

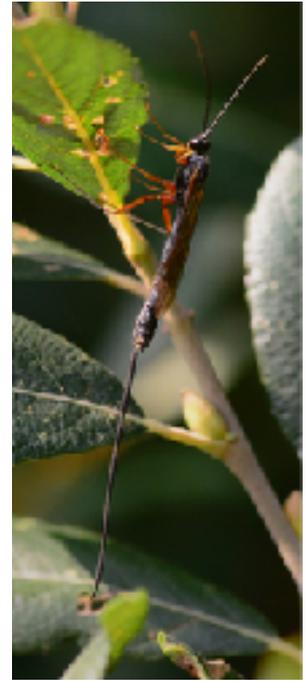
A very strange week! Forget the butterflies for the moment: *Ephialtes manifestator* (a solitary wasp which is a parasitoid on other invertebrates) recorded at Fields Heath, a Pine Marten at Acres Down and a nude photo shoot at Ibsley - who said butterfly recording wasn't interesting?

Total butterflies for Week 23 (excluding the exploratory Roe Transects) was 599 (772 in Week 22), which is 7.52 butterflies/km, a little lower than last year's density for Week 23 (9.22/km).

Speckled Wood have dominated once again, but with far fewer around than last week (294/415). Small White have held their own and the multi-voltine (brooded) Small Heath & Small Copper have done well this week. All of the Brown Argus seen were recorded at Mockbeggar.

There was a surge in species diversity this week, up four from last week to eighteen:

Speckled Wood (294), Small White (88), Large White (42), Small Copper (40), Common Blue (31), Small Heath (30), Meadow Brown (24), Holly Blue (15), Brown Argus (7), Comma (6), Brimstone (5), Green-veined White (4), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Peacock (3), Grayling (3), Gatekeeper (2), Clouded Yellow (1) and Red Admiral (1).



Ephialtes manifestator at Fields Heath Allan Orme

Results

Week 22: Total - 835 Week 23: Total - 658 (Figures include exploratory Roe transects)

Weeks		Weeks		Weeks	
22	23	22	23	22	23
Acres Down	4 3	Hasley	17 22	Normandy Marsh	13 39
Badminton	8 20	Hawkhill	22 14	Perrywood Ivy	9 14
Barton Common	7 6	Hightown	2 0	Pignal	8 8
Beaulieu Heath	12 4	Holmsley	80 52	Pondhead	8 7
Blackwater	13 2	Ibsley	3 3	Pondhead Wood	13 14
Breamore	76 70	Janesmoor	7 12	Rockford	2 7
Broadley	41 12	Janesmoor Plain	19 6	Roe North	48 22
Dibden Bottom	1 2	Keeping Marsh	11 8	Roe South	15 37
Fields Heath	35 16	Kings Copse	18 21	Standing Hat	9 2
Frohawk	6 3	Lepe	16 25	Studland Common	15 16
Godshill	23 13	Little Linford	32 15	Vales Moor	2 3
Great Linford	51 34	Mockbeggar	173 110	Warren Farm	16 16

There will be a Butterfly Conservation stall at the Lymington/Keyhaven Open Day next Sunday 16th September, 11am - 4pm. Please come and visit if you are in the area.



Brimstone at Holmsley
Eric Read

Moth to Spot: Although it's getting late in the season, there are still a number of moths you may see flying, in particular those that have a second generation. One of these is the Blood-vein (<https://ukmoths.org.uk/species/timandra-comae/adult-2/>), a light coloured moth with a distinctive red to brownish line running between the wing tips when it is at rest and a pinky fringe to its wings. It's mainly likely to be seen in damper grassy areas, including woodland rides and hedgerows.



Small Copper at Rockford
Ian Lloyd-Williams