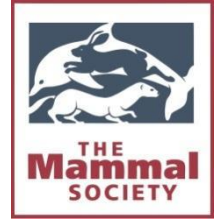


The Mammal Society 66th Spring Conference and AGM



27th – 29th March 2020

Friday 27th March

18.00-19.30 *Mammal Society conference registration in Robinson College*

18.30-19.30 *Wine reception in Robinson College*

19.30-21.00 **Mammal Photographer of the Year exhibition and prize giving**
in Robinson College

Cranbrook Memorial Lecture – Prof. Andrew Balmford, University of Cambridge
Reasons to be cheerful: success stories and the importance of optimism in conservation

Saturday 28th March

8.30-9.30 *Registration for day delegates in Robinson College*

Session 1

9.30-9.35 **Introduction and conference opening.**

9.35-9.55 **Is Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus var.2 worse than myxomatosis**
Brian Boag; The James Hutton Institute

9.55-10.15 **Examining the predatory behaviour of domestic cats (*Felis catus*) in the UK**
Hannah Lockwood; University of Derby (STUDENT PRESENTATION)

10.15-10.35 **Going, going gone: Changing morphology of the disappearing Wildcat**
Andrew Kitchener; National Museum of Scotland

10.35-10.55 **Extinction of the Scottish Wildcat population: is hybridisation a cause or a consequence?**
Keri Langridge

10.55-11.35 *Tea, coffee, posters and stalls*

Session 2

- 11.35-11.55 **Human-wildlife conflict around FUNAAB Zoo Park: Implication on biodiversity conservation**
Oyegbami Isaac; Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria
- 11.55-12.15 **Altitudinal variation in small mammal populations in the land of the Snow Leopard**
Simon Poulton; University of East Anglia
- 12.15-12.35 **Development and woodland field trial of RFID-based Smart Trap and Spatial Logger providing high resolution data and enhanced animal welfare in small mammal research**
Curt Lamberth; University of Oxford
- 12.35-12.55 **Evidence-based mammal conservation**
Nick Littlewood; University of Cambridge
- 12.55-14.20 *Buffet lunch*

Session 3

- 14.20-14.40 **Impact of forest management on Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) conservation in multi-functional forests**
Louise de Raad; University of the Highlands and Islands
- 14.40-15.00 **What can lethal Grey Squirrel control achieve in a mainland context?**
Jonathan Reynolds; Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
- 15.00-15.20 **GPS-tracking Red Foxes on river meadows: understanding their ecology around breeding waders**
Mike Short; Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
- 15.20-15.45 *Rapid Fire*
- 15.20-15.25 **The public health and economic benefits of Spotted Hyenas (*Crocuta crocuta*) scavenging**
Chinmay Sonawane; Harvard University (STUDENT PRESENTATION)
- 15.25-15.30 **The Euler spiral of rat whiskers**
Eugene Starostin; London South Bank University
- 15.30-15.35 **Home range size of Leopards in Dachigam National Park, western Himalaya,**
Athar Noor; Wildlife Institute of India, Chandrabani, Dehradun, Uttarakhand 248001, India

- 15.35-15.40 **Hedgehog survey in the village of Grafham Cambridgeshire**
Carole Baber; Cambridgeshire Mammal Group
- 15.40-15.45 **Local Mammal Groups**
Kate Hills; Mammal Society
- 15.45-16.30 *Tea, coffee, posters and stalls*
- 16.30-17.30 *AGM for all Mammal Society members in Lecture Theatre*
- 19.00-21.00 **Conference dinner, presentation of The Mammal Society Award and raffle in Robinson College dining room**

Sunday 29th March

- 8.30-9.00 *Registration for day delegates in Robinson College*

Session 4

- 9.00-9.20 **Badger territoriality maintained despite disturbance of major road construction**
Aoibheann Gaughran; Trinity College Dublin
- 9.20-9.40 **A comparative molecular dietary study of the European Hedgehog and the European Badger**
Katie Lee; Nottingham Trent University (STUDENT PRESENTATION)
- 9.40-10.00 **Camera traps and CCTV monitoring of otters – their use, the challenges and what they can tell us**
Stephen Powles
- 10.00-10.30 **Rapid Fire**
- 10.00-10.05 **Promoting best practice in wildlife-focused citizen science: What role should regulation play?**
Alexandra Palmer; University of Oxford
- 10.05-10.10 **Revealing the diet of the Lesser Horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) in Ireland via DNA metabarcoding**
Thomas Curran; Waterford Institute of Technology (STUDENT PRESENTATION)
- 10.10-10.15 **Challenging misconceptions of urban bat diversity**
Morgan Hughes; University of Wolverhampton (STUDENT PRESENTATION)
- 10.15-10.20 **Mapping activity of small mustelid predators in a river meadow habitat**
Jonathan Reynolds; Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust

10.20-10.25 **The use of a conservation detection dog for establishing *Micromys minutus* (Harvest Mouse) presence.**
Emily Howard-Williams

10.25-11.10 *Tea, coffee, posters and stalls*

Session 5

11.10-11.30 **Chemical contamination of freshwaters: still a threat to otters?**
Eleanor Keane; Cardiff University

11.30-11.50 **Why do animals have whiskers?**
Robyn Grant; Manchester Metropolitan University

11.50-12.10 **Going off the rails? – Temporal effects of passing trains on bat activity**
Paul Jerem; University of Sussex

12.10-12.30 ***Rapid Fire***

12.10-12.15 **Owl prey - as source of data on invasive small mammals in Ireland**
Paddy Sleeman; University College, Cork

12.15-12.20 **Innovative adaptations to optimise camera traps for recording small mammals**
Rose Toney; Mammal Society

12.20-12.25 **Lessons learnt from student projects studying small mammals**
Debbie Alston; University of Derby

12.25-12.30 **Ecology of Red Foxes in river meadow habitats**
Tom Porteus; Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust

12.30-13.00 Prize giving and close of main conference

13.00-14.30 *Buffet lunch*

14.30-15.45 **Workshops**

1. Small Mammal Recording - overview of recording methods including live-trapping, eDNA and camera traps
2. Mammal Tracks and Signs - utilising tracks and signs to identify mammals
3. Monitoring net gain in planning - biodiversity indicators

15.45-17.00 **Workshops**

1. Mammal Tracks and Signs – utilising tracks and signs to identify mammals

2. Small Mammal Recording - overview of recording methods including live-trapping, eDNA and camera traps
3. Visit to Water Vole site

There will be a number of short activities held throughout the weekend, including guided walks, live-trapping, camera trapping and searching for tracks and signs. Information on joining the activities will be sent out to delegates before the conference.