



Butterfly  
Conservation

# HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT BUTTERFLY & MOTH REPORT 2007



# Hampshire & Isle of Wight Butterfly & Moth Report, 2007

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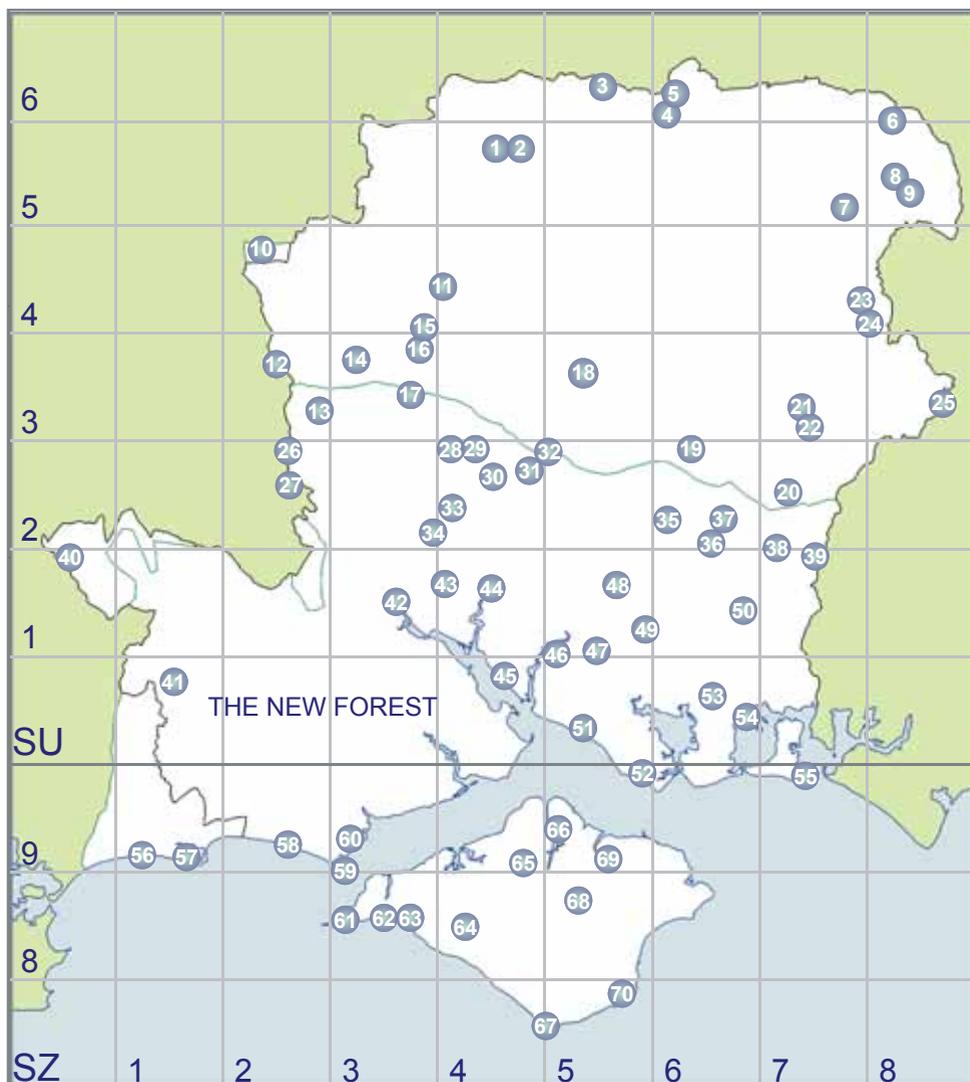
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## Butterfly and moth sites in Hampshire and Isle of Wight



The area covered by this report is based on the modern administrative counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight together with those parts of Dorset falling within Watsonian Vice County 11 (South Hampshire) and the parts of Wiltshire falling within Watsonian Vice County 12 (North Hampshire).

The map shows many of the sites that occur most frequently in this report. Many of the localities are nature reserves or country parks and they have varying degrees of access. Owner's consent may be required to visit some (e.g. Porton Down) and on others visitors are restricted to footpaths. **Visitor pressure is growing; please take great care to avoid damage to these valuable sites.**

## Key to map

- |    |                                |    |  |
|----|--------------------------------|----|--|
| 1  | Beacon Hill, Burghclere        | 36 | Old Winchester Hill  |
| 2  | Old Burghclere Lime Quarry     | 37 | The Mountain   |
| 3  | Ashford Hill                   | 38 | Butser Hill/Oxenbourne Down/<br>Queen Elizabeth Country Park |
| 4  | Pamber Forest                  | 39 | Coulters Dean  |
| 5  | Silchester Common              | 40 | Martin Down  |
| 6  | Yateley Common                 | 41 | Blashford Lakes Reserve                                      |
| 7  | Dogmersfield Park              | 42 | Lower Test Reserve   |
| 8  | Fleet Pond                     | 43 | Lordswood, Southampton                                       |
| 9  | Eelmoor                        | 44 | Itchen Valley Country Park                                   |
| 10 | Perham Down/Tidworth           | 45 | Royal Victoria Country Park                                  |
| 11 | Harewood Forest                | 46 | Swanwick Reserve   |
| 12 | Porton Down                    | 47 | Botley Wood  |
| 13 | Broughton Down                 | 48 | Bishops Waltham Moors  |
| 14 | Danebury Rings                 | 49 | West Walk, Forest of Bere                                    |
| 15 | Chilbolton Common              | 50 | Catherington Down  |
| 16 | West Down, Chilbolton          | 51 | Titchfield Haven   |
| 17 | Stockbridge Down               | 52 | Browdown   |
| 18 | Micheldever Wood               | 53 | Portsdown Hill   |
| 19 | Bramdean Common                | 54 | Farlington Marshes   |
| 20 | Ashford Hangers                | 55 | Sandy Point, Hayling Island                                  |
| 21 | Selborne Common                | 56 | Southbourne Undercliff                                       |
| 22 | Noar Hill                      | 57 | Hengistbury Head   |
| 23 | <b>Bentley Station Meadow</b>  | 58 | Hordle Cliffs  |
| 24 | Alice Holt Forest              | 59 | Hurst Castle   |
| 25 | Bramshott Common               | 60 | Keyhaven and Pennington Marshes                              |
| 26 | Dean Hill                      | 61 | Headon Warren/Tennyson Down                                  |
| 27 | Bentley Wood                   | 62 | Afton Down   |
| 28 | Farley Mount & Pitt Down       | 63 | Compton Chine/Compton Down                                   |
| 29 | Crab Wood                      | 64 | Mottistone Down  |
| 30 | <b>Yew Hill</b>                | 65 | Parkhurst Forest   |
| 31 | St Catherine's Hill/The Dongas | 66 | Whippingham  |
| 32 | <b>Magdalen Hill Down</b>      | 67 | St Catherine's Pt/Niton Undercliff                           |
| 33 | Ampfield Wood                  | 68 | Arreton Down   |
| 34 | Baddesley Common & Emer Bog    | 69 | Firestone Copse  |
| 35 | Beacon Hill, Warnford          | 70 | Coombe Bottom/St Boniface                                    |

The New Forest contains many important sites in a variety of habitats.

Bold print indicates the Branch's three reserves.

For less well known sites mentioned in the report, we have included the name of the nearest town/village.

2007 will long be remembered for its warm sunny April when many species were seen on the wing exceptionally early, followed by dismal weather which dominated the summer months. As the summer progressed I was fairly confident in predicting that after a record-breaking year for records sent in for 2006, that with the poor weather we experienced during 2007 the number of records would be far fewer. This was not the case, as the number of records received was approximately 10% up on 2006. Thank you to everyone who sends in records.

All data received is entered onto our database and contributes to our distribution maps, but with so many records only a selection can be specifically mentioned in the annual report. The data is put to further use, however, through a data exchange agreement, with the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC). HBIC is a partnership comprising local authorities, nature conservation bodies and statutory agencies. By holding all records in one place including ours combined with habitat data, HBIC can respond more effectively to enquires and identify sites important for nature conservation. This enables local planning authorities to assess the ecological implications of proposed development and to inform and guide the Hampshire and local Biodiversity Action Plans. Our data is also submitted regularly to Head Office for incorporation into the Butterflies in the New Millennium project and the National Moth Recording Scheme.

To supplement the distribution maps in this report, maps for all our area's resident and regular immigrant butterflies and selected moths are now available on the Branch's website (<http://www.hantsiow-butterflies.org.uk>).

Please keep sending in your data either via the two paper recording forms, via email to the Sightings Page on our website, via an Excel spreadsheet or via MapMate recording software. For further details see the Branch website or the April newsletter.

Six new writers have joined the team this year: Janet Jones has written the Purple Hairstreak species account, Richard Levett the Ringlet and the Silver-washed Fritillary, Linda Smith the Adonis Blue and the Dark Green Fritillary, Jane Vaughan the Green Hairstreak, Peter Vaughan the Grayling and Bob Whitmarsh the Painted Lady and the Orange-tip. Peter Hooper, who joined the team two years ago, is no longer able to contribute to the report as he has moved to another part of the country. Juliet Bloss, who has been writing species accounts for the report since 1991 has decided to step down and on behalf of the Branch I would like to thank her for her valuable contribution to this publication.

I am stepping down as Report Editor for the butterfly section of the annual report but I will continue as the Branch Butterfly Recorder. Please send me your records as before and to avoid any confusion please send anything associated with the report to me and I will ensure it is passed on to the new editor when appointed.

Wishing you all an enjoyable butterfly season.

## BRANCH RESERVES UPDATE

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**Bentley Station Meadow**

**Lynn Fomison**

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It was a poor year with transect numbers down by over 50%. Just 640 butterflies of 23 species were seen in 2007 compared with 1306 and 26 species in 2006. The species not seen on transect in 2007 were Brown Argus, Small Tortoiseshell and White Admiral.

The season started so well with wonderful April weather. We had several reports of how beautiful the spring flowers were looking with butterflies nectaring on Blackthorn and the bee fly *Bombylius major* on Ground Ivy. The Bugle was really splendid and attracted Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth on numerous occasions to the delight of photographers. Mike Young saw it on 16 May – its first sighting having been on 30 April. This species uses Honeysuckle as a larval food plant and we are careful to preserve and enhance this plant when we undertake conservation management work.

However, despite the good spells of weather in April, numbers of Brimstone, Orange-tip and Green-veined White were all lower than 2006. But worse was to come! Higher counts than in 2006 were only recorded for three species: Marbled White (up from 14 to 17) Green Hairstreak up from one to two and Holly Blue from three to six. But the overall picture was quite the reverse. Species that fared particularly badly were Common Blue (down from 40 to 2), Small Copper (down from 22 to 2) and Silver-washed Fritillary (down from 65 to 14). Ringlets, a species known to tolerate the wet, showed a decrease of about 19% and Meadow Browns 35%. Gatekeepers did not tolerate the conditions well at all and were almost 80% down.

What more can be said? Well, Bentley Station Meadow is a superb nature reserve. The weekly reports from transect walkers and other visitors' accounts on the web site are a delight to read.

Thelma Smalley, Transect Co-ordinator and recorder writes "As this was Elizabeth Tunnah's last year doing the transect after 14 years of recording at Bentley it was particularly disappointing that the summer weather was poor and butterfly numbers low. However all of us who walk the transect get enormous pleasure from the wonderful array of flowers at Bentley and the range of other wildlife. The weekly transect sheets have notes from the walkers of other wildlife seen, moths, lots of birds, dragonflies, including the Emperor (seen on 17 June), Beautiful Demoiselle and Broad Bodied Chaser. I heard my first cuckoo of the year there on 25 April. The bird song is a real delight and it is so nice to see the bluebells becoming more numerous".

Other transect walkers noted lists of the birds and flowers they had seen and heard. Mike Young listed numerous moths encountered including Mother Shipton, Speckled Yellow, Burnet Companion, Yellow Shell and Blood-vein. In August both Mike Young and Sue Clark found and photographed Roesel's Bush Cricket. Other new finds were the flowers Marsh Woundwort and Gypsywort. Devil's-bit Scabious had its best year ever, seeming to benefit from where vegetation had been strimmed back earlier in the year. It provided lots of nectar for bees in late summer.

2007 was out of the ordinary. It was not just the rain! The restrictions that were put in place as a result of the Foot and Mouth disease outbreak in Surrey meant that we could not have the cattle to graze the reserve in October and November. Fortunately conservation work parties have been well supported; extra help has been provided by Blackwater Valley

Partnership, and together with work undertaken by contractors it means we are on target with our management plan of scrub clearance and thinning trees as set down in our Countryside Stewardship agreement.

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## Magdalen Hill Down

Lynn Fomison

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Cowslips and Sheep at Magdalen Hill Down Extension, 13 April 2007 (Lynn Fomison)

Magdalen Hill Down extends to 110 acres and has three distinct areas. The original reserve is a steep south-facing hillside, which was cleared of unwanted scrub by Butterfly Conservation in 1989/1991, a grazing regime was implemented and thus the ancient downland turf was rescued. In 1995 the extension was acquired. This 32-acre ex-arable field was sown with native grass and wild flowers in 1997. It is not as steep as the original reserve but does have a southerly aspect and tall trees and hedgerows provide some sheltered spots. More recently a scheme to restore a further 55 acres of arable farmland to chalk grassland was initiated. In 2004 this area, Magdalen Hill Down North, was sown with a special mix of local provenance seed. All areas are carefully grazed by a combination of cattle and sheep, mainly in late autumn, winter and spring and an ongoing programme of practical conservation helps to keep scrub under control, hedgerows and trees in good order and create the sort of habitat that we know butterflies and moths need. We currently receive financial support from Natural England under the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme.

Those of us closely connected with the reserve look forward to each year's transect results especially as for many species there have been spectacular increases in numbers. For example on the original reserve our management was successful in increasing the number of Chalkhill Blues on transect from 437 in 1990 to 3236 in 2006. Similarly on the extension Common Blues rose from 50 in 1996 to 802 in 2006. On Magdalen Hill Down North in just three years Marbled Whites increased from zero in 2004 to 61 in 2007.

Although the numbers of some species have experienced dire plunges in 2007 due to poor June/July weather the transect figures from the three parts of the reserve are fascinating because particular species vary across the reserve.

Andy Barker is transect co-ordinator and comments "It was one of the worst years on record, with overall butterfly numbers 30-40% down at many sites in Hampshire (including Magdalen Hill Down), and some species such as Chalkhill Blue and Common Blue showing massive declines both at Magdalen Hill Down and elsewhere in the county. Magdalen Hill Down. North only showed a slight decline in total butterflies, and had it been a better year it would definitely have shown a big increase, reflecting the positive condition of the grasslands as a result of the ongoing habitat creation. Meadow Brown did exceptionally well, even with the poor weather!" Jenny Mallett's observation indicates just how bad the weather was: "Things looked promising in April with early species flourishing, but miserable May/June/July weather produced more than twice the average rainfall".



Magdalen Hill Down, Original Reserve, 18 April 2007 (David Green)

**The Original Reserve** had 3951 butterflies of 28 species on transect in 2007. The total numbers suffered a reduction of just over 40% and the number of species was down by three. The missing species were Dingy Skipper, Dark Green Fritillary and Marsh Fritillary. But as these are not regarded as species breeding on the reserve and only seen in ones and twos the non-recording of them is not significant. What is significant is the massive reduction in overall numbers. Some of the most notable declines were: Green-veined White (50% decrease), Small Copper (76% decrease), Common Blue (40% decrease), Chalkhill Blue (67% decrease), and Gatekeeper (49% decrease).

Not surprisingly our migrants were well down too with Clouded Yellow (47% decrease) and Painted Lady (96% decrease). Of course we all experienced the disappointment and frustration of the poor summer weather and we know that such conditions are unfavourable

for butterflies and moths. It will be interesting to see how species recover when we get the results of transects in 2008. Regarding the Chalkhill Blues the last time there was a lower figure than 1066 was back in 1995 as numbers were starting to build up. When we looked at the hillside in July the low numbers were obvious. In 2006 the peak count was 581 in week 17; the same week in 2007 gave 120! The comparisons in week 22 were 222 and 25. Enough said!

But it was far from being all bad news. Anyone reading the sightings page on the Branch web site would have seen how much visited Magdalen Hill Down was in April. Visitors were regularly seeing a dozen Grizzled Skippers or a dozen Green Hairstreaks. Dan Hoare managed a massive count of 18 Grizzled Skipper on 15 April. On 16 April Mark Swann counted 29 Green Hairstreaks mainly at the top of the hill, battling for positions on hawthorn bushes. In May the weather deteriorated quickly and undoubtedly shortened the flight season. Small Skipper, Large Skipper, Brimstone, Small White, Orange-tip, Holly Blue, Red Admiral, Small Tortoiseshell, Speckled Wood and Ringlet all had increased numbers. Pleasingly Small Heath only showed a slight reduction.

**The Extension** had 2414 butterflies of 28 species compared to 3161 (a reduction of almost 26%) and 29 species in 2006. Dinky Skipper was not recorded on transect in 2007 but one was seen. The butterflies showing the most significant reductions were Common Blue (down 71%) and Chalkhill Blue (down 85%). Small Copper were down from 65 to 36. The courting pair glimpsed on 24 April obviously failed to produce many offspring! Painted Lady were down from 128 to six but Peacock were up from 58 to 270. (Patrick Fleet records finding seven batches of caterpillars on 4 June on MHD) Marbled White were 50% down. Patrick and I saw a Clouded Yellow on 18 April and it was exciting to speculate that this might actually have bred on site as opposed to being a migrant that had flown in. But this species did not maintain its early promise and a total of just four were recorded. However two did make a good showing at the first of our new monthly Sunday walks on 2 September to the delight of 22 visitors. Species that recorded a small but welcome increase were Large Skipper, Grizzled Skipper, Holly Blue, Small Tortoiseshell, Small Heath and Ringlet. Meadow Brown were up by over 150 with a total of 1077.

2007 was the Extension's tenth summer since sowing in 1997. Throughout that period Charles Flower and Dr Charlie Gibson, who are the scheme's wild flower and scientific consultants respectively, have regularly inspected it. They were thrilled with the sward on their visit in June this year and say we are making wonderful progress towards establishing a flower-rich chalk grassland. Phil Budd undertook botanical monitoring between the end of June and mid July. The frequency of monitoring is now to be reduced to every other year.

**At Magdalen Hill Down North**, 915 butterflies of 26 species were seen in comparison to 1051 and 26 in 2006, a reduction of only almost 13%. Species not seen, unsurprisingly, were Marsh Fritillary and, surprisingly, Orange-tip but the new species appearing on the list were Green Hairstreak and Speckled Wood.

Magdalen Hill Down North affords less shelter at the moment than the other two parts of the reserve so it is most heartening that a good number of butterflies were recorded and that the records included species like Small Blue, Chalkhill Blue, Brown Argus and Small Heath. Although all of these had numbers down on 2006 it was excellent that they were present. Other species that suffered a drop in numbers were Large Skipper, Brimstone, Small White, Common Blue, Small Copper, Red Admiral and Gatekeeper. Regarding immigrants, Painted Lady were down from 149 to 13, but Clouded Yellow doubled in number from 1 to 2! Obviously the transect only covers a small part of the wonderful

habitat that Magdalen Hill Down North provides and a walk all around of a couple of hours in fine weather will afford many sightings. It is a fine breeding habitat for Clouded Yellow with lots of Sainfoin and Birds-foot-trefoil. Other species that showed increases, sometimes quite small but nonetheless welcome, were Small Skipper, Green-veined White, Holly Blue, Small Tortoiseshell and Ringlet. Marbled White and Meadow Brown deserve a special mention. The latter is maintaining an upward trend from 55 in 2005 to 255 in 2006 to 456 in 2007. Whilst Marbled White had decreased on the other two parts of the reserve it was good to see 61 recorded here in comparison to 23 in 2006 and nil in 2005.

It is important to bear in mind Andy Barker's comment that a better summer would have yielded big increases. And of course we continue to await with eager anticipation colonisation by Silver-spotted Skipper and Adonis Blue. We are so lucky that the land additions at Magdalen Hill Down have given us the opportunity to see how butterflies are able to colonise new areas if the right plants and habitat are there.

The reserve continues to support good habitat for moths and surveys have yielded some new species this year like Figure of Eight. It is a good place to observe moths – on 2 April Patrick Fleet saw a Hummingbird Hawk-moth laying on bedstraw. Of a visit on 14 April Andy and Linda Barker reported “To give an idea of how early the season must be, we were amazed with a couple of the moths seen at Magdalen Hill Down namely a Burnet Companion, and Green Carpet (two disturbed from rest). We've never seen either of these in April before!” On 19 April Andy recorded yet another early sighting of a moth, a Mother Shipton. “Again, it was beautifully fresh and my earliest ever record”. Patrick came across a Little Thorn (Nationally Notable) whilst working on 23 May and Six-belted Clearwings were attracted to pheromones during August.

Although the summer was a disappointment the flowers looked lovely – even in the rain – and other wildlife like birds, hares, deer etc continues to be in abundance.

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**Yew Hill****Brian Fletcher**

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In spite of the horrible weather that was one of the most memorable features of the summer, Yew Hill, its flora and its fauna have not been too badly affected.

The usual round of scrub removal, Ragwort pulling and grazing took place as planned. These routine activities are an absolutely essential part of maintaining the chalk grassland of the reserve in peak condition, with its associated benefits to orchids and other flowers, butterflies, moths and wildlife. Without the appropriate plants for caterpillars to feed on and flowers to provide nectar for butterflies and moths, the wildlife on the reserve would decline rapidly.

Though the atrocious weather that occurred during most of the butterfly season had significant impact on butterfly numbers, it is worth noting that the prolonged grazing of the reserve in 2001 caused by movement restrictions for cattle during the Foot and Mouth epidemic brought about bigger reductions in the butterfly population than the poor weather of 2007, the total count of butterflies on the transect being 2016 in 2001 compared with 2364 in 2007.

As usual, there were winners and losers. Brimstone did particularly well, with the first seen on the reserve in January. The excellent April weather suited this species and a total of 134 were seen on transect, the highest number ever recorded since the transect began in 1990. Red Admirals were more common than at any time since 1996, and of our rarer

species, there were regular sightings of Dark Green Fritillary and Small Copper with five and eight respectively being recorded on transect. Though the Gatekeeper, Marbled White and Speckled Wood were less numerous than in 2006, their numbers were very similar to those of 2005. Ringlet numbers remained the same, and the Meadow Brown were slightly more numerous, with 820 being seen compared to 794 in 2006. Small Heath numbers continue to increase, with 36 being recorded on transect in 2007. This figure has come from zero in 2003, so let's hope that the poor summer weather will not hindered their recovery.

The species most affected by the weather were the Blues, including Brown Argus (just four seen compared to 24 in 2006), Chalkhill Blue (down from 1450 in 2006 to 507 this year) and Common Blue (down from 200 to 76). These dramatic reductions reflect both a shorter flight season and substantially reduced numbers at the peak of the flight season. For the Chalkhill Blue, the highest weekly count was 201 in 2007 compared with 585 in 2006. Though overall numbers were down, the variety of species seen on this small reserve remained high, with 16 species seen on 11 July by Patrick Fleet and Lynn Fomison and a total of 24 species seen during the whole year.



Warden Patrick Fleet at a Yew Hill work party, 2 November 2007 (Lynn Fomison)

National Moth Night on 11 August resulted in the recording of 54 species of moths using three light sources (two actinic and one mercury vapour) by Patrick Fleet and Tim Walker. Amongst the more interesting moths found were Barred Rivulet, Magpie Moth, Orange Swift, Straw Underwing and White Point, though the 'target species' of the night, the Chalk Carpet, was not seen.

Amongst the birds seen on Yew Hill were a flock of Lapwings and another of Redwings, Buzzards, Kestrels, both Grey and Red-legged Partridges, a Red Kite (a most unusual visitor) and families of Wrens, Whitethroats and Yellowhammers.

At the beginning of November, the reserve looked to be in good shape, though patches of Dogwood still needed attention. Blessed with warm sunshine, the work party of 2 November observed one lone white butterfly, and were gently pestered by Ladybirds that flew up from the disturbed vegetation. The most common species were the 2-spot and 7-spot, but one of the newly arrived Harlequin Ladybirds was also seen. The final “workers” of the year were six young cattle, which grazed the reserve between early November and mid January, 2008.



Dark Green Fritillary (Colin Baker)

Compton Down SSSI forms 4.5 km of the east-west Cretaceous chalk ridge that bisects the Isle of Wight. Rising from 20 metres at Freshwater Bay to 164 metres at Five Barrows on Brook Down it produces one of the longest stretches of unbroken unimproved chalk grassland in the UK, of a quality unrivalled on the Island and the finest owned by the National Trust at any of its properties.

The 196ha (484 acres) of SSSI includes the flat topped chalk cliffs, the south facing slope and rounded summit and 3km of the more sheltered and scrubby northern slopes.

Compton Down has long been recognised as important for wildlife with species records going as far back as the botanist Lobel (1655). Its flora was first recorded by Snooke in the 1823 “*Flora Vectiana*” and the fauna in Moreys 1909 “*A guide to the natural history of the Isle of Wight*”. The SSSI was designated in 1951, and was recorded in the Nature Conservancy Council’s “*Nature Conservation Review*” as being Grade 1. The Review considered it probably the most important chalk grassland not within the National Nature Reserve suite.

The Down has populations of Adonis Blue and Chalkhill Blue almost continuously along the south facing slopes, in addition to the extensive populations of Small Blue, Common Blue, Brown Argus and Grayling (chalk form). The mown "gorse heath" habitats on the summit, support major populations of Dark Green Fritillary, small numbers of Glanville Fritillary and, historically, small colonies of Duke of Burgundy. Over the site as a whole there are good numbers of Grizzled, Dingy, Large and Small Skippers, Green Hairstreak, Small Copper, Marbled White, Ringlet and the usual browns, whites and vanessids. It is worthy of being a butterfly reserve in its own right but the site is much more diverse than that.

It is designated a SAC (Special Area of Conservation) by the European Union on account of the large populations of Early Gentian, only a small component of the nationally important chalk grassland communities, that include nationally important refugia grassland and lichen communities unparalleled elsewhere in the UK. Several Red Data Book plants and insects are widespread, as well as a whole host of nationally rare plants and invertebrates, in addition to the scarce and local butterflies. As we can see the site is very important for butterflies but the butterflies are only part of the importance of the site,

From a management perspective, the south facing slopes of Afton Down are ungrazed and remain as open grassland. They are considered to be chalk refugia, i.e., grassland that did not colonise with scrub as the ice sheets retreated at the end of the last Ice Age, due to coastal exposure and thin soils, and have remained little changed since then. It was from this refuge or refugia that the chalk grassland plants and insects spread out onto the adjacent downs as Neolithic man cleared the woodland for livestock. This site is very exposed and has large areas of partially vegetated flint rubble scree, noted for the presence of many Adonis Blue and Grayling.

Most of the remaining grassland is grazed by a herd of semi-feral Galloway cattle roaming extensively on over 300 acres. The top of the ridge is overlain by flinty drift deposits giving rise to more acidic soils and extensive patches of Gorse scrub. Over much of the area it forms a tight mosaic of Gorse and moderately herb-rich grassland. The Gorse is mown on a one or two year rotation; it is these "gorse-heath" habitats that are home to the massive populations of Dark Green Fritillary.

My own research points to the Dark Green Fritillary moving into the biennially mown patches as the violet population flushes following the late winter cut. They lay on the violets among the 5 month old, 6 inch (15cm) tall Gorse, which affords some protection from grazing, resulting in luxuriant leaf growth of the food plant. The caterpillars hatch out in late summer and feed, go dormant over-winter and feed again in the spring, pupating in May and begin hatching out in late June. At this point the Gorse is 16 months old, around 18 inches (45cm) tall, closing in the grassland areas and shading out the violets. So the new Dark Green Fritillaries shift into the recently mown Gorse areas to lay their eggs and the cycle begins again. Also of interest is the population of un-hybridised native columbine in this area.

In the annually mown areas at the top of the southern slopes, the Gorse growth is impeded, the areas are consequently grassier, the violet growth is not so marked and the population of Dark Green Fritillary is smaller. The potential therefore exists to double the population of Dark Green Fritillary by bringing these areas into a two year rotation but this would be to the detriment of other species. Notably, it is here that the Glanville Fritillaries breed; in addition there is also one of the largest nesting skylark colonies on the Island.

Due to the calcareous nature of the grassland in this area, it is very herb rich including Early Gentian.

I hope that this article provides a balanced view of this site from a site manager's perspective. Whatever our specific interest, (mine was botany before butterflies), it is important for those managing reserves to have a broad view of the importance of their site. Initially this must come from a good understanding of habitat and community ecology as well as species present, taking into account the continuity and sustainability of management.

On Compton Down we have had the same herd of cattle grazing the site at more or less the same density for around 50 years. In the majority of years they provide the right level of grazing, overgrazing in drought years and under-grazing in years of abundance but the site is large enough and robust enough for populations of butterflies to expand and contract during these times. Most site managers do not have that luxury.

(Paul Davies is the West Wight Warden for the The National Trust)

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**Hampshire's Butterflies: 25 Years on, and on again****Matthew Oates**

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*'For last year's words belong to last year's language  
And next year's words await another voice.'*  
TS Eliot *Little Gidding II*:65-66.

Numerous changes have occurred in the butterfly fauna of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight over the last quarter-century, particularly in Hampshire. Change in itself is no surprise, for butterflies are notoriously vulnerable and opportunistic, but many of the changes the Branch has witnessed were wholly unforeseen: notably, the demise of the Wall Brown in Hampshire, seemingly to the verge of extinction, the spectacular collapse of the Small Tortoiseshell, the steady decline of the Small Heath, and the Clouded Yellow increasing to the extent that it is now a quasi-resident on the Isle of Wight and along the west Hampshire coast. Neither would anyone have predicted the recovery of the Silver-spotted Skipper nor, following in its wake, Adonis Blue; these phenomena were not merely beyond our wildest dreams, but are contrary to the contemporary scientific knowledge that categorised these two rare butterflies as being highly sedentary. In 1981, the Adonis Blue was almost on the verge of extinction in Hampshire, being restricted to Martin Down NNR and Porton Down, and Silver-spotted Skipper confined to four disparate sites. Even the decline of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary would have raised eyebrows, though with hindsight the writing was clearly on the wall. I would, though, have predicted the decline of the Pearl-bordered and Marsh Fritillaries, the loss of High Brown Fritillary and the advent of the Essex Skipper, together with the Branch having over 1000 members and some first rate nature reserves.

In basic terms, nine species have increased significantly in Hampshire during the Branch's 25 years: these are Marbled White, Ringlet, Silver-washed Fritillary, Red Admiral, Adonis Blue, Brown Argus, Clouded Yellow, Essex Skipper and Silver-spotted Skipper. These are winners, at least for the time-being, but there are also at least eight clear losers: viz, Wall Brown, Small Heath, Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, High Brown Fritillary, Marsh Fritillary, Small Tortoiseshell and Dingy Skipper. Much depends, of course, on where we draw lines.

Of the above 17 species, Marbled White and Ringlet both increased dramatically in the late 1970s and, especially, during the early 1980s; Silver-washed Fritillary seems to have

benefited from the opening up of woodland by the great storms of October 1987 and January 1990, and the welcome decline of coniferisation; Red Admiral and Clouded Yellow have benefited from milder winters, both in the UK and on the near continent; Essex Skipper conquered much of Hampshire in the early – mid 1980s, though it has yet to make an impact on the Isle of Wight; Brown Argus has moved off the Chalk to form many new, though often short-lived, colonies on neutral and acidic soils, breeding on various cranesbills, and perhaps other unrecorded foodplants. Small Heath and Dingy Skipper have almost disappeared from woodland, especially off the chalk, and have declined on heathland and on many of their downland strongholds.

On the Isle of Wight, the fauna appears to have remained more stable. Wall Brown remains more widespread, at least for the present; Small Heath and Dingy Skipper populations seem to be more stable; Adonis Blue has scarcely expanded, as it already occupied nearly all suitable habitat, and Silver-spotted Skipper has, perhaps understandably, not colonised. The two Pearl-bordered Fritillaries are in a parlous state that was, with the benefit of a modicum of hindsight, utterly predictable. Perhaps the greatest change on the Island during the 25 years has been the frequency of the Clouded Yellow, which is firmly in the process of becoming a true resident there. The last year in which I failed to see any Clouded Yellow in Britain was 1995, whereas prior to the early 1990s I regularly went two or three years without seeing one.

The status and distribution of few if any of our scarcer species has remained stable during the 25 years, both when the counties are viewed together or singly. The candidates for stability are interesting: Purple Emperor, Green Hairstreak, Brown Hairstreak and, more convincingly, Purple Hairstreak. Three of these are hard to survey or monitor, and at least one is under-recorded. My guess is that the status of the Purple Hairstreak has changed least over the 25 years. The truth is that stability in butterfly status and distribution is a fallacy.

Many species of butterfly expand during good summer sequences only to retreat during poor summers to high quality sites that support core, long term populations. Thus, during good summers, populations increase at established sites and then expand to colonise unoccupied habitat patches elsewhere. Of the scarcer species, White Admiral, Glanville Fritillary and Dark-green Fritillary are good examples of species that expand and contract according to summer sequences, whilst Common Blue and Small Copper are sound examples of 'expanders and contractors' from amongst the commoner species. We need to recognise this principle better.

The truth is that during the Branch's lifetime populations of few of our habitat specialists have remained remotely stable within the two counties, and that 25 years of intensive monitoring by the Branch show that nearly all - if not all - species fluctuate enormously at both site level and regional level. In effect, change is the norm: everything changes, if it has not already changed – especially butterfly populations. This begs the question of what we can see when we gaze into the crystal ball, a crystal ball polished bright by the reality of climate change.

Forecast? Highly Changeable

The nature conservation movement is only just starting to comprehend the massive dynamism of butterfly faunas at landscape level. This is something that had been hugely underestimated, which is hardly surprising as thinking was confined to considering butterflies within small areas of protected land, such as nature reserves. Scientific

knowledge now holds that most if not all butterflies need to occur within clusters of colonies spread over large areas of land, in metapopulation structures that incorporate local colonisation and local extinction within a matrix of habitat patches wherein individual patches fluctuate in and out of suitability and colonisation over periods of time. Ability to move from patch to patch is fundamental, usually alongside the retention of long-term populations at core sites, though this movement is now clearly impeded by the forces of fragmentation and isolation. These diverse and adverse forces are set to intensify as the human population grows, together with its associated needs and demands.

It is ironic that this new understanding is developing at a time of radical flux generated by climate change, the actuality of which cannot be denied by any experienced observer of British butterflies: it is blatantly obvious. Perhaps history will record that climate change was ushered into Britain by the Great Storm of October 1987. I was out during the early part of that storm and sensed that it carried an awesome meaning.

Many scientists will argue that the only certainty about climate change is unpredictability, not least because of distortions caused by individual extreme events. However, it is my belief that within the next quarter-century or so huge elements of the butterfly fauna of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and indeed of the UK generally, are likely to change unrecognisably: it will be a struggle to recognise the fauna that Hampshire & Isle of Wight Branch members have recorded so assiduously these last 25 years. Changes will occur along a surprisingly broad front, embracing status and distribution, extinction and colonisation, habitat preference, foodplant utilisation and availability, timing of flight seasons, number of broods, dispersal and parasitism and predation. All bar the latter two will be well recorded by the Branch and the wider society.

By circa 2032, the status and distribution of a great many species will be radically different, at national, regional and landscape levels, and also in terms of which species are common, widespread or rare, increasing or decreasing, and which are migrants or extinct. The pace of change here will be dramatic and unprecedented within entomological history. The country, and certainly our two counties, will lose species, but others will colonise. It may well be that our two counties will be in credit by the time the Branch celebrates its 50th anniversary, though climate-induced adverse changes may occur more readily during our second half-century. Without the urban development and agricultural intensification factors, I would be hugely optimistic here as I believe, firmly, that butterflies have immense powers of recovery and colonisation given suitable weather and habitat conditions. The Oates motto is *Papilio Nunquam Minoris Aestomate!* (Never Underestimate a Butterfly). A warmer climate - or a greater frequency of hot summer weather - will facilitate greater dispersal, not least of individuals in search of nectar.

Nationally, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are effectively in one of the front line trenches in this respect, including for colonisation from the continent. I anticipate the Clouded Yellow to become a true resident of the Isle of Wight and south Hampshire; the European Swallowtail *Papilio machaon gorganus* to attempt colonisation, particularly on the Island, utilising Wild Carrot and Angelica; and the Long-tailed Blue to become at least of near-annual occurrence, and probably quasi-resident, again especially on the Isle of Wight. Best of all, the Large Tortoiseshell may well stage a welcome return, as suggested by recent sightings along the south coast. If our counties had any sizeable sand dune systems I would predict colonisation by the Queen of Spain Fritillary and / or Niobe Fritillary. Certainly, sand dune systems in East Anglia and the south east should become colonised by these two, at least temporarily. In addition, the Map butterfly should attempt to colonise somewhere in the south east quarter of Britain; it has already colonised Holland

spectacularly in recent years. The Black-veined White may well return to south east England – of its own accord.

Here it is worth reiterating the ageing Butterfly Conservation mantra – more relevant now than ever before; in the interest of scientific recording all releases of butterflies other than the mundane must be reported, at least anonymously. I would go further, arguing that given the sensitivity of butterflies to weather and their resultant role in helping us monitor and understand climate change, the release of captive-bred butterflies should cease altogether, apart from release of a few very common, highly mobile species. Hopefully then, the next time the Black-veined White flies in Hampshire, as it did this year as a result of clandestine release, its occurrence will result from natural colonisation. Of course, colonisation by the continental sub-species of the Swallowtail *Papilio machaon gorganus* will complicate effort to conserve the British sub-species, *britannicus*, which may well start to struggle within the foreseeable future.

Finally on the subject of colonisation, it is probable that the Glanville Fritillary will colonise mainland southern England in a major way, even becoming a roadside species. After all, its foodplant is a weed of cut, grazed and drought-affected grassland. It needs to move as increased storminess is set to cause the soft coast of the Isle of Wight to erode too fast for the development of suitable vegetation: indeed, the south west coast of the Island will shortly become as lightly vegetated as the rapidly-eroding Barton-on-Sea cliffs on the nearby mainland.

On the debit side, the impact of climate change, perhaps especially through milder winters, on the incidence of parasitism could be radical. Already, this may be the main reason behind the current decline of the Small Tortoiseshell, a species which has collapsed in Holland during the last decade. Parasitism is not, of course, merely confined to species with gregarious larvae, and is probably the key element of butterfly ecology about which knowledge is weakest. We do not truly know its relevance. There are also the prospects of increased predation, by small birds, small mammals and a range of predatory invertebrates benefiting largely from milder winters, and changes in the occurrences of viruses affecting larvae. Conservation will not be able to record these aspects directly, let alone counter their effects. Indeed, conservation is going to have to become better at accepting change. This is quite some challenge given the prevalence of the targets, monitoring and reporting culture, not to mention our love of butterflies.

The impact of wet winters on over-wintering larvae is unknown, though analysis of transect data could provide useful indications. My guess is that prolonged saturation and heavy deluges may adversely affect over-wintering larvae – and, of course, about half of our butterfly species spend the winter in the larval stage. Additionally, increased mortality of young larvae is likely to result from a greater frequency of spring, summer and autumn deluges. Indeed, it will be interesting to see how well butterflies fare in 2008, following the excessive rains of May, June and July 2007, which will have impacted on larvae. It may well be that weather is poised to make even greater impacts on all life stages of our butterflies.

In Britain generally, significant changes are likely to occur in habitat preferences and, for our more catholic species, in foodplant utilisation. As examples, Grizzled Skipper may need to become less reliant on drought-prone Wild Strawberry and to utilise drought-resistant plants such as bramble and Common Agrimony more; also, Green Hairstreak may become less strong on downs and become better known as a heathland butterfly, breeding on drought-resistant Gorse. Brambles and Gorse are currently increasing

massively in the absence of severe frost and, probably, also as a result of nitrogen deposition. An obvious early change would be the Ringlet forsaking hot south-facing slopes and retreating to longer, cooler grasslands, woodland and north-facing slopes, though currently it seems to be doing the opposite!

A number of our resident species are vulnerable to foodplant desiccation, for example the Duke of Burgundy, which depends on drought-prone *Primula* leaves remaining green until the larvae are full-fed. This butterfly is already trying to adapt, as it has steadily been emerging progressively earlier in the spring (as recorded in this journal), and my observations show that larvae are becoming full-fed earlier in the summer. The colony at Noar Hill generated a single second brood specimen in 2002 and a small emergence in August 2007. This may well be a taste of things to come. The extent to which butterfly populations may deplete themselves by producing futile partial second broods requires scientific examination.

Those of us who remember the Long Hot Summer of 1976 will recall the widespread foodplant desiccation that occurred on thin soil downland slopes, which resulted in major population collapse in Adonis Blue, Chalkhill Blue, Dark Green Fritillary, Duke of Burgundy Fritillary, Dingy Skipper and Grizzled Skipper that occurred the following year. Subsequent droughts, however, have not had such a deep impact. Curiously, though, some of our resident species are surprisingly adept at countering foodplant desiccation; notably the White Admiral, whose young larvae are strangely able to cope with honeysuckle wilt, which is occurring with increasing frequency. Moreover, as shown in 2006, this butterfly can produce a viable second brood at the end of hot summers.

There is also the matter of the impact of climate change on vegetation. We can easily envisage more non-native plants escaping from gardens and becoming aggressive colonists – two species of *Cotoneaster* are currently increasing strongly. The likes of Holm Oak and Turkey Oak are poised to increase further. Then there are the prospects of new and increasing plant diseases, notably types of *Phytophthora*, and also invasive plant-feeding insects. My guess is that within the next quarter-century at least one major butterfly foodplant will be adversely hit by either plant disease or some invading insect; at least one of our resident butterflies is likely to be devastated in this manner.

One of the greatest impacts of climate change will be on nature conservation practice, which is already struggling in many respects. Grazing regimes are likely to become even more difficult to implement and maintain, and a new host of plants is likely to start behaving aggressively – taking their lead from brambles, European Gorse and Bracken. More importantly, agriculture is likely to want to intensify on better quality farm land and disassociate itself further from the marginal land on which nature conservation interests survive. Forestry though, may become an increasingly strong ally, particularly if waste wood becomes widely used in biofuel systems: our woods could once more become dynamically managed, to the benefit of butterflies that thrive in coppice-based systems.

In theory, ongoing agricultural reform should bring about some desirable changes, but the actuality may be very different. Recently, conservation headlands have probably benefited some species, perhaps especially the Brown Argus, Ringlet and Marbled White. The potential for the recovery of the Brown Hairstreak, at least in Hampshire, remains enormous, given a revolution in hedge management fashion that should be instigated by Environmental Stewardship. However, another round of agricultural intensification seems inevitable, given world population growth, the impact of climate change in hotter countries, and the advent of biofuels. Indeed, the upsurge in grain and dairy prices this year and the

removal of set-aside provides the first signs of these changes. My work keeps me in close contact with agriculture, and its increasingly convoluted systems, and I must confess to being anything but optimistic about the impact of future agricultural practices on Lepidoptera populations and habitats in our counties.

Although the changes that have occurred in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight's butterfly faunas over the last 25 years seem massive now, they are likely to dwindle into insignificance when compared to the scale of inevitable change over the next quarter-century (or so). I suspect that over the next 25 years or so at least two or three of the butterflies we currently take for granted will have collapsed, probably inexplicably. My message is simple: expect the radical, take nothing for granted, treat nothing as fact, ignore all norms and accepted limits, question established conservation practice, and burn all butterfly text books – they are no longer relevant beyond assisting identification. We are entering a long era of increasing uncertainty and associated speculation. Above all, I believe that the conservation of butterflies will become more of an expression of love and wonder than a science and an act of holding on to features that we value. Nonetheless, we will continue to survey and monitor our butterflies assiduously, not least because they are a canary in the mineshaft that is climate change.

*'We shall not cease from exploration  
And at the end of all our exploring  
We shall arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.  
Through the unknown, remembered gate  
Where the last of earth left to discover  
Is that which was the beginning;'*  
TS Eliot. *Little Gidding* V: 26-32.

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## Branch Photographic Competition 2007

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### Silver category & Overall Winner

Tony Wootton: Silver-spotted Skipper (page 19 - top)

### UK Butterflies

Tony Wootton: Marbled White (right)

### Overseas

Tony Wootton: Black-veined White (page 19 - lower right)

### Behaviour (Joint winners)

John Bogle: Marbled White, mating pair (page 19 - lower left)

Mike Young: Glanville Fritillaries (page 87)

### Immature stages

Mike Skelton: Privet Hawk-moth caterpillar (page 157)

### UK Moths

Pete Durnell: Mother Shipton (page 157)





This report has been compiled using data from a weather station in Winchester. This recording station, called "Winchester Weather", provides up to the minute weather data online at: - <http://www.winchesterweather.org.uk/>.

The graphs on page 23 present the data for 2007, averaged for each quarter of the month.

**January** was a mild month with average rainfall. There was stormy weather on the 11th and the 18th. Maximum temperatures of 10°C or above were recorded on 20 days during January with the highest temperature being 13.7°C on the 18th. There was a cold spell between the 22nd and the 26th.

**February** was again mild with one cold spell between the 3rd and the 9th with prevailing westerly winds. The highest temperature recorded was 12.8°C on the 28th.

**March** had a wet start, 57.2mm of rain fell between the 2nd and the 6th, and the total for the month was 67.7mm. The month was mild with maximum temperatures reaching 15°C or above on eight days during the month reaching 18.9°C on the 27th.

**April** was exceptional with abundant sunshine and virtually no rain. Just 0.6 mms of rain fell during the whole month, temperatures reached 19.2°C on the 2nd and 25.6°C on the 15th. There were a total of 169.4 hours of sunshine during the month. The weather was perfect for butterflies but it didn't last!

**May** started off dry until the 7th then 46.2mm of rain fell between the 7th and the 17th. A dry spell followed but the month had a wet ending with 25.9 mm falling over two days, the 27th and the 28th. The temperature reached 26.1°C on the 24th but just three days later the maximum temperature was only 11.2°C. There were a total of 125.6 hours of sunshine, 74% of the April figure.

**June** started off well with a dry spell lasting until the 13th. The hottest day was on the 10th when a temperature of 26.3°C was recorded. 108.6 hours of sunshine were recorded during June, 64% of the April figure. There was a wet finish to the month with 36.1mm of rain being recorded over two days, the 29th and the 30th.

**July** was dreadful! The highest temperature, recorded on the 19th was 23.9° C, compared to 25.6°C in April, 26.1°C in May and 26.3°C in July. It was a wet month with 106.7mm of rain, although this figure is relatively low compared to figures for Southampton and Chandlers Ford which were 139.5mm and 166.7mm respectively. The month was dull with 111.1 hours of sunshine, 66% of the April figure.

**August** had a dry, warm start and the highest temperature of the year, 28.7°C, was recorded on the 5th. The month was dry until the 14th when 27.1mm of rain fell that day with the total for the month being 49.8mm. August was sunnier than May, June and July with 127.8 hours of sunshine, but this was still only 75% of the April figure.

**September** was dry with no rain until the 23rd, the total for the month was just 20mm. Temperatures reached 25.6°C on the 7th. There was a cold spell at the end of the month.

**October** was dry and mild, temperatures reached 19.6°C on the 4th but there was a chilly spell between the 18th and the 25th. The month was dry with just 41mm of rain in total.

**November** was another dry month, with a wet spell in the third week. The first half of the month was mild but temperatures started to fall after the 12th.

**December** began mild and wet followed by a cold dry spell with temperatures going down to -6.5°C on the 20th. Temperatures rose after the 22nd with 12.3°C being recorded on the 27th.

## BUTTERFLY REPORT 2007

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**The butterfly year 2007**

**Andy Barker**

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No two years are the same, and what a contrast we had in 2007 relative to 2006. The season started off well enough, with a good number of Red Admirals seen on sunny days throughout the winter. Indeed, several people saw a Red Admiral on New Year's Day. However, the summer of 2007 was poor and caused a population crash for many species, especially Lycaenids, and resulted in a low numbers of most migrants.

