

No 79

Summer 2011

# ON THE WING

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Butterfly  
Conservation

The newsletter of  
Bedfordshire & Northamptonshire Butterfly Conservation

I hope you all have had a good butterfly season, this year seems an unusually long one, mainly due to the early emergence of nearly all of our native species. The annual pilgrimage to Glaphorn Cow Pastures to see the Black Hairstreak being a classic example of this. Turn to page 4 to get the full story! The AGM in Northampton (below) was again very well attended, the annual photographic competition proving a big hit.



The branch is still looking for a co-ordinator for the Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey, this is at the moment being done by an already overstretched member of the committee. Details on page 7.

Finally a chance to dust down your old archives! Does anyone possess a photograph or slide of a 'Northants' (or very close) Chequered Skipper! This would be included in a forthcoming book being put together about the butterflies of Northamptonshire. Anyone that can help, please get in touch with either myself or Doug Goddard (details of contact on the back page)

Andy

**We would like to issue a warm welcome to the following new members who have joined our Branch since the publication of the last newsletter**

- |                              |                   |                                      |                    |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Paul Bennett                 | Stamford          | Mrs Tracey Gould                     | Road               |
| Mr & Mrs Bloomer & family    | Wootton, Beds     | David Hall                           | Leighton Buzzard   |
| Ms C Burbanks & Mr A McDaid  | Egham, Surrey     | Mrs Nicola Hazell                    | Milton Keynes      |
| Pat & Jeff Carpenter         | Waresley, Sandy   | Jasmine Knox                         | Barton Seagrave    |
| Dr Jason Chapman             | Luton             | John Lepley                          | Welwyn Garden City |
| Mr & Mrs P Clayson           | Daventry          | Mrs M Oates-Oram, Mr T Oram & Family | Renhold, Beds      |
| Mike Coleman                 | Bletchley         | Janice Robertson                     | Milton Keynes      |
| David Cooper                 | Linslade          | Mr & Mrs Strang                      | Towcester          |
| Jackie Corcoran              | Kettering         | Mr D Sweetland                       | Yardley Gobion     |
| Martin & Alison Day & Family | Leighton Buzzard  | Mrs Ann Sykes                        | Little Houghton    |
| Keith Dickerson              | Ashton, near Road | Gavin York                           | Broughton          |
| Margaret Farren              | Irthlingborough   |                                      |                    |
| Stephen & Rachel French      | Brackley          |                                      |                    |
| Chris Gillman                | Cogenhoe          |                                      |                    |

We look forward to meeting you at some of our future events.



The day before Easter Sunday was unseasonably hot in the Wyre Forest this year. We were staying at the edge of the forest, for some peace and quiet and, of course, for the chance of seeing some spring butterflies. The Wyre Forest guide from the West Midlands branch suggested that, at this time of year, we would be able to spot the common spring species such as the Brimstone, Orange-tip, Speckled Wood and the Small and Large Whites, as well as the more specialist species such as the Green Hairstreak and even a fritillary – the Pearl-Bordered one.

We didn't think we'd be so lucky to see the Fritillary, so we set off in search of the Green Hairstreak which we hadn't yet seen this year. We weren't sure where in the forest they would be so we headed off in a rough direction of the butterfly 'hot spots' on the guide map. Our route took us down into the heart of the forest to the Dowles Brook where we spotted a dipper perched on the rocks. Having just seen the usual spring species and not really knowing where we were, it felt like it might be an uneventful day on the butterfly front. But it was getting hotter and the sun cream was required! We headed up a dusty track where violets and other blue-purple flowers bordered the track edges. Out of the corner of my eye I spotted what I thought was a Speckled Wood. It settled for a micro-second then flew off. But that was long enough to realise that it was no Speckled Wood! It was distinctly a member of the Fritillary family. I couldn't find where it had flown off too so I hung around the area for a while before heading further up the track still wondering what it

was. It wasn't long until I was being called to come up further because "there's loads of them up here!" Sure enough the Fritillary seemed to be everywhere, especially in a clearing which looked like it had been cut back in the previous winter.

