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RECORDERS NEWSLETTER ISSUE 10 – October 2010

Welcome to the tenth issue of the Powys and Brecon Beacons National Park recorders newsletter in this, BIS's 10th Anniversary year!



Guests at the BBQ on 27th August to celebrate 10 years of BIS (Photos: Phil Ward)



I assume most male readers will head straight for the article about naked ladies in Montgomeryshire, which very appropriately has been slotted in on page 3! This issue of the newsletter contains a wide selection of articles from *Crassula* to crayfish, and dormice to dragons. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue.

For the first time this winter, BIS has arranged three identification workshops, so book early. We have also arranged a visit to the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff on 10th February where Dr Tim Rich, Head of Vascular Plants, will give us a personal tour and carry out a workshop on the Welsh National Herbarium. A treat not to be missed! (See pages 18 & 19 for details).

Phil Ward – Editor

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Catch up from BIS

Staff

Again there is change at BIS as Michelle has been accepted to do a PhD at Preston University. She has been a great asset to BIS, overseeing the change from using MapInfo GIS to ArcMap, and managing the spatial datasets. She left BIS on the 16th September but hopes to continue working with BIS remotely, using the wonders of technology. She will be available to work on analysis and predictive modelling projects which demonstrate how the data that BIS holds can be used to aid future nature conservation and management.

BIS BBQ

As I mentioned in the spring issue, 2010 is the 10th Anniversary of the BIS Memorandum of Agreement being signed. This was celebrated by inviting recorders, staff and partners who had contributed to the development and success of BIS over the years, to a BBQ at Heolfanog, near Brecon. Although at the end it was a small, select gathering, we were fortunate to have a beautiful, clear evening with lots of fine food and conversation. We were very pleased that Adam Rowe, the first manager of BIS, was able to attend, and a big thank you to Colin and Margaret Young for allowing BIS to use their lovely garden, and for all their hard work in preparing for the evening.



Colin & Margaret (Photos:Phil Ward)



Norman Lowe (BIS Chairman) says a few words

We are celebrating the BIS 10th Anniversary over 2010-11 as work populating the database started in 2001. The next event will therefore be the **Recorders Forum**, which we would like to hold in the spring of 2011, probably in March.

BIS Board of Directors (BOD)

The list of BIS Directors is shown at the end of the newsletter. The BOD feel it would be greatly beneficial if we could bring in some additional directors from the wider community, including recorders. It would especially welcome representatives from the Radnorshire and Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trusts and areas.

The BOD has an important role in supporting the BIS manager. The directors' individual roles vary but as a board they fulfil a strategic management role. It meets 3 times per year including the day of the AGM, which is held in November. The members choose the board of directors. The board of directors is empowered to admit new members; both private individuals and corporates. At this year's AGM on the 18th November 2010 in Llandrindod Wells, we would like to welcome new members to the BOD. If you would be interested in contributing to the future of BIS please contact Norman Lowe, BIS Chairman. Email: norman@enviro-consulting.com

Janet Imlach (BIS Manager)

Numerous Naked Ladies

Meadow Saffron (*Colchicum autumnale*), a native plant of damp meadows and woods, is also known as Autumn Crocus or Naked Ladies; the latter name stemming from the habit of the flowers appearing without any leaves. The flowers, which appear in the autumn, resemble pink crocuses, but are in fact colchicums and not related to true crocuses. The leaves appear in the spring and can be confused with Wild Garlic (Ramsons) a potentially lethal mistake, since all parts of the plant carry a deadly poison called colchicine. For this reason, the unimproved grasslands where this beautiful plant grew were typically managed for hay since the leaves die down prior to harvest.

Changes in agricultural practice have meant that Meadow Saffron is now scarce, with remnant populations generally found in field margins or road verges; in Montgomeryshire, it is currently known on only nine sites. One of these sites is Llanmerewig Glebe, a Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve just 3 miles from Newtown.



At just a hectare, the single field at Llanmerewig Glebe may not be an obvious choice for a Nature Reserve, but here is a tiny remnant of unimproved land, managed traditionally for hay, surrounded by mature native species-rich hedges and two veteran trees. All this is great for wildlife, but the real interest of the site is the presence of the Meadow Saffron.



