

Butterfly Conservation
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire an
Isle of Wight Bra**

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[CONSERVATION](#)

[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)

[SIGHTINGS](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

Saturday 31st July

Hilary Higgins reports from Compton Undercliff (SZ370849) where the following observations were made: Jersey tiger moth (1). "Photo available if required (via mobile phone)".

Tim Hampton reports from east Petersfield (SU762232) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "never previously recorded in this very small suburban garden").

Friday 30th July

Mike Wildish reports from Shipton Bellinger (SU 235 455) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (9), Small Copper (1), Small White (14), Green-veined White (1), Large White (1), Brimstone (3), Gatekeeper (2), Meadow Brown (9), Speckled Wood (1), Red Admiral (1), Comma (4).

Mike Wildish reports from Bedlam (SU 245 465) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (6), Brown Argus (1), Meadow Brown (12), Gatekeeper (3), Small Heath (3), Large White (2), Dark Green Fritillary (1). "With Mervyn Grist".

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT, isle of Wight (SZ4190) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (10), Gatekeeper (20), Large White (3), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Purple Hairstreak (2), Peacock (1), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (1), Small Skipper (1).



Purple Hairstreak

Steve Graham of the Yorks and Lancs branch of BC writes: "I have been visiting my in-laws in Hampshire (Holybourne SU 731 406) and took the opportunity to take my Moth trap down with me. Always great to see some of the 'southern' species whilst visiting." Steve has sent in a list of over 40 species of moth including Waved Black, Scarce Footman and Dingy Footman.



Waved Black



Scarce Footman



Dingy Footman

Andrew Bolton reports from Nine Acres Copse, Little Ham Farm, Axmansford. (SU 572608) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (6 "All females, including one Valesina form, going about their gentle, fluttering, investigative activities on the woodland floor. Presumably the males are a spent force already.").

Thursday 29th July

Robert Bryant reports from Abbotstone Down (SU 584361) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "female on ragwort"), Small Copper (6), Meadow Brown (5), Gatekeeper (7), Silver-washed Fritillary (6), Ringlet (3), Green-veined White (4), Common Blue (2), Brimstone (1), Marbled White (1), Small Skipper (1).

Andrew Brookes reports: Mike and Mary Gwilliam were permitted to survey the Defence Munitions complex at Gosport today, finding a total of 282 butterflies comprising 15 species. Bedenham area: Common Blue (78), Purple Hairstreak (6), Gatekeeper (106), Meadow Browns (51), Small Heath (1), 'Little' Skippers (12) and Small Copper (6). In the elm thicket, White-letter Hairstreaks (2) were clearly nearing the end of their season, while at the remote Elson Wood on the harbour shore, White Admirals (2) were still on the wing, if appearing rather jaded.

Andrew Brookes visited the West Walk plantation at Hundred Acres, near Wickham. The site is now being managed superbly by the Forestry Commission; the open, sunlit rides lined with nectar sources such as bramble, knapweed, hemp agrimony and fleabane succouring dozens of S-w Fritillaries, and five White Admirals.

Ian Pratt reports from Bleak Down IOW (SZ511819) where the following observations were made: Grayling (20 "Flying freely in early evening"), Wall (1), Common Blue (2). "On 9 July 2010 Dave Dana saw 29 very fresh and active grayling on the site."

mark swann reports from broughton down (SU291328) where the following observations were made: Silver-spotted Skipper (30), Dark Green Fritillary (1), Brown Argus (50), Chalkhill Blue (10), Common Blue (50). "my first ever visit to this site in less than ideal weather was rewarded with a minimum of 30 silver spotted skippers. also hummingbird hawkmoth".

Wednesday 28th July

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (SU 634114) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (6), Gatekeeper (29), Comma (2), Common Blue (4), Large Skipper (1), Small Skipper (1), Large White (2), Small White (5), Meadow Brown (4), Peacock (3), Red Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (18), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (3), Purple Hairstreak (4), White Admiral (3).

Mike Wildish reports from South Tidworth (SU 238 475) where the following observations were made: Essex Skipper (1), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (8), Brimstone (2), Green-veined White (1), Small White (4), Gatekeeper (16), Meadow Brown (18), Silver-washed Fritillary (2), Peacock (3), Comma (3), Red Admiral (1).

Mike Wildish reports from Furze Hill (SU 244 478) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (3), Brimstone (1), Large White (1), Small White (5), Gatekeeper (6), Meadow Brown (13), Speckled Wood (1), Ringlet (1), Peacock (1).

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2), Comma (7), Common Blue (34), Gatekeeper (18), Green-veined White (2), Holly Blue (1), Large Skipper (1), Large White (19), Marbled White (39), Meadow Brown (23), Peacock (1), Ringlet (26), Small Skipper (9), Small White (5), Speckled Wood (1).

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (SU821602) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "A fairly fresh-looking male, on buddleia"), Red Admiral (2), Peacock (2), Comma (2), Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (2), Gatekeeper (2), Meadow Brown (1), Large White (1 "(probably several)"), Small White (1 "(probably several)"). "Only my third definite sighting of a Silver-washed Fritillary in my garden in 28 years."

gary palmer reports from barton on sea (sz 244 933) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Comma (2), Red Admiral (1), Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (3), Gatekeeper (7), Meadow Brown (2), Large White (2), Small White (2), Green-veined White (3 "all female and egg laying on watercress"). "made a brief mid day visit to a garden in barton and found the above. of note was a silver washed, the fifth such that ive seen in local urban gardens in the last 2 weeks".

Andrew Bolton reports from Ladle Hill, Old Burghclere. (SU477569) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (14), Common Blue (35), Small Copper (10), Gatekeeper (5), Comma (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1 "the most faded, ragged example I've ever seen."), Ringlet (1), Small White (4), Large White (3), Brimstone (2 "Him & her"), Marbled White (2), Small Skipper (3), Essex Skipper (3), Peacock (1 "should have been more"), Green-veined White (1), Meadow Brown (120). "visit curtailed as the weather deteriorated, but it gives a flavour. No Chalkhill Blues to be seen."

Andrew Bolton reports from track to Ladle Hill, Old Burghclere. (SU477576) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from track to Ladle Hill, Old Burghclere. (SU477576) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Speckled Wood (1).

Peter Gardner writes: "my buddlia has started to do its stuff again peacock 4 /red admirals 2 / gate keepers 3 / brimstones 1 / large / small whites hummingbird hawk moth managed to get it, even with it parked [to crowd at stockbridge [a good thing] at 35 dellfield froxfield"



Hummingbird Hawkmoth Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Tuesday 27th July

Lynn Fomison writes: "Today's public walk to Bentley Station Meadow to celebrate Save our Butterflies week was highly successful with 19 species being seen in the reserve and nearby forest tracks. At least 3 sightings of high Purple Emperors (not far from Gravel hill car park) caused great excitement & the many many Silver-washed fritillaries much wonderment. Summer flowers in the meadow were possibly at their best - a lovely time to make a visit."

A Hummingbird Hawk-moth seen again feeding at a Buddleia bush today, 27th July, at Farley Mount. This was my third separate sighting in seven days, on each occasion at exactly the same bush - presumably the same individual?

Andrew Bolton reports from set aside field, Axmansford (SU 568606) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (20), Gatekeeper (26), Small Skipper (7).

Sunday 25th July

Richard Brett reports from Magdalen Hill (SU500292) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (1000 "Multitudes, as every day at present"), Small Blue (1 "Surprising at this time (?), but a fine male happily nectaring on trefoil"), Gatekeeper (50 "huge numbers of these, too"), Brimstone (4), Brown Argus (1). "Chalkhill mating pairs in flight in massive numbers. Some females attracting several males at once and becoming very harrassed and damaged. Groups of twelve or more males congregating on one plant (is this called lecking?) on the bare ground, and scattering suddenly and spectacularly at my approach. Amazing sights! The steep slopes of the original reserve are just a moving sea of Chalkhill blues and five-spot burnets."

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (SU 634114) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (36), White Admiral (19), Red Admiral (2), Purple Hairstreak (2), Comma (1), Common Blue (1), Gatekeeper (30), Meadow Brown (15), Small Skipper (1), Speckled Wood (1), Brimstone (2), Green-veined White (1), Small White (5), Large White (2).

Peter Hunt reports from Walters Copse, Isle of Wight (SZ4090) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2 "One male, one female"), Comma (1), Gatekeeper (20), Large White (3), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (20), Silver-washed Fritillary (3), Speckled Wood (3), White Admiral (2), Dragon fly (1).



Brimstone

Brimstone

Southern Hawker

Mr Krystyan Greenland reports from Private address, Alton. Hampshire (SU714414) where the following observations were made: Large White (6), Brimstone (1), Gatekeeper (2), Holly Blue (1), Red Admiral (4), Peacock (8), Small Copper (1).



Peacock



Holly Blue



Small Copper

Andrew Brookes saw a White Admiral gliding along the beach fronting the Pylewell Park woodland between Sowley and Lymington.

Rupert Broadway writes: "..... a good day for butterflies in our Winchester garden. As well as the "staple fare" of large, small & green veined white, brimstone, meadow brown, gatekeeper, common & holly blue, a single brown argus turned up in the afternoon - an infrequent but quite regular visitor at this time of year in good summers. The star of the day was a tatty female silver-washed fritillary, prospecting the ivy growing up a wooden fence close to a patch of sweet violets, who made herself quite at home for at least an hour, although I'm not sure whether any eggs were actually laid. This isn't normal SWF territory, although we have had a couple of very brief visits in the last 2 years."

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (SU821602) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Essex Skipper (1 "I think probably Essex, but could have been Small Skipper"), Speckled Wood (2), Meadow Brown (2), Gatekeeper (3), Grayling (1), Common Blue (1), Comma (1), Red Admiral (1), Peacock (1), Brimstone (1), Large White (0), Small White (1). "Pleased to see 13 species in my garden this afternoon(and the Red Arrows!)".

Saturday 24th July

Mike Wildish reports from Mark Lane (SU 335 465) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Holly Blue (3), Peacock (4), Small Tortoiseshell (5), Comma (3), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (5), Marbled White (1), Ringlelet (4), Gatekeeper (20), Small White (14), Large White (5), Green-veined White (5), Brimstone (5).

Mike Duffy writes: "Among the butterflies seen this morning at Stockbridge Down was my first **Silver Spotted Skipper** for the year, also seen a Hummingbird Hawkmoth.



Silver-spotted Skipper



Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Paul Brock reports from Stockbridge Down (SU382348) where the following observations were made: **Silver-spotted Skipper** (3).



Silver-spotted Skipper

Ashley Hitlock writes: "Visited Old Winchester Hill today to see the Chalkhill Blue, and the species was out in huge numbers, the down was shimmering with them, especially around the hill fort area facing south west. The numbers were impossible to count, with several mating pairs thrown in. Other Blues seen were the Common Blue and Brown Argus. The Dark Green Fritillary numbered just one, which was a very poor showing. Several Silver-Washed Fritillaries were seen on the Down imbibing on many of the downland flowers. Red Admirals were very common especially on the Bramble and Peacocks and Commas were also seen, alas only one Small Tortoiseshell. The Marbled White is now on the wane and the Ringlet numbered just one. The Brimstone was seen in large numbers along with the Large White and Small White, with good numbers of Gatekeeper and Meadow Brown. The six-spotted Burnet Moth was also common with several females being mated before they had completely hatched out of their pupae casing! Silver-Y moths were seen with one Hummingbird Hawk Moth.

Paul Ritchie reports from Longstock (SU367384) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird Hawk Moth (3), Red Admiral (12), Common Blue (4), Brimstone (18), Comma (7), Gatekeeper (4), Green-veined White (6), Meadow Brown (12), Peacock (12), Large White (7). "Delighted to see at least 3 Hummingbird Hawk Moths among the buddlejas which provided challenging photo opportunities. Possibly more sighted, but they could have been repeats. They certainly provided major entertainment at the Buddlejas & Butterflies day at Longstock Park Nurseries. A wonderful day and well worth a visit."



Hummingbird Hawkmoth Hummingbird Hawkmoth Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Paul Ritchie reports from Peartree Common (SU439116) where the following observations were made: "I normally only record sightings, but after a chat with representatives at Longstock today I was advised to mention my negative search for White-letter Hairstreaks at Peartree Common over the past two weeks. I have noticed sightings from the 26th June posted here and wondered if anyone has had any positive sightings at Peartree recently? I'm hoping I have just been unlucky, but having visited the site every day over the past fortnight without a sighting I wonder about the resident population which has been so reliable up to now."

Gary Palmer reports from Wootton Coppice (SZ 243 998) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (5), Red Admiral (4), Peacock (1), Comma (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (46 "1 valesina"), Dark Green Fritillary (2), Meadow Brown (49), Ringlet (9), Gatekeeper (53), Marbled White (10), Speckled Wood (11), Brimstone (9), Green-veined White (7), Large White (3), Small White (3), Small Copper (3), Common Blue (3), Holly Blue (1), Purple Hairstreak (1), Large Skipper (15 " and lastly small skipper 23"). "met up with the forest keeper Maarten Ledebor to walk the transect, nice array of species around, 21 in all as above. also seen some silver washed egg laying on tree trunks and an egg laying large skipper."



Holly Blue



Speckled Wood



Large Skipper egg

John Vetterlein reports from Southampton Old Cemetery (SU412136) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "*valezina*"). "Seen on transect and egg-laying on thick ivy trunks. Hopefully they will not just be visitors next year."



Silver-washed Fritillary
f valezina

Thelma Smalley reports from Bentley Station Meadow (SU792432) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (11), Large White (3), Small White (7), Small Copper (3), Brown Argus (2), Common Blue (9), White Admiral (1), Peacock (1), Comma (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (27 "+6 off transect. Never seen so many at BSM"), Speckled Wood (1), Marbled White (3), Gatekeeper (25), Meadow Brown (26), Ringlet (20). "While walking the transect I met a BC member from Wales who told me that fishing was his first love. When diagnosed with a terminal illness he put down his rod and picked up his camera to go butterflying. During his stay in Hampshire he found BSM on the website and made his first visit last week. He said when he entered the meadow he was bowled over by the wonderful array of wild flowers with butterflies dancing everywhere. He was particularly thrilled to see a White admiral and so many Silver washed fritillaries. He would like to return next year - this might not be possible, but the memory of Bentley Station Meadow in July will stay."

Ed Merritt reports from Itchen Valley Country Park (SU45881586) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1).

mark swann reports from testwood lakes (SU344155) where the following observations were made: Dark Green Fritillary (1), Purple Hairstreak (12), Essex Skipper (3), Marbled White (2), Small Copper (20), Common Blue (50), Brown Argus (1). "brown argus has again turned up but the highlight was a dark green frit in the meadows".

Friday 23rd July

Piers Vigus writes: "I saw a male Silver Studded Blue on Pitt Down on the 13th July. The specimen was 'boxed' to facilitate close examination and 100% certainty regarding the identification and subsequently released. I am convinced that in favourable years (in weather and size of emergence) this little butterfly is far more mobile than many presume. These 'odd' sightings in Hampshire are repeated in Wilts where a specimen was identified in Grovely Wood, North East of Salisbury."

Tim Graham reports from Ampfield Woods (SU415242) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (1 "On forest track and on oak"), Silver-washed Fritillary (5 "3 male, 2 female. On thistle"), Gatekeeper (9 "Males and females"), Ringlet (9 "Males and females"), Large Skipper (2), Meadow Brown (1). "All seen on 15 minute walk through the woods, along forest rides and clearings."

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "Male"), Small White (4), Green-veined White (2), Large White (3), Chalkhill Blue (400 "including 10 females and a mating pair"), Holly Blue (1), Brown Argus (1), Gatekeeper (18), Meadow Brown (23), Ringlet (1), Speckled Wood (1), Comma (2), Dark Green Fritillary (1 "Female"), Silver-

washed Fritillary (1 "Male"), Large Skipper (2), Small Skipper (4), Six Spot Burnet (28 "including 4 mating pairs"), Cinnabar (5 Larva), Silver Y (1). "The temperature was 18°C with some cloud around. The Dark Green Fritillary put in a brief appearance today as well as a fresh looking male Silver Washed Fritillary which glided past me along a woody area of scrub. As usual Chalkhill Blues were everywhere, my estimate being around 400 based on counts this week. I photographed a female which had an elongated black spot on the underside of the forewing, resembling the more extreme aberrations found on this species."



Chalkhill Blue



Gatekeeper



Chalkhill Blue

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (3), Brimstone (1 "male"), Large Skipper (1), Small Skipper (3), Comma (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Copper (5), Common Blue (6), Brown Argus (1), Speckled Wood (1), Gatekeeper (8), Meadow Brown (6), Marbled White (1), small red eyed damselfly (0). "by mid day in the garden at shirley holms i found the above, of note was a brown argus again for the third year running now, also of interest were several male small red eyed damsels on the wildlife ponds."



Small Copper



Brown Argus



Small Red-eyed Damselfly

Tim Hall reports from Bentley Woods (SU261292) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (2 "One coming to fruit on car roof in car park"), Comma (5 "Coming to fruit in car park"), Gatekeeper (10), Green-veined White (1 "In car park"), Large Skipper (2), Large White (0), Meadow Brown (0), Purple Emperor (2 "One on rotting fruit in car park"), Purple Hairstreak (0 "Aound car park, but very active"), Red Admiral (3 "In car park"), Ringlet (0), Silver-washed Fritillary (0 "inc one valezena"), Small Skipper (2), Speckled Wood (1). "1000- 1400. Cool and cloudy at first, warm and sunny later. Most activity after 1200. Male Purple Emperor on rotting fruit for about 15 mins, 1330ish. I have mediocre photos, a friend should have better ones. Only visited meadow on right of entrance track (1000-1100), and car park area."



Purple Emperor



White Admiral



Gatekeeper

Tim Hall reports from Stockbridge Down (SU375348) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (0 "Including mating pair"), Brimstone (1 "male"), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (1), Small White (4), Meadow Brown (0), White-letter Hairstreak (0 "probable over elms through gate NE of reserve"). "1430-1515 at main site, clouding over. 1530-1600 from E car park, and through gate into lane

heading N. Waited nears elms, where WLH colony believed to be, oneprobable seen in flight. Cooler and cloudy."



Chalkhill Blue

Thursday 22nd July

Mark Tutton reports from Abbots Wood (SU813400) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "very battered male probably my last of the season"), Silver-washed Fritillary (15), Holly Blue (2), White Admiral (7 "one appeared quite fresh"), Gatekeeper (22), Purple Hairstreak (4), Peacock (2), Red Admiral (3), Ringlet (17), Meadow Brown (35), Large White (4). "paid a final visit to Abbots Wood today in the vain hope of finding some last purple emporesses Walked right through the wood to the main car park and back and as I thought - saw nothing. As a final gesture to the season i sat down in front of a large oak where i had seen pe's before to eat my sandwiches at about 2pm. I glimpsed something flying in the gloom under the oak which looked like an obliterated WA but lost track of it. I then noticed it fluttering around a low broken limb of the oak and walked over to investigate a see if I could get a pic. Imagime my surprise and delight when it turned out to be a PE. I assumed it was a female but she was well battered having lost a huge part of the left rear wing - the eye spots obviously saved her skin! It looked like she was feeding on a sap run from the oak and I clambered through the scrub to get closer - impaling myself on an ultra sharp blackthorn spike - but I held firm and got a few [poor!] snaps. As I moved away 'she' flew off over the path slowly circling and as I moved onto the track she flew around me where I clearly saw the purple glint from the good wing that confirmed it was actually a male. To complete an very welcome sighting he then briefly perched on my shoulder before flying up to bask in the sallows. He looked very weak - I would be surprised it it survived another 24hrs but a very welcome surprise. Rubbish picture attached".



Purple Emperor

Ashley Whitlock writes from Creech Wood: "Decide to visit my local wood today to see how the Emperor had fared throughout the season, and after the high winds last week. Started walking through the lush Sallow trees which border many of the small rides, and as I got to the area of the Electricity pylons at 10:45 a magnificent male was seen quatering an Oak, he looked in pretty good shape. The weather was very sunny and warm which aided flying , and again a male was seen close by at 11:00. As I went further into the woods and then up a slope the sallow was getting very scarce at this point. But as I walked down a large ride, a female Emperor just flew out of nowhere and settled next to me in a Beech tree, about 6 feet off the ground and about 8 feet away. She was a magnificent speciman, and she started to wing wave, and was just looking at me. A lovely bit of skirt, she stayed there wing waving for about 5 minutes, and then off she flew, I'm sure she had been egg laying and needed a well earned rest! That was at 12:10 and then 30 minutes later as I was nearing the enterance again of the wood I saw a really beat up old male quatering a vista,he looked as he had been in a shredder. I drove around through Denmead and parked at the other enterance on the eastern side, as I opened the car-door, a female Emperor flew off of a Sallow bush right by the main road.(14:10) Other species seen were as follows:Marbled White (1) Gatekeeper (35) Meadow Brown (10) Ringlet (5) Dark-Green Fritillary (1) Silver-Washed Fritillary (55) White Admiral (15) Peacock (5) Comma (2) Brimstone (2) Large White (4) Small White (15) Purple Hairstreak (40) Common Blue (10) Holly Blue (1) Small Skipper (10) Large Skipper (3)."

Ed Merritt reports from Dibden Bottom (SU396063) where the following observations were made: Grayling (9).

Peter Gardner writes: "a small site own buy h.c.c. we visited it 2004 and found 2 whiteletter hs yesterday there was no sign of them but plenty of pillar damage,there are some very strong elms on the site recordings whites small 3/ large 4 /gv 5 /skippers small 2 / large 2 /gate keepers 4 /speck wood 2 / comma 3 /peacock 1 / common blue 8 /meadow brown 6 / brown argus 2 / marbled white 5 /silver washed frit 2 /



Brown Argus



Common Blue



Common Blue

Wednesday 21st July

Andrew Brookes writes: ""After the Lord Mayor's Show" perhaps, but a minor Holly Blue explosion witnessed in Cosham, Portsmouth, with three seen sparring in one small back garden."

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Painted Lady (1), Comma (2), Gatekeeper (2), Humming Bird Hawk Moth (1 "Feeding on Buddleia").

Stuart Read reports from Knighton (SZ575867) where the following observations were made: Large Tortoiseshell (0). "A very fresh specimen sighted at 7.30 in the evening."

Roger Pendell reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU647210) where the following observations were made: Small White (28), Red Admiral (4), Ringlet (7), Marbled White (20), Large White (7), Gatekeeper (9), Meadow Brown (17), Common Blue (4), Small Skipper (12), Peacock (2), Brimstone (6), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Green-veined White (2), Chalkhill Blue (41), Small Heath (3), Small Copper (1).

Charles Cuthbert saw a Hummingbird Hawk-moth feeding on Buddleia at Farley Mount.



Hummingbird Hawk-moth

Ed Merritt reports from Foxhunting Inclosure (SU38740483) where the following observations were made: Grayling (1).