On consulting the guide I decided it must be a Pearl-Bordered Fritillary (PBF) (rather than the Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary) as it was the right time of year. They seemed to like the blue and purple plants such as Bugle and Vetch and also the Violet, which I learnt later, is their larval food plant.



We never did find a Green Hairstreak but that didn't seem to matter anymore! I had a new species to add to my list along with a host of photos and videos. One particularly docile PBF was happy to sit on my finger whilst I snapped away!



June 19th 2011



This year, the Black Hairstreak, the famous resident of this reserve, where we hold an annual Open Day, had emerged on 28th May, its earliest ever recorded hatching date. Consequently, we were in Day 23 of the flight period of a species renowned for its short life span. The Wildlife Trust, who were to follow us with an afternoon session, cancelled this, on the basis that the season would be over. However, thankfully, rumours of the demise of *pruni* turned out to be greatly exaggerated. Visitors had come from Petersfield in Hampshire, Bolton in Lancashire and Cromer, mingling with local members and a contingent from the Desborough Wildlife Group. As we walked into the wood, the sun began to break through the clouds and we were met by Dick Smith, the reserve's warden, who announced that there was a Black Hairstreak on the dewberry bushes in the "hot spot". As we entered this area, there it was, though a rather old and tattered specimen. Soon after, it was joined by another one in better state, then four others, two of which were in good condition. They settled at eye level, very

obligingly giving everyone ample opportunity for close inspection and photography, a particularly satisfying experience for those who had not seen them before. Large Skippers, a Small Skipper, Meadow Browns and Ringlets also came down to nectar.

We decided to leave this spot for a while to wander deeper into the wood to look for Silver-washed Fritillary which had been seen here the day before. Unfortunately, this species did not appear, but Green-veined White, a Red Admiral and a couple of Speckled Woods were added to our list. When we searched some wild privet for Black Hairstreak, a blue butterfly flitted across to settle high above us. After some debate, the rather faded specimen was identified as a Holly Blue.

As we returned to our starting point, the party began to disperse, and I noticed a female Black Hairstreak fly into a clump of blackthorn, before witnessing her crawl under the leaves. I just made out her abdomen being lowered to lay an egg, a sight I have rarely seen. Sadly, a large bramble bush prevented inspection of the twig to observe the egg. This was a fitting climax to what I would regard as the most memorable field trip we have had in Glaphthorn, making up for the rather frustrating one of the previous year and surpassing all expectations at the outset.



*The egg-laying Black Hairstreak*

*Photos Doug Goddard*

*Birmingham, 12th March 2011*

This is an annual meeting, open to all recorders, at which the previous year's recording and monitoring are reviewed, with updates on current trends. This is supplemented by talks on other interesting aspects. Andy Wyldes, Greg Herbert and I were present from the branch. Below is a summary of the day's proceedings.

### The State of the UK's Butterflies

*Richard Fox*

- The harsh winter meant few sightings before April
  - The Silver-washed Fritillary, Dingy Skipper and, in the West Country, Small Tortoiseshell, had a very good year
  - It was a poor year for migrant species
- Records on the database now number 7.9 million and an analysis of trends between 2001 and 2005-2009 can be made:
- High Brown Fritillary (down 49%), Pearl-bordered Fritillary (43%), Duke of Burgundy (28%), Wood White (23%) and Wall Brown (20%) have all suffered a decline in range and a loss of colonies.
  - Lulworth Skipper, Essex Skipper and Small Tortoiseshell have all had big declines in abundance.



*Silver-washed Fritillary - doing well.*

2010 government biodiversity targets have not been met, but there is cause for optimism, particularly for some of our BAP species:

- The Silver-studded Blue and Dingy Skipper were declining, but are now stable
- The distribution of the Heath Fritillary and White Admiral have increased
- The distribution of the Brown Hairstreak is stable and the White-letter Hairstreak's has increased
- Populations of the Small Pearl-bordered have stabilised and the Large Heath's have increased.

