

# Knighton Community Woodlands Group

# Update

Welcome to the Woodlanders' Update for June 2022

Spring has just passed us by and summer is here, a busy time for gardeners and woodlanders alike! It's always a joy to see the bluebells flowering as well as other spring flowers. The migratory birds have arrived; we have a pair of Redstarts in our garden, a bird I have not seen before. We also have a resident tawny owl with two owlets which we are very much enjoying watching!

Below is a range of news, training courses, links and articles we hope you will find of interest.

Best wishes

**Jane Cliff, Woodlander**  
**June 2022**

---

## Biodiversity Survey Training

The moth and bird survey training has now been successfully completed with good attendance; the botanical training is well underway too. The woodlanders are now setting up group surveys to take place and collect data for submission ultimately to the National Biodiversity Network.



The knowledge and skills of the experts has been significant and enlightening if, at times, a little daunting for some. Together as a group we can share and encourage one another to continue the 'survey' journey with the reassurance that the experts will stay in touch to offer support as and when needed!



*Pete and Ginny Clarke showing the Woodlanders how to set up the moth trap*





*Two of the moths collected overnight*



*Botanical survey in action – looking for evidence of ancient woodland plants*

## What else have the Woodlanders been up to recently?

Woodlanders have enjoyed the settled weather we've generally been experiencing recently on Task Days and good progress has been made with cutting the cordwood from the autumn/winter felling season into logs. We stack the logs under cover to continue drying – "seasoning" – until next spring when they will be ready to use. Thank you to all of the cutting crew!



We are now also producing charcoal using the retort funded by grant aid from the Shropshire Hills AONB Conservation Fund. We paused in our firings as the timber had not seasoned enough to fully convert to charcoal. Now that the timber has dried sufficiently, we are making about 6 bags per firing. Special thanks are due to Stuart, our volunteer lead for charcoal – who is also due thanks for getting our new shed up and running and for making a shelter for the charcoal retort!



## Creating a Meadow

As with other organisations at this time of the year, Plantlife is emphasising the importance of wild meadows and advice is there in abundance on how we can “do our bit”. Their poster on how to make a meadow is particularly helpful when the thought of starting from scratch may seem a daunting prospect. You may be surprised at what you already have!



<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/our-work/publications/how-to-make-a-meadow-poster>

To learn more about this project and others, visit their website [plantlife.org.uk](http://plantlife.org.uk)

---

## Stand for Nature Wales

The Radnorshire Wildlife Trust (RWT) is highlighting the message from their youth group members who are not old enough to vote, but they are nonetheless able to raise their voice, with some of them choosing to email their local candidates in the recent local elections. Excitingly, the group were recently interviewed by BBC Wales News about why nature is important to them. Follow the link to read a fantastic article on the BBC Wales Politics webpage:



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-61244442>



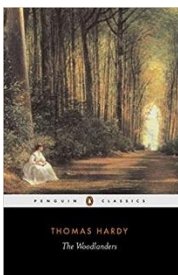
**Other news from RWT includes a Swift Walk in Knighton on Monday 13th June from 7:30pm to 9:30pm**

***A walk through Knighton, looking for Swifts in the town.***

For information on how to book this event and other events please visit [Radnorshire Wildlife Trust](http://Radnorshire Wildlife Trust)

---

## Book Reviews

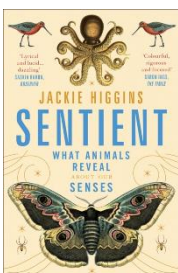


The Woodlanders by Thomas Hardy

For those who enjoy a classic, *Thoughts on Papyrus* review Hardy's fictional novel set in rural England of woodlander life .....

*“the changing seasons which dictate the life in that wooded area where nature still has an upper hand”*

<https://thoughtsonpapyrus.com/2020/12/09/review-the-woodlanders-by-thomas-hardy/>



Sentient by Jackie Higgins

The Guardian review: *“An enthralling examination of some of the most remarkable creatures in the animal kingdom, and what they tell us about what it means to be human”*

<https://guardianbookshop.com/sentient-9781529030815>

## Biodiversity Information Service (BIS) Training

BIS have a variety of events taking place over the next few months including:



**BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SERVICE**  
FOR POWYS AND BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK  
**GWASANAETH GWYBODAETH FIOAMRYWIAETH**  
POWYS A PHARC CENEDLAETHOL BANNAU BRYCHEINIOG

### A Dragonfly First - Hotspot Status!

Saturday 16th July, All Day (10am to 4pm) Venue: Llangorse Lake (booking not required) Learn all about these fascinating insects at the launch of Wales' first Dragonfly Hotspot designated site.

For more information on this event and others please follow the link to the [Events Poster](#).

---

We are pleased to receive feedback in response to **Update** and your thoughts and comments on anything else. Please email [woodland@tveg.org.uk](mailto:woodland@tveg.org.uk), or get in touch via our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. For more information about the Woodlanders, please visit our webpage: <http://tveg.org.uk/wordpress/what-we-do/woodland-project>



*Don't want to receive Woodlanders' Update? Then please reply to this email from the address you'd like removed with "Unsubscribe" as the title. We won't take it personally! Thank you.*

*Knighton Community Woodlands Group is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (No. 7416851) established for the benefit of wildlife and local people.*

*Registered Office: The Toot, Garth Lane, Knighton, LD7 1HH.*