



**Butterfly Conservation**  
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire and  
Isle of Wight Branch**

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## Wednesday 30th June

Richard Symonds reports from Portsdown Hill (East) (SU657063) where the following observations were made: Large White (2), Marbled White (27), Meadow Brown (23), Ringlet (3), Large Skipper (1), Essex Skipper (1), Six Spot Burnet (1), Six Spot Burnet (1 Larva). "An hour long walk along the paths below Fort Widley. The temperature was 21°C. My first sightings this year of Marbled Whites and a single Essex Skipper."



Essex Skipper



Marbled White



Ringlet

Robert Bryant reports from Micheldever Wood (SU 529363) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (5), Ringlet (4), Small Skipper (2), Speckled Wood (1).

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood (SU 636114) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (7), White Admiral (8), Common Blue (1), Meadow Brown (30), Marbled White (22), Large Skipper (1), Small Skipper (1). "White Admirals and Silver Washed Fritillaries nectaring on bramble and flying in rides".

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Ringlet (27), Meadow Brown (29), Marbled White (1), Speckled Wood (1), Large Skipper (34), Small Skipper (6), White Admiral (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (4 "male"), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (1 "male"). "all found along the main ride side as i didn't get into any clearings".



Small Tortoiseshell



Small Skipper



Ringlet

Tim Graham reports from Lanes/Tracks between Alresford and Warnford (SU605293) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (25), Small Tortoiseshell (15), Speckled Wood (4), Ringlet (6).

Tim Graham reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU644205) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (20), Meadow Brown (26), Ringlet (16), Small Heath (6), Small Skipper (8), Large Skipper (4), Essex Skipper (2), Cinnabar moth (1), 5 spot burnet (4), 6 spot burnet (10), Small Tortoiseshell (10).

Tim Graham reports from Edge of Beacon Hill (SU599226) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (10), Small Skipper (8), Small Tortoiseshell (6), 5 Spot Burnet (4).

Tony Baines writes; "Still no sign of any Purple Emperors in my local patch at Odiham but was surprised to come across four fresh male White Admirals on the Basingstoke Canal towpath. They do frequent the woods near here but I have never seen them previously flying low down beside the canal in the numbers that they were today. Also sighted were a couple of Silver-washed Fritillaries, a good sprinkling of Speckled Woods, a couple of Commas and a Red Admiral. Haven't seen a summer brood Small Tortoiseshell yet which is a great shame."

Peter Gardner reports from Pit Down: "amazed by the numbers of butterflies ,esc the marbled whites way to many to count. sts 5 dark green 4 brimstone 2 small skipper 4 large skipper 9 gv white 1 red admiral 1 both ringlets and meadow browns too tomany to count thy were every were".



Comma



Dark Green Fritillary



Small Tortoiseshell

Peter Gardner reports from Crab Wood: "continuing a great day west of winchester [ just down the road from pit down] there wasent any white admirals but 10 silver washed 25 plus ringlets 4 large skips 4 speckwoods 10 meadow browns."



Meadow Brown



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (60), Large White (6), Small Blue (1 "First sighting at this site"), Holly Blue (2 "First sighting at this site"), Painted Lady (1), Green-veined White (1), Small White (1), Large Skipper (1 "First sighting at this site"), Meadow Brown (54), Marbled White (59), Purple Emperor (1 "First sighting at this site"), Purple Emperor (1 Larva "Discovered by moth enthusiast Tony Dobson"), Comma (1), Ringlet (8), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small Skipper (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Sandford Woods, nr. Kingsclere (SU 548592) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (5 "numbers well down on recent years due to major forestry work, including extensive clear-felling of some conifer blocks."), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "yet to get going"), Comma (1), Large Skipper (2), Speckled Wood (7), Ringlet (4), Large White (1), Green-veined White (1), Small Tortoiseshell (2).

Peter Hunt reports from Firestone Copse, Isle of Wight (SZ544895) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Red Admiral (1), Large Skipper (3), Ringlet (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (3), White Admiral (9).



White Admiral



White Admiral



Silver-washed Fritillary

## Tuesday 29th June

Peter Hunt reports from Parkhurst Forest, Isle of Wight (SZ475896) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (10), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (10), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Small Skipper (4), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (3), White Admiral (7).



Red Admiral



Small Skipper



Silver-washed Fritillary

ron bryan reports from Cams Hall Access Path, Fareham (SU582055) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (6 "flying in low scrub at edge of golf course and creek"), [Gatekeeper](#) (2 "as above"). "My wife and I have never seen marbled whites, before, then get six at one go!".

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Privet Hawkmoth (1 "Resting on fence.").



Privet Hawkmoth

## Monday 28th June

Mark Hallett reports from Osborne Isle of Wight (SZ517948) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Large White (3), Common Blue (2), Large Skipper (1), Dingy Skipper (1 "fresh"), Small Heath (20), Meadow Brown (300), Marbled White (85), Speckled Wood (15).

Richard Symonds reports from Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU806401) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (130), White Admiral (60 "Including *ab.obliterae*"), Red Admiral (4), Comma (1), Meadow Brown (84), Ringlet (70), Speckled Wood (2), Large Skipper (23), Small Skipper (6). "On my first visit to Straits Inclosure at Alice Holt Forest this year, the temperature was a balmy 25.5°C. Within minutes of arriving just before 10am I saw a single Purple Hairstreak at rest on bramble. Walking down the main track most of the willows have been removed, however Silver Washed Fritillary's and White Admirals were flying in good numbers with Ringlets and Meadow Browns in the grassy areas. Alas no Purple Emperors, but two Silver Washed Fritillary's, a Comma and a White Admiral were imbibing moisture from a small ditch halfway along the track. Having walked to the end of the main track, on the return past the first observation! tower I was surprised by the appearance of an aberration of the White Admiral. This specimen had only a trace of white "smudging" on the wings. I managed to get several photos, including underside views. This I have identified as *ab.obliterae* (Robson & Gardner) not the usual "Black Admiral" (*ab.nigrina*).



Purple Hairstreak



White Admiral *ab.obliterae*

Richard Symonds reports from Goose Green Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU806415) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (6), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (1), Speckled Wood (2), Large Skipper (2). "A brief trip to Goose Green to see if any Purple Emperors were flying. No signs of them. Some tree felling has taken place with log stacks now occupying an area where there was a lot of bramble, which also gave a good vantage point to watch the Purple Emperors near the "master tree". Most of the long grassy areas have now also been lost to log stacks."

Richard Symonds reports from Broxhead Common (SU803325) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (19 "16 Males 3 Females"). "A quick walk around Broxhead Common on the way home from Alice Holt Forest. I only covered a short distance, but Silver Studded Blues were scattered widely with no single place where you would see more than two or three. Near a pond many damselflies and damselflies were very active. I counted four male Broad Bodied Chasers with a single female, a female Golden Ringed Dragonfly and many Common Blue Damselflies including a mating pair."



Silver-studded Blue

Andrew Bolton reports from Plant centre, Wolverton Common (SU554588) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1).

Neil Ludford reports from Portsdown Hill (SU662063) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (7 "1 mating pair observed"), Small Skipper (1).

Tony Baines writes: "Visited the main assembly area at Goose Green Old Car Park this afternoon and was lucky enough to see three male **Purple Emperors** flying in and around the chestnut trees. Hopefully they will be the first of many across the county this summer."

## Sunday 27th June

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ478911) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Large Skipper (21), Large White (3), Meadow Brown (100), Red Admiral (2), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (4), Silver-washed Fritillary (6), White Admiral (9). "quite patchy; there are some very good spots in the forest, but some rides are completely devoid of butterflies."

Stuart Read reports from albaney prison (SZ482900) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (4), Meadow Brown (25). "the small tortoiseshells are feeding on thistles and brambles on waste ground adjacent to the prison."

Ashley Whitlock writes from: "Portsdown Hill Transect 26 June 2010 Walked around the transect route for an hour in the very early morning before it got too hot and the following butterflies were observed: Meadow Brown (14) Comma (1) Large Skipper (14) Marbled White (105) very common over most of the Down, Common Blue (2) Orange Tip (1) Speckled Wood (6) Ringlet (1) Small Blue (1) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Small White (1).

Meon Valley 27 June 2010 Comma (1) Small White (4) Small Tortoiseshell (4) Meadow Brown ((40) Common Blue (10) Small Heath (50+) Marbled White (40) Small Blue (27) Ringlet (18) Large Skipper (12) Small Skipper (1)

Alice Holt Forest 27 June Silver-Washed Fritillary (6) White Admiral (1) Purple Hairstreak (2) Meadow Brown (50+) Ringlet (3) Common Blue (2) Large Skipper (6) Small Skipper (3) Small White (1) No Purple Emperor on the wing yet...although they should be!

Broxhead Common I counted over (50) Silver-Studded Blues in about 5 minutes near the cricket pitch, with not a lot else on the wing. Too hot.

Peter Hunt reports from High Down, Isle of Wight (SZ311861) where the following observations were made: Dark Green Fritillary (3 "Three together 'duelling' at times"), Large Skipper (10), Painted Lady (1), Small Heath (0).



Dark Green Fritillary



Dark Green Fritillary

Stuart Read reports from Carisbrooke Castle (SZ486878) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (28), Large Skipper (2), Common Blue (6), Meadow Brown (100 "literally hundreds!"). "This is a prime butterfly habitat. The moats are full of majoram, knapweed, trefoil and vetch. Super site throughout the butterfly season!"

Stuart Read reports from st george's down (SZ505880) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (10), Marbled White (9), Meadow Brown (100 "lots!"), Small Tortoiseshell (5), Red Admiral (2), Small Heath (8). "My survey was conducted in the field above the old quarry. Gravel is still extracted from the hillside and the site bears the scars of its industrial past. But nature has adapted to the changes that have taken place and this is another great place for butterflies. The disused quarry supports a large colony of chalkhill blues and the buddleia bushes on the top of the hill attract large numbers of red admirals, peacocks and painted ladies when they are in bloom."

Dave Miller reports from Alice Holt (Willow's Green) (SU817417) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (5 "including mating pair"), Meadow Brown (5), Large Skipper (15 "perhaps more"), Speckled Wood (10). "No White Admirals or Ringlets seen, unlike the same day last year. The amorous SWF were watched from first encounter to settling in a sallow about 15 feet up. This took all of two minutes, via an amazing high speed spiralling flight in and out of the trees."



Silver-washed Fritillary

Mark Hallett reports from Walters copse Isle of Wight (SZ431905) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (20), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), Purple Hairstreak (5), Large Skipper (3), Speckled Wood (50), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (50).

Mark Hallett reports from Newtown Isle of Wight (SZ420906) where the following observations were made: Large Tortoiseshell (1 "same area as one seen March 2009").

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (1).

## Saturday 26th June

Geoff Jones writes from North Browndown / Alver Valley: "Numerous Small and Large Skippers; Meadow Brown 5; Common Blue 2; Small Heath 4; and last and by no means least, a pristine White Admiral 1 - my first for this area this year."

Karen White reports from Church Place Inclosure (SU337095) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (1 "I spotted this one first flying high in the canopy and was delighted when after a few minutes watching it landed near enough for a photo.").



White Admiral

John Vetterlein reports from Peartree Common (SU440119) where the following observations were made: White-letter Hairstreak (4 "possibly more, but definitely 4 in flight at same time."), Marbled White (9).

Peter Gardner writes from West Wood: "we were wilting even the docks were wilting nice to be in the woods silverwashed m 5 ringlets 8 speck wood 6 meadow browns 15 large skippers 9"



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary



Ringlet

Paul Crook reports from Straits Enclosure (SU804400 (approx)) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (20), White Admiral (12), Speckled Wood (4), Large Skipper (5), Small White (1).



White Admiral

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (9), Small Skipper (11 "emerged this week"), Green Hairstreak (1 "a late date for this site"), Common Blue (4 "all but disappeared during the last ten days"), Silver-studded Blue (16), Speckled Wood (7), Meadow Brown (70), Small Heath (45 "now recovering after the two awful summers of 2007/08"), Ringlet (1), Cinnabar (2), Six-spot Burnet (21).

Andrew Bolton reports from Set aside field, Pudding Hill, Bournemouth. (SU 572604) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (28 "The most I've seen for a few years."), Small Skipper (14), Marbled White (16 "very good for a few acres of rough set aside."), Ringlet (18), Meadow Brown (21), Comma (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), White Admiral (1 "not surprising as site is surrounded by small copses."), Speckled Wood (7), Green-veined White (1).

## Friday 25th June

Alan Thornbury reports from Alice Holt Forest: The week of fine weather is encouraging a rapid emergence of both Silver-washed Fritillaries and White Admirals in the Straits Inclosure. This afternoon I saw 12 White Admirals and around 40 Silver-washed Fritillaries along the main track, with the hotspot being the bramble flowers close to the first observation tower.



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary



White Admiral

Peter Hunt reports from Parkhurst Forest, Isle of Wight (SZ475896) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Green Hairstreak (1), Large Skipper (15), Large White (1), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Red Admiral (1), Ringlelet (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Speckled Wood (3), White Admiral (2 "fleeting").



Marbled White



Ringlelet



Silver-washed Fritillary

Paul Crook reports from Land next to Tesco's car park, Aldershot (SU857508) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2), Large Skipper (5), Meadow Brown (2), Small Skipper (2), Burnet Companion (1), Six-spot Burnet (1), Speckled Wood (1). "These sightings were made on land on which planning permission has been sought to build a new shopping centre (the Westgate Centre) in Aldershot. Whilst the regeneration of Aldershot is important it would seem a shame to lose this (albeit overgrown) site to yet more shops etc."

Mark Hallett reports from Compton Chine (SZ366851) where the following observations were made: Dark Green Fritillary (1), Glanville Fritillary (1), Common Blue (50), Small Blue (1), Small Copper (4), Meadow Brown (50), Small Heath (5), Small Tortoiseshell (1).

gary palmer reports from becton bunny (sz 253 927) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small Skipper (1), Wall (1). "found wall inside the bunny for the second year running."

Dr David Tinling & Mick Langridge report from Sandhill, Browdown North (SZ578996) where the following observations were made: Essex Skipper (3 "Photographed by Mick"). "These were basking in the early evening sun along with 25+ Small Skippers and 10 or so Marbled Whites."



No description



No description

## Thursday 24th June

Mark Hallett reports from Osborne Isle of Wight (SZ518949) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1 "first of the year"), Small Heath (30), Meadow Brown (100), Common Blue (20), Large White (1).

Geoff Jones writes from Titchfield Haven: "Seen this afternoon by Richard Tratt (Butterfly Artist) and his wife - Purple Hairstreak 2 which could well be the first for our area."

Chris Hall reports from Aldershot Common (SU 83 50) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (5), Small Heath (2), Silver-studded Blue (112), Clouded Buff (3). "Following a heavy session of desk work my reward was to visit Aldershot Common for the silver-studded blues. Unfortunately by 2.30 it had clouded over so they were not very active. However, with perseverance I counted 112 on the heath between Caesar's Camp and Bourley Road (SU 83 50), including seven females and a mating pair. Continuing across the heath east of Caesar's Camp I added another 58 in SU 8450, 20 in SU 8449 and 44 in SU 8349. Total 234. As only 10% were females, the butterflies were mostly inactive and this was not a systematic search of all suitable habitat, the true population must be well up in the hundreds."

Peter Hunt reports from Five Barrows, Brook, Isle of Wight (SZ412852) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (5), Common Blue (5), Glanville Fritillary (10), Green Hairstreak (1), Large Skipper (6), Meadow Brown (20), Painted Lady (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Heath (10), Small Tortoiseshell (1).



Small Tortoiseshell



Glanville Fritillary

Andrew Bolton reports from Silchester Common (SU 618623) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (27 "seen in 15 minutes, around two thirds male, one third female."), Small Heath (3), Peacock (1). "a brief lunchtime visit."

Sue Thomas reports from 5 Compton Cottages, SO20 6QP (SU361297) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1).

## Wednesday 23rd June

Roger Pendell reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU505292) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (66), Common Blue (80), Meadow Brown (71), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Small White (1), Ringlet (6), Large Skipper (4), Small Heath (7).

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ473914) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Large Skipper (22), Large White (2), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (100 "too many to count!"), Red Admiral (1), Small Heath (1), Speckled Wood (3), White Admiral (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (2).

Andrew Brookes found more than 20 White-letter Hairstreaks during a lunchtime visit to the grounds of 1000 Lakeside, IBM's HQ in Portsmouth, where the colony survives on clumps of suckering Dutch Elm, and a specimen of the American hybrid cultivar 'Regal', previously misidentified as 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'.

Andrew Brookes reports: An evening perambulation at Boarhunt woods near Wickham found my first White Admiral and S-w Fritillary of the year. Kay Boyes reports 'numerous' Small Tortoiseshells on 'Bowles Mauve' wallflowers in her Fareham garden.

Martin Hampton reports from Petersfield Heath (SU755228) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (4).

## Tuesday 22nd June

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small White (1 "female"), Speckled Wood (1), Common Blue (2 "male"), Meadow Brown (7), Silver-studded Blue (1 "(male, first ive ever seen within the garden) "). "all above found in the garden at shirley holms."

mark swann reports from testwood lakes (SU346153) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (3 "first seen on 20 june"), Large Skipper (20), Small Tortoiseshell (25), Painted Lady (3 "one egg laying"), Meadow Brown (50), Common Blue (3), Comma (5). "testwood lake meadows are



heaving scores of meadow browns and small tortoiseshells everywhere. large skippers are doing well this year also scarlet tigers ( came out friday)5 and 6 spot burnets and straw dot moths not to mention all the odonata on the wing".

Mark Pike reports from Martin Down (wooded area opposite side of car-park) (SU032204 (approx)) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (4), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (10), Dark Green Fritillary (5), Green Hairstreak (1), Green-veined White (1), Grizzled Skipper (1), Large Skipper (30), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (10), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), Small Blue (1), Small Heath (40), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Speckled Wood (7), White Admiral (1). "Visited between 09.00am and 12.15pm."



Dark Green Fritillary



Ringlet



Silver-washed Fritillary

Terry Hotten writes: "I made an early visit to Strait's Enclosure this morning to see how the changes had affected the coming Purple Emperor season. The main ride is now more open and sunny and was appreciated by the dozen or so Silver-washed Fritillaries who were belting up and down. I can understand Matthew Oates' comments about the probable numbers of Purple Emperors this year and I would expect White admiral numbers to be down as well, but judging from the SWFs I would expect butterflies to fly in from the surrounding woodland. Apart from the SWFs I also saw a couple of worn Red Admirals as well as Meadow Browns and Speckled Woods in low numbers. However it seemed to be hatching day for hundreds of probably Green Oak Tortrix Moths that I was unable to get an image of for identification and am thus open to correction as this seems rather late for the species. Yesterday I was able to find about 10 Silver-studded Blues at Hazeley Heath."

Barry Collins writes: "A late afternoon cycle ride around the tracks in Havant Thicket (SU710110).Produced 52 Large Skipper,35 Meadow Brown,5 Common Blue,4 Specked Wood and 2 male Brimstone."

Chris Hall reports from Marwell (SU 50 21) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (102), Large Skipper (21), Small Skipper (1 "Field by Horsham Copse, the first I have seen this summer."), Speckled Wood (12), Marbled White (8), Common Blue (3), Ringlet (2 "margins of Horsham Copse"), Small White (3), Red Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "Along west margin of Horsham Copse, SU 501221"), Small Tortoiseshell (8 "On thistle and blackberry flowers. The eight seen today is more than double the total I have seen near home in NE Hampshire all year."), Silver Y (1), Six-spot Burnet (9), Hornet (1). "The above recorded during a walk through woodland, wood margins and a large field just west of Marwell."

## Monday 21st June

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3 "1 female 2 male"), Red Admiral (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Large Skipper (1). "took a late evening walk in the coppice from 6.15 pm for an hour and found the above."

Mick Langridge reports from North Browdown (SZ578996) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1), Large Skipper (1), Small Heath (2), Small Skipper (2), Meadow Brown (3), Speckled Wood (3), Common Blue (2). "This Marbled White swooped over the hedgerow without stopping. The Large Skipper was a little scruffy and although not my sharpest photo,check out the proboscis. Lucky photo or good technique?"



Marbled White



Large Skipper

Mick Langridge reports from Gilkicker (SZ607975) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1 "Three grabbed photos and it was gone"), Meadow Brown (2), Common Blue (3), Holly Blue (1), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (1). "This was sighted where I regularly saw Marbled White's last year."

