

GWENT RECORDERS NEWSLETTER



ISSUE No 2 Winter 2002

Recorders Day 2002

After the success of the Recorders Day in December 2000, the Greater Gwent Biodiversity Action Group and the Gwent Wildlife Trust are holding a second Recorders Day - taking recording forward in Gwent, which is to be held on **Saturday 19 January 2002** from 10am to 2pm at the **Glen-yr-Afon** hotel in Usk. After coffee, there will be a talk from Adam Rowe of the Powys & Brecon Beacons Local Record Centre about Local Record Centres and their work and then there will be a very brief update on the Gwent Species Audit, which is now available for consultation. In the afternoon, after a buffet lunch provided by the hotel, there will be a discussion chaired by Dr. Martin Anthony on how you see recording being taken forward in Gwent, giving you the chance to air your views on Local Record Centres. If you haven't already received an invitation or have yet to reply please contact me (Georgina) as soon as possible on 01633 644828.



The South Wales Arachnid Group (SWAG) - a new recording group

-by *Michael Kilner*

A new recording group has been established to collect records of spiders, harvestmen and pseudoscorpions in Gwent and Glamorgan. Our aim is to conduct formal and informal surveys of sites throughout this area, recording spider species and attempting to bring the level of knowledge of arachnids into line with their ecological importance. It seems odd that spiders are so neglected considering that they are such significant invertebrate predators and have enormous effects upon the insect populations of a site.

The Gwent and Glamorgan areas have been particularly neglected in the past, and several common species are still not recorded from the region. There are whole 10km squares without a single arachnid record, so there is plenty to do! On the other hand, this means that new county records, or even species new to Wales, crop up on a regular basis.

It is hoped that through field meetings and surveys, invertebrate recorders will gain experience in arachnid identification. We also hope that sufficient data will be gathered so that in years to come it will be possible to publish a local atlas.

SWAG has an occasional newsletter (Cobwebs) giving details of interesting finds, and helpful tips on where to look for arachnids.

Anyone interested in the South Wales Arachnid Group or wishing to receive a copy of Cobwebs should contact Michael on 01495 760020 or e-mail him at MichaelDKilner@aol.com

Great Crested Newt pilot monitoring project

Froglife is looking for volunteer newt surveyors in **Glamorgan** to help develop a programme to assess the population status of the protected Great crested newt. Volunteers will be provided with a training course, in March or April 2002 and financial support towards survey travel costs.

If you would like further details please contact Froglife ☎ 01986 873733 or ✉ froglife@froglife.org or check out the website at www.froglife.org

Batting in Monmouthshire - by Ian Rabjohns

When I first became involved with the LBAP process in connection with my interest in bats, it seemed that it might be a reasonably easy group to provide data on, considering that five of the sixteen bat species that we have records for in Monmouthshire are on the UK - Priority list and the remainder are UK - Species of Conservation Concern.

However, when it came down to the nitty-gritty details (e.g. answering questions such as; has the population of a particular species declined in Monmouthshire over the last 25 years) it became quickly apparent that with the exception of two species, the Lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) and the Greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) this information just wasn't available. The best that could be done was to record the presence of a species and illustrate its known distribution. It also must be said that in most recent atlas (Arnold 1993¹) the distribution of bat records of any particular species within its range is strangely concentrated around the localities where active batworkers live! Funny that!

A reasonable spread of at least presence/absence records from various sources exists for bat species in Gwent. Post 1980 records predominate, as a result of the need for records of all species receiving protection under The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). It was from around this time that a small but dedicated group of 'batworkers' developed, assisting NCC and subsequently CCW to deal with the increasing demands of legislation concerning this highly protected group. Prior to this, only the Greater Horseshoe (*R. ferrumequinum*) and Mouse-eared bat (*Myotis myotis*) had any significant protection (the latter was declared extinct after the last known male failed to appear at a regular hibernation site in 1991).

