

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT ANNUAL MOTH REVIEW 2015

2015 will be remembered principally for an extraordinary occurrence of a range of immigrant species across southern England in December, due to the prevalence of very mild conditions during the month (it was the warmest December on record), although windy at times, with a series of low depressions which brought dispersing insects from Africa and southern Europe to northern Europe: anyone who watched the Euro 2015 football final in Paris will remember the images of Cristiano Ronaldo being mobbed by hundreds of Silver Y attracted into the stadium by the floodlights! Amongst these arrivals was a crambid new to Britain, *Cornifrons ulceratalis*, being first noted in Dorset and Hampshire on 18th December and several others were recorded in other counties before the end of the month. Another remarkable event was a mass occurrence of the very scarce gelechiid *Syncopacma polychromella*. The year was relatively light on additions to the county's species list, with just two new to Hampshire (and the two counties) as a whole, two to VC11 and again, two to VC12.

On the Isle of Wight, 2015 proved to be a productive year for moth recording. There was continued considerable effort from a group of dedicated recorders and some excellent records were received from visitors to the county. This resulted in no fewer than 17 species new to the county (two of which were new for both counties) with a couple more pending confirmation. A wide range of rarely recorded species was encountered and some success was had with searches for target species. As for Hampshire, there was excitement right up to the end of the year as warm December weather brought with it a welcome influx of immigrant species.

Mike Wall and Jain Outlaw

Systematic List

Eriocranidae

2.004 (0009) *Eriocrania sparmannella* (Bosc, 1791)

Widespread in Hampshire, there have only been nine previous records on the Isle of Wight, to which can be added Nunney's Wood, tenanted mines on *Betula* sp., 3 August (DTB). Hersey Nature Reserve*, mine and larva on Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*, 2 September (DTB).

Hepialidae



3.003 (0018) *Map-winged Swift Korscheltellus fusconebulosa* (De Geer, 1778)

One at Luccombe Down (10)*, 7 Jun was the 4th record for the Island and the first since 1903 (IOu).

Photo left: Korscheltellus fusconebulosa, Luccombe Down, 7 Jun (IOu)

3.004 (0016) *Gold Swift Phymatopus hecta* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An individual taken at light on Wickham Common (11) on 28 Aug (KC) is 20 days later than any previously recorded in the county. GJD reported one from Lower Inhams Copse (12) on 11 Aug which was also exceptionally late.

3.005 (0014) *Ghost Moth Hepialus humuli* (Linnaeus, 1758)

There were exceptional records at both ends of the year. One was trapped at the Stour Valley LNR (11) by SA (det Tom Bennett), on 4 May, nine days earlier than the previous earliest record. In autumn, GCE took one in Chilbolton (12) on 8 Sep, equalling the latest ever date.

Nepticulidae

4.005 (0110) *Stigmella betulicola* (Stainton, 1856)

The only record was of two mines on one leaf of Downy Birch *Betula pubescens* in Botley Wood (11), 7 Sep (RJD).

4.008 (0114) *Stigmella glutinosae* (Stainton, 1858)

A leaf mine in alder *Alnus* sp. – described as having frass occupying nearly full width of mine leaving clear margins - at College Copse, Rotherwick (12)*, 27 Oct (GJD) is one of very few North Hampshire records.

4.012 (0102) *Stigmella aceris* (Frey, 1857)

Still a rarity in South Hampshire, so a mine in West End on Field Maple *Acer campestre*, 13 Sep (PBU). It is seen more regularly in the north, albeit mostly in the north-east. Two reports from GJD from Hook, 28 Oct, and in Pamber, 4 Nov (also both on Field Maple), represent an extension of known range.

4.027 (0101) *Stigmella pyri* (Glitz, 1865) **Nationally Scarce A**

One of the finds of the year: JRL, MRY and JEY found several mines at Mottisfont Abbey (11) on 3 Oct, one with viable larva, on Pear *Pyrus communis*. The only previous record in our area was 30 years ago at Horsea Island, Portsmouth (11) (also JRL). It remains a great rarity, known only from ten sites in the county.

4.040 (0074) *Stigmella assimilella* (Zeller, 1848)

A single vacated mine at Sinah Common (11) on Grey Poplar *Populus canescens*, 4 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) was the only report. Although this was the first from this site for a decade, Hayling Island is a stronghold for the species.

4.053 (0078) *Stigmella incognitella* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855)

The only record was of several mines on Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris* in Pamber Forest (12) on 4 Oct (GJD). There are relatively few, scattered records across all three vice-counties in our area.

4.059 (0087) *Stigmella svenssoni* (Johansson, 1971)

There are few confirmed records of adult nepticulids on the database, so each is notable. RJD can be thanked for sterling work in this field, and 2015 saw him confirm the earliest *svenssoni* on file, of a male taken at an MV on 26 Apr by KJW in Fareham (11). Of the nine adult records we have, the previous earliest was on 12 May.

4.074 (0021) *Ectoedemia sericopeza* (Zeller, 1839) **Nationally Scarce A**

A mine in the samara of Norway Maple *Acer platanoides* on 6 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) at Hen Wood, East Meon (11) was a new 10km square record and approximately 20km from any nearest previous reported site.

4.076 (0020) *Ectoedemia decentella* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855) **Nationally Scarce B**

One at Shanklin (10)* was the second record for the Island, 14 June (IOU).

4.088 (0036a) *Ectoedemia heringella* (Mariani, 1939) **Nationally Scarce B**

With experience this is one of the few Nepticulidae that can be identified as an imago without dissection. One to MV on 17 Jun in Southsea (11) (IRT) is now the earliest reported individual we have on the database; another at the same site on 25 Jun constitutes the second earliest.

4.096 (0030) *Ectoedemia arcuatella* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855) **Nationally Scarce A**

The only reliable site for this miner of the leaves of Wild Strawberry *Fragaria vesca* is in Hen Wood, East Meon (11), where mines with a few larvae were found again in early to mid October (JRL, BE, MRY, JEY).

4.097 (0031) *Ectoedemia rubivora* (Wocke, 1860) **Nationally Scarce B**

Another rarity for which Hen Wood (11) is the most regular haunt, where it was found again on its host Dewberry *Rubus caesius* by JRL and BE on 20 Oct.

Opostegidae

5.001 (0119) *Opostega salaciella* (Treitschke, 1833)

A miner of the leaves of Sheep's Sorrel *Rumex acetosella*, found mostly in dry grassland in the south of Hampshire. 2015 saw three records, all from South Hampshire (VC11): Southsea, 2 Aug (JRL), Ashurst, NF, 20 Jul (KG), Chandlers Ford*, 12 Jul (BE)

Adelidae

7.001 (0148) *Nemophora degeerella* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An individual seen by GD on 1 July at Andover Down (12) was the first July sighting on file.

7.002 (0147) *Nemophora metallica* (Poda, 1761) **Nationally Scarce B**

Of the 100 records on the database, 78 have come in the past decade. 2015 was another good year, and was found established in a new 10km square at Anton Lakes, Andover (12) in July (GD). It was typically widespread on the South Downs, being reported from Broughton to Magdalen Hill Down, but also in the north at Tidgrove Warren near Overton (12) (ABO).

7.003 (0146) *Nemophora cupriacella* (Hübner, [1819]) Nationally Scarce B

A very rare species in our two counties, but which is becoming an Isle of Wight speciality. No records were obtained from the mainland in the year under review, but on the island, with only three previous records (two of which were in 2014), another three in 2015 was noteworthy: one at Newtown meadows, found resting on low vegetation, 8 July (PBa), another at Bouldnor Copse*, 11 August (Natalie Bone det. MJW), with one at Walter's Copse, 27 August (SRP).

7.008 (0151) *Adela croesella* (Scopoli, 1763)

A rare species in North Hampshire, reported from two new sites in 2015: at Odiham on 27 May (TJN, CLB) and three days later in Longstock (GCE). Also seen on Martin Down (8) on 7 Jun (MHg) and at Wheelers Bay (10) on 9 Jun (ABu).

Prodoxidae

9.001 (0133) *Currant Shoot-borer Lampronia capitella* (Clerck, 1759)

One taken at light on Merritown Heath (11), 23 May (DF) is only the 11th record for Hampshire and 12th in our area as a whole.

9.004 (0137) *Lampronia morosa* (Clerck, 1759)

Even rarer than the previous species, with only five previous records, all bar one of which has been in the south-east of Hampshire, to which can be added another at Port Solent (11), by day, 25 May (DPH)

Psychidae

11.007 (0182) *Bankesia conspurcatella* (Zeller, 1850) pRDB1

After the discovery of a strong colony in a restricted area of Warsash (11) in 2014, cases and adults were again reported in good numbers from the same site, between 8 and 18 Mar (DPH). At least 36 cases were found on telegraph poles and fence posts on the 8th.

Tineidae

12.014 (0223) *Nemaxera betulinella* (Paykull, 1785) Nationally Scarce B

With only six previous sightings, the last in 2008, one in Ashurst, NF (11) on 5 Sep (KG) was noteworthy, and only the second vice-county record.

12.017 (0217) *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976

A rare inhabitant of woodland with decaying wood. One reported to the author by Ian Wells from Paulton Park, Ower (11) on 18 Aug was only the seventh record in ten years. There are no North Hampshire or Isle of Wight records to date.

12.021 (0220) *Nemapogon clematella* (Fabricius, 1781)

One at Shanklin (10) on 8 October (IOu) was netted after it was seen flying through garden. It was probably disturbed as a result of clearing rotten and fallen Hazel *Corylus avellana* in the same garden during the morning. Relatively common on the mainland, this is only the second record for the Island and the first imago, with the only other record referring to larval feeding signs.

12.040 (0231) *Monopis imella* (Hübner, [1813]) Nationally Scarce B

A rarely encountered inhabitant of the detritus in dens and nests, confined mainly to the coastal strip east of Southampton. Merritown (11), 23 May (DF); a male (gen.det) from Horsea Island (11) on 28 August (F.M.G.) and another there on 1 Sep (MLO, KJW).

12.047 (0199) *Psychoides verhuella* Bruand, 1853

Two-thirds of all records in our area originate from the Isle of Wight (10), where one emerged on 16 April from Hart's-tongue Fern *Asplenium scolopendrium* collected at Afton Marsh (SRP). Frequent at Stubbington (11) between 7 and 14 Jun, where DPH reported a total of 80 adults by day around the foodplant.

Gracillariidae

15.002 (0280) *Caloptilia cuculipennella* (Hübner, 1796) Nationally Scarce A

The first Isle of Wight record since 1948 was one taken by visiting recorders Mark Hammond, Keith Tailby et al at Cranmore SSSI on 5 June. Only the eighth for our area, five of which originate from the island.

15.010 (0288) *Caloptilia stigmatella* (Fabricius, 1781)

A very common species of sallow and willow *Salix* sp. thickets, but 2015 was notable for returning the first ever December sightings, both from Botley Wood, with three on 11 Dec and another on 18 Dec (RJD, MLO, KJW et al).

15.011 (0289) *Caloptilia falconipennella* (Hübner, [1813]) **Nationally Scarce B**

Unlike the previous entry, *C. falconipennella*, a miner of alder *Alnus* sp., is rarely encountered miner, but 2015 also saw the first December reports, having previously not been seen outside of October – and from the same location and dates: both from Botley Wood, single males (gen.det.) on 11 and 18 Dec (RJD, MLO, KJW et al).

15.091 (0367a) *Phyllocnistis ramulicola* Langmaid & Corley, 2007 **Nationally Scarce A**

Seemingly reported less frequently than in previous years (there was only one report in 2014), and there have been no reports away from Havant Thicket since 2012, where mines and cocoons were again frequent, mainly on Grey *Salix cinerea* and Goat Willow *S. caprea*, on 9 Sep and 13 Oct (JRL, IRT, SMP).

15.093 (0369) *Phyllocnistis xenia* Hering, 1936 **Nationally Scarce B;**

A miner of *Populus* sp. in two generations, first recorded in 2002 in our area and still confined to the Isle of Wight and the southern mainland. The smaller summer generation was represented by several mines present in leaves of White Poplar *Populus alba* at Carisbrooke (10) on 12 Jul (PBa), while in autumn mines were found at Gutner and Sandy Points on Hayling Island (11) on 4 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) and Great Salterns NR, Portsmouth (11), 10 Sep (JRL, RJD, IRT). DE reported one to light in Bournemouth (11) on 30 Aug.

Yponomeutidae

16.005 (0428) Willow Ermine *Yponomeuta rorrella* (Hübner, 1796) **Migrant**

An annual migrant, and probable occasional temporary resident, with the vast majority of historic records focussed between the second week of July and the middle of August. This pattern was perfectly replicated in 2015, and all reports were from South Hampshire: Alresford, 10 Jul (GR); Titchfield Haven, 10 Jul (RJD); Winchester, 10 Jul (THW); Portchester, 16 & 17 Jul (DF); Portsmouth, 17 Jul (IRT); Bournemouth, 17 Jul (DE); Itchen Valley CP, 18 Jul (MHa); Sway, 2 Aug (MHg); Shawford, 11 Aug (AH).

16.010 (0435) *Zelleria hepariella* Stainton, 1849

An imago found by day at Golden Ridge in Freshwater (10) is the second record for the Island, 6 April (SRP det. Steve Nash).

16.018 (0439) *Swammerdamia compunctella* Herrich-Schäffer, 1855 **Nationally Scarce A**

A very rare insect with only six records, half of which now originate from the Pamber area, following one to light at Lower Inhams Copse, Pamber on 1 Jul (GJD).

16.022 (0443) *Cedestis subfasciella* (Stephens, 1834)

Local in pine woodland and recorded from a number of sites around Hampshire but not previously from the Isle of Wight, until one was taken at light by visiting recorders at Cranmore, 5 Jun (Mark Hammond and Keith Tailby) and therefor a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**. On the mainland, all from South Hampshire (11), recorded from Merritown, 4 Jul (DF), Ashurst, NF, 23 May (KG), Botley Wood, 23 Jun (MLO, KJW) and Merritown Heath, 11 Sep (DE). The larva mines the needles of Scots Pine.

Ypsolophidae

17.008 (0458) *Ypsolopha alpella* [Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Quite scarce in North Hampshire, so records from Alton, 19 Aug (DBO) and Axmansford*, 11 Sep (GJD) are notable.

Plutellidae

18.001 (0464) Diamond-back Moth *Plutella xylostella* (Linnaeus, 1758) **Migrant**

The year was an average to below average one for this sometimes abundant migrant. However, as part of the exceptional late year migration activity, three December reports were received in 2015 and two were the latest ever: Shanklin (10), 27 Dec (IOu), and from Ashurst, NF (11), on 28 Dec (KG). There have only been 12 December records in total.

Year	Count	Individuals
2000	288	1,126
2001	190	325
2002	356	962
2003	568	1,487
2004	194	304
2005	208	293
2006	915	5,422
2007	339	762
2008	222	308
2009	928	2,914
2010	414	628

2011	276	345
2012	312	535
2013	680	1,484
2014	629	1,647
2015	374	597

Glyphipterigidae

19.001 (0470) *Orthotelia sparganella* (Thunberg, 1788)

Local on river edges and marshland. Two at Afton Marsh (10)*, 25 June were the first records on the Island since 1948 (JHC). Relatively rare in South Hampshire (11), so singletons at Merritown, 21 Aug (DF) and Hinchelsea Bog, NF, 15 Jul (MHg) were notable, and in the north of the county, GJD trapped a singleton at Lower Inhams Copse, Pamber* (12) on 23 Jul.

19.006 (0394) *Glyphipterix forsterella* (Fabricius, 1781)

An attractive but under-recorded moth of damp meadows, rare in the north of the county but unusually it was from the very northern edge that all three reports – all daytime sightings - originated: one on 29 and three on 31 May, Axmansford (ABo), and at Pamber Forest on 16 Jun (GJD).

Argyresthiidae

20.004 (0405) *Argyresthia arceuthina* Zeller, 1839 **Nationally Scarce B**

Colonies tend to be isolated on Juniper on downland, the moths being somewhat sluggish and best recorded through gently tapping the hostplant; as such it is probably under-recorded and there are only 13 records on the database, from which it has been absent for the last eight years. However, KJW visited Old Winchester Hill NNR (11) on 25 May and counted some 12 individuals beaten from juniper – nearly 40 years since it was last reported from the same locality (the only previous vice-county record).

20.007 (0409b) *Cypress Tip Moth Argyresthia cupressella* Walsingham, 1890

This adventive of *Cypressus* cultivars has only been present in the county since 2002, but is now consolidating its range up the Itchen and Test Valleys, into the fringes of the New Forest, with isolated communities on the Isle of Wight. 2015 saw the first 10km square records around Totton (11), with six between 23 May and 28 Jun in Totton itself (LH) and another in Ashurst, 11 Jun (KG). On Wight (10), singles were taken at Shanklin, 14 Jun and 3 Jul (IOU). It has become well established in the Pennington area (11), since first being recorded in 2013, with RFC reporting the latest ever adult, on 15 Aug. Numbers reported overall were slightly down on the past two years.

20.010 (0409) *Argyresthia ivella* (Haworth, 1828)

A rare inhabitant of old apple orchards, which has declined drastically in recent decades. One was reported from Merritown (11), 4 Jul (DF).

Oecophoridae

28.008 (0642a) *Metalampra italica* Baldizzone, 1977 **Migrant/Adventive**

After seven individuals in 2014, just three reports were received in 2015. MJB had one in Romsey (11) for the second year running, on 4 Jul, but singles on 18 and 22 Aug in Sherborne St John (12) (NJM) were over 35km from any previous report, suggesting that *italica* is probably now a low-density resident across the county. Observers are asked to carefully check any future sightings for the similar *M. cinnamomea* which is far more widespread on the continent than the present species.

28.020 (0650) *Dasycera oliviella* (Fabricius, 1794) **Nationally Scarce A**

In recent years confined to the north and north-east of the New Forest, one was reported from Totton* on 17 Jul (LH).

28.021 (0651) *Oecophora bractella* (Linnaeus, 1758) **Nationally Scarce A**

Not previously recorded away from Harewood Forest (12) before: one trapped on Wickham Common (11), 5 Jun (KC) was therefore a **new vice-county record for South Hampshire**, and only the third (out of 13 records in total) of the beautiful and unmistakable adult moth.

28.024 (0656) *Tachystola acroxantha* (Meyrick, 1885)

Recorded numbers of this introduction from New Zealand matched but did not quite exceed the record set in 2014, and while the population level in the north-east of Hampshire – the previous stronghold in the area - remains static, the species shows signs of consolidating its range along the coasts of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, where it was found for the first time around Ryde and in greater numbers in the Ventnor area.

28.027 (0653) *Aplota papellus* (Haworth, 1828) **UK BAP, pRDB2**

One to light in Pondhead Inclosure, NF, 4 Aug (RFC et al, conf. MJW). To have been absent in Britain for a century, and then for Hampshire alone to host five sightings, all in the past five years, surely indicates that this is a newly arrived

colonist and not a previously overlooked resident.

28.028 (0656a) *Barea asbolaea* (Meyrick, 1883) Adventive

This species is native to Tasmania and in Britain was first discovered in south-west Cornwall in 2004 although it was not identified until several years later. Records have largely been confined to the area of the original sighting where it is thought the moth was introduced to a nearby nursery with tree ferns. In Australia the larvae feed on dead stems of gorse but the food plant in the UK is unknown.

In July 2014 whilst trapping at Parkhurst Forest (10) IOu trapped a moth that was not immediately recognised. Although the specimen was photographed it was not retained. Tentative identification as *Barea asbolaea* was made by Steve Nash from the photos. However as other *Barea* species are apparently very similar identification could not be confirmed without the specimen.

Returning to the precise location at Parkhurst Forest on 9 Jul IOu trapped another (shown right). This specimen was sent to Martin Honey at BMNH for confirmation, which is awaited. SRP trapped another within 100m of the first trapping site on 7 Aug, that specimen was damaged but hopefully there will be others in 2016. **New County Record for Isle of Wight (specific identification to be confirmed).**

Photo right: *Barea asbolaea* (tbc), Parkhurst Forest, 9 Jul © IOu



Lypusidae

30.003 0660 *Pseudatemelia josephinae* (Toll, 1956)

Local in woodland in southern England, rare in Hampshire and not previously recorded from the Isle of Wight. The imago is only reliably identified by dissection; the larvae feed on Bilberry *Vaccinium* sp. within a moveable case. In Hampshire, one was attracted to a lighted window in Alton (12) on 19 Jun (DBO gen.det. Brian Goodey), with another claimed from Wittensford Wood, NF (11) on 27 Jun (MHg – not dissected). On the Isle of Wight, one was taken at Briddlesford Copse* on 23 June (JHC gen.det.) and is a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**.

30.004 0659 *Amphisbatis incongruella* (Stainton, 1849) Nationally Scarce A

Visiting recorder Chris Lewis ran a trap in Burley Inclosure, NF (11) between 24 and 26 Mar and was rewarded with Hampshire's sixth record of *incongruella*, and the first for over 30 years (when it was reported as common in Matley Bog). There seems little reason to doubt that it is still present and over-looked in such localities.

Photo right: *Amphisbatis incongruella*, New Forest, 25 Mar © Chris Lewis



Depressariidae

32.008 0709 *Agonopterix liturosa* (Haworth, 1811)

Despite being associated with *Hypericum* sp., widespread across the county, this distinctive depressariid has a remarkable distribution in Hampshire, almost as if it has an aversion to crossing into VC11. While there are records scattered across virtually all 10km squares in the north (one at Sherborne St John* (12), 22 Aug (NJM) filled in one of the few remaining gaps), there is only one further than 10km south of the VC11/12 boundary and only 11 previous VC11 records in total, to which can be added ten trapped on Butser Hill, 27 May (JHC). Elsewhere, a remarkable 27 were counted at a session at the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12) on 2 Aug (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson).

32.011 0704 *Agonopterix scopariella* (Heinemann, 1870)

A spinner of the shoots of Broom *Cytisus scoparius*, a male (gen.det.) taken in Botley Wood (11) on 18 Dec (F.M.G.) was the first in south Hampshire for ten years, and the latest on record. It is frequently reported from Freshwater (10) on the Isle of Wight, albeit not in 2015.

32.012 (0703) *Agonopterix atomella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) UK BAP, Nationally Scarce A

A scarce and decreasing species of rough grasslands and a priority species under the UK Biodiversity Action plan. The larvae feed on Dyer's Greenweed *Genista tinctoria*, living in a rolled or spun leaf. 14 of 18 records in total originate from the island, from where the only record received during the year was of two at Jersey Camp (10), 19 August (IM).

32.016 (0696) *Agonopterix propinquella* (Treitschke, 1835)

Another very rare depressariid of rough grassland feeding on Creeping *Cirsium arvense* and Spear Thistle *C. vulgare*. One at Leckford (12) on 12 Apr (GCE) was only the sixth in the past 20 years, five of which have been from North Hampshire.

Photo right: *Agonopterix propinquella*, Leckford, 12 Apr © GCE



32.023 (0716) *Agonopterix rotundella* (Douglas, 1846) **Nationally Scarce A**

One came to actinic at Compton Chine & Undercliff (10), 10 August (SRP). All but one of the 16 previous records are from the Isle of Wight, with three since 2012. Feeds on Wild Carrot *Daucus carota*, on downs and cliff-edges.

32.038 (0674) *Depressaria badiella* (Hübner, 1796)

Two males (gen.det.) trapped at Browdown* (11), 4 Sep (F.M.G.) A scarce species of quarries and rough ground feeding on roots and leaves of plants such as dandelion and thistles, records are thinly scattered across Hampshire but with only two modern day reports from Wight.

32.040 (0671) *Depressaria ultimella* Stainton, 1849

Like the foregoing rarely encountered, but differing in that 18 of the 23 records have been from this century and recorded annually since 2007, a trend continued by one to actinic in Chilbolton* (12) on 12 Apr (GCE). The larva inhabits the stems and leaves of species such as Hemlock Water-dropwort *Oenanthe crocata* and relatives, no doubt gaining some protection from the toxins in these foodplants.

32.044 (0677) *Depressaria douglasella* Stainton, 1849 **Nationally Scarce B**

Another species of grassland and waste ground on umbellifers such as Wild Carrot and Parsnip *Pastinaca sativa*. Trapping at the Hawk Conservancy at Monxton* (12) returned a singleton on 18 Aug (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson). Despite this being only the fifth vice-county record, the last three reports from Hampshire have been from the north.

32.050 (0646) *Telechrysis tripuncta* (Haworth, 1828) **Nationally Scarce B**

A very distinctive depressariid but seldom encountered with scattered records across Hampshire and only three previous records from the Isle of Wight, so two records in Shanklin (10)* were notable, both from the same garden which has a number of large Hazel trees with decaying timber: the first to light, 13 June and the second an evening observation on 29 June (IOU). The larvae are thought to feed on dead or rotting wood, particularly Hazel.

Ethmiidae

33.001 (0718) *Ethmia dodecea* (Haworth, 1828)

Just under a quarter of all records on file come from a 10km area which extends from Harewood Forest to Leckford down the Test valley. Although overall numbers were significantly down on 2014, let alone the exceptional year of 2013, Leckford saw the latest recorded individual, taken at on 2 Aug (GCE).

Cosmopterigidae

34.007 (0896) *Cosmopterix orichalcea* Stainton, 1861 **Nationally Scarce A**

One taken at light by MHg (det SKe) on the night of 11 Jun in Pignal Inclosure, NF (11) is only the 12th county record and the first for four years. The larva mines the leaves of *Phalaris* (canary grasses).

34.008 (0896a) *Cosmopterix scribaiella* Zeller, 1850 **Nationally Scarce A**

With only one previous VC12 record, two in one year was exceptional, both reported by GCE: Leckford, 20 Jun and Forton, 15 Jul. Titchfield Haven (11) is a consistent site for this miner of *Phragmites*, but 5 on 10 Jul were noteworthy; a singleton was also taken there on 26 Jun (both F.M.G.). One was also reported from Totton on 27 Jun (LH).



Right: *Cosmopterix scribaiella*, Leckford, 20 Jun © GCE

34.009 (0896b) *Cosmopterix pulchrimella* Chambers, 1875 **Nationally Scarce A**

This miner of Pellitory-of-the-wall *Parietaria* is reasonably well established on Wight (10), where it was first recorded in our area in 2006: in 2015, it was reported from The Needles*, 21 August (SRP), a new 10km square. It was seen regularly at Boniface Court, Ventnor, with singles on 3 July and 12 November, three on 7 December and six on 13 December (RWi). On the mainland, it is considered far less abundant: however, RJD reported a garden in Catisfield (11) on 1 Dec containing "abundant (100+) mines and spinnings on the same Pellitory-of-the wall plant that supported it last year, growing in the back yard of the house, and also on plants growing in a stone sink against the wall of the house, which was weeded in the spring. The population in Serpentine Road, Fareham has not reappeared this year." At Netley Abbey (11)*, TJN and LF reported two adults and many mines on the host plant, on 27 Dec. In both counties, the above represent the first December sightings of moths.

Gelechiidae

35.004 (0847) *Syncopacma taeniolella* (Zeller, 1839)

One swept at Tennyson Down (10), 15 Aug (SRP) is only the third modern day record for the island. Singletons also recorded in Southsea, 19 Jun (IRT), new for the recorder's garden, and also at Old Winchester Hill, 3 Jul (F.M.G.) and in Ashurst, NF on 15 Jul (KG).

35.006 (0846) *Syncopacma vinella* (Bankes, 1898) pRDB1

After the initial discovery of this spinner of the flowerheads of Dyer's Greenweed at a location on the Isle of Wight in 2013, it was found at a new locality where three adults were trapped at light on 17 Jul (IM).

35.009 (0850) *Syncopacma polychromella* (Rebel, 1902) Migrant

An extraordinary spell of warm weather originating in north Africa hit southern Britain in mid-December. Accompanying the warm air mass was a large number of rare immigrant moths including this species. Until this immigration event took place there were just seven records of *Syncopacma polychromella* in the UK. Between 16 and 29 December at least 69 were recorded including at least 18 in Hampshire and seven on the Isle of Wight.



In Hampshire, all in VC11, the first of the influx was in Southsea* on 16th (JRL), accompanied by ARC recording one in Southampton* the next night, and another in Chandlers Ford* (BE). The 18th saw individuals turning up in Lymington* (AHR) and Fareham* (KJW), and three to lights run in Botley Wood* (F.M.G.), with an exceptional four for BE in Chandlers Ford, followed by three there on 19th. KJW recorded further individuals on 19th and another on 27th in Fareham, while WB trapped singletons on 25th and 29th, the last of the year. **The first for the Isle of Wight** was taken at Totland*, 17 Dec with further singles at the same site on the next two nights (SAK-J). One came to light at Tennyson Down, 19 Dec (SRP). Two were at Shanklin*, 19 Dec (IOU) with the last one at Plaish*, 27 Dec (KR).

35.025 (0851) *Dichomeris alacella* (Zeller, 1839) Nationally Scarce B

One to light at the Freshwater Causeway section of Afton Marsh* (10) on 25 Jul (SRP det. MJW from photo) was a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**. Also reported from Merritown (11), 4 Jul (DF). Of the 53 records on file, 46 have been since 2000.

Right: *Dichomeris alacella*, Afton Marsh, 25 Jul © SRP



35.027 (0861) *Acompsia schmidtellus* (Heyden, 1848) Nationally Scarce B

Two reports of this rare downland insect: for the second year running from Old Winchester Hill, 3 Jul (F.M.G.), and in Magdalen Hill cemetery on 11 Jul (MJW, JC).

35.036 (0747) *Chrysoesthia sexguttella* (Thunberg, 1794)

While this is a relatively distinctive species as an adult, most records are of the larval signs in the leaves of *Atriplex* sp., and 2015 was no exception. A few mines were found at Great Salterns NR, Portsmouth, 10 Sep (JRL, RJD, IRT) with a single mine reported by RJC at Pennington, 1 Aug. In Milton, Portsmouth, 4 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) there were many mines, some with larvae.

35.037 (0840) *Thiotricha subocellea* (Stephens, 1834) Nationally Scarce B

A downland species associated with Wild Marjoram. The only record was trapped in appropriate habitat, in the cemetery adjacent to Magdalen Hill Down (12) on 11 Jul (MJW, JC)

35.050 (0752) *Aristotelia ericinella* (Zeller, 1839)

On Hampshire heaths, both in the north-east and around the New Forest, this is a common enough moth. However, one to light at Luccombe Down*, 2 Aug was the first IW record since 1975 (IOU). Additionally, three were seen at Headon Warren, 16 August (TJN, Lynn Fomison & Dave Cooke).

35.055 (0725) *Metzneria aestivella* (Zeller, 1839) Nationally Scarce B

The Isle of Wight had an exceptional year for a species that, apart from one in 2014, had not been seen on the island since 1983: three records consisted of one at Tennyson Down, 25 Jun (JHC - voucher retained and examined); two trapped at The Needles*, 10 Jul (SRP), followed by two at Main Bench, High Down, found hidden in the leaves of Spear Thistle, 14 Jul (PBa). In Hampshire, there was a single record from Southsea (11), with one to light on 1 Jul (IRT conf. JRL).

Photo right: *Metzneria aestivella*, Needles, 10 Jul © SRP



35.059 (0727a) *Metzneria aprilella* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1854) Nationally Scarce B

A very rare – and attractive - insect in Hampshire (there are no Isle of Wight records), with less than 20 previous reports. Two in one year was therefore very notable: Martin Down (8), two on 20 Jun (MHG); Magdalen Hill Down (12), 21 Jul (JA)

35.060 (0730) *Apodia bifractella* (Duponchel, [1843])

A generally common species associated with fleabane *Pulicaria*, mainly in the southern half of Hampshire: 2015 was notable for 23 records, a 25% increase on the 127 received for all previous years. Nine records from VC12 compared to only seven previously, bolstered by eight of 30 individuals from Andover between 16 Jul and 11 Aug (GD) and another from Odiham Common*, 20 Aug (CLB). On the Isle of Wight, with only 14 previous records, eight in 2015 was

exceptional. All records were daytime observations, by SRP unless noted: one at Walter's Copse, 3 Aug; two at Norton Spit and Yarmouth Harbour, 3 Aug; six at Bouldnor Copse, 15 Aug (TJN, LF & DC); Tennyson Down, 15 Aug; two were seen during the IWNHAS Entomology Meeting between Mottistone Heath and the Longstone*, 22 Aug; two in the south meadow at Golden Hill Country Park, 23 Aug with three at the same location, 2 Sep.

35.065 (0728) *Monochroa cytisella* (Curtis, 1837)

Relatively common on the heathlands of South Hampshire, like many micros *M. cytisella* is rare in the other two vice-counties: the Pamber / Mortimer area is something of an exception, where five of the previous 17 VC12 (and the Hampshire proportion of VC22) records have originated: to these can be added three individuals to light in Pamber Forest (12) on 30 Jun and 16 Jul (GJD).

35.071 (0736) *Monochroa lucidella* (Stephens, 1834)

A local species of wet areas where Common Spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris* grows. The year saw the first records for Titchfield Haven (11): two, 7 Aug and three, 10 Jul (F.M.G.)

35.073 (0737) *Monochroa palustrellus* (Douglas, 1850) **Nationally Scarce B**

First recorded in Hampshire in 1992, and still quite rare and very local, mainly found on the south-east coasts. The only sighting for 2015 was from a typical locality, at Stubbington (11), 10 Jul (DPH)

35.074 (0744a) *Monochroa moyses* Uffen, 1991 **Nationally Scarce A**

Two males (gen.det.) to light, Southsea (11), 15 Jul (IRT). Apart from one from Hengistbury Head, all records in our area have originated from the south-east Hampshire coast between Titchfield Haven and Hayling Island. A miner of the leaves of *Scirpus* and *Bolboschoenus*.

35.080 (0732) *Eulamprotes unicolora* (Duponchel, [1843]) **Nationally Scarce B**

A generally downland species, associated with Perforate St John's-wort *Rumex acetosae*, which needs to be carefully separated from *Monochroa tenebrella* based on details of the palps. Recorded from five sites in South Hampshire (11), with nine taken on six nights between 4 Jun and 23 Jul in Bournemouth (DE); Sway, NF, 25 Jun and 17 Jul (MHg); five records in Portchester between 13 Jun and 3 Jul (DF); on Old Winchester Hill, 3 Jul (F.M.G.) and a presumed wanderer was taken during a BENHS field meeting at Sandy Point LNR, Hayling Island* (11) on 4 Jul (JWP et al).

35.081 (0731) *Eulamprotes atrella* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

A widespread and regularly reported species, although confusable with the rare *E. immaculatella* and the common *Aproaerema anthyllidella*. 2015 was the best year ever, with 12 records, eight of which were from North Hampshire, distributed across the width of the county.

35.082 (0731a) *Eulamprotes immaculatella* (Douglas, 1850) **pRDB3**

First reported from Horsea Island in 2006, with another three in 2013, further individuals were trapped there by the Fareham Moth Group on 31 Jul and 28 Aug.

35.087 (0798) *Neofriseria peliella* (Treitschke, 1835) **pRDB2**

One trapped during a BENHS field meeting at Sandy Point LNR, Hayling Island (11) on 4 Jul was the **first confirmed record for Hampshire** (JWP et al.)

35.091 (0841) *Sophronia semicostella* (Hübner, [1813])

Singletons at Shanklin (10), 10 and 15 July (IOu) and one to actinic at Luccombe Down (10)*, 15 July (RWi) mark the third to fifth records for the island. The only other reports were from Hengistbury Head (11), where BH counted nine individuals on seven dates between 1 Jun and 18 Jul, and nearby at Merritown (11) on 3 and 4 Jul (DF).