Although there are records for Meadow Saffron at Llanmerewig dating back to 1970, the real significance of the site was not realised until cattle died after grazing there in the mid-nineties, as Richard Mabey describes in his book the 'Flora Britannica':

"I heard that two heifers had died of Colchicum poisoning at Llanmerewig, and on investigation found a field full of it. A truly marvellous sight."

In order to monitor the population on the reserve, the Trust counts the number of flowers during the peak flowering period (usually mid-September). Back in 2006, 349 blooms were counted, so you can imagine our surprise when the tally was 1,196 in 2009. Clearly the Meadow Saffron likes the management at Llanmerewig Glebe, as this year the count was even higher; 1,329, a 280% increase in just four years!

(All photos c/o Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust)

Tammy Stretton, Biodiversity Officer, MWT

Long Term Change in a Brecknock Moth Population

Llysdinam Field Centre at Newbridge-on-Wye has, since 1975, operated a daily moth trap as part of the Rothamsted Insect Survey. The trap site is at the edge of a pond in the Centre grounds and the surroundings have changed very little during this period. The daily catches are sent to Rothamsted for identification which maintains the quality of the data. In the 33 years to 2007 153,444 specimens representing 389 species have been recorded. Over this period 35% of macro-moth species have declined compared to only 18% which showed increased abundance and this increase is probably largely an aberration due to a new recorder identifying pugs to species.

Analysis suggests that the loss of abundance was related to often major changes in the timing of the flight season, which was itself related to changes in temperature which showed that moth numbers dropped as temperatures increased.

The five species with the highest rates of decline between 1975 and 2007 have been *Orthosia gothica*, (Hebrew Character), *Orthosia cruda* (Small Quaker), *Orthosia stabilis* (Common Quaker), *Hydriomena furcata* (July Highflyer) and *Epirrita dilutata* (November Moth). Conversely, the species with the highest rates of increase in numbers are three Footman (*Eilema*) species and *Epirrita christyi* (Pale November Moth) which, although present in 1975 has seen a surge in numbers in the last two decades.

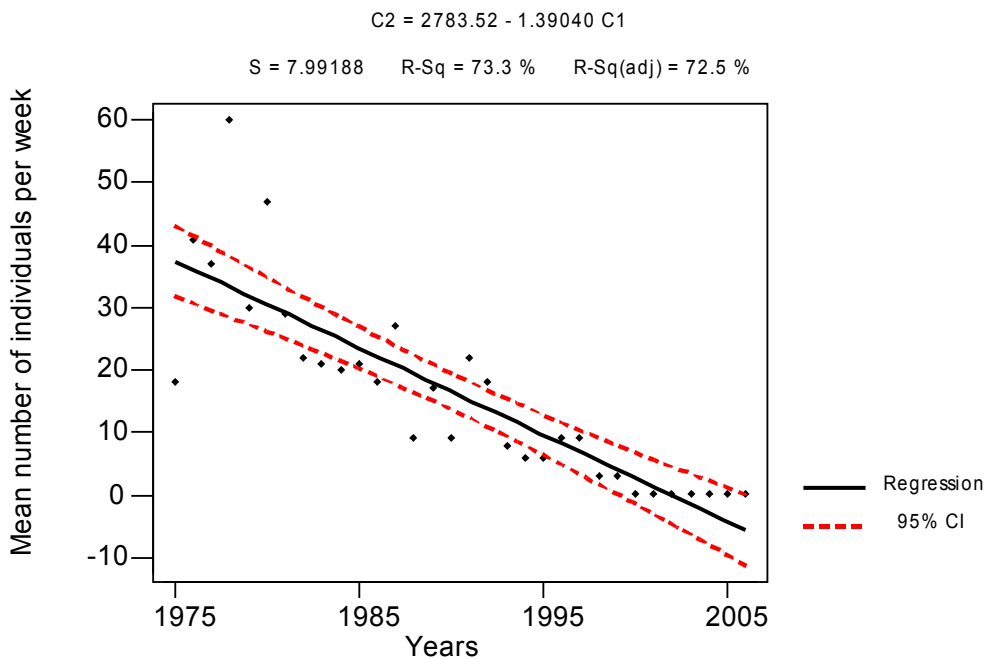
Using the definition of an “extinction” as an absence of at least five years, 22 species were lost from the trapping record by 1999. The first “extinctions” only occurred after 1986.



