

BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Newsletter

Winter 2022

BADAS NOTICEBOARDS

Between June 1st and October 13th we have installed 6 BADAS noticeboards in Allotment sites that had none before. These were kindly supplied by the Town Council and are now in use to provide information to members.



These photos show the first board put in which was at the Hub (also our proud Treasurer/ Membership Secretary!) The third photo is the final noticeboard, which was installed at the Walditch allotments.

Goodbye to Geoff & Sandy Adderley

We are saying goodbye to Geoff and Sandy Adderley who are moving to pastures new. Geoff was our first point of contact at Burton Bradstock allotments. Over the years he not only collected membership fees for those who wanted to join BADAS but has also been Chairman of the BB allotments. He and Sandy have also raised money for charity. They said ***“each year we sell surplus veg/flowers and plants from all allotments at a stall outside our house. Last year we raised £1003 for the Weldmar Hospice.”*** We wish them every happiness in their new home.

Next BADAS Meeting - Wednesday 14th December at 7 p.m.

The next meeting of BADAS will be held on Wednesday 14th December at Mountfield, Bridport. This will be our Christmas Social Event with drinks and seasonal nibbles. All members welcome..

Colin Sparkes—Thoughts on retirement

Colin Sparkes is a founder member of BADAS and was Chairman for many years before retiring from that role in September 2020. He is still an active member of BADAS, coming to events and meetings. He sent us these thoughts to include in the newsletter.

There is a time of life when one has to retire, although we do not think about it in earlier times. We retire not only from work, but from our other activities. A lot of this depends on our health, physical and mental.

From 2 large allotments (14 rod) when I had 3 teenagers at home, I cut down gradually to half a plot in the last few years when I only had myself to feed. I have now given up even that last half plot, but I miss it and look on with interest at those that follow on (from over the fence so to speak). Even though this reduction was slow, mentally it was not easy after some 60 years of involvement.

Over the years I have been involved in BADAS and the Gardening Club, as well as other organisations, so although these activities have been reduced, I still have a selection of interests. This helps to keep the mind active. I also have a greenhouse and gardens back and front, although the front garden has to be kept open plan (in accordance with the deeds). I can do as I wish at the back. So I have reduced the lawn and dug a vegetable plot. I grow the usual items, but being rather enclosed, field veg. are out of the question eg sprouts or broccoli.

My advice—slow down gradually if you can—otherwise you will get bored quickly.

I have not got down to one house plant yet, but it might come to that one day!

Colin Sparkes/November 2022

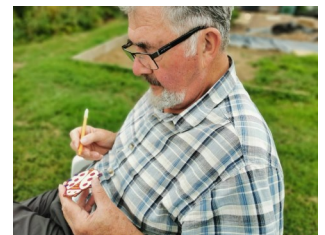
BADAS Membership 2023

Don't forget to renew your BADAS membership before 31st December. See Page 4 for details of how to do this.

The Guardians of Nature Frieze Event at The Hub

On September 1st, an art event was held at The Hub. Members and their families painted and coloured cut-outs of plants and animals to be displayed on a frieze during The Big Green Week.

The project was run by two local artists and several organisations contributed to the final piece with their own events. We had a lovely couple of hours, chatting, drinking tea and coffee (not forgetting the biscuits) and exercising our artistic talents!



**If any members have ideas for other events that we could host at The Hub, please get in touch.
Fiona Dare—Chair BADAS**



COP27, Planetary Boundaries and the Montreal Protocol.

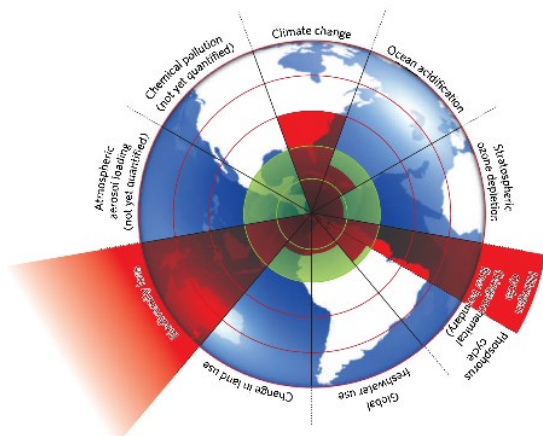


Figure 1 | Beyond the boundary. The inner green shading represents the proposed safe operating space for nine planetary systems. The red wedges represent an estimate of the current position for each variable. The boundaries in three systems (rate of biodiversity loss, climate change and human interference with the nitrogen cycle), have already been exceeded.

At the

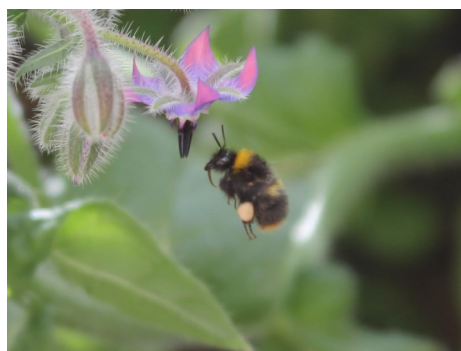
time of writing we are awaiting the outcome of the Climate Change COP27 talks in Sharm el Sheik, Egypt. Looking back at a 2009 scientific paper outlining a safe operating space for humanity and introducing the concept of “Planetary Boundaries), showed that three of the 9 boundaries were already being exceeded and were thus endangering the Earth’s system (figure 1), and continue to deteriorate.

