



Butterfly  
Conservation

# HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT BUTTERFLY & MOTH REPORT 2006



# Hampshire & Isle of Wight Butterfly & Moth Report, 2006

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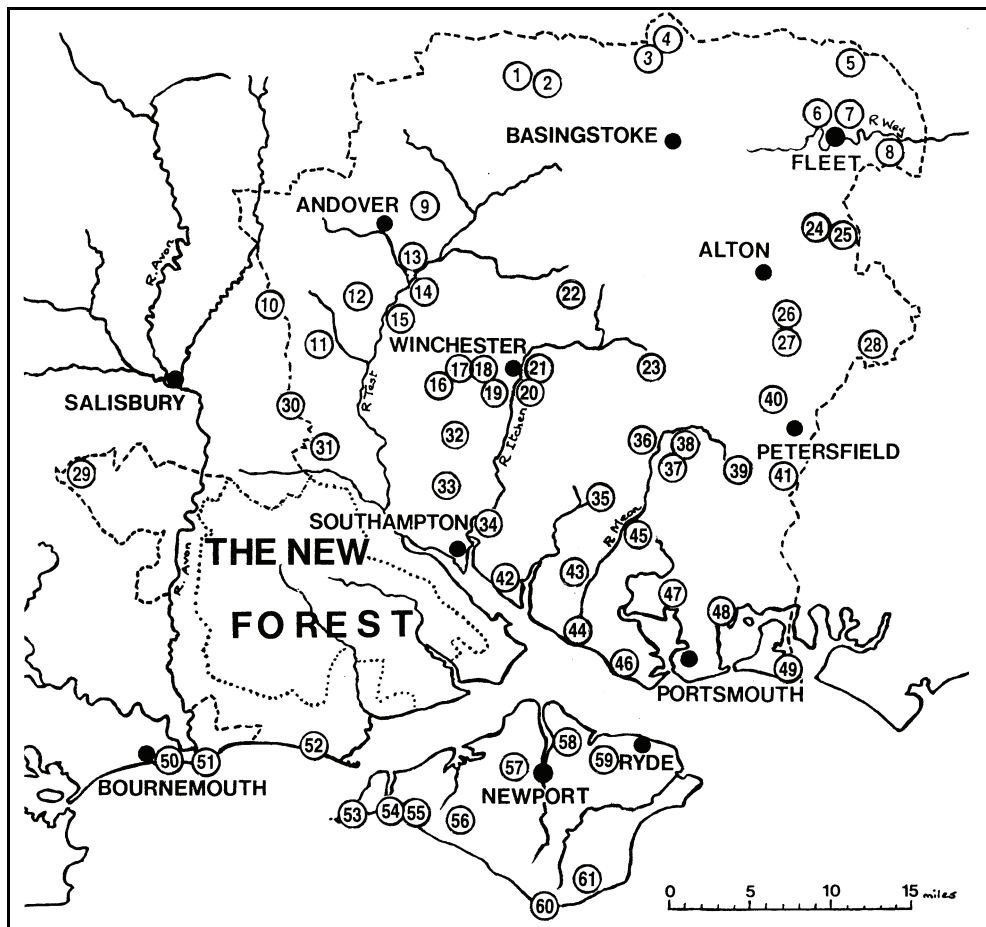


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## Contents

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	Page
<b>Butterfly and moth sites in Hampshire and Isle of Wight</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Editorial</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Branch reserves update</b>	<b>5</b>
Bentley Station Meadow	5
Magdalen Hill Down	6
Yew Hill	9
<b>Jersey Butterfly Monitoring Scheme</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Long-Tailed Blues in Jersey 2006</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Alderney Butterfly Monitoring Scheme</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Branch Photographic competition</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Extreme butterflying: The 2006 Purple Emperor season</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Weather report 2006</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Your records</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Butterfly report 2006</b>	<b>22</b>
The butterfly year 2006	22
Glossary of terms	22
Butterfly record coverage 2006	24
Summary of earliest-latest butterfly sightings 2006	25
2005-2006 butterfly trends in Hampshire & Isle of Wight	26
Species accounts	27
<b>Moth report 2006</b>	<b>94</b>
Editorial	94
Species accounts	96
<b>Additions and corrections to 2005 report</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>Vernacular and scientific names of plants</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>List of observers</b>	<b>156</b>



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.

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



## Key to map

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

The New Forest contains many important sites in a variety of habitats. Bold print indicates the Branch's three reserves.

For further details on where to watch butterflies and moths in our region, we can thoroughly recommend the following web sites which will provide a wealth of useful information. These include links to more detailed maps: -

**Alan Thornbury's Hampshire Butterflies** <http://www.purple-emperor.co.uk/>

**UK Butterflies** <http://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/index.php>

**Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust** <http://www.hwt.org.uk/>

2006 was an interesting year for butterflies and I hope this report reflects the fortunes of the species seen in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Thank you to everyone who sent in their observations. We received a record amount of data for 2006. Please continue in 2007 but as mentioned in last year's editorial please explore the wider countryside and don't just visit the well known sites.

I would like to draw your attention to the names on the inside of the front cover and to emphasis how much the report is a team effort. Producing the report starts with David Green and Ken Bailey who enter the records onto the database and Andy Barker and Pam Welch who organise and collate the data from the transects. Peter Eeles compiles the ever-increasing number of reports to our web site. From this data David generates the distribution maps and Andy produces the flight period and transect trend graphs. In addition Pam collates all the anecdotal comments which go to the writers along with data from our data-base to enable them to write their species accounts.

Moving onto the writers I would like to thank them for their commitment and enthusiasm. Unfortunately three names were inadvertently edited out of the list last year and I would like to apologise to Sue Ellis, Mike Gibbons and Joyce Gifford. Sue Ellis decided not to continue writing this year and I would like to thank her on behalf of the Branch for all the work she has contributed over the years. Alison Harper, who has always been involved with the production of the report, has joined our team of writers, she has taken on the Speckled Wood and the Marbled White.

On completion of the various components of the report, David Green and Mike Wall, the production editors, carry out the important role of assembling the report into a format which is ready to print. We did this for the first time with the 2005 report which saved money and allowed us to make the report bigger and include more photographs. Finally, the proof reading is carried out by Ken Bailey.

We would particularly like to acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors who make the production of this report possible. The Branch receives donations from many individuals and organisations to support our work and we are always pleased to receive any contribution, however small.

This year, in addition to the regular species and branch reserve accounts, Matthew Oates has written a fascinating personal account of his Purple Emperor season and as our Branch also covers the Channel Islands we have three articles from Jersey and Alderney.

As you glance through the report you may notice a picture of an Apollo. Yes it was a good year for immigrants but this one didn't reach our shores. We held a photographic competition at last year's Branch member's Day and the Apollo was the winner of the overseas category. All of the winners appear in the report. We are fortunate in having so many skilled photographers in the Branch. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire which was sent out with the 2005 report, the feed-back was very useful. We have incorporated some of your suggestions in this report and are planning to include further suggestions in future editions.

I hope you all have an enjoyable butterfly season; I look forward to receiving your records later in the year.

## BRANCH RESERVES UPDATE

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### Bentley Station Meadow

Lynn Fomison

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Although it is the smallest of our reserves, Bentley Station Meadow continues to support a rich array of wildlife. Some of the most exciting things are the smallest, like the Glow-worms *Lampyrus noctiluca* espied by Alton Naturalists Society on 12 July and on an earlier visit one of the society's member was particularly impressed by the array of dragonflies including Golden Ringed Dragonfly *Cordulegaster boltonii*, Emperor Dragonfly *Anax imperator* and a Banded Demoiselle *Calopteryx splendens*.

Tony Mundell, Botanical Recorder for North Hampshire, commented on the good quantity of Pepper Saxifrage and the beauty of the wild flowers in early July including Zig-zag Clover and Betony: "It was a joy to see such a colourful meadow - you obviously have the management just right!"

A lot of effort does go into management and the meadow is well supported by a willing band of volunteers and with a grant from Natural England funding the ongoing scrub control and tree felling that we pay contractors to do. Each autumn the reserve is grazed by traditional breeds of cattle like Belted Galloways and Irish Moileds provided by Millers Ark Animals. This grazing does pay off: the wild flowers are splendid and they support more insects than just the butterflies and moths. It is a whole wonderful network of birds and mammals, reptiles and amphibians too. Our transect walkers often provide notes on all the wildlife they have seen whilst counting the butterflies and this helps to improve our knowledge and records of the reserve's wildlife.

It is pleasing to report that most species of butterfly had a better year than 2005. The total number of butterflies seen, 1306, was the fourth highest in fourteen years. Twenty-eight species were seen. Of these **Small Skipper** and **Large Skipper** both fared better than last year and the highest number of **Brimstone** ever was recorded, 24. **Small Coppers** were 22 compared with one last year but are a long way off reaching their all time high of 42 in 1995. 40 **Common Blues** was a significant increase over recent years when they had slumped to a low of one in 2001. It is likely they are benefiting from the areas we are keeping short by cutting. This area of short grass is also good for the Glow-worms. The best news is that **Silver-washed Fritillaries** were recorded at their second highest with 65 seen, only a couple less than the 1996 figure of 67. We are hopeful that this is as a result of the vast improvement we have made to the habitat under the oak copse by the railway line. Once an area dominated by bramble and other rank plants, it is now rich in violets thriving in the dappled shade enhanced by the felling of numerous Turkey Oaks. Although 2006 was a good year for **Painted Ladies** with 17 seen, it was well below the all time high of 52 in 1996 and the respectable 30 recorded in 2003. The meadow butterflies continue to thrive with **Ringlets** and **Gatekeepers** holding at higher numbers than in the period 1993 to 1999, 2002 in the case of Gatekeepers. In the last two years **Marbled Whites** have had a better showing than in the period 1996 to 2004 and **Meadow Browns** fluctuate between 200 and 400 with 334 seen in 2006 representing an average year.

2006 yielded the best ever sightings of **Purple Emperors** with both the males being seen congregating around some tall trees just over in Alice Holt Forest and females being seen egg-laying. These observations were made by Matthew Oates and Patrick Fleet on 17 July. An account on the web site reported a Purple Emperor being seen on 29 June and I had fleeting glimpses on 4 July. Given that it is not an easy species to see, these sightings

are very heartening and our conservation work on caring for the sallows is regarded as a priority task – the plan being to develop an uneven age structure.

Occasional **White Admirals** were seen, as were low numbers of **Dark Green Fritillaries**, **Holly Blues**, **Brown Argus** and **Green Hairstreak** and **Purple Hairstreaks**. The lowest of all, with just one sighting was the **Small Tortoiseshell**. Visitors can help us monitor the butterflies in the meadow by reporting all sightings on our branch web site.



Bentley Station Meadow, 20 May 2005 (Tim Norriss) & Large Skippers (Peter Eeles)

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### Magdalen Hill Down

Phil Budd, Andy Barker and Lynn Fomison

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**Original reserve:** 6,672 butterflies of 31 species were recorded on transect in 2006. This represents the second highest total since transect monitoring began at the site in 1990, and is only exceeded by the figure of 7,411 in 2003. Furthermore, it was the greatest variety of species seen in a single year. It was a particularly good year for Lycaenidae but rather mixed fortunes for other species.

With an Annual Index of 24, it was the best year so far for **Grizzled Skipper**, and hopefully the species is now firmly established on the reserve. This species was seen egg-laying on Agrimony on 10 May (PDF). The other skippers fared less well, and it was the poorest season ever for **Small Skipper** and **Essex Skipper**. Of the Pieridae (the “whites”), it was a poor to average year, with most species down or little changed from the year before. **Orange-tip** and **Green-veined White** fared particularly badly and were 50% down on 2005. The **Clouded Yellow** had a good showing, and for the fifth consecutive year the Annual Index was in double figures. This is a measure of the increasing regularity with which this immigrant species is encountered in Hampshire.

The **Brown Argus** had a poor season on the reserve, but for most Lycaenids it was a good or very good year. The **Chalkhill Blue** had already gone “through the roof” in 2005 but



exceeded all expectations in 2006 with an Annual Index of over 3,200. Following on from its success in 2005, the **Common Blue** maintained excellent numbers in 2006, as did the **Small Copper**. By contrast, the **Green Hairstreak** fared no better than average, but given the poor weather in much of April and May it didn't do too badly. Seeing a single **Adonis Blue** on transect was a first for the site, and we wait in anticipation to see whether this species can re-colonise after an absence of many decades.

It was a "mixed bag" for the Nymphalidae, the star of the show being the immigrant **Painted Lady**. With an Annual Index of 50, it was more plentiful than in any year since the 'bumper' season of 1996. Very sadly, however, only five **Small Tortoiseshells** were recorded on transect all season. This butterfly seems to have almost vanished from the reserve, 2006 being the worst year since monitoring began. A single **Dark Green Fritillary** and two rather suspect **Marsh Fritillaries** were also encountered on transect.

The Satyridae (the "browns") had mixed fortunes. **Marbled White** and **Speckled Wood** did well, **Gatekeeper** and **Meadow Brown** were average, but both **Ringlet** and **Small Heath** did particularly badly. With an Annual Index of just nine, Ringlet numbers on the Original Reserve are at a low ebb (only 1996 was worse), yet by contrast the Extension (see below) saw best ever numbers, and even Magdalen Hill Down North, an arable field until two years ago, produced a Ringlet index of 13. It seems that the Ringlets are moving within the enlarged reserve to find the best habitat, and that the Original Reserve is currently less suited to their needs. Maybe this is also happening with Small Heath, which showed a dramatic slump in Annual Index from 193 in 2005 to 64 in 2006 on the Original, yet increased from 8 (2005) to 14 (2006) on the Extension, and 17 (2005) to 34 (2006) on Magdalen Hill Down North.



Magdalen Hill Down, 12 July 2006 (Roger Buchanan) & Grizzled Skipper, (Dave Pearson)

**The Extension:** 3,258 butterflies of 29 species were recorded on transect. Therefore the total numbers were slightly up on 2005. It was a good year for several species and only the **Small Tortoiseshell**, **Holly Blue** and **Brown Argus** did particularly badly.

Both **Dingy Skipper** and **Grizzled Skipper** were recorded on transect in 2006, but still appear as casual visitors to this part of the reserve, rather than a breeding population. The “summer skippers” had an average year on the Extension, so in relative terms, they fared better than on the Original Reserve. Most of the Pieridae had a poor to average year, but with an Annual Index of 26, the **Clouded Yellow** had its third highest total in the eleven years of transect monitoring on the Extension. Numbers remained high after the transect season had finished, including an individual count of 14 during a 20-minute walk on 13 October (PDF).

There was something of a downturn in the numbers of **Brown Argus**, mirroring the situation on the Original Reserve, but it was a very good season for the other Lycaenidae. The numbers of **Green Hairstreak** and **Common Blue** were the highest recorded to date, and it was the second best year for **Small Copper** and **Small Blue**. In a 20 minute walk across the Extension, 31 **Small Coppers** were seen at peak season (PDF).

As for the Nymphalids, the **Small Tortoiseshell** reached a new low just as they did on the Original Reserve. Unlike the Original Reserve no fritillaries were seen on the Extension and the numbers for most Nymphalids were about average. The exception was the **Painted Lady**, with the highest Annual Index (134) since the exceptional 1996 season. With regard to the Satyrids, it was the best year so far for **Speckled Wood** and **Ringlet**, and the best since 2000 for **Marbled White**. However other grassland “browns” only had an average year and the numbers of Meadow Brown were the lowest since 2000.

On 23 September, as part of National Moth Night, a survey took place near the entrance to the Extension and on adjacent parts of Magdalen Hill Down North. Six people spent five hours on the site and used three mercury-vapour lamps, an actinic trap and searched a productive patch of Ivy blossom. The highlight of the 42 species recorded was the immigrant **Convolvulus Hawk-moth**, although some other interesting immigrants were recorded such as the **Vestal**, **Delicate** and **Scarce Bordered Straw**.

The botanical monitoring continued as before and took place from 25 July to 14 August.

**Magdalen Hill Down North:** Having been re-seeded in 2004, vegetation on the site is now well established. Wildlife diversity has greatly increased and skylarks are in attendance whenever you walk along the hard-surface path on the crest of the hill. The area nearest to the original reserve, where topsoil was removed prior to seeding, has a particularly rich flora established amongst an open matrix of bare chalky ground. This is key breeding habitat for many butterflies, and a wide variety of other insects.

In 2005 it was encouraging to have recorded 20 species, and 266 individual butterflies on transect, but in 2006 the increase was truly amazing. The numbers of butterflies recorded (following the same transect route and identical survey method) was 1059, with no fewer than 26 species represented. This quadrupling of butterfly numbers is remarkable for such a recently transformed former arable field, and shows what can be achieved in terms of habitat restoration.

Not a single skipper was seen on the Magdalen Hill Down North transect in 2005, yet 2006 produced seven **Small/Essex Skippers** and 4 **Large Skippers**. Of the Pieridae, it was

**Brimstone** and **Small White** that showed the greatest change, with Brimstone doubling the 2005 tally, and Small White almost treble. It was, however, amongst the Lycaenids that the most outstanding increases were noted. Most remarkable of all were **Common Blue**, increasing from 13 (2005) to 119 (2006), and **Chalkhill Blue**, rising from 26 (2005) to 142 (2006). Of the other Lycaenids, **Small Copper** increased from 1(2005) to 15 (2006), **Brown Argus** rose from 2 (2005) to 24 (2006), whilst **Small Blue** appeared on transect for the first time, and **Holly Blue** occurred in low numbers both years.

For one brief spell during the last two weeks of July, there were remarkable numbers of **Painted Lady** all across Magdalen Hill Down, but they were especially fond of nectaring on burdock that lined the main path on Magdalen Hill Down North, near to "Jubilee Clump". A weekly transect count of 65 on 29 July (Sue Woodd) contributed to the substantial Annual Index of 149.

The Satyrids had an outstanding year, and showed themselves to be rapid colonisers of the newly established grassland of Magdalen Hill Down North. **Meadow Brown** increased its Annual Index from 55 (2005) to 257 (2006), whilst its close relative the **Gatekeeper** rose from 27 (2005) to 73 (2006). **Small Heath** and **Ringlet** both doubled in numbers, the former rising from 17 (2005) to 34 (2006), and the latter increasing from 6 (2005) to 13 (2006). **Marbled White** appeared on transect for the first time in 2006, with an Annual Index of 23.

A detailed evaluation of moths on Magdalen Hill Down North has yet to be undertaken, but the flowery grasslands now established certainly provide good habitat. Day-flying species such as **Silver-Y** were particularly evident this year compared with 2005.

**Management:** The three areas of Magdalen Hill Down require a considerable amount of management all year round to satisfy the habitat requirements of the various butterflies, moths and other wildlife that the site supports. Grazing by cattle and sheep remains a crucial element of site management, and in spring 2006, for the first time since seeding, Magdalen Hill Down North had grazing by sheep in the compartment alongside Alresford Road. In the autumn both this and the main compartment were grazed.

Our rotational cycle of scrub management continues on the original reserve, and paths are regularly cut to maintain good access around the site. In late summer, Agrimony, Kidney Vetch and Jack-by-the-hedge seeds were sown in carefully chosen areas, and in November, chalk was added to the established area in the south-east corner of the Extension.

We still have a Ragwort problem to resolve on Magdalen Hill Down North, but through the efforts of Branch Reserves Officer, Lynn Fomison, Warden Patrick Fleet, contractors and a dedicated team of volunteers we are working hard to get on top of this. 2007 promises to be a great year, and hopes are high for yet further increases in butterfly numbers.

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**Yew Hill**

**Brian Fletcher**

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With 3517 butterflies in 26 species seen on our smallest reserve, 2006 can be regarded as a better than average year. However, as was the case last year the season got off to an inauspicious start, the poor weather in April and May resulting in few butterflies flying around. Indeed, in two of the first seven weeks of the season, the weather was such that the transect could not be carried out, and on a third week when conditions were somewhat better, no butterflies were seen on the transect route. Fortunately on those occasions when

there was warm sunshine, **Brimstones** were much in evidence, their numbers at 84 for the year being nearly double last year's miserable total and much more like a "typical" year.

Fortunately the impact of poor weather early in the year at Yew Hill was minimal, as most of the resident species do not depend on a single spring brood. From the beginning of June the weather improved, and the numbers of butterflies to be seen on the reserve soon built up.



Yew Hill, 5 June 2006 (Roger Buchanan) & Chalkhill Blue caterpillar (Tim Norriss)

Some species which had been scarce in previous years were seen in much healthier numbers. **Large Skipper** (10 in 2006 compared to 2 in 2005) and **Small Copper** (10 seen, the best total since 1990) were two such species. The **Small Heath**, which was extremely scarce or completely absent from the reserve between 1994 and 2003, has continued to increase in numbers, a very welcome trend in a butterfly which used to be counted in hundreds rather than in tens as now. Another species to do well was the **Small Skipper**, which continued its recovery from the crash following the forced overgrazing of the reserve during the Foot and Mouth outbreak of 2001. 2006 saw a 50% increase over the numbers of 2005, the 74 seen in this past year being on par with several years during the nineties.

Several of the Satyrids (Browns) showed good increases, with the **Ringlet** and **Speckled Wood** roughly doubling their numbers. **Gatekeeper** and **Marbled White** also showed increases, with **Meadow Brown** maintaining a strong population which made it the second most numerous butterfly species on the reserve. With 200 individuals seen, the **Common Blue** population nearly doubled, but pride of place must go to the **Chalkhill Blue** which had another good year, its Annual Index of 1450 being the best since the record breaking 2787 seen in 1991.



Amongst the more mobile species **Painted Lady**, **Large White** and **Small White** did well, but the general scarcity of **Peacock** and **Small Tortoiseshell** continued in spite of an abundance of their food plant, Common Nettle, on the reserve.

Many moths were seen on the reserve, ranging from common native species such as the **Burnet Companion** and the **Six-spot Burnet** to the long distance immigrants such as the **Humming-bird Hawk-moth** and **Silver-Y** Moth.

Like butterflies and moths, other insects can only occur where their food plants grow. One rarity discovered on Yew Hill this year was the Shield Bug *Sehirus impressus* which is associated with Bastard Toadflax, a small flower that is an indicator of ancient chalk grassland and is quite common on the reserve.

A good range of birds has been seen, including a family of Common Buzzards operating from a small copse on the edge of Hill Top. Other predators seen included Kestrels and a Hobby. Other birds seen ranged in size from the Goldcrest, through Yellowhammer and Skylark to Green Woodpecker and Grey Partridge.

As usual, there was an impressive display of orchids on the reserve with a record number of about 2000 Fragrant Orchid seen around midsummer, these occurring along with Common Spotted and Greater Butterfly Orchids, and numerous other flowers.

To keep the reserve in good condition it is necessary to graze it lightly from time to time, and four bullocks performed this vital task from mid-October until the third week of November, when they were put onto the recent extension to Yew Hill, known as Hill Top, to graze a somewhat larger area until January.

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## Jersey Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

Nina Cornish

In 2004 the States of Jersey Environment Division launched an exciting new scheme: the *Jersey Butterfly Monitoring Scheme* (JBMS). The scheme forms part of the division's integrated monitoring programme for Jersey in order to carry out *State of the Environment Monitoring*. This has been underpinned by *The State of Jersey*, a report on the condition of Jersey's environment, published in January 2005.

The JBMS uses the same method used in the *UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme*, the Pollard Butterfly Transect. The scheme is financed by the States of Jersey but is almost entirely based on the support of local volunteer recorders. The day-to-day operation of the JBMS is run by Ms Nina Cornish who has overall responsibility for the management of the scheme. The JBMS has benefited greatly from close collaboration with Butterfly Conservation.

The primary aims of the scheme are: -

- to provide information at local levels on changes in the abundance of butterfly species
- to detect trends which may indicate changes in their status
- to provide a reliable long-term reference against which population changes in species studied elsewhere, on individual sites or in other countries, can be monitored

The scheme also aims to monitor changes at individual sites and, by comparison with results elsewhere, to assess the impact of local factors such as habitat change caused by management. The scheme also provides information on aspects of the population ecology

and phenology of individual species, both in relation to the effect of environmental changes (including climate change) and as a contribution to butterfly ecology.

At least 49 species of butterflies have been recorded in Jersey. The 28 species which are thought to be historically resident and seen nearly every year including regular immigrants that breed here are as follows : -

Essex Skipper	Purple Hairstreak	Peacock
Large Skipper	White-letter Hairstreak	Comma
Swallowtail	Small Copper	Speckled Wood
Clouded Yellow	Long-tailed Blue	Wall Brown
Brimstone	Common Blue	Grayling
Large White	Holly Blue	Gatekeeper
Small White	White Admiral	Meadow Brown
Green-veined White	Red Admiral	Small Heath
Orange-tip	Painted Lady	
Green Hairstreak	Small Tortoiseshell	

2004 saw the first year of recording, with 18 recorders walking transects at 25 sites. These included seven proposed *Countryside Renewal Scheme* (CRS) entry sites, 10 agriculturally managed non-scheme sites, two urban parks sites and six semi-natural sites. Three new transects were started in 2005 and two new volunteers joined us. In 2006 we gained another semi-natural site and a new volunteer.

We are now coming into our fourth year of recording. After 5 years we hope to compare data on butterfly trends here in Jersey. We will be able to calculate changes in indices, changes in phenology and changes in individual species.

If you would like any further details on the scheme please contact Nina Cornish, JBMS Co-ordinator at: -

Environment Division, Howard Davis Farm, La Route de la Trinite, Trinity, JE3 5JP  
Tel: 01534 441624 Fax: 01534 441601 Email: n.cornish@gov.je

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## Long-Tailed Blues in Jersey 2006

Ian Everson

I am one of the volunteer recorders participating in the *Jersey Butterfly Monitoring Scheme*. My transect is at Westmount situated near the south coast in the island's capital St. Helier. The site is a public park area which provides good butterfly habitat and has a sympathetic regime of management. Its sunny aspect provides good conditions for early spring butterflies such as the Speckled Wood and Small Copper. I knew the area well and had frequently submitted past records of my butterfly sightings there under the longer established casual butterfly recording scheme.

During my autumn site visits in 2003 I was fortunate enough to see several Long-tailed Blue butterflies, identification of which was confirmed by Margaret Long, the respected local entomologist. On 5 October 2003 I counted 8 examples.

The Long-tailed Blue is one of Jersey's irregularly recorded immigrants and it is featured in *The Millennium Atlas of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland* which shows a couple of Jersey records over the 1995-1999 period and notes that both eggs and larvae have been found

here. Many food plants have been recorded, chiefly wild and cultivated legumes. Historic records of Jersey sightings have often come from gardens, with Everlasting-pea and Lupins often featuring. The attraction of Westmount for the butterfly is the areas of Lucerne on the site.

2006 provided a period of calm hot sunny weather during July, ideal for butterfly migration, and we saw a build up of numbers of Clouded Yellow and Painted Lady. One might expect such migrations reaching Jersey and England to an increasing degree and extent if global warming continues to affect the climate in the way seen in 2003 and 2006.

My transect walk on 4 July 2006 drew my first 2006 Long-tailed Blue record at Westmount and I have been fortunate enough to see single examples in my garden at Mont Millais across the compass in St. Helier's eastern suburbs on several different days in the following weeks. On 7 August 2006 I noted one egg-laying on my garden sweet pea flowers. Caterpillars normally feed on developing seeds after boring into swelling seedpods. These succumbed to a combination of searing heat which halted flower development and predatory activities with many spiders being the likely beneficiaries.

In contrast to England, blues such as the Adonis Blue and Chalkhill Blue are absent from Jersey but the Long-tailed Blue may still be under-recorded because of their superficial resemblance to other blues. The upper side features which distinguish it are the slender tails and two small velvety black spots on each hind wing together with a purplish upperside tinge and more rapid flight. The tails provide a head mimic and are often missing on worn examples, perhaps having proven their worth in their camouflage role against predators.

The undersides of both sexes are light brown with a thick creamy stripe towards the outer wing edges and velvety black spots where the wing tails lead from the hind wing. This contrasts with the silver blue with black dots of the Holly Blue underside and the Common Blue which has elements of orange markings and white/black dots akin to the pupil of an eye.

My occasional sightings continued in the summer months at the transect site and elsewhere around the island. With good autumn weather I checked the transect area after the end of the official recording season with a last sighting date of 7 October 2006.

So were the autumn season sightings derived from fresh waves of migration or were they from what could be termed the breeding obvious? It will be interesting to learn if Jersey's 2006 experience of the species is reflected across the water, especially in England's southern counties. Two matters for readers to ponder prior to the 2007 season: -

1. Are you able to differentiate the Long-tailed from your local area blues?
2. Be encouraged to report your 2007 observations. A local expert may be able to help with any local ID difficulties.

In 2006 the Alderney Wildlife Trust initiated a programme of butterfly monitoring based on the *UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme* using Pollard Butterfly Transects. Butterflies on the island had not been surveyed since 1999 when data was collected for the *Millennium Atlas of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland*. With the help of volunteers who carried out the transect walks, valuable baseline data was collected on three different transect routes which covered approximately 8 kilometres in length (not bad for an island only 6 by 2 kilometres!). These included a variety of habitats, such as wooded valleys, coastal heathland and species-rich grassland. We aim to continue these transects every year from hereon and use the data collected to assist in the selection of “*key butterfly species*” for the island to use as indicators of environmental health, particularly in the nature reserve areas that the Alderney Wildlife Trust manages.



Butterfly habitat on Alderney & Large Tortoiseshell (Louise Soanes)

Notable species that were recorded during the surveys in 2006 (amongst the 1000's of Common Blues, Meadow Browns and Gatekeepers) included Dark Green Fritillaries and an abundance of Glanville Fritillaries. In total 21 different species were recorded during the survey period. Immigrant Swallowtails, Long-tailed Blues and a Large Tortoiseshell were also recorded on the Island.

Since 2005 Alderney has also benefited from the presence of Mr David Wedd, a lepidopterist, who has now taken up residence on the island. Mr Wedd has been setting up moth lamps at various positions around the island and as a result has added a large number of species to Alderney's previous moth list.



For more information on Alderney's Lepidoptera please visit the Alderney Wildlife Trust's website: - [www.alderneywildlife.org](http://www.alderneywildlife.org)

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## Branch Photographic Competition

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In 2006, the Branch held its first photographic competition.

The winners were: -

### **UK Butterflies & Overall Winner**

John May: Painted Lady (right)

### **Overseas**

Nick Freeman: Apollo (below)

### **Behaviour**

Pete Durnell: Marbled White, mating pair (page 90)

### **UK Moths**

John May: Narrow-bordered Five-spot  
Burnet (page 155)



For the last few months of July I have been attempting to crack the mysteries of the Purple Emperor 'Master Tree'. The work has been aided and abetted by others of comparable states of mind and mindlessness, who are active in diverse places. The experience has combined what is clearly a spiritual journal, with scientific endeavour and the bizarre. This article concentrates on the latter aspect. Most of my work has taken place in Alice Holt Forest, because I happen to love the place. I should move onwards and out of Alice Holt, and test the developing theories elsewhere, but Alice keeps dragging me home. Of course, one cannot get a real scientific grip on an arboreal butterfly that occurs at low population density, and Emperor survey seasons tend to be epic struggles of Western Front proportions, with huge annual 'pushes' gaining the equivalent of a few yards of mud, or dust in drought summers. This year we used a secret weapon - a cherry picker, of which more anon - and gained more yards of precious mud / dust than for many a long year.

### **Named and Shamed**

Never tread on your first Purple Emperor of the year: take a tip from one who did. The experience sends shock waves through your entire system, and irritates the butterfly so that it careers off over the canopy at high speed, never to return. It was not altogether my fault that this untoward event occurred, for as I entered Alice Holt Forest on July 2nd my mobile phone rang; in a momentary lapse of reason I answered it, and in consequence failed to spot the distinctive shark's fin of a male *iris* in dappled shade on the ride. I can, and will, name and shame Tim Bernhard here, who should have known better than to phone me at that precious moment. But the experience indicated that for me the 2006 Purple Emperor season was going to be about People; or rather, about trying to take this butterfly to people. And so it was. Thus, I featured in a Radio 4 Nature programme devoted to Britain's premier butterfly, spent two days filming His Imperial Majesty and subject lords for BBC1's *Great British Summer*, and also acted as a guide for the filming of the Emperor for the BBC's forthcoming *Nature of Britain* series.

As a side show, there was a difficult live interview with BBC Radio Cumbria which is worth relating. They wanted to know something about the Mountain Ringlet – an absurd proposition - only the mobile phone signal was maliciously restricted to one square metre of forest ride, and I was then forced to close my eyes (out of sheer professionalism) when a pristine Black Admiral landed on my toe <sup>1</sup>.

### **Oates's Ascent**

After 36 years of annual, and often intense, pilgrimage one might have thought that Oates had experienced every aspect of the Purple Emperor. Wrong! The horrific truth is that until one has spent an afternoon (or four, as I did this year) 22 metres up in a cherry picker parked aptly within a Purple Emperor master territory, and looked *down* upon the Emperor's machinations, one has not experienced the Emperor at all. Indeed, one has scarcely lived as a nature-lover, for on observing clashing and chasing males from the above and horizontal one starts to appreciate fully the insect's magic. The bad news here is that we have been grossly under-rating this wondrously magical butterfly. Seen from above, the iridescent colours of the fresh male Purple Emperor, in flight, continuously and miraculously flash through a spectrum ranging from the electric blue of the male Adonis, through various shades of violet, through royal blue, into jet black, and into and out of the rich purple of the Roman emperors. Simultaneously, the small ferruginous-pink ocellus on the hindwing outer edge flickers on and off prominently. All is juxtaposed with the white bands and spots, which deliver after-images. The overall effect is awesome, especially when three or four males are seen in flight together, each flashing different colour

combinations by the nanosecond. Not for nothing is this butterfly named after the demi-Goddess Iris, who appeared to mortal man in the guise of a rainbow and inspired Vergil with the line *mille trahens varios adverso Sole colores*<sup>2</sup>. Taken out of its context it could be translated as: "Drew countless wavering colours against the sun's rays"<sup>3</sup>.

The other key lesson learnt from spending time in a cherry picker is that more individual males are present in these 'Master Tree' territories than I had hitherto thought, with several similar-looking males taking turns on favoured boughs, sprays or even leaves during the course of an afternoon. Looking down from on high, I learnt that male uppersides wear more distinctively than the undersides, which means that individual males are more easily separated out when seen from above, through binoculars. I therefore suspect that Ashley Whitlock's lone male, Brian, whose tale is so eloquently related in last year's report, was in fact Brian and Brian's friends and relations.

Thus Oates finally entered paradise, and got stuck there, literally. For, on Thurs July 20th, with Emperor males ageing fast but fighting bravely to the last, the cherry picker jammed, leaving the inhabitants of its cradle stuck high in the Purple sky. The captives were not unduly worried but felt obliged to seek help. The Forestry Commission (Whom God preserve) kindly despatched a skilled engineer to resolve the matter. He extracted the (word edited out) from the situation mercilessly but was otherwise wholly ineffective. There was but one option left: phone the cherry picker rescue centre at Heathrow. The rescue man put on his dark glasses, grabbed a can of chilled Red Bull, clambered into his white van, hit the M25, and experienced one of this blessed motorway's regular hours of complete stasis... Hours later, we were relieved. The following day a new cherry picker arrived, though the males were becoming so faded that they flashed only a narrow range of violet hues, and showed a dull brown when settled. The bad news is that cherry pickers cost £650 per day to hire<sup>4</sup>, and we need one for next season.

### **The Ascent of Titchmarsh**

The BBC Natural History Unit script writers had deemed that Alan Titchmarsh, presenter of the forthcoming *Nature of Britain* series, would arrive at 1.30, ascend the 'Master Tree' at 2.00 pm and immediately be surrounded by Purple Emperors. One would even land on him. Sure enough, Alan arrived at 1.15 wearing the same shirt as me (though I doubt he had obtained it from the outdated stock centre in Swindon...). Throughout a stultifyingly hot afternoon he was the very model of amicable professionalism, in stark contrast to the Purple Emperor, who behaved despicably. The difficulty is that in order to seek His Imperial Majesty's co-operation you have to pour copious libations and utter complicated incantations, as I had done before filming from the same cherry picker at the same venue for *Great British Summer* on July 6th – when the Emperor indeed settled on me, the camera and the cherry picker. You have to appeal to and appease Iris, Lord of the Forest, Monarch of all the Butterflies, High Spirit of the Midsummer Trees, etc. – the biggest ego in the universe. Of course, the words themselves matter little, for the spirit in which they are uttered carries all. I did not feel that it was possible to do this in front of the BBC Natural History Unit without appearing insane. Sadly then, within minutes of Alan ascending in the cherry picker the six resident male Emperors departed. A large black hole failed to materialise beneath me, despite silent prayer to that effect. The embarrassment remains unabated to this day. Worse was to follow, for the BBC had a Plan B: they had come prepared with two captive bred Purple Emperors obtained from Colin Wiskin, breeder of butterflies and teacher of Art and Cricket at Lord Wandsworth College. One by one these were sprayed with Kensor, giving Alan a narrow window of opportunity to recite his script before they recovered and flew off – and were immediately gunned down by wild males

masquerading as Messerschmitts. At this point a dead specimen was produced, and Oates departed for the pub.

All this matters little, for television is notoriously ephemeral and superficial. What does matter is that some of the magic of the Emperor will penetrate the homes of several million folk who are not (yet) of our faith and disposition – and butterflies need friends.

### **Mr Murata's Breakfast**

At the height of the immortal 1976 Purple Emperor season an ancient silver Bentley drew up outside one of the entrances to Alice Holt and a gnome-like figure, The Baron de Worms, emerged. Clad only in string vest, Boy Scout shorts of considerable antiquity and hob-nail boots, the Baron proceeded to rub rancid Danish Blue cheese into a Forestry Commission gatepost in what proved to be a futile attempt to attract *iris*. Thirty years later to the day, a huge black BMW parked in the same spot, and from it emerged Mr Yasutaka Murata, a devotee of world-wide Apaturidae and owner of a multi-national corporation. He had flown in for the day, specifically to photograph *iris*. He was accompanied by his chauffeur, who happens to be his UK Managing Director, whom he introduced as Mr Decorum.

Purple Emperor baits have moved on considerably since '76, and like most things have become globalised. Indeed, the bait used by Mr Murata proved to be a Malaysian delicacy called Belachan, a spiced, curried shrimp dish that had been allowed to fester and rot, perhaps wisely so, given its obvious unpalatability. Within ten minutes His Imperial Majesty descended to imbibe the pleasures of Belachan and allow himself to be photographed. Not wishing to risk smuggling this vile stinking mess through customs unnecessarily, Mr Murata wisely left it in situ. Incredibly, something ate it during the night. Ashley Whitlock and I wetted the paltry remains the following day, though they attracted only two White Admiral, three Red Admiral and a Comma. Two days later I discovered a recently-deceased fox nearby. So there you have it: try rotting fish, ideally curried, though it may seriously compromise the welfare of the fox.

### **The Return of the Long-winged Conehead**

His Imperial Majesty is frenetic during the first week or so of the flight season. Thereafter, given the opportunity to indulge in lethargy, he will do so with panache; only the Brown Hairstreak and Black Hairstreak are capable of greater indolence. At temperatures above 24°C the activity levels of *iris* males outside of the glorious first week of their flight season will be reduced by about 50%, over 30°C and the insects may only be 25% active. This is precisely what happened during the excessive heat of mid July 2006. Then, both sexes were observed to spend lengthy periods shading, mainly in oak sprays (males) and deep under dense sallow canopies (females). The sad truth is that much of July 2006 was actually too good, weather-wise, for the Emperor. Mercifully, there were some interesting side show distractions, such as Thursley Heath going up in flames on Friday July 14th, which was observed from the safety of The Jolly Farmer whilst re-hydrating, and, best of all, the sky-scape of the Gods on Monday the 17th. On that most wondrous of days, the azure sky behaved like a living canvas, revealing amongst other esoteric clouds a huge white crucifix over Alice Holt against a brilliant blue background. It told of deep magic from beyond the dawn of time.

That evening, the voice of the Long-winged Conehead returned to me after an absence of some 15 years. I used to know all the songs of our crickets and grasshoppers, and was particularly fond of that of the Long-winged Conehead, which sounds like the crackling of a pylon line in faint drizzle. The fact that it is an absurdly ridiculous animal is secondary. I lost

the ability to hear this insect circa 1990 and in recent years have only been able to hear two Orthopterons (Wood Cricket and Meadow Grasshopper, full stop). But, mirabile dictu, on the evening of July 17th I once again heard the mass choirs of the Long-winged Conehead, in Lynn Fomison's paddock. Others may recall that balmy evening, for every Wood Pigeon in England sang long and loud. Such is the deep and lasting magic of a great Purple Emperor season.

### **Post Scriptum**

Those of us familiar with Stella Gibbons's classic, *Cold Comfort Farm*, will be aware of the significance of the flowering of the Sukebind – that curious plant whose heady aroma sends the human population into a state of enforced insanity. Once again entomology has the better of botany, for the truth is that the Purple Emperor season has a far greater impact on sanity than all the Sukebind in the world. My case rests.

<sup>1</sup> The two individual insects mentioned in this section are summoned to appear on Named and Shamed, along with Mr Bernhard. As Argos Filch so aptly put it: I want to see some punishment...

<sup>2</sup> The Aeneid, Book 4, Line 701. This line is part of a sentence three lines long.

<sup>3</sup> At this point a minor earthquake occurs at Balliol College, Oxford, home of The Classics.

<sup>4</sup> The 60m cherry picker costs £2500 per day.

This article is dedicated to Lynn, her dog Voodoo, and Paul Fomison, for their kindness and hospitality during the immortal 2006 Alice Holt Purple Emperor season. *Nemo id melior efficit.*

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## **Weather report 2006**

**Phil Budd and Linda Barker**

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This report has been compiled using data provided by Phil Budd from his weather station in Bitterne, Southampton. During 2006 Phil moved house but the new recording station is just half a mile from the old one.

### **January**

A very dry month with average mild temperatures. On the 18th the temperature reached 13°C. On the 21st the longest totally dry period of the year began i.e. 18 days to 7 February. There were 15 consecutive nights of air frost from 22 January to 5 February.

### **February**

A cold month and fairly dry, temperatures stayed below freezing from the afternoon of 1st to the morning of the 4th. The 3rd was foggy and was the coldest day of the year (maximum -1.2°C). Snow fell on the evening of the 23rd followed by snow and hail on the 28th.

### **March**

A cold and wet month. There were 10 consecutive nights of air frost from 26 February to 7 March peaking at -4.6°C on 2 March, the coldest night of the year. There was a fall of snow on the 17th and south westerly gales on the 27th.

### **April**

This month was dryer than normal but with average temperatures. The month began cold and unsettled with hail showers on the 2nd, 7th and 9th, the final frost was on the 6th.

Northerly winds brought only 7mm of rain after the 10th and temperatures rose to a maximum of 18.5 °C on the 21st.

### **May**

A very wet month. The month began warm and dry with temperatures as high as 25.1°C on the 11th. However, on the 16th the winds turned to the south west and there were 10 consecutive wet days with 95 mm of rain in total. There were severe gales, torrential rain, hail and thunder on the 20th and 21st.

### **June**

A warm, sunny month. June proved to be the driest month of the year. Between 25 May and 25 June there was only 4mm of rain with just 1mm being recorded from 30 May to 19 June. The maximum temperature exceeded 27°C on eight days between the 9th and the 18th

### **July**

This month was hotter and dryer than normal. The night temperatures never fell below 10°C from 24 June to 18 August. The day maximums were even more impressive as there were 17 days with temperatures above 27°C and four days exceeding 32°C. The hottest day of the year was the 19th when the temperature reached 34.4°C. Most of the rain for the month fell on the 5th and the 22nd.

### **August**

Overall this month was slightly warmer than usual, dry but short on sunshine. August was warm to start, with a run of days with temperatures over 21°C, to the 12th. There were four days from 5th to the 8th where temperatures exceeded 27°C. A dry spell of 18 days with just 4 mm of rain began on 27th and continued to 13 September.

### **September**

This month was warm, dry and fairly sunny. A maximum temperature of 28.6°C was recorded on the 5th which was one of four days where temperatures were 27°C or above. Even the coldest day of the month still reached 18°C. On the 14th, 17mm of rain fell in two hours with a total of 31 mm for the day making it the wettest day of the year.

### **October**

The wettest month of the year. It was a particularly warm month especially at night. The maximum temperature for the month was 21.3°C on the 9th and temperatures didn't drop below 15°C until the 22nd. The worst weather came early with gales on 1st and 6th and 25mm of rain fell between 10am and 2pm on the 2nd.

### **November**

A mild, wet month and rather stormy at times. The first week was dry, calm and chilly with the first air frost of the winter recorded on the 2nd. The second week was very mild (16.5°C on the 13th). The later half of the month was mild, stormy and wet. 25mm of rain fell on the 17th followed by severe gales on the 19th and the 20th

### **December**

This month was a little wetter than normal with average overall temperatures. Prior to the very mild 14th the weather was wet, mild and stormy, over Christmas the weather was chilly, dry and foggy but by the 28th the weather was wet and mild again.

Month	Mean maximum temps °C	Mean minimum temps °C	Maximum temp °C	Minimum temp °C	Number of wet days*	Total rainfall mm
January	7.5	1.6	12.8	-4.4	8	28.5
February	6.4	1	11.8	-2.8	8	47.5
March	9.2	2	13.8	-4.6	10	78
April	14.2	5.4	18.5	-1.3	8	32.5
May	17.5	9	25.1	4.8	15	115
June	24.2	11.8	29.7	7.8	1	14
July	27.5	14.8	34.4	10	4	23
August	23.4	13	29.7	8.1	7	25
September	22.6	13.3	28.6	8	7	61.5
October	17.2	9.9	21.3	2.9	14	116.5
November	11.8	4.4	16.7	-2.2	11	114.5
December	8.7	3.9	12.7	-3.4	12	99.5
Means/ totals	15.9	7.5	highest 34.4	lowest -4.6	105	755.5

\* A 'wet day' is one in which over 1 mm of rain fell.

