

Surrey & SW London Branch  
**Annual General Meeting**

11.00am, Saturday 7th November 2020



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Conservation**

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

# Surrey & SW London Branch - Annual General Meeting 2020

## Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2019 AGM (in the *Skipper*)
3. Matters arising
4. Chair's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Committee elections
7. Any other business - *none notified*

*Meeting closes*

- Informal Q&A



Holly Blue  
Burgess Park



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Sat 2 Nov, 2019, 11.00; King George V Hall, Effingham

**Chair:** Simon Saville

Attendance: **AGM 60, Members' Day 68**

**1 Apologies** Paul Wheeler

**2 Approval of 2018 Minutes**

**Proposed** .....Mike Weller

**Seconded** .....Ken Willmott

**3 Matters arising** none

**4 Chair Report** see

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/surrey-and-sw-london-branch/surrey-sw-london-agm-members-days>

**5 Treasurer: Peter Camber**

2018/19 opening balance .....£25k

Income .....£10k

Expenditure .....£6K

Conservation contributions .....£23k

Closing balance.....£6k

Full details, 2019/20 forecast & three-year summary: see

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/in-your-area/surrey-and-sw-london-branch/surrey-sw-london-agm-members-days>

**6 Committee Standing for re-election**

Simon Saville, Mike Weller, Ken Willmott

**Proposed** .....Nigel Jackman

**Seconded** .....Tony Hoare

**7 Q & A**

**Julie Williams (BC CEO):**

Surrey is a shining example of how to manage branch funds.

**Michael Friend:** will Branch have a stand at Wisley in 2020?

FK confirmed that for the 2nd year running Wisley will not host a butterfly event. Recommended were the Natural History Museum (Geoff Eaton) & Horniman Gardens, Forest Hill (SS)

**Martin Angel** described SCC's plan to plant 1.2m trees by 2030 as a knee-jerk reaction that risks the introduction of alien species.

**Nigel Jackman** asked about sponsorship: SS confirmed this is on HO radar.

● Meeting closed: 11.45

# Minutes of 2019 AGM

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- Approval
- Matters arising

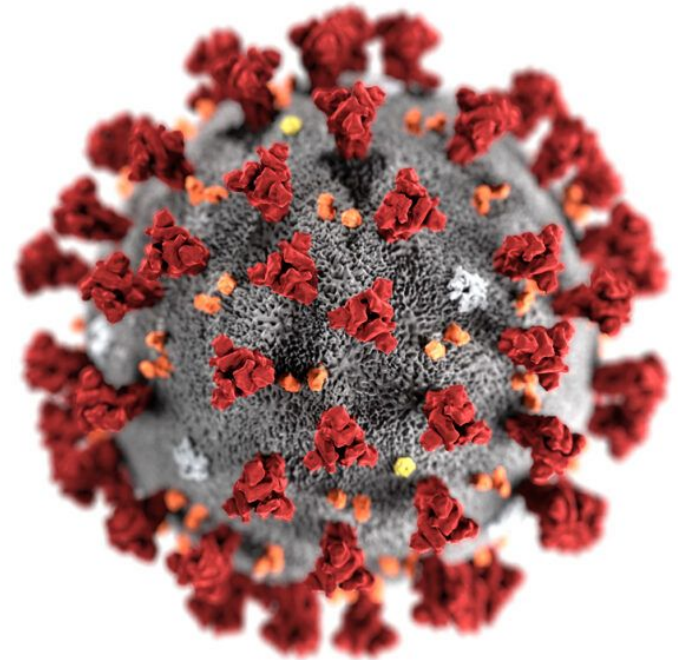
Thanks, again, to Francis Kelly for acting as minutes secretary



# Chair's Report - "A year like no other"

## Covid-19

- Significant impacts on BC
  - Reduced income
  - Grant funders closed
  - Staff reductions
  - New Senior Leadership Team
  - Reserves management now with Conservation Team
- Curtailment of work parties, and again
- Curtailment of field trips till July
- Curtailment of transect monitoring
- Cancelled New Members' Day
- No attendance at events



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# We still face a biodiversity crisis and climate crisis

- Wettest February ever
- Warm and sunny in April and May
- Very dry in May
- Windy in June and July
- Hot in August: 36.4°C
- Indian Summer

We are already seeing impacts on our butterflies and moths - flight periods and distribution



Burgess Park - 12th August

Ripe blackberry  
1st July



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# Conservation work

## Projects

- Brilliant Butterflies 2019-2021
  - PPL
  - Steve Bolton
  - With LWT & NMH
  - Croydon area
- Wood White 2019-2022
  - NLHF
  - Fiona Haynes
  - Chiddingfold area
- Heart Moth
- Big City Butterflies 2021-2025
  - London
  - NLHF decision due Dec 8th