Peter Gardner writes: "very good day for a stroll along the back lanes and green lanes whites galore/gatekeeper18/brimstone 1/meadowbrowns 20/ ringlets 20/comma 7/red admirals 9/ holly blue 2/peacock 5/speck wood 2/ sts 2/ made a avery pleasant day"



Green-veined White



Peacock



Small Tortoiseshell

Tuesday 20th July

Terry Hotten writes: "This morning I paid a visit to Castle Bottom NNR, Eversley where there were good numbers of fresh Graylings and a few Gatekeepers. Most notable was a male Purple Hairstreak on the ground walking over low-growing bracken. Although I have seen this species imbibing from mud I don't recall seeing any behaving as this one did. It did elicit the interest of a foraging wood ant but the latter was probably in predatory mood and the butterfly returned to a nearby oak. Also interesting is the observation that Graylings respond to the pre-flash from my macro flash unit. I think this is the only species that I have seen react in this way."

David Lobb reports from Lordswood (SU35621836) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (2 "We have a large oak tree 20 feet from the garden and this is the second year I have noted the Purple Hairstreak. Photographed early morning drinking the dew from both the grass and garden shrubs").



Purple Hairstreak

Peter Gardner writes from Old Winchester Hill: "great day but most of the butterflies hunting around for partners to mate with so they would not stay still for very long, but we did our best chalkhill 50plus / marbled white 20 / red admirals 19/ gatekeepers 13 / ringlets 6 / small heath 6 / small skip 12 / brimstone 7 / small white 12 / meadowbrown 12 / large white 7/ comma 5 / common blue 11 / dark green 11 / sts 2 / peacock 5 / brownargus 4 / small copper 2 / g v white 2/



Red Admiral



Chalkhill Blue



Dark Green Fritillary

Graham Dennis writes from Pamber Forest and Silchester Common:

21st June first White Admiral seen

22nd June first Silver-washed fritillary seen, 74 Silver-studded Blue on Silchester in timed count of 15 mins.

26th June timed count of Silver-studded blue on Silchester 110 (15 mins)

27th June Purple Emperor seen, the earliest I've ever seen in Pamber.

3rd July counted 53 White Admirals on transect.

6th July A silver-washed fritillary ab. Ocellata.

9th July On transect counted 217 Silver-washed Fritillaries one of which was a Valesina, 36 White Admirals and 1 Purple Emperor (one other Purple Emperor seen off transect)

15th July Silver-washed fritillary ab. Ocellata

16th July another Purple emperor making this the best ever year here for this species.

19th July On transect counted an incredible 273 Silver-washed fritillaries 4 of which were 'valesina', surely they must have peaked now! 41 White Admirals, and 19 Purple Hairstreaks all at ground level.

It really is turning out to be an amazing year at Pamber Forest.

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (1), Large White (9), Small White (1), Chalkhill Blue (470 "Including 8 females"), Common Blue (3 "2 Males and 1 female"), Holly Blue (1), Brown Argus (2), Comma (3), Peacock (1), Red Admiral (1), Gatekeeper (15), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (19), Ringlet (3), Essex Skipper (2), Large Skipper (4), Small Skipper (1), Six Spot Burnet (64 "including 4 mating pairs"), Cinnabar (7 Larva "on ragwort"), *Pyrausta purpuralis* (10). "Spent an hour and a half at this site this morning where the

temperature reached 24°C. Chalkhill Blues were everywhere but were greatly attracted to the hemp agrimony blooms. I counted 11 together on fox dung and estimate that there were at least 10 Chalkhill Blues flying for every metre square. A good cross section among other species were present, but no sign of the Dark Green Fritillary I saw yesterday."



Brown Argus



Essex Skipper

Clare Dell, Julian Stenning reports from Bramshill Plantation (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Grayling (5), Holly Blue (2), Gatekeeper (20), Meadow Brown (15).



Grayling

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (2), Holly Blue (1), Common Blue (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Red Admiral (1), Comma (2), Marbled White (3), Gatekeeper (8), Meadow Brown (6), Speckled Wood (1), Large White (1), Small White (2), Green-veined White (3), Essex Skipper (1), Small Skipper (2), small red eyed damselfly (3). "in the garden at shirley holms, didn't have time to count but the above were noted by myself during the day, plus first time ive seen small red eyed damselfly on the wildlife ponds."

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (1), Common Blue (1 "Same place as last year - feeding on Clover"), Holly Blue (1), Red Admiral (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (1), Comma (2), Marbled White (1 "A first for us"), Meadow Brown (1), Gatekeeper (1 "Femail - seen in same territory as last year - nr Marjoram").

Andrew Bolton reports from Tidgrove Warren, Hannington (SU527547) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (5), Common Blue (1), Peacock (3), Brimstone (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Tidgrove Warren, Hannington (SU518542) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Brown Argus (14 "freshly out and doing well; including a mating pair."), Brimstone (2), Meadow Brown (3), Ringlet (5), Gatekeeper (9), Red Admiral (1), Marbled White (1), Small White (3), Large White (1), Green-veined White (1), Small Skipper (2). "This is a private site visited with permission."



Brown Argus

Monday 19th July

Mike Wildish reports from Bilgrove Copse (SU 363 487) where the following observations were made: Small White (7), Comma (1), Ringlet (5), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (5), Gatekeeper (1), Large White (1).

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ482908) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Brown Argus (4), Comma (6), Common Blue (2), Gatekeeper (20), Holly Blue (1), Large White (2), Meadow Brown (50), Peacock (1), Purple Hairstreak (6), Red Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Small Copper (6), White Admiral (10). "A walk along the ride between Camp Hill and the main car-park revealed a surprisingly number of species!".

Roger Pendell reports from Alice Holt-Straits Inclosure (SU806401) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (35 "Included 3 mating pairs"), Small White (9), Ringlet (32), White Admiral (14 "included one tatty *obliterae*"), Meadow Brown (3), Gatekeeper (3), Small Skipper (1), Red Admiral (2), Large White (1), Speckled Wood (1), Purple Hairstreak (18). "I walked the main path between 10am and 11.30am. All the hairstreaks were on the path. I thought they were supposed to be in the oaks!".

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "Female"), Large White (2), Small White (13), Chalkhill Blue (267 "Males with a few females"), Common Blue (8 "4 Males 4 Females"), Brown Argus (2), Comma (2), Dark Green Fritillary (1 "Female"), Red Admiral (1), Gatekeeper (17), Marbled White (6), Meadow Brown (36), Ringlet (10), Small Heath (2), Essex Skipper (1), Small Skipper (10), Six Spot Burnet (44), Cinnabar (2 Larva), *Pyrausta purpuralis* (2). "Made my first butterfly trip in over a week following last week's poor weather. The temperature was a hot 23°C, but with a cool breeze which was strong at times. I made a quick survey of the site as my hour long visit did not do justice. A single female Dark Green Fritillary which was still in reasonable condition was found near the entrance feeding on hemp agrimony in between being chased off by male Chalkhill Blues. This was my first positive sighting of this species here. I had caught a glimpse of it on my last visit but could not identify if it was a Dark Green or Silver Washed. A few Marbled Whites were still flying, some with torn wings. Chalkhill Blues were found in groups of around half a dozen on various animal excrement on the slopes, feeding on the minerals.".



Dark Green Fritillary



Chalkhill Blue



Marbled White

mark swann reports from bentley wood (SU255290) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (5 "inc a female egg laying"), Purple Hairstreak (100). "thought yesterday was good for grounded purple hairstreak s but today was superb scores of them on the floor .".

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (SU 634114) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1), Red Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (39 "Several in courtship flight and mating"), White Admiral (11), Brimstone (3), Peacock (4), Marbled White (3), Comma (2), Green-veined White (2), Small White (4), Meadow Brown (40), Gatekeeper (40), Purple Hairstreak (3), Ringlet (15), Common Blue (1), Small Skipper (4), Large Skipper (5).

Andrew Brook writes: "Brown argus butterflies are on the wing now in Hollybank Woods Emsworth. We are currently finding them in the southern area of Hollybank Woods. As they are not primarily a common woodland butterfly we are carrying out surveys to find out if there are any food plant indicators such as Dove's-foot Cranesbil or Common Stork's-bill in the area of these sightings."



Brown Argus

gary palmer reports from barrs avenue, new milton (SZ245956) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "female"), White Admiral (1), Red Admiral (3), Peacock (1), Comma (3), Large White (1), Small White (2), Gatekeeper (3), Speckled Wood (1), Purple Hairstreak (1). "a visit mid day to a garden in newmilton found the above, of note was the presence of a silverwashed female in the front garden whilst in the back around the mature oaks i found a purple hairstreak and a white admiral, all in an urban garden.".

Paul Ritchie reports from Alice Holt (SU802402) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (12). "On arriving at Straights Enclosure at 1.00pm I was amazed to observe at least a dozen Purple Hairstreaks mineralising on the gravel path close to the entrance. I spent a good hour attempting to get some photographs before continuing into the woods. Further individuals were spotted among the foliage along the first right-hand ride and when I did return to the entrance at around 3.00pm there were still a few to be found down on the gravel. A spectacular sight.



Purple Hairstreak

chris piatkiewicz reports from st catherines hill (SU480298) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (4 "mateing pair"), Dark Green Fritillary (2), Brown Argus (4), Common Blue (2), Chalkhill Blue (40), Marbled White (5).

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Large White (1), Small White (1), White-letter Hairstreak (1 "Faded individual - feeding on Buddleia Davidii"), Small Copper (1 "Feeding on wild flowers in lawn"), Holly Blue (1), Red Admiral (3), Gatekeeper (1).

Chris Hall reports from Marwell (SU 50 21) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (77), Meadow Brown (165), Ringlet (21), Speckled Wood (7), Small White (31), Large White (5), Green-veined White (1), Red Admiral (5), Comma (7), Peacock (4), Brimstone (3), Gatekeeper (68), Small Skipper (7 "unable to find any Essex this year"), Purple Hairstreak (8), Marbled White (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (36). "The fritillaries are centred on Horsham and Cowleaze Copses, extending into SU 5022. Had hoped to find White Admiral, which has been reported in the past, but the copses have not been managed for some time and the rides are very shaded. However, I understand Marwell Wildlife has plans to change that."

Sunday 18th July

Sarah Bone reports from Sandy Point, Hayling Island (SZ747986) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird Hawkmoth (1 "On a buddlea"), Gatekeeper (1).

Mark Tutton reports from Whiteley Pastures, Whiteley (SU532097) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Gatekeeper (6), Purple Emperor (1 "female on sallows under power lines"), Purple Hairstreak (10), Silver-washed Fritillary (40 "1 male ab.Valezina"), White Admiral (15), Ringlet (100), Large Skipper (20), Comma (1).

Simon Woolley reports from Winchester College (SU479287) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "A fantastic surprise, and of course new for my home patch. Spotted gliding high over Kingsgate Road, forcing an emergency stop and a mild traffic jam while I confirmed what I expected!").

John Hunt writes: "Bartley Heath very poor earlier in the year. Now compares favourably with this time last year with regard to weekly recordings. Good numbers of skippers and this week 57 gatekeepers, none the week before. 5 silver wshed fritillaries, 4 purple hairstreaks and 12 marbled whites. Total count 228. Also a nice comma, photo enclosed.



Comma

mark swann reports from testwood lakes (SU344155) where the following observations were made: White-letter Hairstreak (1), Purple Hairstreak (50), Comma (42), Common Blue (35), Small Copper (15), Essex Skipper (3), Small Skipper (20), Gatekeeper (38), Ringlet (2), Peacock (5), Holly Blue (7), Red Admiral (12), Marbled White (8), Meadow Brown (100), Brimstone (2), Speckled Wood (4). "most of the purple hairstreaks were on ash along with good numbers on the ground whilst out found a mint condition white letter hairstreak in a maple tree. common blue and small copper were emerging strongly today."

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 284 932) where the following observations were made: Grayling (2), Gatekeeper (98), Meadow Brown (48), Speckled Wood (3), Small Heath (8), Marbled White (42), Red Admiral (5), Comma (2), Large White (3), Small White (3), Green-veined White (5), Common Blue (1 "female"), Small Copper (8), Purple Hairstreak (3), Large Skipper (1), Small Skipper (25), Essex Skipper (13). "a walk around barton common found the above, including 2 grayling still clinging on here. after a short walk to a near garden found 1 holly blue, 1 red admiral, 2 peacock, 3 gatekeeper, 1 speckled wood, 1 comma, 2 green veined white, plus a hummingbird hawk".



Small Copper



Marbled White



Speckled Wood

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Red Admiral (2), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (2), Gatekeeper (1), Meadow Brown (1).

Ed Merritt reports from Gurnetfields Furzebrake (SU375048) where the following observations were made: Grayling (8).



Grayling



Grayling

Ed Merritt reports from North Gate (SU38460466) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (15 "All butterflies feeding from a large mass of bramble to the side of the footpath").



Silver-washed Fritillary

Saturday 17th July

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (35), Dark Green Fritillary (2), Red Admiral (1), Peacock (3), White Admiral (9), Ringlet (32), Meadow Brown (63), Marbled White (15), Speckled Wood (2), Gatekeeper (41), Brimstone

(4), Large White (1), Green-veined White (3), Small White (2), Small Skipper (57), Large Skipper (22), Purple Hairstreak (6). "had a morning walk in the coppice and found the above, some of the species like silver washed and white admiral starting to look past their best, plus the marbled whites and ringlet are dropping off in number, but the purple hairstreak are starting to show well, with fresh broods of whites and peacocks now appearing."



Peacock



White Admiral



Silver-washed Fritillary

Ashley Whitlock reports from Alice Holt Forest. Weather: Cloudy with strong winds, with bright intervals
Temperature: 65f

Goose Green Inclosure Arrived on site at 12:15, and immediately two male Purple Emperors were seen in the car-park vista, both were chasing over the top of the large Oak tree nearest to the roadway. It really clouds over and the sun disappears, and nothing happens for up to an hour. There has been no action at the summit trees. I assume that the Emperors probably left the area here during the high winds we had a few days ago, and have not been tempted back. Or the males perished in the high winds which sometimes happen, being blown off their perches. When the sun did shine again about an hour later, a male was seen in the car-park vista, just patrolling around the tall oaks, and then decided to chase off a Pigeon which was flying over head. At 13:25 (2) males were spiralling upwards and then chased off into the great grey yonder. It was quite windy at times, which really put them off flying. Nick certainly survived the storms a few days ago, as he has definitely changed his perch. He could be seen when he returned back to his perch he was on a small Sweet Chestnut tree, which was in the vista, and surrounded by taller oaks, he was using this as a wind barrier. There was also a smarter male in the vista as well, and also I believed a female. I was proved right as at 13:30. Out of the sky came a male and a female in a tumble down flight, right down the larger oaks into the car-park vista. The female was not interested in the male, as she shot off over to the edge of the ride, and tried to hide in some ferns. The male was smarter than that, and followed her into the ferns as well. This was only about chest height so it was good to observe them. I think the male was holding the female down, trying to get her to submit. Both had their wings closed showing their chocolate and creamy colouration underneath, the female was in pristine condition, but the male looked as it had been through the mill. They were in this position for a few minutes, and the female broke free, but flew only a few feet away, with the male in hot pursuit. He closed her down again, but she was not submitting. He then let her go, and then did a flight of the seven veils above her head to see if she was impressed. She wasn't and he flew off over the tallest Oak tree. The female rested on top of the fern for a few minutes with her wings wide open. She did look impressive, and I did detect a sort of purple tinge on her right wing, but she was a girl alright, but she wouldn't let me get too close, she then descended into the heavens never to be seen again. What a privilege to see this behaviour, it doesn't happen very often, but when it does, it seems to be slightly different every time. At the summit there was one male who flew over the road and perched in one of the Sweet Chestnut tree, but this was the only action at the summit. I left at 14:10, having been on site two hours, with nothing at the summit at all.

Buckshot Hole I arrived at the site a few minutes later, and I saw (2) males clashing over the large Oak in the middle of the site, one of them looked like Nick. I suppose it could have been, as flight time for an Emperor to this site from Goose Green was probably less than 60 seconds. They chased briefly, and then one landed on his perch facing North-East, the other male if he was Nick just left the scene. Maybe he's doing the rounds looking for some action.

Willows Green Inclosure Too windy for this site I suspect, they have difficulty landing on the Corsican Pine in good weather, so with strong breezes they probably gave up on this site. One male was briefly seen as I exited the site Oak edging, but he was not in sight long at 14:35.

Batts Corner Nothing at this site despite there being (2) males being here last week, again probably deserted for lower slopes to get out of the strong winds.

Alice Holt Forest (1) Nothing seen again at this site, which is very unusual, although it has to be said this site is probably one of the highest points in the forest. On a day like today the site just gets buffeted by the winds. I stayed for about 30 minutes, but no action at all.

Robert Guest reports from Bagwell Lane, Winchfield (SU764533) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (2 "Around bramble by the roadside").

Mark Tutton reports from Abbots Wood & Straits Inclosure (SU805414) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (5 "1 female on pines approx 70ft up in Abbots Wood car park"), Gatekeeper (10), Purple Hairstreak (25), Peacock (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (75), White Admiral (25), Ringlet (100),

Large Skipper (10), Comma (2), Red Admiral (2), Meadow Brown (30). "1 male purple emperor, the rest were egg-laying females in sallows".

Chris Hall reports from Eversley Forest (SU 77 59) where the following observations were made: Gatekeeper (31 "thinly dispersed along rides"), Grayling (230 "frequent along heathy rides and in some clearings"), Large Skipper (3), Meadow Brown (2), Peacock (1), Silver-studded Blue (4 "three males, one female around bell heather"), Small White (1), Silver Y (9). "Eversley Forest is forestry plantations on former heathland. In recent years the Forestry Commission have done good work widening rides to allow linear corridors of dry heath to recolonise. These are now well-colonised by Graylings, eg 116 counted along about 1km of the track known as Sir Richards Ride. The total of 230 was of 190 in SU 7759, 23 in 7859 and 17 in 7760, but there are several other rides I did not have time to walk. The silver-studded blue were on a warm sheltered bank with abundant bell heather."

Andrew Brookes reports that Silver-washed Fritillaries appear to have peaked at Boarhunt Woods, where 56 were counted. White Admirals are on the wane, with just a dozen rather tatty specimens seen, likewise Ringlets. Peacocks were seen for the first time this summer, along with improving numbers of Red Admirals.

Graham Birkett from E. Midlands BC writes: "I made a second visit in a week to Bentley Wood on 17th July, it being sheltered from the strong winds we had most of the week and such a fantastic hot spot. The car park was overflowing onto the Switchback with the Emperor's groupies setting up tripods and folding chairs. I escaped into the Eastern Clearing where I saw three Dark Green Fritillaries, one of which was tattered and a second in pristine condition and absolutely beautiful."

Rachel Hardy reports from Abbey Gardens, Winchester (SU48452927) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "Female adult, a bit raggedy round the edges"). "I was in Abbey Gardens at 11am on Saturday with my daughter (Charlotte, 9 and a half months old) in her buggy. Before heading to the swings, we paused by the flower beds to watch a few aeroplanes go over, apply some factor 50+ suntan lotion, share a banana and change her nappy. I don't know which one caused it to descend, but a female purple emperor landed on the changing bag right next to me and tried to nectar on the reflective strip on the pocket! It stayed there for quite a while (I took 4 fuzzy photos on my mobile phone) before it gave up and flew off. I couldn't believe my luck! It beats the pants off the water vole and slow-worm I'd seen earlier that morning. The day before I had stopped dead in my tracks on College Street (SU48292900) as I glimpsed a huge butterfly flitting about in the canopy above my head. The sunlight had caught its wings and it looked like a piece of stained glass window. By the time I'd moved the buggy safely off the road it had gone. I dismissed it. Now I'm confident it was probably (the same?) purple emperor. Lesson learnt: Young children can be excellent tools for attracting wildlife!"

Martin Hampton reports from Havant (SU720059) where the following observations were made: Red Belted Clearwing (1). "perhaps associated with mature apple trees in our and our neighbour's gardens?"

Friday 16th July

Graham Birkett from E. Midlands BC writes: "I visited Southampton Old Cemetery which is a haven for wildlife. It was very windy, but with some sunny intervals. Gatekeeper, Marbled White, Meadow Brown, Small Skipper, Ringlet, Small Copper, Holly Blue, Comma and Red Admiral."

Andrew Bolton reports from Avondale Park, Colden Common. (SU483219) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1). "Two in a week - I can't believe my luck. During one of the few bright spells of the morning, this one flew across a car park while seeing off a small bird, then returned to a perch in an oak. There is a tall hedgerow with some oaks and sallows, however it is a fairly suburban spot in the immediate area."

Wednesday 14th July

Mark Hallett reports from Walters Copse, Isle of Wight (SZ425908) where the following observations were made: White-letter Hairstreak (3), Gatekeeper (20), Large Skipper (10), Purple Hairstreak (5), White Admiral (40), Peacock (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (25), Marbled White (10), Ringlet (10), Meadow Brown (50).

Monday 12th July

Ben Sparks reports from Headlands Activity Centre (SU152064) where the following observations were made: Camberwell Beauty (1).



Camberwell Beauty

Mr Krystyan Greenland reports from Private address (SU714414) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1).



White Admiral



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited several sites in the Meon Valley on the 11 July at Old Winchester Hill, the following was observed Speckled Wood (1) Marbled White literally thousands Gatekeeper (5) Meadow Brown (100)+ Small Heath (35) Ringlet (50)+ Dark Green Fritillary (8) not having a good time on the chalk this year, several Meon Valley sites are all struggling. Silver-Washed Fritillary (1) White Admiral (2) very strange to see this on chalk downland, but in the middle of the site is a large Beech wood and just strolling through it looking up through any gaps in the canopy, I saw these two White Admirals, certainly a first for me over the last 25.Red Admiral (2) Peacock (1) Brimstone (6) Small White (9) Common Blue (2) Chalkhill Blue (3) Small Skipper (100)+ Large Skipper (11) Essex Skipper (12)

New Forest 12 July

Hawkshill Inclosure Marbled White, (15) Grayling (2) Gatekeeper (30) Meadow Brown (50)+ Dark Green Fritillary (34) a bit more like it with numbers. Several females seen egg-laying, actually laying on the very tall grasses, I can only assume the Violets are very close by. I actually went into another department of Hawkshill Inclosure and it was very productive for this specie. Red Admiral (1) Small White (2) Silver-Studded Blue (1) Grayling (2) Small Skipper (100)+ some of the best counts you are ever likely to get at this site with all the grasses, they are everywhere, and so is the Large Skipper with equal amounts of numbers. Essex Skipper (10)

Hatchet Moor Grayling (23) one of the best counts Ive had for years, they seemed to be very common on the burnt area's and the sandy patches Gatekeeper (2) Meadow Brown (10) Small Heath (20) Dark Green Fritillary (3) Brimstone (2) Silver Studded Blue (100+) these were not really obvious they were there most of the time, with such a vast expanse of Heathland it was a struggle to find that amount.Most were very tatty. Small Skipper (8) Large Skipper (10)."

Clive Wood reports from Dongas Reserve, Winchester (SU491275) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (20), Ringlet (18), Gatekeeper (3), Small Heath (10), Small White (7), Meadow Brown (6), Small Skipper (6). "All seen in c40minutes on a fresh, mild day (c68F) and before the recent rain."

Clive Wood reports from St Catherines Hill, Winchetser (SU483279) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (8), Ringlet (5), Small White (3), Meadow Brown (10), Red Admiral (1). "Seen in c20minutes on a fresh, mild (c68F) day. Dry conditions, sheltered site."

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Gatekeeper (1).

