

Summary of George Beccaloni's work on the Natural History Museum's Wallace100 project 2012-13

George's main roles in the Wallace100 project were: to ensure the factual accuracy of all information about Wallace disseminated by the Museum; to be the primary Museum public spokesperson for the project; and to promote the project via a variety of public engagement activities. George also played an important role in helping to devise and plan NHM events and he led the campaign to produce a bronze statue of Wallace for the Museum.

The work George did on the Wallace100 project in 2013 and 2014 is summarised below. For a summary of the Wallace anniversary events which took place worldwide see <http://wallacefund.info/2013-anniversary>

Note: "*" denotes work done in my own time.

1. Wallace100 Logo

I suggested that the project had a logo and helped to design it with Emily Smith's team. I was the official 'owner' of the finished logo and handled requests by external organisations wishing to use it for publicity for their Wallace-related projects. More than 50 organisations worldwide asked to use it. It has been published on numerous webpages, in many articles, a few books, and on leaflets and posters for events such as exhibitions and talks etc.

2. Wallace Portrait

I suggested that the NHM's Wallace portrait should be hung in the Central Hall in its original location during the Wallace centenary year. I did research into the history of the painting which I published in the following blog post: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/natureplus/community/wallace100/blog/2013/01/08/portrait-of-wallace-to-be-unveiled-at-the-nhm>.

3. Discovery Trail Exhibition

I helped develop the storyline and suggested items for display, including some owned by Wallace's descendants. I also helped to write and edit the interpretive text for the exhibition.

4. Wallace Statue

*I led a project under the aegis of the Wallace Memorial Fund, to raise money to produce a life-size bronze statue of Wallace for the NHM. I selected the sculptor (Anthony Smith), helped design the statue, and successfully raised the necessary funds (£50,000). The statue was unveiled by Sir David Attenborough on the 7th November 2013 (the 100th anniversary of Wallace's death) and installed in its permanent position outside Darwin Centre 2. Two interpretive panels near the statue explain its significance and I edited the text of these. A video of the unveiling is available here <http://youtu.be/jhNBd0mPH-Y> and a gallery of images showing the process of producing the piece, can be seen here: <https://picasaweb.google.com/110137695121351600738/WallaceStatue#> More information about this project can be seen here: <http://wallacefund.info/bronze-statue-wallace>

5. Editorial Work

I helped to write and/or edit most of the public-facing documents that the Wallace100 project produced. These include c. 3 Press Releases (e.g. <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/natureplus/community/wallace100/blog/2012/12/12/press-release-natural-history-museum-marks-centenary-of-alfred-russel-wallace>), News items for the NHM website (e.g. <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/about-us/news/2013/january/alfred-russel-wallace-is-brought-out-of-darwins-shadow18456.html>), articles for *Evo/ve* magazine, text for the Wallace Trail exhibition, the NHM's Wallace Timeline (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/science-of-natural-history/wallace/timeline/index.html>) [which I also supplied many of the images for], and assorted text for the Wallace100 website (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/science-of-natural-history/wallace/index.html> - now taken down).

6. Wallace100 Blog

I wrote 47 posts (out of a total of 71) for the NHM's Wallace100 blog (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/natureplus/community/wallace100?view=blog>).

7. NHM Events Diary

I was the main contact for external organisations to send information about their Wallace-related projects to. Details of the events were passed on to colleagues for listing in the Wallace100 Events Diary. A total of 160 events were listed and although the Diary has now been taken down, the final list can be viewed here: http://wallacefund.info/sites/wallacefund.info/files/Wallace100_Events_Final.pdf

8. NHM Video

In June 2013 the Museum produced a video about Wallace and biogeography which featured comedian Bill Bailey and myself, for the Wallace Discovery Trail Exhibition (which opened on July 1st). I helped to write the script. A copy has been uploaded to YouTube see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KT2YbugYcjQ> and to date this has been viewed 4200 times.

9. Launch Event

I helped with the planning of the Wallace100 launch event which took place on the 24th January 2013, especially with the guest list.

10. Wallace100 Lecture Series

I helped with the planning for the monthly Wallace100 lectures (selecting speakers, checking text of documents, publicising the talks etc.). I also gave one of the talks (see table below).

11. NHM Conference (23rd October 2013)

I helped select the speakers and gave one of the talks (see table below).

