



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Recording wildlife near you**

### **Toad spotters, dragonfly identifiers, mammal watchers required!**

This isn't a strange safari group, but a request from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC) to help increase wildlife records across the county. Thanks to a grant of £40,400 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, CPERC have been running a recording project to help communities recognise and record their wildlife, which has already led to an increase of over 2,500 extra records from the general public in 12 months – more than 20 times what was submitted in 2011!

Although a year through this eighteen month project, there is still a lot to do and plenty of chances to get involved. CPERC's Biodiversity Outreach Officer, Jane Andrews-Gauvain, explained: "We are extremely grateful to everyone who helped us record species last year, they did a fantastic job! We only have six months left, but we feel sure with help we can double our public records for last year in that time! There are plenty of opportunities for anyone to get involved, both in recording species near you (whether in your own garden, or out and about in the beautiful Cambridgeshire countryside with friends) and in surveying larger areas, particularly in Fenland District and east Peterborough. It doesn't matter what your expertise are as there is training available and we can provide help with transport, all you need is an interest in wildlife and a bit of patience."

### **Toad and Frog Spotting**

Toads and frogs are the first species CPERC want help recording as the weather warms up. CPERC are teaming up with Froglife and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Amphibian and Reptile Group (CPARG) to record these species. CPERC would like to hear from you if you are happy to just record when you see them hopping about, to let them know if your pond has frog spawn in, to help search for the species', or to help at a Toad Crossing.

### **Specialist Training**

Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund and support of several wildlife organisations and county naturalists, there is a chance for members of the public and organisations to learn about recording and identifying bats, butterflies, dragonflies, otters, water voles and several other species in Cambridgeshire. If you want to have this opportunity, make sure you contact CPERC!

### **Further details**

To ensure you get all the latest information about events and how you can help, contact Jane Andrews – Gauvain on 01954 713572, or email [Jane.Andrews-Gauvain@cperc.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Andrews-Gauvain@cperc.org.uk)

You can find out more about 'Recording Wildlife' and see events coming up on CPERC's website, [www.cperc.org.uk](http://www.cperc.org.uk) and their Facebook page [www.facebook.com/cperc](http://www.facebook.com/cperc) and to find out more information about Toad Crossings and Toad patrols go to [www.froglife.org/toadsonroads/](http://www.froglife.org/toadsonroads/)



Large Red Damselfly recorded by volunteers in 2012 © Jane Andrews-Gauvain



CPERC volunteers looking for invertebrates © Jane Andrews-Gauvain

-----  
For more information please contact  
Jane Andrews-Gauvain  
Biodiversity Outreach officer  
CPERC  
Email: [Jane.Andrews-Gauvain@cperc.org.uk](mailto:Jane.Andrews-Gauvain@cperc.org.uk)  
Tel: 01954 713572  
Mob: 07540 670229

-----  
Notes to Editors  
-----

- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC) is part of a national network of Local Records Centres and is accredited by the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC).
- CPERC are running the 'Recording Wildlife Near You' project thanks to funding from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). For more details about the project please go to <http://www.cperc.org.uk/about-us/recording-wildlife-near-you.php> and to find out more about HLF go to their [website](#).
- CPERC is supported by partners in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough consisting of local authorities, statutory agencies, and voluntary and not-for-profit organisations all working towards conserving wildlife and the environment in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. For more information about CPERC go to [www.cperc.org.uk](http://www.cperc.org.uk)
- CPERC are based at Wildlife Trust BCN's headquarters at The Manor House, Great Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6DH
- Heritage Lottery Fund: Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains and transforms a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, we invest in every part of our diverse heritage. HLF has supported over 33,000 projects, allocating £4.9billion across the UK, including over £334million to more than 3,120 projects in the East of England. Website: [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)