Sunday 11th July

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (634114) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "Seen through binoculars, basking at top of Oak above Sallow"), White Admiral (11), Silver-washed Fritillary (8), Ringlet (25), Meadow Brown (20), Gatekeeper (4), Small Copper (1), Small White (1), Marbled White (1), Brimstone (1).

Peter Hunt reports from High Down, Isle of Wight (SZ327859) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (1), Comma (1), Dark Green Fritillary (6), Gatekeeper (2), Grizzled Skipper (1), Marbled White (10), Meadow Brown (10), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (5), Small Heath (4).



Chalkhill Blue



Chalkhill Blue

Andrew Bolton reports from Axmansford, nr Tadley (SU565607) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1). "Superb to see a male Purple Emperor in the garden this afternoon, performing low passes and circling a couple of feet above the lawn and patio. He then briefly perched on the bird-bath just long enough to be admired, but not photographed, before gently flitting off down the garden and out into the wider countryside. This is our 3rd Emperor garden visit in the past four seasons; I'm reaching the conclusion with this elusive species that time is better spent letting them come to us!".

On Sunday 11th July Lynn Fomison reports finding a White Admiral sitting on a tomato plant in her polytunnel. Lynn adds " My garden is about a mile from woodland at Monk Wood & also Bramdean Common & I have seen WA at both those locations. It is a butterfly that is only seen in the garden very very infrequently. "

Geoff Farwell reports from Hampage Wood, nr Avington (SU 538298) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (5 "in semi-open, ash-dominated area with dense shrub layer of bramble and sparse bracken just west of footpath bisecting wood.").

Mark Hallett reports from Mottistone Down (SZ411848) where the following observations were made: Essex Skipper (1), Common Blue (2), Chalkhill Blue (2), Dark Green Fritillary (8), Marbled White (350), Gatekeeper (10), Meadow Brown (100), Small Heath (1), Grayling (70 "in two large chalk pits").

Mark Hallett reports from Westover Down Fiset Isle of Wight (SZ411851) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (25), Small Copper (3), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (5), White Admiral (30), Red Admiral (5), Peacock (4), Comma (5), Dark Green Fritillary (7 "along woodland paths"), Silver-washed Fritillary (8), Marbled White (50), Gatekeeper (15), Meadow Brown (50), Ringlet (300).

David Lobb reports from Lordswood Off Sandpiper Road (SU35621836) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (1 "Seen on several days but not settling for long"), Comma (1 "Fluttering around but then flying off, seen regularly throughout the day"), Silver Y Moth (1 "Came to outside light"), Unidentified Moth (1 "Large very aggressive moth, came to bathroom light - any ideas?"). "I would like to know the name of the large dark moth, very aggressive in flight". (The moth is a Dark Arches - Webmaster)



Large Skipper



Dark Arches

Lucy Gale reports from back garden East Wellow (su 306 188): White admiral x1 "I have regular sightings of this species here at this time of year but only singles."

Andrew Bolton reports from edge of Hart's Copse, Wolverton Townsend (SU 561584) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (14), White Admiral (1), Marbled White (12), Large Skipper (5), Comma (2), Ringlet (60), Meadow Brown (35), Large White (1).

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (2), Red Admiral (1), Small White (1), Large White (1).

Saturday 10th July

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU737321) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (44), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Comma (3), Ringlet (10), Marbled White (57), Large Skipper (4), Small Skipper (8), Common Blue (4), Small Heath (15), Small White (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (2), Brimstone (1), Large White (1).

Barrie Roberts reports from Hinton Ampner National Trust (SU597275) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird Hawk Moth (1 "Nectaring at Red Valerian").

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (6), Red Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (27), Dark Green Fritillary (5), Meadow Brown (46), Ringlet (53), Marbled White (33), Gatekeeper (11), Comma (2), Brimstone (7 "3 male"), Green-veined White (1), Small White (2), Common Blue (1), Purple Hairstreak (1), Small Skipper (28), Large Skipper (15). "a good walk down the main ride in the early afternoon found the above".



Small White



Silver-washed Fritillary



Dark Green Fritillary

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ478908) where the following observations were made: Comma (17), Gatekeeper (12), Large Skipper (26), Large White (2), Marbled White (9), Peacock (7), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (50), Small Copper (2), Small White (5), Speckled Wood (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (8), White Admiral (44), Small Heath (1), Meadow Brown (100), Small Skipper (2). "The white admiral is enjoying an amazingly good season. I've never seen so many in Parkhurst Forest; the butterfly is ubiquitous and I'm seeing groups of three or four together."

Stuart Read reports from Carisbrooke Castle (SZ485879) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (200), Chalkhill Blue (4), Comma (1), Common Blue (4), Gatekeeper (25), Meadow Brown (100), Ringlet (50), Small Skipper (2). "The moats support a very strong colony of marbled whites! In addition to the butterflies listed, I also made a possible sighting of small blue. Has this species been recorded at Carisbrooke Castle?"

While exercising the Westie in the cool of evening, Andrew Brookes was surprised to see a pristine male Purple Emperor on a track at the FC's West Walk plantation near Wickham. It was 7 pm, and the track already in heavy shade. The only other butterfly seen was a White Admiral.

Chris Hall reports from Hazeley Heath (SU 75 57) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (12 "in glades in the mainly wooded central part of the common."), Silver-studded Blue (3 "two males and a female"), Peacock (1 "My first of the new generation."), Comma (2), Marbled White (2). "The silver-washed fritillaries were a surprise as I had not heard of them at this site. They are using grassy herb-rich glades in an area of secondary woodland on former heathland, SU 755582 / 758578. Violets are plentiful. I had gone to check on the silver-studded blue on the northern heath. The serious heathfire of last Tuesday was stopped within the area occupied, so it was good to see three flying on heather adjacent to the burned area (SU 751583), though some eggs were undoubtedly destroyed."

Mark Hallett reports from Freshwater Bay Isle Of Wight (SZ349856) where the following observations were made: Dark Green Fritillary (6), Marbled White (75), Small Skipper (50), Essex Skipper (2).

Friday 9th July

Steve Jobling reports from Bentley Station Meadow (SU792432) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (1). "I think this is a Glanville Fritillary".



Glanville Fritillary



Glanville Fritillary



Glanville Fritillary

Andrew Brookes writes: "Prompted by the reported sighting of a Glanville Fritillary at Bentley S M, I can add that a similar sighting was made on Ports Down by Chris Cobb near Fort Nelson earlier this week. Mike Gwilliam reported a confirmed sighting of a Silver-studded Blue on Ports Down last Tuesday (6 July)."

Trevor Carpenter writes: "2 Purple Emperors at Whitely Pastures today included one very obliging specimen."



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor

Ashley Whitlock writes from West Wood, Weather: Very warm very little cloud or breeze Temperature: 80f. "I visited this site in 2009, thinking it was a good site then with an Assembly point at the top of the ride, little did I know what was in store for me today. I had just been over to Pitt Down looking for the Dark-Green Fritillary, but because of the weather in the early part of the morning, very cool and misty, with very little sunshine. The Dark-Green Fritillary was very hard to find. I left that site about 11:00, having seen about (8) in total, with many Marbled Whites and Ringlets, with Meadow Brown and a few Gatekeepers and Skippers thrown in for good measure. West Wood is on the chalk, so it is very dry, and having parked up and got my gear together, I walked up the main ride, via the small meadow on the right by the car-parking space. There were several Dark-Green Fritillaries to be seen there, and lots of Silver-Washed Fritillaries, and the usual meadow butterflies in good numbers. I walked right up to the large Oak at the top of the ride, having seen a Valezina Silver-Washed Fritillary, my first for many seasons. There was not much of interest at the Assembly point, so I decided to go down one of the side rides, and chance my luck. I got half way down a ride I could see before it bent round a corner, a Purple Emperor was heading up the other way heading straight towards me like a guided missile. He was swaying to the right and then to the left, and when he got to me he slammed the anchors on, and alighted on the floor. He started wing-waving, giving me tantalizing views of his Purple sheen on his upper wings; he started quickly walking over the ground with his lovely yellow proboscis probing into the dry stony gravel. He must have smelt the foxes dropping close by as he hopped on to this and his feasting started. This was at 11:15, and it was very warm by this time, he seemed rather contented, and I just lay down beside him and just watched, he did not bat an eye-lid, (that's if they had any!) He did fly off a few feet away, but never did he go too far, and when I wandered off in the opposite direction, to see where he went, he came after me, and did a quick zip of a figure of '8'. He alighted again and sucked up more minerals on the ground, and quickly went off again, and perched on a leaf on the side of the ride, and then came back down in front of me. By this time I'd espied another down on the ride about 20 yards away, and the Emperor headed towards that one, and flew right over the top of him, not even bothered about him. I saw that this male had alighted on a large dollop of doggy doo's, and he had at his feasting table (4) Comma's which didn't seem to mind, feeding with such a noble butterfly. The Emperor on the dog muck stayed there contented for up to three-quarter of an hour. The other was still about up the other end of the ride, but because of the heat, he did seem to just imbibe in the shadier spots. The male on the dog muck finally left his post at about 12:00 and this male seemed even friendlier, as I had left my camera-bag and jacket further up the ride, and he headed straight for this and alighted on my corduroy jacket. He started

imbibing on this, and then hopped onto my camera bag, and seemed to find all sorts of goodies on the handle, and around the straps. He left, came back, left, came back up to a dozen times all in all. Once they had left and gone into the tree tops, it was about 13:00. About three-quarters of an hour later I saw two Emperors chasing just as I was coming onto the main ride, at about 13:50 one was a lot larger than the other, so I assumed it was a female being chased by a male. They headed over a Hazel thicket, but I never saw where they went. At 13:55 I saw a male searching the Oaks and flying over the ride paths into the many Ash trees. I had been looking at the Assembly point tree, and decided they were late, and I think the heat of the day may well have some part to play in their jolly japes in the tree tops. It was getting on in the afternoon, and I decided to walk into Crab Wood, and I was just walking down a very narrow insignificant ride, hardly any room for manoeuvre as the Hazel was out of control. When a male Emperor alighted again in front of me, this was at 14:00, he started imbibing on dust particles, and then on to the Hazel, which probably had sap on the tops of the leaf. But my impression was, it was too hot, and they seemed to be taking shelter in the ride-side Hazel trees. He sat on this Hazel bush for about ten minutes, and flew off over the Ash trees. All in all I must have seen up to (8) Purple Emperors today. I've been out and about in Hampshire a lot this week especially in Emperor woods, and have seen a marked increase in several woods which normally have very few sightings. This may go to prove that the Purple Emperor is also having a good year also. Let's hope so."

Richard Symonds reports from Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU801400) where the following observations were made: Large White (3), Small White (3), Brimstone (4 "all females"), Ringlet (204 "including a mating pair"), Meadow Brown (54), Marbled White (8), Silver-washed Fritillary (83), White Admiral (25), Purple Emperor (2), Comma (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1 "very worn"), Purple Hairstreak (4), Large Skipper (17), Small Skipper (6). "Observations were made over a two and a half hour period with temperatures increasing after initial cloud cover to 26°C once the sun burnt through. I saw my first Purple Emperor at 10:55 which landed on a sawn tree stump just past the clearing halfway down the main track before the Forestry Commission cabin. It remained for a short period with wings open long enough for my photo! This was followed by sightings at five minute intervals until 11:15 when a male landed on some shrimp currey that a fellow enthusiast baited after I told him where this male had been flying. Further down the track another male was flying at 11:30 and 11:35. A walk back towards the bait saw two further sightings at 12:05, 12:15 and at 12:25 a male landed once more on the paste, but quickly flew to a nearby Oak. It remained on a branch around six feet off the ground for around 15 minutes, with a group of us admiring it. Elsewhere many Ringlets and Silver Washed Fritillaries were flying."



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor

Richard Symonds reports from Goose Green Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU806415) where the following observations were made: Large White (2), Small White (3), Ringlet (21), Meadow Brown (15), Marbled White (4), Silver-washed Fritillary (20), White Admiral (4), Comma (1), Purple Emperor (4), Large Skipper (3), Small Skipper (1). "Observations were made between 1pm and 2pm with the temperature reaching a scorching 28.5°C! Around half the log stacks have now been removed exposing an area of bramble blossom, which was being used mostly by Silver Washed Fritillaries, Ringlets and Meadow Browns. Purple Emperors were very active in the heat with single sightings at 13:05, 13:10, 13:20, 13:30, 13:39, 13:44, 13:45, 13:46, 13:50 and 13:56. Two males were engaged in aerial combat at 13:00, 13:09, 13:13, 13:35, 13:40 and 13:53. Even more spectacular was seeing three males together at 13:36. Many flew over the telephone wires and across the road before returning to the Sweet Chestnut ! tree."



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor

Peter Eeles reports from Pamber Forest (SU614601) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (12 "1 black Admiral, 1 ab. *semi-obliterae* (see photo)"), Silver-washed Fritillary (40 "1 f. *valesina*"), Meadow Brown (50), Ringlet (50), Large Skipper (30), Purple Hairstreak (12 "Mostly flying around the tree tops"). "The briefest of visits to Pamber Forest this morning to walk the dogs. Despite the brevity - some interesting sightings! First off, a Purple Hairstreak literally fell out of a tree to the scrub near my feet - I managed to get a single photo before he flew off. Weird! I then saw a "black admiral" that evaded me, before I then caught up with an ab. *semi-obliterae*, although very very worn! And then I found a f. *valesina* Silver-washed Fritillary, possibly one I saw earlier in the week. As ever, lots of White Admirals and Silver-washed Fritillary to keep me company, along with good numbers of Ringlet and Meadow Brown."



Purple Hairstreak

Silver-washed Fritillary
f. *valesina*White Admiral
ab. *semi-obliterae*

Paul Crook reports from Goose Green Enclosure, Alice Holt (SU806416) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (2), Marbled White (1), Purple Emperor (5), Purple Hairstreak (2), Green-veined White (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (3), Brimstone (1), Speckled Wood (1).



Purple Emperor



Silver-washed Fritillary

Thelma Smalley reports from Magdalene Hill Down Extension (SU511295) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (45), Large Skipper (1), Clouded Yellow (2 "+1 off transect"), Large White (9), Small White (7), Common Blue (3), Chalkhill Blue (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "seen in flight - may have been a Dark green fritillary"), Marbled White (122), Gatekeeper (3), Meadow Brown (144), Ringlet (49). "Had been asked in advance to look out for the 'big frit', was really suprised to see on transect."

On Friday 9th July Lynn Fomison had a Humming-bird Hawkmoth nectaring on valerian - same plant that the Silver-washed Fritillary had been on the previous day.

Owen Leyshon reports from West High Down, IOW (SZ 312851) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (1 "Male fluttering around on the top/crest of West High Down (above Alum Bay Car Park). Went for a short climb and left camera in car. More suitable habitat for (SSB) opposite from what I can see. Can't find any IOW records for SSB, hence the sighting."). "Please feel free to contact me if you require any more information.

Andrew Bolton reports from roadside oaks at Axmansford. (SU 567609) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (21 "Seen on a series of hedgerow oaks at around 8pm after a hot day.").

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (2).

Thursday 8th July

Lynn Fomison was thrilled to see a male Silver-washed Fritillary nectaring in red valerian in her garden today. She adds it is about the 5th sighting in the garden in 25 years. Most of the previous sightings were often worn individuals at the end of the season so this is quite unusual, but nonetheless welcome.

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (SU 634114) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (12), White Admiral (8), Small Skipper (4), Comma (2), Speckled Wood (4), Marbled White (6), Ringlet (5), Small White (1), Small Copper (1), Meadow Brown (5), Small Heath (1), Large Skipper (1). "Short walk along woodland ride at Western end of Creech Wood".

Tony Baines writes: "Rather surprised to come across a very fresh female Brimstone on Odiham Common today. I'm not sure whether it's ever been recorded as double brooded but with the weather we're currently experiencing it seems a bit early to be thinking about hibernation. Commas are also doing very well on the Common with a good first brood in evidence although sadly, for yet another year, Small Tortoiseshells are noticable for their absence at the moment."

Peter Eeles reports from Stockbridge Down (SU379346) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (150 "On every purple flowerhead!"), Gatekeeper (2), Small Skipper (8), Dark Green Fritillary (5), Brown Argus (1), Small Copper (4), Forester moth (30), Chalkhill Blue (2 "Both male - must just be emerging at this site").



Marbled White



Brown Argus



Small Copper

Peter Hunt reports from Parhurst Forest, Isle of Wight (SZ472897) where the following observations were made: Comma (4), Common Blue (1), Gatekeeper (4), Large Skipper (2), Marbled White (6), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (50 "+"), Speckled Wood (2), White Admiral (6), Silver-washed Fritillary (5). "Three commas at the edges of a ever receding forest pond".



Comma



White Admiral

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 248 932) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (38), Marbled White (48), Small Heath (16), Gatekeeper (2), Small Skipper (20), Holly Blue (1), Large Skipper (10), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Small Copper (3), Red Admiral (2), Brimstone (1 Larva), silver y (4), grass emerald (1), water shrew (1). "a walk around barton common and out along some of the cliff top towards hordle cliff found the above."



Marbled White



Small Copper

Andrew Brookes visited a private woodland near Soberton and saw his first Purple Emperor of the season, atop the usual 'master' oak. Also noted was the abundance of White Admirals (21), and S-w Fritillaries (25), and two new, pristine Brimstones. Browns and skippers all but uncountable, and numerous Purple Hairstreaks.

Mark Hallett reports from Newtown Isle of Wight (SZ420909) where the following observations were made: White-letter Hairstreak (2), Purple Hairstreak (1), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (1), Essex Skipper (25), Small Skipper (15), Marbled White (200), Meadow Brown (250), Small Copper (5).

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1).

Wednesday 7th July

Tim Graham reports from Ampfield Woods (SU415242) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Ringlet (35), Red Admiral (1), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (4).

Peter Hunt reports from Walters Copse and Newtown, Isle of Wight (SZ4191) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Gatekeeper (2), Marbled White (10), Meadow Brown (10), Painted Lady (1), Peacock (4), Red Admiral (1), Ringlet (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), White Admiral (4). "A very cloudy day with little or no sun".



Silver-washed Fritillary



Gatekeeper



Peacocks

Mark Roberts reports from Botley woods (SU530109) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1). "male".

Tuesday 6th July

Mark Hallett reports from Woodhouse Forset Isle of Wight (SZ527928) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (9), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), Comma (3), Large White (3), Meadow Brown (250), Small White (4), Speckled Wood (10), Large Skipper (4).

Peter Hunt reports from High Down, Isle of Wight (SZ315855) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Dark Green Fritillary (8), Marbled White (6), Meadow Brown (10), Red Admiral (1), Small Copper (1), Hummingbird Hawkmoth (1). "While watching the Dark Green Fritillaries feeding on giant thistles this HB hawkmoth was quickly snapped doing the same".



Dark Green Fritillary



Dark Green Fritillary



Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Chris Barter reports from Straits Enclosure Alice Holt (SU8040) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "high up in oak"), Silver-washed Fritillary (50 "saw an aberrant form which i will try to download pictures"), White Admiral (50 "i have never seen so many,also saw an obitarae ,unable to get photo of this one"), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Marbled White (3), Comma (5), Red Admiral (1), Large White (2), Small Skipper (20), Large Skipper (30), Ringlet (36), Meadow Brown (7), Speckled Wood (6), humming bird hawk moth (1 "feeding on the bramble flowers"). "unfortunately the silver washed aberrant form was chased off by others! never to return to the area of bramble that had a phenomenal amount of butterfly activity .Also saw what looked like a hornet catch and devour a White Admiral".



Silver-washed Fritillary

Paul Crook reports from Goose Green Enclosure, Alice Holt (SU805415) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (1), Purple Emperor (3), Ringlet (1), Purple Hairstreak (10), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Large Skipper (2), White Admiral (2). "Although a pretty cloudy afternoon, late afternoon sun seemed to bring the butterflies out as all these were seen in a 25 minute spell between 6.10 and 6.35pm. Purple Hairstreaks very active and there could well have been more than the 10 mentioned above."

Michael and Mary Gwilliam – While walking the Ports Down transect today we saw a blue butterfly flying near to the ground and assumed it to be a Common Blue. However, as it appeared to be slightly darker than a male we decided to net it to see if it was an extreme 'blue form' female, having found splendid examples in previous years. In the net the underside did not seem to be that of a Common Blue so transferred the butterfly to a pot. Close inspection revealed we had caught a Silver-studded Blue, a species last recorded on the Hill in 1963 by George Else, while prior to 1890 it was considered to be common. The closest site is probably the Beaulieu area of the New Forest where it may have originated from.



Silver-studded Blue



Silver-studded Blue

gary palmer reports from bentley wood (SU258291) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (5), Silver-washed Fritillary (50), White Admiral (25), Comma (9), Red Admiral (6), Speckled Wood (5), Meadow Brown (40), Ringlet (80), Gatekeeper (2), Marbled White (6), Green-veined White (2), Small White (5), Brimstone (1), White-letter Hairstreak (4), Purple Hairstreak (3), Holly Blue (1), Large Skipper (50), Small Skipper (20). "arrived at 8.45 in the car park and immediatly found a sitting emperor on the ground. after 2 slow long walks around the rides i found the above. having several close veiws of emperors but non would land and settle for more than a few seconds."



Purple Emperor

Ashley Whitlock reports from Straits Inclosure: Weather: Sunny very warm until mid-day cloudy with sunny spells Temperature: 75f I arrived at Straits Inclosure at 08:45 and immediately the butterflies were out in force, with many Ringlets and Meadow Browns on the sides of the rides. But the interest really turned to the main gravel track, which seemed to have a White Admiral imbibing on the ground at every half a dozen paces. It was a wonderful sight to see, with so many White Admirals present, they have really done well this year. We may have lost a lot of the Sallows, but somewhere in the depths of the woodland lies great swathes of Honeysuckle. I counted up to 70 in total which is the highest total I've had for decades, not since the nadir years in Pamber Forest in the 1980's have not counted so many. The proof of the pudding is the fact I counted up to (5) variations these being, (2) male *ab nigrina* and (3) *ab oblitterae*, one was not camera shy, and all were in splendid condition. Also in the ride, up by the first deer look out tower, was (7) male Silver-Washed Fritillaries all imbibing on the ground in a very small area, I've never seen such behaviour. Probably due to the fact the lack of rain has left much of the forest very dry especially in the canopy. These were also counted in excellent numbers, with (80), or so being noted, with several mating pairs thrown in as well. The only disappointment was the amount of Purple Emperors on offer. They were not flying Oak edging or what's left of the Sallows, Sallow searching. I did however have one imbibing on the ground for 10 minutes at 09:45 he unfortunately never opened his wings for me, but a splendid sight never the less. I saw (2) males having fisty cuffs over my head on the way out of the woodland, at 10:15 but they just took off over the canopy never to be seen again. The Purple Hairstreak was at long last making an impression on their numbers, as I managed to count a total of (22) Overall a good days recording in this still splendid wood.

Ashley Whitlock reports from Abbots Wood Inclosure: Weather: Clear skies in the morning very warm cloudy by mid-day Temperature: 75f Arrived from the Straits Inclosure at about 11:00 a 5 minute drive away, and walked along the main ride, and just beside some old log piles, on the grassy verge was a male Purple Emperor down imbibing on, what I'm not sure. Unfortunately he did not stay long, because I had a problem with a Horse Fly, and to get rid of it from biting me, I had to do some anxious arm waving and thus his majesty flew away. Anyway I did see (5) other males all in the main ride, all were Oak edging, and at one time two passed each other very close, but did not take any notice of each other. The other males being seen at 11:07, 11:33, 11:35, and the (2) males together at 11:45. As I left the weather was very overcast, with small intervals of sunshine.