The first three months were fairly unremarkable, but a dry March was followed by an outstandingly warm, dry and sunny April. For once there was no problem doing butterfly transects at the start of the season. This exceptionally good weather meant that those species passing through the winter as larvae and pupae were able to complete their life-cycles in record time. Early sightings of species such as Holly Blue and Speckled Wood were no real surprise, but when species such as Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Glanville were being reported in April, everyone was well aware of the exceptional conditions. In fact for those species that normally emerge in May, the season was brought forward by about three weeks. Remarkably, 28 species, nearly two-thirds of the Hampshire list had been seen by the end of April!

However, early emergence doesn't necessarily mean a species will have a good year. In overall terms, the transect data suggests that only three species, namely Peacock, Holly Blue and Grizzled Skipper, did better in 2007 relative to 2006. All other species were either slightly down or markedly down on 2006, although we should remember that for most, 2006 had been a bumper year, so to improve on this would have taken some doing.

May was a rather unsettled month, but not nearly as bad as what followed. The second half of June and most of July were exceptionally dull, cool and wet. The flight periods of spring species were brought to an abrupt end in the second week of June and emergence times of summer species were held back. Species such as Meadow Brown struggled to get going and didn't really build up in numbers until August, whilst Gatekeeper came and went very quickly with a remarkably poor season. Woodland species such as Silver-washed Fritillary and White Admiral were down, but it would have been hard for them to match their exceptional 2006 performance.

Hardest hit of all in 2007 was the Chalkhill Blue, with numbers reduced to a third of those seen in 2006. Quite likely this species experienced heavy larval or pupal mortality in the prolonged dull wet conditions of late June and July. Double-brooded Lycaenids such as Adonis Blue, Common Blue and Brown Argus were also badly hit, with a feeble second brood emergence in August/September. Again we can speculate that the June/July weather was the primary cause, since the weather through August and September was for

the most part warm and sunny. In total, five of the bottom six worst performing species in 2007 were Lycaenids, namely the four mentioned above plus Small Blue.

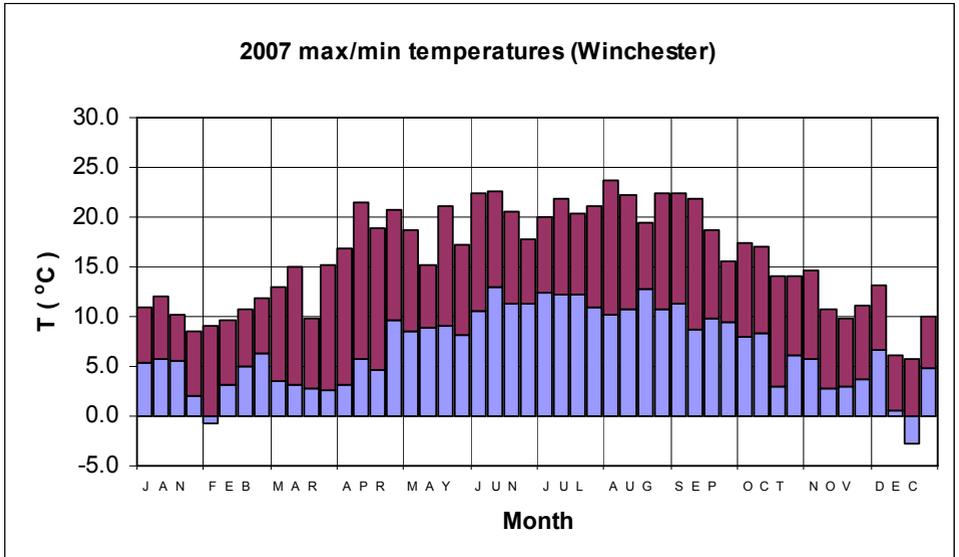
Migrant species were generally in short supply, with regulars such as Clouded Yellow and Painted Lady having poor years, in spite of some decent August weather. It was, however, a good year for Large Tortoiseshell sightings in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Indeed, this species was seen all along the south coast of Britain and there is optimism that it may re-establish in Britain, having been extinct for twenty years.

Garden butterflies had a poor year. The buddleias, usually so popular at the height of summer, were largely devoid of butterflies. Small Tortoiseshell remains incredibly scarce, Comma had an indifferent year, and even the whites were in short supply. Only once we got to late September could we enjoy a decent showing of Red Admiral, but by then the season was all but over. Even so, and following the pattern in recent years, Red Admiral were seen intermittently throughout November and December, and were even recorded on the very last day of the year.

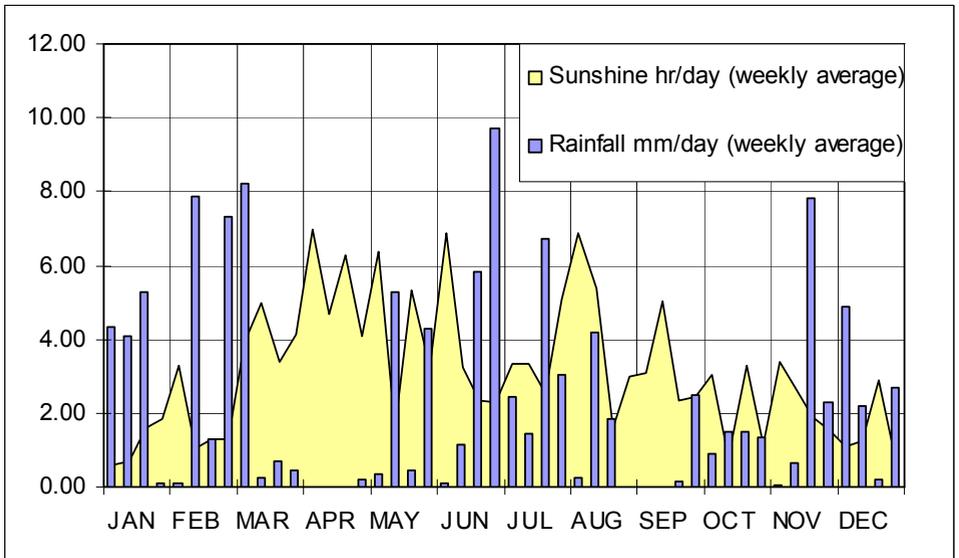


Large Tortoiseshell, Wheeler's Bay, IoW, 21 June 2007 (Andy Butler)

**2007 maximum and minimum temperatures (Winchester)**



**2007 average sunshine and rainfall per quarter month (Winchester)**



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## Glossary of terms

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**Butterfly transect:** A method of monitoring butterflies, involving walking a fixed route at a given site, once a week from the first week of April to the last week of September, counting the number of each species seen. For the purpose of comparison between other butterfly transects both locally and nationally, there are a fixed set of guidelines. These primarily relate to weather conditions and the time of day under which the transect is walked.

**Annual Index graphs:** Graphs accompany some of the accounts to show Annual Index trends. An Annual Index is the sum total of weekly counts for a particular butterfly species on a given transect in a particular year. The graphs show an average Annual Index for all transect monitored sites where the species is found, 1981 to 2007, and a graph featuring the Annual Index for an individual site with a trend of interest.

**Flight period graphs:** These graphs accompany some of the accounts to show the flight period of the species in 2007 at a particular transect monitored site. The vertical axis shows the weekly count.

**Butterfly Counts:** Butterfly transects do not monitor population size, but because of a consistent methodology, they allow us to monitor change from one year to the next. Other counts sent in by recorders will be a function of the area of a site covered and the amount of time spent. In a quantitative way they give an idea of important sites, but would only give an indication of population size.

**Status:** Regional priority is shown as listed in the *Butterfly Conservation South-central England Regional Action Plan* updated to take account of changes to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan in 2007.

**Vice Counties:** Vice Counties are a system devised in 1852 by the botanist H.C. Watson (1804-81) of dividing the British Isles into approximately equal areas. The boundaries that Watson selected were principally county boundaries as defined in an atlas published by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge in 1844. These reflected the political boundaries as they existed then. Watson tried to define areas of approximately equal size and so some of the larger counties (including Hampshire) were divided into 'vice counties'. The system was later extended to cover Irish vice-counties. These boundaries are fixed and do not change as do administrative county boundaries.

Vice-county 10 is the Isle of Wight. Vice County 11 covers the entire present Hampshire administrative boundary roughly south of a line between Stockbridge, Winchester and Petersfield but also includes parts of present day Dorset westwards to Bournemouth. Vice County 12 covers the northern half of Hampshire together with a part of present day Wiltshire around Tidworth and a very small part of Berkshire in the extreme north-west of the county.

**Butterfly distribution maps:** The distribution maps in this report were produced using *MapMate* software. These show the 2-km squares (tetrads) for which records were received in 2007 (filled circles). 2000 to 2006 records are plotted as open circles. An open circle does not mean that the species no longer occurs, merely that the site may not have been visited in 2007. For maps of pre-2000 records, see *Butterflies of Hampshire*.

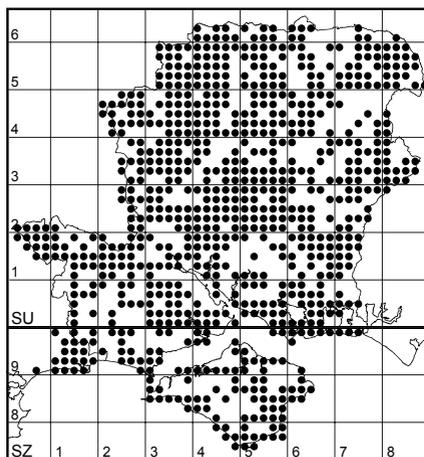
**Earliest-latest butterfly sightings chart on page 25:** To find the earliest and latest sighting for each species of butterfly, read along the line by the species' name. The first

number is the date of the earliest sighting, the month being that at the top of the column. A shaded section indicates that the butterfly was recorded during that month and the last number is the date of the latest sighting, again with the month at the top of the column.

**2006-2007 butterfly trends table on page 27:** This table was compiled by Dr Andy Barker and is based on 60 Hampshire and Isle of Wight transects with data for both 2006 and 2007.

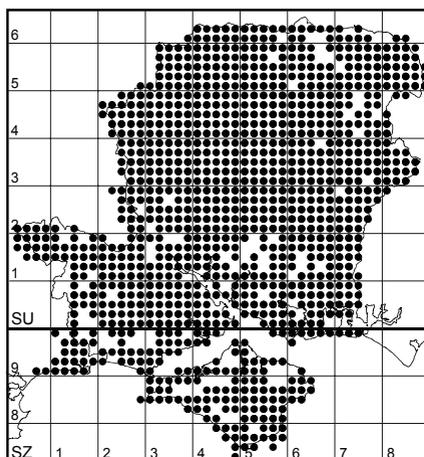
**Butterfly record coverage 2007**

No of 2007 records: 44392  
 No of tetrads in 2007: 789  
 No of post 2000 tetrads: 1174



**Butterfly record coverage 2005 to 2007**

No of records: 118100  
 No of tetrads: 1063



## Summary of earliest-latest butterfly sightings 2007

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Small Skipper					23				11			
Essex Skipper					26				5			
Large Skipper				28				29				
Silver-spotted Skipper							21			05		
Dingy Skipper				15				28				
Grizzled Skipper				06		15						
Clouded Yellow			11									30
Brimstone	15										29	16
Large White	19										22	
Small White			11									08
Green-veined White			27							17		
Orange-tip			26				16					
Green Hairstreak				02			30					
Brown Hairstreak							28		8			
Purple Hairstreak						01		28				
White-letter Hairstreak						10		05				
Small Copper			15								04	
Small Blue				15				25				
Silver-studded Blue					31				05			
Brown Argus				17						26		
Common Blue				16						21		
Chalkhill Blue						26			23			
Adonis Blue				29						04		
Holly Blue			07								21	
Duke of Burgundy				12	29							
White Admiral						03		07				
Purple Emperor						20		04				
Red Admiral	01											31
Painted Lady				06								08
Small Tortoiseshell	17									14		
Peacock	10											30
Comma		04									10	
Small Pearl-bordered					03		11					
Pearl-bordered Fritillary				19		03						
Dark Green Fritillary					29				01			
Silver-washed Fritillary						03			04			
Marsh Fritillary				27		06						
Glanville Fritillary				03		17						
Speckled Wood			11								25	
Wall Brown				16						26		
Marbled White						01			03			
Grayling						22			26			
Gatekeeper						03					04	
Meadow Brown					18							06
Small Heath				19						05		
Ringlet						03		27				

Species	>20% Decrease 2007	-20% to +20% No change	>20% Increase 2007
Small/Essex Skipper	32	6	11
Large Skipper	26	9	13
Silver-spotted Skipper	4	-	1
Dingy Skipper	6	3	6
Grizzled Skipper	3	4	6
Wood White	-	-	-
Clouded Yellow	33	1	6
Brimstone	21	15	12
Large White	33	9	4
Small White	32	7	5
Green-veined White	22	9	10
Orange-tip	12	11	8
Green Hairstreak	8	6	5
Brown Hairstreak	1	-	-
White-letter Hairstreak	2	-	-
Purple Hairstreak	3	1	3
Small Copper	20	7	7
Small Blue	10	2	2
Silver-studded Blue	-	1	-
Brown Argus	22	2	2
Common Blue	45	1	-
Chalkhill Blue	17	-	-
Adonis Blue	10	1	-
Holly Blue	6	9	24
Duke of Burgundy	-	2	1
Purple Emperor	1	-	-
White Admiral	12	6	5
Red Admiral	20	21	12
Painted Lady	44	6	1
Small Tortoiseshell	13	16	11
Peacock	3	6	22
Comma	33	10	3
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	1	1	1
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	2	-	-
Dark Green Fritillary	4	3	4
Silver-washed Fritillary	20	6	3
Marsh Fritillary	1	-	1
Glanville Fritillary	1	-	1
Speckled Wood	26	12	11
Wall Brown	2	5	1
Marbled White	32	11	5
Grayling	6	-	-
Gatekeeper	39	8	5
Meadow Brown	23	17	14
Small Heath	19	6	8

**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 23 May 2007Dell Piece West, nr Horndean  
(S&SD)**No of 2007 records:** 1258**No of tetrads in 2007:** 168**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 481**Latest:** 11 September 2007

Noar Hill (AMJ)

The fine warm weather during the spring resulted in a record early emergence for this species, the earliest sighting being a full week earlier than the previous earliest sighting for our area on 30 May 1996. Three Small Skipper were seen on three different sections of the transect at Dell Piece West, near Horndean on 23 May, and the next sighting on 29 May, on the transect at Hazelton Common, near Horndean (JV) also beat the previous record.

Numbers built up slowly throughout June, with the bulk of the sightings being made during the first three weeks of July. Many observers felt that the species had a poor year, these impressions being in accord with the results from the transects, where about three-quarters recorded a decrease in numbers of more than 20%. The Annual Index at Pamber Forest fell from 404 in 2006 to 311 in 2007 and similarly at Botley Wood the drop was from 367 to 309. Please note that transect recorders record Small and Essex Skippers together so this data covers both species. Perhaps, as CRH put it, the species emerged in good numbers but many had a very short life after taking a battering from rain and low temperatures. Comments from other observers included; "the worst year for this species since 2002" - Botley Wood (RKL) and "after 2006's excellent recovery numbers were down by almost 50%" - Bramshott Common (ACG).

In sheltered spots at the peak of the flight season, which was about the second week in July, the species could be found in good numbers, as when 60 were counted in an hour in the grassy ditches along the rides in Hawkshill Inclosure, New Forest on 6 July (AW). The highest counts were of 116 on 8 July at Botley Wood (RKL), 115 on 16 July at Pamber Forest (GJD), 83 on 11 July at Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows (ABO), 73 on 3 July at Southwood Meadows, Hart and Rushmore (CRH) and 63 on the Gosport coast, 29 June (DJAT). There were only eight other counts of 30 or more, two of the later counts being 37 on 31 July at Ladle Hill, near Burghclere (MG) and 32 on 8 August at Old Winchester Hill (BPF), the largest count recorded for August. On the Isle of Wight the highest count was 103 at Whippingham Fields, on 13 July (JR).

From mid-August, most sightings were of just ones and twos, though 31 were seen on 4 September at Old Winchester Hill NNR (BP), this being the only sighting of the Small Skipper in September, other than the latest one of all on 11 September at Noar Hill (AMJ). Thus, in spite of all the weather could do, this species had a flight season that was over five weeks longer in 2007 than in 2006.

**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 26 May 2007

Shalcombe Down, IoW (PMi)

**No of 2007 records:** 191**No of tetrads in 2007:** 27**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 257**Latest:** 5 September 2007

Pilot Hill, Faccombe (MG)

The Essex Skipper, like the very similar Small Skipper, reacted to the unusually warm spring by emerging much earlier than usual. The species (three individuals) was seen just three days after the first Small Skipper and some sixteen days earlier than the previous earliest record for our area of 11 June 2006. The record-breaking trio seen on Shalcombe Down was followed by a singleton on 9 June at Brook Down, IoW (IP), just a short distance east of Shalcombe Down. The first sighting on the mainland was on 13 June when two were seen at Hazleton Common, near Horndean (S&SD).

Because of the inclement weather, numbers were slow to build up, and the first double figure counts were both on 6 July with 15 at Woodside, Blackwater ( K&JB) and 10 at Hawkshill Inclosure in the New Forest (AW). The flight season had two distinct peaks: during the second week in July, when Small Skippers were also at their most numerous, and during the last few days of July and the first few of August. During this second period, 142 individual sightings were reported, at a time when the numbers of Small Skippers being seen was declining rapidly, an indication that the normal tendency is for the Essex Skipper to emerge later than the Small.

Most observers felt that the species had a poor year, and this was reflected in the reduced number of big counts, just six of 20 or more, compared to ten in 2006, and an obvious reduction in peak numbers. Petersfield Heath was still a stronghold for this species with the highest count of 43 being seen here on 14 July, 32 on 7 July and 21 on 28 July (all ACS). Other high counts were of 38 on 31 July at Ladle Hill, Burghclere, (MG) and 25 on 2 August at Old Winchester Hill (MSh).

Numbers declined so that from mid-August onwards just ones or twos were being seen, with the very last being seen on 5 September at Pilot Hill, Facombe, (MG), the only sighting for that month. As with the Small Skipper, the flight season for 2007 was over five weeks longer than that for 2006.

**Silver-spotted Skipper *Hesperia comma***

**Andy Barker**

**Status:** BC High Priority

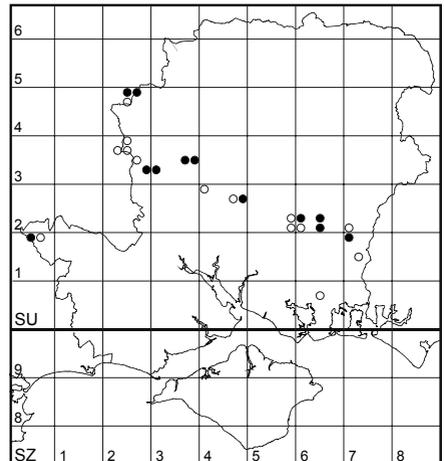
**No of 2007 records:** 149

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 12

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 26

**Earliest:** 21 July 2007  
Stockbridge Down (MDu)

**Latest:** 5 October 2007  
Old Winchester Hill (RSy)



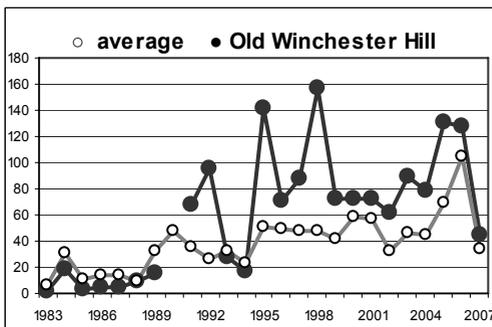
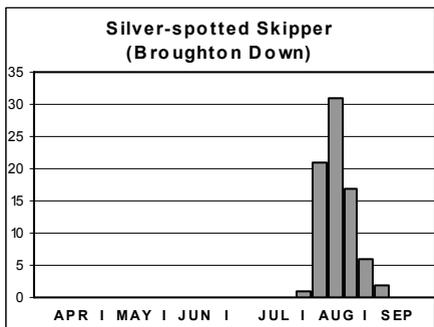
After a good run of years, 2007 proved to be a season of mixed fortunes for this species. Several recorders (CP, MSh, RCB) thought it had a reasonable year, but with the exception of St. Catherine's Hill, all transect monitored sites were well down; for example

the Annual Index at Old Winchester Hill fell from 128 in 2006 to 45 in 2007. Conditions during August and early September were favourable, but the wet June/July weather undoubtedly hindered larval development and pupation. Even so, the nine regular sites all produced reasonable counts and the flight season was perhaps the longest on record. It started with one of the earliest dates of the last decade and ended with the latest record since 1986, in total a season of 77 days' duration.

The season began in late July, with the first sighting on 21 July at Stockbridge Down (MDu). Stockbridge Down and Broughton Down produced a few late July records, but for other sites the season did not start until early August. The first Meon Valley records were of two on 4 August at The Mountain (AW) and two on 6 August at Beacon Hill NNR (AT). Over the period 8 August to 11 August the other five sites (Old Winchester Hill, St. Catherine's Hill, Martin Down, Perham Ranges and Oxenbourne Down) all produced their first records.

Although peak counts in west Hampshire were in mid August, including a weekly transect count of 31 on 17 August at Broughton Down (JGr), for Meon Valley sites (often a week or two later), the high counts were not until the last week of August and first week of September. The highest counts for Old Winchester Hill were 107 on 27 August and 78 on 1 September (both AW), whilst nearby Beacon Hill had 55 on 8 September (AW). This contrasts with 2006 when the peak counts were mostly in the first week of August. It is remarkable how the 2007 season evolved, with early species like Pearl-bordered Fritillary peaking three weeks early due to the exceptionally warm April. In contrast, as a result of the wet June and July, late species such as Silver-spotted Skipper peaking a good two to three weeks later than normal. Maximum counts for the other main sites included 40 on 11 August at Stockbridge Down (BPF), 16 on 24 August at St. Catherine's Hill (BPF) and 10 on 12 August at Oxenbourne Down (AW). The Mountain, Perham Ranges and Martin Down only have small populations and for these sites counts of four to six were the highest reported. The season came to a fairly abrupt end around 13 September, following some frosty weather (AW), with the only later records, both at Old Winchester Hill, being of four on 16 September (RC and SEB) then the remarkably late record (confirmed with photograph) of two on 5 October (RSy).

There were no major ecological notes to report although some recorders noted egg-laying. Several females were observed ovipositing on Sheep's-fescue grass in the vicinity of rabbit scrapes on 27 August at Old Winchester Hill (AW), and on 25 September at neighbouring Beacon Hill 95 eggs were counted as part of ongoing research (DH & MWa).



**Status:** BC Low Priority

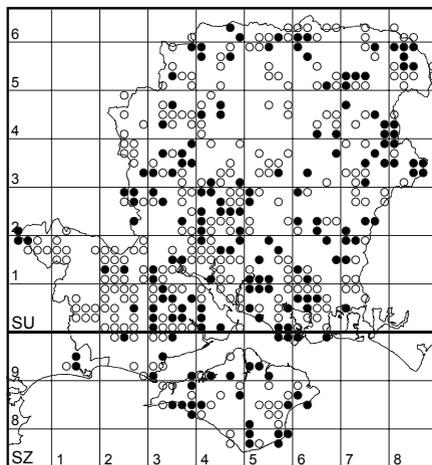
**No of 2007 records:** 908

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 175

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 459

**Earliest:** 28 April 2007  
Martin Down (NCo)

**Latest:** 29 August 2007  
Testwood Lakes, Totton (LSt)



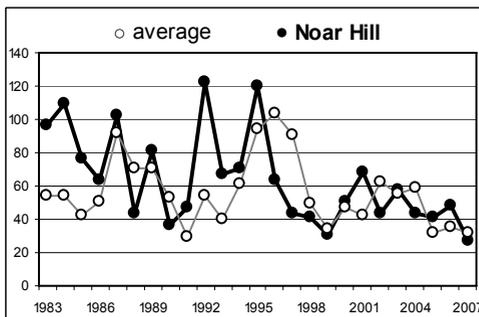
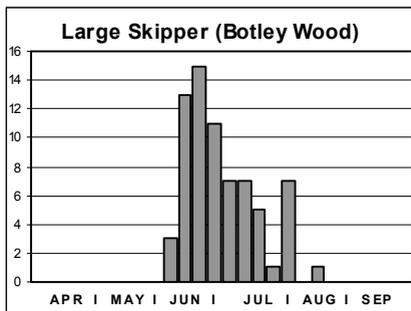
Large Skipper, Martin Down, 25 May 2007 (Alan Thornbury)

The Large Skipper had a mixed year in 2007. Transect data generally showed a downward trend on 2006, with double the number of monitored sites showing a decrease of 20% or more compared with those showing an increase. The Annual Index of 33 at Pamber Forest, 22 of which were recorded on 19 June, was the lowest in 10 years and continues a downward trend over the last 4 years. It was a similar story at Noar Hill, with an Annual Index of 27, down from 48 the previous year. On the Isle of Wight the situation was better with Whippingham Fields, showing a healthy Annual Index of 287, marginally higher than the 2006 total.

Many recorders commented that Large Skipper were on the wing remarkably early, no doubt a consequence of the warm early spring weather. CRH considered it one of the year's successes at Hart/ Rushmoor and ACG also considered it a good year at Bramshott Common. MSh, RKL and RCB thought 2007 to be a poor season, CWC noted it was below average at Dean Hill Park and DJAT noted that it continues to decline on the Gosport coast.

The Large Skipper was first recorded on 28 April, when four were recorded on the Martin Down transect (NCo). This was a month earlier than in 2006 and some 12 days earlier than the previous record of 10 May 1998. In Hampshire the highest single counts were from the New Forest with 60 at Brockishill Inclosure on 29 June and 65 at Churchplace Inclosure on 24 July (both JRu), and 55 at Hawkshill Inclosure on 6 July (AW). Another 55 at Hook Heath Meadows, Southwick on 18 July (T&MR) was the highest number recorded away from the New Forest. The overwhelming number of records, however, were of single figures. On the Isle of Wight, the Large Skipper peaked at 60 at Whippingham Fields on 13 July (JR) and at 20 at Brook Downs on 9 June (IP).

Many observers commented on the length of the flight season, with the last being recorded on the Testwood Lakes, Totton, transect on 29 August (LSt).



## Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*

Andy Barker

**Status:** BC High Priority

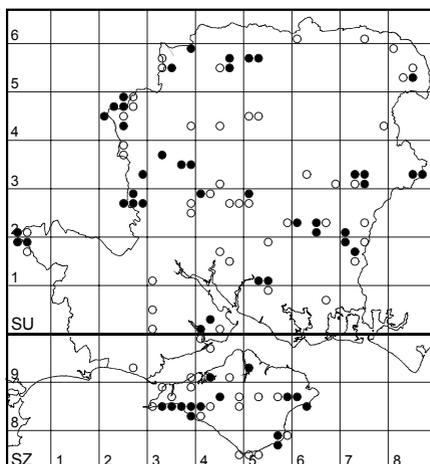
**No of 2007 records:** 302

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 54

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 120

**Earliest:** 15 April 2007  
 Brading Quarries (DAB)  
 Martin Down (A&LB)  
 Noar Hill (MRO)  
 Oxenbourne Down (AW)

**Latest:** 28 August 2007  
 Afton Down (SAK-J)



Although, thanks to good April weather, emergence was ten days earlier than in 2006, the data from transect monitored sites suggests a rather mixed overall performance. Six sites showed a significant increase in numbers, but an equal number showed decline, and a few sites were largely unchanged. Numbers fell at Noar Hill where the Annual Index fell from 51 in 2006 to 32 in 2007, the lowest figure since 2000, while at The Mountain in the Meon Valley an increase was noted from 27 in 2006 to 52 in 2007. The anecdotal comments seem to match the transect data, with some recorders (AW, DAB, ACG, CWC) describing good or excellent counts at a range of sites, whilst others (RKL, JRo) reported disappointing numbers. Encouragingly, the species was recorded from over 50 sites across Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Most of these are on chalk downland sites, but there are still some records off the chalk, including two from the New Forest.



Dingy Skipper (Ian Pratt)

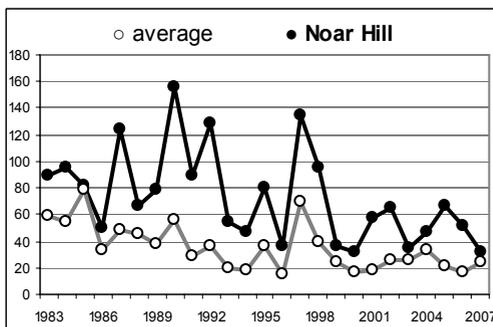
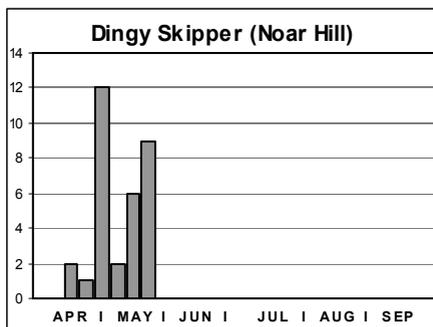
The first sightings of the season were on 15 April, with one at Brading Quarries, two at Martin Down (A&LB), two at Noar Hill (MRO), and three at Oxenbourne Down (AW). Over the next few days the butterfly emerged at numerous sites, and by late April and early May the season had reached its peak. Only nine sites produced double figure counts, the highest of these being 34 on 28 April at Chalton Down, 34 on 4 May at Martin Down (ML) and 25 on 5 May at Cholderton (HE). The highest Isle of Wight count was 22 on 29 April at Brading Quarries (DAB). Recent scrub removal at this site is considered to have improved the habitat considerably (DAB). During unsettled weather from mid May to mid June the Dingy Skipper was generally only seen in ones, twos and three by most observers, although 20 were seen on 20 May at Compton Bay (JWa). The first brood came to a fairly abrupt end around 13 June as wet weather ensued, but the last of this brood were three seen on 19 June at Coombe Bottom, Ventnor (IRI).

Usually there are the odd one or two sightings in late July and August, but 2007 turned out to be a great year for the partial second brood of this species. In total there were 18

second brood individuals reported by 16 observers across nine different sites. This is easily the best second brood emergence on record, the number seen by year being as follows:

1986 (0), 1987 (0), 1988 (0), 1989 (9), 1990 (0), 1991 (0), 1992 (3), 1993 (6), 1994 (0), 1995 (1), 1996 (0), 1997 (3), 1998 (2), 1999 (4), 2000 (1), 2001 (2), 2002 (2), 2003 (0), 2004 (1), 2005 (4), 2006 (1), 2007 (18)

In Hampshire, the 2007 sightings were on 29 July at Martin Down (PT) and Chalton Down (RSy), 30 July at Stockbridge Down (MDu, TH), then several from 3-5 August at Noar Hill (AT, P&RTu, AH, RSy), and a singleton on 11 August at Shipton Bellinger (A&LB). On the Isle of Wight the first was on 22 July at Shalcombe Down, followed by one on 24 July at Afton Down (SAK-J), then 4 August at Tennyson Down (CD), and four on 8 August at Mottistone Down. There was a remarkably late individual on 28 August at Afton Down (SAK-J), equalling the latest on record for our area, which dates back to 1993.



**Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae***

**Andy Barker**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**No of 2007 records:** 271

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 48

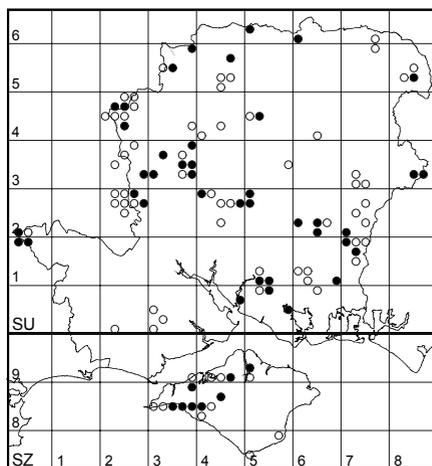
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 115

**Earliest:** 6 April 2007

Afton Down (SAK-J)

**Latest:** 15 June 2007

Martin Down (CBe)



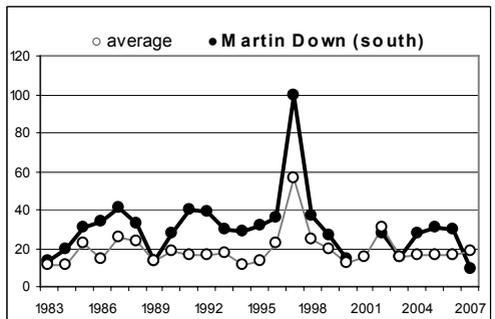
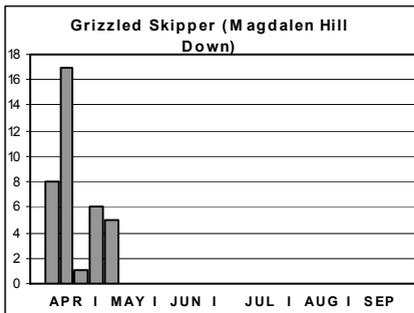
Thanks to some glorious April sunshine, the season started two weeks earlier than 2006. It was, however, brought to an abrupt end in mid-June by the onset of rainy unsettled weather. This premature finish was three weeks earlier than the previous year.

The transect data suggests a reasonably good year, although this was not the case for all sites. Six sites showed an increase of 20% or more in numbers relative to 2006, four showed little or no change, whilst three had a decline of 20% or more. At Magdalen Hill Down, Original, prior to 2005 only the odd two Grizzled Skippers had been recorded on transect but numbers are now increasing with Annual Indices of 17 in 2005, 24 in 2006 and 27 in 2007. The anecdotal comments received also paint a mixed picture. It was undoubtedly a good year at Magdalen Hill Down (PDF, A&LB), and Dean Hill (CWC), whilst at Whippingham Fields and Parkhurst Forest the species is fighting for survival (JRo). In south-east Hampshire it was considered a poor year (AW), but at Bramshott Common ACG saw a total of 22 Grizzled Skippers (eight in one visit), commenting that they were the best numbers he had seen at the site. Such site to site variability suggests that, more than weather, it is habitat condition that has the overriding control on how well this species does.

In 2007, Grizzled Skipper was recorded from 36 Hampshire sites, but only eight of these produced counts of 10 or more. For most sites the season peaked in late April, with the highest counts being 35 on 30 April at Martin Down (MDu), 20 on 28 April at Stockbridge Down (MDu) and 19 on 28 April at Chalton Down (RSy). At Magdalen Hill Down the peak count was 19 on 22 April (A&LB), closely followed by 18 on 15 April (DH). The latter was an early evening visit (6.00 pm), and all individuals were seen roosting on dead flowerheads at the base of the main slope (DH).

On the Isle of Wight, reports were received for 12 sites. In common with recent years all of these were from the north-west of the Island and western half of the chalk ridge. The strongest population appears to be at Monkham Copse/Rowridge Down, where a count of 20 was made on 4 May (CD). Two weeks earlier the same site produced a tally of 10 on 21 April (IP). The only other double figure Isle of Wight count was of 10 on 21 April at Afton Chalkpit (IP).

The range of the species seems little changed in Hampshire over recent years, although it is certainly rare off the chalk. Its favoured habitat is short and medium turf chalk grassland with scattered scrub, and no longer the woodland rides that it used to frequent as recently as the early to mid 1990s. Of those few woodlands that still support the species (for example Bentley Wood, Botley Wood), the peak single visit count rarely exceeds three or four, although Botley Wood did produce a count of 10 (nine on transect) on 30 May (TJV & RKL). The New Forest failed to produce any records in 2007, so recorders are particularly encouraged to look there in 2008.



**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 11 March 2007  
Whealers Bay loW (A&EB)**No of 2007 records:** 309**No of tetrads in 2007:** 89**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 359**Latest:** 30 December 2007  
Culver Down loW (LStr)

Most observers considered 2007 to be a poor year for the Clouded Yellow: comments ranged from AW stating it was a poor year for observations, DAB feeling it was not the best of years and RKL considering it to be a mediocre year. As can be seen from the map, the majority of records were coastal with a large proportion of the sightings coming from the Isle of Wight. There were disappointingly few inland observations until late summer, probably due in part to the poor summer weather hitting breeding success and halting the progress of prospective immigrants. Numbers picked up by late August, peaking in mid-September. 33 out of 40 transect monitored sites where this species occurred showed a decrease of 20% or more when compared with 2006. For instance, the Annual Index at Magdalen Hill Down was nine in 2007 compared to 17 for 2006 and on Magdalen Hill Down Extension Clouded Yellow numbers fell from 26 in 2006 to four for 2007.



Clouded Yellow, Old Winchester Hill, 31 August 2007 (Alan Thornbury)

The first Clouded Yellow of the year was seen at Wheelers Bay loW on 11 March, followed by records from St Catherine's Point loW on 14 March and Wheelers Bay on 27 March (all A&EB). The first mainland record was on 26 March at Southbourne Undercliff (MJS). These were all likely to be from successful overwintering larvae/pupae following the pattern of recent years. The highest count recorded was 51 at Southbourne Undercliff on 15

September (MJG). Other counts included nine at Old Winchester Hill on 28 August (MSh, COa) and 10 at Martin Down 9 September (RCr), while on the Isle of Wight 10 were seen on Tennyson Down on 8 October (PR) and eight at Wheelers Bay on 5 September (A&EB).

Southbourne Undercliff held many overwintering larvae again, and on 15 April a male was seen drying its wings a few inches from its vacated pupa and on 21 April 10 adults were seen at Durley Chine, Bournemouth. There was evidence of a second generation in early June when 4 males and a *helice* form female were present on 10 June. A total of 20 were seen on 11 October with 13 still flying on 9 November (all MJS) and a fresh female was seen at Southbourne Undercliff on 25 November (MJG & MJS). PDF saw several fresh looking adults at Magdalen Hill Down on 18 April, possibly from overwintering larvae as egg laying was observed in late autumn 2006

The Gosport coast had a fairly good year with the first seen on 16 April and the last on 31 October with the highest daily count of 17 seen on 5 October (DJAT).

A very late individual was seen at Culver Down IOW on 30 December (LStr).

Can the Clouded Yellow be considered resident? Well, possibly quasi-resident. It seems to have more than a foothold along the coasts of Hampshire and the southern coasts of the Isle of Wight with what seems to be regular overwintering in Hampshire and on the Island. We now await the first 2008 record.

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**Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni*****Brian Fletcher**

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**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 15 January 2007  
Waterlooville (PJS)**No of 2007 records:** 3554**No of tetrads in 2007:** 447**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 937**Latest:** 29 November 2007  
Stockbridge Down (GCE)

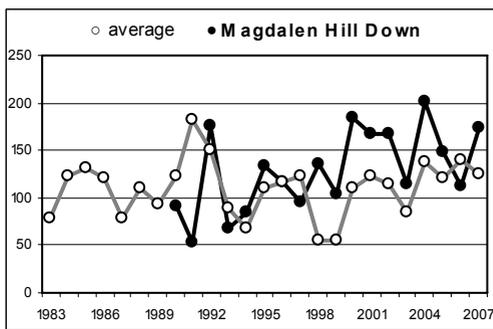
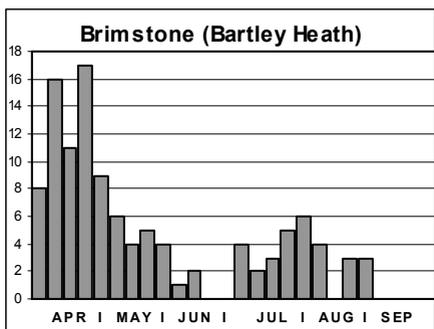
Though the flight season of the Brimstone included most of the best weather of the year, transect data indicates that numbers were down at many sites compared to 2006. Of the 48 transect monitored sites 21 showed a decrease of 20% or more, 12 an increase by the same amount and 15 showing no significant change. The Annual Index at Bartley Heath fell from 174 in 2006 to 93 in 2007 and a decrease in the Annual Indices was also noted at Pamber Forest and Botley Wood. At Yew Hill and Magdalen Hill Down, however, the Annual Indices showed an increase.

Observers' comments on the performance of this species in 2007 are thus very varied. At Woodhouse Copse, IoW, JR reported that the species had one of its worst years ever and on the Gosport coast DJAT felt that the species had continued to decline. At Botley Wood the butterfly had a below average year (RKL) and GJD reported that numbers at Pamber Forest were down 25% from last year but they were still above the long term average, while in the Winchester area RCB commented that the butterfly did very well.

Once more the season started in mid-January, and small numbers, usually ones and twos, were seen occasionally in late January and February. The species was seen regularly in March, with large numbers first appearing on 11 March, 21 being seen at Burnett Copse, Chalton (AW) and 30 at Lordswood, Southampton (RJC), and again on 27 March when 25 were seen at Fort Widley, Portsdown (AW). The butterfly was commonly encountered throughout April and into the first week of May, the largest counts being, 62 on 14 April at

Stockbridge Down (BPF) and 60 on 5 May at Oxenbourne Down (AW). In all there were thirty-five counts of 20 or more in the Spring of 2007, nearly twice as many as in 2006, but only one of them in June, when 20 were seen on 2 June at Stockbridge Down (AH). The species struggled to survive the poor weather in June, and one at least made it into July, when a very faded specimen was seen on 6 July at Eelmoor (CRH). The next day two very fresh Brimstones were seen here (CRH). On the Isle of Wight the highest count was 66 on 21 April at Parkhurst Forest NE (JT).

The 2007 emergence was generally seen in low numbers, the weather surely encouraging the insects to feed up rapidly and go into hibernation as quickly as possible. The peak flight season was at the very end of July and the beginning of August, and in spite of less than ideal butterfly watching conditions, nine reports were made of 20 or more, one more than in 2006! The largest count was of 60 on 31 July at Great Litchfield Down (MFW), and the last count of 20 was on 3 September at Stockbridge Down (MDu). Thereafter most sightings were of ones and twos throughout September and October, with just five individuals sighted during November, the last being seen flying around a sheltered clearing on 29 November at Stockbridge Down. Thus the flight season was three weeks shorter than in 2006, with the Brimstone being seen in every month except December.



**Large White *Pieris brassicae***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

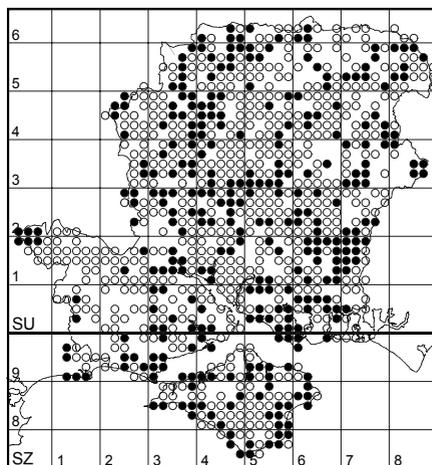
**No of 2007 records:** 2099

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 320

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 879

**Earliest:** 19 January 2007  
Seaview, Ryde, IoW (PP)

**Latest:** 22 November 2007  
Whealers Bay, IoW (A&EB)

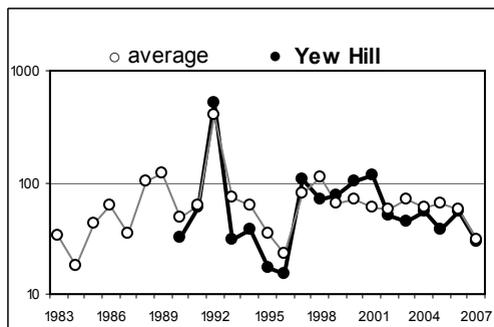
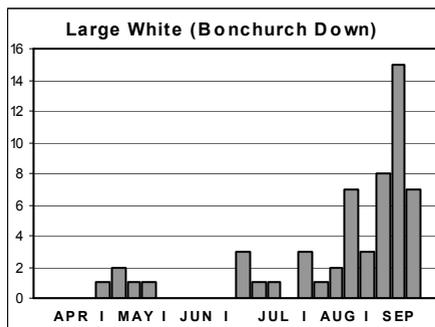


Most observers felt that the Large White had a poor season, and the figures from the transects confirm these opinions, with no fewer than 33 out of the 42 transects which record this species reporting a drop in numbers of 20% or more compared to 2006, and only four showing an increase of 20% or more. Annual Indices for sites such as Alresford Farm and Noar Hill, fell sharply between 2006 and 2007, 76 to 29 for Alresford Farm and 85 to 35 for Noar Hill while at The Gillies, Fareham a slight increase was noted. The locations for which large numbers were reported tended to be in the south of Hampshire and on the Isle of Wight. Two observers (DAB and AW) commented on numbers being augmented by arrivals from the continent, DAB observing butterflies from the continent coming in across Sandown Bay.

Though the season followed the usual pattern of the spring brood being substantially less numerous than the summer brood, there were some departures from the norm. The first sighting on 19 January was incredibly early, breaking the previous record for our area of 22 February 1990 by over a month. The next Large Whites were not seen until 2 April, when three were seen at each of Crab Wood (JCha), Portsdown (T&MR) and Stokes Bay, Gosport (ACM). The butterflies were seen mostly in ones and twos until the second brood began emerging in mid-June. Numbers then built up rapidly to give a peak during the second week of July, and then slowly declined to mid-August. Numbers increased from then to produce a secondary peak in mid-September, when numbers seen were about three-quarters of the July maximum.

There were nine counts of 20 or more, but though the largest count of 100 on 16 July at the Sustainability Centre, East Meon (DH) occurred near the peak flight time, other large numbers were seen in all months from June to October. Thus 22 were seen on 22 July at Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (RSy), 79 on 15 September at Southbourne Cliff West (MJG) and at a time when most of the sightings were of singletons, 20 were seen on 18 October and 40 on 20 October, again at Southbourne Cliff West (MJG). On the Isle of Wight the highest counts were recorded at Woodhouse Copse, where 32 were seen on 27 June (JR), at Brading Quarries where 24 were seen on 28 July (DAB), and at Bonchurch Down where 50 were seen by AW on 25 August. In November, 19 Large Whites were seen, mostly as singletons either on the Isle of Wight or along the coast of Hampshire, the last of all being seen on 22 November on the south coast of the Isle of Wight.

The large numbers seen late in the season would suggest the partial emergence of a third brood, something that is more frequently encountered on the continent where the species is regarded as polyvoltine rather than double brooded.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

**No of 2007 records:** 2486

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 312

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 810

**Earliest:** 11 March 2007

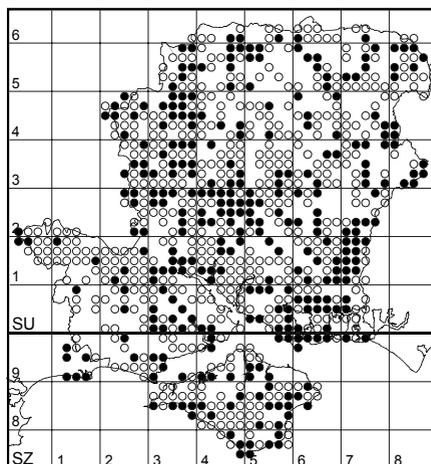
Whitley Pastures (AT)

Gosport (DJAT)

Wheeler's Bay, IoW (A&E)

**Latest:** 8 December 2007

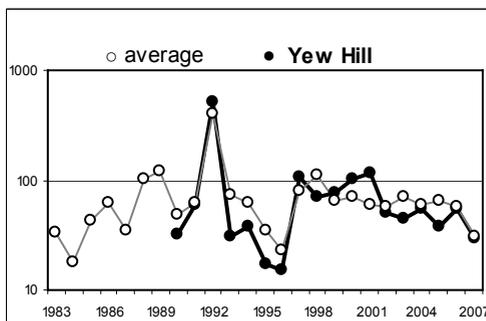
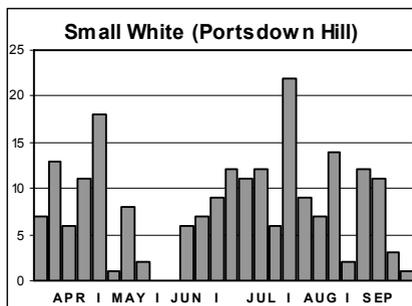
Elson, Gosport (L&EM)



All observers agreed that 2007 was a poor year for the Small White. There were just ten counts of more than 20 individuals for the whole season, the highest being an extremely modest 26 at Beacon Hill NNR on 31 August (RWh). Numbers were down by more than 20% at almost half of all Hampshire and Isle of Wight sites monitored by Pollard Butterfly Transects compared to 2006. Transect data from Portsdown Hill and Alresford Farm illustrates these decreases: an Annual Index of 841 at Portsdown Hill in 2006 declined to 210 in 2007, and at Alresford Farm the 2006 index of 330 fell to 120 in 2007.