Canary-shouldered Thorn *Ennomos alniaria*. Photo: Keith Noble

Taken over the year, mean abundance of individuals per week has declined significantly throughout the period. Even when the data are spilt into seasons each season shows a similar significant decline even though, over the last two decades, there has been a significant increase in the late spring temperatures (March – May) which might be presumed to reflect favourably on moths and conversely, rainfall patterns, if not quality, have changed, particularly in winter, when increased rain can influence larval and egg survival.

Declining abundance of now "extinct" species



Land use change, except perhaps the change from hay to silage making, has not been noticeable in this largely pastoral area and such external parameters are difficult to quantify.

The value of long term data cannot be overemphasised and this almost catastrophic decline in moth numbers over three decades could otherwise have gone completely unnoticed without this study. If this is happening to macro-moths what unseen declines might be occurring in other mid-Wales invertebrate populations? The moths which come to a light trap need not be seen in isolation but may well tell us a great deal about the success or otherwise of bird and mammal populations which feed upon larger insects.

Fred Slater, Esme Barton & Peter Randerson
Cardiff University

Update from Brecknock Wildlife Trust

The dormouse monitoring project continues and 100 new boxes were added to the Crychan -Halfway forest study area which continues to be monitored by volunteers.



The picture shows a dormouse with a nibbled head - it is thought that wood mice predate on them when they're torpid.

The Environment Agency Water Vole Re-introduction Project is going well. A recent water vole survey training day was attended by 13 volunteers who saw signs from both last year and this year, including signs on water courses where the water voles hadn't been released, so showing that they are spreading and using other areas

especially during times of flood. The day was rounded off by a cracking view of a live vole eating near Llangors sailing club. They also found otter scats; mink control is ongoing and Selwyn Eagle, the Project Officer is always looking for local volunteers to help monitor the live traps.

Bev Lewis, Conservation Officer, BWT

Ponds Project Update

The Environment Wales funded project finished in April with a Pond Survey Workshop which was well attended and we were lucky to have Phil Ward leading us for the day. Since then we have surveyed a small number of ponds including an interesting series of ponds at Penpont which were historically used for water supply for the house. An appeal for records of ponds in the newspaper and newsletter produced some new records and a useful but slightly small sample of the local garden and wildlife ponds.

Unfortunately surveying has revealed some more *Crassula helmsii* Australian stonecrop records west of Builth Wells and North-west of Brecon (with great crested newts). I would urge anyone with records of this alien species in BBNP and Powys area to send in their records as this may help getting 'something' (?) done about it.



There has also been a spurt of pond digging activity encouraged by funding from the million ponds project *Biffaward* and Amphibian and reptile conservation that even cover the cost of putting in a planning application. Unfortunately this has not stopped people putting in poorly designed ponds in the past (e.g. too deep, too uniform, lacking shallow edges). I'm sure this is due to lack of information as one smallholder I spoke to said that they received a grant to build a pond through their agri-environment scheme but no advice on how to design it.



Wildlife Sites and other Private Nature Reserves

I have had more small holding/Private Nature Reserve visits this year and am always looking for a volunteer who maybe has their own smallholding to coordinate a Brecknock smallholders group. I joined up with Hay U3a to survey two different sites, which were a great help and good company.



(All photos c/o Brecknock Wildlife Trust)

Stephanie Coates Wildlife Sites Officer, BWT



Radnorshire Dragonflies – 2010 Mid Season update [Up to end of July]

We're at about the mid point of the overall Radnorshire dragonfly flight period which usually starts in the latter part of April and ends sometime in November, depending on autumn weather. So this update with a few illustrative photographs is by way of a 'follow-on' from the early season report, which was up to end of May.

