.

We have also launched a new initiative to keep our communities strong and safe, [Community Cheer](#), our new online resource that's filled with positive stories and updates from communities up and down the country. We'll be highlighting local stories as well as featuring book reviews, ideas for activities and other useful tips for keeping the mind and body busy. This new positive space will give you the opportunity to share your ideas and connect with others around you at a time when isolation and loneliness are rife.

Rural communities are incredibly proud and self-reliant, so please remember some people may find it difficult to ask for help throughout this time, which is why we all need to keep our eyes and ears open to support those who are less able while still looking after our own health.

We're also encouraging rural communities to, where possible, support local shops during this difficult time. When the big supermarket chains are running low on certain groceries, you'll often be able to find what you're looking for in a local store, farm shop or pub. We have heard about countless shops, pubs and butchers all adapting how they do business during this time, and through serving and delivering to those who are less able and more vulnerable, should be appreciated as the critical resource that they are in our rural communities.

There are already an abundance of ideas circulating the internet detailing how people can signal whether they need support in any capacity. From setting up a community WhatsApp group to simple window cards and phone calls with your neighbours, there's something that will work for every community. But please remember, not everyone has access to the internet so be sure to make use of village newsletters and noticeboards to keep in touch and share positivity with others.

Between our [Countryside Alliance COVID-19 Hub](#) and our brand new [Community Cheer](#) page, both of which will be updated constantly with the latest government advice and stay-at-home ideas and other light forms of relief, respectively, there will be plenty to help us all through these uncertain times.

And please remember, the Countryside Alliance is always here to listen to you and act where needed. We ask everyone who lives in a rural community, from our members and supporters to parish councils and churches to share with us what's going on in your area – both positives and negatives. We also ask businesses to also let us know what's happening. Are there issues that you want us to pass back to government or maybe you have some ideas of your own that you want to share with others? We want you to tell us what it is that you want for your community, and we'll do our best to deliver. We want our website to be your website and carry the information that you want and need during this distressing time.

# Community Cheer!

Sharing your positive tips and stories

## The Dartmoor Pony – Combining Conservation and Heritage

Any visitor crossing Dartmoor in Spring or Summer and seeing herds of ponies and their foals would find it hard to believe that the traditional, single colour Native Dartmoor pony is an endangered species.

These semi-feral herds contain ponies of varied shape, colour and type. All are owned by farmers with moorland grazing rights and all contribute to the management, heritage and history of the Dartmoor landscape and to its appeal for tourists.



*Believer small group ponies in deep molinia (Lloyd Russell)*

Heritage is the reason the Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust came about. It was established in 2005, initially as a project funded by the Dartmoor Pony Society and the Dartmoor National Park, due to increasing concerns about the dramatic reduction in true Dartmoor ponies running on the moor. Support to encourage farmers to prioritise breeding quality 'true-to-type' Pedigree and non-pedigree ponies was agreed and put in place through the DPHT.

The fear was that this iconic and popular British Native Breed could be lost from its land of origin – it's on the Rare Breed Survival Trust's Endangered list.

Retaining the true-to-type pony on Dartmoor is critical because being bred on the moor, they retain the special characteristics – tough, hardy and resilient, gentle and adaptable.

From the sturdy moorland-bred Dartmoors originated the registered Dartmoor pony, whose lineage is proven and breeding strictly regulated. Those bred on the moor thrive there and many are of a quality to compete successfully nationally and internationally.

It is important that new blood still comes from the moor and for many years a successful scheme run by the Dartmoor Pony Society (DPS) and the Duchy of Cornwall has encouraged farmers (pony keepers) to take their best moorland mares and run them with a pure-bred stallion in one of the 'newtakes' (enclosed areas). Resulting foals can join the DPS Supplementary Register and are eligible to compete with Pedigree ponies. After four generations, the female progeny can be registered as Pedigree.

The DPHT's remit is to inform and educate the public and to help safeguard the future of the traditional Dartmoor pony. This includes Pedigrees, those on the Dartmoor Pony Society's Supplementary Register and the non-registered but true-to-type ponies that we call 'Heritage'.



*Holly bay foal scratching next to yearling bay (Holly Kressinger)*

Cattle, sheep and ponies have different mouths and graze in a different way. Ponies have two sets of incisors, can nibble and bite but also grind with strong molars. They thrive with a varied diet and are happy on the moor all year. They stamp on old stems of gorse to make it easier to eat and love the young shoots; they trample the bracken; nibble away at dense bramble and push into areas that other animals would not wish to go. This activity, along with dunging and constant movement, creates environments which encourage other plants to grow and provide a food source for insects.

For example, ponies graze on the ever-more-invasive Molinia (purple moor grass) which turns the landscape into a straw-coloured, dense environment that is not suitable for other grazers. They'll eat the sweeter grass all year round but in winter/early spring, when they are having to work hard at finding nourishment, they will push in to this growth and help to keep it under control so that better quality grazing and other plants can come through.

The ponies are monitored by the farmers all the time but each autumn the herds are rounded up for inspection in the traditional annual 'drift' where some are selected for sale and others are returned to the moor.

Market forces, the changing needs of pony owners and an over-supply of equines, as well as financial and legislative factors, have undoubtedly had an impact on pony value. While Pedigree/Heritage ponies are now in more demand, excess numbers of some other types has led to an urgent need for more controlled breeding with a focus on quality and greater unification of the Dartmoor pony 'brand'. Most farmers are trying to breed sensibly for the markets available and see ponies as part of the heritage of Dartmoor.

The DPHT's priority is to add value to the ponies, so that by gaining more income, farmers are incentivised to breed quality ponies that have a purpose – either on Dartmoor or sold for private or conservation grazing homes.



*Bellever ponies in long string between tor and forest (Lloyd Russell)*

flower-rich fields of its South Devon coastal reserve at Labrador Bay since winter 2009/10. After a catastrophic decline, by the early 1990s Cirl Buntings were found nowhere else in the UK. At Labrador Bay numbers have increased from 3 pairs in 2008 to 30 pairs in 2019. A national Species Recovery Project has seen numbers increase to over 1000 pairs.

The RSPB believes that without the pony grazing, this special habitat would disappear under bracken and scrub and its value for Devon wildlife would be diminished. Ponies are suited to the site even in the winter because they are robust and hardy, graze a variety of plants and thrive on the sparse, steep landscape. They have been ideal where grassland is under restoration and unsuitable for other stock such as cattle or sheep. Combining year-round pony grazing with cattle in the summer, creates the varied structure favoured by Cirl Buntings and perfect conditions to provide invertebrate rich grassland for birds to find lots of prey to feed their chicks.

The DPHT is not just promoting Dartmoor ponies; our remit is to inform and educate about every aspect of Dartmoor – from history and archaeology to biodiversity and conservation - as well as encourage visitors to respect and appreciate what Dartmoor has to offer and value our heritage. We provide more free Guided Walks than any other organisation on Dartmoor.