Roger Pendell reports from Alice Holt Straits Inclosure (SU806401) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (4), Meadow Brown (2), **White Admiral** (1), Ringlet (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (3).

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Small White (2), Speckled Wood (2), Meadow Brown (3), Small Heath (6), Common Blue (10 "9 Male 1 Female"), Holly Blue (1 "A female dead in a spider web"), Large Skipper (2), Dingy Skipper (1), Common Carpet (2), Six Spot Burnet (1), Six Spot Burnet (4 Larva), Narrow-bordered Five Spot Burnet (1), *Pyrausta aurata* (3). "Weather was hot and humid with the temperature of 20°C. Due to the humidity it did not seem to be so hot, which may account for why there seemed to be little flying compared to other days. A surprise was photographing what I thought was a Six Spot Burnet moth only to get home and count the spots. I have not recorded a Five Spot Burnet before at this site. Six Spot larva were evident and appeared to be finding suitable sites for pupation."



Large Skipper



Narrow-bordered Five Spot Burnet

GBE reports from back garden (SU80335524) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1).

Mike Wildish reports from Anton Lakes North (SU 362 475) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (2), Small Tortoiseshell (6).

Tim Doran reports from IBM Lake (SU649053) where the following observations were made: **White-letter Hairstreak** (4 "in usual elms along northern perimeter (near entrance roundabout) of IBM site in Cosham this morning"). "Two Marbled Whites nearby were first at this site this year".

John Vetterlein reports from Beauliel Heath (SU004355) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (90), Small Heath (15). "There were at least 90 S-s Blues, gave up counting there were so many. Did do a short sex survey in one small area, result M = 27, F = 3".

## Sunday 20th June

Lyndon Hatfield reports from Footpath between Upham and Street End (SU545204) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1), Common Blue (5), Meadow Brown (12), Small Tortoiseshell (5), Large White (3). "Records were from grassland south-east of Big Path farm."

Robin Harley reports from Friar's Cliff, Christchurch (VC11) (SZ1992) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (1).

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 248 932) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (36), Meadow Brown (18 "1 female"), Common Blue (6 "1 female"), Small Tortoiseshell (5),

Large Skipper (4), cinnabar moth (1), yellow shell (3). "had a mid morning walk around barton common and down into becton bunny i found the above. good to see 5 small tortoiseshell, one of which was an aberration."



Small Tortoiseshell

Stuart Read reports from St Helens Green (SZ628890) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1 "seen while playing cricket!").

Andrew Brookes found Small Tortoiseshells the commonest butterflies on the wing, four nectaring on a Buddleja globosa at Longstock Garden Nursery, another 4 along a nettle-strewn ditch at Boarhunt, and one basking on the west wall of Winchester Cathedral.

Paul Beevers reports from Cliddesden (SU636495): 3 Small Tortoiseshells "2 of them were together and the third about 30 yards further on. They were on or hugging the tall hedge line along the old railway."

## Saturday 19th June

Geoff Dawson reports from Martin Down (SU036199) where the following observations were made: **Dark Green Fritillary** (1). "On our way home from a successful trip to Collard Hill, my daughter Amethyst and I had a quick look in at Martin Down. Within a few yards of the main A354 carpark we came across a very fresh Dark Green fritillary."

Stuart Read reports from arretton down (SZ535870) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (5), Large Skipper (1), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Red Admiral (1), Small Heath (7). "It was a breezy day and most butterflies were found on the lower, sheltered slopes of the Down."

Stuart Read reports from St George's Down (SZ508873) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (9), Large Skipper (3), Meadow Brown (10), Painted Lady (3), Red Admiral (3), Speckled Wood (2). "Are we witnessing the renaissance of the small tortoiseshell? It has once again seemed like a common butterfly this past week."

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: **Dark Green Fritillary** (1 "male"), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (4 "male"), Common Blue (1 "male"), Large Skipper (3). "had another brisk walk along the main ride asnd in too the clearings again this time early this morning and was rewarded with my first dark green frit of the year."



Dark Green Fritillary Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 986) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (1), Silver-studded Blue (54 "only 2 female, all looked fresh"). "after walking around wootton coppice this morning i made a visit to the heath at shirley holms and found a good number of fresh silver studded blue, the hatch being somewhat later than the last few seasons."



Silver-studded Blue Silver-studded Blue Silver-studded Blue

Mr David W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Peacock (1).

## Friday 18th June

Lyndon Hatfield reports from Brownwich Cliffs (SU523029) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Small White (2), Speckled Wood (3), 6-spot Burnet (100 "Every open knapweed flower had 2 or more moths. Pupal cases with discarded larval mouthparts very common, as well as some unhatched cases."). "I am seeing Small Tortoiseshells on almost every walk!"

Tim Doran reports from Portsdown Hill (SU645065) where the following observations were made: **Marbled White** (1 "My first of year").

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (3 "male"), Common Blue (2 "male"), Large Skipper (6), Brimstone (4 "male"), Red Admiral (1), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3 "male"). "had a walk through the main ride and clearings in the inclosure at mid day. not anywhere as prolific as this time last year, but found the above".



Brimstone

Brimstone larva

Large Skipper

Dave Pearson reports from Chineham Business Park (SU650550) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1 "Top of small Oak tree outside my office window!").

Andrew Bolton reports from Whitchurch allotments (SU 459486) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (8), Large Skipper (8), Meadow Brown (5), Green-veined White (3), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (1).

## Thursday 17th June

Robin Harley reports from New Milton Garden (SZ239946) where the following observations were made: Brimstone Moth (2 "came to light"), Buff Ermine (1 "came to light"), Common Marbled Carpet (1 "came to light"), Dark Arches (1 "came to light"), Dark Dagger (1 "came to light"), Double-striped Pug (1 "came to light"), Elephant Hawk-moth (1 "came to light"), Eyed Hawk-moth (1 "came to light"), Flame Shoulder (2 "came to light"), Green Pug (1 "came to light"), Large Yellow-underwing (2 "came to light"), Middle-barred Minor (2 "came to light"), Riband Wave (1 "came to light"), Silver-y (2 "came to light"), Small Emerald (1 "came to light"), Small Magpie (1 "came to light"), The Flame (1 "came to light"), The Snout (1 "came to light"), The Spectacle (1 "came to light"), Treble Brown Spot (1 "came to light"). "Also Willow Beauty (3)".

Anne McCue reports from Browdown North (SU577009) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (1 "Male, seen in Orchid Meadow").



Small Skipper



Small Skipper

Tim Graham reports from Hursley (SU419245) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (7), Speckled Wood (2), Broad-bodied Chaser Dragonfly (1 "Female"), Hornet (1).

Peter Eeles reports from Silchester Common (SU620623) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (40), Small Heath (12). "I decided to pay a visit to Silchester Common this morning, on the lookout for Silver-studded Blue. Once I'd found the right spot, they were everywhere, an estimated 40 in total, with several mating pairs, as well as several adults drying their wings, having just emerged. I didn't see that many black ants, although would love to have seen some in attendance! I also bumped into Graham Dennis, warden of Silchester Common and Pamber Forest, and had a good natter about the season. Great company!".



Silver-studded Blue

stuart read reports from newport-sandown cycleway (SZ517846) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (7), Speckled Wood (7), Small White (1). "The small tortoiseshells were on the section of the cycleway between Blackwater and Merstone Station. I hear that there have been good numbers recorded elsewhere on the Island - good news for this beautiful butterfly after a number of poor seasons."

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2 "1 Male 1 Female"), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Small Heath (11), Speckled Wood (2), Common Blue (29 "25 Male 4 Female"), Holly Blue (1), Large Skipper (6), Dingy Skipper (2), Burnet Companion (1). "Sightings were made over a period of an hour with the temperature reaching 21°C. The pair of Small Tortoiseshell's were fresh."



Large Skipper



Meadow Brown



Small Tortoiseshell

Martin Hampton reports from Hayling Billy Track, Havant (SU720063) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (6); and from River Rother east Petersfield (SU772232) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (2).

Alan Jafkins writes: "I would like to report a tatty Buttoned Snout *Hypena rostralis* to my garden MV trap at Lovedean, a first site record.

Tim Graham reports from (SU509323) where the following observations were made: [Orange-tip](#) (4 "18:00. 2 pairs"), Stag Beetle (1 " 19:00. Male: fully grown (Lucanus cervus)"), Banded Demoiselle (8), Somatochlora metallica - Brillia (2 "Feeding on mayflies").

## Wednesday 16th June

GBE reports from Caesars Camp (SU840505) where the following observations were made: [Green Hairstreak](#) (1), [Common Blue](#) (2), [Red Admiral](#) (1), [Cinnabar moth](#) (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Ashford Hill Meadows NNR (SU562621) where the following observations were made: [Large Skipper](#) (3), [Common Blue](#) (2 "one male, one female."), [Meadow Brown](#) (2), [Small Tortoiseshell](#) (1), [Chimney Sweeper](#) (7). "During an early evening visit I found the meadows looking their stunning best in the summer sun. A lovely mix of Orchids, Dyer's Greenweed, Marsh Thistles, Bedstraw, Bird's-foot Trefoil and many more."

Andrew Bolton reports from Roundwood Estate, Micheldever Station. (SU 509441) where the following observations were made: [Brimstone](#) (2 "a mating pair"), [Common Blue](#) (3), [Small Heath](#) (1 "an interesting find - appears to be the first record from this 10k square for at least a decade."), [Large White](#) (1), [Small White](#) (1), [Large Skipper](#) (2).

## Tuesday 15th June

Andrew Brookes and Mike Gwilliam were given a police-escorted tour of the Bedenham Grasslands at Defence Munitions Gosport today, but found butterflies few and far between. Highlights were [Grizzled Skippers](#) (2), [Small Heath](#) (2), [Small Copper](#) (1). [Common Blues](#) and [Speckled Woods](#) more plentiful, but the only harbingers of summer were a dozen [Meadow Browns](#). The site is a most atypical [Grizzled Skipper](#) habitat, low lying grassland on clay, but carpeted in places by Cinquefoil. [Small Heath](#) numbers remain very low, and the insect is now a cause for concern.

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: [Small White](#) (2), [Small Heath](#) (2), [Meadow Brown](#) (2), [Speckled Wood](#) (1), [Holly Blue](#) (1), [Common Blue](#) (7 "2 Females 5 Males"), [Green Hairstreak](#) (2), [Dingy Skipper](#) (1 "Very worn and torn wings"), [Large Skipper](#) (2), [Yellow Shell](#) (1), [Galium Carpet](#) (1), [Nemophora degeerella](#) (4). "45 minutes were spent, but with a lot of cloud about numbers were low. Sightings of the [Meadow Brown](#) and [Large Skipper](#) were my firsts for the year. Also saw the colourful hover fly [Volucella bombylans](#) var. plumata which is a mimic of the [Buff Tailed Bumble Bee](#) ([Bombus terrestris](#))."



Green Hairstreak



Holly Blue

Colin Baker reports from Straits Inclosure (SU 802401) where the following observations were made: [Large Skipper](#) (8), [Red Admiral](#) (1), [Speckled Wood](#) (3), [Silver-washed Fritillary](#) (1), [Meadow Brown](#) (2). "A short trip from the entrance to "Camilla Corner" at Straits Inclosure today included my first [Silver-washed Fritillary](#) of the year busily imbibing on Bramble blossom. [Speckled Woods](#) and a single [Red Admiral](#) were basking in the dappled sunshine along this interesting walk. Male and female Beautiful Demoiselles were to be seen in good numbers adding to the pleasure that is the "Straits". Only 1 moth seen which was a [Wood Carpet](#)."



Silver-washed Fritillary



Speckled Wood



Large Skipper

Peter Hunt reports from Whippingham, Isle of Wight (SZ5193) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (4), Meadow Brown (10), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (6), Small Tortoiseshell (1).



Large Skipper



Small Tortoiseshell

Peter Gardner reports from Broxhead Common: "dispite gusty wind we saw the following sts 2 silver studed blue 8 large skipper 3 small copper 1"



Silver-studded Blue



Small Copper

Mick Langridge reports from Carter's Copse (SU584000) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (12 "Newly emerged"). "Following on from my posted photo on 25th April of mating Small Tortoiseshells and then the resultant caterpillars in my posted photo of 17th May (complete with lurking Sturmia Bella fly), I was very pleased to see the fruits of their labours at exactly the same spot today. A coupling-pair were photographed starting the whole cycle again. Although it was a warm day the sun had been hidden for a couple of hours and these twelve were the only butterflies to be seen in the area. In a nearby meadow I saw 30+ Six-spot Burnet moths clustering on a variety of flowers. I had also seen many hundreds of Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnets a few days earlier on the large open Sandhill area which were clustering on every type of flower and grass in the area."



Six-spot Burnet

## Monday 14th June

Mark Hallett reports from Osborne Isle of Wight (SZ518951) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (1), Meadow Brown (75), Small Heath (15), Common Blue (25).

mark swann reports from the New Forest where the following observations were made: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (12 "well spread out through the inclosure").

## Sunday 13th June

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ471912) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Holly Blue (1), Meadow Brown (1), Peacock (1), Red Admiral (2), Small White (1), Large White (2), Speckled Wood (3).

Peter Hunt reports from Walters Copse, Newtown, Isle of Wight (SZ420914) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Holly Blue (1), Meadow Brown (3), Red Admiral (1), Speckled Wood (3).

Paul Crook reports from Bentley Station Meadow (SU793430) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (2), Green-veined White (1), Common Blue (15), Speckled Wood (2), Large Skipper (10).

Peter Gardner reports from Abbotstone Down: "another beautiful day despite forecast brimstone 7 sts 1 red ad 1 brown argus 25 green hs 4 spec wood 5 -**Ringlet** 1 com blue 4.\*"



Green Hairstreak



Large Skipper



Ringlet

Mark hallett reports from Arrenton Down Isle of Wight (SZ536870) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (10), Common Blue (75), Dingy Skipper (5), Painted Lady (1), Small Tortoiseshell (8), Meadow Brown (10), Small Heath (15).

Richard Carpenter and Heather Anthony reports from Botley Wood (SU5409) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (2), Dingy Skipper (1), Meadow Brown (2), Large Skipper (10).

## Saturday 12th June

Anne McCue reports from Browdown North (SZ582999) where the following observations were made: **Purple Hairstreak** (2 "Spotted in Oak Copse").

Mike Wildish reports from Prospect Farm (SU 305 410) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (3), Large White (2), Green-veined White (3), Small White (1).

Mrs J. Kettle reports from Cheriton (SU582299) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1 "First sighting this year").

Alan Thornbury reports from the New Forest: A total of 11 Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries were seen this afternoon in a New Forest inclosure. They were feeding on thistles and ragged robin in two damp clearings, resting on foliage or grass stems during cloudy spells.



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

Geoff Jones writes: "Sightings at North Browdown and the Alver Valley, Gosport - Large Skipper 4; Peacock worn 1; Speckled Wood 5; Common Blue male 18; Large White 2; Small Heath 5; Small White 2; Brown Argus (in the Coastal Area) plus the usual Silver Y and Cinnabar Moths A large number of recently emerged 5 spot Burnet Moths near Cherque Way."

Peter Hunt reports from Headon Warren, Isle of Wight (SZ305855) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1), Red Admiral (1), Wall (2).





Painted Lady

Peter Gardner reports from Bentley Wood: "very good day lots of sun and butterflies small pearls 18 pearls 1 large skippers 3 brimstones 2 speckled wood 20 dingy skip1"

Small Pearl-bordered  
Fritillary

Speckled Wood



Yellow Shell

Mark Hallett reports from Carrisbrooke castle Isle of Wight (SZ485876) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (2), Common Blue (30), Glanville Fritillary (30), Meadow Brown (5), Wall (6), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Painted Lady (1), Red Admiral (2), Large Skipper (15); and from Ningwood Isle of Wight (SZ392902) where the following observations were made: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (8), Meadow Brown (1), Common Blue (50), Brimstone (1), Grizzled Skipper (6), Dingy Skipper (1), Large Skipper (3).

## Friday 11th June

Andrew Bolton reports from Brook Chine, IOW (SZ 385835) where the following observations were made: Cream-spot Tiger (1), Six-spot Burnet (2).



Cream-spot Tiger



Six-spot Burnet

## Thursday 10th June

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Speckled Wood (1).

## Wednesday 9th June

Geoff Jones reports from South Browdown where he saw Small White 3; Green Hairstreak 1; Painted Lady 1; prob Comma 1; Peacock 1; Holly Blue 1; Common Blue 7 (Coastal Area). Mother Shipton and Cinnabar Moth 3 Also a Painted Lady in pristine condition in his garden a.m.

Mark Swann reports from Bentley wood east clearing where he saw broad bordered bee moth, argent and sable moth, drab looper moth.

Peter Hunt reports from Ningwood Common, Isle of Wight (SZ394900) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2), Common Blue (5), Grizzled Skipper (2), Small Heath (8), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3), Speckled Wood (2). "The weather was much improved today at this sight and the small pearl-bordered fritillaries were very active. A nightingale was very vocal".



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Grizzled Skipper

Andrew Bolton reports from Brook Chine, IOW (SZ 385835) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (8), Common Blue (12), Dingy Skipper (5), Large Skipper (1), Brown Argus (2), Small White (1); and from Shippards Chine, IOW (SZ 375844) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (2), Small Heath (2), Glanville Fritillary (1), Common Blue (8). "Plenty of Kidney Vetch colonising the landslip."; and finally from Freshwater Bay Cliffs, IOW. (SZ 351856) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (4), Glanville Fritillary (3). "The remains of a Cream Spot Tiger also seen."

## Tuesday 8th June

Peter Hunt reports from Ningwood Common, Isle of Wight (SZ394900) where the following observations were made: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (1), Common Blue (2), Grizzled Skipper (1). "On a wet rainy day sightings were few at this excellent sight".



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

mark swann reports from testwood lakes (SU343156) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (1 "first for the site"), Green Hairstreak (1 "female egg laying"), Meadow Brown (2), Painted Lady (1), Common Blue (15), Green-veined White (5). "very pleasing to see dingy skipper turn up lots of suitable habitat for them. a very worn individual would be interesting to know where it had come from?".

Lynn Fomison reports seeing a Painted Lady at Magdalen Hill North at 7pm. Earlier in the day Patrick Fleet had seen 5. He had also seen about 10 Large Skippers, 8 Small Blues and 2 Grass Rivulets.

David Tinling reports from Gilkicker (north-west), Gosport (SZ602981) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1) Yellow Shell Moth (BF1742) (1 "disturbed by day") and also from Ann's Hill Cemetery (east), Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (1 "male"), Large White (3 "males"), Small White (3 "males"), Common Blue (7 "males"), Holly Blue (6 "males"), Speckled Wood (17), Zygaena Ionicerae (BF171) (6 "Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet taking nectar from meadow vetchling, purple vetch & cat's-ear"), Mother Shipton Moth (2), Silver Y Moth (1 "flying by day").

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Cinnabar Moth (1 "Resting on Ladys Bedstraw. Last year had lots of Larva.").



Cinnabar

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1).

## Monday 7th June

Andrew Brookes reports: Several Small Blues seen on Kidney Vetch at Castle Shore Park, near Portchester Castle, and one mile south of Ports Down. 10 Common Blues also seen.

Geoff Jones reports from North Browdown/Alver Valley, Gosport where he saw Common Blue 20+; Holly Blue 1; Speckled Wood 2; Small White 4; Large Skipper 1 (his first for the year).

David Tinling reports from Haslar(north-west),Gosport (SZ613986) where the following observations were made: Cacoecimorpha pronubana(BF985) (2 "Carnation Tortrix flying in morning sunshine in my garden flashing its orange underwings"), Lozotaenia forsterana(BF1002) (1 "disturbed by day in my garden"), Pyrausta aurata(BF1361) (1 "flying in morning sunshine in my garden").

Andrew Bolton reports from Bonchurch Down, IOW (SZ 574785) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (12 "5 of these were female"), Small Heath (3), Dingy Skipper (1), Painted Lady (1). "A brief morning visit before the weather closed in."

Clive Wood reports from St Catherines Hill (SU483279) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (25). "(This is simply to record a noteworthy sighting c1month ago)".

## Sunday 6th June

richard brett reports from fields south of Avington (SU523304) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (17), Red Admiral (1), Peacock (2), Painted Lady (1).