Greater and lesser horseshoe bats in Monmouthshire



Back to the two species of horseshoe bats. The horseshoe bats are so named because of their distinctive horseshoe shaped 'nose leaf'. The greater horseshoe (*R. ferrumequinum*) is one of our rarest and most threatened mammals. It is endangered not only in Britain but also across Europe. In Britain, it only occurs in South Wales and South-West England, where it at the extreme north of its range. In Monmouthshire, the one colony of this species known has been monitored closely since its discovery in 1991. It is doing well, numbers having risen from a peak of 60 adults producing 30 young in 1991 to 95 adults and 40 young this year.

The greater horseshoe bat's smaller cousin, the lesser horseshoe (*R. hipposideros*), is also endangered throughout Europe, with Wales and Southwest England holding a significant proportion of the population. This species could be said to be something of a Monmouthshire speciality, as they are found at numerous sites.

Horseshoe bat population counts are taken each year in early June at most of the important Welsh sites. Thirteen sites are counted in Monmouthshire. Some of these are showing a significant and steady rise in population number, while others swing very erratically. These latter results tend to be the larger colonies where part of the group may seek alternative roosts in some years. As a result of these counts, it is now possible to tell if the populations of either of these species is increasing or declining, or if their range is significantly changing.

The main reason that this accumulation of data has been possible is that both species remain very faithful to their roosting places. Other species can be far more fickle about where they roost from one year to the next or even one-day to the next! The only other species that tends to stay fairly reliably with its roosting places is the brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*).

The most reliable time to monitor colony numbers is in June before the juveniles begin to fly.

¹ Arnold (1993) Atlas of mammals in Britain, JNCC, HMSO.





Collecting data on other bat species in Monmouthshire

Unlike the horseshoe bats, there has not been enough manpower, or fine nights in June, to collect the same amount of data for the other eight species breeding in Monmouthshire. As a result of this lack of information, it is not possible to tell how well they are doing, as most roosts after first being noted may not be visited again unless building work is needed.

Pipistrelles



Pipistrelles (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) are the UK's most common bat species and were chosen to be a UK-priority species because they are thought to be a good indicator of habitat 'health'. However, recording 'Pips' has recently become more complicated, because what was thought to be one species of Pipistrelle (*P. pipistrellus*) is actually two, which are now known as Common pipistrelle (*P. pipistrellus*) and Soprano pipistrelle (*P. pygmaeus*). Checking the peak level of echolocation after the bat has emerged from the roost is the most reliable form of identification, *P. pipistrellus* echolocates at 45 kHz and *P. pygmaeus* at 55 kHz.

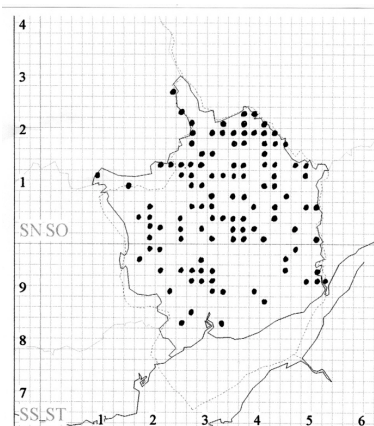
For the past three years I have been recording 'pips' as *P. pipistrellus* or *P. pygmaeus*, but as yet no work has been done on re-visiting all the past records to see which species these are. This alone will be a huge job at one roost per night! In general, in Monmouthshire, *P. pygmaeus* tend to be in larger colonies of up to 400 or 500 individuals.

Other species

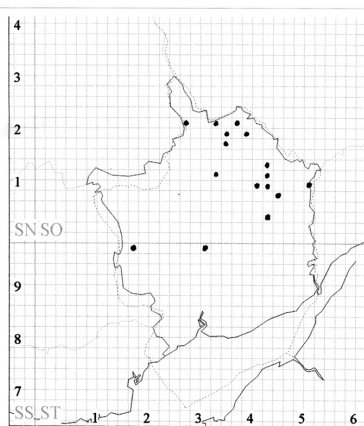


We will never have a large amount of information on other less common or more elusive species without serious research projects. One such project going on at the moment is targeting Barbastelles. Barbastelles may not even have been discovered in places where they exist as it is very elusive. In Gwent we have a single record of a dying bat, but we also have suitable woodland for this species, particularly in the Wye valley. We need further surveys to see if we can find it. Does anyone want to join me in all night bat-detecting adventures in the woods next summer!