*RSPB pony eating brambles (DPHT)*

The DPHT believes that working in partnership on Dartmoor, along with increasing public understanding, will ensure that ponies remain the very visible emblem of the spectacular home they helped to create.

Clare Stanton, Haymakers Consultants/Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust.  
Haymaker, Westcott Lane, Chagford, Devon. TQ13 8JF Tel: 07885 699802  
[www.dpht.co.uk](http://www.dpht.co.uk) [admin@dpht.co.uk](mailto:admin@dpht.co.uk), tel 01626 833234 for further information

## Holkham National Nature Reserve – Changing Times during the Covid 19 Pandemic

# HOLKHAM

Holkham National Nature Reserve covers 4100 hectares of the dynamic North Norfolk coast. It has become famous in recent years for frequently winning the 'best beach' award. With over seven and a half miles of wide-open sands backed by dune and pinewood it is hardly surprising. Such beauty draws an estimated one million visitors per year, a figure that could well be vastly surpassed as we have multiple access points. The Reserve, however, is much more than the famous beach. It is home to vast winter wader and wildfowl assemblages, breeding Little Terns, Marsh Harrier, Bitterns, Spoonbills, Egrets and 900 hectares of grazing marsh managed for nesting waders and beef cattle. Much of it is still very much a working farmland environment.



*Lady Anne's Drive at Holkham on New Year's Day 2020, thousands of visitors passed through (copyright Andrew Bloomfield)*

With North Norfolk's popularity soaring more and more each year, one of the greatest challenges we face is managing visitors and trying to strike a balance between wide open public access and more tranquil undisturbed spots where wildlife can prosper. Even in the winter months, unless the weather is ghastly, we can expect two car parks full of visitors many with multiple dogs. This has all suddenly come to an abrupt, albeit temporary,

end with the advent of the Covid 19 pandemic that currently has the world in its grip. With the country in 'Lockdown', the ambience and views along the North Norfolk coast have changed beyond all recognition.

The penultimate weekend of March (a glorious period of sunny weather and the week before the start of Lockdown) was one more typical of an August bank holiday - a scenario that seems to be increasingly the norm here. All the car parks were full, with some 288 visitors entering through the main entrance in an hour. The first barbeques and illegal metal detectorists were out. Dogs were running through protected bird areas. Coastguards and the local lifeboat were called out to rescue the occupants of a yacht that ran aground and was smashed to smithereens - leaving rubbish festooned across the beach. All of this had to be dealt with and is fast becoming an ever-increasing day to day duty of our small but valiant team of wardens.

Fast forward two weeks into Lockdown and the contrast could not be starker. Desolate, devoid of people, no noise other than that of birds, the roar of the sea and howl of the wind. Utter



*Lady Anne's Drive Easter Monday 2020, brilliant sunshine and no visitors (copyright Andrew Bloomfield)*



*The Ringed Plover is one of the fastest declining birds on the North Norfolk coast due to recreational pressures. It is hoped many will settle down to nest this year (copyright Andrew Bloomfield)*

peace, free from harassment from the constant presence of unleashed dogs. Shore Larks, rare winter visitors from the Scandinavian highlands have been observed eking out seeds from a tideline of shingle where ordinarily they would gain no solace.



*Oystercatchers roosting on the shoreline, strangely a seldom seen sight these days due to constant visitor pressures (copyright Andrew Bloomfield)*

tranquility and nature in the raw. It seems perhaps callous to talk of positives in such testing times, yet the reality is plain to see. In next to no time, the former blurred lines along the edge of public areas and wilderness have started to merge. Lady Anne's Drive, the reserve's main entrance point and usually the hub of all activity for all million visitors, is sandwiched between two extensive areas of wet grassland with breeding Lapwings and wintering wildfowl. The margins of the car park are a rough unkempt strip of grass alongside the fence line. Already we have seen up to five pair of Grey Partridge prospecting for nest sites as they frantically call and the males tussle in their struggles to maintain territories. With no dogs and human intrusion, their immediate future looks far rosier. Wood Pigeons have started to nest in an open poplar tree right beside the main foot gate and migrant Ring Ouzels (usually the wariest of the thrush family) have been seen feeding unconcernedly beside the footpath.

Out on the beach, the short-term benefits of having very few people has instantly become apparent. Sanderling and Oystercatchers have been able to feed along the shoreline in

peace, free from harassment from the constant presence of unleashed dogs. Shore Larks, rare winter visitors from the Scandinavian highlands have been observed eking out seeds from a tideline of shingle where ordinarily they would gain no solace.

In the midst of April all thoughts would normally go to protecting the breeding birds of the shoreline. Holkham hosts diminishing numbers of Oystercatchers and Ringed Plovers and two very vulnerable colonies of Little Terns, the second rarest breeding sea birds in the UK. In a partnership with Natural England, Holkham typically cordons off potential breeding area in readiness for nesting. We have continued this initiative and indeed increased our efforts ahead of the 'gates' reopening. This is essential as birds such as the Plovers and Oystercatchers have already started to scrape out nests. With hardly any people (and most tellingly no dogs) present, combined with a remarkable spell of warm weather their breeding activities have moved forward slightly in their calendar. Even more interesting is the adoption of sites that due to public presence have been devoid of nesting birds for a great number of years. If ever there was a time for nature to gain lost ground it is now. Depending on how long the current Lockdown lasts it will be real eye opener to see what other changes occur and if indeed it can all still

cope when the public are finally allowed back on sites in their masses. Andy Bloomfield, Senior Warden Holkham NNR.

For more information about Holkham visit [www.holkham.co.uk](http://www.holkham.co.uk)

## Citizen Science, Surveys and Fieldwork: Work from home

**Sunset/Sunrise Survey:** You can help to monitor the UK's bats by taking part in our Sunset/Sunrise Survey and recording bats (and other nocturnal wildlife) from your window/ balcony or in your own garden! Anyone can take part, find out more at [cjs.info/2yh4wVE](http://cjs.info/2yh4wVE)

**Revealing Rivers** is a new citizen-science project from Riverlution by River Stewardship Company. To help assess the biodiversity of Sheffield's urban rivers, volunteers are encouraged to watch videos from camera traps and record the species that they see. To get involved, or for more information, visit [www.the-rsc.co.uk/revealing-rivers](http://www.the-rsc.co.uk/revealing-rivers)

**500 volunteers wanted!** Help create a network of 4,000+ walking routes connecting Great Britain's towns and cities... without leaving home.

Using existing footpaths, #SlowWays is a bold collaborative project to design a network of over 4,000 routes that can be used to inspire and guide walking between towns, cities and villages. People will be able to use it to walk between neighbouring settlements or to combine multiple Slow Way routes for long-distance journeys.

This is an important, positive and timely project. Walking can improve health and wellbeing, tackle the climate and ecological emergencies, save people money, improve our environment and bring joy to people's lives.