At that time, 8 Radnorshire species had been recorded, namely:-

1. Large red damselfly [*Pyrrhosoma nymphula*]
2. Azure damselfly [*Coenagrion puella*]
3. Common blue damselfly [*Enallagma cyathigerum*]
4. Blue tailed damselfly [*Ischnura elegans*]
5. Broad bodied chaser [*Libellula depressa*]
6. Banded demoiselle [*Calopteryx splendens*]
7. Beautiful demoiselle [*Calopteryx virgo*] and
8. Club tailed dragonfly [*Gomphus vulgatissimus*]

Since then, information on further Radnorshire dragonfly sightings and sites has been provided by Darylle Hardy, Dick Eastwood, David Warren & Jane Bisby, Julian Jones, Pete & Ginny Clarke and Bronwen Jenkins. As of the end of July, this season's total stands at a very encouraging 20 species, the following 12 species having been added since May:-

9. White-legged damselfly (*Platycnemis pennipes*)
10. Four spotted chaser (*Libellula quadrimaculata*)
11. Keeled skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*)
12. Emperor dragonfly (*Anax imperator*)
13. Golden ringed dragonfly (*Cordulegaster boltonii*)
14. Common darter (*Sympetrum striolatum*)
15. Black darter (*Sympetrum danae*)
16. Brown hawkler (*Aeshna grandis*)
17. Black-tailed skimmer (*Orthetrum cancellatum*)
18. Common hawkler (*Aeshna juncea*)
19. Southern hawkler (*Aeshna cyanea*)
20. Emerald damselfly (*Lestes sponsa*)

Here are a few highlights:-

In early June, White legged damselflies (*Platycnemis pennipes*) started to appear in good numbers along stretches of the River Wye, along with more sightings (and photographs) of Club tailed dragonfly and the two species of demoiselles than in any year I can remember. This was in no small part thanks to Dick Eastwood, who – armed with camera and insect net – has repeatedly been risking life and limb to make his contribution to the cause!



River Wye - White legged damselflies in tandem : Dick Eastwood

Around the same time my son and I took a canoe trip from Glasbury down to Whitney via Hay. As well as finding White legged damselfly, Banded demoiselle and Beautiful demoiselle in abundance, we counted 8 Club tailed dragonfly adults flying low over the water on the slow-moving sections and collected 3 Club tailed larval cases (exuviae) from tree trunks on river banks.



River Wye - Club tailed dragonfly exuviae : Matt Dennison

On 21st June, Pete and Ginny Clarke were in Wern Dover wood, Ciltwrch [SO153404] and took this most unusual photograph of tandem Club tails resting in a ride amongst some young birch trees. Apart from being a most unusual sighting in itself, it is notable in that Wern Dover wood is 2.5 km in any direction from the river Wye AND the location represents a new 10km square for Club tails in the UK Dragonfly Atlas update!



Wern Dover wood – Club tailed tandem pair: Pete & Ginny Clarke

In late June, David Warren & Jane Bisby visited the marshy area on the upper terrace of Llanelwedd old quarry and sent me this excellent photograph, having correctly identified a newly hatched female Keeled skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*). Using only the illustrations in the FSC guide, they had done exceptionally well to identify this insect as it would be very easy to confuse with one of the darters. Also very exciting is that I believe this to be the first record for Keeled skimmer at that precise location and, because it was clearly a newly hatched (teneral) insect, we can be reasonably certain of breeding at that site.



Llanelwedd Old Quarry – teneral Keeled skimmer – D Warren & J Bisby

Our records for South Radnorshire are looking healthier this season. According to Bronwen Jenkins, 'Fish Pond' at SO 165437 on the Begwns has been the site of a lot of recent dragonfly activity which will bear further investigation.

Llanbedr Hill [SO 14918 48216] near Painscastle has also been a very fruitful source of dragonfly records for Dick Eastwood who has been visiting a boggy area and stream that was dammed around two years ago. Here, among the sphagnum moss, heather, bilberry and bracken, he has recorded breeding for large numbers of Black darters (*Sympetrum danae*) as well as Common hawker (*Aeshna juncea*) and Golden ringed dragonfly (*Cordulegaster boltonii*).



Llanbedr hill – Common hawker pair : Dick Eastwood

Finally, on the last day of July, Julian's cat brought him a birthday present in the form of a female Golden ringed dragonfly presumably in the act of egg-laying in his garden pond! Although a species more typical of upland streams and flushes, has also been seen and recorded egg laying into still water in non-typical surroundings! Here is a healthier one (a male) in its normal surroundings ...



