The Role of Museums in Biological Recording

Ashleigh Whiffin
(Assistant Curator of Entomology)
The Collection Centre
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From aiding identifications to searching for historical localities
National Recording Schemes

BWARS
Bees, Wasps & Ants
Recording Society

Susan Falconer @SusanFalconer7 · Jul 27
A fab first day of the @bwars2000 summer visit. Thanks to @AshWhiffin for sorting out a museum session. Loving those funky wasps 😊
Curators or Recorders?
Climate change and sea level rise: the impact on **Scottish saline lagoons**
Using museum specimens to investigate how a century of land use change has affected wild bumblebee populations in the UK.
Advancing Technologies

“...enhancing the diversity, visibility, and availability of zoological samples for research & conservation.”
Creation of a SPECIES INDEX
• Formal locations
• Easier to find specific drawers within the main collection

New Databases
• Papis (Filemaker)
• Earthcape

Barcodes
• Added to specimens being loaned, photographed or used by researchers/NRS
Difficulties with data...

Data- Dissociation:
Supplementary data is often contained in notebooks...
Difficulties with data...

Reading the labels usually requires specimen handling...

EntomologyTranslator
@EntoTranslator
Need help deciphering an insect data label due to illegibility, foreign language, outdated geography? We'll crowd source a solution for you! #CitizenScience

Joined March 2017

Plus a second opinion!
Sometimes there is none!
Carri-on Recording!

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Thank you for listening!

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Thanks to…

+ many many more organisations & individuals

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