

# Love Your Countryside Festival



at locations across **RURAL SWANSEA**

**Sat 6th – Sun 21st September 2014**

Go wild in the country – get connected to nature!



Saving Gower – For All It's Worth  
Gower Landscape Partnership

LOTTERY FUNDED  
ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI

Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu  
Gwledig Ewrop yn Burdsoeddi  
mewn Ardalsoedd Gwledig  
The European Agricultural Fund for  
Rural Development: Europe Investing in  
Rural Areas

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Welcome to the first...

# Love Your Countryside Festival



**This new and exciting festival takes place over 16 days in September with 60 different events across Gower and Mawr – most are FREE!**

Come face to face with nature on a wildlife walk, take part in a bushcraft adventure, be creative and learn new skills or get hands-on helping to look after our wonderful countryside. With so many things to join in and try out there's bound to be something for everyone.

We want everyone to:

Enjoy

the countryside

Learn

about the countryside

Care

for the countryside

Events in this programme have been categorised into these three colour themes though we expect all the events to be enjoyable and most will include an element of learning.

The Love Your Countryside Festival aims to increase our awareness, appreciation and involvement with the natural environment of rural Swansea; its habitats, biodiversity, landscapes, seascapes and heritage. It is part of the Nature Conservation Team's Countryside Connections Project and is supported by the Gower Landscape Partnership and funded through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 (funded by the Welsh Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development), Natural Resources Wales and Heritage Lottery Fund.



Two events not to be missed are the festival 'hub' days when dozens of activities are on offer:

**Gower Hub Day on Sunday 14th:** A day-long family fun event along a mile from Caswell beach, through Bishop's Wood to the Down to Earth Project near Murton. This will include sand sculptures, rockpooling, willow weaving, storytelling, craft stalls, adventure challenges, art workshops and much more. See page 15 for further details.

**Mawr Hub Day on Sunday 21st:** At the newly opened Garnswllt Activity Centre in the dramatic landscape of north Swansea with amazing views across the Amman Valley. This event will also include a selection of rural craft stalls and hands-on activities. See page 21 for further details.

For more information on the festival visit [www.swansea.gov.uk/loveyourcountrysidefestival](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/loveyourcountrysidefestival)



Love Your Countryside Festival



@LYCFestival #LYCFestival



# Important Information

**The Love Your Countryside Festival** has been arranged and promoted by the City and County of Swansea's Nature Conservation Team but most of the individual events are being run by other organisations. Please note that information provided in this programme is published in good faith and the City and County of Swansea cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies, changes or cancellations.

Most events listed in this booklet are open to anyone. If attending an event, please be considerate to others and the environment. Remember the countryside code and use sustainable travel where possible. Please read the event details carefully and contact the event organiser if you have any queries.

**EVENT CHARGES:** Most of the events in the festival programme are FREE but a few do have a charge or some require a refundable deposit to be paid to secure a booking.

**ADVANCE BOOKING:** Many events have limited places and so advance booking is essential. Other events are open for anyone to drop in on the day. This should be clear in the event details but if unsure contact the event leader.

**CHILDREN:** Unless otherwise stated, children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**DISABILITY:** If you have a visual, hearing or mobility disability and need further details in order to join in an event, please contact the organiser for more information.

**DOGS:** Dogs are not allowed at many events, with the exception of assistance dogs. If it is not clearly stated in the event details, please contact the event leader to check.

**SUITABLE CLOTHING:** It is important that suitable clothing and footwear is worn for the weather conditions and the activity being undertaken.

**FOOD & DRINK:** It is recommended that a small snack and a drink are taken along to events, particularly if they are expected to last over an hour. For some events, it is suggested that a packed lunch be taken. Some events include a stop at a café or pub where refreshments or a meal can be purchased.

**EQUIPMENT:** Where specific equipment or materials are required, these will generally be provided by the event organiser unless otherwise stated.

**CANCELLATIONS:** The event leader will usually be at the start of an event even if it has been cancelled due to poor weather or other circumstances. To avoid unnecessary journeys, you may wish to call the event organiser in advance.

**CAR PARKING:** Please be considerate when parking and take care not to obstruct gates, other vehicles, etc. Car parking charges do apply in some places.

**SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL:** Many of the events in this booklet can be accessed using public transport or cycling. For bus routes and timetables please contact Traveline Cymru on 0871 200 2233 or at [www.traveline-cymru.info](http://www.traveline-cymru.info) or visit the BayTrans website [www.baytrans.org.uk](http://www.baytrans.org.uk).



## Sat 6th Sept – Worms Head Causeway Seashore Safari

Join marine biologist Judith Oakley on a free, fun and educational seashore safari. Discover the amazing hidden life amongst rockpools and under boulders on the shores of Gower. Car park charges may apply and be prepared for a 20 min walk to the site. No nets or dogs allowed. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions and footwear with good grip (no flip-flops). Suitable for ages 3+ but all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Booking essential by text or telephone, or by emailing [info@oakleyintertidal.co.uk](mailto:info@oakleyintertidal.co.uk).