Llanbedr hill – Golden ringed dragonfly : Dick Eastwood

Bob Dennison, Radnorshire Dragonfly Recorder

A plea for records of *Crassula helmsii* (Australian Stonecrop) and latest guidance on control



Photo: Steph Coates

Please could anyone involved with ponds send in records of where they see *Crassula helmsii* - any information about the pond/owners also useful?

Also interested to hear about any other pond plants which cause 'problems' in ponds you know about.

Please either send records to me at scoates@brecknockwildlifetrust.org.uk or to Janet at BIS janet@b-i-s.org

Latest advice on Crassula from the Environment Agency is:

Glyphosate (Round-up) can be used on emergent growth. Must be out of the water.

Dredging, disposing of material by composting or burning away from the water habitats. Location netted with a fine mesh to retain propagules.

Hand-excavation, disposing of material by composting or burning away from the water habitats. Location netted with a fine mesh to retain propagules.

Cover with black polythene or similar for at least 3 months during the growing season.

Stephanie Coates, BWT Wildlife Sites Project Officer

Lesser Earwig *Labia minor* new to Powys

On 21st June 2010, Andy Shaw emailed me photos (see below) of the lesser earwig *Labia minor* which he had found on his farm near Builth Wells in Brecknock. I am not aware of any records of this species yet in Powys, so he may have added the first. This is one species which was likely to turn up in the county, and has probably been here for years but nobody has searched for it.

Slightly further afield, Andy also found dozens of this species at a site in Herefordshire a week or so later. He notes that ‘ They appeared to be thriving in the large amounts of pig and horse manure that is present at the site ...’ This is exactly the habitat they occur in.

Then, less than a couple of months later Andy, who by this time is something of a Lesser Earwig expert, also found one on a farm at Evenjobb in east Radnorshire. Just need someone (Andy?) to find one in Montgomeryshire now!

Apparently they require the warmth of the dung heap or compost heap to be between 18 and 25 degrees for egg development. Adults fly during warm weather and are attracted to light. Have any of you moth trappers found them in your catch? If so, I would be very pleased to here from you. Perhaps they occur in manure on every farm in Powys, who knows? Happy searching!

Phil Ward, Radnorshire Invertebrate Group

Lesser Earwig
Gofynne
A.G.Shaw 21.06.10



White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album*, Brecon, 19 July 2010

I was walking along the Usk below Brecon Show Field counting butterflies at clover and thistles in the knee-high grass. My total was more than 170, roughly half Meadow Browns and Ringlets, but including about 30 Common Blues and 30 Small Tortoiseshells. Most of these, with Small Skippers, had been in the field below the bypass, full of Bird's-foot-trefoil, Yellow-rattle and thistles. When a small grey-brown butterfly flew up into an Ash tree I suspected something different. It settled for a minute or two, allowing me to identify it as a White-letter Hairstreak and take a few pictures before the wind shook the leaves and it disappeared. In the following weeks I looked again there and in other places with Elms and Wych Elms but found no more.

Keith Noble



White-letter Hairstreak Satyrrium w-album. Photo: Keith Noble

White-letter Hairstreak – under-recorded in Powys?

There are few recent records of this butterfly in Powys, which appears to be on the western edge of its British distribution. It is a UK BAP Priority Species, which suffered a decline in the 1970s when its food plant was struck by Dutch Elm Disease, but it now seems to be recovering in some areas.

Adults are out between June and August but are difficult to see because they spend much of their time in the tree canopy. The White-letter Hairstreak Project, www.w-album.hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk, has shown that searching for eggs, larvae, and pupae produces a truer picture of its distribution. This website has very useful Survey Tips & Notes. Those from Yorkshire include detailed advice and photos for finding eggs between July and March.

Checking Elm and Wych Elm twigs for Hairstreak eggs is easier after the leaves fall. So here is something useful to do this winter. Please give it a try and send your records to the Butterfly Recorders.

Andrew King, Brecknock Butterfly Recorder

Coastal and Limestone Moth Species found in Mid-Wales

In 2009 we were very excited about a small patch of thyme rich sward at Llanelwedd Quarry, from which we recorded three new moth species for VC43:

0153 *Adela fibulella* feeding on *Veronica officinalis*, also present there.