Alice Holt Forest (1) As I arrived at 12:05 to look up and see one male on territory, flying around the Beech tree. 12:10 lots of cover now with very breezy conditions, with small amounts of sunshine, the sun finally came out at 12:20 and then a male was seen doing quick patrol flights. (2) Males were finally seen at 12:23, one male just doing typical 's' shaped formation flying in the vista. There was no hint of any chasing at this point. They may well be doing away from the tree to the south and out of my view. 12:36 there was a clash of two males and they did a quick figure of '8' around each other, but again no chase why? They then settled down on their respective perches again. One male at this time seem to be active doing his 's' flights and then he would settle down facing north. At 12:40 at last a chase was on, maybe they were just sizing each other up? They flew off at great speed spiralling ever upwards, and then back down one on an Oak on the left and one on the Beech on the right as you look up into the vista. It was then that I saw (3) males as two took off to have a chase, one just flew about oak Edging seemingly just letting the other two get on with it. The two chasing seemed to be going right over the tops of the trees and away to the south well out of my vision. The other one left was very active flying up and down the vista. Then one of the males came back there was another chase on, and one male led the chase, and they seemed to swop over, now I really don't know why they do this! At 12:38 it was very cloudy now and I could see all three males together now, and at 12:45 another chase was on, but one of them just hung around the vista...maybe they take it in turns? Good Action!

Buckshot hole Turned up at this site, but there was no real evidence of a male being here...there was but he was on the Corsican Pine trees behind the two big oaks as you enter the site. He was there for one reason I think, he didn't want any hassle from the amazing amount of Great Tit's that seemed to be in the tree. I saw him at 13:00, and he flew out a few times in and around his patch, chased a Purple Hairstreak across the vista, but not a lot else.

Goose Green Inclosure As I arrived at 13:07 one male was seen flying around the car-park vista, patrolling the oak edge, and in the main arena, one male was seen chasing a Purple Hairstreak, at 13:10 The site was very breezy now, with mainly overcast conditions. One male was on the Sweet Chestnut Tree was out and back to his perch again several times he kept doing this. He seemed to have a piece of his

wing missing, so I've nicked named him 'Nick'. At 13:17 the sun shone again and it was very warm, two males were seen just randomly patrolling not very interested in each other. I noted this behaviour in 2009, as I hadn't really noted it before. No chasing as yet, one male settled down on top of the tall oak near the Cherry tree, and the other on the Sweet Chestnut tree. No action in the car-park vista at 13:23 after a short visit. One male in the main arena was out on a random patrol, out over the Sweet Chestnut tree, and went out over the back heading south out of my view. He came back again, and seemed to be bored and fed up. But at 13:37 there was a chase on one male chasing a male much larger than himself. (Was this a female?) They disappeared into the cloudy skies due south. I decided to look at the wayleaves area further down the slope, but I found no evidence of any Emperors today, despite there being (2) males there a few days ago. The car-park vista was very empty, only one male seen right over the far side of a large oak near to the road where he settled down on his perch at 13:50. At 13:55 one Emperor was flying very low, past my viewing area. Was this a female trying to get away from the attentions of the males? Still chasing going on from the Sweet Chestnut Tree, but I had decided to leave now at 14:00 leaving one male flying around the oak edge near to the car-park vista.

Mervyn Grist reports from Linkenholt valley (SU360589) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (3 "positive ID"), Large Skipper (3 "elderly"), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Comma (3), Dark Green Fritillary (1 "underside spots confirmed species"), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Marbled White (4), Meadow Brown (9), Ringlet (15). "Visited this northern area with Mike Wildish en route along the Test Way to Combe Wood".

Mervyn Grist reports from Combe Wood (SU355592) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (2), Large Skipper (3), Large White (1), Small White (1), Small Tortoiseshell (8), Comma (4), Silver-washed Fritillary (2), Meadow Brown (5), Ringlet (9). "Walked through the southern part of this wood with Mike Wildish hoping for a Purple Emperor but none showed."

Mervyn Grist reports from Combe Wood main clearing (SU354595) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (3), Large Skipper (7), Small White (1), Small Copper (3), Small Tortoiseshell (0), Comma (6), Silver-washed Fritillary (5), Marbled White (13), Meadow Brown (8), Small Heath (4), Ringlet (36). "With Mike Wildish. This big clearing has an attractive wood edge with some broad leaved willows however no Purple Emperor showed up here this day. We did find two further west in Wiltshire however. There is a nice chalk grassland slope within the clearing that was enjoyed by the Marbled Whites amid some 300 Pyramidal orchids. Anyone tempted to visit should beware of the vicious Clegs (Horseflies)."

Jim Douglas reports from Stockbridge Down (SU375346) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "seen around 10.30am on left hand track after going through gate from car park on left hand side heading for Winchester from Stockbridge at the wooded area. on holiday from Glasgow area so can't be more specific."). "I met someone at the site who asked me to send in the record of the Purple Emperor as he thought you would be interested to have it. I also have a couple of photographs that I can send to you if you wish. I also had a brief sighting of a Camberwell Beauty at Martin Down on the following day. Unfortunately it was sitting on the footpath and I didn't see it until I was almost on top of it. It flew along the path and then between some bushes where I lost sight of it. Unfortunately I did not manage to get a photograph of it, for which I am still kicking myself."

David W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1).

Monday 5th July

Mike Wildish reports from Anton Lakes West (SU 335 465) where the following observations were made: Essex Skipper (1), Large Skipper (1), Red Admiral (1), Speckled Wood (2), Meadow Brown (8), Marbled White (4), Small Tortoiseshell (6), Ringlet (20), Comma (3), Small White (2).

Peter Eeles reports from Pamber Forest (SU614601) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (50 "Including 2 f. *valesina*"), White Admiral (20), Brimstone (1 "A single male"), Ringlet (40), Meadow Brown (20), Large Skipper (9). "I'm determined not to let the summer pass me by, taking every opportunity to get out! I visited Pamber Forest again this lunchtime in order to find some obliterae White Admiral aberrations that I'd seen in flight on Saturday, knowing that this species is more-easily found nectaring in the middle of the day and afternoon than in the morning. Although I failed in this mission, I did see not one, but two, *valesina* Silver-washed Fritillaries a form that I've never seen in the forest before! This more than made up for the lack of obliterae! Watching this form in flight is quite lovely since it behaves in a slightly-different manner to the normal form, preferring more shady places when flying and nectaring! The first ! female I saw was nectaring and, before I could get a decent shot, flew up into the air to be immediately courted by a male, subsequently landing high in a bush before mating, where I let them be! Fortunately, I found another nectaring not too far away and managed to get the shots I was after! Silver-washed Fritillaries are everywhere in the forest at the moment, but there is a definite "hot spot" where I saw 8 mating pairs in total and the characteristic courtship flight continuously

on display - where the female flies in a straight line and the male repeats a cycle of flying under, in front of, and over the top of the female while showering her in pheromones from the androconial scales in his sex brands (the dark bands on the forewing of the male). I've yet to see any ovipositing females they're clearly saving that spectacle for my next trip!".



Silver-washed Fritillary
f *valezina*



Silver-washed Fritillary
f *valezina*



Silver-washed Fritillary

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Large White (4), Brimstone (1 "Female"), Marbled White (99), Meadow Brown (110), Ringlet (30 "including a mating pair"), Speckled Wood (1), Small Heath (5), Chalkhill Blue (1), Large Skipper (12), Small Skipper (11), Six Spot Burnet (21), Six Spot Burnet (3 Pupa). "A wonderful hour and a half spent at Chalton Down this morning seeing many Marbled Whites. Today was the most I have seen at this site for over a decade, numbers reaching those I remember back in the hot summer of 1995, when I first started watching butterflies. Several were stopping to take nectar from thistles that are growing near the entrance. Saw my first Chalkhill Blue (earliest date I have seen) this year, which was chased off from sight by a male Large White.".



Marbled White



Meadow Brown



Large Skipper

Ashley Whitlock writes from Creech Wood: "Decided to visit my local woods a few miles from Portsmouth, and here are the results, White Admiral (25) this species is doing very well this year, Purple Hairstreak (2) having a lot of difficulty finding this species despite looking up into the heavens for most of the day, Meadow Brown (100+) Small White (3) Marbled White (37) very common in the wayleaves area. Ringlet (100+) Large Skipper (20) Small Skipper ((30) Essex Skipper (5) Silver-Washed Fritillary (17) this species wasn't as plentiful as I thought it would be. Small Copper (1) Comma (8) Speckled Wood (5) Purple Emperor (5) well a possible 5, it was either one flying round and round getting very dizzy or it was a good number out in this wood at long last, as the Sallow is going mad in places, and the Forestry Commission has left much of it where they have thinning a lot of the wood. In one place where I saw the Emperors, they have cut some down where the wayleaves are, and now I can get back into the meadow and observe the high oaks and the other Sallow areas, perfect viewing, and it's here I saw the Males Oak edging and Sallow searching. Males were seen at 10:30, 10:40 11:10, 11:17. and 11:30 reads like a train timetable.

Silford Copse A small wooded area under the giant power cables, with plenty of Sallow about, species seen, Silver-Washed Fritillary (25) White Admiral (2) Meadow Brown PLENTIFUL Small White ((3) Marbled White (50+) Ringlet Plentiful Small Skipper (5) Large Skipper (5) Small Tortoiseshell (1)

Another wood I visited was private, but one Emperor was seen about 12:55 over some high oaks where the highest part of the wood is, and other species seen were Silver-Washed Fritillary ((18) White Admiral (12) Purple Hairstreak (2) Small White (3) Small Skipper (8) Marbled White (25+) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Large White (1) Comma (1) Meadow Brown plentiful, along with Ringlet Large Skipper 95) Essex Skipper (2)"

Mr D W Hunt (BC Member 123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1 "Feeding on Wallflowers"), Small White (1 "Feeding on Wallflowers"), Speckled Wood (1 "Tatty individual feeding on Privet flowers").

Graham Vick reports from Little London, near Pamber Forest, SU622594: Hummingbird hawkmoth feeding on garden flowers in sunshine. First seen this year.

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor Marsh (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (51 "The best site count since regular monitoring began in 1998"), Small Skipper (81 "Probably includes some Essex, but none confirmed"), Brimstone (1 "pristine butterfly, colour vivid"), Small White (3), Purple Hairstreak (5), Common Blue (4), Silver-studded Blue (7), Comma (3), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Speckled Wood (1), Grayling (2 "The first of the summer here."), Gatekeeper (1 "The first of the summer here."), Meadow Brown (415), Ringlet (32 "The best Eelmoor count for eight years."), Six-spot Burnet (33), Brown Hawker (1).

Clive Wood reports from Dongas Reserve (St Catherines Hill) (SU491275) where the following observations were made: Ringlet (9), Marbled White (16), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Meadow Brown (3). "A warm, fresh day with a moderate breeze. The Dongas are part of the St Catherines Hill nature reserve managed by the Hampshire and IoW Wildlife Trust albeit separated from St Catherines Hill itself by the M3 Twyford cutting!"

Clive Wood reports from St Catherines Hill (behind Garnier Rd carpark) (SU483279) where the following observations were made: Ringlet (6), Marbled White (7), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Meadow Brown (2). "This is part of the reclaimed A33 at the foot of St Catherines Hill, Winchester."

Stephen Jones reports from Holmsley Inclosure (SU479298) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (3), Comma (2), Ringlet (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (1).

Martin Hampton reports from Petersfield Heath (SU756230) where the following observations were made: Large Skipper (3), Marbled White (7), Meadow Brown (8), Ringlet (4).

Andrew Bolton reports from Browninghill Copse, Baughurst. (SU 592596) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (5 "Astonishing considering there is only about 1Ha. of suitable habitat! Shows how well the species is doing this year."), Silver-washed Fritillary (3).

Sunday 4th July

Paul Beevers reports from Cliddesden, RG25 2JQ (SU4729) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (5 "RG25 2JQ feeding mostly on Lavender"), Meadow Brown (2).

Steve Keen reports from Five Thorns Hill (SU2701) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (600), Meadow Brown (2), Common Heath (2). "Without doubt the blues were grossly underestimated; only only able to count those in flight or within about 3 metres of paths, in a stiffening breeze, and not unreasonable to assume at least three times as many were present. At least 450 were along a 100 metre stretch of path at about SU272017."

Steve Keen reports from Hinchleslea Moor (SU2601) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (75), Small Skipper (4), Small Heath (6), .

Peter Gardner reports from Whitely Enclosure: "AM with a lot people jogging/ dog walking/ cycling /ashly [camera.] silver washed/white admirals/ringlets/meadow browns/small and large/ all in very good numbers ,we tried to count them but had to give up due to size of paper comma 2 red admiral 1"



Green-veined White



Silver-washed Fritillary



Small Skipper

Trevor Carpenter writes: "Spent some time in Whiteley Pastures in the middle of the day where butterfly numbers were very good with Silver Washed and White Admiral being very abundant. I was lucky enough to get some nice shots of a very beautiful valezina, a rare sighting for me. Many of the SWs had only one thing on their mind with a lot of copulation going on much in mid air. One pair I photographed from different angles show an interesting variation on the colour of the wings as the light caught it at a slightly different angle."



Silver-washed Fritillary
f valezina



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary

Mark Hallett reports from Walters copse Isle of Wight (SZ432905) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (65 "a great year several groups of upto 10 feeding on bramble."), Silver-washed Fritillary (17 "inc 1 *valezina*"), Large Skipper (4), Large White (1), Marbled White (5), Meadow Brown (50), Peacock (2), Red Admiral (3), Ringlet (10), Speckled Wood (25).

Tim Graham reports from Alresford (SU584316) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird hawkmoth (1).

Paul Crook reports from Ludshott Common (SU849358) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (1 "Hard to find them here in 2009/10 but one very won specimen"). "No other butterflies flying but Wood Larks in evidence nesting on the ground (anyone going there please take care as there are several species likely to be nesting there)".

Martin Hampton reports from east Petersfield (SU762232) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1 "feeding on Lavendar in my mum's garden").

Philip Osso reports from Straits Enclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Long-tailed Blue (1 "feeding on bramble 6 " off ground. 150 - 200 yards in"). "Habitat:- woodland ride. The butterfly was on the east side around 150 - 200 yards in from the Straits Enclosure carpark / forestry commision's entrance. Ther were lots of vetch plants as well as bramble on which the butterfly was feeding. The previous week (27th june I had seen common blue there and it was through looking for them that I saw the long-tailed Blue".



Long-tailed Blue



Long-tailed Blue

Andrew Bolton reports from Ewhurst Park, Ramsdell (SU 581574) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (4), Silver-washed Fritillary (5), Comma (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Marbled White (4), Large Skipper (7), Small Skipper (5), Ringlet (54), Large White (8), Small White (1).

Saturday 3rd July

Paul Beevers reports from Cliddesden (SU479298) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1 "Garden of RG25 2JQ 09:45").

Roger Pendell reports from Petersfield Heath (SU755229) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (7), Essex Skipper (3), Marbled White (20), Brimstone (1), Meadow Brown (18), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Green-veined White (2), Large White (1), Large Skipper (4), Ringlet (4), Speckled Wood (2).

Barry Collins writes: "Another cycle ride around the tracks this morning and stopping at various locations in Havant Thicket (SU710110).Produced the following butterflies 9 White Admiral,14 Silver-washed Fritillary,1 Red Admiral,1 Large White,2 Common Blue,2 Comma,92 Marbled White,58 Ringlet,several Large Skippers,8 Small Skippers and numerous Meadow Browns. Also 7 Broad-bodied Chasers,2 Emperors,4 Large Red and numerous Azure Damsel fly."

David Nordell reports from Rew Down (SZ537775) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (40), Meadow Brown (20), Large Skipper (8), Small Heath (10), Large White (2), Comma (1), Peacock (1), Common Blue (4). "Marbled White numbers looking very good 40+ in quite a small area, still awaiting first Chalkhill Blue."

Stuart Read reports from Parkhurst Forest (SZ477913) where the following observations were made: Comma (7), Gatekeeper (2 "first of the summer"), Large Skipper (27), Large White (3), Marbled White (8), Meadow Brown (100), Silver-washed Fritillary (7), Peacock (1), Red Admiral (2), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Small White (2), Speckled Wood (4), White Admiral (43 "a record count!"), Ringlet (50 "estimate").

Graham Vick reports from Pamber Forest (SU6161) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "Male- flying low above main ride (south of Silchester Brook)"), Silver-washed Fritillary (0 "Large numbers - all fresh"), White Admiral (0 "Large numbers - all fresh"), Ringlet (0), Meadow Brown (0), Speckled Wood (0). "Very good showing also of Cordulegaster, both Calopteryx species (virgo on brook, splendens on east side of forest), Cordulia aenea, Libellula depressa, Aeshna grandis."

Mark Pike writes: "Rather than just put down the numbers I thought I would email you to report the incredible sight of at least 500-600 (probably more) Silver Studded Blues in and around the Beaulieu Road Railway Station area. Both sides of the railway, at Black Down (GR SU34893007177) and even more at SU 3457307077 & SU3461306761. There were literally clouds of them in places. I have personally never seen so many, lots of very fresh ones and a few worn specimens. Also many (30-40) Large Skippers and also around 20-25 Small Heaths."

Richard & Julia Coomber reports from Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt (SU8040) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (3), Purple Hairstreak (4), White Admiral (15).



Purple Emperor

Alan Thornbury reports: A walk in East Gosport this afternoon produced the fleeting decent on to bramble of a White-letter Hairstreak from nearby Elms. Earlier in the week I had confirmed the presence of White-letters in the Monks Walk area, when 3-4 were observed flying around the tops of Elms. It was my first reasonable photo opportunity in 6 years for this camera shy species!



White-letter Hairstreak

Jonathan Mercer reports: "50+ Silver-studded Blues nr Shatterford car park today, also an Essex Skipper. At Slufter's Pond - a Grayling. At Crockford Bridge - 10+ Silver-studded Blues and a Dark Green Fritillary."



Silver-studded Blue



Silver-studded Blue



Grayling

gary palmer reports from wootton coppice (sz 243 998) where the following observations were made: Silver-washed Fritillary (15 "3 female"), Dark Green Fritillary (3 "2 female"), Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (1 "male"), White Admiral (8), Red Admiral (1), Speckled Wood (2), Ringlet (46), Meadow Brown (33), Marbled White (28), Gatekeeper (2), Small White (2), Large Skipper (31), Small Skipper (48). "mid day in wootton coppice and things were buzzing, although the species count is still low, the numbers in the species present are rising nicely. dark green frit females particularly darkly marked uppersides but as they kept well hidden for most of the time in the shade of the bracken and bramble i couldn't get a good shot."



Dark Green Fritillary



Gatekeeper



Silver-washed Fritillary

Peter Hunt reports from Firestone Copse, Isle of Wight (SZ546924) where the following observations were made: Comma (4), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (20), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Large Skipper (4), White Admiral (10), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), Large White (1).



Comma



Peacock



White Admiral

On 3 July, Andrew Brookes led a butterfly walk through a private woodland near Wootton, IOW, on behalf of owners the People's Trust for Endangered Species. Newly created coupes in the high oak forest contained almost as many White Admirals as Meadow Browns. Tally: Large Skipper (2), Large White (2), White Admiral (38), Red Admiral (1), S-w Fritillary (15), Speckled Wood (5), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (40), Ringlet (20).

Andrew continued south to America Wood after lunch, but found the site overrun with head high bracken, and only a Red Admiral and Large White were seen. Stopping briefly at Combley Great Wood on the return to Fishbourne, he found White Admiral (5, inc. one nectaring on hogweed), and S-w Fritillary (5), Comma (2), Red Admiral (1), and Meadow Brown (12).

Natalie Rogers reports from Ambleside, Botley, Hampshire (SU499122) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (1 "Came into conservatory to rest for 1 minute then flew off again").

Mr D W Hunt (BC123210) reports from Our Garden in Stubbington (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1), Comma (1). "A very slow start to this season for Butterflies in the garden. Other species have done well - e.g. Grasshoppers, Ladybirds, Crickets etc. Was hoping that this would improve when the Buddleias flowered, but the David's are now in flower and still very few sightings. Also, some butterflies which seemed to be resident last year have been seen only once e.g.- Meadow Brown and Common Blue."

Ashley Whitlock reports from Abbots Wood Inclosure: Weather: Very warm with good spells of sunshine Temperature: 75f Now the Straits Inclosure is now not as good as it has been with many of the ride side Sallows being felled during the winter of 2009, I'm now going to this site Abbots Wood Inclosure which is just over the road. Although this isn't an Assembly point, it's probably the last stop before the Emperors disappear up to the Alice Forest (1) area. There is a lot of Sallow in this wood, and there have been good reports of Emperors in this part of the wood. I visited this wood the day before 2 July and saw (2) in a ride flying around a large prominent Oak, where I saw one last year in 2009. However today being better weather there wasn't any ...how typical is that? I did see one in the main ride which flew right past me at 11:15, and began to fly round the edge of the Oak and then a bit further up I saw one Sallow searching at 11:50, in a an area which is has been clear felled on one side. So to see (4) in two days isn't bad, but I

suspect I haven't found the best part of this wood yet. It lies on a cross path between Straits Inclosure and Alice Holt Forest (1).

Alice Holt Forest (1) Arrived at ALHF (1) at 12:15 the weather was warm and sunny, and almost immediately there was a male on station, doing the usual 's' shaped pattern flight over the top of the oak. I saw him perch on a sprig of the Oak and I looked at him through my binoculars, he was sitting wings folded, looking north. He flew off again for a short patrol at 12:18, but despite the weather, there wasn't a lot of action. Then at 12:27 there was (2) males chasing round and round, but they soon returned back to their respective perches, although I only saw one return. This male did little random patrols, but there were never two together.

At 12:37 there was again (2) males chasing, but I never saw where the other one was coming from, then I saw another as these two were getting engaged, so there was (3) males, at this high point. Two minutes later there was still two males chasing, so this chase was quite long, compared with some I've seen over the few years. One of the males seemed to be disappearing over the back of one of the high oaks. I left the site at 12:45

Buckshot Hole Nothing seen at this site despite one being seen on the previous day.

Goose Green Inclosure As I arrived I saw a male very low down flying in and around the wood piles...was this the same male I had seen the previous day? He never hung around though, which makes me think he probably was... not that Whitlock geezer again. One male was seen patrolling over the road and back. The site has a very distinct woody smell about it now. One male was seen settling on the small Beech tree, and one on the large Oak tree. At 13:30 they both left their respective perches at the same time, and both flew aimlessly around both flew quite close to each other, but they didn't seem interested in a chase. I then wandered down to the car-park vista and was pleasantly surprised to find one in the actual vista, and one oak edging around the larger oak tree at 13:35. I looked up at the Wayleaves area and there were (2) males chasing, so there was at least (4) males on site now. They both split, one utilising the Sweet chestnut tree, and the other using the small Beech tree. At 13:45 the two in the car-park vista gave chase, straight over the road, over the posh houses, and back again, following the oak line of the biggest tree in the vista...some chase. They split up one settled on the oak in the vista facing east and the other facing north on the more predominant tree. At 13:50 one of the males in the vista keeps coming out and looking for the other male for a chase... At 13:55 I decided to walk further down the wayleaves area, and to my surprise I saw a male flying around a predominant oak tree which is just to the west of the main arena. I looked at him and when he settled down on his perch he faced west with his wings closed. I noticed when the sun went in briefly he unfolded his wings, in the typical pose on the edge of an Oak leaf. I started to leave the area, and then I noticed there were two down at this point, so there could well be (6) on station. One male was seen settle over the road on a small Sweet Chestnut Tree, while the other settled down on his oak sprig. I left then at 14:05

Ed Merritt reports from Testwood Lakes (SU34511553) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1 "Found at the edge of the gravel track, at ground level, near Testwood Lakes education centre").



