

BioLinks



Keiron Brown

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LOTTERY FUNDED

FSC

BRINGING
ENVIRONMENTAL
UNDERSTANDING TO ALL

Where are the FSC now:

20 FSC Centres across the UK

- Derrygonnelly
- Kindrogan
- Blencathra
- Castle Head
- Malham Tarn
- Rhyd-y-creuau
- Preston Montford
- Bishops Wood
- Dale Fort
- Orierton
- Margam Park
- Titanic Quarter - Belfast



- Flatford Mill
- Juniper Hall
- Nettlecombe Court
- Slapton Ley
- Amersham (Day)
- Epping Forest (Day)
- London (Day)

- Head office

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Why do we need the FSC to run biological recording projects?

- The level of 'competency' in biodiversity skills offered by teachers and students has declined over the past 50 years.
- The commitment within schools and universities to whole-organism biology is continuing to decline.
- The current identification resource 'landscape' is becoming much more complex – including the exponential growth in electronic and social media.
- The FSC is well placed to tackle these issues through its network of centres, tutors and contacts.
- The FSC has an in-house publishing department and is a sector leader in producing ID resources.



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Informing Training in Biological Recording Projects in the FSC.

Partnership

- Work with all players in the recording community to ensure recorders are supported in the development of skills for identification and data submission.

Products

- Provide resources and support for tutors
- Deliver identification training and mentoring
- Develop identification resources
- Consider how identification leads to records

Review

- Role out new resources
- Monitor recording success

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Recent FSC biodiversity projects

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

Biodiversity Training Project

- Heritage Lottery Fund
- 2006-2010

Invertebrate Challenge

- Heritage Lottery Fund
- 2011-2014

Biodiversity Fellowship

- Defra Fund for Biodiversity in the Voluntary Sector
- 2013-2014

Tomorrow's Biodiversity

- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- 2013-2018



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Research and Consolidation Tomorrow's Biodiversity

Research and Consultation

- Two year research & consultation (plus pilots)
- Focus on under-resourced taxa and habitats that have potential in biodiversity monitoring
- Identify gaps in identification and monitoring skills & resources

Training & support

- Years 3-5 of project with early pilots
- ID / protocol training & support network

Resources

- Provide new resources
- Investigate and pilot multiple delivery platforms
- <http://tombio.mysepecies.info>



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"Experience is inevitable. Learning is not." - Paul J. H. Shoemaker. (1992)