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## Your Records

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The production of this report is just one of the many uses to which your records are put. We continue to work with our conservation partners to make sure that your records are used effectively for the conservation of our butterflies and moths.

The data is submitted regularly to Head Office for incorporation into the *Butterflies in the New Millennium* project and the *National Moth Recording Scheme*. Our records are being used extensively in the many species and landscape-scale conservation projects being coordinated by the society.

We are also proud to be collaborating with our local partners, including the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

A very significant milestone was reached at some point during January 2006 when the one millionth Lepidoptera record was added to the database. We now hold 1,211,448 Lepidoptera records (17 April 2007). Amazingly, we now have 24 recorders who have submitted more than 10,000 records each. Butterfly and moth recording is clearly thriving in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Please continue to submit your records and we will endeavour to do our best to make sure that they are used for the maximum benefit of our butterflies and moths. Accurate records are the backbone of successful conservation.



The fortunes of many species were influenced by the cool spring and the warm summer we experienced during 2006. In particular, single brooded spring-flying species, including the Duke of Burgundy, Grizzled Skipper, Orange-tip and Green Hairstreak did not have a good season whereas many of the summer species enjoyed an excellent year such as the White Admiral, Marbled White, Chalkhill Blue and in particular the Silver-washed Fritillary. Weather aside, the Small Tortoiseshell continued to decline and as yet there is no clear cut answer to its demise. Populations of this butterfly have peaks and troughs but the worrying point is that the peaks and troughs are getting lower and the troughs longer. Hopefully it will show signs of recovery in 2007.

As mentioned, the Grizzled Skipper had a poor year as did the Dingy Skipper. The Small Skipper and the Silver-spotted Skippers both enjoyed good years. Of the blues the Chalkhill Blue, enjoyed a good season as did the Common Blue, the Adonis Blue and the Small Blue. The Small Copper pulled through after a poor 2005 season.

Brimstones, Large Whites and Small Whites enjoyed a good season but, along with the Orange-tip, the Green-veined White did not do so well. Of the hairstreaks the Green Hairstreak's flight period coincided with the cool spring weather so didn't do well but White-letter Hairstreaks, Purple Hairstreaks and at the end of the season the Brown Hairstreak all had a reasonable season.

Meadow Brown and Gatekeepers were not exceptional but certainly around in good numbers, Marbled Whites enjoyed a good season, but the Wall Brown continues to decline.

The flight of the Pearl-bordered Fritillary coincided with the cool weather and did not fare well, the Small-Pearl Bordered being a bit later on the wing did fare better. The Glanville Fritillary had a good season but 2006 will always be remembered as the year of the Silver-washed Fritillary

In the garden, mention has been made of the lack of Small Tortoiseshells but the Peacock did better this year compared to 2005 and the Comma had a good year. Red Admirals are now not only seen throughout the summer but the winter too. The Painted Lady arrived in good numbers, after a poor year in 2005, and Clouded Yellows were seen through most of the summer. 2006 was also a good year for the Camberwell Beauty. Camberwell Beauties arriving in the UK originate from Scandinavia and whilst most of the sightings were made in the east of England, a number were recorded in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Other interesting rare visitors included the European Swallowtail, Geranium Bronze, Long-tailed Blue, Large Tortoiseshell and the Monarch

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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 2006, 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 2006 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*.

**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 2006 (filled circles). 2000 to 2005 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 2006. 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.

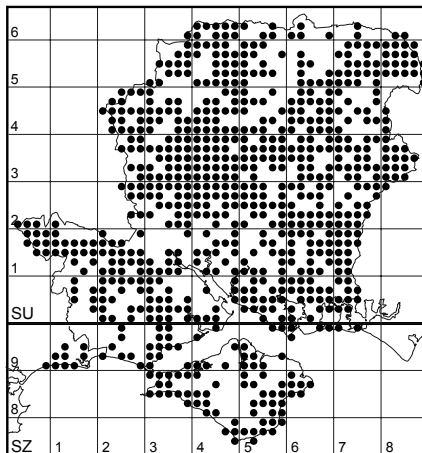
**2005-2006 butterfly trends table on page 26:** This table was compiled by Dr Andy Barker and is based on 66 Hampshire and Isle of Wight transects with data for both 2005 and 2006.

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## Butterfly record coverage 2006

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No of 2006 records: 40083  
No of tetrads in 2006: 762  
No of post 2000 tetrads: 1152

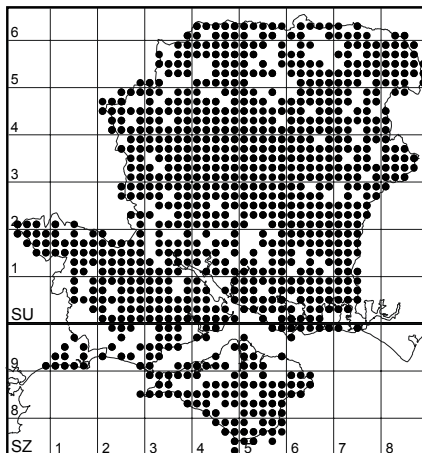


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## Butterfly record coverage 2005 & 2006

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No of records 2005 & 2006: 72482  
No of tetrads 2005 & 2006: 947



## Summary of earliest-latest butterfly sightings 2006

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Small Skipper						10		22				
Essex Skipper						11		16				
Large Skipper					28			26				
Silver-spotted Skipper							23		17			
Dingy Skipper				25				09				
Grizzled Skipper				17			07					
Clouded Yellow				16							28	
Brimstone	11											16
Large White				17							09	
Small White				03							09	
Green-veined White				05						07		
Orange-tip				05		18						
Green Hairstreak				21			24					
Brown Hairstreak							28		17			
Purple Hairstreak						10		28				
White-letter Hairstreak						21		06				
Small Copper				05							12	
Small Blue					11				18			
Silver-studded Blue						15	30					
Brown Argus					12				26			
Common Blue				28							01	
Chalkhill Blue						21			30			
Adonis Blue					25				23			
Holly Blue				12								06
Duke of Burgundy				26		07						
Purple Emperor						28	30					
White Admiral						04			30			
Red Admiral	02											30
Painted Lady			19								19	
Small Tortoiseshell			06								15	
Peacock	20											31
Comma			08								01	
Small Pearl-bordered					28		16					
Pearl-bordered Fritillary					10	15						
Dark Green Fritillary						07		21				
Silver-washed Fritillary						16			10			
Marsh Fritillary				26			11					
Glanville Fritillary					14		03					
Speckled Wood				05							07	
Wall Brown					03				30			
Marbled White						15		27				
Grayling						22			26			
Gatekeeper						10			28			
Meadow Brown						01					15	
Small Heath					07						13	
Ringlet						09		29				

Species	>20% Decrease 2006	-20% to +20% No change	>20% Increase 2006
Small/Essex Skipper	11	17	24
Silver-spotted Skipper	1	2	2
Large Skipper	12	15	16
Dingy Skipper	8	5	3
Grizzled Skipper	7	5	4
Clouded Yellow	1	2	28
Brimstone	10	15	25
Large White	8	16	20
Small White	6	12	26
Green-veined White	15	14	10
Orange-tip	18	8	6
Green Hairstreak	9	4	6
Brown Hairstreak	-	1	-
Purple Hairstreak	3	2	7
White-letter Hairstreak	-	1	1
Small Copper	1	10	27
Small Blue	3	1	10
Silver-studded Blue	1	-	-
Brown Argus	5	10	12
Common Blue	5	7	33
Chalkhill Blue	1	5	11
Adonis Blue	1	1	8
Holly Blue	14	13	14
Duke of Burgundy	1	2	-
Purple Emperor	-	1	2
White Admiral	1	6	15
Red Admiral	4	17	34
Painted Lady	1	3	49
Small Tortoiseshell	16	18	6
Peacock	6	13	10
Comma	9	18	23
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	1	1	1
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	2	-	-
Dark Green Fritillary	2	2	4
Silver-washed Fritillary	1	5	24
Marsh Fritillary	-	-	2
Glanville Fritillary	-	1	1
Speckled Wood	13	19	21
Wall Brown	4	3	2
Marbled White	3	11	29
Grayling	-	3	2
Gatekeeper	16	24	10
Meadow Brown	16	23	12
Small Heath	13	7	11
Ringlet	9	9	19

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**No of 2006 records:** 1169

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 177

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 439

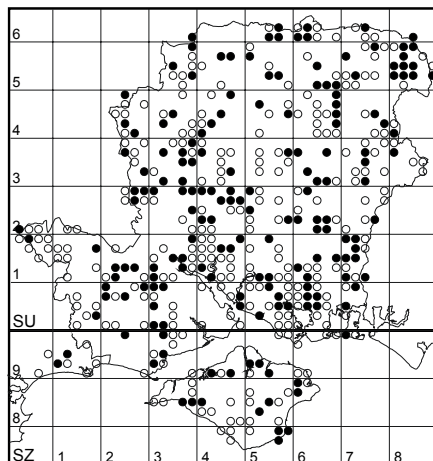
**Earliest:** 10 June 2006

Roydon Woods (TGi)

Bentley Station Meadow (RWh)

**Latest:** 22 August 2006

Itchen Valley County Park (SSt)



The Small Skipper had another good season, with increased numbers being seen in most places. Approximately half the transects showed an increase in numbers of 20% or more, whilst one in five transects showed a decline of 20% or more. Please note that transect recorders are asked to record Small and Essex Skippers together so this data covers both species. The Annual Index at Pamber Forest increased from 359 in 2005 to 404 in 2006. At Botley Wood the figure dropped from 424 to 367 between 2005 and 2006 but at Martin Down South there was an increase from 113 to 206 over the same period. In the Petersfield area the species had “its best year in ages” (GGF) whilst at Bramshott ACG recorded “the highest ever count since my records began, making this the fourth most numerous butterfly on this site”. The situation on the Isle of Wight mirrored that on the mainland, with excellent numbers seen at Brading and at a new site at Lake, near Sandown (DAB). At Dean Hill Park it just had a “poor year” (CWC).

Though there were plenty of sightings before the Summer Solstice, the best numbers were to be seen on the wing during the first three weeks in July. There were six counts of over 100 reported. In Hampshire the best counts were 117 on 13 July at Bedenham Grasslands, near Gosport (M&MG), 113 on 1 July at Eelmoor Marsh (CRH) and 100 seen at both Pilot Hill, Faccombe and Beacon Hill, Meon Valley on 4 July and 12 July by MG and JRM respectively. There were 12 counts in the range 50 to 100.

On the Isle of Wight the highest count was “over 200” on 9 July at a newly discovered site at Lake (DAB), with 186 being seen on the previous day at Whippingham Fields (JR).

By the second week of August most sightings were of just ones and twos, the season finishing on 22 August with the singleton seen at Itchen Valley Country Park.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

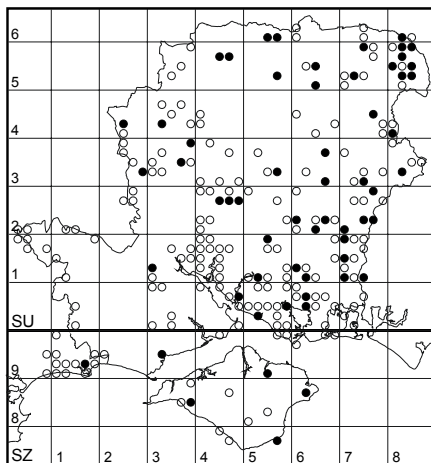
**No of 2006 records:** 134

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 59

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 236

**Earliest:** 11 June 2006  
Shalcombe Down, IoW (PMi)

**Latest:** 16 August 2006  
Ladle Hill (ABO)



Although a few observers reported that the Essex Skipper had a good year, most commented that numbers were down, this verdict being supported by the peak numbers seen in 2006 being about two thirds of those in 2005.

Essex Skippers were seen on the Isle of Wight about a fortnight before the first mainland sighting which was on 24 June at Petersfield Heath (ACS), one of the few sites where this species had a “good year” (MSh).

This butterfly was most numerous during July, with the highest numbers being seen towards the middle of the month. There were ten counts of 20 or more with the highest three counts coming from Petersfield Heath, where 47 were seen on 8 July, 52 on 15 July and 43 on 23 July (all ACS). Elsewhere 36 were seen at both Windmill Hill, near Clanfield on 6 July (AN) and Cholderton on 5 July (MG) with other good counts coming from Old Winchester Hill (AW) and Normandy Marsh, near Lymington (MW).

Numbers dwindled in late July, the count of 10 on 5 August at Old Winchester Hill being the only count in double figures during August. This was a Branch Field Trip where observers outnumbered Essex Skippers by 2:1 (BPF). Both first and last sightings were a little earlier than in 2005, resulting in a flight season of just over nine weeks.

In spite of the lower numbers, the species has been reported from four new locations on the Isle of Wight, bringing the number of sites where the Essex Skipper has been seen here since the millennium to around 13. None of these Isle of Wight colonies seems to be particularly large, most consisting of fewer than ten individuals flying at the same time, but the picture is an encouraging one of colonisation and consolidation. It will be interesting to see how this species fares in future years, but this does depend on observers distinguishing between the Essex and Small Skippers and sending in their records.

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 28 May 2006  
Whippingham Fields, IoW (JR)

**No of 2006 records:** 918

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 178

**Latest:** 26 August 2006  
Old Winchester Hill NNR (RTu)

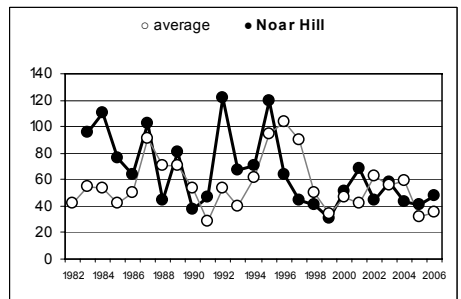
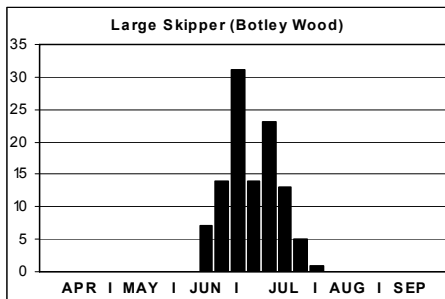
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 421

2006 was a mixed year for the Large Skipper. Data from transect monitored sites did not show a particular trend with equal numbers of sites showing a 20% or more increase, 20% or more decrease and no change. The Annual Index of 60 at Martin Down, Kitts Grave, was marginally up on 2005 and was the best for a number of years. At Botley Wood it was also up on 2005, with an Annual Index of 108 compared to 73 in 2006, similarly Noar Hill also showed an increase. At Pamber Forest, on the other hand, the Annual Index of 59 was poor by previous standards and less than half of the 2005 figure. At Whippingham Fields, Isle of Wight, the Annual Index was down from 329 in 2005 to 285 in 2006, still a respectable count and considerably more than anything recorded in Hampshire.

Comments by recorders were mostly positive with CRH and MRO both stating that it benefited from the good summer weather, although CWC considered it an average year at Dean Hill Park and GGF good but not plentiful in the Petersfield area.

Large Skippers began to emerge on the mainland and the Isle of Wight at the tail end of May, peaking in early to mid July and tailing off into early August, with only three records received after the 9th. In Hampshire, the New Forest proved to be a good area with RC recording over 50 at Royden Common on four occasions with a peak of 95 on 8 July. MSw recorded 50 at Brockishill Inclosure on 9 July and at Busketts Lawn Inclosure on 13 July. Peak counts at Pamber Forest on 28 June and Botley Wood on 24 June were 20 and 31 respectively. The highest count in the north east of the county, at Eelmoor Marsh, was 24 recorded by CRH on 1 July.

On the Isle of Wight 84 were counted at Whippingham Fields on 2 July (JR), 21 at Parkhurst (North east) on 15 July (JR) and 10 by PMi at Shalcombe Down on 24 June.



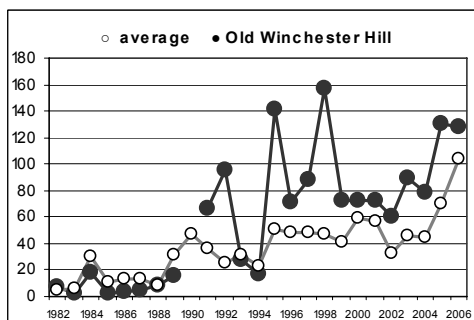
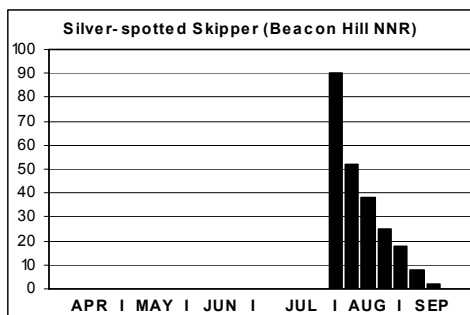
**Status:** BC High Priority**Earliest:** 23 July 2006  
Stockbridge Down (MDu)**No of 2006 records:** 123**No of tetrads in 2006:** 17**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 25**Latest:** 17 September 2006  
Old Winchester Hill (AH)

The period 2002-2006 has seen an appreciable rise in Silver-spotted Skipper numbers at existing sites, coupled with evidence of dispersal and establishment at new sites throughout Hampshire. At least 10 sites recorded the species in 2006, including exciting news of a lone individual at a new site in south-east Hampshire. This individual was seen on 6 August at Chalton Down, near Old Idsworth (RSy). It was observed briefly on Stemless Thistle, a favoured nectar source of this species, with good views of the unmistakable underside markings before it flew off. It was the first time the recorder had seen the species at the site in 11 years of visiting.

In 2006 the majority of transect monitored sites showed either similar numbers to 2005 or else an increase. Broughton Down was the only site showing an apparent decrease with an Annual Index of 120 compared to 186 in 2005. Most sites had peak counts in the first week of August, including 46 at Broughton Down on 6 August (GCE) and 90 at Beacon Hill NNR on 4 August (AMc). This particularly high count at Beacon Hill contributed towards an Annual Index of 233 compared to 63 in 2005. For most sites, numbers had tailed off by mid August, but as with 2005, the population at Old Winchester Hill peaked much later, with 39 on 22 August (AMc), and 51 on 8 September (RSy). Of the sites with smaller populations, St. Catherine's Hill had a high of 10 on 7 August, after which numbers declined (CP), whilst Martin Down recorded seven on 6 August (LS), contributing to an Annual Index of 12. At Stockbridge Down, counts of 10 were made on both 9 August (BPF) and 19 August (AT).

Apart from three on 5 August at the Perham Ranges, near the Wiltshire border (JRM), the remaining sites not mentioned above are all from south-east Hampshire. These are Oxenbourne Down, with a maximum of 20 on 12 August (AW), the Mountain, with three on 6 August (SE), and finally, a late individual seen on 13 September at Portsdown Hill (JGo). This is particularly encouraging following from the individual(s) seen at here in 2005.

Commencing on 23 July (MDu), and ending on 17 September (AH), the 2006 flight period matched the 57 days duration of 2005, but by virtue of the hot summer had shifted by a week, both starting and ending seven days earlier. Once again, with excellent egg-laying opportunities throughout the extended flight period, the prospects for 2007 look good.



**Status:** BC Medium Priority**Earliest:** 25 April 2006  
Magdalen Hill Down (PAB)**No of 2006 records:** 215**No of tetrads in 2006:** 41**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 110**Latest:** 09 August 2006  
Farley Mount (RCO)

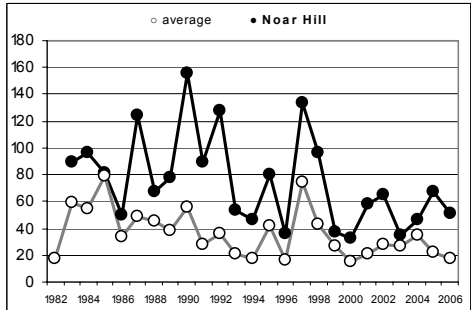
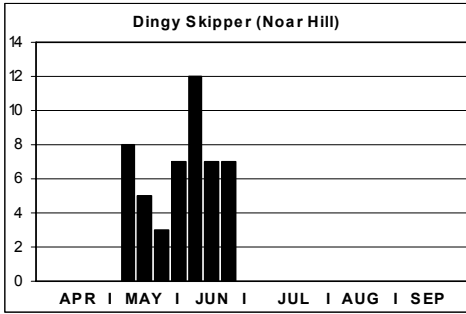
A disappointing year for this species, with half the transect monitored sites showing a decrease of more than 20% compared with 2005. The average trend over the period 1990-2006 shows a two thirds reduction in numbers, and the pattern for Noar Hill typifies this trend. Worryingly, this mirrors the change seen across southern England.

Given the poor weather through the middle part of the flight period, it is nevertheless encouraging to note that once again the species was recorded from at least forty sites in Hampshire and Isle of Wight, including several new ones. It has a sporadic distribution across the chalk, but seems virtually absent elsewhere. There were no records from the New Forest, and the only non-chalk sites with regular records are Eelmoor Marsh in north-east Hampshire, and Botley Wood, near Fareham. Numbers were well below the norm for many chalk downland sites (AW), and at Botley Wood it was considered to be a poor season (RKL). At very few sites, such as Bramshott, was the season regarded as better than the previous (ACG).

The first of the season was seen on 25 April at Magdalen Hill Down (PAB), but the next records were not until 4 May with one at Broughton Down (GCE), and two at Old Burghclere Quarry (JF). Over the next week to ten days, numbers built up, with several high counts in the period 11 May to 20 May. The highest counts of the year were of 32 on 13 May at Chalton Down (RSy), closely followed by 31 on 14 May at Pitt Down, Farley Mount (A&LB), and another count of 31 on 20 May at East Dean, Marshalling Yard East (A&LB). The last of these sites is particularly exciting as it is a new site with a strong population of the species.

Poor weather in the latter part of May gave a marked reduction in Dingy Skipper numbers, and very few recorders saw more than a handful of individuals over this period. From the beginning of June onwards, better weather ensued and a second peak of first brood emergence took place. This shows up well in the Noar Hill transect data, but is also apparent from the database records as a whole. Peaks counts at this time included 20 on 7 June at Ramsdean Down (AH) and 13 on 3 June at Conholt Down (JRM). From mid June numbers tailed off rapidly, and the season had all but finished by the end of the month. The penultimate first brood sighting was of one on 30 June at Wheeler's Bay (A&EB), but followed by an exceptionally late first brood individual on 16 July at Beacon Hill NNR. A lone second brood individual was seen on 9 August at Farley Mount (RCO).

On the Isle of Wight, the western part of the chalk ridge remains the stronghold for the species. The chalk downs at Ventnor still support a small population, but elsewhere the species appears very sparsely distributed. The only double-figure counts from the Isle of Wight were of 10 on 8 June at Compton Down (PSP), and 10 on 11 June at Shalcombe Down (PMI). Most recorders struggled to see even three individuals on a given site visit, giving a fair measure of how poor the season was.



## Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*

Andy Barker

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 17 April 2006  
Magdalen Hill Down (PAB)

**No of 2006 records:** 195

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 44

**Latest:** 07 July 2006  
Stockbridge Down (AH)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 104

Most of the flight period coincided with a spell of generally unsettled weather. Periods of sunshine and showers were interspersed with often cloudy and windy conditions. This made for a disappointing season on the whole, with only a handful of recorders seeing the species in double figures. Almost half of the transect monitored sites showed a >20% decrease in Annual Index relative to 2005, with only four out of 15 sites showing a >20% increase. It is pleasing to note, however, that one of the sites showing an increase is Magdalen Hill Down, with an Annual Index rise from 17 to 24. This is especially encouraging, since in the 15 years of monitoring prior to 2005 the Annual Index had never exceeded two!

In 2006 the Grizzled Skipper was recorded at 35 Hampshire sites, but only six produced 10+ counts. Given the weather conditions, this is a fairly respectable tally, and includes new sites such as East Dean Marshalling Yard, where eight were seen on 20 May (A&LB), and Chalton Down, with seven on 13 May (RSy). For most sites, the season peaked in mid to late May, with the highest individual count being 26 on 14 May at Monkham Copse (CD). Other high counts included 22 on 14 May at Pitt Down (A&LB), 20 on 6 June at Martin Down (AH) and 18 on 12 May at Stockbridge Down (CSt).

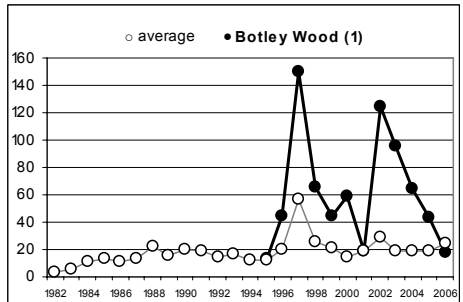
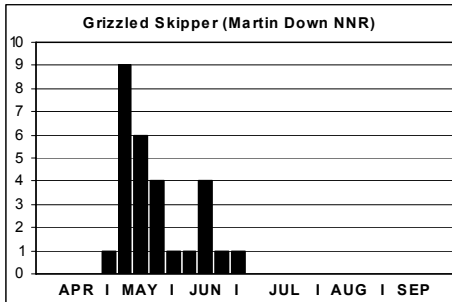
The final part of the flight period coincided with glorious June weather, and although the season had all but finished by 17 June, there were two late records. The first was of a singleton on 29 June at Bonchurch Down (DMe), and the last was a worn individual on 7 July at Stockbridge Down (AH). There were no second brood individuals reported for 2006. Perhaps the most worrying trend is the crash in numbers on the Botley Wood transect (see graph). Having recorded an Annual Index of 124 in 2002, numbers have steadily declined to the point where the Annual Index for 2006 was just 18. This is the worst total since the butterfly transect was initiated in 1995 (RKL).

The rolling hills along the southern edge of the chalk support some of the strongest Grizzled Skipper colonies in Hampshire, extending from Butser Hill and Oxenbourne Down

in the south-east, to Pitt Down and Stockbridge Down in central-west Hampshire. North-west Hampshire produced more records this year, with the species seen at various sites, including Conholt and Rushmore Down (JRM, MFW), Danebury Hill Fort (MG), Litchfield (JF), Old Burghclere Quarry (JF, MG), and West Down, Chilbolton (A&LB). All these populations are small, with the highest count being of seven on 3 June at Rushmore Down (MFW). In north-east Hampshire the season was delayed, as elsewhere, by poor weather, but a site assessment at Eelmoor during better weather of early June confirmed the range of the species as stable (CRH).

The species remains extremely rare in the New Forest, with the only records coming from woods immediately to the east and south-east of Brockenhurst. One was seen on 11 May at New Copse Inclosure (MJS) and a further two on 12 May at the same site (JRu). Two were also seen on 12 May at Roydon Common (RC). The only other New Forest sightings were of one on 7 June at Perywood Haseley (JRu), and one on 15 June at Setley Common (MJS).

Records were received from just nine sites on the Isle of Wight, with all bar one of these (Bonchurch Down) being in the west and north-west. Even the usually reliable Ventnor (Coombe Bottom) failed to record the species on transect in 2006. Hopefully this is a function of poor weather and limited recording, but if not there are real concerns for the species on the Island. It is considered lost from the original site at Whippingham fields due to scrub and bramble invasion, but one was found in an adjacent field (JRo). The 26 seen on 14 May at Monkham Copse (CD) represents the highest count of anywhere, but this is an exception, since the only other double-figure Isle of Wight count was of 10 on 29 May at Parkhurst Forest (JR). Next highest was a count of five on 8 June at Compton Down (PSP).





**Status:** BC Low Priority

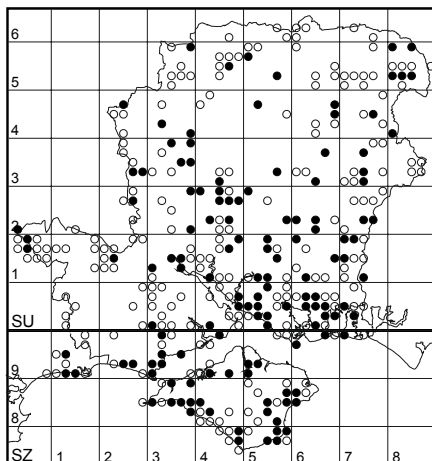
**No of 2006 records:** 545

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 134

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 346

**Earliest:** 16 April 2006  
St Catherine's Point, IoW (CD)

**Latest:** 28 November 2006  
Wheeler's Bay, IoW (A&EB)



Clouded Yellow (David Green)

With a massive total of over 570 observations received and an astonishing count of 200 adults at one location, 2006 was always going to be a special year for the Clouded Yellow. Further confirmation of how good the year was came from the transect data with 28 out of 31 sites, where this butterfly was monitored, saw a 20% or more increase in numbers when compared to 2005.

What was probably a trickle of early immigrants began on 16 April with one seen at St Catherine's Point, Isle of Wight (CD), followed by singles at Brading Quarry, Isle of Wight

(DAB) and on the mainland at West Christchurch, with one hurtling off north through MJG's garden on 22 April. Further reports came from Southbourne Undercliff with one on 26 April and two on 29 April (MJS), but these may have been newly emerged from overwintering larvae/pupae. During May only three were recorded on the Isle of Wight, but this changed to a steady stream in the following month. Reports were spread far and wide, coming from as far inland as Renown Quarry, Lower Froyle on 18 June (S&BC). Egg laying was reported from Compton Chine on 10 June by a f. *helice* female on Hairy Birds-foot-trefoil (A&LB).

July again showed no let up of reports, many observers seeing ones and twos but with one notable exception. On 20 July A&EB recorded approximately 200 flying in a 40 acre field at Brightstone, Isle of Wight, pairing and egg laying were observed. It is unusual to see this amount in one place at this time of year, a count reminiscent of the last big invasion in 2000. At Wheelers Bay, Isle of Wight two were seen flying in from the sea very rapidly on 16 July (A&EB), a clue pointing to many July observations being new arrivals to our shores. Old Winchester Hill was home to seven on 28 July (PE) and observations at other downland localities such as Martin Down NNR and Stockbridge Down were made during the month.

At Whippingham Fields, Isle of Wight two arrived on 2 July, climbing steadily to 15 by 7 October. The annual count here of 146 beat the 95 of 2000 making it the best year since recording started. Creamy white to pale yellow *helice* forms were also recorded here (JR), these colour forms were also recorded elsewhere.

The mid-summer to early autumn showings continued on an almost daily basis with 13 at Old Winchester Hill NNR on 5 August (BPF), 13 at Brightstone, Isle of Wight on 16 August (JMC), seven at Martin Down NNR on 21 August (PE) and eight at Stockbridge Down on 22 August (BPF). On 24 September 14 were at Barton on Sea (GCS) and 20 were recorded from Tennyson Down, Isle of Wight on 25 September (CD). Inland nine were recorded at Dipden Bottom, north of Danebury Hill on 21 September (J&J M). At Southbourne Undercliff MJS recorded maximums of 36 on 26 September, 65 on 3 October and 59 on 6 November, the latter date including 10 egg laying f. *helice* and many 1st and 2nd instar larvae. Larvae had also been recorded here on 8 September, these being 2nd & 3rd instar. In addition, 18 eggs were also located on this date.

The Gosport coast monitored by DJAT produced an annual total of 168 sightings with 66 in October and 43 in November. Highest daily counts were 14 on 8 October and 12 on 1 November. It seems that movement had not stopped even late in the year as one was seen flying north at Highcliffe on 29 October (MJG). Whether this was an immigrant or a home grown individual is anyone's guess.

Annual indices point to this year surpassing 2000 totals at 3 monitored sites, Magdalen Hill Down (Original), Martin Down (North) and St Catherine's Hill. The Magdalen Hill Down weekly count showed a steady rise from late July to late September with the exception of mid-August when presumably larvae/pupae were developing from eggs laid earlier.

It does seem that it has been a deceptive year for the Clouded Yellow, some observers considering 2006 to be reasonably good, others excellent. This is probably because many only saw one or two at a time in any one locality. The picture changes somewhat when all observations are taken into account, making it rival 2000. The pattern of arrival times pointing to more immigrants reaching our shores over a greater time period perhaps.

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**No of 2006 records:** 2442

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 353

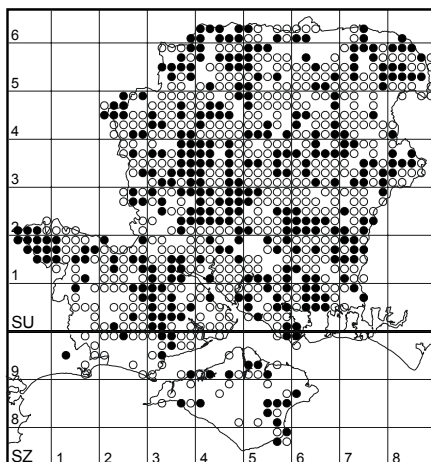
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 849

**Earliest:** 11 January 2006

Wickham (JRDS)

**Latest:** 16 December 2006

Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)



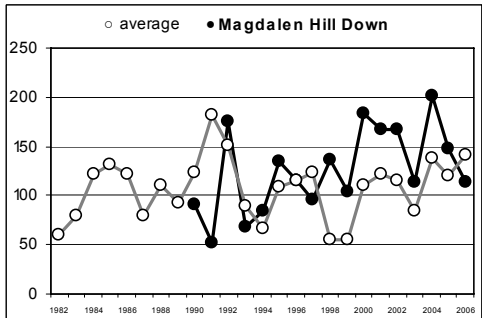
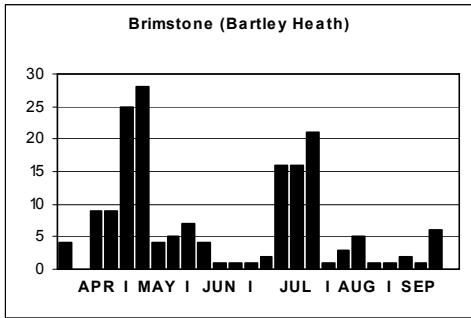
With reference to the graph showing the average Annual Index for all transects, where the Brimstone occurs, 2006 was the best year for this species since 1992. About half the transects showed an increase in numbers of more than 20% and one fifth recorded a decline of more than 20% with the remaining ten sites showing no significant change. Two examples of the “no significant change” category were Bartley Heath and Botley Wood but at Pamber Forest the Annual Index increased from 363 in 2005 to 469 in 2006 while at Yew Hill the increase was from 40 in 2005 to 84 in 2006. As is usually the case, more Brimstones were seen during the spring, when the butterflies are active for a long period, than in the late summer when the butterflies feed up from an abundance of flowers and go into hibernation.

Throughout January, February and March most sightings were of singletons, but the long spells of warm sunshine on 1 April resulted in a good start to the transect monitoring season when 29 Brimstones were counted on the Ampfield Wood transect (KJP). Good numbers were seen throughout April and May and into early June, the highest numbers of the spring brood being 36 on 22 April at Crookham Common (CRH), 45 on 26 April during a timed (90 minute) count at Kitts Grave, Martin Down ( DGG) and 60, the highest count of all at Pamber Forest on 4 May. In total there were 21 reports of more than 20 Brimstones for the spring brood, which lasted into July, by which time newly emerged second generation insects were on the wing.

Numbers soon built up again and in the last week of July counts of 20+ were being made. In all there were eight counts of 20 or more, the last being in mid September, an unusually late date to be seeing Brimstones in such numbers. The highest counts of the second generation were 50 on 16 July on the Pamber Forest transect (GJD) and 30 on 30 July at Noar Hill (AH). Numbers at Eelmoor Marsh peaked on 8 August when 18 which were seen taking nectar from Fleabane and Loosestrife (CRH).

On the Isle of Wight the highest counts came from Parkhurst Forest where 26 were seen on the South-west transect and 27 on the North-east transect on 22 April. The summer brood peaked at 24 on both transects on 25 July.

The species seemed to be reluctant to go into hibernation, and good numbers were to be seen late into the season, the last double figure count being the 10 seen on 15 October at Oxenbourne Down (AW).



**Large White *Pieris brassicae***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 17 April 2006  
Harestock, Winchester (BPF)

**No of 2006 records:** 2139

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 323

**Latest:** 9 November 2006  
Whealers Bay, IoW (A&EB)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 825

Most observers felt that the Large White had a good season, a view supported by the transect data where 20 out of the 44 transects featuring this butterfly showed an increase in numbers of 20% or more, only eight showing a decline of the same magnitude. At Brading Quarries the Annual Index increased from 171 in 2005 to 211 in 2006 and at Yew Hill there was an increase from 38 to 54 over the same period. Two sites where this species didn't fare so well were Botley Wood and The Gillies, Fareham.

As is often the case the numbers of the first brood were relatively low, with only ones and twos being seen throughout April. Peak numbers of this brood were seen in late May, and in June the numbers fell away again until the beginning of July when the second brood started emerging.

Numbers of the second brood built up and it was in the last week of July and the first week in August that the truly large counts were made. The largest count of all was 140 seen on 24 July at Isnage Farm, Lower Froyle (S&BC), 100+ in "late July" on Brighstone Down IoW (DAB) and 75 on 29 July at Black Wood, Rotherwick (KBW). In all, in Hampshire, there were nine counts in the range 20 -50.

On the Isle of Wight the highest count was recorded on 5 August at Whippingham Fields, Isle of Wight (JR). On the Island there were seven counts of 20-50 including 39 on 28 July at Brading Quarries (DAB) and 30 on 29 July at Brook Down Chalk Pits (IP).

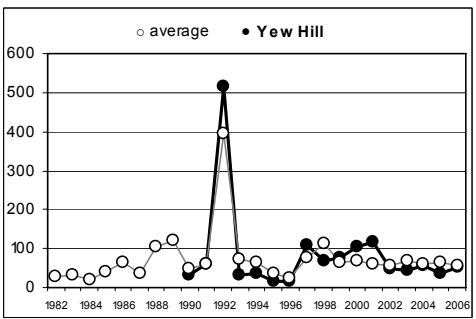
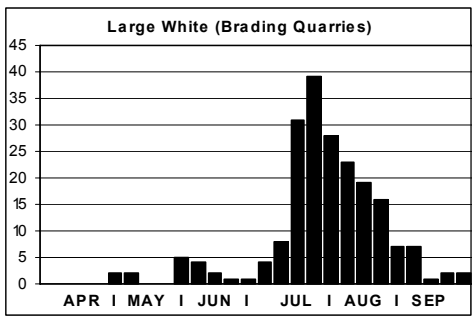
The numbers gradually declined throughout August and September and by October only ones and twos were being seen, both on the mainland and on the Isle of Wight. The last mainland sighting was on 29 October at Drayton (GRo) with all three of the November

sightings coming from the Island (A&E). Thus the flight season was a little shorter than in 2005, starting a week later and finishing on the same date.

Two unusual events were recorded for this species. On 8 September caterpillars were found feeding on Horseradish at Ropley (LF) and on 7 November a Large White butterfly was seen heading southwards out over the sea at Wheelers Bay, an unusual time for this species to be demonstrating its tendency to migrate.



Large White (Roger Buchanan)



**Status:** BC Low Priority

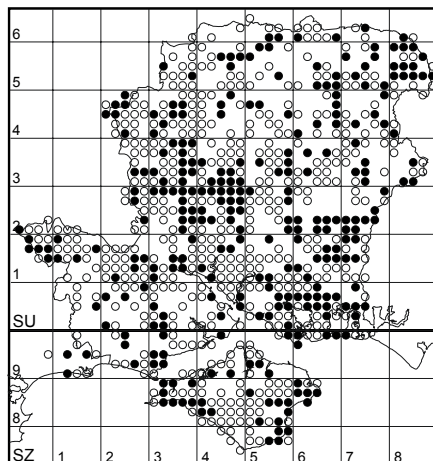
**No of 2006 records:** 2613

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 285

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 749

**Earliest:** 3 April 2006  
Alverstoke (DJAT)

**Latest:** 9 November 2006  
Stokes Bay, Gosport (ACM)  
Fort Gillicker, Gosport (DJAT)



Small White (Peter Eeles)

2006 was a good year for the Small White with nearly 60% of sites showing a 20% or more increase in numbers when compared to 2005. Of particular note are the numbers at Portsdown Hill. This transect has only been running for two years and the Annual Index increased from 583 in 2005 to 841 in 2006 with the highest individual count on transect being 126 on 29 July compared to a peak count of 87 on 23 August in 2005. At Alresford Farm, however, the Annual Index fell from 415 in 2005, which was the highest count since

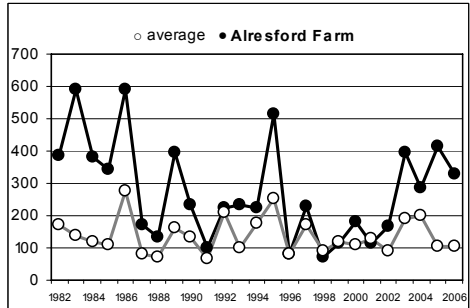
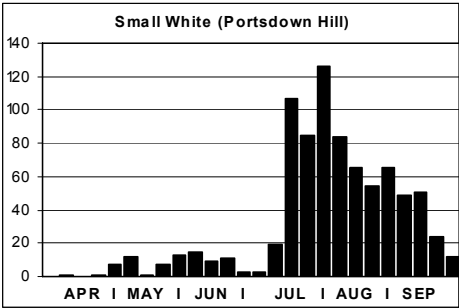


the mid nineties, to 330 in 2006, still a respectable figure when compared to other counts in recent years.

RKL reported “a dreadful spring” in Botley Wood, MSh reported “a very poor first brood, the worst in recent years, but the second brood more than made up for this”, CRH reported a good year “plentiful during May and early June” in the Hart/Rushmoor area and DAB reported “an excellent year” from the Isle of Wight. AW observed females egg-laying on Ivy and Yellow Rattle, but as he suggests it is unlikely these eggs will survive.

The first brood peaked in early June, but with low numbers at most locations. The second brood peaked in late July and early August, with counts of 325 from Portsdown Hill on 8 August (T&MR), 123 at Butser Hill on 24 July (MSh) and 100 at Fort Widley on 29 July (AW).

On the Isle of Wight DAB noted an influx of continental immigrants at Brading on 15 July and recorded 100+ on that day.



**Green-veined White *Pieris napi***

**Linda Barker**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

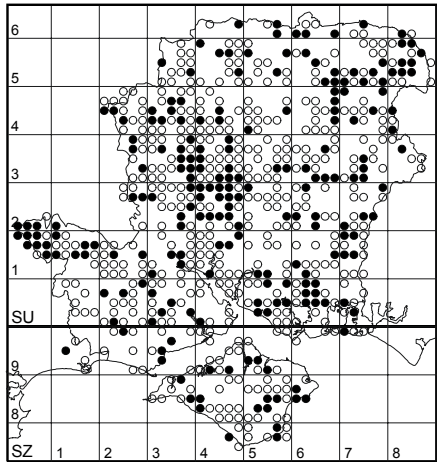
**No of 2006 records:** 1157

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 211

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 637

**Earliest:** 5 April 2006  
Drayton (T&MR)

**Latest:** 7 October 2006  
Ropley (LF)



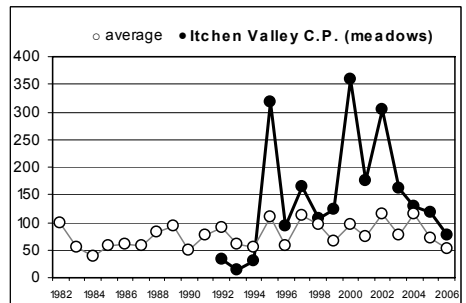
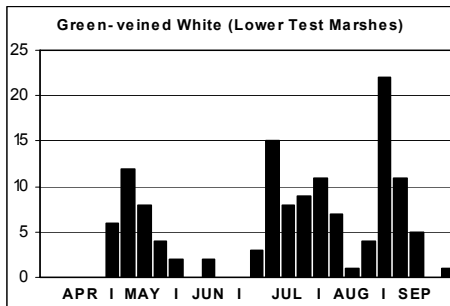
This was another disappointing year for this butterfly with 40% of transect sites showing a 20%, or more, decline in numbers and 34% showing no change. At Alresford Farm the total number of butterflies recorded on transect for the year fell from 258 in 2005 to 118 in 2006

and at Pamber Forest, following a big decrease from 2004 to 2005, numbers remained at a low ebb in 2006.

Most recorders considered 2006 to be a poor or average year but RKL reported that the Green-veined White was the most successful of the whites in Botley Wood. In East Hampshire MSh reported a good first brood which produced a number of late records, perhaps due to a cold spring. Both MSh and AW felt that the second brood suffered because of the high temperatures and resulting drought conditions.

The first brood peaked in early to mid May and the second brood at the end of July. In Hampshire the highest count for the first brood was 22 on 10 May at Itchen Valley Country Park, which was a particularly high count as most sites only managed single figures. The highest second brood count was 27 on 30 July at Wick Wood. In total only eight sites recorded counts of 15 or more compared to 15 in 2005. Some of the higher counts include 22 at Lower Test Marshes on 26 August (SKi), 19 at Ashford Hill on 24 July, (ABO), 15 at Martin Down on 26 April, (DGG) and 15 at Alice Holt on 21 July, (AH)

A similar story can be reported for the Isle of Wight with recorders again noting a poor or average year. The highest individual count, 18, was recorded at Whippingham Fields on 5 August (JR).




