Thorne and Hatfield Moors Oral History Project

Interview with: Steve Hiner

Date: 7 December 2006

Interviewer: Lynne Fox

Summary

Steve Hiner is an Estate Worker for Natural England working on site maintenance & habitat development on Thorne & Hatfield Moors. He is one of Kevin Bull’s small workforce. Steve has had a relationship with the wildlife of the moors all his life, encouraged from an early age by his family’s use of the moors.

Birth & early life. Family background
All male family members used moors for leisure activities – mostly walking. Uncle’s best friend was one of Bell family at Bell’s Pond
Steve grew up on an estate at the bottom of Jones’ Cable. Playing on Jones’ cable when very young – worked way onto moors proper as got older.
Description of moors and peat workings. Peat workers
What drew him onto the moors – lifelong love of wildlife
Main interest is reptiles. Official reptile recorder for both Moors. What that entails. Reptiles that can be found on the Moors
Meeting with William Bunting to seek his help
Impact of surface milling
School & career. Voluntary work. Acquiring qualifications in Countryside Management
Description of his current job. Size of site & size of work team. Volunteers.
Method used for building & maintaining paths & track ways.
Information about Nightjars
Working with contractors & Scotts employees on restoration & other work.
Relationships with contractors & Scotts employees – Steve worked at Scotts
Egg collecting as a child – knowledge of birds.
Current work on habitat creation & management