### Update on the UKBMS Monitoring Scheme

*Tom Brereton*

Data from 928 transects, an increase of 34, and 110 other sites were received this year. 270 years of historical data have been added, from an extra 49 sites. The **Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey**, though having a 10% drop in contributors, covered nearly 700 squares, with 46 species recorded. 48% of squares were survey by BTO volunteers, 52% by BC. Two new species, Marsh Fritillary and Real's Wood White, were recorded, but Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Wood White and Silver-studded Blue were not seen. The five most abundant were the three Whites, Gatekeeper and Meadow Brown. Holly Blue (18th most common), Brown Argus (19th) and Silver-washed Fritillary (21st) did well. Painted Lady was down 21 places to 27th. Overall there were 30% fewer butterflies, one less species, but a four-fold increase in day-flying moths, particularly the Silver-Y and the Burnet moths. Funding has been acquired for 2011-14, and the project will be led by JNCC, not DEFRA.

## Butterfly Trends for 2010 from the UKBMS

*Marc Botham*

2010 ranked 14th of the 35 years since 1976. 21 species were down in numbers from 2009, 33 up. The Spring species were out of hibernation late, but a late April allowed catching up. June was very warm and dry, July above average, but August was cold and wet, and December the coldest on record. The wider countryside species were down 5%, habitat specialists down 19%, migrants down 88%, though there was an increase in Red Admirals and 15 of our 20 Priority species improved.

- Large Heath had its best year ever
- Lulworth Skipper and Meadow Brown had their worst ever
- Wood White, Holly Blue, Common Blue, Marsh Fritillary and White Admiral showed the top five annual increases
- Wood White was up 60% on the previous year
- Blues as a whole showed an increase, apart from Small Blue
- Fritillaries, namely Marsh, Silver-washed, Dark Green, Small Pearl-bordered, Pearl-bordered and Heath, increased
- The five biggest losers were Large White, Lulworth skipper, Speckled Wood, Essex Skipper and Comma
- The Lulworth skipper had its fourth worst year in a row
- It was a bad year for the three common Whites and the Brimstone
- It was a poor year for the Browns: Speckled Wood, Wall, Meadow Brown, Marbled White, Ringlet and Gatekeeper



*Speckled Wood - poor year.*

## Butterfly Recording in Warwickshire

*Mike Slater*

Mike explained how the coverage of species on the distribution maps has been achieved for common species, by successive site visits in May (counting Orange-tip eggs and larvae as well as adults), June (Large Skipper adults only), July (Meadow Brown) and August (Gatekeeper). Warwickshire had also recorded Purple Hairstreaks over almost the whole county by training observers and use of evening visits. Over a five-year period, he aims to ensure maximum coverage by 10km squares. A site register is kept for extinct species, surveying whether the species are present and potential for return. These sites are recorded every two years, and work done with landowners and management. By practical measures, Grizzled Skipper has increased to 49 colonies, Dingy Skipper to 51 and White Admiral to 30. The latter's records have been enhanced by training in recognition of larvae. In 1999, there were three colonies of Small Blue in the county, all under threat. Now there are six.



*Small Blue*

## High Brown Fritillary in South Wales

*Richard Smith*

In south Wales, the High Brown Fritillary is found in bracken stands where dog violets grow, and in woodland clearings on limestone outcrops. Grants were received from Aggregate Tax sources during 2003-2006 to provide site management and study the butterfly's populations. The project was launched by use of Guided Walks, Training Days, Newsletters, Press Releases and links with the local heritage centre. As a result of management, viola abundance increased by two-thirds, sward height more than halved and grass, moss and bramble cover decreased. In Feb. 2007, a fencing grant was received to allow grazing by large animals on sites. The success of the project can be measured by an increase in numbers on the sites, and discoveries of larvae.

## Butterfly Pathogens

*Helen Roy*

Helen gave a fascinating presentation on this highly specialised field, being carried out at the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. She explained how pathogens occur in chalk grassland, and how susceptible to them butterflies are. Pathogens consist of bacteria, microsporidia, fungi and viruses. Larvae often pick up spores from leaves, which are studied, along with the dead larvae found, to be dissected and examined in microscopic detail. In some cases, pathogens lead to the demise of all male eggs, leaving a female-only generation. Research into this "dark side" of the interaction between insects and other groups is in its infancy, but will undoubtedly break new ground and lead to greater understanding as to why butterfly populations can fluctuate hugely from one year to the next.