35.092 (0793) *Mirificarma lentiginosella* (Zeller, 1839) **Nationally Scarce A**

The only report of this gelechiid associated with *Genista tinctoria* was of two at Jersey Camp (10), 19 August (IM), close to where this species was re-discovered on the island after nearly 80 years' absence in 2013.

35.094 (0796) *Aroga velocella* (Zeller, 1839)

Relatively common in the southern half of the mainland (from where there were five reports in 2015), one on 7 Jul at Totland (10) (SAK-J) was only the second for the Isle of Wight, and in Alton (12), DBO's record of 30 Jun was the 11th for the vice-county and first since 2010.

35.099 (0801a) *Gelechia senticetella* (Staudinger, 1859) **Nationally Scarce B**

A remarkable 60 of the total of 116 records on the county database originate from JRL's Southsea (11) garden. There are a further 13 from other sites close-by, in particular from IRT and JG. None were received from outside of this area in 2015, but the 12 reports ranging from 15 Jul to 18 Aug represented a good return. The only larval record from the county – on *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* - originates from Farlington, Portsmouth in 2005

35.114 (0812) *Scrobipalpa instabilella* (Douglas, 1846) **Nationally Scarce B**

One to light in IRT's Portsmouth (11) garden on 21 Aug was a first for the garden of this saltmarsh inhabitant.

35.131 (0829) *Caryocolum marmorea* (Haworth, 1828) **Nationally Scarce B**
One taken at light in Southsea (11) by JRL on 15 Jul was the 14th Hampshire record.

35.137 (0834) *Caryocolum tricolorella* (Haworth, 1812)
The last five records have originated from Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), including three from 2015: 11, 18 and 22 Aug (GJD). The larva mines the leaves, and later spins the florets, of Greater Stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*.

35.143 (0774) *Teleiodes luculella* (Hübner, [1813])
A common species, but a singleton trapped on 11 Sep in Burton, Christchurch (JSw) was the first September record in the database.

35.147 (0767) *Carpatolechia decorella* (Haworth, 1812) **Nationally Scarce B**
A rare (but probably overlooked) species of woodland and hedgerow scattered across Hampshire. Male gen.det, Botley Wood (11), 14 Apr (F.M.G.); one reported from Basingstoke (12), 30 Jun (GAH) was not supported by a specimen.

35.155 (0766) *Altenia scriptella* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce A**
The year under review saw three records, an exceptional total when there had been only seven previously. IRT trapped one on 16 Jul in his Portsmouth (11) garden, following others in 2007, 2010 and 2011, but notably, the year saw the second and third North Hampshire (12) records, from Fleet* on 22 Apr (CLB) and Basingstoke*, 1 Jul (MJW).

35.160 (0755) *Stenolechia gemmella* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Three records of this rare but distinctive gelechiid associated with oak woodland, all from South Hampshire (11): Romsey, 21 Aug (MJB), Bournemouth, 30 Aug (DE), Botley Wood, 11 Sep (F.M.G.)

35.161 (0756) *Parachronistis albiceps* (Zeller, 1839)
While relatively widespread on the mainland, there have been only two previous records of *P. albiceps* for the Isle of Wight (10). It was recorded on three occasions at Shanklin (the site of the first island record in 2013) with one on 1 Jul, two on 3 Jul and one on 15 Jul (IOu).

Coleophoridae

37.003 (0488) *Coleophora limoniella* (Stainton, 1884) **Nationally Scarce B**
Relatively frequently found when searching the saltmarshes of Hampshire, it is less frequently reported from the Isle of Wight (10). In 2015, reported from three locations by a visiting recorder: three at Yarmouth were disturbed from *Limonium vulgare*, 4 Jul, another at Hampstead, 6 July and ten at Newtown NNR, 8 July (all (PBa).

37.011 (0497) *Coleophora badiipennella* (Duponchel, [1843])
The report by GJD of a mine and case on leaf of English Elm *Ulmus procera* at Rotherwick (12) was only the fifth vice-county record. While frequently reported from the south-east of the county, a few cases and vacated mines at Gutner Point, Hayling* (11) on the same host plant (JRL, MRY, JEY) represent the first for this locality.

37.012 (0499) *Coleophora limosipennella* (Duponchel, 1843)
A generally coastal species on English Elm: a few cases and vacated mines at Milton Common, Portsmouth (11) on 4 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) were from a typical locality.

37.013 (0501) *Coleophora siccifolia* Stainton, 1856 **Nationally Scarce B**
One (female gen.det.) trapped at Old Winchester Hill (11) on 3 Jul (F.M.G.) represents only the 10th Hampshire record. The larval signs on hawthorn *Crataegus* sp. have not been reported since 1990.

37.019 (0502) *Coleophora trigeminella* Fuchs, 1881 **Nationally Scarce A**
Trapped in the same session as the immediately preceding species: a male (gen.det.) represents only the 4th Hampshire record, hot on the heels of one taken at Queen Elizabeth CP (11) in 2014.

37.028 (0510) *Coleophora juncicolella* Stainton, 1851
Four larvae from Heather sweepings at Headon Warren & Undercliff (10)*, 2 May (SRP) represent a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**. The sweepings were placed in a plastic box and the larvae were found a little while later as they crawled up sides of the box. Also reported from Browndown (11) on 6 Jul, when an adult was disturbed from heather (RJD).

37.033 (0516) Large Clover Case-bearer *Coleophora trifolii* (Curtis, 1832)
The year under review was the best ever with 44 records, beating the 37 of 2013. Half of all records on the database across the two counties date from 2011 or after.

37.039 (0523) *Coleophora hemerobiella* (Scopoli, 1763)
A rare species across the county associated with hawthorn, mainly found in North Hampshire. However, in the year under review the only report was the **first for the Isle of Wight**, with one trapped at The Needles (10) on 10 Jul (SRP).

37.048 (0518) *Coleophora mayrella* (Hübner, [1813])

One trapped on 12 Aug in Sherborne St John (12) (NJM, ♂ gen.det. Jon Clifton) is the only August record on the database.

37.055 (0541) *Coleophora pyrrhulipennella* Zeller, 1839

Found on heather, and therefore mainly found in the north-east of Hampshire and in the New Forest, the only report from our region in 2015 was from the Isle of Wight, where two cases from heather sweepings taken at Headon Warren (10), 2 May (SRP) represent the 4th county record.

37.059 (0538) *Coleophora vibicella* (Hübner, [1813]) **UKBAP, pRDB2**

The efforts of volunteer surveyors under the watch of DTB at Newtown Meadows (10) yielded a maximum count of 264 cases on 1 Aug; 227 were counted there on the first date of 5 Jul. These are the second and third highest counts recorded, although numbers are about a third of those counted during the surveys of 2013. Elsewhere on the island, three were reported from Jersey Camp (IM). On the mainland, two visits to the long-established colony at Stoke, Hayling on 21 May and then 23 Jun (JRL, SMP, JWP, MRY) reported 'very many' on the foodplant Dyer's Greenweed *Genista tinctoria*. This site remains sensitive to management changes, having been subject to both under- and over-grazing in recent years. The only other report from Hampshire was of six on 28 Jun at Frater DSDA, Foxbury (11) (KI).

Survey results co-ordinated by AMD at BC were as follows. These results may differ from the ad hoc counts reported above as constant methodology and survey date are required to ensure consistency between years.

SITE	Method	2015	(2014)
Hayling Billy	Timed count	68	(56)
Frater, Gosport	Full survey	-	(1)
Great Marsh etc, North Solent NNR	Full survey	32	(~10)
Warren Lane, North Solent NNR	Full survey	7	(-)
Snipe Marsh, North Solent NNR	Full survey	0	(0)
Park Shore, North Solent NNR	Full survey	15	(-)
Newtown Meadows	Full survey in 2015	264	(~240)
Newtown Brickfields	Full survey	6	(-)

37.061 (0530) *Coleophora lixella* Zeller, 1849 **Nationally Scarce B**

After a blank year in 2014, there were four reports of this rare and attractive, predominantly downland, coleophorid from both counties. On the Isle of Wight, where there have been only three previous reports, singletons at The Needles* on 3 and 10 July (SRP) were particularly notable. In Hampshire, there were individuals at Old Winchester Hill* (11) on 3 Jul (F.M.G.) and another in Southsea* (11), 5 Jul (JRL) – another new species for John's remarkable garden list.

37.070 (0583) *Coleophora tamesis* Waters, 1929

The only record was of a male (gen.det.), Southsea, 1 Jul (IRT). The second record for Ian's garden – the first was in 2009 – and representing the 11th county record. The larva builds cases on Jointed Rush *Juncus articulatus*, but all records in our area have been of adults to light.

37.075 (0575) *Coleophora salinella* Stainton, 1859 **Nationally Scarce A**

As the scientific name suggests, a creature of salt marsh, generally on *Atriplex* sp. Relatively frequent on the south-east coast, where recorded from Southsea (JRL and IRT), and Horsea Island, Portsmouth (F.M.G.) between 2 and 28 Aug.

37.079 (0574a) *Coleophora aestuariella* Bradley, 1984 **pRDB2**

In contrast to the preceding species, a truly localised insect of saltmarsh, first found in Britain in 1981 (and in Hampshire in 1996), with all ten records on the database being of larval cases found at Gutner Point, Hayling. JRL, with MRY and JEY on 4 Oct, and SMP and JWP on 13 Oct, found many cases there on Sea Blite *Suaeda maritima*.

37.084 (0566) *Coleophora sternipennella* (Zetterstedt, 1839) **Nationally Scarce B**

Another rare species associated with orache *Atriplex* sp. Almost certainly overlooked as it requires a specimen for identification, there have been only two previous records in North Hampshire before 2015; now two originate from NJM's Sherborne St John (12) garden with a female gen.det. Jon Clifton, 10 Aug.

37.090 (0577) *Coleophora artemisicolella* (Bruand, 1855)

In our area only found with any frequency in the Portsmouth (11) area, where cases and adults have been found when searched for with some regularity on Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*. Fieldwork has been more limited elsewhere and there are no records for the south-west of the county apart from one at Stanpit Marsh in 2005 and now another to light on 16 Jul, Bournemouth (11) (DE gen.det. PHS).

37.095 (0556) *Coleophora trochilella* (Duponchel, [1843]) **Nationally Scarce B**

The only report of this rare coleophorid associated with *Artemisia* was one trapped at Bouldnor Copse (10)*, 5 Jun (Mark Hammond and Keith Tailby – voucher retained): the first to be recorded on the Island since 1969.

37.098 (0554) *Coleophora inulae* Wocke, [1876] Nationally Scarce A

Male gen.det., Southsea (11), 13 Aug (IRT) – the second record for the site, the first being in 2010. Historically relatively frequent in Botley Wood, where its cases could be found on the foodplant Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica* but not reported from that locality since 2005. There have been no Isle of Wight records since 1969.

37.105 (0550) *Coleophora nutantella* Mühlig & Frey, 1857 Nationally Scarce A

Five cases found on the hostplant Bladder Champion *Silene vulgaris* on Portsdown (11), 5 Oct (JRL, MRY, JEY) represent only the ninth record for our area, with six from South Hampshire, two from North Hampshire and one from Martin Down (VC8).

Elachistidae

38.003 (0592) *Stephensia brunnichella* (Linnaeus, 1767) Nationally Scarce B

Found to be plentiful at Old Winchester Hill (11), with three records: 25 May, ten swept from flower-rich sward; 22 Jun, male by day, and another on 17 Aug (all RJD). Also seen on Broughton Downs (11), 21 May (MJB).

38.005 (0611) *Elachista triatomea* (Haworth, 1828)

The third record for the Isle of Wight: one to light at The Needles (10)*, 3 Jul (SRP).

38.012 (0617) *Elachista obliquella* Stainton, 1854

One recorded by the Fareham Moth Group in Botley Wood (11) on 11 Sep was the latest on the database.

38.016 (0621) *Elachista subalbidella* Schläger, 1847

A miner of a number of grass species, found in our area almost exclusively in the New Forest and the heathland further west, from where the only record in 2015 originated: Merritown (11), 23 May (DF).



38.017 (0622) *Elachista adscitella* Stainton, 1851 Nationally Scarce B

The fourth county record and a new vice-county record for North Hampshire, one was trapped in Basingstoke (12)* on 1 Jul (MJW, ♂ gen.det.)

Photo left: *Elachista adscitella*, Basingstoke, 1 Jul © MJW

38.025 (0597) *Elachista atricomella* Stainton, 1849

While quite a common moth in Hampshire, there have been only six records before the year under review on the Isle of Wight. 2015 saw this number doubled, with five in Shanklin (10) between 6 Jun and 14 Jul (IOu) and another at Jersey Camp (10), 4 Jul (IM).

38.048 (0632) *Elachista consortella* Stainton, 1851 Nationally Scarce B

Trapping on Horsea Island (11) turned up a male on 31 Jul (F.M.G. gen.det. RJD). An undoubtedly overlooked resident of meadows on Annual Meadow Grass *Poa annua*. Recorders are reminded that, as for all category 4 micro-moths, dissection is required to accurately establish identification.

Parametriotidae

39.002 (0906) Apple Pith Moth *Blastodacna atra* (Haworth, 1828) Nationally Scarce B

Despite the upturn in micro moth recording in the 2000s, this is one species where reporting rates have declined significantly. Of 103 records since 1980, only 35 are dated 2000 or later, with only seven dated 2010 or later (four of which have been from Hampshire). One to light in KJW's Fareham garden (11) on 4 Aug was only the second since 2011. Apparently a one-time commercial pest of apple trees (hence the vernacular name), it seems unlikely that this status is nowadays accurate.

39.005 (0903) *Chrysoclista linneella* (Clerck, 1759) Nationally Scarce B

This jewel of a moth was new to JRL's garden in Southsea (11)* on the night of 12 Aug. The larva feeds in the bark of lime trees.

Photo right: *Chrysoclista linneella* © JRL



Momphidae

40.005 (0889) *Mompha divisella* Herrich-Schäffer, 1854 Nationally Scarce A

A species whose numbers appear to be increasing, at a rate that appears real even taking into account increased reporting: 27 of 31 records have been since 2000. Two were reported in 2015: Sway (11), 8 Apr (MHg) and Basingstoke (12), 20 Aug (MJW). The larva creates galls in the stems of *Epilobium montanum*.

40.011 (0880) *Mompha langiella* (Hübner, 1796)

Two reports of the larval stages of this rare miner of *Circaea lutetiana*, both from Wight: Hampstead (10), 6 Jul (PBa), with a moth bred through on 6 Aug, and on Ningwood Common* (10), vacated mines on 5 Jul (Sue Blackwell). The fifth and sixth island records.

Blastobasidae

41.004 (0873a) *Blastobasis vittata* (Wollaston, 1858) **Adventive**

Since the first Hampshire record in 2009, there have been over 110 further reports, all from South Hampshire (11): 86 alone from the Portsmouth / Southsea traps of JRL and IRT (17 alone in 2015), and 24 from Hayling Island. The only exceptions are singletons from Funtley, 2010 (MLO) and Chandlers Ford, 2013 (BE).

41.005 (0875a) *Blastobasis rebeli* Karsholt & Sinev, 2004 **Adventive**

Another newcomer to Britain and Hampshire, the first a retrospective identification back in 1998 by RJD at the Moors NR, Bishops Waltham (11). It continued to be found here until 2006, since when there have been no further reports. However, it is now known from 21 tetrads, all in South Hampshire (11), from around Portsmouth and inland north to Old Winchester Hill. With 57 previous records, 20 in 2015 represented a significant increase. New sites were Horton Heath*, 15 Aug and 10 Sep (ABr), Southsea*, 21 Jul (JRL) and Botley Wood, 11 Sep (F.M.G.).

Stathmopodidae

42.002 (0877) *Stathmopoda pedella* (Linnaeus, 1761) **Nationally Scarce B**

This attractive but bizarre looking insect is associated with alder *Alnus* sp. The two previous Wight records were both in 2011 from Freshwater (10), to which 2015 added another found on a parked car on 9 Jul (PBa). Only slightly less rare in North Hampshire (12), where one in Sherborne St John on 16 Jul (NJM) was the eighth vice-county record. Also reported from Blashford Lakes (11), 15 Jul (RAC) and Stubbington (11), 10 Jul (DPH).

Scythrididae

43.004 (0915) *Scythris picaepennis* (Haworth, 1828) **Nationally Scarce B**

A downland species whose larvae feed within webs spun on Bird's-foot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and Wild Thyme *Thymus vulgaris*. There are very few county records, but Old Winchester Hill (11) appears to be a stronghold, with five individuals reported on 22 and 29 Jun by RJD and KJW.

Pterophoridae

45.001 (1488) *Agdistis bennetii* (Curtis, 1833)

An individual taken at actinic on 7 May, Brighstone (10) (Margaret Burnhill) was the earliest on record.

45.004 (1501) *Platyptilia gonodactyla* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

A widespread but relatively uncommon plume whose larvae cause characteristic wilting of the flowerheads of Colt's-foot *Tussilago farfara* by mining the stems. The only report was an adult from Pennington (11)* on 21 Aug (RFC)

45.008 (1504) *Gillmeria pallidactyla* (Haworth, 1811)

One trapped on 19 Aug, Pennington (11) (RFC) was the latest in the database.

45.010 (1497) *Amblyptilia acanthadactyla* (Hübner, [1813])

A. acanthadactyla has now been recorded in every week of the year, following one trapped on 27 Dec by JRL in Southsea (11).

45.013 (1508) *Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla* (Scopoli, 1763)

Found sparsely across all three vice-counties, associated with *Scabiosa* species. Two records, both from new 10km squares: one, Old Winchester Hill* (11), 22 May (F.M.G.); two by day, Tidgrove Warren, Overton* (12), 16 Aug (ABo)

45.028 (1494) *Capperia britanniodactylus* (Gregson, 1869) **Nationally Scarce B**

An important new colony – and a **new vice-county record for North Hampshire (12)** – for this very scarce plume whose larva feeds on Wood Sage *Teucrium scorodonia* in open localities was discovered by GJD when a night's trapping turned up 12 in a clearing in Pamber Forest* (12), on 30 Jun, with another five were caught on 3 Jul in the same locality. Appropriate habitat management is now being taken to ensure that the foodplant is not crowded out. In recent years it has turned up sporadically in the New Forest (11) with wanderers at scattered localities further east.

Photo right: *Capperia britanniodactylus*, Pamber, 30 Jun © MJW



45.029 (1493) *Buckleria paludum* (Zeller, 1839) Nationally Scarce A

Very much a New Forest (11) speciality, 2015 saw the only records originating from a new locality, Bagnum Bog*, with one flying on 3 Aug (Paul Brock), and he and GRE seeing at least 10 on 11 Aug there.

45.031 (1514) *Porritia galactodactyla* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nationally Scarce B

The single record was from Old Burghclere Lime Quarry (12)* on 18 May, where the characteristic larval feeding signs on burdock *Arctium* sp. were observed (GD).

45.033 (1510) *Merrifieldia leucodactyla* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

With only 14 reports this century, mainly from chalk downland, one at Sherborne St John (12), 29 Jun (NJM) was somewhat away from its main habitat. However, it was the second for the site so presumably a colony exists close by where Wild Thyme grows.

45.034 (1512) *Merrifieldia baliodactylus* (Zeller, 1841) Nationally Scarce B

Like the preceding species, a rare and fragile looking inhabitant of chalk downland, which was recorded from three sites in 2015, two being new: Old Winchester Hill (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Magdalen Hill Down (12), 11 Jul (MJW, JC), the most consistent site for this species in Hampshire, and at the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12)* 21 Jul (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson). Very rare and no doubt overlooked on the Isle of Wight, from where there were no records in 2015.

45.039 (1519) *Hellinsia carphodactyla* (Hübner, [1813])

Another downland specialist, the four confirmed records came from the Isle of Wight (10), with seven at Shanklin, Upper Chine on 2 Aug, and another in Shanklin itself on 3 Aug (both IOu), and from Wheelers Bay, singletons were light trapped on 3 and 8 Aug (ABu). The only mainland record was from the atypical location of Pennington (11), on the coast below the New Forest, on 2 Aug (RFC). This may have been a wanderer from the island.

Epermeniidae

47.004 (0484) *Epermenia aequidentellus* (Hofmann, 1867) Nationally Scarce A

Restricted in Hampshire to rough ground and dry grassland around the south-eastern harbours, making webs on Wild Carrot and Burnet-saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*, and the single report was from a typical locality in Stubbington (11) on 4 Jul (DPH).

Choreutidae

48.003 (0387) *Prochoreutis sehestediana* (Fabricius, [1777]) Nationally Scarce B

Reported from known localities on Cadnam Common (11), 15 and 28 Jul – when ten were seen – by MJB, and in Botley Wood (11) on 6 Jun (DPH). However one in Highland Water Inclosure, NF* (11) on 28 Aug (RFC, MMcM) was new for the 10km square.

48.005 (0386) *Tebenna micalis* (Mann, 1857) Migrant

After 2014's unprecedented influx which saw seven records across the two counties, 2015 saw an additional two records. On Wight, one disturbed from *Pulicaria dysenterica* at Freshwater Fruit Farm (10)*, 12 July (PBa) represented the third county record. KJW trapped a singleton in Fareham (11) on 8 Nov, the sixth Hampshire record. With two from West Park (VC8 – but in the Hampshire county boundaries) in 2002, there have now been a total of 11 reports in our area.

Tortricidae

49.001 (1013) *Olindia schumacherana* (Fabricius, 1787)

IOu recorded four individuals in the Shanklin area, Isle of Wight (10), in 2014, the first on 10 Jun being new for the island. It was found to be relatively common in 2015, with a further five reports of 12 individuals from his Shanklin garden between 18 Jun and 1 Jul. Widespread but local on the mainland, favouring damp habitats on ground flower such as Lesser Celandine *Ficaria verna*: one on 21 May in Chilbolton (12) (GCE) was the earliest on record.

49.003 (1012) *Sparganothis pilleriana* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nationally Scarce A

S. pilleriana occurs in two quite distinct habitats: damp heathland, typical of the New Forest (11) communities, from which reports from Hinchelsea Bog, 15 Jul (MHg) and Ashurst, 22 Aug (KG) were prime examples. but interestingly also in saltmarsh, where it is far rarer in our area (seven records for the south-east of Hampshire compared to over 60 from the New Forest historically): one in Southsea (11)* on 10 Aug presumably originated from nearby coastal marshes (JRL).

49.021 (0987) *Ptycholomoides aeriferana* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851)

A great rarity on the Island but widespread in Hampshire, although not reported from the mainland in the year under review. Two in Combley Wood*, 25 Jul and one in Shanklin, 13 Aug (IOu), representing only the fourth and fifth for Wight, were therefore quite notable.

49.042 (1027) *Neosphaleroptera nubilana* (Hübner, [1799])

As a category 4 species and therefore deemed externally very similar to a number of others, including certain *Cnephasia* sp., observers are reminded that a specimen, and likely genitalic dissection, are required to verify records. I have rejected one 2015 record and removed two others from previous years due to lack of substantive evidence.

49.047 (1030) *Eana incanana* (Stephens, 1852)

Two late records from VC12: one to actinic, Alton, 21 Aug (DBO) was the latest on file; another in Hurstbourne Park, 11 Aug (GCE) was the third latest ever.

49.052 (1022) *Cnephasia pasiuana* (Hübner, [1799])

This species has only been separated from the externally indistinguishable *C. pumicana* in the past decade or so, and records before this time often can refer to either unless they have been re-examined. The latter is probably a recently arrived colonist, either naturally or with imported goods. Since the split, the species under discussion has been found to be the rarer; a male attracted to light on 16 Jul in Sherborne St John (12) (NJM, gen.det. Jon Clifton) was the first for three years, and only the sixth for VC12.

49.075 (1052) *Acleris umbrana* (Hübner, [1799]) **Nationally Scarce A**

Previously absent from the county for some 75 years, now annual as a presumed migrant: there have been seven records now since the first modern day report in 2013. Four individuals were trapped in 2015, at Titchfield Haven, two, 10 Jul, Horsea Island, 7 Jul (both F.M.G.), and at Sandy Point, Hayling, on 4 Jul (JWP et al., BENHS field meeting).

49.079 (1046) *Acleris shepherdana* (Stephens, 1852) **Nationally Scarce B**

The Test Valley is a stronghold for an otherwise rare species in the county, and one on 20 Aug at Testside Lakes (12) on the Leckford Estate (GCE) was the fifth in that area in six years. However, one at Ambley Farm, Upton, near Hurstbourne Tarrant (12)* (GCE) was over 10km from the nearest previous site.

49.082 (1055) *Acleris hyemana* (Haworth, 1811)

A species mainly associated with heathland, particularly in the New Forest (11), from which reports from Ashurst on 27 Oct (KG) and Totton, 10 Nov (LH) were typical. One at Chilbolton (12)* on 27 Dec (GCE) was both an extralimital locality and exceptionally late

49.087 (1061) *Acleris literana* (Linnaeus, 1758)

While early year records are not unknown, those before March are very unusual. In particular, KJW's 25 Jan, Fareham (11) record was the first for January on file. Two for JM when trapping on Ashley Heath, NF (11), on 25 Feb were also notably early.

49.092 (0921) *Phtheochroa inopiana* (Haworth, 1811)

A relatively common species throughout, but 2015 was noticeable for a significant increase in records from South Hampshire (12), the 20 received comparing to 71 in total in previous years. A major contribution came from the 13 reports of 27 individuals from Sherborne St John (NJM), from 11 Jun to 15 Jul, including six on 1 Jul and eight on 3 Jul – the highest total we have for a single locality.

49.094 (0923) *Phtheochroa sodaliana* (Haworth, 1811) **Nationally Scarce B**

A species of Buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica* primarily found on the chalk of the South Downs, but which has also been found in three sites in the Basingstoke area since 2005. Three reports on 2015: St Cross, Winchester (11), 13 Jun (THW); Shawford (11), 17 Jun (AH); Basingstoke (12), 27 Jun (R&SH), 1 Jul (MJW).

49.110 (0938) *Agapeta zoegana* (Linnaeus, 1767)

One was recorded on the very late date of 9 Sep on Leckford golf course (12) (GCE), the only September report on file.

49.114 (0941) *Aethes hartmanniana* (Clerck, 1759) **Nationally Scarce B**

Visiting recorders Neil Sherman and Tony Prichard netted one on Martin Down (8) on 7 Jun, a very good record and the first for the site since 1992. The few recent records have originated from Portsdown (11), where it is well established, and Old Winchester Hill (11).

49.116 (0944) *Aethes williana* (Brahm, 1791) **Nationally Scarce B**

Formerly abundant on the coast of the Isle of Wight, where it is still recorded occasionally. On the mainland, there have been only two confirmed records in the past thirty years, so one taken and confirmed as this species at Martin Down (8), 24 May (MHg) was notable.

49.121 (0939) *Aethes tesserana* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

A rarely recorded downland species that has however been annual from the Isle of Wight (10) in recent years, reflected by reports from Niton, 16 Jun (Tony Steele); Tennyson Down, 23 Jun (JHC); The Needles, 14 Jul (SRP). More exceptional were two netted on Chilbolton Common (12) on 23 Jun (GCE), the first in North Hampshire since 1997 and not recorded from that site since 1984.

49.122 (0949) *Aethes dilucidana* (Stephens, 1852) Nationally Scarce B

Known from scattered records, mostly from downland, across the two counties. This and the following two species are very similar and a good photograph will be the usual minimum requirement for acceptance from new sites. Two records, from Cholderton (12), where it is annual, and again reported on 4 Jul (TJN, LE, HE); five, Martin Down (8)*, 10 Jul (MHg).

49.123 (0951) *Aethes beatricella* (Walsingham, 1898)

While usually associated with downland, records from the Portsmouth area (11) are not unknown – wanderers from Portsdown perhaps – and where again trapped by IRT on 1 and 4 Jul. Evidence for a colony in the Micheldever / Harewood Forest area was reinforced by one taken in Goodworth Clatford (12)* on 10 Jul (GCE). Records from Wheelers Bay, on the very early date of 8 Jun and again on 20 Jun (ABu), constituted the **first for the Isle of Wight**.

49.124 (0950) *Aethes francillana* (Fabricius, 1794)

Closely related to the previous two species discussed above, and in terms of records on our database, the commonest of the three. In 2015, the only reports were from the Isle of Wight (10), with five in the Ventnor area between 1 and 7 Sep (RWi) and another trapped in Wheelers Bay on 8 Sep (ABu). There have been no previous September records.

49.132 (0956) *Cochylidia implicitana* (Wocke, 1856)

One taken at light in Freshwater (10) on 7 Aug (SRP) was the first island record since 1939. The only other records for the year were from Stubbington (11), 4 Jul (DPH) and from the north of Hampshire (12), in Wherwell, 13 Jul (GCE) and Sherborne St John, 17 Aug (NJM).

49.135 (0963) *Cochylis flaviciliana* (Westwood, 1854) Nationally Scarce B

An attractive tortricid of calcareous grassland on Field Scabious *Knautia arvensis*, which is easily confusable with the more widespread *C. roseana*. There are only 14 previous accepted records in the two counties, to which can be added singletons from 'The Mountain', near West Meon (11), 17 Jul (F.M.G.); Leckford (12), 2 Aug (GCE)

49.138 (0964a) *Cochylis molliculana* Zeller, 1874

First seen in our area in 1996 (having been new to Britain in 1993), and now very frequent in southern Hampshire, *C. molliculana* has taken some time to make inroads into the centre of the county. However four records away from the coast in the year under review may indicate this is changing: Alton (12), two on 11 Aug and another on 14 Aug (DBO), and Leckford (12)*, 20 Aug (GCE) and there was another just over the vice-county border on Old Winchester Hill (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.)

49.142 (0960) *Falseuncaria ruficiliana* (Haworth, 1811)

A rare downland species associated with Cowslip *Primula veris*. Magdalen Hill Down cemetery (12), five, 11 Jul (MJW, JC), and just across the vice-county border at Old Down, Owslebury, two, 28 Jul (JA).

49.143 (1114) *Eudemis porphyra* (Hübner, 1799) Nationally Scarce A

A very local species principally associated with the oak woodland of the New Forest, Botley Wood in the south, and Pamber Forest in the north of the county. One in Fareham (11), 20 Jul (KJW) was presumably a wanderer from Botley; Pamber Forest (12), 16 Jul (GJD).

49.145 (1088) *Pseudosciaphila branderiana* (Linnaeus, 1758) Nationally Scarce B

One of the largest British tortricids, found very locally in woodland with stands of aspen. The only record was from Lower Inhams Copse, near Pamber Forest (12), a regular locality, on 20 Jun (GJD).

49.152 (1095) *Apotomis sororculana* (Zetterstedt, 1839) Nationally Scarce B

A very rare species of birch woodland on heathland, for which photographs are required for confirmation. There have been single records every year since 2012, to which can be added one at Merritown Heath (11) on 21 Aug (DF).

49.161 (1063) *Celypha striana* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

One to actinic on 22 Apr in Fleet (12) (CLB) was the earliest on record by five days and only the second April record in the database.

49.164 (1067) *Celypha cespitana* (Hübner, 1817)

Thinly distributed on dry grassland, both calcareous and acid, across Hampshire and rare on the Isle of Wight. Recorded in 2015 from Martin Down (8), two by day, 11 Jul (MHg); on the same night, two were trapped in Magdalen Hill Down cemetery (12) (MJW, JC).

49.167 (1068) *Celypha rivulana* (Scopoli, 1763)

A good year for a very local chalkland species: Danebury Hill (12), one by day, 17 Jul (GD); Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12), 21 Jul (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson); Basingstoke (12), 23 Jul (GAH); Cholderton (12), 1 Aug (TJN, LF, HE); Goodworth Clatford (12), two, 5 Aug (GCE); Martin Down (8), one by day, 9 Aug (MHg).

49.169 (1069) *Celypha aurofasciana* (Haworth, 1811) **Nationally Scarce A**

After being absent from our area as a whole since 1929, and not known from the island since 1875, *C. aurofasciana* has been found to be quite common in (FW)'s Ventnor (10) garden since 2012. It was again recorded there, with three records of singletons between 25 Jul and 9 Aug. IOu had another in Shanklin on 8 Aug.

49.179 (1080) *Olethreutes arcuella* (Clerck, 1759) **Nationally Scarce B**

An attractive tortrix that can be found in sunlit clearings in deciduous woodland but thinly distributed (and no doubt under-recorded). MJB regularly records it in Ravens Nest Inclosure, NF (11), and 2015 was no exception, with an all time high count of 25 seen by day on 6 Jul; elsewhere in the New Forest also trapped in Pignal Inclosure on 11 Jun (MHg). Another regular haunt is Stoneyard Copse, Wherwell (12), where one was trapped at light on 17 Jun (GCE).

49.187 (1098) *Endothenia oblongana* (Haworth, 1811)

This is an easily confused species, particularly with *E. gentianaeanana*, especially where the specimen is not in good condition. Acceptable records were received from Old Winchester Hill (11), male gen.det., 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun (GCE); Tidgrove Warren, Overton (12)*, 1 Aug (ABO, PDF det. GJD).

49.190 (1101) *Endothenia ustulana* (Haworth, 1811) **Nationally Scarce B**

A female (gen.det.) was a new addition to JRL's garden list in Southsea (11)* on 16 Aug. Previously pretty much confined to Botley Wood, in recent years there have been a scattering records across Hampshire.

49.191 (1102) *Endothenia nigricostana* (Haworth, 1811)

A good year for an elusive but relatively distinctive *Endothenia* associated with Hedge Woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*: six records is equal with 2011 as the best on the database. It is quite rarely seen in VC12, so five from the northern vice-county was unprecedented - this total was predominantly down to GD, who trapped singletons in Andover on 11, 12 and 30 Jun, and found another at Linkenholt on 21 Jul. At Leckford, one was taken at light on 20 Jun (GCE). Elsewhere, AH recorded one to actinic in Shawford (11) on 11 Jun.

49.192 (1103) *Endothenia ericetana* (Humphreys & Westwood, 1845)

Contrary to the specific name not associated with heathers but labiates such as Marsh *Stachys palustris* and Hedge Woundwort, and Corn Mint *Mentha arvensis*. Two from Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun and 10 Jul (GCE); Southsea (11), 3 Jul (IRT), where it has appeared on and off over the past six years.

49.193 (1104) *Endothenia quadrimaculana* (Haworth, 1811)

Widespread but local in Hampshire in damp meadows, and even more uncommon on the Isle of Wight: one trapped at Merstone (10) on 17 Jul (SRP, IOu, RWi) was only the third island record.

49.195 (1110) *Bactra furfurana* (Haworth, 1811)

Sparsely distributed in rushy areas of marshes and riverbanks, particularly rare in North Hampshire (12), so two records of singletons trapped at light at new sites were therefore welcome: Pamber Forest*, 30 Jun (GJD) and Cholderton*, 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE).

49.199 (1217) *Eucosmomorpha albersana* (Hübner, 1813)

The only record of this attractive but elusive orange-red olethreutid of open woodland was from Ashurst, NF (11) on 22 May (KG).

49.200 (1216) *Cherry Bark Moth Enarmonia formosana* (Scopoli, 1763)

The 25 individuals recorded in 2015 was the best ever, slightly ahead of the 24 from the previous year. Previously rare in the Isle of Wight (before 2011, there had only been three records up to 1948), IOu has now recorded six in the period in his Shanklin (10) garden in the years 2013 to 2015.

49.202 (1118) *Ancylis uncella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Local and uncommon in damp heathland where the larva spins the leaves of Bell Heather *Erica cinerea*, Cross-leaved Heath *E. tetralix* and birch *Betula* sp. Merritown Heath, 23 May (DF), Totton, 18 Jul (LH).

49.203 (1123) *Ancylis laetana* (Fabricius, 1775)

An attractive *Ancylis* associated with aspen. Merritown Heath (11), 23 May (DF), Dibden Purlieu (11), 11 Jul (RAC).