---

**Meet** 9am–11.30am, outside National Trust shop, Rhossili

---

**Contact** Judith Oakley, Oakley Intertidal, 07879 837817

## Sat 6th Sept – Cefn Drum and Cwm Dulais Landscape Walk

A walk of about 8 km to explore the evidence preserved in the landscape that shows how coal forms and how it has been extracted over the ages. Includes steep ascents and descents and several stiles. Some paths may be muddy. Suitable clothes and footwear should be worn. Children should be accompanied by an adult and dogs should be kept on a lead. Public transport runs to Pontarddulais, about 3 km from the meeting place. Free event.

---

**Meet** 9.30am–1pm, old Graig Merthyr colliery site, Cwm Dulais (grid ref: SN623 041)

---

**Contact** Geraint Owen, Swansea University, 01792 295141

## Sat 6th Sept – Willow Weaving Workshop

Workshop taught by Out To Learn Willow. Learn how to make garden structures from willow and about the many sustainable uses of willow. All participants will take home a willow garden structure which they have made themselves. Participants must be aged 12 or over. Only 8 places available and a £5 refundable deposit is required to secure a place. Parking on site only for disabled. Others should park on Brandy Cove Road and walk 200 yards down track to tree nursery.

---

**Meet** 9.30am–4.30pm, Coeden Fach Tree Nursery, Brandy Cove Road, Bishopston SA3 3DT

---

**Contact** Kate Davies, Coeden Fach, 07831 923244



## Sat 6th Sept – Three Cliffs Litter Pick

Help the National Trust keep this wonderful beach clean. Work gloves and rubbish bags provided. Bring a packed lunch or drop in at any time to lend a hand. No charge. Suitable for families.

**Meet** 10am-3pm, by stepping stones at back of Three Cliffs beach, Gower

**Contact** Claire Hannington, National Trust, 07899 063577

## Sat 6th Sept – Explore your Photential Photography Workshop

Come and 'Explore your Photential' on this innovative photography workshop that will develop the way that you see. Bring a digital camera, food and drink and appropriate clothing for the weather. Ideal for DSLR camera and CSC owners of all abilities. There is a £5 booking fee which will fund the provision of cakes and hot drinks. Visit [www.photential.co.uk](http://www.photential.co.uk) for more details and to book your place. Booking essential. Limited places.

**Meet** 4pm-9pm, Penclawdd Community Centre, Penclawdd SA4 3FJ

**Contact** Lee Aspland, Photential, 07952 747776



## Sun 7th Sept – Love Your Countryside Play Day

A Forest School play day for 8-12yr olds, covering a range of Forest School activities including den building, bug hunting, cooking on the campfire, crafts and tool use plus much more. Free of charge but any contributions are welcome. Maximum 12 places so must pre-book by emailing [info@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk](mailto:info@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk) – first come first served basis.

**Meet** 10am-3pm, Park Woods, Gower

**Contact** Forest School SNPT, 01792 367118



## Sun 7th Sept - Welshmoor and More Cycle Ride

Approximately 30 miles, mostly very quiet roads at an easy pace to suit the slowest rider. Starts on the cycle path to Dunvant then via lanes and track to Fairwood Common. From Three Crosses we cross Welshmoor with views over the Loughor Estuary, calling at The Greyhound Inn, Oldwalls for coffee. We then continue on to Burry Green, Llanddew, and to a cafe in Scurlage or to The King Arthur in Renoldston for lunch. The return journey will be via the Salt Marshes and cycle track at Penclawdd. Minimum unaccompanied age 16. Free.

---

**Meet** 10am, on Swansea Bike Path by The Railway Inn, Killay

---

**Contact** Martin Brain, Swansea C.T.C., 01792 536372 / 07977 561047

---

## Mon 8th Sept - Oxwich NNR - History, Management and Conservation

A walk and informal talk around the dunes and marshes of Oxwich National Nature Reserve, taking in the frontal dunes, dune grassland, lakes and saltmarsh. Then through the dunes, out to Nicholaston Pill and back across the beach to the car park. A discussion about the history of the Bay, how it has impacted on the landscape and nature conservation, the important designations and nationally important species and the future of the reserve. Parking available on site and a bus stop in Oxwich Village. Please call for details of where to meet and to book.

---

**Meet** 10am-12noon, Oxwich National Nature Reserve, Oxwich, Gower

---

**Contact** Nick Edwards, Natural Resources Wales, 01792 371320

---

## Mon 8th Sept - Gower Coastline Adventure Activities

Adventure activities day exploring the south Gower coastline. Combining walking, water-based activities and climbing/abseiling, this adventure-filled day will offer a different perspective both on the coastline and the south Gower countryside. Some activities will be subject to weather/tide conditions. Please bring clothing for swimming, some spare footwear similar to trainers and a packed lunch. Going off-site to activity venues on south Gower coastline so please arrive by car as we will be driving off site in own vehicles. Minimum age: 11 years old. Limited to 12 places so booking required in advance. Free.

---

**Meet** 10am-3pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

---

**Contact** Barney O'Kane, Down to Earth, 01792 232439

---



## Mon 8th - Sat 13th Sept - The Walk That Reconnects

The Emergence Land Journey offers an opportunity to connect with issues of deep ecology and sustainability with experienced facilitators and artists. The walk follows the 36-mile route of The Gower Way and takes place over 4 days (5 nights of camping). There will be a chance to stop, breathe and creatively connect to the elements with our heart, head and hands, and there will be daily encounters with local gatekeepers, artists and stewards of this ancient land. A bus will take participants back to the city centre after the last night's camp. Please contact [holli@emergence-uk.org](mailto:holli@emergence-uk.org). Places are limited and must be booked in advance. Fees are £300 full price, £200 concessionary rate.