12. Royal Society Conference (21st – 22nd October 2013)

I was a co-organiser with Prof. Dianne Edwards, Prof. Ghilleen Prance and Prof. Steve Jones, of a two day scientific discussion meeting at the Royal Society on 21st – 22nd October 2013 entitled "Alfred Russel Wallace and his Legacy" (<http://royalsociety.org/events/2013/wallace-legacy/>) and gave the introductory talk. It was fully booked - with about 150 delegates. Extremely positive feedback was received from people who attended.

13. Enquiries

I answered an estimated 2000 Wallace-related email enquiries from individuals and organisations in the UK and abroad – many of whom were planning their own Wallace centenary exhibitions and other events in 2013/14. They include: the National Museum of Wales, Hertford Museum, Swansea Museum, Dudley Museum & Art Gallery, Plymouth University, Neath Town Council, Essex

Field Club, the Central Library in Edinburgh; and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Australia. I also answered many hundreds of enquiries from the Wallace100 project team.

14. Final NHM Wallace100 Event (7th November 2013)

I helped with the planning of the final Wallace100 event which took place on the 100th anniversary of Wallace's death, especially with the guest list.

15. Newspaper & Magazine Interviews

The following publications include quotes from interviews I gave:

Alum, M. 2013. Alfred Russel Wallace 'The last of the great Victorians'. ***Period Living magazine***, August issue: 90-94

Anon. 2013. £50k needed for statue of Darwin's Usk-born partner, Alfred Russel Wallace. ***South Wales Argus***. (<http://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/10198214>. 50k needed for statue of Darwin s Usk born partner Alfred Russel Wallace/)

Anon. 2013. Darwin's forgotten rival. *New Zealand Herald*. (http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=10860604)

Engelhart, K. 2013. Evolution's forgotten man. London aims to make Alfred Wallace, Charles Darwin's overshadowed partner, a household name. ***Macleans Magazine Online*** (<http://www2.macleans.ca/2013/10/31/on-the-origin-of-a-theory/>)

Hului, P. 2013. 5 things S[ara]wakians should know about Alfred Russel Wallace. Borneo Post (<http://seeds.theborneopost.com/2013/12/17/5-things-sarawakians-should-know-about-alfred-russel-wallace/>)

Leo, B. 2012. Campaign for Wallace to get credit for natural selection. ***The Argus***. (<http://www.theargus.co.uk/news/9956381.print/>)

Leonard, K. 2013. Why does Charles Darwin eclipse Alfred Russel Wallace? **BBC Wales**. (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-21549079>)

Leyden, L. 2013. The Alfred Russel Wallace revival club: A modern effort to pull a scientific pioneer out of Darwin's shadow. **Boston Globe Online**. (<http://www.bostonglobe.com/ideas/2013/11/24/the-alfred-russel-wallace-revival-club/zJznaKnkuTehRnCNN1XiZN/story.html>)

Manning, S. 2013. Natural selection – it takes two: Darwin's rival Alfred Russel Wallace recognised at last. **The Independent** (<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/natural-selection--it-takes-two-darwins-rival-alfred-russel-wallace-recognised-at-last-8458765.html?origin=internalSearch>)

McKie, R. 2013. Alfred Russel Wallace, the forgotten man of evolution, gets his moment. **The Guardian**. (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2013/jan/20/alfred-russel-wallace-forgotten-man-evolution>)

Nolan, S. 2013. He invented 'origin of species' and warned that species are dying out: Now 'forgotten father' of evolution Alfred Russel Wallace is celebrated at last. **Mail Online**. (<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2266808/The-forgotten-father-evolution-Alfred-Wallace-step-Darwins-shadow-work-celebrated-last.html?ito=feeds-newsxml#axzz2JvniZ7NP>)

Rodenas, A. 2013. Wallace el otro padre del darwinismo. *La Vanguardia* magazine (<http://www.lavanguardia.com/magazine/20131220/54398391661/wallace-ciencia-teoria-evolucion-por-seleccion-natural-magazine.html>)

Schadwinkel, A. 2013. Der verkannte Zweite hinter Darwin. *Zeit Online*. (<http://www.zeit.de/wissen/geschichte/2013-11/wallace-evolution-darwin>)

Turner, R. 2013. Recognition at last for 'forgotten' Darwin contemporary Alfred Russel Wallace. *Wallace Online* (<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/local-news/recognition-last-forgotten-darwin-contemporary-2497874>)

Yandell, K. 2013. Flying Frog, 1855: Alfred Russel Wallace, Darwin's unheralded codiscoverer of the theory of evolution by natural selection, found inspiration in the specimens he collected on his travels. **The Scientist Magazine**. (<http://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/35287/title/Flying-Frog--1855/>)

