

## WHAT IS BRISC?

BRISC is a charitable organisation that promotes the gathering of environmental data in order to increase public awareness about biological diversity in Scotland and to ensure that effective actions are taken to conserve this resource.

## WHAT DO WE DO?

BRISC encourages and supports all aspects of recording wildlife and wildlife habitats in Scotland, through local record centres, national recording schemes and societies, and individual recorders.

BRISC promotes the adoption of high standards and good practice in biological recording.

BRISC encourages the contribution and exchange of data for the purpose of conservation, education, research, planning and general information.

BRISC represents the interests of biological recorders at the national level and continues to lobby for a higher profile regarding the importance of access to biological records and greater financial support from the public purse for data management.

BRISC is committed to working towards the success of the National Biodiversity Network.



*Hygrocybe ceracea*  
(Waxcap)

## HOW DO WE DO IT?

- BRISC is run by a Committee of elected members
- BRISC Committee members serve on a number of local and national groups and committees
- BRISC provides a focus for biological recording in Scotland
- BRISC has successfully obtained grants for a number of projects, the latest being the Wildlife Counts Project, supported by Heritage Lottery Fund, Scottish Natural Heritage, BTCV Scotland, Stirling, Falkirk and North Lanarkshire Councils and the Falkirk Environment Trust.



*Aricia artaxerxes*  
(Northern Brown Argus)

- BRISC arranges practical training sessions in species identification
- BRISC runs seminars on aspects relevant to biological recording
- BRISC produces publications relevant to biological recorders
- BRISC operates a website with an additional members only area
- BRISC operates an email forum for members
- BRISC has helped to establish a network of local record centres, which now covers much of Scotland



*Dryopteris affinis*  
(Golden-scaled Male Fern)

## WHAT DO YOU GET BY JOINING BRISC?

- 4 newsletters a year, with articles and news about biological recording.
- An annual conference and AGM
- The option to take part in various training days, seminars and work shops
- Notification of other courses in species identification and recording skills
- Information about and access to the national network of biological recorders
- A chance to influence the future of Scotland's biodiversity
- Access to a members only area of the BRISC website that includes a full newsletter archive, a beginner's guide to recording, committee members' contact details and more.
- E-mail contact with other members having similar interests.



*Anatis ocellata*  
(Eyed Ladybird)

### WHO CAN JOIN BRISC?

Anyone can join *BRISC*, and we draw our membership from a wide variety of organisations and individuals, from amateurs to professionals, beginners to experts.

### WHAT DOES IT COST?

Subscriptions pay for most of the work that *BRISC* carries out.

Annual subscriptions are due each April and can be paid by standing order, personal cheque, or direct to the *BRISC* bank account by arrangement.

Current rates are:

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Individual | £ 15 |
| Corporate  | £ 30 |

To support *BRISC*, please fill in the accompanying membership forms, or see our website for details, or contact our membership secretary whose address is on the front of this leaflet.



*Lestes sponsa*  
(Emerald Damselfly)

### WHY SUPPORT BRISC?

*BRISC* believes that biological information is the cornerstone of biodiversity conservation; we will help to ensure that data collectors, managers and users work together for the good of the Scottish environment.

Today, more than ever before, information on wildlife and wildlife habitats really matters. Future conservation of Scotland's biodiversity relies on good quality data to inform decision makers. Our quality of life is intrinsically linked with the natural environment, which sustains us all. Since 2004 Scotland has had a Biodiversity Strategy that, combined with legislation, both national and international, ensures that all decisions affecting the environment take biodiversity into account. All this requires easy access to reliable and high quality data at all levels. Most wildlife information is collected by volunteers, whether by individual enthusiasts, through local records centres or national recording schemes.

- *BRISC* is the only organisation in Scotland that supports all aspects of biological recording and as a top priority will lobby for a greater understanding and more public support for biological data management and dissemination.
- *BRISC* promotes high standards in data collection and supports the National Biodiversity Network.
- *BRISC* organises our own training events and will disseminate any information on other relevant events and species identification courses.

By joining us you will support *BRISC*'s objectives and add value to the biological recording network in Scotland. Support *BRISC* and together we can work more effectively for the future of Scotland's natural environment.

*BRISC* has been representing the interests of Scotland's Biological Recorders for over 30 years. It is in a unique position to understand both the strategic and grass roots issues affecting the collection, management and dissemination of biological data.

For further information visit *BRISC*'s website at [www.brisc.org.uk](http://www.brisc.org.uk)



BIOLOGICAL RECORDING IN SCOTLAND



*Bombus pascuorum*  
(Common Carder Bee)

SUPPORT *BRISC* AND  
TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE  
SCOTLAND'S  
WILDLIFE COUNT



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