

## MMG EVENTS REPORT 2025

We normally put species lists on the MMG Blog and Facebook page a few days after the event when all identifications have been confirmed. Photos are often put on the Facebook page for our loyal Moth Experts Pete Bent, Peter Williams, Meurig Garbutt and others to confirm identification.

We held the first MMG event at Cors Dyfi MWT Osprey Centre Reserve hosted Dulcie and Tom Faulkner on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025. This is an excellent place for a moth night with outside benches and tables and electricity. We put several traps on the boardwalk across the wetland. It was a warm night and we had 38 macros including Maiden's Blush, Peach Blossom, Dark Barred Twin-spot Carpet, Narrow-winged Pug, Brindled Beauty and two micros.

The MMG Moth Night at Llanymynech Golf Course on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025 put 5 traps out on this area of limestone grassland and caught 36 macros and 8 micros. The weather was warm, windy and with frequent light rain which may have put people off. Phil McGregor and Simon Spencer were very pleased to have help from new member Kate Gillan as the traps were spread out and attracted lots of moths. We were lucky to have the practice shed as our base which gave us some shelter.

Highlights were Grey Pug, confirmed overnight via the MMG Facebook page by Pete Bent and Meurig Garbutt (Thanks both!). We also had orange footman and Broken-barred Carpet. Hawk moths were scarce but we had Poplar Hawk and Small Elephant Hawk. We hope to run Moth Mornings there again soon.

The evening event at Severn Farm Pond MWT reserve on 6<sup>th</sup> June run by Phil McGregor had 30 Macros including Cream Wave and no less than 18 Micros. Phil also ran another at the Andrew Logan museum of Sculpture in Berriew on 1<sup>st</sup> August but it was cool and clear with 33 macros recorded and 8 micros. White-spotted Pug and Gold Spot were the most notable.

Our MMG event on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2026 at Llangynog was very successful. We were delighted to have Ashworth's Rustic which was the focus of our visit but the star of the night was two Weaver's Wave which has only been recorded in Mont once before in 2005. This nationally scarce species is associated with heather and is confined to North Wales. Other moths of note were Grey Chi, Anomalous, Plain Wave, Square-spot Dart, Neglected Rustic and Beech-green Carpet. All C species. Thanks to Peter Williams and Pete Bent for confirming identification. Many thanks also to all who turned out including some newcomers. It was a very busy evening with ideal weather conditions – warm, still and cloudy with a new moon. We had 67 macros and 19 micros.

The proposed MMG event at Deri Wood for 20<sup>th</sup> September was cancelled due to appalling weather.

The pheromone traps that we obtained with a Powys Nature Partnership grant were a great success and over the summer they have successfully trapped 4 species at a number of sites. Starting with Currant Clearwing in Llanfyllin and Four Crosses in early June, Lunar Hornet Moth was recorded in Newtown and Y Frochas near Welshpool and also Llanfyllin. Ola Lluest near Llanfyllin on 19 June had two red tipped clearwing and one Currant Clearwing. Both species were also caught by Clare Boyes in Middletown. There was also Lunar Hornet at another site. We gave a Welsh Clearwing trap to Martha Tutt to try in the Eunant Valley and she had 11 Welsh Clearwing on 19th and then an incredible 31 somewhere else near Lake Vyrnwy later.

For several mornings, usually at Weekends, we have run moth mornings at Lake Vyrnwy with Fay Hirst of the RSPB and Kate Gillan who lives in Llanwddyn. These have been very successful using an MMG MV Trap and usually the benches and tables below the dam where we take the moth trap at 8.00AM to show people moths. Local publicity and publicity through Kirsty Martuccio and her RSPB volunteers group has been most useful. They get some interesting moths including Barred Chestnut, Barred Hook-tip and Clay Triple-lines.. These will in 2026 be run without my help by Kate and Fay.

We also run moth mornings elsewhere, usually at short notice. This is a great way to get records from interesting places and we usually open the trap at 8.00 AM so a good night's sleep can be had by all. The moth morning at Welshpool Golf Club with MWT was best attended and recorded Glaucous Shears. One at Ola Lluest near Llanfyllin produced Double Lobed and Leopard Moth and a September event at Yr Eitha Bach near Guilsfied produced a Clifden Nonpareil to the delight of Sue Southam who has been 'mothing' for years and never seen it. We intend to do more of these in 2026.

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