

Cladonia peziziformis BLS Survey Meetings

BLS Survey Meetings

In contrast to normal meetings, which aim to cover a wide range of habitats and sites, survey meetings are more intensive and directed towards a conservation target. The target is typically assessing the conservation importance of a single under surveyed site, thought to be of high conservation interest, but can also include surveying a rare species or a species assemblage. As well as expert surveyors, improving lichenologists can also attend to help in the search for species and to learn and improve their skills. See

<https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/conservation/survey-meeting-reports> for examples.

These meetings are typically shorter than other BLS Field Meetings. The meetings in this project will last two days. Attendees are expected to arrange their own accommodation. Ideally, however, we will have a microscope room to gather in, to discuss our results and to look at specimens in the evening of the first day.

Rather than exploring areas in their own way, participants work under the direction of an experienced lichen surveyor.

***Cladonia peziziformis* meetings**

A series of three British Lichen Society Survey Meetings in Wales has been arranged in collaboration with Plantlife, to study the rare *Cladonia peziziformis*, a small but fascinating and enigmatic *Cladonia*, which is rare across Europe

<https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/resources/species-accounts/cladonia-peziziformis>.

The meetings are intended to study known sites, recording the ecology and associated species, while mapping the distribution of *Cladonia peziziformis*. Following this sites will be explored further to look for additional populations, while also recording the other lichen interest encountered. One aim will be to get more people more familiar with *Cladonia peziziformis*, to allow other populations to be found elsewhere ensuring it can be conserved.

The meetings will be open to both experts and those with beginner/intermediate skills with an intention that informal training can be carried out during the meeting. Those with those with beginner/intermediate skills based in Wales are especially welcome and will be given priority. Participation is by application only in order to ensure that there is an appropriate mix of experts and those with beginner/intermediate skills to achieve the purpose of the meetings.

If you wish to attend, please email Neil Sanderson at conservationofficer@britishlichensociety.org.uk describing a little about yourself including your home location (county or nearby town is sufficient) and your level of lichenological knowledge if you are not yet known by Neil.

The Skills & Knowledge for Lichenologists list at

<https://britishlichensociety.org.uk/learning/skills-and-knowledge> may help you describe your skill level (e.g. confident at all beginner skills/knowledge but only half of the Intermediate 1 skills/knowledge).

Neil will be particularly pleased to train lichenologists who live close to the sites and could undertake ongoing monitoring and searching for new populations outside of these meetings.

15 – 16th September 2026 Ynys Mon (Anglesey)

To record and explore the coastal heathlands of Anglesey, specifically South Stack and The Range, where Plantlife has been researching management to encourage the survival of *Cladonia peziziformis*.

Accommodation options:

The Boat House hotel, Holyhead

Premier Inn, Holyhead

Travelodge, Holyhead

Lots of options on Airbnb
Cerrig Cottages

Other Meetings:

27 – 28th October 2026 Gower, Glamorgan

To record and explore the heathland on Rhossili Down where *Cladonia peziziformis* has been recorded recently and also to search elsewhere for new locations.

27 – 28th April 2027 Llŷn (Llŷn Peninsula), Caernarvonshire

To record the recently discovered population of *Cladonia peziziformis* here and to explore other potential or old sites.



Cladonia peziziformis, fertile, in coastal heath, Llyn Peninsula, Caernarfonshire © D. Lamacraft



Cladonia peziziformis, Borrer's specimen collected from wet heathy places in Tilgate and St. Leonard's forests, Sussex, from plate 1782 in Smith & Sowerby (1807) Out of copyright, downloaded from the Wellcome Collection <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/xbjj5xhu>