

Butterfly Identification Course (2018):

"Identification of Hampshire's butterflies and day-flying moths"

6 evening meetings (7.30-9.00p.m., 7 Feb – 14 March 2018)

Following the popularity of previous courses, I have decided to offer a butterfly identification course for beginners and those who wish to further their knowledge. The course will focus on identification features of butterflies and day-flying moths, but will also discuss habitat requirements and the status of each of Hampshire's butterflies. A brief introduction to those species not found in Hampshire will also be given. My aim is to inspire you all to go out and enjoy, record, and raise awareness of our butterflies, moths and their habitats.

The course will run for six consecutive Wednesday evenings, 7.30-9.00p.m., commencing 7 February and ending 14 March 2018. It will take place at Shawford Village Hall, just south of Winchester, and close to Shawford railway station. The full course is priced at a modest **£20 per person**, but places are limited to a maximum of 20 people, and must be pre-booked by emailing Andy Barker (see details below). Once your place on the course has been confirmed, you will then be asked to send a cheque made payable to "Butterfly Conservation Hampshire Branch".

I will be presenting most of the course, but will be joined by a number of experts who will give short guest presentations about particular species and their status in Hampshire. The outline for the course is as follows:

- 7 February: Introduction + Whites and Skippers
- 14 February: Hairstreaks + Blues
- 21 February: Purple Emperor, White Admiral, Vanessids + Fritillaries
- 28 February: Browns + non-Hampshire species
- 7 March: Introduction to moths + identification of day-flying moths

14 March: Survey & monitoring techniques + species trends for Hants & Isle of Wight

I shall look forward to seeing you all, but remember that places on the course are on a first come first served basis, so please book early.

Andy Barker (email: aj3barker@btinternet.com)