Find out more and volunteer by visiting <https://ravenellison.com/slow-ways-volunteer-training-online/>

**Garden Wildflower Hunt:** a citizen science project set up by the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland with two aims: to help us find out more about the wild plants ("weeds"?) growing in our gardens; and to give people a way to improve their plant identification skills under lockdown. <https://bsbi.org/garden-wildflower-hunt>

**Activities 2020:** the Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland has come up with a list of 10 activities and projects on a botanical theme which volunteers can take part in without leaving their homes, gardens or balconies. Includes free spotter sheets to get children engaging with the natural world! <https://bsbi.org/activities-2020>

**Garden BirdWatch** is the weekly wildlife survey where participants contribute sightings of species they have seen in their gardens. Through this we are able to monitor the fortune of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates in gardens contributing to our understanding of urban wildlife. Visit [bto.org/GBW](http://bto.org/GBW) to find out more.

**News Headlines from the past week,** Click the headline to read more.

### Huge nature, well-being and climate cost of coronavirus - Wildlife and Countryside Link



Major UK nature, science and conservation organisations are warning that the impact of the coronavirus has dealt a significant blow to nature's recovery and their ability to provide natural solutions to climate change. The charities are very concerned that the financial aid government is currently offering will not be sufficient to enable them to carry on their vital frontline work.

*(image: Wildlife and Countryside Link)*  
It's clearly right that the Government is focused on people's health and livelihoods now, but it must also act for the future of our planet and all the benefits our natural world provides.

This is key to both people's health and well-being and the future prosperity of our economy. In the long-term, if our environmental charities are financially compromised, we will lose the fight against climate change and environmental decline. Our environmental charities protect 750,000 hectares of land and 800 miles of coastline, help millions of people benefit from a healthy environment, champion laws and policies to protect our planet, and are critical restorers of the millions of hectares of woodland, wetlands and meadows needed to help mitigate climate change. But without additional help, special places at the heart of communities may potentially have their doors closed permanently and access to nature reduced, treasured landscapes and wildlife could be left unprotected, and vital conservation and climate change mitigation work at home and abroad could be abandoned.

## Land and Countryside Management

### Alliance warn against setting off dangerous sky lanterns - Countryside Alliance

The Countryside Alliance is requesting that members of the public listen to a recent plea from the National Fire Chiefs Council and stop setting off sky lanterns, following a sale push by online companies.

Adverts on social media, have encouraged the public to buy sky lanterns as a way of showing support for the NHS.

Sky lanterns are often made of paper, with an opening at the bottom where a lit candle is suspended.

Once released, they often drift for miles. They are regarded as a menace for farmers and landowners who frequently report sheep, cattle and horses being injured or even dying from eating the wire metal frames of the lanterns.

On top of this, sky lanterns are also a serious source of litter in the countryside.

Sarah Lee, Head of Policy at the Alliance said: "Right now, we are all thinking up ways to support our amazing National Health Service. Sky lanterns are often marketed as being fun ways of marking an event but in reality, they are incredibly

dangerous to wildlife and people. Once you set off a lantern and have that minute of joy watching it go up into the night's sky, you lose track of it and have no control over where it ends up. Far too often, animals choke on the debris that lands in fields and fires are started. It is especially hazardous in the hotter and dryer months."

She added: "Please do not set them off and help prevent using up the valuable time of our already stretched emergency services. Consider donating any money you would have spent, directly to the NHS instead."

### More than 100,000 trees take root in Northern Forest - Woodland Trust

More than 100,000 trees were planted in the Northern Forest during the November to March planting season under the Woodland Trust's MOREwoods programme – double the amount planted the year before.

Over the next 25 years the Woodland Trust and Community Forests are aiming to plant more than 50 million trees from Liverpool to Hull, connecting the community forests of the north.

As part of the ambitious woodland creation project, the Woodland Trust, thanks to funding from Defra, will contribute up to 85% of the costs to anyone wanting to plant more than half a hectare of woodland on their land through MOREwoods.

Emma Briggs, who heads up the Trust's MOREwoods project, said: "The area covered by the Northern Forest has below average woodland cover - just 7.6% compared to the UK average of 13% - but we have above average ambition and farmers, smallholders and other landowners are an integral part of our vision. In 2019 we saw a huge spike in interest from landowners wanting to do their bit, not just for the Northern Forest but for climate change as well so we are delighted to see so many people rising to the challenge at this time of climate emergency. There are so many reasons to plant trees. They improve soil quality and stability, slow the flow of flooding, provide shelter for crops and livestock, attract pollinators, and can provide an additional cash crop, a source of fuel and a home for wildlife. And with our best ever subsidy, supported by Defra, there's no better time to think about planting for a stronger, more viable future."

### Feeding The Nation: How Nature Friendly Farmers Are Responding To Covid-19 - Nature Friendly Farming Network

See our full report on NFFN and the Covid-19 crisis [here](#).

With the outbreak of COVID-19 we have seen many challenges across society, and farmers are no exception. There are farmers with food to sell, but many of the usual supply chains are closed. There are farmers with produce to harvest, but a lack of workers to make this happen. We urgently need to support farmers to connect with the public, right across the country, so they can sell their produce without this food going to waste.

Many Nature Friendly Farming Network (NFFN) farmers are changing the way they supply the food they produce, and are marketing directly to the public, through local supply chains or online. What hasn't changed though is their commitment to our natural environment and farming, nor their determination to provide the food we all need. We are proud to support them during this challenging time.

A sustainable food supply chain in the UK has never been more crucial to help farmers provide healthy and sustainable food, avoid food waste and protect wildlife and the environment. We urge you to support your local nature friendly farmers during this crisis and beyond. Find out how [here](#).

## Recreation and Volunteering

### Take a Virtual Tour - Northumberland National Park

Explore Northumberland National Park from your own home.

Back in April 2015 we became the first UK National Park to work alongside Google on their Trekker project. Over two weeks staff and volunteers worked to capture images of some of Northumberland's most iconic spots; including Hadrian's Wall, the Pennine Way and many more for inclusion in Google Streetview.

Our work is available as interactive 360° imagery that allows you to go on a self-guided tour of the landscape. This fabulous resource is freely available online for everyone to enjoy.

In November 2015 Laurian Clemence at Google UK, said 'We are delighted to have worked with the Northumberland National Park to bring Hadrian's Wall and the surrounding rich, historical landscape to Street View. Now anyone can view this key part of our heritage using Google Maps, from the comfort of their homes or on the move.'

As we continue to bring the OutdoorsIndoors, explore our Google content for a whistle-stop, stay at home tour of Northumberland National Park. Check out our examples, move the images below to explore in 360° and then [use Google Streetview](#) to find your own favourite place.

### Countdown starts to the UK's biggest nature challenge - Norfolk Wildlife Trust

The Wildlife Trusts' are counting down to the start of this year's 30 Days Wild: June's national nature challenge to do something wild every day for a whole month. Back for its sixth year, 2020's challenge is more important than ever as we enjoy the wildlife close to our homes and the solace enjoying nature can provide.