Early reports were entirely from the south coast with more widespread sightings following during the first half of April. Peak numbers occurred during the last week of April, second week of July and second week of September. The highest counts include 25 at Hill Head near Lee-on-the-Solent on 24 July and 5 September (ACM), 22 at Rooksbury Mill, Andover on 7 July (MFW), and on the Island, 20 on Brading Down on 25 August (AW)

2007 was noteworthy for the species' persistence late in the year. The last few individuals are typically seen during early to mid October, but in 2007 there were 45 sightings during October and an even more remarkable 35 during November. The November sightings were all from the Isle of Wight and south Hampshire coast and included a count of nine at Southbourne Cliff on 4 November (MJG). The year's final sighting of two together on 8 December (L&EM) is the latest ever on our database by over three weeks.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 27 March 2007  
Wheelers Bay, IoW (A&EB)

**No of 2007 records:** 1237

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 248

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 706

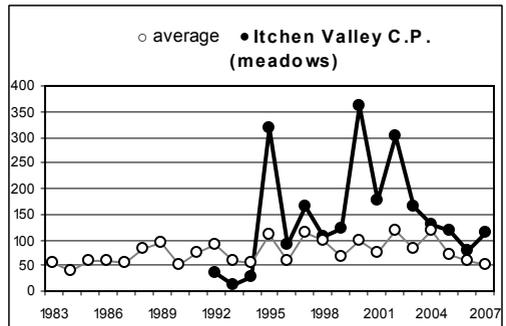
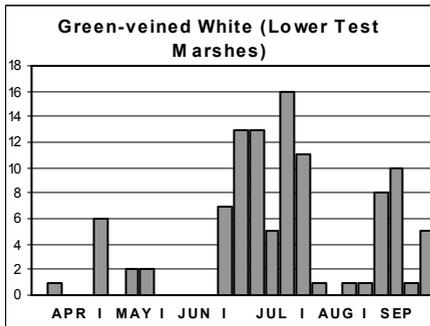
**Latest:** 17 October 2007  
Martin Down NNR (DGG)

The fortunes of this butterfly were generally poor this year. Just over half of the transect monitored sites where this species is recorded, with data available for 2006 and 2007, showed a decline of 20% or more, with approximately a quarter showing a similar increase and the others showing no significant change. At Alresford Farm the Annual Index for the butterflies recorded on transect fell from 118 in 2006 to only 44 in 2007, particularly disappointing following the fall recorded in 2006 from 258 in 2005 and 2004 (Annual Indices exactly the same for both years). Itchen Valley Country Park, Meadows transect fared better, with the Annual Index increasing to 112 from 78 in 2006.

Most recorders of Hampshire sites considered 2007 to be a poor year. AW reported that the butterfly remained very elusive throughout most of July and August with just the odd ones and twos being seen. CRH had few records from the Hart and Rushmoor areas; with nearly all of these in April and May he concluded that the summer brood was another casualty of the weather. RKL reported the worst year on record at Botley Wood. The first brood, he considered, was very poor and the second, though stronger, was little better. RCB considered that overall it was the worst season for this butterfly since 2000. ACG on the other hand considered the species had a reasonable year on Bramshott Common with numbers about the same as in 2006.

The highest first brood count of 24 at Itchen Valley Country Park, Meadows, was recorded on 27 April. This site had the highest first brood count in 2006 but nearly a fortnight earlier than 2007. 12 were recorded on 29 April at Roydon Woods, Southern Fields (TGi). The second brood peaked in mid to late July where 18 were seen at Pamber Forest on 16 July (GJD), 21 at Wick Wood, near Hartley Mauditt on 28 July (and again on 1 August) (PR), and 16 at Old Winchester Hill on 11 July (ACM).

On the Isle of Wight recorders showed a similar picture but with a few sites doing better, at least in the first brood. DAB reported a better year than 2006 with both broods fair. The highest count for the Island was 11 which were recorded at Woodhouse Copse, near Wootton on 15 July (JR).



**Status:** BC Low Priority

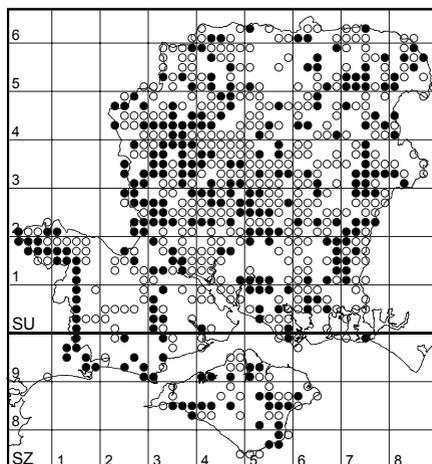
**No of 2007 records:** 828

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 285

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 692

**Earliest:** 26 March 2007  
Weston, nr Petersfield (MSh)

**Latest:** 16 July 2007  
West Down, Chilbolton (JSo)



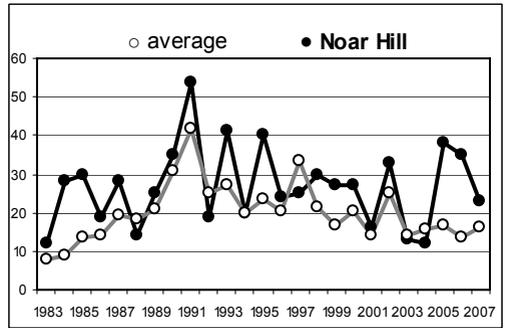
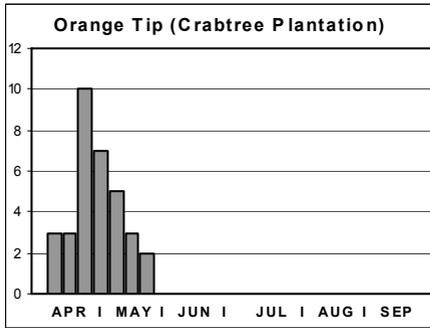
It was a mixed year for this species. Numbers of records were up by 50% and the number of tetrads in which the species was recorded was up by 30%, but some 12 out of the 31 transect monitored sites showed a decrease of 20% or more when compared to 2006 data. With reference to the trend graph the averages of the Annual Indices seem to confirm the long-term decline in this species since it peaked in 1991.

Comparing 2007 with 2006, at Crabtree Plantation the Annual Index increased from 30 to 33, its best ever year, while on Noar Hill the number fell from 35 to 23. Adults were seen more or less continuously until 10 June, and then the season was extended by about a month with the observation of a single adult on 16 July. Orange-tip were seen in a scattered distribution throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight but few observations were recorded in a large, irregularly shaped, north-south swathe through Hampshire or, except in a narrow band from Lymington to Lyndhurst, in the New Forest.

The majority of individuals were seen in April. The recorded population grew from sightings of just 7 individuals in the last week of March to a peak of 437 in the last week of April, after which the number of sightings crashed. This pattern appears to coincide with a steadily warming April and the onset of a cooler and wet 10-day period that began on 7 May.

Reports from around the area were very variable. At Dean Hill Park, CWC considered the season below average, RCB described it as being a disappointing season and at Pamber Forest GJD found it to be an average year. On the Gosport coast DJAT reported that the species had continued to decline. In the north east of the county CRH said it did moderately well after emerging in mid April, then there was a mass drowning. It appears that this species, in this area, survives possibly only in scattered patches of suitable habitat and is susceptible to being decimated by wet and cool weather. Just seven sites in Hampshire returned double figure counts, including 14 at Testwood Lakes on 30 April (D&JT), 13 at Itchen Valley CP on 29 April (RJa), and 13 at Twyford on 1 May (RMS); other sites with double figure counts included Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke, Beacon Hill, Warnford and Noar Hill.

On the Isle of Wight DAB reported a very good year, well up on last year and very common at Alverstone. Meanwhile JR reported a very disappointing year at Whippingham Fields, the worst year ever at Woodhouse Copse and a terrible year at Parkhurst Forest.



**Green Hairstreak *Callophrys rubi***

**Jane Vaughan**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 2 April 2007

Magdalen Hill Down (PDF)  
Portsmouth Hill (TRo)

**No of 2007 records:** 275

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 68

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 184

**Latest:** 30 July 2007

Normandy Marsh (MW)

Following a poor season in 2006 observers generally considered that the Green Hairstreak, influenced by the bad weather in May, also experienced a poor season in 2007. Eight of the 19 transect monitored sites where this species occurs showed a decrease in the Annual Index of 20% or more between 2006 and 2007, five showed an equivalent increase and six showed no significant change. The Annual Index for Magdalen Hill Down, Original was down from 40 in 2006 to 30 in 2007, and although this represents half the value for 2005 it is higher than the Annual Indices recorded for the 2001-2003 period. Noar Hill saw the Annual Index fall from 22 in 2005 to nine in 2006 and five in 2007.

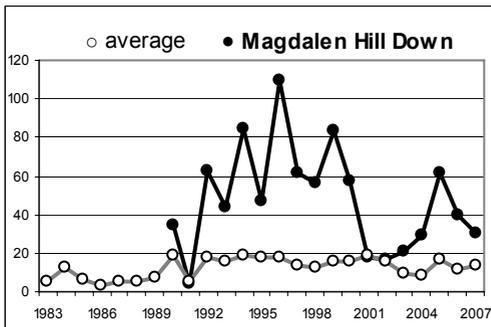
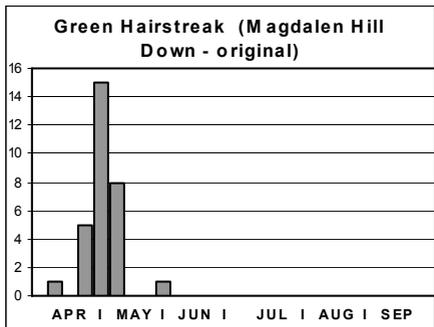
Comments from observers generally indicated an unsatisfactory year. AW considered it another very poor year with small numbers being recorded at most sites. Just two were seen at Botley Wood (RKL). A poor year was recorded from Dean Hill, and at Eelmoor Marsh emergence in early May suggested the promise of a good season had the weather been kinder. On the Isle of Wight, DAB considered 2006 poor and 2007 to be very poor. At Whippingham Fields, JR reported that after a good year in 2006, none were seen at all in 2007.

DJAT reported that the very small colonies at Browndown North, Browndown South and Fort Gilkicker are surviving and that he saw 16 individuals between 16 April and 22 May. Females were seen to be ovipositing on hawthorn, Blackthorn and Broom. At Botley Wood, Dyer's Greenweed was the favoured food plant and on Magdalen Hill Down, A&LB noted egg laying on Gorse and Common Rockrose.

The first 2007 sightings were around one week earlier than in recent years and over two weeks earlier than in 2006. The highest count was recorded at Magdalen Hill Down on 16 April where 29 were seen (MSw). A&LB saw 15 at the same site on 29 April, 10 were recorded at Stockbridge Down on 28 April (MDu) and eight were seen at West Down,

Chilbolton, on 23 May (ABo). On the Isle of Wight 15 were seen on three occasions; 19 April, 20 April and 27 April, and 20 on 30 April at Afton Down (all SAM-J).

The flight season had largely ended by 19 June but one sighting of an individual was made at Normandy Marsh on 30 July (MW), which is 6 days later than the previous latest record for our area, which was on 24 July 2006.



### Brown Hairstreak *Thecla betulae*

Andy Barker

**Status:** BC High Priority

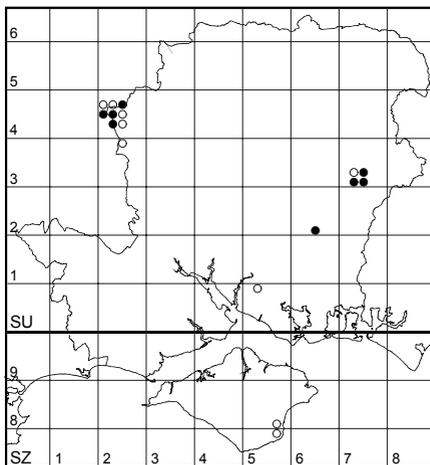
**No of 2007 records:** 39

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 8

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 18

**Earliest:** 28 July 2007  
Noar Hill (MD & ML)

**Latest:** 8 September 2007  
Noar Hill (RSy)



Two recorders sent in details of early season egg searches. These yielded four eggs at Noar Hill on 7 January (CLB), and an impressive 43 eggs on blackthorn hedges of the Cholderton Estate on 12 February (HE). There were no observations of larvae during spring and early summer, but a reasonable number of records for the butterfly from late July to early September.

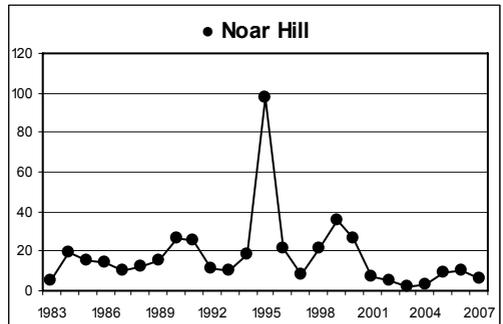
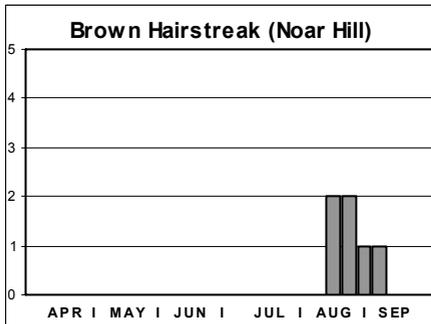
Emergence at Noar Hill was first recorded on 28 July (MDu & ML), which was exactly the same day as in 2006. It was, however, a further week before the second Brown Hairstreak was seen, on 4 August (P&RT). The 2007 season was poor to indifferent at best, and although August was reasonable, the wet June and July weather appears to have taken its toll on larvae and pupae. Most people who visited Noar Hill saw just one or two Brown Hairstreaks and it seems that others had unsuccessful visits. Only a handful of people

reported single visit tallies of four or more, and the peak transect count was just two. The highest number seen was nine on the Branch fieldtrip to Noar Hill on 25 August (BPF, IJ, ACM). There was no real peak to the season, although most sightings were during the period 10-25 August. As usual, some butterflies were seen flying high in the vicinity of Ash trees whilst others were nectaring on Hemp Agrimony (MRO, AW). The season lasted just 43 days, with the final observation of four at Noar Hill on 8 September (RSy).

The less visited population in north-west Hampshire began with a combined total of 14 seen during a walk encompassing Shipton Bellinger and the Perham Ranges on 9 August (NFr). This observer produced an almost identical total from the same area on the same date in 2006. The only other records from this part of Hampshire were of two on the Cholderton Estate on 18 August (HE), one west of Shipton Bellinger on 26 August (A&LB), and finally eight in the same vicinity on 7 September (MRO), including three females in an Ash tree (MRO). As the year drew to a close, further egg searches took place at Noar Hill, giving a modest tally of seven eggs on 30 December (CLB).



Brown Hairstreak egg (Colin Baker) and full-grown caterpillar (David Green)



**Status:** BC Low Priority

**No of 2007 records:** 191

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 56

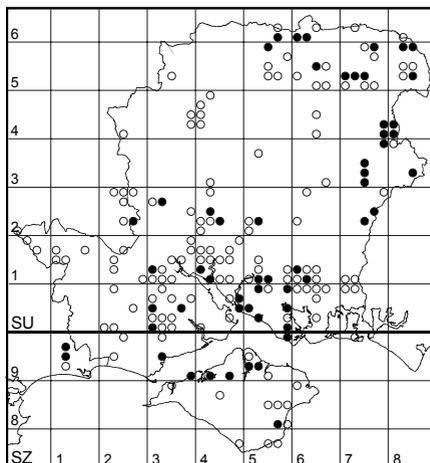
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 191

**Earliest:** 1 June 2007

Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)

**Latest:** 28 August 2007

Christchurch (MJG)

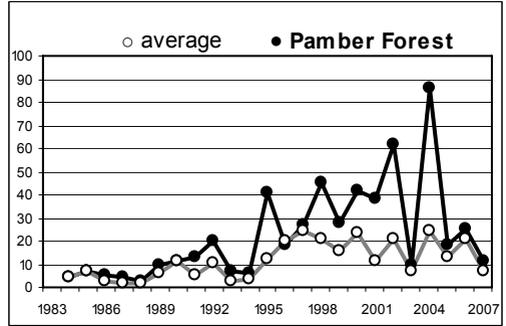
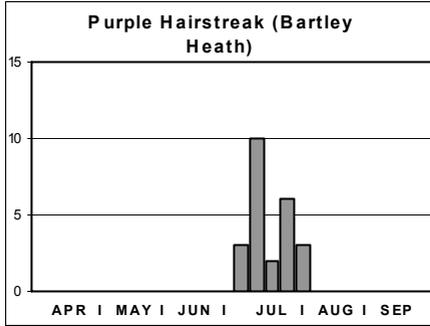


Spending most of its adult life high up amongst the treetops, the Purple Hairstreak is very difficult to monitor and is under-recorded. Fewer sightings were reported in 2007 - 186 compared to 264 in 2006. 2006, however, was a particularly good year for observing this species as the hot weather in July resulted in many individuals leaving the tree canopy to look for ground-level nectar sources and shade. At Pamber Forest an Annual Index of 25 was recorded in 2006 compared to 11 in 2007 and at Bartley Heath the Annual Index fell from 64 to 24. These figures are not a true measure of the populations in the tree tops, just a measure of what was seen low down at the time the transect was walked.

2007 started with great expectations for the Purple Hairstreak, with several recorders commenting on exceptionally early sightings. The earliest sighting on 1 June on the Isle of Wight beat the previous Branch record of 5 June 2003. The first record in Hampshire was at Botley Wood on 7 June. RKL commented it was two weeks earlier than expected, although another one was not recorded there until 28 June. At Pamber Forest, GJD reported that the first sighting on 12 June was the earliest ever recorded on transect, with no previous June records. With regard to numbers seen, comments generally indicated a below average year with remarks like "another species affected by the weather", at Pamber Forest (GJD). AW thought it was a poor year and RKL said numbers were perhaps a little below average at Botley Wood. At Whippingham Fields, IoW, however, JR reported an excellent year.

Numbers built up slowly during June with the highest count for the month being 7 seen on 21 June at Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR), and in Hampshire 12 at Bedenham Grasslands, Gosport on 22 June (M&MG). Counts of 20 plus were reported from just two sites in Hampshire, both by AW: 22 at Alice Holt, Straits Inclosure on 7 July and at Butterwood, near Hook 20 were seen around a 'special Purple Hairstreak Oak in a ride' on 11 July. 14 were recorded in an area of oak at Browndown North on 29 June (DJAT), 13 on 11 July at Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows (ABO) and 12 on 24 July on Odiham Common (JE). On the Isle of Wight 23 were recorded at Whippingham Fields on 4 July, with an overall count of 113 for the year. Elsewhere on the Island, records were received from Ningham Common and Walters Copse.

Numbers tailed off towards the end of July and by August mainly singletons were being seen, although three were recorded at Pamber Forest on 6 August (GJD), and five were seen at Whippingham Fields on 12 August (JR). The latest sighting was from Christchurch on 28 August (MJG), which was also the date of the latest sighting in 2006.



**White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album***

**Andrew Brookes**

**Status:** BC High Priority

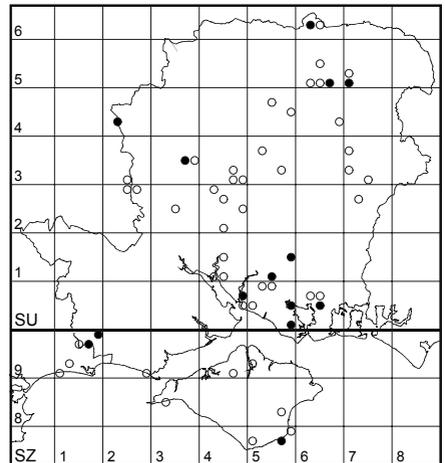
**No of 2007 records:** 17

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 14

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 59

**Earliest:** 10 June 2007  
Cosham (TD)

**Latest:** 5 August 2007  
Wheeler's Bay, IoW (A&EB)



Records of this humble insect, recently elevated to UK BAP High Priority status, were again typically few and far between, just 17 records, interestingly half the number of Large Tortoiseshell records received for the same season and half the number of White-letter Hairstreak records for 2006. The inclement weather no doubt deterred much recording effort, and 'effort' is most certainly required for this elusive butterfly, as evidenced by the superb tally of 27 noted by M&MG on 22 June at what is now almost certainly the insect's best haunt in the two counties: the clumps of Dutch Elm *Ulmus x hollandica* on the northern margin of the Bedenham Grasslands at Defence Munitions Gosport. By comparison AW made just one sighting at the Wych Elm hotspot in Whiteley Pastures.

Vast areas of Hampshire, notably the New Forest, and the east of the county, yielded not one record. The Isle of Wight fared little better with a solitary sighting at Wheeler's Bay (A&EB) on 5 August, the last to be reported. Low numbers were recorded at traditional

haunts such as Crabtree Plantation near Basingstoke where three were seen on 8 July (NW), two at Stockbridge Down on 17 July (PE), and three were seen in the Alver Valley, Gosport on 23 June (ACM). However, enough sightings were made elsewhere across the county to suggest that this insect is more under-recorded than rare. Even so, it is certainly less frequently encountered than it was in the mid-1990s.

The exceptional spring weather inevitably prompted an early emergence, three being noted by TD at an unspecified location near Cosham, Portsmouth, on 10 June, which was the earliest Hampshire sighting since 1976.

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<b>Small Copper <i>Lycaena phlaeas</i></b>	<b>Rupert Broadway</b>
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<b>Status:</b> BC Low Priority	<b>Earliest:</b>	<b>15 March 2007</b> Boscombe cliffs (MJS)
<b>No of 2007 records:</b> 816	<b>Latest:</b>	<b>4 November 2007</b> Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)
<b>No of tetrads in 2007:</b> 152		
<b>No of post 2000 tetrads:</b> 383		

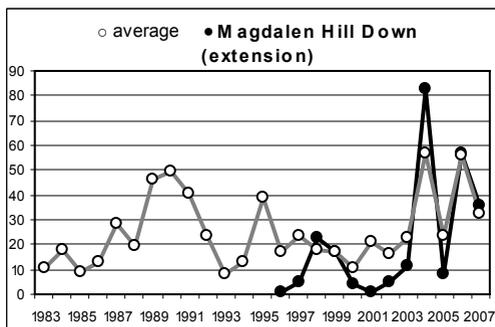
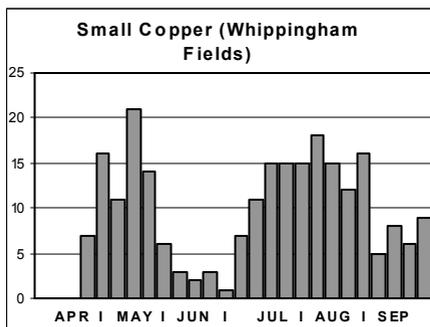
2007 was not a good year for the Small Copper with 20 out of 34 transect monitored sites, where it occurs, showing a 20% or more decrease in numbers, remaining stable in seven and increasing by 20% or more in a further seven. The overall pattern shows a decline from what was a very successful 2006. At Magdalen Hill Down the Annual Index decreased from 21 to six at the original reserve and from 65 to 36 on the extension. At Old Winchester Hill the Annual Index of 20 was the lowest since 2002. On the Isle of Wight, Bonchurch Down showed a modest increase from eight in 2006 to 10 in 2007, while the phenomenal 2006 annual total of 590 at Whippingham Fields declined to a still respectable 236.

Most observers recorded a modest year at best. RKL described it as a woeful year at Botley Wood and CWC as a very poor year at Dean Hill Park. AW recorded disappointing numbers at Butser Hill and modest numbers at other sites visited, and ACG described the butterfly as very scarce at Bramshott Common. On the Gosport coast, however, DJAT noted a reversal of the declining numbers of recent years.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, given the weather, the highest 2007 counts were recorded in spring, rather than in late summer and autumn as in the previous two years. The first was recorded at Boscombe Cliffs on the early date of 15 March (MJS), equalling the record set on 15 March 2000, and the first double figure count of 11 was made at Magdalen Hill Down Extension on 21 April (TSm). Only eight double figure counts were recorded all season in Hampshire, six of these coming from Stockbridge Down, where it peaked at 21 on 5 May (RWh). The other two locations were Oxenbourne Down and Nutley Farm, Broughton. It persisted at a number of locations throughout the year with no discernible break between broods. The last sighting was at Lee-on-Solent on 3 Nov (GJo).

The first Isle of Wight record was from Coombe Bottom, Ventnor on 10 April (DMe). Its appearance at Whippingham Fields on 22 April was the earliest recorded at this site, where it peaked at 21 on 17 May and again at 18 on 5 August (JR). At other Isle of Wight sites it was mostly only seen in ones and twos (DAB). The last Isle of Wight records were from Merstone on 31 October (BR) and of an individual nectaring on ivy blossom on 4 November at Whippingham Fields (JR).

DJAT recorded several individuals with the blue-spotted *caeruleopunctata* aberration on the Gosport coast during the year.



**Small Blue *Cupido minimus***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC High Priority

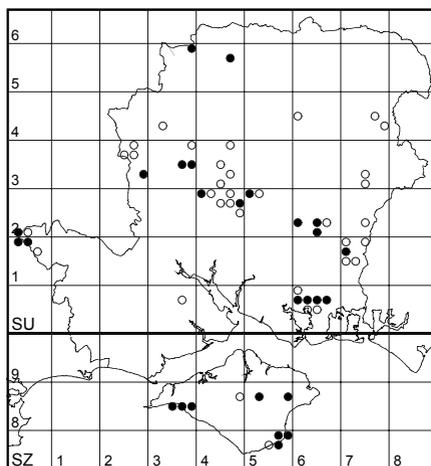
**No of 2007 records:** 143

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 27

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 61

**Earliest:** 15 April 2007  
Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)

**Latest:** 25 August 2007  
Martin Down NNR (PT)



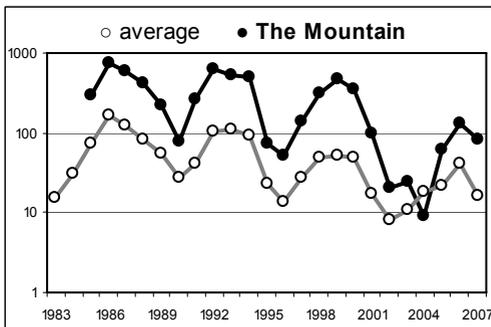
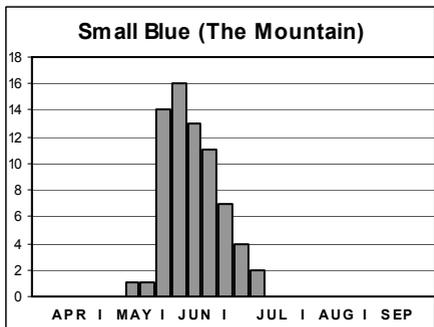
Compared to the previous year, 2007 was a pretty dismal one for the Small Blue. The first brood started early and was quite prolonged, but numbers never built up to equal those encountered in 2006 and the second brood was very weak. 10 out of the 14 transect monitored sites where the Small Blue is found recorded a decrease in numbers of 20% or more with Annual Indices on some transects barely reaching a quarter of last year's totals. For example the Annual Index at Martin Down, North Transect fell from 72 in 2006 to 18 in 2007, while at Portsdown Hill an Annual Index of 83 was reduced to 11. Not only were the numbers reported down on last year but also the number of records sent in, with just 144 records for 2007 compared to 204 in 2006. However, numbers were not as low as those in 1996 and 2002 when Small Blues reached their lowest ebb.

The season started very early, with the first being seen on the south facing slopes of Afton Down on the Isle of Wight some eight days earlier than the previous record of 24 April 2002, which was also at Afton Down. Numbers increased quickly, with 15 being seen on 19 April, 30 on 27 April and 60 on 30 April, all at Afton Down (SAK-J). Elsewhere 35 were seen on 30 April at the nearby Afton Chalk Pit (IP). Few were seen during the second week of May and although the weather was less than ideal numbers did built up again, with 15 seen on 16 May at Paulsgrove Chalkpit, Portsdown (RTu), 20 on 18 May at Martin Down

NNR (MDu & ML), and 56 on 24 May again at Paulsgrove Chalkpit (AW). The main peak of the flight season was towards the end of May and numbers remained high until the second week in June. Other high counts recorded during this period were 50 on 26 May at Martin Down NNR (MPi), 41 on 2 June at The Mountain (AW) and 65, the highest count of all, on 3 June at Portsdown Hill when there was little wind and lots of sun (AW). The last of the thirteen counts of 20 or more was of 25 seen on 9 June at Portsdown Hill (ACM), with the last of the first brood being seen on 19 June at Magdalen Hill Down, North (SW).

The second brood, such that it was, was on the wing from 1 July to 25 August, with mostly ones and twos being seen, the highest count of this brood being of six on 30 July at Paulsgrove Chalkpit (AT).

The season was much the same length as in 2006 but starting about three and a half weeks earlier.



**Silver-studded Blue *Plebejus argus***

**Joyce Gifford**

**Status:** BC High Priority

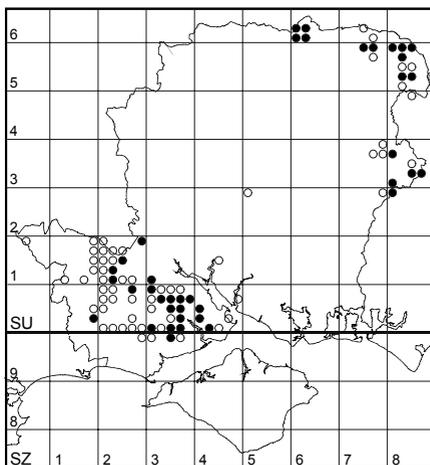
**No of 2007 records:** 175

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 39

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 97

**Earliest:** 31 May 2007  
Crockford Bridge (M&ZW)

**Latest:** 5 September 2007  
Longdown, Ashurst (PAB)

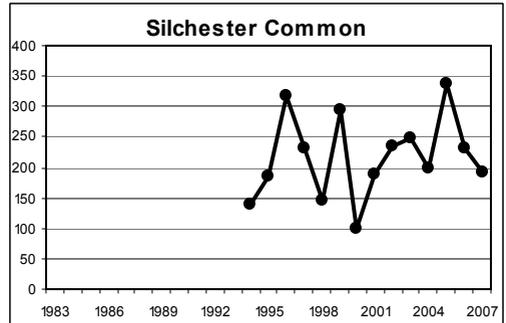
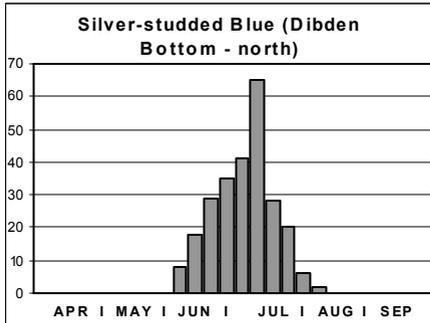


The weather during the two months preceding the emergence of this sun-loving little butterfly was quite exceptional. An unprecedented heatwave in April was followed by an extremely wet May. The very early emergence at the end of May was some 15 days earlier than in 2006 and just one day later than the earliest sighting on our database of 30 May 1997.

Visits to noted colonies were frustratingly reduced by the inclement weather of July and comments such as “a dreadful season” and “appalling weather” were recorded. Numbers of butterflies recorded on our long running transect at Silchester Common decreased with an Annual Index of 191 for 2007 compared to 233 for 2006 and 336 in 2005. It should be noted, however, that in 2004 the Annual Index was 200, and in 2000 it was just 99. GJD reported that much of the transect route at Silchester Common is not in an ideal condition now, with numbers of butterflies being higher in other areas. Two new transects were established during 2007, Bramshott Common and Dibden Bottom; the Annual Indices for these two sites were 333 and 254 respectively.

The first sighting was upstream from Crockford Bridge in the New Forest on 31 May (M&ZW), with another seen on Hatchet Moor on the same day (M&ZW). Soon sightings were widespread in Hampshire and by 6 June 11 males were seen on Fair Cross Heath (J&EG). After 22 July records were in single figures, with a slow dwindling until 8 August. A surprisingly late sighting was of a female on 5 September near Ashurst.

Of the 170 records received only eight were of 100 or more butterflies and seven of these were from the new transect at Bramshott Common (ACG). The other from Beaulieu Heath (MW) was a count of 100 on 20 June. In other parts of the New Forest a count of 70 was recorded on Hatchet Moor on 6 July (AW) and 65 at Dibden Bottom on 10 July (AHa). In north east Hampshire Broxhead Common had a count of 85 on 10 June (AW) and 70 six days later (MRO), and a count of 77 was recorded on Hazeley Heath on 7 July (PM). The small colony at Eelmoor had counts of two and five towards the end of June but none in July (CRH).



**Brown Argus *Aricia agestis***

**Phil Budd**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 17 April 2007  
Compton Down, IoW (JMC)

**No of 2007 records:** 497

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 62

**Latest:** 26 October 2007  
Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 161

2007 was a poor year for this species in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Of the 26 transect monitored sites where this species occurs, 22 showed a 20% or more decrease in numbers compared to 2006. With reference to the graph showing the trends it can be seen that the average of the Annual Indices for all sites where this species occurs was at its lowest since 1989.

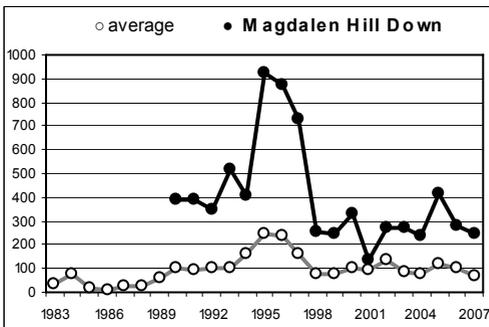
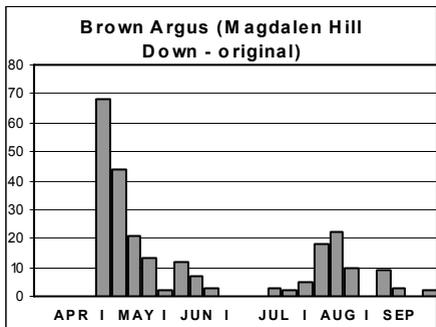
Probably the largest fall in numbers was noted at Broughton Down where the Annual Index of only 56 individuals was only 30% of the figure for 2006. Usually the second brood for this species is stronger than the first but peak counts at some sites did not show this with 68 being recorded on 29 April and just 22 on 17 August, at Magdalen Hill Down Original , suggesting that the Brown Argus was seriously affected by the cold and wet weather in June and July.

In Hampshire, the highest first brood counts were 16 at Beacon Hill, Warnford on 22 May (ACM), and at Broughton Down where 15 were seen on 3 May (NFr). For the second brood one of the best sites was Beacon Hill, Warnford possibly because being partly east-facing it was more protected from the foul early summer weather. A peak of 50 individuals was seen on 11 August (AW) at this site and at St Catherine's Hill MSw saw 20 on 16 August. Overall there were records from about half of the known chalk sites in Hampshire in 2007.

Off the chalk it was noted that Brown Argus was surviving at Browdown North, Browdown South and at Gilkicker, all near Gosport, with records from 16 May to 27 September (DJAT). In total there were records for 14 sites off the chalk in Hampshire, including two on the Tertiaries of north-east Hampshire, but no large numbers were recorded. There were no records for the area between the Avon valley and Southampton Water. In the eastern New Forest/ Waterside area this species has either disappeared or is under recorded. Checking this out will be a job for 2008.

On the Isle of Wight there were some excellent first brood counts on early dates although even they were down on the exceptional 2006 numbers. For example 40 plus were counted at Bonchurch Down on 30 April (DAB). Second brood numbers held up better on the Isle of Wight than on the mainland with a good showing in Brighstone Forest (DAB) and maximum counts of 17 at both Whippingham Fields on 5 August (JR), and Bonchurch Down on 25 August (AW). However there were no records from known sites at Woodhouse Copse and Parkhurst Forest (JR).

The second brood first appeared at Whippingham Fields on the Isle of Wight on 13 July (JR) and they appeared at Magdalen Hill Down on the mainland at about the same time. The last records on the mainland were at Gilkicker and Browdown on 27 September (DJAT) and on the Isle of Wight at Brook Down on 22 September (AW) and Whippingham Fields on 25 September (JR).



**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 16 April 2007  
Rooksbury Mill, Andover (JSo)**No of 2007 records:** 1625**No of tetrads in 2007:** 166**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 473**Latest:** 21 October 2007  
Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (ACM)

After what was generally considered to be an excellent year for this species in 2006, 2007 was extremely poor. This is reflected in the transect data with 98% of sites showing a 20% or more decline in overall numbers. At Magdalen Hill Down, Extension the Annual Index fell from 873 in 2006 to 217 in 2007 and at Noar Hill numbers were down from 447 to 116. With reference to the graph plotting the Annual Indices for Noar Hill between 1983 and 2007, alongside a graph showing an average of a number of sites, it can be seen that this species has been at a low ebb before but numbers have picked up again. The fall in numbers from 2006 to 2007 is made worse by the fact that 2006 was a particularly good year for this species.

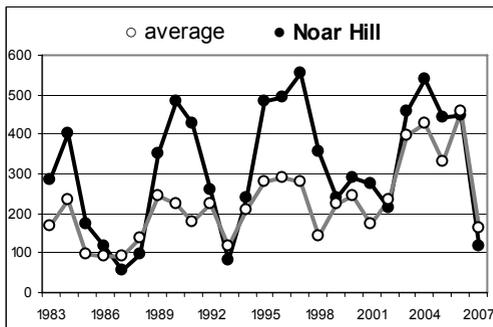
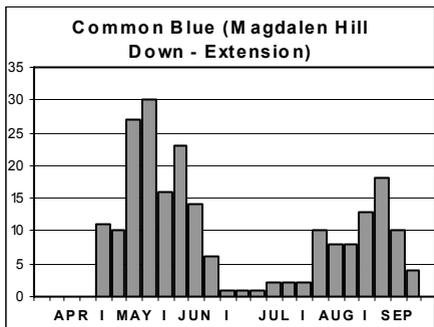
With the favourable weather in April this species was on the wing early, on 16 April. This date equals the earliest ever sighting on our database with the butterfly being recorded on that day in 2002. Although this species had an early start it did not fare well in the poor weather that was to follow. The peak count for the first brood at Magdalen Hill Down, Extension was 30 on 23 May, compared to 130 in 2006, and the second brood peaked at 18 on 4 September compared to 77 the previous year.

RKL considered 2007 to be a terrible year at Botley Wood due to the failure of the second brood, RCB thought the first brood was reasonable but the second brood poor and CWC reported the same for Dean Hill Park. CRH reported this species to be well down in north east Hampshire. Positive comments were made by AW who thought it had a reasonable year and DJAT who considered it to have had a better year on the Gosport coast after recent declines.

Counts of 30 plus were recorded at the following sites in Hampshire for the first brood: Martin Down, 74 on 1 June (ACM), Farley Mount, 60 on 23 May (MOL), Oxenbourne Down, 31 on 5 May (AW), The Mountain, 36 on 2 June (AW) and 30 on Magdalen Hill Down, Extension on 23 May (PAB). A further six sites recorded counts of 20 plus for the first brood. Numbers peaked at the end of May/beginning of June; there was no obvious gap between the broods. The highest counts for the second brood were 50 at Beacon Hill, on 11 August (AW), 30 at Noar Hill on 17 August (MRO), with just three other sites with counts of 20 plus.

On the Isle of Wight the highest first brood count was recorded at Whippingham Fields where 36 were seen on 1 June while at Brading Down 26 were recorded on 20 May (DAB). The same sites also recorded the highest second brood counts.

This species was seen on the wing well into October with the last individual being seen on the 21st of the month.



**Chalkhill Blue *Polyommatus coridon***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC Medium Priority

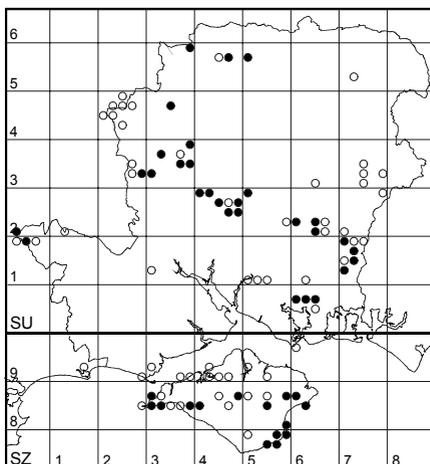
**No of 2007 records:** 655

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 44

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 102

**Earliest:** 26 June 2007  
Yew Hill (BPF)

**Latest:** 23 September 2007  
Brading Quarries, loW (DAB)



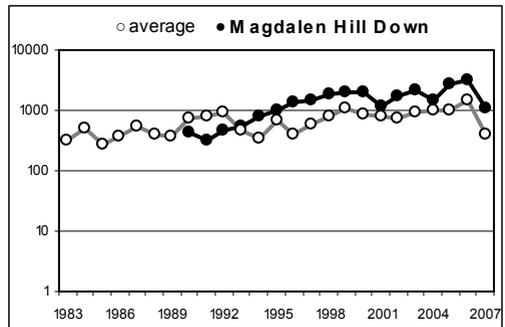
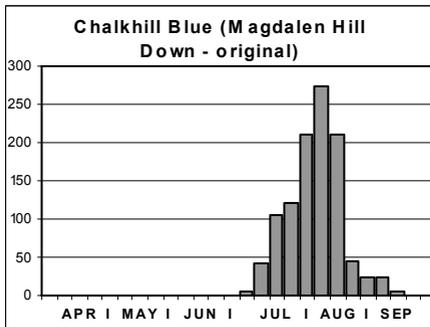
The Chalkhill Blue was particularly hard hit by the wet summer. All 17 transects on which this species is present recorded a decline in numbers of 20% or more, and for some transects the Annual Indices were reduced to less than a quarter of those reported for 2006. The Annual Index for Brading Quarries, loW fell from 5413 in 2006 to 1125 in 2007 and at Magdalen Hill Down, Original the decrease for the same period was from 3236 to 1066. Whilst large colonies can survive such a set back, small colonies are vulnerable to extinction.

The flight season started a little later than usual, with only the one sighting in June. Numbers built up steadily if more slowly than usual throughout July, with the largest numbers seen between 28 July and 11 August. The first count of over 100 was of 200 seen on 15 July at Stockbridge Down (MDu), but some days later on 21 July the same observer was only able to find 100. The biggest count of all was 1000 on 28 July at Old Winchester Hill NNR (AW), on the south-western slope which was described as shimmering with the species but a striking contrast to the high of 8500 seen in 2006. The second highest count of 800 was also seen at Old Winchester Hill NNR on 8 August (BPF). Of the seven counts of 400 or more five were at Old Winchester Hill NNR (observers: RJC, BPF, DH and AW) the other two sightings being of 500 on 4 August at Oxenbourne Down (AW) and 400 on 11 August at Stockbridge Down (Branch Field Trip). There were six more counts in the

range of 200-400, in Hampshire, these being seen at Magdalen Hill Down, Original and Yew Hill as well as the sites mentioned earlier. On the Isle of Wight the highest counts came from Brading Quarries, 349 on 11 August (DAB), and from Tennyson Down with 200 on 4 August (CDu). Chalkhill Blues were not seen this year at either at Parkhurst Forest (JR) or at Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (DJAT).

After 11 August numbers began to decline, and by September most counts were in single figures. The latest sighting in Hampshire was on 16 September at Old Winchester Hill NNR (RCB), but on the Isle of Wight the species kept going in the sheltered conditions of Brading Quarries where the last two of the season were seen on 23 September.

The season, which started later and finished earlier than in 2006, certainly will have tested the resilience of this species, and it will be interesting to see how long it will take before numbers approach the record levels of 2006, when thousands of pale blue butterflies fluttering under bright blue skies seemed such a normal part of a summer.



**Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus***

**Linda Smith**

**Status:** BC High Priority

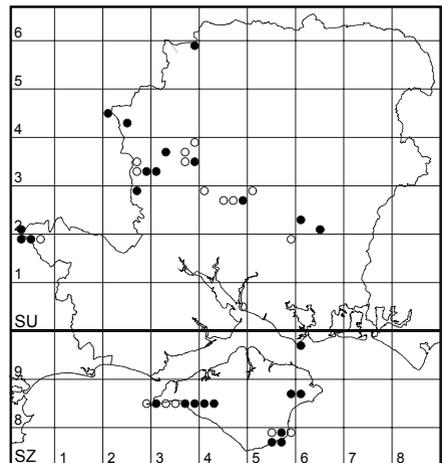
**No of 2007 records:** 253

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 25

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 43

**Earliest:** 29 April 2007  
Martin Down (LS)

**Latest:** 4 October 2007  
St Catherine's Hill (CP)



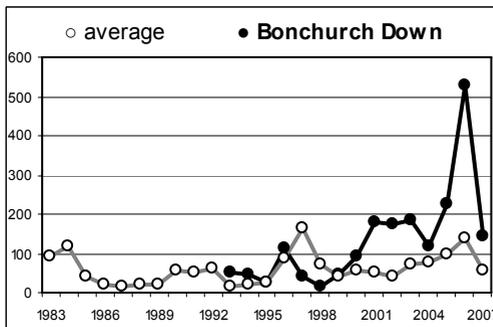
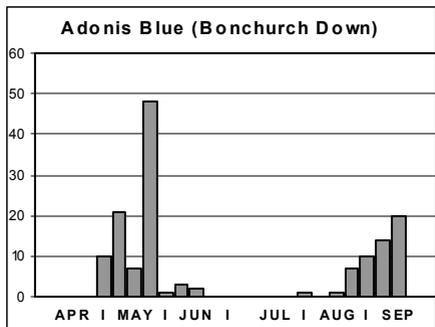
The weather for the flight periods was very poor. May and June were very wet with June in particular being dull. August was wet and cold but September showed an improvement.

Sites monitored by transects, having built up to very good or record numbers in 2006, saw their Annual Indices drop back to figures more typical of 3-5 years ago. For instance Bonchurch Down, IoW, having reached a peak of 529 in 2006, dropped to 145. At Old Winchester Hill, where numbers were gradually building and had reached 69 in 2006, only 38 were recorded on transect this year. Broughton Down and Martin Down, South and North Transects all showed similar decreases. In all these cases peak numbers were lower in the second brood than the first, which might not bode well for next season, unlike 2006 when some sites had mounting numbers in the second brood. For example the peak first brood count at Bonchurch was 48 on 23 May and for the second brood 20 on 11 September whereas in 2006 the peak count for the first brood was 108 and for the second brood it was 182. However, in a generally poor season at Martin Down, Adonis Blue was one of the few species to record above average numbers for the period since 1979.

In Hampshire the highest count was recorded at Martin Down, 41 (non transect data) on 1 June (ACM). Other peak counts included 15 at Old Winchester Hill on 20 May (GJo), 11 at Broughton Down on 2 June (ABO) and seven at Pilot Hill, Facombe on 18 May (MG); note all peak counts are from the first brood. In addition this butterfly was seen in low numbers at Beacon Hill, Warnford, Danebury Hill and St Catherine's Hill. A couple of first ever sightings were reported by DJAT at Fort Gilkicker, Gosport on 16 May and by MRO near Shipton Bellinger on 7 September.

AW recorded the highest count on the Isle of Wight when he saw 70 at Bonchurch Down on 25 August. The peak count at Mottistone Down was 15 on 23 May (RLa). Low numbers were also seen at Coombe Bottom, Ventnor and Brook Chine.

It has also been a year when grass has grown prodigiously and over a very long season, so grazing levels will have to be managed carefully to maintain the short swards required by this species.



**Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus***

**Rupert Broadway**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 7 March 2007  
Priddy's Hard, Gosport (JGol)

**No of 2007 records:** 1347  
**No of tetrads in 2007:** 260  
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 564

**Latest:** 21 November 2007  
Stanley Park, Gosport (ACM)

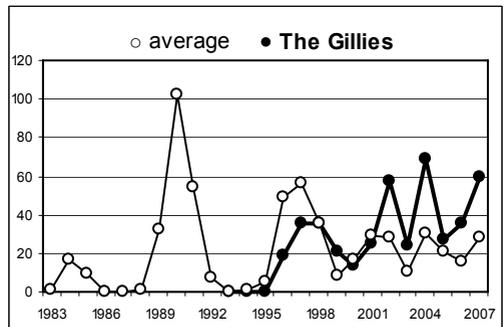
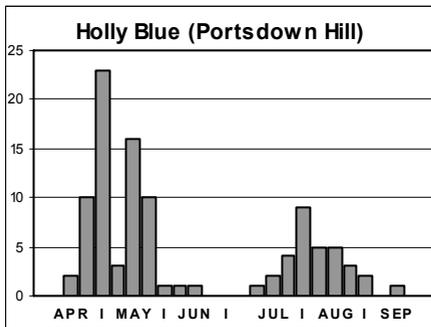
2007 was undoubtedly a good season for the Holly Blue with 24 of the transect monitored sites, where it occurs, recording an increase of 20% or more over 2006, compared with nine showing no significant change and only six showing a 20% or more decrease. Portsdown Hill typified a trend of high spring brood counts, where it peaked at 23 on 30 April with a second peak of nine on 1 August. The Annual Index of 99 at this site was a significant increase from 57 in 2006. At Magdalen Hill Down, Extension the Annual Index increased from four in 2006 to 14 in 2007. The overall annual index of 59 at The Gillies, Fareham was the best since 2004 and the second best in 10 years. On the Isle of Wight, the Annual Index of 45 at Brading Quarries, where it peaked at 14 on 29 April, was the highest since 2002.

Most observers reported favourably, with DAB, CP and RCB all commenting on the strength of the first brood in particular. DJAT felt the Holly Blue to be the butterfly of the year on the Gosport coast, thriving in the exceptionally warm and sunny April weather. MSh, however, thought it a rather poor year by recent standards and GJD recorded low numbers in Pamber Forest. AW and CWC felt the summer brood to be poor in comparison with spring counts.

The Holly Blue emerged early in 2007 with the first Hampshire sighting from Priddy's Hard, Gosport on 7 March (JGoI). This date was the same as the previous record for our area set in 2002. April was by far and away the most popular month for Holly Blue sightings and yielded most of the highest counts. 39 were recorded at Ann's Hill Cemetery, Gosport on the 20 April (ACM), 40 at Fort Widley, Portsdown on 30 April (AW) and 30 on Portsdown Hill (East) on 1 May (T&MR). In summer the only double figure counts were recorded from Southampton Old Cemetery with 22 seen on 29 July (A&LB) and 24 on 1 August (JVe). The final Hampshire record was from Stanley Park, Gosport on 21 November (ACM), which was over 2 weeks earlier than the latest 2006 record from the same location.

On the Isle of Wight it first appeared at Sandown on 13 March (DAB). The highest individual count of 19 came from the cliff path at Sandown on 4 August (TS) and the last record was from Ventnor Botanic Garden on 26 September (DL).

Egg-laying was noted on Holly buds at Brading Quarries, IoW, on 29 April, but no caterpillars were subsequently seen (DAB).



**Status:** BC High Priority

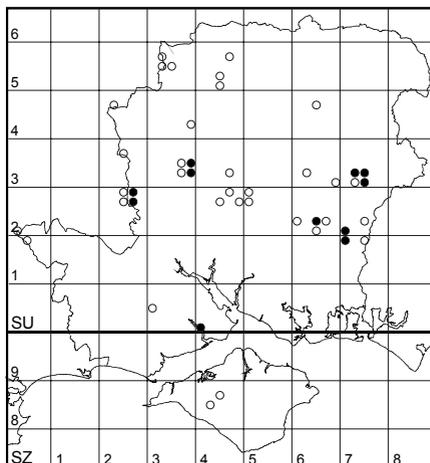
**No of 2007 records:** 110

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 11

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 48

**Earliest:** 12 April 2007  
Noar Hill (TJ)

**Latest:** 13 August 2007  
Noar Hill (TJ)



Once again the Duke of Burgundy was blessed with some exceptional weather in April and consequently the species appeared rather early at Noar Hill on 12 April (TJ). Like 2006, the weather sensationally collapsed, May being cold, windy and very damp.

Transect data from The Mountain and Noar Hill showed an increase in the Annual Index at Noar Hill from 54 in 2006 to 101 in 2007, the highest figure since 2002, but at The Mountain there was a slight decrease in numbers with the Annual Index for 2007 of 77 being four less than the 2006 figure. Peak counts at these sites were 32 on 1 May at Noar Hill (TJ) and 40 on 5 May at The Mountain (AW).

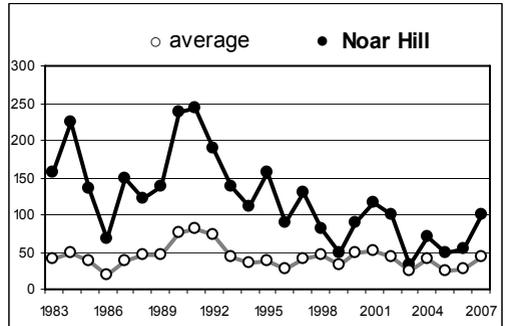
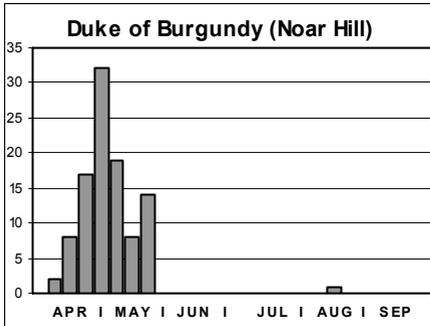
There were good counts at Grandfathers Bottom where 32 were counted on 29 April (AW), and in the Stockbridge area 20 were seen by DH on 28 April. AW reports that he counted nine on 5 May at Oxenbourne Down, its best count since 2003. At Dean Hill, numbers have deteriorated with CWC reporting only three on the Hampshire side on 1 May and 22 May with 10 on the Wiltshire side on the later of the two dates (CWC).

THo saw four individuals at the New Forest site near Exbury on 19 May and 24 May and one was recorded at Bentley Wood, Eastern clearing on 17 May (AS). There were no records from Coulters Dean, the East Tisted Railway or Westbury Park. In addition the butterfly was not observed at the well-visited site Magdalen Hill Down, and despite two visits made by A&LB it was not seen at nearby Deacon Hill. On the Isle of Wight there were no sightings at the only known site for this butterfly at Monkham Copse. The last spring sighting came from The Mountain on 29 May (AW).

Despite our pretty awful summer the Duke was yet to surprise us on the 3 August with a partial second brood at Noar Hill (PRi). A minimum of two males and two females were noted by several recorders between 3 August and 13 August. A mating pair were seen on 7 August, and TJ noted a fresh male on transect on 13 August.

The spring brood which started on 12 April would have had opportunity to egg lay before the weather broke on 7 May. During the warm April some of the eggs would have hatched quickly and the resulting larva would have passed through the early development stages

before the weather deteriorated giving rise to the partial second brood in August. The last time a partial second brood was noted at Noar Hill was in 2001 when a single female was recorded.



**White Admiral *Limenitis camilla***

**Andrew Brookes**

**Status:** BC High Priority

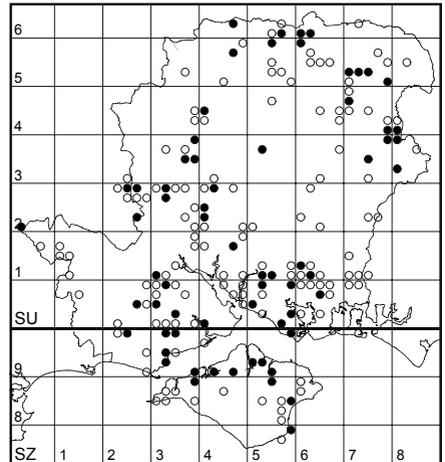
**No of 2007 records:** 360

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 65

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 196

**Earliest:** 3 June 2007  
Micheldever Wood (RBry)

**Latest:** 7 August 2007  
Ashford Hill, Woods & Meadows (ABo)



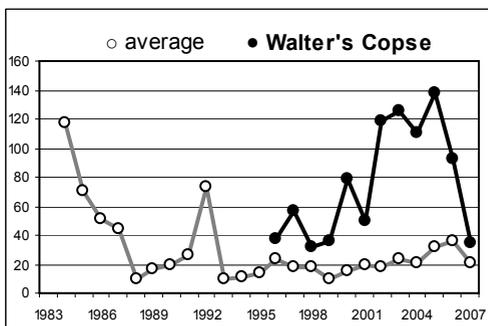
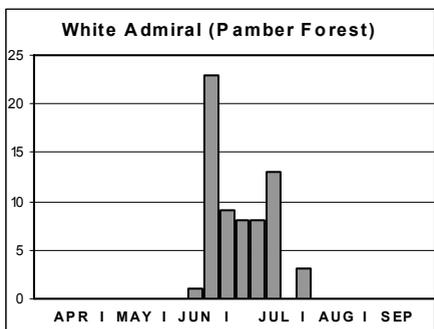
Records of this, the most graceful of our butterflies, presented a confused picture in 2007. Whilst the appalling July weather undoubtedly compromised its fortunes, a very early emergence prompted by the exceptionally warm April would seem to have averted catastrophe. At Botley Wood, RKL noted that the emergence was one of the few successes in 2007, the Annual Index figure the second highest since 1998, whilst at Pamber Forest, GJD opined that numbers had been pretty average. The Annual Index at Pamber Forest was 65, which is in line with the figures for the 2002-2005 period but much lower than the 2006 figure of 117. The peak count at this site was 23 on 19 June

Numbers peaked around 20 June, with MRO recording 54 in Alice Holt Forest, Straits Inclosure unequivocally the insect's stronghold in Hampshire. In a pattern typical of the two counties, this site was yielding but half that number by mid July (AW). Beyond Alice Holt, maximum counts rarely reached double figures; four notable exceptions were 23 on 19 June at Pamber Forest (GJD), 14 on the same day at Ashford Hill (ABo), 17 on 29 June at Sandford Woods near Kingsclere (ABo) and 11 on 11 July at Bucketts Lawn, New Forest (JRu).

On the Isle of Wight, JR reported the best numbers yet at Whippingham Fields, and above average numbers at Woodhouse Copse. Not far away, Firestone Copse yielded an Annual Index of 13. However, these figures sit uneasily with those from Walter's Copse towards the western end of the isle, where the index figure of 34 was the lowest since 1999 compared to 93 in 2006 and 138 in 2005.

The butterfly was first seen on the wing by RBry at Micheldever Wood on 3 June, the earliest sighting in the county for at least 20 years, followed three days later by a sighting by IP at Ningwood Common on the Isle of Wight. The final sighting was made on 7 August.

Lastly, mention must be made of the few ab. *obliteratae* seen in Alice Holt Forest, Straits Inclosure and Pamber Forest (RCB, MRO, PV). Unsurprisingly, no second brood was observed anywhere!



## Purple Emperor *Apatura iris*

Ashley Whitlock

**Status:** BC High Priority

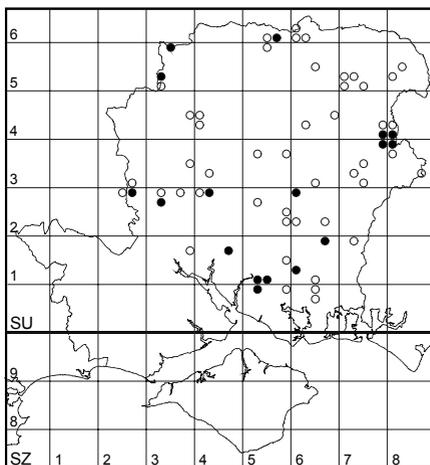
**No of 2007 records:** 50

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 17

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 65

**Earliest:** 20 June 2007  
Alice Holt Forest (MRO)

**Latest:** 9 August 2007  
Crab Wood (DB)



Not since the Victorian times in 1893 has the Purple Emperor ever appeared so early in Hampshire with several individuals being seen by MRO on the 20 June in Alice Holt Forest, Goose Green, despite the wet and windy weather. 2007 should have been an excellent year; the weather in 2006 would have given rise to lots of opportunities to egg lay and, after a mild but wet winter, larval development would have been greatly assisted by a warm

April. By early May many larvae were probably well advanced. However, the weather became foul and abusive as May progressed and the very wet June dampened any hopes of a great Purple Emperor season.

The Purple Emperor was reported from 12 sites in 2007, compared with 19 in 2006. It failed to turn up at well known sites like Southleigh Forest, near Havant and Butterwood, near Hook and there was just one unconfirmed report in mid-July from Pamber Forest (RKL). The weather dampened sightings at several of the well known assembly points in Alice Holt and also the newly discovered one in Bentley Station Meadow. Despite this it was seen in two new sites: at Butler's Copse, near Axmansford, on 29 June and at Combe Wood, near Linkenholt on 19 July (MG).

Whiteley Pastures had one of its best seasons for many years. Three were seen on 3 July (AW) and singletons were seen on the ground throughout the early part of July, by several recorders. Peak counts at other sites included seven at Alice Holt Forest, Goose Green Inclosure, on 7, 8 and 11 July (AW), with counts of five or six on 20 and 23 June and again on 4 and 5 July (MRO). Four were recorded in Alice Holt Forest, Straits Inclosure, on 7 July (S&BC) and two in Alice Holt Forest, Abbott's Wood Inclosure on 1 July (MRO). Away from Alice Holt ones and twos were seen at Mottisfont, Huntbourne Wood, Bentley Wood (Eastern Clearing), Tangley, the Sustainability Centre near East Meon, Cheriton Wood and Itchen Valley Country Park. When the weather did behave itself there was good activity in the Inclosures at Alice Holt Forest. In Goose Green there were several close encounters with females leading on the male for a "follow me flight" courtship and probable mating (MRO & AW) but with the weather affecting sightings the best part of the Purple Emperor season was over by the mid part of July, although odd stragglers were seen in Straits Inclosure on the 21 July (RSy). The last one at Straits was a very tatty male seen in the main ride imbibing on the ground on 4 August (DJB).

It seems the Purple Emperor did rather better in Hampshire than other parts of the Purple Empire, in particular Surrey and West Sussex. This was a poor and extremely difficult season, but it could have been great had the fine weather of early spring continued (MRO).

**Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta***

**Susan Clarke**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

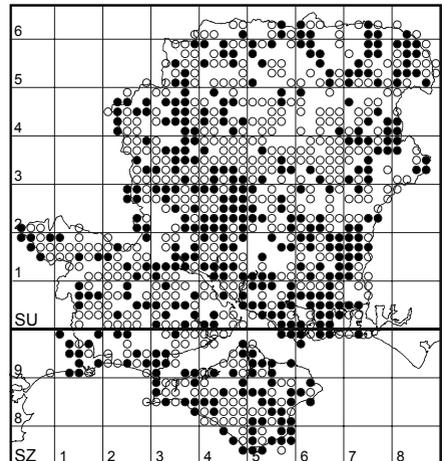
**No of 2007 records:** 2532

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 399

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 866

**Earliest:** 1 January 2007  
Six localities

**Latest:** 31 December 2007  
Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)



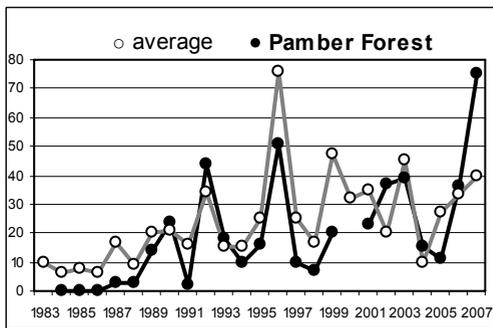
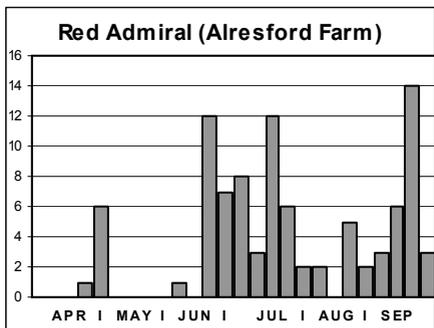
As has become common in recent years, Red Admirals were seen in all months of the year with over-wintering adults becoming active on mild winter days. The main flight period, as shown by the number of records received in each week, shows a peak in late April and then another between about mid June and late August.

Data from transect monitored sites showed this species had a reasonable year and although 40% of sites showed a 20 % or more decrease in numbers when compared to 2006 another 40% showed no significant change. Annual Indices for Alresford Farm and Brading Quarries both showed a slight increase on 2006, 87 to 101 and 158 to 180 respectively. Transect monitoring does not tell us everything about this species as the transect season only runs from the beginning of April to the end of September and this species is now seen every month of the year. With reference to the table below reporting DJAT's Red Admiral observations along the Gosport coast, out of a total of 1011 butterflies seen during the year, 46% of them were seen in October and November

At Pamber Forest GJD reported that the butterfly had its best year ever on transect with an Annual Index of 75, the previous best being 50 in 1996, but RKL thought it was a below average year at Botley Wood. MSh considered that it had been a fairly good year, but hardly outstanding, and RCB summarised that it was a good year in terms of number of occasions and locations but numbers of individuals seen at any one time never got into double figures. Looking at the records this fact is supported in that only 1.6% of the data were double figure counts while 64 % was just single sightings. Peak counts included 56 at the Sustainability Centre, East Meon on 25 August (COa and MSh), 34 at St Catherine's Hill on 19 July (BPF) and 20 at Stockbridge Down on 21 July (MDu).

DJAT frequently walks along the coast at Gosport and below are his sightings each month for 2007, compared with the same for 2006, showing that similar numbers were seen in both years.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
<b>2006</b>	2	0	2	5	25	26	121	85	87	438	214	11	1016
<b>2007</b>	11	6	8	34	39	105	153	27	153	316	147	12	1011



**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 6 April 2007  
Amport (MHa, RUr)**No of 2007 records:** 384**No of tetrads in 2007:** 147**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 566**Latest:** 8 December 2007  
Elson, Gosport (L& EM)

2007 was a disappointing year for Painted Ladies. Compared to 2006, observations were down by a factor of three and the total seen at any one place and on any one occasion was also less. However the Annual (logarithmic) Index was well within the range for the previous 24 years and probably close to the average over that interval. Painted Ladies were seen throughout Hampshire but, as in 2006, the distribution was very scattered with significant gaps in much of the north and west of the county. On the Isle of Wight however the number of tetrads in which Painted Ladies were seen was almost unchanged. A similar count in Hampshire north of northing SU40 showed a 40% drop in tetrads reporting the species. 44 out of the 51 transect monitored sites where this species is found showed a decrease of 20% or more compared to 2006. Annual Indices at such sites as Magdalen Hill Down, Original fell from 50 in 2006 to 3 in 2007 and on the Isle of Wight at Brading Quarries the fall was from 106 to 6.

The first sighting was on 6 April and the last on 8 December but the majority of individuals were seen between early June and mid-September. Between these dates sightings occurred in two groups; the first peaked in the first week of June (but slightly later at Brading Quarries) and the second, and much bigger, in the last week of August (but slightly earlier at Brading Quarries). Very few sightings were made in the third and fourth weeks of July. The slight increase in numbers in early August is likely to reflect individuals hatched from eggs laid by the first arrivals in early June, coupled with the arrival of a second wave of immigrants.

It is interesting to note that the initial influx in early June coincided with and slightly followed the onset of a short 3-4 day period of relatively stronger (daily average of up to 9 mph) sustained northerly and north easterly winds. This strongly suggests that Painted Ladies, which are a migratory species resident in North Africa and southern Europe, do not necessarily arrive directly from these regions but may be carried on the wind by a more circuitous route.

The most sightings were made on the high downs (Old Winchester Hill 20 records, 117 individuals; Magdalen Hill Down 19 and 26; Noar Hill 14 and 21). Only 27 records were submitted from outside the main period and these accounted for just 5% of the individuals seen during the year.

Double figure counts were few and far between but included 37 at Old Winchester Hill on 26 August (ML), 13 at Beacon Hill on 25 August (ACM) but most notably over 30 at Southbourne Cliffs on 5 June followed by a 'few dozen' on 24 August (MJS). DJAT observed 'only' 91 individuals on the coast at Gosport between 14 April and 31 October whereas in 2006 he had a total of 400 for the year and for one day alone he saw 77. All in all 2007 was an unremarkable year for the Painted Lady.

**Status:** BC Low Priority

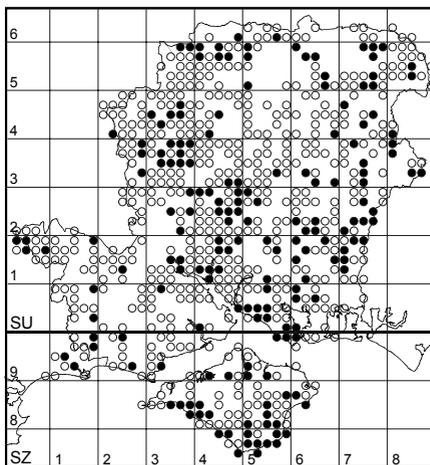
**No of 2007 records:** 566

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 179

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 670

**Earliest:** 17 January 2007  
Winchester (BPF)

**Latest:** 14 October 2007  
Dunesbury, Brook, IoW (JMC)



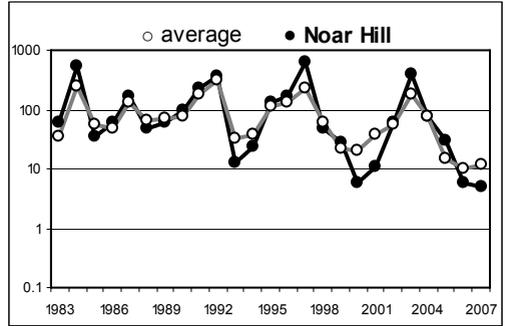
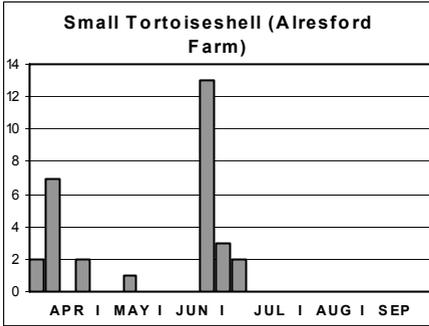
Another dire year, with just the one small crumb of comfort in that the total number of records increased by over a third on last year's to 561. Yet again, however, the reports were overwhelmingly of singletons. Just two double-figure counts were made, the highest, 16 at Alresford Farm by JP on 19 June, followed nine days later by 12 at Barton Stacey by GCE. Small Tortoiseshells were recorded on 40 transect monitored sites, of which 13 showed a decrease in numbers of 20% or more. Encouragingly 11 showed an equivalent increase and 16 sites showed no significant change. The Annual Index at the Alresford Farm transect was 34, down from 43 for 2006 and a long way from the 230 recorded in 2003, and at Magdalen Hill Down, Extension the figure was slightly up, from eight to 10 but again a long way from the 2003 figure of 359.

RCB considered 2007 to be the worst season on record, having seen the butterfly on just seven occasions from early March to the end of August. AW reported another bad year with no sites where the butterfly could be said to be doing well and at Pamber Forest there were a couple of records but there were none on transect for the third year running.

Numbers were similarly depressed on the Isle of Wight, JR reporting the lowest ever count at Whippingham Fields, and lamenting that not a single individual had been observed on any of the six Buddleia in his garden. However, DAB was more upbeat, noting an annual total of 12 on his transect at Brading Quarries, compared with just two in 2006!

Few larval colonies were reported, although one at Ringwood (MJS) already had fully grown larvae by 3 May. Two were seen at Magdalen Hill Down both on 28 July on different parts of the down, (A&LB & BPF) and at The Warren, Kingsclere on 29 July (JRM). The first sighting of the butterfly was made by BPF at Winchester on 17 January, and it was last seen by JMC at Dunesbury, Brook, IoW on 14 October.

The butterfly has now lingered at the bottom of the 'bust' trough for three years, offering some consolation in the realization that it has resisted the descent into oblivion as feared by many.



**Peacock *Inachis io***

**Susan Clarke**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 10 January 2007  
Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)

**No of 2007 records:** 2185

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 342

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 679

**Latest:** 30 December 2007  
Brading, IoW (DAB)  
Whealers Bay, IoW (A&EB)



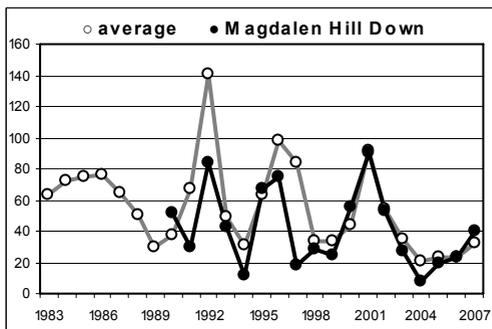
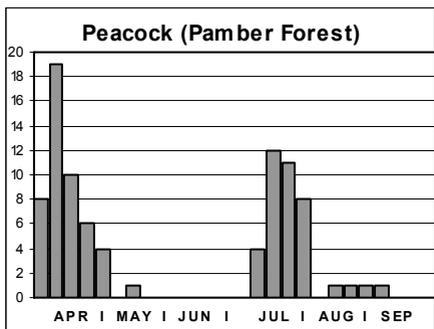
Peacock (Ian Pratt)

Peacock numbers, along with those of Small Tortoiseshell, have been low in recent years, although a slight increase was seen in 2006. Records from 2007 suggest a continuation of this recovery with 71% of transects showing 20% or more increase in numbers in comparison with 2006. MRO considered that there had been excellent numbers during the

spring, probably the best spring showing in his experience, bettering 1992 and 1976. GJD stated it was the best year since 2001 for this species and RCB commented that there was a welcome revival after a series of poor seasons. Numbers were also good on the Magdalen Hill Down Extension transect with peak counts of 109 on 24 July (RWWh) and 105 on 18 July (PAB). Most recorders agreed that numbers, particularly for the spring brood, were greater than have occurred for some years. But, in some areas of the County sightings seem to have been fewer with ACG considering that Peacock had a reasonable year with numbers about the same as 2006 and RHL stating that it was a rather poor, indifferent season at Botley Wood. DJAT reported a much better year on the Gosport coast with 393 sightings compared to 83 in 2006.

First and last sightings do not represent the main flight period of this species because it overwinters as an adult and will fly when disturbed. The Peacock was actually seen in every month of 2007. Examining the number of records received in each week shows that the main flight period started in late March and ended in early October. There was a peak in mid-April as the butterfly came out of hibernation and then the summer brood peaked in late July, with numbers quickly declining during August, perhaps due to the cool wet weather. Peak counts in Hampshire included 35 at Ladle Hill, Burghclere, on 31 July (MG), 33 at Longstock Park Nursery on 27 July (A&LB), nectaring on Buddleia, and 26 at Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows on 30 July (ABO).

On the Isle of Wight, after the lowest ever Annual Index at Whippingham Fields transect in 2006 (15), this year JR reported 166, which he stated made this a better than average year. The highest count for the Island was 40 at Dukem Down on 22 April (BR).



**Comma *Polygona c-album***

**Rupert Broadway**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 4 February 2007  
Longparish (GCE)

**No of 2007 records:** 1131

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 238

**Latest:** 10 November 2007  
Totland, loW (SAK-J)

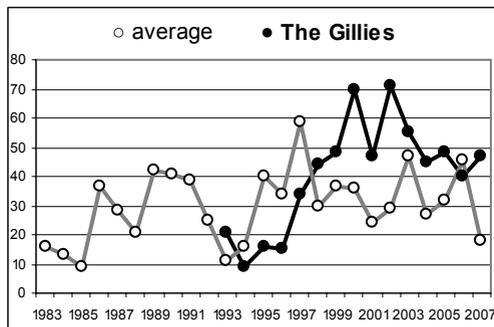
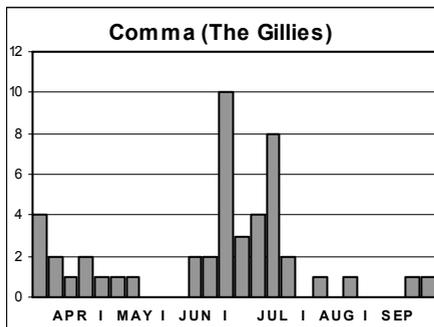
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 589

Transect data indicates a significant decrease in Comma populations in 2007, albeit against a background of increasing numbers over the last few years. 33 of the 46 transect monitored sites where it is recorded showed declines of 20% or more compared to 2006, 10 remained steady and increases of 20% or more were recorded at just three sites. At Pamber Forest the exceptional 2006 Annual Index of 104 fell to 47 in 2007, with a peak of

16 on 26 March. This trend was repeated at Noar Hill, with a fall from 43 to 14, at Bentley Station Meadow, where it declined from an Annual Index of 41 to 23 and at Crowdhill Copse, Eastleigh, where it fell from 32 to 9. The Annual Index at The Gillies, Fareham went against the general trend, with a modest increase from 40 in 2006 to 47 in 2007, peaking at 10 on 28 June.

Many observers in Hampshire commented on a poor year. AW and MSh felt it to be a very poor season and RKL deemed it a dreadful year at Botley Wood, particularly in late summer. The latter observation was repeated by MJS and ACG, and it will be interesting to see what effect this will have on spring counts in 2008. DJAT, however, reported another good year on the Gosport coast with 357 sightings in total for the year with the highest number, 102, being seen in July. MJS recorded near fully grown larvae at Boscombe on 4 May. On the Isle of Wight, JR's annual count of 120 at Whippingham Fields was the second best ever and DAB regarded 2007 as a very good year.

The first hibernator was recorded near Longparish on 4 February (GCE) and by March they were widespread throughout Hampshire. The highest individual spring count of 13 was recorded along the Gosport coast on 2 April (DJAT) and nine were recorded on the same day at Stockbridge Down (MDu). In summer the only individual double figure counts were of 10 from Sandford Woods/Wolverton Common near Kingsclere on 29 June (ABO), 14 along the Gosport coast also on 29 June (DJAT) and 10 at Rooksbury Mill, Andover on 7 July (MFW). On the Isle of Wight, the Comma peaked at 15 on 27 June at Woodhouse Copse, near Wootton and 22 at Whippingham Fields on 25 September (both JR), where the main nectar sources were mouldy blackberries and Ivy blossom. The latest Hampshire record was from Ann's Hill Cemetery, Gosport on 4 November (ACM) and, on the Isle of Wight, from Totland on 10 November (SAK-J).



**Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary *Boloria selene***

**Linda Barker**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** **3 May 2007**  
Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing (NFr)

**No of 2007 records:** 75

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 9

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 18

**Latest:** **11 July 2006**  
Holmsley Inclosure (MLe)

The warm April weather resulted in an early emergence of this species with an individual being seen on 3 May in Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing, which is one day earlier than the

previous record for our area set in 2003. As in 2006 records were received from five sites in Hampshire and one on the Isle of Wight. The butterfly emerged towards the end of the fine spell of weather but its flight period coincided with poor weather, a factor which probably contributed to fewer numbers being recorded in 2007 compared to 2006.

Transect data from Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing showed a decline in numbers, and the Annual Index which was 197 in 2005 and 105 in 2006 fell to 51 in 2007 with a maximum count of 27 on 22 May. Other than the transect data we received records from nine observers who visited Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing at that time. The highest counts recorded were 15 on 19 May (JW) and 17 on 20 May (AW).

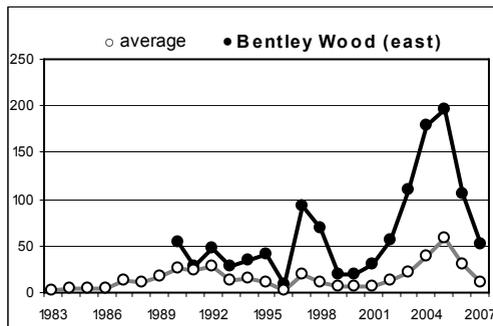
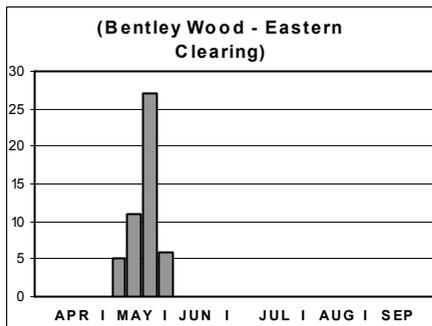
Disappointingly no Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries were recorded on transect at Pamber Forest in 2007. In the 2006 report they were recorded on transect during the early part of the season but appeared to disperse to the boundaries of the forest part way through the flight season. Records were, however, received from three recorders who each saw three individuals on 19 May (CLB), 24 May (TH) and 26 May (AW).



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Pamber Forest, 19 May 2007 (Colin Baker)

Numbers were down at Royden Common with the highest counts being recorded in early June. 12 were seen on 4 June (MSw) and 11 on 6 June (RC) compared to a peak of 30 in 2006. Numbers were also reduced at Holmsley Inclosure where the maximum count was 21 compared to 41 in 2006, but it is interesting to note that this count of 21 was recorded on two occasions, separated by 25 days, on 26 May (A&LB) and 20 June (MLe) suggesting a staggered emergence due to the poor weather. The butterfly was seen by three recorders at Wootton Coppice on seven occasions, the highest count being four on 3 June (A&LB)

On the Isle of Wight numbers were in line with 2006 data. Two recorders visited the site on two occasions, with a maximum count of 10 on 10 June (CDu).



**Pearl-bordered Fritillary *Boloria euphrosyne***

**Andy Barker**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 19 April 2007

Bentley Wood (DLa)

New Copse Inclosure (JCoo)

**No of 2007 records:** 74

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 9

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 21

**Latest:** 3 June 2007

Pignal Inclosure (MW)

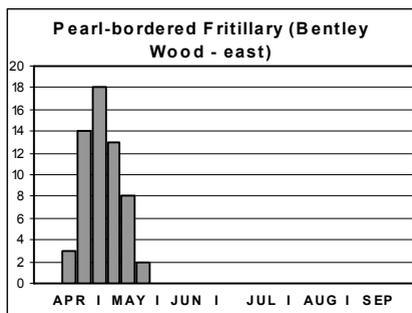
A warm, dry and sunny April meant this species got off to a fantastic start, emerging three weeks earlier than in 2006. Indeed, the sightings on 19 April at Bentley Wood (DLa) and New Copse Inclosure (JCoo) match the earliest date on record for our area, that of 19 April 1997, at Bentley Wood. This date in itself was considered to be the earliest Hampshire emergence since 1893 (Oates *et al.*, 2000). For once, the "April Fritillary" as it used to be known (before the modern Gregorian calendar), lived up to its name. May, however, coincided with a period of unsettled weather, and the second half of the flight period rapidly tailed off. The maximum count for Bentley Wood (Eastern Clearing) was a modest 23 on 5 May (BPF), with some males already starting to look rather worn by 29 April (AW). The season was all but over by 25 May, with just four individuals seen after this date. Although the season finished 12 days earlier than 2006, it nevertheless had a total duration of 44 days.

The fact that earliest emergence in New Copse Inclosure matched that of Bentley Wood (see above) is a measure of the strengthening population in the New Forest. Furthermore, the record of 15 on 27 April at Pignal Inclosure (AT) was the first double-figure count from anywhere in the county. The season had a sharply defined peak between 28 April and 5 May, with all but four of the double-figure counts recorded during this eight day period. Peaking in late April is remarkable, and this peak was a good three weeks earlier than 2006! The woodland Inclosures east of Brockenhurst had a truly outstanding year, producing several peak counts over 50. JRu had a massive tally of 767 New Forest "pearls" for the period 30 April to 4 May. The highest count was an unprecedented 201 on 2 May at Parkhill Inclosure (JRu). Indeed, this recorder estimated that the total present probably exceeded 350 individuals. This was followed by a count of 148 plus on 5 May, during a short walk from Standing Hat to Parkhill clearing from 2pm to 4pm (MSw). The exact number was almost impossible to count due to high activity levels. Other high counts included 127 on 1 May at New Copse Inclosure (JRu), 118 on 29 April at Pignal Inclosure (RHu), and 54 on the same day at Parkhill Inclosure (A&LB). JRu captures the magnificence of the peak period by saying: "For those of us fortunate to experience those few glorious, long and tiring days, our reward will remain vividly etched in the memory".

During these wonderful sunny days the butterfly was seen nectaring as early as 8am and still in flight well after 6.45pm (JRu).

Apart from Bentley Wood and the New Forest, the only other Hampshire woodland to produce Pearl-bordered Fritillary records for 2007 was a private estate near Stockbridge. A small population persists here, in one of the few remaining actively managed oak with hazel coppice sites in the county. The flight season in these woods lasted from 27 April (CM) to 23 May (AJB), with a peak of 13 on 28 April (DH), and egg-laying noted on both 28 April (DH) and 29 April (AW).

Parkhurst Forest is the only site for Pearl-bordered Fritillary on the Isle of Wight, and there are growing concerns for its future due to the continuing decline in the amount of suitable habitat (JR). The butterfly was on the wing from 21 April to 25 May, but with a meagre eleven individuals noted for the entire season the long-term prospects look bleak. The only sightings (all JRo) were of one on 25 April at Parkhurst (NW), followed by seven on 1 May and three on 25 May in Parkhurst (NE). For the first year since transect walking began none was seen in Parkhurst (SW).



**Dark Green Fritillary *Argynnis aglaja***

Linda Smith

**Status:** BC Low Priority

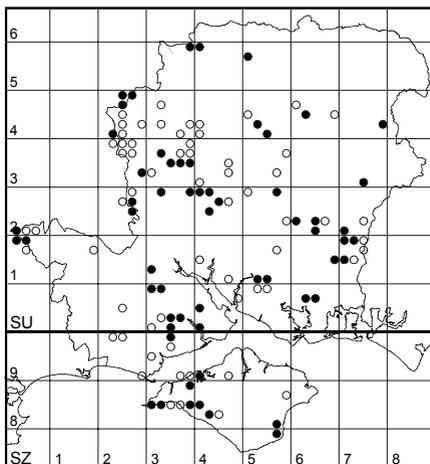
**No of 2007 records:** 296

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 59

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 121

**Earliest:** 29 May 2007  
Old Winchester Hill (AW)

**Latest:** 1 September 2007  
Church Place Inclosure (JG)

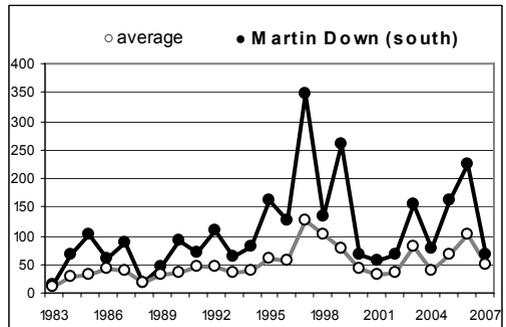
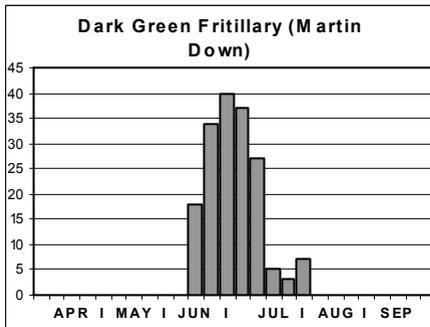


The weather did this species no favours with dull, wet and cool conditions throughout the flight period. The weather would have also limited the days when recorders could operate.

In general the Dark Green Fritillary had an average year following a good year in 2006. On transect monitored sites where this species is recorded four sites showed a 20% increase or more and the same number showed an equivalent decrease; there was no significant change at a further three sites. Two sites which have good numbers of Dark Green Fritillaries, Martin Down and The Mountain, Meon Valley both showed similar trends of having dropped back to average annual numbers after attaining a peak in 2006. At The Mountain for instance the Annual Index dropped from 543 in 2006 to 191 in 2007. There was a corresponding decrease at Martin Down, South Transect and a lesser drop at Martin Down, North Transect. At Broughton Down, where a transect has been running for just three years, an Annual Index of 45 and peak count of 16 was the best yet.

At Butser Hill the species had another good year although not as good as 2006 (MSh), whilst it held steady at Dean Hill Park (CWC) and was not too badly affected by the poor early summer weather at Beacon Hill (RCB). New Forest sites such as Hawkshill Inclosure are becoming more suitable for Dark Green Fritillaries as rides are cleared (AW). Thistle and moderate bracken cover are taking over the areas of felled Silver Birch and conifer. This is one of the few sites off the chalk where Dark Green Fritillaries can be found, and produced peak counts of 13 on 6 July (AW) and 10 on 11 July (AT).

The flight season was particularly long. The first sighting on 29 May equalled the earliest sighting for our area in 1997, and the last one on 1 September equalled the record set in 1991. The first two weeks of July saw by far the most records. 120 individuals were recorded at The Mountain on 2 July (AW), 32 at Pitt Down, Farley Mount on 9 July (A&LB) and 20 at Old Winchester Hill on 11 July (ACM). On Martin Down, North Transect numbers peaked a little earlier with 40 being seen on 26 June (NCo). On the Isle of Wight 133 were recorded at the Golf Course at Tapnell and Afton Downs on 27 July (DAB), 40 at Shalcombe on 22 July and 21 on Brook Down on 18 July (JMC). This species was recorded from over 50 sites across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight but only 10 sites in Hampshire and three on the Isle of Wight recorded counts of 10 or more.



**Silver-washed Fritillary *Argynnis paphia***

**Richard Levett**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 3 June 2007  
Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)

**No of 2007 records:** 814

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 100

**Latest:** 4 September 2007  
Firestone Copse, IoW (AJR)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 268

At first glance it would appear that this butterfly did not fare too well in 2007. Of the 29 transect sites two-thirds recorded a decrease of 20% or more and only three reported an equivalent increase. Although fortunes were certainly mixed this probably emphasises just how exceptional the season was in the previous year.



Silver-washed Fritillary, Alice Holt Forest, 23 June 2007 (Colin Baker)

The flight period started remarkably early with the first report at Whippingham Fields, IoW on 3 June (JR). This beats the previous earliest record on our database, in 1997, by four days. The next were not seen until 9 June with a further two on the Island at Walters Copse (IP) and the first mainland record at Homerhill and Pigeonhouse Coppice, near North Boarhunt (AHB). A more general emergence then followed over the next week and numbers grew steadily from mid-June with the peak occurring in the second week of July. An Annual Index of 527 at Pamber Forest was slightly down on the 2006 figure of 566 but as GJD comments; given the weather this was amazing. At Botley Wood RKL considered 2007 to be a good season for this butterfly, Bramshott Common had a reasonable year (ACG) and it seemed to do well in Alice Holt Forest, Straits Inclosure (RCB). Later in the season, wanderers were unexpectedly noted in urban situations in Fleet (CRH) and Woolston (CP).

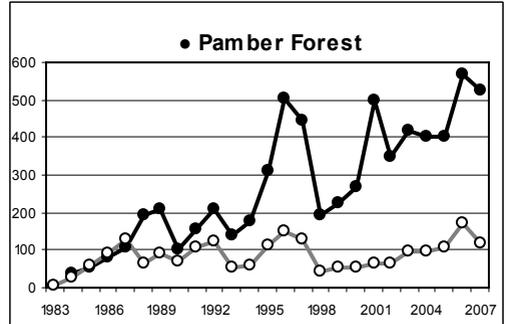
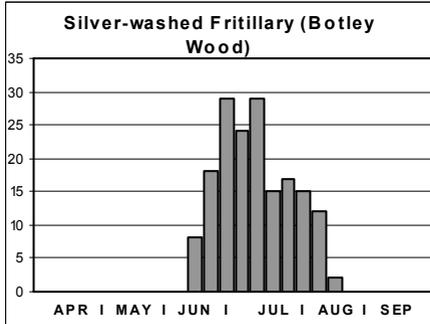
On the other hand, it had a very bad year at Dean Hill Park (CWC). Similarly, the transects at Bentley Station Meadow and Wick Wood, Hartley Mauditt indicated the worst years at the two sites since 2001 and 2002 respectively. The Annual Index at Wick Wood crashed from 444 in 2006 to 144 in 2007. At Ampfield Wood too, after an upward trend since 2003, the Annual Index dropped by almost fifty per cent from 142 in 2006 to 74 in 2007, yet still represented the second highest total since the transect began in 1979.

The only three-figured count of the season came from Pamber Forest with 108 on 16 July (GD). Compared with 2006 there were fewer large counts and only four other sites had counts in excess of 50. These were 70 at Alice Holt, Straits Inclosure, on 7 July, 55 at Butterwood, near Hook on 11 July (AW), and in the New Forest, 55 at Busketts Lawn on 11 July and 60 at Church Place Inclosure on 24 July (both JRu). On the Isle of Wight peak

counts were much lower with the highest being 10 at Firestone Copse on 28 July (BR) and seven at Walters Copse on 23 and 28 June (PMA).

The last of the year were nine at Church Place Inclosure on 1 September (JG) and two at Firestone Copse on 4 September (AJR)

A handful of *valezina* form females were noted with singletons at Straits Inclosure on 8 July (RCB), Firestone Copse on 28 July (BR), Stockbridge Down on 11 August (A&LB) and Pamber Forest on 30 July and 17 August.(GD). In addition an unusual “black” form, believed to be a male, was observed by AW at Butterwood.



**Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurinia***

**Mike Gibbons**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 27 April 2007  
Martin Down (DGG)

**No of 2007 records:** 31

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 7

**Latest:** 6 June 2007  
near Faccombe (MG)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 22



Mating Marsh Fritillary, 20 May 2007 (Colin Baker)

The year was kind to the Marsh Fritillary at its main Hampshire stronghold Martin Down, building on the success of last year. The hot April weather tempted the butterfly to emerge much earlier than in recent years, breaking the previous record for our area, set in 1992, by four days.

Good numbers of larvae were counted at Martin Down along the Bokerley Dyke: on 14 April, 276 were seen by DGG and on 15 April A&LB saw 200. Many full grown larvae were seen basking or wandering on paths and short turfed areas ready to pupate. High numbers of larvae does not necessarily mean high numbers of butterflies as parasites and predation often take their toll, but it does indicate that a reasonable proportion of these could survive, and so 2007 proved to be a step forward for this butterfly.

The first adults, two, were seen along the Bokerley Dyke on 27 April (DGG). On the transect set up for this species nine were seen on 28 April and 16 on 29 April, then a mass emergence took place on 5 May with 78 being recorded on that day (all D&MNe). In addition 35 were recorded by TJN & MJW on 5 May and 25 the following day (AW).

Elsewhere, at Bentley Wood Eastern Clearing only two were seen on two occasions, 5 May (BPF) and 20 May (AW). Singles were also recorded on transects at St Catherine's Hill on 30 April and 2 May, the latter record off transect (CP), and at West Down, Chilbolton on 22 May (SEv) and near Facombe on 6 June, which was the last of the year (MG).

Visits to Martin Down and Bentley Wood by AW led him to comment that the butterflies were all along Bokerley Dyke and the rifle butts, on the Hampshire, Wilts and Dorset border. Every other step there was one male on the ground, and the count was probably more as Bokerley Dyke was off limits due to pressure of the females laying on the Devil's-bit Scabious. In Bentley Wood on the Hampshire side two males were seen on 20 May, and on the Wiltshire side in a large meadow well in excess of 40 were seen with several females heavily laden with eggs having trouble flying.

The site just in Dorset was visited by MJG who recorded only one female on 23 May. It seems on the verge of disappearing from this vulnerable locality as none were seen on an earlier visit on 4 May by the same observer.

Overall mixed fortunes for the Marsh Fritillary, but generally more positive than negative at its premier Hampshire and Hampshire/Wilts border sites.

