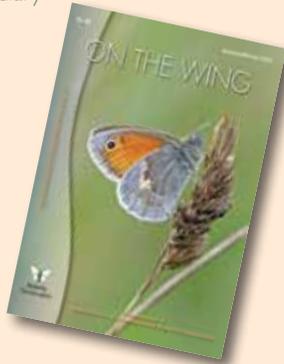


## Newsletter & Internet

A newsletter is sent out twice a year, including interesting articles from branch members plus diary dates for the coming year.



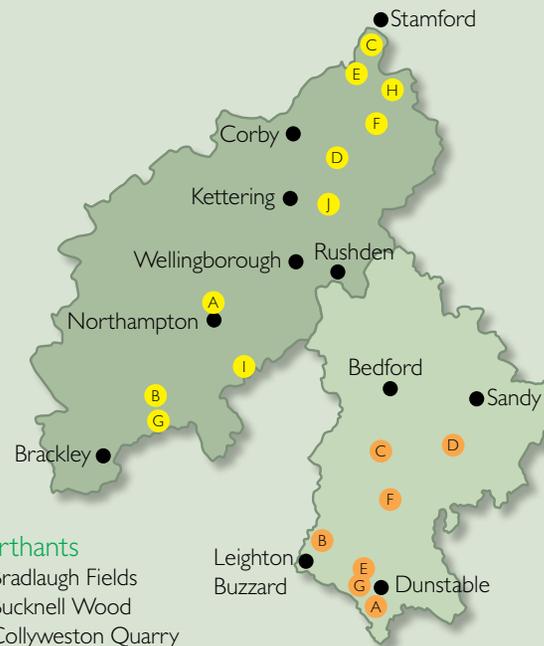
The internet now plays a major part in branch activities with most of the big social media sites being used to relay information. Our website is the cutting edge of branch activities, usually updated on a daily basis. A 'recent sightings' page for both counties is the best place to find out when a species of butterfly is on the wing. The website also contains information and links to other butterfly and moth related websites.

The Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire branch is one of the regional branches of Butterfly Conservation in the UK. We raise awareness about the threats to our butterflies, moths and their habitats and provide advice and practical help on how to protect them in this region.



[www.bedsnorthants-butterflies.org.uk](http://www.bedsnorthants-butterflies.org.uk)

## Butterfly and moth sites to visit within our region



### Northants

- A Bradlaugh Fields
- B Bucknell Wood
- C Collyweston Quarry
- D Fermyn Woods
- E Fineshade Woods
- F Glapthorn Cow Pastures
- G Hazelborough Forest
- H Old Sulehay
- I Salcey Forest
- J Twywell Hills & Dales

### Bedfordshire

- A Dunstable Downs/Bison Hill
- B King's Wood Heath & Reach
- C Marston Vale
- D Old Warden Tunnel
- E Sewell Cutting
- F Sharpenhoe Clappers
- G Totternhoe Quarry

Details of most of the above sites and how to get to them can be found on our website.

Contacts can be found on our website at  
[www.bedsnorthants-butterflies.org.uk](http://www.bedsnorthants-butterflies.org.uk)



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# Welcome to the Bedfordshire & Northamptonshire branch of Butterfly Conservation



An insight into branch activities



SAVING BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

## Field Trips



There is a programme of local field trips organised in Spring and Summer covering most of our region's butterfly species. These walks are in some of our two counties' most scenic landscapes and give you a good opportunity to find out more about specific species and what makes them tick! Each event has a pre-appointed leader who will take you around a site. Most trips will last a couple of hours.



## Conservation Work



The decline in our butterfly species is due to the loss of habitat; this can often be areas of food and nectar plants being shaded out by other vegetation. Taking out these unwanted plants is often the only way of ensuring that the key plants survive. Work is carried out on these areas usually at weekends in the Autumn and Winter, or a time when there is least disruption to plants or insects. This is always a good opportunity to join in and make a difference to some of our best butterfly habitats. It will also give you a chance to meet and get to know other members of the branch.



## AGM & Annual Photographic Competition

Usually held in the Spring and alternating between Bedford and Northampton. A quality speaker is booked for this event and the committee chosen for the following year. The highlight is always the photographic competition with four categories for entrants, the winners receiving a shield to be held for the next year.



RECORDING is an important part of finding the whereabouts of individual butterfly species in our area and monitoring them as a way of assessing long-term trends and changes. Members are urged to send any records to their county recorder, who submits them to the national computer database. Details of the recorders and other CONTACTS are to be found in our newsletter and via our website.