49.210 (1125) *Ancylis unculana* (Haworth, 1811) **Nationally Scarce B**

In recent years very much a species of downland: reported in the past from the New Forest but not since the 1920s. This change is curious and maybe casts doubts on the accuracy of these historical records. The year under review saw 12 records from ten separate sites, by far the best on the database. Three of these came from Cholderton (12), a quite regular site (TJN, LF, HE), but five at Barton Stacey (12), 17 May (GCE), the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12), two, 18 Aug (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson), and Tower Hill Corner, near Porton Down (12), 17 May (AJB) were notable. However, these were bettered by one seen by day on Culver Down (10), 23 May (TJN), which is the **first record for the Isle of Wight**.

49.221 (1161) *Rhopobota stagnana* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) **Nationally Scarce B**

A rarity in all three vice-counties, almost exclusively on downland, associated with Small Scabious *Scabiosa columbaria*. 2015 saw two records from typical sites on calcareous soils: Leckford old golf course (12), 12 Apr (GCE) – four were taken there in 2011; St Cross, Winchester* (11), 30 Jun (THW).

49.224 (1205) *Spilonota ocellana* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

May records are uncommon but not unknown for this widespread and common species. The year under review saw three, with the earliest, 10 May in Romsey (MJB), being one week later than the earliest ever.

49.225 (1205a) *Spilonota laricana* (Heinemann, 1863)

A larch *Larix* sp. feeding, very close (and only recently split) relative of the previous species, and much rarer or more likely overlooked. Candidate specimens can be separated from *ocellana* by typically being darker and strigulated with grey, but this is by no means a certain identification feature. For new sites, larch must be present in the vicinity, and preferably the specimen should be retained for examination. Three records submitted for 2015 have been rejected as not meeting these criteria. The following are accepted: eight, Wittensford Wood*, NF (11), 27 Jun (MHg); one, Southsea (11), 27 Aug (JRL).

49.230 (1151) *Epinotia trigonella* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A good year for this widespread but uncommon species of birch *Betula* woodland. Two records from the Isle of Wight (10), where it is particularly scarce - Cranmore, a site which has been productive for this species in recent years, two on 5 June (Mark Hammond et al), and at Totland, 30 Aug (SAK-J), the site of the first island record in 1995 - and four from South Hampshire (11), all reported by MJB, with three singletons between 21 and 27 Jun in Romsey and one by day at Ravens Nest Inclosure, NF* on 6 Jul.

49.237 (1144) *Epinotia signatana* (Douglas, 1845)

A rare (possibly overlooked, or misidentified) denizen of hedgerow and woodland on blackthorn and cherry *Prunus*, for which good quality evidence is required for record acceptance. Two were recorded at Titchfield Haven (11) on 26 Jun (F.M.G.).

49.238 (1147) *Epinotia cruciana* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A local and infrequently encountered species in Hampshire, outside of Botley Wood: one to light in Ashurst (11) on 13 Jul (KG) was of interest for the New Forest where it is rare. A singleton reported by JHC in Afton Marsh on 24 Jun is more notable as it is only the third record for the Isle of Wight.

49.251 (1146) *Epinotia rubiginosana* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851)

A pine *Pinus* feeder which is very rare on the Isle of Wight (10) – the following represent only the third and fourth records: Cranmore, 5 Jun, a male taken at light by Mark Hammond and Keith Tailby; Walter's Copse, 11 Jun (IOu). Also recorded in Ashurst, NF (11) on 23 May (KG).

49.256 (1138a) *Epinotia cinereana* (Haworth, 1811)

A recent separation from *E. nisella* whose distribution in our area is unclear, and reported from scattered localities on the mainland. The present species is associated with Aspen *Populus tremula*. The only record, from a site that has returned five of the previous nine records, was one in Botley Wood on 11 Sep (F.M.G.)

49.257 (1166) *Zeiraphera griseana* (Hübner, 1799)

Very rare in Hampshire (and not recorded on the Isle of Wight to date), and less than annual: one to light in Southsea, 15 Aug (JRL) was the observer's first garden record for 20 years.

49.261 (1157) *Crociosema plebejana* (Zeller, 1847)

The 65 records of 122 individuals reported was the second best ever, although eclipsed by the exceptional 70 of 283 individuals from 2007. Only 15 were reported from the Isle of Wight, and just four for North Hampshire. Generally considered to have originated as an adventive on Tree-mallow *Malva arborea* but while the majority occurred in August, which probably relate to the resident population, the strong showing in late November and December point to an influx of migrant individuals: prior to 2015 there had been only two December reports, but the year under review saw no less than nine of 14 individuals. The first and last records were both to IRT's Southsea, 11 Jun and 27 Dec, amongst 31 other sightings during the year for this observer. JHa's five individuals on 15 Dec in Bonchurch is the latest ever Isle of Wight record.

There have only been 16 records in North Hampshire (12), half of which were recorded by Alasdair Aston in Selborne between 1996 and 2002, so four in one year was exceptional (especially as the record year of 2007 saw none). Three were in the Basingstoke area, with MJW recording individuals on 12 and 28 Aug, and another for GAH on 31 Aug. GCE found one later in Chilbolton*, on 26 Nov.

49.264 (1202) *Eucosma obumbratana* (Lienig & Zeller, 1846)

One to light in Sherborne St John, 24 May (NJM) was the earliest on record.

49.267 (1200b) *Eucosma fulvana* Stephens, 1834

JA submitted two reports: two, Nether Wallop (12)*, 20 Jun and three, Leckford Estate (12), 25 Jun. Formerly regarded as a large and yellowish form of the smaller and more common *E. hohenwartiana*, the present species is difficult to identify with certainty and best bred through from larvae found in the flowerheads of Greater Knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*. Accepted records are scattered across the downlands with only a few outliers.

49.272 (1193) *Eucosma tripoliana* (Barrett, 1880)

Locally resident in saltmarshes on Sea Aster *Tripolium pannonicum* of which one or two individuals are reported in most years. One taken at Aubrey House, Keyhaven (11)* on 30 Jul (RFC et al), while in typical habitat, was the most westerly locality it has been reported from in either county.



49.280 (1170) *Gypsonoma oppressana* (Treitschke, 1835) **Nationally Scarce B**
One to at Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 11 July (PBa) was a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**. Very scattered and local in Hampshire on poplar, with KG recording one in Ashurst, NF (11) on 13 Jul, and also at Botley (11), 10 Jul (SBa).

Photo left: *Gypsonoma oppressana*, Freshwater, 11 July © PBa

49.284 (1186) *Epiblema sticticana* (Fabricius, 1794)

Local in open areas where Colt's-foot *Tussilago farfara* occurs. Reported from Coldeast, near Swanwick (11)* 13 May (PBu) and Old Burghclere Lime Quarry (12)*, 2 Jun (GJD), both new sites.

49.286 (1184a) *Epiblema cirsiiana* (Zeller, 1843)

Very similar to the preceding species. Rare on the Isle of Wight, where there have been only eight previous records, so one at The Needles (10) on 3 July (SRP) was notable. The only Hampshire sighting was one by day at Stoke, Hayling (11), 21 May (JRL, SMP, JWP).

49.287 (1185) *Epiblema cnicicolana* (Zeller, 1847) **pRDB3 (3)**

There are only five previous records in both counties, three in Hampshire and two in Isle of Wight. One trapped by Mark Hammond and Keith Tailby at Cranmore SSSI (10) on 5 Jun (♀ gen.det.) was therefore a very good record.

49.292 (1174) *Notocelia cynosbatella* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A very common and normally spring-flying species across the two counties although we do have records into August. However anything after June is of note, and the latest in the year under review were five individuals recorded by IRT on 16, 17 and 19 Jul in Southsea (11).

49.299 (1208) *Pseudococcyx posticana* (Zetterstedt, 1839) **Nationally Scarce B**

A very rare (especially outside the New Forest) inhabitant of coniferous woodland. There were three individuals caught at light in typical habitat in 2015, both in South Hampshire (11): Foxbury Common NT, 21 Jul (T Walker, P Durnell, M Pugh, R Lemon, A Page), Ashurst, NF*, 10 Jun (KG), Foxbury, NF, 21 Jul (Wild New Forest team).

49.309 (1285) *Dichrorampha plumbana* (Scopoli, 1763)

This is a category 4 (dissection required) species, although there are quite a few historic records (how many are accurate is difficult to ascertain). One was claimed from Compton Chine on 4 Jun (SRP): if confirmed, the first Isle of Wight record since an indeterminately dated report in Norriss & Goater, 2001 attributed to RJD from the 1970s.

49.311 (1287) *Dichrorampha aeratana* (Pierce & Metcalfe, 1915)

Another *Dichrorampha* that needs dissection to accurately confirm identification. The only such was a ♂ netted at Old Winchester Hill (11)* on 29 Jun (RJD), a new site albeit in typical downland habitat. Rare away from the Botley Wood / Swanwick area of south Hampshire.

49.313 (1279) *Dichrorampha acuminatana* (Lienig & Zeller, 1846)

In Hampshire, quite a common moth of gardens, wasteland and downland around Ox-eye Daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and Tansy *Tanacetum vulgare*, but much less frequently reported from the Isle of Wight, so one to actinic at Steephill, Ventnor, 23 July (FLW) was noteworthy.

49.316 (1278) *Dichrorampha sequana* (Hübner, 1799)

One seen by day at Rooksbury Mill, Andover on 22 Jul (GD) was the latest on file by three days.

49.318 (1284) *Dichrorampha vancouverana* McDunnough, 1935

Locally common in grassy areas with Tansy and Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*. This attractive moth was seen in good numbers during 2015, with 20 records in total being by far the highest annual total, even if 14 of those came from IRT's Southsea (11) garden, with 20 individuals between 4 Jul and 20 Aug.

49.330 (1269) *Cydia conicolana* (Heylaerts, 1874) Nationally Scarce B

Found in scattered pine woodland locations across Hampshire and therefore absent from much of the centre of the county where such habitat does not exist. The only report was of three individuals trapped in Ashurst, NF* (11) between 15 and 22 May (KG).

49.332 (1268) *Cydia coniferana* (Ratzeburg, 1840) Nationally Scarce B

Another species of pine woodland, the larva feeding within the bark of Scots Pine *Pinus sylvestris*. Very rare in Hampshire but one at Shanklin Upper Chine*, 14 Jul (IOu) was a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**.

Photo right: *Cydia coniferana*, Shanklin, 14 July (IOu)



49.339 (1256) *Cydia servillana* (Duponchel, 1836) Nationally Scarce B

The second county record for the Isle of Wight was one at Bouldnor Copse*, 5 June (Mark Hammond and Keith Tailby). Not seen in Hampshire in the year under the review, where it has been found in scattered localities, not uncommonly in the Botley Wood area in the past. The species is most easily found by the larval galls in the shoots of Grey *Salix cinerea* and Goat Willow *S. caprea*.

49.342 (1259) *Cydia fagiglandana* (Zeller, 1841)

A common and widespread moth of gardens and woodland on the mainland, but before the year under review there had been only 11 previous reports from the Isle of Wight: 2015 saw three more with one at Shanklin*, 11 June and another at Shanklin Upper Chine, 14 July (both IOu). Ten at Parkhurst Forest, 7 Aug (IOu) was by far the highest island count. It was more than usually abundant in Hampshire, and the total of 78 records was the highest ever.

49.343 (1262) *Cydia amplana* (Hübner, 1799) Migrant

An often relatively common immigrant – 2012 saw 138 records, with 62 in 2014 – which exceptionally was virtually absent in the year under review: three is the worst return since the two of 2003. RFC had individuals on 16 and 21 Aug in Pennington (11), and nearby in Sway, one on 22 Aug (MHg). These may well represent a small resident population rather than migrants, as RFC has reported this species annually since 2004.

49.3431 (1215) False Codling Moth *Thaumatotibia leucotreta* (Meyrick, 1913) Adventive

The seventh Hampshire and third North Hampshire record of this known adventive (notwithstanding that four have been trapped at light in gardens), was one to actinic in DBO's Alton (12)* garden on 4 Jul.

49.349 (1242) *Grapholita internana* (Guenée, 1845)

Locally common on heathland in south-west and coastal Hampshire, less frequent elsewhere. Hincheslea Moor, NF, and Sway, NF (11), both on 23 May (MHg); Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 21 May (JRL, SMP, JWP, IRT).



49.350 (1240) *Grapholita caecana* (Schläger, 1847) pRDB3

A very rare species with only five previous records in Hampshire, which makes the six individuals from four records in 2015 quite exceptional: Shawford (11), 14 Jun (AH), the fifth vice-county record; in North Hampshire (12), those at Quarley, two on the nights of both 11 and 16 Jun (JA conf. GCE) and Chilcomb, 21 Jun (JA) were the second to fifth VC records.

Photo left: *G. caecana*, Quarley, 11 Jun (JA)

49.356 (1249) *Grapholita lobarzewskii* (Nowicki, 1860) Nationally Scarce A

Being a relatively new arrival to the country's lepidoptera fauna *G. lobarzewskii* arguably does not deserve a nationally scarce status, and records are increasing year on year to the point that this may be the last time it gets a mention in this annual review: 2015 saw 14 reports from Southsea to Basingstoke, although only one in Romsey (11), on 4 Jul (MJB), was from a new 10km square.

49.365 (1229) *Pammene albuginana* (Guenée, 1845)

Three records, all from South Hampshire (11): Merritown Heath, 4 Jul (DF), Ashurst, NF, 29 May (KG); Pennington*, 11 Jun (RFC); Totton, 19 Jun (LH).

49.374 (1235) *Pammene trauniana* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nationally Scarce A

A very rare moth in Hampshire (and not recorded from the Isle of Wight), with the following being only the seventh for the county, and second for North Hampshire: Goodworth Clatford (12), 23 May (GCE conf. MJW).

49.377 (1237) *Pammene germmana* (Hübner, 1799)

First reported from the Isle of Wight (10) in 2012, which were followed by another two records in 2014, so a further four received for 2015 was noteworthy for this at first glance nondescript but subtly marked denizen of hedgerow and open woodland. Singles at Shanklin, 7 and 21 Jun, two at Freshwater Fruit Farm*, 19 June and four at Parkhurst Forest*, 9 Jul (all IOu). Not infrequent on the mainland, but one at Hen Wood, East Meon (11)*, 24 Jun (JRL, MRY, BE) was new for the 10km square.

49.382 (1222) *Strophedra nitidana* (Fabricius, 1794)

The Harewood Forest area ([12](#)) has seen previous records of this very elusive species of mature woodland, but not for over a decade, so good to receive the following, both from GCE's efforts in trapping on private sites in the Test valley: Longparish, 19 Jun and Wherwell, 13 Jul.

Cossidae

50.001 (0162) Goat Moth *Cossus cossus* (Linnaeus, 1758) **UK BAP**

Five records, three of larvae, and all from the New Forest ([11](#)), as is usual: a half-grown larva in Ladycross Inclosure, 30 Jun (PBk), an adult to light in New Milton, 16 Jul (Robin Harley), in Bransgore, an adult found by the family cat at base of an oak tree on 31 Jul and two wandering larva there on 21 Aug (SCu) and in the north of the Forest, a larva on 24 Sep in Cadnam (George Willes)

Limacodidae

53.001 (0173) Festoon *Apoda limacodes* (Hufnagel, 1766) **Nb**

A very good year for The Festoon, which had its second best year ever (beaten only by 2006 in Hampshire), and the 19 records of 27 individuals in the Isle of Wight nearly doubled the previous best of 2014 – it was recorded at The Needles ([10](#))* for the first time ever on 15 Jul (SRP). While numbers were reasonable in North Hampshire, they were not however exceptional.

53.002 (0174) Triangle *Heterogenea asella* (Denis & Schiffmüller, 1775) **RDB3**

One of the finds of the year in either county was the discovery of not one but two previously unknown populations of this very rare Red Data Book species on the Isle of Wight. The first, and therefore a **new county record for the Isle of Wight** ([10](#)), were three ♀ to MV at Parkhurst Forest* on 7 Aug (IOu). Two days later one ♀ and one ♂ were taken at different locations in Briddlesford Copse*, 9 Aug (IOu, JHa, SRP). On the mainland, after a number of years in the doldrums, *asella* appears to be on the upturn: the year saw three reports, with one in Lymington* ([11](#)), 13 Aug (AHR) being a new site to the south of the New Forest. Also reported from established locales at Wickham Common ([11](#)), ♀, 9 Aug (KC) and West Walk ([11](#)), 14 Jul (KJW, MLO).

Zygaenidae

54.002 (0163) Forester *Adscita statices* (Linnaeus, 1758) **UK BAP**

The long established population on Odiham Common ([12](#)) continues, although only two reports were received: 17 by day on 23 May (Colin Baker), and a minimum count of 50 by Tony Baines on 27 May. JA reported one (unusually to light) on the Leckford Estate at Longstock ([12](#)) on 19 Jun, and GD saw one at Stockbridge on 23 Jul. On Martin Down ([8](#)), individuals were seen by day on 29 Jun (PBk) and another, 11 Jul (MHg).

54.003 (0164) Cistus Forester *Adscita geryon* (Hübner, 1793)

The colony on West Down, Chilbolton ([12](#)) continues to be the stronghold of this very local species in Hampshire, where it was reported on six dates between 23 May and 4 Jun (GCE, SLE), although the maximum count was seven on 26 May (TJN, LF). The latter observers also saw three on 30 May on the Cholderton Estate ([12](#)).

54.010 (0170) Five-spot Burnet *Zygaena trifolii* (Esper, 1783)

An oft misreported species – most reports turn out to be erroneous confusion with *lonicerae*, especially away from chalkland sites – but safe records for 2015 were received from the Cholderton Estate ([12](#)), 30 May (TJN, LF), when 20 were counted, and a singleton at the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton ([12](#)) on 8 Jun (Monica Johnson conf TJN).

54.009 (0171) Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet *Zygaena lonicerae* (Scheven, 1777)

Far more common and widespread than the Five-spot Burnet: colonies of 'five-spot burnets' encountered off the chalk are more than likely to be this species. Reporting levels are less than annual on the Isle of Wight ([10](#)) however, so two records of singletons were welcome: Osbourne House, 29 May (Adam Landy) and a single larva at Niton*, 10 Jun (Mel Bellingham). There was only one report from North Hampshire, of two at Blackmoor ([12](#)), 27 Jun (SM).

Pyralidae

62.005 (1426) Lesser Wax Moth *Achroia grisella* (Fabricius, 1794)

Quite local, primarily in southern Hampshire, and while intrinsically a plain moth, this is quite easy to identify so not likely to be under-recorded. The year under review saw three records: Ashurst, NF ([11](#)), 6 Jul (KG); Fareham, 11 Jun, 2 Aug (KJW); Studland Common ([11](#)), 17 Aug (RFC, MMcM).

62.007 (1433) *Cryptoblabes bistriga* (Haworth, 1811)

Widespread in oak woodland throughout much of Hampshire nowadays, having seen an apparent marked increase in numbers in the 21st century: 2015 was the best year ever in total with 50 records of 76 individuals. The Isle of Wight (10) saw a highest ever eight records of nine individuals: two, Freshwater, 15 Aug (TJN, DC), Afton Marsh, 17 Aug (JHa) and six in Shanklin, between 13 Jun and 21 Aug 2015, to IOU's garden. Most frequent in South Hampshire (11), where the 35 records of 46 moths was only slightly lower than that of 2006: the bulk of records were received were from the Dorset heaths eastward to Southsea and Hayling Island. Singletons in Southsea on 27 Sep (JRL) and Romsey, 28 Sep (MJB) were the latest recorded. In North Hampshire (12), 20 individuals were reported on six occasions: GCE trapped one at Leckford, 11 Jun, three near Wherwell on 17 Jun and another near Whitchurch on 27 Jun, and in Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber, GJD trapped five on three nights: 14, 18 and 22 Aug.

62.010 (1449) *Elegia similella* (Zincken, 1818) **Nationally Scarce B**

A distinctive moth, black with contrasting white cross-lines (although there is a very rare vagrant congener, *E. fallax*, of which the only British specimen was trapped in Stubbington in 2011 – April records should be checked carefully), found in oak woodland. In Hampshire not uncommon in the south but rather more scarce in the north and on the Isle of Wight. Records from the Isle of Wight (10) as follows: Freshwater Fruit Farm, 11 Jul (PBa); Dunnage Copse, four, 23 Jun (JHC), and in the north of Hampshire (12), from Chilbolton, 3 Jul, Wherwell, two, 17 Jun, Forton, Longparish, 15 Jul (all GCE), Crux Easton, two, 18 Jul (MJW, ACr), and Pamber Forest, 3 Jul (GJD).

62.011 (1450) *Ortholepis betulae* (Goeze, 1778) **Nationally Scarce B**

An infrequent inhabitant of birch growing on heathland, which needs to be carefully distinguished from the more common *Matilella fusca* and *Apomyelois bistratella*. One record accepted: Ashurst, NF (11), 15 Jul (KG)

62.021 (1441) *Oncocera semirubella* (Scopoli, 1763) **Nationally Scarce B**

An attractive and unmistakable moth of chalk downland, although probably most, if not all, sightings in the Hampshire mainland relate to primary dispersal from the Isle of Wight resident population or perhaps the continent. On the Isle of Wight (10), four were trapped at Castle Cove, Ventnor, on 22 Jul, and good numbers were recorded on the Bonchurch Landslip: seven on 1 Jul, ten, 5 Jul, with 15 on the nights of 11 and 23 Jul and three on 6 Aug (all RWi). In South Hampshire (11), singletons were reported from Merritown Heath, 3 Jul (DF), Ashurst, NF, 21 Jul (KG), Botley, 6 and 7 Aug (SBa) and at Bransgore, 15 Jul (SCu).

62.022 (1443) *Pempelia genistella* (Duponchel, 1836) **Nationally Scarce B**

Associated with gorse, and predominantly recorded within a few miles of the coast, or otherwise in the far north-east of Hampshire. Records received for 2015 fitted this pattern: Headon Warren (10), 9 Jul (PBa); Titchfield Haven NNR (11), four, 10 Jul and five, 7 Aug (both F.M.G.), West Walk (11), 28 Jul (MLO, KJW), Portsmouth (11), 23 Jul (IRT), Hengistbury Head (11), 16 and 21 Jul, 3 Aug (BH), Steamer Point (11), 27 Jun (PBu), Sway (11), 21 Jul (MHg), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), (JWP et al); Pamber Forest (12), 3 Jul (GJD).

62.023 (1442) *Pempelia palumbella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

A fairly common heathland species, particularly in the New Forest and north-east. One trapped on Browdown Coastal Ranges (11) on 25 Sep (KI, MLO, KJW) was the latest individual for our area by 13 days.

62.024 (1445) *Rhodophaea formosa* (Haworth, 1811)

Like the larval foodplant, elm *Ulmus* sp., this species has a scattered distribution across the two counties, and in 2015 this was reflected by reports from single sites in each of the three vice-counties: Shanklin (10), 16 Jul (IOu); Blashford Lakes (11), 16 Jul (RAC), Romsey (11), 21 Jun and 9 Jul (MJB); Hurstbourne Park (12), 14 Jul (GCE).

62.025 (1454b) *Dioryctria sylvestrella* (Ratzeburg, 1840) **Nationally Scarce B**

One of the four closely related *Dioryctria* species which occur in our country, and needs careful examination to separate from *D. abietella* in particular. As counts increase during known migration periods (2006 saw 37 individuals, a total which hasn't been approached since), identifying continental arrivals from resident individuals with any certainty is impossible, although heathland records are probably more likely to relate to the latter. The eight from South Hampshire (11) were on a par with recent years and would fall into the likely resident category: Dibden Purlieu, 7 Jul (RAC), Ashurst, NF, 14, 15 and 19 Jul (two), and 13 Aug (KG), Bournemouth, 11 Jun and 6 Jul (DE), while one in Basingstoke (12) on 1 Jul (MJW) could relate to dispersal from the north-east heaths.

62.030 (1457) *Hypochalcia ahenella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Nationally Scarce B**

A species of chalk downland on Common Rock-rose *Helianthemum nummularium*. The following are from typical localities: The Needles (10), 10 Jul (SRP); Broughton Down HIWWT NR (11), four, 20 Jun (JA conf GCE); Leckford, 21 Jun (JA). However one at Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber* on 17 Jun (GJD) was out of normal range and presumably a wanderer from more suitable habitat.

62.032 (1465) *Nephoterix angustella* (Hübner, 1796)

A relatively common and widespread inhabitant of hedgerows and scrub where Spindle *Euonymus europaea* occurs, but autumn records are rare beyond the end of September and almost certainly relate to dispersing individuals from the

continent. In 2015 this was evidenced on one trapped on Freshwater Cliffs (10) on 11 Oct (SDa), and another in Fareham (11) on 5 Nov (KJW), which is the only November record on the database.

62.035 (1439) *Trachycera advenella* (Zincken, 1818)

Very common on Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* throughout, but like *P. roborella* above, June sightings are relatively rare: Afton Marsh (10), 24 Jun (JHC); Southsea (11), 24 and 25 Jun (JG).

62.047 (1461) *Assara terebrella* (Zincken, 1818) **Nationally Scarce A**

Rather scarce where Norway Spruce *Picea abies* occurs, although wanderers are found away from stands of the foodplant: particularly rare on the Isle of Wight so one on Totland (10), 3 Jul (SAK-J det. BE) was notable. In Hampshire reports were received from Sway (11), 16 Jul (SKe), Romsey (11) on 11 Jun (MJB); Shawford (11), 7 Aug (AH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Cholderton Lodge (12), 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE)

62.054 (1481) *Homoeosoma sinuella* (Fabricius, 1794)

Commonly encountered in dry grassland, particularly on the chalk. The 21 reported from one Skinner trap in Upping Copse, Goodworth Clatford (12) on 30 Jun (GCE) represents the highest single site count on file. Away from usual areas, one in MJW's Basingstoke (12) garden on 25 Jun was notable, the first for that site since 2004.

62.055 (1480) *Homoeosoma nebulella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Nationally Scarce B**

A rare and possibly overlooked inhabitant of rough grassland on Spear Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, as it can easily be mistaken for the more common *Phycitodes binaevella*. Ashurst, NF (11), 12, 16 and 17 Jul (KG); Totton (11), 6 Aug (LH); Leckford Estate (12), 11 Jun (GCE), Chilbolton Down Farm (12), 21 Aug (GCE).

62.069 (1432) *Anerastia lotella* (Hübner, 1913) **Nationally Scarce B**

A species of grasses on sandhills, and therefore very confined in habitat in our area. The only record was of one to light in Southsea (11), 1 Jul (JRL), likely wandering from Hayling Island where there have been regular sightings over the years.

62.070 (1414) *Synaphe punctalis* (Fabricius, 1775)

Commonly encountered on beaches and sand-dunes, but much rarer inland and any individuals which turn up in central or north Hampshire are likely to be wanderers from the coast or perhaps from the continent. The year under review saw good numbers reported: the best for four years, and it was the best year ever on the Isle of Wight. Inland records (i.e. those c. 20km or more from the coast) are detailed below: Old Down, Owslebury (11), 23 Jul (JA); Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), three, 3 Jul (F.M.G.); 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), 17 Jul (F.M.G.); Goodworth Clatford (12), 10 Jul, Chilbolton (12), 13, 15 (three) and 16 Jul, Leckford Estate (12), 14, 9 Jul and two, 2 Aug (all GCE). Singletons in Sherborne St John (12), 11 Jul (NJM) and Headley (12), 17 Jul (ALL) represented the two most northerly records for Hampshire on the database.

62.075 (1413) *Gold Triangle Hypsopygia costalis* (Fabricius, 1775)

Highly distinctive and therefore well recorded across our area in a variety of habitats. The year under review saw three October records, which while not unprecedented are unusual: Sway, 16 Oct (MHg); Fareham, 22 Oct (KJW); Chilbolton (12), 27 Oct (GCE).

Crambidae

63.002 (1368) *Loxostege sticticalis* (Linnaeus, 1761) **Migrant**

A regular immigrant to the British Isles, albeit in small numbers. There was only one record in 2015: Portsmouth (11), 24 Aug (IRT) and there have only been ten individuals reported since 12 were recorded in 1995.

63.003 (1367) *Pyrausta cingulata* (Linnaeus, 1758) **Nationally Scarce B**

An attractive crambid, similar to the widespread *P. nigrata* but larger, which is confined to the western downs of the Isle of Wight (10) in our area. Three records received from typical localities: The Needles, one to light, 10 Jul (SRP), Tennyson Down, one by day, 24 Jun (JHC), Brook Down Quarry, one by day, 23 May (TJN).

63.008 (1363) *Pyrausta ostrinalis* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce B**

Another rare *Pyrausta* which occurs concurrently with the previous species in west Wight but also elsewhere in dry grassland where Wild Thyme *Thymus polytrichus* occurs. It needs to be separated with care from the very similar *P. purpuralis*, best performed by viewing the underside of the wing. Reported from The Needles (10), one to light, 10 Jul (SRP), and one was seen by day on Broughton Down (11), 1 Aug (TJN).

63.013 (1387) *Nascia ciliialis* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce B**

A marshland species that historically was confined to Titchfield Haven (11) but now has a well established presence in the north-west of the Isle of Wight (10), from where it was reported in best ever numbers: four night-time trapping sessions between 20 and 25 Jun produced six individuals at Afton Marsh, with a further individual on Freshwater Causeway on 25 Jun (all JHC). On the mainland, two sessions by F.M.G. at Titchfield Haven yielded five on 26 Jun and two on 10 Jul.

63.015 (1371) *Sitochroa verticalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Associated with various 'weeds' on farmland and grassland, this subtly attractive crambid begun to disappear from the county by the late 1950s and by the next decade was almost absent from the county. Since then there have been just two validated records, in 1971 and 2005, and both probably relate to dispersal from the continent, although the 2005 report from deepest VC12 might hold out some hope there is a small resident colony clinging on. The single record received for 2015 would relate to dispersal from the continent however: North End, Portsmouth (11), 16 Jul (MWe).

63.020 (1380) *Anania perlucidalis* (Hübner, 1809)

The larva of this pearly moth feeds on thistles in damp meadows, and is found in scattered localities at low density across the two counties. It is quite infrequent on the Isle of Wight, so one at Totland (10), 23 Jun (SAK-J) was notable; in Hampshire, reported from Merritown Heath (11), 3 Jul (DF), Romsey* (11), 25 Jun (MJB); Sherborne St John (12), 17 Jun (NJM).

63.023 (1382) *Anania verbascalis* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Nationally Scarce B**

Three records received, all the New Forest which is the stronghold for this species: Sway (11), 3 and 13 Jul (MHG), Pennington (11), 15 Jul (RFC).

63.026 (1374a) *Sclerocona acutellus* (Eversmann, 1842) **Migrant/Adventive**

While generally defined as a migrant in this country, resident populations have been established from time to time: accidental importation with thatching reeds has been mooted as a possible source. Such a colony that was discovered at Afton Marsh (10) in 2010 (of unknown provenance) continues to yield sightings annually: singleton to light, 25 Jun (JHC).

63.028 (1375) **European Corn-borer *Ostrinia nubilalis* (Hübner, 1796) **Migrant/Adventive****

The 111 records was the second best ever (behind the exceptional migrant year of 2006), and the count of 177 individuals the third highest (behind 2006 and 2014): indeed, the total count of individuals set new records in VCs 10 and 12, but were less exceptional in South Hampshire. It is notable that this is one migrant that did not have a presence in the notable December migrant influx.

Week	Week beginning	Total Records	Total Inds.	Notes (Earliest, Latest, Notable counts)
24	11/06/2015	3	4	Earliest record for year: 12 Jun, Alresford (<u>11</u>) (JG) 17 Jun, Damerham (<u>8</u>) (PT), Burton, nr Christchurch (<u>11</u>) (JSw)
25	18/06/2015	3	3	
26	25/06/2015	11	13	Earliest VC12 record for year: Chilbolton, 25 Jun (GCE) Earliest VC10 record for year: Totland, 26 Jun (SAK-J)
27	02/07/2015	14	21	
28	09/07/2015	36	60	
29	16/07/2015	22	41	Max count for year (and only double-figure record): 12, Merstone (<u>10</u>) (IOu)
30	23/07/2015	4	4	
31	30/07/2015	5	17	
32	06/08/2015	6	6	
33	13/08/2015	3	3	Last VC10 record for year: Totland, 14 Aug (SAK-J) Last VC12 record for year: Chilbolton, 13 Aug (GCE)
...				
35	27/08/2015	1	1	Fareham (<u>11</u>), 28 Aug (IMcP)
...				
38	17/09/2015	1	1	Last record for year: Totton (<u>11</u>), 18 Sep (LH)

63.030 (1374) *Paratalanta hyalinialis* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce B**

Scattered populations across the northern and central chalk outcrops of Hampshire, with only occasional sightings away from these areas. 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), three, 17 Jul (F.M.G.); Cholderton (12), one by day, 2 Aug (TJN); Old Burghclere Lime Quarry HIWWT NR (12), one by day, 3 Aug (GJD).

63.031 (1395) **Rusty-dot Pearl *Udea ferrugalis* (Hübner, 1796) **Migrant****

A common to abundant immigrant in some years, although annual counts vary widely. The year under review saw good numbers in the Isle of Wight but only modest totals on the mainland, with vice-county totals as follows (records / individuals): Isle of Wight (10) 89 / 280 (fourth best individuals count on the database, behind 406 in 2011), South Hampshire (11) 188 / 218, North Hampshire (12) 16 / 16. The earliest were in Isle of Wight (10), at Totland (SAK-J) and Bonchurch (JHa) on 9 May, which were followed by ten more at the same site up to 21 May. It wasn't until 5 Jun that the first turned up in Hampshire, at North End, Portsmouth (11) (MWe). Numbers peaked from mid August to mid September, and again from mid October to mid November. There were 45 individuals reported in December, the latest on 27th, spread across all three vice-counties, from Southsea (11) (JRL), Chilbolton (12) (GCE) and Freshwater (10) (SRP); there are only three later records on the database.

63.032 (1389) *Udea fulvalis* (Hübner, 1809) Migrant

It is not clear that the perceived status as a primary migrant is an accurate reflection of the origin of most records of *U. fulvalis* in our two counties. It is almost certainly established as a breeding species along the coast of the New Forest, and has probably extended this range to the nearby north-west coast of the Isle of Wight and eastwards towards Portsmouth. All records received were as follows, grouped by these broad areas. Isle of Wight (10): The Needles, 8 Aug (SRP), Freshwater, two, 14 Aug and three the next night (TJN, DC). South Hampshire, New Forest area (11): Brockenhurst, one by day, 13 Aug (PBr), Calmore, one found indoors, 26 Jul (THW), Totton, 29 individuals on 21 nights between 1 Jul and 17 Aug (LH), Sway, 21 Jul (MHg), Pennington, singletons on 9, 16 and 21 Aug, with three on 26 Aug (RFC), Lepe CP, 19 Aug (LH). Also one to the west in east Dorset (11): Hengistbury Head, 1 Sep (BH), and in the South Hampshire, Portsmouth area (11): Southsea, 30 Jul and 3 Aug (JRL).

63.039 (1396) *Mecyna flavalis* Caradja, 1916 pRDB3

While a proposed Red Data Book species, *flavalis* is frequently encountered on the downlands of West Wight and the west of the South Downs in Hampshire, where the larval foodplants such as Hedge Bedstraw *Galium album* and Field Woundwort *Stachys arvensis* grow in abundance. Only one report was away from the known population strongholds: Fareham (11), male to light, 4 Aug (KJW gen. det. RJD). On the Isle of Wight (10), reported from The Needles, one to light, 21 Aug (SRP), West High Down, 18 Aug (Derek Hale det. IOu), Compton Chine, one to light, 10 Aug (SRP) and Jersey Camp*, two to light, 11 Aug (IM). Many sightings from Broughton Down HIWWT NR (11), with two, 8 Jul (MJB), five, 31 Jul (SB), 18 Jul, 2 Aug, two on 7 Aug (GCE), five, 1 Aug, and two, 8 Aug (MP), another on 8 Aug (TJN) and from other localities just off the downs: St Cross, Winchester (11), one to light, 7 Aug (THW), Cholderton Lodge (12), two to light, 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE) and Danebury Iron Age Hill Fort (12), 25 Jul (SB).