Finally, Patrick Barkham of the Guardian provided an entertaining glimpse into his writing of his book "The Butterfly Isles", the highs and lows of a year spent in pursuit

of all of our native species, plus the Queen of Spain Fritillary, in 2009. His theme was "What Butterflies do for us" rather than what we do for the butterflies. This book was reviewed in our last newsletter. If you have not done so, get hold of a copy and read it. Patrick encapsulates perfectly what it is about butterflies that enchant us all so much.



## Wider Countryside Butterfly survey

We are still looking for someone to carry on the sterling work done by Julian Bull in co-ordinating the Wider Countryside Butterfly survey. This is an important part of our national and local recording scheme. Excellent support is provided by National Head Office and the role is an administrative one, with no specialist knowledge of butterflies required. Please contact Doug Goddard or Stuart Pittman if you are willing to assist.



# Branch Photographic Competition 2011

*The competition was judged by our guest speaker David Newland*



## **Chairman's Shield**

1. Winner of the Best British butterfly: David Irvin with Wood Whites.
2. Runner up of the Best British butterfly: Judith Barnard with a Pearl-Bordered Fritillary

## **Best British Moth Shield**

3. Winner of the Best British Moth: Charles Baker with a Five spot Burnet Moth.
4. Runner up of the Best British Moth: Lorna Evans with a Chimney Sweep moth.



5.



7.



6.



8.



### Butterfly Conservation Shield

5. Winner of Best Early Stages: Emma Whitfield and a Burnet larva and parasitic grubs.  
6. Runner up of Best Early Stages: Doug Goddard with a Holly Blue larva.



### Don Askew Memorial Shield

7. Winner of Branch Activities: Doug Goddard with Photographers at the Glapthorn hotspot!  
8. Runner up: Emma Whitfield and Common Blue in sandwich box!

### FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK BUTTERFLY DAY MAY 14th 2011

Our third annual Butterfly Day at Brigstock was unfortunately not well attended; a combination of a poor weather forecast and the counter-attraction of the Cup Final kept people away. Few sales were made from our stall, but a small number attended each of our guided walks around the site, and, although not many species were flying, they were able to enjoy close views of the key ones, enabling ample opportunities to photograph and study their behaviour. It was still cool with a stiff breeze when our first sortie began, but, as we approached the south-facing bank near the butterfly board, there was just sufficient warmth to entice Dingy and Grizzled Skippers and Common Blues into action. They basked long enough for everyone in the group to get close views and take photographs. A Green Hairstreak took a little longer to locate among the hawthorns. These are good species to show to the general public. They are always amazed by the small size of the Grizzled Skipper in particular, and the amazing cryptic colouring of a Green Hairstreak.

A couple of Brown Argus put in an appearance, but activity came to a standstill as the cloud thickened and a shower of rain followed. The question of “Where do butterflies go when the sun goes in?” was then answered with sightings of all five species at roost. Grizzled and Dingy Skippers were located on the dead heads of knapweed, while Common Blues and Brown Argus perched hanging face-down among the grass stems. The subtle differences in markings of these latter two were pointed out. What was particularly intriguing, however, was the sight of a Green hairstreak crawling onto the underside of a hawthorn leaf to sit out a shower before re-appearing.

When the sun did come out again, a patch of ragged robin in the marsh by the woodland pond took our attention, as Dingy Skippers, Common Blues and Brown Argus nectared in turn on the flowers. The only other species to be seen was a Red Admiral, which settled briefly on the ground during our afternoon walk.

Many thanks are due to Andy Wyldes and Judith Barnard who accompanied the walks and John Elliott who manned the stall throughout the day.

*Douglas Goddard*



## SALCEY FOREST 5th JUNE 2011

There was a good attendance for this joint field trip, the twenty participants comprising nine from the Lincolnshire branch, five from Upper Thames, two from East Midlands and four, including myself, from our branch.