Sign up opens on 16 April [www.wildlifetrusts/30DaysWild](http://www.wildlifetrusts/30DaysWild)

30 Days Wild is for everyone – wherever you live, whatever your age! This year, all the amazing resources will be available exclusively online and include a colourful wallchart, a wild bingo game, colour-in window poster and a passport log-book with ideas to record wonderful wild actions – including crafting with nature or going plastic-free for a day, to taking action for bugs, bees and butterflies in your garden.

*Marsh fritillary and photographer (C) Tom Hibbert*

People signing up can receive more ideas from Norfolk Wildlife Trust throughout June. These will include more inspiration about wildlife gardening, nature photography, writing and blogging and making wildlife films.

Research shows that taking part in 30 Days Wild is good



for you. People say they felt happier, healthier and more connected to nature after taking part. Studies also show that when people feel connected to nature, they are more likely to care for it.

Dr Amir Khan, The Wildlife Trusts' health ambassador and TV doctor, said: "Being outdoors and enjoying nature is fantastic. Not only to see what's going on around us, but also for our physical and mental health. A lot of research has shown that spending – even a short amount of time – embracing nature, can have a positive effect on our health. Why not join us and do something wild everyday this June?"

## The positive steps we can all take to look after our mental wellbeing - Country Land and Business Association Limited



1 in 4 of us will experience a mental health problem each year. For those in rural and farming communities, hard work and long hours (an average of 65 working hours a week) and having to often work alone can take their toll. Richard Gould, Director of CLA Healthcare, outlines some of the steps you can take to look after your mental health.

A recent report revealed that 1 in 4 of us will experience a mental health problem each year. And with a focus on breaking the stigma about talking about our mental health - highlighted by campaigns such as the young Royal's 'Heads Together' charity - looking after our mental wellbeing is firmly under the spotlight.

(image: CLA)

The pressures of juggling family, work, money and everything else that modern life has to throw at us can lead to stress and worry. In the same way

that we take exercise to look after our physical health, it's important to consider the steps we can all take to look after our mental health too.

## Wildlife News

### Rare River Dragon in Danger - British Dragonfly Society

Citizen science project reveals the plight of the UK's only Clubtail Dragonfly

For the past three years, 2017-2019, British Dragonfly Society volunteers have searched over 200 miles of river bank on the hunt for the elusive Common Clubtail. The results of their work have now been analysed.

Despite the name, the Common Clubtail (scientific name: *Gomphus vulgatissimus*) is a rarity, only found on a handful of lowland river systems in England and Wales. Even the most avid naturalists will be lucky to see one as the Dragonfly spends most of its life in the river depths as an aquatic larva. As an adult the Common Clubtail hides in woodland chasing hunting insects through the tree tops.

The British Dragonfly Society launched the Clubtail Count project in 2017 with the aim of mapping the location of Clubtail populations in the UK. Volunteers spent sunny days from May through to July each year searching river banks for the Dragonfly's exuvia: the shed outer skeleton left behind when a larva turns into an adult (a transformation called 'emergence'). Between them, over the three year period, the 180+ volunteers found almost 2000 exuviae.

Findings varied greatly between river systems but overall the River Severn proved to support the most significant population with Clubtail reported all the way from Tewkesbury, north passed Shrewsbury, to where the Severn meets the Welsh border. The Clubtail was also reported to be doing well on the lower Wye around Monmouth, the Lower Teme downstream of Tenbury Wells and on the River Dee between Wrexham and Chester.

Unfortunately, the report was not all good news; despite once being widely distributed on the lower reaches of the River Avon, the river system only produced one Clubtail sighting during the three years of the project. Common Clubtail could also not be found within its historic distribution on the River Tiefi near Cardigan, and the species appears to be declining within its historic stronghold on the River Thames although a population still survives near Goring.



### Flamingos form firm friendships - Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

Flamingos form friendships that last for years, [new research shows](#).

The five-year study reveals that, despite being highly social as part of large flocks, flamingos consistently spend time with specific close "friends".

They also avoid certain individuals, suggesting some flamingos just don't get on.

The University of Exeter study examined four flamingo species at WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre, and found social bonds including "married" couples, same-sex friendships and even groups of three and four close friends.

"Our results indicate that flamingo societies are complex. They are formed of long-standing friendships rather than loose, random connections," said WWT's flamingo expert Dr Paul Rose. "Flamingos don't simply find a mate and spend their time with that individual. Some mating couple spend much of their time together, but lots of other social bonds also exist. We see pairs of males or females choosing to 'hang out', we see trios and quartets that are regularly together. Flamingos have long lives – some of the birds in this study have been at Slimbridge since the 1960s – and our study shows their friendships are stable over a period of years. It seems that – like humans – flamingos form social bonds for a variety of reasons, and the fact they're so long-lasting suggests they are important for survival in the wild."

## Scientific Research, Results and Publications

### Healthy Wildlife Healthy People - Zoological Society of London

ZSL calls for urgent investment in research to prevent future pandemics.

Covid-19 most likely originated in a species of bat before transferring to people at a wildlife market in the Chinese city of Wuhan. Although the short-term clinical challenge must not be underestimated, in some respects Covid-19 is a warning. Unregulated wildlife trade and humanity's continued overexploitation of the natural world exposes us to some much more dangerous diseases.

International conservation charity ZSL (Zoological Society of London) is therefore calling for significant, long-term investment in research to prevent future pandemics.

SARS-Cov-2 (the virus that causes Covid-19) has an estimated case fatality rate of between 1 and 3% but there are other bat viruses that could become human diseases where this has been shown to be 60%, rising to 100% in some outbreaks.

We can mitigate the risk of spill-over occurring by changing human behaviour, but it is impossible to identify which behaviours to change without understanding diseases in wildlife populations and how wildlife and people interact. Once the risk factors have been identified by this 'wildlife health' research, steps can be taken to prevent spill-over happening in the first place without adversely affecting wild animals in which the viruses occur naturally.

### Targeted conservation key to wading bird recovery - The James Hutton Institute

Over the past 25 years wading bird numbers have fallen dramatically in Scotland, with some species numbers being halved over this time period. Researchers from the James Hutton Institute are aiming to combat this decline by identifying locations where these iconic birds have the best chance to once again thrive.

Experts believe a key factor in the severe drop in wading bird numbers is down to habitat loss or alteration. The ever-changing landscape, along with the threat from general predators, has resulted in a lack of breeding.

*(image: The James Hutton Institute)*

Species such as lapwings, oystercatchers and curlews could be lost forever if drastic measures are not put in place. The project *Working for Waders* was formed to promote collaborative conservation efforts and resources. Through habitat management, wader sensitive farming practices and predator control, it is hoped wader decline can be halted or reversed.

By utilising Breeding Bird Atlas data, researchers from the James Hutton Institute hope to assist *Working for Waders* by mapping the wider landscape and identifying where wader populations have the best capacity to recover.

