



Welcome

Welcome to Lockhart Garratt's first E-Brief. Going forward the E-Briefs are designed to keep you up-to-date with industry developments and advice, Lockhart Garratt projects and news through an informative and interactive format.

Autumn Actions

The transition from summer to autumn provides **fresh opportunities** and **last chances** to survey and mitigate for key species and habitats with **early autumn** marking a final opportunity to survey for **bats** and **reptiles** until the following spring.

As the season progresses and the leaves fall, **mid-autumn** is the best time to identify and plan for other protected species including **badger**, **otter** and **dormouse**. Accurate, early detection of these species is essential if subsequent delays to scheduled works are to be avoided as licences can be sort and issues resolved over the winter months.

[Click here](#) for a full ecological calendar.

Hot Topic: Biodiversity & Business

Biodiversity conservation has risen rapidly up the environmental and political agenda. **Small and large land owners** can contribute to national, regional and local biodiversity targets by finding out what key species are present on their land and then ensuring their protection forms part of the ongoing management objectives. Following an initial audit of habitats and species, the production of a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) can assist with environmental grant applications (e.g. **HLS**) and achieving wider social corporate responsibility objectives. Lockhart Garratt can provide specialist skills to assist in the initial assessment and production of a site specific or multi-site Biodiversity Action Plan. Since 2008 Lockhart Garratt have assisted a number of clients with Biodiversity Action Planning (See below).

Case Studies: Lockhart Garratt links Biodiversity & Business

Kelmarsh Estate, Northamptonshire

'The project brief was well outlined giving me a clear picture of what to expect. The biodiversity audit is proving to be a valuable reference tool for many projects proposed by the Kelmarsh Trust.'

Manager Des Brack, Operations
Estate Kelmarsh



[Click image for full case study](#)

Viridor Ltd, UK Closed Landfill Sites

'Viridor are applying for the Wildlife Trust Biodiversity Benchmark on three closed sites. To help us achieve this we are utilising the technical skills and knowledge of Lockhart Garratt to create site specific quality Biodiversity Action Plans.'

Supervisor Bailey
Landfill Aftercare Adrian



[Click image for full case study](#)

Forthcoming Events:

BIAC Rural Planning Division Conference:

8th October, Kelmarsh: Lockhart Garratt Ltd will be speaking at this years British Institute of Agricultural Consultants (BIAC) conference on the subject of environmental issues and rural planning. The focus of the talk will be on key ecological issues such as presence of protected species. BIAC has members who specialise in the provision of rural planning advice covering all aspects of agriculture and the allied professions.

Winter CPD Sessions:

We are currently taking bookings for this years lunchtime CPD sessions which include short presentations on ecological baseline assessment and protected species and buildings. If you are interested in receiving a lunchtime CPD session at your office then please [contact us](#).

Latest News:

Substantial funding for woodland birds

Forestry Commission has teamed up with the RSPB to provide additional funding (up to 80%) to support operations which improve woods for a selection of bird species currently in decline. To find out target areas and bird species selected by the Forestry Commission for enhancement [click here](#).

Natural England sett on changing badger regulations

In June 2009 Natural England provided a new set of guidelines detailing operations which are unlikely to cause a 'disturbance' and are exempt from the standard licencing procedure. For a full list of the operations referred to by Natural England [click here](#).

Bio control for Japanese knotweed

DEFRA along with the Welsh Assembly are considering releasing a species of lice which only feeds on Japanese knotweed. For more information [click here](#).

National deer cull required

Peter Watson of the Deer Initiative (backed by the Government) confirmed that deer numbers are now unsustainable with existing and new woodlands suffering as a consequence. The current annual cull stands at approximately 350,000 deer with the Deer Initiative calling for a further 150,000 to be culled each year. For more information [click here](#).

'Conservation credits' a new currency for developers?

A recent report sponsored by DEFRA has identified the need to reduce the decline in British habitats through a system of 'biodiversity offsetting'. For more information [click here](#).

In Brief:

Training:

Using in house expertise, Lockhart Garratt provided a Woodland Management and Wildlife training course in association with IEEM. The course was fully booked and received great feedback. For details about future training days please [contact us](#).

Congratulations:

To our ecological consultant, James Whiteford, for recently attaining full membership with the Institute of Biology.

Want to provide feedback? [click here](#)



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