

**Meet Natasha, the travelling entomologist! She loves insects, and would like to share her wisdom with you!**



Ento-Club is funded by the Royal Entomological Society

SOMEWHERE IN A SCOTTISH GLEN...

Oh wow! A red admiral butterfly!  
These are some of the UK's largest butterflies!

Now it is basking in the sun, and it is also shivering! This is a really clever behaviour. The butterfly is shivering its wing muscles, just like we might shiver on a cold day. This movement of the muscles, without flapping the wings, generates a lot of heat!

They don't live here the whole year round, they migrate between southern Europe and places further north, like the UK. They lay their eggs here, which hatch and eventually fly south before winter, where the cycle then repeats!

Without shivering, and basking in the sun, these butterflies would simply be too cold to fly at this time of year, and this little guy has a long way to go if he's going to reach southern Europe in time for mating!

Coping with the cold is something that many insects have to deal with. Lots use the shivering technique to warm up quickly!



moths



bumblebees

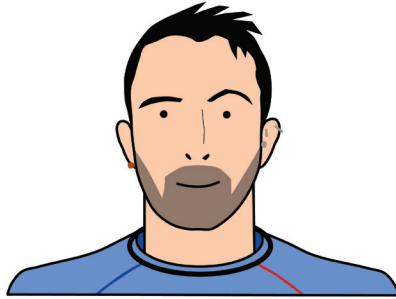


dragonflies



**Ento-Club brought to you by:**

**TOM**



I am fascinated by patterns in insect diversity! Most of my research looks at ants. Where I grew up in south Wales, there are only 3 different ant species. In the UK there are over 40! Where I now work, in the Drakensberg Mountains of southern Africa, there are over 90 species in a single valley! My experiments look at how ants cope with different temperatures along mountain ranges so that we can try to understand these big differences in species diversity across the world.

**RUDI**



The worldwide diversity of insects is astounding and new species are being discovered every year! I am interested in the evolution of new insect species and I use flies to understand the genetic processes that cause one species to split into two. I am also interested in entomophagy, which means studying how people use insects as food. The diversity of insects that are used as food and examining the nutritional quality of different species is a particular focus of my research.