Ashley Whitlock writes: Visited today several meadows one in the New Forest, and one nearer home at Whiteley the following were observed in the New Forest: Common Blue (11) Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary (10) Small Heath (2) Speckled Wood (1) Small Copper (1) Painted Lady (1) there were lots of Speckled Yellows and Common Carpets and most of all Lattice Heath many males and females flying all over the meadow. The Small-Pearl Bordered is only just emerging, all males seen, as it was a struggle to count the ten observed. I then went to Whiteley Pastures an area known as Lee Ground Coppice, here the following were seen: Large Skipper (1) Brimstone (14) Common Blue (17) Large White (1) Small Copper (1) Grizzled Skipper (1) Speckled Wood (3) Painted Lady (1) several areas for assembly points for the Purple Emperor, were Identified, so I shall be looking at these in the weeks to come. If other species are to go by hopefully the Purple Emperor should have a good year as well!....watch this space!

Ian Pratt reports from Ningwood Common (SZ394900) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (2), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3).



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

Tim Graham reports from Alresford (SU584316) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2 "Females"). "2 females in suburban garden. At least one was egg laying on birdsfoot trefoil in the lawn."

Kevin Rylands reports from Afton Down (SZ367854) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (1), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (10), Dingy Skipper (3), Glanville Fritillary (10), Green Hairstreak (3), Large Skipper (1), Large White (2), Small Heath (6). "despite the windy conditions".

Richard Carpenter and Heather Anthony reports from Lower Test Marshes (SU360144) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (1 "Our first this year").

Andrew Bolton reports from footpath nr. Rookley, I.O.W. (SZ 503840) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1); and from St. Catherines Point, IOW (SZ 496756) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (9), Large Skipper (2), Wall (1), Small Copper (2), Dingy Skipper (5), Red Admiral (1). "A pleasure to see my first Wall Brown in England for at least 5 years."

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Silver Y Moth (1 "Seen regularly until July 1st"), Yellow Shell Moth (0 "Seen regularly on Tree Heather to 24 June").

## Saturday 5th June

Chris Hall reports from Ively Meadow, Farnborough (SU 850545) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (4 "at SU 8499 5441 and 8503 5448 (GPS)"), Common Blue (26), Green Hairstreak (1), Painted Lady (1 "My first of 2010; also seen on Spiraea flowers in Cody Technology Park SU 845539."), Burnet Companion (16), Silver Y (1).

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (6), Peacock (1), Common Blue (6), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (2).

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several sites in the Meon Valley today to see how the Duke of Burgundy was coping into the first week of June. And on the whole it seems to be doing rather well. I actually saw it at Old Winchester Hill as well today in a sparse scrubby area, but it was so nice to see it at a new site, I've been looking for it at this site now for many seasons with out success. Which really goes to prove that persistence does pay off, and it does look as if there may well be a colony here all but in very low density, as it was reported here in 2009, and several sightings again earlier on in the 2010 season. The full listings for butterflies seen today are as follows: Small Heath (45) Painted Lady (1) Duke of Burgundy (19) Brimstone (16) Large White (1) Small White (11) Green-Veined White (3) Orange Tip (2) Green Hairstreak (5) Small Copper (1) Small Blue (100+) Common Blue (115) Brown Argus (2) Dingy Skipper (8) Grizzled Skipper (2) Burnet Companion (5) Treble Bar, Cinnabar Moths, Silver Y, Common Carpet's "

Peter Hunt reports from Five Barrows, Brook Down (SZ412852) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (60), Adonis Blue (30), Brown Argus (2), Dingy Skipper (5), Glanville Fritillary (6), Green Hairstreak (1), Grizzled Skipper (2), Orange-tip (1), Small Blue (10), Small Heath (8), Wall (3).



Glanville Fritillary



Adonis Blue

Bob Whitmarsh saw a Meadow Brown on the North part of MHD along with 4 Small Blues - a really nice sighting as Bob had not seen Small Blue at MHD before. The species has thrived since the development of MHD North as there is a lot of kidney vetch.

Trevor Carpenter reports that the time in getting to Hurst Castle wasn't wasted with some great photo opportunities with the Cream-spotted Tigers including the attached shot of one depositing eggs and also a Dew Moth.



Cream-spotted Tiger



Dew Moth

Sue Clark writes: "Wandering round our Froyle garden on Saturday evening after a scorching hot day we counted 18 Silver Y moths nectaring on Red Campion, Sweet Rocket, Aquilegia and Catmint - a mini invasion! Later on by torchlight we found a mating pair of Common Swift in our small "wild" front garden.



Common Swift

Mark Hallett reports from Newtown Isle of Wight (SZ420909) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (1), Common Blue (150), Dingy Skipper (1), Small Heath (17), Meadow Brown (1).

Andrew Merrick saw two **Silver-studded Blues** on Silchester Common SU6162, also several White-barred Clearwing.

Marina Christopher reports from Phoenix Perennial Plants, Medstead (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1 "Flying on nursery"), Common Blue (5), Large White (1), Small White (1), Peacock (3), Orange-tip (4). "Painted Lady appeared on 5th June. Also seen on 6th & 7th June".

Kevin Rylands reports from Ventnor (SZ556771) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (15), Common Blue (80), Large White (2).

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1 "Feeding on Buttercup").

## Friday 4th June

Ian Pratt reports from Brading Down (SZ600867) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (1), Small Heath (3), Speckled Wood (2); and from Branstone (SZ556834) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (2), Large White (1), Large Skipper (1). "First Painted Ladies for me this year."/p>

richard brett reports from MHD (SU512292) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (2 "These two down at the foot of the down, foraging along the newly cut path. None that I saw up at the top where a few days ago there were so many."), Common Blue (50 "Too many to count"), Small Heath (8 "Down at the west end of the original reserve at the bottom, and some up on the north down near the big chalk scrape"), Large White (12 "or could have been small whites or female green-veined"), Orange-tip (8), Brown Argus (9 "all at the eastern end of the original reserve in the usual colony").

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (2), Common Blue (2), Small Copper (1), Large White (3), Small White (2), Brimstone (2 "female"). "all found in the garden at shirley holms".

Lynn Fomison reports seeing a Large Skipper in her Ropley garden

Dave Miller reports from Martin Down (SU040195) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (3), Dingy Skipper (6), Adonis Blue (25 "estimate"), Common Blue (15 "estimate"), Brown Argus (10 "estimate"), Small Blue (15 "estimate"), Small Heath (15 "estimate"), Brimstone (6 "1m, 5f"). "Very warm (26 degrees) and sunny, stiff breeze. Very difficult to count the numbers of the small species, hence estimates above for many. Mating pair of Small Heath noted, and female Adonis Blue crawling through the grass rather than taking to the air."

Andrew Bolton reports from Paddock at Axmansford (SU 566607) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1), Common Blue (2).

## Thursday 3rd June

Peter Hunt reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ475896) where the following observations were made: Wall (1), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (1), Glanville Fritillary (1), Brimstone (5), Small Heath (2).



Glanville Fritillary

mark swann reports from portsdown hill (SU618071) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (2 "20:00 last night"), Common Blue (20); and from Martin Down where he saw a **Meadow Brown**.

richard brett reports from MHD (SU512291) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (4), Brown Argus (2), Common Blue (50 "too many to count. Females very shy"), Orange-tip (2), Small Heath (3). "Another reaally hot day, but breezy up on the hill".

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 248 932) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (8 "all male"), Small Heath (34), Holly Blue (3), Green Hairstreak (6), Small White (2), Large White (1), cinnabar moth (1), common swift (1), brown silverline (3), mother shipton (1). "all found on a mid afternoon walk around the common".



Small Heath



Green Hairstreak



Common Swift

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 Larva "Found by Moth experts").

Mark Hallett reports from Whale Chine Isle of Wight (SZ469780) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (20), Common Blue (50).

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1).

John Vetterlein reports from Keyhaven - seawall (SU316915) where the following observations were made: Wall (9), Common Blue (8), Green Hairstreak (1). "Also, 4 x unidentified moth (will submit photo) all feeding on Birdsfoot Trefoil at 4pm".



Unknown moth

## Wednesday 2nd June

Mark Hallett reports from Osborne Isle of Wight (SZ518948) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (160 "my best count in the hay meadows"), Small Heath (1), Orange-tip (1), Large White (2), Small White (4); and from Porchfield Isle of Wight (SZ447912) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1 "first of the year"); and finally Needles headland Isle of Wight (SZ303850) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (200 "several large groups going to roost along cliff edge"), Dingy Skipper (65 "best count by far for this site"), Glanville Fritillary (6), Small Heath (4).

Mike Wildish reports from Tracks N of Charlton (SU 352 482) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (2), Speckled Wood (1), Green-veined White (3), Small White (1). /p>

Geoff Jones took a morning walk around South Browdown /Coastal Area, Lee on the Solent and saw the following: Green Hairstreak 2; Small White 8; Large White 4; Holly Blue 1; Common Blue 10+.



Common Blue



Common Blue

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (8 "5 Females 3 Males"), Orange-tip (2 "Males"), Small White (1), Small Heath (6), Red Admiral (1), Common Blue (46 "43 Males 3 Females"), Green Hairstreak (3), Brown Argus (4), Dingy Skipper (10), Grizzled Skipper (4), Burnet Companion (3), Pyrausta aurata (9). "I spent an hour at Chalton Down with cloudless sky with bright sunshine. The temperature was 20°C when I left at midday. Common Blues were everywhere, with some Dingy and Grizzled Skippers still flying. Over the past week I have noticed the drop in numbers of Orange Tips so was pleased to see a pair of males today. I always hope to see a Green Hairstreak at this site each year so was more than happy to see three individuals."



Brown Argus



Green Hairstreak



Grizzled Skipper

Richard Brett reports from magdalen hill down (SU512291) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (2 "didn't look very hard"), Brown Argus (2), Common Blue (35), Orange-tip (6). "Hot weather, but breezy. Green Hairstreaks appear to be on the wane up at the top of the east down".

Andrew Bolton reports from A339 roadside nr. Pitt Hall Farm (SU 558573) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (3), Brimstone (2), Orange-tip (1), Green-veined White (1), Small White (1), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1). "Pleasant findings near a roadside layby".

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1).

## Tuesday 1st June

gary plamer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1), Brimstone (1 "2 female 1 male"), Holly Blue (1 "male"), Common Blue (1 "female"), gold swift (1 "male"). "i had a walk mid morning along the main ride, part cloud part sun but still pretty cool butterflys seem well down in the coppice so far this season."



Common Blue



Gold Swift

Peter Gardner writes: "a wind down after a week on the island' checked on ladysmock patch (698 260) a nice surprise orange tip pill"



Orange-tip

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# Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

## Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

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### Monday 31st May

Colin Baker reports from Keyhaven (SZ 313921) where the following observations were made: Wall (18 "3FM/15M"), Common Blue (23 "22M/1FM"), Green Hairstreak (5), Small Copper (8), Orange-tip (1 "1FM"), Peacock (1), Small Heath (1). "With the forecast inland being cloudy I took a trip to the sea at Keyhaven and walked the coastal path to Pennington Marshes before completing the circular route past the tip workings. It was special to see female Wall ovipositing low in the grasses by the tip walk and to find them approachable in the changeable cloudy/sunny conditions. Another surprise was seeing a female Orange-tip late in their season. Butterflies seen:- Wall 15M/3FM, Common Blue 22M/1FM, Green Hairstreak 5, Small Copper 8, Orange-tip 1FM, Peacock 1, Small Heath 1. Moths seen:- Mother Shipton 1, Cinnabar 2."



Green Hairstreak



Wall

Andrew Bolton reports from Tidgrove Warren, Hannington (SU525547) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (1), Common Blue (11 "Several seen in roosting postures on grass stems in the cool cloudy conditions."), Small White (1), Orange-tip (2), Red Admiral (1).

Paul Brock reports from Denny Wood (SU334060) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1 Larva "wandering to pupate"). "Good to see and photograph a Purple Hairstreak larva at Denny Wood".



Purple Hairstreak

Stuart Read reports from Arreton Down (SZ535871) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (5 "seen at the top of the Down"), Adonis Blue (1 "my first sighting of an Adonis Blue on Arreton Down!"), Common Blue (40 "roosting at the foot of the Down; all very torpid!"), Small Copper (1), Painted Lady (1 "basking on a footpath at the base of the Down"). "The afternoon of my visit was overcast; had the sun been out, I feel sure it would have been far more successful. The slopes are covered in Trefoil and Vetch and the site is a wonderful haven for Blues."

Andrew Bolton reports from Tidgrove Warren, Hannington (SU 518543) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2).



Commin Blue

## Sunday 30th May

Lisa & Gary Richardson reports from Broughton Downs (SU287329) where the following observations were made: Large White (2), Brimstone (2), Orange-tip (1), Speckled Wood (1), Small Heath (5), Green Hairstreak (1), Small Copper (2), Brown Argus (8), Grizzled Skipper (8), Dingy Skipper (11), Common Blue (45), Adonis Blue (4), Duke of Burgundy (1).



Duke of Burgundy

Ian Pratt reports from Shalcombe Down (SZ386855) where the following observations were made: Wall (2), Red Admiral (2), Common Blue (48), Green Hairstreak (2), Small Heath (8), Glanville Fritillary (7), Dingy Skipper (32), Brown Argus (2), Grizzled Skipper (5), Small Copper (1), Green-veined White (1). "There were as many Common blues and dingy skippers as I have ewver seen here. My figures were counted as I walked but are probably an underestimate."; and from Ningwood Common (SZ394900) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (3), Grizzled Skipper (1). "No sign of small pearl-bordered fritillaries yet. The vegetation is quite behind last year. I saw my first spbf here in 2009 exactly a year ago."

Ashley Whitlock writes: ""Today I led a walk around the Eastern Clearing, which was cancelled from Saturday 29 May which was a complete wash-out. Many thanx to those who turned up at the second time of asking the next day. We were all rewarded with the following: Pearl-Bordered Fritillary (17) Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary (50+) the best count Ive ever had at this site. Small White (2) Dingy Skipper (1) Brimstone (5) Grizzled Skipper (3) Green-Veined White (3) Large White (1) Red Admiral (1) Many Speckled Yellows, Burnet Companion (1) Argent and Sable (1) Silver 'Y' (5) Treble Bar (5) Lattice Heath (1) Several Dragonflies (Broad Bordered Chasers) and close encounter with Muntjac Deer."

Richard Brett reports from magdalen hill down (SU512292) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (3), Green Hairstreak (19), Common Blue (50 "Lost count"), Large White (6), Orange-tip (4), Small Heath (3), Speckled Wood (2).

## Friday 28th May

Peter Hunt reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ475896) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3), Comma (1), Dingy Skipper (1), Holly Blue (1), Large White (2), Orange-tip (1), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (2), Red Admiral (1), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (4).



Pearl-bordered Fritillary Pearl-bordered nFritillary Speckled Wood

## Thursday 27th May

Thelma Smalley reports from Magdalen Hill Down Extension (SU511295) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Large White (1), Orange-tip (2), Green Hairstreak (2), Brown Argus (3), Common Blue (240 "Area A (section 7) had noticeably more females"). "Met Patrick Fleet who had seen a Dingy skipper on the horseshoe - SE corner of the Extension."

## Wednesday 26th May

Peter Hunt reports from Compton Bay to Freshwater Bay coastal path (SZ363852) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (35), Adonis Blue (3), Brown Argus (3), Painted Lady (1), Dingy Skipper (3), Green Hairstreak (3), Small Blue (8), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (3), Wall (1), Grizzled Skipper (2).



Small Blue



Glanville Fritillary



Painted Lady

mark swann reports from bentley wood (SU252296) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (15), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (30), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (30), Grizzled Skipper (8), Dingy Skipper (5) Argent and Sable (3).

Dave Miller reports from Bentley Wood (E. Clearing) (SU260292) where the following observations were made: Pearl-bordered Fritillary (6 "One male; three female. Other two uncertain"), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (20 "Mostly male"), Brimstone (1 "One female"), Speckled Wood (1), Speckled Yellow moth (5). "Many newly emerged Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries. Late afternoon: warm with reasonable weakish sun and a little breeze. The SPBF were starting to congregate on dead seed heads in groups - five together within a metre of each other in one instance. Some Pearl-bordered too, looking worn and pale but stronger and higher flying than their cousins. All definitely at the Hampshire end of the clearing!"



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU737321) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (11), Common Blue (57), Small Heath (14), Dingy Skipper (4), Orange-tip (1 "female"), Large White (1), Brown Argus (2), Small White (2).



Common Blue

## Tuesday 25th May

Alan Thornbury reports from Portsdown Hill: At the foot of Paulsgrove Quarry, a total of 11 Small Blues were seen amongst the scrub - all appeared to be male. An amazing find was a freshly emerged Small Blue still expanding its tiny wings. I would never have found it myself of course, but another Small Blue did! I did not manage to locate the empty pupa case. 2 photos below.



Small Blue



Small Blue

Ashley Whitlock writes: "This my report for my bi-annual jaunt over to the Isle of Wight, and boy was it a butterfly haven today. First site visited was Luccombe Chine, here there is a regular Wall Brown which comes up the cliff face to greet me, every year and today was no exception. He was a pristine individual, but a bit of skirt flew by, and they did the dance of the seven veils and promptly disappeared. Still it was good to see two at this site. Other species seen were Speckled Woods, female Red Admirals (3) individuals which were laying eggs all along the footpath, on very good stands of Nettles. also seen close by as I neared my destination was a pristine Painted Lady, and Small Copper, and many Dingy Skippers. Bonchurch Down In all my years of visiting this site I have never encountered so many Adonis Blues as I have today. Unfortunately our records show (E100+) this is a very modest total to what I saw today. Just on the footpath and either side of the footpath there were literally thousands, I counted well over (12) mating pairs in a very short distance. The National Trust now have cows on this piece of land, and boy do they seem to be doing the job! The down was just teeming full of Adonis Blues and the Common Blue as well of which I saw well over a hundred. The Brown Argus was present but not in great numbers...yet, and the Small Heath seemed to be very rare. But the Dingy Skipper is having a fantastic year also. I then went onto the coastline, but before I got there I always have a look at the downland just behind St Boniface Primary School, which leads onto St Boniface Down itself, and here for the first time I encountered the Glanville Fritillary,(3) which was an insight into what I was about to encounter as I walked into Ventnor .I saw several flying down the high street, and then as I walked through Ventnor Botanical Gardens I saw another (13), this leads round to Wheelers Bay, and the count for this specie was enormous, (75) just counting them on the ground, and just above head height. What was all the way up the cliff face was anybody's guess, and the true numbers must be in four figures at least. The next bay was much the same Horseshoe Bay and Monks Bay as well with the counts being (135), again this just being on the ground and above head height. This has got to be one of the best years for the specie. One thing I did note as well the Ribwort Plantain on the ground level is very sparse, so the specie must be encountering it further up the cliff face, although there has been a lot of land shifting over the last winter. The last site I visited was the Landslip and here a Wall Brown graced me with its presence, along with several Adonis Blues, obvious an overspill from Bonchurch. As I arrived back at Shanklin Railway Station, I saw another Wall Brown, and they seem to like this area, and normally pose opposite on the old station platform sunning themselves. If you have'nt been over the Island and experienced the Adonis or Glanville, then I thoroughly recommend it."

Colin Baker writes: "Tonight I decided to take a pre-lunch excursion to Odiham Common (SU 749523) to check on the Forester Moths I first saw on 20th May (2 specimen). In the fading light I was not disappointed with the numbers of Moths seen, as well as Small Coppers settling down in the vegetation, occasionally climbing a stem to take in the last heat of the day. After trying to photo Burnet Companions for some time I was delighted to find a mating pair who were quite happy staying where they were. The luck continued when I also found a mating pair of Forester moths with an Orange -tip larva wondering

what he's doing with that antennae. Many micro moths were seen but could only be gazed upon in total mystique. Moths seen :- Forester moth 15, Burnet Companion c30, Silver Y 1. Butterflies seen:- Small Copper 6."

Tim Graham reports from Alresford (SU584316) where the following observations were made: Small Magpie Moth (1 "Resting inside the house in daytime").

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (2), Common Blue (1 "male"), Green Hairstreak (2), Small Copper (1), Speckled Wood (4), Peacock (1), Small White (1 "male"), Brimstone (2 "male"), Green-veined White (3 "male"). "all found in the garden".

Chris Hall reports from West Eelmoor (SU 83 53) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3), Dingy Skipper (8 "flying around patches of birdsfoot trefoil in three locations SU 838536, 838535, 836534."), Grizzled Skipper (1 "SU 837536, on short turf with tormentil, the first record from this part of Eelmoor."), Green Hairstreak (8 "one of the best seasons in 15 years of monitoring at Eelmoor"), Common Blue (29 "a strong emergence during the recent warm weather"), Small Heath (6), Cinnabar (2), Burnet Companion (1), Downy Emerald Dragonfly (2). "Above records from the western side of Eelmoor Marsh SSSI, much of which is dominated by heather so habitat for grassland butterflies is very localised. At Eelmoor both Dingy Skipper and Green Hairstreak are having a good season and indications are of a strong spring emergence of Common Blue."