0915 *Scythris picaepennis* feeding on *Lotus* or *Thymus*

1367 *Pyrausta cingulata* on *Thymus*, on limestone and in coastal areas.

The first two were netted. *A fibulella* was easily identified, but the Scythrid had to be dissected. It was surprising to find it at this site because it is normally a coastal or limestone species. In Wales it has been recorded in the north: - VC 49, 50, 52, and in the south: - 41 and 45, around the coast.

In early June this year we trapped in the woodland of Cilcenni Dingle, and amongst the more usual moths, to our surprise was a small micro looking like a *Scythris*. After dissection to our amazement it was *S. picaepennis* again. What was it doing there? Instead of sunny grassland with *Lotus* and *Thymus*, here it was in a dark deciduous wood. If we received such a record from others, we would probably have had serious doubts.

At Llanelwedd the *P cingulata* was very elusive as it only flew an inch or two above the ground, which also has bramble and rose briars to hook into nets and it was impossible to photograph. We returned in August and actually spotted a second generation moth, but still could not net one or even get a photo.

Scythris picaepennis



Pyrausta cingulata
Photos: Pete & Ginny



Adela fibulella



Clarke

In 2010 we returned to Llanelwedd Quarry to try and find *P cingulata* again, but sadly the plants had suffered severely from the drought and there were no moths around at all. Very disappointing. A week or so later on a warm afternoon we were strolling around the southern end of Aberedw Rocks. We happened upon an area of shorter grassland amongst the bracken and rocks, which was liberally sprinkled with thyme, some in flower. We had no idea of this little area and took a closer look at what was about. And of course you've guessed it, we netted *Pyrausta cingulata*. So although not limestone, the rocks here support enough food plant and provide warmth too.

Pete and Ginny Clarke, Radnorshire Moth Recorders



Brecknock and Radnorshire Amphibian and Reptile group (BRARG)

News from Brecknock

We have been helping Dr David Sewell with reptile detection and refugia study with sites at Pwll yr wrach, Llangasty and Llangynidr. It has been a difficult summer with the very hot dry weather, but slow worms and grass snake have been seen and we have produced some useful data for David.

The ungrazed field at Llangynidr has been the most prolific for slow worms and grass snakes. Pwll yr wrach so far has been useless, despite moving the refugia to the clearings there just isn't enough sunny rides and clearings in this sort of narrow steep sided woodland. The site at Llangasty has yielded the odd grass snake but the ditches dried out by June and in the cow grazed field the beasts trampled and ingested most of the roofing felts (tin would have been tougher but the farmer didn't want his cows hurting their feet).



Grass snake (BWT)

We did another survey of White-clawed crayfish at Cwm Gwdi, a sort of 'in memoriam' of Major Charles Allum who probably started the population here. And it was doing well this year, I think everyone found one or saw one in a range of sizes with plenty of invertebrates but little water in the stream.



White-clawed crayfish (BWT)

We have also received quite a few adder records, mostly through Doug Lloyd of Herefordshire Nature Trust and his volunteers!

(All photos c/o Brecknock Wildlife Trust)

Stephanie Coates, BRARG



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POWYS A PHARC CENEDLAETHOL BANNAU BRYCHEINIOG



Recorder's Visit to National Museum of Wales and Welsh National Herbarium

Thursday 10th February 2011
9am – 4.30pm

BIS has arranged a tour in morning by **Dr Tim Rich** (Head of Vascular Plants) of the Welsh National Herbarium & botanical facilities (including vascular herbarium, lower plant herbarium, library, wax models, prints and drawings, spirit store, imaging) followed by a workshop in the afternoon on using the herbarium.

We have also allowed time to view the rest of the museum and galleries.

A provisional programme is as follows:

9am Depart Brecon
10 Arrive National Museum of Wales, Cardiff
11 Tour of Herbarium and facilities with Dr Tim Rich
12.30 Lunch
1.30 Workshop on using the Herbarium by Dr Tim Rich
2.30 Visit to rest of Museum and galleries
3.30 Depart Museum
4.30 Arrive Brecon

A minibus will pick us up from Brecon

Fee is £5

Places are limited, so book early!