**Meet** 4pm, participants are taken by bus from Swansea

**Contact** Fern Smith, Emergence, 07528 527836

## Tues 9th Sept - Charcoal Making Workshop

A workshop aimed at people interested in woodland management, woodland owners looking to generate an income, conservation students, small woodland enterprises and others who just want to learn the process of charcoal making.

A relaxed, informal and informative day in the woods seeing all aspects of the charcoal making process in one day and getting involved with loading, lighting, grading, bagging, etc. The uses for charcoal and biochar will be discussed along with the properties of timbers, potential markets and sustainable woodland management.

Max of 8 participants so advance booking essential. 18+ (16-17yr olds welcome if accompanied). Parking available on site but no welfare facilities or toilets. Whilst every effort will be made to run the workshop in the event of high winds or excessive rainfall it may be necessary to cancel at the last minute.

Bookings or queries: [p.thornton@welshwildlife.org](mailto:p.thornton@welshwildlife.org). Free but booking deposit may be required.



**Meet** 9am-4.30pm(approx.), Gelli Hir Woods, Cilonnen, Gower

**Contact** Paul Thornton, Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales, 07966 564372



## Tues 9th Sept - Lower Hardingsdown Farm Visit and Walk

A rare chance to visit a working organic livestock farm to understand the farming processes, diversifications and conservation practices that are being carried out. Will include a walk around the farm. Open to all, suitable for families but children must be accompanied. Free event but numbers limited so booking essential. Wellies or walking boots advisable. Parking and toilets available. For bus take the 116 to Muzzard Cross bus stop and then walk 400m up farm lane.

**Meet** 10am-12noon, Lower Hardingsdown Farm, Llangennith, Gower SA3 1HT

**Contact** Allison Tyrell, 01792 386222

## Tues 9th Sept - Penllergare Volunteer Day

A half day of outdoor physical woodland conservation activity in Penllergare Valley Woods in a group. Wear suitable outdoor clothing according to the weather conditions. Tools and equipment provided. Minimum age 17, unless accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. No charge but places are limited so please book in advance by telephone or email [contact@penllergare.org](mailto:contact@penllergare.org). Car park is pay and display. The X13 bus passes close by with a stop at Parc Penllergare 500m away. Service bus no.141 passes the car park entrance.

**Meet** 10am-2pm, car park, Penllergare Valley Woods, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** David Connick, The Penllergare Trust, 01792 344224

## Tues 9th & Wed 10th Sept - Introduction to Green Woodworking

Learn some basic green woodworking skills with Dragonfly Creations such as cleaving, sawing and carving using axes and knives - and take home what you have made. This two-day workshop will help you identify suitable wood, grain pattern and tree types, while also learning how this fits into a bigger picture of ecology and sustainability. Please bring along a packed lunch and wear suitable outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. Transport will be provided to and from Swansea Carers Centre on Mansel Street, Swansea. Workshop is open to any carer aged 18+ living in the City & County of Swansea. This includes anyone who looks after a friend, neighbour or relative because of frailty, ill-health, addiction or disability. There are only 8 spaces available so advance booking is essential by phone or email [ali@swanseacarerscentre.org.uk](mailto:ali@swanseacarerscentre.org.uk). Free.

**Meet** 10am-3pm, The Bays Farm, Overton Lane, Port Eynon SA3 1NR

**Contact** Ali Morrison, Swansea Carers Centre, 01792 653344





## Wed 10th Sept – Broughton Walk

A leisurely 3-mile stroll to the beach by Llangennith followed by a refreshment stop in a local pub. Starts and ends with a short climb. No dogs. Wear good boots and clothing appropriate to weather. Free.

**Meet** 10am, in Gowerton car park to share cars or contact to arrange to meet at start of walk

**Contact** Keith Jones, Mawr Walking Club, 01792 775817

## Wed 10th Sept – National Trust Volunteering

Join the National Trust volunteer group for a day. Task to be confirmed. Work gloves provided. Bring a packed lunch. Suitable for families. Booking advisable. For more information call 01792 390636 or [gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Meet** 10am-3pm, location to be confirmed

**Contact** Claire Hannington, National Trust, 07899 063577



## Wed 10th Sept – Geocaching on Gower

Adventure-filled day exploring south Gower through geocaching – outdoor treasure hunting using GPS enabled devices. We'll go hunting for "caches" taking you to remote and wild areas as well as showing you how to hide your own caches. Some activities will be subject to weather conditions. Please bring suitable clothing and footwear for the outdoors and a packed lunch. Going off-site to activity venues on south Gower coastline so please arrive by car as we will be driving off site in own vehicles. Minimum age: 11 years old. Limited to 12 places so booking required in advance. Free.

