

Environment

Paul finds new species

Society is in support

Bank on a clean river

The Putney Bridge riverside will be targeted three times a year as part of a new Adopt-a-River clear-up campaign.

Organisers Thames21, a collaboration between the Tidy Britain Group, the Environment Agency, Thames Water, Corporation of London and the Port of London Authority, set up the scheme in a bid to clear debris and litter from the river.

The project has won the backing of Putney Bridge Travel Inn - the company behind Putney Bridge restaurant.

It has agreed to sponsor three clear-ups a year on land along the Embankment close to the bridge.

Travel Inn's director of marketing Guy Parsons said: "We support Thames21 and the excellent work it does to preserve the Thames for future generations. We hope everyone will help keep Putney beautiful."

For more details about the scheme call Thames21 on 0171 248 2916.

A Southfields man is flying high after discovering a new species of butterfly on a recent trip abroad.

Paul Toyne, 31, from Lime Gardens was on an expedition to Ecuador in the foothills of the Andes when he discovered it.

He said: "It's nice to think you have found something new on the planet and made your mark in some way."

He has waived the right to have the butterfly named after him and after a competition Isobel Talks, six, won the prize and it will now be called Isobel's butterfly.

The insect is a Pronophilla, a medium sized butterfly with a wing span of around 8 cm, and was found in Podocarpus National Park, the only protected area in the region.

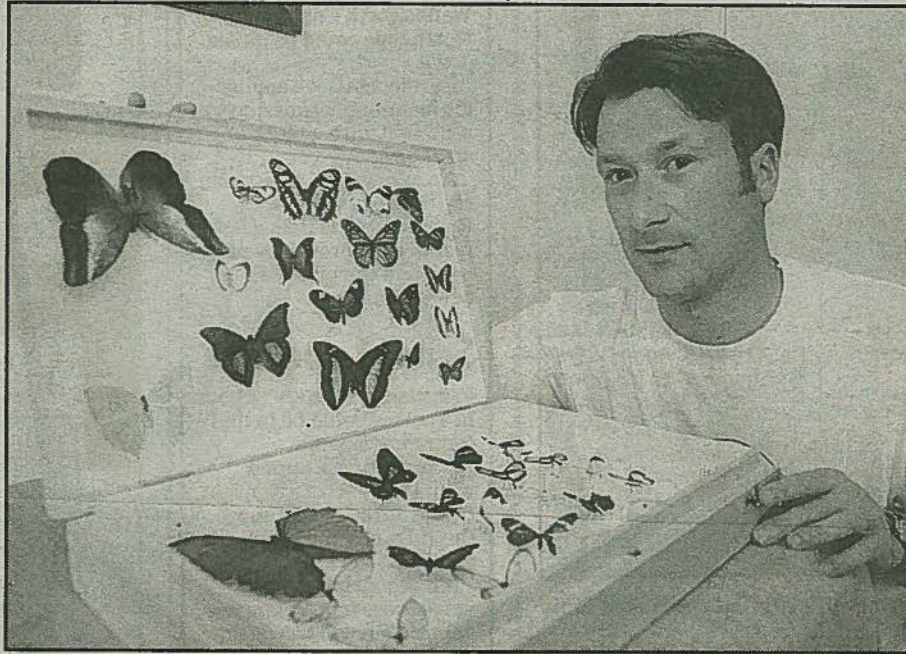
A scientist in Poland examined the species that Paul got from his trip and said it was a new breed.

Butterflies collected on the trip were taken with the permission of the Ecuador government and will be displayed at British museums.

Paul added: "Hopefully this will show how little we know about areas of the world and therefore try to protect them. We want to make sure the butterfly is still there when Isobel grows up."

He urged people to send in donations to environmental charity the World Wildlife Fund to promote the site's importance.

Call WWF regional organiser Rich Sylvester on 0181 293 8981.



Above: Paul Toyne with examples of butterflies from the Ecuador trip.

The Wandsworth Society has spoken out in support of the council's new regeneration and transport committee, headed by Councillor Kathy Tracey.

A spokesman said: "We regard this committee as a reflection of the priority the council gives to regeneration. We look forward to supporting Coun Tracey's words through dialogue and closer ties with the council on regeneration and traffic issues."

Blooming fantastic

Wandsworth has announced the winners of this year's Wandsworth In Bloom competition.

Miss B Allen, of Burntwood Lane, Tooting, won the best front garden category.

And Sir James Barrie School, Battersea, won the best school category.

The Quill, Putney, won best public house.

Pollack backs green reform

Wandsworth Euro MP Anita Pollack said some foreign governments were dragging their feet over environmental reform at a recent conference.

Speaking at the Environment Agency Annual General Meeting, in London, she said: "I do feel that the planet has overtaken its ability to repair the damage the human race has wrought. The phrase 'too little too late' tends to hang in the air over many of our actions."

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