All came in eager anticipation of seeing the Wood White, which had emerged in Northants during April for the first time and was enjoying its best season for years.

We duly set off in sunshine towards one of the two hotspots in the wood, the rides in the vicinity of Piddington Lodge. We stopped to admire a common lizard on Church Path Oak. However, it was some distance before we sighted a butterfly at all, a Speckled Wood, and some time before we located our quarry at rest by the side of the path, with another nearby in the ditch behind. More were seen as we turned into a more open north-south ride, cleared a couple of years ago, along with a newly-emerged Large Skipper. A female in an adjacent, very sheltered east-west ride fluttered around and settled on meadow vetchling, looking to lay eggs, but this event was to elude us on this occasion. More Speckled Woods, Large White and several Green-veined Whites were seen, and a Red Admiral stopped to nectar on the flowers of dogwood.

The party became a little dispersed as we completed our circuit of the north-west corner of the forest, and the exact number of Wood Whites seen in the morning was debated, but my count was thirteen.

One couple saw courtship briefly, but the highlight was finding one at rest on a common spotted orchid. Snout and Blood-vein moths and a Broad-bodied Chaser dragonfly were identified.

After a pause for lunch, we headed down the main path towards the Conservation Car Park at the other end of the wood, towards the second main area for Wood White.

Five more were seen in the first hundred

metres, in an open ride created last year, but sightings stopped as we entered an area of denser canopy. A Holly Blue settled on top of an umbellifer, and we found two Brown Argus and a Small Copper roosting in an old loading bay.

Unfortunately, as we reached the other end of the forest, it started to rain. We did see another two Wood Whites at rest in what is usually the most productive area for them, but by now no insects were flying. Larvae became the new interest, a number of Orange-tip being found on garlic mustard and several quite small Comma ones on elms. Our final stop, an open clearing, had three Common Blues roosting on grass stems, Cinnabar moth larvae and a bee orchid in flower.

It was mid-afternoon when we reached the main car park after a six-mile circuit to end what everyone agreed had been a very worthwhile day.

*Douglas Goddard*



*Wood White in Salcey*

## TOTTERNHOE, 22nd MAY 2011

Braving a cool, strong wind and in mostly overcast conditions, five members left the Totternhoe Knolls car park and headed westwards, quickly reaching a part of the former quarry which has been acquired by the Wildlife Trust with assistance from this Branch. The area in question has been changed recently by the creation of a flat pathway through large mounds of chalk scree which it is hoped will one day be carpeted in wild flowers. Approaching the small remaining area of active quarrying operations we saw our first Small Blue of the day which stayed immobile for just long enough to ensure positive identification. Having been advised that the Duke of Burgundy had probably peaked a fortnight earlier in the peculiar weather conditions we are currently experiencing we did not expect to find any



*Old quarry workings at Totternhoe*

stragglers. In spite of a thorough search of its usual haunts the Duke did indeed prove elusive. While we were in what is perhaps the deepest and most enclosed part of the site, Greg Herbert had a fleeting glimpse of a Dingy Skipper.

During a break from the walk, the party sighted a solitary Green Hairstreak at ground level just below the rim of the deep depression. With the wind speed increasing, we resumed our walk around the eastern edge of the site where the path is enclosed by high hedges. During that particular stretch a Dingy Skipper in good condition came to rest in front of us, thereby enabling everyone to get a good view of it. The sun returned for the final section of our walk along the base of a high chalk cliff on the south eastern edge of the site where Greg consistently records hundreds of Small Blue each year. Here our perseverance was rewarded with the sighting of a single Common Blue and at least 13 fresh Small Blue, a group of which fluttered around a clump of fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*). Our thanks go to Greg for leading us round the site.

