

Latest information about wildlife recording and events from the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre



This eNews will inform you about...

- Get Cumbria Buzzing - Bumblebee Atlas
- Cumbria's Plan Bee
- Recorders' Conference 2023
- Cumbria Fungi Group
- Fellfoot Forward - Festival of Nature – Talkin Tarn 2022



Get Cumbria Buzzing - Bumblebee Atlas

The Bumblebee Atlas was produced by the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre and the 'Get Cumbria Buzzing' project, a Cumbria Local Nature Partnership project. Get Cumbria Buzzing was funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund and National Highways.

What are Bumblebees?

Bumblebees – as the common name encompassing all species of the Bombus genus – are some of the most familiar bees to entomologists, naturalists and people alike. That said – and although many species are readily identified when they conform to the typical, commonly occurring forms / types – some bumblebees are exceptionally variable in colour. (Ben Hargreaves).

Cumbria Bumblebee Atlas

An Atlas and conservation guide



In the Atlas webpage you can browse the interactive map by ticking species from a species layer list. By clicking on the species record symbol on the map you will get information on the species record and its location.

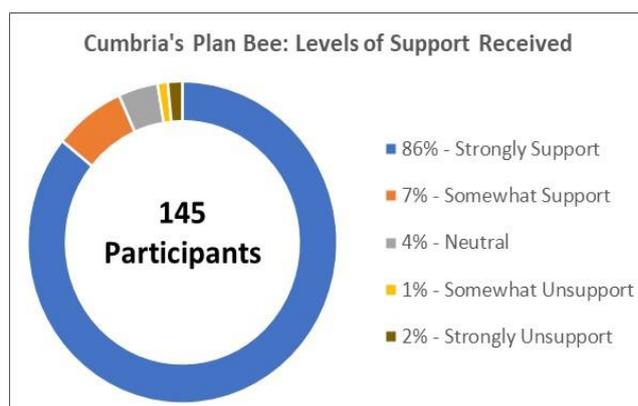
Why not try it at our CBDC Website:



<https://www.cbdc.org.uk/about-us/projects/bumblebee-atlas/>

Cumbria's Plan Bee

The Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Planting for Pollinators team worked with Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre on a new plan to help pollinators thrive & were keen to have your views. The survey which ended on Monday 17 October, consisted of 14 questions. 58% of the 145 participants wished to be involved with the implementation of the Project.



Cumbria Recorders' Conference

The 2023 Recorders' Conference will be held on Saturday 18th February in the Tullie House Museum from 10.30am – 1.00pm. Details will be sent to recorders on how to secure a place. We are intending to do a hybrid conference this year. So, if you can't make it in person, you could join us online. There will be talks on:

- An introduction to LNRS: how this might affect biodiversity in Cumbria and how recorders could get involved by Paul Evans
- CBDC projects overview by Moustafa Eweda
- Species recording by Stuart Colgate
- Aquatic Invertebrates/Riverfly Project by David Taylor-Norman
- Recorders' Highlights 2022

West Cumbria Rivers Trust

The Riverfly Partnership

Riverfly Sampling

What are Riverfly?
Riverfly are all the critters that live in the river. They act as a food source for all the larger animals that live in and around a river such as fish, bats and birds, making them a key part in the food chain.

Why do we do Riverfly Sampling?
Riverfly are excellent indicators of river health. The presence or absence of certain types can tell us all sorts about the rivers, without the need to catch larger animals.

What is Riverfly Sampling?
Riverfly sampling is when we remove the invertebrates that live on the riverbed and identify them, before putting them back. All you need to do this is a net and a tray!

How do we Sample Riverfly?
We sample Riverfly using kick sampling. This involves kicking the riverbed and collecting the invertebrates that are disturbed with a net ready for identification.

Contact details
If you are interested in having a go please contact David on David@westcumbriariverstrust.org

There'll also be an opportunity to meet our new CBDC Manager

Cumbria Fungi Group Forays

Stuart, our Recording Officer found these species, Violet Coral and Orange Peel fungus on one of his forays at Wigton Cemetery in November this year. Keep an eye out for dates for 2023.

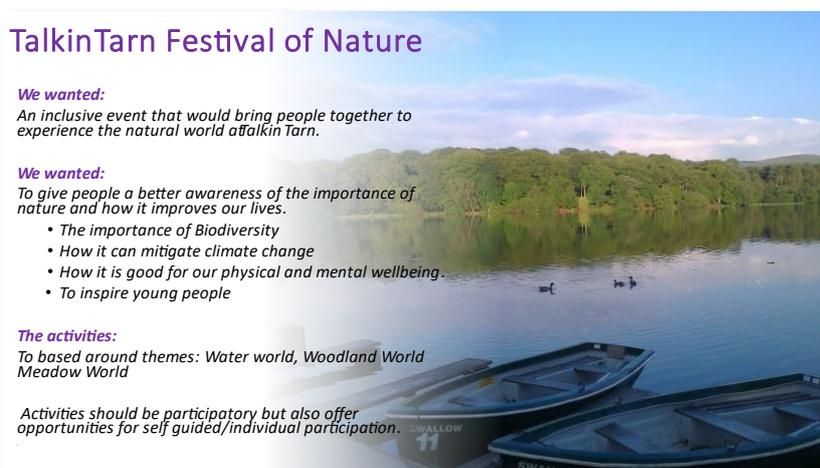


Festival of Nature

The Festival of Nature 2-day celebration of nature, to forge strong connections between people, wildlife and landscape took place at Talkin Tarn on 18th/19th June 2022. This was Debs Muscat, our former CBDC Manager's last event, and a very successful one it was too. The event was a true 'partnership project' including Eden Rivers Trust's Celebration of Rivers, with Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Get Cumbria Buzzing, other events and aspirations of partners. The weekend included stalls, family outdoor and nature activities and organised sensory, wildlife and dragonfly walks to mention only a few activities. The event was enjoyed by 200 public / school groups.

One happy attendee wrote on the NP AONB website*"last weekend I attended the Festival of Nature with my grandchildren at Talkin Tarn. This was one of the most exciting such events we have attended, the sheer number of experts on hand to demonstrate their knowledge enthusiastically was inspiring"* ...well deserved praise for Debs, partners, 32 staff and 28 volunteers from CBDC and all participating organisations.

Check out Steve Routledge's highlight of the weekend on our [Facebook page](#) when he found a specimen of the water stick insect *Ranatra linearis*



Thanks to the people who came to visit the festival and through the different activities that were organised, many samples of different animals were collected, which will help to increase the database of CBDC and other organisations. These samples could be used for future projects.

CBDC New Manager

We hope to have our next Newsletter later in 2023 where you can find out more about our new Manager at CBDC.