Web Only Articles Which Mention Me:

Anon. 2013. Events hail 'forgotten' scientist. *MSN News* (<http://news.uk.msn.com/events-hail-forgotten-scientist>)

Anon. 2013. Alfred Russel Wallace, 'forgotten man' of science, to be honoured at Natural History Museum. Huffington Post. (http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/01/23/alfred-russel-wallace-natural-history-museum_n_2531603.html)

Culture24. 2013. Natural History Museum to open Wallace Discovery Trail (<http://www.culture24.org.uk/science-and-nature/art439628>)

FreePress. 2013. Usk scientist gets statue at Natural History Museum. (http://www.freepressseries.co.uk/news/monmouthshire_news/monmouthshire_news/10815015.Usk_scientist_gets_statue_at_Natural_History_Museum/?ref=rss)

Jeyaseelan, D. 2013. An evolutionary excursion (Part I) (<http://blog.science.edu.sg/index.php/2013/12/an-evolutionary-excursion-part-i/>)

Why Evolution is True blog (<http://whyevolutionistrue.wordpress.com/2013/08/17/wallace-statue-to-be-erected-at-the-natural-history-museum-and-you-can-help-upcoming-uk-events-with-dawkins-et-al/>)

16. Radio/Podcast Interviews I Gave

7th February 2013. BBC World Service "World Update".

21st March 2013. BBC Radio 4 "In Our Time" with Melvyn Bragg originally broadcast live (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01r9rxr>)

6th September 2013. Interview on RTÉ Radio 1, Ireland (<http://www.rte.ie/radio/utills/radioplayer/rteradioweb.html#!rii=9%3A20433796%3A82%3A06%2D09%2D2013%3A>) (interview at approx. 30 mins)

15th October 2013. BBC Radio Wales programme 'Good Morning Wales'.

22 October 2013. Podcast: BBC News. 'Alfred Russel Wallace: Forgotten man of evolution remembered' (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-24627845>).

5th November 2013. BBC Radio Wales 'Science Café' (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03ghjll>)

7th November 2013. BBC Radio 4 'Inside Science' (http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/radio4/inscience/inscience_20131107-1730a.mp3)

20. Electronic Publications I Authored (excluding blog posts)

*Beccaloni, G. W. 2013. Alfred Russel Wallace and Natural Selection: the Real Story. (<http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/tv/junglehero/alfred-wallace-biography.pdf>)

*Beccaloni, G. W. 2013. Wallace, myself and the BBC. (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0160nxk/features/wallace-beccaloni>)

*Beccaloni, G. 2013. On (re-)discovering Alfred Russel Wallace. Oxford University Press blog. (<http://blog.oup.com/2013/11/on-re-discovering-alfred-russel-wallace/>)

***Beccaloni, G.** & Beccaloni, J. 2013. In the footsteps of Alfred Russel Wallace with Bill Bailey. Oxford University Press blog. (<http://blog.oup.com/2013/11/alfred-russel-wallace-bill-bailey-malay-archipelago/>)

21. Printed Publications I Authored

*Beccaloni, G. W. 2013. Forward. *In*: Preston, T. (Ed.). *The Letter from Ternate*. UK: TimPress. 96 pp.

Beccaloni, G. W. 2013. Wallace immortalised: Museum set to receive Wallace statue 100 years later than planned. *Evolve*, 17: 28-29.

22. Talks & Presentations I Gave

In 2013 I was invited to give more than 30 talks in 10 countries – and agreed give 11 in 4 countries (to a combined audience of about 1300 people). These plus other presentations I gave were as follows:

EVENT	No. people	Date	Type of presentation	Topic
NHM Nature Live	70	25/01/2013	Presentation	With Caroline Catchpole. A video of this is available here: http://www.nhm.ac.uk/natureplus/community/wallace100?view=video
*Swansea Historical Association (Gwyn Hall, Neath, Wales)	150	15/06/2013	Talk	Wallace's life & work
NHM Nature Live	70	01/07/2013	Presentation	With Jo Cooper. Wallace & Darwin
*Ancestor's Trail 2013, Halsway Manor, Somerset	80	26/08/2013	Talk	Wallace's life & work
Wallace100 lecture in Flett, NHM	125	05/09/2013	Lecture	Wallace's life & work
Science Uncovered	150	27/09/2013	Presentation of specimens	Wallace insects
*Essex Field Club's Wallace Centenary Conference	50	05/10/2013	Lecture	Wallace's life & work
Royal Society Conference on Wallace	150	21/10/2013	Lecture	Wallace's life & work. An audio recording is available here: http://downloads.royalsociety.org/events/2013/wallace-legacy/beccaloni.mp3
NHM Wallace100 Conference	150	23/10/2013	Lecture	Wallace Correspondence Project
*Oxford Museum of Natural History Wallace day	30	02/11/2013	Keynote speech	Wallace's life & work
*Conference "Defining Wallacea" organised by the Indonesian Academy of Sciences in the Wakatobi Islands near Sulawesi	100	12/11/2013	Keynote speech	Wallace's life & work
*Singapore Science Centre, Singapore	50	04/12/2013	Lecture	Wallace's life & work
*British High Commission, Singapore	70	05/12/2013	Keynote speech	Wallace's life & work