63.040 (1397) *Mecyna asinalis* (Hübner, 1819) Nationally Scarce B

Associated with Wild Madder *Rubia peregrina*, which being very local in occurrence constrains this insect almost exclusively confined to the coasts of the Isle of Wight (10), and 2015 was no different with all reports coming from the island: there have been only six record from mainland Hampshire, the last in 2009. Fresh larval feeding signs were reported by DTB from Bouldnor Copse on 11 Mar, with old mines at Nunney's Wood, 3 Aug, Ventnor Park, 3 Jun, and Priory Wood, 28 May. moths were seen or trapped between late Jul and mid Oct, from the Ventnor area on 21 Aug (FW), 22 Jul, 3, 7 and 22 Sep (RWi), at Wheelers Bay on 17 Aug and 12 Oct (ABu), and in the Bonchurch area, on 6 Aug, 4 Sep (RWi) and 3 Oct (JHa).

63.041 (1410) *Agrotera nemoralis* (Scopoli, 1763) UK BAP, pRDB1

An unmistakable and stunning moth which is almost certainly a migrant in our area, although there are known resident populations in Kent and Cornwall so the future discovery of a local colony cannot be entirely ruled out. After two Hampshire records, in 1946 and 2010, one trapped at an in Borthwood Copse (10) on 21 Jun by IOu was the **first for the Isle of Wight**.

63.047 (1404) *Spoladea recurvalis* (Fabricius, 1775) Migrant

A rare immigrant to the British Isles which was first recorded in Hampshire in 2011 when two separate individuals turned up on Hayling Island and in Southampton, with North Hampshire's first in 2014. With 2013 seeing the first Isle of Wight record, one at Totland (10) on 18 Dec (SAK-J), part of the late year migrant influx that hit southern England at this time, therefore represented the second county record.

63.048 (1408) *Palpita vitrealis* (Rossi, 1794) Migrant

This unmistakable migrant is recorded annually in recent years. Numbers appear to be increasing, particularly on the island, although the 53 individuals were surpassed in both 2006 (76) and 2013 (80). The year in review saw 18 records of 22 individuals on the Isle of Wight (10) between 6 Aug and 19 Nov, from The Needles* (SRP), Totland (SAK-J), Freshwater (SRP), Shanklin (IOu), Bonchurch (JHa). Additionally, two individuals to light in Totland on 13 and 14 Dec were part of the late year migrant influx and the first December records on the database (SAK-J). The coast of Hampshire (11) had its fair share, with eight sightings of ten individuals from 19 Jul to 1 Nov, in Bournemouth (DE), Pennington (RFC), Southsea (JG), JRL) and Portsmouth (IRT): notably, one trapped in Fareham (11) on 27 Dec (KJW) is now the latest ever for our area. The only record away from the coast was one taken at actinic in Chilbolton* (12) on 4 Nov (GCE), the eighth 21st century record for North Hampshire, all of which have occurred since 2011.

63.050 (1399) *Dolicharthria punctalis* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nationally Scarce B

Found on cliffs and beaches on grassland herbs such as trefoils, clovers and plantain. A good year, with 23 records being only slightly down on the record 25 of 2014 (mainly due to reduced numbers on Wight: South Hampshire had its best ever year). Reported from Wight (10) at The Needles, 8 Aug (SRP) and Bonchurch, where numerous with 22 individuals on five nights between 17 Jun and 9 Jul (JHa), and in South Hampshire (11) at Hengistbury Head, ten individuals on eight nights between 30 Jun and 13 Aug (BH), Hythe, 2 Aug (JBI), Needs Ore, a significant count of 14 on 16 Jul (RFC et al), Titchfield Haven NNR, 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Fareham, 6 Jul (KJW), Portsmouth, 29 Jun, 5 and 11 Jul (IRT), Southsea, 30 Jun (JRL), and Sandy Point, Hayling, 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting).

63.052 (1398) *Rush Veneer Nomophila noctuella* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Migrant

A common immigrant, occurring across the two counties, although numbers vary considerably from year to year. 2015 was a good year: on the Isle of Wight, the 134 records was the best ever, although the total individual count of 678 was

around half of the 1265 reported in the great migrant year of 2006. Some of this improvement will be down to improved recording coverage on the island: in both vice-counties of Hampshire, where recording has been more consistent over the past decade, 617 records of 1233 individuals was lower than totals reported in 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 – note the three year cycle, with only 2012 breaking the mould. The year was most notable for the late migration influx which provided the first December records ever: the table below documents these alongside other notable counts and dates.

Week	Week beginning	Total Records	Total Indvs	Notes (Earliest, Latest, Notable counts)
...				
19	07/05/2015	1	1	Earliest record for year: Bournemouth (<u>11</u>), 11 May (DE)
...				
22	28/05/2015	2	2	Shanklin (<u>10</u>), 28 May (IOu); Hengistbury Head (<u>11</u>), 1 Jun (BH)
23	04/06/2015	44	126	First VC12 record of year: Barton Stacey, two, 4 Jun (GCE). Max count for VC10: 40 at Compton, 8 Jun (ABu)
24	11/06/2015	48	85	
25	18/06/2015	20	22	
26	25/06/2015	19	23	
27	02/07/2015	29	42	
28	09/07/2015	21	25	
29	16/07/2015	50	100	Max count for VC12: Longstock, 11, 19 Jul (GCE)
30	23/07/2015	46	74	
31	30/07/2015	59	124	Sway (<u>11</u>), 11, 2 Aug (MHg)
32	06/08/2015	87	283	Max count for VC11: Burton, nr Chichester, 19, 7 Aug (JSw)
33	13/08/2015	80	165	
34	20/08/2015	53	114	
35	27/08/2015	57	139	Watcombe (<u>10</u>), 20, 1 Sep (SDa)
36	03/09/2015	13	32	Bonchurch (<u>10</u>), 14, 6 Sep (JHa)
37	10/09/2015	35	65	
38	17/09/2015	14	20	
39	24/09/2015	7	19	Browdown (<u>11</u>), 12, 25 Sep (F.M.G.)
40	01/10/2015	10	17	
41	08/10/2015	9	9	
42	15/10/2015	8	8	
43	22/10/2015	1	1	
44	29/10/2015	21	32	
45	05/11/2015	3	4	
46	12/11/2015	1	1	Last record of main flight period: Fareham (<u>11</u>), 12 Nov (KJW)
...				
51	17/12/2015	2	2	Lymington (<u>11</u>), 17 Dec (Ahr), Shanklin (<u>10</u>), 17 Dec (IOu)
52	24/12/2015	4	4	Totland (<u>10</u>), 27 Dec (SAK-J), Lymington (<u>11</u>), 27 Dec (Ahr), Chilbolton (<u>12</u>), 27 Dec (GCE), Ashurst, NF (<u>11</u>), 29 Dec (KG)

63.054 (1409a) *Cydalima perspectalis* (Walker, 1859) Adventive

This adventive species was introduced by the nursery trade in box *Buxus* sp. First recorded in England in 2008, it was unknown in Hampshire until found on box plants in a nursery at Longstock, central Hampshire. It has been found in the wild in scattered locations since, all probably originating from plants bought from nurseries. The only report in 2015 was of one caught at light near the original sighting in Hampshire, on the Leckford Estate (12), 27 Jul (GCE).

63.056 (1359) *Cynaeda dentalis* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nationally Scarce A

A charismatic moth associated with Viper's-bugloss *Echium vulgare* on coastal shingle, and a speciality of Hayling Island. It appears to have become more scarce in recent years, although this is perhaps due to reduced fieldwork. The only 2015 report was from Browdown Coastal Ranges (11)* on 4 Sep (F.M.G.), a new site for the species which is very welcome: it was also the latest ever sighting in our area.

63.058 (1357) *Evergestis extimalis* (Scopoli, 1763) Migrant

While locally resident in East Anglia, occurrences elsewhere in southern England are suspected to relate to immigration from the continent. The year in review was unexceptional, with just two reports, from Totland (10), 3 Aug (SAK-J) and Southsea (11), 7 Jul (JG).

63.059 (1356a) *Evergestis limbata* (Linnaeus, 1767) Nationally Scarce B

First recorded in Britain at Chale Green, Isle of Wight in 1994, *limbata* is now well established on the island, and 2015 saw eight records from across the county (10): Totland, 12 Sep (SAK-J), Afton Marsh, 17 Aug (JHa), Freshwater Fruit Farm, 4 Jul (PBa), Walter's Copse NT, 12 Jul (SRP), Ventnor Park, 14 Jul (RWi), Wheelers Bay, 3 Aug (ABu), West Shanklin, 14 Jul (IOu), Shanklin, 1 Jul (IOu). Reports from near-coastal Hampshire (11) came from Dibden Purlieu, on 3, 15 and 21 Jul (RAC), Sway, two, 20 Aug (MHg), Sholing, Southampton, 30 Jun (ARC), Stubbington, 15 Jul (DPH), North End, Portsmouth, 16 Jul (MWe), Portsmouth, 6, 9, 16 and 21 Jul (IRT), Northney, Hayling, 3, 15 and 17 Jul (JWP), Sandy Point, Hayling, 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting). It also has a growing population in the centre of the

county, originally at Tichborne (12), and outliers are now reaching as far as Alton (12), with one on 10 Jul (DBO) and the most northerly record so far, Bartons Mill, Old Basing (12), 8 Jul (MJW).

63.xxx (code to be allocated) *Cornifrons ulceratalis* (Lederer, 1858)

The year saw a remarkable and unprecedented influx of a previously unrecorded southern European and North African crambid to these islands that coincided with a major influx of immigrant moths (and other insects) into Britain from the south, perhaps as far away as the Azores, during December 2015; 18 individuals were reported from central southern and south-western England but also as far north as Wales and Ireland, with the last occurring on 3 January 2016. In our area, the first were on 18 Dec, from Dorset (Mark Parsons), and KJW took another on the same night in Fareham (11) – which of these will claim precedence as the first for Britain I'll leave for others to judge! The third was also in Dorset the next day. Most were seen on 27 and 28 Dec, and Hampshire witnessed two more on the former night, in Lymington (11) in the trap of AHR, and further east in Funtley (11) for MLO.

63.064 (1334) *Scoparia ambigualis* (Treitschke, 1829)

Trapping in Botley Wood (11) on 11 Dec (F.M.G.) turned up a very surprising late record of this abundant species. Late autumn records are rare but not unknown – we have 11 validated October and four November reports on the database – but this is the first December individual and 23 days later than the previous latest.

63.072 (1343) *Eudonia delunella* (Stainton, 1849) **Nationally Scarce B**

In Hampshire, this distinctive scoparid of mature woodland is very local except in the New Forest, where it is widespread. Scattered and occasional elsewhere, and particularly so in the north of Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight. Records in the year under review away from its main population centres were as follows: Dunnage Copse (10), two, 23 Jun (JHC); Shawford (11), three, 6 Jul and another, 9 Jul (AH), Portsmouth (11), 3 Jul (IRT); Sherborne St John (12), 3 Jul (NJM).

63.076 (1289) *Euchromius ocella* (Haworth, 1811) **Migrant**

December 2015 saw an unusual and unseasonal influx of migrant moths to southern England, and no species more perfectly illustrated this than *E. ocella*, a scarce visitor to our area which despite never having been seen later than November in the past, all four reports were in late December: Totland (10), 29 Dec (SAK-J), Plaish (10), 27 Dec (KR); Lymington (11), 26 Dec (AHR), Fareham (11), 27 Dec (AT det. RJD). However, winter influxes are not unknown: 2008 was if anything even more remarkable, when 11 individuals turned up between 23 Jan and 13 Feb, all but one on the Isle of Wight.

63.082 (1296) *Crambus silvella* (Hübner, 1813) **pRDB3**

A very local New Forest speciality, and any records away from the national park will require detailed validation to ensure *C. pascuella* has been ruled out. There is little doubt over the following from the New Forest (11): Hill Top, 27 Jul (MSP, AMD), Bagnum Bog, 11 Aug (George R Else, PBk), Hythe, 27 Jun and 10 Jul (JBI), Pennington, 3 Aug (RFC) but more surprising were singletons at Totland (10), 10 Aug (SAK-J det. BE) which is a **new county record for the Isle of Wight** and one to light in Shawford (11), 9 Jul (AH), well away from the population centre.

63.083 (1297) *Crambus uliginosellus* Zeller, 1850 **Nationally Scarce B**

Rare in wet bogs on heathland, most frequently in the New Forest (11) – represented by sightings at Dibden Purlieu on 11 and 12 Jun (RAC) - but occasional records from suitable habitat elsewhere, particularly in the Bordon area, where seen in Weaver's Down Bog, Longmoor Camp (12), with 20 seen by day on 8 Jul (GJD).

63.085 (1300) *Crambus pratella* (Linnaeus, 1758) **Nationally Scarce B**

One of the rarest of our resident crambids, *C. pratella* is rarely seen away from scattered localities on the New Forest heaths. The only report in 2015 was from Ashurst (11) on the unusually advanced date of 16 Aug (KG).

63.087 (1299) *Crambus hamella* (Thunberg, 1788) **Nationally Scarce B**

Confined to heathland, predominantly in the New Forest but also occasionally in the north-east of Hampshire, the only record was from the former: Sway (11), 10 Sep (MHg).

63.103 (1317) *Catoptria verellus* (Zincken, 1817) **Migrant**

A rare migrant, with only five previous records, in 2001 (VC11), 2006 (one in VC10 and another in VC11) and 2009 (two, both on Wight). The four in the year under review was therefore an unprecedented annual total, with all in the Isle of Wight (10): Totland, 4 and 6 Jul (SAK-J det. BE) and in Shanklin, 30 Jun and 7 Jul (IOu).

63.109 (1323) *Pediasia contaminella* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce B**

Locally common on dry grassland, particularly in coastal localities: Burton, nr Christchurch (11), two on 14 Aug (JSw), Hengistbury Head (11), 14 on eight nights from 4 Jul to 13 Aug (BH), Ashurst, NF (11), 9 and 10 Aug (KG), Totton (11), 18 individuals recorded on 13 nights between 17 Jul and 17 Aug (LH), Romsey, 1 Aug (SAB), Horsea Island (11), five, 31 Jul (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 21 individuals on 17 nights between 13 Jul and 21 Aug (IRT)

63.110 (1324) *Pediasia aridella* (Thunberg, 1788) **Nationally Scarce B**

A species of salt-marsh. Recorded on the Isle of Wight for the first time in over a century in 2013, four reported from Norton Spit, Yarmouth Harbour (10) on 5 Aug (SRP) were notable. In South Hampshire (11), seen at Hengistbury Head, 3 Jul (BH), Dibden Purlieu, 23 Jul (RAC), Portsmouth, 21 Aug (IRT), and Southsea, 15 Jul (JRL).

63.111 (1326) *Platytes cerussella* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Locally common on shingle and sandy beaches but seldom away from the coast. Reported from Wheelers Bay (10), 19 Jun (ABu), Priory Bay (10), on the unusually early date of 28 May (RWi); a rare inland record on Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), by day, 29 Jun (RJD), and more typically, by day at Gutner Point, Hayling (11), 23 Jun (JRL, MRY).

63.112 (1325) *Platytes alpinella* (Hübner, 1813) **Nationally Scarce B**

Rare, and much like the previous species, a denizen of sand dunes and shingle beaches; rare inland and not reported annually. The only 2015 record was of one to light in Shanklin* (10) on 16 Jul (IOu), only the 11th for the island and the first since 2006.

63.116 (1354) **Small China-mark *Cataclysta lemnata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

While locally common in Hampshire, *C. lemnata* has been quite a rarity on the Isle of Wight (10), with only eight previous records, so three in one year is unique: Totland, 11 and 12 Sep (SAK-J), Briddlesford Copse, three, 9 Aug (IOu et al). In Hampshire, reported from a number of typical locations but one in Alresford (11) on 3 Aug (GR) was notable, probably a wanderer from Alresford Pond.

63.119 (1355a) *Musotima nitidalis* (Walker, [1866])

A native of New Zealand, introduced with tree ferns but now extensively naturalised on native fern species. First trapped at Merritown Heath, Dorset (11) on 11 August 2009 by Mike Jeffes and David Evans, there have now been 29 records to the end of 2015, all but one confined to the south-western heaths of the Dorset / Hampshire border. The exception is one at Totland (10), on 22 Oct (SAK-J) which presumably wandered from this population and is a **new county record for the Isle of Wight**; in 2015, reported again from Merritown Heath (11), five at three localities on 11 Sep (DE), and six, 23 May (DF).

63.120 (1328) *Schoenobius gigantella* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Generally restricted to coastal reed-beds. There have only been two previous records on the Isle of Wight: 2015 saw three additions to this list, with one at Bembridge Lagoons (10) on 26 May (IOu) being the 3rd VC10 record and followed by two records from Afton Marsh*, on 25 Jul (SRP) and four on 17 Aug (JHa). On the mainland, ARC trapped one in Sholing, Southampton (11) on 28 Jun and in Portsmouth (11), there were singletons on 3 and 16 Jul (IRT).

63.122 (1330) *Donacaula mucronella* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) **Nationally Scarce B**

Another local species of reed and sedge-beds, particularly in the Test valley. 2015 saw records from typical localities: Titchfield Haven NNR (11), one on 26 Jun (F.M.G.) and a common species at Testside Lakes, Leckford Estate (12) with six on 20 Jun and 16 on 1 Jul (GCE).

Drepanidae

65.007 (1651) **Chinese Character *Cilix glaucata* (Scopoli, 1763)**

The year saw both quite early and very late records of this quite common but unmistakable moth. Anything before mid April is noteworthy, so individuals at St. Catherine's Point (10), 14 Apr (IOu); Alresford (11), 14 Apr (GR) warrant a mention. In autumn, Horsea (11) saw two very late records, on 15 Sep and 2 Oct (F.M.G.), the latter the first October sighting on file.

Thyatiridae

65.011 (1655) **Poplar Lutestring *Tethea or* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)**

Widely but thinly distributed in aspen thickets across Hampshire and north of the Isle of Wight: Cothey Bottom Copse (10), 19 and 21 Jul (RWi); Merritown Heath (11), 23 May (DF), Shawford (11), 18 Jul (AH), Crowdhill Copse, Bishopstoke (11), Jul (MHa), Wickham Common (11), 20 Jun (KC); Goodworth Clatford (12), 10 Jul (GCE), Hurstbourne Park (12), 11 May (GCE)

65.012 (1656) **Satin Lutestring *Tetheella fluctuosa* (Hübner, 1803)**

The population in Hampshire is focussed around the birch on the Surrey border heaths in the east of the county but also in the Botley Wood area. West Walk (11), 16 on 19 Jun, 10 on 14 Jul, 5 on 28 Jul, and a singleton on 21 Aug (F.M.G.); Headley (12), three on 11 Jun, two on 10 Jul, five on 13 Jul, eight on 17 Jul, nine on 21 Jul, one on 7 Aug (ALL), Grayshott (12), four on 30 Jun (RTu). August records are rare, and so the 7 Aug report from Headley and the 21 Aug sighting in West Walk are notable, the latter being the latest ever in the county.

65.013 (1657) Common Lutestring *Ochropacha duplaris* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A good year for a widespread species across the two counties, in particular for the Isle of Wight (10), which saw 31 records of 102 individuals, the highest ever. These totals included ten in Dunnage Copse, 23 Jun (JHC) and nine in Shanklin, 3 Jul (IOU).

65.014 (1658) Oak Lutestring *Cymatophorina diluta* (Reisser, 1927)

Probably declining, but still widespread and locally common in oak woodland. One at 7 Oct, Wherwell (12) (GCE) was notable, with only four records being later on file.

Lasiocampidae

66.002 (1632) Pale Eggar *Trichiura crataegi* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A late flying and very local species of scrub and open woodland with a scattered distribution across the two counties, although the majority of recent records have come from the Isle of Wight – in 2015, this was very much the pattern: Jersey Camp (10), three, 28 Aug and another, 9 Sep, Locks Farm, Porchfield (10), 19 Sep (all IM).

66.005 (1633) Small Eggar *Eriogaster lanestris* (Linnaeus, 1758) Nb

Larvae were reported on downland at a known site in the west of the county between 30 May and 7 Jun.

66.010 (1640) Drinker *Euthrix potatoria* (Linnaeus, 1758)

One at Wickham Common (11) on 4 May (KC) was the earliest on record by 13 days for what is a very common and widespread species across both counties.

66.012 (1642) Lappet *Gastropacha quercifolia* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An unmistakable, widespread and locally common species in scrub and hedgerows across both counties. 13 records of 22 individuals during the year: Martin Down (8), Jul (PT); Totland (10), 18 Jul (SAK-J), Yar Estuary (10), 10 Jul (PBa), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 5, 8 and 10 Jul (PBa), Jersey Camp (10), 10 Jul (IM); Needs Ore (11), three, 16 Jul (RFC et al), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Goodworth Clatford (12), 10 Jul (GCE), Newton Stacey (12), 9 Jul (GCE), Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 3 Jul (GAH).

Saturniidae



68.001 (1643) Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavonia* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A familiar and dramatic day-flying moth of heathland, encountered predominantly in the New Forest but less frequently elsewhere. There were ten records reported from the New Forest and Dorset heath (11) area, including a total of 15 to pheromone in Hawkhill Inclosure, NF (11) on 19 Apr (GD) and ten to pheromone on Merritown Heath on 23 May (DF); elsewhere a total of 55 larvae on dogwood *Cornus* at Porton Down (12), 17 May (TJN) is the first report from this site for twenty years, on Newtown Common (12), five males attracted to a virgin female, 1 May, and another, 3 May (TF), and one to pheromone, 21 May (GD).

Photo left: *Saturnia pavonia*, Acres Down, 28 Apr (NJM)

Sphingidae

69.004 (1972) Convolvulus Hawk-moth *Agrius convolvuli* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

A reasonably common and impressive migrant hawk-moth. The 30 records were above average for recent years (the fifth highest annual total ever) although completely overshadowed by the 75 of 2003 and 109 from 2006. The earliest was on the exceptionally early date of 18 Jun in Totland, (10) (SAK-J), one of 15 records from the island, with the first on the mainland only a few days later: Northney, Hayling (11), 21 Jun (JWP). These are the first June records for our area. Reported otherwise from the start of August, with September seeing the bulk of the records, the latest in Hampshire being both on 18 Sep at Horton Heath (11), to light (ABr) and for JWP again at Northney, Hayling. There was only one late autumn sighting, trapped on Freshwater Cliffs (10) on 10 Oct (SDa). *A. convolvuli* is historically relatively rare in North Hampshire (12), so reports of one attracted to a lighted window in Basingstoke on 27 Sep (Tahita Grey, det. GD) and another by day in Sherborne St John on 3 Sep (NJM) were of note. Two larval records were received, from Hayling Island (11), 20 Sep (Tim Speller det. Dan Hoare) and in Hedge End (11) on 19 Oct by JJ.

69.005 (1973) Death's-head Hawk-moth *Acherontia atropos* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

Three larval records were received of this quite scarce migrant, which is showing signs of becoming more frequent (30 of the 52 records on the database have occurred this century). Reported from Ningwood Manor (10), 12 Aug (Libby Pitcher det. Jill Ireland); Netley (11), 12 Aug (JJ), Emsworth (11), 12 Nov (Malcolm Greenwood det. MJW).

Right: *Acherontia atropos*, Emsworth, 12 Nov (Malcolm Greenwood)



69.007 (1978) Pine Hawk-moth *Sphinx pinastri* (Linnaeus, 1758)

The 12 attracted to light at Needs Ore on 16 Jul (RFC et al) is the highest single night count on record.

69.008 (1982) Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk *Hemaris tityus* (Linnaeus, 1758) Na, UK BAP

A much declined inhabitant of unimproved chalk grassland, pretty much confined to Martin and Porton Down in recent decades. Reported twice from Isle of Wight Hill on Porton Down (12) both, separately, on 17 May (TJN) and two by AJB. More unusually, one was netted and photographed at Ashford Hill Meadows* (12) on 30 May by members of the Reading & District NHS when on a walk (Jan Haseler et al), which may hold out hope that there is an undiscovered colony here as the habitat would appear suitable for it.

69.009 (1983) Broad-bordered Bee Hawk *Hemaris fuciformis* (Linnaeus, 1758) Nb

The woodland edge and heathland congener to *H. tityus*, and while scarce, the more frequently encountered of the pair. However, 2015 saw just four sightings, from Merritown Heath (11), 23 May (DF), Denny Wood, NF (11), 23 May (DPH) and in South Hampshire (12), Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse, 18 Jun (GJD) and at Alice Holt Forest, where two were nectaring on dandelions on 10 May (SM).

69.010 (1984) Humming-bird Hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

The year saw an above average total of 246 records across both counties (although numbers were somewhat artificially boosted by inclusion of 'citizen science' records from Big Butterfly Count and UKBMS). Two sightings in the early year probably relate to over-wintering individuals emerging from hibernation: a 'comatose' individual on a wall in North Hayling (11), 17 Jan (GRE) and Totton (11), to light, 27 Feb (LH) – the first North Hampshire (12) report was not until 20 May, in Alton (DBO). The last were seen in October (unusually early, as normally sightings can be expected into the last two months of the year): of the 13 October sightings, all but two came from the Isle of Wight, the latest being at the Revetment, Wheelers Bay (10) on 14 Oct (ABu).

69.013 (1986) Spurge Hawk-moth *Hyles euphorbiae* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

Probably the "Moth of the Year". One taken at light in North End, Portsmouth (11), 1 Jul, (MWe det. NJM) was the first modern day record in our area. There are two very old records, from 1871 and 1908, when it was possibly a transitory resident along the south coast of England, but not seen since.

Photo right: *Hyles euphorbiae*, North End, 1 Jul (NJM)



69.015 (1990) Striped Hawk-moth *Hyles livornica* (Esper, 1779) Migrant

Absent from this review since 2012, the six records was the best total since the exceptional 27 of 2006. The year also saw the first ever December records, from Totland (10), singletons to light on 17 and 25 Dec (SAK-J), part of the late year migrant influx noted elsewhere in this report. Four other individuals as follows: Luccombe Down (10), 7 Jun (IOu); Botley (11), 12 Jun (SBa), Fareham (11), 11 Jun (KJW), Horndean (11), 13 Jun (det. from photo IOu); Northney, Hayling (11), 4 Jun (JWP).

Photo right: *Hyles livornica*, Luccombe Down, 7 Jun (IOu)



69.017 (1992) Small Elephant Hawk-moth *Deilephila porcellus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A singleton to actinic on 17 Aug in Freshwater (SRP) was the latest ever by one day.

Geometridae

70.002 (1698) Purple-bordered Gold *Idaea muricata* (Hufnagel, 1767) Nb

A beautiful moth of heathland, only possibly confusable with the micro *Hypsopygia costalis*. The only records were from Dibden Purlieu (11), 17 Jul (RAC) and Brockenhurst (11), 13 Jul (AA).

70.004 (1699) Least Carpet *Idaea rusticata* Lempke, 1967

A relatively recent addition to the county list, first colonising the two counties in any great numbers in the early nineties and since spreading throughout. 2015 saw eight records on the Isle of Wight (10), between 22 Jul (RWi) and 14 Aug (FW), both of which were in Ventnor. In South Hampshire (11), there were nine records between one on Hayling on the very early date – the second earliest ever - of 19 Jun (JWP) and the last on 7 Aug, at Hengistbury Head (BH). It was most common in the north of Hampshire (12) with 21 records submitted – there were six in Sherborne St John (NJM) alone, including the earliest (29 Jun) and latest (18 Aug) for the year, which was matched by another at the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson).

70.006 (1705) Dwarf Cream Wave *Idaea fuscovenosa* (Goeze, 1781)

One in Damerham (8), 24 May (PT). May records are very unusual (previously there have been just eight), although we do have a couple of sightings from as early as late April on the database.

70.008 (1707) Small Dusty Wave *Idaea seriata* (Schrank, 1802)

One to light in Sway (11) on 30 Oct (MHg) was the latest ever recorded, by eight days. October records are rare, with only 17 others on file.

70.010 (1701) Dotted Border Wave *Idaea sylvestriaria* (Hübner, 1799) **Nb**

In Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight scarce in the New Forest, north-east Hampshire and in the west and south-east of the Isle of Wight, with scattered records from elsewhere: all records away from the core areas require photographic evidence at least to confirm records. The year in review saw four reports from typical localities: Merritown Heath (11), 4 Jul (DF), Hinchleslea Bog, NF (11), 15 Jul (MHg), Hengistbury Head (11), 15 Jun and 3 Jul (BH).

70.011 (1708) Single-dotted Wave *Idaea dimidiata* (Hufnagel, 1767)

A singleton to light at Hengistbury Head (11) on 1 Jun (BH) was the joint third earliest reported. Records before mid June are notable.

70.012 (1711) Treble Brown Spot *Idaea trigeminata* (Haworth, 1809)

SA reported three to light at Stour Valley LNR (11) on 4 May, like the preceding species the third earliest date on record.

70.015 (1712) Small Scallop *Idaea emarginata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A thinly distributed species on damp areas on bedstraws, mainly absent from the central chalk of both Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Reported from Jersey Camp (10), 31 Jul (IM); Blashford Lakes (11), 16 and 29 Jul (RAC), Ashurst, NF (11), two, 11 Jul and another, 19 Jul (KG), Totton (11), 4 Aug (LH), Sway (11), 2 Aug (MHg), Romsey (11), 2 Aug (MJB), Shawford (11), 18 Jul (AH), Lovedean (11), 10 Jul (AJ), Wickham Common (11), 13 Jul (KC), Portchester (11), 21 Jul (DF); Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber (12), three, 16 Jul (GJD), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), two, 23 Jul (GJD), Sherborne St John (12), 11 Jul (NJM).

70.017 (1714) Portland Ribbon Wave *Idaea degeneraria* (Hübner, 1799) **RDB3**

A very poor year by recent standards, after the 23 of 2013 and eight of 2014, the year under review saw just three reports of three individuals from the island and for the fourth year running, none from Hampshire, making 2015 the worst since 2008: expectations that *degeneraria* could become locally established in our area appear at the moment to be premature. Ventnor (10), 26 Jun (FW), Castle Cove, Ventnor (10), Sep (RWi), Bonchurch (10), 4 Jun (JHa)

70.018 (1715) Plain Wave *Idaea straminata* (Borkhausen, 1794)

Records away from the New Forest (11) are rare, and should be treated with caution: those from new sites will require photographs for acceptance and historic records are being reviewed and many will probably not stand up to scrutiny. There were acceptable 18 reports, only one from outside the east Dorset / New Forest heaths: Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), 11 Jun (GJD)

70.020 (1684) Sub-angled Wave *Scopula nigropunctata* (Hufnagel, 1767) **RDB2, Migrant**

One to light in Totland (10), 2 Aug (SAK-J) is the second for the island - the same observer had the first ever for our area at the same site on 5 Aug 1994. The only Hampshire record was on 22 Jul 2013 from Hayling Island.



Photo right: *Scopula nigropunctata*, Totland, 2 Aug (SRP)

70.025 (1692) Lesser Cream Wave *Scopula immutata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Local and scattered across the county in damp meadows on Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and Common Valerian *Valeriana officinalis*. The single record, albeit from a new 10k square, from South Hampshire was the worst annual total in modern times: Southsea* (11), 22 Aug (JRL); conversely, the annual total of seven records of 14 individuals compares well with previous years, with reports from Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12), three, 21 Jul (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson), Longstock (12), 27 Jul (GCE), Wherwell (12), 13 Jul (GCE), Forton (12), two, 15 Jul (GCE), The Hatch, Mapledurwell Fen (12), five by day, 18 Jul (GJD), Minley Meadows (12), one disturbed by day, 10 Aug (AJB, LB), Headley (12), 17 Jul (ALL).

70.028 (1691) Rosy Wave *Scopula emutaria* (Hübner, 1809) **Nb**

Found in two quite distinct habitats, being coastal saltmarshes and boggy heathland, both represented in the year under review, as follows: Norton Spit and Yarmouth Harbour (10), 5 Aug (SRP), Jersey Camp (10), 19 Aug (IM), Bembridge Lagoons (10), 26 May (IOU); Hengistbury Head (11), 14 Jul (BH), Lepe (11), 22 Jun (RAC), Fordingbridge (11), Jul (Stephen Tapper), Lepe Country Park (11) 10 Sep (LH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Browndown Coastal Ranges (11), 4 Sep, female at rest on grass-stem at night (F.M.G.)

70.029 (1682) Blood-vein *Timandra comae* (Schmidt, 1931)

The year saw only the fourth ever November sighting of this common and widespread species, from Shanklin Upper Chine on the 10th (IOU). The latest ever was in 2014, with one on 11 Dec at Muscliffe (James Boyland).

70.030 (1675) Dingy Mocha *Cyclophora pendularia* (Clerck, 1759) RDB3, UK BAP

A speciality of the New Forest, which has occasionally strayed to the western edge of the Isle of Wight. The only record was from Sway (11), 11 May (MHg)

Photo right: *Cyclophora pendularia*, 11 May, Sway (MHg)



70.033 (1678) Blair's Mocha *Cyclophora puppillaria* (Hübner, 1799) Migrant

An increasingly common immigrant and localised breeder on Evergreen Oak *Quercus ilex* along the coast of the Isle and Wight and now probably in Hampshire. The year under review saw 49 records, which is slightly down on 2014's totals, and roughly half of the influx seen in 2013, but still the third best year ever. The majority (30) originated from the Isle of Wight (10): Totland, singles on 13 Aug, 11 and 18 Sep (SAK-J), Ventnor, on 26 and 28 Jun, 14 and 18 Aug (FW), Ventnor Botanic Garden, 5 Sep (RWi), Shanklin, 7 Nov (IOu), Bonchurch, 25 individuals on 20 dates between 7 May and 11 Nov, 15 of which occurred in September or later (JHa), Bonchurch Landslip, 26 Aug (RWi). South Hampshire (11) saw 18 records, with one in Ashurst, NF, 16 Sep (KG), Lymington, 23 Aug (Ahr), Pennington, 30 Oct (RFC), Lovedean, 3 Nov (AJ), Fareham, single males on 22 and 23 Aug (KJW), Wickham Common, 20 May (KC) and Southsea, 21 Aug (JRL). This species is probably breeding locally in Northney, Hayling (11), evidenced by 15 individuals on ten nights between 11 Jun and 1 Nov (JWP).

70.034 (1678) Jersey Mocha *Cyclophora ruficiliaria* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855) Migrant

A much rarer immigrant than the preceding species, but likewise probably a very localised breeder (on deciduous oak species), likely resident in the Bonchurch (10) area of the Isle of Wight, where it was reported on 20 and 21 May, 7 and 18 Aug, and a late record on 10 Sep (JHa). One in Chandlers Ford* (11) on 19 Aug (BE) was more surprising, only the second Hampshire record and well away from the coast.

70.038 (1716) Vestal *Rhodometra sacraria* (Linnaeus, 1767) Migrant

A good year but not a spectacular one for this attractive migrant, with 59 records of 110 individuals. Totals by vice county were as follows: Isle of Wight (10), 19 records of 20 individuals, the third best ever, behind 2011 and 2013; 36 of 86 in South Hampshire (11), again behind 2011 and 2013, but noticeable by its general absence in North Hampshire (12), where there were only four records of single individuals.

