

RECORD

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*The Biodiversity Information System for
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Happy New Year - I hope this is not too late into the year to be able to pass on our best wishes.

This is just a short note to invite you to a meeting of naturalists and biological recorders on the evening of **Tuesday 30th January 2001 at 7:00pm in: Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire** - Grid Ref. SJ 521 780.

There are a few aims for the evening; the major aim being to introduce to you the new recording organisation - **rECOrd** - the Biodiversity Information System for Cheshire, Halton, Warrington and Wirral (inc. VC-58) and to give you the chance to ask questions about what we hope to do, to achieve and how we expect to go about it. Don't be shy; ask all those awkward questions about recording, records and data, as well as about **rECOrd**, as you wish. Now is a chance to try and get some answers, or at the very least, to pose some thought provoking discussion for us to take away and solve.

A second aim of the evening is to allow us and yourselves to put faces to names. Many naturalists and recorders have heard of others but often don't have the chance to meet up - I know that I as an entomologist know of many bird watchers in the county but I couldn't put a face to most of them. This the chance for a little cross-disciplinary communication.

The third aim for the evening is to try to persuade a few of the attendees, about 6 or so, to form an advisory committee to work for all recorders and naturalists in the county in ensuring that **rECOrd** takes your concerns and requirements on board. It would be good if this committee could be comprised of a mix of people, preferably from differing recording groups (e.g. a botanist, a mammal person, a herpetologist, an entomologist, an ornithologist, etc.) though, obviously, this is not necessarily a prerequisite.

We hope the meeting will be an enjoyable as well as an informative event. It will not be too long. We hope to be able to complete the business in a couple of hours though we are prepared to give you longer if you need it to ask more probing questions. Tea will be provided at the end of the meeting, as will a chance to sign up as a data provider.

Hope to see you there ! If you know any other naturalists/recorders who may be interested, please do extend this welcome to them also. Many thanks.

Yours,

Steve J. McWilliam (Manager)
16th January 2001
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