



Bodelwyddan BioBlitz

15 July, 10.00 – 4.00

WHAT IS A BIOBLITZ?

As the sporting world limbers up for the forthcoming London 2012 Games, keen nature spotters in north Wales are invited to join a wildlife survey of Olympic proportions. On 15th July at Bodelwyddan Castle, experts from many local wildlife groups will be out and about leading a Meet the Species count of animals and plants in the *Bodelwyddan BioBlitz*. And they're looking for help.

Everyone can get involved and make their local findings count in this nationwide project, which has the ambitious target of finding and recording 2,012 different species.

Wildlife information collected on 15th July will be shared with scientists and used to protect species and conserve habitats into the future.

The Meet the Species events, which are happening across the UK, are inspired by the survey work of wildlife experts and designers building the London 2012 Olympic Park. They used the information to ensure the needs of the resident animals and plants were just as well catered for as those of the athletes and spectators. And the resulting Park is a world-class sporting venue that incorporates 45ha of new wildlife habitat.

Morrigan Mason, Bodelwyddan BioBlitz organiser said: "This event shows you don't have to be sporty to be part of the biggest event of 2012. It's our chance to contribute to a major research project and enjoy the buzz of the Games. We're looking forward to getting out there and looking for wildlife, and who knows we might find something rare and interesting that gets us into the wildlife record books."

Savita Custead, Chief Executive of the Bristol Natural History Consortium, said: "Last summer alone we recorded 500 species on our list, but to achieve our goal of finding all 2,012 we need as many people as possible to get involved in what will be one of the UK's largest ever wildlife surveys.

"We can't wait to see what everyone finds. Every piece of information, no matter how small, will help us build a picture of the state of UK wildlife and guide our work in the future. Join us now to make sure your count really counts!"

WAYS OF GETTING INVOLVED

FOR EXPERTS

Naturalists and wildlife experts from across north Wales are volunteering their time to lead species surveys throughout the day. If you have a special area of interest and would like to join our team of survey volunteers, please contact Morrigan Mason on 01745 584060, email

enquiries@bodelwyddan-castle.co.uk

FOR THE PUBLIC

If you would like to come along and join a public 'survey walk', go to the event marquee on the field below the castle and book a place on one of the walks. Each walk will be on a theme such as birds, plants, moths and butterflies. Walks last up to 45 minutes. Places are limited and offered on a first come, first served basis.

There will also be other activities for children to enjoy in the event marquee, including badge making, craft activities, and a chance to see some of the things our experts find under microscopes. Most importantly, we will be displaying a running total of all the different species discovered during the day at Bodelwyddan Castle.

Gift Aid admission: Adults - £4.20, Children - £1.85

Standard admission: Adults - £3.80, Children - £1.6

Children under 5 yrs: Free

Bodelwyddan Castle Trust Members: Free

SPECIAL EVENTS

15th July, 8.00AM **'The Secret Life of Mammals'**. An opportunity to spend time with experts, Rhian Hughes and Martin Bailey, to discover the very secret world of small mammals. Humane mammal traps and camera traps will be set the night before to record the nocturnal activities of these secretive creatures. In the morning we will be discovering the results.

15th July, 9.00PM **'Bat Walk'**. A fantastic chance to see and hear bats in their natural habitat. This walk is led by Sam Dyer of Clwyd Bat Group, who will provide a short introduction and hand out bat detectors that allow you to hear the bats' ultrasonic calls. The walk will last around 1½ hours. Bring warm clothes, shoes and a torch. If the weather is poor, please call beforehand to check the walk is still going ahead.

Places are limited on these special events. We ask for a donation on the day of £2 for adults and £1 for children to go towards our volunteers' expenses. Booking essential. Please call 01745 584060 or e-mail enquiries@bodelwyddan-castle.co.uk

Bodelwyddan Castle Trust would like to give special thanks to Cofnod (North Wales Environmental Information Service), North East Wales Biodiversity Network, and The Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), who have given a great deal of their time to support this event.



cofnod
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North Wales Environmental Information Service

