



# BRITISH NATURALISTS' ASSOCIATION

## The National Body for Naturalists

### National Encaenia and Exhibits Handling Day

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023

At Natural History Museum, London

A day of presenting certificates and awards to some of our BNA members, and the chance to have tours around the NHM.

The tours were:

The History and Architecture of the NHM

The British and Irish Herbarium

The Angela Marmont Centre for Nature

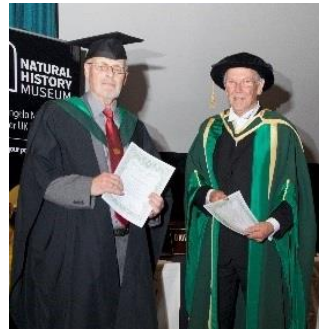
The NHM Fly collection

It was an amazing day and everyone who attended said how much they enjoyed it. on these three pages are photographs from the day.

### Grade Recognition



Paul Guymer ABNA



Nick Austin MBNA



Michael Higgins MBNA



David Swales MBNA



David Skydmore FBNA



Tony Thorn FBNA



Joe Beale FBNA



Roy Stewart FBNA



Graded Members

## The Awards

### The Richard Fitter Memorial Medal was awarded to Simon Jones MBNA



Simon is an active field naturalist and has done surveys for water voles, butterflies and reptiles, for several natural history organisations. He is currently doing surveys including a constant effort moth trapping survey on Knettishall Heath in Suffolk. He has written articles for the BN in recent years and is currently writing a guide book on moths to compliment the BNAs How to begin the Study of Series.

### The David Bellamy Award was presented to Neil Garrick-Maidment FBNA



Neil is a naturalists committed to Seahorses. He founded the Seahorse Trust in 2000, and has advised governments on seahorse conservation all around the world. He has concentrated on Studland Bay in Dorset, and achieved Marine Conservation Zone status in 2019. Amongst his legal successes has been winning a Judicial review against the British government over illegal activity when placing oil rigs in the sea, especially in sites known as seahorse locations. He has also had a lot of success stemming the illegal trade in seahorses through social media and online platforms where it is now policy to not allow the sale of seahorses.

### Honorary Fellowship was presented to Erica McAlister



Erica's doctorate was in wetland ecological entomology where she worked on ant communities in the south Australia outback. Her research work is broad and varied and has included Mosquito projects both in the UK and abroad, Asilidae in South Australia and Bat flies (and other Diptera) from Dominica. Very much involved with public outreach, she has also appeared on TV, Radio (including presenting the series 'Who's the Pest' on Radio 4), numerous podcasts, as well giving talks at Science Festivals, International Nature Fairs and Wildlife Organisations, promoting flies and the research undertaken at the Museum. In 2016, her first book 'The Secret Life of Flies' was published, which has received international acclaim across the globe, and this has been followed up by 'The Inside Out of Flies' published in 2020.

### The Peter Scott Award was presented to Ted Benton



Ted is Emeritus Professor at the University of Essex and has been an active field naturalist since childhood. He has written/co-written eight books on Entomology, including two in the new naturalist series - *Bumblebees* (2006) and *Grasshoppers and Crickets* (2012). His third book in this series *Solitary Bees* has just been published this year.

# The Talks

## Talks from our Guest Speakers

Dr. Erica McAlister and Professor Ted Benton



# The Tours



History & Architecture of the NHM



The Angela Marmont Centre for Nature



British & Irish Herbarium

# Socialising with friends