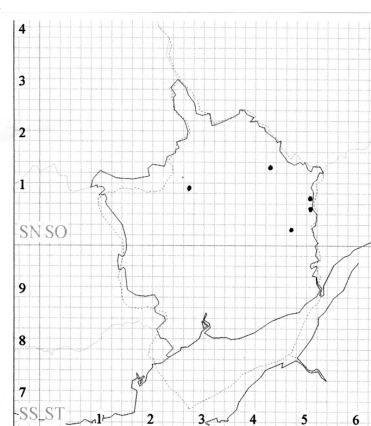
The maps below show the present information on the combined and separated data for Common and Soprano pipistrelle nursery colonies.



Combined pipistrelle species



Common pipistrelle
Pipistrellus pipistrellus



Soprano pipistrelle
Pipistrelle pygmaeus

If you are interested in gaining further information about bats in Monmouthshire, Ian can be contacted at: Mill Bank, Glyn Road, Pennalt, Monmouthshire, NP25 4AJ.

Not your copy of the newsletter? Would you like to be on the mailing list? If so please contact Georgina Holdsworth at GeorginaHoldsworth@monmouthshire.gov.uk ☎ 01633 644828, ✉ Monmouthshire County Council, Env. Dept., County Hall, Cwmbran NP44 2XH.

Rare mosses on church roofs

- by *Sam D.S. Bosanquet* (British Bryological Society Regional Recorder for VC35)

Because of its location at the junction of England and Wales, Gwent is home to several rare and interesting mosses and liverworts (collectively known as bryophytes) characteristic of both countries. As most bryologists (people who study bryophytes) have ignored Gwent in favour of the well-known riches of the Brecon Beacons there is a real chance of making exciting new discoveries in our county. This article looks at one of the county's most important and threatened bryophyte habitats; one that few people would ever have considered as a conservation priority.

In the late 1990s, Dr Jonathan Sleath (BBS Regional Recorder for Herefordshire) carried out a survey of the mosses of sandstone-tiled roofs in the Golden Valley and adjacent parts of Herefordshire. He discovered that three very rare moss species were growing on roofs in the area. All recent moss books indicated that these species had not been found on tiled roofs in Britain since the early 20th century. There seemed no reason why these species should not cross the border into Wales so I began a survey of stone-tiled roofs in northern Monmouthshire in October 2001.

The three mosses involved all share a common feature, the tips of all their leaves are hoary white and contrast with the green of the rest of the leaf. There are, however, at least five extremely common hoary-tipped mosses that grow on walls and roofs and can be confused with the rarities. Fortunately, with a bit of practice, all three rare species can be recognised in the field, although microscopic examination is essential for confirmation.

The rarest of the three is *Hedwigia ciliata* (Fringed Hoar-moss) (Map 1), a Data Deficient species in the Red Data Book. It grows in flat, sprawling patches and, diagnostically, has no midrib to its leaves. The second rarest is *Grimmia ovalis* (Flat-rock Grimmia) (Map 2), a Vulnerable species in the Red Data Book. It grows in round, dense tufts and has long, narrow leaves with short white tips. The third species, *Grimmia laevigata* (Hoary Grimmia) is slightly more widespread than *G. ovalis* on natural rock in Britain (Map 3) but is less common on tiles in Herefordshire. It grows in slightly flattened, loose tufts and has broader, concave leaves with longer white tips.

I started my survey, using my bird-watching telescope, at Penrhos where I spotted a few tufts of *G. ovalis* on the church roof. A quick search of the ground below the roof produced a tuft that had fallen from it, the specimen I needed for microscopic confirmation. Over the next few weeks I went to 27 churches in the eastern half of the county, found five more *G. ovalis* sites as well as my first *G. laevigata* and, most excitingly, one roof with *Hedwigia ciliata*.