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**Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines***

**Peter Hooper**

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**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 5 April 2006  
Kingsclere (RC)

**No of 2006 records:** 539

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 216

**Latest:** 18 June 2006  
Leckford (GE)  
Beacon Hill, Warnford (TB)

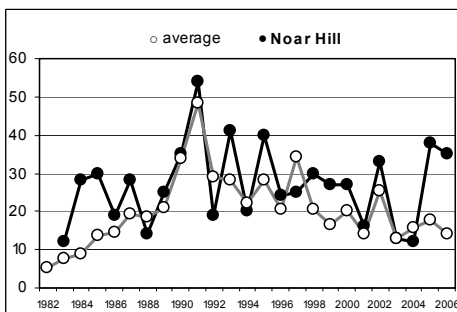
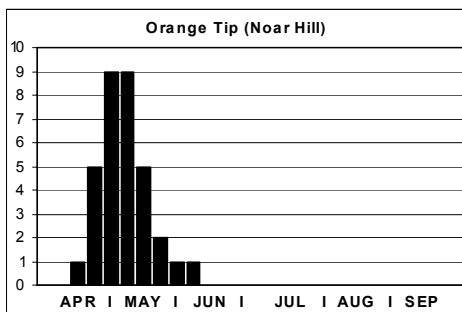
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 593

It was not a good year for this species with 18 out of 32 transects where this species is recorded showing a 20% or more drop in numbers when comparing 2006 to 2005. At Bentley Station Meadows and Magdalen Hill Down Extension the Annual Indices fell by 50% from 29 and 27 in 2005 to 13 and 14 in 2006, respectively. At Noar Hill however, the Annual Index was 35, just three less than the 2005 figure and the second highest over the last ten years.

Looking at the data from a number of transects, peak counts, compared to 2005, were generally a couple of weeks later. In the Petersfield area, MSh thought it had a good start

but numbers tailed off rapidly when the weather turned wet in mid-May and in the Fleet area, CRH said that despite the poor spring plus the fact that Fleet is not really “Orange-tip country” the species did fairly well. RKL reported that the butterfly had a terrible spring at Botley Wood and a poor year was recorded at Dean Hill Park (CWC). On the Isle of Wight, JR reported an average year at Brading and, at Whippingham Fields and Woodhouse Copse, one of the worst years ever.

The highest number of individuals recorded on one day was 25 on 7 May by RSY, with the next highest being 24 on 4 May (MDu); predictably both counts were at Noar Hill. Indeed, of the nine occasions when double-figure counts were recorded, six were at Noar Hill, all in late April or early May. Elsewhere 17 were counted on 10 May at Ashford Hill (ABo), 10 at Portsdown Hill on 3 May (M&MG) and nine at Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke on 14 May (NW). On the Isle of Wight the highest count recorded was five at Whippingham Fields on 28 May (JR) and apart from four being recorded at Wheelers Bay on 4 May (A&EB) and three at the Rock Gardens in Ventnor on 3 June (AW) all other counts on the Island were ones and twos.



**Green Hairstreak *Callophrys rubi***

**David Green**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

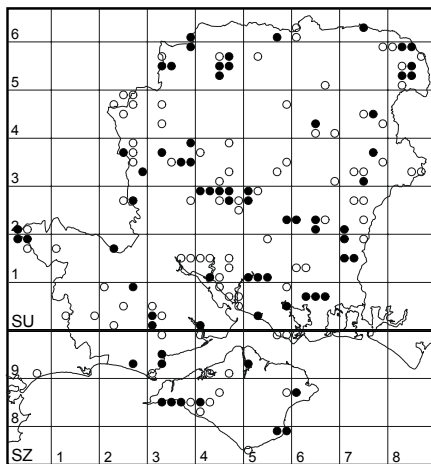
**No of 2006 records:** 208

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 69

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 159

**Earliest:** 21 April 2006  
Magdalen Hill Down (PDF & RWh)

**Latest:** 24 July 2006  
Stockbridge Down (RWe)



Observers were almost unanimous in considering that the Green Hairstreak experienced a poor season in 2006. Exceptions were at Eelmoor Marsh (CRH) and Grayshott (ACG), where both observers reported above average numbers, and at Whippingham Fields, Isle

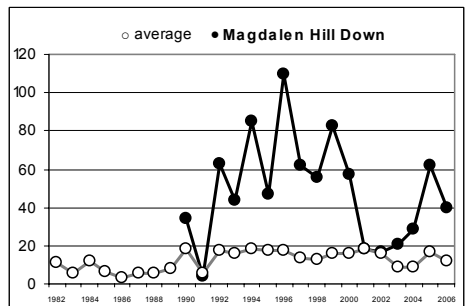
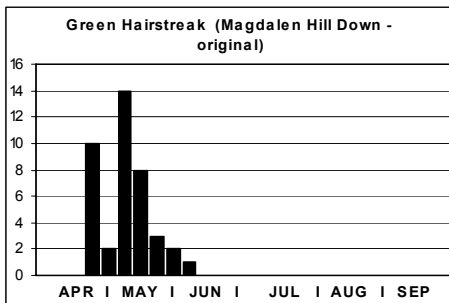
of Wight, where the annual count of 15 for the year was a site record. Otherwise, AW's comments are typical "A very poor year, hampered by the dreadful May weather throughout its flight season".

The first 2006 sighting was around 10 days later than in most recent years and, at many sites, few were then seen until main emergence began during the first week of June. The highest count for the year came from Home Farm, Burkham, on 5 June, when 42 were recorded (JF). As noted in the 2005 Report, this species is evidently thriving at this Woodland Trust managed site. The next highest count came from Compton Down on Wight, where 20 were seen on 31 May (PRD). Other than these, there were just three further localities with counts of more than 10; Eelmoor Marsh SSSI (CRH), Magdalen Hill Down (A&LB) and Yateley Common (K&JB).

The flight season had largely finished by the third week of June. However, there were July sightings from three localities. One at Porton Down on 9 July (BPF), one at Whippingham Fields on 15 July (JR) and two at Stockbridge Down on 24 July (RWe). The latter is the latest ever date on the Branch database.



Green Hairstreak larva on Common Rock-rose and adult, Stockbridge Down (Tim Norriss)



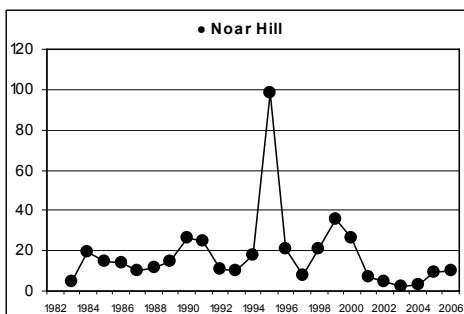
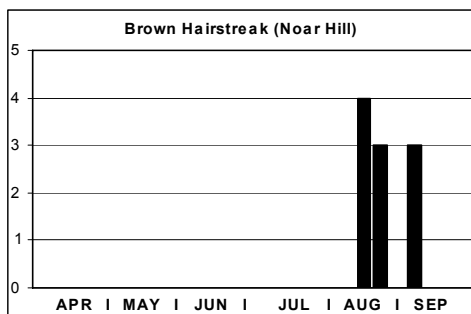
**Status:** BC High Priority**Earliest:** 28 July 2006  
Noar Hill (AH)**No of 2006 records:** 35**No of tetrads in 2006:** 9**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 16**Latest:** 17 September 2006  
Noar Hill (G&CW)

As usual, the survey season began with winter egg-searching on Blackthorn, the larval foodplant. Searches on 26 February along Blackthorn hedges of the Cholderton Estate recorded a total of 22 eggs from six 10-minute searches involving the combined efforts of five people (A&LB et al.). Individual searches recorded up to eight eggs, with all hedges producing at least one egg. This is typical of the Hampshire-Wiltshire border area, where the species is found at low density over many square kilometres. Three months later at the nearby Perham ranges, two larvae were found on 20 May (JRM).

Emergence at Noar Hill, Selborne began on 28 July (AH), but it was not until the first week of August that the butterfly was regularly seen, including three nectaring on Hemp Agrimony on 5 August (AW). Most visitors to Noar Hill saw just one or two individuals, with only six observers recording single visit counts of 5+. The highest individual count from Noar Hill was of 11 on 4 August (DJB). The butterfly was seen in low numbers throughout the remainder of the month, and continued into early September. The penultimate record for Noar Hill was of one on 8 September (AH), but the last of all was a female photographed on 17 September (G&CW).

The first record from the less visited colony of north-west Hampshire was of five west of Shipton Bellinger on 4 August (AT). The same location produced a peak count of 13 on 9 August (PBn & NFr), with the neighbouring Perham Down ranges producing three on the same day (PBn & NFr). The final records from the area were of four individuals to the west of Shipton Bellinger on 27 August (A&LB). One of these was a worn male observed at some length imbibing the juices of ripe blackberries. The observers sampled the same blackberries for later analysis!

Given that the season started a week earlier than 2005, and ended nearly two weeks later, in total it was almost three weeks longer than the previous year. Hopefully this means that egg-laying took place over an extended period, and the prospects for 2007 are promising.

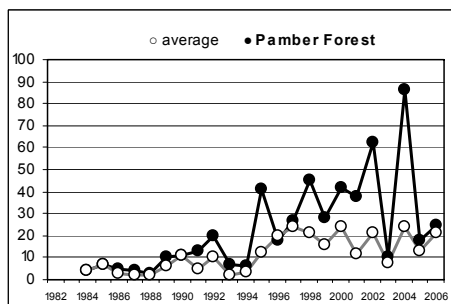
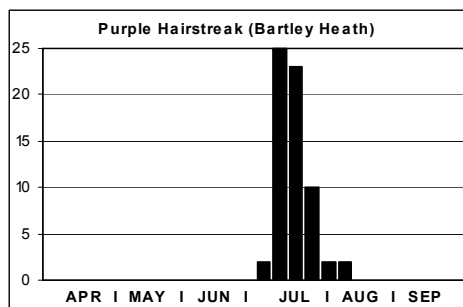


**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 10 June 2006  
Walters Copse (SY)**No of 2006 records:****No of tetrads in 2006:** 58**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 177**Latest:** 28 August 2006  
Walters Copse (SY)

As always, it is difficult to judge how well the Purple Hairstreak performed during 2006. This tree-top species is not well monitored by transects and can easily be overlooked during normal butterfly surveys. Typically, reports were mixed with some observers considering 2006 to be a good year and others average or even poor. Nevertheless, considerably more records were received for this species compared to 2005, perhaps due to the hot July weather causing the species to leave the tree canopy to seek shade, moisture and ground-level nectar sources.

Small numbers of larvae were recorded at five New Forest localities between 7 and 27 May (DGG). All were found on large Pedunculate Oaks whilst carrying out searches for moth larvae. The miserable weather conditions during May are unlikely to have been advantageous for larval development.

The first sighting of the adult butterfly on 10 June is the second earliest on the Branch database. The main emergence appeared to be at the very beginning of July, with sightings continuing throughout that month and on into early August. Subsequently, a handful of stragglers were observed until the end of the month. The highest count was of 35 at Ashurst on 20 July (MSw). Further counts of 20 plus came from Alice Holt Forest (AW), Ashford Hill on 15 July (ABo), Bartley Heath (Transect) and from Brockishill Inclosure on 9 July (MSw).

**White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album*****Andrew Brookes****Status:** BC Medium Priority**Earliest:** 21 June 2006  
Peartree Green, Southampton (BDe)**No of 2006 records:** 39**No of tetrads in 2006:** 24**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 55**Latest:** 6 August 2006  
Noar Hill (RTC)

Not even the usual paucity of records of this humble insect could disguise the fact that 2006 was an exceptional season in the two counties as elsewhere in England, and indeed

France (Collin, pers. comm.) whence it was reported as “abundant”. A staggering 39 records were filed, compared with just 13 in 2005. This was partly due to the initiative of some members who searched for ova and larvae, yielding particularly successful results in the Winchester area (RG). The good weather in June and July was no doubt also responsible.

Stockbridge Down has emerged as Hampshire’s hotspot, 12 reported there on 30 June (AT) bettered three days later by a count of 20 (MDu). Fifteen were logged on 28 June by South East Area Group (SEAG) at Defence Munitions Gosport. Here, the butterfly survives on exposed *Ulmus x hollandica* hybrids in preference to woodland Wych Elm. Had the Group possessed the energy to disturb every elm canopy on the day, the number would doubtless have been much higher, such was the insect’s indolence! Another notable record, belying the butterfly’s inclination for the metropolitan life, came from Peartree Green in Southampton, where 11 were counted on 23 June (PE and BDe)

Single figure totals were received from the other known habitats scattered across the county, such as the Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke (NW), Whiteley Pastures (AW), and Warsash (RKL). Interestingly, the last sighting, on the 6th August, was made at Noar Hill whence reports emerged last year, despite the apparent absence of elm.

With only one report from the Isle of Wight in 2005, SEAG mounted an expedition to search for the insect there. Significantly, it was only found on roadside and footpath elms exposed to full sunlight. Relatively mature Wych Elms in woodland and along a steep north-facing scarp near Shanklin were bereft of the butterfly. Other sightings were also made around this enclave of the Isle of Wight by A&EB. The only other island report came from Tennyson Down. On the Island the highest figure recorded during spring was six at Wheelers Bay on 1 April (A&EB) and during the summer the peak count was four at Whippingham Fields (JR) on 15 July.

**Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas***

**Rupert Broadway**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

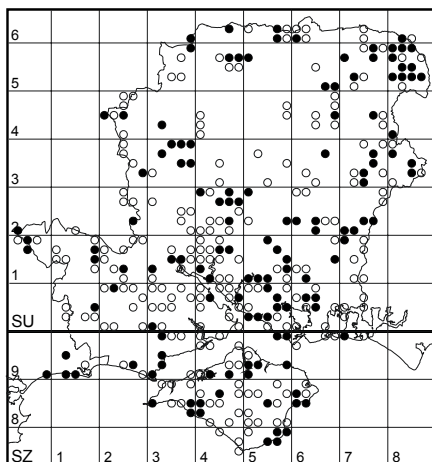
**No of 2006 records:** 702

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 134

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 351

**Earliest:** 5 April 2006  
Bournemouth East Cliff (MJS)

**Latest:** 12 November 2006  
Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)



The Small Copper followed the pattern of recent years in 2006, taking advantage of the long summer to build gradually throughout the year with a sustained peak at a number of

sites late in the season. Once again, Whippingham Fields on the Isle of Wight was the star of the show with a phenomenal Annual Index of 563 (up from 246 in 2005). Paradoxically Bonchurch Down seems to be experiencing a decline, with only eight seen all year on transect. In Hampshire the Annual Index at Magdalen Hill Down Extension increased from eight in 2005 to 65. Overall transect numbers were 20% or more up at 27 out of 38 of the monitored sites where it occurs.



Small Copper (Colin Baker)

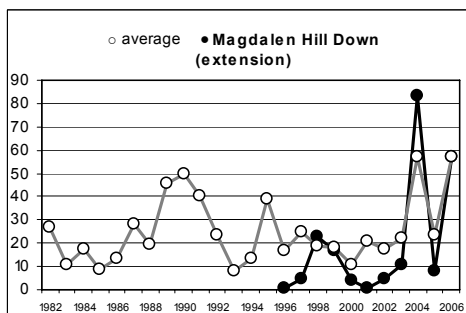
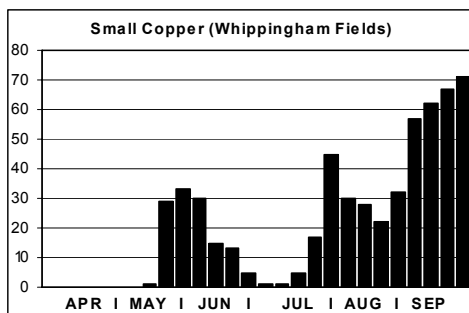
Comments from recorders varied, MSh felt that the first brood was a total disaster, the second average and the third very good. RKL felt it was another woeful year in Botley Wood, but ACG recorded significantly higher numbers than last year around Bramshott and CRH who records in the north east of the county thought the species had a better than average year.

The earliest sightings on 5 and 9 April both came from the Bournemouth area (MJS). Thereafter Small Coppers were seen regularly from late April, the spring brood peaking in late May with 10 at Yateley Common on the 25th (K&JB) and 11 at Magdalen Hill Down on the 28th (A&LB). There were no further double figure counts in Hampshire, until 31 August when ACS recorded 10 at Petersfield Heath.

The best individual counts of the season for Hampshire came from Old Winchester Hill where AH recorded 70 on 17 September. Other noteworthy counts included 37 at Oxenbourne Down on 23 Sep (AW) and 34 at Stockbridge Down on 8 September (AH). There were a smattering of records through October with a final sighting of one at Stokes Bay, Gosport on 12 November (DJAT).



On the Isle of Wight the highest spring brood count was 33 at Whippinghan Fields on 25 May and a count of 71 recorded on 26 September (JR) was the best individual count, but all of the other counts from the Island were in single figures.



### Small Blue *Cupido minimus*

Brian Fletcher

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 11 May 2006

**No of 2006 records:** 204

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 31

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 58

Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)  
Portchester Chalk Pits (M&MG)

**Latest:** 18 September 2006

SteePhill Cove & Ventnor Botanical Gardens, IoW (both DHam)

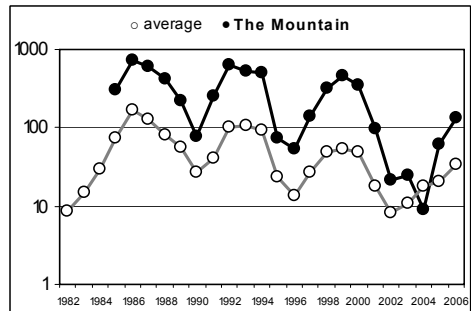
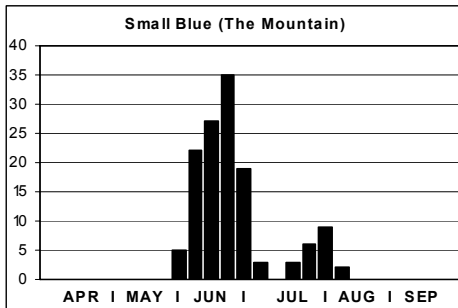
2006 was one of the better years for the Small Blue, on par with 1998-2000. Numbers post 2000 declined to an all time low in 2002 before building up steadily with 2006 being not quite as good as 1986-7 or 1992-4 but coming close. Transect data from 10 out of the 14 sites where this species is monitored showed a 20% increase or more in numbers when compared to 2005. At The Mountain in the Meon Valley the Annual Index fell from 457 in 1999 to 21 in 2002 taking until 2005 to pick up when 62 were recorded. In 2006 this number more than doubled itself to 134. Unfortunately observer coverage was rather patchy and some important sites such as Mount Joy Cemetery, Carisbrooke, Pitt Down and Weeke Down Reservoir were not visited during the peak of the flight season. It was pleasing to note that after some very lean years, the colony at Burghclere seems to be staging a slow recovery with small numbers seen on several occasions.

After a few sightings around the middle of May, numbers started to build up in the final week of May, the month finishing with an incredible count of 1000+ on 31 May east of Freshwater Bay (PRD). The butterflies were all on a 100 metre stretch of Red Valerian alongside the A3055 on the south side of Compton Down. The butterflies were not nectaring on the flowers but were mainly involved in courtship and mating activities.

Other places where large numbers of Small Blues were seen were Portsdown Hill, 109 being seen on 8 June at Paulsgrove Chalk Pit (M&MG) and just to the west of this area 142 on 10 June (AW), and Martin Down NNR where 68 were seen on 3 June (A&LB), 50 on 4 June (JCa & SWo) and 40 on 6 June (AH). An abundance of Kidney Vetch on these sites has provided ideal habitat for this species.

The first brood continued on the wing throughout the rest of June and into the first week of July. By the second week of July the second brood was emerging, though in relatively small numbers. It was most numerous during the last week in July and the first week in August, with 10 seen on 29 July at Fort Widley (AW), nine on 30 July at The Mountain, Meon Valley (SE&PR) and eight on 7 August at Old Winchester Hill NNR (MSh). The species was sighted sporadically throughout the remainder of August with the last sighting on the mainland being on 4 September at Windmill Hill, near Horndean (JN). The only subsequent sightings being the two that brought the season to its close a fortnight later. As in 2005, the species had a shorter than usual flight season, which started later and finished earlier, making the flight period for 2006 a fortnight less than in 2005.

Apart from the incredible sight of 1000+ Small Blues on Red Valerian, one other unusual behaviour was noted. On 3 June A&LB observed, at Martin Down, several Small Blues on damp mud at the edge of a puddle. Such behaviour is rarely reported in the UK, being much more frequently seen in southern Europe.



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

**Joyce Gifford**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 15 June 2006  
Dilton Meadows, Roydon Woods (MJS)

**No of 2006 records:** 110

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 35

**Latest:** 30 July 2006  
Hazeley Heath (PM)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 94

The concern expressed in 2005 about the likely dire effects of parched heaths followed by torrential downpours in north Hampshire has not been vindicated. The Silver-studded Blues have survived surprisingly well, despite bad weather and arson. Equally heartening has been the increase in members sending in records for the New Forest, especially in a year when the untimely illness of some regular observers threatened the usual coverage. Counting Silver-studded Blues over the most favoured heaths is a daunting task, but estimates in hundreds are welcome as are single sightings. Members walking a favourite route could be particularly helpful by recording once a week during the flight season.

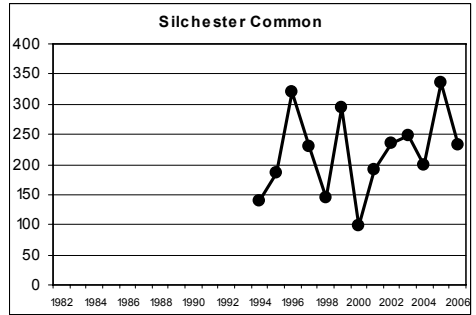
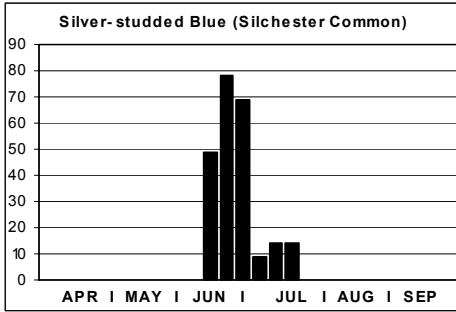
Anticipating an early emergence a careful search of Fair Cross Heath on 4 June by J&EG drew a blank and the earliest sighting was of 9 at Dilton Meadows in the south of the New Forest on 15 June (MJS), soon after showers had broken the heat wave. The following day a general emergence was seen across the county. Numbers rose rapidly, to reach a peak at the end of June and first week of July. A count of 205 was made at Yateley

Common on 28 June (PM), followed soon after by 261 at Hawley Common on 3 July (K&JB), whilst ACG delighted in 363 at Bramshott. Outstanding counts of 300 were seen on two separate early evening visits to Ocknell Plain on 2 July and 5 July (DGG *et al.*). By 20 July MRO reports that the impressive numbers seen earlier on Broxhead Common had been reduced to “12 ancient females, and 6 males on their last legs”. The hot dry weather resulted in a rapid decline in numbers during mid July (J&EG). Indeed, after 21 July, the season was all but over, with just thirteen individuals reported from around the county, and only three of these from the New Forest. The last dated sighting was at Hazeley Heath on 30 July (PM), although CRH reports that a few survived into early August at Eelmoor. The Silchester Common transect provides a picture common to most colonies in Hampshire of a relatively short season, starting in mid-June, ending in the third week of July, and with peak counts a little down on 2005. The Annual Index of 233 was below the 336 of the previous year, but well above the lowest of the decade of 99 in 2000.



Silver-studded Blue, Silchester Common, 11 June 2005 (Peter Eeles)

As usual there were some surprising sightings of singletons. TH saw a pristine male at Hollybush Hill, Aldershot, on a landfill reclamation site, far away from any heaths. More encouraging was the discovery of a female laying eggs on Bell Heather (AW) within Hawkhill Inclosure, where felling of conifers has encouraged growth of heather. A new colony of Silver-studded Blues is becoming established, but, as in Brockishill Inclosure some years ago, this colony may die out when trees grow up and the clumps of heather become leggy. Maintaining a mosaic of different aged heather is vitally important for this species, and has been successfully achieved by the many generations who have worked the New Forest heaths. Recolonisation of burnt areas, whether by design in the New Forest, or accident elsewhere, appears to take place about three years after the fire. Both are dependent on proximity to active colonies and the distribution patterns are constantly changing.



**Brown Argus *Aricia agestis***

**Phil Budd**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

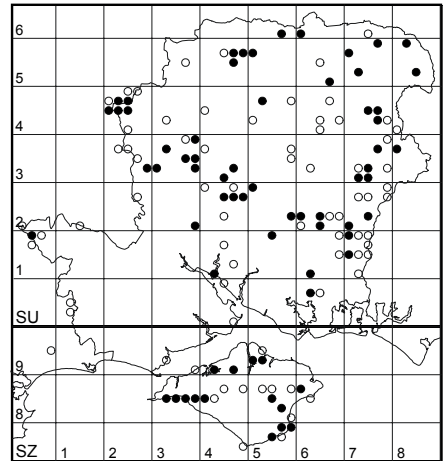
**No of 2006 records:** 645

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 68

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 141

**Earliest:** 12 May 2006  
Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)

**Latest:** 26 September 2006  
Broughton Down (JGr)  
St. Catherine's Hill (CP)



Brown Argus caterpillar,  
Stockbridge Down  
(Tim Norriss)

The unimproved chalk downs of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have always been a stronghold for this butterfly, but over the last decade it has become increasingly widespread off the chalk. In 2006 it was widely recorded on the Tertiary deposits of north and north-east Hampshire, but it remains scarce in the New Forest, and the south-east

coastal plain. With the exception of a good population at Broxhead Common, it also appears to be largely absent (or under-recorded) from the Lower Greensand of easternmost Hampshire.

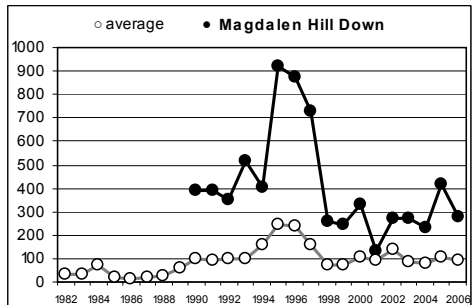
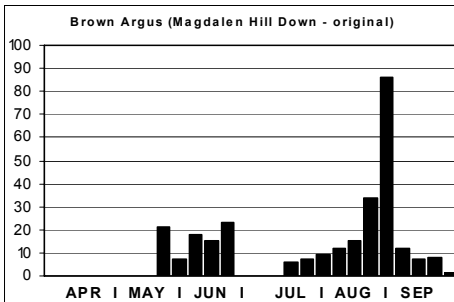
It was an average to good year at most transects, and a good year elsewhere, judging by the records received. The first sightings were of a singleton on 12 May at Afton Down (SAK-J), then 9 on 13 May at Magdalen Hill Down (A&LB) on a Butterfly Conservation "New Members' Day" meeting. The poor weather that followed meant that it was not until 23 May that the next sightings were made.

The first brood peaked in early June, with highest counts of 80 on 3 June (AW) and 50 on 4 June (IP), both at Bonchurch Down. The first brood ended on 29 June, with sightings at Bonchurch Down (DMe), and Ventnor, Coombe Bottom (IRi). The second brood fared better than the first, having a prolonged flight period commencing on 18 July (several sites), and continuing until 26 September. It peaked in late August, with the highest counts for this brood being 86 on 26 August at Magdalen Hill Down (A&LB), and 35 on the same day at Bonchurch Down (AW). There were no indications of a third brood in 2006 despite the warmth.

Of the 27 transect monitored sites, ten showed little or no change, 12 showed an increase of more than 20%, and only five showed a decrease of more than 20% in 2006 relative to 2005. Magdalen Hill Down was one of the sites showing a significant decrease, but it remains the strongest population in Hampshire. At nearby St. Catherine's Hill, both broods did well, and produced the best transect total since 1996 (CP).

Bonchurch Down continues to be the best site on the Isle of Wight, as shown by the high counts reported above. This species fared well at most other sites on the Island, including very good numbers at Whippingham Fields (JR), 30+ on 25 July at Brighstone Forest (DAB) and a count of 28 in Parkhurst Forest on 6 August (JR).

There were several field margin sightings within farmland on the chalk, including two on 9 June, near Stockbridge (A&LB) and five on 24 July at Lower Froyle (S&BC). Off the chalk, the butterfly is associated with sandy grassland and set-aside fields. In these situations rather than using Common Rock-rose as the larval foodplant, it breeds on Stork's-bill and Crane's-bill. At Broxhead Common in east Hampshire 40 were seen on 20 July (MRO) and on set-aside at Wheatfield Road, near Tadley, 27 were counted on 1 August (ABo). Other good sites off the chalk include Bartley Heath, Claylands NR, Hazeley Heath, Peartree Green (Southampton), Petersfield Heath and Silchester Common.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

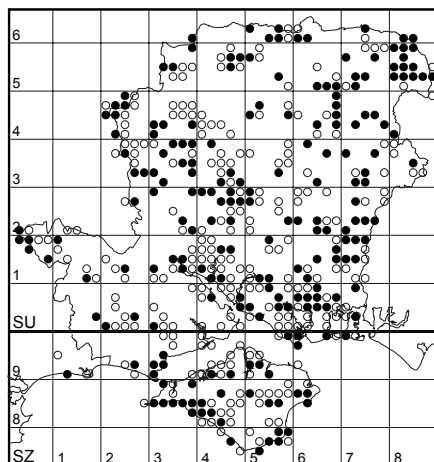
**No of 2006 records:** 2343

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 206

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 445

**Earliest:** 28 April 2006  
The Gillies, Fareham (MPr)

**Latest:** 1 November 2006  
Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (DJAT)



With few exceptions, most observers considered 2006 to be an excellent year for the Common Blue. This is reflected in the transect data with some monitored sites recording their highest ever Annual Indices.

The earliest appearance of first brood individuals was more or less in line with typical earliest sightings. However, unfavourable May weather subsequently meant that just a handful of first brood individuals were then seen up until 30 May when numbers rapidly increased to reach a peak during the first and second weeks of June.

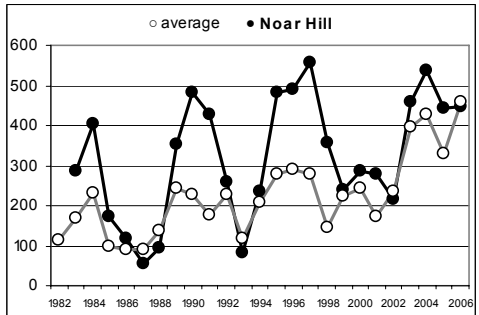
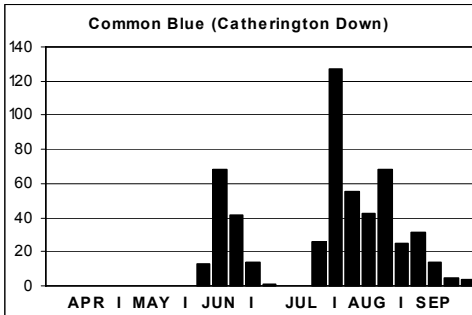
Numbers of the first brood varied considerably from site to site. It was considered to be "average" at Dean Hill (CWC), "weak" at Botley Wood (RKL) and "non-existent" in the Petersfield area (GGF). It was also considered poor at Parkhurst Forest and Woodhouse Copse on the Island (JR). It did better at other sites and, at Whippingham Fields, Isle of Wight, the first brood count of 95 was a record for the locality. Other Isle of Wight localities supporting a strong first brood included Brading (DAB), Bonchurch Down, Wheelers Bay and Ventnor (AW). On the mainland, The Mountain, Portsdown Hill (AW), Eelmoor Marsh SSSI (CRH) and St Catherine's Hill (CP) were all considered to have done well.

The second brood was considered exceptional by virtually all recorders and even sites with low first brood numbers were supporting high populations from late July through to early September. CRH reports that at Eelmoor Marsh SSSI in north-east Hampshire, Common Blue outnumbered Meadow Brown during August and a count of 134 in just one compartment at this location on 4 August was greater than any site count here since monitoring began in 1995. Well over 200 were present across the whole site. Further counts of 100 plus second brood individuals came from Broughton Down (PBn & NFr), Catherington Down (Transect), Ladle Hill (ABo), Magdalen Hill Down Extension (Transect), Martin Down (CDe), Noar Hill (Transect), Portsdown Hill (AW) and Whippingham Fields (Transect).

Sightings of the second brood continued throughout September and reports of several fresh individuals at a few localities during October and at Fort Gilkicker, Gosport, on 1 November (DJAT) strongly suggested the possibility of a partial third brood.



Common Blue (Barry Hilling)



**Chalkhill Blue *Polyommatus coridon***

**Brian Fletcher**

**Status:** BC Medium Priority

**Earliest:** 21 June 2006  
Brook Chalk Pit, IoW (ZH)

**No of 2006 records:** 784

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 54

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 95

**Latest:** 30 September 2006  
Afton Down, IoW (SAK-J)  
Brading Quarries, IoW (DAB)

Following a run of good summers, the numbers of Chalkhill Blues have increased yet again in 2006. 11 of the 16 transects on which this butterfly is found have had an increase of 20% or more, and the average number of Chalkhill Blues seen on transects has shown a more or less steady increase since 1982, resulting in 2006 being “the best year since records began”. The Annual Index at Magdalen Hill Down was the highest ever with a count of 3236 compared to 2666 for 2005 and similarly there was an increase in the



Annual Index at Old Winchester Hill. Observers have reported seeing “thousands” at sites such as Old Winchester Hill NNR and Stockbridge Down.

Compared to the mainland, the season started earlier and finished later on the Isle of Wight. The first mainland individuals were seen on 3 July at Magdalen Hill Down (PF) and Stockbridge Down (MDu). Large numbers were first seen on 22 July when 592 were seen on Yew Hill Reserve (BPF), and 581 were seen on Magdalen Hill Down on 23 July (PAB). The really big numbers were all seen in the first 10 days of August, starting with 2000 on 5 August on Old Winchester Hill NNR (BPF), and on 9 August 1400 at Stockbridge Down. Elsewhere 441 were counted at Chalton Down on 6 August (RSy) and 520 at Portsdown Hill (T&MR) on 8 August.



Chalkhill Blue, Martin Down NNR, 21 August 2005 (David Green)

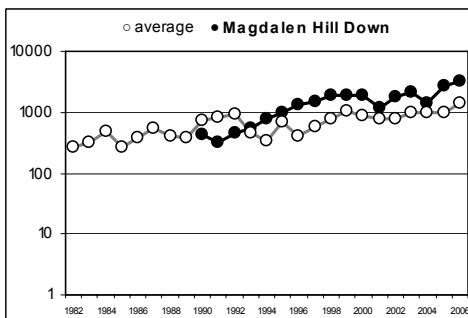
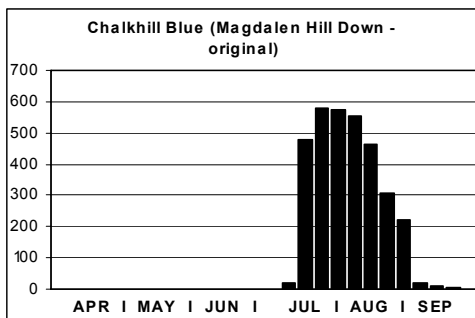
On the Isle of Wight, 1274 were seen on 4 August on the Brading Quarries transect (the total on the down as a whole would have been far larger - DAB). 8500, the largest count of all, were seen on 6 August at Freshwater Cliffs (JMC), and on the 9 August 4500 were seen on Tapnell Down, Isle of Wight (JMC).

Good numbers continued to be seen throughout August and just into September with the last century-plus count being of 171 on 1 September on the Brading Quarries transect (DAB). Numbers declined rapidly as September progressed, the last double-figure count being on 15 September at Brading (DAB). This year the flight season started earlier and finished later than in 2005, resulting in a flight period a fortnight longer than in 2005.

Once more several reports have come in of Chalkhill Blues turning up in unexpected places, often some distance from the main breeding areas on chalk. They have been seen



at Botley Wood (RKL), Parkhurst Forest and Whippingham Fields (JR), these sites being on clay or gravel soils. The same is true of the small colony that is “hanging on” at Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (DJAT). It would appear that the high temperatures of this summer and those of previous years are causing both males and, more unusually, females of this species to disperse further and more frequently than in the past.



**Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus***

**Andy Butler & Andy Barker**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 25 May 2006  
Martin Down (LS)

**No of 2006 records:** 374

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 27

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 40

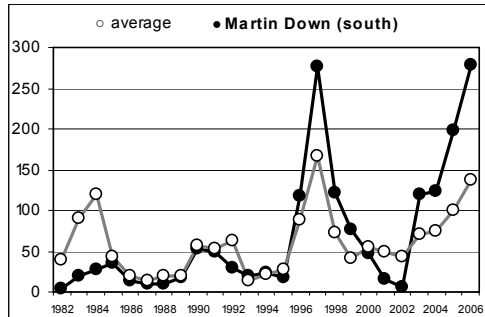
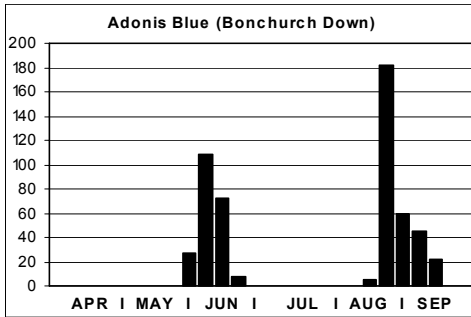
**Latest:** 23 September 2006  
Martin Down (LS)  
Old Winchester Hill (BP)

Cold and cloudy May weather held this species back considerably, with the first brood emerging on 25 May, a good two and a half weeks later than in 2005. The final sighting of 2006 was on 23 September, just five days earlier than last year.

Although a foreshortened season compared with 2005, the Adonis continues to go from strength to strength, both on the Island and in Hampshire. The re-colonisation of Old Winchester Hill is progressing well, confirmed by a transect Annual Index of 69, nearly twice the 2005 value. Annual indices at Broughton Down, Martin Down (south) and Bonchurch Down were well up on previous years. Indeed, at transect monitored sites there were few species that had a better 2006 performance than the Adonis Blue.

In Hampshire, Martin Down was the most visited location, with 23 recorders seeing the species here. The highest counts for this site were 65 on 10 June (DGG) and 50 on 8 September (AJH). Elsewhere in Hampshire, the southern edge of the chalk outcrop, extending from Old Winchester Hill in the south-east to Broughton Down in the west now has several colonies. It is incredible to think that as recently as 2001 the only known Hampshire colony was at Martin Down. A sample of peak counts at other Hampshire sites gives some idea of the population strength and increase in range of this butterfly, with 27 at Broughton Down on 4 June (GCE), 21 at Old Winchester Hill on 8 September (RSy), 14 at Pilot Hill, Facombe, on 22 August (MG), 8 at Stockbridge Down on 22 August (BPF), and similarly 8 at Danebury Hill on 24 August (MG) and 8 at St Catherine's Hill on 29 August (CP). Singletons were also noted at Pitt Down on 16 June (AT), Beacon Hill, Warnford on 18 August (AT) and Magdalen Hill Down on 22 August (PB).

On the Island, the species has three concentrations, namely the west end of the chalk ridge, the east end of this ridge, and the downs around Ventnor. By far the strongest and most visited colony on the Island is at Bonchurch Down, where 182 Adonis Blues were recorded on transect on 25 August (IRi). The rise of the species at this site is truly outstanding, with a transect Annual Index of just 16 in 1998, rising to 181 in 2005 then a massive three-fold increase to 529 in 2006. After this, the high counts for other sites are very modest, with 20 at Compton Down on 8 June (Patrick Spence), 14 at Mottistone Down on 25 August (RLa), 12 at Brook Down on 10 June (JMC), 10 at Shalcombe Down on 28 August (IP) and 9 at Brading Quarries on 3 June (DAB). Other sites with single figure counts for the species include Afton Down (A&LB, SAK-J), Rew Down (AHB), Nansen Hill (AW) and Wheeler's Bay (A&EB). At Brading Down DAB reported another increase, where the butterfly is responding well to sympathetic management.



**Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus***

**Rupert Broadway**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

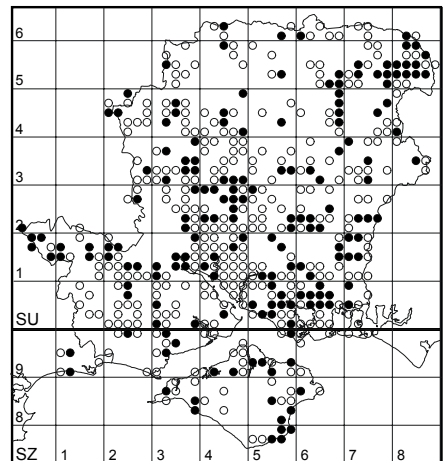
**No of 2006 records:** 677

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 177

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 489

**Earliest:** 12 April 2006  
Solent Way, Gosport (DJAT)

**Latest:** 6 December 2006  
Stanley Park, Gosport (ACM)



A poor year for the Holly Blue was predicted in 2006 given a weak second brood in 2005. It was, however, a mixed year with data for transect monitored sites showing no particular trend. The Annual Indices for Brading Quarries, Isle of Wight, where it declined from 32 in 2005 to 16 in 2006, and for Magdalen Hill Down Extension with a decline from 35 to 4, appeared to support this prediction. Elsewhere it fared better with The Gillies, Fareham recording a reasonable 35 for the year and Portsdown Hill recording 57, up from 32 the

previous year, the second brood being the more prominent at the latter site. At Farlington Marshes the Annual Index has remained relatively stable over the last six years or so.



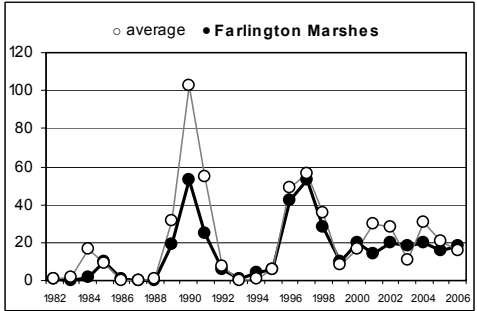
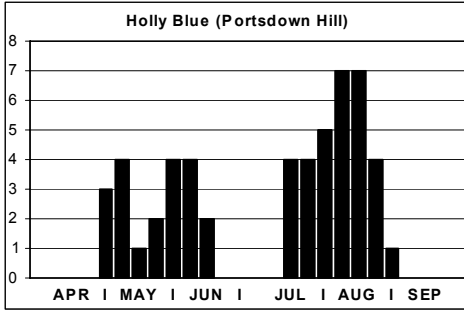
Holly Blue female, Whiteshoot Bottom, New Forest, 2 August 2005 (David Green)

Given the widespread nature of this butterfly, equally at home in city parks as in suburban gardens and the wider countryside, there is bound to be local variation and this was reflected in comments from observers. Thus whilst RKL felt the species is in decline and had a poor year at Botley Wood, RCB has noticed an upward trend in the Winchester area that continued into 2006. GGF in the Petersfield area thought the second brood was better than the first whereas CWC felt that the first was reasonable at Dean Hill but the second was poor.

Unusually there were no March records. Holly Blues began to appear from mid April. RSy recorded 13 at Noar Hill on 7 May, but the main peak appeared to be in early June when RWe counted 19 at Stockbridge Down on the 7th and T&MR saw 19 at Portsdown Hill on the 10th representing the only double figure counts in Hampshire. The Holly Blue remained widespread in small numbers until the end of September. October records were few but it persisted into November with singles seen in Drayton, Portsmouth on the 5th (GRo), Portman Ravine, Boscombe on the 6th (MJS) and in Stanley Park, Gosport on the 27th (DJAT), with an exceptionally late record on 6 December also from Stanley Park (ACM). This is almost three weeks later than the previous latest record for our area and could well be the latest ever recorded in the UK.

On the Isle of Wight the second brood broke all previous records at Parkhurst following a very poor first brood where only nine were recorded (JR). A maximum of seven was recorded at Whippingham Fields but elsewhere on the Island counts were in twos and threes.

Egg-laying was observed on Holly on 2 and 6 May and Dogwood on 5 May and 10 June (T&MR). MSw counted 20 eggs at Totton on 24 August. There were two reports of unusual foodplants. MRO saw a female egg-laying on Hydrangea buds at Headley Down on 8 June and TJN and PT observed egg-laying on Wisteria in a garden at Damerham on 23 July.



**Duke of Burgundy *Hamearis lucina***

**Ashley Whitlock**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 26 April 2006  
The Mountain, Meon Valley (AW)

**No of 2006 records:** 87

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 15

**Latest:** 7 June 2006  
Near Stockbridge (A&LB)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 48



Duke of Burgundy, near Stockbridge, 05 May 2005 (Peter Eeles)

As in 2005, the Duke of Burgundy's emergence was not helped by the weather. A cool spring resulted in the species emerging a week or two later than it has in previous seasons and although it went on to emerge in reasonable numbers during the first part of May the

weather then sensationally collapsed. Weekends during the second half of May were so poor, many recorders failed to locate the insect.

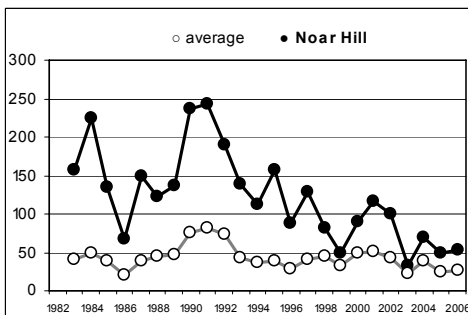
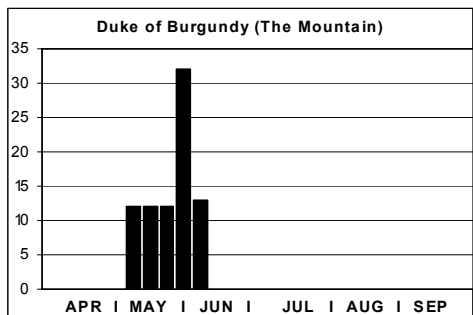
The Duke of Burgundy emerged in the Meon Valley at The Mountain on 26 April, peaking over a month later at this site on 28 May with a count of 32 (SE&PR). Overall numbers were down with an Annual Index of 81 compared to 94 in 2005. At Noar Hill, a site also monitored by transect, numbers peaked on 12 May with a count of 22 (AMJ) and the overall count of 54 for the year showed a small increase on the 2005 figure, which was 48.