Karen White & Mary Osborn reports from Brook Chine, Isle of Wight (SZ385835) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (20 "A lovely colony of Glanvilles, very active and rarely settling for long."), Common Blue (6), Small Copper (2).



Glanville Fritillary

Mick Langridge reports from Gilkicker (SZ607975) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1 "30yds from the shore"), Common Blue (2 "1m,1f"), Holly Blue (4 "2m,2f"), Large White (1 "f"), Speckled Wood (1). "At 9.30am the sun was very weak and the sea breeze was chilly so I really did not expect to see much action. The Painted Lady was a big surprise. She was on the ground and disturbed by a dog walker. She then made two very brief landings where I managed to grab two photos before she flew off northwards over the golf course."



Painted Lady



Large White



Common Blue

## Monday 24th May

R Bryant reports from Abbotstone Down (SU584361) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (5), Brown Argus (12), Green Hairstreak (3), Brimstone (5), Orange-tip (1).

Tim Graham reports from Hursley Park (SU421253) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Large White (1).

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Today I did another Transect on Portsdown Hill and the following Butterflies were encountered, Common Blue (39) Holly Blue (6) Small Blue (2) Orange Tip (6) Small White (14) Green - Veined White (5) Green Hairstreak (6) this butterfly is having an excellent year, and its the first time Ive encountered so many on a transect walk. also seen were Speckled Wood (12) Brimstone (13) Large White (2). I then went onto Oxenourne Down and the following were seen: Common Blue (47) Duke of Burgundy

(5) Holly Blue (3) Small Copper (2) Peacock (8) Brimstone (28) Dingy Skipper (22) Green Veined White (3) Green Hairstreak (8) Orange Tip (4) Grizzled Skipper (5) Small Heath (5) Brown Argus (2) Mother Shipton (2) Burnet Companion (2) Silver-y (2) Speckled Yellow's (6) Cinnabar Moth (2) The Duke of Burgundy was still in their territory Scallops on top of the hill, and several had retreated down the slope from the newly created slope of felled Yew trees, as it was possibly too hot...I know it was for me."

Richard Symonds reports from Hayling Billy Trail (From SU715020 TO SU709998) where the following observations were made: Large White (24), Small White (14), Green-veined White (14), Orange-tip (11), Red Admiral (2), Holly Blue (30). "On a hot day (27°C), I walked the Hayling Billy Trail near my home on Hayling Island from West Lane (SU715020) to Station Road (SU709998). Many Whites were flying and I was surprised by the number of Holly Blues which seemed to be flying around every tree or large bush."



Holly Blue

Richard Brett reports from Magdalen Hill (SU509291) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (2), Green Hairstreak (5), Brimstone (5), Brown Argus (16), Common Blue (35), Large White (8), Orange-tip (7), Small Heath (1), Small White (2).

Martin Hampton reports from Portsdown Hill (SU6606) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (4), Speckled Wood (1); and from Portsdown Hill (east) (SU6806) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (3), Small Copper (1), Brimstone (1). "also saw a probable Dingy Skipper but very brief view plus my own inexperience with this species meant I could not be certain".

Mark hallett reports from Parkhurst Forset (SZ470905) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (3), Brimstone (10), Orange-tip (1), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (10), Holly Blue (5), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (5), Peacock (1); and from Afton Down Car park (SZ366854) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (1), Green Hairstreak (2), Small Blue (20), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (20), Glanville Fritillary (4); and finally from Compton Chine (SZ368852) where the following observations were made: **Large Skipper** (1), Green Hairstreak (1), Common Blue (30), Glanville Fritillary (75), Wall (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from nr. Streetley Copse, Cole Henley (SU466524) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (2).

## Sunday 23rd May

Steve Keen reports from Pignal Inclosure, NF (SU3104) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (6), Small White (2), Brimstone (1), Speckled Yellow (5), Adela reaumurella (1 "female"), Brown Silver-line (5).

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Led Awalk around Butser Hill today with (14) attending the field meeting, with the glorious weather we could enjoy butterflying at its best. The following were seen in no particular order, and the counts have all been amalgamated for ease: Green Hairstreak (17) Grizzled Skipper (29) Peacock (1) Brimstone (20) Common Blue (35) Brown Argus (7) Orange Tip (3) Small White (3) Duke of Burgundy (80) this count includes a 20 minute timed walk at the base of Ramsdean Down behind the scrub line in which (40) were counted. Small Heath (55) Small Copper (3) Dingy Skipper (34) Holly Blue (2) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Several Cinnabar Moths and Burnet Companions and several Speckled Yellows. Several Buzzards one being mobbed by some Crows a Kestral hovering over the Down and Yellowhammer in the Hawthorn hedgerows, with Skylarks and Swallows zipping in and around the base of Butser Hill , and with Ice Creams at the end what a great day out....."

Roger Pendell reports from Bokerley Dyke, Martin Down (SU036200) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (11), Small Heath (31), Common Blue (12), Small White (4), Large White (1), Grizzled Skipper (8 "Included mating pair"), Small Blue (6), Green-veined White (1), Brown Argus (8), Peacock (1).

Neil Ludford reports from Portsdown Hill (SU619068) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (40), Green Hairstreak (4), Orange-tip (4), Large White (2), Brimstone (6).

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst (SZ473912) where the following observations were made: Peacock (2), Holly Blue (4), Brimstone (13 "9 males and 4 females"), Small White (4), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (2), Grizzled Skipper (4), Small Copper (1 "chasing off all other butterflies on its patch!"), Common Blue (1), Large White (2), Speckled Wood (1), Wall (1). "The Holly Blue is showing signs of a recovery after a number of poor years."

John Goodspeed reports from Portsdown Cmpt 3 (SU631073) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (6 "On the track below the road and on the top of the slope out of the chalkpit").

Tim Graham reports from Alresford (SU583316) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Large White (2).

Richard Symonds reports from Noar Hill (SU745318) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (13 "13 Males 3 Females"), Green-veined White (4), Small White (1), Brimstone (5 "2 Males 3 Females"), Speckled Wood (3), Small Heath (10), Common Blue (81 "All males"), Holly Blue (2), Brown Argus (6), Green Hairstreak (2), Duke of Burgundy (30), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (1), Dingy Skipper (23), Cinnabar (1), *Pyrausta aurata* (10). "Sightings were made during a 3 hour period, the temperature reached 25.5°C by early afternoon, officially the hottest day of the year so far. Duke of Burgundy Fritillaries were chasing off Common Blues and Dingy Skippers that flew near, which were the three most abundant species. Shortly after arriving at 10:30am, somebody mentioned to me that they had seen a Pearl Bordered Fritillary. I had not seen this species or was even aware that it had been sighted in Noar Hill before, so believed the observer had mistaken. Around an hour later I was proven wrong when a single Pearl Bordered Fritillary flew past me several times in the far pit near the woodern seat. I followed it but it would not land and flew into the woods. I mentioned my sighting to a few others in case they would be more fortunate and get a photo. Does anyone know if the Pearl Bordered Fritillary has been seen at Noar Hill in the past? Richard Symonds".



Brown Argus



Duke of Burgundy



Green Hairstreak

Mark Hallett reports from Ningwood Common (SZ392902) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (3), Grizzled Skipper (20), Brimstone (20), Green Hairstreak (5), Orange-tip (1), Common Blue (20), Holly Blue (1), Peacock (1), Glanville Fritillary (1), Wall (20), Small Heath (10); and from St.Catherines Point (SZ497757) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (10), Common Blue (5), Holly Blue (1), Glanville Fritillary (3), Wall (1).

## Saturday 22nd May

David Holt reports from Keyhaven (SZ3191) where the following observations were made: Wall (11 "Mostly on the old highway but 2 at the rear of the sea wall"), Common Blue (2 "behind the sea wall").

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Today I arrived at the New Forest Inclosures at 07:15, with several Cuckoo's trying to out do each other, as I walked one of the Inclosures, I did a round robin of two hours back to the car -park and the count of Pearl-Bordered Fritillaries was (93) the best count I've ever had in the wood. I feel the 'plunder' if that's what it was certainly hasn't done them any harm, and the winter weather, was probably a good thing killing off all the pests and bugs. Other species seen were Speckled Woods and Brimstone.

I then went to Kitts Grave, by Mid day the sun was so hot it was a joy to get under cover of a few trees in Kitts Grave. I went here to see any sign of the Duke of Burgundy as it was reported from there in 2009. I didn't have that much luck, there are certainly good areas, of Cowslip in scallops of Gorse and high quality scrubby areas. I did feel I was probably overlooking them, but I did see the following: Small Tortoiseshell larvae on Nettles lots of them, Brimstone (17) Orange Tip (6) Small Blue (1) Small White (4) Small Copper (2) Green Veined White (3) Dingy Skipper (1) Large White (2) Small Heath (3) Common Blue (7) Brown Argus (1) Grizzled Skipper (7) Speckled Wood (2) Holly Blue (1) Peacock (1) Mother Shipton Moth (2).

I then went on to Martin Down the Bockerly Dyke area and the following was observed Green Hairstreak (1) Brimstone (15) Orange Tip (2) Small White (1) Peacock (2) Brown Argus (25) but there were a lot more of them in the gullies, very hard to count on a day like today Grizzled Skipper (6) Small Copper (1) Small Blue (50+) I stopped counting at 50 because it was hard work trying to count so many there were

well into the 100 I would say in the ditch areas and by the large rifle butts. Adonis Blue (3) Common Blue (50+) again I stopped at 50 because they were always fighting with Brown Arguses and Dingy Skippers, and my head was literally spinning! Small Heath (20) Dingy Skipper (30). Now before I write I need just to say this..... I know Matthew said on the website last week that the Glanville Fritillary was going to have a bumper year, I didn't think it was going to extend onto Martin Down! Yes folks there was a lovely Glanville posing on some shrubs in the Bockerly Dyke area. I met a few people from the Dorset side of the country and they said that there had been several illegal releases of the Glanville Fritillary in 2009, so it looks as if it's happened again!

Trevor Carpenter writes: "Paulsgrove Chalk Pit looking for Small Blues and I wasn't disappointed. In the usual place just west of the small Chalk pond I had at least 3 and probably 7 or 8. Surprisingly I then found more at several sites on the track up the west side of the Chalk pit and even 1 early on the path going east along the top in area with half a dozen Common Blues, a mating Orange Tip pair and two Brimstone. Common Blues were seen at several places on a circuit of the pit.



Small Blue



Small Blue

Peter Vaughan writes: "I visited Odiham Common at 5pm on Saturday 22 May 2010 to look for Forester moths. I saw just one individual, together with single Small Copper and Peacock butterflies and 10+ Burnet Companion moths. Usually the easiest way to find the Forester at Odiham at the end of May is on Ragged Robin flower heads, but none were in flower yet."

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (7 "4 male 3 female, 1 egg laying"), Green-veined White (3 "2 male 1 female"), Speckled Wood (1), Holly Blue (2).



Brimstone



Green-veined White

Gillian Moyy reports from Woodfiddley Crossing (SU350044) where the following observations were made: Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (2 "Spiralling, did not settle"). "Not sure of the grid reference, by Woodfiddley crossing alongside railway."

Peter Hunt reports from Monks Bay, Ventnor, Isle of Wight (SZ5776779) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (2), Adonis Blue (0). "A walk over Bonchurch Down awash with Adonis Blues and to Monks Bay for numerous Glanville fritillaries made a perfect Saturday afternoon."





Glanville Fritillary



Glanville Fritillary

Martin Hampton reports from south Havant (SU720059) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (2).

Just a few notes about the sitings that visitors enjoyed at Magdalen Hill Down at New Members Day on Saturday. First of all a correction for those who saw & photographed it the small caterpillar on the rose leaf was Yellow-tail not Grey Dagger, Tim Norriss says. Other moth news Common, Green and Silver-ground Carpet were all seen. A number of Lesser Treble-bar were obvious too from the way they quivered their wings when they landed. The Lappet moth caterpillar delighted everyone! With 20+ flying around most people were able to see Green Hairstreak but as far as I know no Grizzled Skippers were seen. Brown Argus were numerous on the Original reserve and Common Blue were prolific particularly on the Extension. With perfect weather & plenty to see we hope that the day afforded a good introduction to MHD and that for these new members it would be the first of many interesting visits.

Richard Brett reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU511290) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (1), Green Hairstreak (8 "All perched on hazel shrubs at top of the hill overlooking east enclosure"), Brown Argus (12), Common Blue (30), Brimstone (4), Orange-tip (5), Peacock (1), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (1), Large White (7).

Mark Hallett reports from Brook Chine (SZ385835) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (10), Small Copper (5), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (25), Glanville Fritillary (175), Wall (1), Small Heath (2).

mark swann reports from new forest (SU320042) where the following observations were made: Pearl-bordered Fritillary (139). "a 3 hour trip through 7 inclosures. pearls seen on new scallops and fresh colonising of a major new clearing the highlights".

## Friday 21st May

Paul Crook reports from Noar Hill (SU738322) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (6), Dingy Skipper (10), Green-veined White (2), Large White (1), Orange-tip (2), Small Heath (3), Duke of Burgundy (20).



Duke of Burgundy



Dingy Skipper



Small Heath

Mark Swann reports from testwood lakes: finally some good weather - 5 small coppers, 3 common blues 2m 1 f egg laying, 5 orange tips

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several sites for the Duke of Burgundy in the Test Valley today. and a visit to Bentley Woods was very productive. The following was seen in Beechwood Copse (known to everyone as Eastern Clearing) Green Veined White (4) Speckled Wood (1) Pearl-Bordered Fritillary (22) probably one of the best counts for many years and Peter Eeles who was with me agreed with me, as we stood in the meadow and they were flying around us. **Small-Pearl Bordered Fritillary** (5) Orange Tip (2) Duke of Burgundy (1) Peter said he hadn't seen one in Bentley Woods before and no sooner had he said that one turned up right on cue!. Grizzled Skipper (1) Peacock (2) Brimstone (8) I also went around

several other meadows, and the Pearl Bordered Fritillary was flying at 07:30 and the count was also (24), which makes (46) all together. There were lots of Speckled Yellows about and Peter and I thought we saw an Argent & Sable Moth, it was certainly flying at the right time and its foodplant Birch was very present. It never landed long enough to positively ID. Also several waved Carpets were observed with the Burnet Companion.

I also went the old railway line below Dean Hill, but was very disappointed with what I saw. No Dingy and Grizzled Skipper were seen where I have seen a few before at this site. Butterflies seen were Holly Blue (1) Orange Tip (2) Brimstone (8) Green Veined White (2) Small White (2) Burnet Companion (3) Common Blue (1)

I also visited several sites in the and around Stockbridge and the following were seen, Duke of Burgundy (15) Green Hairstreak (1) Red Admiral (1) Brimstone (12) Small White (5) Orange Tip (3) Common Blue (2) Brown Argus (5) Dingy Skipper (1) this specimen was very sandy in colouration and could well have been an aberration, although I have no books that describe this sort of Dingy Skipper. He was fighting with Duke of Burgundies and Brown Arguses.

Karen White & Mary Osborn reports from Hawkhill, New Forest (SU350018) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (0 "The first time we have seen green hairstreaks at this site").



Green Hairstreak

Gloria Whaley reports from Noar Hill (SU743358) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (20), Brimstone (4), Small White (6), Small Heath (6), Red Admiral (1), Peacock (1), Speckled Wood (2), Common Blue (12), Holly Blue (3), Dingy Skipper (6), Green Hairstreak (2), Orange-tip (4). "Also saw 2 Green Carpet moths".

Peter Eeles reports from Bentley Wood (SU260292) where the following observations were made: Pearl-bordered Fritillary (25), Brimstone (6), Dingy Skipper (1), Grizzled Skipper (5), Argent and Sable (1), **Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary** (2).



Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Pearl-bordered Fritillary egg



Brimstone egg

Peter Eeles reports from Near Stockbridge Down where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (24), Brown Argus (12), Common Blue (5 "All male"), Dingy Skipper (1 "An albino aberration"), Brimstone (3).



Duke of Burgundy



Brown Argus



Dingy Skipper

Mervyn reports from Brockley Warren (SU418369) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (3), Brimstone (11), Orange-tip (8), Green-veined White (4), Common Blue (2), Peacock (2), Speckled Wood (4), Mother Shipton moth (1). "Brockley Warren is a little known SSSI south of Chilbolton

which used to support Duke of Burgundy, however it has slowly deteriorated although Cowslips are still present."

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (3 "2 male 1 female"), Brimstone (3 "2 male 1 female"), Small White (1 "male"), Green-veined White (1 "male"), Speckled Wood (1). "all in the garden at shirley holms".

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 248 932) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (4 "3 male and 1 female egg laying on alder buckthorn"), Orange-tip (3 "male"), Green-veined White (1 "male"), Peacock (1), Common Blue (1 "male"), Holly Blue (2 "male"), Small Copper (4 "male"), Small Heath (7). "warm and sunny, part cloud."



Small Heath

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU738323) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (11), Brimstone (4), Small White (7), Dingy Skipper (14), Common Blue (27), Small Heath (11), Duke of Burgundy (18), Peacock (2), Speckled Wood (1), Green Hairstreak (2).

As a novice butterfly enthusiast with about a year's experience I continue to be spellbound by the behaviour that I see. Walking around Gilkicker at Gosport on Friday morning I spotted a Common Blue male basking close to the path and as I stooped to photograph it another blue butterfly buzzed it and they both flew in to the air where a third blue joined in. This flurry stopped and started a couple of times when a fourth brownish butterfly joined in for a few seconds before this latecomer settled down nearby. I naturally thought that it was a female Common Blue but as it opened its wings I realised that it was a Brown Argus, my first of the year. Whilst photographing this I caught a movement in the corner of my eye which was a female Holly Blue (possibly one of the other three) fluttering around a Bird's-foot-trefoil where she was inspecting a caterpillar, as the enclosed photo shows. I am unable to identify the caterpillar as it does not resemble anything in my butterfly books and would be interested to know what it is. The Holly Blue then spent the next 20 minutes moving around the plant and appeared to be laying eggs, as the other enclosed sample photo shows. None of my books mention Bird's-foot-trefoil as a food plant for the Holly Blue so am I mistaken in thinking that she was laying eggs? David Tinling has since identified the caterpillar as a Six-spot Burnet Moth.



Brown Argus



Holly Blue



Holly Blue

Mark Hallett reports from Carrisbrook Casle Isle of Wight (SZ486877) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (6), Brown Argus (3), Common Blue (10), Holly Blue (1), Glanville Fritillary (200 "on south facing castle rampart"), Wall (1).

## Thursday 20th May

Peter Gardner writes: "Took a trip to abbotstone down 580 360 we always enjoy this place you never know what can be found there although it was almost completely cloud covered it was very bright and warm, brimstones 5 commas 2 brown argus 8 [all in one small area] grizzled skip 3 spec wood 4."



Cinnabar



Mother Shipton



Orange-tip

David Nordell reports from Bonchurch Down (SZ555760) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (0 "Flying in good numbers at Bonchurch Down, Ventnor"), Common Blue (0), Grizzled Skipper (0), Small Copper (0), Brown Argus (0). "The amount of Adonis Blue flying is looking very good, such a lovely sight."

David Nordell reports from Bonchurch Down (SZ555760) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (0 "All flying in good numbers at Bonchurch Down, Ventnor"), Common Blue (0), Grizzled Skipper (0), Small Copper (0), Brown Argus (0). "The amount of Adonis Blue flying is looking very good, such a lovely sight."

Paul Crook reports from Noar Hill (SU739319) where the following observations were made: Pyrausta aurata (1), Red Twin-spot Carpet (1), Common Carpet (2). "Follow on from my report yesterday".

## Wednesday 19th May

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ477912) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (4 "all male"), Comma (2), Grizzled Skipper (1), Holly Blue (2 "my first sightings in the forest this year"), Peacock (6), Red Admiral (1), Small White (3), Speckled Wood (2), Wall (1), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3). "The "Pearls" are starting to emerge. Their numbers will hopefully recover as a result of the clearance work that has been carried out in the forest over the past couple of years."

