



PHOTO CREDIT: PETRA MITCHARD



Ymddiriedolaeth  
Natur  
**Gwent**  
Wildlife Trust

# Annual Review 2023/24

# Wildlife Warriors



“I believe that there is an opportunity in every community to help the environment and nature as a whole...

*I’m setting up an ‘Eco Warriors’ lunchtime club at my school, to help others learn more about nature, how to protect it and to carry out mini-projects at our school”*

*Aiden, Wildlife Warrior participant in our Stand for Nature Wales project.*

**In our beautiful corner of Wales, Gwent Wildlife Trust is leading the way in the fight to protect wildlife and put nature into recovery. We are experiencing a global climate crisis which is a leading factor in nature’s decline, degrading habitats and reducing biodiversity at pace. It is within this arena that we are striving to tackle these crises head on and inspire everyone to take action.**



Over the past 12 months we have made great progress in turning our 2030 strategy into reality. This strategy recognises that nature’s recovery and the restoration of biodiversity is inextricably linked to climate stability, food security and the health and wellbeing of people and communities.

Against a backdrop of devastating decline, (one in six of our species is at risk of extinction from Wales) we’re encouraged every day by nature’s beacons of hope and people’s positivity and this year has been no exception. Alongside this year’s thousands of green-winged orchids recorded at Brockwells meadow; 17 species of Waxcaps at New Grove Meadows and new Water Vole records at Bridewell Common are hundreds of encouraging stories from the increasing number of people who are taking local action for wildlife and helping to mitigate for the effects of climate change with us.

In September 2023, we were pleased to welcome 70 supporters to our first in-person AGM since covid lockdowns were lifted, where it was particularly inspiring to hear directly from young people involved in the Stand for Nature Wales project and some of our hugely committed and inspiring nature recovery volunteers and local landowners. In the same month, we held a wonderful thank you event for our incredible volunteers at Pentwyn Farm. Huge thanks to all our brilliant volunteers, as well as the staff, trustees, Presidents and members who make all our achievements for nature possible. Together, we have also been campaigning against the growing number of threats to nature, both alongside other Wildlife Trusts nationally and in Wales with our local communities.

Our ongoing campaign to protect the Gwent Levels reached an important milestone in January as we handed over 6,000 signatures to the Welsh Government from people joining us in our call for a halt on major developments on the Gwent Levels SSSIs. This gained national and regional attention which spotlighted the importance of protecting this threatened and irreplaceable landscape.

Also gaining national attention is our Wild Health work and the hugely valuable role that nature can play in our well-being – we are immensely proud of the actions participants in this project are taking for wildlife and to improve their own lives. We brought more young people into the movement to restore nature, and provided forums to listen to and capture their ideas and utilise their enthusiasm and creativity. A weekend’s wildlife camp on one of our reserves in the summer was a particular highlight for them and us!

We look forward to the year ahead as we continue our vital work to put nature in recovery and ensure that people and communities in Gwent are a key part of the journey towards 2030.



**Gemma Bodé** Head of Nature Recovery and Interim CEO



**Marc Leppard** Chair

PHOTO CREDIT: NEIL ALDRIDGE, ANDY KARRAN, PETRA MITCHARD, WOODIER PHOTOGRAPHY

OUR  
STRATEGIC  
GOALS

1 Nature is in Recovery, with abundant, diverse wildlife and natural processes creating wilder land and seascapes where people and nature thrive.

2 People are taking meaningful action for nature and the climate, resulting in better decision making for the environment at both the local level and across the four nations of the UK.

3 Nature is playing a central and valued role in helping to address local and global problems.

RESPONDED TO 310 ENQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT WILDLIFE, LAND MANAGEMENT, TAKING ACTION AND MORE!

GWENT WILDLIFE TRUST  
IN NUMBERS 2023-24  
TOGETHER, WE:



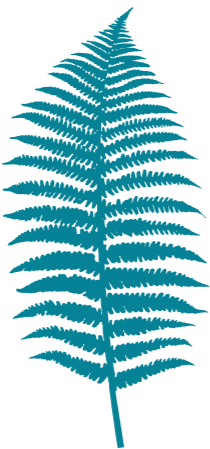
MANAGED 723 HECTARES OF LAND AND 7KM OF WATERCOURSE FOR WILDLIFE

ADVISED ON MANAGEMENT OF A FURTHER 580 HECTARES OF LAND AND 10KM OF WATERCOURSES



ADVISED 46 LAND MANAGERS ON 38 LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

PROTECTED 28 NATURE RESERVES  
SPECIAL PLACES FOR WILDLIFE OPEN FOR THE PUBLIC TO ENJOY 24 HOURS A DAY, 365 DAYS A YEAR!



