



Newsletter

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No. 25 December 2020

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Greener Aberystwyth Group

www.aber-gag.org.uk

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Invertebrates in the Cemetery

The management plan for Aberystwyth Cemetery which was drafted by GAG has been tested for its effectiveness in helping local wildlife through a series of invertebrate surveys in 2020. Over the course of 8 months and a series of 9 surveys, GAG is pleased to report that at least 117 species, comprising everything from bees to beetles to shieldbugs and more, are calling the various habitats within the cemetery home.

This is great news for the local wildlife and highlights that when space is provided, nature can thrive. Some of the more special finds are pictured here. Above are (left to right) the Tortoise Shieldbug, the Wool Carder Bee and the Four Spined Legionnaire Soldierfly.

George Ryley

GAG and the pandemic

The situation for GAG this year reflects the problems the whole world is experiencing with the Coronavirus pandemic. Many projects have had to be put on hold.

The proposed GAG survey of street trees has been postponed until major changes in the tree population have been completed. This survey will update previous ones to give an indication of the overall loss/gain in Street trees and the relative number of different species.

GAG continues to monitor the health of the town trees and the management of green spaces. The incremental development of the North Road Park is an example of where GAG has been giving advice and encouragement to the Town Council. The tall poplars and the row of dense conifers were felled. The new native hedge needs ongoing protection from grass and weeds as it grows.

The tree labelling organised by John Gee along Plascrug Avenue has been successful. The few labels that have been vandalised will be replaced.

Trees need your help!

If you see a tree problem (e.g. strimmer damage, constricting ties, leaning or dead trees), please help the responsible body to deal with it by notifying them. Possible areas include:-

- University campus and student village
- Hospital or Surgery grounds
- Pub gardens
- School grounds
- Golf Course
- Areas managed by County or Town Council

New trees

Despite the pandemic, many new trees were planted in Aberystwyth and Llanbadarn Fawr before Covid restrictions. The Elms felled outside Shukers garage have been replaced (one paid for by Shukers). GAG will be buying strimmer guards to protect trees that have not had guards fitted.

Lobbying of the Welsh Books Council led to new trees being planted outside their Glanyrafon depot. Further planting at this site has been encouraged.



Wellbeing Walks

Throughout this year the importance of Green spaces for both physical and mental health for the urban community has become increasingly understood both locally and nationally.

GAG is now working in collaboration with NHS contacts and Coed Lleol to produce local walking routes for different levels of fitness that link Aberystwyth's green spaces, giving examples of what wildlife can be experienced there.

Parc y Llyn pond



In 2019 Ceredigion County Council with help and encouragement from GAG and local community groups renovated this pond.

Aquatic plants were introduced in the autumn; frog spawn, toad spawn and palmate newts were recorded in Spring 2020.

A (Covid compliant) dragonfly survey was completed by Chloe Griffiths and Meg Kirby. The pond survived the early summer drought and aquatic plants are flourishing. A grand total of 9 different species of Odonata (dragonflies & damselflies) were recorded with evidence of successful breeding. Frogs and toads returned and spawned in Spring. Palmate newts, stickleback and water beetles were also recorded.



North Road Park

In October Aberystwyth Town Council obtained funding from *Keep Wales Tidy* for planting butterfly and bee-friendly flowering plants in North Road Park. The new plants include Elder Flower, Broom, Lavender, Climbing Honeysuckle and Climbing Rose amongst others.



The Town Council has also agreed to plant more trees in the Park and to create micro-growing spaces along the perimeter of the green for use by the local community.

Cylchlythyr



Rhifyn 25 Rhagfyr 2020

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Anifeiliaid di-asgwrn-cefn yn y fynwent

Mae'r cynllun rheoli gafodd ei amlinellu gan GAG ar gyfer Mynwent Aberystwyth wedi cael ei brofi yn 2020 am ei effeithiolrwydd i hybu bywyd gwyllt, trwy gyfres o arolygon o anifeiliaid di-asgwrn-cefn. Yn ystod 8 mis, cyflawnwyd 9 arolwg. Mae GAG yn falch o adrodd bod o leiaf 117 rhywogaeth, gan gynnwys gwenyn, trychfilod, tarianbryfed ac ati, a'u cynefin yn y fynwent.

Mae hyn yn newyddion da am fywyd gwyllt yn yr ardal, sy'n dangos bod natur yn gallu ffynnu pan gaiff le addas. Mae'r lluniau uchod yn dangos rhai o'r darganfyddiadau arbennig. O'r chwith: Tarianbryf crwbano; Cardwenynen; Pryf milwrol pedwar pigyn.

George Ryley

GAG a'r pandemig

Mae sefyllfa GAG eleni yn adlweyrchu'r problemau mae'r holl fyd yn eu profi gyda phandemig y feirws corona. Bu raid gohirio sawl prosiect.