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**Glanville Fritillary *Melitaea cinxia*****Andy Butler**

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**Status:** BC High Priority**Earliest:** 8 April 2007  
Bonchurch, IoW (G&KW)**No of 2007 records:** 72**No of tetrads in 2007:** 15**Latest:** 17 June 2007  
Hurst Castle (EF, RHu)**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 31

The annual survey of Glanville Fritillary larval webs carried out in early spring recorded some fairly high numbers in 2007 with over 700 webs reported from Compton and another 500 plus at Atherfield. There was also a higher than usual number of larvae which averaged out to 60 per web; this gives an amazing 72,000 larvae in total at just these two sites! Some recorders noted that at the time of the survey which as usual was in the third week of March, many larvae were well advanced in size and had left the webs and were

beginning to disperse. This was probably due to the mild winter but no-one was prepared for the out of season temperatures in April and the effect this would have on most butterfly species, the Glanville in particular.

The first three adults were seen in a garden above the cliffs at Bonchurch on 8 April (G&KW), some 36 days earlier than in 2006 and 21 days before the previous earliest record set in 2003, on 29 April, which is quite astonishing. The next sightings were still early and 10 days later low numbers were recorded from Wheeler's Bay to Bonchurch on 18 April (DAB, A&EB). Throughout the rest of April the butterfly began to emerge at most sites.

So unusual was the behaviour this year that the peak count was recorded on 2 May at Wheeler's Bay with 252 being seen (A&EB). The peak count for this area in 2006 was on 6 June. Unfortunately from 6 May the weather changed for the worse with gales, rain and cooler temperatures dominating and thus sightings were more sporadic. Counts from other sites around the Island included 100 seen at Shepherds Chine on 2 June (BR), 96 at Castle Cove on 4 May (A&EB), 30 at Compton Bay on 20 May (JW), 20 at Brook Chine on 8 June (BPF) and 9 June (IPr) and at Afton Down SAK-J saw 15 on 30 April.

On 24 May a single adult was seen in Bonchurch Landslip (DD) and the butterfly was also recorded at Redcliff (DAB) indicating that these two precarious sites are still just viable. There were sightings from various downland locations and a repeat sighting at Whippingham Fields on 2 June (JR) which in conjunction with the records from 2001 and 2006 would seem to indicate a small colony in the area.

On the mainland, the numbers at Hordle are still declining with one unconfirmed record of a single sighting on 24 May. The series of sightings last year for Hurst Castle have increased this year quite dramatically. On 21 April TN & DGG saw 20 larvae and on 17 May TA recorded the first adult. On 24 May 30 were seen by MDu and from then on many sightings were sent in right through to 17 June when three were seen by EF. This is an unusual site as it is not an area of slipped ground which is usually needed for the success of the larval foodplant.

This year has been one of an exceptionally early emergence, high numbers early in the season and then deterioration in the weather that may have adverse effect on the prospect for 2008.

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**Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*****Alison Harper**

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**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 11 March 2007

Alverstone Mead, IoW (PMi)

**No of 2007 records:** 3041**No of tetrads in 2007:** 338**Latest:** 25 November 2007**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 737

Stanley Park, Gosport (ACM)

2007 was a below average year for the Speckled Wood. 53% of the transect monitored sites with data available for this species for both years showed a 20% or more decline in numbers and 22% showed an equivalent increase. Clearly there was some variation across the region, a view borne out by reports from observers. On Bartley Heath and at Brading Quarries, IoW, transects the Annual Indices for 2007 were the lowest ever, looking at 12 years and 11 years of data respectively. The Annual Index at Bartley Heath was 98 in

2007 (compared with 140 in 2006) and at Brading Quarries it was 163 (compared with 229 in 2006).

It was noticeable in 2007 that there was variation in the date of peak counts. While numbers peaked on transects at Crowd Hill Copse, Eastleigh, and Pamber Forest on 30 July, with counts of 29 and 28 respectively, at Brading Quarries loW the numbers peaked at 18 on 5 May, and at Bartley Heath the peak count was 11 on 4 September.

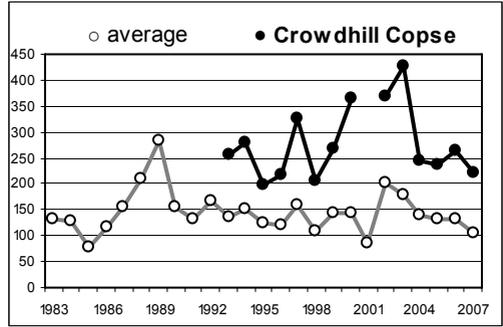
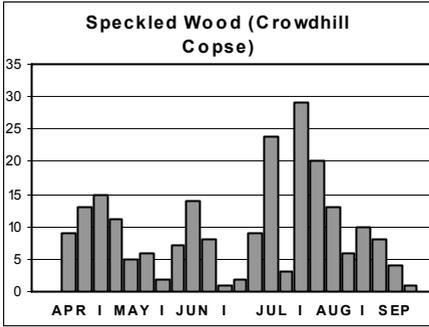


Speckled Wood, Noar Hill, 26 August 2007 (Colin Baker)

Observations from recorders were also varied, which concurred with the transect records. AW noted that while the species was present around the region all through its flight seasons it was noticeably absent from many big woods. GJD observed that it was a disappointing year for this species at Pamber Forest. A count of 11 was recorded on 16 April but it was not until 30 July that this number was surpassed at 28, with the third brood peaking at a count of 24 on 7 September. RCB considered it had been a reasonably good year with small numbers seen in a variety of locations between mid April and October, and CP saw this butterfly in good numbers in April in the woods and parks in Woolston, Southampton. ACG on the other hand considered that while still at a reasonable level, numbers at Bramshott Common were down by 25%. Peak counts in Hampshire included 62 at Ann's Hill Cemetery on 24 September (ACM), 45 on 24 July at Churchplace Inclosure, New Forest, (JRu) and 41 at Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows on 24 August (ABo).

On the Isle of Wight, JR reported that at Woodhouse Copse, Wootton it was present throughout its flight period, with an Annual Index of 358 being the second best he had ever recorded, and at Whippingham Fields the third brood peaked at 56 on 25 September with an Annual Index of 411, the second best ever, after 494 in 2002.

The last sighting of this butterfly on 25 November is the latest ever for our area beating the previous record set in 2001 by one day.



**Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera***

Linda Barker

**Status:** BC High Priority

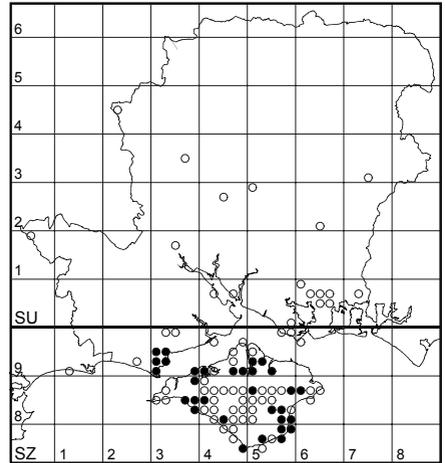
**No of 2007 records:** 143

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 31

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 97

**Earliest:** 16 April 2007  
 Brook Chine (SMi)  
 Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)

**Latest:** 26 October 2007  
 Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)



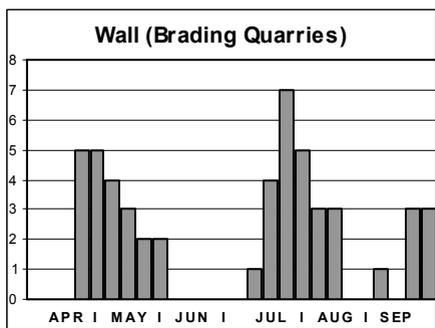
Wall,  
 Keyhaven,  
 17 May 2007  
 (Alan  
 Thornbury)

The fact that few people saw or commented on the Wall Brown reflects its increasing rarity in Hampshire and declining distribution on the Isle of Wight. It was considered to be a good year at Brading Quarries (DAB), but at other transect monitored sites numbers were similar to or slightly down on 2006. On balance it was probably an average year for the species, although AW regarded it as one of the poorest seasons on record. The only place in Hampshire where this butterfly can be found with any reliability is along the coastal paths, tracks and sea-walls of the Pennington-Keyhaven area. Despite a thorough search, there were no sightings from Portsdown Hill (AW), and the concern is that it may now be extinct in south-east Hampshire. It is disturbing to think that this once common butterfly, which was still well distributed in Hampshire in 1992 should have declined so rapidly since then that it now faces county extinction.

Brought on by some exceptional April weather, the butterfly emerged in the middle of the month, with the first sightings on 16 April at Brook Chine (SMi) and Whippingham Fields (JRo). This was one of the earliest years on record, and more than two weeks earlier than 2006. In Hampshire, the first was on 18 April at Keyhaven (GP), with numbers for this site peaking at 30 on 2 May (MDu). The peak Isle of Wight count was eight on 29 April at Brading Quarries (DAB). The last observations for this brood were on 2 June at Keyhaven (GJo, BSp & JW) and Brading Quarries (DAB).

The second brood began with a singleton on 8 July at Brading Quarries (DAB), but in poor July weather the emergence didn't really get going until about a fortnight later. The first Hampshire sighting was on 19 July at Normandy Marsh (MW). The second brood peaked in the final week of July, with 15 on 24 July at Keyhaven (MDu), and seven on 28 July at Brading Quarries (DAB). The final second brood sighting in Hampshire was on 17 August at Normandy Marsh (MW) with the last on the Island being on 26 August at St. Lawrence Undercliff (A&EB).

The third brood started on 2 September at Brading Quarries (DAB), but it was another week before it got properly underway. In Hampshire, this brood began on 12 September at Normandy Marsh (MW), peaking with 14 on 22 September at Pennington Marshes (ACM). The highest Isle of Wight count was of 6 on 23 September at Brading Quarries (DAB). The season was all but over by 7 October, although four were observed at Pennington sea wall on 8 October (SMa), and the last for Hampshire was one on 10 October, also at Pennington (GP). The Isle of Wight managed some even later records, the penultimate being one on 21 October at Bonchurch beach (A&EB), followed by one on 26 October at Afton Down (SAK-J).



**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 1 June 2007

Magdalen Hill Down (PAB)

**No of 2007 records:** 1505

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 180

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 512

**Latest:** 3 September 2007

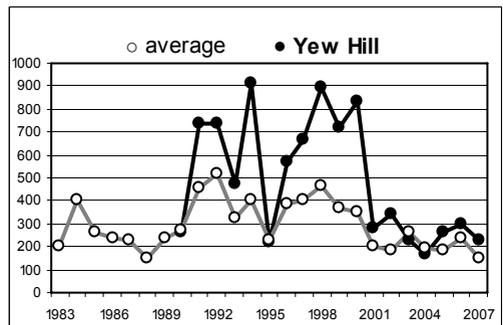
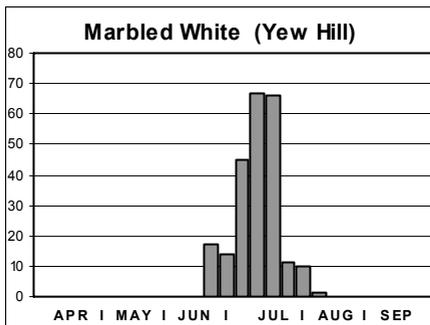
Old Winchester Hill (DWA)

The poor weather conditions during the main flight period of this butterfly probably contributed to the reduction in its numbers this year. Two thirds of transect sites with data available for 2006 and 2007 showed a 20% or more decline between the two years with just five of the 48 sites monitored showing an equivalent increase. However, 2006 was a particularly good year and comparisons with 2005 data is often more favourable.

While the figures need to be treated with some caution because the number of sites reported on will have changed since 1983, it is disappointing to note, with reference to the graph, that the average of the Annual Indices in 2007 was slightly lower than it was in 1983. At Yew Hill numbers have declined in recent years from 898 in 1998 down to 231 in 2007 but again looking at the graph it can be seen that there was a big fall in numbers between 1994 and 1995 but numbers recovered during the late nineties. At Noar Hill the Annual Index of 406 in 2006 fell to 138 in 2007.

Recorders varied in their views of the season. For ACG the Marbled White was a star performer at Bramshott Common. After hardly being seen before 2004 this butterfly is now breeding at the site, with an Annual Index of 112 in 2007. RKL reported a poor season with numbers down by 60% at Botley Wood, AW felt that most chalk downland sites had fared poorly, the weather taking its toll with numbers at Portsdown Hill very low, and although numbers were good at Oxenbourne Down they were still well below the norm. In Hampshire just three sites recorded counts in excess of 100, with 200 being recorded at The Mountain on 2 July, (AW), 150 at Old Winchester Hill on 11 July (ACM) and 104 at Bedenham Grasslands, Gosport on 22 June (M&MG).

Recorders' reports from the Isle of Wight indicated a better year than on the mainland. DAB considered 2007 to have been a good year with numbers up at Lake and East Afton Down. With a peak of 405 on 21 June and an Annual Index of 1326 at Whippingham Fields, JR judged this to have been a reasonable year. In addition a count of 200 was recorded at Shalcombe on 22 July (IP).



**Status:** BC High Priority

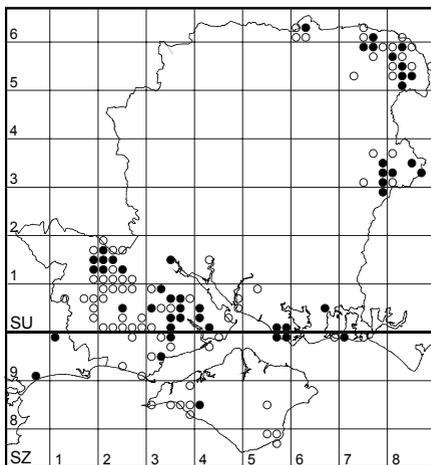
**No of 2007 records:** 89

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 48

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 126

**Earliest:** 22 June 2007  
Warren Heath, Bramshill (DS)

**Latest:** 26 September 2007  
Browdown, Gosport (GJo)



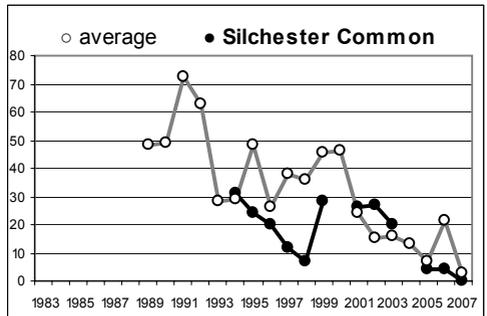
Egg-laying Grayling and (insert) egg, Litchetts Plain, 3 August 2007 (Colin Baker)

This was a poor year for the Grayling, for which the very wet summer would seem to be a major factor. Very few transects monitor this species: the one at Mottistone Down on the Isle of Wight saw the Annual Index fall from 58 in 2006 to just seven in 2007. A similar drop in numbers was noted at Janesmoor Plain in the New Forest where the transect was set up in 2006; here the Annual Index fell from 62 to eight. The transect at Silchester Common failed to pick up this species although one was seen off transect on 15 August. One positive note was the continued presence, albeit in low numbers, of Grayling at Bramshott Common, where the species had shown a modest revival in 2006. A total of three were seen in August and September (ACG).

The first adults of the season were seen in late June, in the north east of the county, with sightings from the New Forest, the Isle of Wight and in the south east by mid-July. The highest counts came from Browndown, Gosport where 113 were seen at Browndown North on 1 August and 61 on Browndown South on the same day (DJAT). At Eelmoor Marsh 49 were counted on 3 August. Poor weather prevented a whole site count and the site was then closed for the remainder of August due to Foot and Mouth controls (CRH). At Yateley Common, South 16 were recorded on 9 August (K&JB), the only count for this area above 10 compared to 2006 when there were 4 counts above 50. At Sandy Point on Hayling Island 18 were recorded on 5 August (AW) and in the New Forest the highest counts were recorded at Fritham Plain, 15 on 18 July (JRu) and Beaulieu Heath, 25 on 31 July (MW) and Bagshot Moor, south of Hatchet Pond, 22 on 7 August. On the Isle of Wight the only sightings reported were seven seen on 13 July at Mottistone Down (RLa).

There were few sightings after the first week in September, with the last at the end of the month at Browndown.

Flight Period:  
No site with sufficient data for 2007



**Gatekeeper *Pyronia tithonus***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 3 June 2007  
Shippard's Chine, IoW (BPF)

**No of 2007 records:** 2522

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 280

**Latest:** 4 October 2007  
Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 810

The Gatekeeper is a butterfly of high summer, delighting in warm sunshine. As such it should come as no surprise that this species did not do well in 2007. Over three-quarters of transect monitored sites where this species is present recorded a decrease of at least 20% in numbers. At Pamber Forest the Annual Index for 2006 was 648 but this fell to 307 in 2007, in fact GJD commented that you have to go back to 1989 for a worse year. At Catherington Down the Annual Index fell from 338 to 111. At Woodhouse Copse, IoW the species had its worst year ever (JR), at Botley Wood, where numbers reached an all time low in 2006, 2007 was worse still with a further 55% decline in population (RKL), whilst AW recorded his worst counts in woodlands for 25 years. All was not doom and gloom for the species, for at Whippingham Fields it had an average year (JR) and at Dean Hill Park it had a good year (CWC).

The season started early, with the first sighting at Shippard's Chine on the south-west coast of the Isle of Wight being just one day later than the earliest record for our area on 2 June 2002. The next sightings occurred on 12 June when three were seen at Wootton Coppice Inclosure, New Forest (MLe) and five were seen on the Lakeside transect, Eastleigh (JDe). Numbers were slow to build, but by mid-July large numbers of Gatekeepers were to be

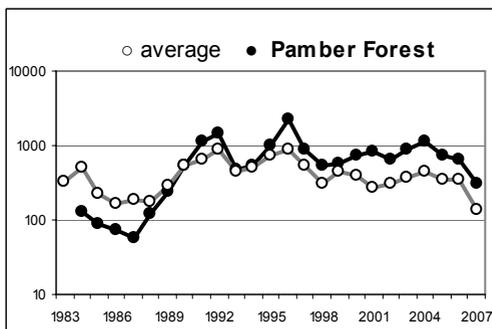
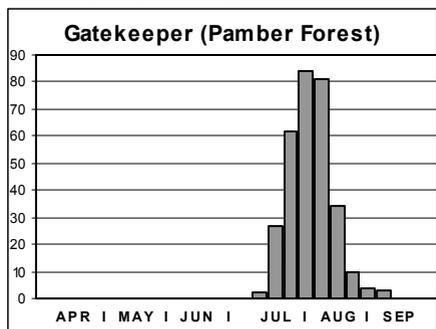
found. On the mainland the highest counts were 200 on 24 July at Churchplace Inclosure, near Ashurst (JRu), 100 on 29 July at Oxenbourne Down (AW) and 100 on 5 August at Sandy Point, Hayling Island (also AW). Thus there were just seven counts of 100 or more coming from three sites compared to twenty such counts in 2006. On the Isle of Wight at Whippingham Fields the transect yielded 489 on 13 July (the highest count of the year), 404 on 18 July, 396 on 22 July and 303 on 29 July (all JR).

By mid-August numbers were declining, the latest count of over 50 being on 11 August, and by September the species lingered in suitable locations in just ones and twos. The latest Gatekeepers on the mainland were recorded on 16 September at Itchen Valley Country Park (SSt), the only later sighting being the one seen at Whippingham Fields on 4 October. Thus the season was longer than in 2006, but on average much poorer.

One observation does deserve special mention. We all know that it was very wet in July, but on 24 July, 91 Gatekeepers were recorded at Southwood Meadows, "not a bad count considering that some of the site was under a foot of water that day" (CRH). Let us hope that such 'extreme butterflying' is not needed in 2008.



Gatekeeper (Ian Pratt)



**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 18 May 2007

Lakeside, nr Eastleigh (JDe)

**No of 2007 records:** 6061

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 366

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 880

**Latest:** 6 November 2007

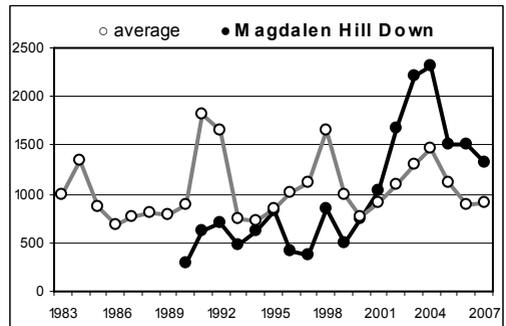
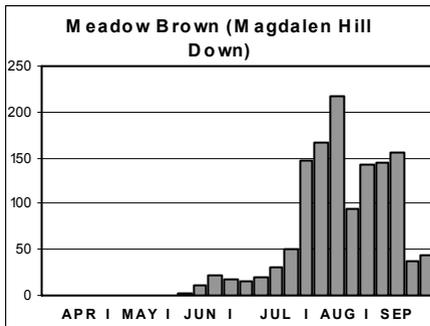
Martin Down (DGG)

Meadow Browns are usually common wherever there is suitable semi-natural grassland and although it has only a single brood the species can be on the wing for over three months during the summer. In 2007, the main flight period lasted from late May to early October, with peak counts occurring, depending on the site, anything from end June to early September. Interestingly, small numbers were still around in early November and the last sighting, on 6 November, is the latest on our database, some 10 days later than the previous record of 27 October 2001.

Overall, the Meadow Brown seems to have had a slightly poor year. Transect information shows that 42% of monitored sites experienced a 20% or more decrease in numbers compared with 2006. At the Pamber Forest transect GJD found that numbers were about 20% lower than seen in 2006. MSh and RKL also considered the species had a poor season. At Bramshott Common ACG noted that they had had a pretty terrible year, with sightings down 45% on 2006. However he did consider some of this decline was due to the increasing scrub on the site reducing the grassland habitat that this species needs. It was not all bad news, as on the St Catherine's Hill transect CP reported that numbers were higher than in 2006 and CWC stated that at Dean Hill Park it had been a good year. Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke, mentioned in the 2006 report because numbers were doing so well there, experienced a fall in the Annual Index from 749 to 308 in 2007.

Peak counts in Hampshire included 1000 at Old Winchester Hill on 27 August and 1 September, (AW), 500 at Beacon Hill, Warnford on 27 August (RCB) and 440 at St Catherine's Hill on 24 August (BPF).

On the Isle of Wight the Meadow Brown did well at Whippingham Fields transect with JR noting an Annual Index of 11,395 and a peak count of 1636 on 4 July. At Walter's Copse, however, numbers on the transect fell with an Annual Index of just 240, compared to 573 in 2006, with a peak count of 54 on 23 June.



**Status:** BC High Priority

**No of 2007 records:** 1400

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 131

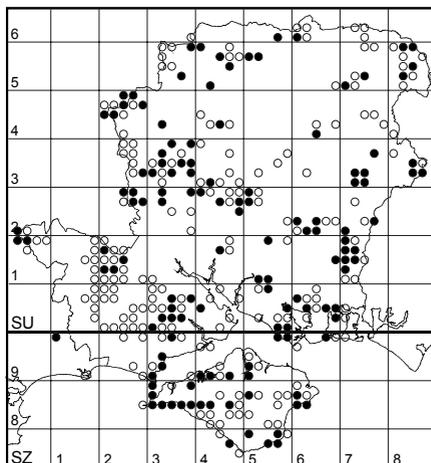
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 323

**Earliest:** 19 April 2007

Magdalen Hill Down (A&LB)  
Sandown, IoW (DAB)

**Latest:** 5 October 2007

Old Winchester Hill NNR (RSy)



This year was one of mixed fortunes for this species. Of the 33 transect monitored sites where this species is recorded, 19 showed a decline of more than 20%, eight an increase of the same amount and six no significant change. The first brood was more numerous than the second, the highest number recorded for the second brood being 27 on 1 September at Stockbridge Down (BC Field Trip) compared to 164 of the first brood seen on 22 May at Whippingham Fields (JR).

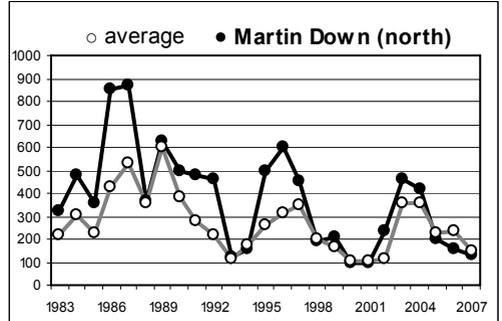
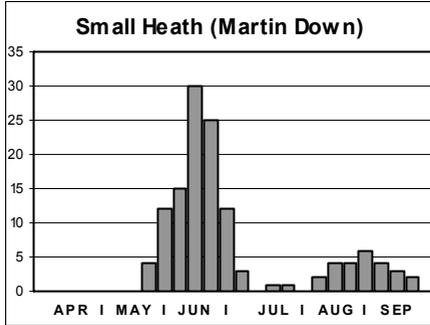
The small colony at Yew Hill continued its recovery with an Annual Index of 35 in 2007, compared to 29 in 2006 (RCB, BPF). At Magdalen Hill Down there was a slight fall in numbers, 66 in 2006 to 59 in 2007 and at Martin Down South Transect, the fall was from 156 to 128. The graph shows how numbers of this species have steadily declined since 2003. Annual Indices for Magdalen Hill Down and Martin Down, North Transect, for instance were respectively 484 and 461. CP commented that numbers were well down on last year, MSh considered 2007 to be the worst year ever with just 15 Hampshire records and at Botley Wood RKL reported that the species had another poor year with only one second brood insect.

The season started about three weeks earlier than 2006 and numbers slowly built up through April, the first double figure count being 13 on 29 April on the steep south facing slopes of Magdalen Hill Down (A&LB). The combined records indicate that the peak of the flight season was around the second week of May, but the seven counts of 50 plus occurred between 17 May and 10 June. The only four counts of over 100 were on the Whippingham Fields transect. In Hampshire counts of 20 or more were recorded from some 11 sites, nine of which were first brood records, and included 60 on 7 June (JN) and 53 on 23 May (JH), both at Windmill Hill, Chalton, 53 on 10 June at Martin Down NNR (ML) and 32 at Chalton on 3 June (RSy).

Numbers declined until the end of July but steadily increased again due to the emergence of the second brood. This peaked at the beginning of September with the highest count being 27 on 1 September (BPF). Numbers then dwindled rapidly with the last sightings being on 26 September when 2 were seen on Magdalen Hill Down (PDF) and on 5 October

when one was seen at Old Winchester Hill NNR (RSy), the season ending a week earlier than in 2006.

And how can we explain the success of the species at Whippingham Fields? It is interesting that the farmer stopped using the fields for beef cattle about five years ago and has since only used the fields for hay. The result has been a considerable increase in the numbers of Small Heath. This year there was a record first brood, which may be due to the fact that because of the wet weather the hay was not cut until early August. The numbers of the second brood were well down (JR).



**Ringlet *Aphantopus hyperantus***

**Richard Levett**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 3 June 2007  
Alresford Farm (JP)

**No of 2007 records:** 1263

**No of tetrads in 2007:** 153

**Latest:** 27 August 2007  
Beacon Hill, Warnford (GJo)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 494

The season started six days earlier than in 2006 with the first emergence at Alresford Farm on 3 June (JP). Numbers increased dramatically at the start of July, peaking around the second week of the month, but were then equally quick to decline. Peak counts at some of the transect sites illustrate this flight period: Martin Down, Kitts Grave, 51 on 7 July, Bentley Station Meadow, 63 on 8 July, Botley Wood, 78 on 8 July and Pamber Forest, 189 on 16 July.

Population success varied considerably from site to site. Of the 41 sites monitored by transects where this species occurs 20 recorded a decrease of 20% or more and 15 recorded an equivalent increase. General opinion was that woodlands had tended to do less well than the downlands. Transect data from two particular woods in Hampshire supports this opinion. At Botley Wood the Annual Index fell from 384 in 2006 to 236 in 2007 and at Pamber Forest the Annual Index was 547, down from 692 for 2006, and GJD stated that the Ringlet had had its worst year since 1993.

In contrast, at Oxenbourne Down, where there were more than 200 on 12 July, the season was regarded as tremendous, probably the best for decades (AW). At Martin Down, Kitts Grave the Annual Index, though similar to last year, was the highest since 2000. At Beacon Hill, Farley Mount it had its best year since 2002 and outnumbered Meadow Brown by 6:1 on 1 July (RCB). Other sites with counts of 60 or more were Mottisfont Abbey, 70 on 8 July

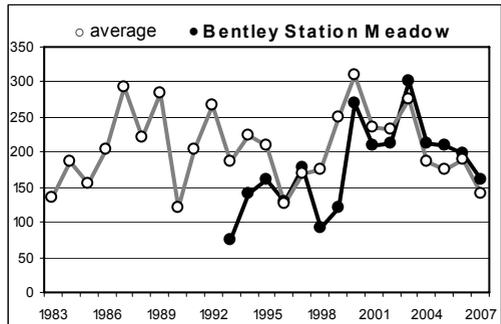
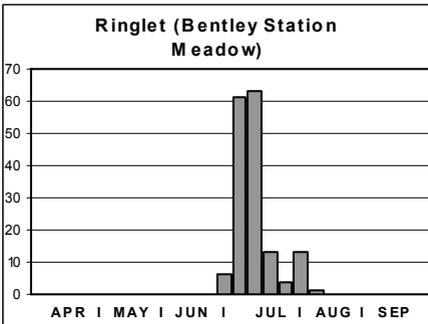
(ACM), Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows, 60 on 11 July (ABo) and Butterwood, near Hook, 100 on 11 July (AW). In other areas it was reported as reasonable at Bramshott Common (ACG), doing well and spreading into adjacent park land at Jurd's Lake, Southampton (CP) and unexceptional in the Hart and Rushmoor area (CRH). One seen by MJS at Littledown, Bournemouth was the first ever for the observer in the district. A "blind" Ringlet of the aberrant form *arete* was found at Martin Down on 27 June (DGG).

On the Isle of Wight, 171 were seen on 7 July in Parkhurst Forest (NE) and 270 for the two other sections (SW & NW) of the forest, the following day.

The last double-figured count was 13 at Bentley Station Meadow on 2 August (MiY) and the final report of the year was a singleton at Beacon Hill NNR on 27 August (GJo).



Ringlet (Barry Hilling)



**Glanville Fritillaries:** Contrasting views by Mike Young - the winner of the behaviour category of the 2007 Branch photographic competition (upper) and by Alan Thornbury (lower).



## SCARCE IMMIGRANTS / RELEASES / ESCAPES

**Note:** Whilst some of the following records are almost certainly of immigrant individuals, deliberate or accidental releases of captive bred butterflies cannot be ruled out in some of these instances.

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### European Swallowtail *Papilio machaon*

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One at Culver Down on 1 September 2007 (PBx, TL) and one, possibly the same individual, at Culver Cliff on 2 September 2007 (MWS).

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### Black-veined White *Aporia crataegi*

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Two at Stockbridge Down between 24 & 30 July 2007 (Many observers).

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### [Bath White *Pontia daplidice/edusa*]

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[One sighting at Micheldever on 15 July 2007 (KH). 'Flying through the garden, unfortunately it did not alight on anything but I got a good view of it. After a lot of researching on both the internet and butterfly books that I have, I am certain it was a Bath White']

**Note:** In view of the brief nature of the sighting, this record is treated as unconfirmed. If correct, this would be the first record for our area since 1991 and only the fourth since 1945.

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### Geranium Bronze *Cacyreus marshalli*

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One on 13 October 2007 at Hill Head (RJC).

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### Long-tailed Blue *Lampides boeticus*

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One at Gilkicker, 3 September 2007 (DJAT).

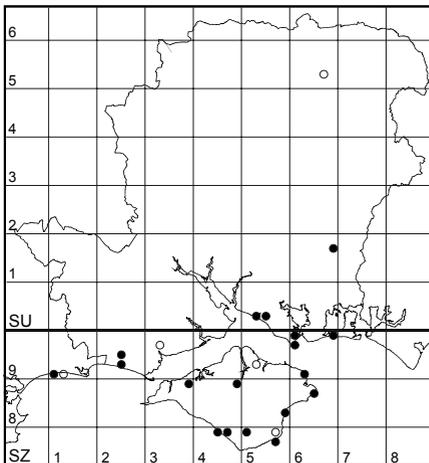
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### Large Tortoiseshell *Nymphalis polychloros*

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Andy Butler

In 2005, there were a few scattered records of this butterfly from along the south coast of England in early summer and in 2006 follow up sightings in early spring indicated hibernation. The majority of these records came from Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight with additions from as far east as Kent. The really significant events took place in 2007; there were again records early in this year, once more showing hibernation had taken place of either immigrants from 2006 or possibly successful local breeding but on 20 June 2007 an unprecedented influx of Large Tortoiseshell took place centred mainly on the south coast of the Isle of Wight and the adjoining Hampshire coastline.



There was yet another smaller influx on 7/9 July with a more western bias probably centred around Portland in Dorset although it should be noted that this site is very heavily watched which may give a false impression to the records. On these dates the butterfly was also seen in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

To sum up, what seems to be happening is an annual migration, probably from France, into the south Coast of England which started in a small way in 2005 but by 2007 had increased dramatically. The reasons for this are unknown. The butterfly as part of its life cycle hibernates in the summer and emerges the following spring and it would thus be expected be seen early in the year and this is exactly what is happening. This does not necessarily mean it is breeding here. Given the timing of the summer records, mostly around the same dates and spread over a wide area the possibility of deliberate releases is probably not relevant. The vast majority of records must be of wild origin and probably all immigrants. There may have been some examples of local breeding but there is no conclusive proof of this so far. It will be interesting to see if the pattern is repeated in 2008.

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### **Camberwell Beauty *Nymphalis antiopa***

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Three records were received for our area during 2007; Highcliffe on 11 March (TK), near Godshill on 27 August (ZC) and Alice Holt Forest, Holt Pound on 10 September (PWl).

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### **Queen of Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia***

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One at Old Winchester Hill NNR on 14 June 2007 (HK).

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### **Monarch *Danaus plexippus***

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One at Wheelers Bay, Isle of Wight, on 7 August 2007 (A&EB). What is believed to be the same individual was seen later the same day at Ventnor Botanic Garden where it stayed for about a week (RPe, per A&EB).

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### **Indian Moon Moth *Actias selene***

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One on 10 Aug at Moons Hill, Totland (SAK-J); another of the same species at Wickham Common at MV in garden on 12 May 2007.

Aberrant butterflies in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight in 2007



White Admiral, ab. *obliteratae*, Straits Inclosure, 8 July 2007 (Peter Vaughan)



Ringlet, ab. *arete*, Martin Down, 27 June 2007 (David Green)

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight localities:** The Landslip, IoW, 25 May 2007 (Ashley Whitlock) (upper) and Noar Hill, 3 May 2007 (Richard Coomber) (lower)



## **ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO 2006 REPORT**

### **Butterflies**

#### **White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album* p46**

The last sentence does not belong here. It was inadvertently copied in from the Small Tortoiseshell account.

#### **Silver-studded Blue *Plebejus argus* p50**

In this account it states that CRH reported that a few Silver-studded Blues survived into early August at Eelmoor. CRH did provide dates for his observations which should have been included and his comments were a general comment about local heaths, not Eelmoor in particular. CRH latest sightings for this species were 6 August at Tweseldown and 8 August at north Eelmoor.

CRH also drew attention to the comment about one Silver-studded Blue being seen at Hollybush Hill, Aldershot being far from any heaths, he goes on to say he feels this individual could have been a stray from Ash Common, Surrey, 1km to the east where heather on the army ranges is mown short and provides ideal habitat.

#### **Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurinia* p76**

The earliest sighting was 25 May 2006 at Magdalen Hill Down, not 26 April near Leckford. The latest sighting was given as 11 July at Dean Hill Park (CWC). The species was not recorded at this site and it was last seen at Martin Down on 16 June (NCo).

#### **Grayling *Hipparchia semele* p83**

Report states that PM saw 51 Graylings at Yateley Common, South, and 51 again at Warren Heath, PM only saw the 51 Graylings at Warren Heath.

### **Moths**

Additions and corrections to the 2006 moth report have been included within the text of this year's report.

## Vernacular and scientific names of plants

Vernacular	Scientific	Vernacular	Scientific
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Hollyhock	<i>Alcea rosea</i>
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Holm Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>
Alder Buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Apple	<i>Malus domestica</i>	Hop	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>
Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
bedstraw	<i>Galium</i> spp.	Italian Alder	<i>Alnus cordata</i>
Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
birch	<i>Betula</i> spp.	Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
Birds-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Larch	<i>Larix</i> spp.
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Ling	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>
Bog Myrtle	<i>Myrica gale</i>	Lombardy Poplar	<i>Populus x italica</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Marsh Woundwort	<i>Stachys palustris</i>
Broad-leaved		Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>
Willowherb	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>
Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Nottingham	
Buddleia	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Catchfly	<i>Silene nutans</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	oak	<i>Quercus</i> spp.
burdock	<i>Arctium</i> spp.	Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium</i> spp.	Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>
Common Fleabane	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Petty Whin	<i>Genista anglica</i>
Common		Ploughman's	
Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Spikenard	<i>Inula conyzae</i>
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	poplar	<i>Populus</i> spp.
Common		Reed Canary-grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
Rock-rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	rose	<i>Rosa</i> spp.
Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Rough Chervil	<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>
Crack Willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium</i> spp.	Sainfoin	<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>
Devil's-bit Scabious	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Salad Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	sallow	<i>Salix</i> spp.
Downy Birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Scots Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Early Gentian	<i>Gentiana anglica</i>	Sheep's-fescue	<i>Festuca ovina</i>
elm	<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	Sheep's-sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>
English Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Everlasting-pea	<i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>	Small-leaved Elm	<i>Ulmus minor</i>
False-brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	spruce	<i>Picea</i> spp.
Fat-hen	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Sweet Chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Fool's Water-cress	<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>	Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>
Goat Willow	<i>Salix caprea</i>	Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Tufted Hair-grass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
Great Willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Turkey Oak	<i>Quercus cerris</i>
Greater Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>
Grey Poplar	<i>Populus x canescens</i>	White Poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Wild Basil	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Wild Marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Wild Strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Hemp Agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Wych Elm	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
		Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

# MOTH REPORT 2007

Editorial

Tim Norriss

Editor: Tim Norriss

Production Editor: Mike Wall

Writers: Tim Norriss (*Lasiocampidae* to *Noctuidae*), Paul Boswell (*Pyralidae*, *Pterophoridae*, *Migrants* and *Adventives*), Mike Wall (*Micropterigidae* to *Tortricidae*)



*Pine Beauty (Maurice Pugh)*

We all hoped that those nights of full moth-traps and plenty of excitement that were a feature of 2006 would continue but that wasn't to be in 2007. For many it was difficult to maintain the enthusiasm for trapping when the weather was cold, wet and windy and several public events had to be cancelled at short notice.

Persistence pays off however and it is only by constant monitoring that we build up sufficient data to show long-term trends. Our huge dataset of over 1.12 million moth records for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has been fed into the *Moths Count – National Moth Recording Scheme*. Our own data can now clearly show trends over the last 20 to 30 years, even allowing for a massive change of recorder effort in that time, and some graphs illustrating this are shown below.

Climate change is happening and there is no doubt that this is having a marked effect on our fauna.

As the range of some species shifts northwards and out of our area, so new species colonise from the continent or further afield. Only with detailed recording effort will we have enough data to distinguish between those species that are declining due to climate change and those that are doing so as a result of other factors which we may be able to change at a regional level. Milder winters mean earlier emergence and as a result more and more species are having partial second broods such as the Blotched Emerald, which has now done so for the last two years running in September, and Leopard Moth, Small Emerald, Golden Plusia and Festoon. The hot April weather produced early records of Common Marbled Carpet on 15 April and Willow Beauty on 16 April.

Hampshire Moth (Day & Night) was held on 23 June and 39 observers sent in 881 records of 291 species were recorded including Small China-mark, Lappet, Oblique Striped,

Orange Moth, Striped Lychnis, Light Crimson Underwing. The date of the event in 2008 is Saturday 5 July.

My thanks as usual go to John Langmaid and Ian Thirlwell for their help and advice in the preparation of this report. Thanks are also due to all recorders who have contributed records. Keep up the good work and good mothing in 2008.

## MICROLEPIDOPTERA

### Criteria for inclusion:

- Species with less than ten vice-county records, and / or
- less than twenty county records,
- scarce (<50 records on database) species in new 10-km squares,
- species with a conservation status of Notable (A or B), or proposed or actual RDB, excluding those with more than 100 records on the county database,
- other notable records, such as significant range expansion

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### Moth record coverage for 2007

**No of 2003 records:** 83,733

**No of tetrads in 2003:** 480

**No of 2004 records:** 88,288

**No of tetrads in 2004:** 477

**No of 2005 records:** 93,832

**No of tetrads in 2005:** 419

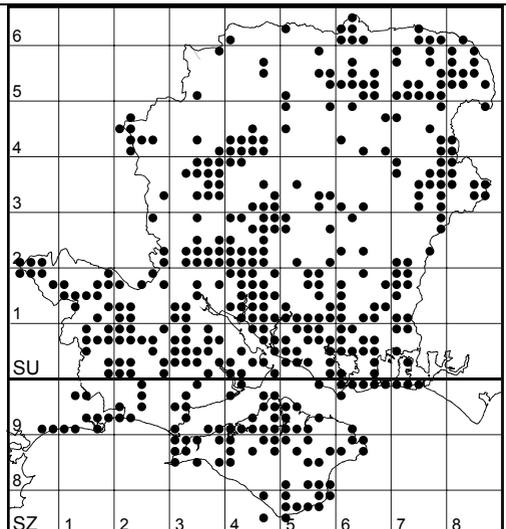
**No of 2006 records:** 124,046

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 460

**No of 2007 records:** 89,466

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 433

NB: There are c.1150 tetrads in the two counties.



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## NEW COUNTY AND VICE-COUNTY RECORDS

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### Nepticulidae

#### 0036a *Ectoedemia heringella* (Mariani, 1939)

*E. heringella* is a leaf-miner of Holm Oak, found new to Britain in the grounds of the National Museum of Natural History, Kensington, London in 2002. It has since been found in scattered localities from Suffolk and down to Surrey. While its discovery in our area is therefore not that surprising, its widespread distribution in the county and the Isle of Wight most certainly is: it must be unique in being found new to all three vice-counties in the same year and is likely to have been previously present but undetected, perhaps having arrived in the preceding year. All sightings below were of mines on Holm Oak unless otherwise specified.

**VC10: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** Alerted by RJD's discovery on the mainland (as below), DTB found 'enormous numbers' of vacated mines at Osborne a few days later on 3 February, confirmed by JRL. DTB then embarked on a remarkably successful one-man search of the island for other sites, with success as follows: 'many mines' at Werrar, 19 February, 'a few' at Seaview, 20 February, many mines, some tenanted, at St Helen's Duver, on the same day; all trees in Northwood Park, 27 February, were variously affected, and several mines were on roadside trees at Niton, 14 March. Northwood Cemetery produced 'enormous numbers' of mines on 4 April, but there were only a few at St Boniface Down on 5 June, and just the one at Haseley Manor, 13 June. The species was found on Hybrid Cork Oak elsewhere in Osborne on 7 July. DTB finished the year with 'vast numbers' of mines at Seaview on 7 October and closed with a Christmas Eve record from Quarr Abbey.

**VC11: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** The first sighting anywhere in our recording area was at Fareham, 27 January, when RJD found mines abundantly, typically five or six to a leaf, growing by Sainsbury's on the A32. It was also found on garden trees nearby. Further records were received as follows: elsewhere in Fareham, 2 February (KW), many mines, one tenanted, Portsmouth, 3 February, and very many, some with larvae, at Southsea on 4 February, and again on 17 March (JRL); while on 6 February, KW found mines abundant in three areas: Boarhunt, Hoeford and Cams Hall. Many mines were at Hilsea, Portsmouth on 8 February (JRL, PHS) and RJD discovered it to be 'plentiful' at Catisfield on 24 February and 'abundant' at St James' Hospital, Portsmouth on 16 March.

**VC12: NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORD.** RE, founder and webmaster for the UK Leafmines website, [www.leafmines.co.uk](http://www.leafmines.co.uk), and therefore primarily responsible for alerting observers nationwide to look out for *E. heringella*, was justly rewarded when discovering it on his own patch in Fleet, north-east Hampshire, on 11 February.

#### 0085 *Stigmella suberivora* (Stainton, 1869)

While this species is a not uncommon miner of the leaves of Holm Oak around the coast of the Isle of Wight and Hampshire (with a further ten records in 2007), the only previous inland record was from Lower Test Marshes in 1998. For it to turn up at a site another 20km further north up the Test valley is therefore somewhat surprising.

**VC12: NEW VICE COUNTY RECORD.** Vacated mines on Holm Oak, Leckford Estate, Abbas Carr, 9 August (JRL, BE)

### Tineidae

#### 0200 *Psychoides filicivora* (Meyrick, 1937)

**Nb**

**VC12: NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORD.** Singles to actinic, Alton, 3 and 23 Jun (DBO gen. det. BGo).

0036a *Ectoedemia heringella*  
Mines on Holm Oak, with close-up shown as inset.  
(Rob Edmunds 2007)



0365 *Phyllonorycter comparella*  
Mine on poplar, adult moth shown as inset  
(Rob Edmunds 2007)

0367a *Phyllocnistis ramulicola*  
Mines in the stem of a Grey Willow, with cocoon at base of leaf shown as inset.  
(Ian Thirlwell 2007)



## Gracillariidae

**0285** *Azalea Leaf Miner Caloptilia azaleella* (Brants, 1913)

**VC10: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** One to MV at Totland on 11 October (SAK-J det. BE) was a long-overdue addition to the island list. The first record in South Hants was back in 1936 and in North Hants in 1994.

**0365** *Phyllonorycter comparella* (Duponchel, 1843)

**Nb**

**VC12: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** Five mines of an unfamiliar leaf miner found on a small poplar at Butterwood, Greywell, on 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo) were suspected to be this species, confirmed when two mines bred through by RE. Although Moths of Great Britain and Ireland Vol.2 has a 'dot' for North Hampshire, no matching record can be found and is assumed to be in error; this therefore becomes the first record for our recording area.

**0367a** *Phyllocnistis ramulicola* Langmaid & Corley, 2007

Cocoons and mines in the stems and leaves of Grey Willow found by JRL at Havant Thicket in 2006 defied identification and were subsequently found to be new to science. Further investigation revealed that the same species was also resident in Portugal.

**VC11: NEW TO BRITAIN.** Havant Thicket, 19 September 2006 (JRL), with many at the bases of leaves and mines in twigs of Grey Willow. It was subsequently found to be abundant elsewhere in this locality, on both Grey Willow and Goat Willow.

In 2007, it was found to be widespread, indicating that it has been present for a while but remained undiscovered. Mines were found at Rowland's Castle on Grey Willow, 4 September (JRL), on Grey and Goat Willow at Creech Wood, Denmead, 18 October, "on a few sallows, approximately 100 in all - not universal as at Havant Thicket" (JRL, RJD, BE), on Grey and Eared Willow at Burnt Oak Copse, Beaulieu, 26 October (JRL, BG), on Crack-willow at both Woodgreen, 1 November (JRL, BG) and Milton Common, Portsmouth, 4 November (JRL, IRT), and lastly on Grey Willow, Blashford Lakes, 22 November (JRL, BG)

**VC12: NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORD.** A few cocoons at the bases of leaves and mines in twigs of Grey Willow, Greatham, 21 October (JRL) were the first sighting north of the vice-county border, and on 3 November JRL discovered a few mines in twigs of Goat Willow at Abbots Wood Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest.

## Coleophoridae

**0490** *Coleophora lutipennella* (Zeller, 1838)

Although a common species on the mainland (three further records in VC12 and four in VC11 in 2007), there are no reliable observations from the Isle of Wight. The following therefore represents a new county record.

**VC10: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** A larval case found on oak was bred through, 21 April, Osborne (DTB).

**0589** *Coleophora clypeiferella* Hofmann, 1871

**Nb**

**VC11: NEW COUNTY RECORD.** A female was attracted to MV, Southsea, 24 August (IRT gen. det.) The larva feeds on Fat Hen.

## Blastobasidae

**0875b** *Hypatopa binotella* (Thunberg, 1794)

**VC12: NEW TO BRITAIN.** On 18 July 2006 an unidentified blastobasid was trapped at MV lights run by BE at Micheldever Spoil Heaps, and subsequently identified by JRL as *H. binotella*, a new species for Britain.