Purple Hairstreak



Purple Hairstreak

Andrew Bolton reports from Nine Acres Copse, Little Ham Farm, Axmansford. (SU 572608) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (9), Comma (2), Large Skipper (1), Marbled White (1), Meadow Brown (3), Ringlet (7). "Thinning & ride widening work has really increased the butterfly numbers in this copse, which previously held little except Speckled Woods."

Friday 2nd July

Peter Gardner reports: 1st Alice Holt 3 purple emperors flying high thanks Mathew onto Straits enclosure [great] silver washed 39 white admiral 20 comma 4 ringlet 25 large skip 21 meadow brown 21 speck wood 10 small skip 1 red admiral 1



White Admiral



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary

Robert Callf reports from: Osborne House, White Admiral "One seen in flight and settled near the Swiss Cottage at 14:30 BST."

Robert Bryant reports from Micheldever Wood (SU 529363) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "Male basking on path - my first sighting of the season."), White Admiral (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (7), Comma (1), Ringlet (30), Speckled Wood (7), Small Skipper (7), Marbled White (7 "along the broad, grassy coronation ride."), Meadow Brown (1), Burnet moth (5), Large Emerald (0).

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Today was one of those days you dont get very often, as today I visited the Alice Holt Complex, even with the dull and overcast conditions there was a lot of activity about. There was a lot of White Admirals flying about, especially towards the west of Straits Inclosure. Here in this part of the wood there is still reasonable stands of Sallow, and its here I saw my first Purple Emperor at 0845, when the sun briefly came out, a bit like the Emperor really, just a brief glimpse. Other species seen were good numbers of Silver-Washed Fritillaries (47) and the White Admiral ((60) and one of these was a Black Admiral. Other species of note were Large Skipper (6) Ringlet 100+ and the Meadow Brown 100+ Red Admiral (3) Purple Hairstreak (6) Green-Veined White (1) Speckled Wood (2) Marbled White (20) Small Skipper (3). I then went onto Abbotts Wood Inclosure over the road from the Straits. Here in a glade where there is a large Oak and smaller stands of Oak trees I saw (2) Emperors cavorting around the top of the crown of the Oak, and then they zoomed in and out and just above my head they sped away, I dont know where they were going could have been to ALHF(1) as it was 11:55. At 12:15 I arrived at Alice Holt Forest (1), and it took a little while to see my first Emperor on station, but they were here nether the less, I saw them chasing each other, and they were not bothered about the coller breezy conditions. I saw (2) in the three quarter of an hour II was there. I also saw one on station at Buckshot Hole he wasnt very active, probably because he was on his own, and only had the odd passing pigeon to bother. At Goose Green at 13:17 there were two males seen on station, one on the Sweet Chestnut Tree, and one on the large Oak. There was also a male imbibing on the ground, it must have bee attracted to the many bits of timber scattered across the ground, as the pungent small of wood sap is very distinct. He stayed on the ground a good 20 minutes. He wasnt bothered by an audience, and certainly not me and my camera. I even picked him up but he did'nt like that, and just flew away, he did circle a few times and threatened to land again, but he went up into the Cherry tree nearby. There was (3) males on station by this time, as they were all chasing each other down the wayleaves at about 14:00. At no time did I see any in the car-park vista. I stayed uuntil 14:45 and left as the sun disappeared again."

gary palmer reports from shirley holms heath (sz 296 986) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (200), Large Skipper (6), Small Heath (8), Meadow Brown (9), purple-bordered gold moth (1 "nationally scarce b"). "an hour spent on the heath found numbers of silver studded into the hundreds, with about a quarter being female, but only a couple of mating pairs found."



Purple-bordered Gold



Silver-studded Blue

David Walton reports from Crookham Village (SU794525) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (7 "Within 50m distance"). "Had noticed the odd small tortoiseshell in my garden, first for several years. Located this concentration about 100m away".

Ashley Whitlock reports from Alice Holt Forest (1): Weather: Overcast & Muggy few bright spells, Windy at times Temperature: 70f The second visit at this site in a week, and arrived at 12:30 and a male was seen at the beginning of the visit, on patrol but wasn't in view very long. Not much activity due to the weather conditions At 12:40 there was a brief spell of sunshine, and a male was off his perch doing the typical 's' shaped formation flying. At 12:42 there were (2) males seen, both joined in battle, spinning round and round and then a straight chase up over the crowns of the tallest oak. One was then seen patrolling the tallest Oak stands, then the sun went in and that was that! The wind was getting quite strong, and a brief interlude with a male doing quick random patrols. I never found out where the other male was on station... The wind was blowing from the southerly direction, and at least it was warm. This site is now becoming very closed in with many of the Oak stands now spoiling the view, it must have a small trim in and around the area to keep the vista open for good viewing. Must bring in some loppers and an Exstention ladder.....
Buckshot Hole One male seen on territory at 13:15, not patrolling, just in and out of the tall oak briefly.

Thursday 1st July

Peter Eeles reports from Pamber Forest (SU615601) where the following observations were made: White Admiral (25), Silver-washed Fritillary (40), Green-veined White (4), Large Skipper (10), Small Skipper (4), Brimstone (1 "Male"), Comma (4), Speckled Wood (3), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Ringlet (30), Large White (1 "Male"), Purple Hairstreak (1 "A deformed female!").



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary



White Admiral

Lynn Fomison reports that at Magdalen Hill Down Original Patrick Fleet saw a **Chalkhill Blue** whilst working & at Yew Hill Brian Fletcher saw one on transect.

Richard Hallett reports from Beacon Hill Nature reserve (SU602224) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (44 "Many more in flight"), Ringlet (23), Meadow Brown (17), Small Skipper (6), Large Skipper (5), Small Heath (5), Red Admiral (2), Small Tortoiseshell (1). "Dry but windy conditions not good for small species. I counted along the path only on the outward walk. Many more of the larger species were in flight."



Ringlet



Large Skipper

Roger Pendell reports from Crockford (New Forest) (SZ350989) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (48), Large Skipper (3), Meadow Brown (7), Dark Green Fritillary (7), White Admiral (1), Small Heath (6).

Richard Symonds reports from Straits Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU801400) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (1), Meadow Brown (84), Ringlet (139), White Admiral (53), Silver-washed Fritillary (110 "Two mating pairs"), Purple Emperor (1), Comma (2), Large Skipper (29), Small Skipper (9), Essex Skipper (3). "I spent just over two and a half hours walking around the main tracks where the temperature reached 24°C. A fellow lepidopterist commented that he had seen a single Purple Emperor near to where the track descends to the Forestry Commision generator cabin. We reached the spot and after a few minutes a single male flew down from the trees. It circled us, just a foot away from us a few times before returning to its lofty heights. A pity it did not settle! Another significant sighting was of a male Silver Washed Fritillary where on each wing there was a small patch of white

colouration on the ground colour. I met Matthew Oates who mentioned ! that it was a pathological condition which is infrequently encountered."



Silver-washed Fritillary



Silver-washed Fritillary



White Admiral

Richard Symonds reports from Goose Green Inclosure, Alice Holt Forest (SU806415) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (3). "I spent around half an hour, watching up to three Purple Emperors flying and chasing each other around the large and small Sweet Chestnut trees. One did fly within a few feet of the ground before returning to the trees. It may have been attracted by the smell of sap from the log stacks. I managed some distant photos where wing patterns can be recognised. Flying and landing on the log stacks was the impressive large ichneumon fly *Rhyssa persuasoria*, which is a parasite of the Giant Wood Wasp."



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor



Purple Emperor

gary palmer reports from becton bunny (sz 253 927) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1), Small Skipper (2), Meadow Brown (2). "a short walk into becton bunny found the above".

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 248 932) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (39), Meadow Brown (36), Marbled White (57), Small Skipper (28), Large Skipper (5), Speckled Wood (2), Common Blue (1), Red Admiral (1), Brimstone (1 Larva), brown silverline (1), hummingbird hawkmoth (1), silver 'y' moth (5). "a good long walk around the common found my best count of marbled white which seemed everywhere, but for the second year running a crash in the large skipper numbers."



Brimstone larva



Marbled White



Small Skipper

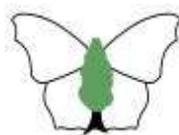
Matthew Oates writes: "Visited Straits Inclosure and Goose Green Incl, Alice Holt, on Thurs 1st. In 3 hours I managed only 3 PE in Straits, which is less than I'd expected - even though the main breeding ground had been ripped out in Feb. Numbers were quite impressive at Goose Green Old Car Park, where I saw 5 males in a vista - which is good for this early in the season. Back in the Straits, I saw 4 'black admirals', including one which was probably a full *nigrina*. This is the highest number of WA abs seen on a single day in Straits in 36 year's recording. WA numbers were terrific, probably the best show there since 1977. Fantastic! This looks like a Great WA year. SWF was also impressive, but all were type specimens. A lot of females, and 11 mating pairs."

Anne McCue reports from Browdown North (SZ582997) where the following observations were made: **Grayling** (1). "Spotted during a late afternoon walk in a gully on their usual heath area that suffered a fire late in 2009".

Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)
Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209
Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)



Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[HOME](#)
[ABOUT US](#)
[EVENTS](#)
[CONSERVATION](#)
[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)
[SIGHTINGS](#)
[PUBLICATIONS](#)

Tuesday 31st August

Barry & Margaret Collins report: "Humming-bird Hawk-moth in our front garden this morning at Leigh Park (713089) nectaring on buddleia."

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Gatekeeper (26), Brown Argus (1 "First sighting at this site"), Common Blue (73), Holly Blue (1), Large White (20), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (19), Ringlet (2), Small Copper (2), Small White (17), Green-veined White (8).

Monday 30th August

David Lobb reports from Lordswood (SU35621836) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1), Holly Blue (3 "Nectaring on Sedum Spectabile"), Small White (1), Painted Lady (1), Hummingbird Hawk Moth (1 "Quick visit to garden late afternoon"), Elephant Hawk Moth (2 Larva "Rather small for time of year? around 5cm. Found in long grass/wild flowers which I had left to develop").



Elephant Hawkmoth



Speckled Wood

Richard Symonds reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU645211) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (2), Large White (9), Small White (10), Brimstone (2 "1 Male 1 Female"), Chalkhill Blue (60 "39 Male 21 Female"), Common Blue (8 "6 Male 2 Female"), Holly Blue (2), Brown Argus (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Meadow Brown (159), Small Heath (43), Speckled Wood (4), Silver-spotted Skipper (6 "All males"), Dingy Footman (1), Humming-bird Hawk-moth (1), Vapourer (1). "A sunny morning was spent completing a circular walk around the site. Despite the clear skies and sun (which became more cloudy towards 12:30am), the temperature reached only 15°C due to some strong gusts of wind. My aim was to see Silver Spotted Skippers, of which I discovered 6 males distributed around the site. Chalkhill Blues were still flying in reduced numbers, the females looking more fresher than males. While walking up a wooded path a Humming-bird Hawk-moth was busy ! feeding on honeysuckle flowers.".



Silver-spotted Skipper



Silver-spotted Skipper



Small Tortoiseshell

Andrew Bolton reports from Highclere Park (east) (SU 454596) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (3), Small Copper (2), Speckled Wood (6), Brown Argus (2).

Andrew Bolton reports from Highclere Park 'The Temple' (SU455601) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (10), Small Copper (3), Comma (1), Speckled Wood (4).

Andrew Bolton reports from Sidown Hill, nr Highclere (SU446575) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (15), Small White (1), Red Admiral (1).

Sunday 29th August

Andrew Bolton reports from Frith Farm, Wheathold. (SU548600) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (31), Common Blue (7), Brown Argus (2), Red Admiral (1 "very fresh"), Meadow Brown (1), Small White (1), Green-veined White (2). "Seen on a blackberrying trip."

Saturday 28th August

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Today I did a Portsdown Hill transect, and it was plain to see that the adverse weather over the last fortnight or so, has had a dramatic effect on our butterfly population. The Chalkhill Blue seems to have all but disappeared, and it feels and looks as Autumn has finally got a grip. The count on the transect was as follows Meadow Brown (134) Large White (3) Small White (22) Holly Blue (19) Common Blue (43) Chalkhill Blue (13) Speckled Wood (6) Brimstone (1) Gatekeeper (4) Green Veined White (1)

Oxenbourne Down: Gatekeeper (10) Chalkhill Blue (23) Large White (2) Meadow Brown (45) Brown Argus (2) Common Blue (23) Small White (4) Peacock (6) Small Copper (3) Small Heath (15) Brimstone (9) Silver-spotted Skipper (1) Speckled Wood (2) Comma (1) Red Admiral (1) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Old Winchester Hill (Car Park Down): Green Veined White (1) Meadow Brown (50+) Small White (10) Small Heath (45) Brimstone (3) Holly Blue (1) Chalkhill Blue (45) Silver-Spotted Skipper (10) Red Admiral (1) Common Blue (28) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Brown Argus (3) Gatekeeper (4) No Adonis Blues were seen, although it was overcast for most of the time on site."

Ian Pratt reports from Bonchurch Down (SZ572783) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (100), Brown Argus (10), Chalkhill Blue (6), Common Blue (10), Gatekeeper (1), Large White (3), Meadow Brown (8), Red Admiral (1), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (10), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small White (3).

Ian Pratt reports from Shalcombe Down (SZ383856) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (5), Chalkhill Blue (50), Common Blue (2), Small Heath (2).

Friday 27th August

Geoff Jones writes: "As the weather greatly improved this p.m. I thought I should walk over part of my local patch. There are still a few Grayling braving the 'elements' along with Small White 8; Large White 4; Small Copper 8 all in smart condition; Small Heath 6 seen in separate areas of course; Common Blue 3 tattered males; plus a mixture of Meadow Browns and the odd Gatekeeper. For interest, I found a Jersey Tiger at Titchfield Haven on 21st inst."



Jersey Tiger

Ian Pratt reports from Afton Down (SZ374850) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (30), Brown Argus (5), Chalkhill Blue (50), Common Blue (10), Painted Lady (1), Small Heath (20), Small White (6), Large White (4), Speckled Wood (5).

Ian Pratt reports from Walters Copse (SZ428900) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (6), Small White (4), Silver-washed Fritillary (2), Red Admiral (1), Meadow Brown (20), Gatekeeper (3), Holly Blue (6), Common Blue (2).

Thursday 26th August

Andrew Bolton reports from St. Catherine's Hill, Winchester (SU484279) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (12), Adonis Blue (1), Small Blue (1), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (2). "A brief after work visit under leaden skies, which still turned up some Blues, mainly roosting on grass stems."

Wednesday 25th August

Peter Gardner reports from Old Winchester Hill, South Meadow: "very stormy afternoon with gale force winds and rain to match but periods of very warm sun. i saw pat counted=chalkhills over 100 / meadowbrowns45 / large white 7 / small 19 / gv 3 /com blue 19 / gatekeeper 2 / small heath 9 /peacock 1 / sts 1 / dark green 1/ silver spot skippers 12 /adonis f 1 /brimstone 1/ holly blue 3 /speckled wood 1/ brown argus 2 .



Adonis Blue



Silver-spotted Skipper

David Buckler reports from Bentley Station Meadow (SU794432) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Brown Argus (1). "On a cloudy drizzly morning."

Tuesday 24th August

Andrew Bolton reports from Pignal Inclosure, Brockenhurst (SU311039) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Holly Blue (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "one of the last, flying fast in a brief spell of warm sun."), Gatekeeper (2), Speckled Wood (4), Meadow Brown (4).

Monday 23rd August

Peter Gardner reports from St Catherine's Hill: "yuk only english butterflies would fly in these conditions , drizzle /fog/ rain. but we saw the following [thy did not fly very far] silver spot skippers 5 / chalk hills 50 plus / com blues 4 / brown argus 2 /adonis 2/ gate keeper 1 / meadow brown 40 / small copper 3 / small heath 10 / large white 1/ small white 1."



Adonis Blue



Silver-spotted Skipper



Small Copper

Andrew Bolton reports from Little Aldershot Common, nr Haughurst Hill. (SU568626) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1), Small Copper (3), Small White (1), Meadow Brown (4), Gatekeeper (5).

Mark Tutton reports from Noar Hill (SU742319) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (1 "Female"), Holly Blue (7), Brown Argus (2), Speckled Wood (4), Meadow Brown (15), Gatekeeper (9), Common Blue (7).

Sunday 22nd August

Peter Vaughan writes: ""Late this afternoon (Sunday 22 August) at Bartley Heath (SU7353), in dull conditions, I saw a male Chalkhill Blue Butterfly (photographs attached), in addition to the few Gatekeepers and Common Blues which were on the wing. This is wet heath/ acid grassland and therefore not usual Chalkhill Blue habitat. However John Hunt also saw a couple of individuals of that species here in 2005 (on almost the same date). The Branch 2005 Butterfly and Moth Report commented that John's records were the first for this 10km square (SU 75) and the nearest known colony was almost 30km away. But perhaps seeing a Chalkhill Blue again at Bartley Heath (albeit five years later) suggests that there may be a colony somewhat nearer?"



Chalkhill Blue



Chalkhill Blue

Mark Tutton reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU645211) where the following observations were made: Silver-spotted Skipper (4), Meadow Brown (20), Gatekeeper (14), Chalkhill Blue (35), Common Blue (3). "Had a quick look around OWH in dull rainy conditions but there were surprisingly still quite a few butterflies around. I eventually came across a roosting SSS which posed for a few snaps complete with raindrop on its head!"



Silver-spotted Skipper

Ed Merritt reports from Dibden (SU404091) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (21), Small Copper (5), Gatekeeper (2), Meadow Brown (1), Small White (1).



Common Blue



Common Blue & Small Copper

Thursday 19th August

Roger Pendell reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU647210) where the following observations were made: Peacock (1), Common Blue (6), Meadow Brown (54), Gatekeeper (10), Small Heath (19), Small White (36), Chalkhill Blue (238), Speckled Wood (2), Silver-spotted Skipper (4), Small Copper (2), Brown Argus (5), Large White (4), Brimstone (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1).

John Hunt reports: "Elephant Hawk moth caterpillar on fuschia in my back garden in Hook."



Elephant Hawkmoth caterpillar

Andrew Bolton reports from Church Lane, Wolverton Common (SU 551587) where the following observations were made: Painted Lady (1).

Wednesday 18th August

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU737322) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (72), Meadow Brown (19), Small Copper (2), Small White (9), Speckled Wood (3), Gatekeeper (9), Brimstone (2), Brown Argus (3), Large White (3), Brown Hairstreak (1 "female"), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Small Heath (8).

Thelma Smalley reports from Carpenters, Alresford (SU586 322) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (2 "I grow Kidney vetch in my garden, they also like to nectar on Sainfoin."), Hummingbird hawk moth (1 "Have had 3 visits recently.").

Monday 16th August

mark swann reports from st catherines hill (SU485274) where the following observations were made: Silver-spotted Skipper (40), Small Heath (9). "looks like the s.s.skipper has got a real foothold on the hill between 40 - 50 seen today right across the south slope".

Mark Tutton reports from Shipton Bellinger (SU218457) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (20 "at least four females and sixteen males"), Holly Blue (7), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Red Admiral (2), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (2), Common Blue (15), Brimstone (23), Speckled Wood (4), Large White (40), Green-veined White (26), Gatekeeper (50), Meadow Brown (75). "Best ever day hunting Brown Hairsreak - even had two females on the same bramble blossom but they disagreed before I could take a photo - the numbers are a conservative estimate I think there may have been 40+ had more than 20 down on bramble at different time including four definite different females.".



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

mark tutton reports from old winchester hill (SU642212) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (100), Gatekeeper (30), Silver-spotted Skipper (19), Brown Argus (7), Marbled White (2), Meadow Brown (40).

Brian Harrison reports from Martin Down - both sides of the main A354 (SU045200) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (2), Brimstone (11), Chalkhill Blue (5), Common Blue (3), Gatekeeper (3), Green-veined White (4), Holly Blue (2), Large White (7), Meadow Brown (9), Peacock (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (6), Red Admiral (2), Ringlet (3), Small Heath (3), Small Skipper (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small White (5), Speckled Wood (3).



Silver-washed Fritillary

Martin Hampton reports from Havant (SU720059) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (1), Holly Blue (2 "inc egg laying on Ivy"). "nice to see the Holly Blues in the garden but really delighted to see the Brown Argus, which was a first for the garden (and, for me, the area)".

Peter Gardner writes: "checking back in old diaries [sept 5th 1992]= very good numbers of silver spotted skippers,so are we to early to expect all the skippers to have emerged? a real brimstone and brown argus day thy were every where.plus silver spotted skips 3 / holly blue 1 / speckled wood 2 / comma 1 / small heath 17 / chalk hill 20 / peacock 1 / silver washed frit 2 / small copper 1 common blue 20 / meadow browns 30 / small white 1 "



Brimstone



Brown Argus



Silver-spotted Skipper

Piers Vigus writes: "Six *Catocala sponsa* (dark crimson underwing) to wine ropes on the 16th of August just south of Lyndhurst. The moths were in and out during my time with the ropes (for about 90 minutes ending at 10.30) but there were certainly at least six different individual moths. No sign of *C. promissa* (light crimson underwing) though..."

Anne McCue & Mick Langridge reports from Martin Down inc. Kitts Grave (SU050180) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (26), Large White (4), Small White (20), Green-veined White (1), Adonis Blue (25), Common Blue (46), Small Blue (1 "at SU053182"), Silver-spotted Skipper (1 "at SU053182 like the S/blue - one (out of focus) pic and gone"), Small Copper (2), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Brown Argus (24), Common Blue (46), Dark Green Fritillary (1), Meadow Brown (81), Gatekeeper (1), Small Heath (47). "Having opted out of Saturday's Field Trip due to the dodgy weather forecast we made up for it on Monday. With almost unbroken sunshine and a fresh breeze we parked at Sillens Lane at 10.30 and spent the next eight hours walking through at least five 1km transects where we sighted 23 species. Totals for each transect as follows."



Dark Green Fritillary



Adonis Blue



Speckled Wood

Anne McClue & Mick Langridge reports from Martin Down inc. Kitts Grave (SU047189) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (7), Large White (1), Small White (2), Adonis Blue (18), Common Blue (11), Chalkhill Blue (9), Small Copper (1), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Dark Green Fritillary (1), Meadow Brown (40), Small Heath (20).

Anne McClue reports from Martin Down inc. Kitts Grave (SU043194) where the following observations were made: Small Skipper (1), Brimstone (1), Small White (3), Adonis Blue (4), Chalkhill Blue (9), Common Blue (24), Brown Argus (2), Small Copper (1), Small Tortoiseshell (3), Meadow Brown (62 "1 mating pair"), Small Heath (60).