Records were received from 13 sites but with the poor weather many Duke sites were not visited (AW). Peak counts from some of these sites include 38 on 13 May (PE) and 36 on 16 May (A&LB) from a private woodland near Stockbridge, eight at Butser Hill, Rake Bottom on 11 May (AT), seven at Conholt, north of Andover (J&JM), five at Ramsdean Down, Butser Hill on 5 June (AH) and four at Westbury Park on 15 May (AW). The colony at the abandoned railway at East Tisted seems to have waned, with no records for 2006. This is some cause for concern (LF).

Three were seen on 31 May at a site in the New Forest near Exbury (AW). The Duke of Burgundy at this site uses Primrose as its larval food plant as it does at the woodland locality near Stockbridge. JF recorded two individuals on two occasions on the banks of the A34 near Litchfield and at Bradley Wood JF recorded four on the 25 May. There have been no records from Teg Down for several years, but an area near the Golf Links still looks suitable (A&LB). Also the site at Deacon Hill, Winchester still maintains a modest colony with six being observed by A&LB on 28 May and nine were recorded by RWH on 6 June. Despite this there were no records coming from Magdalen Hill Down in 2006.

The site on the Isle of Wight still maintains a slim thread of existence with two being noted by CD on the 14 May, this is the only known site on the Island.

The Duke soldiered on into the beginning of June, with the last sightings being seen by AH at Ramsdean Down, Butser Hill on the 7 June and two days later at a site near Stockbridge A&LB.



<b>Status:</b> BC Medium Priority	<b>Earliest:</b> 4 June 2006 Denmead (RHal)
<b>No of 2006 records:</b> 489	
<b>No of tetrads in 2006:</b> 101	<b>Latest:</b> 30 September 2006
<b>No of post 2000 tetrads:</b> 185	Hook Heath, near Southwick (ATh)

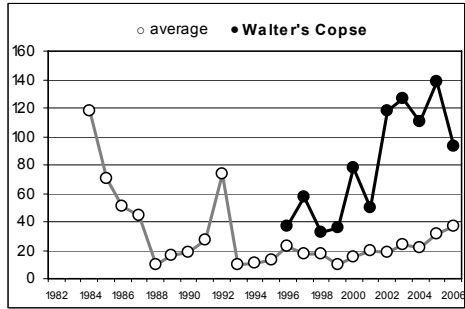
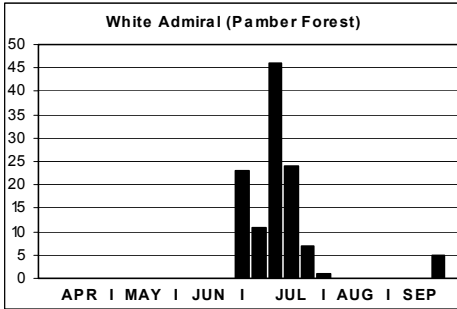
Overall, the White Admiral enjoyed a superb season, helped, no doubt, by the excellent weather during its flight period. Transect monitoring at two thirds of the 22 sites where this species is recorded revealed a 20% or more increase in numbers when compared to 2005. At Pamber Forest the Annual Index increased from 54 in 2005 to 117 in 2006. On the Isle of Wight, at Walters Copse, however, there was a decrease from 138 in 2005 down to 93 in 2006 while at Parkhurst, north east, an Annual Index of 60 in 2005 increased to 232 in 2006. Comments from recorders were all positive, many replete with superlatives: "Best year in Alice Holt Forest since at least 1992" (MRO), "Best transect year on record" at Botley Wood (RKL), and GGF reported "we had our best year, though it was of short duration" whilst on the Isle of Wight the inmates of Parkhurst clearly excelled themselves "I have never seen so many, .... the best year ever" (JR).

A portent of things to come was the early sighting of the insect at Denmead on 4th June (RHal), some three weeks earlier than in 2005. By the end of the month the emergence was well underway, with counts of over 20 commonplace, including 34 at Busketts Lawn Enclosure in the New Forest (MSw) 29 June. 40 were seen in Alice Holt Straits Enclosure (CBa) on 29 June and two days later CGo saw 100 at the same site. 46 were counted at Pamber Forest on 11 July and ABo recorded 36 at Ashford Hill on 15 July. Numbers dwindled thereafter, the last of the brood seen at Wick Wood (PR) and Itchen Valley Country Park (RJa) on 7 August.

On the Isle of Wight the highest counts came from two of the transect sites in Parkhurst Forest with a count of 55 from one on 11 July and 82 from the other on 15 July. Walters Copse, although the overall count was lower in 2006 when compared to 2005, still produced an impressive count of 34 on 16 July.

As further testaments to the exceptional weather, there were two bonuses. Firstly, a number of ab. *obliterae* (where the white markings are reduced, almost completely in some cases) were seen, at Grayshott (ACG) and at Alice Holt (MRO). This was the first such record from the latter site since 1984. Secondly, a relatively strong and widespread second brood was evident, starting on 28 August in Ampfield Wood (ML) and ending a month later at Hook Heath (ATh). Some 40 second brood individuals were recorded from 10 sites in Hampshire and one on the Island. On 21 September MRO noted a female egg-laying on the usually ignored Honeysuckle on the woodland floor, in warm sunspots, not the usual shaded, dangling strands.

The weather also encouraged the insect's migratory instincts, with individuals reported from gardens in the depths of Southampton (CP) and Winchester (RCB), while on the Isle of Wight two were seen taking the air on Tennyson Down (CD). An extraordinary year, which will be a hard act to follow.



## Purple Emperor *Apatura iris*

Ashley Whitlock

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 28 June 2006  
Alice Holt Forest (RP)

**No of 2006 records:** 54

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 26

**Latest:** 30 July 2006

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 59

Weston Common, north of Alton (EJT)

The Purple Emperor in 2006 enjoyed one of its best seasons to date, helped by long sunny spells in the months of June and July. It first appeared in Alice Holt Forest on the 28 June (RP) and at other well established sites a day later. At Goose Green Inclosure, Alice Holt at least five males were seen on the 29 June, (AW & TBa), a good count to start what was to become a good season.

We received records from some 20 Hampshire sites, including seven sites where the Emperor has not been recorded before or from where we have not received records for more than two years. Sites of interest, where singletons were observed, were Longwood Warren, near Morestead (GFa), Mounds Mere, near Preston Candover, (CW) Tanglely Wood, (REs), Ashford Hill NNR, (ABo) and Southleigh Forest (JGo).

Well established woods within the county did very well. At Bentley Wood on 4 July PE recorded 10 males imbibing on trees and on the very dry ground. Good numbers were recorded at Basing Forest (MDu), where six were reported on 14 July. At Alice Holt Forest, MRO noted that the numbers in Straits Inclosure were impressive by recent standards but lower than pre-1985 standards, the maximum count being of six on 4 July (TH). At Goose Green Inclosure, two counts of six, one of five, three of four and one of three were recorded in total. Other well known established woods in the north of the county recorded reasonable counts with Pamber Forest (DP) and Butterwood (AW) recording several individuals in the early part of the season. Other single counts came from Botley Wood, off transect, over the first two weeks of July (RKL&CP).

In the middle of July the weather could only be described as excellent Emperor watching weather, with temperatures of 25°C plus. Reports came in from most parts of the county, although adult activity levels were lowered by the heat, especially after the first third of the season. Activity levels dropped by up to 75%, and when the temperature exceeded 30°C, both sexes spent a lot of time in the shade, although there were some lovely evening flights (MRO). MRO noted an unusually high number of males searching for females in the sallows during the mornings in Alice Holt, and also an unusually high number of cases of females spiralling down to reject amorous males. This may suggest good population.



Tatty male individuals were observed through to the end of July at Goose Green disused car-park where the last being noted was on the 29 July (AW). A good and successful egg-lay, should bode well for the 2007 season weather permitting.

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**Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta***

**Susan Clarke**

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**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** **2 January 2006**  
Southampton (PAB)

**No of 2006 records:** 1969

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 370

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 820

**Latest:** **30 December 2006**  
Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)  
Shave Green Inclosure, Cadnam (MP)  
Damerham (DGG)  
Harestock, Winchester (BPF)



Red Admiral, Cowesfield Gate, 4 August 2005 (Susan Clarke)

The UK population of the Red Admiral is a complex mix of local breeding and waves of immigrants, with some individuals over-wintering as adults, so earliest and last sightings do not reflect the main flight period. In 2006, the Red Admiral was seen in all months of the year, but the number of records received shows the main flight period as late March to early December with peaks around mid July and again in early to mid September.

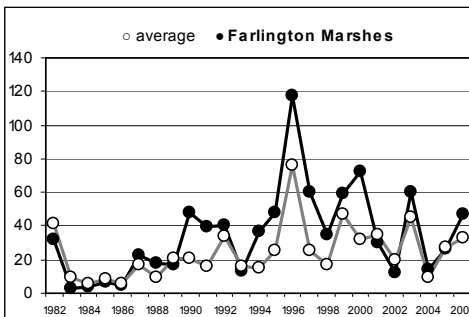
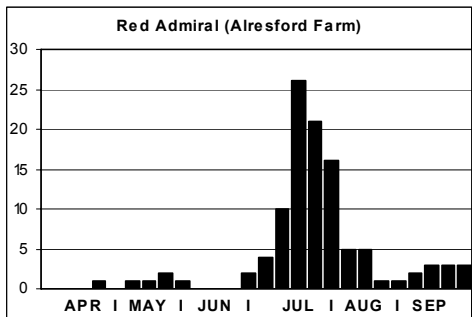
The species seems fairly strong in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, with numbers again increasing after a very poor year in 2004. Transect data shows that 62% of monitored sites had more than a 20% increase in numbers compared with 2005. The Annual Index at Alresford Farm increased from 68 in 2005 to 87 for 2006 and similarly at Brading Quarries on the Isle of Wight, the Annual Index increased from 117 to 158 over the same period. Peak counts were 35 at St Catherine's Hill on 27 July (MSw), 50 at Longstock Gardens on



23 July (AHB), 22 at Old Winchester Hill on 13 October (RTu) and 20 at Noar Hill on 30 July (AH). Recorders generally commented that good numbers were seen. ACG felt that at Grayshott "Red Admiral numbers were higher than in any years" in his records. MRO said that "In July, it was the best I can remember it being in the rides of Alice Holt, with males regularly succumbing to canine deposits and the like." There were a couple of interesting sightings by T&MR at Drayton, with a Red Admiral nectaring on Snowdrop on 25 February and on 17 July an individual was seen that was judged to be about half the normal size.

DJAT frequently walks along the coast at Gosport and below are his sightings month by month for 2006 (Total: 1016), compared with the same for 2005 (Total: 1334).

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>2005</b>	0	0	0	0	7	14	35	49	479	541	203	6
<b>2006</b>	2	0	2	5	25	26	121	85	87	483	214	11



**Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui***

**Juliet Bloss**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**No of 2006 records:** 1195

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 240

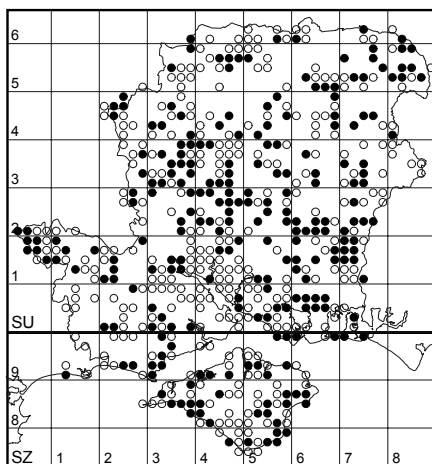
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 544

**Earliest:** 19 March 2006

Hawley (RWi)

**Latest:** 19 November 2006

Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)



In complete contrast to 2005, Painted Ladies were widespread and numerous over the two counties. While numbers were up on all transects bar one compared with last year, they but did not exceed the 2003 totals on most of them. Particularly interesting contrasts in numbers between 2005 and 2006 were noted at Brading Quarries, Isle of Wight and

Magdalen Hill Down, North where the Annual Indices were, respectively, two and four for 2005 and 106 and 149 for 2006.

There was a handful of scattered records in March and April but from May onwards these reports increased, accompanied by southerly winds, with an early peak of nine on 7 May at Old Winchester Hill NNR (RWh). At the beginning of June southerly winds again brought an immigration. A large cloud of these butterflies was seen from a boat three miles off the Chichester shore on 6 June (GGF). On 10 June, 43 were seen at Compton Chine (A&LB), 20 were noticed at Shalcombe Down on the following day (PMi) and 40 were seen by CD at Chilton Chine on the 15th. The first big total of 20 on the mainland was recorded near Highclere on the 13th (GCE) and a further 26 were seen at Hordle Cliff on the 16th (BWH).

A sizeable home-grown brood resulted from the June immigration (MRO) leading to high numbers in late July with MSh reporting the best year since 1996 on Old Winchester Hill and the second-best year ever was recorded at Parkhurst (JR). 100 were recorded at St Catherine's Hill on 27 July (MSw) and 65 at Magdalen Hill Down, North, on 29 July (SW). 55 were seen at Old Winchester Hill on 28 July (MDu and ML) and DJAT recorded 77 along the Gosport coast on 5 August with a total of 400 for the season.

A couple of aberrations were noted: one on Oxenbourne Down with strangely patterned upperwings (AW) and one at Brading which was no larger than a Wall Brown (DAB). Many individuals were observed nectaring on Hemp Agrimony at Noar Hill (AW) on 5 August.

The butterfly continued in good numbers through August with many singletons reported in September and October with six still present at Southbourne Undercliff on 4 November (J&JW).

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### Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*

Andrew Brookes

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**Status:** BC Low Priority

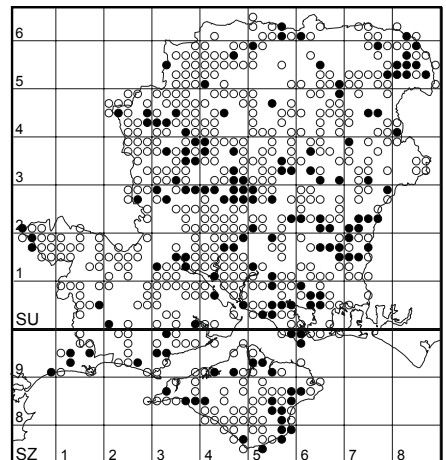
**No of 2006 records:** 425

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 151

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 637

**Earliest:** 06 March 2006  
Basingstoke (MDu)

**Latest:** 15 November 2006  
Haslar Sea Wall, Gosport (KFr)



As was feared, this once-common insect's fortunes plummeted to new depths in 2006. The species was recorded on 40 transect sites, with 16 showing a 20% or more decline in numbers and 18 showed no significant change on what was considered a poor year in 2005. The transect data from Noar Hill shows a downward trend over the past four years

with an Annual Index of 379 in 2003, 77 in 2004, 29 in 2005 and just six in 2006 but as the graph shows this species is renowned for its ups and downs.

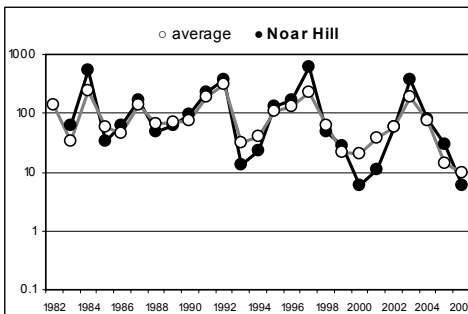
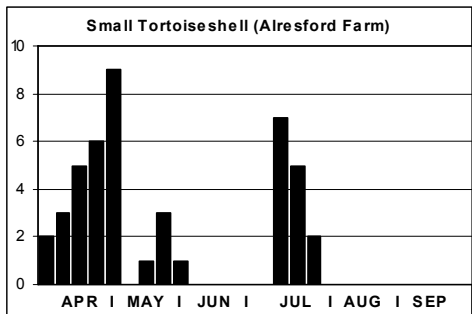
Reports from observers were not good news. “Really serious – only two seen all season” (GGF), “One of the poorest seasons in the last few years” (RCB), “Small Tortoiseshells had a terrible year” (ACG), and simply “No sightings” (NRH) at the Royal Victoria Country Park. The Isle of Wight offered little comfort either: “Last year I said it could only get better, I was wrong!” (DAB) was doubtless a sentiment shared by many.

Of 414 reports received from the two counties, nearly 80% were of singletons. Only one record reached double figures, 16 on 26 April on the Gosport Coast (DJAT). By comparison seven double figure counts were recorded in 2005. There was only one report of larva which was seen on Littledown Common, Bournemouth (MJS) and AHB found larval nests absent from nettle clumps along the Wallington River at Boarhunt for the first time in over 30 years.

A poor spring emergence was matched by an equally dire summer. Summer peaks (!) comprised 7 at Lower Test on 8 July (SKi) and an identical number at Petersfield Heath at the end of that month (ACS). Again as in 2005, despite the good weather, no late rally was evident; the maximum count made after August was just 2. The last sighting was at Haslar Sea Wall, Gosport, on 15th November (KFr).

On the Isle of Wight the highest figure recorded during spring was six at Wheelers Bay on 1 April (A&EB) and during the summer the peak count was four at Whippingham Fields (JR) on 15 July.

The causes of this débâcle must remain a matter of conjecture, but let’s hope this delightful butterfly has reached the turning point and numbers improve in 2007.



**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 20 January 2006  
Fareham (TCa)**No of 2006 records:** 952**No of tetrads in 2006:** 226**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 616**Latest:** 31 December 2006Newtown Nature Reserve, IoW (Ben  
Carpenter)

Following the pattern of the last few years, Peacock numbers were again low, with most recorders concluding that the butterfly had a poor year. This reflects a national decline in population of 40% on monitored sites between 1995 and 2004. This is not as bad as it seems because the long-term national trend between 1976 and 2004 shows an increase of 90% with an expansion in distribution across Britain (Fox *et al*, 2006). This species has undergone national falls in population before, such as in 1985 & 1986, and there seems nothing to suggest, at present, that the Peacock is in trouble.

In Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, numbers are low, but there is some evidence that the Peacock may be faring better than in recent years. 34% of transects showed more than a 20% increase in numbers and 45% no change compared with 2005. In Hampshire, transects with higher Annual Indices, compared to recent years, were recorded at both Alresford Farm (43) and Magdalen Hill Down, Original (23). In contrast, Annual Indices at Bentley Station and Itchen Valley Woods were the lowest for ten years (15 for both). On the Isle of Wight, JR observed the lowest ever annual count at Whippingham, Woodhouse Copse transect (15) but commented that "... this may only be temporary as longer term records show peaks and troughs each decade". He also recorded an average yearly count at Whippingham Fields (80) but below average at Parkhurst (234).

MSh suggested that the Peacock had the best year since 2003 and CRH considered that the butterfly was more frequent in the Fleet area than during 2005. DJAT said "It was another poor year for Peacock on the Gosport coast, but with more sightings of the summer brood than in the two previous years". Yet it was a mixed picture. RCB considered that "The downward trend of the last few years continues" and many recorders simply noted that very few Peacocks were seen. DAB, reporting from the Isle of Wight, stated "Not a bad year, numbers up at Brading".

This butterfly overwinters as an adult and will fly when disturbed from hibernation, so first sighting and last sightings do not represent the main flight period of the species. The number of records received suggests that the main flight period was late March to early October. There was a peak in mid-April as the butterfly came out of hibernation and another peak in late July as the 2006 brood emerged as adults.

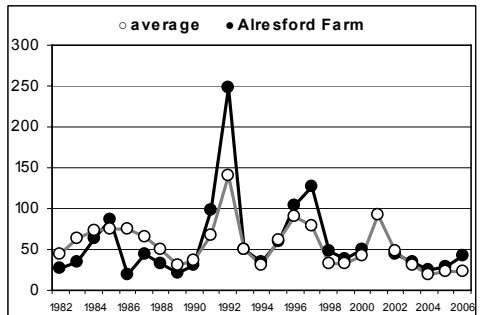
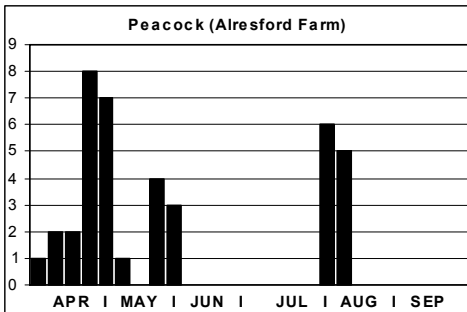
As for high counts, 43 were recorded on Magdalen Hill Down Extension on 23 July (PAB), 22 during a 90 minute count at Martin Down, Kitts Grave (DGG) on 26 April, 20 on 6 June at Martin Down (AH) and 25 were seen on 25 July at Parkhurst Forest, south west, on the Isle of Wight.



Peacock caterpillars (larger, darker individuals) with Small Tortoiseshells at Ashford Hill NNR - A rarely seen combination (Tim Norriss)



Peacock, Cowesfield Gate, 7 August 2005 (Susan Clarke)



**Status:** BC Low Priority

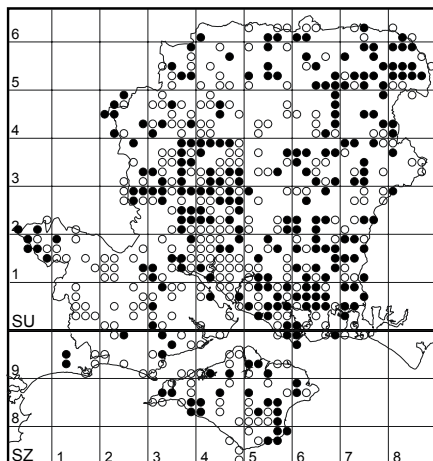
**No of 2006 records:** 1411

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 252

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 548

**Earliest:** 8 March 2006  
Winchester (SWo)

**Latest:** 1 November 2006  
Pillely near Lymington (EBa)



Comma caterpillar (Susan Clarke)

Most transects held up well with a steady or upward trend in Annual Indices recorded at over 80% of monitored sites compared to 2005. Pamber Forest was particularly notable for an increase in the Annual Index from 30 in 2005 to 104 in 2006. Annual Indices also increased at Bentley Station Meadow, 27 to 41 and Crowdhill Copse, Eastleigh 18 to 32 for 2005 and 2006 respectively but a fall in numbers was experienced at Walter's Copse, Isle of Wight from 64 to 51 over the same period.

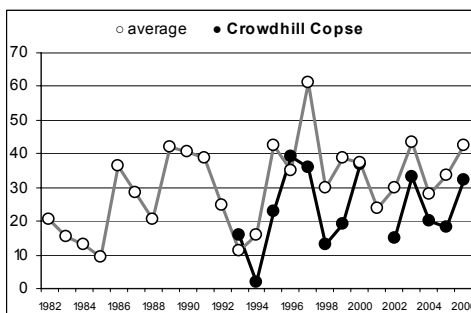
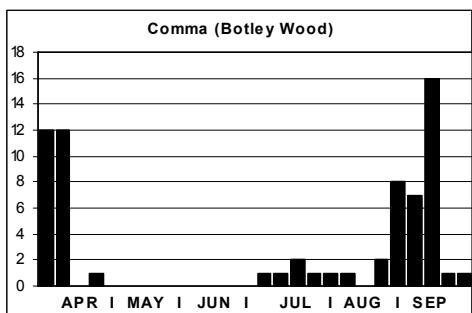
AW felt that the Comma had a good year across Hampshire and in the north east of the county MSh thought it had an excellent year and was seen on most days between the end of June and mid August. RKL reported that it had an excellent year at Botley Wood and CRH noted that there was scarcely a week when he did not see at least one Comma. CP speculates that its recent success compared to its close relatives, the Small Tortoiseshell and the Peacock, may be because the larvae are not gregarious and therefore less vulnerable to parasites.

Emerging from hibernation from early March onwards, the best spring counts in Hampshire were 16, both on 1 April, at Ampfield Wood (KJP) and at Basing Forest (MDu). Double figures were recorded during the summer at Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke where 12 were seen by NW on 14 July, Crowdhill Copse, Eastleigh where DMO saw 15 on 14 July and MSw saw 14 at St Catherine's Hill on 27 July and 15 at Testwood Lakes, Totton on 8 September. DJAT who regularly walks along the coast at Gosport recorded 333 Commas in total for the year. The monthly counts were March, 4; April, 121; May, 21; June, 23; July, 107; August, 39; September, 15 and October, 3.

Several *Hutchinsoni* variants were recorded, at Old Winchester Hill on 11 July (AW) and throughout the season in the Petersfield area (GGF).

On the Isle of Wight the summer insects did well at Parkhurst Forest (South West) with 37 recorded on 11 July and 35 on 6 September (JR). Elsewhere on the Island at Walter's Copse, New Town, 10 were seen on 2 July and six were seen at Firestone Copse again on the 2 July.

The Comma persisted well into the autumn, with widespread records in September and October, culminating in a singleton on 1 November at Pilley, near Lymington (EBa). Just across the county border in Stanstead Forest, West Sussex, AH saw a particularly late individual on 16 December.



**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** **Earliest: 28 May 2006**  
Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing (MP)

**No of 2006 records:** 56

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 7

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 15

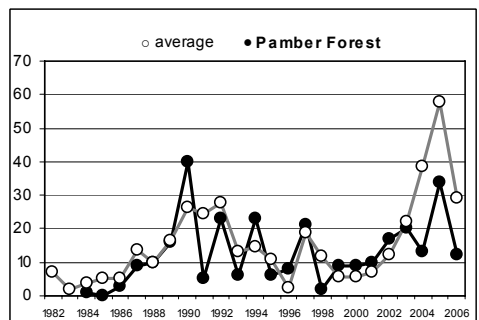
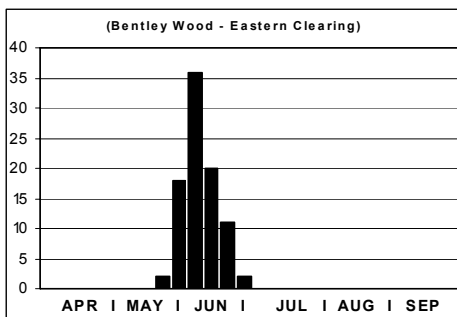
**Latest:** **Latest: 16 July 2006**  
Royden Common (RKJ)

Records were received from five sites in Hampshire and one from the Isle of Wight. Transect data from Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing, showed a reduction in numbers with the annual index falling from 197 in 2005 to 105 in 2006. The highest count was 44 on 9 June (A&LB) compared 50 on the 31 May in 2005. As in 2005 the first butterfly of the season was seen at Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing but not until 28 May compared to 15 May in 2005. The later emergence of this butterfly was probably due to the cool weather we experienced in May. .

Transect data from Pamber Forest showed numbers to be down at this site with an annual index of just 12 for 2006 compared to 34 in 2005. It would appear that although recorded in reasonable numbers on transect during the early part of its flight period the butterfly, for no apparent reason dispersed to beyond the boundaries of the forest. Both AW and A&LB visited the site on 17 June and despite a thorough search of the key area none were found. A&LB felt that the area where they are usually seen was in good condition and we can only hope the females laid some eggs before taking off into the unknown. A maximum count of seven was recorded on transect on 10 June (GJD) and on that day CLB saw eight, coincidentally this was the last day the butterfly was actually recorded from this site.

Although numbers were down the butterfly is still doing well at Royden Woods, near Brockenhurst with 20 being seen on 13 June (MRO), 23 on 21 June (RKJ), 20 on 24 June (RKJ) and a peak count of 30 on 29 June (RC) compared with a peak count of 49 on 26 June in 2005. The population at Holmsley continues to thrive, thanks to management work carried out by the Forestry Commission. MLe recorded 35 on 16 June and a peak count of 41 on 18 June, compared to 43 in 2005. In addition the butterfly was recorded in nearby Wootton Coppice two were seen by MJS and one was seen by MLe both on 17 June.

On the Isle of Wight numbers at Cranmore were also down. IP was the only recorder to send in records for this site, he made 3 visits recording 10 on 17 June, two on 21 June and one on the 26 June. In 2005 there were four double figure counts the highest of which was 30 on 21 June.







Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (Maurice Pugh)



Pearl-bordered Fritillary (Peter Eeles)

**Status:** BC High Priority

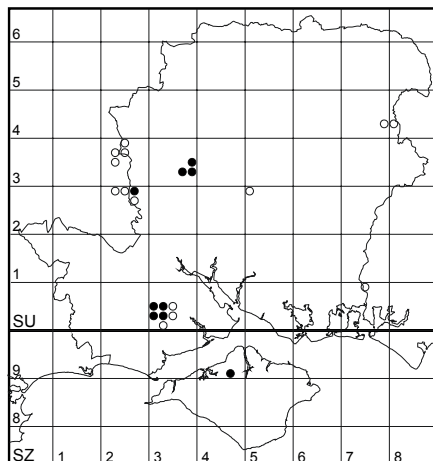
**No of 2006 records:** 59

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 9

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 21

**Earliest:** 10 May 2006  
Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing  
(J&EG)

**Latest:** 15 June 2006  
Bentley Wood, Eastern Clearing  
(DLA)



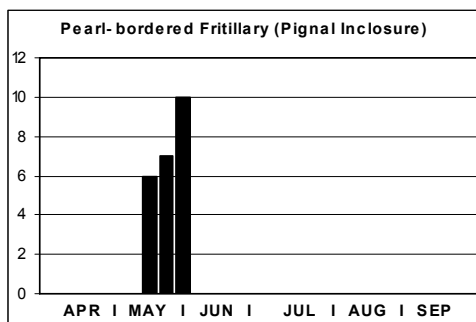
Many observers considered their efforts to record this species were hampered by poor weather conditions. Even so, despite the cool, cloudy and showery weather throughout much of May, it was a delight to see reasonable numbers of “pearls” when the sun came out. As with 2005, both the earliest and latest records came from Bentley Wood. The flight period lasted just 37 days, beginning a week later and ending three days earlier than 2005.

The first record for the New Forest was of five on 11 May at Pignal Inclosure (MJS), but it was not until the final week of May that numbers peaked. As with 2005, the New Forest produced Hampshire's highest counts. Indeed, the woodlands near Brockenhurst currently support one of the strongest colonies in south-east England. Two recorders, JRu and MSw, working independently, made aggregate counts of 151 and 112 respectively on 25 May spread over six inclosures. The greatest concentration was in the vicinity of Parkhill Inclosure, with counts of 78 on 25 May and 58 on 2 June (both JRu). South of the railway line, New Copse Inclosure produced a peak count of 44 on 2 June, with three females observed ovipositing (JRu). The aforementioned counts were based on visits of several hours, but other than MSw and JRu, only three other recorders made 20+ counts. On 20 May in less than ideal weather, it was noted that whenever the sun broke through a frenzy of activity occurred, with rapid courtship and mating (MSw).

The Pearl-bordered Fritillary depends on ride-side management and the creation of new open clearings to give the warm early successional habitat needed for egg-laying sites. The ride-sides at Ramnor and Pignal have grown up over recent years as part of natural succession, and are currently less suitable as breeding habitat for the species than they were a few years back (AJB). In some parts rank grasses have become dominant (AW). Even so, the Annual Index of 24 on the Pignal Inclosure transect was more than double that of the previous season (GMO). A good degree of connectivity within a woodland complex allows the butterfly to move from one habitat patch to the next, and this is readily apparent in the woods near Brockenhurst. As one patch becomes less suitable the butterfly moves to more favourable areas. Continuity of management is the key to success, and at Parkhill, Denny Lodge, Perrywood Hazeley and New Copse Inclosure the habitat created by the Forestry Commission's ongoing operations and conservation management is working well (AJB).

An attempt to rediscover the species in Alice Holt Forest in early June proved unsuccessful (MRO), so it would appear that outside the New Forest, the only surviving colonies lie in central-west Hampshire. The well known Bentley Wood colony continues to be a popular destination for butterfly enthusiasts, but in the poor May weather, the only double figure counts were of 16 on 14 May (AT), 14 on 25 May (DLA), 12 on 28 May (MP), 11 on 1 June (DLA), and 10 on 31 May (ACM). Hampshire's last remaining coppiced woodland population on a private site near Stockbridge continues at a low ebb, with a maximum count of 11 on 2 June (A&LB).

Parkhurst Forest supports the only Pearl-bordered Fritillary colony on the Isle of Wight. The season here lasted barely three weeks, commencing on 16 May, and finishing on 5 June (both JRo), and worryingly, the maximum count was just eight on 20 May (JR). The Annual Index of 26 for Parkhurst Forest (NE) was well down on 2005, and elsewhere in Parkhurst Forest numbers were disappointingly low (JRo).




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### Dark Green Fritillary *Argynnis aglaja*

Andy Butler

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 7 June 2006

Stockbridge Down (RWe)

**No of 2006 records:** 264

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 49

**Latest:** 21 August 2006

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 98

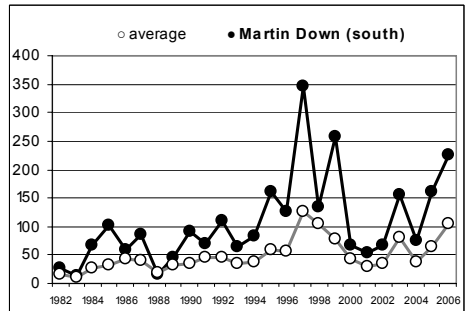
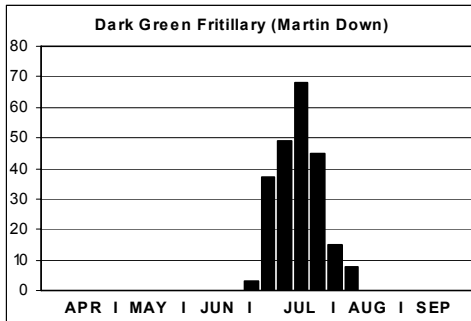
Martin Down (PE)

General indications are that this butterfly had a more than reasonable year at its core sites. This comment is backed up with transect data from The Mountain in the Meon Valley where the Annual Index increased from 269 in 2005 to 543 in 2006, the highest figure since 1998 and whereas the Annual Index for Martin Down north transect only showed a small increase on the figure for 2005 the index for Martin Down south transect increased from 160 to 225.

The peak flight season varied from site to site with a maximum count of 68 being recorded at Martin Down South Transect (LS) on 18 July and 151 at The Mountain on 2 July (SE&PR). Counts from other Hampshire sites include 29 at Old Winchester Hill on 11 July (AW), 14 at Pitt Down on 16 July (A&LB) and seven at Oxenbourne Down on 14 July (AW). Records were received from several New Forest sites including Hawkshill Inclosure where 4 were seen on 19 July (MSw), and New Copse Inclosure where MJS saw 12 individuals on 29 June. AW reported seeing good numbers at Hawkshill Inclosure on 24 June where he observed them taking nectar from Marsh Thistles and roosting in tall grasses. At Butser

Hill MSh had his best year yet, stating that the butterfly which was first recorded by him here in 2003 has slowly increased year by year and in his opinion is now well established and thriving. Although this butterfly had a good year at certain sites most populations are small with only seven sites in Hampshire managing a maximum count of 10 or more

On the Isle of Wight this butterfly is recorded on transect at Mottistone Down where a peak count of nine was recorded on 24 July compared to eight on 11 July in 2005 with a resulting Annual Index of 28. Additional counts were 10 at both Shalcombe Down on 8 July (JP) and Freshwater Golf Course on 14 July (DLHM).



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

**Juliet Bloss**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

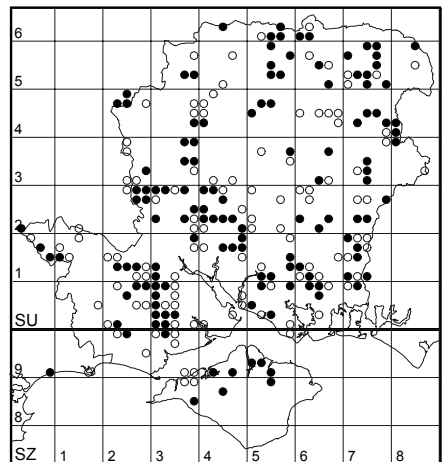
**No of 2006 records:** 811

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 133

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 244

**Earliest:** 16 June 2006  
Acres Down, New Forest (BDe)

**Latest:** 10 September 2006  
Itchen Valley Country Park (SSt)



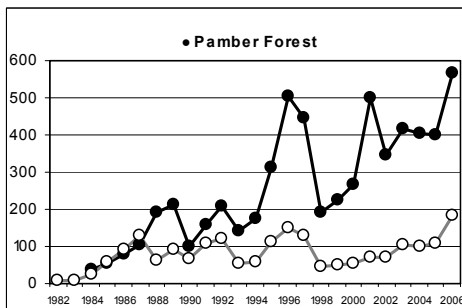
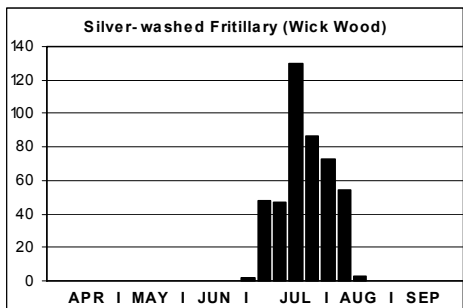
The transect data clearly illustrates what a successful year this species had with 23 out of 29 monitored sites showing a 20% or more increase in numbers when comparing 2006 with 2005. At Pamber Forest an Annual Index of 566 was recorded in 2006 compared to 401 in 2005. This figure was the best in 24 years. Similarly at Wick Wood, Hartley Maudit the Annual Index almost doubled between 2005 and 2006 from 227 to 444 and at Ampfield Wood the increase between the two years was from 64 to 142. This species was clearly suited to the hot July weather which also seems to have caused it to wander into an unusual number of gardens

At Botley Wood it had a long season and its best ever transect year, with an Annual Index of 198, peaking in the first two weeks of July. CP reported that he saw it in good numbers in New Copse Inclosure in the New Forest and MRO considered it the 3rd or 4th best year in Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt in his 31 years experience. Counts over 100 were recorded on six occasions, the highest being 136 at Pamber Forest on 16 July (GD). Other high counts include 130 both at Wick Wood (PR) and Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt (RSy) both on 16 July, 127 at Ampfield Wood (west) on 11 July (A&LB), 125 at Creech, Denmead (T&MR) on 2 August and 107 at Ashford Hill NNR (ABo) on 11 July. There were some 20 counts between 40 and 100.

On the Isle of Wight there were only three counts of 10 or more, the highest being 12 at Firestone Copse on 2 July (DHLM).

A number of *valezina* form females were noted by recorders. This is typical when population levels are high. In Botley Wood out of a total of 198 recorded on transect for the year six were *valezinas*. On 21 July MRO counted 128 Silver-washed Fritillaries in Wick Wood three of which were *valezinas*. He also saw a female ab. *ocellata* and another female with two pairs of prominent and regular white spots on the forewings in Wick Wood. These "white-spotted *paphia*" were frequent in the New Forest during the 1890s but this is the first MRO has ever seen or heard of. A second ab. *ocellata* was observed at Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt on 12 July, by MRO.

Observers noted Silver-washed Fritillaries nectaring from a range of nectar sources including Fleabane, Knapweed, Bramble, thistles, Hemp Agrimony, Foxglove and White Clover.



**Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurinia***

**Mike Gibbons**

**Status:** BC High Priority

**Earliest:** 26 April 2006  
near Leckford (MG)

**No of 2006 records:** 32

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 8

**Latest:** 11 July 2006  
Dean Hill Park (CWC)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 23

The population of this threatened species has staged a small scale recovery at Martin Down NNR this year. Numbers exceeded 2005 with a maximum of 33 adults on 6 June counted on transect and a transect total of 98 in five different sections (D&M Ne). The more sheltered Bokerley Dyke held concentrations of 26 on 2 June (AH) with 25 seen there by MJG on 4 June. A maximum of 63 larval webs were counted during August/September

(D&M Ne/LS), a remarkably high total. An optimistic picture at Martin Down is somewhat overshadowed by the uncertainty of populations elsewhere.



Marsh Fritillary (Maurice Pugh)

At Bentley Wood AW saw 11 in a meadow where it had not been recorded since the early 1990s, this may have been a natural colonisation from elsewhere in the wood, an example of a metapopulation structure with adults travelling using paths and open areas as corridors. The Eastern Clearing fared less well in comparison with a peak of five noted on 2 June (AT) but this was still an improvement on last year indicating that conservation management here is certainly working. Elsewhere things are more bleak with singles seen at near Leckford 26 April (a very early date) (MG), Magdalen Hill Down (North) transect 3 June (RWb), West Down, Chilbolton, 7 June (A&LB), St Catherine's Hill 31 May (CP) and Dean Hill Park on the late date of 11 July (CWC).

Before 1990 it was estimated that there were 19 colonies in Hampshire and two on the Isle of Wight, by 2005 that estimation had fallen to eight, with none on the Isle of Wight, a sombre warning that the decline is very serious.

Just over the border at a small site in Dorset MJG found five freshly emerged on 28 May. This appeared to be around the maximum out at any one time here during the flight period, confirmed by another regular observer at this site.

The extreme spread of dates demonstrates how long the flight period can be, with some sites differing in the time the adults first emerge. This may be due to a combination of high temperatures and site aspect speeding up the larval/pupal development stages. This is worth knowing when searching for the species at promising locations.

One interesting observation made by AW was of a male Pearl-bordered Fritillary attempting to mate with a newly hatched female Marsh Fritillary. The spectacle went on for a few minutes before the male got the 'big rebuff!'.

The warm weather in April certainly helped their cause but the long dry summer could have affected their foodplant, Devils-bit Scabious, which may have repercussions on 2007.

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

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**Status:** BC High Priority**Earliest:** 14 May 2006

Wheelers Bay, IoW (A&amp;EB)

**No of 2006 records:** 65**No of tetrads in 2006:** 20**Latest:** 3 July 2006**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 29

Wheelers Bay, IoW (A&amp;EB)

Due to the reduced temperatures experienced in early and late spring the emergence time for this butterfly was later than previous years with the first adult not seen until 14 May at Wheelers Bay (A&EB). The butterfly then went on to have a good year at all the usual sites. The Wheelers Bay to Bonchurch area produced counts such as 100 on 3 June (AW), 143 on 6 June (LJB) and 101 on the 15 June (A&EB) compared to a maximum count of 200+ in 2005. It should be noted that this particular site is the result of an extensive sea defence scheme and over the years the habitat for this species is degrading. There is no doubt that as this continues the number of Glanville Fritillaries will drop until there are only a few isolated pockets containing the insect. This is an obvious example of the deleterious effect of these schemes and illustrates the cycle of high numbers in the early years down to probably zero in the long term as the stabilisation works prevent new habitat being formed.

The highest count of the year on the Island was 202 at Chilton Chine on the 15 June (CD). Similar numbers were recorded at this site in 2005. In addition 54 were seen at Compton Bay on 10 June (A&LB), 46 on the coastal path at Afton again 10 June (A&LB) 25 at Ventnor Rock Gardens on 3 June (AW) and 15 at Monks Bay on (A&EB).

Many observers saw small numbers on the chalk ridge from Shalcombe to Afton and JR reported adults at Whippingham Fields on the 17 June, similar to a sighting in 2001, leading to the belief of a small colony somewhere in the vicinity in an unusual location. Yet another single sighting at Redcliff on 13 June (DAB) indicates that this colony still survives in very small numbers.

There was interesting news from Hampshire with a series of sightings from Hurst Castle by PRD and MMO in mid to late June, with a maximum of five on the 16 June. This could be the start of a new colony or a previously overlooked one and the next few years will show if it becomes established. Hordle Cliffs recorded single numbers, the best being three on 11 June (SJo) much in line with previous years. There was one intriguing record of a confirmed single adult from Cove in north east Hampshire on 29 June (RJE), as yet no interpretation can be put on this sighting.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

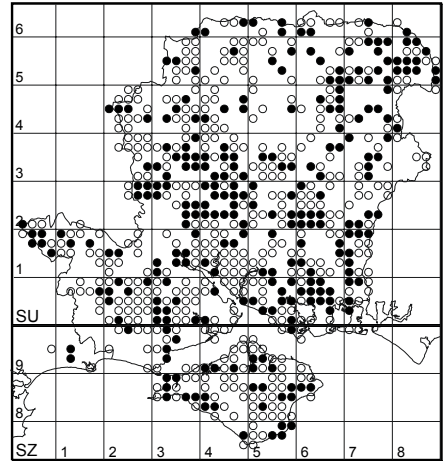
**No of 2006 records:** 2452

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 263

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 663

**Earliest:** 5 April 2006  
Stoke, Hayling Island (RSy)

**Latest:** 7 November 2006  
Stokes Bay, Gosport (DJAT)



2006 was a rather better than average, though patchy, year for this species, with 40% of transect sites with data available for 2005 and 2006 showing a 20% increase and 35% showing no significant change. At Crowdhill Copse, Eastleigh, the Annual Index was up from 236 in 2005 to 265 for this year. At Ampfield Wood the Annual Indices have risen over the last five years, from 118 in 2002 to 201 in 2005 to 256 in 2006. At Brading Quarries, Isle of Wight, there was a small increase from 183 in 2005 to 229 in 2006.