600 PEOPLE  
TOOK PART IN  
44 EVENTS  
AND TALKS



28 NATURE  
RESERVES

27 STAFF | 379 REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS

8218 MEMBERS

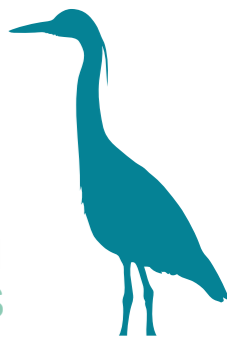
We held 3 training sessions for 30 teachers



WELCOMED  
580 NEW  
MEMBERS

379 VOLUNTEERS  
GAVE 8004.5 HOURS  
OF THEIR TIME FOR  
NATURE'S RECOVERY!

OVER 6,000 PEOPLE  
SIGNED OUR PETITION TO  
THE SENEDD, CALLING  
FOR A HALT ON MAJOR  
NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON  
THE GWENT LEVELS SSSIS



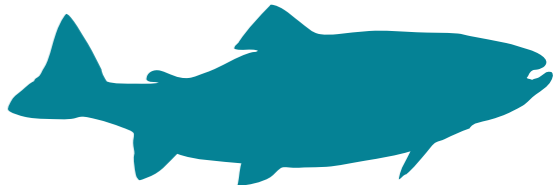
£1,425,526

RAISED FOR NATURE'S RECOVERY IN GWENT



650 PEOPLE ENJOYED  
5,400 HOURS  
OF WILD HEALTH  
SESSIONS

1,330 PEOPLE  
IN GWENT PARTICIPATED  
IN 30DAYSWILD  
OUR ANNUAL CHALLENGE  
TO DO SOMETHING WILD  
EVERY DAY IN JUNE  
AND MAKE IT A  
YEAR-ROUND HABIT!





## STRATEGIC GOAL 1

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**Nature is in recovery**  
with abundant, diverse wildlife and natural processes creating wilder land and seascapes where people and nature thrive.

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We manage our nature reserves for the long-term benefit of nature, through an iterative process of monitoring and management, adapting our efforts to achieve the greatest impact against our nature recovery goal. Our baseline monitoring of our nature reserves continued in earnest this year, with baseline surveys totalling 70 hectares, at Henllys Bog, Brockwells Meadows, Silent Valley and part of Springdale Farm. Our pre-winter water vole surveys at Magor Marsh showed they continue to thrive on the site, and dormouse monitoring in Croes Robert confirmed dormice are still present all be it at low numbers. Our nature reserves continued to undergo one of the biggest investments in recent years that has included fencing, coppicing, habitat creation, control of non-native species and updated interpretation. We have also been working hard on the acquisition of several new nature reserves so we can provide more space for wildlife and restore essential ecosystem functions across more land. Collaborating with multiple partners, we continued to support the White Tailed Sea Eagle Project, scoping sites and supporting community consultation at events throughout Gwent.

As well as increasing the area and populations of priority species on GWT nature reserves, we're working to increase the habitat connectivity between 50



designated sites by 2030. To achieve this, we are mapping on a larger scale, to identify opportunities to improve connections across the landscape in Gwent.

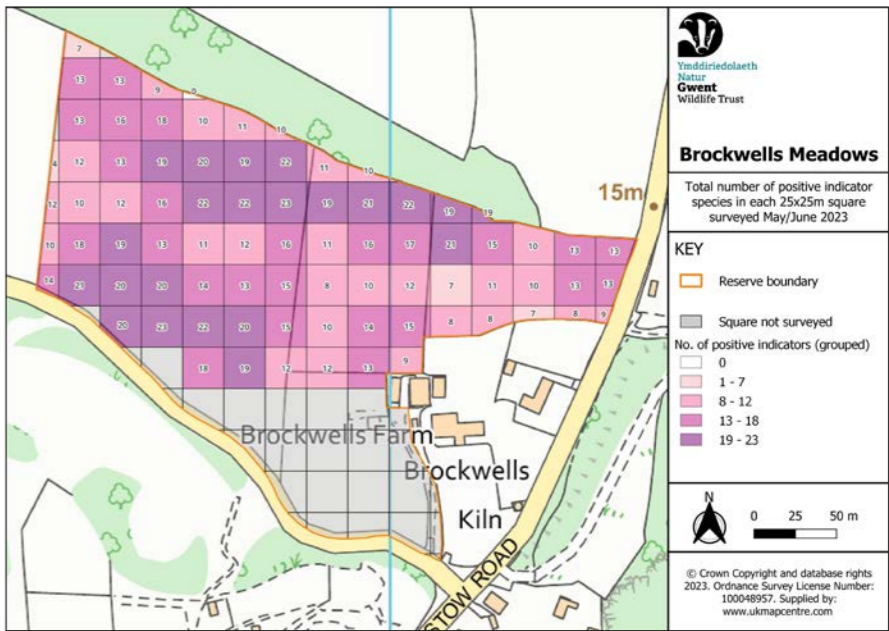
Monitoring the species and habitats of our nature reserves with gridded maps involves identifying, counting and assessing the abundance, structure, age and in some cases condition of plant species within fixed grid squares of varying scale, (25m/50m/100m) according to the site and habitat type. By applying a fixed grid, we can return to monitor variation in plants and habitats with greater detail and precision over time. This level of scrutiny can detect more subtle and gradual changes, and allow us to better relate these to the management actions we have undertaken. The goal is to create an effective monitoring-management feedback loop, giving us confidence that the action we take is having the desired results.

