ALERC

Association of Local Environmental Records Centres

Autumn Conference 2012

bvsc

6th November 2012

9:45am to 4:45pm

BVSC, The Centre for Voluntary Action,

138 Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DR

How to get there:

http://www.bvsc.org/getting

ALERC
Association of Local Environmental Records Centres

Conference programme 2012

0945 1015 Arrival and refreshment

1015 1030 Welcome – Gary Lewis, ALERC Chair

1030 1100 Outside speaker – Mark Stevenson (Defra) TBC

1100 1130 Outside speaker – Helen Roy (BRC and UK Ladybird Survey)

1130 1145 Refreshment

1145 1230 Soapbox Presentations

A series of 5 minute presentations open to everyone, on any subject you like. Sign up in advance or on the day (space permitting). See opposite if you wish to participate

1230 1345 Lunch and networking (lunch is provided)

1345 1400 ALERC AGM

1, Apologies, 2, Chairman's report, 3, Treasurer's report, 4, Appointments, 5, Any other business.

Board of Directors: Gary Lewis, Nicky Court, Darwyn Sumner, Tim Corner, Eric Fletcher, Mark Wills, Craig Slawson, Teresa Frost, Aisling Carrick, Alexa Tweddle, Martin Horlock, Mandy Rudd & Simon Wood

1400 1415 Questions to the ALERC National Coordinator and the ALERC Chairman

Tom Hunt (National coordinator) and Gary Lewis will able to answer questions on the role of the national coordinator. Please submit your questions beforehand to guarantee a response on the day.

1415 1430 Travel to workshops

1430 1530 Parallel Workshops

1. What do social media offer LRCs?
   Relationships are fundamental to LRCs. In this workshop we will share our experiences of developing online relationships and widening engagement in recording using email groups, Twitter, Facebook, forums, Flickr, blogs, Pinterest and more. We will swap tips on how to get the best out of social media and discuss whether the time investment is worthwhile.
   Teresa Frost (CBDC)
2. Enquiry "Show and Tell"
   A look at the evolving biodiversity data services from across the LRC community. Compare and contrast on services, tools and pricing. Please bring a copy of your outputs (request forms and products) to share with the group.
   Henri Brocklebank (SxBRC)
3. The Biodiversity Action Reporting System
   Oli Grafton of Natural England demonstrates the new developments to the Biodiversity Action Reporting System. This is a vital system for recording conservation work across the country and should be familiar to many LRCs.
   Oliver Grafton (NE)
4. How can LRC's benefit from smartphone technology?
   With approximately 53% of mobile phone owners in the UK now using a smartphone is it time for LRC's to make use of the increased access to technology? Join us to take a look at some of the tools currently available and a first look at the RODIS Wildlife Recording app. We'll discuss how the technology is being used and its potential use in increasing data flow and improved data quality.
   Eric Fletcher and Luck Lunla (RECORD)
5. Multi LRC agreements
   ALERC finds itself approached by national and regional organisations looking for LRC data. How can ALERC best represent LRCs to these organisations? How can LRCs work together to provide joint products and best prices? Can a template for these data supply agreements ever be produced?
   Tom Hunt (ALERC National Coordinator)
6. The UK Species Inventory
   The UK Species Inventory is a large taxonomic database that attempts to list and relate all of the organisms found in the British Isles. It is managed by staff at the Natural History Museum and provides the underlying taxonomy for large biodiversity recording projects such as JNCC's Recorder, the NBN Gateway and Indicia. The UK Species Inventory relies on the contributions of expert checklist authors, taxonomists and enthusiastic volunteers for its content so we are very keen to listen to the people that use the data and work with anyone that might need a comprehensive taxonomy of the British Isles. **Chris Raper** (Manager of the UK Species Inventory) & **Dr John Tweddle** (Head of the Angela Marmont Centre) will give a brief presentation on what the Species Inventory is and how it is being used at the moment. They will then open up the discussion for the attendees to ask questions and discuss how they think the Species Inventory might help them in their recording work.