*Sarawak Museum, Borneo, Malaysia	80	13/12/2013	Lecture	Wallace's life & work. My talk is mentioned in the following article: http://seeds.theborneopost.com/2013/12/17/5-things-sarawakians-should-know-about-alfred-russel-wallace/
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23. Other Wallace-related Work

Films

I helped with filming by the BBC for the series *Bill Bailey's Jungle Hero* in June 2012. This involved selecting drawers of butterflies and beetles from the collection and explaining their significance in relation to Wallace.

Bill Bailey employed me (as a consultancy through the Museum) for three weeks in July and August 2012 as the Historical Consultant for the BBC series *Bill Bailey's Jungle Hero*. I spent this time in Indonesia working with him and the BBC film crew to make the second of the two programmes in the series. The series was broadcast in April 2013 and has received considerable praise. Episode 2 "Bill Bailey's Jungle Hero: Wallace in the Spice Islands" won the "Best Writing" category in the prestigious biennial international Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival in September 2013 - the natural history film equivalent to the Oscars. See <http://www.jhfestival.org/festival/filmwinners.htm> 540 films were entered from around the World to compete for 23 awards and this series was the only one of the 81 finalists nominated for more than one award – the other being "Best Hosted or Presenter-led Program".

I was one of the two narrators of the short and film *The Animated Life of A. R. Wallace* (see <http://vimeo.com/81441769> and <http://scienceandfilm.org/articles/video-of-the-week-the-animated-life-of-a-r-wallace-2/>)

*I provided information (and was acknowledged in the credits) for a film about Darwin and Wallace made by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute entitled 'The Origin of Species: The Making of a Theory' (<http://media.hhmi.org/biointeractive/films/OriginSpecies-Theory.html>), which is being distributed free to schools and anyone else who wants a copy (see <http://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/origin-species-making-theory>).

Publications

*I helped Operation Wallacea (<http://opwall.com/>) to design a poster showing Wallace and Darwin's travels for schools worldwide - see <http://wallacefund.info/poster-showing-wallace-darwins-travels-available>

*I was and am the main contributor to the Wallace Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Alfred-Russel-Wallace/50145041283>).

*I wrote 49 posts for the Wallace Website's News blog (http://wallacefund.info/news_and_views).

*I edited three Wallace-related books: Preston, T. (Ed.) 2013. *The Letter from Ternate*. UK: TimPress. 94 pp.; Costa, J. T. (Ed.) (2013). *On the Organic Law of Change: A Facsimile Edition and Annotated Transcription of Alfred Russel Wallace's Species Notebook of 1855-1859*. USA: Harvard University Press, 640 pp.; and Costa, J. T. (2014). *Wallace, Darwin, and the Origin of Species*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 325 pp.

Events

*I was a guest of honour at Operation Wallacea's Wallace Banquet at Gray's Inn on 29th November 2012.

*On Saturday 15th May 2013 I was the guest of honour at a Wallace Dinner at Neath Town Hall, Neath, Wales and presented a plaque featuring a portrait of Wallace on behalf of the Wallace Memorial Fund to the Mayor of Neath (it now hangs in the Town Hall). Other local dignitaries in attendance were the High Sheriff of West Glamorgan, the Mayor of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, and the Leader of Neath Port Talbot Council.

*I was the guest of honour at a Wallace dinner at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Head Office in Westminster on Sunday 30th May 2013. Bill Bailey gave an excellent speech and afterwards presented me with a framed certificate giving Wallace posthumous Membership of the Institution (see <http://www.rics.org/uk/knowledge/news-insight/comment/a-lasting-legacy-rics-honours-alfred-russel-wallace-on-the-centenary-of-his-death/>). I have passed this on to Wallace's grandsons.