Our Local Wildlife Site work continued at pace where we advised nearly 50 landowners on how to manage their land for wildlife increasing the connectivity across the landscape and supporting these ambassadors with their super special sites. Over 70 landowners attended our annual Local Wildlife Site day.

As part of the Restoring The Wern project we held two dry stone walling courses, during which we managed to rebuild 15m! The volunteers who participated were trained in basic skills, and can now go on and repair dry stone walls on other reserves. The walls are fantastic habitats with a labyrinth of dry warm spaces within them while providing habitats for many species of moss and lichen. Alongside dry stone walling, grazing infrastructure and monitoring are now in place at the Wern to welcome cattle on site in the coming months to restore patches of heath that still remain.

At its summer peak, the Brockwells Meadows looked glorious, with wildflowers dominating the sward. We recorded 46 grassland indicators across the three SSSI fields, including Green-winged, Common Spotted and Southern Marsh Orchids.

We also undertook 3 early morning Breeding Bird Surveys at Bridewell Common, Magor Marsh and Barecroft Common to provide a good baseline to help inform management, particularly at our newest restoration site at Bridewell Common. 37 species were recorded at Bridewell, 39 at Barecroft and 41 at Magor, with 50 species overall. The scratching of the Sedge Warblers was almost ever-present. Lapwing were found to be breeding at two separate locations immediately adjacent to Barecroft Common, and we are hoping that they will expand into our reserve.



STRATEGIC GOAL 1

Nature is in recovery with abundant, diverse wildlife and natural processes creating wilder land and seascapes where people and nature thrive.

Save 10 vulnerable species from extinction in Gwent

Our focussed efforts to protect ten species gathered apace over the year. We have developed and published monitoring plans for each species. Additionally, we have raised awareness and inspired action through a variety of engagement efforts, including events, guided walks, talks, and communications targeted at landowners, gardeners, young people, community groups and other organizations across the Gwent region. On the ground, we have installed Barn Owl and Dipper nestboxes, used reptile mats to monitor Adder populations, and conducted Shriill Carder Bee surveys at targeted nature reserves.

**Our Water Vole restoration on the Gwent Levels was given a tremendous boost,** firstly from donations to our ‘Big Give’ Christmas appeal ‘Wetlands for Water Voles’ (in December 2022), which enabled us to then successfully bid for funding of £120k from the Nature Networks Fund to extend our Water Vole restoration work on the Gwent Levels in 2024.

**Our Pine Marten conservation project receives funding from the Nature Networks Fund,** the National Lottery, and the Wye Valley National Landscape. Through collaborative efforts with volunteers and landowners, we have been



surveying and using camera traps to capture footage of the elusive Pine Martens in their natural habitat... including at 3 of our nature reserves!

**The Gwent community rallied to support local hedgehog populations.** Wild Health participants constructed hedgehog hibernacula, including at Pontymoile Canal Basin and Llangdegfedd. One participant built a hedgehog home in Garnlydan, which later showed clear signs that a hedgehog had moved in. At our Local Landowner Event, hedgehog champion Dylan Allman gave an inspiring talk to the 70 landowners present and the Nature Nurturer youth group in the Valleys built and installed a hedgehog home in the garden of Lllys Glyncoed, a home for the elderly.

Inform the development of policy in wildlife’s favour:

With other Welsh Wildlife Trusts, we submitted a joint response to a Welsh Government consultation on changing the provisions of our national planning policy document, Planning Policy Wales. The proposed amendments were aimed at (amongst other things) strengthening the protection afforded to SSSIs by the Welsh planning system, and were partly triggered by our Senedd advocacy on the Gwent Levels. We also fed into national consultations on the Sustainable Farming Scheme and the release of pheasants near SSSIs.

