

Field Meetings

Programme for 2010

Full details and procedure for booking are available in the BSBI Year Book for 2010.

Saturday 22nd May: Nant Gwynant, Snowdon, Caernarvonshire, v.c.49. Leader: Wendy McCarthy. A morning visit to Hafod y Llan farm, an estate that reaches from the valley floor to the summit of Snowdon. This was bought by the National Trust in 1998 following a huge public appeal. We will see the work being done to restore the slopes of Snowdon to favourable condition after decades of over-grazing. The afternoon will be spent recording the various habitats around the farm, including cliffs, bogs, a waterfall and the Afon Cwm Llan. Meet at 10.30am in the car park at SH628.507 (fee payable). Bookings, with SAE please, to Mrs. W. McCarthy, 5, Ty'n y Coed, Great Orme, Llandudno LL30 2QA. wendorme@aol.com

Saturday 29th May: Cefn Cribwr, Glamorgan, v.c.41. Leader: Julian Woodman. Meet at 10am at Bedford Park car park, bottom of Bedford Road, Cefn Cribwr. SS8536.8344. We will be looking at several fields with a range of marshy and dry grassland. One of the key points of interest here is the population of *Scorzonera humilis*. There are many other botanical highlights including Marsh Fern, Blunt-flowered Rush, Dyer's Greenweed and Petty Whin growing side by side. If you want to get an idea of what one of the best areas of Welsh 'rhos' looks like then come here. This meeting is early in the year, primarily to catch the main flowering time for *Scorzonera*. If time allows, we could go on to Kenfig dune system which is not far. Please bring wellies! And suitable clothing – who knows what May will bring. Further details sent on request. Bookings, with SAE please, to Julian Woodman (personal), c/o CCW, Unit 7, Castleton Court, Fortran Road, St. Mellons, Cardiff CF3 0LT. j.woodman@ccw.gov.uk

Friday/Saturday/Sunday 11th/12th/13th June: Welsh AGM and Exhibition Meeting and associated field meetings, Anglesey, v.c.52. ---click here---

Saturday 19th June: Cae Blaen Dyffryn Plantlife reserve, Lampeter, Carmarthenshire, v.c.44. Leader: Trevor Dines. Join in the annual vegetation survey of this small but wonderful neutral grassland reserve. As well as recording changes in the vegetation, we'll survey the meadow for both *Platanthera chlorantha* and *P. bifolia*, (Greater & Lesser Butterfly-orchids) and look for hybrids between the two. We'll also monitor *Botrychium lunaria* (Moonwort) and *Viola lutea* (Mountain Pansy) as well as enjoying the wealth of sedges and hybrid *Dactylorhiza*. Meet at 11.00am on the road verge car park at SN605.442 (on the inside of the tight corner). Bring lunch. Bookings with SAE please to: Trevor Dines, Plantlife Wales, c/o CCW, Maes y Ffynnon, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd LL55 2LQ. Tel. 01248 387396.

Saturday 26th June: Caeau Tan y Bwlch Plantlife reserve, Clynnogfawr, Caernarvonshire, v.c.49. Leader: Trevor Dines. Join in the annual vegetation survey of this famous neutral grassland reserve. As well as recording changes in the vegetation, we'll survey the meadows for *Platanthera chlorantha* (Greater Butterfly-orchid). We'll also search for *Ophioglossum vulgatum* (Adder's-tongue) and have a look at the various *Euphrasia* taxa found here. If we have time, the stunning views are great too! Meet at 11am at the car park beside the reserve at SH431.488. Bring lunch. Bookings with SAE please to: Trevor Dines, Plantlife Wales, c/o CCW, Maes y Ffynnon, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd LL55 2LQ. Tel. 01248 387396.

Saturday 3rd July: Cefn Caer Euni, Merionethshire, v.c.48. Leader: Sarah Stille. Meeting (limited car parking) in Sarnau village off the A494 at SH971.393 at 10.30am. Bring lunch and be prepared for a short steep walk (road and track) to the lake and possible rough walking thereafter to the hillfort at SJ0041. Bookings, with SAE please, to Mrs.S.E. Stille, The Quillet, Berwyn Street, Llandrillo, Corwen, LL21 0TH. sarah.stille@virgin.net