## Work parties

- North Downs - Small Blue
- Oaken Wood - Wood White, other species (now in Fiona's project)



Brilliant Butterflies work party at Riddlesdown



# Branch matters

## Sub-committee

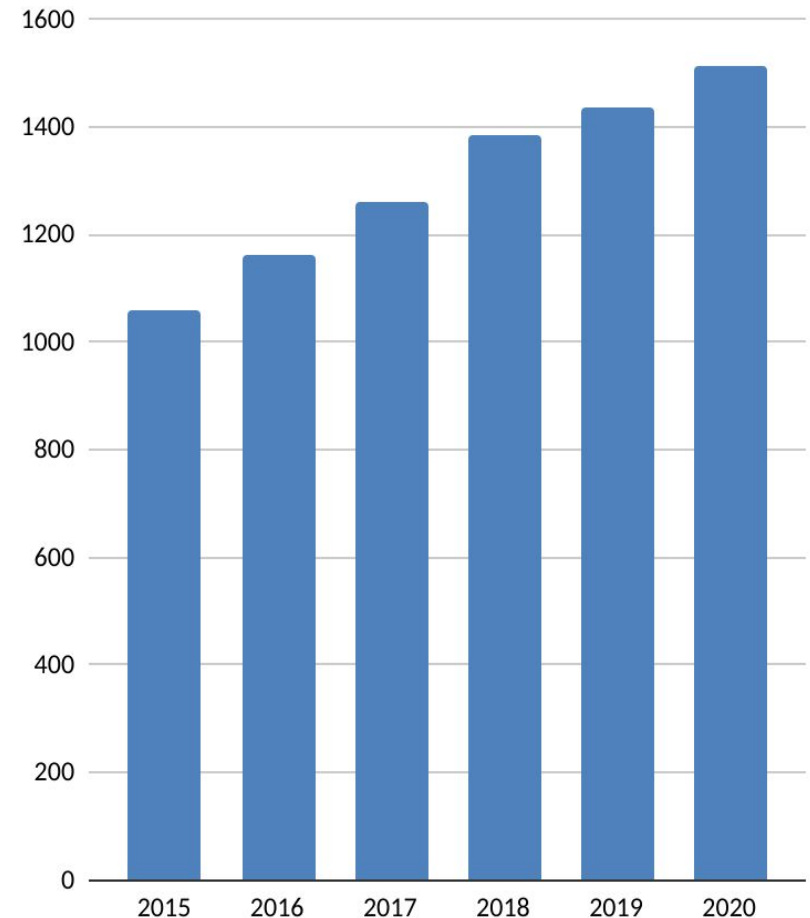
- Conservation group

## New sub-committees

- London - first meeting 3rd Nov
- Recording - still forming

## Membership

- 1,512 household members, 1st Nov
- Up 5.4% since 2019
- Now ca. 2,000 individual members
- 6th largest branch



# Transects

Despite lockdown, we have returns from

- 105 transects so far
- 20 WCBS squares
- Over 145k butterflies recorded

New transects

- Barnes Common, The Orchard
- Cannon Hill Common, Raynes Park
- Dungeon Hill, Woodmansterne
- Hogsmill Nature Trail, Malden Manor
- Stoney Rock, Polesden Lacey
- West Norwood Cemetery



Marbled White, Cannon Hill Common

Thanks to all the walkers, and to Bill Downey



# Big Butterfly Count 2020, 17th July - 9th Aug

## Nationally

- 112k recorders (-1.6%)
- 145k counts (+25%) - a record
- 1.4m butterflies counted (-11%, but 2019 included 420k Painted Ladies)
- Average number of butterflies per count was **down** 34%

## Top 10

• Large White	268,925
• Small White	260,434
• Gatekeeper	188,866
• Peacock	163,351
• Meadow Brown	146,273
• Red Admiral	82,534
• Small Tortoiseshell	56,105
• Common Blue	34,762
• Ringlet	34,577
• Comma	30,856



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# TV and publicity support

## Moth night

- Jeremy Paxman at Spencer House

## Big Butterfly Count

- Associated Press - Hutchinson's Bank
- ITV News - Burgess Park

## Butterflies and moths more generally

- ITV All around Britain - Hutchinson's Bank and Walworth Garden

Filming in Burgess Park  
July 2020



# Unusual sightings

## Uncertain origin

- Black Hairstreak on Epsom Common (Gareth Tilley) - now all 5 hairstreaks
- Wall Brown - Colley Hill