*Graham Warne*

## SHARPENHOE CLAPPERS & MOLESKIN FIELD TRIP, 5th JULY 2011

The field trip to Sharpenhoe Clappers on Sunday 3rd July 2011 was a successful event. The sun shone, with patchy clouds and the temperature rose steadily to 23 degrees C. Twenty one people attended, including new faces and members of the Beds NHS. I arrived on site at 10 o'clock and before long most of the party had already assembled. However, having established a slight mix-up on the published start times between the website and magazines, there was an extra 30 minute time window to explore the Moleskin area, where some quality chalk down-land

habitat exists. In Moleskin we found Dark Green Fritillaries and some early emerging Chalkhill Blues (16). We had been rewarded with a close look at two of Sharpenhoe's speciality butterflies and in half-shade conditions this favoured photography. At 11 o'clock we returned to the car-park to pick up any late arrivals and the second part of the field trip experience officially began.

We first made our way over towards the eastern area of Sharpenhoe's extensive chalk down-lands facing Barton le Clay and then returned via the restored set-aside field, the triangular meadow, where Chalkhill Blues are found in August, and the sunken pathway that passes through the more wooded areas of the site. Unfortunately a large slow moving black cloud covered the sun for most of the route round and the butterflies became less active; however, on the positive side when we found or disturbed one, it tended not to fly too far and made observation and photography a little easier.

En route around we sighted the Dark Green Fritillary (130+) in good numbers; three other vanessids put in an appearance, Small Tortoiseshell (2), Red Admiral (2) and Comma (3). Speckled Woods (2) lurked in the dappled shade. Ringlets (90+), Marbled Whites (140+) and Meadow Browns (90+) were seen in reasonable numbers, but, as a

result of several poor summers past, were down on numbers on their past peak years. Small Heath (16) were found around in the rough set-aside, hedgerow and path edges. One early-emerging Gatekeeper was found by Peter Glenister. The tree golden skippers of summer, Large Skipper (16), Essex Skipper (3) & Small Skipper (18) were seen. The whites were between their first and second broods and so not too many of them were found. Just Large White (3) Small White (4) & Green Veined White (6) were seen. No second generation Common Blues were found and just one Holly Blue put in an appearance almost at the final step of the walk approaching the car park.

The downland on Sharpenhoe supports 27 indigenous species and of these we saw 18 on this day alone. Further, in total, I estimate that we saw around 550 individual butterflies in just 2 and a half hours, which, although well short of the summer peak for the site there were still some interesting sightings for their scarcity & speciality interest:

On returning to the hay-meadow next to the car-park at ten past one the party went on their various ways and the "newbies" said they were pleased at seeing the abundance of Sharpenhoe's butterflies; butterfly abundance being a rarer event that it once was.

*David Chandler*



*The Clappers from the Moleskin area*

*Photos Andy Wylde*

## MARSTON FOREST FIELD TRIP WEDNESDAY, 22th JUNE 2011

Mostly cloudy, cool and showery was not the ideal weather for the field trip to Marston Thrift that had been specially arranged with the aim of seeing early Summer woodland butterflies and the aspiration of a glimpse of Black Hairstreak or two. Never-the-less, eight members of Butterfly Conservation and the Beds National History Society/Friends of Marston Vale Community Forest assembled at the public car park at Wood End by the nature trails, where the walk was to begin. There had been encouraging reports from the weekend field trip at Glaphorn a few days earlier of fresh Black Hairstreak sightings and news from Ian Woiwod that Black Hairstreak had already been seen in Marston Thrift this year. So despite the news of the early emergence of Black Hairstreaks this year due to the warm spring, we trusted that the species flight period had been extended by the recent cool weather so as we set out, our hopes were raised of a “S. pruni” sighting success. As we left the car park there were Ringlets, Speckled Woods, Meadow Browns in small numbers seen; but not too much further on into the woodlands, the heavens opened and we had to shelter until a very heavy shower of rain blew over.

Ten minutes passed and the rain eased. We



*Ringlet*

*Photo Andy Wyldes*

returned to the forest trail and I took the party down the path towards the central ride that runs SW-NE. This path runs parallel to the bridle-way, but through the trees. Arriving at the forest's central ride, the sun came out and we immediately saw a Large Skipper and more Ringlets.

