

Glamorgan Botany Group

2019 Excursions

Welcome to the 2019 excursion listing for the Glamorgan Botany Group, and to our last chance to collect data for the 2020 edition of the BSBI Atlas.

Having filled quite a few of the obvious gaps in coverage in the eastern half of v.c. 41 over the last few years, this year we're widening our scope slightly, and including a few places where post-2000 coverage has simply been patchy, rather than non-existent. So please join us to reach some less-frequented parts of the county, and to hone your skills at identifying common and less common plants of the area.

Excursions are free, and open to all interested. There is no need to book in advance, but please note the following:

- 🍃 All excursions will start promptly at **10am**, and will end in the late afternoon (although on most excursions there is opportunity to head back earlier if you want to).
- 🍃 Please bring a packed lunch, hand-lens, field-guide(s), and a GPS if you have one.
- 🍃 Excursions may be cancelled if heavy rain is forecast to last all day – please check with David if in doubt.
- 🍃 Be aware that some sites may be wet, rocky, or overgrown – we've indicated below if we expect the going to be particularly tough, but please come appropriately attired.
- 🍃 If you require (or can offer) a lift, contact David and he'll let you know if anyone can help.

We look forward to seeing you on one or more of our excursions this year!

David Barden, Karen Wilkinson and Julian Woodman

Saturday 27 April

Bettws

Meeting place: Junction of Heol Dewi Sant and Penparcau, Bettws (SS899.872, CF32 8SS). *There is plenty of parking on nearby residential roads. Just to be clear, this is the Bettws to the SE of Maesteg, not the one on the NW side of Newport!*

On this excursion we'll explore the tracks, woodlands and lanes to the N and W of Bettws. If there's time, we may take a look around the village itself, where grassy verges and derelict land may provide some interest.

Sunday 19 May

Llantwit Major

Meeting place: Under the large '➡' sign, Llantwit Major railway station, Le Pouliguen Way (SS970.688, CF61 2SW). *There is a car park at the railway station. If that is full, the next best option is the side of Windmill Lane on the N side of the railway (SS970.690, CF61 2SU). Note that the car parks on the SW side of Le Pouliguen Way appear to be for shop customers only.*

Having investigated some of the urban plants of Llantwit Major, we'll head across fields to the small cove of Tresilian. We'll then sample the limestone flora of the coast before walking up Cwm Col-huw back to Llantwit Major through the old part of town.

Saturday 22 June**Cwm Bargod, Bedlinog**

Meeting place: N end of Coly Row, Bedlinog (SO088.017, CF46 6UD). *There is very limited parking space here, and we ask that you park further S along Coly Row, or on the street parallel to it, Maes y Bedw (SO089.016, CF46 6UA). An alleyway runs from the N end of Maes y Bedw to Coly Row.*

We'll explore the extensive areas of pasture and woodland in the isolated valley of Cwm Bargod on this trip. *Some rough walking is likely, especially later on as we head further N up the valley – please come prepared.*

Sunday 21 July**Welsh St Donats**

Meeting place: Forestry car park, Mynydd y Glew, Hensol Forest (ST030.768). *For those travelling along the Cowbridge Road (A4222), note that the lane running SE from Ystradowen is narrow and rough in places. We suggest travelling via Welsh St Donats instead.*

Although the heathland N and E of Welsh St Donats has long since been forested, the area still holds a good deal of botanical interest, and on this excursion we'll be looking to hoping to gain access to some privately-owned fields, as well as updating our records for parts of Hensol Forest.

Saturday 17 August**Llangynwyd**

Meeting place: To be decided – announcements by email and facebook nearer the time.

On the edge of the E Glamorgan region, the small village of Llangynwyd (S of Maesteg) has received little attention in recent years. We hope to obtain permission from a local landowner to look at some private fields, but even if that's not the case we should have plenty of lanes, tracks and woodland to occupy our time.

Saturday 21 September Cefn Hirgoed, Pencoed

Meeting place: Children's playground, South View, Pencoed (SS955.818, CF35 6PB). *There is on-street parking on South View and on nearby roads. Pencoed Station is a short walk away.*

On this trip, we'll start from the common land of Ystadgwaun on the NW side of Pencoed, and head up to examine the acid flora of Cefn Hirgoed and (hopefully) the boggy ground beyond.

Any enquiries about these excursions to:

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