

Surrey & SW London Branch
AGM - Chair's Report

2nd November 2019



Small Skipper, Burgess Park in London. © Simon Saville



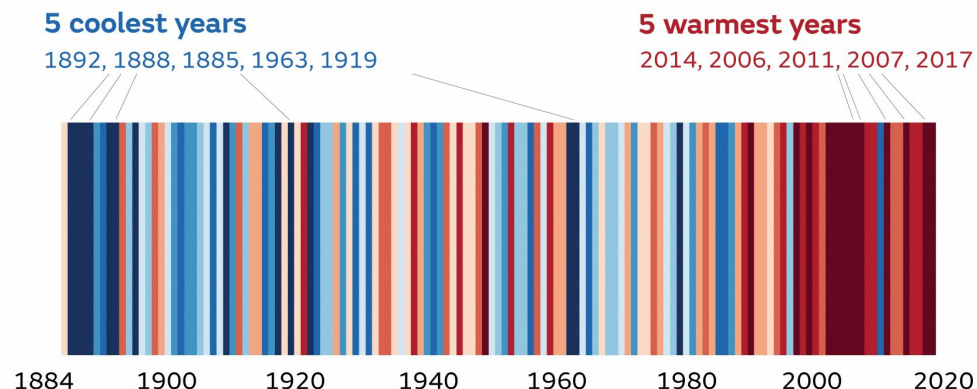
**Butterfly
Conservation**

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Climate crisis - implications for Lepidoptera?

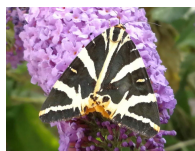


Highest-ever UK temperature (Cambridge)



Five warmest years in the UK (Met Office)

- Changes of distribution
- Migrants ⇨ residents (including pests and diseases)
- An extra brood?
- Heatwaves - desiccated food plants, lack of honeydew and nectar?
- Warmer, wetter winters - parasites?
- Phenology - out of sync with food plants or nectar?



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A migrant year



Summary items

Membership

1,434 households, +8%
About 1,800 individuals
New members' day, 6 July

Transects & WCBS

~125 & 26 walked
9 new routes, inc Bookham
Commons and London (4)

Field trips

46 in 2019
See all of Surrey's 42
butterfly species

Events

Lambeth Country Show
WILD Kingston
Several talks by members

Annual Report & *Surrey Skipper*

Hard copies
Suggest £3 donation

Big Butterfly Count

Surrey top five: Gatekeeper,
Meadow Brown, Small White,
Large White, Peacock

Communications

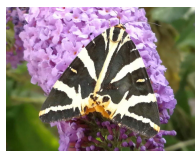
Website, emails,
Twitter, Facebook,
Surrey Skipper

Local Trustees

Karen Goldie-Morrison
Michael Johnston
Simon Saville

Committee vacancies

Contact Simon if
you want to get involved



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Overview of the last 3 years for the Branch

- Membership income now over £8,000, up from £7,000 p.a.
 - Maintained the Branch's expenditure on conservation work
 - Average £3,000 p.a.
 - More work parties
 - Contributed over £40,000 to BC Projects over 3 years
 - Nearly £5,000 p.a. from Branch funds
 - Plus £26k legacy from Eric Wynn estate
 - More projects in the Branch area
- ⇒ Total Conservation spend ca. £8,000 p.a. from Branch funds
- ✓ Enabled by reducing the Branch's core costs by nearly 50%



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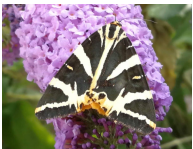
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Small Blue “Stepping Stones” project - congratulations!

- Winner of **Guildford in Bloom** Nature Conservation gold award



(L-R) Geoff Pierce, Simon Riley, Adrian Thompson, Fiona Haynes, John Tallon



Conservation work in our Branch area

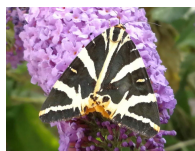
Small Blue “Stepping Stones” project ⇨ volunteer-led work parties

- Simon Riley, Libby Ralph, Sarah Henson, Bill Downey
- Scrape stewards on existing sites
- Scrape creation and habitat management on new sites

Oaken Wood Reserve, Chiddingfold

- Led by Jayne Chapman and Harry Clarke
- Major habitat improvements for the Wood White - it's responding
- Also Drab Looper, Broad-bordered Bee Hawk Moth, Betony Case-bearer
- Work parties on first Thursdays, 7 Nov - 2 Apr: please join