Anne McClue & Mick Langridge reports from Martin Down inc. Kitts Grave (SU038198) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Adonis Blue (2), Chalkhill Blue (3), Common Blue (1), Brown Argus (2), Meadow Brown (20), Gatekeeper (1), Small Heath (12).

Anne McClue & Mick Langridge reports from Martin Down inc. Kitts Grave (SU033206) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (10), Large White (5), Small White (8), Green-veined White (6), Small Skipper (1), Small Blue (3), Common Blue (16), Brown Argus (5), Small Copper (1), Red Admiral (1), Peacock (1), Small Tortoiseshell (4), Comma (3), Silver-washed Fritillary (13), Gatekeeper (1), Meadow Brown (30), Small Heath (7), Speckled Wood (18).

Ian Pratt reports from Bonchurch Down (SZ565783) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (4), Brown Argus (6), Chalkhill Blue (4), Gatekeeper (2), Common Blue (10), Large White (3), Meadow Brown (10), Wall (3), Speckled Wood (2), Small White (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Small Heath (3), Red Admiral (1), Painted Lady (2).

Ian Pratt reports from Woodhouse Copse (SZ530928) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2), Comma (1), Gatekeeper (2), Large White (5), Meadow Brown (10), Silver-washed Fritillary (4), Small White (3), Speckled Wood (10).

Sunday 15th August

Richard Symonds reports from Noar Hill (SU745318) where the following observations were made: Large White (5), Small White (5), Green-veined White (3), Brimstone (3 "1 Male 2 Females"), Common Blue (194 "130 Males 64 Females"), Holly Blue (2), Brown Argus (1), Small Copper (2), Brown Hairstreak (2 "Females, one at rest with wings open the other feeding on hemp agrimony with wings closed."), Meadow Brown (31), Gatekeeper (12), Small Heath (21), Speckled Wood (3), Red Admiral (2). "Spent a total of an hour and a half at the site until 13:30. The weather was hazy sunshine with light cloud cover with a maximum temperature of 20°C. I was pleased to see a female Brown Hairstreak in the pit directly behind the thin clearing near to the triangle, which was actually sitting with wings wide open just a few inches off the ground resting on a leaf. A male Common Blue was sitting on an adjacent leaf. I managed a few close photos before it quickly took off heading straight to the top of the nearest Elm. My second sighting was actually as I was leaving the site descending the main path within the site which passes under a tree. Another female was busy feeding on hemp agrimony despite being buffeted by the wind. Again I managed to get some photos of the impressive and colourful underside. Apart from the Brown Hairstreaks which made my day, some Silver Washed Fritillaries were still flying, one female was very worse for wear with wings reduced to almost the veins, compared with several males which still looked very fresh."



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak



Silver-washed Fritillary

Dave Ryves reports from Mottisfont (SU330265) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 "Female "). "I was surprised to see a female Purple Emperor still on the wing on a visit to the National Trust Gardens at Mottisfont where it was nectaring on a Buddlia near the river."

Ashley Whitlock writes from Shipton Bellinger: "This was the first time I've ever visited this site having threatened to many times over the years and not quite getting around to it. But boy was it worth it, having toyed with the weather up to mid-day, wondering whether the weather was going to break. But having arriving arrived at about mid-day the sun was out and it was very warm, although it was very breezy. I was lucky having 'plotted' on my battered old Ordnance Survey map several sightings this year of the Brown Hairstreak. So it was quite easy to follow the rough track, with many large Blackthorn Bushes either side. It wasn't long before I saw a Hairstreak and a battered old male was seen imbibing on some Bramble. My wife Jackie and I after being on site about 30 minutes and having seen at least (5) saw an immaculate female just sitting on a leaf. She was just in reach, the Hairstreak not Jackie through several thick branches of bramble which we dispatched out of the way. I've never been so close to this illusive specie and seen it in such perfect condition. She stayed on the leaf all the time we were there not budging an inch, and I got some fab pictures of the underneath of her wings. Another Brown Hairstreak fan was there taking it in turns with me to get that perfect shot. I couldn't believe she stood her ground, with Blackberry twigs sprigging up in front of her every time we swapped round for some photos! We left after about an hour after looking at the tall Ash trees just around the corner which MRO had pointed out to me

earlier on, But there was no males to be seen fighting over territories...too late in the day. Other species seen were as follows: Small White (50+) Green Veined White (10) Large White (5) Brimstone (12) Gatekeeper (15) Meadow Brown (10) Ringlet (3) Comma (5) Holly Blue (6) Common Blue (15) Speckled Wood (3) Small Tortoiseshell (1)

Mark Tutton reports from Noar Hill (SU742319) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (5 "1F 4M"), Brown Argus (6), Gatekeeper (30), Holly Blue (5), Meadow Brown (50), Peacock (1), Purple Hairstreak (7), Red Admiral (5), Silver-washed Fritillary (10), Speckled Wood (3), Small Copper (2). "Watched female for about one hour laying on blackthorn suckers - was nice to see several BH this year after not seeing any last year."



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

mark swann reports from keyhaven (SZ312921) where the following observations were made: Wall (10). "all seen along the ancient highway".

Saturday 14th August

mark tutton reports from old winchester hill (SU643212) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (150), Brown Argus (7), Common Blue (8), Gatekeeper (100), Holly Blue (1), Meadow Brown (60), Silver-spotted Skipper (3), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (7).

Andrew Brookes reports from Horsea Island, Portsmouth harbour, where an explosion of Common Blues was witnessed, with 78 seen in the main meadow (1 ha.) alone, easily the highest number recorded in the past 12 years. Alas, only one Small Heath amid the usual Browns. Longstock Gardens now all but bereft of vanessids, just one Small Tortoiseshell on the buddlejas.

Friday 13th August

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Small White (3), Green-veined White (7), Large White (1), Brimstone (2 "Females"), Chalkhill Blue (201 "171 Males and 30 Females with 7 mating pairs"), Common Blue (9 "3 Males and 4 Females"), Holly Blue (4 "Female seen ovipositing on ivy bud"), Meadow Brown (65), Gatekeeper (11), Small Heath (1), Speckled Wood (1), Six Spot Burnet (3), *Pyrausta aurata/purpuralis* (20 "Approximate"). "A morning visit of around an hour, with sunny intervals in between threatening dark clouds, with the temperature 18°C. Chalkhill Blue numbers were still high with no fewer than 7 mating pairs. Most specimens still looked fresh. I watched four Holly Blues all flying around a single bramble bush, while a female oviposited on an ivy bud. I was able to clearly see the ova in situ afterwards. I left the site just before midday when a heavy shower arrived!"



Chalkhill Blue



Common Blue



Common Blue

Graham Dennis reports from Old Burghclere Lime Quarry (SU471572) where the following observations were made: Green-veined White (3), Common Blue (20), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Gatekeeper (15), Meadow Brown (20).

Thursday 12th August

mark swann reports from Harold Hillier Gardens (SU375239) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (20), Brown Argus (4). "plenty of common blues about along with at least 4 brown argus."

Geoff Farwell reports from Hatchet Pond, New Forest (SU368014) where the following observations were made: Wall (1 "in the hollow containing the small pond east of Hatchet Pond."), Holly Blue (1 "in small area of scrub adjacent to south shore of Hatchet Pond, New Forest.").

Peter Gardner writes from Selborne Common: "not much sun but stayed dry and bright every good place for a stroll noted- meadow browns 35 / small copper 1 / gv 2 / silver washed f 5 / gatekeeper 12 / large white 1 / spec wood 3 / holly blue 1 / common blue 1 / a late ringlet 1. every nice walk was had by both"



Gatekeeper



Ringlet



Small Copper

Wednesday 11th August

Piers Vigus reports: "Male Adonis Blue x2 at Stockbridge Down today."

Pat and Robin Turner report from Noar Hill (SU740325) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Peacock (1), Brown Hairstreak (1), Common Blue (43), Brown Argus (27), Small Blue (1), Large White (2), Small White (1), Small Heath (3), Gatekeeper (4). "In the overcast conditions there were many Common Blue and Brown Argus perched up waiting for the sun to appear - it didn't."



Brown Hairstreak



Common Blue



Common Blue &
Brown Argus

Alan Thornbury reports from Shipton Bellinger: Despite largely overcast conditions, I recorded 8 male Brown Hairstreaks this afternoon along the hedge at the western boundary (SU217458) during a period of about an hour. They were mainly nectaring on bramble or basking with open wings and very approachable. Another observer had earlier seen a pristine female in the same area. Photos of two males below.



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

Monday 9th August

Peter Gardner reports from Old Winchester Hill: "just 2 silver spotted skippers ,we found them near the top of the main slope,we went right down to the bottom with no result but lot of other species. including large numbers of chalkhills /meadow browns/gatekeepers/whites /com blues13 / red admirals 2 /peacock 12 /brimstone 12 / comma 1 /marbled white 2 /small heath 20 /small copper 9 /brown argus 8 / sts 4 /dark green 2 we only did this section of the downs to b----- steep for an old b----- like me."



Silver-spotted Skipper

Richard Hallett reports from Creech Wood Denmead (SU 634114) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (6), Comma (1), Gatekeeper (3), Small White (2).

Clive Wood reports from St Catherines Hill (SU483279) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (190), Small Blue (2), Gatekeeper (1), Green-veined White (5), Red Admiral (2), Meadow Brown (6), Brimstone (2). "A warm, sunny day with small clouds of Chalkhill Blues on the land behind the Garnier Rd carpark."

Brian Fellows reports from Emsworth north (SU 7425 0741) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (1 "On uncut roadside verge on Horndean Road").



Brown Argus



Brown Argus



Brown Argus

Adrian Shephard reports from Hale (SU828493) where the following observations were made: Grayling (50), Common Blue (13), Small White (8), Gatekeeper (14), Small Heath (2), Meadow Brown (13), Comma (7), Large White (3), Brimstone (5), Red Admiral (6), Large Skipper (1), Small Skipper (1), Painted Lady (3), Small Copper (2), Speckled Wood (1), Peacock (2), Holly Blue (1).



Large Skipper



Holly Blue



Small Heath

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Essex Skipper (1), Large Skipper (1 "an old, faded specimen"), Small Skipper (2), Brimstone (2 "male and female"), Small White (5), Green-veined White (1), Small Copper (6), Brown Argus (2), Common Blue (168), Peacock (1), Speckled Wood (18), Grayling (116), Gatekeeper (175), Meadow Brown (335), Ringlet (1 "faded, with damaged wings"), Small Heath (37), Six-spot Burnet (8), Silver Y (1). "The above survey covered most of the grassland areas but only a part of the heath, so total graylings in particular would have been higher. There was a hummingbird hawk moth visiting Phlox flowers in my Fleet garden on 3rd August."

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (SU821602) where the following observations were made: Purple Hairstreak (1), Peacock (1), Comma (1), Brimstone (1), Large White (2). "I've only seen Purple Hairstreaks on a handful of occasions in my garden previously, but this was the second for 2010. A rather faded and ragged specimen, but it obligingly landed on buddleia just in front of me, allowing good close-up views."

Robert Guest reports from Yateley Common - Blackbushe (SU810589) where the following observations were made: Grayling (1), Gatekeeper (4), Meadow Brown (1), Small Heath (3).

Piers Vigus writes: "A couple of male Adonis Blue were on the wing at Martin Down yesterday morning (9th August). I had half expected to see them as they have already begun to appear in other parts of the country."

Andrew Bolton reports from Benyon's Inclosure (SU621636) where the following observations were made: Grayling (17), Silver-washed Fritillary (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Benyon's Inclosure north, nr. Mortimer West End. (SU627641) where the following observations were made: Grayling (23 "All very lively in the warm sun, with a number of skirmishes taking place. Above all a strong desire for nectar today, which was mostly being satisfied by the regenerating young heather, beside the wide gravelly rides. Several Graylings were glad to make use of some small buddleja shrubs in bloom."), Common Blue (5), Brown Argus (4), Small Copper (3), Comma (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Red Admiral (1). "A delightful afternoon and my best ever viewing opportunities for the Grayling, which were concentrated around two former clear felled blocks of Scots Pine. The scent of warm and breezy pine forest was a refreshing change from visiting lush deciduous oak/hazel/bracken woodland."



Grayling



Grayling

Andrew Bolton reports from Gravel pit embankment, north of Benyon's Inclosure. (SU619641) where the following observations were made: Grayling (21), Common Blue (31), Gatekeeper (20), Small Copper (5). "A north facing dry bank with patches of young heather in bloom."

Mervyn Grist reports from West Woodhay Down (east side) (SU388618) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (11), Brown Argus (1), Common Blue (19), Peacock (1), Wall (1 "on exposed chalk along track"), Gatekeeper (5), Meadow Brown (12), Small Heath (1). "I walked up the flower bordered track on the east side of this down which marks the Hants/Berks county boundary. It was a great pleasure to see an inland Wall. It definitely did fly and perch in Hampshire!"

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU737322) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (1 "male"), Common Blue (43), Meadow Brown (7), Gatekeeper (9), Silver-washed Fritillary (5), Brimstone (4), Large White (6), Small White (7), Peacock (1), Ringlet (1), Small Heath (4), Brown Argus (1).

Beryl Foote reports from Heritage Park, Basingstoke (SU608483) where the following observations were made: Copper Underwing (1 "Found it in the house"). "I have a photograph".



Copper Underwing

Dr David Tinling reports from Kilkicker NW, Gosport (SZ603981) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (1 "Fresh male"). "First seen at Gilkicker from 1999-2006, when a very small colony was just surviving, probably on Birdsfoot Trefoil. It is possible that this colony has persisted undetected since then, but this latest specimen may have very recently flown from Portsdown Hill or the Isle of Wight. Photographed by Mick Langridge."



Chalkhill Blue

Sunday 8th August

Peter Gardner reports from Magdalen Hill Down: "started cool misty sun broke through for a very short period [in which time] we saw lots of chalkhills/all the whites/and meadow browns com blues 20 / small heath 1 /gate keepers 4 / small blues 3 /brimstone 1."



Small Blue egg



Small Blue ovipositing



Small Blue

Colin Baker reports from Shipton Bellinger (SU224446) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (15), Small Copper (2), Brown Hairstreak (3 "2F/M-1M"), Painted Lady (1), Peacock (1), Meadow Brown (10), Gatekeeper (10), Common Blue (30), Brown Argus (12), Small White (18), Large White (8), Comma (2), Holly Blue (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (3), Red Admiral (2). "Today I visited Shipton Bellinger for the first time hoping to see my first Brown Hairstreak in three years, only to be frustrated for the first three hours with only males seen in the ash trees. My luck changed when I bumped into Geoff Dawson and "Amethyst" for the second Sunday running. Within 20 metres of seeing my first female we were both treated to yet another open winged specimen who later was seen ovapositioning on young Buckthorn bushes."



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak



Brimstone

Robert Bryant reports from Northington, Newhouse Farm (SU 545367) where the following observations were made: Purple Emperor (1 " large female with ragged hind-wings nectaring on buddleia"), Hummingbird Hawkmoth (1 "buzzing around buddleia ").

David Lobb reports from Lordswood (SU 35621836) where the following observations were made: Large White (3), Small White (2), Brimstone (2), Peacock (1), Purple Hairstreak (1), Speckled Wood (1), Gatekeeper (2 "Nectering on lavender"), Pyrausta Aurata (1 "Seen around its larval plant mint"). "All the above seen in the garden on Sunday 08/08/10 which proved a much better flying day than of late which has seen showers and overcast conditions. Also noted today many different types of hover fly and in large numbers and the attractive day flying moth Pyrausta Aurata."



Brimstone



Purple Hairstreak

*Pyrausta aurata*

Jonathan Mercer from Wilts BC writes: "A morning visit to Shipton Bellinger and at least 12 Brown Hairstreaks seen, both males and females, mostly around the top of the Ash trees but a female came down lower briefly. Also seen - Common Blue, Red Admiral, Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown, Brimstone."



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

Barry and Margaret Collins report: "22 Silver-spotted Skippers at Oxenbourne Down."

Andrew Bolton reports from field edge at Stony Heath (SU 576591) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (10), Brown Argus (4), Small Copper (1), Large White (5), Green-veined White (1), Meadow Brown (3). "Utilising a generous strip of pollen and nectar mix."

gary palmer reports from keyhaven sea wall (SZ308916) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Red Admiral (2), Wall (17), Speckled Wood (5), Gatekeeper (40), Meadow Brown (25), Small White (16), Large White (2), Green-veined White (1), Common Blue (22), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (1). "a morning walk from keyhaven around to the sea wall from along the back lane found the above. of note were good numbers of wall in variable degrees of condition, and also a pair in cop."



Wall



Wall



Wall

Richard Symonds reports from Noar Hill (SU745318) where the following observations were made: Small White (16), Green-veined White (12), Large White (9), Brimstone (10 "3 Females and 7 Males"), Common Blue (268 "76 Females 192 Males"), Brown Argus (6), Small Copper (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (12 "2 Females, 10 males"), Peacock (5), Red Admiral (2 "Both very fresh and bright"), Comma (1), Meadow Brown (47), Gatekeeper (21), Small Heath (20), Ringlet (2). "Sightings were made during a 3 hour visit. Common Blues were flying everywhere, including many females which varied from completely brown to light and purple blues. Despite looking at different areas on the site, there was no signs of any Brown Hairstreaks."



Common Blue



Common Blue

Ed Merritt reports from Ipley (SU37950782) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (2), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (1).

Ed Merritt reports from Longdown (SU359080) where the following observations were made: Silver-studded Blue (3), Gatekeeper (1), Bordered Grey (1 "I think this is a Bordered Grey? It wasn't in the best condition but I hope, nevertheless, that one of your experts will be able to confirm this one way or another.").



Silver-studded Blue



Bordered Grey

Dave Ryves reports from Burrigde (SU514096) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird Hawk-moth (1 "In my garden").

Saturday 7th August

Trevor Carpenter writes: "On the sea wall at Mill Rythe, Haying today, one Holly Blue a long way from any of the habitat that I normally associate it with and also a Jersey Tiger moth. Unfortunately I failed miserably with shots of the latter, the attached being the best I could manage."



Jersey Tiger



Holly Blue

Thursday 5th August

Paul Brock reports from Noar Hill (SU738320) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (1). "One of 20 species recorded at Noar Hill".



Brown Hairstreak

Barrie Roberts reports from North Baddesley (SU390194) where the following observations were made: White-letter Hairstreak (1), Comma (1), Gatekeeper (1), Holly Blue (3), Small White (3), Meadow Brown (1). "First record of this species (WLH) for the garden (and me!) The butterfly perched in front of me on flowers, before flying off through the garden. If it hadn't landed directly in front of me I would have written it off as a small ringlet and ignored it."

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (SU821602) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Holly Blue (1), Grayling (1), Gatekeeper (1), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (1), Brimstone (2), Green-veined White (1).

Peter Gardner reports from Shipton Bellinger (220 460): large clouds gaps for very warm sun, rifle fire all around, good fun had by all. pats count brown hs 7 / common blue 7 / small 6 /gv 7 / large white 8 / meadowbrown 25 plus /brimstone 8 / gatkeeper 17 / holly blue 5 / small heath 1 / comma 8 / small copper 1 / peacock 3 /



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

John Harris reports from New Forest, Acres Down (SU26849 09340) where the following observations were made: Grayling (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Set aside field, nr.Ham Lane, Baughurst. (SU571603) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (17), Common Blue (28), Small Skipper (2), Ringlet (10), Meadow Brown (68), Gatekeeper (51), Holly Blue (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (1), Speckled Wood (5), Large White (1), Green-veined White (2).

Ed Merritt reports from Twyford Down (SU48882738) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (4), Chalkhill Blue (7), Small Heath (2), Meadow Brown (2), Small White (1), Small Skipper (1).

Ed Merritt reports from St Catherine's Hill (SU48782740) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (2), Red Admiral (1), Chalkhill Blue (5).

Ed Merritt reports from St Catherine's Hill (SU48262701) where the following observations were made: Small Blue (2), Chalkhill Blue (6), Small Tortoiseshell (1).



Small Blue



Chalkhill Blue

Tuesday 3rd August

Mike Wildish reports from Dunch Hill (SU 215 487) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (52), Chalkhill Blue (8), Small Blue (3), Brown Argus (8), Meadow Brown (20), Gatekeeper (7), Small Heath (16), Wall (3), Small White (5), Large White (1), Essex Skipper (1). "With Mervyn Grist. Relates to the area in VC12 only - a complete list for the 1k square has been sent to the Wiltshire recorder."

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT, Isle of Wight (SZ4289) where the following observations were made: Comma (2), Common Blue (10), Gatekeeper (20), Meadow Brown (10), Peacock (2), Ringlet (1), Small Heath (2), Common Blue (10), Small Tortoiseshell (1).



Common Blue



Small Heath

Jason Crook reports from Magdalen Hill Down (SU504292) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (1 "female seen well at very close range along path").

gary palmer reports from shirley holms (sz 296 984) where the following observations were made: Comma (2 Larva), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Holly Blue (5), Small Copper (6), Common Blue (11), Grayling (1), Meadow Brown (8), Gatekeeper (13), Speckled Wood (1), Large White (3), Small White (10), Small Skipper (1). "a count around the garden at midday found the above. of note were good numbers of holly blue, a recovery from last years near absence and a nice grayling."

Robert Guest reports from Yateley (SU821602) where the following observations were made: Comma (3), Red Admiral (1), Common Blue (1), Small Copper (1), Gatekeeper (1), Speckled Wood (2), Brimstone (2), Large White (1), Small White (2).

Monday 2nd August

Peter Gardner reports from Micheldever Woods (535 346): "just perfect for a walk with butterflies seen as follows marbled white 1 / white admiral 2/ meadow brown 25 /speck wood 13 /silver washed 30 plus /brimstone 12 /large 8/small 12 /gv white 8/comma 2/ gatekeeper 23/ peacock6/painted lady 1/ small skip 8/ com blue 21/ red admiral 3/ ringlet 15/ brown agus 1/large skip 4/"



Painted Lady



Silver-washed Fritillary



White Admiral

Ashley Whitlock writes from Abbots Wood Inclosure "Today I mourned the passing of the Purple Emperor and the Empress as well as I stayed in the Alice Holt Forest for well over 5 hours at different locations and he or she never showed any sign they were still on the wing. In the morning the weather wasn't good but in the afternoon the weather was warm and sunny, but there wasn't anything at the Assembly points. I will take great pride in my species as the Emperor had a good year, but succumbed again to St. Swithens curse, which just knocked it for six. Species seen in one part of the wood Abbots Wood Inclosure was as follows: Purple Hairstreak (6) Meadow Brown (30) Red Admiral (1) Gatekeeper (18) Silver-Washed Fritillary (45) Marbled White (1) Speckled Wood (1) Small Skipper (4) Ringlet (7) Peacock (1) White Admiral (3) Common Blue (6) Small White (2)"

And from Oxenbourne Down 2 August 2010 "Today I had the best species count on chalkdownland in all my 25 years. 22 species and thats without the Dark Green Fritillary, Marbled White, Clouded Yellow, Large Skipper, and Essex Skipper. The downland was a delight to walk round with butterflies flying in great profusion. The Marjoram and Hemp Agrimony was alive with insects, mainly with Chalkhill Blue and Common Blue. The total counts were as follows: Speckled Wood (1) Comma (3) Red Admiral (3) Chalkhill Blue (unestimatable!) thousands... Brown Argus (3) Common Blue (100+) Small Copper (3) Small Heath (10) Green-Veined White (2) Small White (21) Large White (6) Meadow Brown (50+) Peacock (4) Gatekeeper (50+) Silver-Spotted Skipper (10) Painted Lady (1) Brimstone (25) Ringlet (2) Holly Blue (1) Small Skipper (17) Small Tortoiseshell (1) Silver-Washed Fritillary (6) Several Silver 'y' moths and Burnet Moths several mating, and lots of macro moths."