**Meet** 10am–2.30pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

**Contact** Barney O'Kane, Down to Earth, 01792 232439



## Wednesday 10th Sept – St Madoc Volunteer Day

Help to tackle the bracken to encourage wildflowers and rake up cut bracken into piles in our bracken control areas. Wear long trousers and sturdy footwear. Bring a packed lunch, water and a sunhat/suncream, if it is hot. Other outdoor jobs may be included. Sorry no dogs allowed. Please book in advance. Suitable for age 10 years and above. Under 16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

**Meet** 10am-4pm, St Madoc Centre, Llanmadoc, Gower SA3 1DE

**Contact** Sarah Leedham, St Madoc Centre, 01792 386291

## Thurs 11th Sept – An Introduction to Bushcraft

A one-day introduction with Dryad Bushcraft to learn about tools, techniques and skills of basic bushcraft. This will include how to safely use a knife, saw and axe; learning to think like a survivor; fire lighting without matches; constructing an emergency shelter; foraging and preparing wild foods; wilderness cooking, trapping, tracking, signalling & navigation. No previous bushcraft experience required. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. Ingredients will be provided for a lunch that can be cooked over a fire, but please bring along your own snacks and a drink to keep up your energy levels. Transport will be provided to and from Swansea Carers Centre on Mansel Street, Swansea. Workshop is open to any carer aged 18+ living in the City & County of Swansea. This includes anyone who looks after a friend, neighbour or relative because of frailty, ill-health, addiction or disability. Free but only 10 spaces so advance booking is essential by phone or email [ali@swansecarerscentre.org.uk](mailto:ali@swansecarerscentre.org.uk)

**Meet** 10am-5pm, in Park Woods, near Parkmill, Gower

**Contact** Ali Morrison, Swansea Carers Centre, 01792 653344

## Thurs 11th Sept – Penllergare Volunteer Day

A half day of outdoor physical woodland conservation activity in Penllergare Valley Woods in a group. Wear suitable outdoor clothing according to the weather conditions. Tools and equipment provided. Minimum age 17, unless accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. No charge but places are limited so please book in advance by telephone or email [contact@penllergare.org](mailto:contact@penllergare.org). Car park is pay and display. The X13 bus passes close by with a stop at Parc Penllergare 500m away. Service bus no.141 passes the car park entrance.

**Meet** 10am-2pm, car park, Penllergare Valley Woods, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** David Connick, The Penllergare Trust, 01792 344224



## Thurs 11th Sept – Storytelling Walk

A storytelling walk around Bishopwood inspired by the beautiful woodland and the history that still lives in the landscape. Sian Cornelius (local storyteller) and Andy Jones (musician/archaeologist) have brought to life this enchanted world that lives and breathes through story, poems, music and the senses. The walk is on uneven ground and uphill in places so a level of fitness and ability is necessary, along with sturdy walking shoes. The event is free of charge but booking is essential as places are limited. Suitable for adults and children age 10yrs+.

**Meet** 10.30am and 1.30pm, back of beach car park, Caswell, Gower

**Contact** Sian Cornelius, Tirwydd, 07854 113640

## Thurs 11th Sept – Lliw Reservoir Walk

4-mile, leisurely and interesting walk following footpaths and the tarmac road around the beautiful Lower & Upper Lliw Valley Reservoirs culminating in a well-earned visit to the on-site café for tea and cakes, etc. Please note that footpaths could be muddy after rainfall. Dogs must remain on short leads. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free event.

**Meet** 11.45am, car park, Lower Lliw Reservoir, Felindre

**Contact** Mike Clarke, Swansea Ramblers, 01792 843590

## Fri 12th Sept – Straw Bale Building: Preparing to Build

An essential one-day seminar for all straw bale self-builders with Barbara Jones of Straw Works, author of the best-selling self-build manual 'Building with Straw Bales'. This popular seminar focuses on the project management of your straw bale build, explaining techniques you can use to bring in your project: on quality, on budget, on time. Please bring a packed lunch. Minimum age: 18 years old. Limited to 15 places. £45 per person. Booking required in advance.

**Meet** 9.45am–4pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

**Contact** Mark McKenna, Down to Earth, 01792 232439



## Fri 12th Sept – Woodland Management and Cooking on Fire

Practical woodland activities including tree felling and brash clearance alongside learning how to light a fire without matches and cooking some great food. Blending actively managing a woodland with eating well around a campfire, you'll sleep well after this exciting day in the woods. Some activities will be subject to weather conditions. Please bring suitable clothing and footwear for the outdoors and a packed lunch if you have specific dietary requirements. Minimum age: 11 years old. Limited to 12 places. No charge but advance booking is required.

**Meet** 10am–2.30pm, Millwood, Penrice, Gower

**Contact** Barney O’Kane, Down to Earth, 01792 232439

## Fri 12th Sept – Basket-making for Beginners

Make your own willow frame basket using traditional weaving techniques. Full instructions and materials provided by Out to Learn Willow. This is a great introduction to basket making and is suitable for complete beginners. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear. The venue is outdoors and toilet facilities are a short walk away. Bring along a packed lunch and drink. Transport will be provided to and from Swansea Carers Centre on Mansel Street, Swansea. Workshop is open to any carer aged 18+ living in the City & County of Swansea. This includes anyone who looks after a friend, neighbour or relative because of frailty, ill-health, addiction or disability. There are only 8 spaces available so advance booking is essential by phone or email [ali@swansecarerscentre.org.uk](mailto:ali@swansecarerscentre.org.uk). Free.

**Meet** 10am–4pm, in the Roundhouse, Bishopswood, Caswell

**Contact** Ali Morrison, Swansea Carers Centre, 01792 653344

## Sat 13th / Sun 14th Sept – Swansea Open House

A free event that celebrates Swansea's built environment and heritage, providing a once a year chance to see behind closed doors and to hear more about how buildings and projects were designed and operate. Includes buildings and sites in rural parts of Swansea such as the South West Gower churches, the Down to Earth Project and Penllergare Valley Woods. For more information, visit [www.swanseaopenhouse.com](http://www.swanseaopenhouse.com).

**Meet** various locations and times

**Contact** [www.swanseaopenhouse.com/contact.html](http://www.swanseaopenhouse.com/contact.html)



## Sat 13th Sept - Introduction to Straw Bale Building

An introduction to straw bale building for everyone from self-builder to architect to complete novice. This is not a practical course although there will be some hands-on working with bales. Come prepared to be inspired! This course will be led by Barbara Jones who has pioneered the use of straw as a building material since 1995 and now runs Straw Works. Please bring a packed lunch. Minimum age: 18 years old. Limited to 12 places. No charge but booking in advance is required.

**Meet** 9.45am–4pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

**Contact** Mark McKenna, Down to Earth, 01792 232439

## Sat 13th Sept - Gower Way: Reynoldston to Rhossili

6-mile, moderate walk along the stretch of The Gower Way that passes Llanddewi and Old Henllys, Kingshall and Rhossili Down. Views of Worm's Head and the bay that is regularly voted as one of the world's finest beaches. Free coach from Rhossili car park to start of walk in Reynoldston. Free but booking essential.

**Meet** 9.45am between Swansea Guildhall and Victoria Park (to car share) or 10.45am at Rhossili car park

**Contact** Lynne Esson, Swansea Ramblers, 01792 845845

## Sat 13th Sept - Beaks and Feet

Find out about why birds have different shaped beaks and feet and have a go at feeding with different beaks. For children ages 8-18years. Free to group members, £3 charge for non-members. Non-members welcome but please call first.

**Meet** 10am–12noon, Welfare Hall, Craig Cefn Parc, Swansea SA6 5RB

**Contact** Vicky Rees, RSPB Cwm Clydach Kites and Dippers, 01792 846443

## Sat 13th Sept - Sculpture by the Sea UK Festival

Join a team of professional artists to create a display of temporary sculptures based on a marine animal theme that inspire, inform and educate on one of Gower's beautiful beaches. Please bring buckets and spades, hats and sunscreen. All ages and cultures welcome. Free drop in workshops on a first come first served basis. On bus route and parking in pay and display car parks.

**Meet** 10am–4pm, Caswell Beach, Gower

**Contact** Sara Holden, Sculpture by the Sea UK, 01792 367571



## Sat 13th Sept - Explore your Potential Photography Workshop

Come and 'Explore your Potential' on this innovative photography workshop that will develop the way that you see. Bring a digital camera, food and drink and appropriate clothing for the weather. Ideal for DSLR camera and CSC owners of all abilities. There is a £5 booking fee which will fund the provision of cakes and hot drinks. Visit [www.photential.co.uk](http://www.photential.co.uk) for more details and to book your place. Booking essential. Limited places.

**Meet** 10am–3pm, Garnswllt Activity Centre, Heol y Mynydd, Garnswllt SA18 2SE

**Contact** Lee Aspland, Photential, 07952 747776

## Sat 13th Sept - Downs, Moors and Beach Walk

A moderate 8-mile walk along the eastern side of Rhossili Down to White Moor Mill and the hill forts at Hardings Down, and Llangennith Church, returning across Llangennith Moors and along the beach and coast path. Dogs on short leads.

**Meet** 10.30am, Rhossili Church car park, Rhossili, Gower (grid ref: 416 804)

**Contact** Alan Bailey, Gower Society, 01792 233046

## Sat 13th Sept - Green Woodworking Workshop

Workshop leader Dai Morris is a very experienced green wood worker who will teach the basic principles of green woodworking including knife work and using a shave horse. No previous experience is necessary. Everyone will take home an example of their work. Participants must be 12 or over. Just 7 places available so booking necessary. Workshop is free but a £15 refundable deposit is required. Parking in Caswell is pay and display. Workshop times are suitable for participants to use 2C bus service from Swansea. Anyone unsure of location can be met at the back of Caswell car park.

**Meet** 10.30am–4.30pm, Llanwell Trust, Bishops Wood, Caswell, Gower

**Contact** Kate Davies, Coeden Fach, 07831 923244



## Sat 13th Sept - Port Eynon Seashore Safari

Join marine biologist Judith Oakley on a free, fun and educational seashore safari. Discover the amazing hidden life amongst rockpools and under boulders on the shores of Gower. Car park charges may apply and be prepared for a 10 min walk across sand and rocks to the site. No nets or dogs allowed. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions and footwear with good grip (no flip-flops). Suitable for ages 3+ but all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Booking essential by text or telephone, or by emailing [info@oakleyintertidal.co.uk](mailto:info@oakleyintertidal.co.uk).

---

**Meet** 1.45pm-3.45pm, outside the chip shops, Port Eynon, Gower

---

**Contact** Judith Oakley, Oakley Intertidal, 07879 837817

## Sat 13th Sept - Oxwich Wreck Snorkelling Safari

Join the Clear Streams Coordinator and Swansea Watersport as they take a boat ride out to Oxwich Bay's wreck. Spend low tide exploring this wonderful wreck full of wildlife while learning about issues that affect our water environment. Limited to experienced snorkelers only, snorkelling gear will NOT be provided so participants must bring their own. To book a place, email [connor@environmentcentre.org.uk](mailto:connor@environmentcentre.org.uk). A £10 refundable deposit is required along with a completed application form.

---

**Meet** 1.30pm-4.30pm, The Beach Hut, Oxwich beach, Oxwich SA3 1LS

---

**Contact** Connor Whiteley, Clear Streams, 01792 480200

## Sun 14th Sept - Cwm Clydach Walk

A strenuous 9/10-mile walk through fields, fell and steep valleys taking in the famous Lechart Burial Mound. Some steep short up and down hill passages. Some rough going; the valleys can be muddy and slippery. Boots and good clothing needed. No dogs.

---

**Meet** 9.30am, between Swansea Guildhall & Victoria Park (to car share)  
or 10am at RSPB Cwm Clydach Nature Reserve car park, SA6 5TL  
(grid ref: SN682 026)

---

**Contact** John France, Gower Society, 01792 547439



10am–4pm, in six hubs of activity along a mile of beautiful countryside from Caswell beach through Bishop's Wood to the Down to Earth, Murton.

Create a giant sand sculpture on the beach, explore the magical world at Lanwell, go back in time to the start of photography, try out the National Trust's '50 Things to Do Before Your 11¾', follow the Mari Lwyd parade along the woodland trail, make things with wood and stone, learn survival skills... and much more to see and do.

**Beach Hub:** coasteering, sand sculptures and rockpooling

**Rural Craft Hub:** local produce stalls and rural crafts

**Woodland Hub:** wildlife fun and treasure hunts

**Roundhouse Hub:** art, photography and heritage activities

**Lanwell Hub:** storytelling and craft demonstrations

**Down to Earth Hub:** adventure activities and traditional building crafts

**Programme:** A full programme will be available on the day. All activities are free but some will have specific times and a limited number of participants. The following activities should be booked in advance:

- coasteering sessions (9am–10.30am and 11am–12.30pm), minimum age 11, limited to 10 people, meeting at Caswell car park with spare pair of trainers, swimwear and towel. Wet suits provided.
- green woodworking workshops (10.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm and 2.30pm)

**To book a place for either workshop, please call Down to Earth on 01792 232439.**

**Public Transport:** Take the 114 bus from Swansea to Murton at 10am or 12noon.

**Parking and Site Access:** There are pay & display car parks next to Caswell beach and the Bishop's Wood Countryside Centre. There is a free car park at Bishopston Community Centre, Murton. The main path through Bishop's Wood and at the Down to Earth Project site are accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The short route between Bishop's Wood and Down to Earth is uneven and unsuitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs but a free shuttle bus will run between the Caswell and Murton car parks.

**Refreshments and Toilet Facilities:** Food and toilets by Caswell beach and at the Down to Earth Project site. Light refreshment available in Bishop's Wood.





## Sun 14th Sept - Plants and Butterflies of the Coastal Cliffs

Guided walk along the cliff path from Caswell to Langland (and back), highlighting the autumn plants and butterflies. No disabled access. Limited numbers so please book in advance. Free event but parking charges apply.

**Meet** 10am–12noon, Bishops Wood Countryside Centre, Caswell, Gower

**Contact** Dr Deborah Sazer, Butterfly Conservation, 01792 851050 / 07703 343597

## Sun 14th Sept - Eco-tribe

Family environmental activities in the outdoors. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear for outdoors. Under 16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Free, no booking required.

**Meet** 3pm–5pm, St Madoc Centre, Llanmadoc, Gower SA3 1DE

**Contact** Mark Cutliffe, St Madoc Centre, 01752 386291

## Mon 15th Sept - Tree Climbing, Green Woodwork & Cooking on Fire

A diverse and adventurous day of hands-on activities including climbing a big oak tree, green woodwork and making something to take home plus lighting a fire without matches and cooking some great food on an open fire. Some activities will be subject to weather conditions. Please bring suitable clothing and footwear for the outdoors and a packed lunch if you have specific dietary requirements. Minimum age: 11 years old. Limited to 12 places. No charge but booking in advance is required.

**Meet** 10am–2.30pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

**Contact** Mark McKenna, Down to Earth, 01792 232439

## Mon 15th Sept - Dylan Thomas' Extraordinary Little Cough

A one-man walking performance by Lighthouse Theatre Company along the cliffs at Rhossili. Suitable for families. No charge but booking essential. For more information contact 01792 390636 or [gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk).

**Meet** 2pm, Rhossili, Gower

**Contact** Kathryn Thomas, National Trust, 07899 826170



## Tues 16th Sept – Outdoor Learning Practitioner Unit

The first of three packed days over three months (includes 14th Oct and 11th Nov) using a Forest School ethos and aimed at teachers, play workers, youth workers or educators who want to use the outdoors in their own setting as a more productive learning environment and who want to build their confidence and repertoire of skills and techniques. Cost: £300. Maximum 12 places available so booking essential.

**Meet** 9am–5pm, Woodland Centre, Penllergare Valley Woods, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** Forest School SNPT, 01792 367118

## Tues 16th Sept – Penllergare Volunteer Day

A half day of outdoor physical woodland conservation activity in Penllergare Valley Woods in a group. Wear suitable outdoor clothing according to the weather conditions. Tools and equipment provided. Minimum age 17, unless accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. No charge but places are limited so please book in advance by telephone or email [contact@penllergare.org](mailto:contact@penllergare.org). Car park is pay and display. The X13 bus passes close by with a stop at Parc Penllergare 500m away. Service bus no.141 passes the car park entrance.

**Meet** 10am–2pm, car park, Penllergare Valley Woods, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** David Connick, The Penllergare Trust, 01792 344224

## Tues 16th Sept – Willow Basket-making Workshop

Willow basket-making for beginners. Learn how to make a small round basket using traditional methods and a variety of willow. Suitable for beginners. Places limited to 8 people so please book in advance by calling 01656 881007 or email [info@outtolearnwillow.co.uk](mailto:info@outtolearnwillow.co.uk).

**Meet** 10am–4.30pm, Garnswllt Activity Centre, Heol y Mynydd, Garnswllt SA18 2SE

**Contact** Mel Bastier, Out To Learn Willow, 07764 961095



## Tues 16th Sept - Cefn Drum & Twr Maggie Walk

A 6-mile, moderate walk with panoramic views to the summit of Graig Fawr and along the ridge to Twr Maggie and Cefn Drum. Children accompanied by adult. Dogs remain on short leads. For public transport, take 9.35am X13 bus from Swansea bus station to Pontarddulais with approx. 1 mile walk to start. Please contact leader for further directions or if arriving by bus. Free.

**Meet** 10.45am, by woodland on Dantwyn Road, Pontarddulais SA4 8NB

**Contact** Lynne Esson, Swansea Ramblers, 01792 845845

## Wed 17th Sept - Garnswllt Cycle Ride

A moderate ride to Pontarddulais, Garnswllt and lunch at the Scotch Pine, Betws. Min unaccompanied age 16. Free.

**Meet** 10am, Gowerton Medical Centre, Mill Street Gowerton SA4 3ED

**Contact** Martin Brain, Swansea C.T.C., 01792 536372 / 07977 561047

## Wed 17th Sept - National Trust Volunteering

Join the National Trust volunteer group for a day. Task to be confirmed. Work gloves provided. Bring a packed lunch. Suitable for families. Booking advisable. For more information call 01792 390636 or [gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk).

**Meet** 10am-3pm, location to be confirmed

**Contact** Claire Hannington, National Trust, 07899 063577

## Wed 17th Sept - Reynoldston Circular Walk

A circular walk of approx. 11 kilometres on footpaths and tracks. Some stiles may be encountered. It is advisable to wear walking boots as it could be muddy and be prepared for changing weather conditions. Bring along a packed lunch and drinks. No dogs. Free event.

**Meet** 10am-4pm, in Gowerton car park to share cars to start of walk

**Contact** Alun Thomas, Mawr Walking Club, 01792 790053



## Wed 17th Sept – Penllergare Guided walk

A guided tour of the landscape restoration work in progress in Penllergare Valley Woods. Uneven ground in places so wear stout footwear and suitable clothing according to the weather conditions. Minimum age 17, unless accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. Booking not necessary. Free but donations welcome. Car park is pay and display. The X13 bus passes close by with a stop at Parc Penllergare 500m away. Service bus no.141 passes the car park entrance.

**Meet** 6pm–8pm, car park, Penllergare Valley Woods, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** David Connick, The Penllergare Trust, 01792 344224

## Thurs 18th Sept – Penllergare Volunteer Day

A half day of outdoor physical woodland conservation activity in Penllergare Valley Woods in a group. Wear suitable outdoor clothing according to the weather conditions. Tools and equipment provided. Minimum age 17, unless accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. No charge but places are limited so please book in advance by telephone or email [contact@penllergare.org](mailto:contact@penllergare.org). Car park is pay and display. The X13 bus passes close by with a stop at Parc Penllergare 500m away. Service bus no.141 passes the car park entrance.

**Meet** 10am–2pm, car park, Penllergare Valley Woods, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** David Connick, The Penllergare Trust, 01792 344224

## Thurs 18th Sept – Marsh Fritillary Caterpillar Safari

Hour to hour and a half walk to discover the secret life of the Marsh Fritillary butterfly and its caterpillar. Park on road by start of walk. Not suitable for children under 12. No dogs. Not suitable for wheelchair access. Even ground but rough and probably wet. Limited numbers so please book in advance.

**Meet** 2pm, by road at north end of Welshmoor, Gower (grid ref: SS519 929)

**Contact** Dr Deborah Sazer, Butterfly Conservation, 07703 343597



## Fri 19th Sept - Round Pole Timber Framing

An introductory day exploring how to build with timber in the round using larch on a “live” round pole timber framing construction site. The day will include a background on timber options, tools required and also the joinery involved. There will be some small, practical tasks on the day. Some activities will be subject to weather conditions. Please bring suitable clothing and footwear for the outdoors and a packed lunch. Minimum age: 11 years old. No charge but limited to 12 places so booking required in advance.