These maps display hot and cold spots, showing clearly changes in wader populations across Scotland. Dr Scott

Newey, an applied ecologist at the Institute, said: "In collaboration with the [British Trust for Ornithology](#) and other *Working for Waders* partners, we have produced maps to help identify areas where conservation measures can be best targeted. The wader maps enable land managers and landowners to focus conservation activities to where they are likely to be most effective, i.e. where there are still viable populations, or suitable areas of habitat surrounded by areas with good populations of waders. WaderMap is about letting people see where there are current wader conservation projects and to encourage landowners/managers to work collaboratively to establish 'clusters' of wader conservation projects."



## Scientific Publications

Trammell, T.L., D'Amico, V., III, Avolio, M.L., Mitchell, J.C. and Moore, E. (2020), *Temperate deciduous forests embedded across developed landscapes: younger forests harbor invasive plants and urban forests maintain native species*. *J Ecol*. Accepted Author Manuscript. doi:10.1111/1365-2745.13400

Buderman, F.E., Devries, J.H. and Koons, D.N. (2020), *Changes in climate and land-use interact to create an ecological trap in a migratory species*. *J Anim Ecol*. Accepted Author Manuscript. doi:10.1111/1365-2656.13228

## And finally things to make you smile!

### Arboricultural Association has launched the Urban Tree World Cup 2020 - Arboricultural Association

A World Cup format 32 tree tournament to crown the ultimate Urban Tree! Join the debate on Social Media #UrbanTreeWorldCup

With the Olympics, Euro 2020, Wimbledon and countless flagship summer sporting events postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Arboricultural Association has launched the first ever World Cup of Urban Trees to fill the void and spark a discussion focused on trees.

### Something adorable for Wildlife Wednesday: Edinburgh Zoo's giant anteater pup named - Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

The four-month-old anteater pup born at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's Edinburgh Zoo has been named Zeferino, a Portuguese word meaning 'West wind'.

Keepers at the wildlife conservation charity chose the name from a list inspired by the giant anteater's native Brazil where RZSS supports conservation work for the species.



*Credit: RZSS/Andrew Laing (senior carnivore keeper at Edinburgh Zoo)*

Alison MacLean, the zoo's head of carnivores, said, "Both mum and baby are doing really well. Zeferino is still growing and starting to explore independently while still spending most of his time on Nala's back. The zoo is currently closed to the public but the keepers are still here giving all our amazing animals the best of care and we have a live camera so viewers can keep an eye on our penguins, panda, koala and tiger. Being closed means we have no visitor income and we're incredibly grateful to our members, supporters and everyone who has donated at this difficult time. Anyone who wants to help look after our animals and save species in the wild can find out how on our website." As well as being part of the European breeding programme for giant anteaters, RZSS supports the Anteaters and Highways project which was set up to help protect the species in the wild.

Keep up to date with current countryside news by following CountrysideNews on Twitter.

Read the news online here: [c-js.co.uk/CJSNews](http://c-js.co.uk/CJSNews) and follow the CJS blog here: [news.countryside-jobs.com](http://news.countryside-jobs.com)

## Training Directory: Online events, Webinars and Distance Learning

### Online Events

22/04/2020 **2020 Irish Conference: Conservation Approaches to Benefit Biodiversity: Big Ideas for Big Challenges** 1 Day

CIEEM Contact: [c-js.info/2WLw6oo](http://c-js.info/2WLw6oo)

Due to the current restrictions in place to limit the spread of covid-19, we have made the decision to revise the format of our Irish Conference. The two-day conference organised to take place in Galway will no longer be going ahead and instead the conference will run as a one-day online event from 9.30am to 4.30pm on Wednesday 22 April.

22/04/2020 **Online Panel Discussion: Ape Conservation and Zoonotic Diseases** 1 Day

Ape Alliance Contact: [c-js.info/3etr06i](http://c-js.info/3etr06i)

Join the next Ape Alliance event from anywhere in the world this Earth Day (April 22nd) at 6pm BST. Our annual panel discussion is now accessible online. This year our expert panel will discuss how zoonotic diseases, specifically the outbreak of COVID-19, are related to or affect ape conservation.

### Online Learning - Short Courses and Webinars

21/04/2020 **Engaging Communities on Climate Change** 1 Day

Contact: Talk Action 0203 488 7010 [training@talkaction.org](mailto:training@talkaction.org) [c-js.info/36Z1Esl](http://c-js.info/36Z1Esl)

The 'climate emergency' is high on agendas, but it can be a struggle to get people to discuss and engage with these issues. Whether you're an individual, or an organisation looking to reach out, this will teach you how to overcome concerns and enable them to act on climate change.

20/05/2020 **Managing Solar Parks for Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services**

CIEEM. Contact: [c-js.info/2GCJqIH](http://c-js.info/2GCJqIH)

Within this webinar we will (1) outline the opportunity to manage solar parks for ecosystem benefits; (2) introduce natural capital and ecosystem services concepts; (3) highlight how appropriate management could provide business benefits and deliver to policy stipulations and goals, (4) and finally introduce and demonstrate the SPIES DST.

08/06/2020 **Ammonia as an Air pollutant (introduction)** 1 Day

[c-js.info/2Tqn0LJ](http://c-js.info/2Tqn0LJ)

This half- day interactive online course is an introduction to ammonia as an air pollutant and its role in air quality impacts. The course provides information on sources and effects of ammonia pollution. The course explains how ammonia is measured and how to link concentrations to effects in local assessments.

09/06/2020 **Ammonia measurement planning** 3 Days

[c-js.info/2IpNaaM](http://c-js.info/2IpNaaM)

# Lockdown You can still learn!

Ecology Training UK, one of the UK's top ecology training providers, offers a range of self-study courses you can do at home:

- Habitat Management
- Habitat Restoration
- Introduction to Ecology
- Mammal ID
- Reptile and Amphibian ID
- Phase 1 Habitat Mapping
- Surveying for Protected Species
- Invasive Species
- Architectural Terms for Bat Workers
- Health and Safety for Bat Workers



To find out more and book your course go to:

[www.ecologytraining.co.uk/book-a-course/online](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk/book-a-course/online)

This 3-day interactive online course introduces you to ammonia as an air pollutant and its role in air quality impacts. The course will cover an overview of sources, chemical transformation and sinks of ammonia, air quality policies and legislations targeted at reducing emissions and impacts.

Cost £599 (EBD)

Above two courses with UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. Contact: 01491 69 2225 [UKCEHtraining@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:UKCEHtraining@ceh.ac.uk)

02/07/2020 **Evidence Synthesis** 1 Day

Contact: UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology 01491 69 2225 [ingsch@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:ingsch@ceh.ac.uk) [c-js.info/2eKgKwG](http://c-js.info/2eKgKwG)

This interactive ONLINE course gives you the knowledge, skills and confidence to carry out an Evidence Review Synthesis for an area of natural environment research. You will gain & improve skills in undertaking an evidence review. The training involves hands-on group exercises in developing review questions & undertaking a review.

