



Monmouthshire Meadows Group

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

Agenda 7pm

- Apologies
- Minutes of 2023 AGM
- Chair's and Treasurer's reports
- Election of committee
- Questions & any other business
- Break
- Talks: Sam Bosanquet
- Q&A/Discussion
- SUPPER

This presentation will be on our
web site to read later



Our 20th Anniversary Party (Clare Adamson)

Our 20th Year

- Our 20th anniversary started with the calendar
 - Remember it is generic so you can use it any year
- 20th Anniversary party in July very kindly hosted by Laura Tenison in the mediaeval barn at Wern-y-Cwm Farm
 - Thanks to Laura, Saran and her team



Open Meadows

- At Trostrey and Gwehelog
- Thanks to hosts:
Saran Allott-Davey
Christopher and Alicia Guinness
Mary and Jim Neal
Rachel and Simon Taylor
- Also to Andy Karran & Lowri Watkins of Gwent Wildlife Trust
Steph Tyler, and Wendy Tyler-Batt for flower ID walks



Investigating Saran's hidden pond (Clare Adamson)

Reserves

- Wet Meadow: the new ponds continue to surprise us with emergence of long dormant flora
 - Very grateful for support of Wye Valley National Landscape (formerly AONB) for their team of volunteers at our work parties
 - Also to our members
 - And David on Trackmaster
 - And of course Dick!
- Ida's and Kingcoed Meadows – continue to thrive



Wet Meadow Pond (Photo: David Broadbent)

Surveys and Practical Support

- The team: Steph, Elsa, Sheelagh and Wendy
 - Over 30 surveys of new members, including this year's Open Meadows
- Plant ID course with Steph
 - Pictured in their lunch break!
- Teamed with GWT for fungi ID day with Elsa and Jon
- Scything Courses with Andrea Gilpin at Ty Mawr Convent
 - Picture: Vijay Rai, Head of Gardens



Photos: top, Jan Stevenson; bottom, David Broadbent

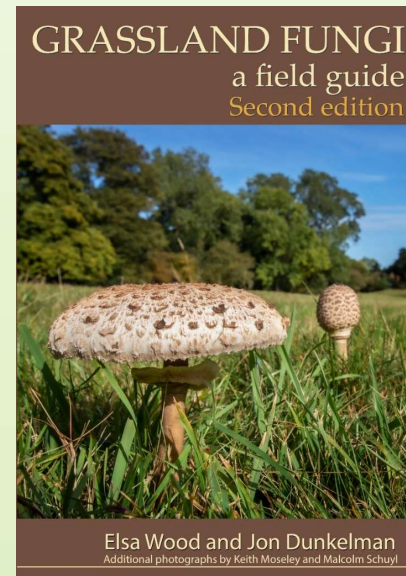
Social and Outreach

- Spring AGM in Cross Ash with talks by Ian Rabjohns and Roger Ruston
- Meadows walk part of Chepstow Walking Festival
- Stalls
 - Wye July (picture opposite)
 - ACE Climate Festival (incl. scything demos)
 - Monmouth Seed Swap
- Autumn Social in Llanishen
 - Conservation Grazing, Exmoor Ponies
 - Joe Ryder and Alex Crawley