Richard Hallett reports from Home address (SU 648118) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1), Meadow Brown (3), Brimstone (2), Comma (1), Gatekeeper (2), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "First ever seen in my garden"), Small White (5).

David Holt reports from Keyhaven (SZ316919) where the following observations were made: Wall (2), Gatekeeper (9), Meadow Brown (5).

Sunday 1st August

Colin Baker reports from Noar Hill (SU747321) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (0 "Ratio Male to Female- 3:2"), Brown Argus (0), Small Blue (1), Small Heath (3), Peacock (3), Red Admiral (1), Meadow Brown (15), Small Copper (2), Green-veined White (2), Small White (12), Large White (8), Clouded Yellow (1 "Male"), Ringlet (1), Brimstone (5 "3M-2FM"), Comma (1), Silver-washed Fritillary (7), Essex Skipper (1), Large Skipper (2), Gatekeeper (5). "At an overcast Noar Hill today where the Marjoram and Hemp Agrimony were showing their best, the numbers of Common Blues were so high that on the occasion when the sun did come out they looked like confetti at a wedding. Counting such numbers was virtually impossible but a good estimate of numbers was recorded. The colour of the females ranged between brown and numerous variations of blue. Numerous Brown Argus were also on view but the highlight for me was a single Small Blue in the penultimate clearing toward the top of the reserve quickly followed by my first male Clouded Yellow of the summer. A wonderful experience that butterfly enthusiasts should not miss."



Brown Argus



Clouded Yellow



Common Blue

Stuart Hutchinson reports from Garden, Wellow Village (SZ3888) where the following observations were made: Moth, Jersey Tiger (1 "sighted when lifting fence panel by nettle patch").



Jersey Tiger

Mike Gibbons writes: "Today on a visit to Shipton Bellinger I managed to see up to 5 Brown Hairstreaks, 2 or 3 were males high up in an ash tree but the highlight was a female nectaring on bramble which then decided to drop down on the path to sun herself for 5 minutes. Back in July on 5th I had a male Purple Emperor down at Bentley Wood from 13.30 and all afternoon, the next day another male was seen and photographed at Stockbridge Down.



Brown Hairstreak

Andrew Brookes writes: "As if any further evidence of the proliferation of the Silver-washed Fritillary were needed, Theo Roberts saw one ovipositing on the trunk of an apple tree in his Cosham garden deep in suburban Portsmouth. The number of vanessids on the Longstock Garden buddlejas has fallen dramatically in the last week; just a handful of Peacocks and Red Admirals, and one Painted Lady, AB's first of the year."

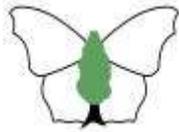
Mark hallett reports from Arrenton Down Isle of Wight (SZ536871) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (15 "all fresh"), Chalkhill Blue (6000 "a conservative estimate the whole hillside was shimmering pale blue, by far the most I have seen at this site."), Common Blue (75), Brown Argus (3), Comma (1), Painted Lady (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (4), Large White (30), Small White (50), Meadow Brown (250), Gatekeeper (50), Small Heath (2).

Simon Downham reports from My Home back garden 17 Baird Avenue (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "Posted on Flickr <http://www.flickr.com/photos/8684299@N07/> (Fully developed, basking in the sun)". "Please see photo posted on Flickr

Melanie Jones reports from Bentworth (SU6639) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2 "feeding on pink bindweed/convolvulus"), Gatekeeper (1 "feeding on garden aster"), Common Blue (12), Peacock (2), Speckled Wood (0), Meadow Brown (3), Small Skipper (1 "feeding on garden buddleia"), Small White (4), Red Admiral (1), Painted Lady (1). "Most were found down a long rarely used track with hedgerows either side, especially the common blue. (never seen so many in a day!) All the other butterflies were seen on a solitary buddleia bush in the garden."

Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch
[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)
 Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209
 Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)



Butterfly Conservation
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire an
Isle of Wight Bra**

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[CONSERVATION](#)

[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)

[SIGHTINGS](#)

[PUBLICATI](#)

Thursday 30th September

Robert Bryant reports from Abbotstone Down (SU 584361) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (7 "on ragwort in hazy sunshine "), Meadow Brown (2).

Sue Clark reports: "A Hummingbird Hawk-moth today at 6pm in our in our Froyle garden, which like Martin Hampton's on the 26th briefly nectared on "Beijing" Buddleia."

Jill Lincoln reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU597 488) where the following observations were made: Large White (3), Small White (2), Meadow Brown (6), Small Heath (3 "First sighting at this site"), Common Blue (1), Brimstone (1).

Sunday 26th September

Martin Hampton reports from central Havant (SU720059) where the following observations were made: Hummingbird Hawkmoth (1 "nectaring briefly on Buddlei 'Beijing' in the evening"). "only the second I have seen in the garden this year ps I have two rooted cuttings of the later flowering Buddlei 'Beijing' to give away if anyone in Havant is interested: marvymart AT aol.com".

Leanne Baker reports from Southampton old cemetery (SU41241364) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (2 "seen feeding on ivy flowers").

Saturday 25th September

Paul Brock reports from Barton-on-Sea (SZ239933) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (1 "First seen this year at Barton-on-Sea"), Common Blue (1 "Fresh male"), Small Copper (1), Red Admiral (1), Small White (12), Large White (1).

Dave Miller reports from Ropley Station (MHR) (SU629324) where the following observations were made: Brown Argus (1 "a fresh individual - third brood?"), Small Copper (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (1). "Seen on the bank next to the "up" platform at Ropley Station on the Mid Hants Railway whilst chasing steam trains."



Brown Argus



Red Admiral



Small Copper

Mike Gibbons reports from Christchurch and Southbourne Undercliff: "A lovely day for butterflies, especially as the buddleias in my Christchurch garden are all late flowering. The best butterfly in was a pristine female Holly Blue on the hedge sunning herself, earlier a Speckled Wood was seen. The white buddleias attracted 2 Red Admirals (at least) and 2 Commas. On a short trip to Southbourne Undercliff this afternoon I saw a female Small Copper, around 22+ Large Whites and 8+ Small Whites and 3 Red Admirals. There was a supporting cast of Dartford Warbler and 2 Wall Lizards."

peter gardner reports from haylingbilly line (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Comma (3 "on ripe black berrie"), Small Copper (10 "on ragwort"), Red Admiral (1 "blackberry"), Green-veined White (6 "ragwort"). "cold and windy but nice and warm in the su sheltered from the wind".



Comma & Small Copper



Red Admiral

janet williams reports from my garden in Emsworth PO10 7AX (SU750056) where the following observations were made: humming bird hawkmoth (1).

Thursday 23rd September

Peter Gardner reports from his Froxfield garden: "a busy time at the restaurant this morning ,one of the first visitors was the pristine painted lady ,soon joined by the red admirals 5 in all ,then came the commas ,there was 3 of them and 2 small whites, not a bad start of the day. If any one would like a bit of bejing bubbliia [still in full flower] free ,get in touch.



Comma



Painted Lady



Red Admiral

Peter Gardner reports from Old Winchester Hill: "after a wonderful am in the garden, it the afternoon wasn't to bad either ,lots of butterflies about ,mostly meadow browns 30 and small heaths 47 with small coppers 14 ,brimstones 2 /comma 3/ speck wood 3 /red admiral 1, two big surprises a gatekeeper and silver spotted skippers 3 .



Gatekeeper



Silver-spotted Skipper



Silver-spotted Skipper

Wednesday 22nd September

Peter Eeles reports from Stockbridge Down (SU379346) where the following observations were made: Chalkhill Blue (5 "1 male, 4 female"), Meadow Brown (25 "some quite fresh, and a mating pair"), Small Heath (12), Small White (1), Small Copper (17). "I took a brief break from work and popped into Stockbridge Down to catch the last of the season's butterflies. I was actually amazed at the numbers of some species. Best of all, good numbers of Small Copper - some very fresh - and the photos below of ab. caeruleopunctata really don't do it justice. Watching several courtship displays was a fantastic bonus."



Small Copper
ab *cearuleopunctata*



Small Copper
ab *cearuleopunctata*



Small Copper
ab *cearuleopunctata*

Mike Wildish reports from Furze Hill (SU 245 485) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (1), Small Heath (5), Small Copper (6), Red Admiral (12), Brimstone (2), Comma (9). "Many of these courtesy of a large stand of naturalised Michaelmas Daisy. List joint with Mervyn Grist."

Richard Hallett reports from My Garden Denmead (SU 648118) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1 "On Verbena flower"), Brimstone (1).

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Large White (2), Small Copper (6), Common Blue (1 "Male"), Chalkhill Blue (1 "Male"), Comma (1), Meadow Brown (39), Small Heath (10). "Following weeks of unsettled weather, I made my first visit to the site for 5 weeks. A sunny morning from 11am, the temperature was 19°C. Many Meadow Browns were flying, albeit in poor condition. Small Coppers added a splash of colour including two of the common aberration *ab.cearuleopunctata*. A single male Chalkhill Blue was in flight but did not settle. Before leaving the site a Comma landed on nettle. While returning back to the car I spotted a colourful larva on the road (see photo). Can anyone identify it?"



Small Copper
ab *cearuleopunctata*



Small Heath



Can anyone identify this
please?

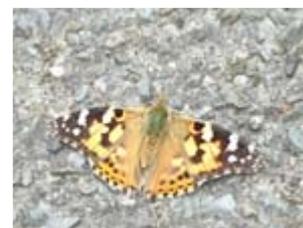
Michael Skelton has kindly identified the caterpillar as an Iron Prominent.

Andrew Bolton reports from Old Down, Basingstoke (SU595488) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1), Small White (1), Red Admiral (2).

B P & M M Fletcher reports from Longdown, New Forest (SU3509) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3), Peacock (1), Comma (1), Speckled Wood (1).

Tuesday 21st September

Peter Gardner reports from his Froxfield garden: "the only restaurant for miles, and the message has been picked up by every passing insect in the air. the humming bird hawk moth arrived at 1030 but the faded painted lady did not arrive till 1600hrs a good meal was had by all with the 6 red admirals/ 1 small copper / 1 sts and a comma."



Hummingbird Hawkmoth Hummingbird Hawkmoth Painted Lady

Mike Wildish reports from Faccombe, south (SU 392 575) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (6).

Mike Wildish reports from Faccombe Wood (SU 387 565) where the following observations were made: Comma (9), Speckled Wood (5).

Mike Wildish reports from Netherton Bottom (SU 385 555) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Small Copper (5), Comma (4).

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT Isle of Wight (SZ4303) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (1), Comma (1), Meadow Brown (2), Red Admiral (1), Small Copper (2), Small White (3).

Andrew Bolton reports from rough grassland at Penwood (SU445614) where the following observations were made: Comma (4), Small White (3), Speckled Wood (2). "Immaculate condition Commas."

B P & M M Fletcher reports from Horsebridge (SU3430) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (3).

Monday 20th September

Graham Dennis writes: "My last silver-washed fritillary of the year was a very tatty one on the 9th September which tops off a remarkable year for this species at Pamber Forest. Last year a record 690 were recorded on the transect which was amazing, this year the total is over 1100 with a record 16 'valesina' and 3 'occellata'. It has also been a record year for common blue, ringlet and brown argus. Fantastic!"

Andrew Bolton reports from The Hampshire Golf Course, Goodworth Clatford (SU375424) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (3), Meadow Brown (1), Speckled Wood (1), Brimstone (1 "female"), Large White (1). "A brief viewing of Small Heath on the edge of the course, there are likely to be more, the 'rough' looks ideal for them."

D W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1), Small White (1), Red Admiral (2), Small Tortoiseshell (1).

Sunday 19th September

mark swann reports from lower test nr (SU364143) where the following observations were made: Peacock (0 Larva). "have been keeping an eye on a second brood peacock larval web on lower test . most of the larvae are 2nd and 3rd instar now."

Saturday 18th September

Peter Gardner reports from his Froxfield garden: "it is wonderful to lengthen the butterfly season in your garden with buddleias and seddium and michelmas daisies and the like . we had 5 red admirals and 1 sts with a comma on the buddlia , and 1 small copper on the sedum. but we have had meadow browns/ gate keepers/ and even a silver washed frit as well."



Comma



Red Admiral



Small Tortoiseshell

Andrew Bolton reports from top of Watership Down, Sydmonton. (SU496568) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (5), Small Heath (4), Speckled Wood (3), Meadow Brown (2), Comma (2), Common Blue (1 "a worn female."). "Small Coppers in good condition; including a mating pair

which I can't recall having seen before for this species. Quite a bit of nectar still around near the ridge track. Kestrels and Ravens also about."



Small Copper



Small Copper

Andy Pelling reports from Cadman's Pool (SU 229 121) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1 "Looking rather ragged"), Red Admiral (1 "Good specimen"), Small Heath (3). "Lovely sunny morning, very warm in the sheltered spots."

Friday 17th September

Mike Wildish reports from Burghclere Common (SU 475 625) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Speckled Wood (4).

Mike Wildish reports from Newtown Common (SU 475 635) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1), Comma (1), Speckled Wood (1).

Alan Thornbury reports from Noar Hill (SU743319) where the following observations were made: Brown Hairstreak (1 "faded female, resting on low vegetation").

D W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Red Admiral (4), Comma (1).

Thursday 16th September

Stephen Harvey reports from Chandler's Ford (SU 444212) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3). "We did not see a single Red Admiral, Peacock or Painted Lady in our garden all summer, and I had just about given up hope for this year. But I have just seen three splendid Red Admirals on one of our buddleias. Let's hope it is the start of a late emergence."

Andrew Bolton reports from Axmansford, Tadley (SU565607) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Red Admiral (3), Small Tortoiseshell (1), Speckled Wood (1), Small White (1). "Good to see a few garden butterflies at last on the late flowering Buddleja 'Beijing' (thanks to Peter Gardner for the plant). Three Red Admirals made a lovely sight."

Tuesday 14th September

Cliff McCarthy reports from Staff Car Park Beaulieu Motor Museum (SU38540305) where the following observations were made: Goat Moth (1 Larva "Very active. Trying to burrow below stones in car car park"). "Hopefully picture taken on my phone camera will indicate size compared to my shoe."



Goat Moth larva

Sunday 12th September

Ashley Whitlock writes from Portsdown Transect: "My last transect of 2010 and it was a pretty good one with the following seen on the wing: Meadow Brown (82) Small White (20) Speckled Wood (4) Chalkhill Blue (7) Common Blue (4) Small Blue (1) Holly Blue (1) Red Admiral (1) Green-Veined White (1) Brown Argus (1) Small Copper (1).

Old Winchester Hill, had a look into the car-park slope and the following observations were made, Silver-spotted Skipper (2) a mating pair, and I watched these for about 20 minutes, and they hardly moved, and I was very surprised to see them as they were well camouflaged against the grassy vegetation. Also seen were Small Heath (100) Meadow Brown (100) Peacock (1) Brimstone (1) Small White (5) Small Copper (20) lots of these lovely little butterflies a new brood has just hatched out and many males were seen sparring for territories, and a blue spot variation was seen. Common Blue (5) Chalkhill Blue (25) Brown Argus (2) Speckled Wood (1)"

Mark Tutton reports from Old Winchester Hill (SU644211) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1), Chalkhill Blue (14), Brimstone (2), Meadow Brown (46), Large White (4), Silver-spotted Skipper (3), Peacock (1), Small Heath (100).

Andrew Bolton reports from Millenium meadow, Whitchurch (SU462472) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Rectory Lane, Plantation Hill (SU 543576) where the following observations were made: Comma (1).

Thursday 9th September

Mike Wildish reports from Shipton Bellinger (SU 235 455) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2), Large White (1), Small White (1), Green-veined White (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Tortoiseshell (2), Comma (2), Speckled Wood (2), Meadow Brown (7). "Commas feeding on mint flowers and elder berries."

Mike Wildish reports from Bedlam, East (SU 251 462) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (2), Brown Hairstreak (1), Speckled Wood (1), Meadow Brown (2), Small Heath (3). "BHS found sitting on an old rusty bin on which its underside was well camouflaged. Despite a search of the sunlit, well-berried sloes in the area, no others were seen."

Mike Wildish reports from Bedlam, West (SU 245 465) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Common Blue (3), Speckled Wood (2), Meadow Brown (2), Small Heath (16). "Today's lists all joint with Mervyn Grist."

Stephen Harvey reports from Chandlers Ford (SU 434222) where the following observations were made: Convolvulus Hawkmoth (1 "Found by my grandson Harry Harvey; identified from photo by Tim Norriss."). "This moth was found by my 5-year-old grandson, Harry Harvey, in the garden of his home in Chandler's Ford. It is resting on a bright green plastic play tent. It was photographed and tentatively identified by me. The id was subsequently confirmed by Tim Norriss."



Convolvulus Hawkmoth

Roger Pendell reports from Noar Hill (SU 737322) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (13), Meadow Brown (18), Small Heath (24), Speckled Wood (1), Brimstone (1), Small White (1).

Wednesday 8th September

Andrew Bolton reports from Tidgrove Warren, Hannington (SU519541) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1), Meadow Brown (2), Small White (2), Speckled Wood (1), Common Blue (3), Red Admiral (1).

Monday 6th September

Peter Gardner reports from Abbotstone Village: "after a cold night and windy morning ,pm still windy but more sun which brought out the butterflies [in sheltered places any way] this is the count that afternoon , red admiral 1 / speck wood 15 /holly blue 7 / small white 5 /brimstone 1 / com blue 4 / large white 1"



Holly Blue



Red Admiral



Speckled Wood

Sunday 5th September

Andrew Brookes reports his first sighting of a Clouded Yellow this year, at Longstock Arboretum. The only other species on the wing there was the Meadow Brown.

Peter Gardner reports from Stockbridge Down: "we searched from top to bottom even side to side but no sign of silver spot skips at which we can only surmise that they have finished, but we found that there numbers was even more than made up by small heaths we stopped counting at 150 plus what a year they are having. other sightings where small copper 10 / meadow browns 85 / com blue 23 /small 2 / large 2 / gv whites 4 / chalk hill 24 [struggling to hang on] brown argus 5 / adonis 11 / speck wood 1 / holly blue 1/ brimstone 2"



Adonis Blue



Small Heath



Small Copper

Saturday 4th September

Colin Baker reports from Martin Down (SU 142192) where the following observations were made: Adonis Blue (32 "28M/4FM"), Small Heath (40), Brimstone (2 "2M"), Brown Argus (4), Chalkhill Blue (4), Common Blue (6 "6M"), Meadow Brown (16), Small Tortoiseshell (4), Small White (2), Speckled Wood (1). "Leaving it late to see my first Adonis Blues of the season had its advantages, not least because I found more individuals than at any time before on this site. In overcast, windy conditions I was treated to good numbers of butterflies well supported by outstanding nectar plants for September, with Devil's bit scabious showing in great profusion. Small Heath must be having an outstanding year with at least 40 seen well supported by the Adonis Blues count of 32, 4 being females which were also seen ovapositioning. Just as pleasing was the sight of 4 Tortoiseshell, hopefully indicating the fight back for this specie continues. A wonderful visit for me, not least because the impending rain held off for a day."



Adonis Blue

Small Tortoiseshell

Adonis Blue

gary palmer reports from barton common (sz 284 932) where the following observations were made: Small Heath (48), Speckled Wood (9), Meadow Brown (8), Small Copper (5), Small White (3). "found the above on a walk around barton common."



Speckled Wood

Thursday 2nd September

Mark Lyman reports from My Garden (SU305230) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1), Large White (3 "Probably more - coming and going all day"), Speckled Wood (1 "Flew into our kitchen briefly"), Brimstone (1 "Male - seemingly newly hatched"), Comma (1 "possibly 2...."), Meadow Brown (1). "Spent the day gardening so hard to be precise on numbers, also our first Painted Lady of the year arrived y'day".

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited Butser Hill late on Thursday 2nd September and the following were observed as the sun was setting below one of the northern slopes: Silver-Spotted Skipper (7) probably a lot more than this as the day was wearing on and the prospect of getting back up the hill to the car-park really occupied my mind at the time. Several Chalkhill Blues, many Common Blues and Brown Argus, Small Heath very common, along with Meadow Brown, several Small Whites and Brimstones, and a Small Copper. Several Silver-Y moths and macro moths. No Clouded Yellow as yet.

Wednesday 1st September

john hunt reports from bartley heath (SU 731535) where the following observations were made: Marbled White (1), Small Heath (1).

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT and Walters Copse, Newtown IOW (SZ4289) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (5), Comma (6), Common Blue (4), Holly Blue (1), Large White (2), Meadow Brown (20), Peacock (1), Red Admiral (1), Small Copper (1), Small Heath (2), Speckled Wood (7), Silver-washed Fritillary (1 "I think!!?").



Comma



Holly Blue



Silver-washed Fritillary

Ashley Whitlock writes: "I went over to the Isle of Wight on the Bank Holiday Monday, visiting Brading Down: The following butterflies were noted Meadow Brown (thousands) Small Heath (30) Small White (7) Small Copper (4) Common Blue (100+) Chalkhill Blue (100+) Adonis Blue (21) this is the best count of this specie for this site, its now very well established here lastly Brown Argus (50+), I also visited one of the quarries which surround the downland and saw the following: Speckled Wood (3) Gatekeeper (1) Meadow Brown (100+) Red Admiral (4) Comma (2) Large White (2) Small White (5) Small Copper (1) Common Blue (50+) Chalkhill Blue (50+) Brown Argus (3) Jersey Tiger Moth (1) which looked absolutely stunning flying around with its beautiful red underwings, must be one of the most graceful insects, we have in the county.

Wednesday 1st September Old Winchester Hill

Spent up to 3 hours at this site, with glorious sunshine, and lots of butterflies on the wing, despite what I said last week. The following were observed: Gatekeeper (1) Meadow Brown thousands, Small Heath (100) this is a very conservative total, which today was the best count of this specie I have ever seen. Comma (1) Brimstone (40) Large White (1) Small White (12) Small Copper (3) Common Blue (50)+ Chalkhill Blue 100+ with many still locked in mating, and many females on the wing looking very pristine. Adonis Blue (3) one male and two females looks as if the specie is just hanging on, and hopefully the male will meet one of the females and keep it going here! Brown Argus (12) and last but not least Silver-Spotted Skipper (70), I spent a long time counting this specie, and it looks to me as if its bouncing back, with good weather in June and July made a huge difference. I was also looking at areas which are off limits on the site, obviously on the right side, just counting over the barbed wire fences!

Peter Gardner writes: "a lovely day for butterflies ,thank goodness i did not take that one step forward i would have missed the beautiful female before me ,with wings wide open, a female brown hs on hemp agrimony and 30 yards away a male perched on a similar plant at 7421 3194 other seen where meadow browns 40 / brown argus 10 / brimstones 8 /small whites 3 /silver washed frit 1 /small heath 8 / com blue 24 /speck wood 4 / red admiral 1 / gv 1 /large white 1."