As we approached the central ride's crossroads we disturbed a Green Veined White. At the central ride's crossroads we were treated to a fine display of a variety of, now familiar, brown butterflies at close quarters nectaring on the flowers. We then neared the place where Peter Glenister had seen Black Hairstreak and, suddenly, there was one final fleeting moment of excitement as Ian Woiwod & I were 80% sure we spotted one flip out of the top of the bushes like a tiny penny being tossed in the air. It was there and then was gone so quickly that not everyone saw it. That was it!

It was now 11.45pm and menacing clouds were beginning to gather and it became overcast. We headed back towards the cars hoping to see a White Admiral in a more open area of bramble but to no avail. There was still time to see some dragonflies and damselflies near the ponds, more Ringlets, Meadow Browns and in the bushes when we were almost back at the cars a newly emerged Comma.

My thanks to Peter Glenister for his assistance. It was a pleasure for us to show Dave Tyler, Liz Coulson, Graham Warne, Dave Anderson, Ian Woiwod, Paul Culvert and Peter Almond in and around the forest and share in their stories during the rain-break and their obvious pleasure of natural things.

*David Chandler*

## Winter Work Party Dates 2011/12

### Northants

Date	Time	Location	Grid Reference	Contact Name	Contact No.
Sunday, October 16 <sup>th</sup> 2011	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Fermyn Woods Country Park Scrub Clearance in the Main Park	<b>SP952848</b> Park behind the Skylark Cafe	Doug Goddard	01604 408670
Sunday, November 13 <sup>th</sup> 2011	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Twywell Hills and Dales Scrub Clearance on the Transect	<b>SP938772</b> Meet in the main car park	Doug Goddard	01604 408670
Sunday, January 15 <sup>th</sup> 2012	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Fermyn Woods Country Park Work on the Thicket for Black Hairstreaks	<b>SP952848</b> Park behind the Skylark Cafe	Doug Goddard	01604 408670
Sunday, February 19 <sup>th</sup> 2012	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Twywell Hills and Dales Scrub Clearance on the Transect	<b>SP938772</b> Meet in the main car park	Doug Goddard	01604 408670
Sunday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> 2012	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Fermyn Woods Country Park Scrub Clearance in the Main Park	<b>SP952848</b> Park behind the Skylark Cafe	Doug Goddard	01604 408670

*Please ring before 9 a.m. on the day if weather conditions are looking unsuitable. If unable to attend all day, your participation for a morning or even a couple of hours would be welcome.*

*Where car parking charges normally apply, free parking will be arranged with the wardens.*

### Bedfordshire

Date	Time	Location	Grid Reference	Contact Name	Contact No.
Sunday, October 9 <sup>th</sup> 2011	10.15 a.m.	Meet in car park in centre of Sharnbrook village (Church Lane & High street), then short drive to site.	<b>SP995596</b>	Ian Kimsey	01234 781763
Sunday, November 13 <sup>th</sup> 2011	10.30 a.m.	Totternhoe	<b>SP986224</b>	Greg Herbert	01582 663784
Sunday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> 2011	10.30 a.m.	Whipsnade Bison Hill	<b>TL000185</b>	Greg Herbert	01582 663784
Sunday, January 8 <sup>th</sup> 2012		To be confirmed <a href="#">See branch website for updated details</a>			
Sunday, February 12 <sup>th</sup> 2012	10.30 a.m.	Sharpenhoe	<b>TL064296</b> Meet in the main car park	David Chandler	01923 253793
Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 a.m.	Totternhoe	<b>SP986224</b>	Greg Herbert	01582 663784

## B&N Branch Committee

Chairman	Stuart Pittman 40 Plumtree Road Lower Stondon Beds SG16 6NE	01462 851309 <a href="mailto:jossie14@aol.com">jossie14@aol.com</a>
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Branch Liaison	David Chandler 110 Norbury Avenue Watford Herts WD24 4PD	01923 253793 <a href="mailto:david@mvirtual.net">david@mvirtual.net</a>
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Bedfordshire Recorders	Keith Balmer 6 Salcome Close Bedford Beds MK40 3BA	01234 304741
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