By now I had a rough picture of the status of these species in the east of the county. 19 of the churches I had looked at had slate or artificial tile roofs and none of them supported the rarities. Two churches had stone tiles but had clearly been cleaned in the last few years; again the rarities were absent. This left six churches with natural sandstone tiles; all supported at least one of the rare species on the south-facing side of the roof (table 1). *Grimmia ovalis* was on all six churches, three held *G. laevigata* and one held the *Hedwigia*. I suspect that most of Monmouthshire's churches were originally tiled with natural sandstone as sandstone, rather than slate, is available locally. In this case these three mosses would once have been widespread. All three grow in direct sunlight and have not been found on the north-facing side of any roofs. The north side is typically carpeted with vigorous mosses that are of no conservation interest. Mosses do no damage to roofing tiles; and it is possible that they protect the tiles from acid rain. Sadly, many people like to see a clean church roof and are unaware of the rarity of the moss they are removing.

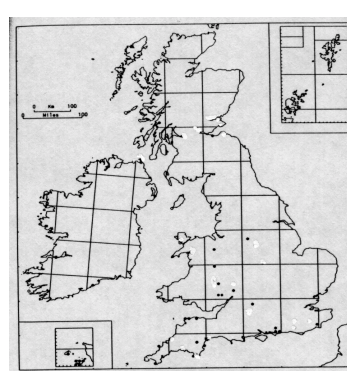
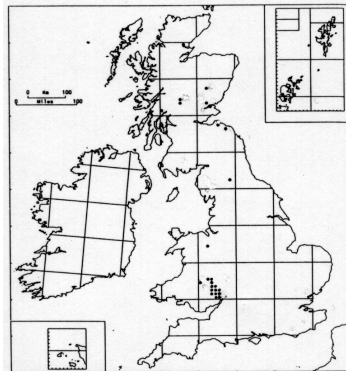
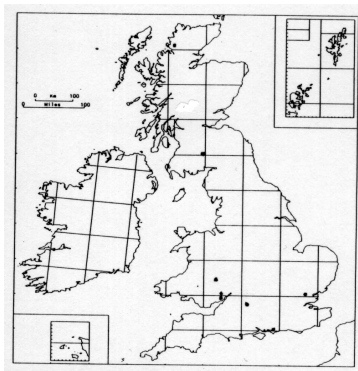
All three of these roof mosses will be included in the Monmouthshire LBAP as it can be inferred that all have declined dramatically in the last 30 years. Further survey work, ideally covering the whole of Gwent, is needed to establish which roofs support these mosses and whether they are found in any other unitary authorities. Any re-roofing work that is carried out on churches with

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strong colonies of any of these mosses should then be done following consultation with conservationists. It is hoped that funding will be made available to encourage re-use of original roofing tiles wherever possible.

Table 1: population size of 3 roof mosses on churches in Monmouthshire

	<u>H. ciliata</u>	<u>G. ovalis</u>	<u>G. laevigata</u>
Dingestow	x	Small	Very small
Dixton	x	Moderate	x
Llanarth	x	Very large	Small
Llangwm	Moderate	Moderate	x
Llanvapley	x	Large	Large
Penrhos	x	Small	x



Map 1: Hedwigia ciliata

Map 2: Grimmia ovalis

Map 3: G. laevigata

Maps are based on Hill, Preston & Smith (1991 et seq.) and show 10km localities of post-1950 records

Hill, M.O., Preston, C.D. & Smith, A.J.E. (1991 et seq.) Atlas of the Bryophytes of Britain and Ireland vols 1-3. Harley Books, Colchester.

Church, J.M., Hodgetts, N.G., Preston C.D. & Stewart N.F. (2001) British Red Data Books, mosses and liverworts. JNCC, Peterborough

If you are interested in bryophyte recording in Gwent, Sam can be contacted at Dingestow Court, Monmouth, Gwent. NP25 4DY email: s.bosanquet@ccw.gov.uk

Have you seen any Cormorants? - by Richard Clarke

The Goldcliff Ringing Group is looking for help from anyone who can provide sightings of cormorants seen locally, especially in the Gwent area.

Some 60 birds have been ringed in Gwent since July 2000 and just over half of these have been fitted with colour plastic "Darvic" rings. We are therefore keen to receive **any** records concerning cormorants, but especially those where birds are sporting rings. The details we are looking for are set out in the form that is on the last page of the newsletter; we would however be pleased to receive details of any recent sightings of cormorants or information concerning known feeding grounds, loafing sites or roosts.

The Group will provide feedback on the study to anyone who identifies any of the birds we have previously caught.

