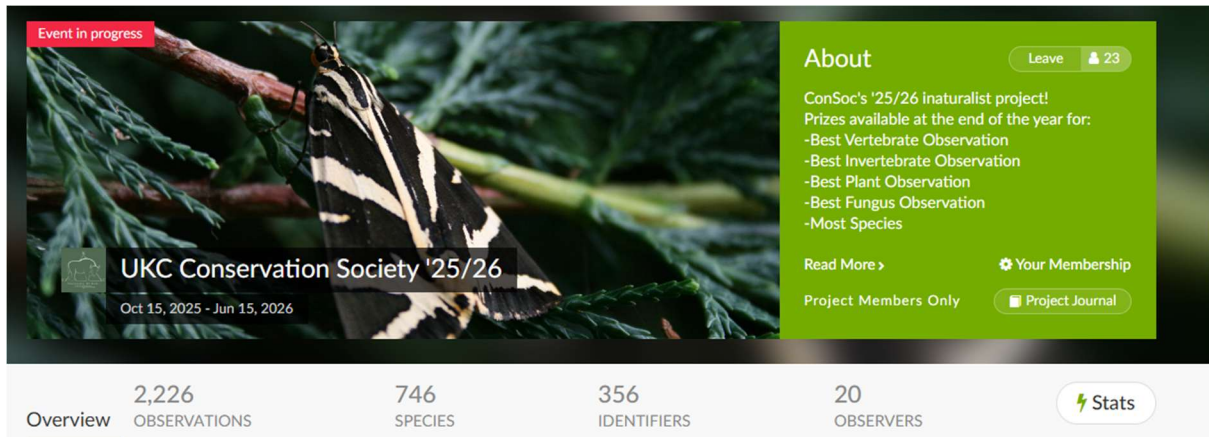


# Conservation Society's Biodiversity and Sustainability Highlights

- 1. ConSoc's iNaturalist Competitions:** Members have been surveying on campus year-round using iNaturalist as a species ID tool, with a chance to win prizes for their efforts. This year, so far, we have almost doubled last year's total with 744 species surveyed and the number is still rising!



The screenshot shows the iNaturalist project page for 'UKC Conservation Society '25/26'. The main header features a photograph of a black and white striped moth on a green leaf. Below the photo, the project title 'UKC Conservation Society '25/26' and the dates 'Oct 15, 2025 - Jun 15, 2026' are displayed. To the right, an 'About' section lists prizes available at the end of the year: Best Vertebrate Observation, Best Invertebrate Observation, Best Plant Observation, Best Fungus Observation, and Most Species. Below this, there are links for 'Read More >', 'Your Membership', and 'Project Journal'. At the bottom, a statistics bar shows: Overview, 2,226 OBSERVATIONS, 746 SPECIES, 356 IDENTIFIERS, 20 OBSERVERS, and a 'Stats' button.

- 2. Campus Bird Project (Feb - April 2026):** Our members have worked hard on 12 beautifully decorated bird boxes to help us monitor the birds on campus. The boxes vary in size, shape and entry holes to encourage breeding for a range of species; we have even included open-fronted robin boxes, ensuring no species is left behind. The Society also ran a collaborative event with the Sustainability Working Group, where members created upcycled bird feeders.



- 3. Reptile Surveys at Folkestone Warren (May & June 2025):** In late spring last year, our members trekked around the chalk cliffs of Folkestone Warren, where they took part in reptile refugia surveys with White Cliffs Countryside Partnership. We helped contribute to important datasets whilst encountering slow worms, common lizards and even some adders under the tins!



- 4. Blean Volunteering Sessions:** Over the last year, members have developed a unique skillset in woodland management through Blean volunteering sessions with Kent Wildlife Trust. Those involved have learnt techniques such as coppicing, ringbarking, rhododendron removal, and dead-hedge laying to improve the structural complexity and biodiversity of our local woodlands. During these sessions, we have had the pleasure of many wildlife encounters, including some unique invertebrates and a rather friendly toad!



**5. Hedgehog Politics (October 2025):** Many of our members have supported the Rodentifiers to represent Kent in the University Mammal Challenge 2026! We collaborated in the mammal mapper workshop back in February and got our hands dirty in the build-a-bat buffet at COG. To further support the mammals on campus, we held a hedgehog election back in Autumn, where students voted for one of our resident hedgehogs to be mayor! We hope to implement the policies set out by Marlena Grubbins, the winning hog, by promoting grubs back to campus and helping its hedgerows.



**Cool Keynes hedgehog party (CKHP)** *"We must restore the land"*

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**Vote Marlena Grubbins for Hedgehog Mayor!**

**Key campaign promises**

- Banning bonfires in hedgehog accessible areas
- Promoting grubs back to campus
- Create more hedgerows

ELECTIONS CLOSING DATE: **OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>** Results posted on the [Consoc group chat](#)

Contact point: Keynes College P block in small wooded area