Geoff Jones writes: "I had an enjoyable stroll this p.m. to North Browdown/Alver Valley/Carter's Copse - Sightings included: Orange Tip male 4; OT female 1; Brimstone male 4; Large White 2; Green-veined White 1; Small White 5; Speckled Wood 5; Comma 2; Peacock 2; Red Admiral 1; Holly Blue 4; Common Blue 1. No sign yet of Large Skipper. Today in the garden: Orange Tip male 1; Holly Blue at least 5; Brimstone male 1 possibly 2; Speckled Wood 1; Small White 3; Large White 2 plus an occasional Large Red damselfly"

Andrew Bolton, Mervyn Grist, Graham Dennis et al. reports from Old Burghclere Lime Quarry (SU472573) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (63 "The most I've seen anywhere- must be at peak emergence."), Grizzled Skipper (8), Green Hairstreak (5 "Very obliging for photos."), Small Blue (3 "Just coming out - as is the Kidney Vetch."), Common Blue (3), Brimstone (5), Peacock (2). "Many thanks to Mervyn Grist for leading this lovely walk on behalf of the Wildlife Trust, and to everyone for their company. Thanks also to Graham Dennis for running the moth trap the previous night, and showing us the contents this morning, which included a Poplar Hawkmoth, Nut-tree Tussock, Pale Tussock and Light Brocade amongst others."



Small Blue



Dingy Skipper



Green Hairstreak

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor Marsh (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (2), Dingy Skipper (17 "Seen on five grassland patches in and near the SSSI, though they prefer the non-SSSI areas!"), Brimstone (5), Small White (1), Green Hairstreak (6), Small Copper (2), Common Blue (4 "The first seen at Eelmoor this year."), Peacock (1), Speckled Wood (4), Small Heath (3), Cinnabar (2).

mark tutton reports from rake bottom (SU708208) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2), Grizzled Skipper (15), Duke of Burgundy (8), Dingy Skipper (10), Small Copper (2).

Mike Wildish reports from Old Burghclere, old rly line (SU 469 578) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (2 "Pair mating"), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (1), Dingy Skipper (1 "Drinking at muddy puddle"). "A few observations, supplementary to those already submitted for Mervyn Grist's trip to the Lime Quarry, but outside the reserve itself. Also a good spot here for house martins to collect mud for their nests."

## Tuesday 18th May

Matthew Oates writes: "I spent last week on the Island (10th - 14th). One of the things I did was survey the NT-owned coastline between Freshwater and Brook. I found six Glanville Fritillary colonies along this stretch, mainly through finding late (probably parasitized) larvae, larval damage, old webs + cast skins, and especially pupae (in matted grass tussocks) as the adults were only just starting.

Three key messages -

- 1) This is going to be a seriously good Glanville Fritillary year: don't miss out!
- 2) The best colonies on NT land are in and to the immediate north of Brook Chine, and to the immediate north of Shippards Chine - park in the NT car parks there.
- 3) Compton Chine - where so many people go - holds only a small colony at present (turn north at the bottom of the steps), though another colony is developing at a new slump at the S end of the main landslip there (SZ37283-84864), and there is a good cliff top colony a little further S at SZ 37487-84508 on the way to Shippards.  
Enjoy your Glanvilles..."

Tim Norriss reports: Twenty-three people attended the Moths and Bats evening at Cholderton on National Moth Night. Organised by the RSPB and hosted by Henry Edmunds on his organic farm the event was a great success despite the unseasonably cool weather. Both Pipistrelle and Serotine bats were seen and heard using bat detectors. Twenty-nine species of moths were also seen at the two lights that were left running overnight. Chocolate-tip, Puss Moth and a Seraphim were amongst the species seen, all of which have larvae that feed on poplar and aspen trees. The Seraphim had not been recorded before on the estate which already has a list of around 600 moth species. The full list of what was seen on Saturday night appears below and more information on these can be found on the Hantsmoths website at <http://www.hantsmoths.org.uk/index.htm>

Code	Vernacular	Taxon
436		<i>Pseudoswammerdamia combinella</i>
714		<i>Agonopterix yeatiana</i>
986		<i>Syndemis musculana</i>
1334		<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>
1724	Red Twin-spot Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe spadicearia</i>
1727	Silver-ground Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>
1738	Common Carpet	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>
1747	Streamer	<i>Anticlea derivata</i>
1776	Green Carpet	<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>
1827	Freyer's Pug	<i>Eupithecia intricata</i>
1856	Larch Pug	<i>Eupithecia lariciata</i>
1862	Double-striped Pug	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>
1879	Seraphim	<i>Lobophora halterata</i>
1906	Brimstone Moth	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>
1919	Purple Thorn	<i>Selenia tetralunaria</i>
1936	Waved Umber	<i>Menophra abruptaria</i>
1995	Puss Moth	<i>Cerura vinula</i>
2019	Chocolate-tip	<i>Clostera curtula</i>
2028	Pale Tussock	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>
2060	White Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>
2063	Muslin Moth	<i>Diaphora mendica</i>
2078	Least Black Arches	<i>Nola confusalis</i>
2092	Shuttle-shaped Dart	<i>Agrotis puta</i>
2102	Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>
2157	Light Brocade	<i>Lacanobia w-latinum</i>
2188	Clouded Drab	<i>Orthosia incerta</i>

2190	Hebrew Character	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>
2334	Rustic Shoulder-knot	<i>Apamea sordens</i>
2425	Nut-tree Tussock	<i>Colocasia coryli</i>



Chocolate-tip



Purple Thorn



Puss Moth

Sue Clark writes: "Pleased to see the day flying Small Yellow Underwing in our mini meadow front lawn this morning, the first recorded here. Common Mouse-ear, one of its larval foodplants, grows in the lawn."



Small Yellow Underwing

Gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (4 "2 male 2 female"), Small White (2 "male"), Green-veined White (1 "male"), Orange-tip (1 "male"), Peacock (1), Speckled Wood (2), Common Blue (1 "male"). "all above found in the garden at shirley holms, with 11 rose chafer on choisia blossoms".

Mary and Michael Gwilliam write: "The promising weather forecast for Tuesday, 18th May persuaded us to walk the Ports Down transect which produced 11 species and 51 butterflies. These included 4 Small Blues, each on a different section and our first sightings of the season. Other species seen were: Brimstone (11); Large White (1); Small White (1); Green-veined White (4); Orange Tip (5); Green Hairstreak (3); Common Blue (13); Holly Blue (6); Peacock (1); and Speckled Wood (2)."

Mark Hallett reports from Osborne Isle of Wight (SZ518948) where the following observations were made: Large Tortoiseshell (1 "seen close perched on fence before flying across field "), Common Blue (1), Holly Blue (1), Orange-tip (1), Large White (5), Small White (2), Speckled Wood (3), Small Heath (1).

## Monday 17th May

Colin Davis writes: "Another visit to Afton, by which time it was late morning and much warmer, and we were delighted to take pictures of a pair of Small Blue butterflies mating. We were again hoping to see Glanville Fritilleries. There again seemed to be none but, just as we were about to leave, we found one and I managed to get a picture. Was this just a survivor of the heavy predation which was being done by a pair of nesting stonechats which we saw going on our visit in June 2008, or are we just a touch earlier this year? "



## Orange-tips

## Small Tortoiseshell larvae

Ashley Whitlock writes: "An early walk along the seashore at my local patch at Milton Lock and Milton Common produced the following results Holly Blue (12) several females seen laying their eggs on Ivy Bushes, this is the best count in the first part of the year for several years. Small White (35) Large White (4) Green-Veined White (4) Orange Tip (4) a female was seen laying her eggs on Cuckoo Flowers, Peacock (1) and Speckled Wood (2)."

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597488) where the following observations were made: Comma (3), Peacock (8), Brimstone (4), Orange-tip (1). "This is a very windy site and butterflies have been few in the cold weather."

Stuart Read reports from Newport-Sandown cycleway (SZ500881) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (10 "all male"), Small White (8 "some of these may have been female orange tips"), Speckled Wood (1), Red Admiral (1). "I have a feeling that the orange-tip is enjoying a good season."

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor Marsh (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (7 "At SU 844536 (2) and SU 843534 (5)"), Dingy Skipper (6 "At SU 844536 (3) and SU 843534 (3)"), Brimstone (4 "ovipositing observed"), Small White (2), Green Hairstreak (1), Speckled Wood (1), Small Heath (2 "My first of 2010"), Libellula depressa (1). "Butterfly recording has been hard work this May! The above recorded during a spell of late afternoon sunshine."

Mick Langridge writes: "Recent walks around Carter's Copse, Gosport have been quite entertaining. I spotted a female Orange Tip taking nectar on an Alkanet flower which was my first clear opportunity of a good photo of a female of this butterfly. As I inched closer through the nettles (in shorts!) a rampant male appeared in frame and I rattled off a dozen consecutive shots over three seconds. I have enclosed one of the photos showing her very firm rejection of his advances. I submitted a photo of mating Small Tortoiseshells a short while ago and today, 17th, as I walked over the same bank through the now fully grown nettles I saw the fruits of their endeavours - three webs close together on the nettles in exactly the same place as Anne McCue and I saw them mating with dozens of caterpillars busting out of the webs. There were far too many to count as the enclosed photo shows. When I checked the photos I noticed a fly of some sort on top of the smallest web which David Tinling thinks is a Sturmia Bella. Perhaps an astute member could confirm this from the enclosed photo."



Orange-tips



Small Tortoiseshell larvae



Sturmia Bella?

Peter Gardener writes: "While walking through froxfield a bright flash of colour past us and with luck it landed on a patch of dried mud 'A PAINTED LADY' and later a HOLLY BLUE flew around a holly bush near by, farther on we found these caterpillars which i believe are peacocks ?"



Holly Blue



Painted Lady



Peacock larvae?

## Sunday 16th May

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Today did not look an obvious choice to go out looking for butterflies, but a small window of opportunity, even though it was drizzling for 90% of the time. I visited a site in the Meon valley a site near to a Nursing Home, and here in the magnificent grounds where it is predominately Beech Woodland, with small pockets of Scrubby Downland, with some of the best Cowslip I have ever encountered on a site. The site is not managed, but somehow year after year the Duke of Burgundy seems to turn up at this site. Today was its best count for several years (6), and they do seem to regularly more around the site, depending on their numbers and how well the Cowslip is doing. There is a stable Rabbit population, although these do not seem to harm the Cowslip growth. They are kept in check by the following that I saw in the space of about 10 minutes....(2) Buzzards (1) Hen Harrier and (2) Red Kites! Other Butterflies and Moths seen were (1) Speckled Wood (2) Dingy Skipper and (1) Burnet Companion."

## Saturday 15th May

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several different sites in the Meon Valley today, from 0930 until 1430. When I arrived at a site on Butser Hill the sun was only just creeping up over the hill, and there really wasn't much about except the odd Grizzled Skipper enjoying the early morning rays. I started to see the Dukes at the base of the hill, which faces North-West after about an hour, and they were not moving much, I could note exactly where they were, walk away and come back 20 minutes later and they would still be in the same place. I then visited a huge site right opposite called Little Butser Hill, why its got this 'Tag' I don't know because its a massive area, and I alone could not hope of seeing everything here. The Dukes were here, and I found them in several places I hadn't seen them before. The total count of the Duke at three different sites was (79) with other species being as follows: Red Admiral (1) Peacock (4) Brimstone (22) Green Veined White (1) Orange Tip (4) Green Hairstreak (4) Common Blue (1) Dingy Skipper (40) Grizzled Skipper (26) Small Heath (13) Burnet Companion (4) Cinnabar Moth (1)."

Colin Baker writes: "At Martin Down (SU 042196) today where the weather was overcast and cold most of the time, reasonable numbers of butterflies and moths were recorded. At one time I saw about 70 longhorn unknown micro moths, with gold forewings and light brown hind wings, flying around a single Hawthorn bush. Butterflies seen:- Grizzled Skipper 17, Dingy Skipper 7, Small Heath 2, Brimstone 3M/3FM, Common Blue 1, Small White 2, Orange-tip 2M, Brown Argus 1M. Moths seen:- Burnet Companion 1, White Ermine 1, Treble-bar 1. Next I went to Bently Wood (SU 259292) but by then the butterflies were settling down in the overcast conditions, although I was able to see my target species for the site. Butterflies seen:- Pearl Bordered Fritillary 13, Speckled Wood 3, Brimstone 3M/2FM Moth seen:- Speckled Yellow 1. "



Dingy Skipper



Pearl-bordered Fritillary



Small Heath

Stuart Read reports from Arreton Down (SZ535872) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (4), Small White (4), Small Copper (1), Red Admiral (1).

Gary Palmer reports from Wootton Coppice (SZ 243 998) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2 "1 male 1 female"), Green Hairstreak (1), Peacock (1), Painted Lady (1), Green-veined White (1), Speckled Wood (2). "cloudy and cool with occasional sun".





Brimstone

Green Hairstreak

Painted Lady

Chris Button reports from Martin Down (SU050187) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (5), **Small Blue** (4), Green Hairstreak (3), Grizzled Skipper (15), Dingy Skipper (25), Brimstone (25), Peacock (3), Small Copper (1). "A coolish cloudy day with occasional warmer sunny spells. Good numbers of Grizzled and Dingy Skippers towards the top of the Bokerley Dyke with the Brown Argus and Small Blues on the south facing banks of the tumuli lower down the reserve. No sign of Adonis Blue yet."



Small Blue



Green Hairstreak



Brown Argus

Malcolm Bridge reports from Magdalen Hill Down (su505293) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (2).

Andrew Bolton reports from Chineham Business Park, Basingstoke (SU 653557) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (1), Small Copper (1), Green-veined White (1), Speckled Wood (2), Green Hairstreak (1), Burnet Companion (1), Silver Y (2).

Andrew Bolton reports from Chineham Business Park, Basingstoke (SU 653557) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (1), Small Copper (1), Green-veined White (1), Speckled Wood (2), Green Hairstreak (1), Burnet Companion (1), Silver Y (2).



Orange-tip

## Friday 14th May

Roger Pendell reports from Bentley Wood Eastern Clearing (SU258291) where the following observations were made: Pearl-bordered Fritillary (7 "included one female laying eggs"), Brimstone (5), Peacock (1), Small White (1), Orange-tip (1), Duke of Burgundy (1).

Mike Gibbons writes: "Considering the main part of the day was pretty cloudy I had a particularly good day at Bentley Wood Eastern Clearing. The star attractions were 20+ Pearl-bordered Fritillaries, 1 Duke of Burgundy and an Argent and Sable moth. Supporting cast consisted of 2 Grizzled Skippers, 2 male Orange Tips, 2 Green-veined Whites, 1 Large White, 8+ Brimstones, 4+ Speckled Woods, 3 Peacocks and a Speckled Yellow moth. Birds included Cuckoo and Garden Warbler, not forgetting a basking Common Lizard. The Pearl-borderedes were busy egg laying and allowed very close approach in the early cloudier conditions. They seem to be having a better year here than last year on this showing."

Ian Pratt reports seeing **Wall Brown** and **Adonis Blues** at Bonchurch, plus a few more Glanville Fritillaries at Wheelers Bay on the Isle of Wight.



Adonis Blue



Wall



Glanville Fritillary

Mervyn Grist reports from Old Burghclere Lime Quarry (SU471572) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (13), Grizzled Skipper (2), Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (1), Common Blue (1), Peacock (1), Brimstone (2). "At 15 Centigrade it was unusually cold for time of year in this sheltered HWT reserve. With Mike Wildish."

### Thursday 13th May

Colin Davis writes: "To Afton Down NT car park, near to Freshwater, at which we had seen so many butterflies on our last visit in 2008. Though it was still rather dull at first, we soon saw, on the lower slopes of the steep bank at the back of the car park, both Dingy (3+) and Grizzled Skippers (2) and Green Hairstreaks (6+), which were not there at the time of our visit last year, together with a female Broad-bodied Chaser dragonfly. Also a male Common Blue and two females ditto, and a Small Copper. We had hoped to see Glanville Fritillaries but none were seen."



Grizzled Skipper



Common Blue



Small Copper

Mike Wildish reports from Harrow Way / Mark Lane (SU 335 465) where the following observations were made: Peacock (1), Green-veined White (1), Brimstone (1). "Doh! All I saw in over an hour between the very cold start and the clouding over. Still, another local tetrad out of the starting blocks and the thought that it can only get better."

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down near Old Idsworth (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (6), Dingy Skipper (19), *Pyrausta aurata* (2), *Pyrausta nigrata* (3). "Sightings were made over 30 minutes. Due to a lot of cloud present, the Skippers were inactive, only taking flight when disturbed. Temperature was 10°C."



Dingy Skipper

Stuart Woodley reports from Noar Hill (SU742319) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (4), Orange-tip (3 "2 males, 1 female (one pair mating)"), Speckled Wood (2), Dingy Skipper (1), Common Blue (1), Red Admiral (1), Small White (1).



Duke of Burgundy



Duke of Burgundy



Common Blue

## Wednesday 12th May

Paul Ritchie reports from Magdalen Hill (SU50822915) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2), Brown Argus (3), Green Hairstreak (30), Grizzled Skipper (7), Brimstone (8), Holly Blue (5), Orange-tip (11), Small Heath (2), Small White (3), Speckled Wood (2). "I'd like to confirm the high concentration of Green Hairstreak along the extension. I counted 30 different individuals, many engaged in aerial battles for territory. A wonderful sight."



Holly Blue



Green Hairstreak



Brown Argus

## Tuesday 11th May

Lynn Fomison writes with old but interesting news from last week. On Thursday 6th May Patrick Fleet saw 4 Red Admirals at top of MHD. He described them as looking ruffled, excited and a bit worn and guessed they might all just have flown in. He also glimpsed a Silver Y moth. His Friday night moth lamp at home attracted a Diamond backed moth and on Saturday he saw another Silver Y. Patrick is guessing that all these immigrants had been swept up from the south in the atlantic low, carried well north before being brought back south on the northerly winds. An exciting journey for little insects!

Matthew Oates writes: "Glanville Fritillary just starting at Compton Chine on Mon 10th. 2 fresh males. Judging by the ease with which I was finding pupae inside grass tussocks there's going to be a pretty big emergence there this year."

Richard Symonds reports from Noar Hill (SU745318) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (3), Speckled Wood (1), Peacock (1), Duke of Burgundy (2 "1 Male and 1 Female"), Common Blue (1 "Male"), Cinnabar (1), Burnet Companion (3). "Sightings were made over a period of 100 minutes. The weather was cloudy with short sunny intervals with a cold wind. Temperature was a mere 9°C."



Duke of Burgundy



Common Blue

Richard Symonds also reports from Chalton Down near Old Idsworth (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (1 "Female"), Dingy Skipper (2 "Female"). "Following a visit to Noar Hill in the morning, by the early afternoon thick clouds stopped any sun at Chalton Down. The few Skippers I saw were all resting on vegetation."



Grizzled Skipper

Gary Palmer reports from Shirley Holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "female"), Speckled Wood (2), Green Hairstreak (2), Mother Shipton Moth (2). "above species found in the garden in Shirley Holms".



Green Hairstreak

## Monday 10th May

Mike Wildish reports from Anton Lakes North (SU 362 475) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (3), Peacock (2), Brimstone (1), Speckled Wood (3), Orange-tip (2) and from Bilgrove Copse (SU 363 487) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (2), Speckled Wood (3).

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down at Old Idsworth (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (6 "3 Female 3 Male"), Green-veined White (7), Orange-tip (6 "Male"), Peacock (1), Common Blue (3 "Male"), Holly Blue (2), Speckled Wood (2 "Male"), Dingy Skipper (40 "One mating pair"), Grizzled Skipper (11), *Pyrausta nigrata* (2), *Pyrausta aurata* (3). "Sightings were made over 75 minutes. There were long sunny periods with little wind with a temperature of 11°C."



Grizzled Skipper



Grizzled Skipper



Holly Blue

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several sites in the Meon Valley today, and for most of the visits the weather behaved itself, with sunshine and cool north-easterly winds. The following counts over several sites was as follows: Duke of Burgundy (36) on the whole this species is playing catch up, to where it should be at this time of the year. Hopefully the weather will be kind and we could see the species totalling good numbers at all the major sites throughout the Hampshire range by mid-May. At Oxenbourne Down there has been plenty of sculpting in its flying areas, where the Gorse has been cut back they are keeping guard on territory. This happens every year ..year in year out, just like the Purple Emperor, I can just about 95% of the time find a Duke of Burgundy in a certain place without fail. Normally perched on a twig of Hawthorn or Bramble, and they chase off Dingy Skippers and Brimstones that venture into their territory. I have often wondered how the thick Gorse at some sites hinders their territory keeping. It seems some of the males dive down into the gorse and 'ambush' other males that come into their territory, great to watch as they spitral up-wards, and then back down again on their relative perches.