1530 1545 Refreshments

1545 1630 Workshop summary

1630 1645 Summing up and farewell – Mark Wills, ALERC director

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About this conference

This year ALERC is delighted to be able to welcome two outside speakers: Mark Stevenson comes from Defra, and Helen Roy works at the Biological Record Centre in Wallingford and is responsible for the UK Ladybird Survey. Following on from last year, there will be soap box sessions – your opportunity to discuss issues, raise awareness or simply rant. A set of six workshops is also scheduled, covering a wide range of topics, all of which are very pertinent to the work of LRCs. **SOAPBOX SESSION**: We are looking for people to take up a 5 minute spot in the session. The subject & format can be whatever you want, so whether you want to talk about a successful recent project, appeal to the rest of the LRC community for help with a particular problem or just want a rant about a particular LRC issue – the floor is yours. Time will be strictly limited to 5 minutes and 1 PowerPoint slide. To register your interest in taking a slot in the soapbox session, indicate this on the booking form and we will contact you - or contact Tom directly tom.hunt@alerc.org.uk.

QUESTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR AND CHAIRMAN: Tom and Gary will be on hand to give a quick overview of the first few months of the national coordinator position and answer any questions you have on the subject. In order to guarantee your questions are aired on the day, please email them in advance to tom.hunt@alerc.org.uk.

Workshop selection using Doodle

Each delegate should register their intention to attend at our Doodle http://www.doodle.com/8mq5iwc9d98s5hgr which is where you must also select the workshop you wish to attend.

- Workshop 1: What do social media offer LRCs?
- Workshop 2: Enquiry "Show and Tell"
- Workshop 3: The Biodiversity Action Reporting System
- Workshop 4: How can LRC's benefit from smartphone technology?
- Workshop 5: Multi LRC agreements
- Workshop 6: The UK Species Inventory

FEES PER DELEGATE

Please note that becoming a member of ALERC entitles you to a preferential booking rate as well as being able to help shape the future development of ALERC and its policies and projects. An application form can be downloaded at www.alerc.org.uk and should be sent to Tom Hunt along with the Conference booking form and fees

ALERC members £30

Non-members £50

Delegate Booking Form - for rates see above

Booking forms to arrive no later than 31st October 2012

Please register the following delegates:

Local Records Centre:

	Title	First Name	Surname	Workshop						ALERC Member	Fee
				1	2	3	4	5	6	(please tick)	
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
										Total	

Payment details:

Association of Local Environmental Records Centres cic

Sort code 089299 Account Number 65367872 50

For **BACS** payments please email notification of the payment; including date, amount and name of LRC to tom.hunt@alerc.org.uk

Cheques payable to : Association of Local Environmental Records Centres cic

Invoices can only be requested if bookings are received early enough - no later than the 31st October.

I would like five minutes on the soapbox ☐

Please send your booking form and cheques/BACS notification to:

Tom Hunt - ALERC National Coordinator
65 Aldford Road,
Chester,
CH2 1SU

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Help ALERC keep our conferences relevant and enjoyable. Please take a few minutes to provide feedback on our Autumn 2012 Conference

Name	Company/Organisation

Workshop attended 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐

Notification & timekeeping

	Yes	No	Don't Know
I was notified of this conference with sufficient notice	☐	☐	☐
The conference started and ended on time	☐	☐	☐

Scheduling of the event

Would you like the next one to be held	earlier	September		October		November		later
(tick as many as you wish)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Venue, location and administration

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Well Satisfied
The Birmingham location of the conference	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The actual conference venue	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The venue facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The organisation of the conference	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Overall content of the conference

	Poor	Fair	Neutral	Good	Excellent
The clarity of the agenda	○	○	○	○	○
The overall appropriateness of the conference	○	○	○	○	○
The information shared in this conference	○	○	○	○	○
The morning speakers	○	○	○	○	○
The afternoon workshop	○	○	○	○	○
The length of the conference	○	○	○	○	○
The way decisions were made	○	○	○	○	○
The appropriateness and usefulness of any handouts	○	○	○	○	○
The opportunities for participation and sharing	○	○	○	○	○
The assignment of follow-up tasks	○	○	○	○	○

General

What went well in this conference?	What could have gone better?

Was this meeting worth your time? Yes ☐ No ☐ Would you like to come to the next one? Yes ☐ No ☐