

Get involved

- Join Butterfly Conservation and help save butterflies and moths
- Visit the website and subscribe to our Facebook and Twitter feeds
- Record your sightings using the *iRecord Butterflies* app
- Join a field trip to see butterflies in their natural habitat
- Take part in the *Big Butterfly Count* in July-August
- Have fun volunteering and get fit on a conservation work party
- Help publicise the Branch's work at public events
- Walk a transect to monitor butterflies through the season
- Take part in the *Garden Moths Scheme*
- Help to run the Branch by taking on a Committee role



Big Butterfly Count

About Butterfly Conservation

Butterfly Conservation is the UK charity dedicated to saving butterflies and moths. We want a world where butterflies and moths thrive and can be enjoyed by everyone, forever. Join at www.butterfly-conservation.org.

The Surrey & SW London Branch covers Surrey south of the Thames and the London Boroughs of Richmond, Wandsworth, Lambeth, Southwark, Kingston, Merton, Sutton and Croydon. See www.butterfly-conservation.org/surrey or email surreybranch@gmail.com.

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Butterfly Conservation

Surrey & SW London Branch



Butterfly
Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Where to go

Everyone loves butterflies and we are fortunate that over 40 species can be seen in Surrey, along with over 600 moths and 1,100 micro-moths. Some have special requirements - but many frequent parks, gardens, urban areas, and even central London.

Many species have declined and need our help. Since the 1990s, four butterflies have become extinct in the county altogether.

However, Surrey and SW London is still an excellent place for butterflies and moths, and has some sites and populations of national importance.

On **chalk grassland**, butterflies like the Adonis Blue, Chalk Hill Blue, Small Blue and Silver-spotted Skipper thrive. Some good sites include Box Hill and Denbies Hillside near Dorking, Howell Hill and Priest Hill (Cheam), Pewley Down (Guildford), and Hutchinson's Bank (Croydon).

The **heaths** in the west of Surrey are important for the Grayling, Silver-studded Blue and Small Copper. Try spotting them at Thursley Common, Chobham Common or Dawney's Hill (near Brookwood Cemetery).

Woodland areas are home to the Silver-washed Fritillary, the White Admiral and the magnificent Purple Emperor. Good sites are Bookham Commons, Ashted Common and Sheepheas near Guildford. The rare Wood White can be seen at Oaken Wood in Chiddingfold Forest.



The striking day-flying Jersey Tiger moth, which is spreading north across London



The elusive White-letter Hairstreak, found on elms in Surrey and London

Widespread butterflies like the Comma, Holly Blue, Small White, Peacock, Brimstone, Painted Lady and Red Admiral can be seen in parks, gardens and in London. Try visiting Wimbledon Common, Mitcham Common, Tooting Commons or Barnes Common.

Surrey & SW London Branch - what we do

Monitoring and surveying

Volunteers walk weekly routes (called "transects") on over 100 sites to monitor changes in the abundance of butterflies.

We carry out surveys to inform priorities for conservation and map the distribution of our rarer species, especially the Grayling, Silver-studded Blue, Brown Hairstreak, White-letter Hairstreak, Wood White, Adonis Blue and Small Blue.



The unmistakable Comma, now widespread throughout Surrey and London

Field trips

We run over 40 field trips for members throughout the season. These are a great way to find out about the best wildlife sites in the county, learn more about butterflies and moths, and meet other members.

Moths

There is an active Surrey Moths Group and members take part in the Garden Moths Scheme, running moth traps through the season.

Publications

Comprehensive information about the Branch - including sightings, field trips, work parties, news, talks and events - is published on our website, www.butterfly-conservation.org/surrey. You can get updates through

Facebook and Twitter. Each year we produce two editions of the *Surrey Skipper* magazine for members, and we publish reports on the status of butterflies and moths.

Conservation

Volunteers undertake conservation work to manage habitat, for example at the Branch's Oaken Wood Reserve near Chiddingfold for the Wood White, and at sites along the North Downs for chalk grassland species like the Small Blue.



Small Blue - found on chalk grassland where there is Kidney Vetch