Details on website www.butterfly-conservation.org/surrey



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Projects - more focus on public engagement

Big City Butterflies

- May Webber
- London
- Development phase



West Weald Wood Whites

- Fiona Haynes
- Oct 2019
- Three years



Brilliant Butterflies

- Steve Bolton
- South Croydon area
- Two years, £1 million



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Building Sites for Butterflies

- Phil Sterling, Head Office
- Four years from 2018
- Wildflower grassland
e.g. road verges, parks

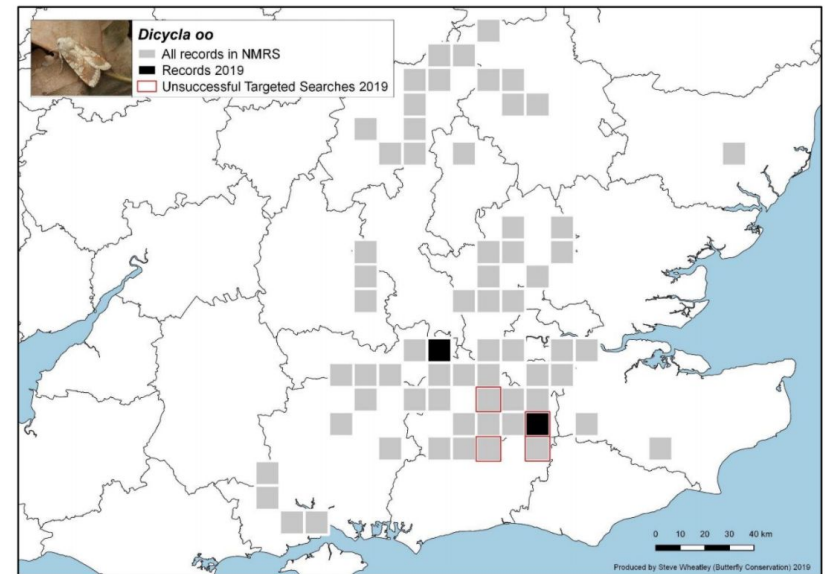


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“We Love Heart Moth” Project

- Targetted surveys, 7 sites in 2019
- Found at Harewood Estate (51) and Windsor Great Park (1)
- Other Nationally Notable moths recorded - Festoon, Rosy Marbled, *P. subcinerea* and *P. branderiana*
- Larvae feed on oaks: concern re. spraying for control of Oak Processionary Moth



- All records in NMRS (10km squares)
- Records 2019
- Unsuccessful targetted searches 2019



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Moths

- Heart Moth
- Straw Belle
- Box Moth
- Betony Case-bearer
- Jersey Tiger
- Oak Processionary

Get involved!

- Garden Moth Scheme
- Surrey moths group
- Moth Night
- New Moth Atlas,
about to be published



Clifden Nonpareil



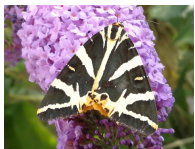
Straw Belle



Box Tree Moth



Oak Processionary



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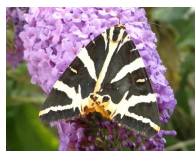
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Branch activities in London

- Eight London Boroughs (3 + 5)
- Transects, now 33 (10 + 23)
- Surprisingly good for Lepidoptera
 - Often 25+ species in Inner London green spaces
 - 30+ in Outer London
 - White-letter and Purple Hairstreaks are well distributed
- Projects
 - Big City Butterflies
 - Brilliant Butterflies
 - Building Sites for Butterflies
- Partnerships with LWT, Friends groups
- Information for Borough Ecology Officers



- Around 1,800 BC members live in London, 70% in Outer London

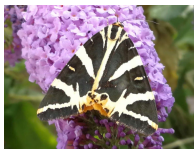


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We couldn't do it without your help!

- Volunteers
- Transect and Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey walkers
- Surveyors - Brown Hairstreak, White-letter Hairstreak (+ elms), Grayling, Silver-studded Blue, etc
- Everyone who submits records - every record counts
- Moth-ers
- Our many partners - LWT, SWT, NT, FC, landowners ... and more
- Donors
- Head Office staff
- Committee members
- Branch members



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