## Distance Learning Courses

**African Wildlife Conservation level 4 accredited by UK Rural Skills** at Animal Biology and Care Education Ltd

Contact: [c-js.info/2BQ7vUQ](http://c-js.info/2BQ7vUQ) [abccoursecontact@gmail.com](mailto:abccoursecontact@gmail.com) 01953 600070

Six units including ecological principles; the biology & ecology of African predators & primates; &, survey & monitoring techniques for their conservation. The course is excellent preparation for volunteering or working in African wildlife conservation. It would also be useful for further education teachers of A Level biology & environmental science. Separate courses available in just African predators, African primates and African elephants.

**Animal Care and Conservation courses** at Animal Jobs Direct

Contact: [www.animal-job.co.uk](http://www.animal-job.co.uk) [admin@animal-job.co.uk](mailto:admin@animal-job.co.uk) 0208 6269646

Animal Jobs Direct offers accredited Animal Care, Wildlife and Conservation Courses

**Arable Broadleaf Crops** at LearnHowTo

Contact: [www.learnhowto.uk](http://www.learnhowto.uk) [hello@learnhowto.co](mailto:hello@learnhowto.co) 01384 442 752 (UK)

**Architectural Terms for Bat Workers** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

A 3 module online course covering a wide range of architectural terms useful for ecologists and bat workers in particular. Self study in your own time.

**Better Online Meetings & Workshops** at Dialogue Matters

Contact: [dialoguematters.co.uk/](http://dialoguematters.co.uk/) [admin@dialoguematters.co.uk](mailto:admin@dialoguematters.co.uk) 01233 813875

Dialogue Still Matters! Everything is currently moving online - and so has our line of work! We can now offer our best practice dialogue design, facilitation and training online! Visit our website for more information, plus find free guidance on better online meetings & workshops.

**Botanical Identification & using Keys**

A flexible online course with mentor support in plant identification and using botanical keys. The course covers identification of plant components such as reproductive organs, stem, leaf, hairs, flowers, seeds, sepals and bracts and also includes identification of trees and ferns. The course also covers using botanical keys.

**Botany and its Role in the Ecosystem**

A modular course in plant science, ecology and botanical identification designed for anyone who is keen to learn how to use plant features for accurate identification. The course helps provide a well rounded view of plant science and symbiosis, botanical identification, naming structures and hierarchies (taxonomy), habitats and habitat indicators

Above two courses with Qualiteach Education and Ecology Training. Contact: [c-js.info/2K8CEHI](http://c-js.info/2K8CEHI) [contact@qualiteach.co.uk](mailto:contact@qualiteach.co.uk) 07743712020

**Certificate in Ecological Consultancy** at Ecology Training UK

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

A complete training to become an ecological consultant. You learn about surveying for protected species, Phase 1 habitat mapping, site assessment and report-writing, legislation, botany, species ID and ecology and more. You also have home-study tutorials and assignments to complete. Taught by industry experts. Next intake May 2020. Due to Coronavirus the Core Week is being successfully delivered by video and webinars with a 2-day field course later in the year.

**Creating an ethical organisation** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2LIMXbL](http://c-js.info/2LIMXbL)

This course explores the business case for an ethical approach to human resources management, and examines how this more 'human-centred' approach fits within an organisation's strategy for dealing with ethical concerns. 6 hours.

**Creativity and innovation** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2LoHL74](http://c-js.info/2LoHL74)

This course introduces some factors that are important for creativity and innovation at work. It outlines some ideas about the roots of creativity, and different approaches to promoting innovation in organisations. 6 hours.

**Data Analysis in Ecology: Statistics for Field Biologists**

[c-js.info/2FqThul](http://c-js.info/2FqThul)

Ten-week short-course taught online starting Feb 2021. Provides a thorough introduction to the key statistical principals and methods used by ecologists and field biologists with the open source software QED statistics and R.

**Data Analysis in Ecology: Statistics for Field Biologists**

[c-js.info/2L6nP8C](http://c-js.info/2L6nP8C)

Five-week short-course taught online starting Nov 2020. Provides a thorough introduction to the key statistical principals and methods used by ecologists and field biologists with the open source software QED statistics and R.

Above two courses with University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education. Contact: [est@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:est@conted.ox.ac.uk) 01865 286960

**Delve Deeper** at Newcastle University

Contact: [marinecourse@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:marinecourse@ncl.ac.uk) 0191 2083051

A great 6 month online course in Marine Biology for all who have a passion for the sea. Completed from the comfort of your own home but with a fieldcourse component in May where you get to explore seals, seabirds, plankton, boat surveys and meet professional marine scientists.

**Ecology Level 2**

[c-js.info/2IZYivv](http://c-js.info/2IZYivv)

New course aimed at new or younger learners, those wanting to change career, anyone who has not studied ecology elsewhere & those who want to do some revision. GCSE Science students would find the course useful to support the ecology section of the specification from AQA, OCR Community level systems, Ecosystems & material cycles in Pearson Edexcel, WJEC Cells, Organ systems & Ecosystems.

#### **Ecology of the UK level 3 accredited by UK Rural Skills**

[c-js.info/2qwCy07](http://c-js.info/2qwCy07)

Ecology of the UK introduces the wide & varied ecology of the British Isles. It includes the unique habitat of Ancient woodlands, the man-made habitat of the Norfolk Broads & the Arctic-Alpine environment of the Scottish Highlands. You will also learn about concepts of ecology & species distribution as underpinning knowledge of how ecology works.

#### **Ecology Training Course level 3 accredited by UK Rural Skills**

[c-js.info/2BTSUIa](http://c-js.info/2BTSUIa)

A Level 3 ecology course of six units including training exercises for ecological surveys, analysis of results and presentation. Ecological concepts, Tropical rainforest and marine ecology, diversity and species distribution are investigated. This course is suitable for those already working in UK conservation and requiring CPD; local government environment officers; local wildlife trusts and their volunteers.

Above three courses with Animal Biology and Care Education Ltd. Contact: [abccoursecontact@gmail.com](mailto:abccoursecontact@gmail.com) 01953 600070

#### **Employment relations and employee engagement** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2LhH3bV](http://c-js.info/2LhH3bV)

This course looks at the business strategy of raising employee engagement, and aligning this aim more closely with managerial goals. This is a mutually beneficial situation in which employees and organisations can thrive. 10 hours.

#### **Environmental Science** at Animal Biology and Care Education Ltd

Contact: [c-js.info/2L4pMIX](http://c-js.info/2L4pMIX) [abccoursecontact@gmail.com](mailto:abccoursecontact@gmail.com) 01953 600070

Environmental science looks into interactions of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere. Human interference and use of the planet's resources are investigated. This course is set at level 3 (A-level standard) and is aimed at e.g. A-level students; environmental officers and wildlife trusts.