**In July, we launched our public petition calling for a Halt to all Damaging Developments on the Gwent Levels SSSIs,** as part of our Save the Gwent Levels Again campaign. We’re urging Welsh Government and Ministers to stop the barrage of detrimental development planning application threats, including multiple solar power stations on this historic and wildlife precious place. 6,000 people signed our petition which we formally handed to the Senedd Petitions committee in March. On the same day our petition was debated by the Senedd’s Petition Committee, more than a hundred campaign supporters joined us in a peaceful demonstration outside the Senedd.



## STRATEGIC GOAL 2

### People are taking meaningful action

for nature and the climate, resulting in better decision making for the environment at both the local level and across the four nations of the UK.

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Evidence says that if we get 1 in 4 people taking visible action for nature we create a social ‘tipping point’ - a magic moment when a social behaviour (in our case the pro-nature kind) moves the masses do the same.

Over the past year, we have worked across Gwent’s towns, counties and landscapes, to build ‘TeamWildler’ and help tip the balance in nature’s favour. People are taking action for nature across the county that they care about; doers, movers, shakers, ambassadors, campaigners and changemakers, bringing about the change that nature needs together!

In Newport, we worked with communities around Pillgwennilly, through the Nextdoor Nature project, to understand their priorities for their local environment and help them take action for local nature.



Thanks to funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, people were supported with advice to help nature on their doorstep, whilst leaving a lasting natural legacy to mark The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.

Through Welsh Government’s Nature Network Fund, we were able to employ a Community Ecologist, enabling us to offer new and exciting volunteering opportunities to suit a wider range of people who want to take action, including weekend work tasks and species monitoring opportunities across our nature reserves. Also with this funding, we have been able to widen access to our nature reserves by providing digital interpretation such as ‘Google Streetview’ photography and a PhotoSphere of the bird hide at Magor Marsh, to enable pre-visit planning and digital trails for families to enjoy. With the help of volunteers, we also made some great access improvements at Silent Valley through the ‘Creating a Buzz’ project. These include resurfacing the car park and making enhancements on the reserve to benefit pollinators.

9-24 year olds took action in communities from Newport to the Eastern Valleys, over this final year of the Wales-wide Stand for Nature Wales project. Key achievements included taking their ‘Pledge to go

Pesticide Free’ campaign to their constituency Senedd members in Cardiff Bay and the construction of a Wildlife Garden at the LINC complex for older people at Llys Glyncoed in Ebbw Vale. They shared their passion and achievements with members and volunteers at our AGM, where participants exuded their knowledge and commitment for wildlife that brings hope for the future. Members of our Stand for Nature Wales groups, (Wildlife Warriors and Nature Nurturers) also played a key role in our demonstration outside the Senedd in March demanding protection for the SSSI network on the Gwent Levels, providing a visible presence of future generations to witness the hearing of our peition, which was signed by 6,000 people.

We worked with communities across Gwent to deliver courses, events and resources to help people take action for nature. Natural Resource Wales’ Resilient Communities Fund enabled us to produce a range of resources, provide 1:1 advice and deliver training courses and events to upskill commnity champions and others in action for local wildlife. Whether face to face at events and shows, through our monthly emails, social media channels or Wild About Gwent magazines, our communications have inspired thousands of people of all ages from all corners of Gwent to connect with nature and learn and discover.



**Apple bird feeders and owl pellet dissection.**  
30 people took part in a joint community engagement event we held with Blaenau Gwent CBC and Groundwork Wales at Cafi Tyleri, Cwmtillery. Activities included making apple bird feeders, bird box building and owl pellet dissections. It was great to meet a new crowd, and especially rewarding to see the parents’ interest grow in the activities, particularly the owl pellets, and see them joining in with the young people and eager to learn more about what skulls they were finding!

**Clawdd Wall**  
We worked with volunteers at Silent Valley to build a lovely Clawdd wall. This type of wall is particularly good for wildlife, including bees who will nest in the gaps. Unlike dry stone walling, the gaps are filled with soil and then a layer of turf, over time the grass will grow out of the wall and help bind the stone together.

**Litter pick**  
In June, we led a joint litter pick with Wye Valley National Landscape volunteers at our Piercefield Wood nature reserve just above Chepstow. Most of the rubbish collected was flotsam from the Wye river, which gets deposited on the meadows on high tides. Retrieving the rubbish from the bottom riverside meadows presented a challenge. Fortunately, we teamed up with the Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA) who helped by taking it out via boat on the Wye. Monmouthshire County Council helped by collecting and disposing of the waste at the boats’ drop off point.



## STRATEGIC GOAL 3

**Nature is playing a central and valued role**

in helping to address local and global problems.



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Nature is taking a central and valued role in helping to address local and global problems.