1. The safe boundary for climate change, indicated by the concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, was proposed to be 350 ppm compared to a preindustrial level of 280, which would limit the subsequent global rise in temperature to about 1 ½ °C. In 2009 the measured level was 387. The current level is 415.7 ppm which is 149 per cent of the pre-industrial levels and will give rise to a global increase of temperature of about 2.6°C - with all the dangers inherent in the subsequent extremes of climate produced
2. The safe rate of Biodiversity loss as represented as the extinction rate (number of species per million species per year, E/MSY) is 10 compared to a preindustrial level of 0.1 -1. In 2009 it was greater than 100 - it may now be 150–260 E/MSY
3. The 3rd exceeded boundary (Nitrogen/Phosphorous fertiliser production) was estimated to be 121 million tonnes per year in 2009 compared to a boundary limit of 35. In the early 2000's, the production of nitrogen fertilizers stood at some 95 million metric tons. By 2020, this figure had increased to over 123 million tons. Production of phosphate fertilizers also increased, growing by roughly 18.6 percent
4. Ocean acidification: The predicted pH decrease of approximately 0.3 units during the 21st century would be a greater change than possibly at any time in the last 300 million years .
5. Global Freshwater use: Water use has been increasing worldwide by about 1% per year since the 1980s and is expected to increase by 20% to 30% until 2050. The increase is mainly occurring in developing countries and emerging economies. It is currently approximately 4000km³
6. Change in land use: It is estimated that land use change has affected almost a third (32%) of the global land area in just six decades (1960-2019) and, thus, is around four times greater in extent than previously estimated from long-term land change assessments.
7. The damage from aerosols can be great, but their highly variable impacts left Rockström’s team unable to put a number on safe limits.
8. Chemical pollution: The chemical pollution boundary has been expanded and renamed “novel entities” created entirely by us humans. They include emissions of toxic compounds such as synthetic organic pollutants and radioactive materials, but also genetically modified organisms, nanomaterials, and micro-plastics. These can persist in the environment for a very long time, and their effects are potentially irreversible.
9. **At last some Good News!** Stratospheric ozone depletion and the ozone hole have generated worldwide concerns. These concerns led to the adoption of the Montreal Protocol in 1987, which bans the production of CFCs, halons, and other ozone-depleting chemicals. Recovery is projected throughout this century, and the ozone hole is expected to reach pre-1980 levels by around 2075. **The Montreal Protocol is considered the most successful international environmental agreement to date.**

Returning to the subject of COP 27, the UN is the only global organisation we have, capable of producing an agreed plan of action, although much of the output from the COP series of meetings until now has been well intentioned - but inadequate. My personal belief is that nothing effective will be done until we cross a tipping point whereby something truly dreadful happens. One might have thought that the recent increase in catastrophic fires, tropical storms, floods, heatwaves, cold spells, etc. would prove that urgent action was needed now.

Individually we should continue to do all can to reduce our own carbon footprints; it is however, only by government action that the planet can be saved; the success of the Montreal Protocol in repairing the holes in the ozone layer does show that united action by the world’s nations can bring about a change in behaviour resulting in a planet that is not wrecked for future generations.

BEES IN ASKERS MEADOW



Local Beekeeper, Jim Binning, sent us the following article about his beekeeping year in Asker Meadow.

The beekeeping year did not start well for the hives in the meadow. One of the hives did not survive the winter. That particular hive was populated with a good swarm of bees towards the end of June last year. Unfortunately that didn't give them sufficient time to build up enough stores to get through the winter. However this summer has been a very good time for the bees. I restocked that hive in May with a swarm from the orchard and it has built up very nicely. Both the top bar hives are looking strong now.

I collected three more swarms and have put those in nuc boxes which I can use next year to stock hives which may be lost over winter, or to start new colonies elsewhere. I have not taken any honey from the hives this year but hope the bees will have some spare when they start collecting nectar next year and I will then harvest a jar or two.

On my visits to the apiary all the hives have been busy with the bees flying out, collecting nectar, pollen and water. It has been a joy to see them so busy. In the summer, worker bees (the female of the species) may only live for about 6 weeks. For the first 3 weeks of their life they will be doing jobs inside the hive and then they will progress to forage, and it is these bees that I see coming back with their pollen baskets on the back of their legs full of yellow pollen.

Pollinators are always in need of more forage so anything anyone can do to plant more bee-friendly plants will be very welcome. I would also encourage everyone to allow their dandelions to flower for as long as possible. These are a very important early food source for pollinators.

Jim Binning/November 2022

Can you help BADAS?

Following the departure of the lovely Jeni Edwards as our Newsletter Editor, BADAS is once again left with me, a temporary "bash it all together" editor.

It would be so lovely if someone out there had a few hours every quarter to do this newsletter which we hope is enjoyed by all our membership.

**Please contact Lynne or Mandy (details below) if you can help.
Mandy Rathbone
(Membership Secretary/Treasurer)**

Bridport and District Allotments Society

Membership of the Bridport & District Allotments Society costs £5 per annum, and gives entitlement to discounts e.g. on some items at Groves'. Our Membership Secretary/Treasurer Mandy Rathbone will be pleased to receive your subscriptions. For information please contact Mandy by email at manwell52@hotmail.co.uk.

Receiving the newsletter: We now send out the newsletter, meeting agenda and minutes by email — if any member is unable to receive these by email, please contact the Secretary, Lynne Atkinson, on 01308-424587 to receive a copy by post or hand delivery.

Newsletter contributions welcome: if you have any items you would like to see included in future issues of our Newsletter (which comes out quarterly) or if there are subjects you would like us to cover,

please contact our secretary Lynne at bridportallotmentsociety@gmail.com. Contributions to the next edition (articles, news items and/or photographs) are welcome at any time, but by

15th February 2023 please. Many thanks for contributions this time - please keep them coming.

Website: visit our website at:

www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk