Plantlife
The global voice for wild plants and fungi

Plantlife Annual Review

2024-25

Fungi at Sizergh
© Sue Nottingham – Plantlife

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Plantlife

Germander Speedwell © Lucia Chmurova - Plantlife

About Plantlife

Plantlife is the global charity working to enhance, protect, restore and celebrate the wild plants and fungi that are essential to all life on earth. With two in five plant species at risk of extinction and only a fraction of fungi even assessed for their extinction risk, biodiversity loss is now the fastest it's ever been – which means our work has never been more vital.

We champion and accelerate conservation action, working at the heart of a global network of individuals and organisations, to influence and inspire landowners and land managers, public and private bodies, governments and local communities.

As time begins to run out, we are using our position as the global voice for wild plants and fungi to bring lasting and positive change to our natural world – for everyone's sake.

"Working with Plantlife has significantly enriched the Natur am Byth partnership. At both delivery and governance levels, Plantlife colleagues bring specialist expertise and deep ecological insight into the species they work to protect, strengthening our collective conservation efforts. They are also working hard to bring the wellbeing benefits of nature to those who need it most in their project area and have provided key strategic guidance on inclusive practices that help the whole programme engage new and diverse audiences with nature."

DR KRISTY WILLIAMS, NATUR AM BYTH!
PEOPLE ENGAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Our vision

A world rich in plants and fungi.

Our values

Our values that guide us to achieve our vision are:

1. Friendly and supportive

We create a positive environment where everyone feels valued, heard and empowered. By being friendly and supportive, we transform challenges into opportunities and foster a sense of belonging.

2. Ambitious

We are ambitious, driven by a passion to preserve the natural world for future generations and have lasting impact. We protect and celebrate wild plants and fungi to inspire others to take action too.

3. Collaborative

We believe in the power of collaboration for collective success. By welcoming diverse people and experiences, we can bring different perspectives, skills and resources together for greater impact.

4. Expert and credible

We are committed to excellence and draw on evidence and experience to make informed decisions. This helps to ensure that we make positive progress towards reaching our vision.

Our strategy to 2030

All life on earth – including people – need plants and fungi to survive. But they are under attack from climate change and other global threats, including societal ones, such as deforestation, and ecological ones, like biodiversity loss. This loss ranges from extinct species to the collapse of entire ecosystems – a natural environment where plants and animals and the physical environment (climate, water and soil) work together to sustain life.

We launched our strategy to 2030 to put a series of measures in place that increase the diversity of wild plants and fungi across every landscape.

To achieve our vision, we have spilt our strategy into four areas of work:

1. **Protect and restore...**
   the diversity of wild plants and fungi to enhance our countryside, towns and cities.
2. **Connect people with nature...**
   to improve wellbeing and inspire action to save species and their habitats.
3. **Work in partnerships...**
   so that all people and all sectors of society can contribute to tackling the climate and nature crisis we face.
4. **Collaborate and influence...**
   on the world stage to empower societies across the globe to help protect plants and fungi.

Reviewing our strategy

In 2025, we will review and refresh our strategy to 2030 to reflect our progress over the past five years. Since we launched our strategy, there have been changes in the external environment in which we operate. We are responding to this by ensuring that plants and fungi are part of tackling the climate and nature crisis. It's crucial that we continue to protect and restore wild plants and fungi globally. The mid-term review of the strategy will help us to do this.

Welcome From Our Chair of Trustees

Our strong ethos of partnership working empowers people and organisations to advocate for unprotected plants and fungi in the UK and around the world.

When speaking up for this wonderful charity, I tell people that plants are the foundation of life, and fungi are the life-support system that provides vital nutrients for plants to thrive. Both plants and fungi are integral to livelihoods worldwide and the key to healthy biodiverse and beautiful landscapes.

Despite all this, plants and fungi are often forgotten about in government decision making and in our day-to-day lives. Biodiversity is at near breaking point. Scientists estimate that a million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, some in the coming decades.

Step forward for plant conservation

The Plantlife community achieved outstanding wins for wild plants and fungi this year. We have championed the United Nation's Global Strategy for Plant Conservation for many years, so it was thrilling to see it adopted – along with 21 complementary plant conservation actions – at the world's largest biodiversity summit, COP16, in Columbia. This was a commitment to align plant conservation efforts with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework – an international agreement made of ambitious goals and targets to

combat the decline of biodiversity. It's a huge step forward for plant conservation.

At the same event, the UK and Chilean governments pledged their commitment to better prioritise fungi in global conservation strategies. It's great to see more profile given to fungi and Plantlife will be building on this momentum by working with the mycological community in 2025-2026.

Plantlife is making a positive, lasting change for wild plants and fungi. The Board of Trustees are grateful to the dynamic staff team and all our volunteers, supporters and members. We can't do any of this crucial work without you.

David Daniels
Chair of Trustees

Scientists estimate that a million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, some in the coming decades.

Southern Marsh-orchid at Joan's Hill Farm © Paul Rowland - Plantlife

Highlights From 2024-2025

We're proud to share some of the highlights of our work this year.

1 Protect and restore... the diversity of wild plants and fungi to enhance our countryside, towns and cities.

- We shared our knowledge for sustainably managing grassland habitats with over 1,260 Welsh farmers and landowners. We wrote 15-year management plans and recorded baseline botanical data for seven meadow sites across England to create, restore, monitor and manage over 100 hectares of species-rich meadows by 2030.
- By introducing goat grazing at Stanner Rocks in Powys, Wales, we improved the habitat for one of the UK's most at risk mosses, the Upright Apple Moss *Bartramia aprica*.
- After nine months, 70% of One-flowered Wintergreen *Moneses uniflora*, a rare pinewood flower, that we moved from one location to another in Scotland, had survived.
- We completed a project funded by Natural England to review fungi and lichen translocations, summarising the scientific knowledge to-date.

2 Connect people with nature... to improve wellbeing and inspire action to save species and their habitats.

- 10,177 people, including conservation and land management professionals and our members, attended 322 Plantlife training sessions, workshops and e-learning courses on everything from bee walks to forest yoga and managing meadows.
- We are reaching more people with content, including 183,000 active users on our website, inspiring them to take action on securing a world rich in fungi and plants.
- 2,450 volunteers gave 15,000 hours of their time to Plantlife by doing everything from working on conservation projects, to helping with communications and policy work.
- 1,054 people took part in our rainforest events, training and activities, educating them about the unique biodiversity of these habitats and promoting their conservation.

100

hectares of species-rich meadows will be created by 2030.

2,450

volunteers gave 15,000 hours of their time to Plantlife.

3 Work in partnerships... so that all people and all sectors of society can contribute to tackling the climate and nature crisis we face.

- We began working with landowners across the UK to turn land which has limited agricultural or developmental value, and is underperforming, into thriving, species-rich grassland.
- We moved one of England's rarest lichens, Scrambled Egg *Fulgensia fulgens*, which are crucial to ecosystems and vital food and habitat sources for many animals, from the North of Cornwall to its historic home in East Anglia.
- More than 5,600 people took part in our annual No Mow May campaign, packing away their lawnmowers for a month, so that wildflowers can growly freely.
- As leaders of the Peat-free Partnership, we joined retailers, charities and the horticultural industry to call on all UK Governments to ban all commercial trade in peat. This will protect these vital carbon stores and the unique biodiversity of peatlands.

4 Collaborate and influence... on the world stage to empower societies across the globe to help protect plants and fungi.

- We met with government officials to make sure that the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation was adopted at the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Colombia – the world's largest biodiversity summit.
- We kept the pressure on all UK Governments to protect grasslands including calling for a Grassland Action Plan for England by the end of this parliament.
- We sent a letter to the Secretary of State in collaboration with other conservation organisations to emphasize the importance of taking action following the signing of the fungi pledge at COP16.

5,600
people took part in our annual No Mow May campaign.

80
people including MPs attended our reception at the Houses of Parliament.

Nature Reserves Team at Ranscombe Farm © Paul Rowland - Plantlife

Our Impact

In this section, we report back on our four strategic areas of work.

1 Protect and restore... the diversity of wild plants and fungi to enhance our countryside, towns and cities.

We develop areas of work that protect important rare and threatened species and habitats so that plants and fungi can thrive including within our nature reserves. In the countryside, towns and cities, our projects span grasslands, mountains, coasts, woodlands, heathland, arable farmland and peatlands.

Growing our grasslands

We shared our knowledge and passion for sustainably managing grassland habitats with over 1,260 farmers and landowners in Wales. We did this by teaming up with three agricultural colleges and Farming Connect, which advises farm and forestry businesses in Wales.

This was part of our Glaswelltiroedd Gwydn (Resilient Grasslands) project which aims to grow the area of semi-natural grasslands in Wales. These colourful meadows, brimming with life, now only cover 9% of Wales. They used to cover 99%. This has been the result of the drive to improve land through ploughing, reseeding and applying fertiliser.

Managing grasslands more naturally through livestock grazing can restore them so that they can be full of flowering plants, fungi and different grass species. As part of our work with the agricultural colleges, we hosted training days so that students could try out NoFence collars. These emit a pulse when livestock approach a boundary, which means there's no need for fencing and more flexibility for grazing. Long term fencing can lead to a decline in certain plant species and reduce biodiversity.

Sian Edwards, Agricultural Lecturer from Llysfasi, one of the agricultural colleges, said: "Plantlife's NoFence collars have been used on our suckler cows. The collars were put on our cows by students, and the students have access to the NoFence app to view and help make decisions on the grazing of our hill. This has benefited our land and management by allowing more sustainable grazing."

Tyfu ein glaswelltiroedd

Fe wnaethon ni rannu ein gwybodaeth a'n hangerdd dros reoli cynefinoedd glaswelltiroedd yn gynaliadwy gyda mwy na 1,260 o ffermwyr a pherchnogion tir yng Nghymru. Gwnaethom hyn drwy gydweithio â thri choleg amaethyddol a Chyswllt Ffermio, sy'n cynghori busnesau fferm a choedwigaeth yng Nghymru.

Roedd hyn yn rhan o'n prosiect Glaswelltiroedd Gwydn sy'n ceisio cynyddu arwynebedd glaswelltiroedd lled-naturiol yng Nghymru. Dim ond 9% o Gymru mae'r dolydd lliwgar hyn, sy'n llawn bywyd, yn ei orchuddio bellach. Roeddent yn arfer gorchuddio 99%. Mae hyn wedi bod yn ganlyniad i wella tir drwy aredig, ailhadu a gwrteithio.

Gall rheoli glaswelltiroedd yn fwy naturiol drwy bori gan dda byw eu hadfer i fod yn llawn planhigion blodeuol, ffyngau a gwahanol rywogaethau o laswellt. Fel rhan o'n gwaith gyda'r colegau amaethyddol, cynhaliwyd dyddiau hyfforddi gennym i'r myfyrwyr roi cynnig ar goleri NoFence. Mae'r rhain yn allyrru pwls pan fydd da byw yn agosáu at ffin, fel nad oes angen ffensio ac mae mwy o hyblygrwydd ar gyfer pori. Gall ffensio hirdymor arwain at ddirywiad rhai rhywogaethau o blanhigion a lleihau bioamrywiaeth.

Dywedodd Sian Edwards, Darlithydd Amaethyddol o Lysfasi, un o'r colegau amaethyddol: "Rydym wedi defnyddio coleri NoFence Plantlife ar ein buchod sugno. Rhoddodd y myfyrwyr y coleri ar y buchod ac mae gan y myfyrwyr fynediad i'r ap NoFence i weld a helpu i wneud penderfyniadau ar bori ein bryn. Mae hyn wedi bod o fudd i'r tir a'i reolaeth drwy ganiatáu pori mwy cynaliadwy."

Our Glaswelltiroedd Gwydn (Resilient Grasslands) project team in Wales carried out **46 habitat surveys** of 1,000 hectares of land, so that we could advise farmers on how to manage their meadows.

We ran **16 training days** on managing grasslands and botanical practices for farmers in Wales to give them the information they need to protect key species that grow here.

We finished carrying out emergency conservation to secure the habitat for **21 species** of rare woodland lichens across 12 temperate rainforest sites in Cornwall and Devon.

Plantlife

Saving species from extinction in Wales

By introducing goat grazing at Stanner Rocks in Powys, Wales, we improved the habitat for two of the UK's most at risk land plants.

This is the only place in the UK where Upright Apple-moss *Bartramia aprica* and Black Crystalwort *Riccia nigrella* grow. They were suffocating under scrub and brambles on difficult to reach terrain. The overgrowth of shaded vegetation made the area uninhabitable. But now goats are accessing and clearing the brambles and providing ideal conditions for the plants to grow. This is important because they provide a home for insects, help soil to form and allow us to monitor water and air pollution.

We improved the area in Powys through our Welsh Marches project. This is part of Wales' flagship Green Recovery partnership project, Natur am Byth!, which is taking urgent conservation action to protect 15 threatened species in Wales. These include lichens, fungi, saproxylic invertebrates (like insects) which depend on the specialist microhabitats of veteran and ancient trees, and bryophytes or land plants, on the volcanic rocky outcrops of the Wales-England border.

Remedying damage from industry

This year, the team in Powys have worked with farmers and local communities to successfully introduce Oak Polypore *Buglossoporus quercinus* to two new sites to help to conserve the fungus. Oak Polypore is now found at less than 500 locations globally and is threatened by the decline of ancient oaks across the UK.

Ellie Baggett, Plantlife Cymru Project Officer for Natur am Byth, said: "Historic industrial works have led to steep declines in the populations of many species in Wales. Thanks to conservation programmes like Natur am Byth working with passionate partners like Plantlife Cymru, we can work to remedy the damage of the past and ensure their survival for the future."

Achub rhywogaethau rhag difodiant yng Nghymru

Drwy gyflwyno pori gan eifr yng Nghreigiau Stanner ym Mhowys, Cymru, fe wnaethon ni wella'r cynefin ar gyfer dau o'r planhigion sydd fwyaf dan fygythiad yn y DU.

Dyma'r unig le yn y DU lle mae Afal-fwsogl Talsyth *Bartramia aprica* a Grisial-lys Du *Riccia nigrella* yn tyfu. Roeddent yn mygu o dan brysgwydd a mieri ar dir anodd ei gyrraedd. Roedd y gordyfiant o lystyfiant cysgodol yn gwneud yr ardal yn anaddas i fyw ynddi. Ond nawr mae geifr yn cael mynediad at y mieri ac yn eu clirio ac yn darparu amodau delfrydol i'r planhigion dyfu. Mae hyn yn bwysig oherwydd eu bod yn darparu cartref i bryfed, yn helpu pridd i ffurfio ac yn caniatáu i ni fonitro llygredd dŵr ac aer.

Fe wnaethom wella'r ardal ym Mhowys drwy ein prosiect Gororau Cymru. Mae hwn yn ran o fenter partneriaeth arloesol Cymru i adfer rhywogaethau o'r enw Natur am Byth! Mae'n cymryd camau cadwraeth brys i warchod 15 o rywogaethau dan fygythiad yng Nghymru. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cennau, ffyngau, infertebrata saprocsylig (fel pryfed) sy'n dibynnu ar ficrogynefinoedd arbenigol o goed feteran a hynafol, a bryoffytau neu blanhigion tir, ar y creigiau folcanig ar ffin Cymru a Lloegr.

Gwneud iawn am ddifrod diwydiant

Eleni, mae'r tîm ym Mhowys wedi gweithio gyda ffermwyr a chymunedau lleol i gyflwyno Ysgwydd y Dderwen *Buglossoporus quercinus* yn llwyddiannus i ddau safle newydd i helpu i warchod y ffwng. Mae Ysgwydd y Dderwen i'w gael mewn llai na 500 o leoliadau yn fyd-eang bellach ac mae dan fygythiad oherwydd dirywiad coed derw hynafol ledled y DU.

Dywedodd Ellie Baggett, Swyddog Prosiect Plantlife Cymru ar gyfer Natur am Byth: "Mae gwaith diwydiannol hanesyddol wedi arwain at ddirywiad mawr ym mhoblogaethau llawer o rywogaethau yng Nghymru. Diolch i raglenni cadwraeth fel Natur am Byth sy'n gweithio gyda phartneriaid angerddol fel Plantlife Cymru, gallwn weithio i wneud iawn am ddifrod y gorffennol a sicrhau eu goroesiad ar gyfer y dyfodol."

Supporting Eryri's mountain jewels to thrive

We are using our expertise in managing habitats to encourage wild plants and fungi to grow and thrive in the high mountains of Eryri, Wales. Our team are leading on a project to save 14 rare species from extinction, working with volunteers, mountain guides, local plant nurseries, land managers and botanical experts. In 2024-2025, they reintroduced the flowering mountain plant Rosy Saxifrage *Saxifraga rosacea* back into the wild after it became extinct in 1962.

Robbie Blackhall-Miles, Project Officer at Plantlife Cymru, said: "Each and every wild native plant contributes to the diversity and health of ecosystems. Putting Rosy Saxifrage back where it belongs restores a lost balance."

This year, the team have been working on locating some exceptionally rare upland species, such as the Artic Pea-Clam *Pisidium conventus*, and the Snowdon Rainbow Leaf Beetle *Chrysolina cerealis*. To find the exceptionally rare and elusive Snowdon Rainbow Leaf Beetle, they plan to work with trained sniffer dogs. They will then begin a breeding programme in partnership with The Welsh Mountain Zoo in Colwyn Bay.

Cefnogi tlysau mynydd Eryri i ffynnu

Rydym yn defnyddio ein harbenigedd mewn rheoli cynefinoedd i annog planhigion gwyllt a ffyngau i dyfu a ffynnu ym mynyddoedd uchel Eryri, Cymru. Mae ein tîm ni'n arwain prosiect i achub 14 o rywogaethau prin rhag difodiant, gan weithio gyda gwirfoddolwyr, tywyswyr mynydd, meithrinfeydd planhigion lleol, rheolwyr tir ac arbenigwyr botanegol. Yn 2024-2025, ailgyflwynwyd y planhigyn mynydd blodeuol Tormaen Iwerddon *Saxifraga rosacea* ganddynt yn ôl i'r gwyllt ar ôl iddo ddiflannu yn 1962.

Bartramia Aprica Capsule © Ellie Baggett – Plantlife

Robbie Blackhall-Miles planting Rosy Saxifrage © Llyr Highes – Plantlife

Dywedodd Robbie Blackhall-Miles, Swyddog Prosiect yn Plantlife Cymru: "Mae pob planhigyn gwyllt brodorol yn cyfrannu at amrywiaeth ac iechyd ecosystemau. Mae rhoi Tormaen Iwerddon yn ôl lle mae'n perthyn yn adfer cydbwysedd coll."

Eleni, mae'r tîm wedi bod yn gweithio ar ganfod rhai rhywogaethau ucheldir eithriadol brin, fel y Bys-gragen Arctig *Pisidium conventus*, a Chwilen yr Enfys *Chrysolina cerealis*. I ddod o hyd i Chwilen yr Enfys, sy'n eithriadol brin, maen nhw'n bwriadu gweithio gyda chŵn arogli sydd wedi'u hyfforddi. Wedyn byddant yn sefydlu rhaglen fagu mewn partneriaeth â'r Sŵ Fynydd Gymreig ym Mae Colwyn.

Saving a rare flowering plant in Scottish woodlands

In 2024-2025, we completed a four-year project to save the One-flowered Wintergreen *Moneses uniflora*, a rare Caledonian pinewood flower.

One-flowered Wintergreen is a very rare pinewood specialist plant which has rapidly declined over the past decade. The flowering plant grows in pinewoods in North East Scotland. It relies heavily on woodland soil fungi and seems dependent on microclimate (a set of atmospheric conditions in a local area) and disturbance in the wood understory (the layer of vegetation that grows beneath the forest canopy but above the forest floor).

Changes in how we manage pinewoods, a lack of ground disturbance by animals and the fragmentation of pinewoods are all threatening its survival.

The conservation work was carried out over four years as part of the Caingorms Rare Plants and Wild Connections Project, which was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and NatureScot's Nature Restoration Fund.

We investigated what can be done to protect this delicate flower which is in danger of extinction. Working in partnership with RSPB, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Forestry and Land Scotland, and Cairngorms National Park Authority this project was the first of its kind to trial a process called translocation. This involved moving over 100 One-flowered Wintergreen rosettes to a declining site to restore the vigour of the population and test whether we can successfully carry out further translocations.

After nine months, the survival rate at the site was above 70%, which is excellent for any plant translocation. This bodes well for further Wintergreen translocations. Further monitoring in summer 2024 showed that there were 16 flowers on plants that had been moved to the new site. This means new seed is being produced.

One-flowered Wintergreen © Keilidh Ewan

Restoring over 100 hectares of meadow

We wrote 15-year management plans and recorded baseline botanical data for each of the seven sites which make up our Meadow Makers project.

Meadow Makers was established using £8million of funding secured from National Highways in 2022 and 2023 with the aim of restoring meadows to help people, nature and wildlife. We are working with landowners to create and restore, as well as monitor and manage, over 100 hectares of species-rich meadows by 2030.

To do this, we calculated that by carrying out specific grassland restoration we'd create over 700 'biodiversity units'. We will monitor progress towards this over the next 15 years, across seven sites – three in Devon, one in Cornwall at our own nature reserve, Greena Moor, and others in Dorset, Herefordshire and North Yorkshire.

70%

survival rate of the One-flowered Wintergreen after plant translocation.

Whorled Caraway at Greena Moor © Jonathan Stone - Plantlife

These 'units' are calculated using a metric which gathers baseline survey data about the type of grassland an area has, its distinctiveness, species-richness and condition. A plan is then put in place to manage the area and activity is recorded. By resurveying and monitoring progress in the 'unit', we can calculate the uplift in biodiversity as a result of putting the proposed actions into place.

An evaluation report published this year showed that funding received from this project has been transformative for the landowners involved. It is helping them to work towards achieving their ambitions of significantly increasing their farm biodiversity.

Addressing the climate crisis

Meadows and species-rich grasslands are extraordinary ecosystems, with native wild plants at their heart. Species richness in grasslands can significantly improve carbon storage in the soil, which is a vital tool for addressing the climate crisis. They also have fungal networks covering thousands of miles. These connect trees and plant roots under the ground so they can share vital nutrients. When they thrive, grasslands can be home to up to 140 species of wildflowers and provide flood mitigation and nutrient-rich grazing for livestock.

Francis Carnegy is the owner of Forder Farm, Dartmoor and is involved in our Meadow Makers project. They said: "We purchased Forder Farm three years ago and were keen to diversify the land use, having solely been used for sheep and horses in the past. Meadow regeneration was an important component of this alongside woodland creation. The help and expertise provided by Plantlife, alongside funding from National Highways, has been a game changer in getting the project up and running. We have an exciting 15 years ahead of us."

Looking Ahead

In 2025-2026, we will:

- Continue to provide advice and support to landowners involved in our Meadow Makers project to help achieve the goal of restoring 10,000 hectares of grassland by 2030
- Continue to promote conservation grazing to manage landscapes and protect species, including expanding our goat grazing work in Wales
- Introduce Oak Polypore to another three sites in Wales, expanding our conservation in the Welsh Marches
- Launch a new five-year management plan for our Three Hagges Woodmeadow Nature Reserve to protect biodiversity and habitats

2 Connect people with nature... to improve wellbeing and inspire action to save species and their habitats.

Some habitats are becoming rarer and 40% of flowering plants are now at risk of extinction. We want more people to enjoy plants and fungi so they feel empowered to make changes to protect the natural world. To help make this happen, we aim to increase the number, and diversity, of people who choose to work with us and make a difference.

Managing rainforests better to help species thrive

Temperate rainforests grow in cooler, damp climates. They are found in areas that are influenced by the sea, with high rainfall and humidity. These woodlands are currently under threat from invasive species, climate change, disease and poor management. This is why, this year, we set up two projects – in Cumbria and North, Mid and South Wales – to increase our knowledge and understanding of rainforests in key temperate regions of the UK.

In Cumbria, we commissioned surveys of woodland at 10 sites using a tool called a Rapid Rainforest Assessment, which was developed by Plantlife. These are helping our partners to assess the condition of an area of temperate rainforest and identify ones that need to be better managed and supported to thrive. This will help to improve the condition of the woodland to support key species, such as Tree Lungwort and Sparkling Signal Moss. This work is part of the Rainforest Restoration Project which aims to increase the quality and resilience of temperate rainforest across the northwest and southwest of England, including Cumbria.

In Wales, we have mapped areas of brambles to better understand the impact of wild goat grazing on the condition of the temperate rainforest. The Resilient Welsh Rainforest project is aligned with the criteria for important plant areas (IPAs) – the most important places for wild plant diversity. This means we are focusing on sites that have rare and threatened plant species and where habitats need protecting.

Coed Felenrhyd © Meg Griffiths - Plantlife

A total of 1,054 people took part in our rainforest events, training and activities, educating them about the unique biodiversity of these habitats and promoting their conservation. The training gives land managers the knowledge and skills to better identify areas of rainforest that need managing and protecting. It also helps local communities to connect with rainforest habitats so they value and appreciate them. Events included workshops on the basic biology of ferns, Rapid Rainforest Assessment training, and guided walks through rainforest areas.

We are growing diverse and informed communities who feel confident to take action for wild plants and fungi. Some 10,177 people, including conservation and land management professionals, nature enthusiasts and Plantlife members, attended 322 training sessions, workshops and e-learning courses on everything from bee walks to forest yoga and managing meadows. This was a 37% increase in activities from 2023-2024.

Skylark Meadows © Plantlife

We continued to expand our events programme for members to appeal to a diverse audience, especially younger people and those living in urban areas. Talks included identifying plants and fungi, a virtual tour of Manchester's Sky Garden and immersion in the magical world of moss, drawing parallels with it and human resilience and vulnerability. This year, we had 8,533 bookings for events, which raised money for our work and recruited new members.

Raising awareness of the importance of wild plants and fungi

We are reaching more people with our communications, raising awareness of the importance of wild plants and fungi.

This year, we:

- increased the number of subscribers to our email updates to 107,000,
- reached 25,000 website users with our No Mow May content,
- received 13,000 likes, comments, shares, and other engagements with our International Day of Forests content on Facebook,
- had more than 100 mentions in the press,
- saw 183,000 active users on our website, an increase compared to last year,
- got nearly 1 million impressions (the number of times a piece of content is displayed to users) across social media for our fungi campaign in November 2024. This raised awareness of the role that fungi play in nature.

In 2024-2025, **2,450** volunteers gave **15,000** hours of their time to Plantlife by doing everything from working on conservation projects, to helping with communications and policy work. This helped to protect and raise awareness of wild plants and fungi. The time that volunteers gave to Plantlife equates to around 2,142 full days of work, which amounts to an incredible **£587,000** this year.

5,547 members attended our talks in 2024-2025 which covered everything from temperate rainforests and the future for forgotten fungi.

"Thank you for organising such a brilliant event. I had a great morning. It was lovely to meet members of Plantlife and to visit such a unique site."

PLANTLIFE MEMBER

A meadow up close © Matt Pitts - Plantlife

Studying plants in different habitats

Chris volunteers for Plantlife in Gloucestershire and is supporting the National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS). This is a UK-wide project which is supported by 1,500 volunteers who conduct botanical surveys in random 1km squares, once a year. These long-term botanical surveys provide a growing dataset across the UK, so we can study the abundance and diversity of plants within 30 different habitats. The information helps to monitor the health of these habitats and the impact of environmental changes. There are now over 5,000 survey plots and more than 230,000 species have been recorded.

"I've had an interest in all thing's flora and fauna from a young age and spent some time at teacher training college on the North Downs surveying the chalk hills. Ten years ago, I joined the NPMS with the opportunity to increase my knowledge of flora.

By volunteering with Plantlife, I have more opportunity to be in the outdoors, particularly in woodlands, which is good for my wellbeing and improves the immune system. I have observed increasing biodiversity in my squares, particularly on the Bembough Farm site. I appreciate the hard work farmers are carrying out while growing food."

Oak Polypore at Cwm Byddog © Ellie Baggett - Plantlife

Marbled white butterfly on Red Clover © Lucia Chmurova - Plantlife

230,000

species have been recorded on over 5,000 survey plots.

Spotlight on the Pink Waxcap: Citizen Science Driving Fungal Conservation

In 2024, Plantlife's Waxcap Watch continued to shine a spotlight on one of the UK's most iconic grassland fungus species—the Pink Waxcap *Porpolomopsis calyptriformis*, also known as the Ballerina Waxcap. With its delicate pink hue and pirouetting form, this species is more than just beautiful—it's an indicator of rich, ancient grassland ecosystems.

Equally at home in our upland sheep-grazed pastures as they are in urban churchyards, Pink waxcaps and other grassland fungi often go overlooked. Compared to grassland plants, there has been significantly less research into the geographical distributions and the ecology of these beautiful fungi.

This lack of scientific knowledge is particularly concerning because many grassland fungi are threatened with extinction. In its latest assessment, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red listing deemed the Pink Waxcap as internationally vulnerable to extinction.

Pink Waxcap © Sarah Shuttleworth - Plantlife

To help address these concerns, Plantlife launched our Waxcap Watch survey five years ago, aimed at collecting data on the distributions of waxcaps across the UK. From 2020-2024, over 850 citizen scientists have surveyed 2151 sites as part of Waxcap Watch. Through our analysis this year, this data has revealed 369 records of Pink Waxcap—80% of which were from previously unrecorded sites. This remarkable discovery underscores the power of citizen science in uncovering hidden biodiversity.

850

citizen scientists have been part of Waxcap Watch.

Pluteus species © Sarah Shuttleworth - Plantlife

Crimson Waxcap © Sarah Shuttleworth - Plantlife

In 2025, we are now coming into our sixth year of Waxcap Watch, with a newly updated version of the survey. The new version will still include the familiar Pink Waxcap but also includes a new addition of the Blushing Waxcap *Neohygrocybe ovina*. This gothic-looking black and redwaxcap is also an important "indicator species", and we are excited to see what recording this new species will reveal.

Clare Blencowe, a member of the British Mycological Society's field mycology and conservation committee, said: "The discoveries of so many new sites for both pink waxcap and violet coral are really impressive. These fungi are vital indicators of the health of our grasslands and highlight the biodiversity that exists around us in our towns, as well as our countryside. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteer surveyors, we now have a far clearer picture of where these threatened species survive."

Looking Ahead

In 2025-2026, we will:

- Continue to develop alliances in each temperate rainforest region of the UK. These are partnerships with like-minded organisations which are working towards similar goals, including other conservation organisations. By working together, we can secure funding and deliver projects that have a greater impact on the biodiversity of wild plants and fungi found in temperate rainforests
- Develop an art and culture programme that supports innovative ways to explore wild plants and fungi. This includes developing partnerships and collaborations with artists to connect people with our work in diverse ways
- Develop a volunteering and learning programme at Plantlife Nature Reserves to inspire people to protect wild plants and fungi. The programme will encourage people to volunteer for Plantlife and learn more about conservation
- Increase public awareness of wild plants and fungi by running campaigns that encourage everyone in society to take action to protect them

3 Work in partnerships... so that all people and all sectors of society can contribute to tackling the climate and nature crisis we face.

We believe that the complexity and urgency of the challenges ahead can only be successfully addressed by developing partnerships across all sectors of society. By working with others to amplify our work, we can harness the combined interest, ability and resources of all our partners to drive positive change at speed.

Restoring biodiversity on underperforming land

We began working with landowners across the UK to turn land which has limited agricultural or developmental value and is underperforming into thriving, species-rich grassland. This will make the land more resilient to climate change – benefiting biodiversity and local communities.

This project aims to restore biodiversity of the land using statutory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). BNG is a legal requirement for all new developments in the UK to improve, and have a positive impact on, biodiversity in the area.

The project involved:

- Carrying out baseline biodiversity surveys to assess the land's ecological state and identify opportunities to restore it
- Putting together a detailed plan to restore and enhance species-rich grasslands to achieve BNG over the next 30 years
- Securing long-term protection for restored habitats through binding agreements with landowners
- Making sure this type of conservation work is economically viable for landowners by supporting them to create new income streams from selling BNG units

James Byrne Head of Business Development (Nature Markets) at Plantlife says: "By bridging the gap between ecology and economics, Plantlife is proving that nature recovery can be both environmentally transformative and financially sustainable."

Munsary Peatlands © Alistair Whyte - Plantlife

Our Munsary Peatland Nature Reserve in the north of Scotland became part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2024-2025. The 3,058-acre reserve is part of the Flow Country which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in July 2024. The reserve supports diverse and rare species of plants and prevents two million tonnes of carbon from going into the atmosphere.

This follows three years of campaigning from the Peat Free Partnership, a coalition of horticultural businesses and environmental NGOs, including Plantlife. The coalition, funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, is calling for a ban to stop the use of peat in gardening and horticulture in the UK. Read more about this campaigning work on page 24.

Moving rare lichen to restore biodiversity in East Anglia

This year, we moved one of England's rarest lichens from the North of Cornwall to its historic home in East Anglia. Lichens are made up of fungus, algae, bacteria and yeasts. They are crucial to ecosystems and are vital food and habitat sources for many animals. Lichens stabilise the soil and help plants to grow.

Scrambled Egg Lichen *Fulgensia fulgens* used to thrive in East Anglia but it became extinct in the East of England in 1994 because of habitat loss. This was due to: changes in farming, an increase in the area of land covered by tree canopy and the loss of grazing due to a decline in rabbit populations.

Scrambled Egg Lichen is one of three specialist lichens of the Breckland in East Anglia that was lost from the region, along with the Starry Breck Lichen and Scaly Breck Lichen.

This lichen also hosts a globally rare parasitic fungus, called *Lichenochora epifulgens*, which is even rarer than the Scrambled Egg Lichen itself.

The technique used to move the lichen is known as 'translocation'. It involves carefully removing small patches of the lichen and using either water, or book binding glue, to reattach them. Some 160 small pieces of the lichen – about the size of a 20p piece – were removed from Penhale in Cornwall and successfully transplanted into the Breckland chalky landscape.

Dave Lamacraft, Plantlife's Lichen and Bryophyte Specialist, said: "The UK is home to globally significant populations of rare lichen species, some of which are found nowhere else on earth. However, these species face increasing threats from habitat loss, climate change and air pollution. Projects like this are vital to reversing these declines. This is an exciting opportunity to trial a new method for reattaching lichen using book binding glue. If successful, it could pave the way for reintroducing other species lost from the Breckland."

Dave Lamacraft transplanting Scrambled Egg Lichen © Plantlife

Scrambled Egg Lichen © Ray Woods - Plantlife

This work has allowed us to secure funding from Natural England to improve lichen conservation. We are working with the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh to grow lichens in the lab and harvest spores as an alternative to collecting rare species in the wild for translocation.

"If successful, it could pave the way for reintroducing other species lost from the Breckland."

DAVE LAMACRAFT - PLANTLIFE

Restoring nature on farm land

We are working with farming contractor Velcourt to restore nature on farmland across the UK.

We have secured private investment to restore nature on six farms across the UK. The funding has come from DEFRA, the Environment Agency and Natural England – through the Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) – to pilot this approach across the farms.

The farms are managed by Velcourt which farms about 57,000 hectares of farmland on behalf of landowners across the UK. We are working in partnership with them, landowners and investors to explore emerging biodiversity markets. These schemes allow UK landowners to get funding from investors to restore nature. They include statutory Biodiversity Net Gain which is when companies that build new developments in the UK are legally required to improve, and have a positive impact on, biodiversity in the area.

The work involves:

- identifying farm land that is suitable for restoring nature,
- assessing the long-term potential of the land for restoring nature,
- creating an investment proposition for potential buyers of biodiversity units.

This metric assesses the biodiversity value of a site and is calculated using four different elements, including the type of habitat and how rare it is.

Nick Down, Head of Sustainability at Velcourt, says: "This is a fantastic opportunity to better understand how farmers and landowners can seek alternative funding streams to deliver a range of nature-based solutions. With a wide range of farm types and landscapes, working in partnership with Plantlife will make sure we deliver the maximum benefit on the land we identify to support nature's recovery."

Cattle grazing © Hywel Morgan - Plantlife

Yarrow © Plantlife

"This is a fantastic opportunity to better understand how farmers and landowners can seek alternative funding streams to deliver a range of nature-based solutions."

NICK DOWN - VELCOURT

A ban on all commercial trade in peat

In 2024-2025, we called on all the UK Governments to ban the extraction of peat and sales of peat-based compost. This work is vital as this unsustainable practice has devastated important peatlands in Britain and Ireland. The trade has an impact on biodiversity and carbon stores, and reduces our ability to withstand flooding and improve the quality of our water supplies.

With our partners in the Peat-free Partnership, we wrote an open letter to the UK Government to provide evidence that supports the introduction of peat legislation within the horticulture industry. The letter had over 100 signatures, including TV presenter Chris Packham, B&Q, Co-op and local garden nurseries and growers.

It was the first time retailers, charities and the horticultural industry have joined forces to demand a change in legislation.

The letter said: "The peat trade continues to destroy irreplaceable peat bogs across the UK and overseas, contrary to legal commitments on climate change and biodiversity. For a fair, level marketplace, where environmentally damaging peat-grown imports are a thing of the past and home-grown, peat-free horticulture based on a sustainable, circular economy can thrive – legislation is needed. We call on you to make this a priority for your government's programme and legislate without delay to end the sale of peat."

1,000+ people requested our grassland management advice. This is helping them to better manage their grassland to increase biodiversity and species richness.

More than **5,600** people took part in our annual No Mow May campaign. This urges people to pack away their lawnmowers for a month, so that wildflowers can growly freely.

There was a **31%** increase in the number of councils which manage green spaces registering to take part in No Mow May when we targeted our communications to them.

440 people attended our e-learning course on identifying and managing grassland fungi. The aim was to inspire attendees to take action for grassland fungi and share their learning with others.

Looking Ahead

In 2025-2026, we will:

- Work with the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland to run mock Field Identification Skills Certificate (FISC) exams. This will help ecologists, conservation professionals and other participants improve their botanical skills before taking their FISC qualification
- Work with multiple partners, including Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Natural England, to develop and launch the UK Network for Fungal Conservation. This will transform the future of fungal conservation in the UK
- Engage even more people across the UK to take part in No Mow May in 2025 by partnering with Living Knowledge Network at The British Library. This will support more biodiversity in gardens and green spaces

4 Collaborate and influence... on the world stage to empower societies across the globe to help protect plants and fungi.

Together with our partners, we make sure that global strategies for nature, people and the climate include the restoration of native wild plant species and habitats – for a healthy, diverse, plant-rich world. Our goal is that the diversity and conservation of plants and fungi is recognised by the United Nations, governments and international institutions to tackle the climate, biodiversity and societal challenges we face.

Working with partners on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

We continued to work with global partners to call on governments across the world to protect wild plants and fungi. This included meetings with government officials to make sure that the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation was adopted at the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Columbia – the world's largest biodiversity summit.

As a result, at the conference in autumn 2024, the strategy was adopted with 21 complementary plant conservation actions. These actions recognise that plant species and their habitats often need specific conservation measures. By adopting these actions at the global conference, the aim is that governments around the world will include them in their conservation work. The actions include: reducing threats to biodiversity by ensuring that the harvest and trade of wild plants is sustainable and protecting wild plants from pollution.

Plantlife published a toolkit to explain how governments, NGOs, educational institutions, landowners and farmers can include the 21 actions in their conservation programmes and activities. This will help to recover and protect plants and safeguard their future existence across the globe.

The Plant Actions

Reducing threats to biodiversity

- Spatial Planning
- Ecological Restoration
- Important Plant Areas
- Species & Genetic Diversity
- Sustainable Harvest & Trade
- Invasive Species
- Pollution
- Climate Solutions

Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing

- Plants for People
- Crops & Production Land
- Native Species
- Urban Spaces
- Benefit Sharing

Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

- Mainstreaming
- Sustainable Use
- Sustainable Consumption
- Financial Resources
- Capacity Building
- Awareness & Information
- Traditional Knowledge
- Gender Equality

By adopting these actions at the global conference, the aim is that governments around the world will include them in their conservation work.

Plantlife in Parliament Square © Matt Bristow - Plantlife

Influencing governments and partners to protect grasslands

We kept the pressure on all the UK Governments to protect grasslands including calling for the development a Grassland Action Plan for England by the end of this parliament. We did this by:

- Hosting a reception in the Houses of Parliament in October 2024, for 80 MPs, Peers, and decision-makers. This involved showcasing grassland-inspired artwork and powerful speeches
- Working with 28 environmental and farming organisations to convince the UK Government that grasslands are vital national assets for nature, climate, and people
- Promoting the benefits of grasslands for farmers. We spoke at events for farmers and shared evidence with the UK Government. As a result, a payment for managing or creating species-rich grasslands is now within the new agri-environment scheme for farmers

We also raised awareness of the vital role of grasslands with the Welsh Government by advising them on their new agri-environment scheme.

In Scotland, we used our report on the country's species-rich grasslands to make the case to politicians, local communities, farmers and partner organisations for restoring them. We talked about the report at high-profile conferences and events which led to us securing parliamentary questions on the issue, raising the profile of grasslands at the highest level.

By co-authoring a number of papers, we shared our expertise in plant conservation to empower others to protect plants and fungi. Published papers included ones on:

- The findings of the Global Important Plant Area (IPA) Review, published in the journal Conservation Biology in March 2025. This included recommendations to improve outcomes for protecting biodiversity in the global IPA programme. It shared lessons for other area-based conservation approaches to have a positive impact on people and nature
- Challenges and outcomes of 'translocation' across Europe to improve the science and practice of this conservation approach, published in January 2025 in Biodiversity and Conservation
- A shared vision for the future of evidence-based conservation, published in November 2024 in Ecological Solutions and Evidence
- Challenges and solutions around conserving global agrobiodiversity (all aspects of biodiversity that relate to agriculture and food), published in Nature Sustainability in September 2024. Conservation efforts in this area are crucial to achieve food security and climate resilience and was introduced in February 2025

- Our evidence has influenced Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) in England, a crucial element of the UK Government's commitments to turn the tide on species loss. The 48 LNRS regions, which broadly follow county lines, are using our guidance, data about Important Plant Areas and advice to protect species
- The Welsh Government's Nature Recovery Act which includes statutory nature targets, with a focus on plant life and biodiversity
- Scotland's Natural Environment Bill which has a target about protecting species and was introduced in February 2025

In 2024, **3,010** Marsh Saxifrage flowers were recorded at our Munsary Peatland Nature Reserve, Caithness, in Scotland – the largest amount we've counted. We've been involved in conserving this rare, yellow-flowered plant species that is threatened by habitat loss and climate change, for a number of years.

We became an accredited **Conservation Evidence Champion**, joining a network of forward-thinking organisations to demand scientific evidence-based practice, and making conservation more effective.

Looking Ahead

In 2025-2026, we will:

- Advocate for species-rich grasslands to be protected as irreplaceable habitats and prioritised in policymaking. We will collaborate with partner organisations to make an evidence-based case for this, and support the public to get in touch with their political representatives.
- Continue to lobby for a ban on the sale of peat to create a sustainable UK horticultural industry and protect irreplaceable habitats, like our Munsary Peatland Nature Reserve.
- Continue to work in partnership to promote the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and increase people's understanding of the 21 plant conservation actions. We will do this by sharing our Global Plant Actions Toolkit with governments, NGOs, educational institutions, landowners and farmers. The toolkit contains information and case studies to show how the 21 actions can be delivered. The aim is that the toolkit will evolve into a reporting tool for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, so that different countries can collect evidence to show they are meeting their national and international biodiversity commitments.

Our Income and Expenditure

This year, we maintained a steady level of income and financial sustainability which allowed us to continue our conservation work to protect wild plants and fungi. This was in a period of uncertainty in the conservation sector and a challenging external funding landscape.

our total income for 2024/25 **£8.17m**

our total expenditure for 2024/25 **£7.67m**

How we raised our money

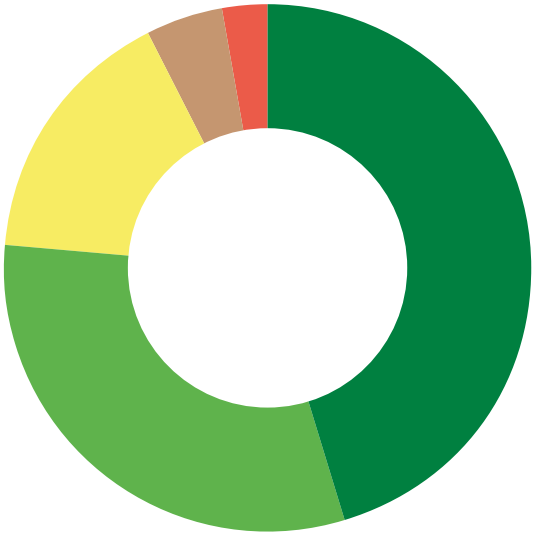
In 2024-2025, we raised £8.17m. This included:

- £1.31m from membership fees (£1.19m in 2023-2024)
- £2.54m from individual donations, legacies and corporate partnerships (£2.36m in 2023-2024)
- £1.82m from conservation project funding, compared to £1.68m the previous year
- £1.9m from the biodiversity enhancement programme funded by National Highways (£5.7m in 2023-2024). This will provide funding for the next 15 years to engage and inspire landowners to improve biodiversity on their land

How we spent our money

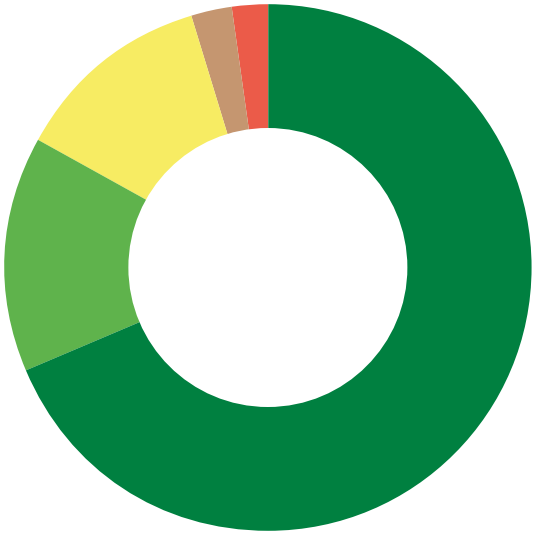
Most of our expenditure (70%) in 2024-2025 was on conservation work. Conservation projects focused on: grasslands, species recovery, temperate rainforest and fungi conservation. Our restricted reserves for future conservation work have increased by £912k.

Total income
£8.17m



Conservation action	**£3.72m**
Donations and legacies	**£2.54m**
Membership income	**£1.31m**
Investment income	**£0.38m**
Other trading activity	**£0.22m**

Total expenditure
£7.67m



Conservation actions	**£5.39m**
People/education/membership	**£1.13m**
Raising donations and legacies	**£0.97m**
Investment management	**£0.02m**
Other trading activities	**£0.16m**

Thank You

From volunteers and members to funders, we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported Plantlife over the last year.

President

Philip Mould OBE

Vice President

Rachel de Thame

Our members

This year **6,613 new members joined Plantlife**. This brings our total number of members to **23,400**.

It was wonderful to welcome so many new members in 2024-2025. Together, they used their passion for plants and fungi to grow Plantlife's voice.

We organised a number of activities for members, such as a programme of online talks and tours. These included a virtual tour of a viaduct in Manchester which has been turned into an urban garden and an informative talk looking at how we can support children to connect with nature.

We also welcomed our members to an online Members' Day in September 2024. This included a talk from Emma Williams, a Field Mycologist, who finds and identifies fungi. She discussed fungi found in the unique ecosystems that have transformed from the remnants of coal mining activities.

Our supporters

We ran three fundraising campaigns in 2024-2025, raising over £250,000. This money will be used to preserve plant species and fungi at risk of disappearing from our landscapes and to buy an extra 4.45 acres of land near our Ryewater Farm Nature Reserve in Dorset. We're grateful to everyone who donated or shared a campaign with their family and friends.

6,613

new members joined Plantlife.

Our volunteers

Thank you to the **2,450 volunteers** who supported us this year. We're very grateful for the commitment, time, passion and skills of all our volunteers.

Helping us to influence the government

Our volunteers are using their talent and skills to help champion the important role of wild plants and fungi. Neil is one of these volunteers. He helps us with our policy and advocacy work, including putting plans in place to work with parliamentarians so we can influence government policy and legislation in relation to grassland. Neil also helps us to keep track of government announcements and consultation responses that could have an impact on our work.

"Volunteering with Plantlife has been an amazing opportunity to see behind the scenes of an organisation I have supported financially. I have long thought that it punches well above its weight in the environmental charity sector.

"Working on policy has given me an insight into the complex – and often frustrating – world of legislation and regulation and how one goes about trying to steer government into making nature-friendly changes. It's been a pleasure and a great learning experience helping Plantlife's policy team in their efforts to achieve that."

Funders

We are grateful to all our members, supporters, funders, partners and other organisations that generously supported us in 2024-2025. This includes all donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Unfortunately, we don't have space to individually name all of our supporters. But on behalf of everyone at Plantlife, we'd like to acknowledge those who provided support of £5,000 or more:

Grant funders

Biffa Award
Cairngorms National Park Authority
Cranborne Chase National Landscapes
Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
National Lottery Heritage Fund
Natural England
Natural Resources Wales
NatureScot
Welsh Government

Trusts and foundations

Brian D Newman Foundation for the Environment
The Daniell Trust
DS Smith Charitable Foundation
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Garfield Weston Foundation
Henocq Law Trust
John Ellerman Foundation
John Feldberg Foundation
King Charles III Charitable Fund
The Moondance Foundation
MW Tops Wildlife Conservation Project
Newby Trust
Norman & Evelyn Proffitt Trust
Scott (Eredine) Charitable Trust
The Bentley Family Trust
The Derek and Clare Stevens Trust
The Ian Addison Charitable Foundation
The Linbury Trust
The Lyon Family Charitable Trust
Woolhope Dome Environmental Trust

Corporate partners and supporters

Bellway
Black Bee Honey
Bramley
Everleaf
Formula Botanica
GreenTheUK
Ground Control

Plantlife Biodiversity Consultants

Plantlife Biodiversity Consultants (PBC) is a social enterprise owned by Plantlife. It allows landowners, and those who manage land, to deliver high integrity, high quality nature restoration with abundant and diverse plants and fungi.

In 2024-2025, PBC worked with landowners looking to access Biodiversity Net Gain (see page 23) markets by carrying out habitat baseline and restoration planning. This assessed and documented the condition of a natural habitat and designing and planning actions to restore it.

The team also worked with local authorities to understand how road verges, when managed for nature, absorb carbon dioxide.

We would like to thank the team at PBC:

- Sam Braine, Ecology Manager
- Lizzie Cooke, Botanical Specialist
- Peter Dorans, Managing Director
- Andy Jennings-Giles , Senior Ecological Advisor
- Carol Lodge, Specialist Ecological Adviser
- Matt Pitts, Grassland Specialist
- Sarah Robinson, Specialist Ecological Advisor
- Mark Schofield, Road Verges Advisor
- Sarah Shuttleworth, Specialist Botanical Adviser

Legacy gifts

We are grateful to our generous supporters who have pledged a legacy to Plantlife in their Will. These gifts are incredibly valuable and make a lasting impact on our work to secure a world rich in plants and fungi.

Plantlife

Plantlife
The global voice for wild plants and fungi

How you can get involved with Plantlife

There are a number of ways you can support our work. These include:

- **joining as a member**. You'll find a group of like-minded people who are passionate about protecting wild plants and fungi. Membership starts from £3.25 a month and includes a guide to identifying fungi, lichens, plants and trees. www.plantlife.org.uk/join-donate/memberships/
- **becoming a volunteer**. We welcome volunteers in a wide variety of roles across the UK, from practical conservation work to research and campaigning. Each volunteer has a full induction and access to training. www.plantlife.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer/
- **donating**. We need your help to protect wild plants and fungi. However much you choose to give, your donation will help to save rare and threatened species across the UK and globally. www.plantlife.org.uk/donate/
- **becoming a partner**. We work with people and organisations who are carrying out conservation work, farming the land, building new homes and designing new cities. Together, we can help to restore biodiversity in the UK and globally. www.plantlife.org.uk/join-donate/partnerships/

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Connect with us

"Plantlife has been a strategic partner of King Charles III Charitable Fund for three years. We've really valued their open and honest reporting and opportunities to be proactively involved in their work such as attending events, visiting nature reserves, and joining webinars. These bring to life the impact of everything they do."

Nikki Jeffery, Executive Director at King Charles III Charitable Fund

Front cover image: Prostrate Perennial Knawel © Plantlife