



Have a Herpy Christmas...!



From the NARRS Team and everyone at ARC!

It's been a busy year at NARRS Central, not least because we've been talking to other Conservation NGOs about their monitoring schemes and how we can improve the NARRS scheme... both to foster participation and improve the volunteer experience, and to provide more information on our amphibian and reptile populations so we can detect any changes in status and thus influence practical conservation! Even our widespread and formerly common species need conservation plus of course there's a particular need to investigate declines in species like adders and common toads...

The result of some of our discussions has been the decision to suspend **NARRS 1** (random square) surveys for the time being, and redesign how the scheme works so we can generate that crucial information! See page 2 for more info. You'll still be able to register and take part in **NARRS 2** (revisited sites or squares) to generate population data on your local herps that will also contribute to the national picture. We expect NARRS 2 to grow over the next few years and at the same time we'd like to make it easier to take part in (a new) NARRS 1 so that more people provide more data which gives us a better chance of detecting any declines and acting accordingly. Remember – NARRS depends on volunteers and the survey data you provide is increasingly important in our urbanising, fragmented landscape!

**SAVE THE DATE! Saturday 11th February – Sunday 12th February 2017:
The Herpetofauna Workers' Meeting... This time in NOTTINGHAM!
For more details, see: www.arc-trust.org, Facebook or Twitter.**



NARRS is ten years old!

Yes, NARRS started in 2007 and has reached double figures! We're going to be analysing the first ten years' of data early in 2017 and running a Workshop on the way forward for NARRS Widespread Species surveys at the HWM in Nottingham – see above – so it's time again for the annual plea for your invaluable data! **Please submit any outstanding NARRS survey results at <http://www.narrs.org.uk> by Monday, 10th January to ensure your data is included in analyses.** At the HWM Workshop we'll review what we've found out so far and how we can improve things in the future – so this is **your** chance to shape the future of how NARRS works – hope to see some of you there!

If you have ideas or comments (especially on NARRS 1) that you'd like us to consider whilst we're redesigning the scheme to provide data better and faster, please e-mail them to johnw.wilkinson@arc-trust.org by the same date.

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who's provided data in the last ten years, we hope to have your participation in the future!

And finally, the obligatory bad Christmas joke...

What's brown and warty, and comes out at Christmas???

A mistle-toad of course!



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