



## **36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

### **Agenda**

The AGM will be held at 10:00 on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in Hall 1, Area and Convention Centre Liverpool, Monarchs Quay, Liverpool, Merseyside L3 4FP.

The agenda for the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the British Ecological Society is as follows:

#### **Review of the past year**

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> AGM held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in the Pentland Suite, Edinburgh International Convention Centre, The Exchange, Edinburgh, EH3 8EE (as published in the *Bulletin* Vol 47:1 pp30 – 31).
2. The Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 (as published in the *Bulletin* Vol 47:3 pp 59-84)
3. The reports of the Treasurer and the Auditors
4. The report of the Council Secretary

#### **Forth coming year**

5. To elect Officers of Council of the Society

##### Present Officers

President:	S. Hartley
Past President	W. Sutherland
President Elect:	
Vice President:	R. Hails
Vice President:	A. Pullin
Council Secretary:	A. Vanbergen
Honorary Treasurer:	D. Purves

##### Retiring

###### Date

2017

2016

2017

2017

2018

2016

##### Council Nominees

R. Bardgett

T. Ezard

Honorary Chairpersons of Committees

Meetings:	Z. Davies
Policy:	J. Vickery
Publications:	A. Gray
Education, Training and Careers:	W. Gosling

RetiringDate

2018
2016
2016
2017

Council Nominees

J. Vickery
J. Hill

## 6. To elect Ordinary Members of Council

Present MembersRetiring DateNominees for election

O. Lewis	2016
M. O'Callaghan	2016
E. Sayer	2016
D. Gilbert	2017
I. Stott (Early Career Rep.)	2017
Vacant	2017
M. Eichhorn	2018
D. Scott	2018
L. Turnbull	2018
P. Brotherton	2019
Yvonne Buckley	2019
Nina Hautekèete	2019

C. Banks-Leite
M. Hanley
B. Huntley
H. Roy
P. Thomas

## 7. The appointment of the Auditors for 2016

## 8. Auditor's remuneration.

## 9. Any other business

- To be tabled in writing to the Council Secretary at least three weeks before the AGM.

## NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL



**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
**Richard Bardgett**  
**University of Manchester, UK**

Richard Bardgett is Professor of Ecology at The University of Manchester. He gained a degree in Soil Science from Newcastle University in 1987 and a PhD from Lancaster University in 1991, under the supervision of John Whittaker and the late Juliet Frankland. After a short spell with the Nature Conservancy Council, he worked at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research, and the Universities of Manchester and Lancaster, before returning to Manchester in 2013.

The main goal of Richard's research is to understand how plant-soil interactions regulate ecosystem processes and their response to global change. He has published over 250 papers and is recognized as a Highly Cited Researcher. He has also authored several books, including the *Biology of Soil* (2005) and his recent book *Earth Matters: How Soil Underpins Civilization* (2016). Richard is active in promoting soil security issues; to this end, he was a founder member of the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative, and contributed to the UN's *Status of the World's Soil Resources Report* (2015), the UK's *Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 Evidence Report*, and the House of Commons *Soil Health Report* (2016).

Richard has been a BES member since 1987 and was elected Vice President 2011-2013. He has acted as a Senior Editor of the *Journal of Ecology* since 2006. He serves on several funding panels and advisory boards, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand in 2006, the Royal Society of Biology in 2011, and a member of Academia Europaea in 2015.



**HONORARY TREASURER**  
**Tom Ezard**  
**University of Southampton, UK**

Thomas Ezard is a NERC Advanced Research Fellow and Wellcome Trust New Investigator at the University of Southampton. I am interested in how the structure of populations and communities interacts with environmental change to shape ecological and evolutionary dynamics. I do this by using, adapting and developing the interface between mathematical and statistical models. My undergraduate training was in Mathematics with German and my PhD (2004-2007) was awarded by Imperial College London, after which I spent five years as a PostDoc in Life Science and Mathematics departments. I have published 33 peer-reviewed manuscripts, including with all six journals in the BES stable as well as first author contributions in *Science* and *Ecology Letters*. I sat on BES Council between 2009 and 2013 as a Trustee and Early

Career Representative and was a member of the Publications, Education Training and Careers, and Membership committees. One of my achievements during this time was to propose and deliver free membership for first year PhD students, which is a scheme that was subsequently expanded. I was a founding member of the BES Peer Review College and the Board of the International Network of Next Generation Ecologists <http://innge.net>, who I represented on the INTECOL 2013 Local Planning Committee. I have been Treasurer of the Friends of Awbridge Primary School (registered charity 307246) since September 2014.



#### **CHAIR OF POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Juliet Vickery**  
**RSPB, UK**

Juliet is head of international research at RSPB's centre for conservation science where she leads a team of scientists working with partner organisations throughout the world to strengthen their capacity to undertake scientific research that will underpin site and species conservation. Key research interests include ecology and conservation of birds within agricultural systems in temperate and tropical habitats, winter ecology of palearctic migrants, conservation of rare and endangered bird species and protection biodiversity in UK overseas territories. She is an

honorary research fellow at the Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, part of the expert panel for the Darwin Initiative and on the advisory group for the Cambridge Student Conference of Conservation Science.