**We want Health and Wellbeing to be a permanent delivery mechanism of the Aneurin Bevan Health Board:**  
Our Wild Health work continues to evidence the effectiveness of nature-based health intervention whilst prompting wonderful feedback from clients showing how it changes their lives. We helped 650 people from Wild Health groups visit over 80 sites across Gwent in 2023, to access nature on their doorstep. Newport People First completed a site accessibility check at one of our nature reserves, (Magor Marsh) with Gwent Wildlife Trust’s Nature Recovery Manager. They showed real ownership and enthusiasm for checking gates, signs and so on and as a result of their audit, new benches have been installed and paths have been widened. One participant from the group said, “Gwent Wildlife Trust has turned me into a nature lover.”

Participants from Rewild Home Education group volunteered to help with activities for the Romani Culture and Arts group. One parent said, “it’s good for us as a family to integrate with other communities.” The Rewild group has made an incredible contribution to Pontymoile Basin, installing bird boxes, reptile hibernaculum, levelling the ground to make a seating area, tree planting, and building a huge boat-themed raised bed to welcome locals to the area. They are now able to run sessions independently from Wild Health using equipment purchased by the project.

During the summer, Wild Health supported the Buckholt Bryngaer pilot project in Monmouthshire to deliver a series of day visits to the Iron-age hillfort for Afghan and Ukrainian refugee families and young carers’ groups. Participants enjoyed



foraging and cooking over the fire together, saying that it reminded of them being back in Ukraine.

We contributed evidence to a national report; A Natural Health Service: Improving Lives and Saving Money which researched Wildlife Trust led green prescribing programmes. This showed how targeted nature-based health and well-being programmes could save over £635 million per year. Gwent Wildlife Trust Analysis found our Wild Health project saved healthcare costs of £66,882, equating to £471 saving per participant.

We were proud to work with these partners in 2023: Mind Monmouthshire (North and South) •Early Intervention Service for Psychosis • Integrated Autsim Service • Coleg Gwent • Elysium Healthcare • Community Mental Health Teams (Newport, North and South Monmouthshire) • Womens Bushcraft Group • Sense Cymru • Talygarn and St Cadocs Hospitals (inpatients) • Bryn Ivor Lodge Residential Care Home • Rhymney Strollers • Going for

Gold, The Hybrids • Youth Inclusion Group • Romani Group • Rewild, People First (Cwm Taf / Newport) • Ystrad Mynach Hospital • Bryngaer Pilot – Young Carers and Refugee Families

*“One gentleman reported that prior to engaging with the Gwent Wildlife Trust sessions he would make an excuse to avoid group settings due to his anxiety feeling unmanageable. He reported to have woken Wednesday morning and instead of feeling dread felt excited to attend. He’s finding enjoyment in connecting with nature and sharing learnt facts through the session with his loved ones. He is better able to manage his anxiety and visiting green spaces more frequently with his family.”* Carly, Occupational Therapy Support Worker, Newport Community Mental Health Team

**We want to be recognised as the authority in Gwent for water-related Nature Based Solutions:**  
We recruited our first River Restoration Project Officer, who has been developing

our work around the River Usk and leading Citizen Scientists in water quality monitoring. We are a key partner in the Valleys River Partnership and working with the River Restoration Centre to develop our work further in this area including site-based actions on the ground to improve water quality, reduce peak flows and carbon sequestration.

The area of Gwent includes four rivers and their tributaries. Over the past year, our focus has been on supporting the recovery of the Valleys Rivers, where we have been researching opportunities for riverbank restoration, river habitat surveys, water quality and invertebrate monitoring, invasive species control, and litter picks. We have recruited 30 volunteers who have been getting involved in our river-related activities including monitoring and recording wildlife sightings.

In October last year, Gwent Wildlife Trust joined the ‘CaSTCo’ project: a program to monitor water quality monitoring in the River Usk catchment, a project managed by



the Wye and Usk Foundation. Water pollution and other water quality stressors are one of the key drivers of biodiversity loss in the catchment. GWT have trained 29 citizen scientists who monitor 24 allocated sampling locations every week, the main River Usk downstream of Abergavenny, the Afon Lwyd, the River Clydach, and smaller tributary streams.

We are also measuring water clarity or turbidity, a measure of suspended particles in the water and making observations of conservation features and site conditions. This includes the monitoring of riverbank erosion, the presence of algal blooms, and sightings of key animal and plant species, such as Otter, Dipper, or Water Crowfoot.

The recording of invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed is also part of the weekly survey.

