

Numbers continue to fall dramatically, with only 1,694 butterflies seen (excluding the exploratory Roe Transects), less than half the Week 17 total. Only three routes had higher counts than last week, with many others well down.



Grayling at Hawkhill
Bob Annell

Grayling are doing very well, but Gatekeeper numbers have plummeted. There are a lot of Common Blue around and the second brood of Holly Blue are also showing well.

Twenty-six different species were seen overall this week: Gatekeeper (387), Meadow Brown (348), Speckled Wood (251), Small White (213), Common Blue (123), Large White (77), Brimstone (55), Holly Blue (41), Grayling (40), Green-veined White (38), Silver-washed Fritillary (30), Comma (18), Small Heath (13), Small Copper (11), Brown Argus (11), Ringlet (10), Silver-studded Blue (8), Red Admiral (6),



Common Blue at Warren Farm
Richard Branch

Small/Essex Skipper (4, of which 1 was identified as Small Skipper), Marbled White (3), Large Skipper (2), Clouded Yellow (1), Painted Lady (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (1) & Dark Green Fritillary (1).

Please don't forget the Big Butterfly Count! Just fifteen minutes recording in your favoured spot. Closes on 12th August. <https://www.bigbutterflycount.org/>

Results

Week 17: Total - 3,861 Week 18: Total - 1,852 (Figures include exploratory Roe transects)

	Weeks			Weeks			Weeks	
	17	18		17	18		17	18
Acres Down	28	7	Hasley.....	58	56	Normandy Marsh.....	58	18
Badminton.....	171	69	Hawkhill	56	88	Perrywood Ivy.....	219	41
Barton Common....	93	24	Hightown.....	46	11	Pignal.....	95	23
Beaulieu Heath	17	35	Holmsley	108	96	Pondhead	43	16
Blackwater	75	31	Ibsley	40	5	Pondhead Wood.....	88	47
Breamore	616	273	Janesmoor	89	26	Rockford	61	31
Broadley.....	43	14	Janesmoor Plain...	50	15	Roe North	104	84
Dibden Bottom.....	30	15	Keeping Marsh.....	24	24	Roe South.....	136	74
Fields Heath.....	190	31	Kings Copse	180	71	Standing Hat.....	108	37
Frohawk	211	54	Lepe	113	140	Studland Common..	107	49
Godshill.....	50	14	Little Linford	65	32	Vales Moor.....	28	9
Great Linford.....	84	34	Mockbeggar.....	265	210	Warren Farm.....	112	48



Small Tortoiseshell at
Mockbeggar
John Levell

Silver-studded Blue, Ringlet, Marbled White & 'Golden Skippers' are now at very low numbers and not expected to be around this coming week.

Moth to Spot: This week's focus is on the Jersey Tiger (<https://www.ukmoths.org.uk/species/euplagia-quadripunctaria/>) - one of the larger day flying moth with a very striking appearance. Almost triangular in shape when at rest, this moth has eye catching striped black and white forewings, with a reddish orange underwing with black spots. Originally seen only in the Channel Isles and occasionally along the south coast, in recent years it seems to be expanding its range. It is still most likely to be seen in the Avon Valley and along the south coast, but has already been



Comma at Barton Common Trevor Bumfrey

reported further inland this year so keep eyes skimmed both on and off transect!