**Meet** 10am–2.30pm, Down to Earth Little Bryn Gwyn site, Gower SA3 1EB

**Contact** Mark McKenna, Down to Earth, 01792 232439

## Sat 20th Sept - National Beach Watch Day

Help the National Trust keep this wonderful beach clean and contribute to the national survey. Work gloves and rubbish bags provided. Bring a packed lunch. No charge. Suitable for families. Booking advisable. For more information please get in touch on 01792 390636 or [gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:gower.admin@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Meet** 10am-3pm, Rhossili beach, Gower

**Contact** Kathryn Thomas, National Trust, 07899 826170



## Sat 20th Sept - Tree Climbing, Green Woodwork & Cooking on Fire

A diverse and adventurous day of hands-on activities including climbing a big oak tree, green woodwork and making something to take home plus lighting a fire without matches and cooking some great food on an open fire. Some activities will be subject to weather conditions. Please bring suitable clothing and footwear for the outdoors and a packed lunch if you have specific dietary requirements. Minimum age: 11 years old. Limited to 12 places. No charge but booking in advance is required.

**Meet** 10am–2.30pm, Down to Earth site, Murton SA3 3AP

**Contact** Mark McKenna, Down to Earth, 01792 232439



## Sat 20th & Sun 21st Sept - *Loving Your Countryside into the Future*

Join Gower Power and Gower Heritage Centre staff on one of the most beautiful beaches in the world to help pick up plastic and other bits of rubbish on the Saturday and/or help build giant sand castles and sculptures on the Sunday – there will be prizes. Gower Power will also be having an informal conversation over the two days about what people think the local council and Welsh Government should be prioritising to combat climate change so that future generations will be able to enjoy the countryside. Free event and all ages welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult. Bin bags will be provided for the litter pick but please bring your own spades & rakes for building sand castles on Sunday. Bring water to drink.

**Meet** 12noon–4pm, Three Cliffs beach, Gower

**Contact** Ant Flanagan, Gower Power Community Co-operative, 07824 860803

## Sun 21st Sept - **LYC MAWR HUB DAY**

There will be lots to see and do with a host of fun activities running throughout the day including willow weaving workshops, RSPB activities, local produce and craft stalls, green woodworking and short guided walks in the surrounding countryside.

**Programme:** A full programme will be available on the day. All activities are free but some may have specific times and limited participants.

**Parking and Access:** Parking by the Activity Centre is very limited but there is a small car park approx. 300m down the hill from the Activity Centre and also in the village. A free shuttle bus will run between the village, car park and Activity Centre.

**Refreshments and Toilet Facilities:** Food and toilets are available in the Centre.

**Meet:** 10am–4pm, Garnswllt Activity Centre, Heol y Mynydd, Garnswllt SA18 2SE



## Sun 21st Sept – Dunes, Marsh and Moor Walk

12.5-mile strenuous walk (includes 500m ascent) across Broughton to Burry Holms, over Rhossili and Hardings Downs with return by Landimore Marsh. Dogs on short leads. Free.

**Meet** 9:30am, Cwm Ivy Car Park, Llanmadoc, Gower

**Contact** Mark Wolle, Swansea Ramblers, 07739 857825

## Sun 21st Sept – Love Your Countryside Play Day

A Forest School play day for 8-12yr olds, covering a range of Forest School activities including den building, bug hunting, cooking on the campfire, crafts and tool use plus much more. Free of charge but any contributions are welcome. Maximum 12 places so must be pre-booked by emailing [info@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk](mailto:info@forestschoolsnpt.org.uk) – first come first served basis.

**Meet** 10am–3pm, Penllergare Valley Woods, Swansea SA4 9GS

**Contact** Forest School SNPT,  
01792 367118



## Sun 21st Sept – Explore your Photential Photography Workshop

Come and 'Explore your Photential' on this innovative photography workshop that will develop the way that you see. Bring a digital camera, food and drink and appropriate clothing for the weather. Ideal for DSLR camera and CSC owners of all abilities. There is a £5 booking fee which will fund the provision of cakes and hot drinks. Visit [www.photential.co.uk](http://www.photential.co.uk) for more details and to book your place. Booking essential. Limited places.

**Meet** 4pm–9pm, St Madoc Centre, Llanmadoc, Gower SA3 1DE

**Contact** Lee Aspland, Photential, 07952 747776



# Main Locations for Festival Events Prif Leoliadau Digwyddiadau'r Wyl

- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Rhossili                       | 12 Gelli Hir Woods            |
| 2 Llanmadoc / Cwm Ivy            | 13 Millwood                   |
| 3 Penclawdd                      | 14 Oxwich                     |
| 4 Welshmoor                      | 15 Port Eynon                 |
| 5 Down to Earth Little Bryn Gwyn | 16 Penllergare Valley Woods   |
| 6 Coeden Fach Tree Nursery       | 17 Cefn Drum / Cwm Dulais     |
| 7 Caswell                        | 18 Lower Lliw Reservoir       |
| 8 Bishop's Wood / Lanwell        | 19 Garnswilt Activity Centre  |
| 9 Down to Earth Murton           | 20 Craig Cefn Parc            |
| 10 Three Cliffs                  | 21 Cwm Clydach Nature Reserve |
| 11 Park Woods                    |                               |