Susan Brown was one of the first citizen scientists who joined the GWT group last year. She monitors the Afon Lwyd, a tributary that flows into the Usk at Caerleon; *“Without the free time and effort provided by citizen scientists, the labour costs of a monitoring programme of this scope and scale would be prohibitive, so – especially as I transition into retirement – it feels good to belong to a team that enables such an important project to proceed. Also, I do enjoy using the ‘grown-up’ version of a child’s chemistry set!”*

# A Year for Wildlife Highlights from across Gwent



**April 23**

We launched our Ten Vulnerable Species programme in spring Wild About Gwent (also our first with a digital issue), with action plans to help restore a range of habitats and other species alongside these: Grayling, Shrilk Carder bee, Hedgehog, Adder, Nightjar, Dipper, Pine Marten, Water Vole, Barn Owl and Pink Waxcap.



**May 23**

We found Water Vole droppings on a monitoring raft stationed on the first section of dry ditch we cleared and re-wetted on Bridewell Common. The ditch had started to revegetate nicely so the Water Voles must have decided it was good enough for them to move in!



**June 23**

Young people enjoyed a wild camp out at Pentwyn Farm nature reserve. Our Wildlife Warriors and Nature Nurturers youth groups enjoyed three days' getting closer to nature and learning skills from moth-trapping and bird ringing to flower id-ing and nature crafts.



**July 23**

Exciting Greater Broomrape discovery at Springdale Farm! *Orobanche rapum-genistae* is pretty special; lacking chlorophyll it's dependent on host species – notably bushy plants in the pea family, which it parasitises by tapping into their roots for nutrients. It was declared locally extinct in the recent past and this was only the second record in Gwent in almost 20 years.



**August 23**

After six-months of work, the Stand for Nature Wales team opened a wildlife garden at a residential care home for the elderly in Ebbw Vale – a new space for people and wildlife to enjoy together.



**September 23**

The British Dragonfly Society declared Magor Marsh Nature Reserve, (along with Newport Wetlands), a UK Dragonfly Hotspot – a special site chosen for the range of dragonfly and damselfly species they support and opportunities for people to learn more about these iconic wetland species.



**October 23**

The dedication of one of our many fantastic volunteers was recognised by Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, as Charlotte Beard won Newport Environmental Volunteer of the Year! Charlotte is an inspiration to the youngsters in our youth groups and to us.



**November 23**

We held our first citizen science water sampling training session on the Usk as part of our contribution to the CaSTCo project. Volunteers are helping us to gather water quality data to help us better understand our rivers, make evidence-based decisions and improve the ecological status of the River Usk SAC.



**December 23**

Supporters gave an incredible £26,281.25 to our Big Give match-funded Mighty Meadows appeal! Since the 1960s, we've lost more than 97% of hay meadows in the UK. Funds are helping to restore, manage, make and monitor more wildlife-rich hay meadows in Gwent during 2024.



**January 24**

After an incredible year, in which 664 participants discovered wildlife on their doorstep and felt the benefits of getting outdoors and connecting to nature, the Wild Health team submit our 2023 Impact Report to the National Lottery Community Fund



**February 24**

6,000 signed our petition to 'Halt significant new development on the Gwent Levels SSSIs' which we handed over to the Senedd in Cardiff. Iolo Williams, Gillian Burke and Lizzie Daly get behind our campaign which is sparking a national debate.