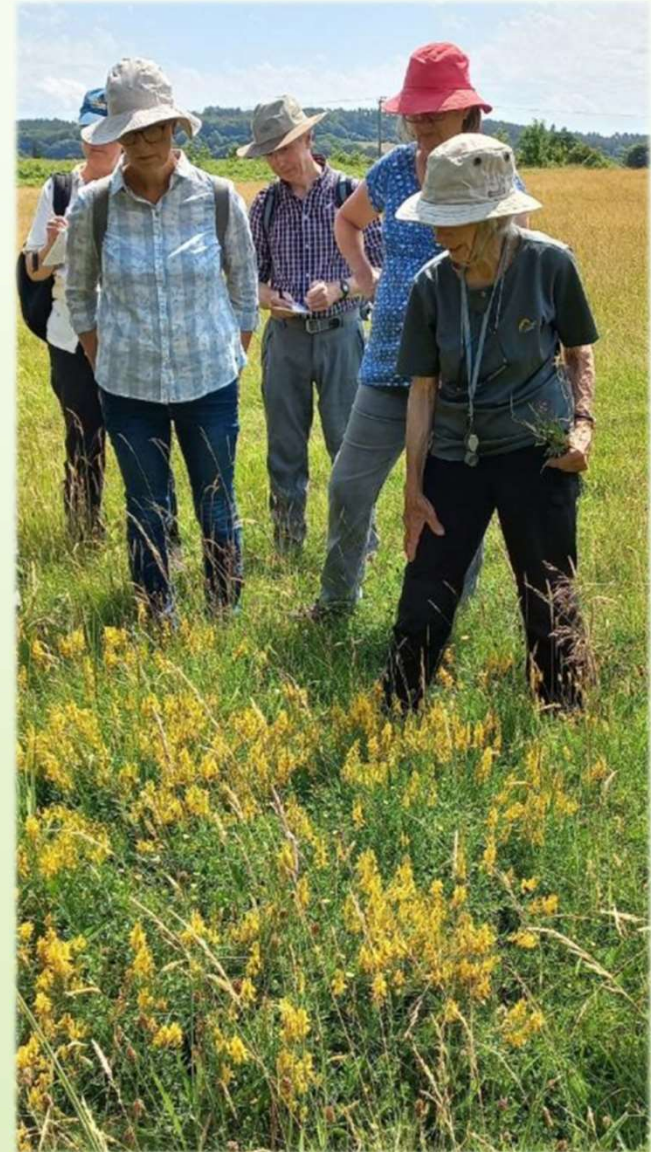
Publications & Socials

- Facebook page for members to share ideas
- Instagram
- Newsletter
- Website with sources of information and suppliers/contractors
- Grassland Fungi: Second Edition
 - New edition planned
 - Photo resource online



Coming Up This Year

- Open Meadows on Sunday 9th June
 - Joe Ryder's traditionally managed meadows near Trellech
 - Sue Derrington's flower-rich fields at Wolvesnewton
- More training courses
 - Flower Id (Steph) still to be organised!
 - Scything at Ty Mawr convent with Andrea Gilpin
- Steph's botany walks
- An Autumn afternoon meeting



The background of the slide is a photograph of a field of wildflowers, primarily white daisies with yellow centers, interspersed with some yellow wildflowers and green foliage. The image has a soft, slightly blurred quality. A solid light green horizontal bar runs across the top of the slide, and a solid dark green horizontal bar runs across the bottom. The text "Finance and Membership" is written in a large, blue, sans-serif font, and "2023-24" is written below it in the same style. A thin horizontal line is positioned directly under the year "2023-24".

Finance and Membership

2023-24

Balance

Monmouthshire Meadows Group			
<u>Statement of Financial Accounts: 2023-24</u>			
Cash accounting basis			
	2023-24		<u>Memo: 2022-23</u>
Opening bank balance (at 1 April 2023)	£ 63,570.47	1 April 2022:	£ 58,978.32
Total Receipts	£ 14,966.87		£ 23,613.83
Total Expenditures	£ 10,479.94		£ 19,021.68
Net Surplus	£ 4,486.93		£ 4,592.15
Closing bank balance (at 31 Mar 2024)	£ 68,057.40	31 Mar 2023:	£ 63,570.47

Receipts

	<u>2023-24</u>		<u>2022-23</u>	
Membership Subscriptions	£4,571.00		£ 4,299.00	
Donations	£ 847.10		£ 1,486.00	
HMRC Gift Aid	£ -		£ 875.55	
Welsh Govt Rural Payments	£3,218.27		£ 3,270.40	
Grazing income	£ 865.00		£ 375.00	
Events	£2,284.41		£ 1,861.11	
Sales	£ 362.00		£ 325.60	
Grants	£ -		£ 8,730.00	
Wayleave payments	£ 10.33		£ 10.33	
Interest	£ 719.98		£ 158.74	
Restricted funds:				
Grassland Fungi Book Sales	£2,088.78		£ 2,222.10	
Total Receipts		£ 14,966.87		£ 23,613.83

Expenditure

	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
Insurance	£ 339.38	£ 80.40
Pony costs	£ -	£ 308.58
Meadow Survey costs	£ -	£ 295.00
Meadow Maintenance work	£ 544.34	£ 420.00
Meadow Equipment (including Ponds)	£ -	£12,398.99
Mowing Equipment & Maintenance	£ -	£ 402.05
Wet Meadow rent	£1,520.00	£ 1,520.00
Anniversary Calendar	£ -	£ 1,748.85
Events	£2,660.90	£ 1,691.82
IT/Website & Admin	£ 181.19	£ 95.99
Printing	£ 62.29	£ 60.00
Grassland Fungi Book costs	£ 171.84	£ -
GWT Grasslands Matching Appeal	£5,000.00	
Total Expenditures	£ 10,479.94	£ 19,021.68

Membership

- Statistics at year end
 - Last year - 39 new members
 - 357 total members (including partners) - 278 sites
 - Additional 85 on mailing list behind with membership payments
 - Exercise to remove old records if no response
- Reminders are sent twice a year
 - Around 45% have standing orders

Election of the Committee

■ Continuing members

- Clare Adamson
- Judith Carruthers
- Dick Coates
- Teona Dorien-Smith
- Marilyn Dunkelman
- Maggie Hamlen
- David Llewellyn – treasurer
- Pam Manfield
- Rachel Morgan – chair
- Steph Poulter
- Steph Tyler – honorary president

■ New members joining us

- Sally Jones

■ Standing down

- Clare Catto
With many thanks for her service.
Clare has increased obligations with ACE Monmouth so will still be actively supporting our cause

As per our constitution clause 13: each of the trustees shall retire from office with effect from the conclusion of the AGM next after his or her appointment but shall be eligible for re-election at that AGM.



Big Meadow Search

A guide to
grassland
indicator plants
and some of their
associated species

By Laura Moss and
Andrew Martin

Carmarthenshire
Meadows
Group



Grŵp
Dolydd Sir
Gaerfyrddin



Thank You!!

ANY QUESTIONS?