Contact Phil on **01874 610881** or email phil@b-i-s.org



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BIS

Species Identification Workshops

early in 2011



encourage delegates to also bring their own specimens for identification and dissection. Places available: 6

Photo: P & G Clarke

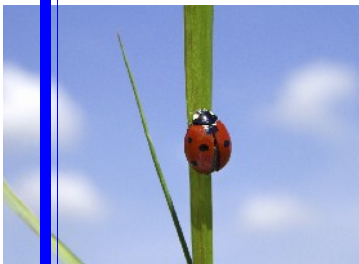
Sat. 15th Jan.

Identifying difficult Moth species by dissection

Tutor: Norman Lowe (Brecknock Moth Recorder)

Venue: BIS Offices, Brecon. 10am – 4pm

Indoor workshop covering live examination, dissection, equipment, materials, preparation, display, slide production, labelling and interpretation. We would



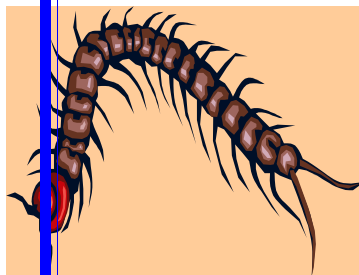
Sat. 19th Feb.

Ladybird Identification

Tutor: Phil Ward (Radnorshire Beetle Recorder)

Venue: BIS Offices, Brecon. 10am – 4pm

Indoor workshop focusing on identification, using keys, ecology, distribution & habitat. Places available: 10



Sat. 12th Mar.

Centipedes, Millipedes & Woodlice

Tutor: Tony Barber (National Recorder)

Venue: BIS Offices, Brecon. 10am – 4pm

Features both indoor and outdoor sessions covering species, identification, sampling techniques, biology & record collation. Places available: 10

Workshop Fee £5.00

Places are limited, so booking is essential

Contact Phil on 01874 610881 or email phil@b-i-s.org

Bioamrywiaeth Cymru
Biodiversity Wales

PARTNERIAETH BIOAMRYWIAETH CYMRU
WALES BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

BIS would like to thank the Welsh Biodiversity Partnership for their kind sponsorship of these workshops

Natur Cymru's £1,000 Writing Challenge Inspired by Nature

The challenge is to write a thousand word article on a subject of topical environmental or wildlife interest in Wales *which inspires you*. The winner will receive a prize of £500 donated by [WWF Cymru](#) and the runner up will receive a place, worth £500, on the nature writing course at [Tŷ Newydd](#), the National Writers' Centre.

Natur Cymru is the quarterly magazine that flies the flag for the wildlife and nature of Wales. The purpose of the competition is to stimulate debate and encourage contributions from anyone with a passion for our natural world in Wales.

Articles will be judged by a panel which will be looking for:

- Originality of content
- Use of plain language (Welsh or English)
- The degree to which the article engages with the reader and captures the imagination

In writing the article entrants should be targeting an audience that is interested in wildlife and the environment but not necessarily an expert.

The competition is open to anyone who subscribes to Natur Cymru apart from staff of Natur Cymru, WWF or Tŷ Newydd. Articles, along with illustrations (if any), are to be submitted by email to info@naturcymru.org.uk by 31st March, 2011. The winning articles will be selected by a panel of judges including Gillian Clarke, the National Poet of Wales, and published in the Summer 2011 edition of Natur Cymru.

If you have any questions about the competition please send an e-mail to:

huw.naturcymru@btinternet.com

Forthcoming Course:

Cofnod presents
**Centipede, Millipede &
Woodlouse Course**
Treborth Botanic Garden, Bangor
Sunday 17th October 2010
10am – 4pm

This practical course, led by Tony Barber, on British Chilopoda, Myriapoda & Isopoda will focus on their identification, sampling techniques and aspects of their biology.

The course will provide foundation knowledge for those interested in identifying and recording members of these ubiquitous groups of terrestrial invertebrates. It is assumed that attendees will have a basic understanding and appreciation of biological recording, perhaps building on existing identification skills with other species groups. However, the course will cater for a range of abilities – from those just starting out, to those interested in distinguishing the more difficult species.

Course Fee £5.00 – please see Cofnod website for booking details or email Richard at Cofnod below

Phone: 01248 672603

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Funding Partners:-

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