The moth is well established in north and central Europe, just across the Channel and the North Sea. The old cones and fallen needles of Norway Spruce and other firs are given as the foodplant in existing literature, and as the area where the moth was taken is surrounded by conifer plantation there is a reasonable chance it is resident; however, a search for the larva in 2006 and 2007 has proved unsuccessful, as has further trapping for adults. Possibly it is not strongly attracted to light and requires an optimum night for success.

## Cosmopterigidae

**0896b *Cosmopterix pulchrimella*** Chambers, 1875

**VC11: NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORD.** Many mines, both vacated and with larvae, were found along the outside of the north facing wall of Portchester Castle on 4 January. Some were collected and bred through, with adults emerging on 12, 25 and 26 February (JRL, IRT). It was still present in the late year, with TJN noting at least 10 mines at the same locality on 26 December.

## Noctuidae

**2387a Clancy's Rustic *Platyperigea kadenii*** (Freyer, 1836)

**Migrant**

**VC12: NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORD.** One to MV at Overton on 7 June (ACr conf. MJW).

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## OTHER INTERESTING RECORDS

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## Micropterigidae

**0001 *Micropterix tunbergella*** (Fabricius, 1784)

A primitive moth often found flying around flowers in daytime. Undoubtedly under-recorded due to its small size and diurnal nature.

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 4 May (KG), a new 10-km square record. Also recorded on Stockbridge Down in North Hampshire (JRL *et al*).

## Eriocraniidae

**0007 *Eriocrania chrysolepidella*** Zeller, 1851

**Nb**

**VC11:** A few vacated mines on Hazel, Crab Wood, Sparsholt, 5 May (JRL *et al*), a new 10-km record. This is a rarely reported insect.

## Nepticulidae

**0009 *Eriocrania sparrmannella*** (Bosc, 1791)

Reported infrequently flying by day or as a larval leaf-miner of birch.

**VC11:** A few mines with larvae on Downy Birch, Havant Thicket, 9 June (JRL *et al*), a new 10-km record. Also trapped near Wickham, Fair Oak and at Botley Wood (RJD, KW *et al*).

**0010 *Eriocrania salopiella*** (Stainton, 1854)

Like the previous species, a miner of the leaves of birch in late spring or early summer.

**VC11:** An adult seen in daylight, West Walk, 13 April (JRL, IRT) represented a new 10-km square record. Mines also present at Havant Thicket and Botley Wood (JRL, BE *et al*).



0875b *Hypatopa binotella*.  
 Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 18 July 2006 (Ian Thirlwell)



0896b  
*Cosmopterix pulchrimella*  
 Mines on Pellitory-of-the-  
 wall, Portchester Castle,  
 February. Adult bred shown  
 as inset.  
 (Mines: Ian Thirlwell;  
 adult: Mike Wall)

**0020 *Ectoedemia decentella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855)

A leaf miner of Sycamore that is virtually unique in that all but one of the records on the county database have been of the adult, a trend which continued in 2007.

**VC12:** Six previous records, with a further two in 2007: Farnborough, one to MV, 8 June, (KBW); Basingstoke, 14 June, to MV (MJW). Five other records in existing localities in VC11: Southsea (JRL), Cosham (TJJ) and Botley Wood (RJD *et al*).

**0022 *Ectoedemia louisella*** (Sircom, 1849)

**VC11:** The only record received of this widely distributed but very local species was of several mines in samaras of Field Maple at Oxenbourne Down, 18 July (JRL *et al*).

**0025 *Ectoedemia intimella*** (Zeller, 1848)

Not uncommon in the south of the county, this miner of willows is infrequent north of the vice-county border.

**VC8:** Mine with larva, Grey Willow, Plaitford Common, 1 November (JRL, BG).

**VC11:** Mine with larva, Goat Willow, Milton Common, 4 November (JRL, IRT), mine with larva, Grey Willow, Vales Moor, 22 November (JRL, BG), a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** Mines on Goat Willow, Fleet, 28 October (RE), Bartley Heath, 1 November (RE, PBo) - new 10-km record, and in Abbots Wood Inclosure, Alice Holt, 3 November (JRL), a new 10-km square record.

**0036 *Ectoedemia quinquella*** (Bedell, 1848)

**Nb**

A widespread but local miner of Pedunculate Oak.

**VC12:** A few mines with larvae, Strait's Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest, 21 October (JRL *et al*), Fleet, 28 October (RE).

**0036a *Ectoedemia heringella*** (Mariani, 1939)

See New County Records above

**0039 *Ectoedemia heringi*** (Toll, 1934)

A leaf-miner on Pedunculate Oak - occupied leaves can be easily spotted in autumn as the area around the mine remains as a green 'island' standing out against the brown background. It is not uncommon on the mainland (eight further records in 2007) but remains scarce on the Isle of Wight, the following representing the second island record.

**VC10:** Mines at Shalfleet, Corf Camp, 13 October (DTB).

**0041 *Ectoedemia atrifrontella*** (Stainton, 1851)

**Na**

The larva mines under the bark of oaks. Found regularly in the south of the county, especially at Botley Wood, as it was in 2007 (RJD), it remains scarce in the north.

**VC12:** Mine in bark of Pedunculate Oak, Alice Holt Forest, Abbots Wood Inclosure, 3 November (JRL).

**0055 *Stigmella aeneofasciella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855)

A very rare miner on Agrimony.

**VC11:** Male to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 28 April (KW gen. det.)

**0059 *Stigmella poterii*** (Stainton, 1857)

A rare chalk downland species, found predominantly on the South Downs around the Winchester area.

**VC11:** Mines, some tenanted, on Salad Burnet, St Catherine's Hill, 11 October (BE).

**0064 *Stigmella continuella*** (Stainton, 1856)

**VC12:** Mines on Silver Birch, Yateley Heath Wood, 19 September (RE) and at Bartley Heath, 1 November (RE, PBo). Also in South Hampshire, where it is far more common, at Botley Wood (KW), Havant Thicket (JRL, BE) and Wickham Common (JRL).

**0065 *Stigmella speciosa*** (Frey, 1858)

A miner of the leaves of Sycamore which is found fairly commonly across the south of the county and the Isle of Wight but so far restricted to only two tetrads in the north.

**VC12:** Fleet town centre, mines on Sycamore between September and early October (RE).

**0070 *Stigmella obliquella*** (Heinemann, 1862)

**VC12:** Vacated mines on Crack Willow, Sleaford, 18 July (JRL *et al*), mines on Weeping Willow, Butterwood, Greywell, 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo), vacated mines on Crack-willow, Leckford Estate, 5 November (JRL, BE). In the Portsmouth area, VC11, also recorded on White Willow and Osier (JRL, IRT).

**0073 *Stigmella trimaculella*** (Haworth, 1828)

**VC10:** Vacated mine on Lombardy Poplar, Newport, 13 August (DTB).

**VC12:** Mines on poplars at Mill Lane, Fleet, and Dogmersfield Park, 15 October (RE), and many mines, a few with larvae, on Lombardy Poplar at Alice Holt Forest, Strait's Inclosure, 21 October (JRL *et al*). Common in the Portsmouth / Fareham area of VC11 where it was again recorded in 2007.

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

*S. assimilella* mines the leaves of Aspen or Grey Poplar with a county distribution limited to the south-east and north-east corners.

**VC12:** Mines at Hitches Lane Farm, Fleet, 3 October and 8 November (RE), and at Butterwood, Greywell, 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo). Also recorded in VC11 at Havant Thicket (JRL, BE)

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

A widely but sparsely distributed miner of the leaves of apple.

**VC11:** A few inhabited mines were found at Wickham Common, 31 October and Eastney, Portsmouth, 12 November (both JRL).

**0085 *Stigmella suberivora*** (Stainton, 1869)

See New Vice-County Records above.

**0088 *Stigmella samiatella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**pRDB3**

**VC11:** Seven records in the year, two of which were new to the respective 10-km squares as follows: females to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 20 May and 13 June (KW gen. det.), mines at Havant Thicket on Pedunculate Oak, 9 June (JRL *et al*) and on Sweet Chestnut, 2 October (JRL, BE). Elsewhere found at Manor Farm CP (TDC, PC, RJD) and mines on Sweet Chestnut at Wickham Common (JRL).

**VC12:** Mines on Pedunculate Oak, Butterwood, Greywell, 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo), and at Greywell Moors, 18 October (RE, TJN, PBo, AHD).

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

**pRDB2**

In 1986 this leaf miner of Field Maple and related *Acer* sp. was found new to Hampshire at Teg Down on Norway Maple, just on the south side of the VC11 / VC12 border. There were no further records until 2004 when it has been found sporadically in two ten kilometre squares in the Fleet area of north-east VC12.

**VC12:** The best year to date, with six records, all of mines on Field Maple around Fleet - Crookham, 24 June, at Ancell's Farm, Fleet and in Fleet town centre, 3 September, Hitches Lane, Fleet, 4 September, Small Acres Farm, 15 October and at Hitches Lane Farm, Fleet, 8 November (all RE).

**0107 *Stigmella regiella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855)

A widespread but local miner of the leaves of hawthorn.

**VC11:** Mine with larva, Burnt Oak Copse, Beaulieu Estate, 26 October (JRL, BG)

**VC12:** Vacated mine, Leckford Estate, Abbas Carr, on 16 June (JRL, JBH) and 9 August (JRL, BE). Mines with larva, Strait's Inclosure, Alice Holt, 21 October (JRL *et al*).

## Tischeriidae

**0127 *Emmetia angusticollella*** (Duponchel, 1843)

**VC11:** On the mainland this species, a miner of rose, has not been found outside Botley Wood, and not at all in recent years. An adult male to a malaise trap at this site on 14 August (KW gen. det.) was therefore the first record for the vice-county since 1992. All recent records have been from the Isle of Wight.

## Incurvariidae

### 0132 *Incurvaria praelatella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** Another Botley Wood speciality; 2007 saw two records of single adults from this site, to light on 25 May (RJD) and in a malaise trap on 4 June (KW). Recorded sporadically elsewhere on the mainland, with only one Isle of Wight sighting.

### 0136 Raspberry Moth *Lampronia corticella* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Rarely encountered, perhaps due to its diurnal habit and local nature of its foodplant, Wild Raspberry.

**VC12:** An adult seen on Bramdean Common flying in daylight, 1 June (BE) was only the second North Hampshire record.

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

**VC12:** One seen on wing at Bramdean Common, 1 June (BE) was the second vice-county record and the first since 1996 (a remarkable double for this observer on this day, see *Lampronia corticella* above).

## Heliozelidae

### 0157 *Heliozela hammoniella* (Sorhagen, 1885)

This very local species can be found as a leaf miner on birch but turns up occasionally as an adult at light.

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 4th May (KG) was a new 10-km square record.

## Cossidae

### 0161 Leopard Moth *Zeuzera pyrina* (Linnaeus, 1761)

Some 52 records were received, including the first larval report: JRL and BE found a few in the stems of hawthorn at Hilsea Lines, Portsmouth on 18 April. Also notable was the latest ever capture, one to light in Ashurst on 6 September (KG).

### 0162 Goat Moth *Cossus cossus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Nb**

Nowadays this species appears confined to the New Forest. The last sighting in the north of Hampshire was in 1998 and from the Isle of Wight in 1992.

**VC11:** Seven 'goat moth' trees were found in one small area of a wood near Brockenhurst (TJN, DGG) on 19 May. Elsewhere in the New Forest, adults were attracted to MV in Cadnam on 7 and 8 June (MP).

## Zygaenidae

### 0163 The Forester *Adscita stances* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** After last year's encouraging news that the Odiham Common population was showing signs of strength, it was pleasing to see 2007 continuing the trend. Sightings were made between 19 May and 3 June, with a peak of 94 on 20 May (PGLT) - the highest number recorded since c.100 in 1998. Elsewhere, it apparently clings on at Martin Down (**VC8**), where a solitary individual was seen on 27 June (DGG).

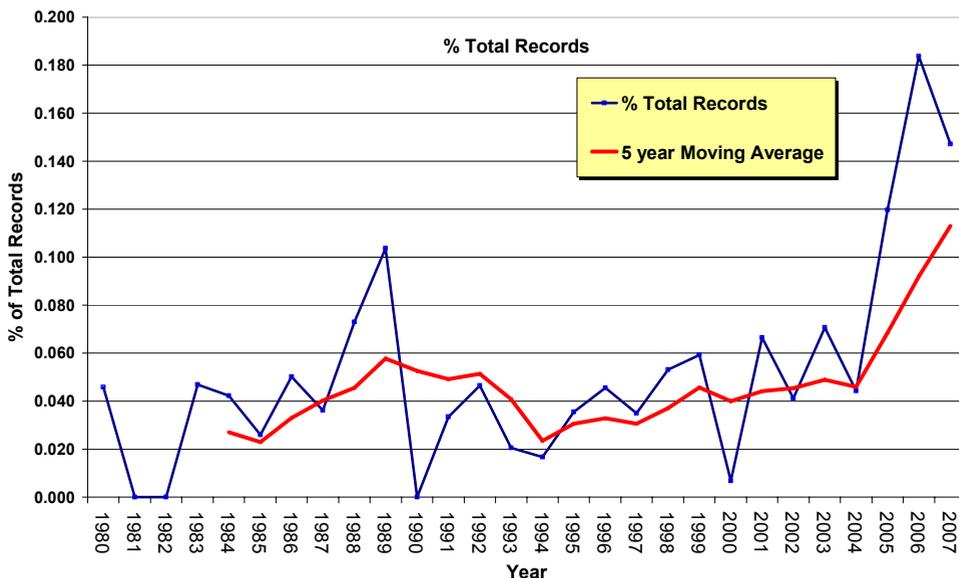
## Limacodidae

### 0173 Festoon *Apoda limacodes* (Hufnagel, 1766)

Nb

While the number of records (93) were just over half of that from 2006, this was not surprising given the poor weather during the Festoon's main flight period. This still represents the second best ever, just above the total for 2005; as shown by the graph below, this species appears to be undergoing a population explosion.

**VC12:** Of note were two trapped in Blackwater on 28 August (K&JB), the latest ever date by some two weeks. One to MV at Liss on 10 June (PTw) was the first for the 10-km square.



### 0174 Triangle *Heterogenea asella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

RDB3

A reasonable year for this distinctive, curious and tiny 'macro'. All records were of singles to light in VC11.

**VC11:** West Walk, 29 June (RJD *et al*), Brockenhurst, 12 July (RBW), Wickham Common, 15 July (KC), Ladycross Inclosure, NF, 4 August (PAC) and Ashurst, 8 August (KG).

## Psychidae

### 0176 *Dahlica triquetrella* (Hübner, 1813)

pRDB1

Since the first record in 2005 this species is still only known from two one-kilometre squares in the Portsmouth area, as was the case in 2007.

**VC11:** A few old cases, probably from the previous year, Hilsea, Portsmouth, 8 February (JRL, PHS).

## Tineidae

### 0200 *Psychoides filicivora* (Meyrick, 1937)

Nb

A perhaps overlooked species that turns up frequently in JRL's Southsea trap (which has over three-quarters of the eighty odd records on the county database), but only

sporadically elsewhere, mostly in VC11 (from where there were a further eight records in 2007, of which one to MV at Ashurst, 17 May (KG) was a new 10-km record).

**VC10:** Larval signs on Hart's-tongue Fern near Carisbrooke Castle on 28 December, a new 10-km square record and at Fort Victoria, 30 December (both DTB).

**VC12:** See New Vice-county Records above

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

**Nb**

The larva of this attractive tineid, which feeds on the fungus *Hypoxyton fuscum* growing within dead Hazel branches, can be spotted by looking out for its ejected frass. Widely distributed but infrequently encountered, *N.clematella* had a good year in 2007, with two records in VC11 and the following five elsewhere.

**VC12:** Larval feeding signs, Overton, 15 March (JRL, BE), adult to MV, Basingstoke, 1 August (MJW), another to actinic, Alton, 10 August (DBO) – a new 10-km square record; adult to MV, Overton, 5 September (ACr), larval feeding signs, Strait's Inclosure, Alice Holt, 21 October (JRL *et al*).



0220 *Nemapogon clematella*. Basingstoke, 1 August  
(Mike Wall 2007)

**0231 *Monopis imella*** (Hübner, 1813)

**Nb**

All recent records of this rare species have been of one or two individuals to light traps from the south of the county.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Funtley, 29 April (TDC), Southsea, 12 June (JRL) and 14 July (IRT).

**Bucculatricidae**

**0271 *Bucculatrix albedinella*** Zeller, 1839

A rare leaf miner of elm.

**VC12:** Mines found at Woods Lane, Greywell, 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo) constitute the third vice county record. Also recorded in VC11 at Southsea and Milton Common, Portsmouth (JRL, IRT).

**0272 *Bucculatrix cidarella*** Zeller, 1839

Interestingly, the larva of *B. cidarella* mines the leaves of two completely different foodplants: Alder, and less commonly, Bog Myrtle. It is widely distributed across the south of the mainland but restricted to a few sites on the Hampshire / Surrey border in the north, from which the only record for the year was received.

**VC12:** Two mines on Alder, Dogmersfield, 12 October (RE).

**0276 *Bucculatrix demaryella*** (Duponchel, 1840)

A very rare miner of the leaves of birch, Hazel and Sweet Chestnut. Since the first record in our area in 1969, there have been just seven subsequent sightings, to which can be added the two below.

**VC11:** In Botley Wood, single adults to malaise trap, a male on 11 May and a female on 20 May (KW gen. det.).

## Gracillariidae

### **0281 *Caloptilia populetorum*** (Zeller, 1839)

A species that has continued to widen its range in recent years, with all but one of the 23 records to date occurring since 2003 (the first was back in 1985).

**VC11:** Manor Farm CP, 10 March (PC, TDC gen..det. RJD) – a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 2 August (NM).

### **0285 *Azalea Leaf Miner Caloptilia azaleella*** (Brants, 1913)

See New County Records above.

### **0289 *Caloptilia falconipennella*** (Hübner, 1813)

**pRDB3**

Another gracillariid which is becoming more frequent, especially in the north-east.

**VC11:** An adult seen by day, Baffins, Portsmouth, 19 July (JRL *et al*)

**VC12:** Larval spinings on Alder at Fleet, 13 May (RE), on Italian Alder and Alder, Great Common on the Leckford Estate, 16 June (JRL, JBH) – a new 10-km square record, and at Greywell Moors and Greywell Pumping Station, 18 October (RE, TJN, AHD, PBo).

### **0296 *Calybites phasianipennella*** (Hübner, 1813)

An attractive and distinctive species which is infrequent on the Isle of Wight and in the north of the mainland county.

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland on 13 July (SAK-J det. BE).

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Upper Inhams Copse, 12 June and 16 August (GJD); one to light, Bramshill Plantation, 8 September (ACr, MJW), a new 10-km square record. Also recorded at two existing localities in VC11: Ashurst (KG) and Botley Wood (KW).

### **0314 *Leucospilapteryx omissella*** (Stainton, 1848)

Another distinctive species which is locally distributed, especially around the Portsmouth area. The larva mines the leaves of Mugwort.

**VC11:** Many mines with larvae, Eastney, Portsmouth, 10 June (JRL, RMP)

**VC12:** Mines at The, Lea Fields, Fleet, 6 August (RE)

### **0321a *Phyllonorycter platani*** (Staudinger, 1870)

With 2007 producing four records on the Isle of Wight and two in the north of the mainland - both of which had only six previous records – and five in South Hampshire, this adventive species (new to the county in 1998) carries on spreading. All records are of mines on Plane unless indicated.

**VC10:** Bembridge, 22 August, a new 10-km square record; Northwood Park, 13 September, Dodnor on 18 October, and at Fairlee Arboretum, 21 October where it was plentiful (DTB).

**VC11:** Creech Wood, Denmead, 18 October (JRL, RJD, BE), a new 10-km square record. Also found at existing localities in Southsea (JRL, IRT – one adult to MV), and in the Southwick and Fareham areas (RJD)

**VC12:** Leckford Estate, Abbas Carr, 16 June (JRL, JBH), a new 10-km square record; Elvetham Heath, Fleet, 4 September (RE)

### **0326 *Phyllonorycter blancardella*** Fabricius, 1781

A widely distributed miner of apple with few North Hampshire records.

**VC12:** Mines at Greywell, 11th Oct (RE, TJN, PBo), at Headley Gravel Pit, 13 October and at Odiham, 16 October (AHD). Elsewhere, an adult to MV in Southsea, VC11 (IRT).

**0335 *Phyllonorycter salicicolella*** (Sircom, 1848)

*P. salicicolella* is thinly distributed across the county, mainly in the south and far north, and on the Isle of Wight. The larva mines the leaves of various willow species.

**VC10:** Vacated mines on Grey Willow, Windmill Copse, 5 August (DTB), a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** Mines on Goat Willow, Greywell Moors and Pumping Station, 18 October (RE, AHD, TJN, PBo), and at Bartley Heath, 1 November (RE, PBo).

**0336 *Phyllonorycter dubitella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1855)

**Nb**

Very rare, and like the preceding species, the larva mines the leaves of willows.

**VC11:** One to MV, Southsea, 23 August (JRL).

**0339 *Phyllonorycter ulicicolella*** (Stainton, 1851)

A miner of the stems of Gorse, but infrequently encountered and equally as rare as the preceding species.

**VC11:** Mines in gorse stems at Milkham Inclosure, NF, 5 April – a new 10-km record – and at two sites at Hale Purlieu, NF, 6 April (all DGG).

**0340 *Phyllonorycter scopariella*** (Zeller, 1846)

Another rarely encountered miner, of Broom in this case. Not seen outside of the Fleet area since 1981. Six previous county records.

**VC12:** Mine on Broom, Southwood, 13 April (RE).

**0344 *Phyllonorycter strigulatella*** (Lienig & Zeller, 1846)

**Nb**

An introduced species, the larva of which mines the leaves of the non-native Grey Alder.

**VC11:** Mines found at Creech Woods, Denmead, 18 October (JRL, RJD, BE) – a new 10-km record - and at Milton Common, Portsmouth, 4 November (JRL, IRT).

**0347 *Phyllonorycter anderidae*** (Fletcher, 1885)

Found occasionally across the mainland, mostly as a larva mining Downy Birch leaves.

**VC11:** A male at malaise trap, Botley Wood, 20 July (KW gen. det.) – a new 10-km square record – and a few mines at Wickham Common, 31 October (JRL).

**0363 *Phyllonorycter platanoidella*** (Joannis, 1920)

**Nb**

This was a poor year for an adventive species which has spread rapidly across our recording area in the first years of this century. The only record received was from a new 10-km square, however.

**VC12:** A few mines on Norway Maple, Strait's Inclosure, Alice Holt, 21 October (JRL *et al*).

**0365 *Phyllonorycter comparella*** (Duponchel, 1843)

**Nb**

See New County Records above.

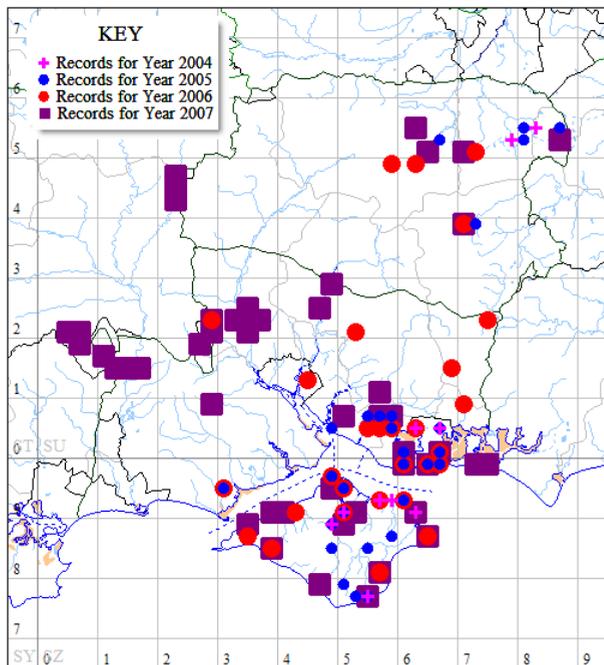
**0366a *Cameraria ohridella*** Deschka & Dimic, 1986

As shown on the map overleaf, the exponential spread of this adventive species continues with 69 new records received compared to a combined total of 91 in previous years. *C. ohridella* colonised ten new 10-km squares during 2007. Mines on Horse Chestnut were found extensively in the west of the county for the first time, although it still appears to be absent from the upper Test Valley from Andover across to the villages west of Basingstoke.

**0367 *Phyllocnistis saligna*** (Zeller, 1839)

**VC12:** A speciality of the Leckford Estate, where all but one of the seven previous present day county records have originated. Mines on Purple Willow were found here again on 16 June (JRL, JBH) and on Crack-willow, 5 November (JRL, BE), but additionally occurred at two sites in Fleet for the second year running (an adult to light on 13 July and mines found

on 3 October, both RE), in a new 10-km square on Crack-willow at Sleaford, 18 July (JRL *et al*), and on a willow species at Greywell Moors, 18 October (RE, AHD, TJN, PBo).



0366a *Cameraria ohridella*  
Distribution map showing records received 2004 – 2007

**0367a *Phyllocnistis ramulicola*** Langmaid & Corley, 2007

See New County Records above.

**0369 *Phyllocnistis xenia*** Hering, 1936

**pRDB2**

A miner of the leaves of White and Grey Poplar, first found on the Isle of Wight in 2002 and in South Hampshire the following year. Unlike the previous species, it remains localised around the Portsmouth and Hayling areas.

**VC11:** Adults seen by day along with many mines on Grey Poplar, Sandy Point, Hayling Island, and a few at Baffins, Portsmouth on White Poplar, both 19 July (JRL *et al*).

**Sesiidae**

Perhaps due to the poor summer weather, clearwing numbers were down markedly on 2006. It remains to be seen whether 2008 will see a general upturn.

**0373 Currant Clearwing *Synanthedon tipuliformis*** (Clerck, 1759)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Nine were attracted to lure around Redcurrant bushes at Forton between 24 May and 2 July (DRA), with two to lure on 8 June and another on 10 June at Sholing (ARC).

**0374 Yellow-legged Clearwing *Synanthedon vespiformis*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Two to lure, Sholing, 6 June (ARC).

**VC12:** One recorded at lure, Kempshott, Basingstoke, 29 June (GAH) was a new record for the observer's 10-km square.

**VC22:** One to lure, Mortimer West End, 3 August (GJD).

0363 *Phyllonorycter platanoidella*  
Mine on Norway Maple, Strait's Inclosure,  
Alice Holt, 21 October  
(Tim Norriss 2007)



0367 *Phyllocnistis saligna*  
Mines on Crack-willow, with  
adult moth shown as inset  
(Rob Edmunds 2007)



0380 Red-tipped Clearwing  
Blashford Lakes, 29 July  
(Bob Chapman 2007)



**0378 Orange-tailed Clearwing *Synanthedon andrenaeformis*** (Laspeyres, 1801) **Nb**  
**VC12:** One old emergence hole in Wayfaring-tree, Stockbridge Down, 5 May (JRL *et al*), and a larva was found while scrub cutting at Magdalen Hill Down, 29 October (PDF). Only one adult was reported, at The Millfield, Old Basing on 8 July (JKA).

**0379 Red-belted Clearwing *Synanthedon myopaeformis*** (Borkhausen, 1789) **Nb** An exceptionally poor year, and the worst since 1998, when pheromone luring was not an established recording method.

**VC11:** One, Forton, 16 August (DRA).

**VC12:** Two to lure on 8 July and another, 15 July, The Millfield, Old Basing (JKA).

**0380 Red-tipped Clearwing *Synanthedon formicaeformis*** (Esper, 1783) **Nb**

**VC11:** At Blashford Lakes, one was seen on 25 May and five on 29 July sunning themselves on Burdock leaves (RAC).

**VC12:** Three to lure, The Millfield, Old Basing, 8 July (JKA).

**0382 Six-belted Clearwing *Bembecia ichneumoniformis*** ([D. & S.], 1775) **Nb**

**VC12:** One to lure, The Millfield, Old Basing, 8 July (JKA); at Magdalen Hill Down, two attracted to pheromone, 6 August and three at Yew Hill BC reserve on 8 August (PDF).

## Choreutidae

**0387 *Prochoreutis sehestediana*** (Fabricius, 1776) **Nb**

Away from the New Forest, this elusive insect is rare, apart from at Botley Wood.

**VC11:** One female to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 6 August (KW gen. det.), Ladycross Inclosure, NF, 11 August (RCr, PRD, DBO gen. det. BGo).

## Glyphipterigidae

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

**VC11:** The well-worked Botley Wood and surrounding area continues to be the mainstay of this otherwise rare species. All ten records came from this site, with 13 individuals between 18 May and 9 June (KW, MO, RJD *et al*).

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

Thinly located across the county, the larvae feed inside the stems of Bur-reed.

**VC12:** Individuals attracted to MV at Overton, 9 June, 12 July, 11 August (ACr) were the only records received.

## Yponomeutidae

**0405 *Argyresthia arceuthina*** (Zeller, 1839)

A good year for this rarely found specialist of Juniper on the chalk, with only seven previous records on the mainland.

**VC8:** Two disturbed while beating for larvae, Martin Down, 19 April (DGG).

**VC12:** Stockbridge Down, eight adults on 18 April beaten from Juniper (DGG) and another observed during the day at the same site, 5 May (JRL *et al*).

**0407 *Argyresthia dilectella*** (Zeller, 1847)

Like the preceding species, the larva feeds on Juniper, but being additionally associated with cypress it therefore has a more widespread distribution including gardens. The only record however was of one 'in the wild'.

**VC12:** One beaten from Juniper, Stockbridge Down, 18 April (DGG).

**0409a *Argyresthia trifasciata*** Staudinger, 1871

The spread of this adventive species associated with cypress continues; 2007 saw 20 records, the most to date, and it was found in three new 10-km squares, as below.

**VC11:** Five to MV, Widley, between 20 May and 1 June (TAC).

**VC12:** One was bred on 6 May from a cocoon at Brighton Hill, Basingstoke on 2 January (AHD), and an adult was attracted to actinic, Kempshott, Basingstoke on 17 May (GAH).

**0409b *Argyresthia cupressella*** Walsingham, 1890

**VC11:** Despite writing last year that this species must occur elsewhere in the county, it still continues to be restricted to the two South Hampshire gardens where it has been found since being new to Hampshire in 2002: a total of 18 to MV, Southsea (JRL) between 17 May and 14 June, and two in Hedge End, 6 May and 18 May (DHa).

**0414 *Argyresthia curvella*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

Despite its reported nationally common status, this species associated with apple trees is decidedly uncommon in our county.

**VC12:** One to MV, Basingstoke, 11 June (MJW).

**0416 *Argyresthia glaucinella*** Zeller, 1839

The larvae live in the bark of oak and Sweet Chestnut and can be detected by orange frass around the exit holes. Probably overlooked, sightings are rare especially in north Hants.

**VC12:** One seen by day, Stockbridge Down, 16 June (JRL, JBH). In VC11 records were obtained from existing locations at Funtley (MO) and West Walk (RJD *et al*).

**0418 Apple Fruit Moth *Argyresthia conjugella*** Zeller, 1839

Another species found far less frequently than its foodplants, in this case apple and Rowan. New 10-km square records were as below.

**VC11:** One seen by day, Havant Thicket, 9 June, (JRL *et al*), Pennington, three individuals to MV on separate dates between 31 May and 13 June (RCr). Also recorded at Ashurst (KG) and in Basingstoke, VC12 (MJW).

**0426 Apple Ermine *Yponomeuta malinellus*** Zeller, 1838

A species which is virtual impossible to distinguish from *Y. padella* at either the larval or adult stage unless bred from the foodplant, apple. The following records were claimed:

**VC11:** One to light, Southsea, 10 July (JRL), and on Hayling, four to MV, 12 July (SJW) and at Sandy Point, one on 17 July (AJ).

**VC12:** Four to MV on three dates between 31 July and 5 August, Sherborne St John (NM).

**0428 Willow Ermine *Yponomeuta orrella*** (Hübner, 1796)

**Migrant / pRDB3**

**VC11:** A presumed immigrant which may become established from time to time. One to MV on 14 July at Southsea (IRT) was in the right location to be the former but occurred at a time of little to no migrant activity.

**0431 *Yponomeuta sedella*** (Treitschke, 1832)

**Nb**

A local species, mirroring the restricted distribution of its foodplant, Orpine.

**VC11:** Singles to light at Ashurst, 12 April and 14 July (KG).

**0445 *Ocnerostoma friesei*** Svensson, 1966

One of a difficult to identify pair with *O. piniariella*, both of which are associated with Scots Pine and only safely separable by dissection. The following records were submitted:

**VC11:** New 10-km square records at Ashurst, where it was found to be common, with six records of eight individuals between 10 April and 5 May (KG) and a first garden record for IRT in Southsea, on 15 April. Also recorded by JRL in his Southsea garden.

**VC12:** One to light at Headley Gravel Pit, 17 May (AHD).

## Lyonetiidae

### 0256 *Leucoptera spartifoliella* (Hübner, 1813)

This species mines the needles of Broom. Very rare in North Hampshire.

**VC12:** Mines in Micheldever Wood, 15 March (JRL, BE), one cocoon at Southwood, 13 April (RE), a new 10-km square record.

## Yponomeutidae

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

**Migrant**

About 750 individuals were reported compared with about 6,000 in 2006.

**VC10:** About 25 were reported. Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, 14 to MV between 8 & 10 August (TDC & SRC).

**VC11:** About 630 records were received. The first came to MV on 14 April at Fareham (KW) and Manor Farm CP (PC det. RJD). Last sightings were at Southsea (JRL) and Funtley (MLO), both on 3 November.

**VC12:** Only some 89 individuals were reported. The first and last were both at the same site: 14 April and 15 September, Basingstoke (MJW).

## Coleophoridae

### 0487 *Metriotes lutarea* (Haworth, 1828)

**Nb**

An ochreous-grey coleophorid that can be found flying by day around the flowers of its larval food-plant Greater Stitchwort in woodland, but it does turn up at light.

**VC11:** A male to MV, Southsea, 17 May (IRT gen. det.) was a first for the site and evidence that the species can wander away from its usual habitat.

**VC12:** Four to light between 6 June and 11 June, Upper Inhams Copse, with two on 14 July at Mortimer West End (all GJD).

### 0490 *Coleophora lutipennella* (Zeller, 1838)

See New County Records above.

### 0497 *Coleophora badiipennella* (Duponchel, 1843)

Cases can be found on elm across South Hampshire but rare in the north and on the Isle of Wight.

**VC10:** A larva found on Small-leaved Elm, Shalfleet, Corf Camp, 14 April (DTB) is the fifth vice-county record. Elsewhere, cases on elm were reported from three sites in the Portsmouth area, VC11 (JRL, BE, IRT).

### 0503 *Coleophora fuscocuprella* Herrich-Schäffer, 1885

Cases can be found on Hazel and birch in scattered localities, but rare in North Hants.

**VC11:** One case found on Hazel at Creech Wood, Denmead on 18 October (JRL, RJD, BE) constituted a new 10-km record. Also recorded from Botley Wood (KW).

### 0510 *Coleophora juncicolella* Stainton, 1851

A heathland species associated with Ling and Bell Heather.

**VC12:** Four to MV between 23 May and 8 June, Upper Inhams Copse (GJD).

### 0511 *Coleophora orbitella* Zeller, 1849

**Nb**

Scattered records on birch across both mainland vice-counties.

**VC11:** Cases on Downy Birch, at Havant Thicket on 2 October (JRL, BE) and Wickham Common, 31 October (JRL).

**0513 *Coleophora potentillae*** Elisha, 1885

Despite its polyphagous nature, *C. potentillae* is only thinly distributed across the three vice-counties, most commonly in South Hampshire.

**VC11:** Male to light, West Walk, 6 July (RJD, KC, MO, KW), a new 10-km square record.

**0514 *Coleophora ahenella*** Heinemann, 1876

**Nb**

Very few records in the county, mostly from the chalk where cases are found on Buckthorn; however, it has been found in the New Forest, where Alder Buckthorn is used.

**VC12:** A few cases on Buckthorn, Leckford Estate, 5 November (JRL, BE).

**0521 *Coleophora conyzae*** Zeller, 1868

**Nb**

Very rare outside of South Hampshire, where records are concentrated in the south-east. The larva forms cases on Common Fleabane or Ploughman's Spikenard, but is most often taken as an adult at light.

**VC11:** A female to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 17 July (KW gen. det.)

**0523 *Coleophora hemerobiella*** (Scopoli, 1763)

**Nb**

A species that is virtually unique in being exclusively recorded in the north of the county.

**VC12:** One to MV near Overton, 31 July (JRL, BE), a new 10-km square record.

**0526 Larch Case-bearer *Coleophora laricella*** (Hübner, 1817)

Wanderers away from the foodplant occasionally occur, as evidenced by individuals turning up in Southsea, VC11 (JRL, IRT).

**VC12:** Nine individuals on five dates recorded in DBO's actinic trap (gen. det. BGo) between 25 May and 9 June more than doubled the previous vice-county total.

**0536 *Coleophora betulella*** (Heinemann, 1876)

Scattered records in birch country throughout.

**VC12:** Southwood, larval case, 13 April (RE).

**0537 *Coleophora kuehnella*** (Goeze, 1783)

A widely distributed but local coleophorid which forms an attractive and distinctive larval case on oak.

**VC11:** An adult was seen by day at Havant Thicket, 9 June (JRL *et al*).

**VC12:** Cases found on oak, Butterwood, Greywell, 11 October (RE, TJN, PBo) and Bartley Heath, 1 November (RE, PBo), a new 10-km square record.

**0541 *Coleophora pyrrehulipennella*** Zeller, 1839

A heathland species on Ling and Bell Heather.

**VC12:** One to MV, Upper Inhams Copse, 9 May (GJD).

**0546 *Coleophora genistae*** Stainton, 1857

**VC12:** Bartley Heath continues to be the only site at which this species is consistently found in the north of Hampshire. One case found on Petty Whin, 1 November (RE, PBo) was the only record received.

**0552 *Coleophora lassella*** Staudinger, 1859

**Nb**

All recent records of this rare coastal coleophorid, the larva of which builds cases on Toad Rush, have been adults and restricted to south east Hampshire.

**VC11:** One to light, Manor Farm CP, 4 May (PC gen. det. RJD), another at Southsea, 24 May (IRT gen. det. JRL).

**0553 *Coleophora striatipennella*** Nylander, 1848

A species of woodland and damp meadows, relatively common in South Hampshire but rarely encountered in the north.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Southsea, 25 May and 10 August (IRT gen. det.), four swept at Monks Brook, Stoneham, 8 June (PC gen. det. RJD *et al*), a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** One to actinic, 7 June, Alton (DBO gen. det. BGo).

**0564 *Coleophora virgaureae*** Stainton, 1857

The few records for the county have all been in the south.

**VC11:** Singles to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 14 and 18 September (KW), many cases on golden-rod, Havant Thicket, 2 October (JRL, BE)

**0577 *Coleophora artemisicolella*** Bruand, 1855

Most often detected as a larva from the holes made in the seed-heads of Mugwort, and its seed-like cases. Locally distributed in South Hampshire, it is rare in the north.

**VC12:** A male to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 17 May (NM gen. det. JCI) was the second vice-county record since the first in 1997.

**0589 *Coleophora clypeiferella*** Hofmann, 1871

**Nb**

See New County Records above.

## **Elachistidae**

**0590 *Perittia obscurepunctella*** (Stainton, 1848)

Locally common in South Hampshire, especially around Botley Wood, from where five further records were received in 2007 (KW). Rare elsewhere. The larva mines Wild Honeysuckle.

**VC10:** Vacated mines on Honeysuckle, Niton, 4 July, and Headon Hill, 8 August (DTB)

**VC12:** Mines, Hitches Lane Farm, Fleet, 24 June (RE) – a new 10-km square record and only the second for North Hampshire since the first in 1997.

**0592 *Stephensia brunnichella*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

A species of chalk pasture which flies by day around its foodplant, Wild Basil.

**VC12:** Individuals seen by day at Stockbridge Down, 5 May (JRL *et al*).

**0594 *Elachista gleichenella*** (Fabricius, 1781)

**VC11:** New to the vice-county in 2004, this leaf-miner of Glaucous Sedge was found to be common in the same general locality, Botley Wood, in 2007 - although this time in a new 10-km square: ten adults were attracted to a malaise trap on nine dates between 6 June and 7 July (KW gen. det.).

**0597 *Elachista atricomella*** Stainton, 1849

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Overton, 24 May (ACr) - a new 10-km square record - and at Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 13 June (NM gen. det. JCI). There are scattered sightings of adult moths across the mainland vice-counties.

**0599 *Elachista alpinella*** Stainton, 1854

**VC12:** A few mines on Lesser Pond Sedge, Leckford Estate, Abbas Carr, 16 June (JRL, JBH). This estate is the only known site for this species in North Hampshire, and are the first records since 1992; elsewhere, known from two sites in VC11.

**0606 *Elachista humilis*** Zeller, 1850

A species of woodland rides, where the larva mines Tufted Hair-grass.

**VC12:** Single individuals attracted to light, Morgaston Wood, 28 April (ACr, TJN, MJW), and Upper Inhams Copse, 9 May (GJD) - these were the first reports since the only other North Hampshire record of a tenanted leaf mine at the Leckford Estate in 1992. By comparison, the species is common in the south of the county, especially in Botley Wood.

**0609 *Elachista maculicerusella*** Bruand, 1859

The larva mines Reed Canary-grass and Common Reed, and as a result the moth is widely but locally distributed in associated riverine habitats.

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Overton, 23 May (ACr), Popley Ponds, Basingstoke, 17 May (MJW) and Ovington Mill, 14 July (TJN, MJW, ACr *et al*), the latter a new 10-km square record.

**0620 *Elachista gangabella*** Zeller, 1850

Thinly distributed across southern and central Hampshire, on False Brome. There were two records during the year, both new to their respective 10-km squares.

**VC11:** One adult to light, Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN *et al*).

**VC12:** Mines with larvae in False Brome, Alice Holt Forest, 21 October (JRL *et al*).

**0629 *Biselachista utonella*** (Frey, 1856)

*B. utonella* is a rare inhabitant of meadows where sedges (*Carex* sp.) grow.

**VC12:** Several mines, a few of which contained larvae, in Great Pond-sedge, Abbas Carr, Leckford Estate, 16 June (JRL, JBH).

**0633 *Cosmiotes stabilella*** (Stainton, 1858)

**prDB3**

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Southsea, 8 June and 12 August (IRT). All but one of the six previous county records have likewise been in IRT's garden; the other was in JRL's garden about 3km away!

## Oecophoridae

**0641 *Batia lambda*** (Donovan, 1793)

**VC11:** Singles to MV on 10 June and 17 July, Ashurst (KG) were new for the 10-km square. There were two other records, at Funtley on 19 June (TDC) and Southsea, 13 September (IRT). So far, not recorded from VC12.

**0646 *Telechrysis tripuncta*** (Haworth, 1828)

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 5 June (KG), and another seen by day, Havant Thicket on 9 June (JRL *et al*), a new 10-km square record.

**0650 *Esperia oliviella*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**Nb**

This attractive moth made an appearance at the only site in Hampshire at which its been seen in the past twenty years for the third year running. Like the preceding two species, the larva feeds internally on fungus growing within dead wood.

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 25 May (KG).

**0654 *Pleurota bicostella*** (Clerck, 1759)

A species of heathland areas, the New Forest and surrounding area being its mainstay – hence five in Hurn, VC11 between 2 and 17 May (MJ).

**VC10:** One to MV, Totland, 4 May (SAK-J) was the first island record since 1998.

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 17 May (NM) and in Upper Inhams Copse, 23 May (GJD), the latter a new 10-km square record.

**0660 *Pseudatemelia josephinae*** (Toll, 1956)

The three unassuming-looking *Pseudatemelia* species cannot safely be told apart except by dissection and are therefore likely overlooked and under-recorded.

**VC11:** One to MV, West Walk, 6 July (RJD gen. det.).

**VC12:** One to MV, Broad Oak, Odiham, 23 June (MJW, TBa, PBo *et al* gen. det. MJW).

**0666 *Semioscopis avellanella*** (Hübner, 1793)

There are very few records of this attractively marked oecophorid.

**VC12:** One to MV, Upper Inhams Copse, 1 April (GJD) – a new 10-km square record and the first North Hampshire sighting since 1993.

**0667 *Semioscopis steinkellneriana*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Decidedly more common than its congener above, with records spread widely across the mainland. It had a good year, with ten new sightings, mostly at established localities, but the following were in new 10-km squares.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Ashurst, between 15 and 30 April (KG).

**VC12:** Kempshott Copse, one to light on 12 March (PDF).

**0668 *Luquetia lobella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Individuals were attracted to light at Funtley, 24 May and 4 June (MO) and Ashurst, 7 and 8 June (KG).

**0671 *Depressaria ultimella*** Stainton, 1849

A very rare insect; 2007 saw two further records, both new to the respective 10-km squares.. The larva feeds in the stems of Fool's Water-cress.

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 27 April (KG).

**VC12:** One to a lighted window, Sherborne St John, 12 April (NM).

**0677 *Depressaria douglasella*** Stainton, 1849

**VC12:** One to MV, Bramshill Plantation, 8 September (MJW, ACr) – a new 10-km square record and first for North Hampshire since 1980.

**0682 *Depressaria chaerophylli*** Zeller, 1839

A very elusive species whose larvae feed on the flowers of Rough Chervil.

**VC11:** One to actinic, Broughton Down, 11 August (AHD).

**VC12:** Singles in Basingstoke, 9 April (MJW), and at Greywell, 10 April (PBo).

**0689 *Agonopterix ciliella*** (Stainton, 1849)

This species can only be separated safely from the closely related and often abundant *A. heracliana* by dissection or reference to the number of ciliary lines on the hindwing.

**VC12:** Two at Ron Ward's Meadow HWT reserve, 26 March (GJD).

**VC22:** One to MV, Mortimer West End, 9 September (GJD).

**0702 *Agonopterix assimilella*** (Treitschke, 1832)

Scattered records along the south coast, and more occasionally inland and in the north-east, where the larval foodplant, Broom, occurs.

**VC12:** Many larvae found in Micheldever Wood, 15 March (JRL, BE).

**0706 *Agonopterix nervosa*** (Haworth, 1811)

A widespread species in South Hampshire, although in 2007 it was reported not uncommonly in autumn from just the one site in Southsea (IRT). It is found far less frequently elsewhere.

**VC12:** One to MV, Bramshill Plantation, 8 September (MJW, ACr).

**0716 *Agonopterix rotundella*** (Douglas, 1846)

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland on 15 April (SAK-J det. BE). The first here since 1998, and remains unrecorded in Hampshire.

## Ethmiidae

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

**Nb**

An erstwhile rare species that has become far more frequent in the 21st century. The year under review however saw only the following two records from one site.

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Chilbolton, 11 June and 3 August (GCE) - new 10-km square record.



0620 *Elachista gangabella*  
New Forest, 25 May  
(Mike Wall)



0792  
*Mirificarma mulinella*  
Larva on Gorse,  
Milkham Inclosure,  
New Forest  
(Dave Green)



0764 *Pseudotelephusa scalella*  
New Forest, 25 May  
(Mike Wall)

## Gelechiidae

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

One of the very few moths whose larva feeds on Bracken.

**VC11:** One to MV, Manor Farm CP, 29 June (PC det. RJD), a new 10-km square record. Elsewhere, three were attracted to light at West Walk, 29 June (RJD *et al*), the first sighting here since 1975.

