

Unknown Wales 2018

A day to celebrate Welsh wildlife



Sat 27 October 2018
National Museum Cardiff
Admission free

T: 01656 724100 / info@welshwildlife.org to book;
leave your details and number of places required.

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For this year's day of talks about Welsh natural history, we present the richest mineral site in Wales, the challenges of studying Wales' rarest bat and how to safeguard the nearly extinct Glutinous Snail. Hear about recent success re-introducing freshwater crayfish and then look ahead to future re-introduction of beavers to our rivers. We also shine a spotlight on Gwent Levels habitats and ecology and find out about the challenges of monitoring endangered seabirds.

- 10.00 – 10.30 **Arrival for tea and coffee**
- 10.30 – 10.35 Introduction to the day by the Chair
- 10.35 – 11.05 **Matt Wood: Why count seabirds?**
Matt explores the necessity and challenges of monitoring our most endangered group of birds, highlighting recent efforts to census Manx Shearwaters and Storm Petrels on Skomer and Skokholm Islands
- 11.05 – 11.35 **Alicia Leow-Dyke: The Welsh Beaver Project – Return of the Beaver?**
Once native to Wales but hunted to extinction, we look at the ecology of beavers and why they should be re-introduced.
- 11.35 – 11.50 **Comfort Break**
- 11.50 – 12.20 **Tom Cotterell: Dolyhir Quarry, Old Radnor, Powys: the most mineralogically diverse site in Wales**
The working quarry at Dolyhir in the Welsh Borderland continues to enthral and fascinate mineralogists with its assortment of exotic minerals.
- 12.20 – 12.50 **Gemma Bodé: The Gwent Levels - a nationally important landscape**
This fascinating wetland habitat is full of both history and wildlife; hear about the wonders within and plans to safeguard them.
- 12.50 – 13.55 **Lunch Break** (buy from the museum café or bring your own)
- 13.55 – 14.00 Afternoon Session Welcome
- 14.00 – 14.30 **Ian Hughes: Glorious Glutinous Snails – Bala Lake's Unknown Mollusc**
Now known from only a single site in Britain, find out about Wales' most unknown and rarest freshwater snail.
- 14.30 – 15.00 **Oliver Brown: Crayfish Culture - Its role in the conservation of the white-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) in Wales**
With restocking/introduction to 'Ark' sites a proven success in boosting wild populations, artificial culture from donor populations could be a useful tool.
- 15.00 – 15.30 **Richard Crompton: The Nathusius' pipistrelle bat - a Welsh rarity?**
A look at this little-known migratory bat species, including a case study from Cardiff.
- 15.30 **Conference Close**