The return address for completed recording forms is stated on the recording form, but if you would prefer to telephone or e-mail the details of your sighting please contact Richard Clarke on 01633 615581 or richard.clarke@care4free.net.

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Ancient trees - an undervalued and misunderstood habitat - *by Jerry Lewis*

The value of Veteran trees

Ancient or 'veteran' trees are trees that, by virtue of their great age, size or condition, are exceptional in terms of their landscape, cultural and wildlife value. These trees are usually native species or species that were introduced to Britain a long time ago (before 1500) and are particularly old or large specimens of their type.

A veteran tree can create a place with beauty, atmosphere and an abundance of cultural and historical associations. In addition to the value of the trees themselves, each is capable of supporting a phenomenal range of other wildlife from large obvious creatures, such as owls and bats, to a myriad of insects and interesting communities of lichens, mosses and fungi. Some of our rarest and most special wildlife is **only** found in or on our ancient trees making them an important wildlife resource. In fact, a single veteran tree can be a complete habitat on its own. Even after death, the tree (or parts of it) continue to provide a valuable wildlife resource for among other things, fungi, mosses, lichens, beetles and birds for many years.

A trees life cycle

The life of a typical tree follows a pattern similar to that of a human being, from infancy, through maturity to death. However, unlike humans, a tree continues to lay down new tissue underneath the bark throughout its life. The older tissues, in the middle of the tree, lose their vital functions, such as conduction of water and nutrients from the roots and of the photosynthetic products from the leaves and when totally inactive become what is known as 'heartwood'. This aging wood however continues to provide structural support and the new tissues ensure that the tree can maintain its life support systems.

An old saying says, that an oak is 300 years growing, 300 years resting and 300 years gracefully expiring. These three stages in a tree's life are:-

Infancy to full maturity - where the tree rapidly increases in size. The crown will still be developing towards its full size and the tree may begin to set seed.

Full maturity to late maturity – where the overall size of the tree no longer increases although the trunk and main branch diameters continue to grow. The crown often becomes smaller as peripheral branches die, this helps the tree by reducing water and nutrient demands.

Veteran – where the dieback of redundant areas of the crown continues and the tree becomes "stag headed", an abundance of deadwood habitat is created.

In the veteran stage of their lives, fungi are important for almost all the wildlife associated with old trees and, perhaps surprisingly, to the health of the trees themselves. It is fungi that cause the tree to decay, which is important to the tree's well-being. The decay of the heartwood starts whilst the tree is still alive and healthy and is a perfectly natural process.

Veteran trees are under threat and under-recorded in Wales

Britain (especially England and Wales) has some 80% of the veteran trees in Europe and we therefore have a special responsibility to conserve them. There are few other parts of Europe where one can find large concentrations of ancient parkland and hedgerow trees, which is where most veteran trees can be found.

In the ancient wildwoods, veteran trees would have been common but those that now remain can usually be found in ancient deer parks or pasture woodland, on village greens or in churchyards, on parish boundaries or marking the routes of ancient trackways.

The future of our veteran trees is at risk, the greatest threat is not death but misunderstanding. Many veteran trees are thought of as "senile" or "dying" and are cut down or "tidied" of their deadwood. However, this is depriving many of our specialist species that rely on deadwood and veteran trees, of a habitat in which to live.

The first stage in conserving our veteran trees is finding out where they are. For several years the Veteran Tree Initiative has been developing in England, but so far, it has not really caught on in Wales. However we would like to start finding out where are veteran trees are so, if you are interested in taking part in a veteran tree survey please get in touch.

If anyone is interested in recording basic details of veteran trees (either casually or more systematically) contact Jerry Lewis for a recording form at Environment Department, Monmouthshire County Council, County Hall, Cwmbran, NP44 2XH. ☎ 01633 644856 or email - jerrylewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Gwent Ornithological Society - Gwent Breeding Bird Atlas 2002 - by Jerry Lewis

The Gwent Breeding Bird Atlas aims to plot the distribution of all of Gwent's breeding birds. The last atlas was done in the early 1980's and Gwent will be the first Welsh County, and one of only a handful in Britain, to have undertaken a second atlas. Comparing the results between the two atlases will be very enlightening.