Reports from recorders were mixed. GCF in the Petersfield area and ACG at Bramshott Common and Grayshott reported a good year for this species, while CRH observed the Speckled Wood to be a steady and constant presence on woodland walks in north-east Hampshire. AW by contrast found numbers generally poor on woodland sites, but with reasonable counts towards the end of summer, for example a count of 12 at Fort Widley, near Portsmouth on 27 August. The adult butterfly almost completely disappeared in Alice Holt in the July heat, but rallied in August (MRO).

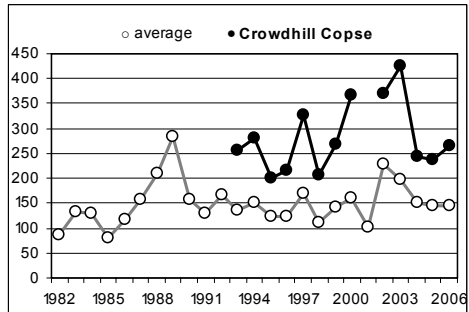
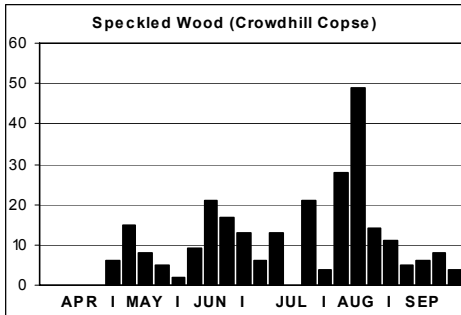
Counts across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight remained high throughout June, July and August illustrating the overlapping broods of this species. Numbers peaked at Farley Mount on 20 August when 61 adults were seen (RWh). 19 counts of 20 or over were recorded from 10 sites, including 36 at Ampfield Wood, west (A&LB) on 4 June and 38 at Wick Wood (PR) on 24 June. In addition 49 were seen at both Crowdhill Copse (P&PW) and at Pamber Forest (GJD) on 15 August and 24 August respectively. The first sighting was recorded at Stoke, Hayling Island on 5 April (RSy), nearly three weeks later than last year, and was only seen in ones and twos at any one time until 28 April. As the latest sighting was on 7 November, only three days later than last year, Speckled Wood recordings indicate a shorter flight period in 2006 than in 2005.

The Isle of Wight also had a good to average year with counts of 24 at Brading Quarries on 28 July (DAB) and 21 on the Parkhurst Forest (south west transect) on 16 August (JR).





Speckled Wood (Barry Hilling)



**Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera***

**Linda Barker**

**Status:** BC Medium Priority

**Earliest:** 3 May 2006  
Portman Ravine, Boscome (per MJS)

**No of 2006 records:** 131

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 28

**Latest:** 30 September 2006  
Brading Quarries, IoW (DAB)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 92

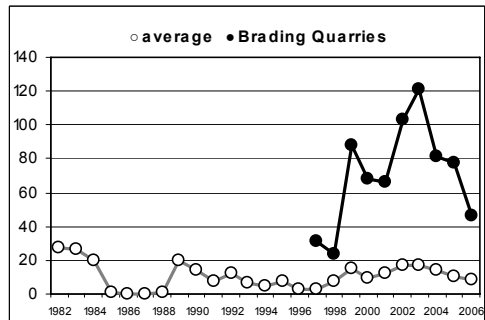
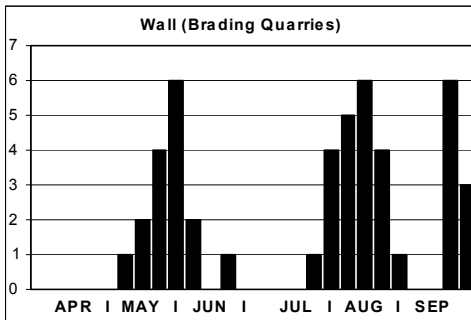
The Isle of Wight is still the stronghold for this species but there were records from fewer sites this year. In 2005 there were records from over 25 sites but in 2006 this figure was nearer 20. In Hampshire there were records from 12 sites this year compared to nine in 2005. On the Isle of Wight the Wall Brown occurs on downland, in woodlands and on the coast while in Hampshire sightings are mainly coastal apart from an individual seen near Sipton Bellinger in the north west of the county.

Numbers of butterflies seen were generally down. The Wall Brown is recorded on eight transect monitored sites on the Isle of Wight and just one in Hampshire. Several of the

monitored colonies are small with the largest being at Brading Quarries where the Annual Index fell from 78 in 2005 to 46 in 2006, the lowest since 1998. Numbers stayed much the same at Whippingham Fields while at one of the sites monitored in Parkhurst Forest the Annual Index fell from 43 in 2005 to 30 in 2006.

In Hampshire numbers were up at Normandy Marshes, near Lymington with an encouraging count of 14 being recorded by HCS on 10 June. MW visited this area on several occasions and his best counts for the first brood were 11 on 3 June and nine on 8 August for the second brood. Elsewhere however, apart from Fort Widley where two were seen on 27 August (AW) sightings at all of the other Hampshire sites, including Boscombe, Hordle Cliffs, Portsdown Hill and Browdown were single sightings. Fort Gilkicker, near Gosport, had a disastrous year with just four sightings for the year compared to 15 in 2005.

On the Isle of Wight a peak count of six was recorded on transect at Brading Quarries on 28 May, 1 August and 22 August (DAB) while at Parkhurst Forest the peak count was 15 on 6 August (JR). Additional counts include seven at Bonchurch on 3 June (AW) and five at Brook Chalk Pit on 29 July (IP). Other sightings were mostly twos and threes.



**Marbled White *Melanargia galathea***

**Alison Harper**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

**Earliest:** 15 June 2006  
Magdalen Hill Down (PAB)  
Portsdown (AHB)

**No of 2006 records:** 1399

**Latest:** 27 August 2006  
Newtown, IoW (JMC)

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 180

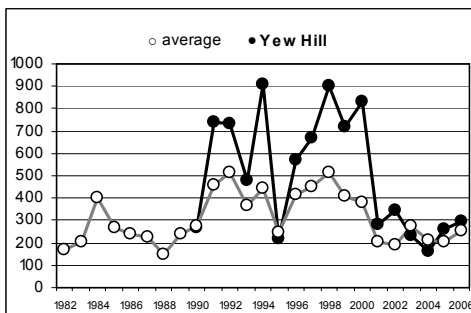
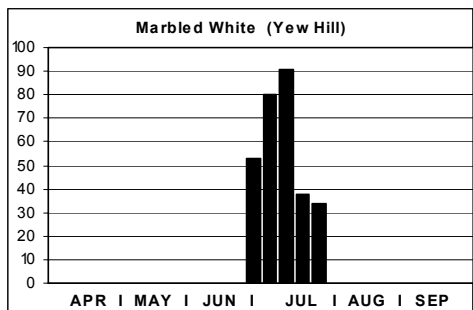
**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 475

2006 was a very good year for this butterfly with 66% of the transect sites where it appears showing an increase of 20% or more and another 26% showing no change compared with 2005. However, although the average Annual Index has been rising gently through 2004 to 2006, it has still not matched the peaks of the early and late 1990s and 2000. The Annual Index for Yew Hill illustrates this; 296 in 2006, compared to 830 in 2000. The Annual Index at Magdalen Hill Down was 291 in 2006 compared to 173 in 2005, a reasonable figure but Annual Indices of greater than 400 have been recorded on four occasions at the site in the past ten years. The Catherington Down transect was an exception to the general trend, there the Annual Index for 2006 (318) was 125 higher than for any of the last 10 years. There were, however, some sites which did not do so well this year: Crabtree Plantation in Basingstoke had an Annual Index of 56 compared to 71 in 2005

Most observers were enthusiastic in their reports of a good year. Whippingham Fields transect on the Isle of Wight, where numbers are vastly higher than elsewhere in the Branch's area, saw the second best year since recording began, with a peak on 2 July of 1260 (JR). Portsdown Hill "exceeded all expectations" (AW) and the peak count on the Portsdown Hill transect reached 130 on 1 July. At Royal Victoria Country Park NRH reports that this butterfly continues to be the main success story where numbers have risen steadily over the last ten years, reaching a total of 40 in 2006.

This year the butterfly was first recorded on 15 June, just one day later than last year, on the Magdalen Hill Down transect (PB) and at Newtown, Isle of Wight (JMC). The latest sighting was on 27 August, the same day as in 2005, at Newtown Isle of Wight. The latest recorded sighting in Hampshire was at Old Winchester Hill NNR two days earlier (BPF). Numbers peaked in the first week in July on the Island and a few days later on the mainland. 100 or over were counted at a single visit at five sites during the first two weeks in July these being 150 at Pilot Hill, Facombe, (MG) and 107 at Catherington Down, both on 4 July, and 100 at Old Winchester Hill and Oxenbourne Down, both on 11 July (AW).

On the Isle of Wight JR recorded 1260 on transect on Whippingham Fields, an exceptionally high number, with other counts of 50+ at Coombe Bottom, Ventnor and Bonchurch Down.



## Grayling *Hipparchia semele*

Juliet Bloss

**Status:** BC Medium Priority

**Earliest:** 22 June 2006  
Pyestock, near Fleet (TH)

**No of 2006 records:** 135

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 51

**Latest:** 26 September 2006  
Crows Nest, New Forest (DGG)

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 113

Enthusiastic comments by most recorders indicated that the Grayling had an excellent season, suited as they were by the hot July weather. Currently we have two transects for this species, one on the Isle of Wight at Mottistone Down and the other, which was only started this year at Janesmoor Plain in the New Forest. Data from previous years at Mottistone Down is a bit patchy but the last three years is showing a positive trend with the Annual Index increasing from eight in 2004 to 31 in 2005 and 58 in 2006. The season lasted from the third week in June until the first week in September.

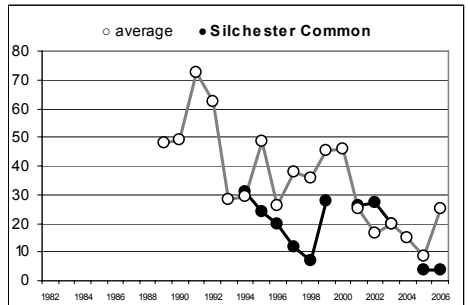
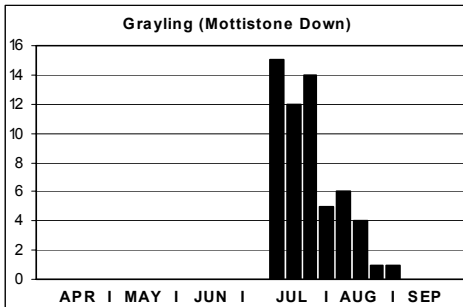
The species did particularly well in north-east Hampshire. CRH's comment was "stunning" and in this part of Hampshire it was the "Summer of the Grayling". At Eelmoor Marsh on 8

August CRH counted the Graylings on part of the site and at 162 it was the second best in 12 years. CRH estimated the population for the whole site to be 250+. On Yateley Common South nine counts of between 20 and 70 were recorded on different parts of the common (K&JB) and (PM) including 51 on 18 July (PM), 70 on 21 July and 65 and 68 on 16 August (all K&JB). Other counts in the area include 51 at Warren Heath, near Hartley Wintney on 18 July (PM) and 18 at Tweseldown, near Fleet on the 12th. There were scattered reports from many locations in the New Forest with concentrations of 30 at Godshill on 15 July (AH), Royden Common on 6 August (RC) and Highland Water Inclosure on 28 August (SJo). Elsewhere in the New Forest 25 were counted at The Butts, near Island Thorns Inclosure, on 8 August (DGG & SAC) and 19 at Ocknell Pond on 23 July (A&LB).



Grayling,  
Browdown  
8 July 2005  
(Alan Thornbury)

In the south of the county the butterfly is still in evidence on Hayling Island where 40 were seen at Sandy Point on 5 August (AW), and others were observed nectaring on Sea Rocket and Buddleia. At Browdown, Gosport, high counts were recorded on both parts of the site on 23 July; 153 were counted on Browdown South (DJAT) and 91 on Browdown North (ACM). ACG reported that they returned to Bramshott Common after an absence of four years and they were reported to be in good numbers in the Farnborough area at Castle Bottom NNR (TH). On the Isle of Wight counts peaked at 15 on 12 July at Mottistone Down. MRO found a small colony was still present on Wroxall Down and they were seen nectaring on marjoram (DAB) on Tennyson Down.



**Status:** BC Low Priority

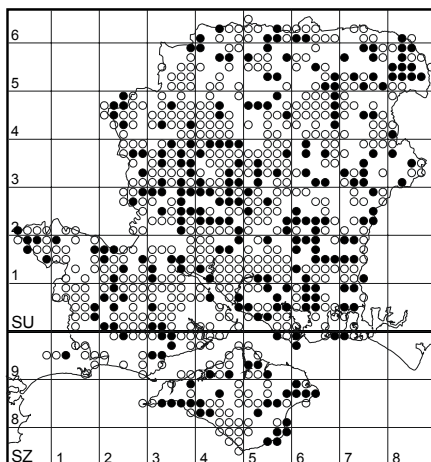
**No of 2006 records:** 2249

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 255

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 759

**Earliest:** 10 June 2006  
Elvetham Heath (CRH)

**Latest:** 28 September 2006  
Shanklin, IoW (PM)



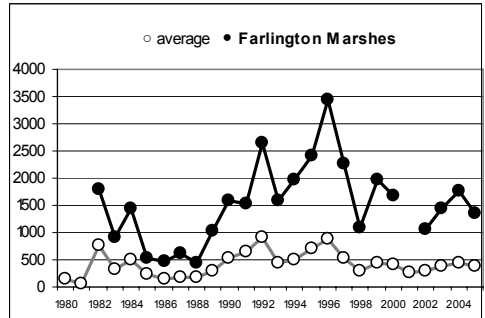
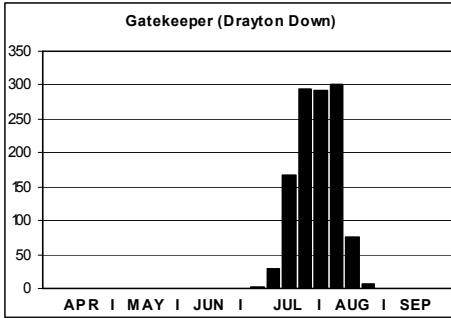
After a slow start, the Gatekeeper appeared in good numbers. At transect monitored sites, comparing 2006 to 2005, 16 out of 50 showed a 20% decrease or more in numbers but nearly half the sites showed no significant change. At Pamber Forest the Annual Index fell to 648 in 2006 compared to 720 in 2005 and 1133 in 2004, numbers also fell at Farlington Marshes while at Magdalen Hill Down Extension numbers stayed much the same where an Annual Index of 233 was just five up on the 2005 figure.

At Botley Wood, RKL reported a disappointing season with the lowest Annual Index figure to date. CRH found this species to be plentiful on the heaths but not as numerous as in recent summers and a good year was reported from Butser Hill (MSh), Dean Hill Park (CWC) and the Petersfield area (GGF)

The Gatekeeper was one of the few species to emerge earlier on the mainland than on the Isle of Wight, the first seen on the Island being on 25 June at Whippingham Fields (JR). Small numbers were seen throughout the second half of June, the species beginning to emerge in earnest early in July. 72 were seen on 1 July at Royal Winchester Golf Club (RWh) with the first of some 20 counts of one hundred or more being the 164 seen on 13 July at Bedenham Grasslands, Gosport (M&MG), 208 at Pamber Forest on 25 July (GJD), 221 on 28 July at Royden Common (RC), and 250 at Black Wood, Rotherwick (KBW). The last of the "century" counts was of 100 on 12 August at Oxenbourne Down (AW). At this stage the weather began to gain the upper hand so that by late August just one or two were to be seen in favoured locations.

On the Isle of Wight a count of 470 was recorded on 15 July at Whippingham Fields and 133 at Parkhurst (north-east), both (JR). Elsewhere on the Island the highest count at Brading Quarries was 96 on 28 July and at Walter's Copse it peaked at 92 on 11 July.

The last mainland individual was seen on 18 September at Yew Hill (AHa), some 10 days before the season closed on the Isle of Wight. Compared to 2005, the flight period started and finished earlier in 2006, and the flight period was slightly shorter.



**Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina***

**Susan Clarke**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

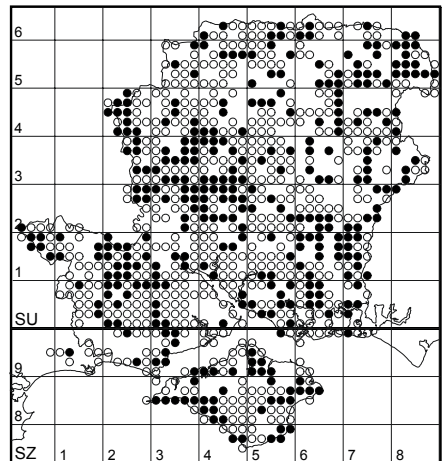
**No of 2006 records:** 4708

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 335

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 836

**Earliest:** 1 June 2006  
Bonchurch, loW (PMi)

**Latest:** 15 October 2006  
Oxenbourne Down (AW)



This is a common, well-distributed butterfly that can be found in good numbers in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, wherever there is semi-natural grassland that is not over-grazed or heavily cut.

This is a single brooded species, but it seems that not all the adults emerge at the same time so producing a long flight period with fresh adults appearing even in late summer. In 2006, the flight period lasted from early June to mid October, with a peak in late July.

In Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, records suggested that there were no notable changes in distribution or numbers from previous years. Transect information shows that 46% of monitored sites showed no change in numbers compared with 2005, and 32% showed a 20% decrease or more. The Annual Index at Martin Down, south transect, fell from 1793 in 2005 to 1229 in 2006. Numbers at Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke, however, continue to increase with an Annual Index of 749 in 2006 compared to just 45 in 1999. There have been changes in management at this site, and frequently mown amenity grassland on the edge of the plantation is now left. This is to the species liking and will have contributed to the increase in numbers.

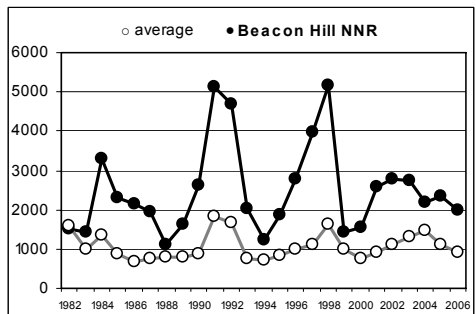
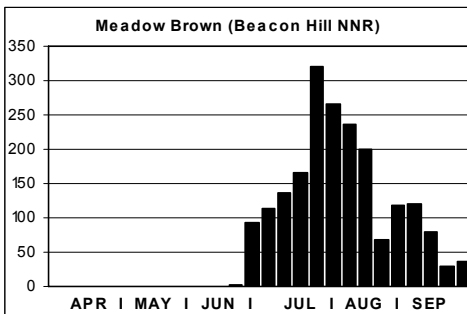


In the north east of Hampshire CRH considered the species to be plentiful during the second half of June and July but well down in August. In the Petersfield area GGF thought it was as prolific as ever but MSh thought numbers were down at Old Winchester Hill and RKL considered it was below par at Botley Wood.



Meadow Brown (Roger Buchanan)

Peak counts, in Hampshire, recorded during July include 222 on 14 July at Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke (NW), 311 on 15 July at Windmill Hill, near Horndean (JN), 321 on 25 July at Beacon Hill, Warnford (DSt) and in September 400 at Old Winchester Hill on the 17th (AH). On the Isle of Wight a peak count of 142 was recorded on 8 July at Brading Quarries (DAB), 201 on 11 July at Walters Copse (SY) and 415 at Woodhouse Copse, Whippingham on 30 July (JR).



**Status:** BC Low Priority**Earliest:** 7 May 2006

Magdalen Hill Down (A&amp;LB)

**No of 2006 records:** 1360**No of tetrads in 2006:** 146**Latest:** 13 October 2006**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 294

Ashley Cross, New Forest (SAC &amp; DGG)

Although there were a significant number of sites where the Small Heath did very well, the general trend in numbers has been a downward one since 2003. At transect monitored sites, in 13 out of the 31 sites where this species is recorded numbers were 20% or more down from last year but encouragingly 11 sites did show an increase. At Magdalen Hill Down the Annual Index in 2003 was 484, in 2004 it fell to 231, a smaller drop occurred the next year to 193 but this year's figure of 64 is the lowest count since 1994. A small increase was noted at Martin Down (South) but the trend was downwards at The Mountain, Farlington Marshes and St Catherine's Hill. At Whippingham Fields, Isle of Wight however, both the first brood and the second brood numbers broke all previous records (JR) and the Annual Index rose from 860 in 2005 to 1309 in 2006. At Botley Wood it was a very poor year for this declining species (RKL), and at Butser Hill the peak count of 17 on 24 July was very poor compared to the peak count of 104 on 23 August 2003 (MSh).



Small Heath (Maurice Pugh)

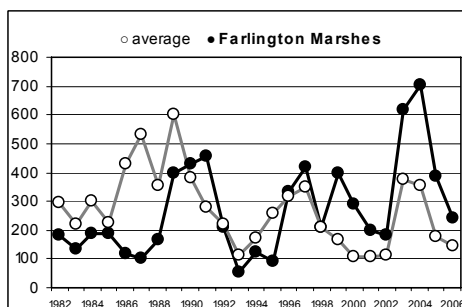
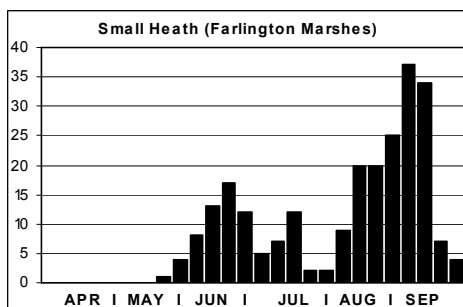
Small numbers of this insect were seen during the second and third weeks in May, with the first double figure count in Hampshire being 15 on 28 May at The Mountain, Meon Valley. Three counts of 50+ were reported from the first brood in Hampshire, the first of these being 61 at Home Farm, Burkham on 5 June (JF), followed by 50 at Stockbridge Down on 23 June (MG). The best of the first brood counts was 150 seen on 4 July at Pilot Hill, Facombe (MG). Numbers of the first brood then declined steadily throughout July.



As August approached, numbers of Small Heaths began to increase again as the second brood started to emerge. This brood proved far stronger than the first brood, with five counts of 50+, in Hampshire. The highest numbers of all were encountered in September, with 117 on 4 September at Eelmoor Marsh (the count covered about 80% of the grassland here – CRH), 103 on 8 September at Stockbridge Down (RSy) and 80 on 17 September at Old Winchester Hill (AH) which was also the last of the 50+ counts. The butterfly was frequently encountered, albeit in small numbers, during the last week in September, the season closing with just two reports of sightings in October.

In spite of the general decline in numbers, the colony at Fort Gilkicker, Gosport, which was established in 2003, has continued to grow (DJAT) and the recovery on Butterfly Conservation's Yew Hill Reserve continues (BPF).

On the Isle of Wight, apart from particularly high counts recorded at Whippingham Fields with peak counts of 148 on 17 June and 185 on 26 August, only a handful of sites on the Island recorded double figure counts. These included Compton Down where 20 were seen by PSp on 8 June and Brading Down where 20 again were seen on 23 June (ZH).



**Ringlet *Aphantopus hyperantus***

**Juliet Bloss**

**Status:** BC Low Priority

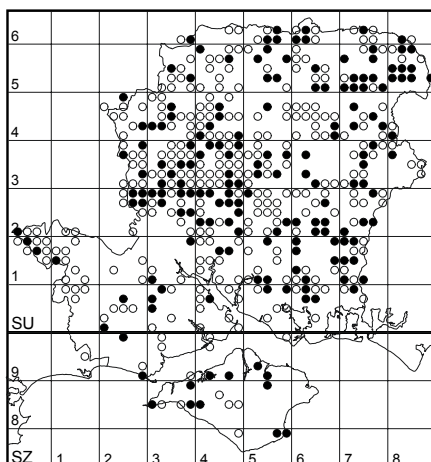
**No of 2006 records:** 1087

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 174

**No of post 2000 tetrads:** 462

**Earliest:** 9 June 2006  
Noar Hill (TH)

**Latest:** 29 August 2006  
Coombe Bottom, IoW (IRi)



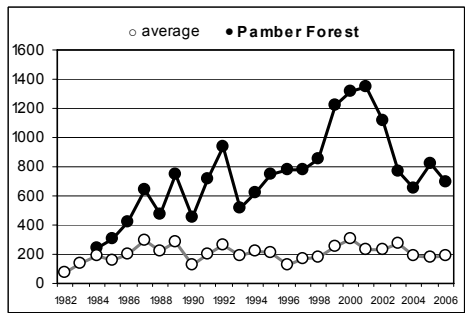
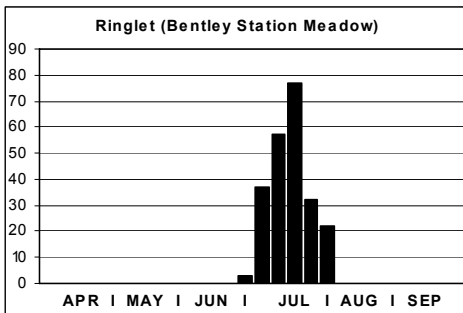
2006 was generally noted as a good or average year for this species with some 50% of transect monitored sites showing a 20% increase or more in numbers when compared to 2005. Although the transect trend was up, some of the larger colonies showed little change such as Bentley Station Meadow and Botley Wood while at Pamber Forest numbers were definitely down where the Annual Index fell from 820 in 2005 to 692 in 2006. This count for Pamber Forest is well below the high numbers recorded at the turn of this century where an Annual Index of 1348 was recorded in 2001. The increases tended to be recorded at sites with smaller populations, two examples being Coombe Bottom, Ventnor, where numbers increased from 24, in 2005 to 59 in 2006 and Ampfield Wood where the corresponding numbers were 41 and 72.

MRO noted that the species kept going remarkably well in the July heat without retreating to the shady glades. He reported they were flying quite happily in broad open rides throughout the hottest weather in contrast to their behaviour in July 1976 when they vanished altogether. It had a very good year at Dean Hill Park (CWC) and at Bramshott (ACG) where numbers were significantly up, but was disappointing in the Petersfield area (GGF). CRH, in north east Hampshire, thought the Ringlet was more plentiful than last year but nothing exceptional.

Many counts of between 20 and 30 were recorded during the fourth week of June e.g. 20 at Farley Mount (ACM) on the 24th, 20 at Hipley Copse (AHB) on the 25th, and 30 at Stockbridge Down (MDu) on the 27th. The peak flight period was the second week of July with counts of 152 at Botley (MRB), 107 at Ampfield Wood (A&LB), and 100 at Oxenbourne Down (AW), all seen on 11 July and 100 at Brockishill Inclosure on 9 July (MSw). Despite overall numbers being down a very healthy count of 234 was recorded at Pamber Forest, again on 11 July (GD).

On the Isle of Wight numbers were down, compared to last year, at Parkhurst Forest, and elsewhere maximum counts of 20 were recorded at Shalcombe on 8 July (IRi) and 15 on 17 July at Coombe Bottom, Ventnor (IRi).

The flight season continued strongly through July until the last week, when it started to tail off, though 26 were still flying at Wick Wood (PR) on the 30th. It was still quite widespread in ones and twos during the first week on August, with only three sightings reported later in the month.





Ringlet (Roger Buchanan)



Marbled White (Pete Durnell - Competition winner, behaviour category)



Dark Green Fritillaries (Maurice Pugh)

## 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 on 4 August 2006 at Lymington (GCA) and one on 9 August 2006 at the Gathill monument, Godshill, Isle of Wight (DMA). These sightings coincided with reports of further probable immigrant individuals widely scattered throughout south-east England at around this time (*British Wildlife Magazine*).

Of more uncertain origin was one seen on 15 October 2006 at Silchester (CRa)

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### Geranium Bronze *Cacyreus marshalli*

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One on 10 September 2006 at Highcliffe (RAC). This is the second Hampshire record of this South African Lycaenid. The first was in 1999 or 2000 from a garden in the Winchester area (*per* MCH, identified from a photograph submitted to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust).

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### Long-tailed Blue *Lampides boeticus*

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One at Claylands Local Nature Reserve, Bishops Waltham, between 21 and 24 July 2006 (Many observers).

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### Large Tortoiseshell *Nymphalis polychloros*

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Three records were received for our area during 2006. One at Whippingham, Isle of Wight, on 22 April (JR), one near Lymington on 28 April (RBW) and one at Boscombe on 4 May (MJS).

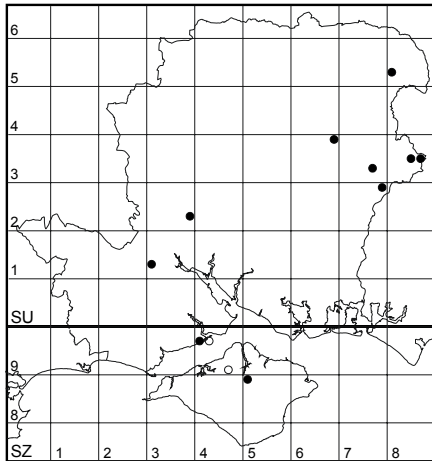
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### Camberwell Beauty *Nymphalis antiopa*

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A large influx of this species occurred during August and September. Over 260 were reported nationally with the bulk of sightings occurring in Norfolk and Suffolk (*British Wildlife Magazine*). We received reports of ten sightings in Hampshire and one from the Isle of Wight during 2006.

Needs Ore	6 August 2006	AJH
Headley Down	20 August 2006	PGro
Newport, Isle of Wight	22 August 2006	TGu
Church Crookham	24 August 2006	TWal
Liss	27 August 2006	AWri
Grayshott (2 individuals)	4 September 2006	RTu
Beech	10 September 2006	FBr
Romsey	11 September 2006	NJo
Cadnam	15 October 2006	MP
Blackmoor	Undated	<i>per</i> SC



Camberwell Beauty sightings 2006

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**Monarch *Danaus plexippus***

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One at Wheelers Bay, Isle of Wight, on 7 and 8 October 2006 (PCb, A&EB).

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**Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus***

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One on 24 July 2006 at Hackett's Marsh LNR, Bursledon (PHa & BStE). This is the first known record of this species for our area. It is a widespread Asian and African butterfly and is also established in parts of southern Europe and the Canary Islands. The species is one of the most common inhabitants of tropical butterfly houses and livestock is readily available for amateur breeders. Further individuals were seen in the Scilly Isles, Derby, Central London (*British Wildlife Magazine*) and Jersey (*per* Nina Hall) during 2006.

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**Comet Moth *Argema mittrei***

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A male of this large, exotic, moth species, also known as the Malagasy Silk Moth, was found settled on a bush overhanging a moth lamp in Fareham on 29 September 2006 (KW).

## MOTH REPORT 2006



0652 *Alabonia geoffrella* © Mike Wall 2006

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Editorial

Tim Norriss

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This Report is based on the moth records held on the Branch MapMate database. Over 120,000 records have been received so far for 2006 which represents a sharp increase on 2005 when c. 85,000 were received prior to publication and a further 10%, 8,000 records were received after that date. The reason for the increase in 2006 was in part due to an increase in the number of recorders, but also to the hot weather.

In 2006 a new event was launched, Hampshire Moth (Day &) Night. It was held on 1 July and was a great success. The weather was good and fifty-nine people submitted 2803 records of a total of 503 moth species. Many other people took part and enjoyed one of the several public events that were held around the county. Highlights are detailed in this report but included two Goat Moths, four Triangle, three clearwing species, **nine** hawk-moth species, several Scarce Merveille du Jour and Rosy Marbled, Silver Hook, Muslin Footman and a Dotted Fan-foot which was new to vice-county 12 North Hampshire in Janet Jones' garden.

It has been decided to hold the event annually on approximately the same date each year. In 2007 it will be held on Saturday 23 June. It is hoped this year to also involve the recorders on the Isle of Wight.



National Moth Night was deliberately held at a quiet time of year on 23 September in order to give the BC moth team, who help co-ordinate the event, a less onerous task at a time when they would be gearing up for the National Macro-moth Recording Scheme. Despite this a total of 200 species was recorded by 55 observers and included many of the commoner immigrants with a few rarities thrown in for good measure – *Antigastra catalaunalis* (second Hampshire record), Crimson Speckled (eighth Hampshire record) and seventeen *Convolvulus* Hawk-moths, all in Hampshire.

It was an exceptional year, maybe the best in living memory. There were nineteen new county records including one new to Britain (two others remain unpublished), and six new vice-county records. Not only were the numbers and variety of immigrants quite exceptional, with Scarce Bordered Straw, Delicate, Ni Moth being recorded by nearly all observers but there was a massive immigration of Great Brocade with Scarce Silver Y and Angle-striped Sallow appearing at the same time. Bordered Straw was found to be breeding in vast numbers on the Isle of Wight but sadly they did not appear in such numbers on the mainland. Oak Rustic was proved to be breeding in Hampshire for the first time, with the finding of a larva on the south coast. There was circumstantial evidence that Clancy's Rustic and Langmaid's Yellow Underwing are also now breeding in the south-east.. Even many of the resident species appeared to do well in the hot weather and such wanderers turned up in many unexpected places.

Second broods of species that are primarily single-brooded were a notable part of the late summer and autumn. We are all becoming more accustomed to seeing second brood Swallow-tailed Moth but the following made exceptional appearances in 2006 are worthy of special mention: *Pempelia genistella*, *Endotricha flammealis*, Brussels Lace, Kent Black Arches, Great Oak Beauty, Varied Coronet, Buff Arches and Beautiful Hook-tip.

My thanks as usual go to Barry Goater, 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 2006.

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### Moth record coverage for 2006

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**No of 2002 records:** 57,405

**No of tetrads in 2002:** 354

**No of 2003 records:** 83,517

**No of tetrads in 2003:** 480

**No of 2004 records:** 88,465

**No of tetrads in 2004:** 477

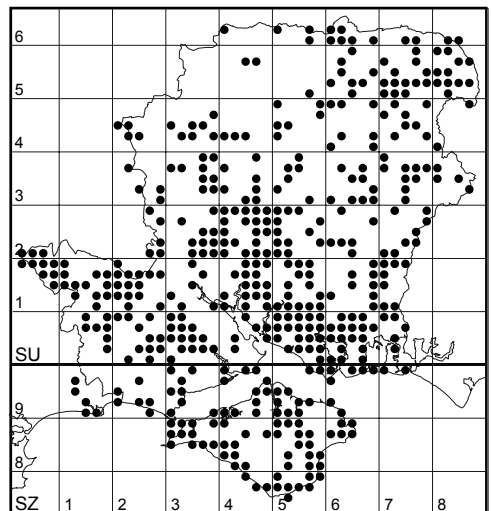
**No of 2005 records:** 93,329

**No of tetrads in 2005:** 419

**No of 2006 records:** 120,360

**No of tetrads in 2006:** 460

NB: There are c.1181 tetrads in the two counties.





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## NEW COUNTY RECORDS

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### Coleophoridae

**0532 *Coleophora albidella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC10:** A case found on a small-leaved *Salix sp.* at Ningwood Common, Cranmore on 5 August (TJN photo det. RE).

### Gelechiidae

**0731a *Eulamprotes immaculatella*** Douglas, 1853

**VC11:** A male was attracted to MV on Horsea Island, Portsmouth, 21 July (MLO, RJD *et al.* gen. det. conf. JRL).

**0810 *Scrobipalpa suaedella*** (Richardson, 1893)

The identification of the specimens from Cracknore Hard, South Hampshire in 1937 were misidentified. They have been checked in the BMNH by D. Agassiz and have been found to be *S. nitentella*. The records below therefore become the first for the county:

**VC11:** A male was taken at Horsea Island, Portsmouth on 21 July (RJD, MLO *et al.* gen. det.), and a female was recorded at MV in Southsea on 30 July (JRL).

**0841 *Sophronia semicostella*** (Hübner, 1813)

**VC10:** One was trapped at MV at Moons Hill, Totland on 24 June (SAK-J conf. RPK-J).

### Cosmopterigidae

**0896a *Cosmopterix scribaiella*** Zeller, 1850

**VC10:** Numerous mines were found on *Phragmites* in at least four localities on a field trip between Freshwater and Yarmouth on 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

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

**VC10:** A recent colonist to Britain first discovered in Dorset in 2001. Mines on Pellitory-of-the-Wall discovered by DTB (conf. JRL) at Shanklin on 22 December and at Steephill Cove, 27 December, represent the first records for our recording area.

### Tortricidae

**0964a *Cochylis molliculana*** Zeller, 1874

A locally common species that up until the current year had been confined to the mainland coastal area east of the Solent (Titchfield/Botley to Emsworth); 2006 saw an expansion of its range to the west and south to the Isle of Wight.

**VC10:** One attracted to MV, Parkhurst Forest, 5 August (TJN, SAK-J, JHa, PJC).

### Pyralidae

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

The only previous record in our area was one at Southsea in 2001. There have been at least five other records of this extremely scarce immigrant in southern England in 2006.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 18 July (JHa).

### Geometridae

**1741 Many-lined *Costaconvexa polygrammata*** (Borkhausen, 1794)

Three records were received of this extremely rare immigrant which used to be resident in England until 1879. The first subsequent immigrant was in 1993. Three more were found in 2000 and four in 2005. At least 17 others have been recorded this year and it is hoped that this is the start of a re-colonisation.

**VC11:** Lymington, one on 13 June (PRD); Boldre, one on 4 August (JPD); Wickham Common, one on 5 August (KC).

## Ctenuchidae

### 2074a Banana Stowaway *Antichloris eriphia* (Fabricius, 1777)

**VC10:** A pupa of this adventive species was found amongst Colombian bananas from a supermarket at Lake by Dave Dana (det. SAK-J, conf. Martin Honey).

## Noctuidae

### 2102a Radford's Flame Shoulder *Ochropleura leucogaster* (Freyer, 1831)

**VC11:** Lepe, one to MV on 28 October (RAB conf. BS). A very rare immigrant first found in England in 1983.

### 2110a Langmaid's Yellow Underwing *Noctua janthina* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 26 July (JHa conf. BS) was a not-unexpected addition to the island list.

### 2392a Porter's Rustic *Proxenus hospes* (Freyer, 1831)

This rare immigrant was first recorded in England in 1978 but until this year there have been few records. In 2006 however there have been at least five other reports of it from the south coast; all but one was west of the Isle of Wight.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one female to MV on 19 August (JHa).

### 2404 Eastern Bordered Straw *Heliothis nubigera* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1851)

The only previous record of this species in our area was on the Isle of Wight in 2003. There were at least twelve other records of this immigrant in Britain in 2006 including inland reports from as far north as Warwickshire. It has been suggested that there was some local breeding. There were only five records nationally between 1958 and 1999.

**VC11:** Funtley, one to MV on 26 May (MLO conf. KW, voucher retained); Portchester, one to light on 14 June (JS det. JRL); Brambridge, one to an actinic trap on 26 August (BH conf. from photo TJN).

### 2460 Passenger *Dysgonia algira* (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 12 September (SAK-J). This extremely rare immigrant from southern Europe was first recorded in England in 1967. Since then there were only ten more records until 2005. This year at least 12 have been reported from southern England.

### 2464a Sorcerer *Aedia leucomelas* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Very similar to the Alchymist for which it was originally mistaken, this is a Mediterranean species that is found throughout southern Europe. There is a third, very similar, species, *Aedia funesta* (Esper, [1766]), which has not yet been recorded in Britain, and should be borne in mind when considering this group.

**VC10:** Freshwater, one on 11 September (SAK-J det. S. Pittis conf. M. Honey). **NEW TO BRITAIN.**

### 2488a Plumed Fan-foot *Pechipogo plumigeralis* (Hübner, 1825)

First recorded in Britain in 1995, this is a very rare immigrant from central and southern Europe which may now be resident in Middlesex.

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 14 September and another on 26 September (JRL).



0532 *Coleophora albidella*,  
Cranmore, Isle of Wight, 5 August  
© Tim Norriss 2006



1741  
*Many-lined*,  
Lymington, 13 June  
© Pete Durnell 2006



2493 *Dotted Fan-foot*,  
Winchfield, 1 July  
© Tim Norriss 2006

## NEW VICE-COUNTY RECORDS

### Coleophoridae

#### 0566 *Coleophora sternipennella* (Zetterstedt, 1839)

The cases can be found on Fat-hen and Orache along the coast of S Hants.

**VC12:** A male to MV at Sherborne St John on 27 July (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton).

### Gelechiidae

#### 0857 Peach Twig Borer *Anarsia lineatella* Zeller, 1839

**VC11:** One was caught at MV light in a Southsea garden on 6 July (IRT det JRL). This moth was once thought to be only an adventive. However there have been several outdoor captures in recent years around the UK (pers. comm. JRL), and it is possible that there is either now a resident population or that it is an immigrant. The only previous Hampshire record was of one reared from an imported Spanish plum in 1971.

### Tortricidae

#### 1171 *Gypsonoma minutana* (Hübner, 1799)

**VC12:** One was netted at The Millfield, Old Basing on 22 July (JKA det. IRT).



1171 *Gypsonoma minutana*,  
Old Basing, 22 July  
© Mike Wall 2006

### Pyralidae

#### 1360 Old World Webworm *Hellula undalis* (Fabricius, 1781)

As its name suggest this species comes from the Old World tropics; it is becoming more regular in its appearance, presumably being brought into the country with imported foods.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 12 October (RAB).

### Lymantriidae

#### 2034 Gypsy Moth *Lymantria dispar* (Linnaeus, 1758)

This moth, a pest species on the Continent, has been extinct as a breeding moth in the UK for about a century. However immigrants still arrive quite regularly. Fortunately, it appears that only males migrate.

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one male to MV on 7 September (RAB).

### Noctuidae

#### 2493 Dotted Fan-foot *Macrochilo cribrumalis* (Hübner, 1793)

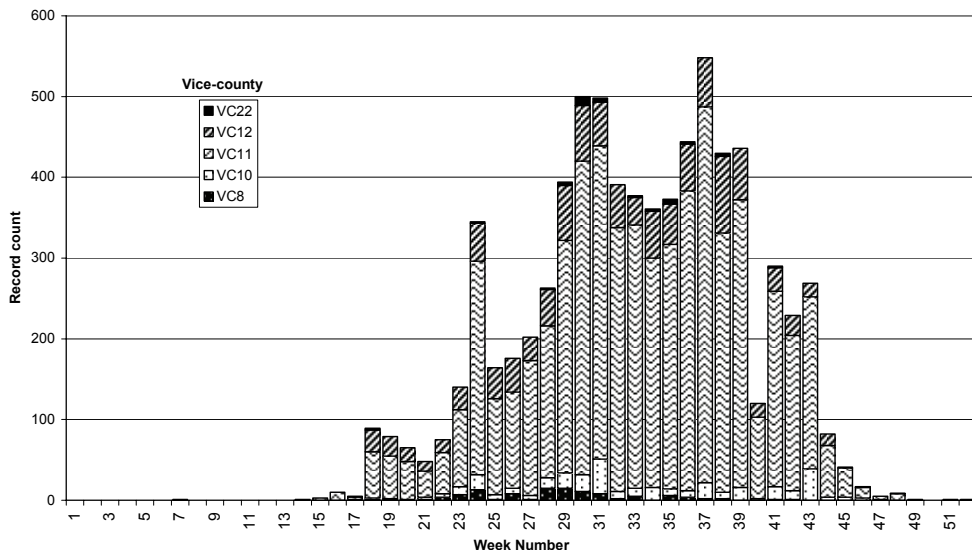
**Nb**

Emer Bog is the only known breeding site in Hampshire and records away from such sites are rare.

**VC12:** Winchfield, one to MV on 1 July, Hampshire Moth Night (TJN, JJ *et al.*).

Immigrants by Vice-county, by week 2006

Migrants in 2006 by Week



Yponomeutidae

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

**VC11:** This conifer-feeder is now reasonably common in the north-east of the county and is now starting to colonise the south. Hedge End, where it was first recorded last year, saw another six records between 16 May and 11 June (DHa); Fareham, one on 3 June (KW); Locksheath, 11 June (PC); JRL added it to his venerable Southsea garden list on 11 June, itself a new 10-km record.

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

**VC11:** Another conifer-feeding adventive species which so far has only been recorded from two gardens in the south of the county: DHa in Hedge End, who had one record on 7 June, and JRL in Southsea, with 9 between 7 and 17 June. It presumably exists elsewhere, given the prevalence of *Leylandii* in gardens!

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

**pRDB3**

At least 13 moths were reported between 19 July and 1 August. All were from Hayling Island (GSAS; AJ) or Cosham (TJJ).

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

After two quiet years this small immigrant showed a large rise in numbers with about 6,000 being recorded; this may be the largest year total.

**VC10:** At least 160.

**VC11:** At least 4,700. The first was recorded at Southsea on 16 April (IRT). An estimated 1,000 were swarming over open heathland at Ocknell Plain on 5 July (DGG). The last individual of the year was caught at Southsea on 12 November (JRL).

**VC12:** Over 400 reported. The first to arrive were seen at six separate sites on 3 May; Overton (ACr); Basingstoke (MJW); Sherborne St John (NM); Greywell (PBo); Farnborough (KBW) and Cove (RJE). The last capture was at Cove on 18 October (RJE).

**VC22:** The first were also caught on 3 May, 15 to MV at Mortimer West End (GJD).

## **Tortricidae**

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

At least 16 were recorded in 2006 compared with 11 in 2005 and 25 in 2004.

**VC11:** Horsea, Island, Portsmouth, two on 21 July (RJD, MLO *et al.*); Hurn, singletons on 1 and 5 August and two on 24 August (MJ); Pennington Marsh, one on 7 August (RBW); Hengistbury Head, one on 8 August (MJ); Pennington, singletons on 13, 24 and 27 August (RCr); Chandlers Ford, one on 18 August (BE); Botley Wood, five on 25 August (MLO, RJD *et al.*).