Red Admiral



Brown Hairstreak



Brown Hairstreak

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor (SU 84 53) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3 "on purple loosestrife and devilsbit scabious"), Small White (2), Small Copper (3), Common Blue (76 "some very faded or badly damaged wings"), Brown Argus (1), Speckled Wood (7), Grayling (71 "still plentiful (and on other local heaths) "), Gatekeeper (7), Meadow Brown (170), Small Heath (201 "The best Eelmoor count since 2001").

Peter M Smith reports from 42 Oak Rd, Ashley, New Milton (SZ 252953) where the following observations were made: Vestal (1 "in moth trap in back garden"). "Another Vestal was in the moth trap next time it was used (Sep 9) Would this have been the same individual?(or are there plenty around this year?)".

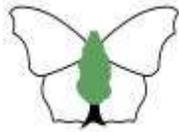
Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)

Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209

Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SC039268)



Butterfly Conservation
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire an
Isle of Wight Bra**

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[CONSERVATION](#)

[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)

[SIGHTINGS](#)

[PUBLICATI](#)

Sunday 31st October

Roy Symonds reports from Hayling Billy Cycle Trail near Langstone Avenue (SU717052) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "A single Red Admiral flying near overhead power cables."

Saturday 30th October

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (3 "including one ab caeruleopunctata, taking ragwort nectar"), Common Blue (2 "taking ragwort nectar"), Wall (1 "3rd brood male, taking nectar from ragwort & yarrow").

Friday 29th October

Anne McCue & Mick Langridge reports from Martin Down (SU054181) where the following observations were made: Glanville Fritillary (1 "?!?!?!?!"). "Not reported at the time by us (24th May 2010) as it was thought to be a SPBF by Anne (Mick's a novice) who had never seen a closed Glanville up to then. On studying Mick's photos of the day Anne realised it couldn't be a SPBF but was in fact a Glanville Fritillary - possibly the same reported by Ashley Whitlock two days earlier. We had intended bringing these pics to the AGM but Mick forgot. We thought you might like to see them. RAW files with EXIF available to the doubters."



Glanville Fritillary



Glanville Fritillary

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Just a note on the Glanville Fritillary which I noted on Martin Down on the 23 May. The butterfly was very fresh, and I assumed it had not travelled all the way from the Isle of Wight. I spoke to several recorders, who just happened to come from Dorset and here the puzzle started to unravel. There seems to have been an illegal introduction of the species just over the border with Hampshire in 2009, these had done rather well, and thus we have individuals to be seen in 2010 on Martin Down. Nice to see obviously, but they won't last the test of time, as its close cousin the Marsh Fritillary has proved several times in Hampshire."

Wednesday 27th October

Anne McCue reports from Solent Way, Gosport (SZ596990) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3 "all in v. good condition").

Anne McCue reports from Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1 "still good but beginning to fade"), Small Copper (1 "poor soul!"). "The sky dulled and it remained very windy but the blue and the tatty copper did pop out. Most of the coppers at Gilkicker are still in good nick but were weather shy this afternoon. Enclosed photos show the contrasting fortunes."



Common Blue



Small Copper



Small Copper

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (2), Small White (1), Small Copper (1), Common Blue (1), Red Admiral (1), Wall (1).

Monday 25th October

Lynn Fomison reports recent sightings from her garden Small Tortoiseshell on Friday 22nd, and Small White on buddleia on Sunday 24th and Red admiral the same day on an apple pecked by birds.

Teddy and Penny Raynor report from Brownwich (SU 517034): Small Tortoiseshell 1 Clouded Yellow 2, possibly 3 Small Copper 3 Red Admiral up to 6 "Clouded Yellows and Small Tort on Michaelmas Daisies at base of cliff, also 1 small Copper there. Others between there and Titchfield via Brownwich Farm."

Lynn Fomison writes of yet more sightings in her garden where Small White and Red Admiral were seen again on 25th October along with a very faded Speckled Wood. Lynn adds that with a poor forecast for the rest of the week these three sightings are all the more precious! The RA was feeding on apples once again & showed no fear of the hornets visiting the same tree.

Anne McCue reports from Denny Wood, New Forest (SU337050) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1). "Lovely day but only 1 butterfly! Highlight was a Grey-backed Shrike". (Ed...possibly a Red-backed Shrike??)

David Tinling reports from Browdown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Small White (2 "taking sea radish nectar"), Red Admiral (2 "taking ivy nectar").

Sunday 24th October

Peter Gardner reports from avington (su479 298) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "beautiful clear day slight chill wind but warm away from it. just 1 red admiral nectaring on ivy".

Andrew Bolton reports from Set aside field, nr. Ham Lane, Baughurst. (SU571604) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1).

Anne McCue reports from Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Wall (1 "basking male"), Clouded Yellow (2 "both male, bright golden"), Small Copper (3 "all in lovely condition"), Common Blue (1 "male, lovely condition").



Wall



Clouded Yellow



Common Blue

Anne McCue reports from Old Moat, Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Small White (1).

Anne McCue reports from Solent Way, Gosport (SZ596990) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "pristine male").

David Tinling reports from Browndown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (3 "taking ragwort nectar").

Friday 22nd October

Andrew Bolton reports from Ashford Hill Meadows NNR (SU564620) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (2).

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (3 "males"), Small Copper (6), Common Blue (1 "male"), Red Admiral (1), Wall (1 "3rd brood male").

B P & M M Fletcher reports from St Catherines Hill (SU485275) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2).

Thursday 21st October

Richard Symonds reports from Northwood Lane, Stoke, Hayling Island (SU722024) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "Near to my house a single Red Admiral glided over a bramble hedge during the sunny morning."

Richard Carpenter reports from Brownich (SU518034) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (1), Small Copper (2).

Tuesday 19th October

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT, Isle of Wight (SZ4303) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (6). "A sunny day, but cool wind and only Speckled Wood to be seen."

Andrew Bolton reports from Stokes Lane, nr. Sherborne St. John. (SU 612553) where the following observations were made: Small White (1), Red Admiral (5 "the most I've seen all year").

Monday 18th October

Mike Wildish reports from Old Burghclere, old rly line (SU 469 578) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "The only butterfly seen by Mervyn Grist and me on a visit to the Lime Quarry - nothing in the quarry itself. As usual, it was on ivy."

Peter Gardner reports from Titchfield: "a good way to see butterflies is go on a bird walk on a beautiful day like yesterday, with good company, look at the ivy plants there is lots of nectar there for them. we saw 2 red admirals / and 1 small copper."



Red Admiral



Red Admiral



Small Copper

Richard Symonds reports from Itchen Way near Highbridge Road, Brambridge (SU461210) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1). "A single Speckled Wood beside the River Itchen on a sunny morning."

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (3 "males"), Small White (6 "4 males & 2 females"), Small Copper (5), Common Blue (3 "2 males & 1 female"), Red Admiral (1).

Sunday 17th October

Paul Crook reports from Headley Down (SU839361) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Little Ham Farm, Axmansford (SU571607) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1 "New colonisation of a small piece of suitable habitat").

B P & M M Fletcher reports from Teg Down, Winchester (SU461302) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

David Tinling reports from Browndown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1).

Saturday 16th October

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (1). "Around midday visited the site but only saw a single female Meadow Brown feeding on a Hawkbit flower, with wings open."

Peter Vaughan reports from Bartley Heath (SU7253) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (1 "Male"). "The only butterfly seen by Jane and I during an afternoon visit to Bartley Heath."

Andrew Bolton reports from Ashford Hill Meadows NNR (SU564620) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (9), Red Admiral (1). "The largest site count of Small Coppers in 2010."

David Tinling reports from Browndown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Small White (8), Small Copper (5 "taking ragwort nectar"), Common Blue (2).

Thursday 14th October

Chris Hall reports from Fleet area (SU 81 53) where the following observations were made: Small White (3), Brimstone (1), Red Admiral (1), Common Blue (1), Small Heath (3).

Richard Carpenter reports from Brownwich (SU518034) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (2), Small Copper (8).

Peter Hunt reports from Clamerkin NT Isle of Wight (SZ4303) where the following observations were made: Gatekeeper (1), Red Admiral (1), Speckled Wood (2). "A very sunny(and warm) afternoon, but not many butterflies to be seen here. Perhaps a very late Gatekeeper though, feeding on late flowering fleabane and sunning itself."



Gatekeeper



Speckled Wood

Tuesday 12th October

Peter Gardner reports from a Froxfield garden: "a clear but very windy day the buddleia bush is in a sheltered position so the butterflies are still finding flowers to nectar on. the visitors today were red admirals 2 / comma 1 / sts 1 thy all had a good feed up before the sun disappeared for the day."



Comma



Red Admiral



Small Tortoiseshell

Richard Symonds reports from Stoke, Hayling Island (SU722021) where the following observations were made: Comma (3). "In my garden this morning three Commas were flying and landing on conifer bushes near my pond."

Richard Symonds reports from Solent Way Path near Newtown (SU491057) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "A single Red Admiral was on a ivy bush in the late afternoon as I walked along the Solent Way to see the new Cunard liner, Queen Elizabeth leave Southampton on her maiden voyage."



Red Admiral

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Clouded Yellow (4 "helice female & 3 males"), Small White (7), Small Copper (4), Common Blue (2 "males"), Red Admiral (1).

David Tinling reports from Browdown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Small White (12 "including a mating pair"), Small Copper (5), Red Admiral (3 "taking ivy nectar").

Monday 11th October

Mike Wildish reports from Upper Clatford (SU 355 435) where the following observations were made: Comma (1), Red Admiral (1). "On ivy, in sun and despite chilly wind".

D W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1), Elephant Hawk Moth (1 Larva "Has been in the garden since 2nd Sept and is feeding on Great Willow Herb").

Barrie Roberts reports from Harold Hillier Gardens (SU375238) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3), Comma (1), Small White (2).

Michael Skelton writes: "Almost 5 months since my last sighting I have today seen 6 or 7 Clouded Yellows on the Boscombe/Southbourne cliffs. Where on earth have they come from. I saw none yesterday or the day before in even warmer conditions."



Clouded Yellow

Robert Guest reports from Yateley Common (SU822593) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1).

David Tinling reports from Browdown South(west) (SZ574994) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (2).

Sunday 10th October

Leanne Baker reports from Southampton old cemetery (SU41251369) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1), Brimstone (1), Speckled Wood (13).

Saturday 9th October

Ashley Whitlock writes: "Visited Oxenbourne Down today with Commas feeding on Bramble berries with a count of (14) several of these were very fresh with very heavy orange and brown markings. Also seen were (22) Small Coppers in and around the many scrubby parts of the downland. Red Admiral (1) Speckled Wood (1) Small Tortoiseshell (1), I would have to go back at least a decade to record seeing a Small Tortoiseshell in October. Very nice to see though! Other than these species very little else of note."

Robin Turner writes: "Whilst butterfly numbers have declined rapidly over the last month or so, moths are still around in good numbers. Last night I caught 284 moths of 35 species. The most numerous were Chestnut (114), Yellow-line Quaker (58) and Barred Sallow (18). Below are a few from those caught to illustrate the rich variety that are still flying."



Light Emerald



Merveille du Jour



Barred Sallow

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2), Speckled Wood (1).

Friday 8th October

Dave Pearson reports from Chineham Business Park (SU650551) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "Male").

Andrew Bolton reports from set aside field, Whitchurch (SU458489) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1), Small Copper (1).

Thursday 7th October

Mike Wildish reports from Chilbolton Common (SU 387 403) where the following observations were made: Peacock (1), Red Admiral (3).

Mike Wildish reports from Chilbolton, Westdown (SU 385 395) where the following observations were made: Comma (3), Red Admiral (2), Small Copper (3). "Today's lists joint with Mervyn Grist".

Mike Gibbons writes: "The Strawberry Tree in my Christchurch garden was heaving with Red Admirals this morning with 10 seen nectaring on the white flowers and others circling over the top and settling out of sight. These were joined by a Comma and a Speckled Wood. Later in the day some Red Admirals moved to the large yellow buddleia which had earlier this week had visits from Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock. At one point my garden was like Piccadilly Circus with criss-crossing Red Admirals and Hornets overhead, the Hornets seem to have a nest nearby. I later visited Southbourne Undercliff where I only saw 1 Large White and 1 Small White."

Wednesday 8th October

Lynn Fomison reports that a Hummingbird Hawkmoth is still a regular visitor in her Ropley garden. She has seen it today, yesterday & Monday as well! Lynn adds on these three days it was nectaring on a late flowering buddleia - which just shows the value of blooms in October. As well as a couple of buddleias still blooming there are several clumps of michelmas daisies and sedum, with ivy just about flowering too - a veritable feast for late butterflies, moths and bees!

Richard Symonds reports from Chalton Down (SU736156) where the following observations were made: Meadow Brown (4), Comma (2), Common Blue (1 "Female"), Buff Ermine (1 Larva). "Following a gloomy, rainy start earlier in the morning the sun made a return. The temperature was 14°C but getting warmer. I covered most of the site but the grass was very wet. The few Meadow Browns that I saw were still in good condition and I nearly trod on a Garden Tiger moth larva. I disturbed a single female Common Blue which soon settled for a photo."



Comma



Common Blue



Buff Ermine

Richard Symonds reports from North Hayling Halt, Hayling Billy Trail (SU718028) where the following observations were made: Small White (4), Small Copper (4), Peacock (3), Red Admiral (5), Speckled Wood (2). "After lunch being such a warm sunny afternoon I decided to walk in my neighbourhood to see what was flying. On the Hayling Billy cycle trail mainly centred near to North Hayling Halt car park I saw most of my sightings, with ox-eye daisies and other hardy flowers providing food for Small Whites and Small Coppers in particular. All the Red Admirals that I saw were very fresh with the black areas looking like velvet. Several Common Darter dragonflies were also active."

Leanne Baker reports from Southampton old cemetery (SU41221368) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (4). "There was a large number of different types of ladybird present."

B P & M M Fletcher reports from Fritham Plain + Sloden Inclosure (SU2113) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (9 "Feeding on ivy blossom in the crown of an old Oak"), Brimstone (2), Speckled Wood (2), Small Heath (1), Small Copper (1).

Monday 4th October

Leanne Baker reports from Southampton old cemetery (SU41241354) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3), Speckled Wood (2).

Mervyn Grist reports from Old Rectory Field Tidworth (SU237469) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (3 "Two males and one female"), Small Copper (1), Comma (1), Red Admiral (1), Meadow Brown (1), Hummingbird Hawk Moth (1 "Nectaring on Devils-bit scabious"). "Only a few species but a reward for four hours spent cutting back invasive sycamore at this VC12 downland site (although administratively in Wilts). John and Julie Moon and I had just commented on the lack of Harlequin ladybirds this year when suddenly a lot emerged in the warm autumn sunshine and were quite troublesome."

D W Hunt reports from Garden (SU550033) where the following observations were made: Large White (1).

B P & M M Fletcher reports from Hinton Ampner (SU596275) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1), Comma (1).

Sunday 3rd October

Lynn Fomison writes: "Unbelievably a Humming-bird Hawkmoth was flying in the rain this morning looking for a dry spot in a thick hedge in the garden."

Friday 1st October

Thelma Smalley reports from Bentley Station Meadow (SU792432) where the following observations were made: Common Blue (108 "This is the total number seen on the annual weekly counts for this year").

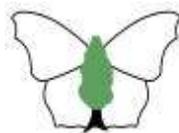
Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)

Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209

Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)



Butterfly Conservation
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire an
Isle of Wight Bra**

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[CONSERVATION](#)

[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)

[SIGHTINGS](#)

[PUBLICATI](#)

Monday 22nd November

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(east),Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "basking & flying").

David Tinling reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat,Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "basking & flying").

David Tinling reports from Browdown North(south-west) (SZ579998) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "male basking & flying").

Richard Symonds reports from Stoke, Hayling Island (SU722021) where the following observations were made: Twenty-plume Alucita hexadactyla (1). "Finding a place to hibernate within my house over the winter months. Probably my last sighting this year?".



Twenty-plume Moth

Friday 19th November

Chris Hall reports from Eelmoor (SU 837531) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "Flying along south-facing bank in early afternoon sunshine, temperature 8C."), Common darter dragonfly (1 "basking on fence").

David Tinling reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat,Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Anne McCue & David Tinling reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(west),Gosport (SU598002) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2).

Tuesday 16th November

Peter Hutchins writes on the UK-Leps group: "Just a quick note to say that a Small Tortoiseshell was on the wing in central Overton, Hampshire early this afternoon; the first locally for some time now."

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(east),Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (4).

Anne McCue & David Tinling reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(west),Gosport (SU598002) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3 "taking ivy nectar").

David Tinling reports from Kingfisher Caravan Park,Gosport (SZ585992) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "taking nectar from Elaeagnus ebbingei").

David Tinling reports from Alverstoke,Gosport (601986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "taking ivy nectar").

David Tinling reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat,Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Monday 15th November

Dan Hoare reports from Hurst Beach (SZ295911) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1). "Flying West along beach in sunshine this afternoon".

peter gardner reports from warblington (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3 "nectaring on ivy and grandfathers beard").

Wednesday 10th November

David Tinning writes: "On 15th May 2010 at Exbury Gardens(SZ419999), south of Southampton. I disturbed and photographed a very rare black and white Small Copper ab.schmidtii(=ab.alba). This appears to be the first Hampshire sighting, at least in recent times. For many years Jeremy Thomas observed this aberration at a small colony in Dorset (ref."The Butterflies of Britain & Ireland" 2010), and one was photographed by Mike Kerry on 4th September 2010 at Hope Gap, Seaford Head, E.Sussex (ref.www.sussex-butterflies.org.uk). In 2009 and 1991 a Small Copper with a one black and white forewing and three normal wings was observed in Hampshire (ref. Hampshire & Isle of Wight Butterfly & Moth Report 2009 page 52)."



Small Copper ab *schmidtii* Small Copper ab *schmidtii*

Mike Wildish reports from Kentsboro (SU 307 401) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "Basking in sun, despite very cold day").

Peter Hunt reports from Bonchurch Shute, Isle of Wight (SZ547768) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2). "Both together basking in the sun on a south facing allotment bank".



Red Admiral

Red Admiral

David Tinning reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat, Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2 "taking ivy nectar").

David Tinning reports from Stanley Park, Stokes Bay, Gosport (SZ592989) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "taking Mahonia nectar").

David Tinning reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery (east), Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "taking ivy nectar").

David Tinning reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery (west), Gosport (SU598002) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3 "taking ivy nectar").

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery (east), Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (3).

Anne McCue reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat, Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2).

Anne McCue reports from Solent Way,Gosport (SZ596990) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Andrew Bolton reports from Axmansford, nr Tadley (SU566607) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "last of the year, warming itself on the driveway").



Red Admiral

Tuesday 9th November

peter gardner reports from froxfield garden (SU479298) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "in perfect condition"). "sunbathing and necturing on ivy by our backdoor".

Sunday 7th November

Richard Symonds reports from Stoke, Hayling Island (SU722021) where the following observations were made: Peacock (1). "A single Peacock glided past the side of my house this morning in the sunshine."

peter gardner reports from froxfield garden (SU47942981) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "perfect"). "it was necturing in beautiful sunshine on ivy outside our backdoor".

Mick Langridge & David Tinling reports from Gilkicker(south-west),Gosport (SZ603979) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "basking on shingle path").

David Tinling reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat,Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2 "basking on nettles & tree-trunk").

David Tinling reports from Solent Way,Gosport (SZ596990) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1 "taking ivy nectar").

Mick Langridge & David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker,Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Small White (1 "fresh 3rd brood male taking knapweed nectar"), Red Admiral (1). "Also Red-tailed Bumble-bee,Bombus lapidarius, foraging on Sea Radish."

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(east),Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2).

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery(west),Gosport (SU598002) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Mick Langridge reports from Old Railway Path, Gosport (SZ606984) where the following observations were made: Speckled Wood (1 "Enjoying late sunshine"). "Apart from Red Admirals this was my last sighting of 2010. Thanks to Anne McCue I was able to see and photograph at least one example of all 46 Hampshire species during 2010."



Speckled Wood

Saturday 6th November

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1), Speckled Wood (1 "fresh 4th(?) brood"). "Also Ivy Bees, Colletes hederæ, returning to their nest holes laden with ivy pollen, and 90 Brent Geese on the Gilkicker Lagoon."

David Tinling reports from Gosport & Stokes Bay Golf Course (north-east) (SZ612981) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Wednesday 3rd November

mark swann reports from lower test (SU366137) where the following observations were made: Holly Blue (1). "a very fresh looking specimen flying along the hedgerow".

Michael Scoggins reports from Court Drove, Overton (SU508510) where the following observations were made: Brimstone (1 "Male, good condition"). "Butterfly actively patrolling the hedge line in a sheltered sunny site. An unusually warm morning for early November."

Michael Scoggins reports from Overton, field North of church (SU514501) where the following observations were made: Small Tortoiseshell (1 "Insect in good condition"). "Butterfly attracted to Dandelion in flower in field. Weather warm and sunny."

David Tinling reports from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (1 "4th brood, taking ragwort nectar").

David Tinling reports from Stokes Bay Old Moat, Gosport (SZ594986) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (2 "taking ivy nectar").

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery (east), Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (7), Speckled Wood (5).

Anne McCue reports from Solent Way, Gosport (SZ596990) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Monday 1st November

Anne McCue, David Tinling & Mick Langridge report from Fort Gilkicker, Gosport (SZ606975) where the following observations were made: Small Copper (4 "4th brood, taking nectar from ragwort, cat's-ear & knapweed"), Red Admiral (1), Painted Lady (1). "Also a tandem-pair of Migrant Hawkers & 4 Common Darters".

Anne McCue reports from Ann's Hill Cemetery (east), Gosport (SU602001) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (9), Speckled Wood (4).

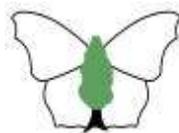
Anne McCue reports from Haslar (south-west), Gosport (SZ614981) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Anne McCue reports from Leesland Park, Gosport (SU607000) where the following observations were made: Red Admiral (1).

Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)
Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209
Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)



Butterfly Conservation
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Hampshire an
Isle of Wight Bra**

[HOME](#)[ABOUT US](#)[EVENTS](#)[CONSERVATION](#)[HANTS & IOW SPECIES](#)[SIGHTINGS](#)[PUBLICATI](#)

Tuesday 21st December

Lynn Fomison writes: "Here is a seasonal picture! It is hard to recognise that under this snow covered vegetation a lovely ball shaped clump of ivy lurks. Whilst butterfly sightings are extremely unlikely it is reassuring to think that maybe an odd Brimstone is hibernating in here. It is easy to create an ivy feature in your garden. This one is very large about five feet in diameter & growing up a disused telegraph pole. An ivy plant trained up a four foot post will soon provide arborescent foliage - that is woody, flowering stems & a nice dense shape. Its value to butterflies is three fold - an hibernation spot, nectar in late autumn & a larval food source in late summer for Holly Blues.



"Ivy"

Copyright Butterfly Conservation © 2005-2008 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch

[Privacy and Copyright Statement](#)

Butterfly Conservation: Company limited by guarantee, registered in England (2206468)

Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5QP, Tel: 01929 400 209

Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)