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## Wildlife in your Ward - Ideas for Action

### West Wales Biological Information Centre – how they can help your community

#### Introduction to Biological Recording Training

WWBIC can offer an 'Introduction to Biological Recording Training', which covers:

- What is a record?
- Why record?
- How to record on WWBIC platforms.

This training lasts around an hour and can be delivered through Zoom or in person when restrictions ease. Training could take place either on a weekday or weekend, during office hours or in the evening, whichever suits the participants.

If you are interested, then please contact Carys Williams at WWBIC:

[Carys@westwalesbiodiversity.org.uk](mailto:Carys@westwalesbiodiversity.org.uk)

#### YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2CVDNQxRV424WBahzITOWA>)

WWBIC now has a YouTube page where you can find all their online training courses. They have curated a 'Wildlife Identification Guides' playlist which includes training courses from the other Welsh Local Record Centres (SEWBReC, BIS and Cofnod), as well as videos from Buglife, The Bumblebee Conservation Trust, NatureSpot, Field Studies Council, Plantlife and the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland.

There is also a helpful playlist of video guides on how to use Aderyn, the Biodiversity Information and Reporting Database of Local Environmental Records Centres Wales, and the LERC Wales App to help you record via your phones when you are out and about.

#### Facebook Recording Group

WWBIC have a Facebook group - West Wales Biological Recording. This group is a place for people in West Wales to share wildlife findings, seek ID advice and discuss all things recordings with each other and WWBIC staff. WWBIC are trying to build a community of recorders (both novice and experienced) and verifiers to improve biological recording in the WWBIC region.

#### Common or Garden Project

The Common or Garden Project encourages people to get out and record common species they would find in their gardens and around West Wales. It invites the public to record their sightings of six common but under recorded species. The recording form is simple, you only have to click on the species you have seen and fill out your name and when and where you had seen it.

[Common or Garden Sightings - West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre \(wwbic.org.uk\)](http://wwbic.org.uk)

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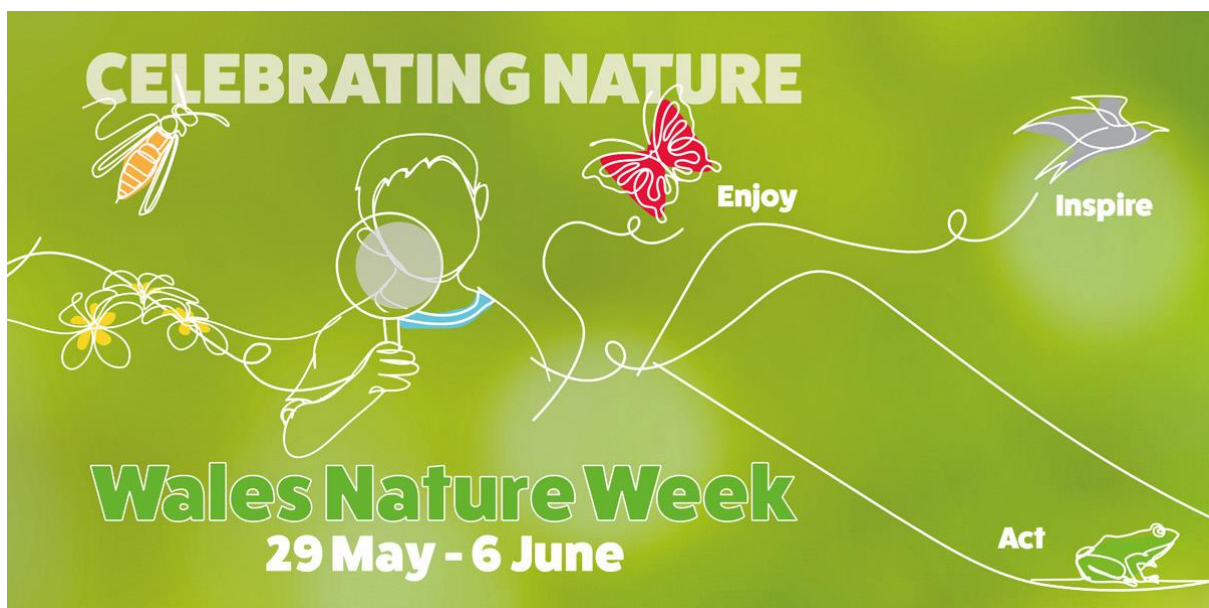
## Wales Nature Week! 29 May - 6 June 2021

Celebrating nature in Wales Nature Week!

A virtual set of events commence with a welcome return of the Garden BioBlitz- you can take part across Wales by spotting and sharing nature visitors and residents in your garden. Helpful tips and support from our community of experts will ensure your participation is fun and informative.

The celebration continues with a focus each day on habitat types and the species they support. Brought to you by Local Nature Partnerships in Wales, it's an opportunity to discover nature on your doorstep, who lives there and how you can help nature.

<https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Wales-Nature-Week>



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## Carmarthenshire Nature Notes

Produced four times a year – Carmarthenshire has some wonderful wildlife. These 'Nature Notes' include highlights to encourage us all to take a closer look around us – even the common is special. Seen anything interesting – then why not send us a photo?

[Carmarthenshire Nature Partnership \(gov.wales\)](http://gov.wales/carmarthenshire-nature-partnership)

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## Carmarthenshire Meadows Group - Big Meadow Search 2021



The [Carmarthenshire Meadows Group](#), established some years ago in the county, has developed a project - the Big Meadows Search - for 2021.

Developed by CMG, with the help of the Carmarthenshire county plant recorder, Richard Pryce, the survey reflects the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, only the group are asking people to record plants rather than birds.

Although developed here in Carmarthenshire, it is open to everyone to take part wherever you are in Wales, and you don't need your own meadow – but **please** get the landowner's permission if you go onto somebody else's land and follow all WG Covid guidelines that are relevant at the time of the survey.

The aim is to search meadows and record the plant species you find using the Big Meadow Search tick list. The survey will be run over 2 separate weeks. The first, **30<sup>th</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> June** (Wales Nature Week) and the second, **3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July** (to coincide with National Meadows Day). You can search in one or the other week, or both if you have the time.

The Big Meadow Search tick list is based on Plantlife's National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS) lowland grassland species list with additional meadow species added at the end.

The NPMS have a useful colour identification guide accessible as a free online PDF at [https://www.npms.org.uk/sites/default/files/PDF/NPMS\\_Id%20guide\\_WEB\\_2ndEd.pdf](https://www.npms.org.uk/sites/default/files/PDF/NPMS_Id%20guide_WEB_2ndEd.pdf) as well as a two-part introduction to lowland grassland at <https://www.npms.org.uk/content/online-training>

The tick lists (in both Word and Excel formats) Carmarthenshire and outside the county are attached to this email, and they can be printed out for use in the field, then you can enter your results into the Excel file (preferably), or Word file (if it's easier) so you can email the results back to the address shown below.

There is a **Big Meadow Search 2021 Facebook** group where you can add your finds, photos and comments and see what else is being found, and a Twitter account: **@bigmeadowsearch**.

By taking part you will be adding to the knowledge of grassland habitats in your area and to records in your local biodiversity records centre, not to mention the benefits of getting outdoors that we all know about.

If you have any queries, please contact [bigmeadowsearch@gmail.com](mailto:bigmeadowsearch@gmail.com)

**PLEASE** take part if you can and forward this to anyone/group that you think might like to get involved.

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