Other species seen were as follows: Orange Tip (3) Dingy Skipper (29) Grizzled Skipper (7) Small Heath (7) Small White (1) Green -veined White (3) Peacock (4) Comma (1) Red Admiral (1) Small Tortoiseshell (2) Speckled Wood (2) Brimstone (15) Green Hairstreak (5) Speckled Yellow (3) Burnet Companion (1)"

Geoff Jones writes: "This afternoon during the occasional sunny spells at Browdown (South) Lee on the Solent I encountered: Large White 2; Small White 3; Speckled Wood 1; Brimstone male 1; Peacock 2; Small Copper 4; Green Hairstreak 2 and my first Common Blue of the year. A 'Black' Adder was also my first this year at the site."

Lynn Fomison writes, " This might just be the most amazing sighting of the year, made by Patrick Fleet at Magdalen Hill Down on Monday 10th May! 32 Green Hairstreaks seen on a 10/15 minute walk at the Extension. To put this into context Patrick also did the transect on the original reserve where he counted a respectable 5. Any more contenders for Sighting of the Year send your submission to this page!" Lynn went on to add that on the Original transect Pat also saw 12 **Brown Argus**, a Small heath, a Common Blue along with all the usual species.

## Saturday 8th May

Peter Gardner reports from St Catherine's Hill: "Despite it being almost complete cloud cover we still had two SPEC WOOD 1 SMALL HEATH. Also found some Orange-tip eggs. Lucky the eggs do not fly, its sad all the eggs will not hatch because the first born will eat them."



Small Heath

Orange-tip eggs

Speckled Wood

## Friday 7th May

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(east),Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (2), Holly Blue (22), Speckled Wood (11).

## Thursday 6th May

David Tinling reports from Gosport Ramparts,No 1 Bastion (SZ622995) where the following observations were made: Small White (1 "male"), Small Copper (1), Holly Blue (2 "males"), Speckled Wood (3).

Anne McCue reports from Hermitage Garden,Gosport (SU597004) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (1), Green-veined White (1), Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (2).

## Wednesday 5th May

Paul Ritchie reports from Bentley Wood (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (1), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (3), Peacock (2), Green-veined White (1), Brimstone (2), Speckled Wood (5). "Overcast but brief sunshine at 3.15pm which brought out the Pearl-bordered for a good half hour in the Eastern clearing".



Grizzled Skipper

Pearl-bordered Fritillary

## Tuesday 4th May

David Tinling reports from Browdown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Brown-tail Moth, *Euproctis chryorrhoea* (BF2029)(200 Larva "on bramble").

David Tinling reports from Browdown North (SZ583997) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (1 "male").

## Monday 3rd May

RCS Bryant reports from Noar Hill (SU745316) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (1). "DoB basking with wings open on cowslip - rose to chase off a passing Orange-tip. Cool morning 7C; only one DoB found in sheltered hollow towards rear of reserve. Many St.Marks flies on the wing."

Chris Button reports from Bentley Wood (SU260283) where the following observations were made: Pearl-bordered Fritillary (4). "4 individuals seen in the Eastern Clearing. After a cold start the Fritillaries were on the wing from about 11am, however, they quickly settled low down for long periods once the sun had disappeared behind the clouds."



Pearl-bordered Fritillary

## Sunday 2nd May

Peter Gardner writes: "thank goodness for a short period of warm [dont mind how long but enough to let a laying] grid ref 698 260 going to keep my eye on this area for pills later."



Orange-tip ovum



Orange-tip

## Saturday 1st May

Ian Pratt reports from Wheelers Bay (SZ569775) where the following observations were made: **Glanville Fritillary** (5 "Very fresh and easy to photograph"), and also from Bonchurch Down (SZ571784) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (1), Small Copper (2), **Small Heath** (2).



Small Copper f *caeruleopunctata*      Glanville Fritillary

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several sites in the Meon Valley, and the following were observed in heavy leaden skies inbetween good spells of sunshine Duke of Burgundy (14) Green Hairstreak (1) Speckled Wood (4) Small white (2) Brimstone (12) Orange Tip (8) Peacock (10) Red Admiral (2) Dingy Skipper (2) **Small Heath** (2)"

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ474914) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Green-veined White (1), Red Admiral (5), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (1). "Comparatively little butterfly activity. The cool breeze was possibly a deterrent. Was delighted to hear a nightingale in full song!".

David Tinling reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(east),Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Large White (10 "including 1 female"), Small White (8 "males"), Holly Blue (26 "males flying around holly,box & yew in search of females and engaging in aerial combat"), Speckled Wood (42), Comma (2).

Geoff Dawson reports from noar hill (SU741319) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (20 "found over most of the northern part of site, not just in the hollows"), Dingy Skipper (10 "in central hollows"), Peacock (1), Brimstone (1). "my daughter Amethyst and I were lucky to find a blue patch in the late morning between a few scattered showers and some ominous looking clouds, plenty of Duke of burgandy activity all over the northern part of the reserve (20+), with Dingy skipper (10) in the central hollows, rather bizarrely an almost total lack of other butterfly activity apart from 1 peacock and 1 brimstone (others reported a few orange tips and a few red admirals).Overcast conditions then stopped all butterfly activity."

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# Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and their habitats

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## Friday 30th April

Mike Wildish reports from Rooksbury Mill (SU 355 445) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Orange-tip (4), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (4).

Alan Thornbury reports: Despite a rather cloudy afternoon with showers for much of Hampshire, parts of the south had good sunny spells, including the New Forest, where 5 Pearl-bordered Fritillaries were seen along the margins of a large clearing. 2 photos below.



Pearl-bordered Fritillary Pearl-bordered Fritillary

David Tining & Mick Langridge reports from Old Railwayline, Alverstoke, Gosport (SZ607989) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2 "males basking & flying high in aerial combat").

Anne McCue reports from Carters Copse, Gosport (SU585001) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "female"), Small White (1), Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (1 "male"), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Peacock (3), Speckled Wood (2), and from Browdown North (SZ583997) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1), Red Admiral (1), Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (2 "male"), Comma (1), Peacock (0), Speckled Wood (14).

## Wednesday 28th April

Mike Wildish reports from Upping Copse West (SU 375 425) where the following observations were made: Peacock (2), Brimstone (7), Orange-tip (2); and from Upping Copse East (SU 385 425) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (1), Common Blue (1 "Male"), Brimstone (1), Orange-tip (9), Green-veined White (1), Speckled Wood (1), Peacock (2) and also from Park Brow Copse (SU 395 425) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (4), Green-veined White (2), Speckled Wood (2), Comma (1), Peacock (2); also from Hartway Copse (SU 392 431) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (2), Brimstone (1), Green-veined White (1) and finally from Augurs Hill Copse (SU 385 434) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3), Orange-tip (3), Peacock (3). "Today's records in various 1ks in Harewood Forest. With Mervyn and Beryl Grist. That time of the year when it seems you can get orange-tips just about anywhere you go."

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down, Old Idsworth (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (13 "Male"), Brimstone (1 "Female"), Orange-tip (2 "Male"), Speckled Wood (1 "Male"), Speckled Wood (1 "Female"), Holly Blue (1 "Female"), Dingy Skipper (27), Grizzled Skipper (29 "Two mating pairs"), Burnet Companion (1). "Skippers were very active chasing each other. From photographs that I took, most of the Dingy Skippers present were male, which may account for the fact that I only saw two mating pairs of Grizzled Skippers. The numbers for these species appear to be greater than last year at this site."





Dingy Skipper



Grizzled Skipper

Vince Massimo reports from Noar Hill 10.45am-3.45pm. Temperature 21 degrees with hazy sunshine and light wind. There were 9 or 10 Duke of Burgandy sighted today, including a mating pair, but only in certain hollows. The greatest number (6) were in a hollow towards the back of the reserve. Other species were: 5 Dingy Skipper, 5 Peacock, 1 Comma, 20+Orange Tip(Males), 3 Green Veined Whites (plus some other whites), 1 Brimstone(Male), 1 Holly Blue, 1 Speckled Wood and a Burnet Companion moth.

David Tinling reports from Haslar(north-west),Gosport (SZ613986) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1 "male,first of the year in my garden").

Mark Hallett reports from Noar Hill (SU742319) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (14 "max group of 4, some males fighting"), Orange-tip (20), Holly Blue (1), Dingy Skipper (4).

Mike Mackrill reports from Culver Down Isle of Wight (638856) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1 "On Dandelion Flower").

## Tuesday 27th April

Mike Wildish reports from Stockbridge Down E (SU 384 346) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (2), Small Copper (1), Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (2), Brimstone (17 "Mostly females"), Speckled Wood (3); and from Stockbridge Down N (SU 378 352) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (1 "Smallest individual I've ever seen - took it for a Pyraustra"), Green-veined White (1), Orange-tip (1), Brimstone (3), Peacock (1). "Also Pyraustra nigrata moths - 3" and also from Winter Down Copse (SU 388 335) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (3), Brimstone (1).

John Hunt writes "Visited Stockbridge Down today and saw a good number of grizzled skippers. Bartley Heath transect is indicating a good year for orange tips.



Grizzled Skipper

Karen White reports from the New Forest where the following observations were made: **Pearl-bordered Fritillary** (2 "Seen on path and on vegetation."). "Was able to get several photographs.".

Pearl-bordered  
FritillaryPearl-bordered  
Fritillary

Gary Palmer in the garden at Shirley Holms New Forest (sz 296 984) butterflies present, 2 peacock, 2 brimstone (1 male 1 female) 2 green veined white, 1 small white and 1 male orange tip.

Dr David Tinling reports from: Gosport: Brimstone(male) 4, Large White(male) 4, Small White(male) 24, Green-veined White(male) 2, Small Copper 5, Holly Blue(male) 1, Small Tortoiseshell 1, Peacock 20, Comma 9, Speckled Wood 28, Total 98; Brown Silver-line Moth 4

Richard Symonds reports from Near Northwood Farm, Stoke, Hayling Island (SU727023) where the following observations were made: Large White (1 "Female"), Green-veined White (1 "Female"), Small Tortoiseshell (1). "A walk near Northwood Farm, Stoke, Hayling Island this hot afternoon resulted in my first sighting this year of a Large White, as well as single sightings of a Green Veined White and a Small Tortoiseshell."



Small Tortoiseshell

Mick Langridge reports from Old Railwayline, Alverstoke, Gosport (SZ605984) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (4).

Andrew Bolton reports from Rushmore Down (SU 348543) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (7), Green-veined White (3), Peacock (2), Orange-tip (1), Speckled Wood (2), Comma (1), and from Well Bottom (SU 334545) where the following observations were made: Peacock (2), Brimstone (4), Orange-tip (1), Green-veined White (2), also from Kiblet Down, nr. Vernham Dean (SU335557) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (1), Brimstone (1), Green-veined White (3), and finally from Whitegate Firs, Upton (SU347552) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (3), Peacock (1).

## Monday 26th April

Peter Gardner reports from Froxfield (698 260) A sight for sore eyes; standing in one spot and eleven male Orange-tips came passed within half an hour, all from the same direction. The mystery was solved when we went round the corner and discovered a large area of Ladie's-smock. We also saw a Small Tortoiseshell egg laying.



Small Tortoiseshell



Orange-tip



Ladie's-smock

Geoff Jones writes: "Today's sightings between 14:30 and 16:00 in lovely sunshine at North Browdown and the Alver Valley as follows: Small Tortoiseshell 1; Peacock 4; Speckled Wood 4; Small White 4; Large White 1; Comma 3; Orange Tip male 1."

David Tinling reports from Gosport Ramparts, No 1 Bastion (SZ622995) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1) also from Gilkicker(north-west), Gosport (SZ602982) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1) and finally from Haslar(north-west), Gosport (SZ613986) where the following observations were made: Large White (1 "male"), Small White (3 "males taking nectar from Honesty, Forget-me-not & Bluebell"), Green-veined White (1 "female chased by 3 male Small Whites"), Speckled Wood (3).

## Sunday 25th April

Mick Langridge writes: "Although I have yet to become a member of the Conservation I am in regular contact with both Anne McCue and David Tinling and as my usual walks cover the same sites as them I

feel that I would be duplicating their reports. David Tinling has asked me to send a couple of photos to you and has suggested that your members would like to see them. The mating Small Tortoiseshells were photographed at Carters Copse, Gosport on April 15th at 12.35pm as reported by David Tinling. The Duke and Duchess were photographed at Noars Hill on April 22nd at 12.55pm. Anne will naturally submit her report with details of all the species seen on the day. I hope you will find the photos interesting.



Small Tortoiseshell



Duke of Burgundy



Duke of Burgundy

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Peacock (1).

## Saturday 24th April

Peter Gardner reports from Butser Hill. (710210) 20 GRIZZLED SKIPPERS 5 BRIMSTONES 1 G V WHITE 3 PEACOCK 3 ORANGE TIP WHY ARE THEY CUTTING AND BURNING THE HAWTHORN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL WHERE THE DUKES ARE? DUKE DO NOT LIVE ON LAWNS.



Brimstone



Grizzled Skipper



Green-veined White

Mike Duffy writes: An early morning walk around Noar Hill had me see 2 Duke of Burgandy, 1 male and 1 female, also 1 Orange-Tip and 1 Peacock and 2 Pyrusata speci moths.



Duke of Burgundy

Geoff Jones writes from South Browdown, Lee on the Solent: "Just 4 butterflies seen on my walk this morning probably due to a strong SE wind: Small White 1; Peacock 1; \*Green Hairstreak 1; \*Small Copper 1. \*My first for the year."

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several Meon Valley sites today to find the Duke of Burgundy and it was very hard to find, with just (2) being seen near Butser Hill. Other species seen were as follows Small Tortoiseshell (2) Peacock (17) Comma (2) Brimstone (20) Orange Tip (12) Speckled Wood (3) Green Veined White (2) Small White (8) Green Hairstreak (1) Dingy Skipper (1) Grizzled Skipper (11). The Dukes seen were patrolling over scrub and never settled on the ground having seen off Peacocks in their area, until more males compete and vye for more territories and the females come on to the scene, I think the Duke will be very hard to see. (3) were reported to me being seen at Butser Hill on Friday."

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ476920) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Orange-tip (2 "both male"), Peacock (10), Comma (3), Green-veined White (2), Speckled Wood (2 "the first this Spring"), Brimstone (17 "9m and 8f").

Andrew Bolton reports from Danebury Hill (SU325378) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (1), Green-veined White (1), Dingy Skipper (1), Painted Lady (1), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Green Hairstreak (2), Grizzled Skipper (4), Orange-tip (5), Brimstone (9). "These were the species reported by members during the field trip of the UK Butterflies Photography Workshop to

Danebury Ring on Saturday. Warm sunshine saw plenty of insect activity, along with several lizards and a stoat!".



Dingy Skipper



Dingy Skipper

Dave Miller reports from Noar Hill (SU743319) where the following observations were made: Peacock (4), Small White (4), Speckled Wood (4 "Mating pair observed"), Brimstone (3 "2 m, 1 f"), Holly Blue (1), Orange-tip (5 "All males"), Dingy Skipper (2), Duke of Burgundy (3 "All males. Freshly emerged"). "Warm hazy sunshine (17-19 degrees). Light SE breeze.".



Duke of Burgundy



Duke of Burgundy



Dingy Skipper

Cheryl Turkington writes: "I saw a few Dingy Skippers at Noah Hill yesterday. Someone on a Wildlife Forum suggested I let you know."



Dingy Skipper

Anne McCue reports from Botley Wood (SU545095) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (8 "including 1 female"), Green-veined White (2), Brimstone (12 "including 1 female"), Grizzled Skipper (1), Large White (1), Peacock (13), Comma (1), Speckled Wood (3), Large White (0); and from Whiteley Pastures (SU557103) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2 "including 1 female"), Orange-tip (3 "including 1 female"), Peacock (4).

David Tinling reports from Gosport Wildgrounds(west) (SU579011) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1) and also from Gosport Wildgrounds(east) (SU581006) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Small White (1), Peacock (4), Comma (2), Speckled Wood (2).

Ken Button reports from Noar Hill (SU726312) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (3 "2males 1 female newly emerged").

Chris Hall reports from Crookham Common area (SU 85) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (30 "widespread"), Peacock (8 "often bask in Molinia straw on heathland"), Speckled Wood (18), Small White (3), Orange-tip (2 "male and female near canal SU 83 53"), Small Tortoiseshell (3 "at nettle area by canal, Eelmoor Flash, SU 842529"). "Totals above seen during a five mile walk across Crookham Common to Eelmoor Heath and back via canal towpath, to south-east of Fleet. [NB. Eelmoor

Heath is not part of Eelmoor Marsh]. The Small Tortoiseshells were the first I have seen this spring, despite looking in several places that used to support them. Holly Blue is now flying in gardens in Church Crookham, though scarce."

Nick Freeman reports from Bentley Wood (SU262293) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3), Orange-tip (2), Peacock (2). "Arrive on site 12.00am. Duration 2 hours. Weather hazy sun, still. approx. 17C - 19C. Looked for PBF and MF in Eastern Clearance + on Wiltshire side wood rides and Barnridge Meadows. No sightings reported. V little signs of nectaring plants and usual growth of vegetation attributable to normal flying season."; and also from Broughton Down (SU292331) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (5), Small White (1), Speckled Wood (2), Orange-tip (3), Peacock (4), Grizzled Skipper (2). "Arrive on site 3.00pm. Duration 1.5 hours. Weather sunny, warm, slight breeze, approx 19C."

Mark Hallett reports from Wheelers Bay Ventor Isle of Wight (SZ574775) where the following observations were made: **Clouded Yellow** (2 "flying along coastal undercliffs").

Chris Button reports from Noar Hill (SU745316) where the following observations were made: Duke of Burgundy (4), Brimstone (2), Orange-tip (2), Speckled Wood (4), Peacock (2). "Belated report from Noar Hill. The newly emerged Dukes sitting prominently guarding their territories and seeing off any intruders."



Duke of Burgundy



Duke of Burgundy

## Friday 23rd April

Colin Baker writes: Although a keen wind was taking the edge off the fine weather at Noar Hill-(SU 744318) as I walked up the reserve today, it is clear this week has initiated a small emergence of Duke of Burgundy butterflies. Resplendent in their orange and black markings they were to be found in the usual "hotspots" throughout the reserve soaking up the warm sunshine. It was also nice to find Dingy Skippers from top to bottom of the reserve imbibing on wild flowers created by freshly managed clearings. Butterflies seen in the short visit: -Duke of Burgundy 7; Orange-tip 3M/1FM; Green-veined White 1; Peacock 6; Dingy Skipper 3; Tortoiseshell 1; Brimstone 3M/1FM.



Duke of Burgundy

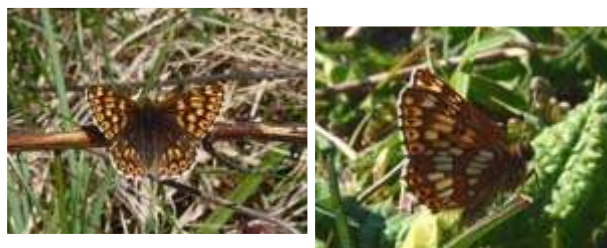


Dingy Skipper

Terry Hotten writes: "Still not many butterflies on the wing in NE Hants but it was nice to see the annual arrival of a Holly Blue around my large red camellia. This is a regular occurrence and I don't recall seeing holly blues favouring this bush elsewhere."

Mark Tutton reports from Rake Bottom (SU708207) where the following observations were made: Peacock (3), Brimstone (1), Duke of Burgundy (3), Grizzled Skipper (6).

Alan Thornbury reports from Noar Hill: 4 fresh Duke of Burgundy (3M, 1F) seen this afternoon in chalk pits close to the centre of the reserve, a full two weeks after the first report on 9 April. The Dukes weren't the only newly emerged small butterflies on the reserve today - one Dingy Skipper recorded in the far chalk pit. Orange Tip, Peacock and Brimstone were also showing well. Two photos of male Duke of Burgundy below.



Duke of Burgundy

Duke of Burgundy

John Webb reports from Monckton Road, Gosport (SZ609575) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (20 "in my garden").

David Tinling reports from Haslar (north-west) (SZ613986) where the following observations were made: Small White (2), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Comma (1), Speckled Wood (1).

David Tinling & Mick Langridge reports from Fort Gilkicker (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1) and also from Stokes Bay (Old Moat) (SZ595986) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Small Copper (1).

