

The good weather continues and with it bumper counts of butterflies on all but a very few routes as we reach the halfway point in the recording season! The 5,868 butterflies seen across routes (excluding the exploratory routes at Roe North and Roe South), is double the numbers in Week 12 and the weekly density of 73.63 is again a record high since the Group started walking transects in 2011.



White Admiral at Little Linford
Lee Knight

Silver-studded Blue are dominating the heathlands and White Admiral showing well on woodland transects. White-letter Hairstreak have appeared at Mockbeggar once more. Gatekeepers are beginning to appear and the first Dark Green Fritillary as well. Large Skipper are boosting numbers on the transects within the forest enclosures and Gatekeepers will no doubt lead to even greater counts very soon.

Gatekeeper at Lepe
Mandy Smith



Twenty-six different species were seen overall this week:

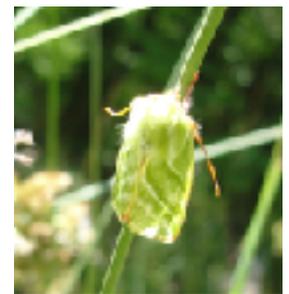
Meadow Brown (2,160), Large Skipper (994), Silver-studded Blue (978), Ringlet (572), Marbled White (297), Small/Essex Skipper (233 - of which 17 were identified as Small Skipper and 9 as Essex Skipper), Silver-washed Fritillary (208), Large White (81), Small White (75), Speckled Wood (47), Small Heath (45), White Admiral (44), Green-veined White (34), Gatekeeper (22), Comma (18), Brimstone (13), Red Admiral (12), Small Copper (7), Common Blue (7), Small Tortoiseshell (7), Painted Lady (4), Dark Green Fritillary (4), Peacock (3), Holly Blue (2) and White-lettered Hairstreak (1).

Results

Week 12: Total - 2,873 Week 13: Total - 6,146 (Figures include exploratory Roe transects)

	Weeks			Weeks			Weeks	
	12	13		12	13		12	13
Acres Down	33	93	Hasley	109	190	Normandy Marsh	45	193
Badminton	41	183	Hawkhill	80	68	Perrywood Ivy	216	306
Barton Common	27	131	Hightown	13	12	Pignal	100	248
Beaulieu Heath	138	67	Holmsley	26	177	Pondhead	29	61
Blackwater	12	88	Ibsley	60	109	Pondhead Wood	47	96
Breamore	255	546	Janesmoor	11	79	Rockford	168	196
Broadley	11	21	Janesmoor Plain	6	55	Roe North	64	82
Dibden Bottom	164	153	Keeping Marsh	14	30	Roe South	35	196
Fields Heath	226	463	Kings Copse	70	143	Standing Hat	26	341
Frohawk	93	610	Lepe	91	180	Studland Common	31	49
Godshill	27	55	Little Linford	25	73	Vales Moor	156	253
Great Linford	11	128	Mockbeggar	387	447	Warren Farm	26	24

Moth to Spot: As we move into July, the Six-spot Burnet (<https://www.ukmoths.org.uk/species/zygaena-filipendulae/>) will start to emerge from its papery cocoons. This is a distinctive day flying moth with long, black forewings each with three pairs of red dots along its length. The pair near the head can sometimes look like a single spot but the two remaining pairs are clear and distinguish it from the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet, which, as the name suggests, only has three spots on the same part of its wing. The underwing is red, so the moth can appear red when in flight but will soon settle to nectar when a quick check can be made on the number of spots. This moth may be seen in good numbers in grassland areas and also, in more modest numbers, along woodland rides.



Green Silver-lines at
Perrywood Ivy
Jacky Adams