#### **Field Techniques for Surveying Birds**

[c-js.info/1UA8xqt](http://c-js.info/1UA8xqt)

Five-week short-course taught online starting Feb 2021. Expert training for professionals, practitioners and researchers seeking to enhance their surveying skills and knowledge. Can be taken with or without academic accreditation, a special student rate is also available.

#### **Field Techniques for Surveying Invertebrates**

[c-js.info/2FuQPTX](http://c-js.info/2FuQPTX)

Five-week short-course taught online starting 29 April 2020. Expert for professionals, practitioners and researchers seeking to enhance their surveying skills and knowledge. Can be taken with or without academic accreditation, a special student rate is also available.

#### **Field Techniques for Surveying Mammals and Reptiles**

[c-js.info/1tu37my](http://c-js.info/1tu37my)

Five-week short-course taught online starting Jan 2021. Expert training for professionals, practitioners and researchers seeking to enhance their surveying skills and knowledge. Can be taken with or without academic accreditation, a special student rate is also available.

#### **Field Techniques for Surveying Vegetation**

[c-js.info/2cxEBwS](http://c-js.info/2cxEBwS)

Five-week short-course taught online starting Sept 2020. Expert training for professionals, practitioners and researchers seeking to enhance their surveying skills and knowledge. Can be taken with or without academic accreditation, a special student rate is also available.

Above courses with University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education. Contact: [est@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:est@conted.ox.ac.uk) 01865 286960

#### **General plant identification support** at Ptyxis Ecology Training

This is a general ID support package, rather than a formal course. You choose which groups of plants you want help with. You can send up to 40 specimens with your identification notes and we give you detailed individual feedback on your work. Starting 01/05/2019

#### **Grass identification & ecology**

A 6 month distance learning course focussing on 'must know' common grasses for ecological surveys. You will develop identification skills using both vegetative and flowering parts. You get detailed individual feedback on your work throughout. There are 5 course units, each about 3-4 hours study. Starting 01/05/2019

Above two courses with Ptyxis Ecology Training [www.ptyxis.com/courses](http://www.ptyxis.com/courses) [john@ptyxis.com](mailto:john@ptyxis.com) 01434 321199

#### **Habitat Management**

A 6 module course covering habitat management for woodland and grassland and specifics for barn owl, great crested newt and dormice, also covers management planning, surveying and monitoring. Self study in your own time.

#### **Habitat Restoration** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

A 6 module course covering why we need to create and restore habitats, planning and methods for habitat creation and restoration, management and monitoring, habitat creation of grassland and living roofs. Self study course in your own time. Above two courses with Ecology Training UK Ltd. Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

#### **Habitats and Habitat Indicators** at Qualiteach Education and Ecology Training

Contact: [c-js.info/2K8CEHI](http://c-js.info/2K8CEHI) [contact@qualiteach.co.uk](mailto:contact@qualiteach.co.uk) 07743712020

This short online course covers habitat types in the UK, soil types and indicator plants, as well as exploring effects of pollution on freshwater habitats (eutrophication). The course looks at environmental conditions for growth, habitat types (freshwater, coastal, mountainous, bog, fen, woodland), habitat Indicators and plants for phytoremediation.

#### **Human resources: recruitment and selection** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2NpWRXy](http://c-js.info/2NpWRXy)

This course provides a straightforward guide to the entire process of recruitment, from writing job descriptions to deciding who to appoint. It also explores the legislation that needs to be considered when recruiting. 12 hours.

#### **Identification of NVC communities** at Ptyxis Ecology Training

Contact: [www.ptyxis.com/courses](http://www.ptyxis.com/courses) [john@ptyxis.com](mailto:john@ptyxis.com) 01434 321199

A 6 month distance learning course designed to follow on from an introductory course, to support you as you practise using the NVC system. We focus a lot on analysing quadrat data and reading and constructing floristic tables. You get detailed individual feedback on your work throughout. Starting 01/05/2019

**Introduction To Agronomy** at LearnHowTo

Contact: [www.learnhowto.uk](http://www.learnhowto.uk) [hello@learnhowto.co](mailto:hello@learnhowto.co) 01384 442 752 (UK)

**Introduction to Ecology** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

Interested in ecology but have no scientific or theoretical knowledge? This is the course for you! 10 module course covering what ecology is, biodiversity, ecosystems, biotic and abiotic factors, behaviour, evolution, genetics, populations and communities, conservation, history of the British countryside. Self study course with core textbook.

**Invasive Species** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

A 9 module course covering what is an invasive species; impacts; treaties, strategies and legislation; plants; animals and the worst 10 in the world. A thorough and interesting course. A must for all ecologists and land managers. Self study in your own time.

**Involving Volunteers** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2L1VyQl](mailto:c-js.info/2L1VyQl) [openlearn@open.ac.uk](mailto:openlearn@open.ac.uk)

From the Open University's OpenLearn, this course shows you how to best support your volunteers. Learn to ensure a positive experience for volunteers by communicating their achievements and getting to know and understand them. In short, this course is essential for anyone involved in volunteer management and community engagement.

**Lone Wolf Learning Course** at Lone Wolf Administration

Contact: [www.lone-wolf.co.uk](http://www.lone-wolf.co.uk) [course@lone-wolf.co.uk](mailto:course@lone-wolf.co.uk)

Distance learning course on the wolf. Aimed at people with very little knowledge of wolves. This eight month long course is a chance to learn more about wolves at a basic level, with the added opportunity to support wolves in the wild. This course is not accredited.

**Mammal ID** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

A 3 module online course covering all species of UK land mammals (excluding bats). Useful tips on identifying the animals and their burrow, tracks and signs. Study in your own time.

**MSc/PGDip/PGCert Forestry Course delivered part-time by distance learning**

Fully accredited by the ICF. Modules can also be taken individually for CPD. High quality courses with an outstanding reputation. We utilise a wide range of learning technologies, including online forums, group projects, podcasts, vodcasts, management plans and study tours.

**MSc/PGDip/PGCert Tropical Forestry Course**

Fully accredited by the ICF. Modules can also be taken individually for CPD. High quality courses with an outstanding reputation. We utilise a wide range of learning technologies, including online forums, group projects, podcasts, vodcasts, and study tours.

Above two courses with Bangor University. Contact: [c-js.info/2Foptid](mailto:c-js.info/2Foptid) [distance@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:distance@bangor.ac.uk) 01248 382351

**Nature & Environment courses** at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2LlsQuA](mailto:c-js.info/2LlsQuA)

A range of short courses related to nature and the environment, with topics ranging from conservation to climate change, environmental management to sustainability.

**Online training workshop: Project Management for Wildlife Conservation**

Starts 11th May - 15th June (3 hours learning each week) 2 live sessions available each week: 9am or 6pm [BST]. This is an online training workshop, run over 6 weeks (3 hours/week), with weekly live teaching sessions and pre-recorded training videos to work through in your own time. Developed specifically for wildlife conservationists, you will learn the project management skills to increase the efficiency and impact of any conservation project. £180 full price – bursaries available.