Nick Freeman reports from Martin Down (Brokerley Dyke) (SU045190) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (3), Grizzled Skipper (6), Peacock (8), Orange-tip (1), Brimstone (6), Dingy Skipper (1). "Arrive on site 11.00am. Duration 2 hours. Weather sunny, clear, light breeze. Approx. 13C - 15C."; and from Martin Down (Kitsgrove) (SU034205) where the following observations were made: Grizzled Skipper (3), Green Hairstreak (1), Comma (3), Peacock (12), Brimstone (20), Green-veined White (3), Orange-tip (8), Speckled Wood (6). "Arrive on site 1.15pm. Duration 1.5 hours. Weather sunny, clear, still. Approx 15C - 16C.".

Paul Ritchie reports from Noar Hill (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (4).



Dingy Skipper



Dingy Skipper



Dingy Skipper

## Thursday 22nd April

Mike Wildish reports from Charlton Roadsides (SU 355 465) (84): Speckled Wood - 2 Orange-tip - 1 Green-veined White - 1; and from Anton Lakes North (SU 362 475) (84): Speckled Wood - 1 Orange-tip - 1 Small Tortoiseshell - 1 Peacock - 1. "More waifs and strays that, like me, struggle out in the sun after a cold start!"

Bob Snelgrove reports from Noar Hill Selbourne (SU745316) (89): 8 x Duke of Burgandy 1 x Holly Blue 1 x Brimstone 1 x Peacock 2 x Speckled Wood 1 x Small Tortoiseshell 6 x Orange-tip 1 x Common Blue 3 x Small White. "On a sunny day with a slight coolness in the air I was lucky to observe a pair of D of B mating. After spending several hours on the site my total count of Dukes was 8 at two different locations. A fellow observer took photos of mating and has promised to submit them to this website."



Duke of Burgundy

John Willis reports from Fort Gilkicker (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1).

Anne McCue & Mick Langridge reports from Noar Hill (SU745320) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (1), Brimstone (2 "including 1 female"), Green-veined White (5), Orange-tip (10), Holly Blue (1 "male"), Duke of Burgundy (2 "mating pair"), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (2), Speckled Wood (1), Peacock (0).

Bob Snelgrove reports from Noar Hill (SU745320) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1).

Anne McCue & Mick Langridge reports from Beacon Hill, Warnford (SU604224) where the following observations were made: Dingy Skipper (1), Grizzled Skipper (6), Brimstone (3), Orange-tip (1), Small White (1), Green Hairstreak (3), Small Copper (2), Peacock (7), Comma (1).

Nick Freeman reports from Noar Hill (SU745316) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (8), Green-veined White (4), Brimstone (1), Peacock (6), Comma (1), Holly Blue (1), Dingy Skipper (1), Duke of Burgundy (4 "3 male / 1 female (incl. mating pair)"). "Arrived on site @ 12.30pm. Duration 2.25 hours. Weather conditions clear, sunny almost no wind, approx. 12C - 14C."

## Wednesday 21st April

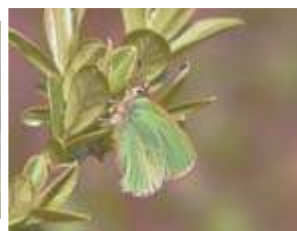
Peter Gardner reports from Portsdown Hill (608 068) Orange-tip 5, Peacock 3, Brimstone 5, Green Hairstreak 3, Small White 1.



Peacock



Orange-tip



Green Hairstreak

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 1, Small White(male) 8, Small Copper 2, Holly Blue 3, Small Tortoiseshell 3, Peacock 18, Comma 3, Speckled Wood 11. For the second successive day, Lee-on-the-Solent, at the western end of the Gosport coast, recorded the highest UK temperature, 16.7C on Tues & 14.8C on Wed. Frosts continue to limit emergence from the chrysalis.

John Goodspeed reports from Portsdown Compartment 4 (SU646063) (34): Green Hairstreak - at least 3 Orange tip - abundant. "Along clearings in scrub at the bottom of the down."

Andrew Bolton reports from Furze Copse, nr. Cole Henley (SU 476528) where the following observations were made: Orange-tip (1), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1).

## Tuesday 20th April

Ashley Whitlock writes from Milton Lock/Common: "A walk around my new local patch, a 2 minute walk from my new home and the following was seen Peacock (6) Comma (2) Orange Tip (1) Small White (2) Speckled Wood (3)."

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 1, Small White(male) 6, Small Tortoiseshell 7 (including a courting couple), Peacock 15, Comma 10, Speckled Wood 8, Total 47. Also a Nightingale singing near my garden at Haslar, Gosport. Some of the above were also seen by Anne McCue & Mick Langridge. Anne also saw a male Orange-tip and another male Brimstone and Mick also saw a Holly Blue.

Mike Wildish reports from Bradley Wood South (SU 458 518) (41): Peacock - 4; and from Bradley Wood North (SU 455 525) (43): Orange-tip - 2; also from Bradley Hill (SU 448 534) (84): Green-veined White - 1 Brimstone - 1; and finally from Dunley (SU 455 535) (84): Orange-tip - 1 Small Tortoiseshell - 1 "Almost apologies for submitting lists for one of those walks that passed through several 1ks, but due to the cool wind, produced rather few species."

Gary Palmer writes from the garden at Shirley Holms New Forest (sz 296 984) during the day found 1 comma, 2 peacock, 2 small white male, 1 female brimstone and 1 male orange tip. Also in the garden on the ponds were my first large red damselfly of the year.

Lynn Fomison writes: "On Monday MHD was visited by Dave Shute undertaking the Common Bird Census (Bird highlight was a pair of Wheatears on the Northern section), Peter Eeles taking photos and a keen interest in butterfly behaviour and Jenny Mallett taking a good look at the condition of the reserve. All three were pleased to see Green Hairstreak and Grizzled Skipper, and of course to admire the cowslips which are pretty splendid just now. On Tuesday Ken Button made a visit, made similar observations and provided me with this lovely pic of a Green Hairstreak. Patrick Fleet was working at MHD on Monday & found & showed visitors a female Muslin moth.



Green Hairstreak

## Monday 19th April

Peter Eeles reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU505291) where the following observations were made: Peacock (4), "A white" (1 "Didn't stop long enough to show its face!"), Brimstone (5 "2 male, 3 female"), Orange-tip (6 "All male"), Green Hairstreak (5 "Including a female ovipositing on Common Rock-rose"), Grizzled Skipper (11). "A trip out to the Butterfly Conservation reserve at Magdalen Hill Down came up trumps! Nice to see several other Hants BC members there! The Grizzlies were difficult to find in the often-breezy conditions, but weren't so bad once you had "gotten your eye in", and realised that they were all sheltering at the bottom part of the reserve. Some observers had also seen a couple of Speckled Wood, which evaded me on this visit."



Grizzled Skipper

Green Hairstreak

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Small White(male) 4, Small Copper 3, Holly Blue 1 male & 1 female, Small Tortoiseshell 6, Peacock 9, Comma 3, Speckled Wood 11.

Anne McCue visited Botley Wood/Whiteley Pastures and saw Brimstone 5 males & 2 females (including a courting couple), Green-veined White 3, Orange-tip 7 males & 1 female, Peacock 12, Speckled Wood 1, Nightingales 2 singing at Botley Wood; Orange-tip 3 males & 1 female, Peacock 7 at Whiteley Pastures.

## Sunday 18th April

Lisa and Gary Richardson report from Stockbridge Downs: 15 Peacocks, 9 Brimstone, 2 Small Tortoiseshell & 1 Green-veined White.

Richard Hughes reports from Brownwich/Chilling Estate (520035) (82 84): 28 peacocks 10 commas 6 orange tip 2 small tortoiseshell 1 brimstone 1 green veined white 1 speckled wood. "peacocks holding territory every 200 yards along the path -where their territories overlapped there was much sparring between peacocks and commas."

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone 4 males & 2 females, Large White(male)3, Small White (male) 13, Green-veined White(female) 1, Holly Blue(male)4, Small Tortoiseshell 3, Peacock 15, Comma 8, Speckled Wood 10, Total 63.



Paul Crook writes: "A visit to Noar Hill around midday produced sightings of Orange Tip (2), Peacock (3), Brimstone (1) and Comma (1). No sign of Duke Of Burgundy. Also present were Chifchaffs and 1 Yellowhammer.

Ken Button reports from Magdalen Hill (SU553289) where the following observations were made: Green Hairstreak (3), Grizzled Skipper (4).

## Saturday 17th April

Lisa and Gary Richardson report from Broughton Downs: 1 Grizzled Skipper, 1 Small Tortoiseshell, 2 Orange-tip, 5 Brimstone and 4 Peacocks.

Ian Hutchinson reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU505292) (34): Green Hairstreak 2, Grizzled Skipper 2, Orange tip 4 male 1 female, Brimstone 3, Small Tortoiseshell 3, Peacock 2.

Stuart Read writes: "On my weekly walk around Parkhurst Forest this morning, I counted 33 Brimstone (22m, 11f), 16 Peacock, 3 Comma, and 1 male Orange Tip. I haven't yet sighted a Speckled Wood or a Holly Blue in the forest this Spring."

Ashley Whitlock writes from the Devils Highway: " A long Roman road straddling the Hants Berks Border, near Silchester, the following butterflies were seen: Peacock (6) Orange Tip (2) one of the males was feeding on the blossom of a Cherry Tree. Also Small White (2) Brimstone (2) Holly Blue (1) . I suspect there will be a good emergence of the Duke of Burgundy at most chalk downland sites within the week if this weather keeps up."

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Large White(male) 1, Small White(male) 6, **Small Copper** 1 at Browdown South(west)(SZ574994), Small Tortoiseshell 4, Peacock 20, Comma 9, Speckled Wood 7, Total 48.

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor (SU 8353 / 8453): Brimstone (12); Peacock (10); Comma (1); Speckled Wood (2). "At last things are picking up. Also at least 8 more brimstones along roadsides between Fleet and Eelmoor; and Orange Tip seen on the margin of Velmead Common, Fleet."

Peter Bowker reports from Gosport: Holly Blue in the Hermitage Garden, Gosport(SZ597004).

Colin Beyer reports from Cheriton Churchyard (SU5828) where the following observations were made: **Common Blue** (1 "Settled on gravel path in the sun").

Anne McCue reports from Hill Head (SU527025) where the following observations were made: Peacock (2).

## Friday 16th April

Richard Symonds writes: "Today I revisited Chalton Down (SU736157) in the hope of seeing further Grizzled Skippers, however I did not see a single one. The visit however, was worth it as I saw my first Small Tortoiseshell and Speckled Woods this year. My count during the forty five minute visit was: Brimstone (1M), Comma(2), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1) and Speckled Wood (2).



Speckled Wood



Comma f *hutchinsoni*

Alan Thornbury reports from Magdalen Hill Down: 4 Green Hairstreaks and 6 Grizzled Skippers seen on the lower slopes of the original reserve this afternoon. The cooler conditions today made them content to sit on low vegetation much of the time, between short flights.



Grizzled Skipper

Green Hairstreak

Green Hairstreak

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Small White(male) 6, Small Tortoiseshell 3, Peacock 19, Comma 12, Speckled Wood 7, Total 47. Also a Brown Silver-line Moth, *Petrophora chlorasata* (BF1902), photographed at Browdown North (SZ583997). The main Grayling areas at Browdown North have been extensively damaged by fire, probably by school children on holiday!

## Thursday 15th April

Comment has been made that the sighting of the Duke on 9th April was very early. Lynn writes that she has checked with Tony James and it is only one day earlier than the previous earliest record of 10th April. Also it was seen in the pit where Matthew usually saw his first Duke of the season.

Richard Symonds writes: "This morning I paid a visit to Chalton Down (SU736157), spending three quarters of an hour looking all around the slopes. The temperature was 11.5°C, sunny but with a cold breeze. I am happy to report that I saw a perfect Grizzled Skipper - a female I believe as well as 4 Commas and a single Peacock, which had encountered a bird at some point, judging by the wing damage it had sustained."



Grizzled Skipper

Comma f *hutchinsoni*

Lynn Fomison is pleased to pass on records at sightings made by Patrick Fleet at Magdalen Hill Down. Today he saw a Green Hairstreak - the first one for the year at MHD. On 14th April he saw two **Grizzled Skippers** and on 9th April an Orange Tip.

Maurice Pugh reports from Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing (SU 261 293): Brimstone - 5 Comma - 1 Peacock - 7. "A short visit at lunchtime on the way home."



Brimstones

Anne McCue and Mick Langridge reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 7, Small White 10, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 6 (including a very rarely seen mating pair, photographed by Mick Langridge), Peacock 20, Comma 11, Total 55.

Andrew Bolton reports from Pudding Hill, Baurhurst (SU 573602) (84,38): Peacock 2, Orange Tip 1, Speckled Wood 1, Comma 1, and also from Axmansford, Tadley (SU 566607) (85): Holly Blue 1 .

## Tuesday 13th April

Robert Bryant reports from Kites Hill, Totford (SU565379) (84/90): Orange Tip 1 Small Tortoiseshell 1 Speckled Wood 1 Brimstone 1 "Just tootling along on my bicycle in bright sunshine noting the butterflies in the wider countryside."

Dr David Tinling reports from Portsdown Hill: Brimstone 1 male, Small White 6 males, Small Tortoiseshell 8, Peacock 10, Comma 2, Speckled Wood 2, Total 29.

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone 6 males & 2 females, Large White 1 male, Small White 6 males, Green-veined White 1, Orange-tip 1 male, Holly Blue 2 males & 1 female, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 3, Peacock 16, Comma 18, Speckled Wood 2, Total 60.

Charles Cuthbert writes: "At least three male Orange-tips along the Nun's Walk in Winchester at lunchtime (photo of one resting male attached). I have also attached a few photos of Brimstones taken at Crab Wood during the last week. Lots of males and a few females seen along the rides and in the open coppiced areas, clearly much attracted to the plentiful Primroses now in full flower. Commas and Peacocks were also present, but unlike the Brimstones (and Bee-flies) I did not see any visiting the Primrose flowers for nectar."



Brimstone



Brimstone



Orange-tip

## Monday 12th April

Mike Wildish reports from Prospect Farm (SU 305 410) (82): Small Tortoiseshell - 5 Peacock - 1 "Bleak prairie land - other than skylarks not much to record bird wise either!"

Robert Beale writes: "Visiting the Station House Tearooms near Burley today I spotted a Comma in the garden. Picture is attached. These tearooms are excellent for sitting in the garden watching a variety of birds on the bird-feeders whilst enjoying a cream tea!"



Comma

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone 2 males, Large White 1 male, Small White 8 males, Holly Blue 2 males, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 5, Peacock 17, Comma 10, Speckled Wood 2, Total 48. (Some of these were also seen by David Tinling.)

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone 1 male, Small White 2 males, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 13, Peacock 20, Comma 5, Speckled Wood 2, Total 44. (Some of these were also seen by Anne McCue.)

Gary Palmer in the garden in Shirley Holms, New Forest. Butterflies present, 1 Comma, 2 Peacock and 2 male Small White.

## Sunday 11th April

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Holly Blue in Ann's Hill Cemetery.

Tim Norriss writes: "Lynn and I found this Small Tort today on a field edge at Bransbury in West Hants. Never seen one like this before. It must have been one of the ab.s overwintering from last year."



Small Tortoiseshell

## Saturday 10th April

Stuart Read writes: "A circuit of Parkhurst Forest on a beautiful Spring morning produced the following return: Peacock(7), Brimstone(11), Comma(1), Orange Tip(1), Small Tortoiseshell(1) and a possible sighting of a **Large Tortoiseshell** (see photograph attached)."



Large Tortoiseshell

Dr David Tinling has sent in the following regarding Stuart's Large Tortoiseshell sighting: "The butterfly in Stuart Read's photo is certainly a Large Tortoiseshell. On each forewing there is a triangle of three black spots with a fourth black spot in the centre of the triangle, where in a Small Tortoiseshell there is one large spot and two small ones."

Ian Hutchinson reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU505292) (34): Peacock 1 Small Tortoiseshell 2 (mating pair) "All seen at about 15.30"

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 5, Small White(male) 2, Small Tortoiseshell 15, Peacock 34, Comma 21, Speckled Wood 2, Total 79. (Many of these were also seen by Anne McCue.)

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 7, Small White(male) 2, Small Tortoiseshell 10, Peacock 26, Comma 16, Speckled Wood 1, Total 62. (Many of these were also seen by David Tinling.)

Gary Palmer writes "First a walk around Barton Common (sz 248 932) produced 10+ peacock, 1 small tort and 2 comma then on into Becton Bunny (sz 253 927) found another small tort and an egg laying female red admiral. After a short visit to Mudeford Woods Christchurch (sz 184 934) found 5 peacock, 3 comma and 4 small tortoiseshell."

Mike Baker reports from Broughton Downs (SU2833) (34): Brimstone 25+ Orangetip 1 male Peacock 5 Small Tortoiseshell 4 Red Admiral 1 Comma 1

Dave Cook writes from the Isle of Wight: "After a long walk over Afton & Brook Downs. I was rewarded with my first field sighting of the year with a *P. despicata* in the chalk-pit on Brook Down. I saw very little else there which was a shame as I hoped to see some *Cydia ulicetana*, which I saw at the same time last year. Perhaps they're a bit late due to the bad winter we have just had! **Afton Down was a bit more productive with masses of Granville Fritillary larva, having to watch where I trod very carefully.** Then to watch & listen to the skylarks which is always a thrill. I then had two close encounters with adders (one of the hazards of looking for moths & butterflies), this was about the same time as I saw the first one last year. I then went looking for Drinker larva which I had seen in large numbers at this time last year, none were found, but I did find loads of Brown-tail larva nests on old bramble shoots close to the gorse where I hope to see the Drinker larva soon."



*Pyrausta despicata*Glanville Fritillary  
larva

## Friday 9th April

Hazel Pratt has reported (via Lynn Fomison) that she saw a [Duke of Burgundy](#) at Noar Hill today.

Peter Gardner reports from Abbotstone Down (582 362) Brimstone (7), Peacock (3), Comma (4). "Must look at the site again later for caterpillars."



Peacock



Comma



Brimstone

Nick Wiley has reported ( via Lynn Fomison) seeing 3 fresh Painted Ladies whilst walking between Test Marsh & Testwood Lakes today.

David Lobb reports from Lordswood, Southampton (41): Comma (1) "Recorded at 2pm in back garden on edge of woodland."

Gary Palmer in a garden in Shirley Holms New Forest (sz 296 984 ) found 1 female brimstone, 2 peacock and 1 comma.

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone 7 males, Large White (female) 1, Small White (male) 7, Green Hairstreak 1 at Browdown South, Small Tortoiseshell 15 (including 2 courting couples) (a remarkable recovery), Peacock 27, Comma 18, Speckled Wood 2, Total 78 (That's more like it!).

Richard and Becky Symonds write " On Friday (9th), we made our first visit of the year to Chalton Down (SU736157), where the temperature was a warm 16.5°C. Many violets were in flower but Cowslips were still in bud. We saw a total of: Brimstone (3M), Comma (2) and Peacock (3). Attached photo of Comma which posed very nicely for me on a twig!"



Comma

Geoff Dawson reports from his back garden in Church Crookham (su806520) (85): [holly blue](#) "plenty of holly trees in our garden."

Anne McCue reports from New Forest: Peacock 3 at Beaulieu Road Station (SU348064); Brimstone (male) & Red Admiral at Woodfidley Passage (SU346051); Brimstone 5 males & 1 female at Denny Wood (SU340048). (Also seen by Mick Langridge & John Willis.)

## Thursday 8th April

Mark Litjens reports from West Wood nr. Winchester (su 420 299) Orange Tip - 1 male Comma - 2 Peacock - 20 Brimstone - 35

Mike Wildish reports Whitchurch South (SU 461 475) (84): Brimstone - 1 Small Tortoiseshell - 1, and from Tufton(SU 455 470) (84) : Brimstone - 3 Small Tortoiseshell - 2 Peacock - 1, and finally from Whitchurch North (SU 465 481) (84): Brimstone - 2 Peacock - 1 "Seen on HWT walk - also loadsa warblers - chiffs, willow, blackcaps, sedge and an early garden all singing for us. "

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (my garden) (SU821603) (85): A female Orange Tip, also a couple of Peacocks and a Brimstone

Richard Symonds writes: "Today, on what must have been one of the hottest days of the year so far I saw several male Brimstones and Peacocks. Driving in Portsmouth in the morning I saw two male Brimstones - one alongside Milton Park and another in Farlington near Galt Road. In the afternoon a pair of Peacocks were engaged in an aerial display outside my house at Stoke, Hayling Island (SU723023), while alongside the Havant Road just North of the May pole pub (SU722015), two more Peacocks were flying and feeding on cherry blossom."