Gohiriwyd yr arolwg arfaethedig o goed yn ein strydoedd hyd nes bydd llawer o goed newydd wedi cael eu plannu. Bydd yr arolwg hwn yn diweddarau'r rhai blaenorol er mwyn dangos y cynnydd (neu colled) mewn coed strydoedd, a niferoedd y mathau gwahanol.

Mae GAG yn dal i fonitro iechyd coed y dre a rheolaeth mannau gwyrdd. Mae'r gwelliannau parhaol ym Mharc Ffordd y Gogledd yn enghraifft o sut mae GAG wedi cynghori a chefnogi Gyngor y Dref. Torrwyd y poplys tal a'r rhes o goed bytholwyrdd trwchus. Bydd y gwrych newydd o goed brodorol angen amddiffyniad yn erbyn glaswellt a chwyn tra bydd yn tyfu.

Mae'r labeli ar y coed ym Mhlascrug gafodd eu trefnu gan John Gee wedi bod yn llwyddiant. Mae ychydig o'r labeli wedi cael eu fandaleiddio, ond bydd rhai newydd yn cymryd eu lle.

Mae coed angen eich help chi!

Os gwelwch broblem coed (e.e. difrod gan beiriant strimio, rhwymau rhy dynn, coed marw neu sy'n pwysu), byddwchystal â helpu'r corff sy'n gyfrifol trwy ddweud wrthynt, mewn mannau fel:-

- Campws y Brifysgol a'r Pentre Myfyrwyr
- O gwmpas ysbyty neu feddygfa
- Gerddi tafarnau
- Tiroedd ysgolion
- Cwrs Golf
- Ardaloedd o dan reolaeth y Dref neu'r Cyngor Sir

Coed Newydd

Er gwaethaf y pandemig, plannwyd sawl coeden newydd yn Aberystwyth a Llanbadarn Fawr cyn y cyfyngiadau Cofid. Plannwyd llwyfenni newydd yn lle y rhai gafodd eu torri y tu allan i Garej Shukers (talodd Shukers am un). Bydd GAG yn prynu giardiaid sy'n amddiffyn rhag peiriannau strimio i'r coed sy hebddynt yn barod.

Ar ôl pwysu ar Gyngor Llyfrau Cymreig, plannwyd coed newydd tu allan eu storfa yn Glanyrafon. Rydym wedi annog nhw i blannu rhagor.



Cerdded er lles iechyd

Trwy gydol y flwyddyn, mae pwysigrwydd mannau gwyrdd i'r gymuned er mwyn iechyd corfforol a meddyliol wedi cael ei ddeall yn fwyfwy, yn lleol a thros Gymru i gyd.

Mae GAG yn cydweithredu gyda cysylltiadau yn y gwasanaeth iechyd a Coed Lleol i gyhoeddi teithiau cerdded lleol ar gyfer lefelau ffitrwydd gwahanol sy'n cysylltu mannau gwyrdd Aberystwyth, gan roi enghreifftiau o'r bywyd gwyllt a ceir yno.

Pwll Parc y Llyn



Yn ystod 2019, cafodd y pwll ei adnewyddu gan Gyngor Ceredigion gyda help a chefnogaeth GAG a grwpiau cymunedol lleol.

Gosodwyd planhigion dŵr yn yr Hydref; cofnodwyd griff brogaod, griff llyffantod a madfallod dŵr palfaidd yng Ngwanwyn 2020.

Cyflawnwyd arolwg gweision y neidr (gan barchu rheolau Cofid) gan Chloe Griffiths a Meg Kirby. Goroesodd y pwll y sychder ar ddechrau'r Haf, ac mae'r planhigion y dŵr yn ffynnu. Cofnodwyd cyfanswm o 9 rhywogaeth o Odonata (gweision y neidr a mursennod) yn ogystal ag olion cenhedliad.

Daeth brogaod a llyffantod yn ôl yn y Gwanwyn. Cofnodwyd madfallod dŵr palfaidd, brithyllod y dom (*sticklebacks*) a chwilod y dŵr hefyd.



Parc Ffordd y Gogledd

Ym mis Hydref, cafodd Cyngor Tref Aberystwyth arian gan fudiad *Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus* i blannu planhigion blodeuog sy'n siwtio pili-palas a gwenyn ym Mharc Ffordd y Gogledd. Mae'r planhigion newydd yn cynnwys Ysgawen, Banadl, Lafant, Gwyddfïd dringo, a Rhosyn dringo, ymhlith eraill.



Cytunodd Cyngor y Dref hefyd i blannu rhagor o goed yn y Parc ac i greu pamau bach ar hyd ymylon y glaswellt er mwyn i'r gymuned leol dyfu planhigion eu hunan.