The better weather saw an upsurge in numbers in Week 6, with 588 butterflies seen on the 34 routes (excluding the exploratory routes at Roe North and Roe South). This gives an average of 9.42 butterflies/km, the highest for Week 6 since we started recording in 2010. Breamore gave us the highest count of the year so far - 146, with nine different species.

Our first Clouded Yellow of the year was recorded at Barton Common. Certainly an early migrant, but in past years the species has been known to over-winter at Southbourne Undercliffe.



Brimstone at Janesmoor Plain Diane Strudwick

More Green Hairstreaks were seen as well, at Badminston, Studland Common and Holmsley. Holmsley had a very good total count of 52. In previous years this sort of total was not achieved here until Week 13/14.



Green Hairstreak at Badminston Kate Phillips

Fourteen different species were seen this week:

Brimstone (192), Small White (100), Speckled Wood (82), Orange-tip (65), Large White (52), Green-veined White (45), Peacock (17), Holly Blue (13), Red Admiral (7), Small Tortoiseshell (6), Green Hairstreak (5), Comma (2), Clouded Yellow (1) and Small Copper (1).

Results

Week 5: Total - 328. Week 6: Total - 651 (Both figures include exploratory Roe transects)

Acres Down 0 21 Hasley 1 13 Normandy Marsh 7 24 Badminston 12 19 Hawkhill 15 4 Perrywood Ivy 9 14 Barton Common 4 15 Hightown 0 5 Pignal 7 8 Beaulieu Heath 4 4 Holmsley 23 52 Pondhead 4 14 Blackwater 2 10 Ibsley 0 0 Pondhead Wood 4 6 Breamore 69 146 Janesmoor 6 16 Rockford 3 * Broadley 12 21 Janesmoor Plain 1 7 Roe North 4 23	W ₀	eeks 6	We 5	eks 6	We 5	eeks 6
Dibden Bottom 0 Keeping Marsh 3 7 Roe South 7 40 Fields Heath 28 22 Kings Copse 39 33 Standing Hat 7 10 Frohawk 2 9 Lepe 9 19 Studland Common 4 11 Godshill 12 18 Little Linford 4 16 Vales Moor 0 1 Great Linford 3 9 Mockbeggar 21 24 Warren Farm 2 10	Acres Down	21 19 15 4 10 146 21 0 22 9 18	Hasley	13 4 5 52 0 16 7 7 33 19 16	Normandy Marsh	24 14 8 14 6 * 23 40 10 11

Moth to Spot: Already seen this year, the Brown Silver-line (https://www.ukmoths.org.uk/species/petrophora-chlorosata/) is often spotted during May and June, particularly if your route takes you near or through bracken, its larval food plant. If disturbed, you'll catch sight of a pale moth making a short flight. Have a quick look where it has landed and you should see its distinctive form and wing pattern (see link above). Remember to add a note at the end of the form, giving the Section number and number seen.

Diary Date Reminders: A couple of dates for your diary, both of which are subject to the weather: **19 May** - Pearl-bordered Fritillary count, leaving Standing Hat Car Park (SU314036) at 10.15. Please let Jacky Adams know if you intend coming and car share where possible. **26 May** - Meeting at Martin Down (Sillens Lane Car Park (SU057192)) at 10.15, hoping to see some chalk download species, including Marsh Fritillary. Please let Bob and Jean know if you are coming and car share where possible.