

# Join the National Body For Naturalists

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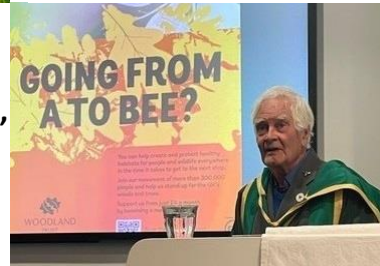


Graded members and guests  
2019 BNA National Conference

[www.bna-naturalists.org.uk](http://www.bna-naturalists.org.uk)



**Professor Ted Benton  
(giving a lecture at  
The Encaenia in 2023,  
Held at the Natural  
History Museum,  
London.)**



Ted is an established author having written several natural history books including three in the New Naturalist series – Bumblebees (2006) Grasshoppers & Crickets (2012), and Solitary Bees (2023). He was presented with the Peter Scott Memorial Award in 2023, in recognition of his outstanding and unique contribution to our understanding of natural history.

**Contact Us:**

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To apply for recognition as an Associate (ABNA), Registered Member (MBNA) or Fellow (FBNA) fill in the application form which is available on our website or from the address below.

Grade Guidance notes are also available there.

Application for the higher grades MBNA & FBNA require the support of appropriate natural history referees.



## Join the BNA and become Recognised as a Naturalist



Vice-President Nick Baker at 2015 Conference

[www.bna-naturalists.org.uk](http://www.bna-naturalists.org.uk)

# Rewarding and Recognising achievement in natural history



The British Naturalists' Association founded in 1905 is the national body for naturalists promoting the study of natural history in Britain.

The BNA is aware that the high standards of those who study natural history and gain field skills were not given proper recognition.

To this end the Association instituted graded membership on a three tier basis in order to formally award and recognise specific levels of knowledge and achievement in natural history. Members are encouraged to share their knowledge and through its grading scheme, recognises the gaining of relevant field skills and expertise. This stimulates naturalists to further develop their own individual knowledge and demonstrates to others you believe in furthering the study of natural history.



New MBNAs and (left) a Recipient of the Richard Fitter Memorial Medal in 2015



Tom Thomas FBNA  
On his Spider Safari

**MBNA** those naturalists that have established an expertise in the practice and understanding of natural history, and have become skilled in identification and other field skills. Becoming a Registered Member carries with it a status of being a proven field naturalist; it is an acknowledgement of gaining a high standard of competence in natural history.

**FBNA** gives recognition of significant expertise and standing in natural history. The holding of an academic degree or doctorate in relevant subjects and publications, showing significant involvement for this level plus evidence of exceptional field experience can lead to Fellowship.



David Skydmore FBNA  
and Roger Tabor 2023



**ABNA** for those members with a keen interest in natural history who, after one year can show evidence that they have attended natural history workshops and taken part in field work.

# The Encaenia



The Encaenia, with its robed ceremony, is when the achievements in developing field and other natural history skills are visually rewarded with the appropriate symbolism of gaining entitlement to official dress. Recognition conveys the right to use the post-nominative letters FBNA, MBNA or ABNA and to wear the grades robes on appropriate occasions.

## *Fellowship (Honoris Causa) of the British Naturalists' Association*

To promote due recognition of excellence in and study of natural history, the Trustees established a Fellowship Honoris Causa which is bestowed on a strictly limited number of eminent naturalists of outstanding calibre.



BNA conference 2017

Hon Fellows Peter Brown, Helen Roy, George McGavin (Peter Scott Recipient), Roger Tabor (President) and Ted Benton