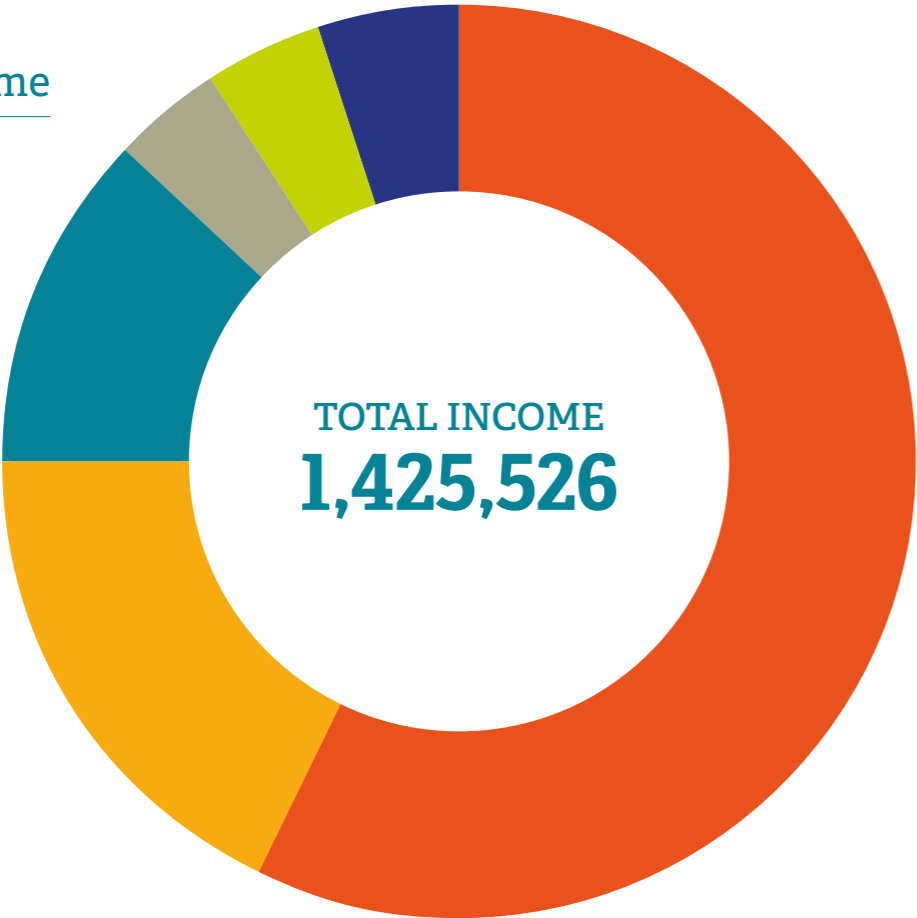


**March 24**

Camera traps we put up produce records of Pine Marten on not one, but two of our nature reserves! Gwent is benefitting from reintroduction projects in Gloucestershire with Pine Marten now being recorded in sites across Gwent. The footage is helping us learn more about these elusive creatures, so we can put in place suitable nature based solutions to aid their recovery.

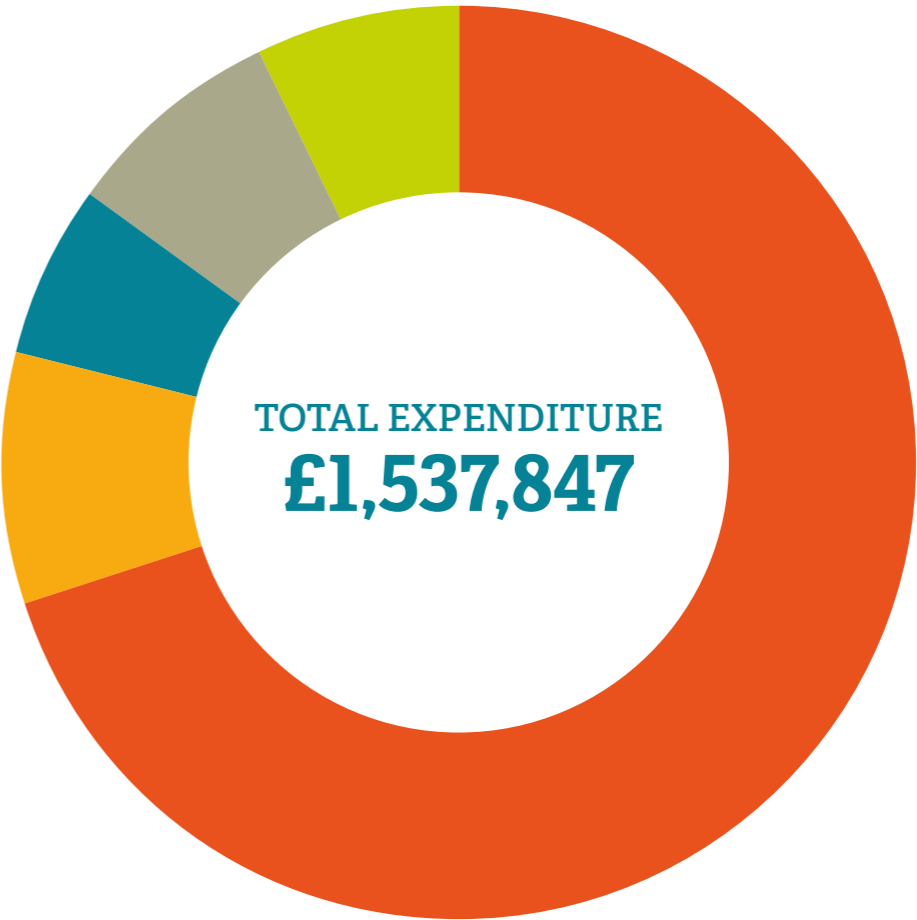
# Our Finances for the year ended 31st March 2024

