



## August 27 – September 02




Let's go on a treasure hunt. Before you go, note the date, time and where you are in a notebook. Depending on where you live, you may not be able to find all suggestions but do log records you are sure of with the National Biodiversity Data Centre <https://records.biodiversityireland.ie>


 The beautiful demoiselle (above left, male) is one of the largest damselflies in Ireland. Males are metallic blue, females are metallic green with bronze wings. Their fluttery flight can take your breath away. Watch out for them along waterways. See their southerly distribution on the map <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map/Terrestrial/Species/78157/DatasheetFilter/187> Their entire wing is shaded. A relative, the banded demoiselle has only a band of colour on its wing.


 If you are in the north/west of Ireland, watch out for a white flower with heart shaped leaves, called grass of parnassus (right). Find out why here [http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/plant\\_detail.php?id\\_flower=110&Wildflower=Grass-of-Parnassus](http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/plant_detail.php?id_flower=110&Wildflower=Grass-of-Parnassus)

## September 03 – 09



 Sit and breathe, and think back to when you were last out. What three things did you hear? Describe your experiences and capture these memories.

 Last week we said to check out ox-eye daisies, to see if you can spot any plant bugs. This week, we take a look at another unmistakable plant bug (left), but this time, despite the bright green legs and flat leaf-shaped antenna, this one has no common name. The name that scientists use tells you its dramatic antenna are 'flat-horned'. Called heterotoma planicornis, find out more about them here [https://www.britishbugs.org.uk/heteroptera/Miridae/heterotoma\\_planicornis.html](https://www.britishbugs.org.uk/heteroptera/Miridae/heterotoma_planicornis.html)

 Search through low willow branches to see if you can spot a striking puss moth caterpillar (right) munching leaves before making a tough cocoon where they spend winter, attached to the tree trunk. Find out more here: <http://www.habitas.org.uk/moths/species.asp?item=6081>