



## Greenwood music CIC - Caradon woods impact report

2025-26 academic year - Dr James Buckley and Dr Thomas Murphy

**Summary:** Over the past year, University of Plymouth postgraduates have visited Caradon woods to conduct scientific research as part of undergraduate and postgraduate projects. A set of microclimatic sensors are set up and generating data on microclimatic variation within a woodland. A new PhD student is conducting woodland condition assessments in the woodland, as part of a wider project on critically evaluating woodland condition assessment techniques. Another PhD student is writing up a chapter comparing the condition and status of SW England and Irish temperate rainforests.

### Undergraduate and MSc Student research and learning

- **Postgraduate dissertation (MSc)** (one student)
  - examining above and belowground carbon stores of woodlands, comparing samples within the wood and outside the wood in neighbouring grasslands

### Postgraduate research student (PhD):

- 1) **Ndaba Maposa (University of Plymouth):** Continuing to monitor microclimatic sensors set up in 2024/25 and starting to process and analyse these data for his PhD project comparing the effect of the temperate rainforest canopy on local microclimates i.e. what is the effect of temperate rainforests on local climates. The sensors installed were part of a **Entrepreneurial Futures project (University of Plymouth)**.
- 2) **Katerina Chernyuk (University College Cork and University of Plymouth):** Caradon woods was one of over 20 woodlands at which vegetation and woodland stand surveys were conducted to assess variation in temperate rainforests across SW England and Ireland. Kat is currently in her final year and analysing the survey data and writing an associated thesis chapter, which will be shared with Caradon once complete.
- 3) **Dan Cuillin (University of Plymouth):** Dan started his PhD in Sept 2025 on evaluating the efficacy and efficiency of woodland condition assessments. Dan is conducting surveys as part of an ecological surveyor contract with the Woodland Trust and plans to use the survey data to compare woodland condition assessment techniques and their sensitivity in measuring condition of woodlands in and around the temperate rainforest landscape.