

WHAT'S IN OUR DRAWERS? (AND WHY DO WE HAVE THEM?)

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Manx National Heritage
Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin

CONTEXT



OUR CHARITY CARES FOR...

More *Viking Age* silver per square kilometre than England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales

The *world's largest* working waterwheel

More than *2,500 acres* of landscape

Over *950* plant species in our gardens

The oldest surviving schooner *in the world*

Over *1 million* items in our collections

Manx National Heritage is responsible for conserving, protecting and promoting the Isle of Man's natural and cultural heritage. We are a registered charity and look after some of the Island's most special places, spaces, archives and museum collections.

Calf of Man Bird Observatory of *international importance*



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NBN atlas

ISLE OF MAN



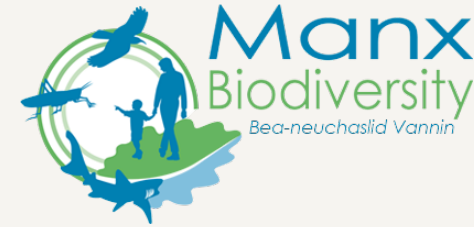
isleofman.nbnatlas.org



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PARTNERSHIP WORKING:

- MBRP – Manx Biological Recording Partnership
- MoU with Manx Wildlife Trust
- Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture
- Specimen loans to Manx BirdLife and Manx Wildlife Trust, etc.



MANX MUSEUM



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COLLECTIONS – WHAT DO I DO?

- Collections care and conservation, specimen preparation
- Digitisation – iMuseum.im
- Harvesting biological data – Recorder 6 / NBN Atlas IoM
- Repatriating non-Manx specimens through deaccessioning
- Education & outreach, volunteer and intern projects, enquiries



PAST COLLECTIONS CARE PROJECTS

- Repatriation of non-Manx Herbarium
 - 6 years
 - 2752 specimens
 - 35 collections throughout the British Islands

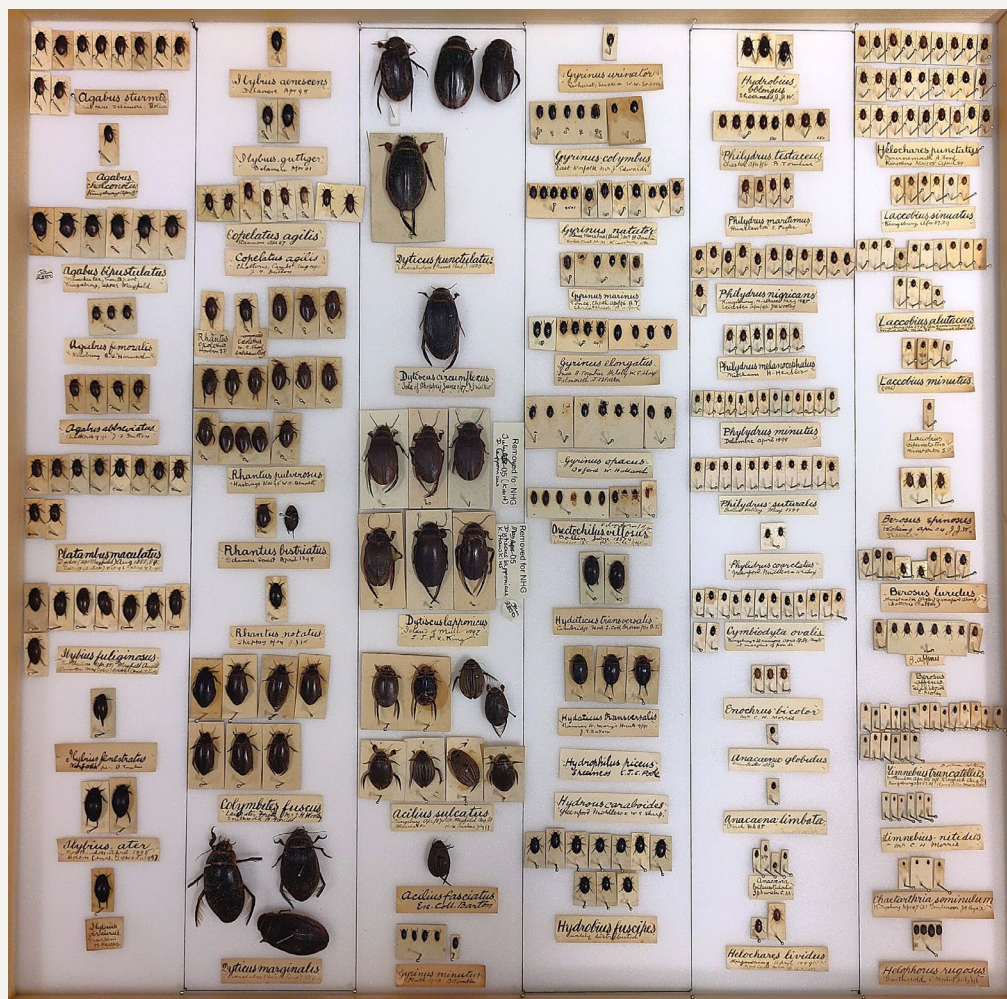


CURRENT COLLECTIONS CARE PROJECTS

- Rehousing the entomology collection
 - 78,000 specimens mounted on pins
 - £16,000 raised in grant funding to purchase 10 cabinets
 - Deaccessioning non-Manx material
 - Repinning and repair of damaged material



AFTER ...



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WHY ARE COLLECTIONS IMPORTANT?

There are millions of specimens in museums throughout the world, but regional collections in particular represent their locality better than anywhere else – we are important.

Museum collections are made to facilitate environmental research in a changing world. They are a key hub connecting some of the most pressing issues of our time, like the biodiversity and climate crisis.

Natural history collections are a rich repository of data about the individual animal and the environment it experienced while it was alive, helping us track the impacts of change.

If a local environment no longer exists, museum specimens become a unique and irreplaceable archive. This reference material contributes to the conservation and restoration of our environment.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

How are researchers unlocking these data, and what exciting questions are they using them to answer?

What are the current and future directions in collections-based research, and how do we unlock collections and plan future collecting to support these?



ENDING WITH A QUOTE ...

"Adventure is just bad planning"
Roald Amundsen



“Service is the rent we pay for
the privilege of living on this
earth.”

Shirley Chisholm



First African-American woman in the U.S. Congress.



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MANY THANKS