Foot and mouth restrictions severely restricted fieldwork of breeding birds in 2001. Many would-be Recorders were frustrated in their efforts to gain access to their chosen squares and will therefore be keen to get out in spring 2002. A concerted effort will now be needed in the final season (March - August) of the project if the survey is to be a success and the subsequent publication is to be as up-to-date and complete as possible.

The survey couldn't be easier, and Recorders can spend as much time (or as little) in their tetrad as they are able. There are poorly covered tetrads in all parts of the county (Gwent) and there will be one not far from your home or workplace. In some parts even the most common species (e.g. Robin, Blue Tit, Song Thrush etc.) have not been recorded. Those who bird watch more regularly could obtain a list of the less common (less easily identified?) species and send in records from any part of the county. Either way, if you take on a tetrad or send in casual records, your efforts will be equally valued and will be fully acknowledged in the final publication.

Please contact Jerry Lewis (01633 644856) or Al Venables (029 20874307) if you are able to help in any way. Copies of the original Gwent Atlas of Breeding Birds are still available from the Gwent Ornithological Society (c/o Jerry Lewis) for the discounted price of £4 (+p&p).

Caerphilly LBAP Off To The Printers!

The Caerphilly LBAP is currently being edited and formatted ready for final printing. An official launch is currently being planned for May 2002, involving all partners with the key message: "*Local Wildlife is important and we've written a Big Book to help protect it!*"
For further information contact Melanie Sutherland, Caerphilly Biodiversity Officer, 01495 235187, sutherm@caerphilly.gov.uk

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A Liaison Officer for Welsh Invertebrates - by Mark Pavett

Hello Gwent! I have been asked to write a short note for the Gwent Recorders Newsletter describing my work at the National Museum of Wales. I have worked at the museum for six years, which has consisted mainly of curation work, survey work, dealing with public enquiries and anything else that came my way!

Earlier this year I was asked if I would be interested in becoming the Liaison Officer for Welsh invertebrates at the museum. Being interested in the Welsh fauna I agreed to do the job! But what does the job entail? A good question. At the moment the role is being developed and I am sure it will change over time. At present, part of my duties will be to promote the resources of the museum, i.e. collections, libraries, studying facilities etc. that are available for public use.

I am hoping to launch a Welsh Invertebrate Newsletter. This will probably take on some of the aims that were founded by the Dyfed Invertebrate Group newsletter and North Wales Invertebrate group newsletter, both of which are sadly no longer published. The aims of this newsletter, in keeping with the aims of the Dyfed and North Wales newsletters, would be:

1. To bring together a group of people interested in Welsh entomology.
2. To highlight sites of importance.
3. To publish important or interesting "finds" in Wales.
4. To publish articles on Welsh invertebrates and the sites at which they are found.

The Welsh Invertebrate Newsletter would also inform people of events at the museum and elsewhere.

We also aim to hold more workshops at the museum. The workshops are aimed at giving an introduction to a particular group of insects and help in using the keys available to identify species within that particular group. On Saturday 23 February 2002 we will be holding a workshop on the bees of the genus *Lasioglossum*, the venue being the National Museum of Wales and on Saturday 1 June we shall be holding an outdoor meeting at Overton, Gower. Anyone interested in coming along phone or e-mail me for further details; you will be most welcome. My contact details are below.

Another aspect of the museum's interest in Welsh entomology will be surveying sites that are important in a Welsh context. It is hoped that once a year a baseline survey will be undertaken at a site that is of importance in a Welsh context and a preliminary list for that site published. I would also be very interested to hear of any other surveys being carried out in Wales and if there is any way that the museum could help!

I hope that this gives some idea of the duties of the Liaison Officer for Welsh Invertebrates!

Finally, an appeal, if anyone has any ideas how the museum can better serve entomology in Wales please let me know. What do YOU think we should be doing? Don't be shy and don't be afraid of giving offence, I have a fairly thick skin.