## Income



58%	GRANTS AND TRUSTS	<b>Grants and Trusts - £819,792</b> Grants from statutory bodies, (e.g. Welsh Government), charitable trusts and foundations
18%	MEMBERSHIP	<b>Membership - £250,244</b> Regular contributions from members (people and businesses)
12%	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	<b>Donations and Legacies - £171,380</b> Donations, gifts in wills and in memoriam and business support
4%	EARNED INCOME	<b>Earned Income - £57,329</b> Sales of services, trading, rent, event and course income
4%	OTHER FUNDRAISING	<b>Other fundraising - £61,949</b> Includes annual raffle and community fundraising activities
5%	OTHER	<b>Other - £64,832</b> Includes investments

## Expenditure



70%	PROTECTING WILDLIFE AND ENGAGING PEOPLE	<b>Protecting wildlife and engaging people - £1,084,136</b> Delivery and associated direct costs of our conservation, education, policy, public engagement and campaigning work
9%	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	<b>Operational Support - £130,882</b> Compliance and support functions including Finance, Health and Safety, I.T, Human Resources.
6%	GENERATING FUNDS	<b>Generating funds - £96,550</b> Staff and office costs related to generating funds for our work
8%	MEMBERSHIP	<b>Membership - £123,332</b> Membership recruitment, communications and financial and administration costs of processing regular donations
7%	GOVERNANCE	<b>Governance - £110,594</b> Annual audit, consultancy and legal fees and governing board meeting costs

Full audited accounts will be available on our website from September, 2024 at [gwentwildlife.org/our-funding](https://www.gwentwildlife.org/our-funding)

# Gwent Wildlife Trust People

(As at 24th June 2024)

**Patron** – Iolo Williams  
**President** – Chris Hatch  
**President Emeritus** – Roger James  
**Vice-Presidents** – Julia James, Stephanie Tyler, Richard Waller

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Marc Leppard – Chair  
Mavis McKenzie Cecil – Secretary (Co-opted)  
Ian Mawdsley – Treasurer (Co-opted)  
Susan Finn – (Secretary until 27/9/23)  
David Rees  
Lucy Holland Ford  
Richard Howell  
Dr Mary Barkham (Co-opted)  
Juliet Holt-Wilson (Co-opted)  
Tom Abbey-Smith (Co-opted)  
Tim Rathbone (Co-opted)

**With special thanks to:** Local Group volunteers in Chepstow and Usk, The Gwent Levellers, Eastern Valleys volunteers, Pentwyn and Wyewood shepherds and the many other passionate, committed individuals who give their time and expertise to support our work.



# Staff

(As at end March 2024)

**Chief Executive** – Adam Taylor (Resigned March 2024)

**NATURE RECOVERY TEAM**

**Head of Nature Recovery and Interim CEO** – Gemma Bodé  
**Evidence Manager** – Andy Karran  
**Senior Evidence Officer** – Lowri Watkins  
**Community Ecologist** – Kath Beasley  
**Nature Recovery Manager** – Thomas Campbell  
**Conservation Grazing Officer** – Joe Ryder  
**Nature Recovery Officer** – Ben Boylett  
**Nature Recovery Officer** – Liz W

**NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS TEAM**

**Head of Nature Based Solutions** – Natalie Waller  
**Senior Wild Health Project Officer** – Ian Thomas  
**Wild Health Project Officer** – Rose O'Hagan  
**Senior Youth Engagement Officer** – Beccy Williams  
**Youth Engagement Officer** – Petra Mitchard  
**Youth Engagement Officer** – Robert Magee  
**Programme Manager** – Elizabeth Stokes  
**Senior Community Organiser** – Kevin Donovan  
**River Restoration Officer** – Nathalie Nicolaus

**CORE AND SUPPORT STAFF**

Our core team work from our HQ supporting our delivery teams by running the accounts, administration, finances, fundraising, communications and other management functions.

**Senior IT and Safety Officer** – Anthony Cook  
**Finance and Administration Officer** – Jo Taylor  
**HR and Volunteering Manager** – Sarah Coleman  
**Head of Fundraising and Communications** – Debbie Stenner  
**Membership and Marketing Administrator** – Lois Holroyd  
**Senior Press and Communications Officer** – Sarah Harris  
**Marketing Officer** – Hamish Blair

**GWENT WILDLIFE TRUST**

Chestnut Suite, Mamhilad House – Block A,  
Mamhilad Park Estate, Pontypool, NP4 0HZ.  
Tel: 01600 740600.  
Email: [info@gwentwildlife.org](mailto:info@gwentwildlife.org)  
Web: [www.gwentwildlife.org](http://www.gwentwildlife.org)

Charity number: 242619  
Company number: 00812535  
Registered office: Chestnut Suite, Mamhilad House – Block A,  
Mamhilad Park Estate, Pontypool, NP4 0HZ

Annual Review designed by Jones Design Create Ltd.