- 0736 *Monochroa lucidella*** (Stephens, 1834) **Nb**  
 Known from a few sites in VC11, with only one sighting in north Hampshire in recent years.  
**VC11:** Singles at Funtley, 13 July (TDC) and Botley Wood, 17 July and 16 August (KW) were consistent with the distribution pattern of previous years.
- 0740 *Monochroa hornigi*** (Staudinger, 1993) **pRDB2**  
 Occurs very occasionally and known only from the Portsmouth area.  
**VC11:** One to light at Southsea, 19 June (JRL gen. det.)
- 0753 *Aristotelia brizella*** (Treitschke, 1833)  
 A rare coastal species, the larva feeding on Thrift.  
**VC11:** One to MV, Southsea, 28 April (IRT).
- 0755 *Stenolechia gemmella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)  
 Found in widely scattered localities across the mainland.  
**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 6 September (KG) – a new 10-km square record.
- 0758 *Recurvaria leucatella*** (Clerck, 1759) **Nb**  
 A distinctive micro with a pied appearance, especially rare in the north of the county.  
**VC12:** One to light, Sherborne St John, 1 August (NM). The second vice-county record since the first in 1996.
- 0764 *Pseudotephusa scalella*** (Scopoli, 1763) **Nb**  
 Another attractive and unmistakable pied moth, it is nonetheless rare.  
**VC11:** One to MV, Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN *et al*). New for the 10-km square.
- 0766 *Altenia scriptella*** (Hübner, 1796)  
**VC11:** One to MV, Southsea, 2 June (IRT): only the fourth county record, and the first since 1993.
- 0767 *Carpatolechia decorella*** (Haworth, 1812)  
*C. decorella* is an inhabitant of oak woodland, where the larva feeds inside a rolled oak or dogwood leaf.  
**VC11:** A female to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 1 August (KW).  
**VC12:** One to MV, Upper Inhams Copse, 18 May (GJD), a new 10-km square record.
- 0768 *Carpatolechia notatella*** (Hübner, 1813)  
 A species that is distributed sparsely across the south of the mainland.  
**VC11:** One seen by day, Havant Thicket, 9 June (JRL *et al*) was a new 10-km square record. Botley Wood, an established locality, turned up a further three sightings (KW).
- 0769 *Teleiodes waggae*** (Nowicki, 1860) **pRDB1**  
 New to England in 1976, all previous county records have been from the Sparsholt and Botley Wood areas, and 2007 was no exception.  
**VC11:** One seen by day, Crab Wood, Sparsholt, 5 May (JRL *et al*).
- 0771 *Carpatolechia alburnella*** (Zeller, 1839)  
 A species of birch woodland which is far less common than its favoured habitat.  
**VC12:** One to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 17 May (NM).
- 0776 *Teleiopsis diffinis*** (Haworth, 1828)  
 Recorded again at Hurn, an established site. The larva feeds on Sheep's-sorrel.  
**VC12:** Singles to actinic, Alton, 9 May and 22 July (DBO).

**0792 *Mirificarma mulinella*** (Zeller, 1839)

A common species of heathland and elsewhere on Gorse and Broom in the south of the county as illustrated by the fact that larvae were beaten in numbers from Gorse at five adjacent tetrads in the north of the NF on 5 April (DGG). It is little recorded in the north.

**VC12:** One to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 30 August (NM), and another, Bramshill Plantation, 8 September (MJW, ACr).

**0801a *Gelechia senticetella*** (Staudinger, 1859)

Known from only five sites in the county, but appears to be becoming more frequent.

**VC11:** Sightings were made from the same locales as last year: four to actinic on three dates between 2 and 15 August, Hedge End (DHa), and eight to MV on six dates between 30 July and 28 August, Southsea (JRL).

**0809 Hollyhock Seed Moth *Pexicopia malvella*** (Hübner, 1805)

**Nb**

Hollyhocks are not as widely grown in gardens as they once were. In 2007 recorded from Southsea in South Hampshire (IRT), where it is frequent.

**VC12:** Individuals attracted to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 13 June and 11 July (NM).

**0827 *Caryocolum alsinella*** (Zeller, 1868)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to light, Southsea, on the early date of 14 June (JRL). A first record for the site, but the larvae – which feed on various species of mouse-ear - can be found frequently when searched for on nearby Hayling Island.

**0830 *Caryocolum fraternella*** (Douglas, 1851)

Locally distributed in areas of rough meadow, the larvae feeding in the terminal shoots of stitchworts and Common Mouse-ear.

**VC11:** One at Sandy Point, 11 August (JRL, BE, IRT, JWP) was new to Hayling Island.

**0841 *Sophronia semicostella*** (Hübner, 1813)

An attractive and distinctive gelechiid with a white costal streak and banded cilia.

**VC12:** Headley Gravel Pit, seven on 11 July and another two on 23 June (AHD) were new to the 10-km square. Also taken at Deadwater Valley, Bordon on 20 June (NM).

**0844 *Syncopacma larseniella*** (Gozmany, 1957)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Individuals recorded at four sites, Fareham, 16 June (KW), Wickham Common, 20 June (RJD), Botley Wood, 4 July (KW) and Funtley on 13 July (TDC).

**0851 *Dichomeris alacella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**Nb**

A very local and elusive species of the New Forest (and one recent record in VC12).

**VC11:** Found to be common at Ashurst, a new 10-km square, where nine were attracted to MV on five dates between 13 and 27 July (KG).

**0859 *Psoricoptera gibbosella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**Nb**

Elusive, confined to mature oak woodland across the mainland.

**VC11:** The only confirmed record was of one at light in Ladycross Inclosure, NF, 11 August (RCr, PRD *et al* gen. det. BGo).

**0861 *Acompsia schmidtellus*** (Heyden, 1848)

**Nb**

Found on chalk downland, feeding on Wild Marjoram.

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 29 July (DBO gen. det. BGo), a new 10-km square.



0537  
*Coleophora kuehnella*  
Larval case on Oak  
(Rob Edmunds)



0766 *Altenia scriptella*  
Southsea, 2 June  
(Ian Thirlwell)



0809 *Pexicopia malvella*  
Bordon, 13 July  
(Mike Wall)

0894  
*Cosmopterix zieglerella*  
Mines on Hop, Fleet, 10  
September  
(Rob Edmunds)



0903  
*Chrysoclista linneella*  
(Bob Chapman)

1106 *Lobesia reliquana*  
Fletcher's Water, New  
Forest, 25 May  
(Mike Wall)



## Autostichidae

**0871 *Oegoconia deauratella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1854)

**Nb**

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 17 July (DBO gen. det. BGO). This observer's garden has turned up the second and third county records in consecutive years.

## Blastobasidae

**0875a *Blastobasis rebeli*** Karsholt & Sinev, 2004

**VC11:** Five to MV, West Walk, 7 September (RJD *et al*), a new 10-km square record and further eastward expansion of this naturalised species first recorded in the county in 1998.

**0875b *Hypatopa binotella*** (Thunberg, 1794)

See New County Records above.

## Momphidae

**0882 *Mompha locupletella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

An attractive but uncommon species which mines the leaves of various species of willowherb.

**VC11:** Larvae locally common at Emer Bog, 25 April (BE).

**0886 *Mompha ochraceella*** (Curtis, 1839)

A leaf-miner of Great Willowherb with a scattered distribution across the county where the foodplant occurs.

**VC11:** Singles to light at Fareham, 10 June (KW) and Funtley, 16 June and 13 July (TDC).

**VC12:** Individuals to MV, Basingstoke, 14 April and 24 May - the earliest sightings on file - with another on 31 July (all MJW), represent a new 10-km square for this species.

**0887 *Mompha lacteella*** (Stephens, 1834)

**pRDB3**

A scarce leaf-miner of Broad-leaved Willowherb.

**VC11:** One to actinic, Hedge End, 26 August (DHa).

## Cosmopterigidae

**0894 *Cosmopterix zieglerella*** (Hübner, 1810)

**Na**

Recorded new to Hampshire in 2003, this miner of Hop leaves is still only known from six sites - with but one record from VC11 - and appears to be centred mainly in the north-east.

**VC12:** Mines on the host-plant at The Lea Fields, Fleet, 10 September (RE).

**0896a *Cosmopterix scribaiella*** Zeller, 1850

A leaf-miner of Common Reed, restricted to the coast and lower river-valleys.

**VC11:** Mines at Needs Ore, 26 October (JRL, BG) in a new 10-km square for the species.

**0896b *Cosmopterix pulchrimella*** Chambers, 1875

Discovered new to our area in 2006, when DTB found this species on Pellitory-of-the-wall on the Isle of Wight. It was no surprise when it was subsequently found on the mainland.

**VC10:** Found commonly at Bonchurch, 17 January, and several mines with one larva, Binstead, 24 December (both DTB).

**VC11:** See New County Records above.

**0899 *Pancalia leuwenhoekella*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Nb**

An inhabitant of unimproved chalk downland which can be found flying by day over flowers.

**VC12:** One seen by day, Stockbridge Down, 5 May (JRL *et al*), a new 10-km square.

**0903 *Chrysoclista linneella*** (Clerck, 1759) **Na**

**VC11:** This beautiful insect is recorded only occasionally, with one or two sightings a year. Most have been to light in JRL's Southsea garden, a pattern repeated on 10 August.

**0906 Apple Pith Moth *Blastodacna atra*** (Haworth, 1828) **Nb**

It is perhaps surprising that this species is not more widespread, the larva being a miner of the twigs of apple. It is particularly local in VC12, from where the only record was received.

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 28 August (NM).

**0909 *Sorhagenia lophyrella*** (Douglas, 1846) **Na**

The larva mines Buckthorn on chalk downland; the moth was previously known from only three sites, with a fourth added in 2007 as below.

**VC12:** Mines found at two localities on Stockbridge Down, 5 May (JRL *et al.*).

**0910 *Sorhagenia janiszewskae*** Riedl, 1962 **Na**

Forms a species pair with the former, this occurring on Alder Buckthorn.

**VC11:** One to malaise trap, Botley Wood, 6 August (KW).

## Tortricidae

**0926 *Phalonidia manniana*** (Fischer von Röslerstamm, 1839) **Nb**

A local species of wet meadows and marshes, the larva feeding on Water Mint and Gypsywort.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Hayling Island, 17 May (SJW) and Titchfield Haven, 13 July (RJD *et al.*).

**0932 *Phalonidia affinitana*** (Douglas, 1846)

All fifteen previous records have come from South Hampshire. The following marks the third year running that the same site has recorded the only annual record.

**VC11:** A male to MV, Southsea, 7 June (IRT gen. det.)

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

The only record received was from the north of the county, where it is rare.

**VC12:** One to MV, Basingstoke, 24 August (MJW).

**0959 *Cochylidia rupicola*** (Curtis, 1834)

A diurnal downland species, and probably under-recorded.

**VC11:** One individual was seen flying in daylight, Oxenbourne Down, 18 July (JRL *et al.*), a new site.

**0964a *Cochylis molliculana*** Zeller, 1874

The year under review saw a halt to the previous expansion along the coast for this relatively recent coloniser of the county. It continues to be found commonly on the mainland, and another Isle of Wight record was added to the first in 2006.

**VC10:** One to MV, Wheelers Bay, Ventnor (TDC, SRC det. RJD).

**0965 *Cochylis hybridella*** (Hübner, 1813)

Another species relatively common in the south of Hampshire (two further records at existing localities in 2007) but is rarely encountered in the north.

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 17 June (DBO).

**0974 *Argyrotaenia ljugiana*** (Thunberg, 1797)

A heathland specialist, found primarily in the north-east and historically, more commonly in the New Forest, although in 2007 there was only one sighting, at Pig Bush (PRD).

**VC12:** One to MV, Farnborough, 14 April (KBW), recorded on four dates between 15 April and 4 May, and three dates between 14 July and 3 August (RE).

**0981 Rose Tortrix *Archips rosana*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

This species shows a very scattered and localised distribution across the county.

**VC11:** One to actinic, Hill Head, 20 June (RJC); singles to MV, Romsey, 31 July and 2 August (MBa), a new 10-km square record;

**VC22:** One to MV, Mortimer West End, 19 June (GJD).

**0987 *Ptycholomoides aeriferanus*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851)

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland on 18 July (SAK-J det. BE) was the second for the island. The first was in 1992.

**0989 Timothy Tortrix *Aphelia paleana*** (Hübner, 1793)

After commenting in last year's report that this species appears to be increasing in numbers, only one sighting was reported. It was however in a new 10-km square.

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 3 June (DBO).

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

Another elusive species with a very scattered distribution, and few records from any one location. All the following are of singletons to MV.

**VC11:** Petersfield, 9 June (TJN, MT *et al*), a new 10-km square record, Whitelands Wood, Petersfield, 23 June (RJD *et al*).

**VC12:** Chilbolton, 8 June (GCE), Basingstoke, 11 June (MJW).

**1018 *Cnephasia communana*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851)

Generally the earliest *Cnephasia* to emerge and any of this genus that occurs in May should be retained for checking. Records submitted without dissection are dubious.

**VC12:** Two to MV, Basingstoke, 12 May (MJW gen. det. RJM), the first North Hampshire records since 1997 and a new 10-km square record.

**1022 *Cnephasia pasiuana*** (Hübner, 1799)

Outside of Waterlooville, where RJM records this species annually, *C. pasiuana* remains under-recorded.

**VC11:** One to MV, St Cross, Winchester, 26 June (TWa det. BG).

**VC12:** Two to actinic, Alton, 5 July (DBO gen. det. BGo).

**1023 *Cnephasia genitalana*** Pierce & Metcalfe, 1915

**pRDB2**

As for the previous species, likely to be far more widespread than the county database reflects, casting into doubt the validity of the proposed RDB2 status. Continues to be recorded commonly in Waterlooville (RJM) and as below.

**VC12:** Two to MV, Basingstoke, 24 July (MJW gen. det.)

**1024 Light Grey Tortrix *Cnephasia incertana*** (Treitschke, 1835)

During the year, at least 25 records were submitted for this species, very few of which are known to have been dissected to establish identification for certain. Work carried out by RJM in Waterlooville identified no *C. incertana* in his garden in 2007. Recorders are asked to only submit records to species level for *Cnephasia* sp. where identification has been confirmed.

**1027 *Neosphaleroptera nubilana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland on 20 May (SAK-J det. BE). There are just three very old records of this species on the island.

**1034 *Spatalistic bifasciana*** (Hübner, 1787)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV, Pennington, 4 June (RCr) was a new 10-km square record. Three other records were received from known sites.

**1050 *Acleris kochiella*** (Goeze, 1783)

**VC11:** One to light, Hayling Island on 6 July (SJW) was a new record for the 10-km square. Vacated larval spinings in the leaves of English Elm were also reported from Milton Common, Portsmouth (JRL, IRT).

**1051 *Acleris logiana*** (Clerck, 1759)

**Nb**

*A. logiana* features annually in these reports as it continues to spread its range across the county, although no reports have been received from the Isle of Wight since the first two in 1997. Care needs to be taken in separating this and the preceding species. All four records received were from new 10-km squares.

**VC11:** Female to MV, West Walk, 29 June (RJD, MLO *et al*).

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 19 February (DBO gen. det. BGo), another attracted to houselights, Sherborne St John, 30 October (NM) and one found by torchlight at Kempshott Copse, Dummer, 22 November (PDF).

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

A heathland species that occasionally wanders, as illustrated by the only report received which was away from its core New Forest range.

**VC11:** One to MV, Pennington, 9 November (RCr) – a new 10-km square record.

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

A good year for this attractive tortrix, with the twelve records exceeding that of 2006 by one. All but one were in the south of the county.

**VC11:** Individuals to MV in Sholing, 21 February (ARC) and Lovedean, 16 April (AFJ) were new for the respective 10-km squares. Elsewhere it was found commonly at Ashurst, with six records between 11 March and 23 April (KG), and at Botley Wood (RJD, KW), Brockenhurst (RBW) and Wickham (RJD, KW *et al*).

**VC12:** One to light, Kempshott Copse, Dummer, 13 April (PDF).

**1080 *Olethreutes arcuella*** (Clerck, 1759)

**Nb**

An attractive but very rare species which is normally observed by day.

**VC11:** One to MV, Ashurst, 4 June (KG) was a new 10-km square record. An undated record from the Kings Somborne area was also received, the observer disturbing the moth when cutting wattles in a Hazel coppice (Graham Mead conf. from photo MJW).

**1089 *Apotomis semifasciana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC11:** A Botley Wood speciality - all bar four modern day reports have come from this area. 2007 was no exception, the only record received being a female on 25 July (KW).

**1101 *Endothenia ustulana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**pRDB3**

**VC11:** Similar to the previous species, all but four of the sightings on the database originate from Botley Wood. Here, in 2007, five females were recorded between 21 June and 26 August (KW gen. det.), but to the south of the previous known range and representing a new 10-km square.

**1106 *Lobesia reliquana*** (Hübner, 1825)

Well distributed but local; relatively common in South Hampshire (seven records in 2007) but rare in VC12. The following represent new 10-km squares.

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Overton, 6 June (ACr gen. det. JCI), and Headley Gravel Pit, 17 May (AHD).

**1112 *Bactra robustana*** (Christoph, 1872)

**Nb**

A species associated with Sea Club-rush, and therefore restricted to saltmarshes on the south coast and rarely on the Isle of Wight.

**VC11:** One to MV at Sandy Point, 3 June (AJ) was a first for Hayling Island. It is a common species in IRT's Southsea trap, with another five between 7 June and 1 September.

**1114 *Eudemis porphyrana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**Nb**

Rarely encountered, either found as a larva spinning the leaves of Crab Apple or to light.

**VC11:** Both records came from Botley Wood: a few vacated larval spinnings, 4 June (JRL, BE), and a male to a malaise trap, 18 July (KW gen. det.).

**1117 *Ancylis unguicella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

A species associated with heather, although rarely encountered: perhaps surprisingly the following is the only modern record from the New Forest area, with the only other dating from Matley Bog in 1965.

**VC11:** Singles to MV at Ashurst, 12 and 14 July (KG).

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

A local and uncommon resident of damp heathland amongst birch. Two new 10-km squares were filled in as below.

**VC11:** Female to MV, West Walk, 27 April (RJD *et al* gen. det.). Also recorded on four dates at Botley Wood (KW).

**VC12:** One to MV, Headley Gravel Pit, 11 July (AHD).

**1122 *Ancylis obtusana*** (Haworth, 1811)

The first record for the New Forest for perhaps over forty years of this localised feeder on Buckthorn and Alder Buckthorn.

**VC11:** One to MV, Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN *et al*).

**1135 *Epinotia demarniana*** (Fischer von Röslerstamm, 1840)

**Nb**

Well distributed but local in birch woodland across the county, and absent from the Isle of Wight.

**VC11:** Four trapped in Botley Wood, 25 May (RJD, KW, MO *et al*), singles to light in West Walk, 15 and 29 June (RJD *et al*)

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 17 May (DBO) – a new 10-km square – and three at Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber between 6 June and 12 June (GJD).

**1142 *Epinotia tedella*** (Clerck, 1759)

A locally common species of Spruce woodland which had a good year in 2007 and was seen in three 10-km squares for the first time, as below.

**VC11:** One to MV, Cosham, 25 May (TJJ), another, Ashurst, 5 June (KG). Also recorded in Botley Wood (RJD, KW) and Havant Thicket (JRL *et al*)

**VC12:** One seen by day, Burkham, nr Bentworth, 12 May (DHa).

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

Despite the larval foodplant being the ubiquitous Blackthorn, there remains but one North Hampshire sighting, in 1987.

**VC11:** A male at MV, West Walk, 6 July (RJD *et al*) was a new 10-km record. Singles to MV, Hurn, 20 June and 12 July (MJ).

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

A rare species that feeds on Scots Pine, with nine previous county records.

**VC11:** One in Botley Wood, 3 May (KW), male to MV, West Walk, 29 June (RJD *et al*).

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

Another scattered and local inhabitant of semi-ancient oak woodland.

**VC12:** Two to MV at Headley Gravel Pit, 17 May (AHD) and another at Morgaston Wood, 25 August (TJN, MJW).

**1166 Larch Tortrix *Zeiraphera griseana*** (Hübner, 1799)

A very local and rarely recorded species of Larch woodland, although wanderers can occur anywhere.

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 24 July (DBO) – a new 10-km square record.

**1170 *Gypsonoma oppressana*** (Treitschke, 1835)

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Southsea, 8 and 9 June (IRT).

**1171 *Gypsonoma minutana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Like the preceding species, found locally on poplar; common in Southsea – one to MV on 7 July (IRT).

**1207 Pine Leaf-mining Moth *Clavigesta purdeyi*** (Durrant, 1911)

Local but not uncommon in the south-east of the county, but surprisingly unrecorded from the New Forest and rare elsewhere, especially in the north; the larva bores into the needles of Scots Pine.

**VC11:** One to MV, Hen Wood, West Meon, 17 August (RJD, KC *et al*) was a new 10-km square record, and it was also found in Southsea (JRL, IRT).

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 1 August (NM).

**1209 Pine Bud Moth *Pseudococcyx turionella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Another rarely encountered species whose larvae mine the shoots of Scots Pine.

**VC11:** One to MV, St Cross, Winchester, 30 August (TJW det. BG).

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

**Nb**

Found in scattered open woodland habitat associated with Honeysuckle.

**VC11:** One to MV, West Walk, 27 April (RJD *et al*) – a new 10-km square record, one at Botley Wood, 17 May (KW).

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

**Nb**

**VC12:** A cocoon with larva found in Strait's Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest, 21 October (JRL, Hampshire Moth Group), only the second vice-county record and new to the 10-km square.

**1228 *Pammene argyrana*** (Hübner, 1799)

The best year on record for this denizen of oak woodland. Of the nine sightings received, three were from new 10-km squares, all in the south of the county, as detailed below.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Manor Farm CP, 27 April (TDC) and 4 May (RJD, PC), West Walk, 27 April (RJD *et al*), Whitelands Wood, near Petersfield, 23 June (RJD *et al*).

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

**Nb**

A moth seldom seen as an adult. All three records received in 2007 occurred in previously unoccupied 10-km squares.

**VC11:** Three to MV, Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN, RCr *et al*), female, Southsea, 3 June (JRL gen. det.)

**VC12:** The fourth vice-county record and the first since 1987 - one to MV, Bramshill Plantation, 2 June (TJN, MJW, ACr).

**1233 *Pammene aurita*** Razowski, 1991

A local but widespread moth on Sycamore throughout.

**VC12:** One to MV, Chilbolton, 5 August (GCE).

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

**Nb**

Outside of Botley Wood (VC11), recorded infrequently.

**VC11:** Southsea, 24 May (IRT), Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN, RCr *et al*), Botley Wood, 25 May and West Walk, 15 June (both RJD *et al*).

**VC12:** Pamber Forest, 23 May and 5 June (GJD).

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

Associated with Gorse, *G. internana* can be reasonably numerous where it occurs, but such sites are few and scattered.

**VC11:** A male swept from Gorse after dusk, West Walk, 27 April (RJD *et al*).

**1245 *Grapholita janthinana*** (Duponchel, 1835)

Despite the larval foodplant being the fruit of the ubiquitous hawthorn, the moth itself has a localised distribution centred on the south-east and is far rarer in the north of the county.

**VC12:** One to MV, Chilbolton, 23 June (GCE), a new 10-km square for the species. Also recorded in existing locations in VC11 at Hedge End (DHa) and Southsea (JRL)

**1247 Plum Fruit Moth *Grapholita funebrana*** (Treitschke, 1835)

A species that has become far more commonly reported since the turn of the 21st century: 40 of the 56 records on the county database have been received since 1999.

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland on 10 July (SAK-J det. BE) was the first since 1980.

**VC12:** One to MV, Overton, 1 September (ACr) was a first for the recorder's 10-km square. Elsewhere it was found commonly in DHa's Hedge End, VC11 garden, including five attracted to a 'Plum moth' pheromone trap acquired from a garden centre.

**1249 *Grapholita lobarzewskii*** (Nowicki, 1860)

**pRDB1**

**VC11:** One to MV, Waterlooville, 6 July 2006 (RJM det David Agassiz). The second county record, the first being in the same recorder's garden trap in 2003.

**1254 Spruce Seed Moth *Cydia strobilella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** While this species is associated with Spruce, all recent records have been taken at light in Southsea, a trend continued in 2007, on 15 April (JRL).

**1256 *Cydia servillana*** (Duponchel, 1836)

The larvae of *C. servillana* form galls in young willows, but there are only scattered records throughout the mainland (and one from the Isle of Wight).

**VC12:** The only record received was of one netted at dusk, Bramshill Plantation, 2 June (MJW, TJN gen. det. MJW), a new 10-km square record.

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

**Migrant**

**VC10:** An immigrant which may well now be resident in the county. Despite increasing numbers in South Hampshire - even 2007, a poor year for migrants in general, saw ten sightings (compared to 15 in 2006) - it remains rare on the Isle of Wight. All seven previous records for the Island have come from SAK-J's Totland garden, where there was another to MV on 27 August.

**1267 *Cydia cosmophorana*** (Treitschke, 1835)

With very few recent records, two received for North Hampshire were the first since 1998 and both were new to their respective 10-km squares.

**VC12:** One to actinic, Kempshott, Basingstoke, 25 May (GAH), another to MV, Bramshill Plantation, 8 September (MJW, ACr).

**1269 *Cydia conicolana*** (Heylaerts, 1874)

This species was featured in last year's report, the larva making conspicuous exit holes in the cones of Scots Pine. Three more records were received in 2007.

**VC11:** One found indoors, Fareham, 25 April (RJD), one to MV, Southsea, 17 May (IRT).

**VC12:** One to actinic, Fleet, 7 June (RE) was a new 10-km square record.

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

*D. sequana* is an attractive moth that can be found flying over its larval foodplants, Yarrow and Tansy, on bright afternoons.

**VC12:** One seen by day at Stockbridge Down, 5 May (JRL *et al*).

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

Widespread but thinly distributed on Yarrow.

**VC11:** One to MV, Pig Bush, NF, 14 April (PRD), a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 5 August (NM).

## Epermeniidae

**0484 *Epermenia aequidentellus*** (Hofmann, 1867)

A very rare species in the county.

**VC11:** One to MV, Southsea, 15 August (IRT) was new for the observer's garden and the 10-km square.

## Crambidae

**1297 *Crambus uliginosellus*** Zeller, 1850

**Nb**

This moth is locally common in wet bogs in the New Forest. The record below is the first North Hampshire record since 1987.

**VC12:** Deadwater Valley Trust, Bordon, one to light on 11 July (NM).

**1299 *Crambus hamella*** (Thunberg, 1788)

**Nb**

Found occasionally in the dry heaths of the New Forest and in the north-east.

**VC11:** One to MV, Normandy Farm, Lymington, 7 September (PRD).

**VC12:** One to MV, Cove, 8 September (RJE).

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

This moth is locally common on shingle beaches.

**VC10:** Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, one to MV on 9 June (TDC, SRC).

**VC11:** Browdown Ranges, at least two were seen on grass heathland on 2 June (JAN, M W Rand det. BG); Southsea, singles to MV on 8 and 14 June (IRT).

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

**Nb**

This moth is rarely recorded anywhere except in this recorder's garden.

**VC11:** Southsea, seven between 24 May and 12 September (IRT).

**1329 *Donacaula forcicella*** (Thunberg, 1794)

A local species of marshes and bogs, mainly found in the New Forest.

**VC11:** RAC caught four at Blashford Lakes HWT Reserve between 11 and 14 June and another at Christchurch on 16 June. The species was also reported from Brockenhurst on 19 June (RBW).

**1343 *Eudonia delunella*** (Stainton, 1849)

**Nb**

Another good year for this New Forest specialist which occasionally turns up elsewhere.

**VC11:** Fletcher's Water, NF, 25 May (TJN, PA *et al*); Ashurst, seven between 31 May and 16 June (KG); Brockenhurst, 16 June (RBW); five between 4 July and 15 August (P&CA); one at Bitterne, 6 July (P&PW), a new 10-km square record.

**1350 Beautiful China-mark *Nymphula stagnata*** (Donovan, 1806)

Local and uncommon. All records received are given.

**VC11:** Christchurch, one to MV on 8 June (RAC); Hurn, three between 21 June & 12 July (MJ); Chilling, four between 7 August & 5 September (PMP).

**VC12:** Singles to MV, Bramshill Plantation, 2 June (TJN, MJW) and Cove, 3 August (RJE).

**1356a *Evergestis limbata*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**Migrant**

**VC10:** One to MV, Apse Heath, 13 July (GT).

**VC11:** Just three were reported on the mainland, all to MV on Hayling Island. Singletons on 7 June and 23 August (JWP) and another on 12 July (SJW).

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

**Migrant**

An uncommon immigrant that may occasionally breed.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, singletons to MV on August 10, 11 & 21 (JHa).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 31 May (AJ).

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

**Migrant**

**VC11:** One to MV at Southsea on 1 August (IRT).

**1380 *Phlyctaenia perlucidalis*** (Hübner, 1809)

Now well established in the upper Test valley, with occasional records elsewhere.

**VC10:** Totland, 5 June (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Hurn, 6 June (MJ).

**VC12:** A total of ten moths was recorded including seven at Chilbolton between 10 and 18 June (GCE), with one near the source of the Test in Overton, 9 June (ACr) being in a new 10-km square. Individuals were also taken at Popley Ponds, Basingstoke on 7 and 9 June (MJW).

**1382 *Anania verbascalis*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

Local amongst Wood-sage, especially in the New Forest.

**VC11:** Three to MV at Brockenhurst between 21 June and 12 July (RBW), and one at Ashurst, 26 July (KG).

**1387 *Nascia ciliialis*** (Hübner, 1796)

**Na**

No records were received. Hopefully the colony first found at Titchfield Haven in 1987 still exists.

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

**VC10:** Singletons were seen during the day at Totland on 5 and 8 July (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Brockenhurst, one to MV on 5 August and another on 24 August (RBW).

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

**Migrant**

Only about 1,200 were recorded in 2006 which was considered an average year when other migrants were very common. However 2007 was even worse with only about 600 being reported.

**VC10:** About 250 individuals were reported. Totland, 157 were seen during the year (SAK-J). At Bonchurch it was described as "reasonably common" (JHa).

**VC11:** About 350 were reported. The first was reported from Forton on 19 April (DRA det. JRL). The last was found at a lighted window at St James' Hospital, Portsmouth on 4 December (RJD).

**VC12:** Just eight records were received. The first was at Andover on 12 May (TJN) and the last at Longstock on 1 November (GCE).

**1396 *Mecyna flavalis*** Caradja, 1916

pRDB2

The county population is concentrated on the chalk to the west of Winchester.

**VC11:** One seen at Broughton Down on 9 August (GCE, conf. from photo TJN) was the only record received.

**1397 *Mecyna asinalis*** (Hübner, 1819)

**VC10:** Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, singles to MV on 8 and 9 June (TDC, SRC).

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

Less than 100 individuals were reported. This compares with 5,500 in 2006, about 100 in 2005 and 250 in 2004.

**VC10:** At Totland, 11 were caught during the year (SAK-J) and at Bonchurch, 12 (JHa).

**VC11:** Less than 60 records were received. The first came to MV at Sandy Point, Hayling Island on 23 May (AJ) and the last was at Ashurst on 15 October (KG).

**VC12:** Just six were reported. The first was at Basingstoke on 14 July (MJW) and the last was at Sherborne St John on 4 August (NM).

**VC22:** Only one moth was reported, from Mortimer West End on 18 July (GJD).

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

**Migrant**

After a good 2006, 2007 produced only two examples of this uncommon immigrant.

**VC11:** One to MV at Christchurch on 21 September (RAC) and another at Southsea on 6 October (JRL).

## Pyralidae

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

**Nb**

As usual, there were many records from VC11 but this is rarely recorded from VC12.

**VC12:** Alton, one to actinic on 7 July (DBO); Chilbolton, one to MV on 18 July (GCE).

**1432 *Anerastia lotella*** (Hübner, 1913)

This species is confined to a few locations on the coast.

**VC11:** One seen during the day at Hayling Island Sailing Club on 2 June (A Mitchell det. M Skevington).

**1461 *Assara terebrella*** (Zincken, 1818)

An elusive species associated with Norway Spruce, particularly in the New Forest area.

**VC11:** Cones collected at Rhinefield, NF, in early April produced adults at the end of May (BE); Ashurst, one to MV on 22 July (KG).

**VC12:** Cholderton Lodge, one to MV on 11 August (HE). Records from VC12 are scarce.

**1467 *Ancylosis oblitella*** (Zeller, 1848)

**Migrant / Nb**

A scarce and erratic migrant.

**VC10:** Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, one to MV on 9 June (TDC, SRC).

**1476 Dried Currant Moth *Ephestia cautella*** (Walker, 1863)

An occasional import with foreign food products. These are the first records since 1996.

**VC11:** Stubbington, a female found indoors on 23 July (DPH gen. det. RJD).

**1480 *Homoeosoma nebulella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

This species appears to be increasingly recorded in the new century.

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 1 August and another on 26 August (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Stubbington, one to MV on 8 June (DPH).

**VC12:** Overton, one to MV on 6 September (ACr det. and in coll. MJW), a new 10-km square record.

**1486 *Apomyelois bistratella*** (Ragonot, 1887)

**Nb**

Associated with the fungus *Daldinia verrucosa* on burnt Gorse and birch in heathland.

**VC11:** Hurn, one on 12 July (MJ); Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one on 8 August (AJ) and on 11 August (JRL, BE, JWP, IRT); Manor Farm CP, 8 September (PC det. RJD).

**VC12:** Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber, one on 31 May (GJD).

**Pterophoridae**

**1494 *Capperia britanniodactyla*** (Gregson, 1869)

A local plume associated with Wood-sage. Just two records were received.

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Southsea, 15 June (JRL) and South Brockenhurst, 12 July (RBW).

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

Locally common amongst Coltsfoot but only two records were received.

**VC11:** St Cross, Winchester, one to MV on 14 April (TWA); Romsey, one to MV on 7 June (MBa), a new 10-km square record.

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

A rare species, this is the first record since 2003.

**VC11:** Oxenbourne Down, one was seen on 18 July (JRL *et al*).

**1514 *Pterophorus galactodactyla*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Unlike last year, which was unusual, only larvae were reported, on the food-plant Burdock.

**VC11:** Sparsholt, one larva, 5 May (JRL *et al*).

**VC12:** Stockbridge Down, several larvae on 5 May (JRL *et al*); Cholderton, larval feeding signs on 5 May (TJN, HE), a new 10-km square record.

**Lasiocampidae**

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

**VC10:** Recorded as usual in some numbers at Cranmore between 21 August and 4 September (I&CF).

**VC11:** Funtley, one on 23 August (MLO); Wickham Common, one on 7 September (KC).

**VC12:** One trapped at Morgaston Wood on 25 August (TJN, MJW); Sherborne St John, one on 4 September (NM).

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

Considering the poor summer weather ten records was another very good showing. There are normally just four or five records per year. The following were new site records.

**VC12:** Chilbolton, trapped on 3 June, 23 June (two) and 1 July (GCE); Northwood Park, Crawley, singles on 18 June and 13 July (RAB); Ovington Mill, one on 14 July (ACr, TJN, MJW *et al*).

**Saturniidae**

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

**VC11:** Five adults were trapped at light at various sites in the New Forest between 17 April and 7 May; a larva was found by day at Hatchet Pond on 31 July (JC).

**VC12:** A female to MV at Yateley on 13 April (CPr) was the first in VC12 since 2001.

## Thyatiridae

### 1655 Poplar Lutestring *Tethea or* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Just one record received this year.

**VC22:** Mortimer West End, one on 14 June (GJD).

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

**Nb**

**VC12:** Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one to MV on 13 June (NM); Alton, one to actinic light on 15 July (DBO). Both were in the species' stronghold in the SE corner of N Hants.

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

**VC10:** One trapped at Bonchurch on 20 May (JHa) was a first for the garden and the 10-km square.

## Geometridae

### 1665 Grass Emerald *Pseudoterpna pruinata* (Walker, 1863)

Recorded from several sites in the New Forest, and at Sandy Point, Hayling and on the Isle of Wight. Larvae can be found on Gorse, Broom and Petty Whin.

### 1667 Blotched Emerald *Comibaena bajularia* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** One to MV light at Funtley on 21 September (MLO) was a suspected second brood, the first such record for Hampshire.

### 1677 Birch Mocha *Cyclophora albipunctata* (Hufnagel, 1767)

**VC12:** Only found sparingly across the chalk belt, one trapped at Chilbolton on 25 May (GCE) was new for the 10-km square.

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

**Migrant**

**VC10:** Two came to MV at Bonchurch in August and ten more in October (JHa).

**VC11:** Hill Head one to MV on 22 May (RJC conf. KW). Hayling Island, singletons to MV on 25 September and 3 & 8 October (SJW).

### 1691 Rosy Wave *Scopula emutaria* (Hübner, 1809)

**Nb**

**VC10:** Cranmore, one to actinic on 7 June was a first for the garden (I&CF det. SAK-J).

**VC11:** The usual scattering of records from the New Forest and Hayling Island.

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Matley Wood, one by day on 13 June (PAB); Ocknell Plain, one by day on 17 June (TJN, MJW); Brockenhurst, one to MV on 12 July (RBW).

### 1699 Least Carpet *Idaea rusticata* Lempke, 1967

Fourteen records all from the north of the county is unprecedented.

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

**Nb**

No records received.

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

**Migrant/RDB3**

**VC11:** One to MV light at Lyminster on 6 September was the only record (PRD).

### 1716 Vestal *Rhodometra sacraria* (Linnaeus, 1767)

**Migrant**

Over 400 were reported last year compared with just two in 2007.

**VC11:** Funtley, one to MV on 16 June (MLO).

**VC12:** Greywell, one to MV on 6 October (PBo).



1632 **Pale Eggar**  
*Trichiura crataegi*  
 Morgaston Wood, 25 August  
 (Tim Norriss)



1665 **Grass Emerald**  
*Pseudoterpna pruinata*  
 Larva on Gorse,  
 Milkham Inclosure, New Forest  
 5 April  
 (Dave Green)



1854 **Juniper Pug**  
*Eupithecia pusillata*  
 Larva, Stockbridge Down, 18 April –  
 adult bred (inset)  
 (Dave Green)





1880 **Barred Tooth-striped**  
*Trichopteryx polycommata*  
Leckford, 5 April  
(Glynn Evans)



1903 **Barred Umber**  
*Plagodis pulveraria*  
Morgaston Wood,  
28 April  
(Mike Wall)



1947 **Engrailed**  
*Ectropis bistortata*  
Larva on Hawthorn,  
Milkham Inclosure, New Forest  
5 April  
(Dave Green)

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Wickham Common, one on 23 June (KC).

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

**VC8:** Larva found by day on 14 April at Martin Down (DGG).

**1720 Gem *Orthonama obstipata*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**Migrant**

About 100 were reported in 2006 but only ten this year. All came to MV.

**VC10:** Totland, one on 11 April, one on 15 August and another on 2 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one on 18 April (AJ); South Brockenhurst, one on 24 April and another on 31 October (RBW); Hurn, one on 19 June (MJ); Blashford Lakes HWT Reserve, one on 4 August (RAC); Ashurst, one on 18 August (KG).

**VC12:** Dummer, one male on 14 October (PDF).

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

**Na**

**VC11:** One at Hurn on 10 April was well outside the previously known county range (MJ).

**VC12:** Chilbolton, one on 16 March was the earliest county record and was followed by others on 10 April and 1 August (GCE); Ovington Mill, six to MV on 14 July (ACr, TJN, MJW); Longstock, one on 25 August (GCE).

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

Seven records in the usual areas

**VC12:** One trapped at Yateley on 10 July was a first for the garden (CPr).

**1731 Chalk Carpet *Scotopteryx bipunctaria cretata*** (Prout, 1937)

**Nb**

This was one of the target species for National Moth Night and Day.

**VC11:** Broughton Down, one by day on 8 July (KC) was followed by another on 27 July (MG) and seven at dusk on 11 August (AHD); four netted at dusk at Ramsdean Down, Butser Hill on 24 July (AHD).

**VC12:** One was seen by day at Pilot Hill, Facombe on 22 August (MG, MFW).

**1735 Ruddy Carpet *Catarhoe rubidata*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC10:** Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, one to MV on 10 June (TDC, SRC).

**VC11:** Wickham Common, one on 12 July (KC); Sandy Point, Hayling, one on 12 July (AJ); one to MV at Portchester on 14 July (JS).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 18 June (RAB).

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

Away from the coast in VC11 the only records were:

**VC10:** Cranmore, one to actinic, 12 October, new to garden (I&CF conf. TJN from photo).

**VC12:** One at South Warnborough on 2 September was a first for the garden and a new 10-km square record (E&PR conf. TJN from photo).

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

**VC11:** One to MV light at Fletchers Water, NF on 13 April (P&CA, JBI, RCr) was more than a month earlier than the previous earliest record.

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

**VC11:** Ashurst, one on 25 August (KG); Brockenhurst, one on 30 August (RBW) were the only records received.

**1751 Devon Carpet *Lampropteryx otregiata*** (Metcalf, 1917)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV at Ladycross on 4 August (PAC) was the only record.

**1771 Juniper Carpet** *Thera juniperata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

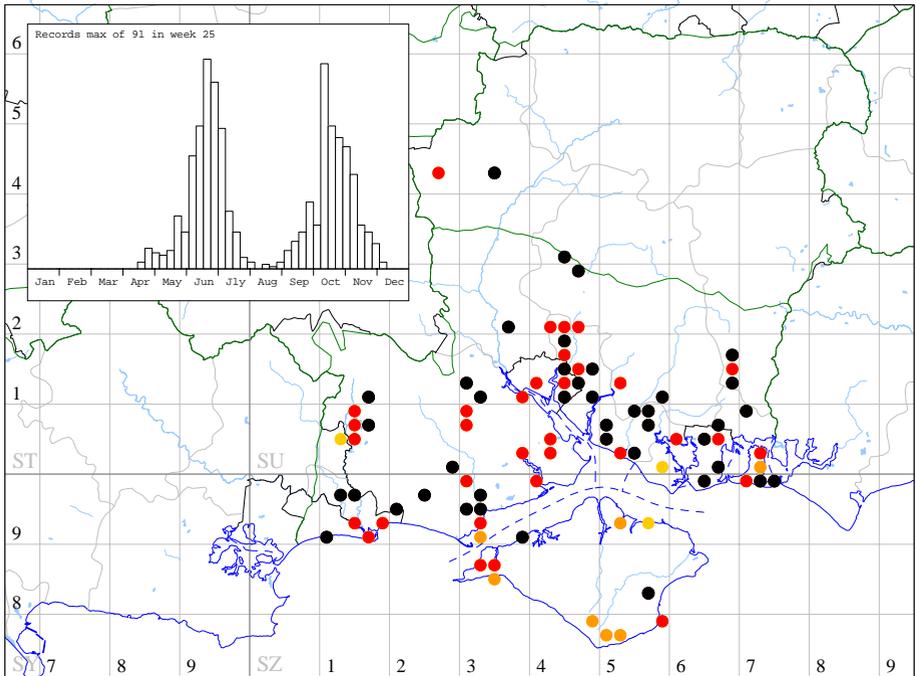
**VC11:** One to MV on 29 April at Sandy Point, Hayling (AJ) was the first recorded on Hayling since 1995.

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

Widespread reports were received across South Hants and the expected spread into the north of the county has started.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 13 June (RAB); Anna Valley, singles to actinic on 7 and 13 October (TJN) were a new 10-km square record. These were the third to fifth VC records.

**1771a Cypress Carpet** (*Thera cupressata*)



**1771a Cypress Carpet** *Thera cupressata* – all records in the county database. 2007 records are shown in black.

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

**Nb**

No records were received for the second year running. Hopefully that was only due to the poor weather in May and June and this beautiful moth will again be seen flying in 2008.

**1790 Tissue** *Triphosa dubitata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Clanfield, one on 22 June (D&JM det. TJN from photo) was the only record.

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

**Nb**

**VC10:** One to MV light at Totland on 31 August (SAK-J).

**VC11:** North Gorley, one on 29 June (P&CA); Christchurch, one on 15 July (RAC); Great Linford, NF, one on 28 July (DW).

**VC12:** Grayshott, one on 11 August (RTu).

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

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, one on 7 July (AJ) was a first for Hayling.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 9 June (RAB).

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

**VC11:** Cadnam, one on 18 July (MP).

**VC12:** Kempshott Copse, one on 23 June (PDF).

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

**VC:** Brockenhurst, one to MV on 27 June (RBW).

**VC12:** Singles to MV at Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber on 10 and 11 June (GJD).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Thirteen scattered records through the New Forest from 9 April to 3 May. This species normally flies until the end of May.

**1820 Pinion-spotted Pug *Eupithecia insigniata*** (Hübner, 1790)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One at Northney, Hayling on 19 April is the earliest Hampshire record (JWP).

**VC12:** One came to MV on 28 April Magdalen Hill Down BC reserve (PDF).

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

**VC11:** Cosham, one on 17 May (TJJ).

**1824 Pauper Pug *Eupithecia egenaria*** Herrich-Schäffer, 1848

**RDB3**

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 9 June (RAB). This is the fourth year in succession that it has been recorded at this site.

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

**VC10:** Wheeler's Bay, Ventnor, eight to MV on 8 June (SRC, TDC) was a new 10-km square record and the second island record.

**1841 Yarrow Pug *Eupithecia millefoliata*** Rössler, 1866

**Nb**

**VC12:** The stronghold is in the south-east of the county but it was encouraging that it was shown to be breeding on Magdalen Hill Down BC reserve where PDF found six larvae on 7 October on the seed-heads of Yarrow.

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

**VC8:** Martin Down, four larvae beaten from Juniper with one tap on 19 April (DGG).

**VC12:** Thirty-five larvae beaten from three stems of Juniper on 18 April at Stockbridge Down (DGG).; one adult to MV at Cholderton Lodge on 27 August (HE); Noar Hill, one to MV on 1 September (PTw).

**1855 Cypress Pug *Eupithecia phoeniceata*** (Rambur, 1834)

**VC12:** Bishops Sutton, one on 26 August (PGLT) was a new 10-km square record; one at Dummer on 31 August (PDF).

**1855a Channel Islands Pug *Eupithecia ultimaria*** Boisduval, 1840

**VC11:** Recorded at five sites around Southsea and Hayling Island between 24 May and 4 September. The first date is the earliest ever in the county and is an indication of the very early spring.

**1859 Sloe Pug *Pasiphila chloerata*** Mabilie, 1870

**VC10:** Cranmore, singles on 31 May and 7 June (I&CF det. SAK-J).

**VC11:** Wickham Common, four larvae beaten from Blackthorn on 11 April (KW), and one adult to MV on 24 May (KC).

**VC12:** South Wonston, two on 25 May (PJSS); Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 13 June (RAB).

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

**VC11:** Lymington, one to MV on 15 June was a first for the garden (MW).

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

**VC11:** Blashford Lakes HWT, singles on 12 October and 3 November (RAC).

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

Recorded in good numbers in both of the mainland vice-counties from 28 April to 10 June. No second brood was noted this year.

**1880 Barred Tooth-striped *Trichopteryx polycommata*** ([D. & S.], 1775) **Na**

**VC12:** Leckford golf course, one to actinic light on 5 April (GCE).

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

**VC11:** Wickham Common, one on 4 September (KC) was the only record.

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

These are the first April records for the county.

**VC11:** Brockenhurst, one on 17 April (RBW); Orchard Copse, Wickham, a male on 20 April (RJD *et al*); Wickham Common, one on 4 May (KC).

**VC12:** One trapped at Morgaston Wood on 28 April (ACr, TJN, MJW).

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

**VC11:** There were just three records: from Southsea, two on 1 September and one on 7 September (JRL, IRT); Clanfield, one on 7 September (D&JM).

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

There was no repeat of the large numbers that were seen in 2006 but there were nonetheless 23 records, mainly of ones and twos, from the SE and NE of the county. The maximum count was of eight that came to actinic light at West Walk on 9 June (MJFS).

**1933 Scarce Umber *Agriopis aurantiaria*** (Hübner, 1799)

Four records of this uncommonly seen early winter species was unusual.

**VC11:** One to MV on 27 November (KC).

**VC12:** Chilbolton, one on 2 November (GCE); Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one to 7 November (NM); at least twenty came to light at Preston Oak Hills, Lasham on 27 November (PDF, CW).

**1938 Bordered Grey *Selidosema brunnearia*** Staudinger, 1901 **Na**

**VC11:** One disturbed from the heather by day near Frogham, NF, on 31 July was the only record (PDa). A larva was swept from heather at Ocknell Plain, NF on 17 June (MJW det. photo DGG).

**1939 Ringed Carpet *Cleora cinctaria*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Na**

Seven records were received, all from the south-west.

**VC11:** The first of the year came to MV at Hurn on 16 March (MJ) and was the earliest record ever in our area by about two weeks; the last record was of two adults by day at Bratley on 2 June (MBa).