**Online training workshop: Project Management for Wildlife Conservation**

Runs from 1st July to 5th August 2020. This is an online training workshop, run over 6 weeks (3 hours/week), with weekly live teaching sessions and pre-recorded training videos to work through in your own time. Developed specifically for wildlife conservationists, you will learn the project management skills to increase the efficiency and impact of any conservation project. £180 full price - bursaries available.

Above two courses with WildTeam. Contact: [www.wildteam.org.uk/online](http://www.wildteam.org.uk/online) [Beth@wildteam.org.uk](mailto:Beth@wildteam.org.uk)

**PgCert/PgDip/MSc in Geographic Information Systems** at Ulster University

Contact: [c-js.info/2rroRDv](mailto:c-js.info/2rroRDv) [s.cook@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:s.cook@ulster.ac.uk)

We offer a fully online distance learning Masters-level programme in GIS. With over 20 years' experience in teaching GIS and 15 years via e-learning, we have a significant track record in GIS education and receive excellent feedback from both students and employers.

**PgDip/MSc Environmental Management** at Ulster University

Contact: [c-js.info/2rTswqG](mailto:c-js.info/2rTswqG) [w.hunter@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:w.hunter@ulster.ac.uk)

This course has been taught for 18 years by a leading provider of distance learning in the UK. This part-time course is offered by distance learning and consists of core modules in Environmental Impact Assessment, Biodiversity Management, Pollution Monitoring and Environmental Data Analysis. For full details see website.

**PgDip/MSc Environmental Toxicology & Pollution Monitoring** at Ulster University

Contact: [c-js.info/2rroRDv](mailto:c-js.info/2rroRDv) [rw.douglas@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:rw.douglas@ulster.ac.uk)

The course is ideal if you already work in the environmental field or wish to pursue a career in this area as it fulfils demand for trained personnel in the environmental regulatory agencies, in companies subject to regulation, and companies involved in providing support services such as monitoring and consultancy.

**Phase 1 Habitat Mapping** at Ecology Training UK Ltd

Contact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

Video-based course giving classroom and field sessions as well as tutor access for questions. Videos show how to identify habitats and how to draw a Phase 1 Map. Useful for ecologists and conservationists. Self study in your own time.

**Plant Science: biology, physiology and symbiosis** at Qualiteach Education and Ecology TrainingContact: [c-js.info/2K8CEHI](mailto:c-js.info/2K8CEHI) [contact@qualiteach.co.uk](mailto:contact@qualiteach.co.uk) 07743712020

This short online course covers the importance of botany, including plant structure, biology and physiology, growth and reproduction and its role within an ecosystem, exploring symbiosis between plants and fungi, bacteria and insects. The course also covers the food web and plant transport systems (xylem, phloem, transpiration and photosynthesis).

**Postgraduate Certificate in Ecological Survey Techniques** at University of Oxford, Department for Continuing EducationContact: [c-js.info/2JDHTyZ](mailto:c-js.info/2JDHTyZ) [est@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:est@conted.ox.ac.uk) 01865 286960

Part-time, postgraduate and professional skills training in ecology and environmental science. Join our online course at Oxford University.

**Red Squirrel Conservation Level 6 accredited by UK Rural Skills** at Animal Biology and Care Education LtdContact: [c-js.info/1tu2QjD](mailto:c-js.info/1tu2QjD) [abccoursecontact@gmail.com](mailto:abccoursecontact@gmail.com) 01953 600070

Two parts consisting of seven units. This degree level course covers practical survey techniques for preparing a management plan for ex or in situ conservation as well as underpinning knowledge of ecology. The course is ideal for those wanting to work in Red Squirrel conservation, government officers responsible for particular habitats & for wildlife trusts.

**Reptile and Amphibian ID and Surveying** at Ecology Training UK LtdContact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

A 3 module course to help you identify all the UK reptile and amphibian species of snake, lizard, frogs, toads and newts. Includes a section on surveying for these species. Self study in your own time.

**Sedge identification & ecology** at Ptyxis Ecology TrainingContact: [www.ptyxis.com/courses](http://www.ptyxis.com/courses) [john@ptyxis.com](mailto:john@ptyxis.com) 01434 321199

A 6 month distance learning course largely based around a new user-friendly key to the 56 most common species from the sedge family. The field assignments encourage you to seek out sedge species in a range of habitats. You get detailed individual feedback on your work throughout. Starting 01/05/2019

**Seed Management** at LearnHowToContact: [www.learnhowto.uk](http://www.learnhowto.uk) [hello@learnhowto.co](mailto:hello@learnhowto.co) 01384 442 752 (UK)

Social marketing at OpenLearn / The Open University

Contact: [c-js.info/2uKkhPG](mailto:c-js.info/2uKkhPG)

This course examines the nature of social marketing, and considers the role that commercial marketing concepts, frameworks and techniques can play in addressing the social issues at the centre of public and private debate. 8 hours.

**Strategy Development for Wildlife Conservation** at WildTeamContact: [www.wildteam.org.uk/online](http://www.wildteam.org.uk/online) [Beth@wildteam.org.uk](mailto:Beth@wildteam.org.uk)

Starts 22nd June - 27th July (3 hours learning each week) 2 live sessions available each week: 10am or 6pm [BST]. This is an online training workshop, run over 6 weeks (3 hours/week), with weekly live teaching sessions and pre-recorded training videos to work through in your own time. Working with our experienced team you will learn the skills to design conservation strategies which have more impact. £180 full price – bursaries available

**Surveying for Protected Species** at Ecology Training UK LtdContact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

Video-based course giving classroom and field sessions on badgers, bats, dormice, otters, great crested newts, water voles and reptiles to give you a background in ecology, surveying and legislation. Useful for ecologists and conservationists. Self study in your own time.

**Taxonomy: Plant Naming Rules and Structure** at Qualiteach Education and Ecology TrainingContact: [c-js.info/2K8CEHI](mailto:c-js.info/2K8CEHI) [contact@qualiteach.co.uk](mailto:contact@qualiteach.co.uk) 07743712020

A short online course in plant naming rules (taxonomy) and hierarchical structure (family, genus and species) covering binomials, subspecies and hybrids and the meaning behind scientific names.

**Woodland Management for Biodiversity** at Ecology Training UKContact: [www.ecologytraining.co.uk](http://www.ecologytraining.co.uk) [ecologytraininguk@gmail.com](mailto:ecologytraininguk@gmail.com) 07818073660

10-module self-study course is delivered weekly and covers a range of subjects including management techniques, management plans and specific woodland management for birds, bats, dormice, invertebrates and plants. There are plenty of references for further study and some book suggestions too.

**Workplace learning with coaching and mentoring** at OpenLearn / The Open UniversityContact: [c-js.info/2uGvYqq](mailto:c-js.info/2uGvYqq)

This course considers theoretical and practical issues in the topic of workplace learning. It also explores coaching and mentoring, which are prominent tools for learning and development in organisational programmes. 9 hours.

**Send details of your training courses.**

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