

Gwent Fungus Group

Foray Programme, April to November 2025



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. Attendance at a single foray is **£1 per person**, or for the whole programme of **7 forays £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



Honey Waxcap, *Hygrocybe reidii*

Saturday 10th May - Cefn Ila, Near Usk

Postcode NP15 1PS Grid reference SO363002 What3Words ///proposals.fillers.perfumes

From the east, drive through Usk town centre cross the bridge and turn immediately south towards Llanbadoc and Llangybi. From the west, on the A472 turn right just before the bridge.

At Llanbadoc (0.5 miles) take a right turn signed Coed-y-Paen, HMP Prescoed and Cefn Ila. Follow the road taking the second turn on the right which is after about 0.7 miles (on a bend at the bottom of a short hill. It is a turning into a track and is signed Cefn Ila Reserve. A short distance along the track the car park will be seen on the left.

Saturday 24th May - Goytre Hall Wood

Postcode NP4 0AE Grid reference SO317062 What3Words ///setting.direction.moth

From Abergavenny take the A4042 south. About a mile south of Llanover and shortly after a turning on the left to Nantyderry and Chainbridge turn right onto Saran Road signed for Goytre Wharf.

Coming from the south, Saran Road is a left turn about a mile north of Penperlleni.

About 100 metres along on the right you will see the sign for Goytre Hall Wood with a small Monmouthshire County Council car park.

Saturday 30th August - Fedw Wood, Near St Arvans (to be confirmed)

Postcode NP16 6HJ Grid reference ST505984 What3Words ///pacifist.coconuts.migrate

Coming from Chepstow drive north on the A466 past Chepstow Race Course. Turn left on the bend past the Piercefield pub into the village of St Arvans. Continue on this road for about 1½ miles, the car park and picnic site is on your right.

From the north, drive on the B4293 through Trellech and Llanishen and into the village of Devauden. Do not turn off right towards Itton on the B4293 but continue straight on for just over 1 mile through the forested area. Parking and picnic site will be on your left, just past the turning on the left to The Cot and Tintern.

Saturday 20th September - Beaulieu Wood, Near Monmouth

Postcode NP25 3SF Grid reference SO527123 What3Words ///yield.applauded.demoted

From the Ross on Wye direction travelling south on the A40 go straight on at the first roundabout at Monmouth and then turn left at the traffic lights across the bridge over the Wye.

If travelling north on the A40 you will need to do a U-turn at the roundabout after the traffic lights as there is no right turn across the bridge at the lights.

Immediately after crossing the bridge go straight across two mini roundabouts and continue for half a mile until you reach a right turn with a brown National Trust sign for The Kymin. **This is a very, very sharp turn.** Follow this narrow road uphill for just under 1½ miles (there are a few passing places). Park in the National Trust Car Park at the top of the hill by The Kymin.

Sunday 5th October, Fungus Day - Cwm Carn (to be confirmed)

Saturday 18th October - Blaentrophy Farm, Grosmont

Nearest postcode NP7 8HN Grid reference SO376218 What3Words ///mixed.nylon.tugging

From Abergavenny, from the Hardwick Gyratory at the junction of the A40 and A465 take the A465 in the direction of Hereford. After 5½ miles when you have passed the village signs for Llanvihangel Crucorney there is a right turn for Grosmont. Drive up and over the hill for nearly 3½ miles and turn right, signposted Cross Ash. (This is the fourth public road on the right.) Ahead of you is a long straight road stretching out down a hill (known locally as the Straight Mile). Turn immediately right (unmarked lane) past Graig Lodge Farm and proceed exactly ½ mile. The entrance to the farm is through a gate on your right. There is a sign saying Blaentrophy Farm. Park immediately on your right.

From Monmouth, take the B4233 as far as Rockfield, where you turn right onto the B4347. Drive through the hamlet of Newcastle, then, when the road turns sharply right, take a left turn. Take this road to its end, then turn left onto the B4521. Go as far as Cross Ash, then turn right (signposted Grosmont) and drive past a school which is on your left. Counting from after the school, take the third turning left which is after two miles. Drive to the end of this road. Turn right, and the road becomes more lane than road. Turn left at a field gate (signposted Blaentrophy Farm) about 500 yards further on. Park immediately on your right.

Saturday 8th November - Pontypool Park, Pontypool

Postcode NP4 8AT Grid reference SO285006 What3Words ///slide.tonic.react

- From Abergavenny follow the A4042 south,
- From Monmouth direction follow the A449 and then the turn for Usk, through Usk until you meet the A4042 and then turn south,
- From Newport follow the A4042 north

At the roundabout where the A4042 meets the A472 take the A472 towards Pontypool.

At the next roundabout take the second exit onto the A4043 and at the following roundabout the third exit and then at the next roundabout the second exit onto Clarence Street. Turn right onto Trosnant Street and then left into the Leisure Centre.

Meet near the bridge in Leisure Centre car park at southern edge of Pontypool Park.

Saturday 22nd November - Pwlldu, Near Abergavenny

Postcode NP4 9SS Grid reference SO245116 What3Words ///stocky.snowballs.braved

From the south, come up the A40 as far as the junction with the A465 Heads of the Valleys road (the Hardwick Gyratory) where you take the road towards Merthyr Tydfil. Then take the first turn off to Llanfoist.

Take the last exit at the first roundabout (just after the Police building), and the first turning at the second roundabout, onto the B4246 signposted Llanfoist and Blaenavon. Drive through the village and after half a mile turn left to Blaenavon along the B4246.

Keep on the B4246 driving uphill through hairpin bends and over a cattle grid to the top and there take a right turn, opposite the pond, signed to Pwll ddu, and continue on this road for about ⅓ of a mile until you see the Pwlldu Activity centre which is set back off the road.

You can park on the right a little further on, near a track that is the access to a large radio mast.