## **Pyralidae**

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

**VC11:** One to MV at Southsea on 22 September (IRT) was the only record of this very scarce immigrant.

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

The only previous record in our area was one at Southsea in 2001. There have been at least five other records of this extremely scarce immigrant in southern England in 2006.

**VC10:** See New County Records above.

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 2 July (AJ).

**1356a *Evergestis limbata*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 11 June and three on 6 September (JHa).

**VC11:** Pennington, one on 29 July and another on 4 September (RCr); Sinah Lane, Hayling Island, one to MV on 17 August (GSAS); Pennington Marsh, one to MV on 10 September (RBW); Lyminster, a record received for 12 September (PRD).

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

**Nb**

An uncommon immigrant that may occasionally breed.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, reported as coming commonly to MV during August (JHa).

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 22 July and another on 29 July (IRT); Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 24 August (AJ).

**1383 *Psammotis pulveralis*** (Hübner, 1796)

A very scarce presumed immigrant. There have been only two recent confirmed records; one at Totland in 2003 and one at Matley Bog in 1995.

**VC10:** Totland, two to MV on 20 July and one on 23 July (SAK-J conf. TJN).

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 27 July was a new garden record (IRT).

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

Compared with many other immigrants, it was a fairly average year after a very poor 2005.

**VC10:** About 320 individuals were reported, including a total of 304 from Totland (SAK-J). The first date provided was 5 August and the last 27 October.

**VC11:** About 800 individuals were reported. The first date given was 20 May and the last 1 December.

**VC12:** Only about 40 individuals were reported. The first date given was 11 June and the last 28 November.

**1398 Rush Veneer *Nomophila noctuella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

With about 5,500 reported this was the best year since 2003 when about 8,000 were reported. In 2005 only about 100 individuals were reported and 250 in 2004.

**VC10:** About 320 were recorded in 2006, 304 of them at Totland (SAK-J).

**VC11:** About 4,000 were reported with yearly totals of 503 at West Town, Hayling Island (GSAS) and 373 at Pennington Marsh (RBW). The first date given was 4 May and the last 27 November.

**VC12:** About 280 were recorded. The first date given was 25 May and the last 30 October.

**VC22:** About 25 were recorded.

**1400 *Antigastra catalaunalis*** (Duponchel, 1833)

This extremely rare immigrant was first recorded in VC10 in 1958 (also by SAK-J) and VC11 in 2000. These are the only other records since then. Elsewhere in England at least 100 were recorded in 2006, a quite remarkable year.

**VC10:** Totland, singletons to MV on 14, 23 and 25 September and 13 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Leigh Park, one to MV on 16 September (CBC conf. from photo. TJN); Southsea, one to MV on 23 September (JRL); Fareham, one to MV on 10 October (KW); Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 22 October (AJ).

**1403 *Diasemiopsis ramburialis*** (Duponchel, 1834)

A scarce immigrant of which there have been eight other records this century including a previous one by KW.

**VC11:** Fareham, one to MV on 9 October (KW, voucher retained) and Funtley, one to MV on 12 October (MLO).

**1403a *Duponchelia fovealis*** Zeller, 1847

There only five other records of this increasing adventive in the two counties. The first was in 1999, also by JRL and also to MV. The other five records have all been found indoors.

**VC11:** Bartley, Cadnam, one indoors on 24 February (GB&RG); Southsea, one to MV on 6 September (JRL).

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

It would appear that there was an influx on the Isle of Wight on the night of 28 October which was partially reflected on the mainland. This is usually an uncommon immigrant but, like many other species, 2006 brought a much larger number.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, 19 between 22 August and 7 November including eight on 28 October (JHa); Totland, five between 12 September and 17 October (SAK-J); Luccombe landslip, one on 27 October and 20 on 28 October (BS).

**VC11:** At least 30 records were received. Most were from Hayling Island with a total of 13 at West Town (GSAS) and eight more at other sites (AJ, SJW). On the night of 28 October there were five moths at four different sites, two sites were on Hayling Island and the other two were Fareham (KW) and Pennington Marsh (RBW).

## **Geometridae**

**1678 Blair's Mocha *Cyclophora pupillaria*** (Hübner, 1799)

This was a very good year for a scarce immigrant with about 30 records in the area previously.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, singletons to MV on 17, 19 and 27 August and 16 and 23 October (JHa); Totland, singletons to MV on 15, 17 and 25 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, one to MV on 8 August and another on 29 October (RBW); Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one to MV on 3 October (AJ); Southsea, one to MV on 17 October (IRT); Wickham Common, singletons to MV on 23 and 25 October (KC); Sholing one to MV on 27 October (AGG) and another on 29 October (ARC); West Town, one to MV on 27 October on 27 October (GSAS).





1678 Blair's Mocha, Southsea, 17 October © Ian Thirlwell 2006

**1716 Vestal *Rhodometra sacra*ria** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC8:** Four were recorded at Damerham between 6 September and 20 October (PT).

**VC10:** At least 49 were recorded between 26 July and 27 October. Of these, 32 were at Totland (SAK-J) and 12 at Bonchurch (JHa).

**VC11:** There were well over 300 records. The first was at Wickham Common on 14 June (KC), but numbers gradually increased from mid-July through to October. The last record was at Great Linford on 30 October (DW).

**VC12:** A total of 60 were recorded. Both the first and last dates were from Crawley, three on 28 July and two on 23 October (RAB).

**VC:22** Four were reported from Mortimer West End between 27 July and 6 September (GJD).

**1720 Gem *Orthonama obstipata*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**VC10:** A total of 25 records were received. At Totland there were 18 recorded during the year (SAK-J). Bonchurch produced five individuals between 26 September and 14 November (JHa). Singletons were trapped at Freshwater on 14 and 27 October (DBW) and elsewhere there was another at Cranmore on 27 October (I&CF)

**VC11:** At least 64 moths were reported. The first was at Hurn on 19 May (MJ) and the last at West Town, Hayling Island on 13 November. No large catches were reported.

**VC12:** Nine moths were reported, all singletons. The first was at Overton on 6 May (ACr), two more were in July and the rest in October, the last being at Crawley on 30 October (RAB).

## **Sphingidae**

**1972 Convolvulus Hawk-moth *Agrilus convolvuli*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

About 230 were reported from the two counties compared with less than forty in 2005.

**VC10:** Totland, 65 were trapped during the year (SAK-J) and at Bonchurch a further 35 were trapped in September (JHa). Elsewhere on the Island, six more were reported.

**VC11:** There were approximately 90 moths reported including five in one night to MV on 25 September at Titchfield Haven NNR (BD).

**VC12:** There were 28 individuals reported.

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

**VC10:** Bembridge, one was found on 25 August (K.G.Hicks det. JMC).

**VC12:** Lord Wandsworth College, Long Sutton; one was found entangled in a footballer's training bib under floodlights on 25 October (Tony Baines).



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

**VC8:** Five were reported from Martin Down NNR between June and September (CRH, LS).

**VC10:** More than 200 sightings were reported. At Totland, there were 85 sightings during the year (SAK-J) and at Ventnor 61 (A&EB). At Bonchurch, they were “abundant all year and frequent at light” (JHa). The earliest date given was 6 April at Ventnor (A&EB) and the last was 26 September at Shanklin (JMC).

**VC11:** There were over 250 sightings reported. The first was at Gosport on 13 February (L.Marshall) and is the only record for the two counties that suggest an overwintering individual. The next was on 22 April on at Hill Head (RJC) and the last on 30 October at Marchwood (K.Vokes).

**VC12:** More than 100 sightings were reported including a year total of 70 from Dummer (PDF). The first date was seen at Brighton Hill, Basingstoke on 10 June (AHD) and the last at Chilbolton on 7 November (GCE).

**VC22:** Three were recorded at Mortimer West End in August (GJD).

**1987 Bedstraw Hawk-moth *Hyles gallii* (Rottemburg, 1775)**

**VC11:** One came to MV light at Titchfield Haven NNR on 16 August (BD) and another at Sholing, Southampton on 10 September (AJ).

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

There were at least 30 individuals reported in the two counties, compared with none in 2005. These were the first since 2003 when 14 were found.

**VC8:** Damerham, one to MV on 12 July (PT).

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 13 June, two on 6 September and two more on 12 September; two were netted on 14 June (all JHa); Totland, singletons to MV on 10 and 31 August (SAK-J); Wheeler’s Bay, one to MV on 23 August (A&EB).

**VC11:** Hurn, one to MV on 10 June (MJ); Boldre, one to MV on 13 June (JPD); Hengistbury Head, singletons to MV on 13 June, 27 August and 7 September (MJ); Chandlers Ford, one to MV on 18 June (BG); West Town, Hayling Island, one to MV on 8 July (GSAS); Titchfield Haven NNR, one to MV on 17 August and another on 4 September (BD); Lovedean, one to MV on 25 August (ARJ); Sholing, one to MV on 30 August (ARC); Southsea, one to MV on 31 August (IRT); North Gorley, one to MV on 2 September (P&CA); Great Linford, one to MV on 4 September (AGP); Chandlers Ford, one to MV on 5 September (BE); Southbourne, one to MV on 10 September (MJ).

**VC12:** South Wonston, one to MV on 17 July (PJSS); Crawley, one to MV on 14 September (RAB).

**VC22:** Mortimer West End, one to MV on 26 July (GJD).

**Thaumetopoeidae**

**2022 Oak Processionary *Thaumetopoea processionea* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC10:** Following the first two for the Island in 1998 a male was trapped at MV at Bonchurch on 19 August (JHa).

**Arctiidae**

**2045 Hoary Footman *Eilema caniola* (Hübner, 1808)**

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, one to MV on 25 August (AJ) was presumably an immigrant.

**VC12:** Farnborough, one to MV on 9 July and Cove, 3 to actinic light on 21 July (PHC). These north-east records suggest that there may still be a breeding population which was first recorded in 2003.

**2051 Four-spotted Footman *Lithosia quadra* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC10:** A total of 13 were reported. The first was on 16 June and the last on 9 October, both at Bonchurch (JHa).

**VC11:** More than eighty were recorded. At Mark Ash Wood 16 (13 males, 3 females) came

to MV on 15 July (RBW). The first date given for an adult was at Hurn on 13 June (MJ) and the last at Eastleigh on 16 October (SI). There is a resident population in the New Forest proven by the beating of a larva from a Pedunculate Oak at Pondhead Inclosure on 7 May (DGG).

**VC12:** Five were reported over a four day period. Anna Valley; Andover, two males on 26 September (TJN); South Wonston, one on 27 September (PJSS); Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one on 27 September (NM); Northwood Park, Crawley, one on 29 September (RAB).

**2054 Crimson Speckled *Utetheisa pulchella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

This very rare immigrant was last reported in Hampshire in 1992 and on the island in 1881.

**VC10:** One to MV at Luccombe landslip on 26 October (BS).

**VC11:** One to MV at Funtley on 23 September (MLO).

## Noctuidae

**2091 Dark Sword-grass *Agrotis ipsilon*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

Generally this is one of the commoner immigrant species. Numbers in 2006 were about double those of 2005, which was a poor year for all immigrants.

**VC10:** About 90 individuals were reported.

**VC11:** There were over 230 moths recorded. At Bishopstoke, one came to an actinic light on the very early date of 27 March (PWH). The last records were of singletons on 28 October at Lymington (PRD) and Blashford Lakes HWT Reserve (RAC).

**VC12:** There were records of 21 moths. The first was at South Wonston on 8 May (PJSS) and the last at South Warnborough on 30 October (E&PR).

**2110a Langmaid's Yellow Underwing *Noctua janthina*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC10:** See New County Records above.

**VC11:** Around 25 were recorded on Hayling Island (AJ, GSAS) where it may now be breeding. Elsewhere one was trapped at Southsea by the original, eponymous finder on 27 July (JRL) and another at Sholing on 5 August (AGG conf. JRL).

**2119 Pearly Underwing *Peridroma saucia*** (Hübner, 1808)

This fairly common immigrant had a good year, with more than 500 moths from August to October.

**2137 Great Brocade *Eurois occulta*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Na/Immigrant**

All records are given. There were 39 Great Brocades recorded in the two counties. This is even more astonishing when it is realised that all previous records totalled only 17 and were made between 1857 and 1996. All records submitted with complete dates were for the period 3 August to 16 August and most were between 3 and 6 August. There was a massive influx into the country with moths being reported throughout. Arrivals appeared first on the east coast of England and then moved west and north. There is a resident population, which looks significantly different from immigrants, in Scotland.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, singletons to MV on 5, 8 and 14 August (JHa); Totland, two to MV on 5 August (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Stubbington, one on 3 August and one on 5 August (DPH); Funtley, one on 3 August (TDC), Titchfield Haven NNR, one on 4 August (BD); Boldre, one on 4 August and one on 5 August (JPD); Bishops Waltham, one on 4 August, RJD); Sholing, one on 5 August (AGG); Chandlers Ford, one on 5 August (BE); Portchester, one on 5 August (JS); Wickham Common, one on 5 August and one on 6 August (KC); Funtley, two on 5 August (MLO); Cadnam, one on 5 August (MP); Bitterne Park, Southampton, one on 5 August (P&PW); Eastleigh, one on 5 August (SI); West Town, Hayling Island, one on 6 August (GSAS); Southsea, one on 6 August (IRT); Bishops Waltham, one on 6 August (JCr, PMP); Fareham, one on 6 August (KW); St Cross, Winchester, one on 12 August (TWa).



2045  
Hoary Footman,  
Sandy Point,  
25 August  
© George Spraggs  
2006



2054  
Crimson Speckled,  
Luccombe,  
Isle of Wight,  
26 October  
© Tim Norriss 2006



2137  
Great Brocade,  
Basingstoke,  
5 August  
© Mike Wall 2006



2408 Small Marbled,  
Lymington, 23 July  
© Pete Durnell 2006



2432 Ni Moth,  
Sherborne St John, 11 June  
© Mike Wall 2006



2447 Scarce Silver Y,  
Hayling Island, 3 August  
© George Spraggs 2006

**VC12:** Greywell, one on 4 August (PBo); St John's Copse, Oakley, one on 4 August (PEH, MJW); Alton, one on 5 August (DBO); Winklebury, Basingstoke, one on 5 August (MJW); Crawley, one on 5 August and one on 8 August (RAB); Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, one on 6 August (AHD); Selborne, singletons on 8, 14, 15 and 16 August (AEA); Medstead, one in August (MHC).

**2195 Delicate *Mythimna vitellina*** (Hübner, 1808)

With a total of over 1,000 individuals reported, this must be far and away the best year ever for this species. About 250 were reported in 1992, which was considered a year when it was very common.

**VC10:** About 650 individuals were recorded. Annual totals of 547, Totland (SAK-J) and 85, Bonchurch (JHa) were reported.

**VC11:** Just over 400 individuals were reported. The first record was on 24 May at Hurn and the latest was on 8 November at Funtley (TDC). A year total of 149 was reported for Hayling Island by GSAS.

**VC12:** There were records of around 90 individuals. The first record on 17 June and the last on 1 November were both at Crawley (RAB).

**2203 White-speck *Mythimna unipuncta*** (Haworth, 1809)

Unlike the Delicate this species arrived in remarkably small numbers. Although 2005 was thought to be a bad year for immigrants, it did produce ten in VC10 and seven in VC11.

**VC10:** Totland, two on 29 October, one on 30 October, another on 20 November (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Fareham, two on 16 September (RJD); Hurn, one on 5 October (MJ); Sholing, one on 22 October (ARC).

**2208 Cosmopolitan *Mythimna loreyi*** (Duponchel, 1827)

This was once considered a very rare immigrant but numbers have increased in recent years. Three were reported in both 2004 and 2005.

**VC10:** Totland, singletons to MV on 21 and 29 August, 28 September and 7 November (SAK-J); Bonchurch, singletons to MV on 28 August, 3 September, 16 October, 7 and 14 November (JHa).

**VC11:** West Town, Hayling, singletons to MV on 13 August and 29 September (GSAS); Wickham Common, singletons to MV on 4 and 29 September (KC); Southsea, one to MV on 25 October (JRL).

**2246a Oak Rustic *Dryobota labecula*** (Esper, 1788)

First found in 1999 in VC10, and in VC11 last year, this species is now presumed resident. A larva was found on the foodplant evergreen oak at Lymington on 10 June (JEC) but the attempt to rear it failed.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, 35 between 10 October and 20 November (JHa); Luccombe landslip, one on 26 October and two on 28 October (BS).

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, singletons on 28 and 29 October (RBW).

**2251 Flame Brocade *Trigonophora flammea*** (Esper, 1785)

This was once considered a very scarce immigrant but its numbers have increased in recent years. The first VC10 record was in 1990, also by SAK-J, and the first for VC11 was in 1968 also at Sandy Point.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, singletons on 12 and 13 October, two on 17 October and more singletons on 18, 24 and 26 October (JHa); Totland, one on 24 October (SAK-J) and two on 25 October (SAK-J, BS).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, one on 18 October (AJ); West Town, Hayling, one on 24 October and another on 30 October (GSAS).

**2261 Red-headed Chestnut *Conistra erythrocephala*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Another rare immigrant whose numbers are increasing. These bring the total to nine in the

two counties with five of these being in the last two years.

**VC10:** Luccombe landslip, one to MV on 28 October (BS).

**VC11:** Great Linford, one was trapped on 17 October (DW conf. AGP); Sandy Point, Hayling, one to MV on 28 October (AJ).

**2292 Tree-lichen Beauty *Cryphia algae*** (Fabricius, 1775)

First found in VC11 in 1991 and VC10 in 1992 it now appears to be established in some areas.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, eight to MV, all singletons, between 20 July and 21 August (JHa); Totland, one to MV on 28 July (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, one on 21 July and another the next day (AJ); Southsea one on 24 July and another on 3 August (JRL) and one on 30 July (IRT); Portchester, three on 25 July (JS); Hill Head, one on 27 July (RJC); The Moors NR, one on 4 August (MLO *et al.*); Fareham, one on 6 August (KW); Locks Heath, one on 10 August (PC). There were nine reported from West Town, Hayling during 2006 by GSAS.

**2313 Angle-striped Sallow *Energia paleacea*** (Esper, 1788)

**Nb/Immigrant**

**VC11:** Cadnam, one on 18 August (MP) was the tenth record for the county. Resident from the Midlands northwards, the records in our area are thought to be immigrants from eastern Europe and are known to be often associated with influxes of Great Brocade.

**2385 Small Mottled Willow *Spodoptera exigua*** (Hübner, 1808)

This is one of the commoner immigrant species. In direct contrast to 2005, when only six were recorded in 2005 (a bad year for immigrants), this year over 650 moths were reported between 23 April and 29 October.

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

Following the first records in both counties last year, there has been a remarkable increase in numbers in 2006. A similar event took place in Kent where after the first record in 2002, large numbers were present by 2005. It seems very likely that this moth is now breeding on the coast in both of our counties but larvae have yet to be found.

**VC10:** A total of 55 was recorded. Bonchurch, 40 (JHa); Totland, 13 (SAK-J); Shanklin, two (JMC).

**VC11:** In all 71 were reported. Most came from Hayling Island, West Town had 44 (GSAS) and Sandy Point five (AJ). Elsewhere there were six at Southsea (JRL). Apart from two in July at Sandy Point, all the others were reported in September and October.

**2400 Scarce Bordered Straw *Helicoverpa armigera*** (Hübner, 1808)

Like last year there were many more Scarce Bordered Straw than Bordered Straw. However this year's total of about 1,200 individuals is by far the highest ever.

**VC10:** Over 650 were reported during the year including about 500 at Bonchurch (JHa) and 116 at Totland (SAK-J). The first date given was at Bonchurch on 13 June and the last record was three at Totland on 27 October (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Over 390 individuals were trapped, including a year total of 54 at West Town, Hayling Island (GSAS). The first date given was at Pennington Marsh on 10 June and the last was of three at Sandy Point, Hayling Island on 30 October (AJ).

**VC12:** Over 150 individuals were reported with as many as five or six being trapped in one night. The first was at South Wonston on 14 June (PJSS) and the last was at Crawley on 31 October (RAB). In addition an adventist larva was found in a bag of runner beans from Africa in a supermarket in Basingstoke on 14 June. It was successfully bred through and the imago emerged on 20 July (AHD).

**2403 Bordered Straw *Heliothis peltigera*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

With a total of over 450 moths, this is a vast improvement on 2005 when only six were reported.

**VC10:** Over 240 were recorded of which about 200 were caught at Bonchurch (JHa) where



the first was on 27 May. The last was at Freshwater on 17 August. During July larvae were abundant, probably in thousands, on Restharrow (JHa).

**VC11:** About 190 were recorded mainly from coastal sites. The first date given was at Fareham on 25 May (KW) and the last were at Sandy Point, Hayling on 3 October (AJ).

**VC12:** A total of 25 was recorded, mainly singletons. The first was at Basingstoke on 2 June and the last was at Crawley on 22 September (RAB).

**VC22:** One was trapped on 26 July at Mortimer West End (GJD).

#### **2408 Small Marbled *Eublemma parva*** (Hübner, 1808)

These are the first records of this irregular and rare immigrant since 2003. About a dozen were recorded in May 1953 at Farringdon (VC12).

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 18 June (JHa); Totland, one to MV on 7 August (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Funtley, one to MV on 21 July (MLO, voucher retained by KW); Lymington, singletons to MV on 23 and 27 July (PRD); Pennington Marsh, one to MV on 25 July (RBW).

#### **2409a Beautiful Marbled *Eublemma purpurina*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

This is the fourth county record since the first in 2004. There are still no records from the Isle of Wight.

**VC11:** Beaulieu, one to MV on 30 July (BI-J det. BG, voucher in County Museum).

#### **2420 Egyptian Bollworm *Earias insulana*** (Boisduval, 1833)

This is a scarce immigrant or adventist. This is only the second record for the two counties; the first was in 1967 at Brockenhurst.

**VC11:** One to MV at Holbury on 28 October (JEC).

#### **2432 Ni Moth *Trichoplusia ni*** (Hübner, 1803)

This is usually a scarce immigrant but over 60 were reported in 2006, the largest ever annual count.

**VC10:** A total of 19 was recorded. Totland, ten between 4 and 14 August, with a peak of four on 4 August (SAK-K); Bonchurch, nine between the same dates, with a peak of five on 6 August (JHa).

**VC11:** At least 36 moths were reported, 13 were from Hayling Island. The first was at Fareham on 25 June (KW) and the last was at Eastleigh on 9 October (SI).

**VC12:** Six were reported. The first was at Sherborne St John on 11 June (NM) and the last was at Ropley on 19 August (LF, TJN, MT).

#### **2433 Slender Burnished Brass *Thysanoplusia orichalcea*** (Fabricius, 1775)

Moths of this scarce immigrant have been found in our area on 12 previous occasions; the last was in 2001.

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 27 October (BS).

**VC11:** Great Linford, one to MV on 14 October (AGP).

#### **2436 Dewick's Plusia *Macdunnoughia confusa*** (Stephens, 1850)

**VC12:** One to MV at Northwood Park, Crawley on 25 September (RAB conf. BE).

#### **2441 Silver Y *Autographa gamma*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Over 12,000 individuals were recorded in our area. How many of these were immigrants and how many were the offspring of immigrants is not known. This compares with only about 1,500 individuals in 2005.

**VC8:** Approximately 750 individuals were recorded. The earliest date given was 6 May at Damerham (PT) and the latest 17 September at Martin Down NNR (LS).

**VC10:** Approximately 3,000 individuals were recorded, including a total for the year of 2,552 from Totland (SAK-J). The earliest date given was 4 May at Cranmore (David Biggs) and the latest 16 November at Shanklin (JMC).

**VC11:** Approximately 7,200 individuals were recorded, including a total for the year of

1,111 from West Town, Hayling (GSAS). The earliest date given was 19 April at Hythe (JBI) and the latest 7 December at Ashurst (KG).

**VC12:** Approximately 1,300 individuals were reported. The earliest date given was 24 April at Basingstoke (MJW) and the last 30 October at Greywell (PBo).

**VC22:** Approximately 60 records were received. The earliest date given was 3 May and the last 17 September both at Mortimer West End (GJD).

**2447 Scarce Silver Y *Syngnapha interrogationis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

This is an extremely rare immigrant. There have been only three previous records in our area, in 1964, 1968 and 1995. All have been from the mainland county. There is a resident population in Wales and the north of England northwards but these latest occurred at the same time as the influx of Great Brocade and are likely to have the same origin in eastern Europe.

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one on 3 August and one on 4 August (AJ); West Town, Hayling, one on 3 August and one on 4 August (GSAS).

**2451 Clifden Nonpareil *Catocala fraxini*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Only 23 specimens of this spectacular moth have previously been reported from the two counties; of these 11 were from VC10, nine from VC11 and three from VC12. These are the first records since 2001.

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 15 September (SAK-J) and Bonchurch, one to MV on JHa).

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, one on 26 September (RAB) and Wickham Common, one to MV on 11 October (KC).

**VC12:** Dummer, one to actinic light at dusk on 5 September (PDF, Bob Fleet).

**2456 Lunar Double Stripe *Minucia lunaris*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

This is only the second record for the two counties, the other being at Lee-on-Solent in 1954. A nationally very rare immigrant and transient resident, there are about 30 previous records from southern England. Another was reported from Bexhill, East Sussex in 2006.

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, one to MV on 9 June (RBW).



2456 Lunar Double-stripe, Pennington Marsh, 9 June © Tim Norriss 2006



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## OTHER INTERESTING RECORDS

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### Nepticulidae

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

**VC12:** Adults were taken in Farnborough on 10 June and 28 July (KBW), Sherborne St John, 10 June (NM) and Basingstoke, 11 June (MJW). There are only two previous records from VC12.

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

**Nb**

**VC10:** A few occupied mines on Pedunculate Oak, Yarmouth, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW). This is only the second VC10 record.

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

**Na**

**VC10:** Not recorded in the vice-county since the first two records in 1977, until a few mines were found in the bark of a sapling oak at Yarmouth, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**VC12:** Mine observed in bark of Pedunculate Oak, 20 April (JRL, BE) – the fourth North Hampshire record and the first since 1994.

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

**VC11:** Many mines, both tenanted and vacated, on Marsh Cinquefoil at Emer Bog on 28 September (JRL, BE). This is the first record in the United Kingdom on this foodplant.

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

**VC12:** Several vacated mines, on Lombardy Poplar, Odiham Common, 22 October (BENHS field meeting, JRL *et al*).

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

**VC12:** Several vacated mines on Aspen, Pamber Forest, 5 September (JRL, BE).

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

**VC12:** Mines on Hawthorn, Stockbridge Down, 26 September (DGG) and Odiham Common, 22 October (BENHS field meeting, JRL *et al*).

**0115 *Stigmella alnetella*** (Stainton, 1856)

**VC10:** Several mines, one tenanted, on Alder, Freshwater, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW); vacated mines, Newport, 20 October and Osborne, 24 October (DTB). There is only one previous record from VC10 in 1973.

### Opostegidae

**0121 *Pseudopostega crepusculella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**VC11:** Three adults were trapped at MV light at Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June (RJD, MLO *et al*).

**VC12:** One was observed by day at Morgaston Wood on 5 July and later photographed (MJW). This is the fourth record for the vice-county and the first since 1987.

### Incurvariidae

**0135 *Lampronia luzella*** (Hübner, 1817)

**VC11:** One was caught in a malaise trap, Wickham Common, 4 July (RJD gen. det.).

**0138 *Lampronia fuscateella*** (Tengström, 1848)

**pRDB3**

**VC11:** One caught at MV light, West Walk, 16 June (RJD *et al*, conf. JRL).

### Heliozelidae

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

**VC12:** A few vacated mines and cut-out leaves on Downy Birch, Pamber Forest, 5 September (JRL, BE). There are only a few VC12 records and this is the first since 2001.

## Cossidae

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

Nb

**VC11:** Between 2000 and 2004 there were no records of adults anywhere in the county. In 2006 a total of seven adults, all to MV, and two larvae were reported. All were from different sites and all in VC11. On 14 February A&CD found a larva on open ground adjacent to a wooded stream near Matley. TJN searched the area later in the month and found the "Goat Moth tree" not far from where the larva had been seen. It was a birch tree that had recently died, perhaps from the effects of Goat Moth larvae. It is possible this was the reason for the larva leaving its host tree at such an odd time of year as they require living trees within which to feed. At Salternshill Copse, another larva was found looking for a pupation site about 30m from its host oak tree on 10 September (HW). At Crows Nest Bottom on 18 December larval workings were found in a large Pedunculate Oak (DGG).

## Zygaenidae

### 0163 Forester *Adscita statices* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** At Odiham Common, two were seen on 25 May, 12 on 28 May and 52 on 3 June (PV) and 21 were counted on 6 June (TJN). It is very encouraging that good numbers were seen in 2006 as they have been at a low ebb for many years, and it was feared that the management strategy of the site was not working.

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

Nb

**VC11:** A pair in cop. was observed at Teg Down, Winchester on 21 June (BE). This is the first record received from the site since the moth was discovered there in 1980.

## Limacodidae

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

Nb

This moth has been regarded as overlooked in the past. In 2006, however, over 170 records were received from the three vice-counties. Over 400 individuals were reported between 7 June and 17 August. A rapid expansion has taken place in the last five years and is a far cry from 2000 when just two were recorded.

### 0174 Triangle *Heterogenea asella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) (BC RAP) RDB3

**VC11:** This species is regarded as a New Forest speciality though new sites are being discovered each year. At Pig Bush, three were trapped on 1 July and another on 24 July (PRD, RBW). Elsewhere one was trapped at Ashurst on 27 July (KG) and another at Wickham Common on 10 July (KC).

## Psychidae

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

pRDB3

**VC11:** After being recorded new to the county in 2005, several cases were found on the same site at Hilsea, Portsmouth on Grey Poplar, and on signs near the roadside on 5 March (JRL, IRT), and at a new site in the area one kilometre away on 15 May, where a case was found on the concrete rampart of a railway bridge (RJD, JRL).

### 0183 *Bacotia sepium* (Speyer, 1846)

Nb

**VC12:** A larval case of this Psychid was found on an oak trunk at Fleet on 18 March (RE det. JRL) and was the first vice-county record since 1980. The case projects at right angles from the trunk and is covered with lichen and pieces of bark so that it closely resembles a lateral bud.



0163 Forester Moths, Odiham Common, 3 June © Peter Vaughan 2006

## Tineidae

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

**Nb**

**VC10:** Pupae were observed at Shepherd's Chine, 9 November, and mines at Osborne, 9 December (DTB).

**0203 *Infurcitinea argentimaculella*** (Stainton, 1849)

**VC12:** A few larval tubes on trunks, Bartley Heath, 13 February (JRL, RE), several on *Lepraria* on trunk of Scots Pine, Bramshott Common, 20 April (JRL, BE) and one on *Lepraria* on a tree-trunk, Odiham Common, 22 October (BENHS field meeting, JRL *et al*).

**0217 *Nemapogon wolffiella*** Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976

**Nb**

**VC11:** A female was caught in a malaise trap at Wickham Common, 12 July (RJD gen. det.).

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

**Nb**

**VC10:** Larval feeding signs in the fungus *Hypoxyton fuscum* on dead Hazel, Yarmouth, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW). These are the first Island records for many decades.

**0229 *Monopis obviella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC12:** The number of North Hampshire records almost doubled from seven to 13, with adults taken at MV light in Basingstoke on 11 June, 2 July (5), 19 July, with another found indoors on 27 September (MJW), Sherborne St John, 28 June (NM) and Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE).

**0243 *Tinea dubiella*** Stainton, 1859

**VC11:** An under-recorded species that can only be determined with any accuracy by dissection. RJM recorded two at his house in Waterlooville, a female indoors on 6 June and a male netted in the hen house on 7 July!

**0245 Large Pale Clothes Moth *Tinea pallescentella*** Stainton, 1851

**VC11:** One trapped at an MV light trap on 27 October at Ashurst (KG).

## Lyonetiidae

**0254 Laburnum Leaf Miner *Leucoptera laburnella*** (Stainton, 1851)

**VC10:** Mines on Laburnum, Gurnard, 13 September (DTB).

**0263 Apple Leaf Miner *Lyonetia clerkella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

An very common species that mines the leaves of a variety of fruit and other trees especially apple, on which it can be abundant. The species has two or more broods with the later ones over-wintering. The photographs show (right) mating adults (below) the larval mine within the leaf of the foodplant (below right) the larva spins a silken hammock suspended above the leaf within which the pupa is formed.



Photos © David Jones (top, right), Rob Edmunds (above) 2006

## Bucculatricidae

**0266 *Bucculatrix nigricomella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**VC12:** To the three previous vice-county records, six were added, mainly at Basingstoke, where adults were taken at MV on 26 May, 17 July, 19 July (3) and 25 July (MJW). Further singles were recorded at East Woodhay on 8 June (ACr, MJW) and Bramshill Plantation, 22 July (ACr, TJN, MJW).

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

**VC12:** An adult was attracted to MV at Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 12 June (NM), with leaf mines on Alder at two sites in Fleet recorded by RE on 18 October.

**0273 *Bucculatrix thoracella*** (Thunberg, 1794)

**VC10:** Vacated mines were found on lime, Freshwater, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW), after which fieldwork by DTB turned up mines at Ryde, 12 October and cocoons at Osborne, 24 October, Shanklin Chine, 15 November and Bembridge, 19 November.

**VC12:** RE recorded nine on lime with cocoons in Fleet town centre on 16 February.

## Gracillariidae

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

With eight previous records, 2006 was yet another year of range expansion of this new colonist to the county. Twelve records in total were received.

**VC11:** Singles recorded at Funtley, 3 July, 6 July and 20 September, at The Moors NR, 4 August (MLO); Fareham, 30 July, 5 August (RJD), and West Walk, 13 October (RJD, MLO *et al*).

**VC12:** Adults were found at Butter Wood, 1 April (PBo, ACr, MJW), Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 31 July, Sherborne St John, 5 September (NM), and a few occupied larval spinings on Silver Birch were observed at Pamber Forest by JRL and BE on 5 September.

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

**VC12:** A cocoon and several vacated spinings on Alder, Pamber Forest, 5 September (JRL, BE).

**0292 *Caloptilia leucapennella*** (Stephens, 1835)

**VC12:** The second vice-county record and first for 23 years was an adult taken at Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 1 July (NM conf. MJW).

**0295 *Caloptilia hauderi*** (Rebel, 1906)

**pRDB1**

**VC11:** This species, discovered new to Britain in the Isle of Wight in 1933, is now slowly spreading through southern England, with the first record for N Hants last year. 2006 was a record year with a near doubling in the number of sightings and seeing a further range expansion. New sites were at Stubbington, 2 July and 4 July (DPH), Hedge End, 5 July and 28 July (DHa), and Funtley, 25 July (MLO).

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

**VC12:** One adult was recorded at MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon on 28 August (NM) was in a new 10-km square.

**0302a *Parornix carpinella*** (Frey, 1863)

**VC12:** Two mines were discovered by AHD on Hornbeam at Odiham Wood on 22 October. This represents a new locality for the species, previously known from only three sites in Hampshire.

**0318 *Phyllonorycter tenerella*** (Joannis, 1915)

**VC12:** Mines on Hornbeam, Odiham Common, 22 October (JRL, J. Porter, G. Collins, AHD).

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

**VC10:** The first records for the Island since the first in 2004. Fieldwork by DTB between 10 October and 21 November indicated that the species is widespread, with mines found at Wootton Bridge, King's Quay, Ryde, Newtown, Cowes and Bouldnor.

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

**VC10:** Mines on Apple at Newchurch, 12 November (DTB) were the third recorded for the Island and the first for thirty years.

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

**VC10:** Mines on willow at Bouldnor on 21 November (DTB).

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

**VC12:** Four vacated leaf mines, identified from the pupal cremaster, were found by RE in Fleet town centre on 2 January – the third vice-county record. The larvae feed on the shoots of Broom.

**0343 *Phyllonorycter esperella*** (Goeze, 1783)

**VC10:** Leaf mines found on Hornbeam at Osborne on 7 November (DTB).

**0344 *Phyllonorycter strigulatella*** (Lienig & Zeller, 1846) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Singles adults recorded at actinic light, Hedge End, on 29 October and 28 November (DHa conf. JRL from photo) of this very scarce species that feeds on Grey Alder.

**0348 *Phyllonorycter quinqueguttella*** (Stainton, 1851)  
**VC11:** A species which remains confined to the west of South Hampshire (apart from one stray record on the Hampshire/Berkshire border); a few mines found on Creeping Willow at Emer Beg, 28 September (JRL, BE).

**0358 *Phyllonorycter froelichiella*** (Zeller, 1839)  
**VC10:** A few mines on Alder, Freshwater, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0360 *Phyllonorycter kleemannella*** (Fabricius, 1781)  
**VC10:** A single mine on Alder, Newport, 20 October (DTB).

**0366a *Cameraria ohridella*** Deschka & Dimic, 1986  
**VC12:** The surprise with this species, which has attracted a lot of national publicity for the damage it does to Horse Chestnut trees, and which has exploded in terms of the number of records per year since it was first discovered in the county in 2004, is that there were no more than three new records in the north of the county (by contrast, there were 28 in VC11 and 13 in VC10, and it is abundant in Surrey and south-west London.) The pattern of records suggests that it is moving south-west down the M3, with the populations in the southern vice-counties currently isolated. An adult was attracted to MV in Alton on 3 August (DBO), PBo recorded mined leaves in Greywell on 21 August, and further mines were noted in Basingstoke on 7 September (AHD).

**0367 *Phyllocnistis saligna*** (Zeller, 1839)  
**VC12:** A single tenanted leafmine found at Fleet on 4 September (RE).

**0368 *Phyllocnistis unipunctella*** (Stephens, 1834)  
**VC12:** Three records: an adult taken at MV on 18 July in Farnborough was a first for the garden (KBW), with another in Mortimer on 19 August (GJD); many cocoons and mines were observed on Lombardy Poplar at Odiham Common on 22 October (BENHS field meeting, JRL *et al*).

## Sesiidae

**375 White-barred Clearwing *Synanthedon spheciformis*** ([D. & S.], 1775) **Nb**  
**VC12:** Still one of the least recorded clearwings in our area, three were seen at pheromone on 3 June at Silchester Common (MJG).

**377 Sallow Clearwing *Synanthedon flaviventris*** (Staudinger, 1883) **Nb**  
Found as an adult only in even years. There were just two records in 2006 as follows:  
**VC11:** One on 14 July at Headley GP (GAH, AHD); one at The Millfield, Old Basing on 15 July (JKA).

**379 Red-belted Clearwing *Synanthedon myopaeformis*** (Borkhausen, 1789) **Nb**  
Recorded at many new sites in both mainland vice-counties but the following record is notable.  
**VC11:** Sholing, 21 to pheromone on 18 June (AGG).

**0380 Red-tipped Clearwing *Synanthedon formicaeformis*** (Esper, 1783) **Nb**  
**VC11:** An adult was attracted to pheromone lure on 11 June, Blashford Lakes HWT reserve (RAC).  
**VC12:** Adults were attracted to pheromones at two sites: a single at The Mill Field, Old Basing on 15 July (JKA), and four near Kings Worthy on 21 July (AHD).

## Choreutidae

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** JRL and BE observed an adult by day at Matley Bog on 9 August.

**0388 *Prochoreutis myllerana*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**VC11:** With only 15 previous records, 2006 was a record year for this species, with 24 further sightings, although only two new sites were involved. IRT trapped one at MV on 6 July in Southsea, and DMA at Kites Croft recorded several flying around Lesser Skullcap on 24 May (to add to two previous records here in 2004). The bulk of the observations came from RJD's Fareham garden, where many were observed around the potted foodplant, Skullcap, between 25 May and 6 September (with a maximum of 23 on 11 July), and larval spinnings were found in late July and early August.

## Yponomeutidae

**0411 *Argyresthia goedartella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC10:** For a species that is virtually ubiquitous on the mainland, records from the Island are notable by their absence. An adult seen by day at Afton Marsh on 15 August by DTB was only the second record, the first being 29 years earlier.

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

**VC12:** The third vice county record was an adult recorded on the Hampshire Moth Night event run in conjunction with Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on the Hook Common and Bartley Heath SSSI, on 1 July (MJW, ACr, PBo *et al*).

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

**VC11:** One female attracted to MV, Botley Wood, 14 July (RJD *et al*).

**VC12:** The first North Hampshire records since 1994: A few tenanted and several vacated mines on Scots Pine, Bramshott Common, 20 April (JRL, BE); singles to MV in Basingstoke, 17 and 19 July (MJW); another to actinic, Alton, 14 September (DBO).

**0457 *Ypsolopha lucella*** (Fabricius, 1775)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Two adults, recorded on 9 and 12 August at Ashurst (KG). Now recorded in the vice-county for two years running after a gap of thirty years.

**0459 *Ypsolopha sylvella*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 13 September (NM); another on National Moth Night, 23 September, Morgaston Wood (MJW, ACr).

**0251 *Ochsenheimeria taurella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** An adult was attracted to a lighted window, Waterlooville on 1 July (RJM), with another swept at Wickham Common on 6 September (RJD).

**0473 Leek Moth *Acrolepiopsis assectella*** (Zeller, 1839)

A reasonably common moth along the coastal strip east of Southampton but records are rare further inland.

**VC12:** One was trapped at MV at Overton on 24 August (ACr conf. MJW).

**0476 *Acrolepia autumnitella*** Curtis, 1838

**VC12:** Another species more often encountered the south of the county, and again with seven previous records for the north. Two were attracted to MV, Sherborne St John, 27 July (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton).

## Glyphipterigidae

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

The larvae of this moth are associated with bur-reed.

**VC11:** Singles to MV at Boldre on 26 July (RBW), and Pennington, 5 August (RCo).

**VC12:** An adult to MV at Overton on 19 July (ACr det. MJW) was the first in N Hants since 1970.

## Epermeniidae

**0481 *Epermenia falciformis*** (Haworth, 1828)

**VC12:** One to MV, Basingstoke, 5 August (MJW).

**0484 *Epermenia aequidentellus*** (Hofmann, 1867)

**VC11:** Singles to MV on 21 and 23 June at Fareham (KW, gen. det. and in coll. RJD).

## Coleophoridae

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

**VC10:** A case recorded on English Elm, Freshwater, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW) was the fourth for the vice-county.

**0499 *Coleophora limosipennella*** (Duponchel, 1843)

**VC10:** Recorded only once previously on the Island, several cases were found on English Elm in the Yar valley on 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0504 *Coleophora luscinaepennella*** (Treitschke, 1833)

**VC10:** A case on Rusty Willow at Great Budbridge, 16 July (DTB, JMC) was the first record since 1978.

**0510 *Coleophora juncicolella*** Stainton, 1851

**VC11:** Ashurst, five adults to MV between 24 June and 8 July (KG); one to MV at Holmsley on 1 July (DGG *et al*).

**0511 *Coleophora orbitella*** Zeller, 1849

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV, Funtley, 16 June (MLO gen. det.)

**VC12:** Sixth vice-county record: one to actinic, Alton, 4 August (DBO gen. det. BGo).

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

**VC12:** Eighth vice-county record: larval feeding signs on Bramble, Fleet Pond, 13 February (JRL, RE).

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

**Nb**

More records following its rediscovery in the County in 2003.

**VC12:** Still to be recorded in South Hants, cases found on Hawthorn at Magdalen Hill Down on 12 May (DGG, MJW) were about as close to the border as it was possible to get! Additionally, four were taken at MV on 30 June and 4 July in Alton (DBO gen. det. BGo).



0523 *Coleophora hemerobiella*, Magdalen Hill, 12 May  
Larval cases on Hawthorn: (left) Final case (right) Overwintering case © David Green 2006



**0524 *Coleophora lithargyrinella*** Zeller, 1849

**Nb**

**VC12:** Another species only recorded from VC12, with four previous observations, to which can be added five cases on Greater Stitchwort at Odiham Common, 22 October (AHD, GAH).

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

**VC12:** A male to MV, Sherborne St John, 15 May (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton) and another to actinic, Alton, 12 June (DBO gen. det. BGo) were the only records of this Larch feeder.

**0532 *Coleophora albidella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC10:** See New County Records above.

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 11 June (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton), and at least ten, Hook Common and Bartley Heath on Hampshire Moth Night, 1 July (MJW, ACr, PBo *et al*, one gen. det. MJW).

**0533 Pistol Case-bearer *Coleophora anatipennella*** (Hübner, 1796)

**VC10:** The second recent Island record and the first since 1998: larval feeding signs at Yarmouth, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0546 *Coleophora genistae*** Stainton, 1857

**VC11:** Several larval cases on Petty Whin at Eyeworth Lodge, New Forest, 23 May (DGG, SAC), and 30 or more at Hiscocks Hill, 10 June (DGG) – fifth and sixth vice-county records.

**VC12:** Several cases on Petty Whin, Bartley Heath, 13 February (JRL, RE).

**0553 *Coleophora striatipennella*** Nylander, 1848

**VC12:** One to MV, Sherborne St John, 10 June (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton).

**0562 *Coleophora asteris*** Mühlig, 1864

**VC10:** Larval cases found on Sea Aster at Newtown on 15 October (DTB).

**0565 *Coleophora saxicolella*** Duponchel, 1843

**VC12:** A species with only four previous records from N Hants, DBO (det. BGo) turned up six to his actinic trap in Alton on separate dates between 26 July and 9 August.

**0567 *Coleophora adpersella*** Benander, 1939

**VC11:** A female, attracted to a lighted window, Waterlooville, 2 July (RJM gen. det.).

**0575 *Coleophora salinella*** Stainton, 1859

**VC10:** The fourth record for the vice-county with many cases on Spear-leaved Orache, Yarmouth, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0587 *Coleophora caespitiella*** Zeller, 1839

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 12 June (DBO gen. det. BGo).