## Migrant

- Camberwell Beauty - Ash

## Releases?

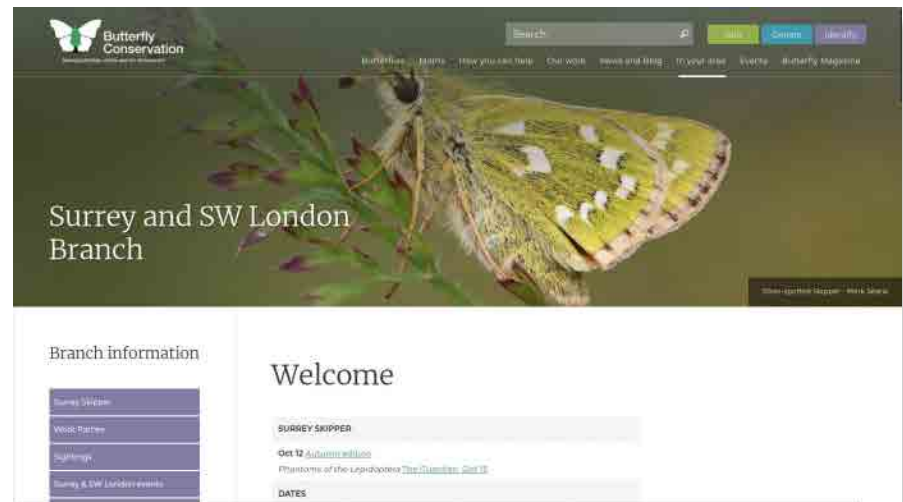
- Duke of Burgundy - Chapel Bank
- Marsh Fritillaries
- Short-tailed Blue - Rotherhithe
- Pearl-bordered Fritillary - Oaken Wood



Black Hairstreak, Epsom Common  
(photo by Mick Rock)



# More information in the *Skipper* magazine and website



Nov 4	Comma	1	Winkworth Arboretum	SU994416	Nigel Jackman
Nov 4	Brimstone	1	Thursley Common	SU300413	Anne Norton
Nov 4	Speckled Wood	1	Lloyd Park, Croydon	TQ341649	Martyn Mance
Nov 4	Red Admiral	1	Thursley	SU914419	Tom Forster
Nov 4	Red Admiral	1	Guildford	SU985526	Stephen Williams
Nov 2	Red Admiral	1	Surbiton	TQ170660	Marian Thomas



# We couldn't do it without your help!

- Volunteers
- Work party leaders
- Transect and Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey walkers
- Surveyors - Brown Hairstreak, White-letter Hairstreak (+ elms), Black Hairstreak, etc
- Everyone who submits records - every record counts
- Moth-ers
- Our many partners - LWT, SWT, NT, FC, CoL, NHM, landowners ...
- Donors
- Head Office staff and Project Staff
- Committee members
- Branch members



# Treasurer's Report for 2019-20 - *details in the Skipper*

- Opening balance (01.04.2019) **£5,923**
- **Income +£8,840**
  - Membership subs (£6/member) from HO £8,103 (92%)
  - Donations £109
  - Sale of Goods £378
  - Tyting Farm Report (Ken & Gillian Elsom) £250
- **Expenditure -£2,665**
  - Conservation (training; field equipment; contracts) -£869 (33%)
  - Membership (Annual Report; 2x Skipper; new members' day) -£962 (36%)
  - Management & governance (Members' day / AGM; room hire) -£888 (33%)
  - Miscellaneous (insurance; publicity; support; cost of goods sold) -£179
  - VAT refunded for last year's expenditure = £233
- Adjustments (decrease in stock value, VAT) +£180
- Closing balance (31.03.2020) **£12,278**



# Treasurer's Report for the 2019-20 financial year (2)

## Notes

- Additionally, £496 was donated to BC's Winter Appeal, and not treated as Branch income
    - Members' Day: lunch donations £290; raffle £206
    - Benefitting from the 2x multiplier
  - In line with our policy of maximising support for conservation, provisions were made for contributions to BC Projects
    - £5k for Big City Butterflies
    - £1.25k for Surrey Small Blue
- Carried forward to the current year



# Forecast for 2020-21 financial year

- Opening balance (01.04.2020) = **£13,278**
  - Includes +£1,000 from Head Office to reflect revised treatment of VAT and stock value
- **Income +£8,425**
  - Mainly membership subs from HO £8,400
- **Expenditure -£1,853**
  - Conservation and volunteer expenses -£475
  - Heart Moth project -£250
  - Membership (Annual Report; Skipper) -£950
  - Management & governance (AGM catering deposit carried forward) -£150
  - Insurance -£28
- **BC project contributions -£13,000**
  - Big City Butterflies (£5,000 + £2,000 annual) -£7,000
  - Other projects at BC's discretion -£6,000

*Further donations are likely to be made, based on year-end balance*
- Closing balance (31.03.2021) = **£6,850**



# Committee changes

## Thanks ...

- ... to Peter Camber, who is standing down as Treasurer

## Standing for re-election

- Clive Huggins
- Francis Kelly
- Paul Wheeler

## Voting results

## Vacancy for a new Treasurer



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# Close of formal AGM

## Opportunity for Q&A



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# Thank You!



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