#### **CHAIR OF PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Jane Hill**  
**University of York, UK**

I am a Professor of ecology at the University of York. I graduated from the University of Manchester, and then studied migration of Silver Y moths at Bangor University for my PhD, and have more or less worked on lepidoptera since then. My research is concerned with understanding how species respond and adapt to climate change and habitat loss in temperate and tropical systems. For example, in the UK, my group is examining factors affecting range expansions of species across fragmented landscapes, and whether creation of new habitat to increase connectivity will help species respond to climate change. In the tropics, my group is examining impacts of rainforest disturbance, and methods for reducing biodiversity losses associated with conversion of rainforest to oil palm plantations. I am currently helping to lead a project testing the effectiveness of

the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) sustainability criteria ([www.searpp.org/sensor](http://www.searpp.org/sensor)). I am one of the Editors-in-chief of *Ecological Entomology*, an editor of *Ecology Letters* and on the NERC peer review college. I was awarded the ZSL/Marsh Award for Conservation Biology in 2011. I am involved with the promotion of women in science through my University's Athena SWAN activities, through the BES mentoring programme for women, and through my recent involvement in Soapbox Science ([www.soapboxscience.org](http://www.soapboxscience.org); kindly sponsored by the BES). I would like to contribute to the BES by bringing a UK and tropical perspective to a desire to help develop more sustainable landscapes, and to translate ecological research into policy.



#### **ORDINARY MEMBER OF COUNCIL**

**Cristina Banks-Leite, Imperial College, London, UK**

I am a Lecturer at Imperial College London, based at Silwood Park, and I work on tropical community ecology and landscape ecology. I am Brazilian and moved permanently to the UK to develop my research as a NERC fellow. I have benefited from BES activities in the past, and have been seeking ways to increase my engagement. For instance, I have been an associate editor for *Journal of Applied Ecology* since 2012 and have recently become a mentor for Women in Ecology. These previous experiences shaped my view of BES, I truly believe in the positive impact it has on students, researchers and wider society, and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to ever improving

and furthering the work BES is doing. I am passionate about trying to make academia a better place for underrepresented groups, and would look forward to engaging with diversity-related issues in education, training and careers.



**ORDINARY MEMBER OF COUNCIL**  
**Mick Hanley, University of Plymouth, UK**

My current position as Reader in Plant-Animal interactions at the University of Plymouth follows 25 years as a research scientist where I have worked on more things than I can likely remember and for a variety of UK and Australian HE and Government research institutes. I have been a BES member since 1989, since when I have seen it change from what appeared at the time to be a beard-heavy gentleman's club, into something more dynamic and relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Clearly the BES needs to

maintain this transition but also remember that our Society and our science were founded on what I now know to be the innovative lead championed by those hirsute naturalists of decades past. With the head-long dash most government funding agencies are making to brand our work as 'outward-facing' and 'end-user friendly', perhaps now more than ever, an avenue to support apparently esoteric science is essential. I believe the BES should bridge and embrace both the Blue Skies and the Applied, and seek to support good ecology not only because it will help protect vital ecosystem services, but also because it's fun to find out how the world works.



**ORDINARY MEMBER OF COUNCIL**  
**Brian Huntley, University of Durham, UK**

I owe my general interest in natural history, that led to my pursuing a career in ecology, to my parents. Early memories include learning scientific names of plants in our garden, sitting in hides with my father photographing birds at their nests, and learning to use the keys in Bentham and Hooker, aided by the illustrations in Keble-Martin, to identify plants found during family holidays in the Cairngorms.

Although my degree was in Botany, my interests span the ecology, Quaternary palaeoecology and biogeography of several taxonomic groups. Much of my research has focused upon Arctic and mountain ecosystems, although in recent years I have worked also on Fynbos. The unifying theme of my research is how species and

ecosystems respond to environmental changes, and I use studies of the Quaternary to inform development of forecasts of responses to anthropogenic climatic change. This has led to invitations to join various advisory groups, for example, the IUCN Climate Change Specialist Group and the Bern Convention Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change

I joined the BES in 1973 when I commenced my PhD studies, and have participated in many of the Society's meetings since that time. In 1996 I was local organiser for the Society's Winter Meeting in Durham, and I served a term on Council during the 1990s. In addition to my academic interests and expertise, I would bring to Council my experience as an elected member of the Council of Durham University (2000–06) and as Head of the School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences (2000–06).





#### **ORDINARY MEMBER OF COUNCIL**

**Helen Roy, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK**

I am a principal scientist at the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology and a visiting professor with Reading University. I am a community ecologist with a particular interest in the effects of environmental change on insect communities. I have been co-leading the UK Ladybird Survey [www.ladybird-survey.org](http://www.ladybird-survey.org) for more than a decade. I have a passion for science communication and the UK Ladybird Survey, and other citizen science initiatives, have provided me with many opportunities for outreach and science communication through many different media. In 2012 I was awarded the ZSL Silver Medal for contributions to understanding insect ecology.

I have been a member of the BES for the last 20 years. I have found the British Ecological Society a fantastic forum for me to engage with others who share my interests and enthusiasm in ecology. Over the years I have enjoyed contributing to the BES in a number of ways from talks at the Undergraduate Careers Day to more recently involvement on committees and the formation of a new special interest group focused on citizen science; an exciting group bringing people together from many disciplines. I would be delighted to increase my contributions to the BES through the Council.



#### **ORDINARY MEMBER OF COUNCIL**

**Peter Thomas, University of Keele, UK**

My day job is a plant ecologist at Keele University specialising in trees. I've been involved with the BES since my first Winter Meeting in 1979, and since 1994 as *Bulletin* Editor, Book Reviews Editor and now as an editor of the *Biological Flora of the British Isles* series. Last year I received the BES Award but I've always felt that the Society has given me much more than I've given back, and I see standing for Council as a way of returning something to the Society.

I would bring to Council over 30 years' experience of research but also of public engagement with ecology, doing everything from talks to the local dahlia club, speaking at national conferences of science teachers through to tree surgeons, to running field sessions at international events. Much of my time is also spent writing for the non-expert through academic books, review articles and bits in newspapers and magazines. It is here that my career meets the strategic plan of the BES to *share the excitement and relevance of ecology*, making our science accessible to those outside the Society be they ministers, students or joe public. That's where I see my biggest contribution to Council.