

# Magnificent Meadows Cymru

Winter News  
2021

**Dear all,** we've lots of good news to brighten your start to 2021. Seed has been sown, a wellbeing walking route progressed, an app and a meadows group launched – plus we have news of your chance to join a new group in Pembrokeshire!

## Meadows for the community

Autumn and wintertime in the meadow life cycle is all about cutting and seeding. Yellow rattle and other wildflower seeds are best sown in the autumn as some species need cold periods to start germinating. Last season, we sowed hectares of locally sourced seeds across sites in South Wales, at Johnstown Primary School, Scolton Manor, Priory Saltings and Withybush General Hospital. At Haverfordwest's Priory Saltings, we were joined by the local primary school, The Soroptimists, local councilors, and the Mayor. We even had our new meadow blessed by the local vicar! We are really excited to see what wildflowers and grasses will bloom this coming summer.

In North Wales new meadows were sown using Welsh wildflower seed, at Ysgol Sant Sior in Llandudno with help from pupils and at the new play park at Maes Geirchen estate in Bangor, with help from volunteers, the local councillor and Wild Elements. At Ysgol Pendalar in Caernarfon, we found 21 wildflower species already growing in the turf, just waiting for a chance to flower! An area to trial a mini meadow has been marked out, raked and



local yellow rattle seed scattered. The school are super keen on trialing a meadow and are also excited to be getting a willow sculpture of a bee to go in their mini meadow!

## Meadows Health Route, Bangor

We've been working with the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare, North Wales Wildlife Trust and Ysbyty Gwynedd to develop a mapped and waymarked health and wellbeing walking route from the hospital to the nearby Wildlife Trust reserve at Eithnog.

We recently consulted with the health professionals at the Hergest mental health unit and received lots of enthusiasm for the route: "What a lovely initiative, I'm very excited to hear how it's shaping up. Loving the leaflet idea" said their Clinical Psychologist. The walking route will be shown on a leaflet with suggestions for stopping points to soak in the scenery and engage with nature using all the senses. We hope it will be used by hospital staff, visitors, members of the local community and even for clinical purposes



## Meadows groups

Exciting news: we are launching a new Meadows Group in Pembrokeshire! If you have an area of grass that can be turned into a meadow or would like to network and get tips from other meadow owners in Pembrokeshire, this group could be for you. Join our 1<sup>st</sup> online meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January to find out more – event info can be found here: <https://fb.me/e/1OkksYZyL>.

On Anglesey a brand-new meadows group was launched in August in conjunction with Cwlwm Seiriol. Despite the pandemic we forged ahead, starting the group via Zoom, enjoying an excellent talk at the first meeting by Hilary Kehoe from PONT. Since then, the group has been having monthly meetings on-line, with one in-person meeting squeezed in between lockdowns. The group has been steadily growing and we now have 50 people on the mailing list!

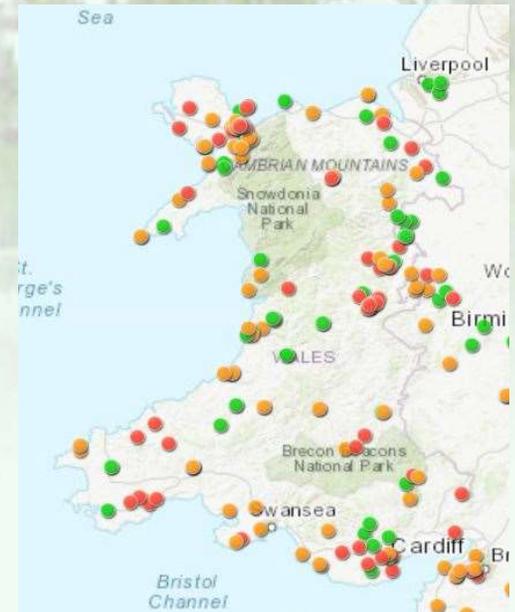


## WaxcApp

Our new WaxcApp – a citizen science app to map threatened waxcap grasslands – was launched in October with a great success.

We received almost 400 surveys in total, half of which were in Wales. Now that waxcap fungus season is over, we will be analysing our data and sharing these on [WaxcApp Results website](#) soon. Our [Facebook group #WaxcapWatch](#) is proving popular with over 400 members.

Please join in if you would like to learn more about waxcaps and share your pictures. Thank you to everyone that used our app and gave feedback, it will be here again next season!



Above: WaxcApp survey results so far. Green dots show sites with the biggest range of waxcap colours seen, suggesting high species diversity.

Please keep in touch and check out our social media posts:

**Twitter:** @plantlifecymru (#meadowscymru)

**Facebook:** @plantlifecymru

**Instagram:** meadows\_cymru\_plantlife

Or send your meadow pictures to [meadowscymru@plantlife.org.uk](mailto:meadowscymru@plantlife.org.uk)