Week	Week beginning	Total Records	Total Individs.	VC10	VC11	VC12	Comments
27	02/07/2015	3	3	1	1	1	First records: Shawford (11), 3 Jul (AH), Mapledurwell (12), 3 Jul (TJN); Freshwater (10), 4 Jul (PBa)
...							
29	16/07/2015	2	2		2		
...							
32	06/08/2015	1	1	1			
33	13/08/2015	4	4	2	2		
34	20/08/2015	5	6	1	4		
35	27/08/2015	25	35	4	19	2	
36	03/09/2015	6	47	3	3		Highest count: Browndown (11), 42, 4 Sep (F.M.G.)
37	10/09/2015	7	6	3	3	1	Last record for VC12: Chilbolton, 11 Sep (GCE)
...							
40	01/10/2015	1	1	1			
...							
43	22/10/2015	4	4	2	2		Last record for VC11: Sholing, 28 Oct (ARC), Sway, 28 Oct (SKe)
44	29/10/2015	1	1	1			Latest record for year: Freshwater (10), 1 Nov (SRP)

70.039 (1718) Oblique Striped *Phibalapteryx virgata* (Hufnagel, 1767) Nb

One in Portsmouth (11), 12 Sep (IRT) was the latest reported date for this very rare species, with less than 100 records on the database: a possible wanderer from Hayling Island, where it has been regularly recorded in the past. Historically also seen on the downs, but far less frequently.

70.041 (1734) July Belle *Scotopteryx luridata* (Fabricius, 1775)

In Hampshire, reported in most years from the heaths of the New Forest but very irregular in the north-east of the county, and rare or absent elsewhere (the last Isle of Wight record was in 2004). The ten netted at dusk at Roundhill Campsite, NF (11) on 23 May (PBk) were both the earliest recorded and the maximum single record individual count on file.

70.043 (1731) Chalk Carpet *Scotopteryx bipunctaria* (Prout, 1937) UK BAP

In Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight this species has gone from many localities on the chalk. Nowadays mostly reported from the downland of the Isle of Wight and occasionally on the mainland. Just one record in 2015, but the 13 on one night from Compton Undercliff NR (10), on 10 Aug (SRP) was the second highest one night total on the database.

70.046 (1719) Oblique Carpet *Orthonama vittata* (Borkhausen, 1794)

A quite rare resident of river valleys, marshland and damp woodland where bedstraws grow – there have been less than 20 records this century, so it was welcome to receive two reports, from Ventnor (10)*, 5 Oct (JHa) and Ashurst, NF (11), 23 Aug (KG).

70.047 (1720) Gem *Nycterosea obstipata* (Fabricius, 1794) **Migrant**

A reasonable but not stellar year, the 27 records (which includes one monthly summary so an underestimate) being the sixth highest since the turn of the century. The first was in mid May, with a scattering of sightings from July to August through to the seven that were reported in November, which is late but not unusual, and there was no late winter peak as was evident for some other migrant species in 2015. None made it to North Hampshire. On the Isle of Wight (10), reported from Totland, 3 Jul, 27 Oct and 13 during the month of November (SAK-J), Bonchurch, 2 Nov and three, 3 Nov (JHa), Shanklin Upper Chine, 10 Nov (IOu); in South Hampshire (11), Hengistbury Head, 31 Aug (BH), Highland Water Inclosure, NF, 21 Aug (RFC, MMcM), Ashurst, NF, 12 Aug (KG), Sway, 11 Oct and 7 Nov (MHg), Lovedean, 22 May (AJ), Fareham, males, 4 and 8 Nov (KJW), Wickham Common, 22 Aug (KC), North End, Portsmouth, 11 and 12 Aug (MWe), Portsmouth, 9 and 13 Aug, 28 Oct and 1 Nov (IRT), Southsea, 5 Jul (JG) and 30 Oct (JRL).

70.050 (1721) Balsam Carpet *Xanthorhoe biriviata* (Borkhausen, 1794)

X. biriviata was first recorded in Hampshire in 1964 and like its alien hostplant, Orange Balsam *Impatiens capensis*, has gradually increased its range along river valleys in the county and along the south coast. Itchen Valley CP (11), 25 Jul (MHa), Sholing (11), 29 Aug (ARC); Longstock (12), 27 Jul (GCE), Headley (12), 13 Jul (ALL)

70.055 (1726) Large Twin-spot Carpet *Xanthorhoe quadrifasiata* (Clerck, 1759)

Apart from a scattering of historic records from the New Forest, this is very much a species of damp woodland in the north of Hampshire, particularly in the Test valley and around Pamber Forest. All reports in 2015 were from North Hampshire (12): Goodworth Clatford, 30 Jun (GCE), Chilbolton, 27 Jul (GCE), Leckford Estate, three, 2 Aug (GCE), Chilbolton, 25 Jun (GCE), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber, 11 Jul (GJD), Alton, 14 Jul (DBO det. BG), singles by day, Odiham Common, 3 and 17 Jul (CLB).

70.057 (1735) Ruddy Carpet *Catarhoe rubidata* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775) **Nb**

An unmistakable and beautiful insect when fresh, found in woodland and hedgerows on bedstraws: much reduced in numbers in recent decades on the mainland, but apparently still faring well on the Isle of Wight. 2015 saw 21 reports from six sites, the majority on the island: Ventnor (10), 2 Aug (FW), Wheelers Bay (10), 23 May, 24 and 25 Jun, 4 Jul, 3 Aug (ABu), Bonchurch (10), common, with 24 individuals on ten dates between 7 May and 7 Aug (JHa), Bonchurch Landslip (10), two on 25 May and another, 4 Jun (RWi); in Hampshire, Fareham (11), 11 Jul (KJW), Northney, Hayling (11), 27 Jun (JWP) and in the north, where it is quite rare, one at Mapledurwell (12) on 3 Jul (TJN) was notable.



70.062 (1739) Wood Carpet *Epirrhoe rivata* (Hübner, 1813)

This easily confusable relative of Common Carpet has a very scattered distribution, perhaps most common on the Isle of Wight, from where two late sightings were returned from Ventnor (10), 3 Sep (RWi) and Wheelers Bay (10), by day, 4 Sep (ABu); in Hampshire, at Horton Heath (11), 10 Jul (ABr det. KJW), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), two, 3 Jul (F.M.G.), and Butser Hill (11), one by day, 27 May (JHC).

Photo left: *Epirrhoe rivata*, 3 Sep, Ventnor (RWi)

70.063 (1740) Galium Carpet *Epirrhoe galiata* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775)

Typically, all records were received from coastal localities. The majority came from the Isle of Wight (10) where two records from Freshwater Cliffs, 20 Sep and 10 Oct (SD) were particularly notable, with the latter being the only October report on the database. Also reported from Freshwater Bay, one by day, 4 Jul (PBa), Castle Cove, Ventnor, three, 1 Sep, Ventnor, two, 3 Sep, Monks Bay, Bonchurch, 4 Sep, Bonchurch Landslip, 4 Jun and 26 Aug (all RWi), Culver Down, two, 21 Jun (JHC). Only four were seen on the mainland, from Portchester (11), 30 Aug (DF), Southsea (11), 24 Jun (JRL), Cosham, Portsmouth (11), 21 and 22 Aug (Geoffrey Farwell).

70.064 (1793) Cloaked Carpet *Euphyia biangulata* (Haworth, 1809) **Nb**

Like the next species, found on stitchworts in damp woodland, but far rarer and only relatively frequent in the Bordon area. There has been only one record from the Isle of Wight in the past thirty years. Hengistbury Head (11), 16 Jun (BH), Foxbury (11), 21 Jul (Wild New Forest team), Black Water (11), 17 Jul (AA), Foxbury Common (11), 21 Jul (THW, PJD, MP, AP, R Lemon, Laura Baker at al), Ashurst, NF (11), 9 Jul (KG), Shawford (11), 2 Aug (AH); Headley (12), two, 7 Aug (ALL).

70.065 (1794) Sharp-angled Carpet *Euphyia unangulata* (Haworth, 1809)

Widespread and locally common on chickweeds and stitchworts in woodland, particularly in the far north of the county, at Hengistbury and around Botley Wood in the south. 2015 saw 27 records of 34 individuals: Hengistbury Head (11), 17 individuals on 13 nights between 12 Jul and 29 Aug, with five on 16 Jul (BH), Lepe CP (11), 10 Sep (LH), Totton (11), 18 Jun, 7 and 17 Aug (LH), Wickham Common (11), 20 Aug (KC); Basingstoke (12), 14 Jun (MJW), Pamber Forest (12), ten between 3 Jul and 22 Aug (GJD), Sherborne St John (12), 22 Aug (NJM)

70.068 (1748) Beautiful Carpet *Mesoleuca albicillata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Widespread but rare across our area (particularly so in north Hampshire and even more so on the Isle of Wight), on bramble and other understorey plants in deciduous woodland. Walkershill Copse (10), 9 Sep, only the fourth September sighting and the latest ever by a day (Edward Mills); Blashford Lakes (11), 16 Jul (RAC), Highland Water Inclosure, NF (11), 21 Aug (RFC, MMcM), Ashurst, NF (11), 5 Jul (KG), Bishopstoke (11) 15 Jul (MHa), West Walk (11), two, 14 Jul (MLO, KJW); Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun (GCE).

70.069 (1749) Dark Spinach *Pelurga comitata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Quite local and rare on goosefoot and orache, weeds of disturbed ground. Needs to be carefully determined as similar to Northern Spinach and ideally all individuals should be photographed especially in new areas. Damerham (8), 12 Aug (PT); Totton (11), 23, 24 and 27 Jun (LH); Ambley Farm, Upton* (12), 16 Aug (GCE), Headley (12), 28 Aug (ALL).



Photo right: *P. comitata*, Headley, 28 Aug (ALL)

70.070 (1745) Mallow *Larentia clavaria* (Haworth, 1809)

A good year with 24 records, albeit the majority (16) came from one site. Rare in North Hampshire. Hengistbury Head (11), 18 Sep with two on 25 Sep (BH), Burton, nr Christchurch (11), two, 6 Oct (JSw), Wickham Common (11), 27 Sep (KC), Portsmouth (11), 25 individuals on 16 dates between 25 Sep (IRT) and 4 Nov (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 20 Oct (JWP), Bisterne (11), 8 Oct (SCu), Browdown Coastal Ranges (11), female, 13 Oct (MLO, KJW); Sherborne St John (12), 15 Jul (NJM)

70.081 (1768) Grey Pine Carpet *Thera obeliscata* (Hübner, 1787)

A notable and very aberrant record was of one to in Ashurst, NF on the exceptional date of 27 Dec (KG). There have been seven previous December sightings, but none previously later than the 8th.

70.083 (1771) Cypress Carpet *Thera cupressata* (Geyer, 1831)

Like the previous species, December records are not unknown (we even have two January records on file which should be considered late, rather than early), but 27 Dec – note the coincidence with the previous entry – saw one to MV in Funtley (MLO).

70.090 (1755) Chevron *Eulithis testata* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A species mainly of the New Forest and north-east heaths, but also found at scattered localities on the Isle of Wight. There were 14 records of 17 individuals: Afton Marsh (10), 19 Jul (SRP), Luccombe Down (10), 15 Jul (RWi) and three, 2 Aug (IOu); Hengistbury Head (11), 2 and 13 Aug (BH det. MJ), Merritown Heath (11), 21 Aug (DF), Fletchers Thorns (11), two, 30 Aug (SCu), Ashurst, NF (11), 8 Aug (KG), Dibden Purlieu (11), 15 Jul (RAC), Chandlers Ford (11), 14 Jul (A&LB), Botley Wood (11), two, 11 Sep (F.M.G.); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 20 Aug (GCE), Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber (12), 16 Jul (GJD).

70.092 (1757) Spinach *Eulithis mellinata* (Fabricius, 1787)

A distinctive species, associated with Red and Black Currant *Ribes* sp., which has diminished in numbers – perhaps partly as a result of the decline in allotment gardening - in recent decades. Hengistbury Head (11), 30 Jun, 12 and 13 Jul (BH det. MJ), Pennington (11), 11 Jul (RFC), Sholing (11), 18 Jun (TS).

70.099 (1774) Beech-green Carpet *Colostygia olivata* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

In Hampshire, *olivata* has always been rare, and there has been no record for over a decade; conversely there have long been strong populations along the south coast of the Isle of Wight (10), from where the following were returned: Ventnor, one by day and another to light the same night, 7 Sep (RWi), Bonchurch, 2 Aug, two, 7 Sep (JHa), Bonchurch Landslip, 18 Aug (RWi). Of 51 records on the database, just over half have occurred in the past three years.

70.101 (1775) Mottled Grey *Colostygia multistrigaria* (Haworth, 1809)

A very infrequently encountered early spring flier, most frequently found on the Isle of Wight nowadays, from where all records in 2015 originated: Wheelers Bay (10), by day, 17 Mar (ABu), Bonchurch (10), 8 and 11 Mar (JHa).

70.103 (1750) Water Carpet *Lampropteryx suffumata* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

One of the earliest flying 'carpets', thinly but widely distributed in damp and shaded woody habitats. On the Isle of Wight even more local, found only in the north-west around Freshwater and south-east centred on Bonchurch. Reported from Tennyson Down NT (10), 22 May (SRP), Cranmore (10), 26 Apr, 23 May, 10 Jun (IF), Bonchurch (10), 13 and 21 Apr (JHa), Bonchurch Landslip (10), 7 May (RWi); Studland Common (11), 6 May and six on 9 Jun (Peter Hutchings), Pennington (11), 10 May (RFC), Austin's Copse, nr Upham (11), 1 May (KC, RJD, KJW), Botley Wood (11), 24 Apr (MLO, RJD, KJW), Wickham Common (11), 10 Apr (KC), Hen Wood (11), five, 10 Apr (F.M.G.); Odiham Common (12), one by day, 4 Apr (CLB), Headley (12), 4, 9, 13 and 18 Apr, 7 May (ALL).

70.104 (1751) Devon Carpet *Lampropteryx otregiata* (Metcalfe, 1917) Nb

In southern Hampshire, not uncommon in parts of the New Forest, along the edges of damp rides, but very scarce in the north. Not recorded from the Isle of Wight to date. All records were from typical localities: Highland Water Inclosure, NF (11), four, 21 Aug and another on 28 Aug (RFC, MMcM), Pondhead Inclosure, NF (11), 4 Aug (RFC et al), Wickham Common (11), 20 Aug (KC), West Walk (11), 21 Aug (F.M.G.)

70.105 (1800) Northern Winter Moth *Operophtera fagata* (Scharfenberg, 1805)

Far less frequent (although undoubtedly under-recorded) than its congener *O. brumata*. Three records in 2015: Wickham Common (11), 26 Nov (KC), Shirley Common, Avon Tyrell Estate (11), five, 11 Dec (SCu).

70.108 (1796) Pale November Moth *Epirrita christyi* (Allen, 1906)

All *Epirrita* need genitalic characteristics to be analysed to allow accurate identification. The rarity of this species in Hampshire is almost certainly due to under-recording, but it is the least frequent of the three *Epirrita* in the two counties. One acceptable record: Botley Wood (11), three, all males gen.det., 20 Oct (MLO, KJW)

70.112 (1874) Dingy Shell *Euchoeca nebulata* (Scopoli, 1763)

Common and widespread in Hampshire, but prior to 2015 there were only eight previous confirmed records from the Isle of Wight, and therefore four individuals from two sites was quite notable: Freshwater (10), 15 Aug (DC, TJN), Afton Marsh (10), 13 Aug (SRP), two, 17 Aug (JHa).

70.117 (1878) Drab Looper *Minoa murinata* (Scopoli, 1763) Nb, UK BAP

Extremely local on Wood Spurge *Euphorbia amygdaloides* in woodland, and colonies can be threatened by increased overshadowing of rides. Records were confined to Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber Forest (12), where seen on nine dates (all by day or at dusk) as follows: three, 12 May; seven, 13 May; 20 May, one disturbed while bashing bracken; four, 21 May; six, 22 May; two, 24 May; 26 May, seen in car headlights; eight, 3 Jun; 14 Jun, one netted (all GJD).

70.118 (1791) Brown Scallop *Philereme vetulata* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775)

Widely distributed on Buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica*, but notably absent from the New Forest; more common in North Hampshire (12), particularly in the Test valley (12): 21 records of 31 individuals were received, but only two from South Hampshire (11), on Old Winchester Hill NNR, two, 3 Jul (F.M.G.), and 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), two, 17 Jul (KC) (F.M.G.); in North Hampshire (12), again widely reported from the Test valley, with records away from this area at Cholderton, three, 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE), Crux Easton, 18 Jul (MJW, ACr), Magdalen Hill Down, two, 11 Jul (MJW, JC), Basingstoke, 25 Jun and 16 Jul (MJW), Sherborne St John, 4, 5, 9 and 11 Jul (NJM), Alton, 12 Jul (DBO)

70.119 (1792) Dark UMBER *Philereme transversata* (Hufnagel, 1767)

Local at low density on both species of buckthorn. 12 records of 13 individuals in 2015: Alresford (11), 1 Aug (GR), 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), 17 Jul (F.M.G.), Northney, Hayling (11), 19 Jul (JWP); Cholderton (12), 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE), Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12), two, 21 Jul (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson), Rooksbury Mill (12), 15 Jul (GD), Wherwell (12), 9 Aug (GCE), Newton Stacey (12), 9 Jul (GCE), Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 16 Jul (GAH), Basingstoke (12), 16 Jul (MJW), Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber Forest (12), 16 Jul (GJD), Alton (12), 27 Jul (DBO).

70.120 (1787) Argent & Sable *Rheumaptera hastata* (Linnaeus, 1758) UK BAP

A diurnal flying moth very much limited nowadays to Harewood Forest and most regularly in Bentley Wood, which is mainly in Wiltshire but extends into South Hampshire (11), where the following records were returned: three, 7 May, three, 10 May and six, 11 May (MP), four, 30 May (NJM), all daytime observations.

70.121 (1789) Scallop Shell *Hydria undulata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A beautiful moth, widespread but always in small numbers: 2015 was a good year, with 28 records of 35 individuals. Freshwater (10), 2 Jul (SRP), Afton Marsh (10), 20 and 4 Jun (JHC), Freshwater Causeway (10), two, 25 Jun (JHC), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 5 Jul (PBa), Parkhurst Forest (10), 7 Aug (SRP, IOu, RWi, IM), Combley Wood (North) (10), 27 Jun (IOu), America Wood (10), 16 Jul (RWi); Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 3 Jul (JSw), Bransgore (11), Jul (SCu), Steamer Point (11), 27 Jun (PBu), Studland Common (11), 9 Jun (Peter Hutchings), Brockenhurst (11), 13 Jul (AA), Ashurst, NF (11), 10 and 22 Jul (KG), Exbury Bog Garden, NF (11), Jul (JB), St Cross, Winchester (11), 30 Jun (THW), Botley Wood (11), 9 Jun (MLO, KJW), Bishops Waltham (11), 16 Jul (Jos Creese, Pete Potts), Wickham Common (11), 30 Jun (KC), West Walk (11), two, 14 Jul (MLO, KJW); Forton (12), 18 Jun (GCE), Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber (12), two, 3 Jul (GJD), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), Jul (GJD), Alton (12), Aug (DBO), Odiham Common (12), 26 Jun (CLB), Fleet (12), 30 Jun (CLB), Grayshott (12), two, 30 Jun (RTu)

70.129 (1863) Dentated Pug *Anticollix sparsata* (Treitschke, 1828) Na

Not related to the true pugs. A species of damp woodland on Yellow Loosestrife *Lysimachia punctata*, nowadays pretty much confined to the New Forest and neighbouring heaths, with an outlying colony at Afton Marsh (10) on the Isle of Wight which was only discovered in 2010, from where two were recorded on 20 Jun and a further three on 24 Jun (JHC). On the mainland, the only record was one from Merritown Heath (11) on 3 Jul (DF).

70.130 (1870) Chimney Sweeper *Odezia atrata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An unmistakable and very local day-flying moth. Reported from the A303/A343 junction* (12) on 28 Jun (John Solomon), and good numbers from the strong population at Ashford Hill Meadows NNR (12), with two on 7 Jun, five on 19 Jun and seven on 24 Jun (Lorraine Cusworth, ABo).

70.131 (1809) Twin-spot Carpet *Mesotype didymata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

The only records in the year under review came from Pamber Forest (12), with one in Upper Inhams Copse on 16 Jul, and in the nearby Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, two on 11 Jul and a singleton on 23 Jul (all GJD). Now quite a rare moth across our area.

70.132 (1802) Rivulet *Perizoma affinitata* (Stephens, 1831)

In Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight local and rather uncommon in open woodland where Red Campion *Silene dioica* is plentiful. Headon Warren & Undercliff (10), by day, 5 Aug (SRP); Holmsley Railway Track, NF (11), 30 Jun (RFC et al); Headley (12), 10 and 11 Jun (ALL)

70.134 (1804) Barred Rivulet *Perizoma bifaciata* (Haworth, 1809)

Local on Red Bartsia *Odontites vernus* in grassy areas such as downland and woodland rides, and quite rare (but under-recorded?) on the Isle of Wight, so one at Wroxall Copse (10), 2 Aug (RWi) was particularly noteworthy. In Hampshire, at Wickham Common (11), 5 and 10 Aug (KC), Portsmouth (11), 20 Aug (IRT); Cholderton, five on 1 Aug and again on 7 Aug, singleton on 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE), Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (12), two, 18 Aug (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson), Ambley Farm, Upton* (12), 16 Aug (GCE), Chilbolton (12), 14 Aug (GCE), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), 14 Aug (GJD).

70.137 (1807) Grass Rivulet *Perizoma albulata* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Another local species on good quality grassland, particularly on the downs, where the parasitic Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus minor* occurs but quite rare in the Isle of Wight. Martin Down (8), 7 Jun (Neil Sherman & A W Prichard); Sway (11), 8 Jun (MHg); Quarley (12), seven, 11 Jun and three, 16 Jun (JA), Stockbridge Down (12), by day, 18 Jun (MP), Chilbolton Down Farm (12), 4 Jun (GCE).

70.138 (1808) Sandy Carpet *Perizoma flavofasciata* (Thunberg, 1792)

The 41 records of 58 individuals was the largest annual total ever recorded, surpassing 37 in 2010 and 33 in 2013. This was mainly driven by dramatic increases on Wight: 2014 saw 17 records and 2015 a record 21 – only 12 records in total were received for the earlier years of the 21st century. Is this species of woodland edges and hedgerows on campion (both red and white) truly increasing in numbers? However the totals returned from the mainland seem constant, and it is quite rare in VC12, where the only sightings were in Headley (12), 17 and 25 Jul (ALL), so the increase is probably an artefact of increased recording on the island.

70.142 (1858) V-Pug *Chloroclystis v-ata* (Haworth, 1809)

A widespread and distinctive moth. One found by day in an underpass at Odiham Common on 1 Apr (CLB) was the equal third earliest on record, but more exceptional was Hampshire and Isle of Wight's first November sighting, to MV on 3 Nov at Shawford (AH).

70.147 (1811) Slender Pug *Eupithecia tenuiata* (Hübner, 1813)

Thinly and widely scattered across our area in willow thickets and woodland. 2015 saw 16 records of 19 individuals: Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), single on 11 Jul and three on 12 Jul (PBa) gen.det.; Bournemouth (11), 12 Jun (DE), Hengistbury Head (11), 13 Jun, 17 Jul (BH), Blashford Lakes (11), 15 Jul (RAC), Chandlers Ford (11), 14 Jul (A&LB), St Cross, Winchester (11), 10 Jul (THW), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 26 Jun, 10 Jul (two), 7 Aug (two) (F.M.G.), Fareham (11), 13 Jun (KJW), Southsea (11), 14 Jul (JRL); Cholderton (12), Aug (TJN, LF, HE), Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 23 Jul (GAH), Sherborne St John (12), 2 Jul (NJM)

70.148 (1812) Maple Pug *Eupithecia inturbata* (Hübner, 1817)

Scattered records across the two counties, and certainly not as common as the foodplant, Field Maple *Acer campestre*. 2015 saw 16 records of 23 individuals: Ventnor (10), 1 and 10 Jul (FW), Wroxall Copse (10), six, 4 Aug (RWi); Fareham (11), 5 and 12 Aug (KJW); Ambley Farm, Upton (12), 16 Aug (GCE), Wherwell (12), 17 Jun (GCE), Basingstoke (12), 8, 12, 22 and 30 Aug (MJW), Alton (12), 25 (two) and 27 Jul, 1 (two), 3 and 11 Aug (DBO)

70.152 (1855) Channel Islands Pug *Eupithecia ultimaria* Boisduval, 1840

New to Hampshire in 1995, and the Isle of Wight in 1996, with larvae found on *Tamarix* (a far better vernacular name would be Tamarisk Pug). The year under review was a reasonable one, with 14 records of 17 individuals from typical localities: Ventnor (10), 3 Sep (RWi), Wheelers Bay, 14, 16 and 20 Jun, 3 Jul, 9 and 22 (three) Aug (ABu); Stubbington (11), 10 Jul (DPH), Southsea (11), 17, 22, 25 (two) and 30 Jun, 1 Jul, 6 Aug (JRL)

70.153 (1814) Lead-coloured Pug *Eupithecia plumbeolata* (Haworth, 1809) **Nb**

Very much a speciality of Pamber Forest, where significant numbers were reported in June and July, as follows: Upper Inhams Copse, 20 on 23 Jun, 35 on 30 Jun and similar numbers on 3 Jul, five, 10 Jul and a singleton on 16 Jul, and nearby in Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, three on 20 Jun (all GJD).

70.155 (1823) *Netted Pug Eupithecia venosata* (Fabricius, 1787)

A stunning and unmistakable moth, but rarely seen. There was just a single record, from Damerham (8), 12 Jun (PT)

70.158 (1854) *Juniper Pug Eupithecia pusillata* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775)

Widespread but limited by the availability of what is a scarce foodplant in the wild: although there is some evidence *E. pusillata* uses cultivated juniper in gardens. On 25 May, a large larva was beaten from juniper on Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), and on the same site on 17 Aug an adult was subsequently found (both KJW); Cholderton (12), 1 Aug and two there on 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE)

70.162 (1857) *Dwarf Pug Eupithecia tantillaria* Boisduval, 1840

Widespread in conifer plantations across both counties. There were 14 records of 15 individuals: Wheelers Bay (10), 5 Jul (ABu); Hengistbury Head (11), 3 Sep (BH) – the equal latest record on the database and only the second September sighting - Ashurst, NF (11), 22 and 23 May, 9 Jun (KG), Romsey (11), 22 May (MJB), Shawford (11), 7 Jun (AH), Botley Wood (11), 9 Jun (MLO, KJW); Goodworth Clatford (12), 23 May and 30 Jun (GCE), Wherwell (12), 22 May (GCE), Hurstbourne Park (12), two, 11 May (GCE), Basingstoke (12), 11 Jun (MJW), Alton (12), 12 Jun (DBO det. MJW)

70.163 (1856) *Larch Pug Eupithecia lariciata* (Freyer, 1842)

Widespread but local, with signs that it is becoming rarer – since 2010, only 17 individuals have been reported, compared to nearly 100 in the first decade of the 21st century. Three records, from Botley Wood (11), male, 26 May (MLO, KJW), West Walk (11), female, 21 Aug (KC, RJD, Claire Royle, KJW gen.det.); Goodworth Clatford (12), 23 May (GCE).

70.165 (1845) *Pimpinel Pug Eupithecia pimpinellata* (Hübner, 1813)

Very rare on the downs, the larva feeding in the seed capsules of Burnet-saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*. One record from Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 28 Sep (KJW), where larva were tapped from seed-heads.

70.166 (1842) *Plain Pug Eupithecia simpliciatata* (Haworth, 1809)

On *Chenopodium* and relatives, particularly on coastal cliffs and saltmarsh but also inland to the New Forest and into the north of Hampshire. Ashurst, NF (11), 11 Jun, 10 Jul (KG), Lovedean (11), 13 Aug (AJ), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), two, 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 27 Jun, 12 and 13 Jul (IRT); East Tisted* (12), 18 Jul (THW det. BE)

70.170 (1818) *Marbled Pug Eupithecia irriguata* (Hübner, 1813) **Nb**

Something of a Hampshire, and within the county, New Forest, speciality, from where it is reported in most years. Fletchers Thorns Inclosure, NF (11), 21 Apr (DE), Ashurst, NF (11), 15 May (KG), but also at Botley (11), 21 Apr (SBa).

70.171 (1844) *Ochreous Pug Eupithecia indigata* (Hübner, 1813)

Widespread but infrequent around Scots Pine. 2015 saw 13 records of 17 individuals, with the Isle of Wight record being only the 12th for the island: Bouldnor Copse (10), two, 5 Jun (Mark Hammond., Keith Tailby); Hurn Forest (11), 27 May (DE), Bournemouth (11), 22 May, 4 Jun (DE), Ashurst, NF (11), 24 May (KG), Romsey (11), 25 May (MJB), Botley (11), 9 May (SBa), Wickham Common (11), 21 May, 4 Jun (KC); Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun (GCE), Basingstoke (12), 22 May (MJW), Fleet (12), 22 May (CLB), Headley (12), 1 (five) and 3 Jun (ALL)

70.175 (1826) *Triple-spotted Pug Eupithecia trisignaria* Herrich-Schäffer, 1848

A rare but possibly overlooked pug of verges and rides. Claims of this species should be accompanied by good quality photographs and ideally the specimen should be retained for checking. The only accepted record for 2015 was from 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), male gen.det., 17 Jul (F.M.G.).

70.177 (1828) *Satyr Pug Eupithecia satyrata* (Hübner, 1813)

Found generally on the chalk, on pabula such as ragwort and scabious sp., although does occur in the New Forest where associated with heathers. Tennyson Down NT (10), larva, 15 Aug (SRP); Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 22 May, at least ten, 3 Jul (F.M.G.), 'The Mountain', nr West Meon (11), two, 17 Jul (F.M.G.); Hawk Conservancy, Monxton* (12), larva, 28 Jul (Monica Johnson det. TJN), Bradley Wood, Whitchurch (12), 27 Jun (GCE).

70.189 (1840) *Shaded Pug Eupithecia subumbrata* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775)

A relatively distinctive pug which is sparsely distributed across the two counties, mostly on and around the central chalk. 2015 saw 13 records of 27 individuals, all from Hampshire: Brockenhurst (11), 13 Jul (AA), Exbury Bog Garden, NF (11), 1 Jul (JB), Owslebury (11), 21 Jul (JA), Wickham Common (11), 4 Jun (KC), Portsdown (11), 24 Jun (JRL, MRY), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), three, 22 May, 11 to two traps, 3 Jul (F.M.G.), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), four, 1 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Danebury Hill, Nether Wallop (12), 19 Jun (JA conf. GCE), Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun (GCE), Leckford Estate (12), 25 Jun (JA), Basingstoke (12), 1 Jul (MJW).

70.195 (1864) *Streak Chesias legatella* ([Denis & Schiffemüller], 1775)

Flying late in the year, and therefore probably under-recorded as limited trapping occurs in suitable habitat beyond September, records for The Streak are scattered across the heathland sites in our area. Three records were received, a singleton to light in Botley Wood (11), 20 Oct (MLO, KJW), and in Botley itself (11) on 9 and 10 Nov (SBa).

70.198 (1879) Seraphim Lobophora halterata (Hufnagel, 1767)

Very local on aspen, although not infrequent in the Test valley and Pamber areas. It was a reasonable year with 18 records of 20 individuals. Considered rare on the island, but 2015 saw two at Afton Marsh (10), 17 Aug (JHa) – a very late date - and at Bembridge South Lagoon (10), 10 May (IOu); from Hampshire, returns from Merritown Heath (11), 23 May (DF), Cadnam (11), 24 and 27 May, 4 Jun (MP), Sholing (11), two, 10 May and another, 11 May (TS), Botley Wood (11), 24 Apr (RJD, MLO, KJW), Bransgore (11), 3 May (SCu); Cholderton (12), 24 May (TJN, LF, HE), Andover (12), 24 May (GD), Chilbolton (12), 23 and 24 May (GCE), Wherwell (12), 22 May (GCE), Axmansford (12), 23 May (ABo det MJW), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), 24 May, 1 Jul (GJD), Fleet (12), 16 May (CLB).

70.200 (1883) Yellow-barred Brindle Acasis viretata (Hübner, 1799)

The 17 to MV recorded by JHa in Bonchurch on 6 Sep was the highest ever single trap count on file.

70.201 (1880) Barred Tooth-striped Trichopteryx polycommata ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) **Na, UK BAP**

Very local on wild privet *Ligustrum vulgare* in hedgerows on chalk downland and open woodland, and very rare on the Isle of Wight, which however saw the only two reports for the year: Tennyson Down NT (10), three, 15 Apr (SRP) and at St. Catherine's Point (10), 14 Apr (IOu). These represent the fourth and fifth records for the island.

70.203 (1661) Orange Underwing Archiearis parthenias (Linnaeus, 1761)

Separation of the two 'orange underwing' species can only safely be done with the moth in the hand, or from a clear sighting of a resting individual – habitat (i.e. birch in the present species, aspen for the far less frequently encountered *B. notha*) has been proved to be unsafe as a determinant alone. There were just two reports, both by TF: Newtown Common (12), by day, 8 Apr and in Herbert Plantation, Burghclere (12), 22 Apr, settled on short grass on ride

70.204 (1662) Light Orange Underwing Boudinotiana notha (Hübner, 1803) **Nb**

See notes for the preceding species. There was only one report, from a known site: Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber Forest (12), one by day, 24 Apr (GJD).

70.206 (1885) Clouded Magpie Abraxas sylvata (Scopoli, 1763)

Dependent on elm *Ulmus* sp., this attractive insect has been impacted by the historical decline of its foodplant and is now found only sporadically across our area. Parkhurst Forest and nearby woodland is a stronghold on Wight (10), from where records were obtained as follows: Walter's Copse, on 11 Jun (IOu, JHa), which was the earliest flight date on record, in Parkhurst Forest, five, 1 Jul, four, 9 Jul (IM, IOu); in Hampshire, at Upton (11), 25 Jul (PJH); Cheriton Wood (12), 8 Aug (PGLT), and East Tisted (12), 18 Jul (THW).

70.218 (1894) Latticed Heath Chiasmia clathrata (Linnaeus, 1758)

A once common species of farmland and grassland, on clovers, including agricultural strains, but has shown a contraction of range in recent decades. The year under review saw just three records of singletons, all by day from the New Forest (11): Latchmore Bottom, 13 May (Nigel Owen), FaiRFCoss Heath, Lyndhurst, 20 Jun (MP), Deerleap, 17 Jun (Sue Lambert).

70.221 (1901) Little Thorn Cepphis advenaria (Hübner, 1790) **Nb**

Local, occasionally frequent, in woodland understorey on bramble *Rubus* (also Bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus* where this occurs). 2015 saw 12 records of 13 individuals, all but four from the Isle of Wight (10): Afton Marsh (10), by day, 16 May (SRP), Bouldnor Forest (10), two, 4 Jun (Terri Benstead), Cranmore (10), 3 Jun (IF), Hillisgate (10), 21 May (IOu), Combley Great Wood (10), 16 Jun (IOu), Shanklin (10), 13 and 25 Jun (IOu), Bonchurch (10), 4 Jun (JHa); Bossington (11), 21 May (GCE), Botley Wood (11), 9 Jun (MLO, KJW), Wickham Common (11), 16 May (KC); Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber (12), 23 Jun (GJD).

70.223 (1903) Barred Umber Plagodis pulveraria (Linnaeus, 1758)

Scattered populations in mature deciduous woodland across both counties but somewhat scarce, and rarely in any great numbers. Austin's Copse, nr Upham (11), 1 May (KC, RJD, KJW), Botley Wood (11), 28 Apr (MLO, KJW), Wickham Common (11), 25 May (KC); Axmansford (12), two, 23 May (ABo).

