Background
Nicky Whitehouse specialises in the study of fossil insects in order to develop an understanding of prehistoric landscapes and environments. She is part of the team headed by Henry Chapman and including Ben Gearey that is working on the prehistoric landscape of Thorne & Hatfield Moors including the excavation and study of the Neolithic ‘trackway’ discovered on Hatfield Moor in 2004.

Summary
Description of what she does and her study of Thorne & Hatfield Moors
How she studies the peat and what it can tell us about the environment & Landscape over the last 4500 years
Studying the buried trees – what they tell us – evidence of & understanding climate change
Differences between prehistoric landscape
Results of subsequent research by Henry Chapman & Ben Gearey
The importance of Thorne & Hatfield Moors. Similarities to Baltic & Scandinavian bogs than other English peat bogs
Thorne Moors’ importance as ancient woodland
Impact of different methods of peat extraction. Moderate scale cutting enhances environment, large scale cutting degrades environment. Industrial milling destroys it.
Her concerns over limits of current conservation viewpoint
Past & present climate change

A description of her own work – the process of extracting information from sites
Her academic background & initial involvement with Thorne Moors through Professor Paul Buckland
Her involvement with Thorne & Hatfield Moors Conservation Forum
Her involvement on the excavation of the Neolithic ‘trackway’ on Hatfield Moor – what her study of insects tells us about the ‘trackway’ & the landscape within which it was built & the wider contemporary environment
What the study of insects can tell us about human activities & living conditions – modern studies in Dublin
Her continuing interest in Thorne & Hatfield Moors despite her move to Belfast University