Robin Harley reports from Mude Valley Nature Reserve, Christchurch (VC11) (SZ1892/SZ1893) (2, 38, 41, 86): Orange Tip (male) (2) Comma (5) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Peacock (2) Brimstone (5) "Seen on transect."

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone 5 males & 1 female, **Large White** (male) 1, Small White (male) 10, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 2, Peacock 11, Comma 6, Speckled Wood 2. (Some of these were also seen by Mick Langridge.)

Mick Langridge reports from Gosport: Brimstone 9 males & 1 female, Large White (male) 1, Small White (male) 3, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 2, Peacock 20, Comma 6, Speckled Wood 1. (Some of these were also seen by David Tinling.)

Lynn Fomison is pleased to pass on a report that Colin Beyer saw an Orange Tip in Hill Houses Lane Cheriton on 8th April.

Peter Hunt reports from Madeira Lane Freshwater Isle of Wight (85): Brimstone one.

'Paul Brock and Phil Budd saw a Speckled Wood at Lords Wood Plantation, near Southampton, along with plenty of Peacocks, Commas and Brimstones. Small Tortoiseshells also at Longdown, New Forest.

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone 7 males & 2 females, Small White 5, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 4, Peacock 16, Comma 8, Speckled Wood 1.

John Webb reports from Gosport: Speckled Wood 2 in my garden in Monckton Road, Gosport (SZ609984).

## Wednesday 7th April

Lynn Fomison writes "Magdalen Hill Down was not good at all for butterflies in the cloudy conditions but lovely violets and cowslips are starting to come out too. Visit in about two weeks time to see cowslips at their best."

## Tuesday 6th April

Mike Wildish reports from Charlton (SU 350 470) (85): Brimstone - 6 Small Tortoiseshell - 2.

Ashley Whitlock writes from Portsdown Hill Transect: "My first butterflies of 2010, and its been a long time coming, so I ventured up Portsdown Hill to do a transect the first of the year. The following was observed: Peacock [4} Comma {2} Brimstone [2} Red Admiral {1} Small Tortoiseshell [1} my first in the spring for a long time! and last but not least **Speckled Wood** {1}"

Also from Creech Wood: " I then went on to compare a woodland to a Downland on such a day and the specie count was lower but the actual counts were well higher. Brimstone (17} Peacock (15) Comma (7) and a Small White. Many of the rides looked like the Somme on a bad day, and several of the large Oaks which had in the past been used by Purple Emperors for Assembly Points have been cut down. But luckily the Sallows have not been touched!."

Gary Palmer writes from a garden at Shirley Holms New Forest ( sz 296 984 ) found 1 male brimstone and 2 peacock at mid day.

Anne McCue reports seeing Small Tortoiseshell 2, Peacock 1 & Comma 4 at Carters Copse, Gosport; Brimstone (male) 1, **Green Hairstreak** 1 & Comma 1 at Browdown North.

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone (male) 5, Red Admiral 1, Small Tortoiseshell 4, Peacock 16, Comma 14, Total 40.

Lynn Fomison writes "I can not recall another Spring day when I have seen ALL the five species of hibernators! So imagine my delight when on the monthly walk to Health at Bentley Station meadow and Alice Holt forest we saw Peacock, Red Admiral, Brimstone and Comma. Then when I got home I saw Small Tortoiseshell too. On the earlier walk we also saw [Green-veined White](#). Thoroughly good day!"

Chris Hall reports from Church Crookham (SU 81 51) (41, 81, 84): Peacock (7); Comma (4); Brimstone (2). "Seen during a walk from the edge of Church Crookham towards Ewshot. Frequent nettle patches but not a glimpse of Small Tortoiseshell. The above three species also seen in my Fleet garden today (8153)"

Christopher Iles reports from Andover, A303/A3057 junction (SU3644) (90): Brimstone (1 male).

John Woodson reports from Copse adjoining Tesco's Winnall store (84): Seen whilst walking through this small area of woodland in the early afternoon - 2 male Brimstones, 2 Commas, and a male [Orange Tip](#).

## Monday 5th April

Stuart Read reports from parkhurst forest, newport, isle of wight (SZ4691) (mixed woodland): Peacock (6), Comma(5), Red Admiral(2), Brimstone(1) "Weather was bright and sunny"

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) 1,Red Admiral 1,Small Tortoiseshell 3,Peacock 8,Comma 7,Total 20.

Margaret Bowker reports seeing a Peacock & Comma in the Hermitage Garden,Gosport(SZ597004).

Anne McCue reports seeing a Red Admiral & Comma 4 at Ann's Hill Cemetery,Gosport.

## Sunday 4th April

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Brimstone 3 males & 1 female flying at the Wildgrounds Nature Reserve; Comma at Carters Copse.

Anne McCue reports seeing a Peacock at Titchfield Haven.

## Friday 2nd April

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Comma in Stanley Park.

## Thursday 1st April

Anne McCue & David Tinling in Gosport saw Red Admiral 1,Small Tortoiseshell 4,Peacock 1,Comma 4.

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## Sunday 28th March

Dr David Tinling writes: "Brimstone(male)(my first at last) at Ann's Hill Cemetery,Gosport;Small Tortoiseshell & Red-tailed Bumblebee(*Bombus lapidarius*) at Stokes Bay,Gosport.

## Friday 26th March

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Red Admiral in St Mark's Churchyard;Red Admiral,Peacock & Comma 3 in Ann's Hill Cemetery.

## Wednesday 24th March

Janet Jones writes: "I had been wondering if I would see *any* butterflies in my garden this spring, until Wednesday (24th). Around lunchtime I was thinking it was such a lovely day that surely there must be a Brimstone somewhere in the garden - and then one flew passed my kitchen window! Shortly after this a Peacock, 2 Red Admiral and a Comma were seen, and then a Small Tortoiseshell was added to my list! It was such a lovely day and everywhere in the garden was full of life. The most unexpected creature to see was a Long-eared Bat which was resting on a canvass bag on the ground under a Holly tree. (Isn't wildlife just wonderful?).



Long-eared Bat

Geoff Jones writes: "Today in the garden I saw my first Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock butterflies of the year. While I was toiling, Brenda was out dog-walking in Gosport; she was delighted to inform me via numerous calls from her mobile 'phone that she had seen along the 'moat' / Stanley Park area a female Small White; a Comma; a Peacock; plus a male Brimstone. Some people have all the luck!"

Gary Palmer writes: ""In Lymington ( sz 317 963 ) new forest, saw 1 brimstone male."

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Comma 4 at Ann's Hill Cemetery;Peacock & Comma 3 at the Hermitage Garden;Small Tortoiseshell,Peacock & Comma 2 at Carters Copse;Comma at Alver Meadow;Red Admiral & Comma 3 at Browdown North.

Mick Langridge reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male) & Comma 3 in aerial combat along the Old Railwayline,Alverstoke;Brimstone(male)at Fort Road/Monckton Road;Small Tortoiseshell at Fort Gilkicker;Red Admiral at Stanley Park.

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male)at Stokes Bay;Red Admiral in my garden at Privett Place Gosport.

## Monday 22nd March

Lynn Fomison writes...This wonderful Oak Beauty was one of six species in my moth trap on the morning of 22nd March. The list on the web site of what is flying this month helped in identifying who they were. I photographed this Oak beauty on an oak log. Although it is pretty obvious in the picture in "real life" it was amazingly well camouflaged.



In the same way as it is a challenge to photograph butterflies on their larval foodplant or in some other way that says something about their habitat I think the same is true of moths. At the moth conference one good example of this was Maurice Pugh's picture of Pine Beauty on a pine twig - where it looked very much like an unfurling bud. Obviously for identification purposes pictures showing moths clearly are important & they need not have a thoughtful background, but when it comes to inspiring people to take an interest in the beauty & clever markings of moths the "perch" is important.



Oak Beauty

## Sunday 21st March

Mike Gwilliam has sent in this photo taken in August last year with the comment: "Whoops!! Not the ideal spot for a romantic liaison?"



Large Whites

Geoff Jones writes: "While I was out taking bird photographs Brenda 'phoned me to say she had seen and 'snapped' a Small Tortoiseshell in the garden perched on heather (that's the butterfly, not Brenda)."

Dr David Tinling writes: "Comma in my Haslar garden; Chiffchaff calling & 2 Commas at Browdown North; Small Tortoiseshell at Carters Copse. Spring at last, but only just: many daffodils & buff-tailed bumblebees (*Bombus terrestris*), but still no Brimstone or Peacock."

Charles Cuthbert writes: "One Peacock butterfly out in warm sunshine early afternoon at South Hayling Island on Sunday 21st March, my first of the year."



Peacock

## Tuesday 16th March

Mike Wildish reports from Thrupton (SU 295 455) (85): Brimstone(M) - 2 Small Tortoiseshell - 1

Greame Davis reports from Anton Lakes LNR (SU356466) (34): Small Tortoiseshell 5 Brimstone 2

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU745320) (43): 1 Comma "Only butterfly seen."

K L Jones reports from Stevens Drove, Houghton (SU 330 325) (84): Single Peacock butterfly. "Sunny, Breezy day, butterfly very active."

Chris Hall reports from Church Crookham (SU 81 53) (31, 43, 85): Brimstone (3), Peacock (2), Red Admiral (1) "Mainly on margin of Crookham Common, Brimstone in the garden. Also several bumble bees seen and wood ants emerging. "

Andrew Bolton reports from Axmansford, Tadley (SU 566607) (85): One each of Red Admiral, Brimstone, Comma & Small Tortoiseshell. "Also seen on soil in a herbaceous border was this caterpillar - does anyone know what kind it is?"



Unknown larva

Dr David Tinling writes: "Small Tortoiseshell at Carters Copse;Comma at the Hermitage Garden;Red Admiral & Comma at Ann's Hill Cemerery. At last Spring is trying to push Winter off its throne."

David Shute writes: "With a distinct lack of wild nectaring sources available at the moment I saw an enterprising Small Tortoiseshell feeding on flowers outside the florists in West Street, New Alresford on Monday 15th. A Brimstone seen at Bramdean Common 16/3/10."

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male)at Ann's Hill Cemetery;Peacock in my garden at Privett Place Gosport.

## Monday 15th March

Mike Wildish reports from Rooksbury Mill (SU 355 445) (8): Brimstone(M) - 1, and from Andover Town Centre parks (SU 365 455) (85): Brimstone(M) - 4, and finally from Andover Newtown Area (SU 355 455) (85): Brimstone(M) - 1 Small Tortoiseshell - 1. "At last - some butterflies!"

Matthew Oates writes from Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt: "Friends of the Straits be warned! The FC has just felled most of the sallows in the main ride, which hosted a spectacular flight of Purple Emperor last summer. Then, there were 210 large sallows - I counted and graded them - yesterday, I counted 61, most of which are too exposed for Purple Emperor.

The felled sallows lie in pieces below. If anyone wants to look for Purple Emperor larvae, for any purpose, then please help yourself: look on the buds and in forks, especially on the south side of the ride. For some years now the FC has been wanting to resurface this ride, to facilitate extraction of valuable timber from the wood's west end. Most of the sallows were rooted in the ride edge ditch system, which provided a bare clay seed bed when the ride was cut out in 1987. Sallows set in the ride-side ditches are a major issue for the FC, but why so many had to be felled here I cannot say, nor can I say why they chose not to talk the matter through with me. The really sad thing is that few of the retained sallows are suitable for iris, and other ride-side sallows elsewhere in the wood have been removed too. Further changes are happening as a forest harvester is extracting mature oak from the wood's southern edge. The message is simple: look elsewhere for your Purple Emperors this summer. The wood will get good again for iris, perhaps in 10 years time. On the credit side, I saw my first Comma of the year, and a fully-built long-tailed tit's nest."

Dr David Tinling reports a Small White male flying at Ann's Hill Cemetery,Gosport.

Mark Swann writes from Neverton Bottom : "A lovely day in north hampshire brought out a comma, brimstone(male) and a small tortoiseshell."

Lynn Fomison reports seeing a male Brimstone at MHD North. Patrick Fleet saw one in the South west corner of Extension. Patrick & Colin Beyer saw two Small Tortoiseshells in the same area. It must be said the whole reserve is looking very dry & lacking in nectar sources.

Andrew Bolton reports from Freefolk Priors, Witchurch. (SU 478485) (2): Brimstone 1 "Seen in a sunny sheltered hollow beside the river Test."

Gary Palmer writes: "In walkford( sz 217945) and highcliffe ( sz 206946 ) found 2 male brimstone in the mid morning sun, my first butterflies this year and long awaited."

Sue Bailey writes from 87 Hobb Lane, Hedge End (SU497124) (85): 1 Brimstone 1 Peacock 1 Comma "First butterflies of the year in my garden, all appeared within seconds of one another."

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Brimstone(male)at Carters Copse,Gosport and another at Browndown North.

## Sunday 14th March

Steve Mansfield reports from East Worldham SU7438) (85): Brimstone 1. Also from Kingsley Common (SU789377) (41): Dotted Border 1 male "Picking about or sunning itself in the leaf litter."

Peter Vaughan writes: "First butterfly sightings of the year for me here in Hook, NE Hants - a couple of male Brimstones on the wing. Also my Grass Snake sighting of 2010." Dr David Tinling writes: "Red Admiral basking & flying at St Mark's Churchyard, Gosport. This is only my sixth sighting of the year, even though the summer half of the year is only a week away. Although we have at last had a few frost-free mornings and the temperature has reached 10/11 Celsius, the wind is still cold and winter refuses to release its grip."

Nina Parker reports from the Winchester road, just outside Stockbridge (Winchester side) (90): 1 x Brimstone Butterfly "In flight. Midday. Sunny. Temp 13 degrees Celcius."

Dave Pearson reports from Alresford Pond (SU588331) (84): Comma "Slightly worn so obviously emerging from hibernation."

Andrew Bolton reports from Axmansford, Tadley (SU 566607) (85): Brimstone 1 "The butterfly season began at 12.15 on Sunday with a Brimstone powering up the garden."

John Watch saw a Small White flying in Stanley Park, Gosport (SZ592989).

Anne McCue reports from Gosport: Peacock at Ann' Hill Cemerery,Gosport.

## Wednesday 10th March

Dr David Tinling writes from Gosport: "Red Admiral basking & flying at Browndown North. On the first ten days of March there has been a frost in my Gosport garden, even though it is only 400m from the Haslar Sea Wall. Coastal winds have been very cold and penetrating, mostly from ENE to NNE. March has come in like a Polar Bear, giving no encouragement to butterflies to emerge from hibernation or chrysalis. Two male blackcaps have been fighting over my garden fat-feeders; one has been visiting since 28th Feb."

## Monday 8th March

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Small Tortoiseshell basking & flying at Carters Copse, Gosport.

## Friday 5th March

Paul Ritchie reports from Holiday Hills Inclosure, Bolderwood, New Forest: **Painted Lady** x 1 "Appeared to be very healthy with a strong flight, so much so that I was unable to get a photograph."

Geoff Rapley reports from Flexford Reserve (SU 424216) (84): 1x Brimstone, a fresh male. "In the sun - the first of the year for me!"

Brian Fletcher reports from Harestock, Winchester (SU471313) (86): Red Admiral, 1. "Seen from a bus whilst it was at a bus stop!"

## Wednesday 3rd March

Richard Symonds writes: "While attending a rehearsal for my forthcoming wedding at St Peters Church, Northney, Hayling Island (SU730032) tonight, I was pleasantly surprised when the vicar pointed out a single Peacock on the altar carpet. It had its wings closed but a gentle touch caused it to flash its "eyes". From its slow movements I believe that it had in fact been awoken from hibernation within the church. What a wonderful early wedding present! "

## Tuesday 2nd March

Dr David Tinling reports from Portsmouth: Red Admiral & Buff-tailed Bumble-bees, *Bombus terrestris*, taking crocus nectar at Portsmouth Cathedral, where two new bells were installed today and my parents were married 70 years ago.

Charles Cuthbert writes: "May I report a male Brimstone butterfly flying around my garden in Alresford for at least 40 minutes at noon today."

Alan Green reports from Swanmore (SU573165) (85): Brimstone 1 "My first of the year."

Nick Walford reports from Staunton Country Park (85): One Brimstone "First butterfly I've seen this year!"

## Monday 1st March

Martin Hampton writes: "A Red Admiral raced past a cafe window in Portsmouth City Centre."

Chris Hall reports from Crookham Common (SU 82252) (43): Red Admiral "Woodland track on edge of Crookham Common, Church Crookham. Short flight then basking in sunny patch, temperature 7 C. Several trees with dense ivy growth adjacent."

Simon Wooley reports from Winchester College (81): **Small Tortoiseshell**. "1 ragged individual."

Lynn Fomison writes that Patrick Fleet reports seeing a **Peacock** at MHD original. It is our first butterfly of the year at our reserves.

PS A request to all of you who visit the reserves please report your sightings. We love to know what butterflies, moths and caterpillars you are enjoying seeing.

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Red Admiral basking & flying at Ann's Hill Cemetery, Gosport.

Mark Swann reports from testwood lakes: "My first butterfly of the year **small tortoiseshell** at the lakes with another seen today in a garden in butlocks heath"

Mike Gibbons writes: "My wife Melanie saw a **Small Tortoiseshell** in Christchurch on Monday 1st March."

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## Friday 26th February

Stephen Harvey reports from Chandler's Ford (SU 444212) (85): Red Admiral 1 (on the wing).

Dr David Tinling writes: "On 8th Feb 2010 Peter & Margaret Bowker photographed a Red Admiral taking primrose nectar in their garden and saw a Small White flying over their garden at Kingston Road, Gosport, from the Hermitage Garden nearby. On the same day in 2008 two Small Whites were seen in Southampton."

## Friday 19th February

Barrie Roberts reports from Rockford Lake, Blashford (SU158081) (2): Red Admiral "Flying."

## Thursday 18th February

Sarah Patton writes: "It was super in the south east yesterday! I mentioned that butterflies might be thinking about appearing from hibernation and, sure enough, we saw a Red Admiral in Stubbington, Hampshire. Bet it has retreated again today!!!"

Penny Chamont writes from her conservatory in Kings worthy, Winchester: one female Brimstone butterfly "No idea how it came to be inside my house at 1pm."

## Wednesday 17th February

Dr David Tinling reports from Gosport: Red Admiral basking & flying at Ann's Hill Cemetery.

## Friday 5th February

Helen Brock saw a Red Admiral flying around gardens in Lymington this afternoon

On 3rd February Patrick Fleet showed me this Lappet moth caterpillar, writes Lynn Fomison, on buckthorn on the extension at Magdalen Hill Down. Patrick had first spotted it on 21st January & not unsurprisingly it had not moved far 13 days later. I was very thrilled to see it as Lappet moth is only seen at MHD infrequently. Patrick explained that once the weather warmed up & it got active it would reveal more of the bright colouration towards it's head. Waring ( Field Guide to Moths of Great Britain & Ireland) describes it as "most often found on small isolated bushes" as indeed his one was. He also describes it as "overwintering as a small larva". I guess this one was just over 2cm long. We hope we shall have the opportunity to watch it over the months to May until it pupates. Just hope it does not get eaten!



Lappet larva

John Moon reports from Norfolk House, Abbots Ann (SU329438) (85): Red Admiral, 1

## Thursday 21st January

Dr David Tinling writes: "Dennis & Christine Bohea were amazed to see a very fresh male **Small White** at 5.30 pm on Thurs 21st Jan 2010 in their kitchen at Rowner, Gosport (SU583203). It had probably come in through the kitchen window from the ivy covered wall outside, where it had presumably emerged from its chrysalis in the morning sunshine. This is the earliest ever Hampshire sighting, beating 8th Feb 2008."

## Sunday 17th January

David Shute writes: "I went on the Wildlife Trust Alresford bird walk this morning and we had a **Brimstone** flying along the hedge at Abbotstone Road. It's my earliest ever record for this species and after all this freezing weather I am amazed that it could emerge on the first sunny day."



Brimstone

Michael Skelton writes: "I was pleased to see a **Red Admiral** basking on the wall of a house in Boscombe (SZ1191)."

## Friday 15th January

Martin King reports from Poulner (SU156063) (85): Red Admiral 1. "Flying through garden at 13.00"

## Tuesday 12th January 2010

Peter Gardner writes: "I pulled my curtains back when this promising image appeared!! I hope a good start for 2010."



Snow Butterfly

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