70.224 (1904) Scorched Wing Plagodis dolabraria (Linnaeus, 1767)

Wherwell (12) seems to be a very good site for this lovely and quite widespread and common moth of deciduous woodland and parks throughout. The 27 recorded in 1 Jun 2014 in Stoneyard Copse by GCE were surpassed by 30 on the same site on 17 June, setting a new county high single-trap count record.

70.226 (1906) Brimstone Moth Opisthograptis luteolata (Linnaeus, 1758)

One was taken at light on the latest ever date (by 17 days) of 27 Dec in Funtley (MLO).

70.230 (1924) Orange Moth Angerona prunaria (Linnaeus, 1758)

14 records of 47 individuals were reported of this beautiful and distinctive locally common inhabitant of mature deciduous woodland, where the larvae feed on various plants of the understorey: Parkhurst Forest (10), eight, 9 Jul (IOu), and another, Parkhurst Forest (10), 1 Jul (IM), Combley Wood (10), 11, 27 Jun (IOu); Botley Wood (11), five, 23 Jun, one f. *corylaria*. (MLO, KJW), Lovedean (11), 3 and 5 Jul (AJ), Bishops Waltham (11), 16 Jul (Jos Creese, Pete Potts),

Wickham Common (11), 3 Jul (KC), West Walk (11), six, including 3 f. *corylaria* (all males), 19 Jun (F.M.G.) and three, 14 Jul (MLO, KJW), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), six, 3 Jul, at least one male f. *corylaria*. (F.M.G.); Goodworth Clatford (12), 30 Jun (GCE), Wherwell (12), 17 Jun (GCE).

70.232 (1911) Large Thorn *Ennomos autumnaria* (Werneburg, 1859) Nb

Apart from the occasional wanderer, very much confined to the south-east corner of Hampshire from Portsmouth to Hayling Island. The year under review saw nine records of ten individuals from just three sites in this core area: Portsmouth (11), six between 6 and 18 Sep (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 10 Sep (JWP) and in Southsea (11), 5, 9 and 12 Sep (JRL).

70.236 (1915) September Thorn *Ennomos erosaria* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

One trapped at on the night of 7 Nov on the Avon Tyrell estate (SCu) was the latest on file by 8 days, and therefore the first November sighting.

70.254 (1933) Scarce UMBER *Agriopis aurantiaria* (Hübner, 1799)

Thinly distributed across the two counties, but potentially under-recorded due to its late flight period when limited trapping is performed. Shanklin (10), 10 Nov (IOu), Bonchurch (10), 1 and 9 Nov (JHa); Botley (11), 19 Nov (SBa), Wickham Common (11), 1 Nov (KC).

70.262 (1938) Bordered Grey *Selidosema brunnearia* (Villers, 1789)

Limited to the New Forest and south-east coastal heaths. The only record was from the former, at Dibden Purlieu (11), on 9 Aug (RAC).

70.263 (1939) Ringed Carpet *Cleora cinctaria* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Na

In Hampshire very much limited to the New Forest, and not recorded from the Isle of Wight to date. Three records from Sway (11), on 20 Apr (SKe) and another nearby on same date, also on 9 May (MHg).

70.264 (1940) Satin Beauty *Deileptenia ribeata* (Clerck, 1759)

Widespread but uncommon in coniferous woodland, and quite rare on the Isle of Wight, from where there were reports from Freshwater Fruit Farm (10) with four to two traps on 4 Jul (PBa); in Hampshire, seen at Locks Heath* (11), two, 17 Jul and three, 7 Aug (Paul A Smith), Sandy Point, Hayling* (11), four, Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Goodworth Clatford (12), 10 Jul (GCE), Crux Easton (12), 18 Jul (MJW & ACr), Hurstbourne Park (12), 14 Jul (GCE), and Axmansford (12), 4 Jul (ABO).

70.267 (1943) Great Oak Beauty *Hypomecis roboraria* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nb

As an inhabitant of mature oak woodland, the paucity of suitable habitat on the Isle of Wight is a severe limitation, but 2015 proved to be the best year on record for the island with seven sightings from three sites: Jersey Camp (10), five, 19 Aug and a singleton on 28 Aug (IM), Parkhurst Forest (10), on 1, 9 and 25 Jul (IM, IOu), and in Combley Wood (10), 27 Jun (IOu). More typically, there were 37 records from mainland Hampshire, from the New Forest across to Botley Wood in the south, north to the Test Valley and Pamber Forest in VC12.

70.270 (1947) Engrailed *Ectropis crepuscularia* (Goeze, 1781)

Two late individuals on the Isle of Wight (10) were of note – only four mainland sightings have been later – and probably represent a partial third generation: Shanklin, 11 Oct, and the following night from Afton Marsh (both IOu).

70.272 (1949) Square Spot *Paradarisa consonaria* (Hübner, 1799)

Local in broad-leaved woodland and scrub, particularly so on the Isle of Wight: 2015 saw eight reports of 19 individuals across all three vice-counties. Medina Valley Centre (10), 15 Jul and nine there on 11 Sep (KM); Hengistbury Head (11), three, 5 Sep (BH), Botley Wood (11), 9 Jun (MLO, KJW), Hen Wood (11), 8 May (F.M.G.); Alton (12), 12 Sep (Chris Piper), Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber (12), 23 Jun (GJD), Fleet (12), 23 Jun (CLB)

70.274 (1951) Grey Birch *Aethalura punctulata* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Widespread at low density in areas of birch in woodland and heathland in Hampshire, but there has been only one record so far this century on the Isle of Wight. Merritown Heath (11), three, 23 May (DF), Cadnam Common (11), one by day, 18 May (MJB); Pamber Forest (12), one by day, 12 May, with five to light on 11 May, two on 22 May, singles on 24 May and another, 2 June (all GJD), Sherborne St John (12), 4 Jun (NJM)

70.287 (1964) Annulet *Charissa obscurata* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

As has been the norm in recent years, most record originated from the cliffs of the Isle of Wight with five records of seven individuals: Ventnor (10), by day, 7 Sep, and two to light nearby on same night (both RWi), Bonchurch (10), 11 Sep (JHa), Monks Bay, Bonchurch (10), 4 Sep (RWi), Bonchurch Landslip (10), two, 26 Aug (RWi). Before 2015, there have been only eight Hampshire records in the 21st century, the last in 2012, but the year saw six on five nights between 20 Jul and 13 Aug in Dibden Purlieu (11) (RAC).

70.288 (1945) Brussels Lace *Cleorodes lichenaria* (Hufnagel, 1767)

This species had all but disappeared in our area by the middle of the 20th century, but in the past decade has shown a dramatic increase in the past decade or so, and is now to be found throughout the New Forest, in the Test Valley, and across the Isle of Wight, and records are increasing sporadically outside of these population centres. In 2015, the Isle of Wight (10) saw a remarkable 81 records of 179 individuals (previous maximum 70 two years previously), which exactly matched the total returned from South Hampshire (11), where it can be regarded as common. Reports from the island ranged from 11 Jun to 15 Aug, the maximum count being 22 in one trap in Bonchurch on 7 Aug (JHa). It is even rarer in North Hampshire (12), so a total of 29 records was equally notable, from 17 Jun to 7 Aug, including six at Cholderton on 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE).

70.294 (1968) Yellow Belle *Aspitates ochrearia* (Rossi, 1794)

Quite frequent on dunes and shingle in coastal localities, and very rarely inland on the chalk, on a variety of pabula. The year under review saw 31 records of 76 individuals: Shepherd's Chine (10), six by day, 27 May (ABu), Niton (10), by day, 16 Jun (Tony Steele), St. Helens Duver (10), 27 May (IOu); on Hengistbury Head, 50 recorded on 22 nights between 16 May and 7 Sep, with six on 20 and 22 May (all BH), Needs Ore (11), two, 10 Sep (SCu), Coldeast (11), larva found by day, 20 Oct (PBu), Horsea Island (11), 28 Aug (F.M.G.), Browdown Coastal Ranges (11), 12 on 4 Sep (F.M.G.) and another on 25 Sep (KI, MLO, KJW).

70.295 (1970) Grass Wave *Perconia strigillaria* (Hübner, 1787)

Local on heathland and most years see records from the New Forest and less frequently in the north-east, but very rare elsewhere. Not recorded from the Isle of Wight since 1948. Hengistbury Head (11), 13 Jun (BH), Ashurst, NF (11), 17 Jun (KG), King's Hat Inclosure, NF (11), by day, 20 Jun (A&LB)

70.303 (1674) Little Emerald *Jodis lactearia* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Widespread in open woodland and hedgerows but has suffered a serious contraction in range. 2015 saw 17 records of 40 individuals: Dunnage Copse (10), two, 23 Jun (JHC), Ventnor (10), two, 25 Jul (FW), Combley Great Wood (10), 16 Jun (IOu), Combley Wood (North) (10), five, 27 Jun (IOu), Smugglers Haven, Upper Bonchurch (10), 2 Jul (RWi); Wick Wood (11), four, 17 Jun (MHg det. SKe), Cadnam (11), two, 1 Jul (MP), Cadnam (11), 5 Jul (MP), Botley Wood (11), five, 9 Jun and one on 23 Jun (MLO, KJW), Wickham Common (11), 17 Jun (KC), West Walk (11), eight, 19 Jun (F.M.G.), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Cholderton (12), 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE), Wherwell (12), three, 17 Jun (GCE), 16 May and 23 Jun (GJD).

70.305 (1669) Common Emerald *Hemithea aestivaria* (Hübner, 1799)

An individual to light at Hengistbury Head on 1 Jun (BH) was one of the earliest on file, with only three late May records being earlier.

70.306 (1670) Small Grass Emerald *Chlorissa viridata* (Linnaeus, 1758) **Na**

Found on the heathland of southern Hampshire, principally in the New Forest (11) from where it was reported from Denny Wood, 23 May (DPH) and Beaulieu Road Station, Hill Top and Bratley Plain, all on 27 Jul (MSP, AMD).

Notodontidae

71.007 (1998) Poplar Kitten *Furcula bifida* (Brahm, 1787)

Far more local than its cousin, Sallow Kitten *F. furcula*, in deciduous woodland associated with *Populus* sp. There were 24 records of 27 individuals in 2015: Afton Marsh (10), 24 Jun (JHC); Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 17 Jun (JSw), Ashley Heath, NF (11), 2 Aug (JM), Fordingbridge (11), 7 Aug (Stephen Tapper), Cadnam (11), 13 May, (MP), Pennington (11), 11 Jun, (RFC), Hillier Arboretum (11), 6 Aug (TJN), Itchen Valley Country Park (11), 18 Jul and 2 Aug (MHa), Shawford (11), 11, 27 Jun and 9 Aug (AH), Horton Heath (11), 7 Aug (ABr), St Cross, Winchester (11), 7 Aug (THW), Fareham (11), 11 Jun (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 12 Aug (KC), Portsmouth (11), 3, 13 Jun, 2 on 17 Jun and another on 21 Jun (IRT), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Hurstbourne Priors (12), 16 Jun (GCE), Sherborne St John (12), 23 May and 9 Aug (NJM).

71.018 (2006) Lesser Swallow Prominent *Pheosia gnoma* (Fabricius, 1777)

There are only four records for October on file, and one to light in Hythe on 19 Oct is the latest ever (JBI).

71.022 (2009) Maple Prominent *Ptilodon cucullina* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

A moth with a curious distribution in our area, completely absent from the New Forest and the Isle of Wight but thinly distributed from the south-east of Hampshire up to the north and north-east. Shawford (11), 18 Jul (AH), Horton Heath (11), 21 Aug (ABr), Botley Wood (11), 9 Jun and 2, 23 Jun, West Walk (11), 14 Jul (MLO & KJW), Cosham (11), 15 Aug (Geoffrey Farwell), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 2, 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Cholderton Lodge (12), 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE), Chilbolton (12), 14 Aug (GCE), Longparish (12), 19 Jun (GCE), Crux Easton (12), 2, 18 Jul (MJW & Alison Cross), Hurstbourne Park (12), 14 Jul (GCE), Sherborne St John (12), 25 Jun (NJM), Alton (12), 10 Jul (DBO), Headley (12), 1 and 4 Jul (ALL).

71.023 (2010) Scarce Prominent *Odontosia carmelita* (Esper, 1799)

Very thinly scattered across birch woodland in Hampshire and almost absent in the Isle of Wight, most frequent in the New Forest from where the only record came, on Ashley Heath (11), 3 May (JM)

71.028 (2017) Small Chocolate-tip *Clostera pigra* (Hufnagel, 1766) **Nb**

Found in wet areas with Creeping Willow *Salix repens* predominantly in the New Forest (11) from where records came from Hinchleslea Bog, two, 15 Jul (MHg) and Dibden Purlieu, 17 Jul (RAC).

Erebidae

72.004 (2480) Buttoned Snout *Hypena rostralis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Very local, along with its foodplant Hop *Humulus lupulus* which is generally absent from the New Forest and scattered records elsewhere. 2015 saw 15 records of 16 individuals: Totland (10), 11 Oct (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 25 Jun (SRP), Afton Marsh (10), 20 Jun (JHC); Bournemouth (11), 21 Jun (DE), Cadnam (11), 22 May (MP), Totton (11), one found on 18 Mar, hibernating in house and two to light, 4 Jun (LH), Sholing (11), 15 Sep (TS), 15 Apr and 11 Jun (ARC), Funtley (11), 23 May (MLO), Hen Wood (11), 10 Apr (F.M.G.); Wherwell (12), 22 May (GD), Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 3 Jul (GAH), Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), 17 Jun (GJD).

72.006 (2478) Bloxworth Snout *Hypena obsitalis* (Hübner, 1813)

Locally common on the south-east Hampshire coast and in places on the Isle of Wight, with numbers increasing in recent years. 24 records of 27 individuals: Totland (10), 22 Mar (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 22 May and 18 Dec (SRP), Cowes (10), found in garden shed, 8 Apr (Dave Norris), Ventnor (10), by day, 12 May, one to MV light, 3 Nov (RWi), Shanklin (10), 1 Aug and 11 Oct (IOu), Bonchurch (10) 4 Jun, two on 7 Aug, 8 Dec (JHa); Southsea (11), 12 May and 21 Aug (Jeff Goodridge), eight singletons between 4 Jun and 18 Aug, with autumn seeing one on 10 Sep, two on 5 Oct, and two on 27 Oct (JRL).

72.007 (2476) Beautiful Snout *Hypena crassalis* (Fabricius, 1787)

Found in woodland with Bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, particularly in the New Forest and Pamber: 11 records of 16 individuals, with records away from the population centres at Fareham (11), 18 Jul (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 15 Jul (KC), and Odiham Common (12), one by day, 11 Jul (CLB).

72.008 (2032) Black V Moth *Arctornis l-nigrum* (Muller, 1764)

A very rare immigrant from mainland Europe, with three previous British records (excluding a few rather vague 19th Century records, and records associated with a breeding population that was present in VC18 from 1947 to 1960). One found resting on the fence near SAK-J's MV trap at Totland (10) on 4 July 2015 therefore represents a **new county record for the Isle of Wight and for our area**, and the fourth for the British Isles.

72.009 (2031) White Satin *Leucoma salicis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

The second best year overall (behind 2013) and best ever for South Hampshire (11). Quite common in the Test valley, quite infrequent elsewhere with reports from outside the main locality as follows: Totland (10), 26 Jun (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 8 Jul (SRP), Afton Marsh (10), 25 Jun (JHC), Ventnor (10), 10 Jul (FW); Pennington (11), 28 Jun (RFC), Foxbury Common (11), 21 Jul (Laura Baker), Romsey (11), 25 Jul (MJB), Upton (11), 18 Jul (PJH), Lovedean* (11), 3 Jul (AJ), Wickham Common (11), 3 Aug (KC), Portsmouth (11), common between 29 Jun and 5 Aug, with 28 individuals on 15 nights, max four on 11 Jul (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 2 Aug (JWP), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Sherborne St John (12), 21 and 22 Jul, 9 Aug (NJM).

72.023 (2059) Clouded Buff *Diacrisia sannio* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Once widespread across both counties, now very much localised on the heathland. Hengistbury Head (11), 13 Jun (BH), Dibden Bottom, NF (11), by day, 20 Jun (A&LB); Silchester Common (12), by day, 15 and 27 Jun (GJD).

72.025 (2056) Wood Tiger *Parasemia plantaginis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

All sightings were typically by day from downland habitats: Martin Down (8), 3 Jun (A&LB), 7 Jun (Neil Sherman & A W Prichard); Tennyson Down (10), 23 Jun and two on 25 Jun (JHC), Brook Down Quarry (10), five, 23 May (TJN); Thruxton Hill (Cholderton Estate) (12), three, 30 May (TJN, LF).

72.027 (2058) Cream-spot Tiger *Arctia villica* (Oberthur, 1911)

Almost totally confined to the coasts of the Isle of Wight and south Hampshire, from where all reports originated in 2015: Freshwater (10), 24 May (SRP), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 19 Jun (IOu), Compton Chine & Undercliff (10), 4 Jun (SRP), Niton (10), 9 and 10 Jun (Mel Bellingham), Wheelers Bay (10), 8 Jun and three, 16 Jun (ABu), Bonchurch (10), 16 on 8 nights between 10 May and 18 Jun (JHa), Luccombe Down (10), five, 7 Jun (IOu), Bonchurch Landslip (10), 4 Jun (RWi), St. Helens Duver (10), 27 May (IM); Merritown Heath (11), 5 Jun (DF), Hengistbury Head (11), 58 individuals on 22 nights between 3 Jun and 29 Jun, with seven on 6 and 16 Jun (BH), Portsmouth (11), five between 31 May and 17 Jun (IRT).

72.030 (2067) Jersey Tiger *Euplagia quadripunctaria* (Poda, 1761) Nb

The 57 records of 147 moths across the two counties was the lowest since 2011. Nowadays well established on the Isle of Wight and along the New Forest coast of Hampshire, but records from elsewhere are notable and were as follows: Titchfield Haven (11), two by day, 13 Aug (G Barrett) and one by day, 1 Sep (Richard J Carpenter), Botley (11), 29 Aug (SBa), Fareham (11), 23 Aug (KJW), Northney, Hayling (11), 22 Aug (JWP), Browndown Coastal Ranges (11), 4 Sep (F.M.G.), Southsea (11), two, 22 Aug (JRL)

72.036 (2038) Muslin Footman *Nudaria mundana* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A lichen feeder which has limited habitat in our area, and most associated with calcareous areas, predominantly on the Isle of Wight. Martin Down (8), 10 Jul (MHg); Walter's Copse NT (10), 12 Jul (SRP), Ventnor (10), 19 on 11 nights between 6 Jul and 8 Aug (FW), America Wood (10), 16 Jul (RWi); one in Cheriton Wood (12), 15 Jul (PGLT) was notable.

72.041 (2051) Four-spotted Footman *Lithosia quadra* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

Generally regarded as a migrant in our area, although probably resident in the New Forest at low levels – and on the evidence of 2015, maybe on the Isle of Wight in places too. The second best year ever, with 182 records of 1075 individuals, surpassed only by the exceptional 272 of 2207 of 2013, with the overwhelming majority coming from the Isle of Wight, and in particular, Fred Woodworth's Ventnor garden, which has turned up exceptional numbers since 2013; it is rare in North Hampshire (12), but the 16 records of 19 individuals was the highest ever. Summary totals of individuals below, with particular highlights in the comments

Week	Total Records	Total Individuals	Individuals by vice-county			Comments
			VC10	VC11	VC12	
22 (28/05/15)	1	1	1			Earliest VC10: Cranmore (<u>10</u>), 3 Jun (IF)
...						
24 (11/06/15)	1	5	5			Ningwood Common (<u>10</u>), 11 Jun (IF)
...						
26 (25/06/15)	3	3	2	1		Earliest VC11: Farley Mount, 27 Jun (MP)
27 (02/07/15)	5	6	5	1		
28 (09/07/15)	22	50	34	15	1	Earliest VC12: Chilbolton, 15 Jul (GCE)
29 (16/07/15)	19	28	11	13	4	
30 (23/07/15)	20	161	155	4	2	Ventnor (<u>10</u>), 56, 23 Jul (FW)
31 (30/07/15)	26	121	112	8	1	Max count VC12: Cholderton, four, 4 Aug (TJN et al)
32 (06/08/15)	36	463	444	11	8	Max count: Ventnor (<u>10</u>), 90, 8 Aug, 70, 7 Aug (FW)
33 (13/08/15)	25	177	171	6		Ventnor (<u>10</u>), 81, 14 Aug (FW)
34 (20/08/15)	6	14	11	1	2	
35 (27/08/15)	1	1		1		
36 (03/09/15)	6	27	27			Bonchurch, 21, 6 Sep (JHa)
37 (10/09/15)	5	12	12			
38 (17/09/15)	1	1			1	Latest VC12: Upton, 20 Sep (GCE)
...						
40 (01/10/15)	1	1	1			
41 (08/10/15)	1	1		1		
42 (15/10/15)	2	2	1	1		Latest VC11: Blashford Lakes, 18 Oct (RAC)
...						
44 (29/10/15)	1	1	1			Latest VC10: Bonchurch, 3 Nov (JHa)

72.042 (2039) Red-necked Footman *Atolmis rubricollis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A smart and unmistakable lichen-feeder thinly distributed across Hampshire, rarer on the island but being reported more frequently in recent years. Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), two, 6 Jul and another, 12 Jul (PBa), Ferny Bottom* (10), 13 Jun (Hilary Higgins), Walter's Copse (10), 11 Jun (IOu), Wroxall Copse (10), 2 Aug (RWi), Shanklin (10), 11 Jun (IOu); Merritown Heath (11), 3 and 4 Jul (DF), Dibden Purlieu (11), 30 Jun and 3 Jul (RAC), Ashurst, NF (11), 11 Jun (KG), Woolston (11), 3 Jul (PBu), Shawford (11), 17 Jun (AH), Alresford (11), 10 Jul (GR), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.), North End, Portsmouth (11), 3 Jul (MWe); Whitchurch (12), 27 Jun (GCE), Cheriton Wood (12), 11 Jul (PGLT), Basingstoke (12), 30 Jun (R&SH), Headley (12), 11 Jun and 1 Jul (ALL).

72.047 (2045) Hoary Footman *Eilema caniola* (Hübner, 1808) Nb

A rare migrant, although increasingly likely to be breeding sporadically especially in VC12 as it spreads from resident populations in Surrey and Berkshire. Reports in 2015 show no discernible pattern: Freshwater Cliffs (10), 10 Oct (SDa), Bonchurch (10), 2 Aug (JHa); Dibden Purlieu* (11), 10 Jul, 3 Aug (RAC), Romsey (11), 13 Jul (MJB); Sherborne St John (12), 10 Aug (NJM), Headley* (12), 13 Jul (ALL).

72.049 (2043) Orange Footman *Eilema sororcula* (Hufnagel, 1766)

There have been only four previous August reports, so two in one year was noteworthy: PBk netted one at dusk in Ladycross Inclosure, NF (11) on 3 Aug, while one to MV light in Shawford (11) on 11 Aug (AH) was the latest ever, albeit by only one day.

72.050 (2036) Dew Moth *Setina irrorella* (Linnaeus, 1758) Na

Known in our area from the shingle at Hurst Castle in Hampshire and in the Freshwater area of the island, from where came the only records: Tennyson Down NT (10), 24 May (SRP), Freshwater Causeway (10), 25 Jun (JHC)

72.056 (2488) Common Fan-foot *Pechipogo strigilata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Associated with semi-ancient oak woodland, there is still a good population in the Harewood Forest / Test valley and Pamber Forest areas as reflected by the following: Goodworth Clatford (12), 23 May, 30 Jun, Wherwell (12), two, 22 May, 18, 17 Jun, Longparish (12), 4 Jul (all GCE), Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), 23 Jun, Lower Inhams Copse Meadow (12), two, 11 Jun, one, 26 Jun (all GJD).

72.057 (2488a) Plumed Fan-foot *Pechipogo plumigeralis* (Hübner, 1825)

A species that appears to be increasing although remaining very scarce in coastal areas of south-east Hampshire and similarly on the island. The only record however was from Bonchurch (10), 7 Aug, three, 13 Aug (JHa), representing the 14th record for our area.

72.060 (2485) Marsh Oblique-barred *Hyphenodes humidalis* Doubleday, 1850

In Hampshire locally abundant in bogs in the New Forest, quite scarce elsewhere with only a handful of records for the Isle of Wight. One in Totland (10), 8 Sep, was the fifth for this locality and the island itself since 1968 (SAK-J); on the mainland, more typical sightings at Hinchleslea Bog, NF (11), 15 Jul (MHg), Culverley View, NF (11), 13 Jul (AA), and Sway (11), 19 Jul, 17 Sep (MHg).

72.062 (2482) White-line Snout *Schrankia taenialis* (Hübner, 1809)

A species with a poorly understood life history, probably associated with heather, which appears to be becoming well established on the island, and at lower levels in the New Forest. Walter's Copse NT (10), 12 Jul (SRP), Parkhurst Forest (10), 9 Jul, 7 Aug (IOu), Combley Wood (10), 25 Jul (IOu), Wheelers Bay (10), 3 Aug (ABu), Borthwood Copse (10), 30 Jul (IOu); Ashurst (11), 8 Aug (KG), Bishopstoke (11), 1 Jul (MHa), West Walk (11), two, 28 Jul (MLO, KJW).

72.067 (2470) Small Purple-barred *Phytometra viridaria* (Clerck, 1759)

Day-flying around milkwort *Polygala* sp. on both heath and downland, mostly commonly on the former, particularly in the New Forest (11), where it was seen on Ocknell Plain and Bratley Plain on 27 Jul (both MSP). Culverley View (11), 13 Jul (AA), and Ashurst, 13 Jul (KG); also at Botley (11), 13 Jul (SBa); Noar Hill (12), one by day, 27 Apr (MP).

72.070 (2495) Olive Crescent *Trisateles emortualis* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Historically records in Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight have been regarded as relating to immigrants from the continent but the 21st century has seen regular reports and it is probably now established as a very localised resident. After seven records in 2014, there were none for the Isle of Wight, surprisingly, but it was the best ever for South Hampshire. Rookesbury Park (11), 3 Aug (Margaret Prior), West Walk (11), two, 14 Jul, and 28 Jul (KJW, MLO), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.), Stour Valley LNR (11), 17 Jul (SA), Lymington (11), 11 Jun (AHR); Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 3 Jul (GAH).

72.073 (2408) Small Marbled *Eublemma parva* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

A scarce immigrant from southern Europe which is becoming more frequently reported. 2015 was the best since the record year of 2011, with seven records of eight individuals across the two counties: Bonchurch (10), 6 Jul (JHa); Bournemouth (11), 1 Jul (DE), Stubbington (11), 4 Jul (DPH), Botley (11), 17 Jun (SBa), Bishops Waltham (11), two, 16 Jul (Jos Creese, Pete Potts), Alresford (11), 10 Jul (GR), North End, Portsmouth (11), 18 Jul (MWe).

72.076 (2451) Blue Underwing or Clifden Nonpareil *Catocala fraxini* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

The year under review broke new vice-county records for the Isle of Wight and North Hampshire, with VC11's 20 sightings being only just shy of 2013's record total. Overall the 45 records of 49 individuals was by some margin the best ever. This previously highly valued migrant is now certainly resident at low levels in scattered localities where Aspen *Populus tremula* grows, in particular in Pamber, the Test valley, New Forest and on the Isle of Wight, although such populations are difficult to distinguish amongst primary migrating individuals. All records are detailed as follows: Totland (10), 17 Sep (SAK-J), Freshwater Cliffs (10), 15 Oct (SDa), Newport (10), 9 Sep, by day (Adam Barron), Ventnor (10), 7 Sep (RWi), Shanklin (10), 1 Oct (IOu), Bonchurch (10), five between 6 Sep and 17 Oct (JHa); Somerley Estate (11), 9 Sep, found at rest on wood pile and photographed (John Levell), Bentley Wood (11), 12 Sep (Tony Goddard), Dibden Purlieu (11), 13 Sep (RAC), Brockenhurst (11), three found by day in different locations, 24 and 27 Sep, 6 Oct (PBk), Cadnam (11), 4 and 8 Oct (MP), Ashurst, NF (11), 16 and 18 Oct (KG), Sway (11), 20 Sep (SKe) and 16 Oct (MHg), Lepe Country Park (11), two, 10 Sep (LH), Shawford (11), 2 Oct (AH), Hedge End (11), 10 Sep, reported by the observer as follows "I disturbed this moth this morning about 7:15, at Sainsburys supermarket, Hedge End when I took a trolley from a sheltered overhang area by the supermarket wall. I took a photo as I had never seen such a large butterfly or moth before in the UK, not that I know much about them." Nice to see that the power of the internet works! (Jan Magee), Lovedean (11), 13 Sep (AJ), Wickham Common (11), 6, 10 and 11 Sep (KC), Browdown Coastal Ranges (11), 25 Sep (KI, MLO & KJW); Andover (12), 9 Oct, female, attracted to a lighted window, laid eggs (SB), Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 18 Oct, Leckford Estate, Longstock (12), 16 Oct, Chilbolton (12), two, 19 Sep, three, 6 Oct, singletons on 21 and 23 Oct, Wherwell (12), 7 Oct, Newton Stacey (12), 10 Oct, Forton, Longparish (12), 15 Oct (all

GCE), Axmansford (12), 4 Oct (ABO), Sherborne St John (12), 11 and 28 Sep (NJM), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow (12), 12 Sep (GJD), Sherfield-on-Loddon (12), 10 Oct, attracted to light at pub, reported by Tracy Ann Sitch.

72.079 (2453) Rosy Underwing *Catocala electa* (Vieweg, 1790) Migrant

The second county (and area) record of this very rare migrant to our shores: Totland (10), 28 Aug (SAK-J). The same observer had the first in 2009.

Noctuidae

73.002 (2449) Dark Spectacle *Abrostola triplasia* (Linnaeus, 1758) <=640 two counties; >10% prev; New10km;

The third best year on record, with 72 reports of 78 individuals, although down on 2013 and 2014 which both saw annual totals in excess of 100. In the north and east of North Hampshire (12), it has historically been relatively infrequent, so a total of 11 on eight nights between 16 Jul and 24 Aug in Sherborne St John was remarkable.

73.003 (2432) Ni Moth *Trichoplusia ni* (Hübner, 1803) Migrant

The 44 records of 62 individuals was an exceptional total, surpassed only by the 63 individuals seen in the great migrant year of 2006. In the intervening years, there had only been 25 moths reported, the last being the ten of 2011. All records listed: Totland (10), 17 and 20 Jul, 10 Aug, with three on 13 Aug (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 11 Jun (SRP), Wheelers Bay (10), 17 Jun, with two on 17 Aug and 18 Aug (ABU), Shanklin (10), 8 Aug (IOU), Bonchurch (10), 6 Jun, three, 11 Jun and two, 7 Aug (JHa); Bournemouth (11), six, 12 Jun (DE), Ashley Heath (11), 21 Jun (JM), Totton (11), 17 Aug (LH), Upton (11), 4 Jul (PJH), Sholing, Southampton (11), seven, 8 Aug (ARC), Lovedean (11), 13 Aug (AJ), Stubbington (11), 9 Aug (DPH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Sholing (11), 11 Jun and 13 Aug (TS), Fareham (11), 13 Jun, 19 Aug, 15 Sep (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 19 Aug (KC), Portchester (11), 11, 13 and 15 Jun (DF), Portsmouth (11), 10, 20 and 22 Aug (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 19 Jun (JWP), Southsea (11), 12 and 15 Jun, 23 Aug (JG), Southsea (11), 7, 10, 13, 15 and 16 Aug (JRL); Chilbolton (12), 7 Jun (GCE), Alton (12), 12 Jun (DBO), Headley (12), 5 Jun (ALL)

73.009 (2429) Tunbridge Wells Gem *Chrysodeixis acuta* (Walker, 1858) Migrant

There have been three previous records of this rare migrant plusiid, the first now sixty years old from Burghclere in North Hampshire and two from the Isle of Wight in 1988 and 1995. Two more in 2015 were therefore a surprise: one at Totton (11), 9 Oct (LH) was a **new vice-county record for South Hampshire**, followed by another at Southsea (11), 18 Dec (JRL).

73.011 (2435) Scarce Burnished Brass *Diachrysia chryson* (Esper, 1789) Na

The centre of the national population is the Test valley, from where all 2015 records came: Longstock (12), 19 and 27 Jul, Wherwell (12), 13 Jul, Forton, Longparish (12), five, 15 Jul (all GCE).

73.014 (2437) Golden Plusia *Polychrysia moneta* (Fabricius, 1787)

A scattered and now only infrequently encountered inhabitant of gardens on *Delphinium*, which appears to be becoming increasingly rare. 2015 saw just two reports: St Cross, Winchester (11), 26 Jun (THW); Sherborne St John (12), 19 Jun (NJM).

73.015 (2441) Silver Y *Autographa gamma* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

A familiar and very common, occasionally abundant, migrant to our shores, often seen nectaring by day in flower-rich grassland. There were almost 2,500 individuals reported, which is unspectacular compared to good migrant years (when 4,000 to over 10,000 have been encountered). The majority started appearing in May, with peak abundance from early June to mid August, with a long tail into mid November. The first in Hampshire was on 3 Jan, Ashurst, NF (11) (KG), with the next not until 8 Mar in Fareham (11) (Wendy Mayne); Wight saw its first for the year on 1 Apr in Totland (10) (SAK-J). There were 10 individuals seen in December, the latest on 27 Dec in Portsmouth (11) (IRT) and Totland (10) (SAK-J), and 28 Dec in Lymington (11) (AHR) and Horton Heath (11) (ABr). The maximum count to a trap was a relatively modest 30 in Southsea (11) on 24 Jul (JG).

73.022 (2439) Gold Spot *Plusia festucae* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An uncommon resident of damp sedgy areas, whose numbers are bolstered significantly in some years by migration from the near continent. 2015 saw 23 records, all of single individuals: Freshwater Cliffs (10), 10 Oct (SDa), Freshwater Causeway (10), 25 Jun (JHC), Bridesford Copse (10), 9 Aug (IOU et al), Bembridge Lagoons (10), 26 May (IOU); Hengistbury Head (11), 9, 16, 18, 22 Aug, 12 Sep (BH), Studland Common, Milford-on-Sea (11), 17 Aug (RFC et al), Fordingbridge (11), 22 May and 7 Aug (Stephen Tapper), Ashurst (11), 9 Jun, 19 Aug (KG), Pennington (11), 21 Aug (RFC), Romsey (11), 1 Aug (SAB), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul and 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Wickham Common (11), 3 Aug (KC). It was a reasonable year for North Hampshire, where *P. festucae* is normally quite scarce, particularly away from the Test valley: Forton, Longparish (12), 18 Jun (GCE), Barton Stacey (12), 4 Jun (GCE), Sherborne St John (12), 26 Aug (NJM).

73.033 (2020) Figure of Eight *Diloba caeruleocephala* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Nowadays quite localised, although can be relatively common where it occurs, on *Malus* and relatives in woodland and hedgerows. There were 19 records of 25 adults in 2015, reasonable numbers in South Hampshire but lacklustre elsewhere: Jersey Camp (10), 20 Oct (IM), Hillisgate (10), 24 Oct (IM); Cadnam (11), 12 individuals on seven nights

between 16 Oct and 3 Nov (MP), Totton (11), six between 20 Oct and 1 Nov (LH), Romsey (11), 22 Oct (MJB); Goodworth Clatford (12), two, 23 Oct (GCE), Sherborne St John (12), 1 Nov (NJM).