If you would like to get in touch with Mark he can be contacted at the National Museum and Galleries Wales, BioSyB Dept. Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NP. Tel: 029 20573122; e-mail: mark.pavett@nmgw.ac.uk

I am now after articles for the next newsletter!! So, if you would like to write an article about your recording work, what you've been up to, exciting finds, species or habitats you're interested in or *anything* about recording then please let me know (01633 644828, remind me to give you details of page set ups!). The next newsletter is scheduled for April so please could I have articles by **15 April 2002**. It's a good way of letting people know what's going on out there!

If you have any other comments on the newsletter please contact me...my details are below.

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Blaenau Gwent's Biodiversity Day - The launch of the Action Plan

- by Nicola Sharpe

Howie Watkins, presenter of BBC's Really Wild Show, animated the special wildlife day held at Parc Bryn Bach, Tredegar, on Saturday 1 December 2001. He gave a comic performance of how to be a wildlife explorer, which delighted scores of children and adults who were drawn to the launch of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Blaenau Gwent. He then joined the Mayor of Blaenau Gwent, Councillor Brian Clements, in planting a tree to celebrate the occasion.

The event was also a first for all the conservation organisations in Blaenau Gwent who joined together at the biodiversity day. The day included environmental games, native tree seed planting and tree planting as well as species mapping, making badges and colouring for children. There was free film, courtesy of Boots the Chemist, Ebbw Vale, given to visitors who are taking part in a photography competition, and free birdseed given out. Malcolm Jones of the Owl Sanctuary at Festival Park, Ebbw Vale, also brought his birds of prey to the delight of local children.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans are designed to conserve and enhance habitats and species, which have been identified as locally important as well as those which are nationally or internationally important. It also aims to raise public awareness and involvement in conserving and enhancing the variety of life.

The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) is currently available for consultation and can be viewed at www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/biodiversity.

*If you would like to be involved in the Blaenau Gwent LBAP the next Biodiversity Forum meeting is on **Friday 15 February** (Time and venue to be announced). Volunteers are also needed to participate in a biodiversity education program for Blaenau Gwent for this year.*

GET SNAPPING IN BLAENAU GWENT...



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council is GIVING away free film for local residents. As part of this biodiversity initiative the Local Biodiversity Officer is distributing free film for local residents to take photos of local wildlife in Blaenau Gwent.

Photos returned to us will be entered into our photo competition in January/February next year. The prize for the best photo is an APS camera kindly donated to us by Boots the chemist. We also hope to use the photos returned in the final LBAP document. So we

urge people to take photos particularly relevant to the Blaenau Gwent LBAP habitats and species.

Some good places to capture wildlife, in Blaenau Gwent, on camera are:

Bryn Bach Parc, Silent Valley Local Nature reserve, Roseheyworth woodlands, Sirhowy woodlands, St. James' reservoir, Cwmtillery woods, Coed Argoed, Abertillery Park woodland.

Photo competition rules: Deadline for entries is February 3rd, any size accepted, photos must be of species and habitats found in Blaenau Gwent. *Film offer is subject to availability.*

Logo competition

We would like to have a Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity logo to include in the final LBAP and other associated publications. This is a great opportunity to get kids involved and develop their art skills.

If readers would like to know more about the LBAP or any of the meetings or events above please contact Nicola Sharpe at 01495 355716 or email: Nicola.Sharpe@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

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Gwent Cormorant Study 2001-2002: bird-sighting report form

Where seen Name of site: 6 figure map ref.	When seen Date(s) & time(s)	Age of bird (✓) adult imm.	Name of Observer (Block capitals please)
Activity <u>At roost</u> (✓) tree pylon waterside <u>In Flight</u> direction flying height (metres) <u>Feeding</u> (✓)	Roost/Flock size If at roost or in flight please specify total number of birds recorded How many birds were immature?	BTO ring details (metal ring) Ring number Ring fitted on which leg of bird (✓) Left Right	Colour ring details Ring colour Ring number Ring fitted on which leg of bird (✓) Left Right
<i>Thank you for your help</i>			
Further details (more information about roost site: where in relation to water, tree species used, number of birds at roost when first seen, details of times of arrival and departure of birds and flight direction as appropriate. Also (if seeking feedback) your contact details – address, telephone number, e-mail address)			
Please return completed forms to: Richard Clarke, Chykembro, 8 Lower Ochryth, Risca, Newport NP11 6EN			