## **Elachistidae**

**0597 *Elachista atricomella*** Stainton, 1849

**VC12:** One was netted at The Millfield, Old Basing on 26 September (JKA det. MJW)

**0599 *Elachista alpinella*** Stainton, 1854

**VC11:** A male trapped at MV at The Moors NR, Bishop's Waltham on 4 August (RJD *et al* gen. det.)

**0620 *Elachista gangabella*** Zeller, 1850

**VC10:** The first Island record since 1997, a tenanted mine on False-brome, Freshwater (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0632 *Cosmiotes consortella*** (Stainton, 1851)

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Southsea, 6 July and 5 September (IRT).

**VC12:** Sherborne St John, one to MV on 23 September (NM) – the fourth vice-county record.

## Oecophoridae

**0637 *Crassa tinctella*** (Hübner, 1796)

**VC11:** A male to MV, Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June (gen. det. and in coll. RJD) – fifth vice-county record.

**0641 *Batia lambdella*** (Donovan, 1793)

**VC10:** The second recent Island record, with the first in 1998: one to MV, Totland, 4 August (SAK-J, TJN).

**0646 *Telechrysis tripuncta*** (Haworth, 1828)

**VC11:** Three to MV between 10 June and 13 June at Ashurst (KG); one in a malaise trap at Wickham Common, 27 June (RJD).

**VC12:** One attracted to a lighted window in Greywell, 19 June (PBo) was the fourth vice-county record.

**0650 *Esperia oliviella*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**Nb**

**VC11:** KG at Ashurst continues to be the only recorder finding this attractive moth in Hampshire, where it otherwise hasn't been seen since 1984. Following six records in 2005, a single was attracted to MV on 27 June, and a further two on 4 July.

**0660 *Pseudatemelia josephinae*** (Toll, 1956)

**VC11:** One to MV, Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June (RJD).

**0664 *Diurnea lipsiella*** (Hübner, 1796)

This relative of the very common *Diurnea fagella* flies in autumn but is not often recorded.

**VC11:** One to MV, Wickham Common, 27 October (KW, MLO, AGG, KC) – first for the site.

**VC12:** A few were found during beating and at rest on tree trunks during a BENHS field meeting on Odiham Common, 22 October (JRL *et al*).

**0665 *Dasystema salicella*** (Hübner, 1796)

**VC11:** A few larvae were found on Bog Myrtle at Matley Bog on 25 August (BE), and is the first county record since 1982.

**0668 *Luquetia lobella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC12:** Greywell, singles to MV on 4 and 6 June (PBo).

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

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE).

**0678 *Depressaria sordidatella*** Tengström, 1848

**VC11:** The sixth county record was one to MV at Southsea, 4 September (JRL).

**0691 *Agonopterix purpurea*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC12:** Singles to MV at Overton on 15 and 25 April (ACr).

**0698 *Agonopterix kaekeritziana*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC12:** Single to actinic, Anna Valley, Andover, 16 September (TJN) – the first vice-county record since 1998.

**0702 *Agonopterix assimilella*** (Treitschke, 1832)

**VC12:** Recorded for the first time in the vice-county since 1998, with a few larvae found on broom at Fleet Pond on 13 February (JRL, RE); an adult to MV, Bramshill Plantation SSSI on 10 June (MJW, ACr).

**0705 *Agonopterix umbellana*** (Fabricius, 1794)

**VC12:** The sixth vice-county record of this surprisingly scarcely recorded gorse-feeder was a single to MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 28 August (NM).

**0713 *Agonopterix angelicella*** (Hübner, 1813)

**VC12:** The ninth vice-county record was an individual light-trapped in Overton, 21 July (ACr det. MJW). The larva feeds in bunched leaves of *Angelica*.

## **Gelechiidae**

**0746 *Chrysoesthia drurella*** (Fabricius, 1775)

**VC11:** The ninth record for the county, and sixth for VC11, was a male taken when at rest on foliage of Skullcap in sunshine, Fareham, in July (RJD, gen. det.).

**0748 *Ptocheuusa paupella*** (Zeller, 1847)

**VC12:** Single to actinic, Alton, 9 August (DBO det. BGo).

**0755 *Stenolechia gemmella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** One to MV, Cove, 30 August (RJE).

**0756 *Parachronistis albiceps*** (Zeller, 1839)

**VC11:** DHA had three to his Hedge End actinic trap, on 17 June, 1 July and 4 July; two were trapped in Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June (RJD), with another in Fareham, 1 July (KW).

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 16 July (BE).

**0757 *Recurvaria nanella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC12:** Two to MV at Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 7 July (MJW, ACr) were the fifth county record.

**0764 *Pseudotelphusa scalella*** (Scopoli, 1763)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One was recorded at West Walk on 16 June (RJD *et al.*, in coll. RJD).

**0801a *Gelechia senticetella*** (Staudinger, 1859)

**VC11:** One to actinic, Hedge End, 19 July (DHA); recorded at MV on 22 July, 25 July and 18 August, Southsea (JRL).

**0802a *Gelechia sororculella*** (Hübner, 1817)

**VC12:** Fourth North Hampshire record: a male to MV, Sherborne St John, 18 July (NM gen. det. Jon Clifton).

**0815 *Scrobipalpa nitentella*** (Fuchs, 1902)

**VC12:** Recorded for the third time on the Isle of Wight, with larval mines on Sea-purslane found in the Yar valley on 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW).

**0830 *Caryocolum fraternella*** (Douglas, 1851)

**VC12:** One taken at MV in Morgaston Wood, 17 June (MJW, ACr gen. det. and in coll. MJW) was the fourth vice-county record and the first since 1996.

**0834 *Caryocolum tricolorella*** (Haworth, 1812)

**VC11:** Vacated larval spinings found on Greater Stitchwort at Fiddlers Green on 5 May (JRL, IRT).

**VC12:** An adult was attracted to MV, Basingstoke, 5 August (MJW, photo). This is the first record for N Hants for over thirty years.

**0851 *Dichomeris alacella*** (Zeller, 1839)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One was netted at Crockford Bottom, New Forest on 2 August (P. Clement gen. det. conf. JRL) was the first vice-county record since 1978.

**0861 *Acompsia schmidtiiellus*** (Heyden, 1848)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Several larvae were found on Marjoram at Portsdown on 17 May (JRL, BE).



0830 *Caryocolum fraternella*, Morgaston, 17 June © Mike Wall 2006



0834 *Caryocolum tricolorella*, Basingstoke, 5 August © Mike Wall 2006

**0871 *Oegoconia deauratella*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1854)

**Nb**

**VC12:** Alton, one caught in an actinic trap on 26 June (DBO gen. det. B. Goodey) was the second County record, the first dating from 1993.

### **Blastobasidae**

**0875a *Blastobasis rebeli*** Karsholt & Sinev, 2004

**VC11:** A recently naturalised species previously recorded from only two sites in South Hampshire. In 2006, it was discovered at a new site, Wickham Common, with two to MV, 20 July (KW conf. RJD). This was some two kilometres east of its stronghold at The Moors

NR, Bishop's Waltham, where one was recorded on 4 August (MLO, KW, KC, A.Sherwood).

## Momphidae

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

**VC11:** JRL and BE recorded many vacated mines on Enchanter's Nightshade at Ashurst on 9 August.

**VC12:** Ten vacated mines found on the foodplant at Pamber Forest on 14 August (GJD) were the fourth VC record.

**0886 *Mompha ochraceella*** (Curtis, 1839)

**VC12:** Two to MV, Bramshill Plantation SSSI, 10 June (MJW, ACr); single to MV, Greywell, 15 July (PBo det. MJW).

**0887 *Mompha lacteella*** (Stephens, 1834) **pRDB3**

**VC11:** Singles to actinic, Hedge End, 6 and 8 August (DHa) – the second and third records for South Hampshire, since the first in 1997.

**VC12:** One to MV, Farnborough, 22 August (KBW) – second vice-county record.

**0890 *Mompha jurassicella*** (Frey, 1881) **pRDBK**

**VC11:** This species is only known from four sites in the Fareham area. This pattern continued with a further eleven sightings of many individuals between 8 March and 9 April from the wooden shed in KW's Fareham garden.

## Cosmopterigidae

**0897 *Cosmopterix lienigiella*** Lienig & Zeller, 1846 **Na**

**VC10:** Mines on Common Reed, Yar valley, 8 October (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW), and at Seaview, 12 October (DTB).

**0903 *Chrysoclista linneella*** (Clerck, 1759) **Na**

The larvae of this beautiful moth live in the bark of lime trees.

**VC11:** One to MV, Lyndhurst, 23 July (SAB).

**VC12:** One to actinic, Alton, 18 July (DBO) was the second VC record.

**0908 *Sorhagenia rhamniella*** (Zeller, 1839) **Na**

**VC12:** One taken at MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 16 July (BE gen. det.) was the third VC and county record, and the first since 1994.

## Scythrididae

**0917 *Scythris empetrella*** Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976 **pRDB1**

**VC11:** Many larval tubes were found on Cross-leaved Heath near Lyndhurst on 7 May at a BC field meeting led by DGG. This is only the fifth time the species has been recorded in Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

## Tortricidae (Cochylinae)

**0926 *Phalonidia manniana*** (Fischer von Röslerstamm, 1839) **Nb**

**VC12:** One to MV, Bramshill Plantation SSSI, 22 July (TJN, ACr, MJW).

**0932 *Phalonidia affinitana*** (Douglas, 1846)

**VC11:** One to MV, Southsea, 2 July (IRT).

**0944 *Aethes williana*** (Brahm, 1791)

**VC11:** An adult swept at Hook Spit, 7 June (RJD) was the fourth VC and fifth county record - last seen in 1992.

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

A good year, with ten new sightings being added to the 11 previous county records, all but one of which were from VC11.

**VC11:** A total of nine records were received, from two sites: Blashford Lakes HWT reserve, 16 and 27 June (RAC); Southsea, seven individuals between 27 June and 3 August (IRT).

**VC12:** One trapped at Overton, 3 July (ACr conf. JRL, in coll. MJW) was the third VC record.

**0955 Vine Moth *Eupoecilia ambiguella*** (Hübner, 1796)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to MV at Southsea on 25 July (JRL).

**0959 *Cochylidia rupicola*** (Curtis, 1834)

**VC12:** Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE).

**0964a *Cochylis molliculana*** Zeller, 1874

A locally common species that up until the current year had been confined to the mainland coastal area east of the Solent (Titchfield/Botley to Emsworth). 2006 saw an expansion of its range to the west and south to the Isle of Wight.

**VC10:** See New County Records above.

**VC11:** Two records to the west of the previous established range were as follows: singles to MV at Keyhaven on 10 June (RBW) and at Chandler's Ford, 29 June (BE).

## **Tortricidae (Tortricinae)**

**0971 *Pandemis cinnamomeana*** (Treitschke, 1830)

**VC12:** Morgaston Woods north of Basingstoke is a N Hants stronghold for this species: at least 20 were attracted to MV there on 17 June (MJW, ACr), and another two, 26 August (TJN, MJW, ACr).

**0974 *Argyrotaenia ljungiana*** (Thunberg, 1797)

**VC12:** One to MV, Cove, 24 June (RJE). The last record of this heathland species in VC12 was back in 1998.

**0979 *Archips crataegana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC11:** Singles to MV at Ashurst on 25 and 29 July (KG).

**VC12:** Morgaston Wood, two to MV on 17 June (MJW, ACr); Greywell, 18 June (PBo).

**0989 Timothy Tortrix *Aphelia paleana*** (Hübner, 1793)

**VC12:** A scarce Hampshire species that appears to be increasing in numbers. At the Millfield, Old Basing, two were seen on 29 June, with another two days later (JKA).

**1007 *Capua vulgana*** (Frölich, 1828)

**VC12:** One to actinic, Kempshott on 20 May (GAH); one to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 27 May (MJW, ACr).

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

**VC11:** Four records, all of singles to light: Sladford's Copse, near Marwell, 9 June (RJD *et al*); Sloden Inclosure, New Forest, 10 June (DGG); Binching Copse and Orchard Copse, near Wickham (KC, AGG).

**1014 *Isotrias rectifasciana*** (Haworth, 1811)

A good year for this probably under-recorded species, some specimens no doubt being ignored as '*Cnephasia* sp.' It is rarely recorded in N Hants, so the following are of note:

**VC12:** Five records, all to MV: Basingstoke, 3 June (MJW); East Woodhay, 8 June (ACr, MJW); Bramshill Plantation SSSI, 10 June (MJW, ACr); Morgaston Wood, 17 June (MJW, ACr); Sherborne St John, 29 June and 1 July (NM).

**1016 *Cnephasia longana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC12:** The fifth vice-county record – one to actinic, Alton, 5 August (DBO)

**1022 *Cnephasia pasiuana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC11:** Like virtually all *Cnephasia*, *C. pasiuana* is undoubtedly under-recorded as it cannot be identified with certainty without dissection. RJM's continued diligence revealed that this species can be common where it occurs, with 14 individuals, all of which were male, on four dates between 15 July and 4 August to his MV trap in Waterlooville.

**1023 *Cnephasia genitalana*** Pierce & Metcalfe, 1915

**pRDB2**

**VC12:** This, as with the previous species, is only identifiable under the microscope. Likely candidates can be picked out through their relatively pale coloration and lack of markings, but this is not diagnostic in itself. *C. genitalana* is still known only from one 10-km square (SU65) in N Hants. Three further records were received, all from Basingstoke (MJW) – two, 14 July, two, 17 July, and another on 25 July.

**1027 *Neosphaleroptera nubilana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC11:** One to MV at Southsea on 24 June (IRT).

**1029 *Eana osseana*** (Scopoli, 1763)

**VC11:** One to MV at Southsea on 23 July (IRT).

**1034 *Spatalistis bifasciana*** (Hübner, 1787)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Hazel Grove, Ashurst, four individuals between 9 and 14 June (KG); two to light, Sloden Inclosure, New Forest (DGG, TJN *et al*).

**VC12:** One to MV, Winchfield on 20 May (TJN, MJW, MJW, JJ *et al*); one found during the day resting on underside of Beech leaf, Harewood Forest, 3 June (TJN); one to MV, Winchfield, 1 July (TJN, JJ *et al*); Kempshott, three to MV on 18 July (GAH).



1034 *Spatalistis bifasciana*, Sloden Inclosure, New Forest, 10 June © David Green 2006

**1043 *Acleris aspersana*** (Hübner, 1817)

**VC10:** Two seen during the day in Monkham Copse, 5 August (TJN, SAK-J) were the first since 1987.

**1051 *Acleris logiana*** (Clerck, 1759)

**Nb**

**VC11:** One to light, Chandlers Ford on 28 September (BG).

**VC12:** One to MV, St John's Copse, Oakley, 4 August (PEH, MJW).

**1057 *Acleris rufana*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** The first Hampshire record since 1992 – Matley Bog, 25 August (BE), where a few larvae, from which moths were bred, and many empty spinnings were found on Bog Myrtle.



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

**VC10:** Three to MV, Parkhurst Forest, 28 April (TS) - the first Isle of Wight record for nine years.

### **Tortricidae (Olethreutinae)**

**1064 *Celypha rosaceana*** (Schläger, 1847)

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE); one to actinic, Alton, 18 July (DBO).

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

**VC12:** Singles to MV: Morgaston Wood, 17 June (MJW, ACr); Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE).

**1089 *Apotomis semifasciana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC11:** Two caught in Botley Wood, 14 July and another nearby, female (gen. det.), on 11 August (RJD *et al*).

**1101 *Endothenia ustulana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**pRDB3**

**VC11:** Two records from Botley Wood (RJD gen. det.), one swept on 26 May, the other to light on 14 July.

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

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 16 July (BE)

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

**VC10:** The first modern day record for the Isle of Wight was of a single to MV, Totland, 4 August (SAK-J)

**VC11:** One to MV, Funtley, 22 August (MLO)

**VC12:** The third vice-county record and the first since 1995 was recorded at the Millfield, Old Basing on 29 July (AHD).

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

**VC12:** A male caught in Sherborne St John on 24 June (NM gen.det. JC).

**1117 *Ancylis unguicella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC22:** The only record received was of one in Mortimer West End, 15 July (GJD).

**1119 *Ancylis geminana*** (Donovan, 1806)

**VC12:** One to MV, Hazeley Heath, 2 June (KBW)



1119a *Ancylis diminutana*, Overton, 24 June © Mike Wall 2006

**1119a *Ancylis diminutana*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC12:** One to MV, Millfield, Old Basing, 17 June 2005 (JKA, MJW); another, Hook Common, 18 June 2005 (MT, MJW). In 2006, one trapped at MV in Overton, 24 June (ACr conf. JRL). The first N Hants records since 1969.

**1129 *Ancylis apicella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC12:** One at MV, Deadwater Valley, Bordon, 31 July (NM).

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

**VC11:** A female was trapped at Great Fontley Farm near Funtley, 28 July (RJD *et al*).

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

**VC12:** The first sightings in N Hants since 1998: Headley Gravel Pit HWT Reserve, 22 and 31 August (AHD), and Morgaston Wood, 26 August (TJN, MJW, ACr).

**1154 *Epinotia caprana*** (Fabricius, 1798)

**VC10:** Apparently unrecorded on the Island since the 1930s, so one trapped at Totland, 3 August (SAK-J) was notable.

**1155 *Epinotia brunnichana*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC10:** Similarly to the preceding species, the first Island record since 1948 was one in Parkhurst Forest, 5 August (TJN, SAK-J, James Halsey, PJC).

**1163 Spruce Bud Moth *Zeiraphera ratzeburgiana*** (Ratzeburgh, 1840)

**VC12:** Local and rare amongst its foodplant. One at Bartley Heath HWT Reserve on Hampshire Moth Night, 1 July (PBo, ACr, MJW).

**1166 Larch Tortrix *Zeiraphera griseana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC11:** Another very local and scarce insect in Hampshire, but specimens do sometimes turn up away from larch woodland, hence one to MV, Southsea, 26 July (IRT).

**1169 *Gypsonoma dealbana*** (Frölich, 1828)

**VC10:** A species only recorded once before on the Island, no doubt due to a lack of observers: on 8 October, a walk from Yarmouth to Freshwater added five new localities where larval feeding signs were evident on Pedunculate Oak and Rusty Willow (JRL, DTB, TJN, MJW). Two additional sites were added later in the year, by JMC at Newchurch, 12 November, and at Bouldnor, 21 November (DTB).

**1170 *Gypsonoma oppressana*** (Treitschke, 1835)

**VC11:** Singles at light: Funtley, 1 July (MLO), Southsea, 4 July (IRT), Hurn, 5 July (MJ)

**1171 *Gypsonoma minutana*** (Hübner, 1799)

**VC11:** Three records new to the observers' garden traps: Chandlers Ford, 19 July (BG), Fareham, 5 August (RJD), Funtley, 8 August (MLO).

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

**1192 *Eucosma conterminana*** (Guenée, 1845)

**Nb**

**VC12:** One caught at light, Sherborne St John, 16 July (NM).

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

**VC11:** Southsea, 6 September (JRL), Botley Wood, 15 September (RJD *et al*)

**VC12:** Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, 6 August (AHD).

**1207 Pine Leaf-mining Moth *Clavigesta purdeyi*** (Durrant, 1911)

**VC12:** One to MV, Farnborough, 22 July (KBW).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Singles to MV, Holmsley old railway line, New Forest, 20 May (DGG *et al*), Botley Wood, 26 May (RJD, KC, MLO, Andrew Sherwood, KW), Ashurst, 27 May (KG).

- 1222 *Strophedra nitidana*** (Fabricius, 1794) **Nb**  
**VC11:** A local and uncommon species which turns up most frequently in the Itchen valley area: Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June and Botley Wood, 14 July (both RJD, MLO, KC, AGG, KW *et al*)
- 1223 *Pammene splendidulana*** (Guenée, 1845)  
**VC11:** The adult of this species is rarely encountered, but two males were caught at light at Wickham, 5 May (MLO, in coll. RJD).
- 1227 *Pammene giganteana*** Peyerimhoff, 1863 (= *inquilana* Fletcher, 1938)  
**VC11:** Rarely encountered, due to its early flight-time and diurnal nature: true to this form, a male was disturbed by day in Rowhay Wood, 3 April (KW, Andrew Sherwood).
- 1228 *Pammene argyrana*** (Hübner, 1799)  
**VC12:** First vice-county records since 1998, with two at Morgaston Wood, 13 May (DGG, MJW), and another, Alton, 6 July (DBO).
- 1229 *Pammene albuginana*** (Guenée, 1845) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Four records, all singletons, of this species which is rarely seen as an adult: Sladford's Copse, near Marwell, 9 June (RJD), West Walk, 16 June (RJD, MLO *et al*), Funtley, 21 June (MLO), and Austin's Copse, near Upham, 23 June (RJD *et al*).
- 1231 *Pammene spiniana*** (Duponchel, 1843)  
**VC11:** Very rarely encountered in our county: one at MV, Funtley, 12 July (MLO)
- 1234 *Pammene regiana*** (Zeller, 1849)  
**VC12:** The larval cocoons can be found in abundance under the bark of Sycamore, such as in Fleet town centre, 23 March (RE). It is more rarely encountered as an adult, but one turned up at light in Morgaston Wood, 17 June (ACr, MJW).
- 1241 *Grapholita compositella*** (Fabricius, 1775)  
**VC10:** A rare species on the Isle of Wight, and not encountered there since 1996, until one was observed during the day, Monkham Copse, 5 August (TJN, SAK-J)  
**VC12:** Single to MV, Bramshill Plantation SSSI, 10 June (ACr, MJW).
- 1242 *Grapholita internana*** (Guenée, 1845)  
**VC11:** One was caught flying around gorse with numerous *Cydia ulicelana*, Parc Pale, Lyndhurst, 7 May (DGG *et al*, BC field meeting).
- 1267 *Cydia cosmophorana*** (Treitschke, 1835)  
**VC11:** First found in the New Forest in 1930, it has been found in only a few localities since. The female at Funtley, 3 August (MLO), is the first S Hants record since 1976.
- 1268 *Cydia coniferana*** (Ratzeburgh, 1840) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Another under-recorded pine-feeding species, with one at MV, Hurn, 18 July (MJ) the first reported individual since 1980.
- 1269 *Cydia conicolana*** (Heylaerts, 1874)  
**VC12:** Larval exit holes in Scots Pine cones in Fleet town centre, 16 February (RE); a male to MV, Sherborne St John, 10 June (NM gen.det. Jon Clifton).
- 1278 *Dichrorampha sequana*** (Hübner, 1799)  
**VC12:** Two seen during the day, Harewood Forest, 28 May (TJN *et al*, Hants BC Branch field meeting); two to MV, Basingstoke, 19 July (MJW).
- 1280 *Dichrorampha consortana*** Stephens, 1852 **Nb**  
**VC11:** A rare species throughout the county. Two to MV, Southsea, 16 July (IRT) were the first for the observer's garden.



1234 *Pammene regiana*,  
Morgaston Wood, 17 June  
© Mike Wall 2006



1269 *Cydia conicolana*,  
Larval exit hole in  
Scots Pine cone,  
Fleet, 16 February  
© Rob Edmunds 2006



1359 *Cynaeda dentalis*,  
Hayling Island, 9 July  
© Mike Wall 2006

## Pyralidae

### 1325 *Platytes alpinella* (Hübner, 1813)

pRDB3

A rare coastal species.

**VC11:** One to MV on 16 July at Pennington Marsh (RBW); Stubbington, one on 19 July (DPH).

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 3 July (SAK-J).

### 1329 *Donacaula forficella* (Thunberg, 1794)

**VC12:** Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one to MV on 1 July (NM). This is only the sixth record for the vice-county and the first since 2000.

### 1331 *Water Veneer Acentria ephemerella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC10:** Parkhurst Forest SSSI, two to MV on 5 August (TJN, SAK-J, JHa, PJC). Surprisingly this is the first Isle of Wight record since 1999.

**VC12:** Greywell, an estimated 4,500 were found in a MV box trap on the morning following 3 July (PBo).

### 1343 *Eudonia delunella* (Stainton, 1849)

Nb

**VC11:** Chandlers Ford, 11 June – 15 July, an unprecedented total of 17 individuals at MV, with only two previous records (BG).

**VC12:** Morgaston Wood, two to MV on 28 June (DJW, voucher retained). This species is rarely found in VC12 although one was found at the same site last year. The only other record dates back to 1960 at Whitehill.

### 1350 *Beautiful China-mark Nymphula stagnata* (Donovan, 1806)

**VC12:** This remains scarce. There were only a few records submitted with none from VC10 and only one from the north of the county: one to actinic, Cove, 18 July (PHC).

### 1359 *Cynaeda dentalis* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

pRDB3

Hayling Island is the only known breeding area in the two counties. Just three records were received in 2006.

**VC11:** Hayling Island, one seen by day, 9 July (ACr, SP, MJW), one to MV on 22 July (SJW); Southsea, one to MV on 29 July (IRT).

### 1366 *Pyrausta nigrata* (Scopoli, 1763)

**VC10:** Rowridge Valley, Monkham, six were seen on 29 April and three more on 1 May (TS). This species was discovered new to the Isle of Wight in 2002.

### 1374 *Paratalanta hyalinalis* (Hübner, 1796)

Nb

A very rare species which is seldom recorded in large numbers.

**VC10:** Totland, one to MV on 11 September (SAK-J).

**VC12:** Micheldever Spoil Heaps HWT Reserve, ten to MV on 7 July (MJW, ACr); it was also recorded there on 13 July (BE).

### 1380 *Phlyctaenia perlucidalis* (Hübner, 1809)

First recorded in Hampshire in 1973 and the Isle of Wight in 1995, this species appears to be established and slowly spreading.

**VC12:** Cove, one to MV on 17 June (RJE) was the only record from the north of the county.

### 1387 *Nascia ciliaris* (Hübner, 1796)

Na

**VC11:** Fareham, one to MV on 5 July (KW); Titchfield Haven, six to MV on 7 July (RJD *et al.*). This colony was first found in 1987.

### 1396 *Mecyna flavalis flaviculis* Caradja, 1916

pRDB2

Specimens are rarely found away from its two known strongholds at Compton Down VC10 and Porton Down VC12.

**VC11:** Broughton Down, one was seen on 27 July (MBa, det from photo TJN); Lymington, one to MV on 1 August (PRD) was presumably a wanderer from the Island.

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

**Nb**

This is mainly a coastal species. Records from VC12 are scarce.

**VC12:** Cove, two to actinic light on 21 July (PHC conf. DGG).

**1441 *Oncocera semirubella*** (Scopoli, 1763)

**Nb**

Until recently this species was only found on the Isle of Wight in our area.

**VC11:** Southsea, one to MV on 21 July (JRL); Lymington, one to MV on 3 August (PRD).

**VC12:** One was seen by day at Noar Hill SSSI on 29 May (PTw). Second N Hants record.

**1443 *Pempelia genistella*** (Duponchel, 1836)

**Na**

This is mainly a coastal speciality amongst gorse. The VC12 record below is only the fifth for the vice-county; all previous records have been of singletons.

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, six recorded between 7 and 30 October are the first records of what appears to be second brood individuals.

**VC12:** Bramshill Plantation SSSI, 15 to MV on 22 July (TJN, MJW, ACr).

**1454b *Dioryctria sylvestrella*** (Ratzeburg, 1840)

This species is increasingly recorded.

**VC11:** Records were received of 27 moths from 11 sites in 2006.

**VC12:** Six sites produced ten moths in 2006.

**1464 *Gymnancyla canella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Na**

An extremely local and rarely recorded moth. It has been suggested that there might be a local population on Hayling Island because of the presence there of the foodplant, Prickly Saltwort. This, however, appears to be the first record there.

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling Island, on to MV on 20 July (AJ).

**1473 Cacao Moth *Ephestia elutella*** (Hübner, 1796)

A rarely recorded species which probably occurs commonly in barns and warehouses.

**VC11:** Funtley, one to MV on 7 July (MLO).

**1486 *Apomyelois bistratella subcognata*** (Ragonot, 1887)

An opportunist species associated with the fungus *Daldinia* on recently burnt gorse and birch.

**VC10:** Totland, two to MV on 27 June and one on 2 July (SAK-J) are the first Island records since 1929.

## **Pterophoridae**

**1490 *Oxyptilus parvidactylus*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 7 July (ACr, MJW) was the first county record for twenty years although like most 'plume' moths it is undoubtedly under-recorded.

**1495 *Marasmarcha lunaedactyla*** (Haworth, 1811)

**VC11:** Chandlers Ford, 1 July, one at MV. A new garden record, and an unusual one as the larva is associated with Restharrow, which is not known in the neighbourhood (BG).

**VC12:** There are few records of adults from N Hants. Micheldever Spoil Heaps HWT reserve, nine to MV on 7 July (ACr, MJW).

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

**VC12:** Two to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 7 July (ACr, MJW).

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

**VC12:** One to MV, Micheldever Spoil Heaps, 13 July (BE).

**1514 *Pterophorus galactodactyla*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

Seldom encountered as an adult, there were just two records in 2006.

- VC11:** Austin's Copse near Upham, a male on 23 June (RJD, MLO *et al.*).  
**VC12:** Micheldever Spoil Heaps HWT Reserve, it was recorded at MV on 13 July (BE).

## Lasiocampidae

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

**VC10:** Recorded again in some numbers at Cranmore between 24 August and 12 September (I&CF).

**VC11:** Wickham Common, one on 4 September (KC); Funtley, one on 13 September (TDC).

**VC12:** Sherborne St John, one on 27 August (NM); Greywell, one male to MV on 13 September (PBo).

### 1636 Grass Eggar *Lasiocampa trifolii* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Na**

**VC11:** One adult to MV at Westfield, Hayling on 25 August (SJW).

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

A remarkable twenty-two records in the year with the following being new 10-km square records. There are normally four or five records per year.

**VC11:** One on 11 July at Great Linford (DW); Hengistbury Head, one on 16 July (MJ).

## Saturniidae

### 1643 Emperor *Saturnia pavonia* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** One came to MV at Blashford Lakes HWT reserve on 3 May (RAC), and several were seen, mainly by day, in the New Forest between 7 and 17 May.

## Thyatiridae

### 1655 Poplar Lutestring *Tethea or* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

This species has a much longer flight period than the next.

**VC11:** Wickham Common on 2 June (KC, MLO, KW).

**VC12:** Farnborough, singles on 10 June and 31 July, and one at Hazeley Heath on 16 June (KBW); Bramshill Plantation, two on 10 June (ACr, MJW); Deadwater Valley, Bordon, singles on 1 and 3 July (NM); Hurn, one on 1 July (MJ); Overton, one on 6 July (ACr).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Clanfield, one to actinic light on 4 July (D&JM det. TJN from photo) was a new 10-km square record.

**VC12:** Alton, one on 10 June and two on 20 July (DBO); Deadwater Valley, Bordon, five between 1 and 10 July in the species' stronghold in the SE corner of N Hants (NM).

## Geometridae

### 1670 Small Grass Emerald *Chlorissa viridata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Na**

**VC11:** One by day at Beaulieu Station on 7 June (RCH); one on 27 June at North Gorley (P&CA); Fordingbridge, one on 4 July and 2 on 6 July (NJH); Boldre, one on 14 July (JPD).

### 1675 Dingy Mocha *Cyclophora pendularia* (Clerck, 1759)

**(UK BAP & RAP) RDB3**

**VC11:** Holmsley, two to MV on 20 May (DGG); Hurn, singles to MV on 13 July and 4 August (MJ).

### 1691 Rosy Wave *Scopula emutaria* (Hübner, 1809)

**Nb**

**VC11:** 21 records received from six sites.

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Two to MV at Pig Bush on 1 July (PRD, RBW); Ocknell Plain, one by day on the sweltering morning of 2 July (RC, DGG, TJN) and two netted at dusk on 5 July (DGG).

**1699 Least Carpet *Idaea rusticata* Lempke, 1967**

This species is becoming increasingly common in N Hants, reflecting its increasing spread westwards from the Thames valley: 17 of a total of 27 records on the county database for VCs 12 and 22 have come in the last two years.

**VC11:** One to MV at Sholing on 13 July (AGG); Cadnam, one on 28 July (MP).

**VC12:** Farnborough, one on 28 June and three on 15 July (KBW); Greywell, one on 15 July (PBo); Alton, one on 16 July (DBO); Selborne, singles on 16 and 18 July (DBO); Basingstoke, one on 17 July (MJW); Sherborne St John, one on 18 July (NM); South Warnborough, one on 23 July (E&PR).

**VC22:** Mortimer West End, two on 22 July (GJD).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Blashford Lakes HWT, singles on 30 June and 1 July; Highcliffe, one on 1 July (RAC); Vales Moor, one to mV on 17 July (RBW); Crab Tree Bog, one to actinic on 26 July (A Ashworth); one to MV on 27 July at Lyndhurst (SAB).

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

**(RAP) RDB3**

This year's six records double the number found in the two counties to 12.

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 1 September and another on 6 September (JHa).

**VC11:** Pennington, one to MV on 5 June (RCr); Highcliffe, one to MV on 9 June and another on 10 June (RAC); Pennington Marsh, one to MV on 10 June (RBW).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Eastleigh, one on 11 July (St).

**VC12:** One to MV on 11 July at Northwood Park, Crawley (RAB).

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

**VC11:** Boldre, one on 3 July (JPD).

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

**Na**

**VC11:** Chandlers Ford, one on 3 July was a first for the garden and was followed by another on 2 August (BG); one on 6 August was also a first for the garden (BE); Winchester, one on 8 August (TWa); singles on 14 and 22 August at Southsea were new for the site (IRT).

**VC12:** Anna Valley, one on 21 July (TJN); Ovington Mill, three to MV on 27 August (TJN *et al.*).

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

**VC12:** Winchfield, one on 1 July (TJN, JJ *et al.*); Sherborne St John, one on 1 July (NM); Overton, one on 2 July (ACr); Anna Valley, one on 19 July (TJN); Millfield, Old Basing, one on 26 July (JKA).

**VC22:** Mortimer West End, singles on 15 and 20 July (GJD).

**1731 Chalk Carpet *Scotopteryx bipunctaria cretata* (Prout, 1937) (UK BAP & RAP) Nb**

**VC12:** Four were seen at Broughton Down by day on 22 July (MBa). This is one of the target species for National Moth Night in 2007.

**1735 Ruddy Carpet *Catarhoe rubidata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

**Nb**

A higher than average number of records for the second year running.

**VC11:** Chandlers Ford, one on 3 July was a first for the garden (BG); Ashurst, one on 3 July (KG); Bashley, one on 3 July (J&BN conf. TJN from photo); Titchfield Haven, one on 7 July (RJD *et al.*); Clanfield, one on 17 July (D&JM conf. TJN); Horsea Island, two on 21 July (KC, RJD, MLO, KW *et al.*).

**VC12:** South Wonston, one to MV on 12 July (PJSS).

**1736 Royal Mantle *Catarhoe cuculata* (Hufnagel, 1767)**

**VC12:** South Wonston, one to MV on 4 July (PJSS).





1490 *Oxyptilus parvidactylus*,  
Micheldever Spoil Heaps,  
7 July  
© Mike Wall 2006



1718 *Oblique Striped*,  
Eastleigh, 11 July  
© Simon Ingram  
2006



1714  
*Portland Ribbon  
Wave*,  
Pennington, 5 June  
© Richard Coomber  
2006

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

**VC11:** Hurn, one on 11 June (MJ); Wickham, one on 25 July (JRDS); Sholing, one to MV on 5 September was a vary late date (ARC).

**VC12:** One was trapped at Morgaston Wood on 17 June (MT).

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

**VC11:** One at Sandy Point on 19 August (AJ); Lyndhurst, one to MV on 22 August (SAB).

**1751 Devon Carpet *Lampropteryx otregiata*** (Metcalf, 1917)

**Nb**

**VC11:** Holbury, one on 5 August (JEC); also recorded at MV at Ladycross Inclosure on 14 August (MSP, KT).

**1771 Juniper Carpet *Thera juniperata*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

An easily overlooked species.

**VC11:** At Kempshott it was recorded for the second year running with one to light on 14 October (GAH conf. AHD) indicating that it is breeding on garden junipers; Chandlers Ford, one to MV on 21 October (BE).

**VC12:** One larva was found at Danebury on 26 September and two at Stockbridge Down on the same day (DGG).

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

**VC12:** Northwood Park, Crawley, one to MV on 24 October was the only VC12 record of this rapidly expanding species (RAB).

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

**VC12:** One to MV at Selborne on 24 August was the first record in the county since 1997 and an encouraging return of this enigmatic species (AEA). It has not been seen at its other locality in our area on the Isle of Wight for many years.

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

**(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**

No records were received for this species.

**1790 Tissue *Triphosa dubitata*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Two larvae found on Purging Buckthorn at Martin Down on 10 June was the only record received (DGG).

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

**Nb**

This species remains very uncommon in our area.

**VC8:** Damerham, one on 1 July (PT conf. TJN).

**VC11:** Ashurst, one on 8 July (KG); North Gorley, singles on 17 and 19 July (P&CA); Hurn, one on 18 July (MJ); Chandlers Ford, one on 19 July – new for the site (BG).

**VC12:** Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one on 17 July (NM).

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

**VC8:** Martin Down, six were seen by day on 10 June (DGG).

**VC11:** Wickham Common, seen by day on 2 June (KC); Chandlers Ford, one on 8 June (BG); St Cross, Winchester, one on 19 June (TWa det. BG).

**VC12:** Micheldever Spoil Heaps HWT, to MV on 16 July (BE).

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

**VC12:** Dummer Clump, three on 12 July (PDF); South Warnborough, one on 23 July (E&PR).

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

**Nb**

There were several records of this New Forest speciality.

**VC11:** Ashurst, singles on 28 April and 12 May (KG); Blashford Lakes HWT, one on 4 May (RAC); Ladycross, fifteen to four MV lights on 7 May (DGG, RCr *et al.*); Godshill Inclosure, 27 May (MT).

- 1820 Pinion-spotted Pug *Eupithecia insigniata*** (Hübner, 1790) **Nb**  
**VC12:** One to MV on 13 May at Northwood Park, Crawley (RAB).
- 1823 Netted Pug *Eupithecia venosata*** (Fabricius, 1787)  
**VC11:** Waterlooville, one on 9 June (RJM).  
**VC12:** South Wonston, one on 12 June (PJSS).
- 1824 Pauper Pug *Eupithecia egenaria*** Herrich-Schäffer, 1848 **RDB3**  
**VC12:** Seven between 4 and 18 June to MV at Northwood Park, Crawley (RAB). There is an avenue of large limes at this site and this rarely recorded species should be looked for at similar sites in the county.
- 1828 Satyr Pug *Eupithecia satyrata*** (Hübner, 1813)  
**VC11:** Waterlooville, four between 7 June and 6 July (RJM); Butser Hill, one netted on 24 June (PC det. RJD).
- 1841 Yarrow Pug *Eupithecia millefoliata*** Rössler, 1866 **Nb**  
**VC11:** As well as many in the SE of the county there were two to MV at Eastleigh on 19 July (SI).  
**VC12:** Basingstoke, one on 19 July was a second for the garden, with one back in 2004 (MJW); Bramshill Plantation, one on 22 July (ACr, TJN, MJW). These were the third and fourth VC records.
- 1854 Juniper Pug *Eupithecia pusillata*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)  
**VC11:** Eastleigh, singles on 22 July and 4 August (SI); Tiptoe, one to a lighted window on 24 August (S&SL).
- 1855a Channel Islands Pug *Eupithecia ultimaria*** Boisduval, 1840  
**VC11:** Hill Head, singles on 12, 16 and 28 June were a new 10-km square record and represents a westward expansion (RJC conf. from photo TJN).
- 1859 Sloe Pug *Pasiphila chloerata*** Mabilie, 1870  
**VC11:** Holbury, one on 17 June (JEC); Eastleigh, one on 18 June (SI); Ashurst, one on 9 July (KG).
- 1863 Dentated Pug *Anticollix sparsata*** (Treitschke, 1828) **Na**  
**VC11:** Hurn, five between 19 June and 14 August (MJ); Pig Bush, one on 1 July (PRD, RBW); Pennington, one to MV on 1 July was a first for the garden (RCr); Lyndhurst, one on 16 July (SAB).
- 1864 Streak *Chesias legatella*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)  
**VC11:** Blashford Lakes HWT, singles on 9 and 30 October (EAC); Titchfield Haven NNR, one on 10 October (BD); Romsey, one on 10 October (MBa); Chandlers Ford, singles on 18 and 19 October (BE); Ashurst, singles on 18 and 25 October (KG); Funtley, one on 23 October (TDC); Pennington Marsh, one on 28 October (RBW).
- 1870 Chimney Sweeper *Odezia atrata*** (Linnaeus, 1758)  
**VC8:** Small numbers were noted on transect at Martin Down on 28 June and 1 July (LS).  
**VC11:** Two were seen by day on the early date of 25 May (AW).
- 1878 Drab Looper *Minoa murinata*** (Scopoli, 1763) **(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**  
**VC11:** Recorded in good numbers by day in the private woods around Stockbridge in May and early June (A&LB).  
**VC12:** Recorded in good numbers at known sites in Harewood and Pamber Forests with second generation individuals being seen at the latter site through July and up to 24 August (GJD). After being recorded there for the first time in 2005, this species was also seen again in small numbers at Morgaston Wood in the first half of June (NM, MJW).



1793 Cloaked Carpet, Bordon, 17 July © Nick Montegriffo 2006



1818 Marbled Pug, Ladycross Inclosure, 7 May © Mike Wall 2006



1859 Sloe Pug, Eastleigh, 18 June © Simon Ingram 2006



**1880 Barred Tooth-striped *Trichopteryx polycommata*** ([D. & S.], 1775) (UK BAP) Na  
No records were received.

**VC10: CORRECTION:** The record from Totland last year was on 2 April and not 20 April (SAK-J).

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

Four records all well away from known sites is unprecedented.

**VC11:** Wickham Common, one to MV on 17 July (KC).

**VC12:** Chandlers Ford, one on 5 July (BE); Bishops Sutton, one to MV on 19 July (PGLT); Funtley, Fareham, one to MV on 28 July (MLO).

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

**VC8:** Damerham, singles on 7 and 8 June (PT).

**VC11:** West Walk, one to MV on 16 June (RJD *et al.*).

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

**Nb**

**VC11:** Sandy Point, singles on 24 and 25 August (AJ); Southsea, four between 29 August and 20 September (JRL); thirteen recorded at Milton Common between 30 August and 5 September (IRT); Waterloooville, four between 4 and 16 September (RJM); Clanfield, one on 16 September (D&JM det. from photo TJN).

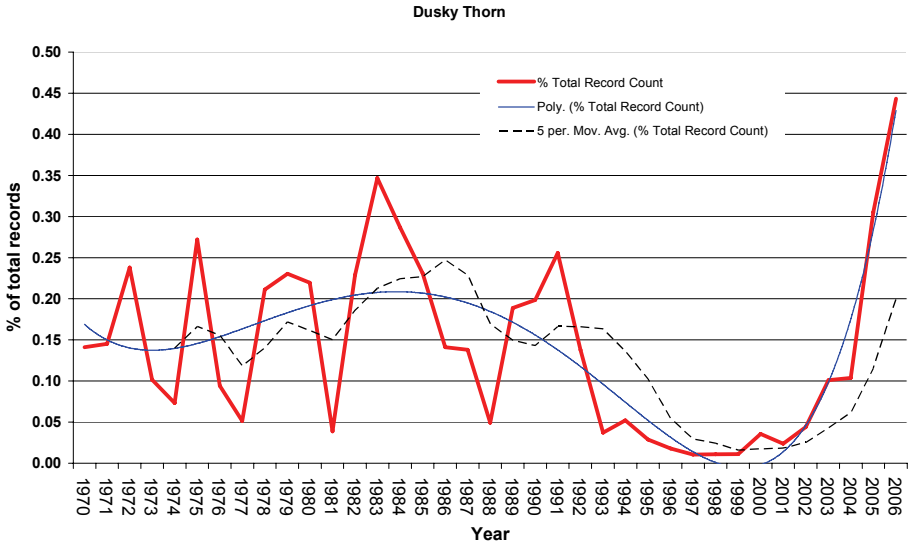


1911 Large Thorn, Hayling Island, 24 August © George Spraggs 2006

**1914 Dusky Thorn *Ennomos fuscantaria*** (Haworth, 1809)

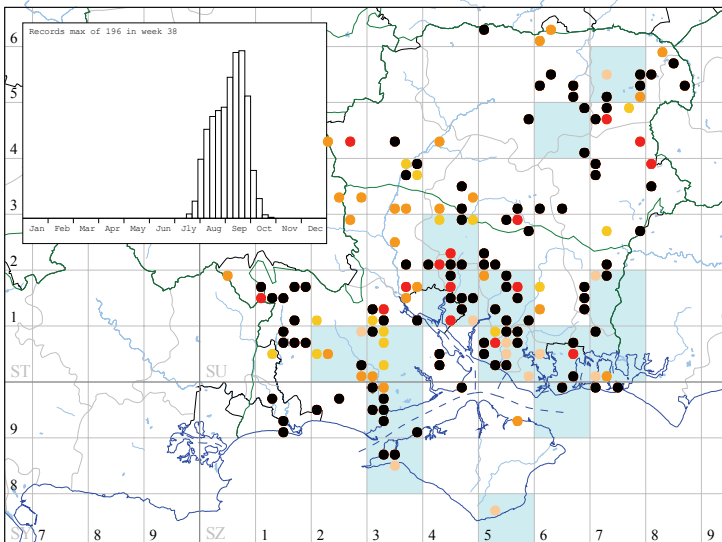
This moth has staged a remarkable recovery in the last few years. In The State of Britain's Larger Moths Fox *et al.*, 2006, it was shown to have declined by 98% nationally in the last 35 years based on analysis of the Rothamsted data. The graph below, showing all Dusky Thorn records held on the Branch database for each year as a percentage of the total records for all species for that year, shows that this species is apparently now at its highest

point since the start of the 1970s. Like many species, the population trend for Dusky Thorn has always been subject to short term swings, but the reasons for the long term decline during the 1990s and subsequent population explosion are hard to determine.