73.034 (2277) Scarce Merveille du Jour *Moma alpium* (Osbeck, 1778) **RDB3**

A nationally scarce speciality of ancient oak woodland in south-east England, remaining common in the New Forest in our area but localised elsewhere. 2015 was a very good year with 36 records of 48 individuals: away from the New Forest, where *M. alpium* remains common (and was reported from eight sites), records came from Bournemouth (11), 29 Jun (DE), Romsey (11), 13, 20 Jun, 10 Jul (MJB), Chandlers Ford (11), 12 Jul (BE), Wickham Common (11), 11 between 30 May and 6 Jul (KC), Hundred Acres (11), 21,24, 30 Jun (John Shillitoe), West Walk (11), four, 19 Jun (F.M.G.), 14 Jul (KJW, MLO), and Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.).

73.036 (2281) Alder Moth *Acronicta alni* (Linnaeus, 1767)

Widespread but local and in generally small numbers across Hampshire in deciduous woodland and scrub; historically infrequent on the Isle of Wight but found to be more widespread than previously thought. The year under review saw 24 records of 40 individuals, with the 12 at Wherwell (12) on 22 May the largest single trap count on the database: Freshwater (10), 11 Jun (SRP), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 19 Jun (IOu), Dunnage Copse (10), two, 23 Jun (JHC), Shanklin (10), 16 Jun (IOu); Bournemouth (11), 12 Jun (DE), Hengistbury Head (11), 11 Jun (BH), Ashley Heath (11), 4 Jun (JM), Romsey (11), 26 May (SAB), Sholing (11), 22 May (TS), Shawford (11), 2 and 11 Jun (AH), Funtley (11), 24 May (MLO), Wickham Common (11), 23 May (KC), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 22 May (F.M.G.); Leckford (12), two, 22 May, Chilbolton (12), 22 and 23 May, 3 Jul, Wherwell (12), 12, 22 May, four, 17 Jun, Whitchurch (12), 27 Jun (all GCE), Fleet (12), 23 May (CLB), Headley (12), 11 and 21 Jun (ALL).

73.037 (2283) Dark Dagger *Acronicta tridens* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

The adult moths of this species and *A. psi* are indistinguishable on external characteristics (the larvae are readily identifiable), so while at an aggregate level both are common and widespread, the relative population balance is unclear and specific determination is rare. The following are accepted based on dissected individuals. Bournemouth (11), male, 6 Jul, female, 16 Jul (DE), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), two males, 10 Jul, male, 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Fareham (11), male, 16 Jul (KJW), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), five males, 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), male, 3 Jul (GAH).

73.041 (2285) Marsh Dagger *Acronicta strigosa* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Formerly an uncommon resident in the fens of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire, last seen in 1930's, since which it has appeared in southern England twice as an immigrant from the continent, in East Sussex in 1996, and at Pagham Harbour, West Sussex, in July 2010, to which can be added one of the more surprising records of the year, when an individual turned up in JHa's Bonchurch (10) trap on 2 Aug, and which is therefore a **first for the Isle of Wight and for our area**.



Photo right: *Acronicta strigosa*, Bonchurch, 1 Aug (JHa)

73.048 (2397) Small Yellow Underwing *Panemeria tenebrata* (Scopoli, 1763)

Found by day, generally on downland and meadows, the larva feeding on mouse-ears *Cerastium* sp. All observations were of adults by day. Dundridge Reserve (11), nectaring on cowslip, 13 May (Dennis Trunecka), Alresford (11), 17 May (PBk), Broomground Coppice (11), 20 May (JRL, SMP); Cholderton Estate (12), 30 May (TJN, LF), Tidgrove Warren, Overton (12), 27 May and 11 Jun (ABo), Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), nectaring on Greater stitchwort, 13 May (GJD), Andover (12), 2 Jul (Chris Piper), Odiham Common (12), three, 16 May, three, 27 May (TJN, CLB), 23 May (CLB).

73.053 (2214) Chamomile Shark *Cucullia chamomillae* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

The only record was from Fareham (11), 15 Apr (KJW). The larvae feed on mayweeds and associated species, and its decline is probably related to the increased usage of herbicides in modern farming.

73.059 (2223) Toadflax Brocade *Calophasia lunula* (Hufnagel, 1766) **RDB3**

While a Red Data Book species, due to its historic decline to relic populations on the coast of Sussex and Kent, since the turn of the 21st century *C. lunula* is making a significant comeback, seemingly originating from London and radiating outwards. To date the ten modern day records (since the first at Locks Heath (11) in 1971) in our region have all been coastal, but it can be only a matter of time before the first resident moths are found in the north-east of the county, originating from expansion via Berkshire and Surrey. One at Wheelers Bay (10), 9 Aug (ABu) was a **new county record for Isle of Wight** and in Hampshire recorded at Sholing (11), 13 Jun (ARC).

73.061 (2394) Anomalous *Stilbia anomala* (Haworth, 1812)

Very local in Hampshire, and only infrequently encountered in the New Forest and east Dorset heaths. The only record was of one at Dibden Purlieu, NF (11), 10 Apr (RAC).

73.065 (2227) Sprawler *Asteroscopus sphinx* (Hufnagel, 1766)

A. sphinx has a very late flight period, which undoubtedly leads to it being under-recorded away from regularly (and easily) trapped localities. Despite this it is relatively widespread in deciduous woodland and scrub but by no means common. The year saw 12 records of 15 individuals: Freshwater (10), 8 Nov (SRP), Golden Hill CP (10), two, 10 Nov (SRP); Breamore (11), 12 Nov (SCu), Romsey (11), 31 Oct (MJB), Wickham Common (11), 12 Nov (KC); Rooksbury Mill, Andover (12), 7 Nov (GD), Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 4 Nov (GCE), Goodworth Clatford (12), 23 Oct (GCE), Axmansford (12), three, 6 Nov (ABo), Sherborne St John (12), 31 Oct (NJM), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow (12), 6 Nov (GJD), Headley (12), 18 Nov (ALL).

73.070 (2399) Bordered Sallow *Pyrrhia umbra* (Hufnagel, 1766)

Now restricted to the chalk and coastal locations in the two counties, after a decline in range over recent decades. 21 records of 27 individuals were reported: Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 12 Jul (PBa), St. Catherine's Lighthouse (10), 10 Jul (Paul Cattermole), Wheelers Bay (10), seven between 8 Jun and 2 Aug (ABu), Bonchurch (10), nine between 10 May and 9 Jul (JHa), Bonchurch Landslip (10), two, 11 Jul (RWi); Hengistbury Head (11), 30 Jun (BH), Sway (11), 2 Aug (MHg), Ashurst (11), 16 Jul (KG), Horsea Island (11), 31 Jul (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 9 Aug (IRT), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS field meeting); Hurstbourne Park (12), 14 Jul (GCE).

73.072 (2401) Marbled Clover *Heliothis viriplaca* (Hufnagel, 1766) **RDB3**

Very much restricted to high quality meadows on the chalk in the 21st century, and the only report for the year came from a typical locality: Leckford (12), 21 Jun (JA).

73.073 (2402) Shoulder-striped Clover *Heliothis maritima* (Hufnagel, 1766) **RDB3**

MSP and AMD undertook survey at eight sites in the New Forest looking for larvae, which were found at five of the eight sites visited. Twenty larvae were found at four sites on 27 Jul, the majority (nine) third instar, along with six fourth instar larvae and the remainder 2nd or undetermined, with another on 11 Aug at the fifth site.

73.074 (2403) Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) **Migrant**

An annual migrant from the continent, whose numbers vary widely and which in abundant years can produce a locally bred population in the late year – this may be the source of the slight upturn in records seen in August 2015. The year as a whole was outstanding for *H. peltigera*, with a total individuals count of 488 that exceeded that of the exceptional year of 2006, due in the main to the greater count in southern Hampshire. By contrast, in the intervening years between 2006 and now, there were less than 100 in total – with 2014 seeing just three. Totals by vice county were (records / individuals): Isle of Wight (10) – 75 / 189 (compared to 244 moths in 2006); South Hampshire (11) – 183 / 272 (vs 195 in 2006); North Hampshire (12) – 27 / 28 (equalling 2006).

Week	Total Records	Total Individuals	VC10	VC11	VC12	Comments (first/last records, high counts)
15 (09/04/2015)	1	1	1			First for year: Bonchurch (10), 15 Apr (JHa)
16 (16/04/2015)	2	2		2		First for VC11: Muscliff, 21 Apr (SA); Hengistbury, 22 Apr (BH)
17 (23/04/2015)	1	1		1		Romsey (11), 23 Apr (MJB)
...						
19 (07/05/2015)	9	9	2	7		
20 (14/05/2015)	3	3	1	2		
21 (21/05/2015)	3	3	2	1		
22 (28/05/2015)	2	2	1	1		
23 (04/06/2015)	77	154	74	74	6	First VC12: Cheriton Wood, 4 Jun (GR) Highest IoW counts: Bonchurch, 10, 5 Jun, 12, 6 Jun (JHa) Highest Hants count: Hengistbury Head, 11, 16 Jun (BH)
24 (11/06/2015)	79	154	47	103	4	
25 (18/06/2015)	28	44	17	25	2	
26 (25/06/2015)	7	8	4	3	1	
27 (02/07/2015)	6	6	1	4	1	
28 (09/07/2015)	3	9	8	1		
29 (16/07/2015)	5	5	1	2	2	
30 (23/07/2015)	3	3		1	2	
31 (30/07/2015)	5	6		5	1	
32 (06/08/2015)	11	18	10	6	2	
33 (13/08/2015)	18	21	9	9	3	
34 (20/08/2015)	12	13		9	4	Last VC12: 22 Aug, Abbots Ann (GD), Sherborne St John (NJM)
35 (27/08/2015)	3	3	1	2		
36 (03/09/2015)	1	1		1		Last Hampshire: Shawford (11), 7 Sep (AH)
37 (10/09/2015)	1	1	1			St Catherine's Point (10), 11 Sep (IM)
38 (17/09/2015)	1	2	2			Last of year: Freshwater (10), 20 Sep (SRP)

73.076 (2400) Scarce Bordered Straw *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

A far less common migrant moth than its congener above, apart from 2006 which saw phenomenal totals. However, the year under review was the second best ever, with 85 individuals, with totals by vice county (records / individuals) as follows: Isle of Wight (10) – 36 / 52 (compared to 653 moths in 2006); South Hampshire (11) – 30 / 30 (vs 408 in 2006); North Hampshire (12) – 3 / 3 (vs 163 in 2006). The pattern of occurrence was markedly different to *H. peltigera*, starting much later and continuing into the late autumn:

Week	Total Records	Total Individuals	VC10	VC11	VC12	Comments (first/last, multiple records)
29 (16/07/2015)	1	1		1		First for year: Steamer Point (11), 22 Jul (Jason Falconer)
...						
32 (06/08/2015)	1	1	1			First VC10: Bonchurch, 7 Aug (JHa)
...						
34 (20/08/2015)	5	6	3	2	1	First VC12: Sherborne St John, 24 Aug (NJM)
35 (27/08/2015)	4	5	2	3		Totland (10), two, 30 Aug (SAK-J)
36 (03/09/2015)	7	7	2	4	1	Anna Valley (12), 3 Sep (TJN)
37 (10/09/2015)	11	14	10	3	1	St Catherine's Point (10), three, 11 Sep (IM), Totland (10), two, 11 Sep (SAK-J); Sherborne St John (12), 11 Sep (NJM)
38 (17/09/2015)	10	11	3	8		Shanklin (10), two, 19 Sep (IOu)
39 (24/09/2015)	3	3	2	1		
40 (01/10/2015)	6	7	5	2		Bonchurch (10), two, 6 Oct (JHa)
41 (08/10/2015)	4	6	6			Freshwater Cliffs (10), three, 10 Oct (SDa)
42 (15/10/2015)	3	3	1	2		
43 (22/10/2015)	1	1	1			
44 (29/10/2015)	6	7	5	2		Shanklin (10), two, 1 Nov (IOu)
45 (05/11/2015)	4	4	3	1		Last loW: Shanklin (IOu), Bonchurch (JHa), 10 Nov
...						
52 (24/12/2015)	1	1		1		Last for year: Lymington (11), 25 Dec (AHr)

73.078 (2393) Reddish Buff *Acosmetia caliginosa* (Hübner, 1813) RDB1, UK BAP

In the Ningwood Common (10) area, which holds the only extant breeding population in the country, 12 individuals were reported, as follows: three, 20 May, 27 May, three, 4 Jun, two, 11 Jun (all IF), two, 5 Jun (Jamie Marsh), 12 Jun (SRP).

73.082 (2292) Tree-lichen Beauty *Cryphia algae* (Fabricius, 1775) Migrant

A previously scarce immigrant from Europe which has become established at low levels in southern England: in our area first recorded in the early 1990s in south-east of Hampshire and Wight. It is gradually increasing in range and now reasonably common where it occurs, particularly on the mainland. The 46 records of 63 individuals in South Hampshire (11) was the second highest after 2014's highest ever 210 (the first for the Southampton area was one recorded by ARC in Sholing* on 10 Aug); conversely, the Isle of Wight (10) returned just three on the one night of 7 Aug at Bonchurch (JHa). The majority were reported throughout August, with just four in mid to late July, all in Southsea(11) (JRL, JG), and the last was trapped on Horsea Island (11) on 1 Sep (F.M.G.).

73.084 (2293) Marbled Beauty *Cryphia domestica* (Hufnagel, 1766)

October records are rare, and KJW's report of one to light on 5 Oct in Fareham (11) is only exceeded by four others.

73.087 (2385) Small Mottled Willow *Spodoptera exigua* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

As for Bordered Straw above, 2015 was a spectacular year for *exigua*, second only to 2006 for both counties. In total, there were 39 records of 108 moths on the island (the highest record count ever), and 176 of 241 individuals in Hampshire (2006 saw 242 of 411). As can be seen in the table below, the majority of reports were in the summer, with a unique late winter influx in the last three weeks of the year.

Week	Total Records	Total Individuals	VC10	VC11	VC12	Comments
23 (04/06/15)	13	18	4	12	2	Seven records on 4 Jun from all three vice-counties, including Bonchurch (10), one (JHa), Barton Stacey (12), two (GCE) and Wickham Common (11), three (KC). A further four on 5 Jun.
24 (11/06/15)	26	40		30	10	Burton (11), five, 17 Jun (JSw)
25 (18/06/15)	8	10		8	2	
26 (25/06/15)	17	19	3	11	5	
27 (02/07/15)	14	16	13	2	1	Freshwater (10), four, 8 Jul (PBa)
28 (09/07/15)	16	20	1	9	10	
29 (16/07/15)	17	20	1	16	3	
30 (23/07/15)	3	5		5		
31 (30/07/15)	13	15	1	14		
32 (06/08/15)	24	41	5	27	9	Titchfield Haven (11), eight, 7 Aug (F.M.G.)
33 (13/08/15)	17	19	2	14	3	
34 (20/08/15)	8	12		2	10	Cholderton (12), four, 21 Aug (TJN, LF, HE)

35 (27/08/15)	5	7	4	3
36 (03/09/15)	1	2	2	
37 (10/09/15)	2	2	1	1
38 (17/09/15)	2	2	1	1
40 (24/09/15)	2	2		2
...				
42 (15/10/15)	2	2	2	
...				
50 (10/12/15)	1	1		1
51 (17/12/15)	7	18	2	16
52 (24/12/15)	12	18	9	8

Botley Wood (11), eight (F.M.G.), Lymington, four (AHR, 18 Dec
Six records on 27 Dec and another six on 28 Dec, all singletons, apart
from Plaish (10), six, 27 Dec (KR) from all three vice-counties.
VC10: Shanklin (IOu); VC12: Chilbolton (GCE).

73.091 (2396) Rosy Marbled *Elaphria venustula* (Hübner, 1790) Nb

An uncommon species, particularly away from the New Forest, favouring bracken-clad open woodland and heath-margins where Tormentil *Potentilla erecta* grows. Reported from Holmsley Railway Track, NF (11), two, 30 Jun (RFC et al), Ashurst (11), two, 27 Jun, 4 Jul (KG), West Walk (11), two, 19 Jun (F.M.G.), two, 14 Jul (KJW, MLO); Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), five, 30 Jun (GJD), Grayshott (12), 30 Jun (RTu).

73.093 (2387) Clancy's Rustic *Platyperigea kadenii* (Freyer, 1836) Migrant

Recorded in the UK for the first time in 2002, and now a scarce but not uncommon immigrant in southern England. In our area first recorded in 2003, with the migrant influx of 2006 bringing a peak of 140 individuals to the southern two vice-counties, and at the time it could be expected that this may presage this species colonising the county. To date no evidence has been found of breeding in our area, and if it has done so anywhere then the Isle of Wight is most likely where counts have remained constant between 10 and 15 individuals for the past four years, conversely, since 2010 counts are very low in South Hampshire. Freshwater (10), 29 Oct (SRP), Freshwater Cliffs (10), 16 Oct (SDa), Brighstone (10), 10 Oct (Margaret Burnhill), Wheelers Bay (10), 9, 17 Oct (ABu), Bonchurch (10), 21, 23 Sep, three on 24 Sep (JHa); Hengistbury Head (11), 8 Oct (BH), Fareham (11), 1 Nov (KJW), Southsea (11), 11 Oct (JRL).



Photo right: *P. kadenii*, Freshwater, 29 Oct (SRP)

73.100 (2391) Silky Wainscot *Chilodes maritima* (Tauscher, 1806)

Resident in most large reed-beds, and along the river valleys, with wanderers turning up at light some distance from their breeding grounds. 2015 saw 15 records of 39 individuals: the 15 trapped at Freshwater Causeway (10) on 25 Jun (JHC) was the highest single night count on the database. Elsewhere, reported from Afton Marsh (10), 25 Jul, 13 Aug (SRP), three, 24 Jun, two, 20 Jun (JHC), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 8 Jul (PBa); Ashurst (11), 11 Jun (KG), Totton (11), 11 Jun (LH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), six, 26 Jun, two, 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), four between 2 and 17 Jul, another on 18 Sep (IRT).

73.106 (2304) Orache Moth *Trachea atriplicis* (Linnaeus, 1758) Migrant

Rare immigrant from the continent, which was recorded for the first time in our area in 1995 at Christchurch (11), since when there have been 23 records. The only report in 2015 was at St. Catherine's Lighthouse* (10) on 10 Jul (Paul Cattermole)

73.109 (2303) Straw Underwing *Thalpophila matura* (Hufnagel, 1766)

One to actinic at Marsh Chine (10) on 8 Oct (IOu) was the latest ever by nine days.

73.118 (2367) Haworth's Minor *Celaena haworthii* (Curtis, 1829)

Very scarce in Hampshire although can be locally common in the Itchen valley above Winchester, and occasionally recorded in the Test valley north of Stockbridge, from where came the only report in 2015, at Chilbolton (12) on 27 Jul (GCE)

73.119 (2368) Crescent *Helotropha leucostigma* (Hübner, 1808)

Mainly confined to the coast, where there is a particularly strong population at Titchfield Haven (where again reported), with a scattering of inland records. The year saw 15 records of 28 individuals with both uncharacteristic early and late reports, the latter probably relating to a partial second brood, and a singleton in Totland (10) on 2 Nov (SAK-J) certainly fits with this theory: it is the first November record ever, and exceptional given that prior to 2015 the latest ever for the island was 7 Sep. The year under review also saw rare September sightings in mainland Hampshire, in Portsmouth (11), 11 Sep (IRT) and Longstock (12), 10 Sep (GCE) – the latest records for the respective vice-counties. Remaining records as follows: Shanklin (10), 21 Jul (IOu); Hengistbury Head (11), 13 Aug (BH det. MJ), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 26 Jun (the first June record on our database), 10 Jul, ten, 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Avington Park Golf Course (11), 22 Aug (GR), Horsea Island (11), 1 Sep (KJW, MLO); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), six, 20 Aug, Longstock (12), 27 Jul, two (all GCE).

73.120 (2352) Dusky Sallow *Eremobia ochroleuca* (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775)

A remarkable total of 40 to three MV lights on 21 Jul at the Hawk Conservancy, Monxton (TJN, LF, Monica Johnson) was the highest single site nightly catch on record.

73.126 (2358) Saltern Ear *Amphipoea fucosa* (Tutt, 1888)

Locally common on the coastal marshes, with occasional records inland – all records away from the coast will need to be examined carefully due to the need to separate from pale examples of Ear Moth *A. oculatea*, but potential *fucosa* can be selected as they are generally paler and longer-winged. Recorded in Freshwater (10), 15 Aug (TJN, DC); Needs Ore (11), two, 10 Sep (SCu), Portsmouth (11), 23, 28, 29 Jul, 13 Aug (IRT), Southsea (11), 29 Jul (JRL).

73.135 (2376) Blair's Wainscot *Sedina buettneri* (Hering, 1858) **RDB1**

S. buettneri was discovered new to Britain in Freshwater Marsh (10) in 1945, but was lost to the county when the marsh was drained and burnt in 1952. It was discovered in neighbouring Dorset in 1996 and two individuals, possibly migrants, were recorded on the island at Totland in 2007 and Afton Marsh in 2011. After further sightings at the latter site in 2012 and 2014, where it is possibly breeding, one at Freshwater Cliffs (10) on 10 Oct (SDa) was the 5th since its rediscovery.

73.136 (2369) Bulrush Wainscot *Nonagria typhae* (Thunberg, 1784)

Widespread but found in low numbers across Hampshire (and less frequently on the Isle of Wight) in areas with abundant Bulrush *Typha* growth. The year under review saw 12 records, all of singletons: Jersey Camp (10), 4 Aug (IM det. IOu); Cadnam (11), 8, 9, 14 Aug (MP), Ashurst (11), 7 Aug (KG), Totton (11), 8 Aug (LH), Romsey (11), 17 Sep (MJB), Hillier Arboretum (11), 6 Aug (TJN), St Cross, Winchester (11), 16 Sep (THW), Itchen Valley CP (11), 16 Aug (MHa), Botley (11), 8 and 9 Aug (SBa).

73.137 (2377) Fen Wainscot *Arenostola phragmitidis* (Hübner, 1803)

Occurs in the reed-beds of Hampshire, principally on the south-east coast, and in parts of the Avon and Test valleys. 2015 saw 18 records of 46 individuals. Historically it has been quite scarce on the Isle of Wight, so reports from Afton Marsh (10), 13 Aug (SRP), and Wootton Bridge (10), 8 Aug (RWi) are noteworthy; Bournemouth (11), 16 Jul (DE), Hengistbury Head (11), 26 between 12 Jul and 12 Aug, including 19 on 17 Jul (BH), Keyhaven (11), 30 Jul (RFC et al), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul, ten on 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Alresford (11), 2 Aug (GR), Portsmouth (11), 23 Jul (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 15 Jul (JWP); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 20 Aug (GCE).

73.139 (2370) Twin-spotted Wainscot *Lenisa geminipuncta* (Haworth, 1809)

Local, sometime found in numbers, in reed-beds, especially those along the coast at Keyhaven, Lower Test and Titchfield Haven, and extending inland along the valleys of the Avon, Test and Itchen. There were eight records of 13 individuals in the year, notably from Wight (10) where it is quite infrequent, with singletons at Freshwater and Afton Marsh, both on 13 Aug (SRP); on the mainland, reported from Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 18 Aug (JSw), Lepe CP (11), 19 Aug (LH), Foxbury Common (11), 21 Jul (THW, MP et al), Totton (11), 7 Aug (LH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), five, 7 Aug (F.M.G.); Wherwell (12), 9 Aug (GCE).

73.141 (2371) Brown-veined Wainscot *Archanara dissoluta* (Treitschke, 1825)

Another reed-bed specialist, especially in coastal localities, rarer on the island. Afton Marsh (10), 25 Jul (SRP), 17 Aug (JHa), Briddlesford Copse (10), two, 9 Aug (IOu et al); Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 7 Aug (F.M.G.).

73.142 (2379) Small Rufous *Coenobia rufa* (Haworth, 1809)

Local away from the chalk in damp areas, particularly on heathland, and a scarce insect on the Isle of Wight. 19 records of 26 individuals in 2015: Shanklin (10), 13 Aug (IOu); Purewell Meadows (11), six, 22 Aug (PBu), Hengistbury Head (11), 17 Jul, 3, 10 and 12 Aug (BH), Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 17 Jul (JSw), Sway (11), two, 22 Aug (MHg), Fletchers Water, NF (11), 5 Jun (RFC, MMacM) – a remarkably early date – Ashurst (11), 18 Aug (KG), Totton (11), 23 Jul (LH), Hillier Arboretum (11), 6 Aug (TJN), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul, six, 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Fareham (11), 4 Aug (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 3 Aug (KC); Lower Inhams Copse Meadow (12), two, 22 Aug, Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), 7 Aug (GJD).

73.144 (2350) Small Wainscot *Denticucullus pygmina* (Haworth, 1809)

One recorded on 5 Jun at Fletchers Water, NF (11) by RFC and MMacM was the earliest on record by 18 days.

73.151 (2373) Webb's Wainscot *Globia sparganii* (Esper, 1790) **Nb**

A locally common reedbed species on bulrush, almost exclusively along the south coast of the mainland and less frequently in the Isle of Wight: reported from this core area from Afton Marsh (10), two, 13 Aug (SRP), three, 17 Aug (JHa), Compton Chine & Undercliff (10), three, 10 Aug (SRP), Munsley Bog, Godshill (10), three, 12 Aug (RWi); Sway (11), 20 Aug (MHg), Pennington (11), 5 Aug (RFC), Lepe CP (11), 19 Aug (LH), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), four, 7 Aug (F.M.G.), Botley Wood (11), 11 Sep (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 13 Aug (IRT); a report from North Hampshire - Sherborne St John* (12), 16 Aug (NJM) – following one at Bramshill in 2006, may either simply indicate wandering individuals (and other marshland wainscots have turned up in random localities) or hold out some hope that there is an undiscovered colony in the local area (possibly in Berkshire).

73.157 (2333) Large Nutmeg *Apamea anceps* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

For less than obvious reasons, *A. anceps* is far more prevalent in the north of the county than in the south – c. 240 vs 80 records - and there are only very old, and possibly dubious, records from the Isle of Wight, and it was from VC12 that the only reports came: Sherborne St John, 13 records of 18 individuals, between 24 May and 30 Jun (NJM), Mapledurwell, three, 3 Jul (TJN).

73.159 (2331) Small Clouded Brindle *Apamea unanimitis* (Hübner, 1813)

Less common in Hampshire than the next species, and even rarer in the Isle of Wight (10): in fact there had been only two previous reports, one from Fassnidge's time back in the early 20th century, so captures in Parkhurst Forest*, 9 Jul (IOu) and Shanklin, 13 and 14 Jun (IOu) were exceptional. In Hampshire, there were 23 records of 45 individuals: Damerham (8), two, 24 May (PT);; Hengistbury Head (11), 6 Jun, two, 19 Jun (BH), Fordingbridge (11), 29 May (Stephen Tapper), Dibden Purlieu, NF (11), 11 and 12 Jun (RAC), Lovedean (11), 21 Jul (AJ), Botley (11), 10 Jun (SBa), Wickham Common (11), 12 Jun (KC), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS field meeting); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 17 on six nights between 28 May and 1 Jul, Forton, Longparish (12), three, 18 Jun, Hurstbourne Park (12), four, 24 Jun, Hurstbourne Priors (12), five, 16 Jun (all GCE), Sherborne St John (12), 25 Jun and 21 Jul (NJM).

73.160 (2335) Slender Brindle *Apamea scolopacina* (Esper, 1788)

Widespread and not uncommon across Hampshire, there were no sightings on Wight until 1990: since then, prior to 2015, there had been eight reports, to which can be added individuals seen at light in Shanklin (10), 1 and 5 Jul (IOu).

73.161 (2325) Crescent Striped *Apamea oblonga* (Haworth, 1809) **Nb**

A species of the salterns of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, reported just once in 2015: Portsmouth (11), 28 Jul (IRT).

73.164 (2323) Reddish Light Arches *Apamea sublustris* (Esper, 1788)

Occurs in suitable calcareous grassland across Hampshire, where it can be locally abundant, although abnormally scarce on the Isle of Wight despite the wealth of apparently suitable habitat, from where prior to 2015 there were only seven 21st century sightings. 2015 saw 29 records of 118 individuals: records away from the western central chalk of Hampshire were as follows: The Needles (10), two, 3 Jul (SRP), Wheelers Bay (10), 24 Jun (ABu); Kempshott, Basingstoke (12), 15 Jul (GAH), Sherborne St John (12), 26 Jun (NJM), Alton (12), 12 Jul (DBO). The 30+ reported from one trap left overnight at Magdalen Hill Cemetery on 11 Jul (MJW, JC) was the second highest North Hampshire count, and the third highest ever – although massively swamped by the approximate count of 900+ reported from Martin Down on 26 June 2003 to three traps.

73.168 (2336) Double Lobed *Lateroligia ophiogramma* (Esper, 1793)

The individual trapped on 13 Jun by KC at Wickham Common was the earliest on file by 12 days.

73.175 (2338) Rufous Minor *Oligia versicolor* (Borkhausen, 1792)

The 'Marbled Minor complex' requires genitalic dissection for accurate identification to species. *O. versicolor* is the rarest of the group (and no doubt under-recorded for this reason). The following are acceptable: Fareham (11), male gen.det., 1 Jul (KJW), Portchester (11), 14 Jun (DF), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), two, 3 Jul (F.M.G.); Cholderton Lodge (12), two, 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE), Basingstoke (12), male gen.det., 10 Jul (MJW).

73.176 (2340) Middle-barred Minor *Oligia fasciuncula* (Haworth, 1809)

Stour Valley LNR (11), two, 4 May (SA et al) – the earliest report on the database by one day.

73.178 (2226) Beautiful Gothic *Leucochlaena oditis* (Hübner, 1822) **RDB3**

Very much a speciality of the downland cliffs of the Isle of Wight (only once recorded as a wanderer in Hampshire). The 2015 reports were from typical areas: The Needles (10), two, 11 Oct, three, 14 Oct (SRP), West High Down (10), attracted to external lights on 14 Oct (Mary and Eric Steer det. SRP), Main Bench (10), 9 Oct (IOu), Freshwater Cliffs (10), 11 Oct (SDa), St. Catherine's Point (10), two, 18 Oct (IOu).

73.179 (2271) Orange Sallow *Tiliacea citrigo* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An autumn-flying lime feeder, widespread but very scattered. Totland (10), 11 Sep (SAK-J); Cadnam (11), 10 Oct (MP), Hythe (11), 3 Sep (JBI), Sway (11), 23 Oct (MHg) – the latest report on record by four days - Romsey (11), 16 Oct (MJB); Sherborne St John (12), 20 Sep (NJM).

73.181 (2273) Pink-barred Sallow *Xanthia togata* (Esper, 1788)

An autumn flying species for which there have been only three previous November sightings, to which can be added five at Testside Lakes, Leckford (12) on 4 Nov (GCE), the latest by a day.

73.183 (2275) Dusky-lemon Sallow *Cirrhia gilvago* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Individuals of this previously resident moth which suffered from the habitat decrease associated with Dutch Elm Disease are generally considered to represent immigration, but may result from very small localised populations. Portsmouth (11), 14 Oct (IRT); Cheriton Wood (12), 2 Nov (PGLT).

73.184 (2276) Pale-lemon Sallow *Cirrhia ocellaris* (Borkhausen, 1792) Na

A very rare vagrant in our area. One at Totland (10), 11 Oct (SAK-J) was the fourth for the island, and 13th in total for the two counties.

73.188 (2265) Flounced Chestnut *Agrochola helvola* (Linnaeus, 1758)

As for *A. haematidea* below, the New Forest represents the population centre, but the present species is less tied to the ancient oak woodland of that area and local populations (or wanderers) occur in scattered locations across the county, away from the chalk. There have been six records in the past thirty years for the Isle of Wight, to which can be added Shanklin (10), where there were two on 14 Oct (IOu). In the New Forest (11) stronghold, reports came from Ashurst, 2 Oct (KG), Bransgore (11), 16 Oct (SCu), Sway (11), 6 Oct (MHg). The appearance of one to light in Axmansford (12), 23 Oct (ABO) was welcome, being the first for the wider Pamber area since 2003.

73.189 (2263) Red-line Quaker *Agrochola lota* (Clerck, 1759)

There have been 15 previous December sightings, to which can be added two in Botley Wood (11), 11 Dec (F.M.G.), and Totland, 16 Dec (SAK-J), which is now the latest ever sighting in our area.

73.191 (2264) Southern Chestnut *Agrochola haematidea* (Duponchel, 1827) RDB2

A New Forest (11) speciality in our county, like *A. helvola* but totally confined to the National Park area - unless its late flight period has allowed it to remain undiscovered on heathland elsewhere. Milkham Inclosure, 23 Oct (Martin Townsend, WB), Sway, 11 and 21 Oct (MHg), Dibden Purlieu, 7 Oct (RAC).

73.197 (2260) Dotted Chestnut *Conistra rubiginea* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nb

A below average year with 22 individuals reported. Shanklin (10), seven between 5 Mar and 15 Apr (IOu), Bonchurch (10), 26 Mar (JHa); Merritown Heath (11), 4 Apr (DF), Ashurst, NF (11), 27 and 28 Mar (KG), Dibden Purlieu, NF (11), 4, 5 and 10 Apr (RAC), Funtley (11), 17 Mar (MLO), Wickham Common (11), 28 Mar, 10 and 21 Apr (KC), Old Winchester Hill NNR* (11), 17 Apr, 22 May (F.M.G.); Barton Stacey (12), 23 Apr (GCE), Headley (12), 22 Apr (ALL).

73.200 (2235) Tawny Pinion *Lithophane semibrunnea* (Haworth, 1809)

An early spring flier that is relatively rare at light and therefore under-recorded (this probably most true of Wight historically). In some years there is a very small partial second generation in late autumn. Tennyson Down NT (10), 15 Apr (SRP), Bonchurch (10), 13 Apr (JHa); Bournemouth (11), 8 Apr (DE), Romsey (11), 14 Apr (MJB); Chilbolton (12), 6 Apr, Newton Stacey (12), 4 Apr, Hurstbourne Priors (12), 22 Apr (all GCE), Kempshott, Basingstoke* (12), 6 and 20 Apr (GAH), Odiham Common (12), one by day, 24 Apr (CLB).

73.201 (2236) Pale Pinion *Lithophane socia* (Clerck, 1759)

A species that overwinters as an adult, so the concept of latest and earliest is a nebulous one, but midwinter sightings (December or January) are rare, and therefore one trapped by IM on the first day of the year in Hillisgate (10) was notable.

73.209 (2241) Red Sword-grass *Xylena vetusta* (Hübner, 1813)

A local resident and occasional migrant, primarily to the south of Hampshire, with never more than five reports per annum. Reported from VC11 at Mark Ash, two, 17 Mar (SCu), Botley Wood, two, 20 Feb, singleton on 27 Mar (KJW, MLO), and Wickham Common, 12 Mar (KC); in North Hampshire there have been only eight reports this century, so one at Chilbolton (12), 20 Apr (GCE) was notable.

73.212 (2311) Double Kidney *Ipimorpha retusa* (Linnaeus, 1761)

Closely related to, and more common than, *I. retusa* below, but associated with generally wetter habitats, where willow grows. Shanklin Upper Chine (10), 2 Aug (IOu); Hengistbury Head (11), 11 Aug (BH), Blashford Lakes (11), 29 Jul and 3 Aug (RAC), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 10 Jul (F.M.G.); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 20 Aug (GCE).

73.213 (2312) Olive *Ipimorpha subtusa* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Widespread but never particularly common, certainly less so than the preceding species, in aspen and poplar groves. Bonchurch* (10), 11 Aug (JHa); Hengistbury Head (11), 14 Jul (BH), Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 25 Jul (JSw); Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), 7 Aug (GJD).

