

## **NEWS FROM THE ECT**

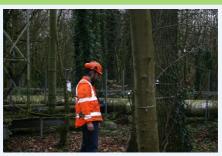
### **MARCH 2020**

#### New LTE Added to ECT's Register - Hillsborough

ECT is delighted to announce the addition to its register of the 50-year-long <u>Hillsborough</u> long-term grassland nutrient fertilisation experiment, near Belfast – the first to be registered in Northern Ireland. This brings our UK network of currently active LTEs to **31** across **28** different sites. Read more about our sites <u>here</u>.

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





# ECT Podcast with Kris Hart at the BIFOR-FACE LTE

ECT was delighted to attend the annual meeting of the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research (BIFoR) at the end of January, with our exhibition stand and Buxton VR headsets. The conference was followed by a site visit to the BIFoR-FACE elevated  $CO_2$  experiment at Norbury in Staffordshire, during which ECT interviewed the Operations Manager Kris Hart at one of the treatment arrays on site. You can access a podcast of Kris's excellent interview about this awe-inspiring experiment on our website <u>here</u>.

#### **Growing ECT's Capacity**



ECT needs you to help us 'champion' LTEs for all! Please do consider giving to the charity this year via our new <u>online</u> <u>giving platform</u>. Thank you!



Update from the RainDrop Team at Wytham

To help mark four years of the RainDrop experiment at Wytham, technician Laura McManus and PI Andy Hector produced a super blog entry for the ECT website in January. Taking stock of the 2019 growing season, it is a great insight into one of the 'flagship' experiments on ECT's register. You can read the full blog <u>here</u>.

#### Next ECT Webinar!



ECT holds two-monthly online webinars open to all, designed to highlight the **impacts** of long-term field experiments. Our *seventh* webinar on 26 March 2020 features guest speaker Giulio Curioni (BIFOR) on data curation at the BIFOR-FACE LTE. More info/register <u>here</u>.



New ECT Grants Awarded

Peatland-ES-UK & BIFoR-FACE LTEs

ECT is pleased to announce the award of its most recent small grants to PI Andreas Heinemeyer for equipment maintenance at the Peatland-ES-UK LTE, and to Operations Manager Kris Hart at the BIFoR-FACE elevated  $CO_2$  experiment for vital data curation and sample archiving work. The latter award represents ECT's first *data curation* grant. You can read more about the Peatland-ES-UK LTE <u>here</u>, the BIFoR-FACE LTE <u>here</u>, and our grants scheme <u>here</u>.

## BUXTON EXPERIMENT BROUGHT TO LIFE THROUGH VIRTUAL REALITY!

#### **BES2019** Annual Meeting



The BES2019 Annual Meeting in Belfast witnessed a 'first' when ECT's pioneering collaboration with Stickee UK brought three VR headsets to town featuring a 'tour' experience of the Buxton Climate Change Impacts Laboratory (BCCIL) long-term field experiment. Around 170 delegates sampled the headsets over the course of the meeting and were generally 'amazed' by the richness of the experience. Being 'sandwiched' under an automated drought cover at one of the simulation locations was a particularly memorable experience! If you have yet to experience our Buxton VR headset, you can see a 2D preview on our YouTube channel here.

#### Please stay in contact! www.ecologicalcontinuitytrust.org

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If you have any news from your field site that you would like to see featured in the next ECT Newsletter or if you want to unsubscribe, please get in contact.