The map below shows the distribution of all records held on the county database with those from the last two years shown in black.

1914 Dusky Thorn (*Ennomos fuscantaria*)



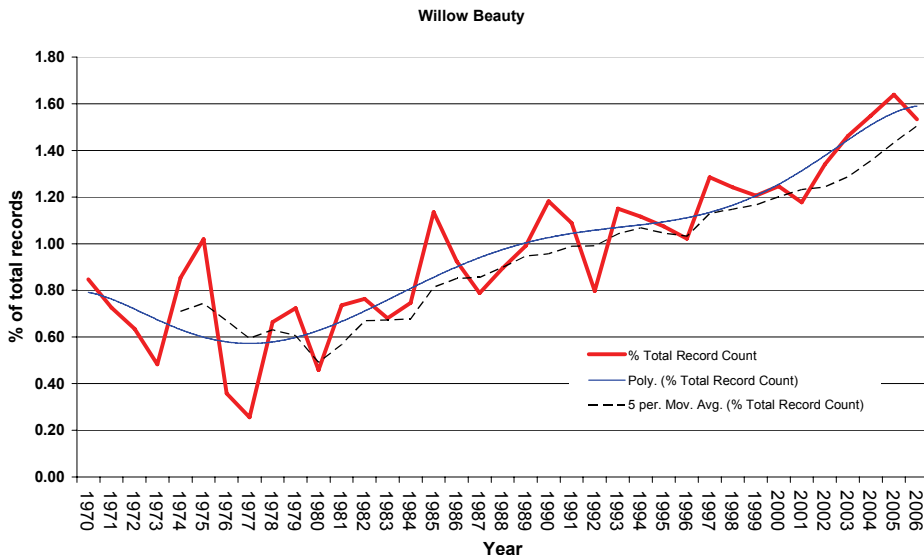
1924 Orange Moth *Angerona prunaria* (Linnaeus, 1758)

VC11: It is encouraging to report that this species had its best year for a long time and was recorded in good numbers in woods in the eastern half of South Hants.

VC12: Morgaston Wood, twenty-five were trapped on 17 June (ACr, MT, MJW).

**1937 Willow Beauty *Peribatodes rhomboidaria* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

Despite a slight comparative decrease in 2006, this species is showing a consistent overall upward population trend since the mid-1970s, as shown by the graph below.



**1938 Bordered Grey *Selidosema brunnearia scandinaviana* Staudinger, 1901** **Na**  
**VC11:** Three larvae were swept after dark at Cunniger Bottom on 3 May (DGG); Sandy Point, Hayling, six to MV between 20 July and 16 August (AJ); an adult was seen by day at Crockford Bottom on 2 August (P Clement).

**1939 Ringed Carpet *Cleora cinctaria* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)** **Na**  
**VC11:** North Gorley, one on 26 April (P&CA); on 7 May one was seen by day on the BC field meeting at Shatterford (DGG RCr *et al.*); Pig Bush, one to MV on 12 May (PRD, RBW); Hurn, one on 15 May (MJ).

**1940 Satin Beauty *Deileptenia ribeata* (Clerck, 1759)**  
**VC11:** Wickham, singles on 25, 28 June and 4 July (JRDS); Pig Bush, one on 1 July (PRD, RBW); Ashurst, four between 6 and 10 July (KG); St Cross, Winchester, one on 11 July (TWa conf. BG).  
**VC12:** Morgaston Wood, one on 26 August (ACr, TJN, MJW).

**1943 Great Oak Beauty *Hypomecis roboraria* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)** **Nb**  
**VC11:** One was trapped on 14 September at Chandlers Ford (BE) which is the first time a second brood individual has been caught in Hampshire.

**1945 Brussels Lace *Cleorodes lichenaria* (Hufnagel, 1767)**  
**VC11:** One was trapped on 16 September at Cadnam (MP) which is the first time a second brood individual has been caught in Hampshire.

**1964 Annulet *Charissa obscurata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**  
**VC11:** One came to MV on Vales Moor on 17 July (RBW) is the first Hampshire record since 1998.

**1969 Grey Scalloped Bar *Dyscia fagaria* (Thunberg, 1784)**  
**VC11:** Two larvae were swept after dark at Cunniger Bottom on 3 May and an adult was also swept after dark at Hiscocks Hill, Fritham on 10 June (DGG).

## Sphingidae

### 1982 Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris tityus* (L., 1758) (UK BAP & RAP) Na

**VC8:** Only singletons were seen this year at Martin Down with five records of adults between 31 May and 10 June; a second instar larva was also found on the underside of a Devil's-bit Scabious leaf on 10 June (DGG).

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

The New Forest records are particularly encouraging as they are the first in that area since an adult was seen in Roydon Woods in 1997.

**VC11:** At Ampfield Wood one was seen during a butterfly transect on 3 June (ML); one was seen in the observer's garden in Christchurch on 11 June exactly one year to the day after the first record (MJG); twenty larvae were found in the Frame Heath / New Copse Inclosures on 21 and 22 June (AGG); at Holmsley feeding damage was found on several plants of Honeysuckle on 1 July and a dead second instar larva was also found (DGG).

**VC12:** Pamber Forest HWT reserve, one on 21 June (GJD).

## Notodontidae

### 1998 Poplar Kitten *Furcula bifida* (Brahm, 1787)

**VC11:** Recorded from widespread sites in VC11 this year.

**VC12:** Two to MV at Morgaston Wood on 17 June (ACr, MT, MJW).

### 2010 Scarce Prominent *Odontosia carmelita* (Esper, 1799)

**VC11:** Wickham, one on 25 April (JRDS); Botley Wood, three to MV on 28 April (AGG, MLO, KW); Ashurst, one on 9 May (KG).

**VC12:** Hazeley Heath, one on 28 April was new for the garden (KBW).

### 2017 Small Chocolate-tip *Clostera pigra* (Hufnagel, 1766) Nb

**VC11:** Recorded at actinic light at Crab Tree Bog on 25 July (A Ashworth).

### 2020 Figure of Eight *Diloba caeruleocephala* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC10:** Only recorded at Cranmore where it was seen in good numbers as usual (I&CF).

**VC11:** Funtley, singles on 24 and 25 September (MLO); Hythe, one on 4 October (JBI); Ashurst, singles on 14, 16 and 17 October (KG); Cadnam, nineteen between 6 and 29 October (MP); Locksheath, one on 15 October (PC); Pennington, one on 24 October (RCr); Hedge End, singles on 25 and 26 October (DHa); Fareham, one on 27 October (KW); Lymington, singles on 28 and 29 October (PRD, MW).

**VC12:** Only recorded at Greywell where it was seen in good numbers (PBo).

## Lymantriidae

### 2027 Dark Tussock *Dicallomera fascelina* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Recorded as adults at light in the new Forest and as larvae swept after dark at Cunniger Bottom on 3 May (DGG) and Stephill Bottom on 7 May (DGG, RCr).

### 2031 White Satin *Leucoma salicis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC8:** One to MV at Damerham on 20 July (PT).

**VC11:** Eight recorded at Hum during July (MJ); Southsea, a wanderer on 22 July was a first for the garden (IRT).

**VC12:** Overton, singles on 25 June and 2, 6 and 27 July (ACR).

## Arctiidae

### 2037 Rosy Footman *Miltochrista miniata* (Forster, 1771)

**VC11:** Forty-seven to one MV trap at Manor Farm CP on 22 July was notable (TDC).

### 2038 Muslin Footman *Nudaria mundana* (Linnaeus, 1761)

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, singles on 1 and 16 July (RBW).

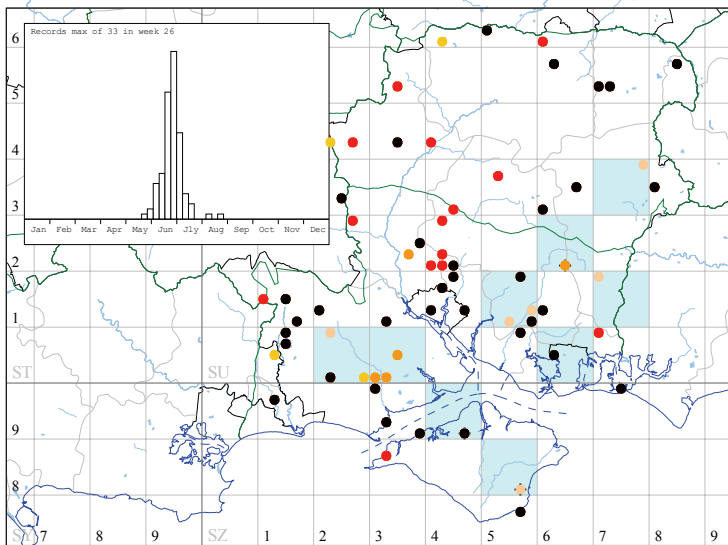


**2039 Red-necked Footman *Atolmis rubricollis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC11:** Chandlers Ford, 1 July, one at MV, first record for the garden (BG). This is a species that appears to be recolonising Hampshire following a reduction in atmospheric pollution.

The map below shows all records on the county database, with those for 2005 and 2006 in black.

2039 Red-necked Footman (*Atolmis rubricollis*)



**2047 Scarce Footman *Eilema complana* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**VC11:** High numbers were recorded at Sandy Point, Hayling in July and early August with 101 at one MV there on 23 July (AJ).



2047 Scarce Footman larva, New Forest, 3 May © David Green 2006

**2056 Wood Tiger *Parasemia plantaginis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC8:** Singles seen during butterfly transects at Martin Down, 16 and 17 July (LS, CHJH).

**VC10:** Recorded on Afton Down by day on 8 July (DTB).

**VC11:** Butser Hill, one seen by day on 24 June (PC).

**2058 Cream-spot Tiger *Arctia villica britannica*** (Oberthur, 1911)

**VC11:** Seventeen were trapped at MV at Sandy Point, Hayling on 17 June (AJ).

**2067 Jersey Tiger *Euplagia quadripunctaria*** (Poda, 1761)

**Nb**

Recorded at eight sites on the island in increasing numbers, and at three sites in S Hants.

**VC10:** This was the commonest moth at Bonchurch in early August with 107 in and around the moth-trap there on 5 August (JHa).

**VC11:** Bashley, one to MV on 26 July (J&BN); Boldre, one to MV on 6 August (RBW); one to actinic light on 7 August at Lymington (MW).

**2068 Scarlet Tiger *Callimorpha dominula*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** Dozens of larvae were found in the observer's garden during May feeding mainly on *Symphytum* but also on *Pulmonaria* and other low plants. On 27 June at around 3.30pm the sun came out and about forty newly-emerged adults were watched flying in the same area. About thirty minutes later they were all mating (P Short).

## **Nolidae**

**2075 Small Black Arches *Meganola strigula*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Na**

Outside the New Forest there were reports as follows:

**VC11:** Romsey, one on 3 July was a first for the garden and the 10-km square (MBa conf. TJN from photo).

**VC12:** Hook Common, ten were trapped at two lights on 1 July and was also new for the 10-km square (PBo, ACr, MJW).

**2076 Kent Black Arches *Meganola albula*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC11:** A remarkable number of records were received including many new sites within the vice-county. There were also a second brood individual recorded at Southsea on 24 September (IRT).

**VC12:** Selborne, recorded on 5, 7 and 10 July (AEA).

**2077 Short-cloaked Moth *Nola cucullatella*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Second brood individuals were trapped as follows:

**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, singles on 3 and 12 September (AJ); Eastleigh, one on 4 September (SI); Southsea, one on 5 September (IRT); Titchfield Haven, singles on 9 and 11 September (BD); Hedge End, one on 11 September (DHa); Leigh Park, one to MV on 12 September (CBC); Funtley, singles on 19 and 20 September (MLO).

**VC12:** Selborne, recorded on 5, 7 and 10 July (AEA).

**2078 Least Black Arches *Nola confusalis*** (Herrich-Schäffer, 1847)

**VC12:** A late individual at Deadwater Valley, Bordon on 10 July was a presumed second brood (NM).

## **Noctuidae**

**2084 Light Feathered Rustic *Agrotis cinerea*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**Nb**

**VC11:** The only record received of this chalk downland species was on the coast on 28 May at Pennington Marsh which was something of a surprise (RBW).

**2085 Archer's Dart *Agrotis vestigialis*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

**VC11:** Ashurst, one on 8 August was new for the 10-km square (KG); South Hayling, singles on 1, 11 and 16 September (SJW); Sandy Point, singles on 7, 9 and 14 September (AJ).

- 2090 Crescent Dart *Agrotis trux lunigera*** Stephens, 1829 **Nb**  
**VC10:** Two on 4 August at Totland (SAK-J, TJN).
- 2093 Sand Dart *Agrotis ripae*** (Hübner, 1823) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, four between 14 June and 2 July (AJ).
- 2105 Dotted Rustic *Rhyacia simulans*** (Hufnagel, 1766)  
**VC11:** West Town, Hayling, one to MV on 19 July (GSAS) was the only record.
- 2108 Lunar Yellow Underwing *Noctua orbona*** (Hufnagel, 1766) **(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**  
**VC12:** Two were trapped at Cholderton on 15 September (HE).
- 2114 Double Dart *Graphiphora augur*** (Fabricius, 1775)  
 There has now been just one record for our area in the last eight years of this species that has declined by 97% over the last 35 years (Fox *et al*, 2006).
- 2140 White-marked *Cerastis leucographa*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Nb**  
 This is essentially a species of the north-east of the county and the VC11 record below is the furthest south that it has yet been recorded in our area.  
**VC11:** Austin's Copse, nr Upham, one on 14 April (KW, KC, AS) is the second VC record.  
**VC12:** Headley Gravel Pit HWT, one on 7 and two on 25 April (AHD, GAH); Selborne singles on 16 April and 4 May (AEA); Greywell, one on 26 April (PBo); Sherborne St John, singles on 26 and 27 April and 2 May (NM).
- 2152 White Colon *Sideridis albicolon*** (Hübner, 1813) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, one to MV on 17 June was the only record received (AJ).
- 2171 Marbled Coronet *Hadena confusa*** (Hufnagel, 1766)  
**VC12:** South Wonston, one on 5 June was the only record (PJSS). The larva of this species feed on Bladder Campion on the chalk.
- 2183 Blossom Underwing *Orthosia miniosa*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)  
 Eighteen records of single adults throughout the three vice-counties was higher than usual.  
**VC11:** A larva was found on the foodplant, oak, on 9 June at Lepe (JEC, JS).
- 2184 Northern Drab *Orthosia opima*** (Hübner, 1809)  
**VC10:** One to MV on 2 May at Moons Hill, Totland (SAK-J).  
**VC11:** Winchester, one on 16 April was the third in five years (TWa).  
**VC12:** Overton, one to actinic light on 1 May was a first for the garden (PEH).
- 2185 Lead-coloured Drab *Orthosia populeti*** (Fabricius, 1781)  
**VC12:** Dummer, one on 16 April was a first for the garden (PDF).
- 2191 Double Line *Mythimna turca*** (Linnaeus, 1761) **(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**  
**VC12:** Deadwater Valley, Bordon, one rather tatty individual came to MV on 17 July (NM). This is the first confirmed record in the county since one at Emer Bog in 1978.
- 2200 Matthew's Wainscot *Mythimna favicolor*** (Barrett, 1896) **Na**  
 Confined to the coastal salterns the only records received were:  
**VC10:** Moons Hill, Totland, one on 4 August (SAK-J).  
**VC11:** Lymington, six between 14 June and 21 July (PRD).
- 2201 Shore Wainscot *Mythimna litoralis*** (Curtis, 1827) **Nb**  
**VC11:** Singles came to MV at Hengistbury Head on 5 and 16 July (MJ).



2075 *Small Black Arches*,  
Bartley Heath, 1 July  
© Mike Wall 2006



2140 *White-marked*,  
Sherborne St John, 26 April  
© Mike Wall 2006



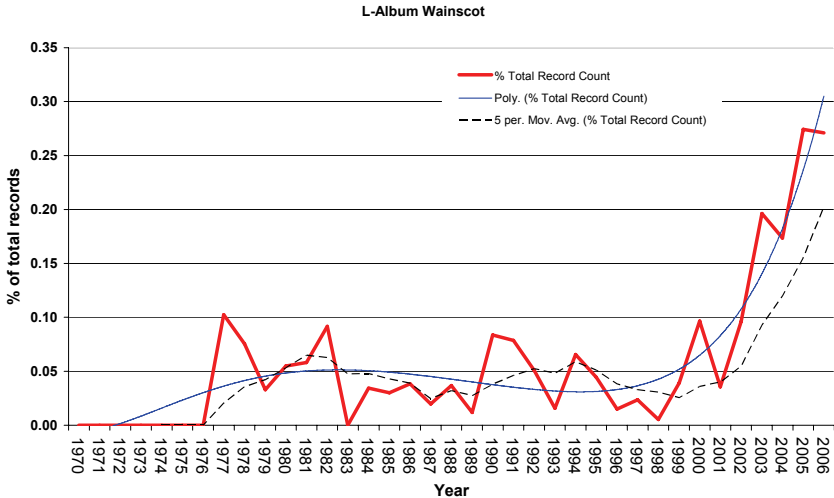
1982 *Narrow-bordered  
Bee Hawk-moth*  
Martin Down, 6 June  
© Simon Woolley 2006

**2202 L-album Wainscot *Mythimna l-album* (Linnaeus, 1767)**

A fantastic year, with more than 300 records received: over half the records on the county database for this species are from either 2005 or 2006. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century it has gone from being a relatively infrequent immigrant to an established breeding species along the south coast. It is still rare in N Hants though, so the following record is of note:

**VC12:** Selborne, one on 19 September was a first for the garden (AEA).

The graph below, showing records per year as a percentage of all records received, illustrates the acceleration in sightings from about 2002 onwards.



**2206 Devonshire Wainscot *Mythimna putrescens* (Hübner, 1824)**

**Na**

**VC11:** One came to MV Northney, Hayling Island on 27 July (JWP). This is the second record for Hampshire, the first being at Boscombe in 1901. It occurs, mainly coastally, in the south-west of England and South Wales.

**2214 Chamomile Shark *Cucullia chamomillae* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, one on 5 May (RBW), Sholing, one on 12 May (ARC).

**2217 Star-wort *Cucullia asteris* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

**Nb**

**VC11:** Lymington, one on 18 July (PRD).

**2219 Striped Lychnis *Shargacucullia lychnitis* Rambur, 1833**

**(UK BAP) Na**

Good numbers of larvae were recorded across the chalk in the centre of the county.

**2226 Beautiful Gothic *Leucochlaena oditis* (Hübner, 1822)**

**RDB3**

**VC10:** Moons Hill, Totland, singles on 9, 25 and 26 October (SAK-J) were the only records.

**2235 Tawny Pinion *Lithophane semibrunnea* (Haworth, 1809)**

**VC11:** Funtley, one on 21 April (TDC); Austin's Copse, nr Upham, one on 21 April (RJD, AGG *et al.*); Boldre, singles on 28 April and 26 May (JPD); Queen Elizabeth CP, one to actinic on 23 September (D&JM conf. TJN); one on 14 October at Blashford Lakes HWT reserve (RAC).

**VC12:** Chilbolton, one on 20 September (GCE conf. TJN).

**2241 Red Sword-grass *Xylena vetusta* (Hübner, 1813)**

**VC11:** Pennington Marsh, for the second year running, one to MV on 13 April (RBW);

Holmsley old railway line, one on 21 April (DGG, TJN *et al.*); Great Linford, one came houselights in November (AGP); Ashurst, one on 13 November (KG).

**VC12:** Micheldever, one on 13 February (LW).

**2260 Dotted Chestnut *Conistra rubiginea*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775) **Nb**

There was an unprecedented 26 records in the county with all being singles except:

**VC12:** Four trapped on one night at Liss on 16 April (PTw).

**2264a Southern Chestnut *Agrochola haematidea*** (Duponchel, 1827) **(BC RAP) RDB2**

**VC11:** Great Linford, two on 10 and one on 11 October (DW conf. AGP); Hurn, one to MV on 20 October (MJ).

**2265 Flounced Chestnut *Agrochola helvola*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC12:** Cove, one to actinic light on 16 October (PHC).

**2271 Orange Sallow *Xanthia citrigo*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**VC11:** Highcliffe, singles on 3 and 22 September (RAC); Fareham, one on 13 September, (KC); Wickham Common, one on 16 September (KC); Funtley, one on 16 September (MLO); Cadnam, singles on 23 and 25 September (MP); Corhampton, one on 30 September (MLO).

**VC12:** Farnborough, one on 11 September was a first for the garden (KBW); one was trapped at Morgaston Wood on 23 September (ACr, MJW); one at Sherborne St John on 23 September (NM).

**VC22:** Mortimer West End, one on 17 September (GJD).

**2275 Dusky-lemon Sallow *Xanthia gilvago*** ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)

**VC11:** Blashford Lakes HWT reserve on 12 October (RAC); Widley, one on 14 October (TAC); Waterlooville, one on 14 October (RJM).

**VC12:** Basingstoke, one to MV, 30 September (MJW) - the first N Hants record since 1985.

**2277 Scarce Merveille du Jour *Moma alpium*** (Osbeck, 1778) **(UK BAP & RAP) RDB3**

**VC11:** Recorded widely throughout the New Forest as far west as Fordingbridge (DB) and Blashford Lakes HWT reserve (RAC). Fourteen were trapped at West Walk, Wickham at five MV lamps on 16 June (RJD *et al.*).

**2290 Reed Dagger *Simyra albovenosa*** (Goeze, 1781) **Nb**

**VC11:** Singles were trapped at Titchfield Haven on 27 and 29 May (BD) where recent records would now indicate that it is resident; North Gorley, one on 29 May (P&CA conf. DGG).

**2316 Lesser-spotted Pinion *Cosmia affinis*** (Linnaeus, 1767)

**VC10:** Totland, one on 8 August (SAK-J).

**VC11:** Manor Farm CP, one on 22 July (TDC).

**VC12:** Bramshill Plantation, one on 22 July (ACr, TJN, MJW); Greywell, one on the late date of 11 September (PBo conf. from photo S Nash).

**2321 Dark Arches *Apamea monoglypha*** (Hufnagel, 1766)

Four records of second brood individuals were received between 25 and 28 October at the time of the Blair's Mocha influx.

**2325 Crescent Striped *Apamea oblonga*** (Haworth, 1809) **Nb**

**VC11:** One at Sandy Point, Hayling on 20 July was the only record (AJ).

**2367 Haworth's Minor *Celaena haworthii*** (Curtis, 1829)

**VC11:** One to MV at Ovington Mill on 27 August (TJN, R. Harrison *et al.*).

**2368 Crescent *Celaena leucostigma*** (Hübner, 1808)

**VC11:** Titchfield Haven NNR, 21 between 7 July (RJD) and 28 August (BD); Wickham Common, one on 11 July, new 10-km square record (KC); Leigh Park, one on 17 July

(CBC); Lymington, one on 3 August (PRD); Funtley, one on 5 August (MLO); Hurn, one on 8 August; Hengistbury Head, singles on 8 and 10 August (MJ).

**2394 Anomalous *Stilbia anomala*** (Haworth, 1812)

**VC11:** Chilling, one female on 1 September (PMP det. KW); Ashurst, one on 5 September (KG). These are both new 10-km square records and the first since 2000.

**2396 Rosy Marbled *Elaphria venustula*** (Hübner, 1790)

**Nb**

An unprecedented 39 records of 82 individuals though it was not recorded on the Isle of Wight.

**VC11:** A total of 24 were recorded at several lights in Sloden Inclosure on 10 June (JEC, DGG, TJN, MT *et al.*); at Poundhill Inclosure on 15 June twelve were seen at dusk rising from the grassy edge of a track in open woodland (RCo).

**2402 Shoulder-striped Clover *Heliothis maritima*** (Graslin, 1855)

**(BC RAP) RDB3**

**VC11:** A day-time search for adults in the north of the New Forest on 2 July proved inconclusive.

**2412 Silver Hook *Deltote uncula*** (Clerck, 1759)

**VC11:** One was seen by day at Penny Moor on 22 June (AGG). Excitement levels were increased still further during the ensuing helicopter rescue to be pulled from the bog!! Additionally, two to MV at Holmsley on 1 July (DGG, MT); another was trapped at Pig Bush on the same night (PRD, RBW); Crab Tree Bog, one to actinic light on 26 July (A Ashworth).

**2418 Cream-bordered Green Pea *Earias clorana*** (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Nb**

Thirty-four records from the south of the county were many more than usual for this species.

**2435 Scarce Burnished Brass *Diachrysia chryson*** (Esper, 1789)

**Na**

**VC11:** North Gorley, one to MV on 12 July (P&CA).

**2437 Golden Plusia *Polychrysia moneta*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Recorded from three sites in VC11 and five from VC12. The only site for which there were multiple records was:

**VC12:** Basingstoke, six between 2 and 19 July (MJW).

**2454 Light Crimson Underwing *Catocala promissa*** ([D. & S.], 1775) **(UK BAP) RDB3**

**VC11:** On 7 May at Pondhead Inclosure DGG beat a second instar larva from the epicormic growth of Pedunculate Oak; four flying in early evening sunshine in oak canopy at Holmsley Inclosure, 1 July (DGG); Pig Bush, one on 24 July (PRD, RBW); Ashurst, four between 25 July and 30 August (KG); Ladycross Inclosure, one on 14 August (MSP, KT); Boldre, singles on 28 and 31 August (JPD). Chandlers Ford, 5 August, one at MV: the only previous record was one taken at sugar in the garden on 22 July 1945! (BG).

**2455 Dark Crimson Underwing *Catocala sponsa*** (L., 1767) **(UK BAP & RAP) RDB2**

**VC11:** Ladycross Inclosure, two on 14 August (MSP, KT).

**2478 Bloxworth Snout *Hypena obsitalis*** (Hübner, 1813)

**RDB3**

**VC10:** Bonchurch, one to MV on 1 September (JHa); Totland, one to MV on 17 September (SAK-J); at Ventnor during the course of carrying out bat surveys in a cave complex SRC encountered a total of 18 Herald moth and three Bloxworth Snout hibernating within the cave. These latter were reasonably active and would fly a short distance on disturbance.

**2480 Buttoned Snout *Hypena rostralis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**

Widespread records on the mainland this year including the first larval records from VC12. **VC12:** Seven larvae beaten from ornamental hop on 14 and 15 July at Greywell, from which five moths bred (PBo).





2217 Star-wort,  
Lymington, 18 July  
© Pete Durnell 2006



2241 Red Sword-grass,  
Holmsley, New Forest,  
21 April  
© Tim Norriss 2006



2275 Dusky-lemon Sallow,  
Basingstoke,  
30 September  
© Mike Wall 2006

2316 Lesser-spotted  
Pinion, Bramshill  
Plantation, 22 July  
© Mike Wall 2006



2412 Silver Hook,  
Holmsley, New Forest, 1 July  
© David Green 2006

2454 Light Crimson  
Underwing larva (full grown),  
Pondhead Inclosure,  
New Forest, 7 May  
© David Green 2006



**2482 White-line Snout *Schrankia taenialis*** (Hübner, 1809) **(UK BAP & RAP) Nb**  
**VC11:** Recorded at five separate sites in VC11 this year including a worn but presumed second brood individual which came to MV at Botley Wood on 15 September (MLO conf. KW, RJD).

**2485 Marsh Oblique-barred *Hyphenodes humidalis*** Doubleday, 1850 **Nb**  
**VC11:** Holmsley, one on 1 July (DGG *et al.*); Hurn, one on 18 July (MJ); Pennington Marsh, one on 24 July (RBW); Crab Tree Bog, to actinic light on 26 and 30 July (A Ashworth); St Cross, Winchester, one on 28 September was very late, possibly second brood individual (TWa det. BG).  
**VC12:** Dummer, one to MV on 21 July (PDF).

**2488 Common Fan-foot *Pechipogo strigilata*** (Linnaeus, 1758) **(UK BAP & RAP) Na**  
**VC11:** A single penultimate instar larva was beaten from Pedunculate Oak on 23 September in Godshill Wood (DGG). This is the first New Forest record for many years.  
**VC12:** Two were seen in Harewood Forest on 28 May (MT, TJN *et al.*) and one was seen on 8 June (MSP, KT).

**2493 Dotted Fan-foot *Macrochilo cribrumalis*** (Hübner, 1793) **Nb**  
Emer Bog is the only known breeding site in Hampshire and records away from such sites are rare.  
**VC11:** Sandy Point, Hayling, one on 21 July (AJ).  
**VC12:** See New Vice-County Records above.

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Fox, R., Conrad, K.F., Parsons, M.S., Warren, M.S. and Woivod, I.P. 2006. **The State of Britain's Larger Moths**. Butterfly Conservation and Rothamsted Research, Wareham, Dorset.

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## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO 2005 REPORT

#### List of writers (inside front cover)

Sue Ellis, Mike Gibbons and Joyce Gifford were omitted from the list of writers

#### Butterflies

##### Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines* p41

The latest sighting was on 18 June at 2005 Beaulieu Heath (RKJ).

##### Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus* p55

The sighting at Ningwood Common on 11 June 2005 was of a Common Blue not an Adonis Blue.

##### Dark Green Fritillary *Argynnis aglaja* p71

The peak season was early to mid July not early to mid June 2005.

#### Moths

Additions and corrections to the 2005 moth report have been included within the text of this year's report above.

## Vernacular and scientific names of plants

<b>Vernacular</b>	<b>Scientific</b>	<b>Vernacular</b>	<b>Scientific</b>
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Horse-radish	<i>Armoracia rusticana</i>
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea anomala</i>
Apple	<i>Malus domestica</i>	Jack-by-the-hedge	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>
Bastard Toadflax	<i>Thesium humifusum</i>	Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>
Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Larch	<i>Larix spp</i>
Betony	<i>Stachys officinalis</i>	Lesser Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria minor</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>
Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	lime	<i>Tilia spp.</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Lombardy Poplar	<i>Populus x italica</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>
Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium spp.</i>	Lucerne	<i>Medicago sativa</i>
Comfrey	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	Lungwort	<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>
Common Fleabane	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Lupin	<i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i>
Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Marsh Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla palustris</i>
Common Rock-rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Common Spotted		oak	<i>Quercus spp.</i>
Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Orache	<i>Atriplex spp.</i>
Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium spp.</i>	Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Creeping Willow	<i>Salix repens</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>
Cross-leaved Heath	<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Pepper Saxifrage	<i>Silaum silaus</i>
Devil's-bit Scabious	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Petty Whin	<i>Genista anglica</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Prickly Saltwort	<i>Salsola kali</i>
Downy Birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
elm	<i>Ulmus spp.</i>	Purging Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
Enchanter's Nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Restharrow	<i>Ononis repens</i>
English Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>
Everlasting-pea	<i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>	Rusty Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>
False-brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	sallow	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Fat-hen	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Scots Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Sea Aster	<i>Aster tripolium</i>
Fragrant Orchid	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Sea-purslane	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Greater Butterfly Orchid	<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>
Greater Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Spear-leaved Orache	<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>
Grey Poplar	<i>Populus x canescens</i>	Stemless Thistle	<i>Cirsium acaule</i>
Hairy Birds-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>	Stork's-bill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Hemp Agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Turkey Oak	<i>Quercus cerris</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Wych Elm	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Zig-zag Clover	<i>Trifolium medium</i>
Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>		





2488 Common Fan-foot, Harewood Forest, 28 May © Tim Norriss 2006



Two *Adela rufimitrella* mate on a daisy, unaware of their somewhat precarious location! Luckily, the crab spider is fully occupied with its lunch... Odiham Common, N Hants © Peter Vaughan 2006



*Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet (John May) -  
Winner, Branch Photographic Competition, Moths category*

## List of observers

DRA	Allan, Debbie	JCha	Chawner, Judith
P&CA	Allen, Peter & Cindy	JMC	Cheverton, Jim M
JKA	Andrews, James	MHC	Christopher, Marina
DMA	Appleton, David	BCI	Clapperton, Brenda
IAR	Arnold, Ivan	S&BC	Clark, Sue & Barry
AEA	Aston, Alasdair	SAC	Clarke, Susan A.
GCA	Austin, G C	PHC	Clarkson, Peter
EWB	Baigent , Ted		Clement, Patrick
K&JB	Bailey, Ken & June	JC	Clements, Joy
TBa	Baines, Tony	RTC	Clifford, R.T.
CLB	Baker, Colin	JMCI	Cloyne, John
MBa	Baker, Mike	CC	Cockburn, Chris
AJB	Barker, Andy	TDC	Codlin, Trevor
A&LB	Barker, Andy & Linda	KC	Coker, Kevin
LJB	Barker, Linda	SRC	Colenut, Simon
EBA	Bartlett, Esme	ARC	Collins, Andy
RBe	Beale, Robert	CBC	Collins, Barry
RAB	Bell, Reg	RCo	Cook, Ray
JMB	Bennett, J M	RC	Cooke, Ron
RB-B	Bensen-Bunch, Rick	D&JC	Cooling, David & Jean
DTB	Biggs, David T	RCr	Coomber, Richard
JBl	Bloss, Juliet	GCo	Copsey, Ginnie
ABo	Bolton, Andrew	NCo	Cowling, Nigel
PBo	Boswell, Paul		Cox, Ian
SAB	Boswell, Simon	TAC	Crabb, Trevor
MBo	Boxall, Michael	PJC	Cramp, Peter
	Bradley, David	JCr	Creese, Jos
FBr	Bragg, Fred	MCr	Creese, Marian
PBn	Branson, Peter	RCg	Croger, Ruth
MRB	Brickwood, M R	ACr	Cross, Alison
DAB	Britton, Dennis	SCu	Curson, Simon
RCB	Broadway, Rupert & family	GCu	Cushen, Gerald
AHB	Brookes, Andrew	CCu	Cuthbert, Charles
GBr	Broughton, Geraldine	A&CD	Dawson, Alan & Caroline
DBr	Brown, Derek	CDe	Dell, Clare
RBu	Buchanan, Roger	BDe	Dempsey, Bernard
DJB	Buckler, David J	GJD	Dennis, Graham
PAB	Budd, Phil	JDe	Dewhurst, Jenna
NBu	Bullock, Nicola	RJD	Dickson, Richard
PB	Burford, Peter	MDi	Dixon, Malcolm
JFB	Burton, John F	AHD	Dobson, Tony
AB	Butler, Andy	MDo	Dougal, Malcolm
A&EB	Butler, Andy & Enid	CD	Dudley, Caroline
AMBB	Butterworth, Adrian	BD	Duffin, Barry
PCb	Cambell, Pete	JD	Dunkley, John
BCa	Canning, Briony	JPD	Durnell, John
CWC	Carpenter, Ches	PRD	Durnell, Pete
RJC	Carpenter, Richard	RJE	Eagling, Richard
TCa	Carpenter, Trevor	HE	Edmunds, Henry
PC	Carr, Peter	RE	Edmunds, Rob
CCa	Carter, Clive	JEd	Edwards, John
JCa	Casson, Julia	PE	Eeles, Peter
ECa	Castle, Eric	BE	Elliott, Brian
JEC/JS	Chainey, John & Spence, Jenny	SE&PR	Ellis, Sue & Phil Reynolds
RAC	Chapman, Bob	REs	Essex, Roger
JCh	Chatfield, June	DGE	Evans, D G



GCE	Evans, Glynne	BHi	Hilling, Barry
JEv	Evans, Justin	RCH	Hilton, Roy
SEv	Evans, Sheila	DH	Hoare, Dan
SFa	Farmer, Steve	AJH	Hold, Alan
PNF	Farrant, Peter N	THo	Holden, Theresa
GFa	Farwell, Geoff	PWH	Hooper, Peter
GGF	Ferguson, Graham	PRH	Hope, Paul
LJF	Finch, Les	AH	Hoskins, Adrian
KFi	Fisher, Keith	TH	Hotten, Terry
PDF	Fleet, Patrick	DPH	Houghton, Dan
BPF	Fletcher, Brian & Marion	RHu	Hughes, Richard
I&CF	Fletcher, Ian & Cath	ZH	Hughes, Zoe
LF	Fomison, Lynn	NJH	Hull, Nick
PF	Fomison, Paul	JHu	Hunt, John
JF	Forsyth, Jonathan	SI	Ingram, Simon
RF	Fox, Richard	BI-J	Ivon-Jones, Brian
KFr	Fray, Keith	RKJ	Jackson, Robert
NFr	Freeman, Nick	ARJ	Jafkins, Alan
CFr	Fretwell, Carly	RJa	James, Roger
MJG	Gibbons, Mike	AMJ	James, Tony
J&EG	Gifford, Joyce & Edwin	TJa	Jamieson, Terry
TGi	Giles, Terry	JBa	Jay, Barry
BG	Goater, Barry	MJ	Jeffes, Mike
KG	Godfrey, Keith	TJJ	Jennings, Terry
CGo	Good, Clive	DJe	Jewbury, David
BGo	Goodey, Brian	AJ	Johnson, Andy
JGo	Goodspeed, John	DJ	Jones, David
JGr	Graham, Jim	GJo	Jones, Geoff
AGr	Green, Alan	JJ	Jones, Janet
DGG	Green, David G	NJo	Jones, Nigel
MGr	Greenland, Martin	SJo	Jones, Steve
RGr	Greenland, Richard	MJu	Jukes, Martin
ACG	Greenwood, Arthur	SKe	Keen, Steve
MG	Grist, Mervyn	MKi	Kilby, Mark
PGro	Grove, Pauline	MK	King, Martin
RGu	Guest, Robert	SKi	King, Simon
TGu	Gutteridge, Tony	VKi	Kinsler, Vince
MGwi	Gwilliam, Mary	SAK-J	Knill-Jones, Sam
MGw	Gwilliam, Mike	AKN	Knott, Albert
M&MG	Gwilliam, Mike & Mary	DLa	Lambert, David
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BWH	Halliday, Bruce	D&RL	Langley, David & Rosalind
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JHa	Halsey, James	SRL	Lankester, Steve & Sheila
DHa	Hamilton, Dave	MLa	Laux, Martin
DHam	Hammersley, Douglas	MLe	Ledeboer, Maarten
MH	Hampton, Martin	S&PL	Leversha, Sylvia & Peter
KHa	Harman, Kaye	RKL	Levett, Richard K
AHa	Harper, Alison	RLi	Linfield, Ronald
R&MH	Hart, Richard & Mary	ML	Litjens, Mark
MCH	Harvey, Martin C	DL	Longe, D
RJH	Harvey, Rob	RLy	Lynch, Rob
SCH	Harvey, Stephen	JM	Mallett, Jenny
SHa	Harwood, Stephen	SMa	Mansfield, Steve
BHe	Hedley, Brian	DMA	Martill, Dave
GAH	Henwood, Glyn & Rose	PM	Martin, Peter
NRH	Hider, Neale	D&JM	Mason, David & Judy
CHJH	Hill, C H J	JMc	McCormac, J

ACM	McCue, Anne C	JRu	Ruppersbery, John
AMc	Mcvittie, Alan	DRy	Ryves, Dave
DMe	Mears, David	HCS	Saunderson, Henry
JMe	Mears, Jill		Sayer, Leon
DLHM	Miller, D L H	MSh	Shaft, Matthew
PMi	Milward, Paul	RSh	Sharpe, Rich
DM	Mitchell, Di	JRDS	Shillitoe, John
DMo	Molyneux, Denise	ASh	Shiple, Alison
NM	Montegriffo, Nick		Short, Peter
MMo	Moody, Marie	MJS	Skelton, Michael
JRM	Moon, J R	BS	Skinner, Bernard
J&JM	Moon, John & Julie	PSm	Small, Peter
RJM	Moore, Richard	ACS	Smallbone, A C
GMo	Mordant, Gill	TSm	Smalley, Thelma
RM-R	Mould-Ryan, Richard	LS	Smith, Linda
J&BN	Nash, Janet & Brian	PS	Smith, Pat
D&MNe	Nesbitt, D & M	PJSS	Smith, Peter
TJN	Norriss, Tim ,	S&RS	Smith, Steve & Ros
JN	Nundy, John A	PSP	Spence, Patrick
MRO	Oates, Matthew	GSAS	Spraggs, George
MLO	Opie, Maurice	BSp	Spurrell, Bill
DBO	Owen, Dave	IWS	Staples, I W
ROW	Owen, Roddy	TS	Steele, Tony
AGP	Page, Andy	GCS	Stephenson, Graham
EJP	Pain, E J	GSt	Stewart, Gerry
JP	Pain, J	DSt	Stickley, Deb
KPa	Palmer, Keith	BSt	Stizaker, Bernie
MPa	Parker, Mary	RMS	Stobart, R M
MSP	Parsons, Mark	CSt	Stock, Chris
PPa	Pattinson, Patrick	JS	Stokes, Jon
DPa	Payne, Dave	SSt	Stokes, Sue
JPe	Pearce, Jacky	PJS	Strangeman, P J
SPe	Penn, Stephen	MSw	Swann, Mark
D&MP	Penton, David & Mary	P&JS	Sykes, Peter & Janet
JWP	Phillips, John	RSy	Symonds, Richard
CP	Piatkiewicz, Chris	DAT	Thelwell, David
MPi	Pike, Mark	IRT	Thirlwell, Ian
MPit	Pitt, Martin		Thomas, Kelly
SCP	Pittis, Stephen C.	MTh	Thomas, Marion
KJP	Plumridge, Keith	RTh	Thomas, Richard
PMP	Potts, Peter	PGLT	Thompson, Peter
IP	Pratt, Ian	AT	Thornbury, Alan
SPr	Primrose, Simon	ATh	Thurbold, Alan
BP	Proctor, Barry	CTi	Tilbury, Christine
CPr	Proudley, Colin	DJAT	Tinling, D J A
MPr	Prout, Margaret	PT	Toynon, Paul
MP	Pugh, Maurice	MTr	Trapaud, Mike
GR	Rapley, Geoff	MT	Trasenster, Mark
Cra	Raven, Carl	EJT	Tunnah, Elizabeth
PR	Raynor, Penny	RTu	Turner, Robin
E&PR	Raynor, Ted & Penny	PTw	Twine, Pete
AJR	Redfern, A.J.	RUr	Urwin, Rachel
	Rich, Gordon	PV	Vaughan, Peter
IRi	Riddett, Ian	P&JV	Vaughan, Peter & Jane
GRo	Roberts, Graham	JVe	Vetterlein, John
TRo	Roberts, Theo	TJV	Viney, T J
T&MR	Roberts, Theo & Maureen		Vokes, Keith
MRO	Rollinson, Mike	TWa	Walker, Tim
JR	Rowell, John	TWal	Walker, Tony

MJW Wall, Mike  
 MW Ward, Marcus  
 M&ZW Ward, Marcus & Zoe  
 PMW Waring, Paul  
 PWe Welch, Pam  
 P&PW Welch, Pam & Peter  
 RWe West, Rob  
 DW Westerhoff, Diana  
 J&JW Westlake, Jeff & Jenny  
 SWe Westwood, Sara  
 G&CW Whaley, Gloria & Chris  
 KW Wheeler, Keith  
 CW Wheelwright, Cressida  
 DJW White, David  
 AW Whitlock, Ashley  
 RWh Whitmarsh, Bob

MFW Wildish, M F  
 TWi Wildridge, Tim  
 NW Williams, Nicola  
 KBW Wills, Keith  
 LW Winokur, Len  
 SW Woodd, Sue  
 DBW Wooldrige, Dave  
 SWo Woolley, Simon  
 ARW Worman, Robin  
 AWri Wright, Angela  
 SJW Wright, Simon  
 HW Wymmer, Helen  
 RBW Wynn, Russell  
 MiY Young, Mike  
 SY Young, Simon

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*A party of new members enjoying the restored grassland at Magdalen Hill Down Extension on the Branch's New Member's Day on 13 May 2006. Despite the threatening grey skies, this turned out to be probably the best weather for watching butterflies and moths of the entire month! © David Green 2006*

## Index to butterfly species accounts

Adonis Blue .....	56
Brimstone .....	36
Brown Argus .....	51
Brown Hairstreak .....	44
Chalkhill Blue .....	54
Clouded Yellow .....	34
Comma .....	69
Common Blue .....	53
Dark Green Fritillary .....	74
Dingy Skipper .....	31
Duke of Burgundy .....	59
Essex Skipper .....	28
Gatekeeper .....	84
Glanville Fritillary .....	78
Grayling .....	82
Green Hairstreak .....	42
Green-veined White .....	40
Grizzled Skipper .....	32
Holly Blue .....	57
Large Skipper .....	29
Large White .....	37
Marbled White .....	81
Marsh Fritillary .....	76
Meadow Brown .....	85
Orange-tip .....	41
Painted Lady .....	64
Peacock .....	67
Pearl-bordered Fritillary .....	73
Purple Emperor .....	62
Purple Hairstreak .....	45
Red Admiral .....	63
Ringlet .....	88
Silver-spotted Skipper .....	30
Silver-studded Blue .....	49
Silver-washed Fritillary .....	75
Small Blue .....	48
Small Copper .....	46
Small Heath .....	87
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary .....	71
Small Skipper .....	27
Small Tortoiseshell .....	65
Small White .....	39
Speckled Wood .....	79
Wall Brown .....	80
White Admiral .....	61
White-letter Hairstreak .....	45

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## Find out more about Hampshire and the Isle of Wight's butterflies and moths

### Worldwide Web

Butterfly Conservation: [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch: [www.butterfly-conservation.org/hantsiow](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/hantsiow)

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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# Hampshire & Isle of Wight Butterfly & Moth Report 2006

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[www.butterfly-conservation.org/hantsiow](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/hantsiow)

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