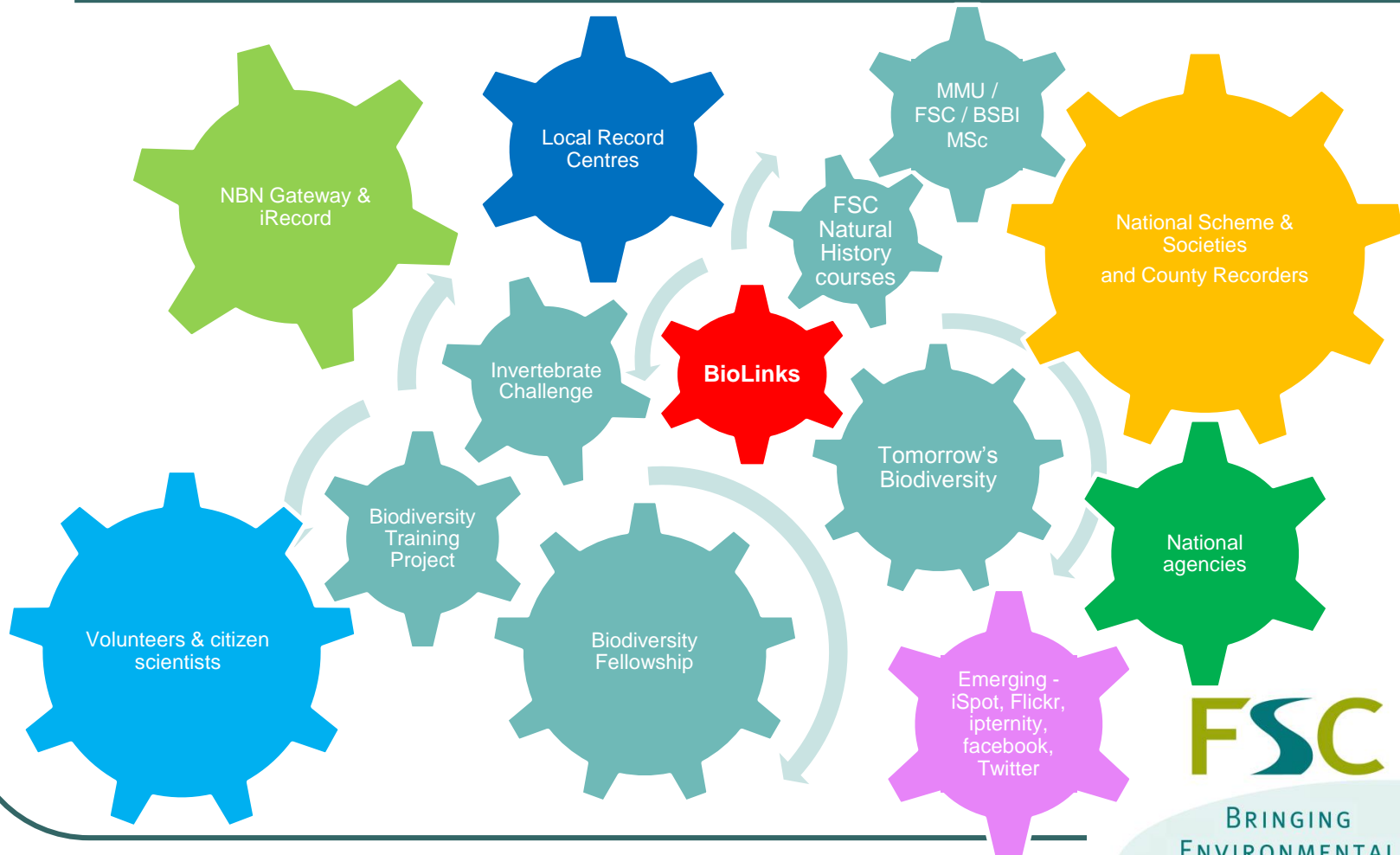
Lessons

- Volunteers are the backbone of records
- Partnership is essential
- Identification skills take time to develop
- Identification resources are evolving
- Recording technology is evolving
- People need support
- Funded projects are often time limited
- Ongoing training is essential



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A provisional atlas of
the shieldbugs and allies
of Shropshire



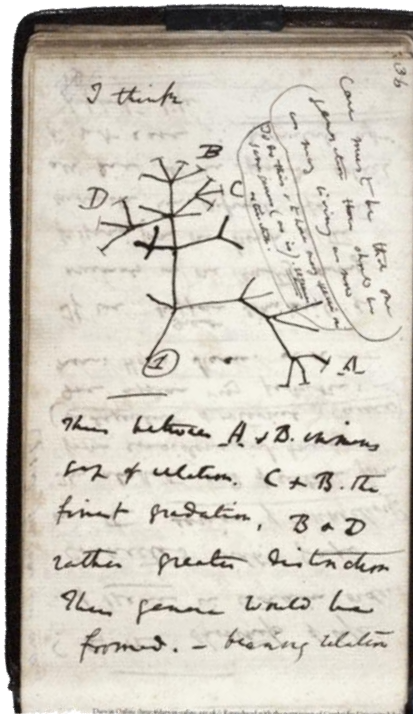
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Pete Boardman
(editor)



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BioLinks – We need your help!

- Attend a public consultation – email me at Keiron@field-studies-council.org
- Fill in the online survey <http://goo.gl/forms/GBzmIQYT0k>
- Share these with your networks!



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