

# Gwent Fungus Group

## Foray Programme, May to November 2026



Arrive at 10.15 for foray to start at 10.30am. Please be prompt!

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Our forays are run by and for the members of the Gwent Fungus Group (GFG). Please do not publicise the forays widely for they are not meant for the general public, but as visits to record species. However, guests would be welcome.

The group is self-financing, a membership fee is levied to cover administrative costs involved in running the group. For the whole programme of **7 forays** the cost is **£6 per person** or **£10 per couple**. Children accompanied by an adult are free of charge.

All forays will be undertaken according to the nationally agreed guidelines in the leaflet entitled 'The Wild Mushroom Pickers Code of Conduct' published by the British Mycological Society (BMS).

Please note:

- Wear suitable footwear to all sites and be prepared for all weathers. Some sites are quite steep and slippery in bad weather so please take care at all times.
- Smoking is prohibited on Forestry Commission and Woodland Trust sites.
- Well behaved dogs are welcome at most sites but neither the GFG nor the British Mycological Society (our insurers) will accept any responsibility for injury or damage caused directly or indirectly by a dog brought to a foray by a member or visitor. Dogs should be kept on leads at all times.

We will send out reminders before each foray.

Note that some of the later forays are subject to confirmation but we will inform you if we need to make changes.

In all cases the postcode may be imprecise and should not be relied on when you are close to the site. The grid references and What3Words refer to the car park location, where known



Crimson Waxcap, *Hygrocybe punicea*

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Allt Yr Yn, Newport

Postcode NP20 5DX Grid reference ST299888 What3Words ///sling.gossip.print

A Newport Council nature reserve which is mainly woodland.

Leave the M4 Motorway at Junction 27, High Cross, and take the B4240 Risca road towards Newport. After 0.4 miles at the top of a gentle climb, turn left onto Ridgeway.

Proceed along this road for about 0.3 miles until you see a single storey white building with aerials on top.

Turn left here down a single track road, Allt-yr-yn View, and proceed downhill for about 0.5 miles to a junction where Allt-yr-yn Road goes off to the right.

Carry on straight ahead and the entrance to Allt-yr-yn wood is about 100 yds on the left. It is sign posted.

There is room for parking on the road at this point.

### Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Sirhowy Hill Woodlands

Postcode NP22 4QF Grid reference SO147097 What3Words ///pickup.advances.plums

Woodlands managed by a local community organisation.

**From Monmouth** take the A40 towards Abergavenny and then the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road. After about 9 miles turn off on to the A4281. Stay on the A4281 which at one roundabout takes a left turn.

At the roundabout with the A4047 turn right onto that road signed to Tredegar. Stay on the A4047 for 1.3 miles, passing the Sirhowy Garage on your left.

After a small park on your left and a turning to Sirhowy Hill Ind Est take the left turn, which is at a crossroads, into Thomas Ellis Way. Park in the large layby on your left.

**From the south** there are various options. If you come via Tredegar on the A4048 then turn right at the Bedwellty Park roundabout near Georgetown, signed to Georgetown, then immediately left into Park Place.

Follow Park Place which becomes Greenfield Terrace after a sweeping turn to the right.

Turn left into Thomas Ellis Way and park in the large layby on the right.

### Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Trellech Wet Meadow

Postcode NP25 4AF Grid Reference SO502066 What3words ///skin.bookcases.dried

Meadows and pasture managed by Monmouthshire Meadows Group.

These directions refer to the turn off to the Lloysey Woods and New Grove Meadows Car Park.

Note that the parking arrangements may be changed close to the event if the doctor's surgery car park is available. An email will be circulated should this be the case.

**From Monmouth**, take the B4293 towards Trellech and at the fork just past the recycling centre on your right and the low bridge over the River Trothy, fork left to stay on the B4293 signposted to Trellech and Chepstow. After 3 miles you will pass a left turn to The Narth and Whitebrook. Stay on the B4293 and after passing New Grove Farm on your right there is an unsigned track on the right which leads down to the New Grove Meadows car park.

**From the south** drive through Trellech on B4293. After passing the derestricted signs the turning to New Grove Meadows car park is on the left.

From the car park we will walk through the woods to Trellech Wet Meadow. (Anyone with limited mobility should park in Roman Way where there are usually a few on-street spaces.)

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - Upper Red House Farm

Llanfihangel Ystern Llewern

Postcode NP25 5HL      Grid reference SO 4284 1306      What3words ///fantastic.grain.heaven

A working organic farm with meadows and grassland.

**From Monmouth** follow the B4233 for 3.5 miles, through Rockfield to The Hendre.

Turn left at the crossroads just after the entrance to The Rolls Golf Club.

After 0.5 mile take the right fork towards Tregare/Raglan.

After a further 0.9 miles the road forks – there is no sign but there is a small triangle of grass between the lanes. Take the right fork here, along the single track road.

After 0.7 miles there is another fork (this time there's no grass triangle) – take the left fork here. Travel right to the end of this lane where the farm is situated (a further 0.3 miles).