Saturday 10th July: Gwent Levels, near Newport, Glamorgan, v.c.41. Leader: Richard Lansdown. Meet at the Wetland Trust Reserve car park at ST3347.8347 at 10.30am. A meeting to look at aquatic plants, where it is hoped to visit some nearby fields and perhaps move on in the afternoon to farmland supporting interesting ditches. Wellies recommended and bring a grapnel if you have one. Further information on the site can be found at www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/n/newportwetlands/about.asp Bookings, with SAE please, to Mr R. Lansdown, 45 The Bridle, Stroud, Glos. GL5 4SQ. rlansdown@ardeola.demon.co.uk

Friday 16th July to Friday 23rd July: Glynhir Mansion, Llandybie, Carmarthenshire, v.c.44. Leaders: Kath and Richard Pryce. Please note that this year's week will run from Friday to Friday

The annual Carmarthenshire Recording and Monitoring Meeting will include visits to well-botanised sites as well as areas in need of additional recording within the county. The meeting will cater for both experienced and inexperienced botanists and will provide an opportunity for the informal development of identification skills.

The River Loughor runs through the estate and at one point plunges over a 10m waterfall into a rocky gorge where *Dryopteris aemula*, *Hymenophyllum tunbrigense* and *Asplenium trichomanes* ssp. *trichomanes* are among the ferns growing on the cliffs. There will be ample opportunity in the timetable to visit the site. Large parkland trees provide the setting to the mansion, including *Tilia cordata*, and there remains much scope for further discoveries to be made in the vicinity.

The mansion is run by the Jenkins family providing first class facilities including a large common room for evening identification and discussion sessions. The cost of the week from lunchtime on 16th to breakfast on 23rd, including full board and packed lunches, we are told will be pegged at last year's prices of approximately £400.00 but will be limited to about 20 participants. Accommodation for part of the week will be charged *pro rata*.

Please make initial bookings with the leaders as soon as possible. A 25% deposit will be required by Glynhir followed by full payment six weeks prior to the meeting. Bookings to Mr & Mrs R.D. Pryce, Trevethin, School Road, Pwll, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, SA15 4AL. Tel:/ Fax: 01554 775847; PryceEco@aol.com.

Sunday 25th July: Cors Fochno (Borth Bog), Cardiganshire, v.c.46. Leader: Mike Bailey (CCW warden). As BSBi's contribution to International Bog Day, this meeting is arranged to visit one of the most important actively-growing raised bogs in Britain. Cors Fochno shows a wide range of characteristic bog vegetation and an outstanding series of transitions, from bog, mire, reed swamp, lowland grassland to woodland (with adjacent saltmarsh and sand dune habitats that can also be accessed later). There are widespread and obligate bog species like *Andromeda polifolia* (and a nearly full suite of bog mosses) and also several very notable plants, like *Rhynchospora fusca*, *Drosera intermedia*, *D. longifolia* and the rare hybrid *D. x obovata* - together with notable invertebrates and other wildlife. Cors Fochno has extensive wet terrain and Wellington boots are advised. Meet at 10.30 am and park in a field on the south side of the B4353, c.150m east of Greenacres Nursery at c.SN624.929. Bookings (with SAE please) to Mr. R.A. Jones, CCW, Welsh Assembly Government Building, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UR. a.jones@ccw.gov.uk

Saturday 31st July: Brymbo Steelworks, Denbighshire, v.c.50. Leader: Delyth Williams. At one time, the largest and most advanced steelworks of its time in the UK, now derelict with planning permission for the entire area. Before it is too late, come and look for colonisers over the bare ground and walls, aquatic and associated species around the ponds and wet areas and whatever else we can find in the grassland and planted areas. There is a most interesting Visitors' Centre and geological trail. Bring lunch. Meet at 10.30am at SJ295.537 which is a gated entrance to the site, off a steep and narrow road, just below the top of the hill. Go through the gates, down to the obvious parking area in front of the buildings. Bookings, preferably by email, to delyth@siriol.myzen.co.uk or with SAE please to Mrs. D. Williams, Graig Fechan, Ruthin, Denbighshire LL15 2HA.

Saturday 7th August: Llangorse Lake, Breconshire, v.c.42. Leader: Ray Woods. Meet at 11am on Llangorse Common SO128.272. It is signposted from Llangorse Village, Powys. We will examine the lake margin and species-rich grassland. Waterproof footwear recommended. Please bring lunch. Bookings, with SAE please, to Mr. R.G. Woods, c/o CCW, Eden House, Ithon Road, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6AS.

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