**1940 Satin Beauty *Deileptenia ribeata*** (Clerck, 1759)

**VC11:** Five records including, notably, six to MV at West Walk on 29 June and three there on 6 July (RJD *et al*).

**VC12:** Alton, one to actinic on 3 July was new to the 10-km square (DBO); nr Overton, one to MV on 31 July (BE, JRL).

**1945 Brussels Lace *Cleorodes lichenaria*** (Hufnagel, 1767)

A very good year with widespread records from around the New Forest, three records on West Wight, and seven records in the Test valley in the Leckford and Chilbolton area.

**VC11:** Hot on the heels of last year's first ever second brood record comes another, this time at Great Linford, NF, on 13 October (DW).

**1947 Engrailed *Ectropis bistortata*** (Goeze, 1781)

A widespread double-brooded species whose larvae can be found on a wide variety of trees and shrubs. The larvae are easy to rear in captivity.

**1959 Sloe Carpet *Aleucis distinctata*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1839)

**VC11:** North Gorley, one on 22 April (P&CA) was a first for the garden.

**VC12:** Upper Inhams Copse, Pamber, one to MV on 11 April (GJD).

**1962 Barred Red *Hylaea fasciaria*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Liss, one on 10 June was new to the 10-km square (PTw).

**1969 Grey Scalloped Bar *Dyscia fagaria*** (Thunberg, 1784)

**VC11:** One to MV at Great Linford on 4 May (DW) was the only record.

## Sphingidae

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

**Migrant**

The worst year for sometime with only nine records. 2006 saw about 230 records.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, four to MV between 27 August and 6 September (JHa); Totland, one to MV, 5 September (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Blashford Lakes HWT Reserve, one to MV, 17 August (RAC); Ashurst, one to MV, 22 August (KG); Northney, Hayling Island, one to MV, 22 September (JWP).

**VC12:** Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, one feeding on *Nicotiana*, 25 August (AHD).

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

**Migrant**

Just one record was received.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV, 30 September (RAB).

**1979 Lime Hawk-moth *Mimas tiliae*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC10:** An individual to MV on 3 October at Bonchurch (JHa). The only previous second brood reported in our area was in vc12 near Crawley on 15 October 2004 (RAB).

**1982 Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris tityus*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Na**

**VC8:** A first instar larva found on Devil's-bit Scabious at Martin Down on the remarkable date of 27 April (DGG) at a time when adults are normally just emerging. This would appear to indicate that adults had been on the wing a month previously and is a graphic illustration of just how early the spring was for many Lepidoptera. The first adult was seen there also on 27 April (DGG), followed by one on 28 April (CLB, NCo), two on 30 April (PE, MDu), one on 1 May (PRD), three on 4 May (ML), two on 5 May (NFr) and on 10 May when four sightings were made during a butterfly transect walk (NCo). The last report there, on 20 May (SWo) was about three weeks earlier than usual.

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** An adult was seen at Standing Hat, NF on 5 May (CLB); Bentley Wood, one on 16 May (MDu); Hengistbury Head, one adult on 18 May (TJN, MJS) and five on 26 May (MJ, MJS); larval feeding signs on Honeysuckle were found in New Copse Inclosure, NF, on 19

May (DGG, TJN).

**VC12:** At Bentley Station Meadow reserve an adult was seen and photographed nectaring on Bugle on 30 April and 2 May (MiY).

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

Just over 50 were reported compared with over 550 in 2006.

**VC10:** A total of five were seen at Totland during the year (SAK-J), and GT had one in his Apse Heath garden on 13 July.

**VC11:** Just over 35 were reported. The first was seen at Boscombe Cliff gardens on 6 March (MJS), with nine other March records. The last was at Funtley on 6 October (MLO).

**VC12:** A total of nine moths was reported. The first was seen at Brighton Hill, Basingstoke on 10 March and the last at Pilot Hill, Facombe on 27 September (MFW & MG).

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

**Migrant**

Just two records were received following at least 30 in 2006.

**VC10:** One to MV at Totland, 18 June (SAK-J).

**VC11:** One to MV at Funtley, 15 June (TDC).

## Notodontidae

**1998 Poplar Kitten *Furcula bifida* (Brahm, 1787)**

An unprecedented number of widespread reports throughout the mainland county with twenty of the first brood up to 11 June and thirteen of the second brood from 6 July.

**VC12:** One to MV at South Warnborough on 21 May was new to the 10-km square (E&PR conf. from photo TJN).

**2017 Small Chocolate-tip *Clostera pigra* (Hufnagel, 1766)**

**Nb**

**VC11:** Great Linford, one to actinic on 23 July was the only report received (DW).

**2020 Figure of Eight *Diloba caeruleocephala* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC12:** Magdalen Hill Down, one to MV on 12 October (LF, PDF, TJN) was the second for the reserve.

## Lymantriidae

**2027 Dark Tussock *Dicallomera fascelina* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC11:** Great Linford, one on 10 July (DW); Brockenhurst, one on 2 August (RBW).

**2031 White Satin *Leucoma salicis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC12:** Longstock, singles on 10 July and 9 August (GCE); Overton, singles on 10 and 17 July (AC); Ovington Mill, one on 14 July was a first for the site (AC, TJN, MJW); South Warnborough, one to MV on 14 July was a first for the garden (E&PR).

**2034 Gypsy Moth *Lymantria dispar* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**Migrant**

**VC12:** Two males were attracted to MV traps: Liss, one on 5 August (PTw) and one at Northwood Park, Crawley on 13 August (RAB).

## Arctiidae

**2036 Dew Moth *Setina irrorella* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC11:** Three larvae were found in six man hours of searching at Hurst Castle on the afternoon of 21 April (DGG, TJN). They were found by turning over the shingle stones and one had already spun a silken cocoon attached to the underside of a flat stone 75 diameter and was preparing to pupate; five adults were seen at the same site on 9 June (GCS).

**2045 Hoary Footman *Eilema caniola*** (Hübner, 1808)

**Migrant**

**VC10:** One to MV at Bonchurch on 1 August (JHa).

**VC12:** Farnborough one to MV on 1 August and another on 12 October (KBW). It appears that the suspected breeding population in the north-east, first reported in 2003, continues to be present.

**2051 Four-spotted Footman *Lithosia quadra*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Resident / Migrant**

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one on 24 July and another the next day (JHa).

**VC11:** About 30 were reported. The first was at Wickham Common on 18 June and the last sightings were on 31 October, one at South Brockenhurst (RBW) and another at Pennington (RCr). A total of nine were reported from Hurn (MJ).

**2056 Wood Tiger *Parasemia plantaginis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

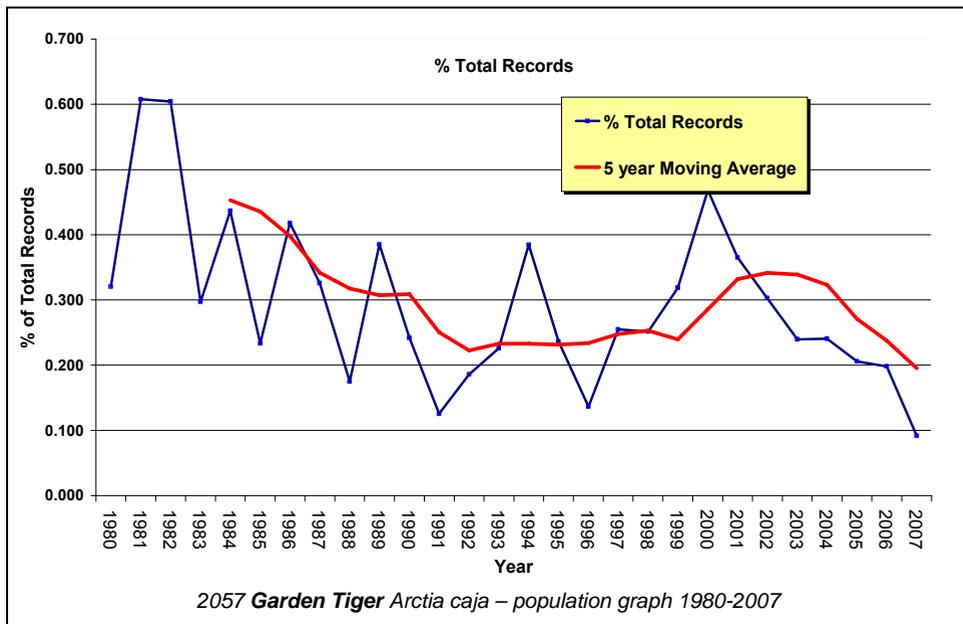
The only two records were:-

**VC8:** One by day at Martin Down on 5 May (NFr).

**VC12:** Thruxton Hill, three by day on 26 May (HE, TJN).

**2057 Garden Tiger *Arctia caja*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

As the graph below shows, the decline of Garden Tiger continues and reached its lowest point on record in 2007.



**2058 Cream-spot Tiger *Arctia villica*** (Oberthur, 1911)

**VC11:** There were just ten records of ones and twos along the south coast.

**2060 White Ermine *Spilosoma lubricipeda*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Early August records have been becoming more regular in recent years and have been reported in six of the eight years since the new millennium. In 2007 there were two even later records, on 1 September at North Gorley (P&CA), and at Cosham on 13 October (TJJ). These are the first such records in Hampshire although it is not unknown elsewhere on the south coast (Waring, Townsend & Lewington, 2003).

1990 **Striped Hawk-moth**  
*Hyles livornica*  
Funtley, 15 June  
(Trevor Codlin)



1998  
**Poplar Kitten**  
*Furcula bifida*  
Adult and larva  
(Dave Green)

2020  
**Figure of Eight**  
*Diloba*  
*caeruleocephala*  
Larva, Cadnam  
22 April  
(Maurice Pugh)



**2067 Jersey Tiger *Euplagia quadripunctaria*** (Poda, 1761)

**Nb**

**VC10:** The only record was of 34 to MV on 11 August at Ventnor (A&EB).

**2068 Scarlet Tiger *Callimorpha dominula*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** Fifteen seen by day at Winnall Moors NR on 27 June (A&LB) was the only record in double figures.

## Nolidae

**2075 Small Black Arches *Meganola strigula*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Na**

**VC11:** Brockenhurst, one on 19 June; Mark Ash Wood NF, one on 23 June (RBW); Ashurst, one on 12 July (KG).

**2076 Kent Black Arches *Meganola albula*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Widespread reports in the south of the county but not as numerous as in 2006.

**VC12:** Two were found by day on 1 July at Magdalen Hill Down BC reserve (PDF); one at Deadwater Valley, Bordon on 18 July (NM); one at Chilbolton on 1 August (GCE); Northwood Park Crawley, one on 5 August (RAB).

**2077 Short-cloaked Moth *Nola cucullatella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

There was no repeat of the second brood that was widespread in 2006.

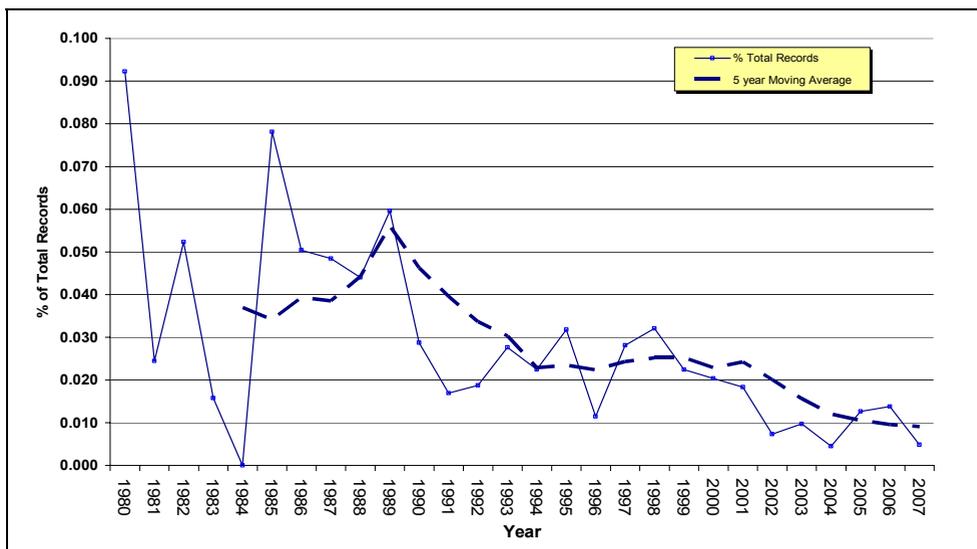
## Noctuidae

**2082 Garden Dart *Euxoa nigricans*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

Observers are reminded that a good photograph or specimen is required for records of this species to be accepted. As shown in the graph below, the long term decline continues but perhaps shows signs of bottoming out. Two validated records were received.

**VC11:** One to MV at Fareham on 15 July (KW).

**VC12:** Basingstoke, one to MV on 28 July (MJW).





2036 **Dew Moth** *Setina irrorella*  
 1. Main photo – larval habitat, Hurst Spit  
 2. Top – larva  
 3. Bottom – larva pupating  
 (1,2 Dave Green; 3 Tim Norriss)



2085  
**Archer's Dart**  
*Agrotis vestigialis*  
 Cadnam,  
 1 September  
 (Maurice Pugh)

**2085 Archer's Dart *Agrotis vestigialis*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

**VC11:** Singles at Great Linford, 23 August (DW); North Gorley, 25 August and 8 September (P&CA) and Cadnam, 1 September (MP) were all new for the respective sites.

**2090 Crescent Dart *Agrotis trux lunigera*** Stephens, 1829

**Nb**

**VC10:** A second brood individual trapped on 11 October at Totland (SAK-J) was the only report.

**2091 Dark Sword-grass *Agrotis ipsilon*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

**Migrant**

About 25 reports were received compared with about 350 in 2006.

**VC10:** About ten were reported.

**VC11:** Just over 15 records were received. The first was caught at Lymington on 23 April (KC) and the last at Lovedean on 13 November (ARJ).

**VC12:** only three were reported, with one in Basingstoke on 26 April (MJW); on 8 October one came to MV at Chilbolton and the last trapped at Longstock on 1 November (GCE).

**2105 Dotted Rustic *Rhyacia simulans*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

**VC11:** One was trapped at the Hangers, Bishops Waltham on 7 July (SI).

**2110a Langmaid's Yellow Underwing *Noctua janthina*** ([D. & S.], 1775)

**Migrant**

There is still no actual evidence that this is breeding in the south of the county.

**VC11:** West Town, Hayling Island, singletons to MV on 20 July and 2 August (GSAS); Northney, Hayling Island, one to MV on 8 August and another the next night (JWP); Southsea, one to MV on 1 August (JRL) and another on 23 August (IRT).

**2119 Pearly Underwing *Peridroma saucia*** (Hübner, 1808)

**Migrant**

Only about 70 individuals were reported in 2007 compared with over 500 in 2006 (see graph p.153). However they were spread over a longer period of time. Both the first, 14 March (GSAS), and the last, 1 November (SJW) were caught on Hayling Island.

**2137 Great Brocade *Eurois occulta*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Na / Migrant**

Compared with last year's record 39 individuals there were eight records in 2007. However this is the second highest annual count. Like last year, all records were in a narrow time frame, 22 to 26 August, which mirrored the national picture as a whole.

**VC11:** Ashurst, one to MV on 22 August (KG); North Gorley, one seen on 25 August (P&CA); Eastleigh, one to MV on 25 August (SI); Sholing, Southampton, one to MV on 26 August (ARC).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 23 August (RAB); Longstock, one to MV on 24 August (GCE); Bishops Sutton, one to MV on 25 August (PGLT), Cholderton, one to MV on 25 August (HE).

**2140 White-marked *Cerastis leucographa*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

As usual all records were from north Hampshire (see distribution map overleaf).

**VC12:** Leckford, one to actinic light on 15 March (GCE); Upper Inhams Copse, singles on 12 and 16 April (GJD); Overton, one on 14 April (ACr); Basingstoke, one on 16 April and a second on 20 April (MJW); Morgaston Wood, one on 28 April (TJN, MJW & ACr).

**2171 Marbled Coronet *Hadena confusa*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

**VC12:** One to MV at Chilbolton on 5 June (GCE conf. from photo by Andy Mitchell).

**2172 White-spot *Hadena albimacula*** (Borkhausen, 1792)

**RDB2**

**VC11:** Browndown, five larvae were found on Nottingham Catchfly on 5 July (AHD).

**2176 Antler Moth *Cerapteryx graminis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

The Antler Moth has declined since the 1990s, as illustrated by the distribution map overleaf.

**VC11:** Lymington, one to MV on 4 August and another on 10 August (PRD).

**VC12:** Noar Hill Hanger, one to MV on 1 September (PTw).

**2183 Blossom Underwing *Orthosia miniosa*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

At least 80 adults were reported, compared with 18 in 2006.

**2184 Northern Drab *Orthosia opima*** (Hübner, 1809)

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 16 April (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Ashurst, one to MV on 10 April and another on 12 April (KG); Lovedean, one to MV on 4 May (ARJ).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 14 April (RAB).

**2195 Delicate *Mythimna vitellina*** (Hübner, 1808)

**Migrant**

About 200 individuals were reported in 2007 compared with over 1000 in 2006. However this migrant did better than many (see graph p.153).

**VC10:** Described as very common at Bonchurch (JHa) but there were only three records from elsewhere on the Island.

**VC12:** RAB recorded 62 at Northwood Park, Crawley but there were only 18 reported elsewhere.

**2201 Shore Wainscot *Mythimna litoralis*** (Curtis, 1827)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Hayling Island, one to MV on 3 June (AJ) and another on 22 October (SJW).

**2202 L-album Wainscot *Mythimna l-album*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

Like 2006, a large number of records was received (over 300) mainly from the south coast.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 13 September (RAB); Alton, one to actinic light on 1 October (DBO).

**2203 White-speck *Mythimna unipuncta*** (Haworth, 1809)

**Migrant**

Just two late records of singletons were received.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 31 October (JHa).

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 2 November (JRL).

**2211 Wormwood *Cucullia absinthii*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Nb**

**VC12:** Sherborne St John, one to MV on 16 July (NM).

**2214 Chamomile Shark *Cucullia chamomillae*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** Adults were recorded at MV at Romsey on 26 April (MBa) and Wickham Common on 8 May (KC).

**2219 Striped Lychnis *Shargacucullia lychnitis*** Rambur, 1833

**Na**

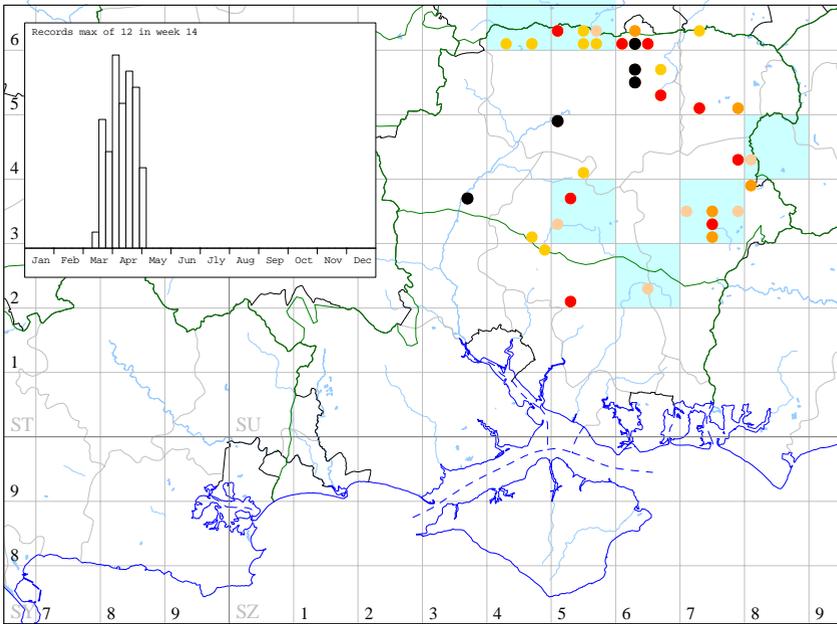
Many records of larvae were received from VC12 mainly from GCE which included 52 at Sutton Scotney on 28 July.

**2227 Sprawler *Asteroscopus sphinx*** (Hübner, 1822)

This species does not come readily to MV and is more often attracted to actinic or to houselights.

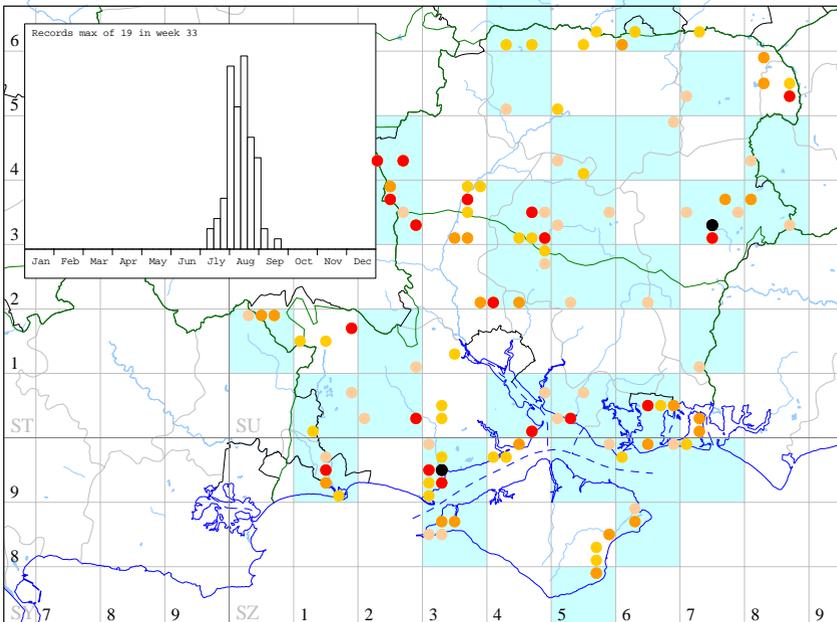
**VC10:** A total of 19 came to two actinic lights at Cranmore on 19 November. This was exceeded by the 28 that were attracted to a lighted window on 25 November 2006 (I&CF).

2140 White-marked (*Cerastis leucographa*)



2140 **White-marked** *Cerastis leucographa* – all records in the county database.  
2007 records are shown in black, post-2000 records in red.

2176 Antler Moth (*Cerapteryx graminis*)



2176 **Antler Moth** *Cerapteryx graminis* – all records in the county database.  
2007 records are shown in black, post-2000 records in red.

2246a **Oak Rustic**  
*Dryobota labecula*  
Lepe, 17 October 2006  
(Reg Bell)



2211 **Wormwood**  
*Cucullia absinthii*  
Larva, Hungary 2007  
(Tim Norris)

2211 **Wormwood**  
*Cucullia absinthii*  
Sherborne St John,  
16 July (Mike Wall)



**2235 Tawny Pinion *Lithophane semibrunnea*** (Haworth, 1809)

Just six individuals were reported.

**VC11:** Hazel Grove, Ashurst on 19 January (KG); Funtley on 11 March (TDC); Solent Breezes on 16 March (PC); North Gorley on 28 April (P&CA); Highcliffe, Christchurch on 12 October (RAC).

**VC12:** Dummer, one on 13 October (PDF).

**2241 Red Sword-grass *Xylena vetusta*** (Hübner, 1813)

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 15 April (SAK-J).

**VC11:** South Brockenhurst, one on 6 March (RBW); Lymington, one on 11 March (PRD); Wickham Common, one on 12 March (KC).

**2246a Oak Rustic *Dryobota labecula*** (Esper, 1788)

**Migrant**

Only six individuals were recorded. There was no evidence of breeding this year.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 14 October and five on 29 October (JHa).

**2251 Flame Brocade *Trigonophora flammea*** (Esper, 1785)

**Migrant**

Just three records were received.

**VC10:** Singletons trapped at MV on 3 November at Bonchurch (JHa) and Totland (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 25 October (AJ).

**2264a Southern Chestnut *Agrochola haematidea*** (Duponchel, 1827)

**RDB2**

This species was first found in Hampshire in 1996.

**VC11:** Hurn, singletons to MV on 8, 14 & 31 October (MJ).

**2265 Flounced Chestnut *Agrochola helvola*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 9 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Hurn, one to MV on 29 September (MJ); Hazel Grove, Ashurst one to MV on 1 October and another on 8 October (KG); Great Linford, one to MV on 11 October and a second on 27 October (DW).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 20 October (RAB). This was the first record from this site for over 20 years.

**2271 Orange Sallow *Xanthia citrigo*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Just three records were received. All came to MV. Sandy Point, Hayling Island on 14 September (AJ); Wickham, one on 19 September (JRDS); Highcliffe, Christchurch, 29 September (RAC).

**2275 Dusky-lemon Sallow *Xanthia gilvago*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Just one record was received. This is only the second VC12 record since 1985.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 16 October (RAB).

**2277 Scarce Merveille du Jour *Moma alpium*** (Osbeck, 1778)

**RDB3**

A total of 24 was recorded, all from VC11. The largest total was five to MV at Fletchers Water, New Forest on 25 May (TJN *et al*).

**2290 Reed Dagger *Simyra albovenosa*** (Goeze, 1781)

**Nb**

A rarely recorded inhabitant of reed-beds. The following is the tenth record this century in our area.

**VC11:** Hengistbury Head, Higher Salt Marsh, one to MV on 1 August (MJ) followed a previously unreported one there in 2006.

**2292 Tree-lichen Beauty *Cryphia algae*** (Fabricius, 1775)

**Migrant**

There were just six reported in 2007. All were singletons to MV.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, 23 August (JHa).

**VC11:** Fareham, 13 August (KW); Southsea, 16 August (IRT); Hayling Island, 30 August (SJW det. AJ); Sandy Point, 1 & 3 September (AJ).

**2304 Orache Moth *Trachea atriplicis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

This is only the eighth of this migrant species to be reliably recorded in the two counties. The first was in 1995.

**VC10:** Cranmore, one to actinic light on 24 July (I&CF det. TJN from photo).

**2362 Butterbur *Hydraecia petasitis*** Doubleday, 1847

**VC12:** Chilbolton, one to MV on 8 August (GCE) is only the third adult recorded in the county this century.

**2367 Haworth's Minor *Celaena haworthii*** (Curtis, 1829)

**VC12:** Ovington Mill, five to MV on 14 July (TJN, MJW & ACr).

**2368 Crescent *Celaena leucostigma*** (Hübner, 1808)

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 1 August and another on 4 August (IRT); Chilling one on 5 September (PMP), Manor Farm CP, one on 5 September (PC).

**VC12:** Leckford Estate, one on 28 August (GCE).

**2376 Blair's Wainscot *Sedina buettneri*** (Hering, 1858)

**Migrant / RDB1**

This is the first record since 1952 following the destruction of its habitat on the Island. There have been two other records of presumed migrants in England this year although there is a breeding population in Dorset.

**VC10:** one to MV at Totland on 12 October (SAK-J).

**2385 Small Mottled Willow *Spodoptera exigua*** (Hübner, 1808)

**Migrant**

Only one record received, perhaps the poorest on record. In 2006 there were over 650 reported of this normally fairly common immigrant (see graph p.153).

**VC 11:** one to MV at Sandy Point NR, Hayling Island on 11 August (JRL, BE, JWP, IRT).

**2387a Clancy's Rustic *Platyperigea kadenii*** (Freyer, 1836)

**Migrant**

This is probably now resident, and turned up in the north of Hampshire for the first time.

**VC10:** A total of 25 was recorded at Bonchurch by JHa.

**VC11:** There were 25 moths reported in 2007, mainly from Hayling Island and Southsea, but there were also three records from west of Southampton.

**VC12:** See New Vice-county Records above.

**2391 Silky Wainscot *Chilodes maritimus*** (Tauscher, 1806)

Only three moths of this species, which is associated with large reed-beds in all three vice-counties, were reported.

**VC11:** Sholing, Southampton, one on 9 June (ARC); Lymington, one on 11 June (MW); Funtley, one on 19 June (TDC). All three came to MV.

**2392a Porter's Rustic *Proxenus hospes*** (Freyer, 1831)

**Migrant**

**VC10:** Following the first county record last year. JHa caught two more at MV at Bonchurch, 13 August and 3 October.

**2396 Rosy Marbled *Elaphria venustula*** (Hübner, 1790)

**Nb**

Although not as good as last year a total of 32 individuals was recorded. Of these 28 were from VC11, two from VC12 and two from VC22.

**2400 Scarce Bordered Straw *Helicoverpa armigera*** (Hübner, 1808)

**Migrant**

After last year's total of about 1,200 moths, 2007 saw just four records (see graph p.153).

**VC10:** Bonchurch, singletons to MV on 9, 11 & 13 October (JHa).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 11 October (AJ).

**2401 Marbled Clover *Heliothis virescens*** (Hufnagel, 1766) **RDB3**

**VC12:** On 4 June one was watched feeding from the flowers of Red Clover by day on the Cholderton Estate (HE).

**2403 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Migrant**

After some 250 moths in 2006, this was another great disappointment (see graph right).

**VC11:** Chilling, two to MV on 15 June (PMP); Fareham, one to MV on 17 June (KW).

**2412 Silver Hook *Deltote uncula*** (Clerck, 1759)

**VC12:** One to MV at Northwood Park, Crawley on 3 June (RAB) was the year's only record.

**2418 Cream-bordered Green Pea *Earias clorana*** (Linnaeus, 1761) **Nb**

One was recorded on the Isle of Wight and 15 in South Hants.

**2436 Dewick's Plusia *Macdunnoughia confusa*** (Stephens, 1850) **Migrant**

Unlike most immigrants, this appears to have done well with a total of six recorded.

**VC11:** Lovedean, one to MV on 6 September; Fareham (ARJ); one to MV on 1 October and another on 27 October (KW); Leigh Park, one to MV on 21 September (CBC); Ashurst, one to MV on 22 October (KG).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 21 September (RAB).

**2437 Golden Plusia *Polychrysis moneta*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Just four individuals were reported, all to MV.

**VC11:** Ashurst on 7 June (KG); St Cross, Winchester on 26 June (TWA); Northney, Hayling Island on 6 September (JWP).

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley on 2 July (RAB).

**2441 Silver Y *Autographa gamma*** (Linnaeus, 1758) **Migrant**

About 1,250 records were received compared with some 12,000 in 2006.

**VC10:** Just over 400 individuals were reported. Totland provided 397 of these including the first on 24 March (SAK-J).

**VC11:** About 650 moths were reported. The first was at Lymington on 1 February (PRD) and the last at Lovedean on 20 November (ARJ).

**VC12:** Some 200 were reported. Two came to MV on the very early date of 19 January. One was at Basingstoke (MJW), the other was at Fleet (GCS). The last was trapped at Alton on 5 November (DBO).

**2447 Scarce Silver Y *Syngrapha interrogationis*** (Linnaeus, 1758) **Migrant**

**VC12:** One to MV at Deadwater Valley, Bordon on 23 August (Mike Wearing det. NM, photo). Only the second record for the vice-county, the other being in 1964.

**2451 Clifden Nonpareil *Catocala fraxini*** (Linnaeus, 1758) **Migrant**

There are 28 previous reports of this species in the two counties. All were singles to MV.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, 25 September (JHa); Totland, 6 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** South Brockenhurst, 19 September (RBW).

**2454 Light Crimson Underwing *Catocala promissa*** ([D. & S.], 1775) **RDB3**

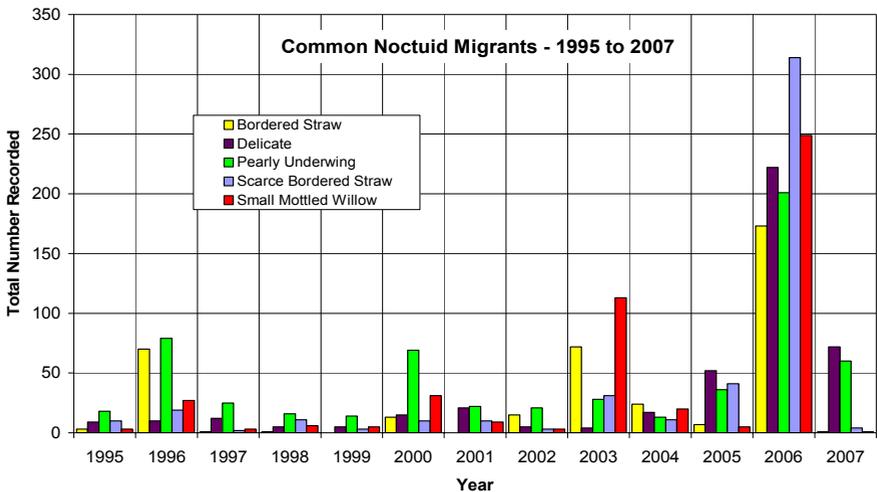
A total of 29 individuals was reported, all to MV.

**VC11:** South Brockenhurst, singletons on 23 June, 12 July and 9 August (RBW); Great Linford, 16 between 30 June and 17 August (DW); Hazel Grove, Ashurst, singletons on 7, 19, 24 July and 7 August (KG); Blashford Lakes HWT Reserve, one on 14 July (RAC); Bashley, New Milton, one on 14 July (J&BN); Pennington, one on 16 July (RCr); Ladycross Inclosure, New Forest, three on 4 August (PAC).

2362 **Butterbur** *Hydraecia petasitis*  
 Chilbolton, 8 August  
 (Glynne Evans)



2476 **Beautiful Snout** *Hypena crassalis*, Deadwater Valley,  
 Bordon  
 13 June  
 (Mike Wall)



**2455 Dark Crimson Underwing *Catocala sponsa* (L., 1767)**

**RDB2**

**VC11:** Hazel Grove, Ashurst, one to MV on 17 July (KG); Ladycross Inclosure, New Forest, three to MV on 4 August (PAC).

**VC12:** Upper Inhams Copse, one to MV on 16 August (GJD).

**2476 Beautiful Snout *Hypena crassalis* (Fabricius, 1787)**

**VC12:** Only one record received of this relatively rare species in the north of Hampshire: one to MV at Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 13 June (NM).

**2478 Bloxworth Snout *Hypena obsitalis* (Hübner, 1813)**

**RDB3**

A species which continues to be an Isle of Wight speciality, the last mainland record being back in 1995. There were four records in 2007.

**VC10:** Wheelers Bay, Ventnor, one was found hibernating in a shed on 27 March (AB) while SAK-J found one at Totland on 31 August (SAK-J); Bonchurch, one to MV on 18 September (JHa) and another at Sandown, 26 August (GT conf. MJW).

**2480 Buttoned Snout *Hypena rostralis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**Nb**

There were no records from the Island this year but it was fairly well recorded on the mainland.

**VC8:** At Damerham on 4 June, one to MV (PT); nearby, DGG beat a larva on 7 July.

**2482 White-line Snout *Schrankia taenialis* (Hübner, 1809)**

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV at Manor Farm CP on 24 August (PC conf. by gen. det. RJD).

**2485 Marsh Oblique-barred *Hypenodes humidalis* Doubleday, 1850**

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV on 20 June at South Brockenhurst was the only record received (RBW).

**2488 Common Fan-foot *Pechipogo strigilata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**Na**

**VC12:** Six were seen during the day at Harewood Forest on 7 May (HE, TJN); seven came to MV between 21 May and 20 June at Upper Inhams Copse (GJD).

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Waring, P., Townsend, M., and Lewington, R. 2003. **Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland.** British Wildlife Publishing, Milton on Stour, Dorset.

## List of observers

TA	Adamcik, Tony	CCa	Carter, Clive
DRA	Allan, Debbie	RAC	Chapman, Bob
MAI	Allen, Mike	JCha	Chawner, Judith
P&CA	Allen, Peter & Cindy	JMC	Cheverton, Jim M
MA	Angel, Martin	LC	Christopher, Lucy
IAR	Arnold, Ivan	S&BC	Clark, Sue & Barry
	Ayres, P		Clarke, Julian
EWB	Baigent , Ted	PCI	Clarke, Peter
K&JB	Bailey, Ken & June	SAC	Clarke, Susan A.
TBa	Baines, Tony	JC	Clements, Joy
CLB	Baker, Colin	JCI	Clifton, Jon
MBa	Baker, Mike	JMCI	Cloyne, John
DB	Ball, David	CC	Cockburn, Chris
AJB	Barker, Andy	TDC	Codlin, Trevor
A&LB	Barker, Andy & Linda	KC	Coker, Kevin
LJB	Barker, Linda	SRC	Colenutt, Simon
RBe	Beale, Robert	ARC	Collins, Andy
CBe	Bealey, Clive	CBC	Collins, Barry
RAB	Bell, Reg	JCoo	Cook, Jonathan
EJB	Bennett, E J	PCo	Cook, Patricia
DTB	Biggs, David T	PCK	Cook, Patrick
PBi	Billinghurst, Peter	RCo	Cook, Ray
NB	Binsted, Norman	RC	Cooke, Ron
JB1	Bloss, Juliet	RCK	Cooksley, Rebecca
ABo	Bolton, Andrew	RCr	Coomber, Richard
PBo	Boswell, Paul	CCo	Corney, Catherine
PBx	Box, Pete	HC	Cornford, Hilary
MBo	Boxall, Michael	ZC	Cowley, Zena
BB	Boyd, Bob	NCo	Cowling, Nigel
	Bradley, David	TAC	Crabb, Trevor
MRB	Brickwood, M R	MCr	Creese, Marian
DAB	Britton, Dennis	RCg	Croger, Ruth
RCB	Broadway, Rupert & family	ACr	Cross, Alison
AHB	Brookes, Andrew	AC	Cumming, Alastair
RBry	Bryant, Robert	SCur	Currie, Simon
RBu	Buchanan, Roger	SCu	Curson, Simon
CBu	Buckle, Chris	DD	Dana, Dave
DJB	Buckler, David J	PDa	Davey, Peter
PAB	Budd, Phil	PD	Davies, Paul
PB	Burford, Peter	A&CD	Dawson, Alan & Caroline
AB	Butler, Andy	SD	Dawson, Sandra
A&EB	Butler, Andy & Enid		Dennis, Carole
AMBB	Butterworth, Adrian	GJD	Dennis, Graham
CBt	Button, Chris	S&SD	Dennis, Shane & Sarah
BCa	Canning, Briony	JDe	Dewhurst, Jenna
CWC	Carpenter, Ches	RJD	Dickson, Richard
RJC	Carpenter, Richard	AHD	Dobson, Tony
TCa	Carpenter, Trevor	TD	Doran, Tim
MEC	Carr, M E	CD	Dudley, Caroline
PC	Carr, Peter	MDu	Duffy, Mike

PRD	Durnell, Pete	SHa	Harwood, Stephen
RJE	Eagling, Richard	KH	Haviland, Kit
GE	Eaton, Geoff	RHaw	Hawker, Rob
HE	Edmunds, Henry	GAH	Henwood, Glyn & Rose
RE	Edmunds, Rob	RHe	Herbert, Roger
PE	Eeles, Peter	JBH	Higgott, Jeff
TE	Ellery, Trevor	CHJH	Hill, C H J
BE	Elliott, Brian		Hill, Mike
SE&PR	Ellis, Sue & Phil Reynolds	DH	Hoare, Dan
	Else, George	THo	Holden, Theresa
GCE	Evans, Glynne	PRH	Hope, Paul
JE	Evans, Jenny	THr	Horner, Tony
JEv	Evans, Justin	AH	Hoskins, Adrian
SEv	Evans, Sheila	TH	Hotten, Terry
EF	Fairbothor, Eileen	DPH	Houghton, Dan
HF	Fisher, Heather		Howdon, David
KFi	Fisher, Keith		Hubble, David
PDF	Fleet, Patrick	RHu	Hughes, Richard
BPF	Fletcher, Brian & Marion	AHu	Hull, Alison
I&CF	Fletcher, Ian & Cath	JHu	Hunt, John
LF	Fomison, Lynn	PHu	Hutchin, Peter
	Fowler, Frank	SI	Ingram, Simon
RF	Fox, Richard	ARJ	Jafkins, Alan
NFr	Freeman, Nick	RJa	James, Roger
CFr	Fretwell, Carly	AMJ	James, Tony
MJG	Gibbons, Mike	MJ	Jeffes, Mike
J&EG	Gifford, Joyce & Edwin	TJJ	Jennings, Terry
TGi	Giles, Terry	AJ	Johnson, Andy
BG	Goater, Barry	JJo	Johnston, Jacklyn
KG	Godfrey, Keith	A&VJ	Jones, Anthea & Vernon
JGol	Goldsworthy, John	DJ	Jones, David
AGG	Goodall, Alastair	JJ	Jones, Janet
BGo	Goodey, Brian	GJo	Jones, Geoff
JGo	Goodspeed, John		Jones, Peter
JGr	Graham, Jim	IJu	Julian, Ian
AGr	Green, Alan	SKe	Keen, Steve
DGG	Green, David	HK	Kemm, Henry
ACG	Greenwood, Arthur	CK	Kemp, Catherine
MG	Grist, Mervyn	TK	Kennedy, Tricia
JG	Gulliver, John	MKi	Kilby, Mark
PGu	Guyster, Paul	SKi	King, Simon
MGwi	Gwilliam, Mary	SAK-J	Knill-Jones, Sam
M&MG	Gwilliam, Mike & Mary	DLa	Lambert, David
CRH	Hall, Chris	RLa	Lang, Robin
JH	Hall, Jan	D&RL	Langley, David & Rosalind
RHal	Hallett, Richard	JRL	Langmaid, John
JHa	Halsey, James	SRL	Lankester, Steve & Sheila
DHa	Hamilton, Dave	MLr	Larter, Mark
DHam	Hammersley, Douglas	MLa	Laux, Martin
MHa	Hardy, Michael	MLe	Ledeboer, Maarten
KHa	Harman, Kaye	MLo	Leonard, Mick
AHa	Harper, Alison	S&PL	Leversha, Sylvia & Peter

## Branch Photographic Competition 2007

Mother Shipton (Pete Durnell - winner UK moths) and Privet Hawk-moth caterpillar (Mike Skelton - winner immature stages)



RKL	Levett, Richard K	JPK	Park, Jim
RLi	Linfield, Ronald	RPa	Parkhurst, Richard
ML	Litjens, Mark	HP	Parry, Helen
DL	Longe, D	SPa	Pash, Steve
TL	Lyons, Ted	DPa	Payne, Dave
KJHM	MacLean, Ken	PP	Peach, Pauline
DMI	Malaperiman, David	DP	Pearson, Dave
JM	Mallett, Jenny	RPe	Pearson, Robin
MMA	Maniakowski, Michal	SPe	Penn, Stephen
SMa	Mansfield, Steve	MPe	Peters, Mo
PMa	Marriott, Pema	DPh	Phillips, David
KMa	Marston, Keith	JRP	Phillips, J R
AMa	Martin, Andy	JWP	Phillips, John
L&EM	Martin, Leslie & Elizabeth	CP	Piatkiewicz, Chris
PM	Martin, Peter	AJP	Pickles, Tony
D&JM	Mason, David & Judy	MPi	Pike, Mark
CM	Matthews, Colin	BPn	Pinchen, Bryan
ACM	McCue, Anne C	KJP	Plumridge, Keith
DMc	McGrath, Dave	BPo	Pollinger, Brian
IMcP	McPherson, Ivor	PMP	Potts, Peter
AMc	McVittie, Alan	IP	Pratt, Ian
DMe	Mears, David	JPr	Price, Janet
JMe	Mears, Jill	BP	Proctor, Barry
JMer	Mercer, Jon	CPr	Proudley, Colin
SMi	Miles, Stephen	MP	Pugh, Maurice
DLHM	Miller, D L H	BR	Ransom, Brian
PMi	Milward, Paul	DRa	Ranson, Dave
DM	Mitchell, Di	GR	Rapley, Geoff
WM	Mitchell, Wendy	PR	Raynor, Penny
DMo	Molyneux, Denise	E&PR	Raynor, Ted & Penny
NM	Montegriffo, Nick	AJR	Redfern, A.J.
JRM	Moon, J R	PRi	Richards, Pauline
GMo	Mordant, Gill	G&LR	Richardson, Gary & Lisa
DMr	Morriss, Donald	IRi	Riddett, Ian
RM-R	Mould-Ryan, Richard	TRO	Roberts, Theo
J&BN	Nash, Janet & Brian	T&MR	Roberts, Theo & Maureen
CN	Nesbitt, Corrine	NR	Rogers, Natalie
TJN	Norriss, Tim ,	PRo	Rouquette, Pam
JAN	Norton, J A	JR	Rowell, John
JN	Nundy, John A	JRu	Ruppersbery, John
DN	Nye, David	DRy	Ryves, Dave
COa	Oakley, Cliff	MWS	Sames, M W
MRO	Oates, Matthew	RS	Savage, Robert
MLO	Opie, Maurice	MSc	Scoggins, Michael
R&CO	Osmond, Richard & Christine	SS	Searl, Stuart
DBO	Owen, Dave	MSh	Shaft, Matthew
EJP	Pain, E J	RSh	Sharpe, Rich
JP	Pain, J	JRDS	Shillitoe, John
	Painter, Mark	AS	Simmonds, Adrian
GP	Palmer, Gary	MJS	Skelton, Michael
JPa	Palmer, Janet	ACS	Smallbone, A C
KPa	Palmer, Keith	TSm	Smalley, Thelma

LS	Smith, Linda	PVi	Vigus, Piers
PJSS	Smith, Peter	TJV	Viney, T J
JSo	Soloman, John	FW	Waddington, Francis
GSAS	Spraggs, George	TWa	Walker, Tim
	Spring, Elizabeth	MJW	Wall, Mike
BSp	Spurrell, Bill	DWa	Wallace, Dave
TS	Steele, Tony	JWa	Walshe, Jon
GCS	Stephenson, Graham	SWa	Walters, Sheila
CSe	Stevens, Claire	MW	Ward, Marcus
DSti	Stickley, Deb	M&ZW	Ward, Marcus & Zoe
RMS	Stobart, R M	MWa	Warren, Martin
JS	Stokes, Jon		Watts, Ian
SSt	Stokes, Sue	JWt	Watts, John
MJFS	Stoneman, Mike		Wearing, Mike
PJS	Strangeman, P J	JWe	Webb, John
LStr	Street, Les	VW	Webb, Vicky
LSt	Stride, Les	PWe	Welch, Pam
DS	Sussex, Des	P&PW	Welch, Pam & Peter
MSw	Swann, Mark	RWe	West, Rob
RSy	Symonds, Richard	DW	Westerhoff, Diana
	Taylor, Gary	JW	Westlake, Jeff
DAT	Thelwell, David	G&KW	Wheeler, G & K
IRT	Thirlwell, Ian	KW	Wheeler, Keith
D&TT	Thomas, Dave & Julie		Wheeler, Paul
PGLT	Thompson, Peter	CW	Wheelwright, Cressida
AT	Thornbury, Alan	RWhi	White, Robin
IT	Thumwood, Ian	AW	Whitlock, Ashley
CTi	Tilbury, Christine	RWh	Whitmarsh, Bob
ST	Tiller, Sally	MFW	Wildish, M F
DJAT	Tinling, D J A	PWi	Wilson, Phil
PT	Toynton, Paul	JWi	Willenbruch, Julie
MTr	Trapaud, Mike	NW	Williams, Nicola
MT	Trasenster, Mark	KBW	Wills, Keith
EJT	Tunnah, Elizabeth	JWis	Wise, John
P&RTu	Turner, P & R	SW	Woodd, Sue
RTu	Turner, Robin	PW	Woodruffe, Patricia
PTw	Twine, Pete	SWo	Woolley, Simon
NU	Urch, Nick	H&TW	Wootton, Hilary & Tony
RUr	Urwin, Rachel	ARW	Worman, Robin
PV	Vaughan, Peter	AWr	Wright, Adam
JVk	Velecky, Jean	SJW	Wright, Simon
JVe	Vetterlein, John	RBW	Wynn, Russell
GVi	Vick, Graham	MY	Young, Mark
JV	Vigay, John	MiY	Young, Mike

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# Butterfly Conservation

Butterfly Conservation is a charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)

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### Worldwide Web

Butterfly Conservation: [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

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Hants Moths: [www.hantsmoths.org.uk](http://www.hantsmoths.org.uk)

UK Butterflies: [www.ukbutterflies.co.uk](http://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk)

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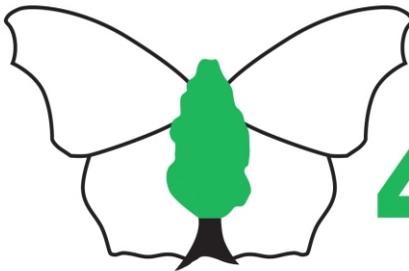
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