**From Abergavenny** take the B4233. After passing the Halfway pub at Tal-y-Coed turn right after 1.3 miles towards Penrhos and Llanfihangel Ystern Llewern (there is a small green with a post box at the turning).

After 0.3 miles on this single track road, take the left turn towards Llanfihangel Ystern Llewern. (The road passes St Michael's church, and has some tight bends.) After 0.8 miles turn right just after the gates to Hillbank Cottage (which are on the left).

Travel right to the end of this lane where the farm is situated (a further 0.3 miles).

Parking is through the gate straight ahead, next to the barns.

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October, Fungus Day - Pentwyn Farm

Pentwyn, Penallt

Postcode NP25 4SE      Grid reference SO 523 094      What3Words ///screen.assurance.crusted

Gwent Wildlife Trust reserve.

**From Monmouth**, take the B4293 towards Trellech and at the fork just past the recycling centre on your right and the low bridge over the River Trothy, fork left to stay on the B4293 signposted to Trellech and Chepstow.

As you near the top of Lydart Hill there is a left fork – take this fork which brings you into the village of Penallt.

At the crossroads in the village turn left and take the first turn on the right at the war memorial which is signposted to the pub (The Bush).

After a few yards where the road forks, instead of turning to the right for the pub car park, keep on the straight track that leads past the large industrial barn building and follow this round to the end.

**From the south** take the B4293 and in Trellech turn right immediately past the Lion Inn towards The Narth.

Drive through The Narth and you reach a crossroads about a mile past the village. Go straight across and continue until you pass over another crossroads in Penallt and then take the small road on the right at the war memorial signposted to the pub (The Bush).

After a few yards where the road forks, instead of turning to the right for the pub car park, keep on the straight track that leads past the large industrial barn building and follow this round to the end.

Parking is above and below the medieval stone barn.

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October - The Beeches, The Narth

Postcode NP25 4QL    Grid reference SO528066    What3Words ///closed.taxi.scripted

Small mainly meadows site with a good range of waxcaps.

Note: using satnav or Google can lead to use of an unsuitable track close to The Beeches

**From Monmouth**, take the B4293 towards Trellech and at the fork just past the recycling centre on your right and the low bridge over the River Trothy, fork left to stay on the B4293 signposted to Trellech and Chepstow.

After 3 miles you will reach a left turn signposted to The Narth. Take the rightmost of the two turn roads at the junction

Shortly after this you reach a crossroads where you turn right for The Narth. About half a mile after the village sign where the road bends sharply to the right continue straight on down Pool Lane.

After the road opens out keep to the left and turn left down a track.

On reaching The Beeches continue down to the parking area in front of the house.

**From the south** take the B4293 to Trellech and turn right immediately at the Lion Inn towards The Narth.

Go past the village hall and after passing a red phone box there is a turning on the right at a sharp bend. Turn right here into Pool Lane.

After the road opens out keep to the left and turn left down a track.

On reaching The Beeches continue down to the parking area in front of the house.

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November - Ty Major

Fforest Coalpit, Nr Abergavenny

Postcode NP7 7LH    Grid reference SO296204    What3words ///marmalade.rational.fatherly

The turning off the road is at ///ketchup.essential.hang

Mainly grassland site close to Sugar Loaf.

This is on a turning off the road between Pantygelli and Fforest Coalpit.

**From the south** follow the A40 through the centre of Abergavenny until the right turn into Pen y Pound Road, signed to the College and the Leisure Centre.

Just after a Primary School, there is a junction where Pen y Pound road continues left. Here take the right fork which is the Old Hereford Road (signed to the Leisure Centre). (Note, this is NOT the new Hereford Road B4521).

Continue on the Old Hereford Road for about 2 miles, passing King Henry VIII School and the Leisure Centre, to Pantygelli.

Pass The Crown Inn and after a few yards turn left just before Bailey's Garage, signed to Bettws.

Continue for 1 mile to the village of Bettws, go through Bettws and after another mile there is a turning on the right, signed to Upper Bettws Farm (a sign will be placed here on the day).

Turn right down this narrow lane, past/between 2 houses. Continue straight up the drive, over a cattle grid and Ty Major is at the top.

## Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November - Old Lands at Dingestow Court

Postcode NP25 4DY Grid reference (for turning into Old Lands) SO447096

What3Words ///hires.messaging.original

Part of Dingestow estate, farmed regeneratively to increase biodiversity.

**From Abergavenny** take the A40 past Raglan Castle but bear left before the slip road to Monmouth. Continue on this road for about 3 miles until you see a sign for Dingestow on your left.

To get to the same point **from the Monmouth direction**, take the road through Mitchell Troy, continue on the road, forking left just before the slip road to the A40.

Shortly after passing the Somerset Arms look out for the Dingestow sign on your right.

Drive down this road through the village and pass round a right angle bend.

Drive on for another  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile (go past the private entrance to Dingestow Court) and look out for a sign saying Old Lands on your left by a house on a right hand bend.

Turn down here and park at the end in the visitors' car park.