73.221 (2268) Suspected *Parastichtis suspecta* (Hübner, 1817)

Mainly a local species of scrubby woodland on acid soils, particularly the heaths of the New Forest and north-east Hampshire, and Pamber, but occasionally elsewhere. Two records in Goater (1974) for the Isle of Wight must be treated with caution. Merritown Heath (11), 3 Jul (DF), Blashford Lakes (11), seven on four nights between 9 and 22 Jul (RAC), Wickham Common (11), 9 Jul (KC), Northney, Hayling (11), 16 Jul (JWP et al); Longparish (12), 4 Jul (GCE), Pamber Forest and Upper Inhams Copse (12), 3 Jul (GJD).

73.223 (2246) Oak Rustic *Dryobota labecula* (Esper, 1788) Migrant

A regular migrant to the south coast of both counties, which may be permanently or transiently resident at low levels. On the island, 15 records of 83 individuals was the best ever, and 16 of 21 was only slightly below the best (2011) for South Hampshire: in total 2015 saw the best returns to date. Of particular note a single larva beaten from Holm Oak at

Steamer Point (11) on 27 Jun (PBU) was only the second immature record for the mainland since the first found at Lymington in 2006: so far there has been a single larva found on the Isle of Wight. The Needles* (10), 11 Oct (SRP), Freshwater (10), 28 Oct, two, 6 Nov, 7 Nov (SRP), Afton Marsh NR (10), 12 Oct (IOU, SRP), Shanklin (10), 7 Nov (IOU), Bonchurch (10), 75 individuals on eight nights between 3 Oct and 19 Nov, including 11 on 20 Oct, 13 on 2 Nov and 21, 3 Nov (JHa), Shanklin Upper Chine (10), 10 Nov (IOU); Hengistbury Head (11), 27 and 30 Oct (BH), Pennington (11), 1 Nov (RFC), Sholing, Southampton (11), three during the year (ARC), Sholing (11), 2 Nov (TS), Botley (11), 7 Nov (SBa), Fareham (11), 27 Oct, 31 Oct, two, 5 Nov, 6 Nov (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 26 Oct (KC), Portsmouth (11), 23 Oct (IRT), Southsea (11), 5 Nov (JRL)

73.227 (2248) Sombre Brocade *Dryobotodes tenebrosa* (Esper, 1789) Migrant
One at Bonchurch (10), 2 Oct (JHa) was the third island and fourth area record.

73.229 (2251) Flame Brocade *Trigonophora flammea* (Esper, 1785) Migrant
An occasional immigrant to the south coast of both counties which has established a small breeding presence in Dorset and East Sussex after influxes this decade. 2015 saw eight records of nine individuals: Totland (10), 31 Oct (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 28 Oct, 1 Nov (SRP), St. Catherine's Point (10), two, 18 Oct (IOU), Bonchurch (10), 3 Nov (JHa); Burton, nr Christchurch (11), 30 Oct (JSw), Portsmouth (11), 31 Oct (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 1 Nov (JWP)

Photo right: *T. flammea*, St Catherine's Point, 18 Oct (IOU)



73.230 (2230) Feathered Brindle *Aporophyla australis* (Humphreys & Westwood, 1843) Nb

The fifteen individuals represented by the following records are all later than any seen in previous years: The Needles (10), four, 11 Oct (SRP), Tennyson Down (10), four, 9 Oct, two to light and another two found by dusking nearby (SCu), Main Bench (10), seven, 9 Oct (IOU). Also reported from Totland (10), two, 11 Sep and another on 12 Sep (SAK-J).

73.234 (2229) Brindled Ochre *Dasypolia templi* (Thunberg, 1792)

A coastal, late autumn flier, nowadays found almost exclusively in the Freshwater, Isle of Wight (10) area from where reported in very good numbers, on 8, 11, 28 and 30 Oct (SRP) and nearby at Freshwater Cliffs, on 3, 14 and 15 Oct (SDa).

73.243 2183 Blossom Underwing *Orthosia miniosa* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Scarce in oak woodland in Hampshire, but very infrequent on the Isle of Wight. Wickham Common (11), 10 Apr (KC), Lymore (11), 17 Mar (PFH det. MMacM)

73.246 (2185) Lead-coloured Drab *Orthosia populeti* (Fabricius, 1781)

A spring species closely related to Clouded Drab *O. incerta*, local in aspen and poplar woodland, rare on the Isle of Wight and most common in the New Forest and Dorset heaths: Merritown Heath (11), 4 Apr (DF), Ashley Heath, NF (11), 27 Mar (Jon R Millo), Pennington (11), 20 Apr (RFC)

73.248 (2184) Northern Drab *Orthosia opima* (Hübner, 1809)

Another early-season flier perhaps overlooked amongst *O. incerta*, but certainly much rarer, particularly in South Hampshire: however the only report came from that vice county and was of surprising abundance at Old Winchester Hill NNR (11) on 17 Apr, where the 40+ counted was double that of any previous single trapping session total on record (F.M.G.)

73.249 (2190) Hebrew Character *Orthosia gothica* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Three December records were unusually late (albeit, in reality early) for this abundant spring flier: Shanklin (10), 18 Dec (IOU); Botley Wood (11), 18 Dec (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 20 Dec (IRT).

73.254 (2176) Antler Moth *Cerapteryx graminis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A moth of grassland habitats whose population is showing signs of stabilisation after many years of decline. Once widespread, it is now found most commonly on the Isle of Wight and on the downs, with scattered records elsewhere. 13 records of 32 individuals were reported: Tennyson Down (10), two nectaring on ragwort, 2 Sep (SDa), Freshwater Cliffs (10), 11 Aug (SDa), Jersey Camp (10), 28 Aug (IM), Ventnor (10), 7 Aug and one by day, 23 Aug (FW), Shanklin (10), two, 3 Aug and another on 13 Aug (IOU), Luccombe Down (10), 12, 21 Aug and three, 2 Aug (IOU); Cadnam (11), 2 Aug (MP), Needs Ore (11), five, 10 Sep (SCu), Botley (11), 28 Aug (SBa); Newton Stacey (12), 21 Aug (GCE).

73.257 (2142) Beautiful Yellow Underwing *Anarta myrtilli* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A reasonably common day flying moth on heathland, particularly in east Dorset and New Forest (11). Away from here, rare on the Isle of Wight but six of the 15 previous records date from the last three years, and reported from Headon Warren & Undercliff (10), 25 Jul (SRP) in 2015. Larval reports on *Calluna* came from Browdown Coastal Ranges (11), where a population has been known for decades, with two on 25 Sep (KJW, KI, MLO); Newtown Common (12), one, 24 Jun, two final instar larvae, 25 Jun and nearby another five on 2 Jul (TF).

73.260 (2149) Silvery Arches *Polia hepatica* (Esper, 1788) Nb

Very local in birch woodland on heath. The only record was from Headley (12), 13 Jul (ALL)

73.261 (2150) Grey Arches *Polia nebulosa* (Hufnagel, 1766)

There have been only nine previous records from the Isle of Wight prior to the year under review, so three in one year was remarkable: Dunnage Copse, three, 23 Jun (JHC), Freshwater Fruit Farm, 4 Jul (PBa), and Newtown NNR, 31 Jul (Les Street).

73.265 (2156) Beautiful Brocade *Lacanobia contigua* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Associated principally with birch on heathland in the New Forest and less frequently, in the north-east of the mainland. Holmsley Railway Track, NF (11), three, 30 Jun (RFC et al), Hythe (11), 6 Jun, two on 13 Jun, one on 17 Jun (JBI)

73.266 (2159) Dog's Tooth *Lacanobia suasa* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Mostly a coastal species in our area, so one in St Giles, Winchester (12), 11 Jul (PBu), right on the VC11/VC12 boundary was notable.

73.268 (2160a) Splendid Brocade *Lacanobia splendens* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

First recorded in Britain in 2003, since when rare but apparently increasing in occurrence. The following brought the total number of records in our area to 20: The Needles (10), 3 Jul (SRP), Totland (10), 6 Aug (SAK-J); Exbury Bog Garden (11), 1 Jul (JBI conf MJW), Wickham Common (11), 5 Jul (KC).

73.275 (2152) White Colon *Sideridis turbida* (Hübner, 1813) Nb

St. Helens Duver (10), 27 May (IOu), the 2nd VC10 record after the first in 2013. While there was no report from Hampshire in 2015, it is just about annual on Hayling Island.

Photo right: *Sideridis turbida*, St Helens, 27 May (IOu)



73.280 (2165) Small Ranunculus *Hecatera dysodea* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) RDBK

Having recolonised Hampshire after many years of absence in 2009, *H. dysodea* is now moving into the county from both the north-east and predominately the south-east, from where all 2015 records originated. The year under review saw 16 records of singletons to light, and three reports of multiple larvae. Totton (11), 22 Jul (LH), Dibden Purlieu (11), 20 larvae reported by Tracy Welsh on 7 Aug to LH, Sholing (11), 25 Jul (TS), Fareham (11), 10 young larvae on Prickly Lettuce *Lactuca serriola*, 6 Aug (KJW), with six adults attracted to MV light between 29 Jun and 20 Aug (KJW), North End, Portsmouth (11), 4 and 15 Jun (MWe), Southsea (11), 18 Jun and 20 Jul (JG), Southsea (11), 2, 3 and 19 Jul, 6 Aug (JRL), Eastney, Portsmouth (11), several larvae, 12 Aug (JRL, RJD, IRT).

73.282 (2170) Varied Coronet *Hadena compta* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Mainly a garden species on Bladder Campion *Silene vulgaris* and Sweet-William *Dianthus barbatus*, spreading widely since the first record in 1983. 2015 saw 20 records of 26 individuals, including one from Bonchurch Landslip (10), 11 Jul (RWi) which was only the second reliable island record. Totton (11), 30 Jun (LH), Dibden Purlieu, NF (11), 16 and 17 Jun, Romsey (11), 20 Jun, two, 2 27 Jun (MJB), Lovedean (11), 25 Jun (AJ), Fareham (11), 17, 22 Jun (KJW), North End, Portsmouth (11), 30 Jun (MWe), Portsmouth (11), 26 Jun (IRT), Northney, Hayling (11), 11 Jun (JWP et al), Southsea (11), two, 22 Jun (JG), Southsea (11), 30 Jun, 2 and 3 Jul (JRL); Andover (12), two, 3 Jul (GD), Basingstoke (12), 1 Jul (MJW), Alton (12), 4 Jul (DBO), Andover (12), 2 Jul (Chris J Piper)

73.283 (2171) Marbled Coronet *Hadena confusa* (Hufnagel, 1766)

Quite local and rare in Hampshire, generally on Bladder Campion. Almost unknown on Wight, the only record was of one at Totland (10), 27 Jul (SAK-J), the second for the island.

73.286 (2167) Tawny Shears *Hadena perplexa* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

An increasingly local and coastal species whose larva, like the two preceding species, feeds on Bladder Campion and related species. Reported from Hengistbury Head (11), 25, 26 and 28 May (BH)

73.289 (2196) Striped Wainscot *Mythimna pudorina* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

A local species with a strange distribution, found relatively common on the acidic heathland of the New Forest and occasionally in the north and north-east wooded heaths, but also on the grasses of the Test and Itchen valleys, a distribution represented by the scattering of sightings in 2015: Purewell Meadows (11), 22 Aug (PBu); Testside Lakes, Leckford (12), 1 Jul (GCE), Lower Inhams Copse Meadow, Pamber (12), 1 Jul (GJD).

73.291 (2199) Common Wainscot *Mythimna pallens* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Reports of this otherwise common and widespread species after mid October are rare: however 2015 saw an unprecedented series of late reports, and of the 23 records after 14 Oct on file, 12 now originate from 2015. These include a remarkable 13 on 17 Oct in Longstock (GCE), and the latest ever (and only the second November record) report from 4 Nov in Sherborne St John (NJM). The latest reports from the Isle of Wight (10) are now singletons from Shanklin on 16 Oct (IOu) and Brighstone (Margaret Burnhill).

73.292 (2200) Mathew's Wainscot *Mythimna favicolor* (Barrett, 1896) Nb

Very local, albeit common where it occurs, in coastal reedbeds; poorly recorded in 2015: Freshwater Causeway (10), 25 Jun (JHC), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 5 Jul (PBa)

73.295 (2195) Delicate *Mythimna vitellina* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

A below average year for this sometimes quite common migrant. 2015 saw 21 records of 35 individuals: Totland (10), 21 Jun, two, 30 Jun, 12 Sep, total of nine, Oct 2015, total of five, Nov 2015 (SAK-J), Freshwater (10), 31 Oct (SRP), Freshwater Fruit Farm (10), 8 Jul (PBa), Shanklin (10), 1 Nov (IOu), Bonchurch (10), two, 21 Sep, singletons on 22 Sep, 23 Sep, 6 Oct, 10 Nov (JHa); North End, Portsmouth (11), 11 Sep (MWe), Butser Hill (11), 12 Sep (NJM), Northney, Hayling (11), 5 and 6 Oct (JWP), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 21 Oct (AJ), Bransgore (11), 11 Nov, attracted to lights in public toilets (SCu). . Since 43 in 2006, and 12 in 2007, North Hampshire (12) has seen just two reports, in 2008 and 2011.

73.296 (2203) White-speck *Mythimna unipuncta* (Haworth, 1809) Migrant

The year under review saw above average numbers in the Isle of Wight and South Hampshire, comparable to the best ever year of 2003 in number of records albeit individual counts were lower. Totland (10), 9 Sep, 11 Oct, 14 Nov (SAK-J), Freshwater Cliffs (10), 10 and 16 Oct (SDa), Jersey Camp (10), 2 Oct (IM), Ventnor (10), 9 Aug (FW), Wheelers Bay (10), two, 8 Sep (ABu), Bonchurch (10), two, 4 Oct, singletons on 5 and 20 Oct (JHa); Sway (11), 10 Sep (SKe), 20 Sep (MHg), Needs Ore (11), 10 Sep (SCu), Totton (11), 12 Sep (LH), Fareham (11), 12 Sep (KJW), Browdown Coastal Ranges (11), 4 Sep (F.M.G.).

73.299 (2201) Shore Wainscot *Mythimna litoralis* (Curtis, 1827) Nb

Locally common on coastal sand-dunes. In 2015, the 17 records of 28 individuals was unprecedented, principally due to Hengistbury Head (11), with 26 on 15 nights between 10 Jun and 6 Aug (BH): also recorded at Steamer Point (11), 27 Jun (PBu), Fareham (11), 28 Jun (KJW).

73.300 (2202) L-album Wainscot *Mythimna l-album* (Linnaeus, 1767) Nb

A reasonable year for a common migrant to coastal sites, which is also resident at low density around the south-east coasts of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The 540 individuals reported was about average for recent years although well down on the 1000+ totals of 2006 and 2009. As for a number of migrants, 2015 was notable for late records: there have historically been just four sightings after the end of October, but the year under review added four more, with the Isle of Wight (10) seeing SRP recording two on 1 Nov in Freshwater, five in Bonchurch on 2 Nov and four on 3 Nov (JHa), and the latest ever (and only December record) coming from Totland on 11 Dec (SAK-J).

73.302 (2204) Obscure Wainscot *Leucania obsoleta* (Hübner, 1803)

Local in reed-beds, although individuals wander and turn up well away from suitable habitat. The 52 individuals reported in 2015 was a relatively poor return compared to most years but still better than any since 2011. Hengistbury Head (11), ten on eight nights between 1 Jun and 17 Jul (BH), Dibden Purlieu, NF (11), 19 and 20 Jun (RAC), Titchfield Haven NNR (11), 5, 26 Jun, 2, 10 Jul (F.M.G.), Fareham (11), 29 Jun (KJW), Wickham Common (11), 17 Jun (KC), Old Winchester Hill NNR (11), 3 Jul (F.M.G.), Portsmouth (11), 24 May and 11 Jun (IRT), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Vitacress, Cattle Lane, Abbots Ann (12), 8 Jul (TJN), Testside Lakes, Leckford, 21 on five dates between 28 May and 1 Jul, Longstock (12), 3, 29 Jun, Chilbolton, 24 and 26 Jun, Wherwell (12), 17 Jun, Forton, Longparish (12), 18 Jun (all GCE), Bartons Mill, Old Basing (12), 8 Jul (MJW).

73.307 (2119) Pearly Underwing *Peridroma saucia* (Hübner, 1808) Migrant

Very early and very late records were the story of 2015: JHa recorded the second earliest ever on 5 Jan in Bonchurch (10), with four December records being the latest ever: Funtley (11), 13 Dec (MLO), and Lymington (11), 23 Dec (AHR); Freshwater (10), 18 Dec and 27 Dec (SRP). The total of 90 individuals was the second best ever, albeit totally eclipsed by the near 500 of 2006. This was entirely due to a best ever result for the Isle of Wight, where the 33 records of 57 individuals was more than double the previous best totals. Contrastingly, there was only one report from North Hampshire (12), in Chilbolton on 1 Nov (GCE).

73.312 (2080) Square-spot Dart *Euxoa obelisca* (Tutt, 1902) Nb

Still relatively frequent on the chalk cliffs of the Isle of Wight (10), a pattern repeated in 2015 with records from The Needles, by day, 31 Aug (SRP) and Totland, nine on 11 Sep and six on 12 Sep (SAK-J)

73.316 (2084) Light Feathered Rustic *Agrotis cinerea* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) Nb

Associated with Wild Thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, principally nowadays on the cliffs of the Isle of Wight, but also occurring sparsely on shingle beaches and on the central downs of Hampshire. Shanklin (10), 24 May (IOu); Old Winchester Hill (11), 22 May (F.M.G.), Sandy Point, Hayling (11), 4 Jul (JWP et al, BENHS Field Meeting); Cholderton Lodge (12), 24 May (TJN, LF, HE).

73.317 (2089) Heart and Dart *Agrotis exclamatoris* (Linnaeus, 1758)

An exceptionally late individual was trapped at on 14 Dec by GCE in Chilbolton: *A. exclamatoris* has not been seen outside of October before now.

73.320 (2088) Heart and Club *Agrotis clavis* (Hufnagel, 1766)

One to light on 10 Oct on Ashley Heath, NF (11) was the latest ever by four days (JM).

73.323 (2093) Sand Dart *Agrotis ripae* (Hübner, 1823) Nb

Very locally common on the sand dunes in the south-west of the old county of Hampshire, on Hayling and less frequently on the Isle of Wight. Two records for 2015, both from the former of these areas: Hengistbury Head (11), 24 Jun (BH), Steamer Point (11), 27 Jun (PBu).

73.324 (2090) Crescent Dart *Agrotis trux* Stephens, 1829

The Isle of Wight (10) is the stronghold for this species in our area and in 2015 all 21 records came from this county. The 23 individuals recorded at actinic at The Needles* on 15 Jul (SRP) was the second highest single count on the database: one of four records from this new site to the far west of the island, with four, 3 Jul, three, 10 Jul and another three on 8 Aug. The first of the year was also taken by SRP at home in Freshwater, 1 Jul, and there was a late individual for JHa in Bonchurch on 3 Oct (while not unprecedented, there have only been 19 other October sightings).

73.327 (2091) Dark Sword-grass *Agrotis ipsilon* (Hufnagel, 1766) Migrant

A common migrant: 282 individuals was roughly double that of 2014 – which was a poor year - and while numbers were good they were not particularly exceptional, having been exceeded on four years in the 2000s to date (with 2013 seeing at least 600). The majority were reported from early August through to mid-September, although the earliest were in early spring, from Totland (10), 11 Mar (SAK-J); Wickham Common (11), 11 Mar (KC); the last of the year was at Lymington (11), 18 Dec (AHR).

73.328 (2098) Flame *Axylia putris* (Linnaeus, 1761)

One recorded at light in Bransgore (11) on 16 Apr (SCu) was the earliest on record by 8 days.

73.330 (2102a) Radford's Flame Shoulder *Ochropleura leucogaster* (Freyer, 1831) Migrant

November 2015 saw a major influx of migrants into the country, including an unprecedented number of *O. leucogaster*. Our area largely missed out, but one did turn up in SAK-J's Totland trap (10) on 2 November, and represents the second for the Isle of Wight. There has been only one in Hampshire, at Lepe (11) in 2006.

73.332 (2122) Purple Clay *Diarsia brunnea* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

A species of deciduous woodland, particularly associated with woodland on heath, which may explain its historical local existence on the Isle of Wight where such habitat is less common. However in recent years reports have been more frequent and 2015 marked the third year in a row with multiple records for the island: Borthwood Copse, 21 Jun and 2 Jul (IOu); Combley Wood, 27 Jun (IOu) and one in Ventnor (FW).

73.334 (2123) Small Square-spot *Diarsia rubi* (Vieweg, 1790)

2015 was a remarkable year in places for this common species, with over 790 records compared to a total of 6700 previously, with unprecedented numbers in both the Isle of Wight and North Hampshire; the total individual count of nearly 5,000 compares to 1,925 in the next best year (2009), and annual records were set for all three vice-counties: VC10 109 of 641 individuals (previous best 71 of 229 in 2014); VC11 586 of 2455 (previous best 407 of 903 in 2014); VC12 238 of 2119 (previous best 165 of 1078 in 2009). The database contains only six records documenting single night counts of over 100 individuals: three of these were in the year under review, two from MJW's Basingstoke (12) garden, 110 on 28 Aug and an extraordinary 230 on 22 Aug – the highest ever single count by nearly 100 moths in the two counties – and on the same night, NJM recorded 127 in Sherborne St John (12), the two traps not being more than five miles apart. Of the 23 counts over 50 on file, 12 were in 2015.

The second generation is normally stronger than the first in spring, but in 2015, the pattern was complex: whereas overall both were broadly similar in size, this masks the fact that VC11 showed a bias towards the early year (1544 vs 657), in VC12 the pattern was completely reversed (910 vs 1460). It is difficult to devise a coherent explanation for this. One to light on 9 May in Basingstoke (12) (MJW) was the first of the year in either county: the Isle of Wight had to wait until 21 May for the first in Hillisgate (IOu). The last of the year turned up in Pennington (11) on 31 Oct (RFC).

Week	Total Recs	Total Inds	Individuals			
			VC10	VC11	VC12	VC8
19 (07/05)	7	7		3	4	
20 (14/05)	12	13		12	1	
21 (21/05)	81	231	15	154	58	4
22 (28/05)	48	114	11	74	22	7
23 (04/06)	109	790	162	439	182	7
24 (11/06)	110	776	48	478	247	3
25 (18/06)	80	455	35	321	96	1
26 (25/06)	43	98	16	48	34	
27 (02/07)	17	31	20	6	5	
28 (09/07)	2	12	5	7		
30 (23/07)	2	2	1	1		
31 (30/07)	2	9		1	8	
32 (06/08)	20	53	1	12	39	1
33 (13/08)	51	286	4	47	203	32

34 (20/08)	62	696	4	124	568	
35 (27/08)	67	471	25	158	263	25
36 (03/09)	80	517	115	244	158	
37 (10/09)	76	576	164	254	158	
38 (17/09)	30	109	8	45	56	
39 (24/09)	13	30	3	18	9	
40 (01/10)	11	14	4	5	4	
41 (08/10)	2	2		2		
42 (15/10)	2	2			2	
44 (29/10)	1	1		1		

73.337 (2140) White-marked *Cerastis leucographa* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

A very local and early-flying species of hedgerow and woodland, particularly in the north of the county. Only one record, to actinic in Chilbolton, 22 Apr (GCE).

73.344 (2108) Lunar Yellow Underwing *Noctua orbona* (Hufnagel, 1766) **Nb, UK BAP**

The only record was from the most regular locality in our area, Cholderton, on 4 Jul (TJN, LF, HE).

73.345 (2109) Lesser Yellow Underwing *Noctua comes* Hübner, 1813

An exceptionally early individual was reported from Fareham, 24 Apr (KJW), 21 days earlier than any previously recorded, which perhaps emerged from an artificially warm environment such as a greenhouse.

73.347 (2110) Langmaid's Yellow Underwing *Noctua janthina* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775) **Migrant**

A rare but increasing migrant: there have been just over 160 records in our area since the first in 2001, which was the first for the country as a whole, the majority of which have been in south-east Hampshire (128 to date). 2015 was no exception to this rule, with eight records of ten individuals between 14 Jul and 13 Aug in Portsmouth (11) (IRT), with one nearby, 7 Aug (JRL), and three for JWP in Northney, Hayling (11) on 13, 22 Jul, and 3 Aug. On Wight (10), where there have been only 13 previous records, IOu recorded individuals to light on 16 and 18 Jul in Shanklin, with two for JHa in Bonchurch, 7 Aug.

73.352 (2138) Green Arches *Anaplectoides prasina* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Widely but quite thinly distributed across Hampshire and quite rare in the New Forest – a notable exception is the Test valley (12), where GCE trapped it regularly in 2015. It is equally scarce on the island (10), but 17 records were a significant increase on the previous 62. Most originated from Shanklin, where IOu reported 24 between 11 Jun and 15 Jul. Elsewhere, JHC had two at Briddlesford Copse on 23 Jun and one at Afton Marsh on 24 Jun.

73.353 (2130) Dotted Clay *Xestia baja* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

A very local resident, recent records being mainly from heathland but the species appears to have declined during the late 20th and early 21st century. Frequent however in Ashurst, NF (11), with four individuals between 9 and 21 Aug (KG), with one to light at Blashford Lakes (11) on 10 Aug (RAC), one on Merritown Heath (11), 21 Aug (DF), two on Ashley Heath, NF (11), 20 Aug (JM), and one in Headley (12), 15 Aug (ALL).

73.355 (2132) Neglected Rustic *Xestia castanea* (Esper, 1798)

Eight individuals, typically all in the New Forest (11), where the larva feeds on various heather species: Poors Common, 8 Sep (SCu); Ashurst, 11 Sep (KG); Sway, 26 Sep (MHg), Dibden Purlieu, three, 11 Sep, and two, 13 Sep (RAC).

73.356 (2135) Heath Rustic *Xestia agathina* (Duponchel, 1827)

Quite a good year for a local resident of heathland in the county, which has declined drastically in recent decades. In the New Forest (11), MHg reported three individuals on 17 and 20 Sep, and 16 Oct in Sway, with two on Poors Common, 8 Sep (Simon Curson), one at Fordingbridge, 11 Sep (Stephen Tapper) and six between 4 Aug and 1 Sep in Dibden Purlieu (RAC). Browdown (11) along the coast turned up two on 4 Sep and a total of eight on 25 Sep (both F.M.G.).

73.358 (2133) Six-striped Rustic *Xestia sexstrigata* (Haworth, 1809)

An early individual was reported from Hengistbury Head (11) on 24 Jul (BH). This is quite unusual but not unprecedented: the earliest accepted report is from 4 Jul, from Old Basing (12) in 2003 (Tony Dobson).

73.360 (2127) Triple-spotted Clay *Xestia ditrapezium* ([Denis & Schiffmüller], 1775)

Observers are reminded that a specimen of this species must be retained for the record to be considered for acceptance. A photograph is NOT considered sufficient for the purpose. 2015 saw two records submitted but rejected: historical records will be reviewed in due course and it is expected that a few will not stand up to scrutiny.

73.368 (2136) Gothic *Naenia typica* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A widespread but nowhere common species of damp woodland and hedgerows. Just about annual on the Isle of Wight in recent years, but historically quite rare: Freshwater (10), 19 Jul (SRP). In Hampshire reported from Ashurst, NF (11), 6 Aug (KG), St Cross, Winchester (11), 10 Jul (THW), Botley (11), 9 Aug (SBa), Fareham (11), 1 Aug (IMcP); Andover (12), 5 Jul (GD); Basingstoke (12), three, 12 to 16 Jul (GAH), Alton (12), 31 Jul (Chris Piper).

Nolidae

74.001 (2075) Small Black Arches *Meganola strigula* (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775) **Na**

Very much limited to three main oak woodland areas in Hampshire nowadays: Pamber Forest (12), six on 30 Jun, three on 3 Jul, and singletons on 10 and 16 Jul (GJD), with a wanderer in Axmansford for ABo on 4 Jul; in the Harewood Forest area (12), reported from Wherwell on 17 Jun and three on 13 Jul, Longparish, 4 Jul and Goodworth Clatford, 10 Jul (GCE). In the third historical stronghold, the central New Forest (11) turns up fewer records than it has done historically, so one from Fletchers Water on 5 Jun (RFC, MMcM) was good to receive.

74.011 (2418) Cream-bordered Green Pea *Earias clorana* (Linnaeus, 1761) **Nb**

A denizen of damp habitats, particularly in the New Forest and coastal marshes. The total of 73 records received during exceeded the previous high (69, in 2009), and the count of 153 individuals was also a record, beating the 137 of 2013. The first of the year was in Shanklin (10), 24 May (IOu), followed by the first mainland record at Hengistbury Head (11), 1 Jun (BH). These outliers were followed by the main emergence between 11 Jun and 23 Jul; however the highest count of the year came later, from Titchfield Haven (11), 7 Aug (F.M.G.) when a total of 15 came to light – the six recorded by Les Street on 30 Jun at Newtown NNR (10) was the highest of the year for the island. The last of the year on the island was on 15 Aug, Freshwater (TJN, DC) and in Hampshire, in Pennington (11), 21 Aug (RFC). There have only been four VC12 records, the last in 2011: one in St Cross, Winchester on 10 Jul (THW), in South Hampshire (11) but right on the border, was therefore one of the most northerly ever for the area.

Appendix A: Observers referenced and abbreviated in the report

The following observers are referenced in the above report by their initials. We wish to acknowledge these and all contributors of records to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight moth database: we are blessed with some of the most expert recorders in the country, and the breadth of contribution -

Initial	Name	VC	Initial	Name	VC
JA	Alison, Jamie	12	MHa	Hampton, Mark	11
SA	Arnold, Sophie	11	LH	Hankinson, Lyz	11
AA	Ashworth, Andrew	11	AH	Hardacre, Andrew	11
SBa	Bailey, Sue	11	AHr	Harmer, Alec	11
MJB	Baker, Mike	11	GAH	Henwood, Glynn	12
PBa	Barden, Phil	10	DPH	Houghton, Dan	11
AJB	Barker, Andy	11, 12	PFH	Hutchings, Peter	11
SB	Barrett, Shaun	11	KI	Illesley, Kevin	11
CLB	Bayer, Colin	12	MJ	Jeffes, Mike	11
DTB	Biggs, David	10	JJ	Jones, Jeanette	11
JBI	Bloss, Juliet	11	SKe	Keen, Steve	11
ABo	Bolton, Andy	12	SAK-J	Knill-Jones, Sam	10
WB	Borras, Wayne	11	JRL	Langmaid, John	11,12
SAB	Boswell, Simon	11	ALL	Lockley, Anthea	12
PBk	Brock, Paul	11	MMcM	MacMillan, Mary	11
ABr	Brown, Andrew	11	SM	Mansfield, Steve	12
PBu	Budd, Phil	11	KM	Marston, Keith	10
ABu	Butler, Andy	10	IMcP	McPherson, Ivor	11
JC	Chapman, Jayne	12	IM	Merrifield, Ian	10
RAC	Chapman, Robert	11	JM	Millo, Jon	11
JHC	Clarke, Julian	10	NJM	Montegriffo, Nick	12
KC	Coker, Kevin	11	TJN	Norriss, Tim	12
ARC	Collins, Andy	11	MLO	Opie, Maurice	11
DC	Cooke, Dave	10	IOu	Outlaw, Iain	10
RFC	Coomber, Richard	11	DBO	Owen, Dave	12
SCu	Curson, Simon	11	SMP	Palmer, Steve	11
GD	Davis, Graeme	12	MSP	Parsons, Mark	11
AMD	Davis, Tony	11	JWP	Phillips, John	11
GJD	Dennis, Graham	12	SRP	Plummer, Stephen	10
RJD	Dickson, Richard	11	GR	Robinson, Geoff	12
HE	Edmunds, Henry	12	KR	Rylands, Kevin	10
BE	Elliott, Brian	11	TS	Slaven, Toni	11
GRE	Else, George	11	JSw	Southworth, Jean	11
DE	Evans, David	11	IRT	Thirlwell, Ian	11
GCE	Evans, Glynne	12	AT	Tindale, Anthony	11
SLE	Evans, Sheila	12	PT	Toynton, Paul	8
F.M.G.	Fareham Moth Group	11	RTu	Turner, Robin	11
TF	Filbee, Tony	12	THW	Walker, Tim	11
PDF	Fleet, Patrick	12	MJW	Wall, Mike	12
LF	Fomison, Lynn	12	KJW	Wheeler, Keith	11
DF	Foote, David	11	RWi	Wilson, Rob	10
KG	Godfrey, Keith	11	JEY	Young, Jenny	11
JG	Goodridge, Jeff	11	MRY	Young, Mark	11
MHg	Halligan, Mark	11			

Appendix B: Records Pending Confirmation

The following records are included here as determination has yet to be completed either way. It also may serve to highlight species groups that require additional evidence from observers to allow acceptance in future.

3.002 (0017) Common Swift *Korscheltellus lupulina* (Linnaeus, 1758)

A number of *lupulina* records were received for September which are almost certainly likely to relate to Orange Swift. *All August/September Common Swift records are under review.*

7.014 (0143) *Nematopogon metaxella* (Hübner, [1813])

A report of one at light in Munsley Bog, Godshill (10) on 12 Aug (Rob Wilson) is nearly three weeks later than any previous sighting and remains pending.

12.031 (0239) *Tinea columbariella* Wocke, 1877 **Nationally Scarce A**

One reported in Totton, 11 June (LH) requires confirmation.

28.013 (0637) *Crassa tinctella* (Hübner, 1796) **Nationally Scarce B**

One in Romsey, 19 July (MJB) is very late for this spring species and needs verifying to eliminate *C. unitella*.

49.104 (0931) *Gynnidomorpha luridana* (Gregson, 1870) **Nationally Scarce A**

JA reported three individuals from two sites: at Magdalen Hill Down (12) on 21 and 25 Jul, and on Bugmore Hill, near Alresford (12), 23 Jul. Confirmation required.

49.187 (1098) *Endothenia oblongana* (Haworth, 1811)

This is an easily confused species, particularly with *E. gentianaeanana*, especially where the specimen is not in good condition. One claimed from Freshwater, 13 Jul (SAK-J det. BE), which would be new for the Isle of Wight, remains unconfirmed.

62.002 (1429) *Aphomia zelleri* (Joannis, 1932) **Nationally Scarce A**

One taken at MV in Totland, 3 Jul (SAK-J det. BE) would be the first record for the Isle of Wight for over a century if confirmed. This predominantly coastal inhabitant of sand-dunes, where the larva builds a silk tube in sand and feeds on mosses, was known from the St Helens area on the east side of the island until 1909. One was trapped by JRL in Southsea in 2010, just across the Solent, so it would be intriguing to know whether it still occurs in its old haunts.

72.047 (2045) Hoary Footman *Eilema caniola* (Hübner, 1808) **Nb**

Four reported from Tidgrove Warren, Overton (12), 1 Aug (ABo & Patrick Fleet) – good quality photographs are required for acceptance of this species to eliminate pale Scarce Footman.

73.033 (2020) Figure of Eight *Diloba caeruleocephala* (Linnaeus, 1758)

In Bishopstoke (11), 20 larvae were found on Pheasant Berry *Leycesteria formosa* on 30 May (David Hubble). An unusual foodplant for a Malus feeder

73.354 (2131) Square-spotted Clay *Xestia stigmatica* (Hübner, [1813]) **Nb**

One reported from Totland (10), 7 Aug (SAK-J det BE) remains subject to confirmation as the specimen is not in good condition and requires dissection. The only previous report from the island is from Cowes in 1949. *Observers are reminded that a good photograph or specimen is required for this species to be considered for acceptance.*