

NEWS FROM THE ECT

DECEMBER 2019

ECT Launches Podcasts & Publishes Two New Webpages

Podcast interviews with ECT's Chairman and leading researchers from two of the LTEs on our register are now available on our brand-new <u>podcasts webpage</u>. More will follow! See also new webpages published for the following two LTEs on our register:

Rowden Plots Thursley Common

Please get in contact if you have new information for the website or newsletter!











Virtual Reality Ecology at BES2019 Annual Meeting!

ECT will be formally launching its virtual reality (VR) 'tour' experience of the Change Impacts Buxton Climate Laboratory (BCCIL) long-term field experiment at the upcoming BES2019 Annual Meeting in Belfast. Produced in a pioneering collaboration with VR company Stickee UK Ltd, the 'tour' is installed on Oculus Go battery-powered headsets which allow you to 'teleport' around a simulation of the Buxton site with embedded 360-degree video and other features. This is ECT's latest science communication venture, designed for a broad audience, so do drop by ECT's exhibition stand at the Belfast conference, 10-13 December, and be 'wowed' by the power of VR!

Three headsets will be available at the conference in anticipation of high demand, and you can find us at stand T11 at the entrance to the exhibition space from the main concourse. For a 2D video preview of the experience, see our YouTube channel here. For further information on the Buxton experiment, now running for 26 years, see our website here.



Growing ECT's Capacity to 'Champion' LTEs for All

ECT needs you! We are embarking upon a fundraising campaign to enable the expansion of our remit to include aspects of long-term monitoring, and to reach wider society with our message on the value of long-term field ecology. Please consider giving to our charity in 2020, via our new on-line giving platform. Thank you!

Next ECT Webinar!



ECT holds two-monthly online webinars open to all, designed to highlight the **impacts** of long-term field experiments. Our *sixth* webinar is being held on 24 January 2020, featuring guest speaker Sabine Reinsch (CEH Bangor) on the Clocaenog climate change LTE. More info/register here.

'NEW' LTE ADDED TO ECT REGISTER!

North Wyke Farm Platform (NWFP)



In October, following due consideration by our Board of Trustees, ECT added the North Wyke Farm Platform (NWFP) long-term experiment to its national register. This brings our UK network of currently active LTEs to 30 across 27 different sites. Established in 2011 on Rothamsted Research's North Wyke site and owned by BBSRC, the NWFP's primary aim is to understand nutrient flows in soils and thereby render lowland grassland livestock farming more sustainable. Look out for our new webpage on NWFP in due course, and access our full sites register here. Contact: Jane Hawkins



New ECT Grant Awarded!

Brignant Plots LTE, Pwllpeiran

ECT is delighted to announce the award of its most recent small grant to PI Mariecia Fraser at the Brignant Plots LTE at Pwllpeiran in mid-Wales. This is a *maintenance grant* for the renovation of plot fencing, the site's weather station and its network of microclimate sensors. You can read more about the Brignant Plots LTE here, now in its 25th year! This is a valuable *research platform* for the wider community to come and use. Contact: Mariecia Fraser



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