



**WARWICKSHIRE BRANCH  
MOTH EQUIPMENT**

**2010 – YEAR OF THE LONG NIGHTS!**



**Alan Prior & Val Weston**

Photographs by John Bates  
Cover Photograph by Alan Prior



1645 Scalloped Hooked-tip



1773 Broken-barred Carpet



1961 Light Emerald



2058 Cream-spot Tiger



1992 Small Elephant Hawk-moth



1858 V-Pug



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## **WARWICKSHIRE BRANCH MOTH EQUIPMENT** **2010 - Year Of The Long Nights**

### **Introduction**

Well what can be said about 2010. The long cold winter went into February and was followed by a reasonable spring. That was apart from the first two weeks of May, which were very cold and seemed to set the moths back a bit, a situation that appeared to continue over summer and into autumn. The slow recovery in moth numbers since 2007 continued with counts generally up. This led to some long nights in the field, as we'd got used to starting to count later over the past few years! However, it was great to be able to go moth recording without getting wet on many occasions at all! We managed to do some recording a little further into November than last year, before we all found out what 'Life in the Freezer' was like and so the year's mothing trips came to an end. Here is our account of how it all happened. Enjoy the read.

### **February**

A small window of opportunity arrived at the beginning of February, which meant we could get out and do our first night of the year. The first Saturday of the month meant the venue was predetermined and so off to Chaddesley Wood we went. We arrived to find some even keener recorders had already been finding moths during the afternoon. Martin Kennard, Darren Taylor and his 'driver' Liam had been searching for a couple of hours with their best find being a female **Mottled Umber**. Thankfully the moth stayed put until the rest of us, which by then included John Finlay and Dave Grundy could go and see this unusual looking creature residing on a birch trunk. After all the traps were on and Alan was doing his GPS round he managed to find another female on a different trunk in the same area. With nobody else around he hoped he could remember where it was while he fetched the camera. On his return the female had been joined by a male, which at least would confirm the female's identity as a **Pale Brindled Beauty**! Later in the evening another female, this time a **Dotted Border**, was also discovered. This was quite an education for a lot of us who had never seen the flightless females before. With the night already labelled a success because of these finds the total of 171 moths of ten species was the icing on the cake. The majority of them were as could be expected **Spring Usher** but, there was also a single **Winter Moth** to remind us of which season we were still in!

## March

A month later and still in the grip of winter we returned to Chaddesley Wood. The weather was bad enough to cancel the mothing but we had a delivery to make to Mervyn & Rose Needham who live close by and so decided to do it anyway. John made the trip as well and we were also joined by Andrew Curran who wanted to see a **March Moth**. With a starting temperature of 3°C we weren't expecting too much. We weren't disappointed as we struggled into double figures of the four species that were as mad as we were. That we got that many was mainly due to the ten **Dotted Border**. The highlight proved to be the only recorded **Small Brindled Beauty** at Chaddesley this year. Andrew may disagree as we did manage to find one tatty **March Moth**. When the temperature got below freezing we packed up and headed for some warmth. Eleven days later Alan thought the weather was good enough to take a chance and make a first visit of the year to Weston Wood. Unfortunately, Val wasn't able to make it but Martin and a surprise visit from Nigel Stone meant he wasn't alone. After setting up and switching on Alan walked back to the gate to let Martin in and on the drive back there were plenty of moths flying which was a hopeful sign. However, just as they drove past one of Alan's traps they had to stop as an opportunistic Robin was doing some mothing of its own! With Martin setting up Alan took a look in one of his traps to find it heaving with moths. It looked like his decision to take a chance had paid off. By midnight the total had reached almost 900 moths of 22 species. Some impressive totals were 202 **Yellow Horned**, 101 **March Moth** and an incredible 111 **Oak Beauty**! The micros chipped in with 86 **Tortricodes alternella** and good records of **Semioscopis avellanella** and **Agonopterix scopariella**.

## April

For the first time in six years neither of us made it to the regular monthly trap at Chaddesley Wood. We had made the trip to Manchester to see our favourite Rock band *AIRBOURNE* ! That meant Mervyn was in charge and he was joined by John, Andrew and Roger Ward. They managed to record 15 species and keep the recording continuity going and probably thoroughly enjoyed a night without us!

Our first trip of the month was to Tiddesley Wood where, in hundreds of years of recording nobody had managed to get **Small Quaker** on the site list. Obviously this was quite ridiculous and had to finally be put right! Martin joined us for the quest and it didn't take long for the objective to be achieved. By the end of the night we'd recorded 29 species with just short of 200 **Small Quaker** amongst them. An additional six species were also found to add to the site list. They included the micros **Semioscopis steinkellneriana** and **Acleris literana** with **Lead-coloured Drab** and **Herald** new for the macros. On leaving the wood Martin somehow hit a bump in the track and his radiator warning light came on. Luckily Val was able to fill the radiator with some unused water from the 'tea shop', which helped him make it home where the problem could be dealt with. It always seems eventful when we visit Tiddesley for one reason or another!

With rumours that David Browns first Warwickshire Moth Group meeting of the year was at a site with steep hills Val decided against going. However, Alan joined the search for a new species for the county. On arrival he found David optimistically trying to flatten some enormous ruts with a spade. It was never going to make a difference and so it would be a real effort to get the equipment into Whichford Wood from where the cars were parked. Thankfully, Martin had purchased a trolley, which could take most of it to the trapping site. With Nigel also having arrived, the extra hands were very welcome. However, David was somewhat disappointed that this was to be the complete attendance for the evening. With everything set up and switched on it was time for a well-earned break. After recovering it was decided we might as well go and have a look for some moths. Just as we were walking towards David's traps a voice from the undergrowth exclaimed "got one!". We all made our way to share in the sight of the first **White-marked** recorded in Warwickshire. With David being outnumbered 3>1 by recorders mainly interested in the micro moths he was a little underwhelmed by the reaction at his discovery. However, he returned the reaction when **Acleris logiana**, another county first, was discovered. It was all a bit of fun and everyone was pleased with the results we were getting from this unsurprisingly, due to its terrain, under-recorded site. It was a very clear night and unusually quiet as there were no planes flying overhead due to an Icelandic volcano's drifting dust causing all flights to be grounded. The dust certainly made for a different looking skyscape. David and Nigel were the first to depart leaving Martin and Alan to deal with the hard slog of getting their equipment back up the steep hill to the cars. It took a long time due to the constant need to stop and rest before going on a bit more. Finally, with everything loaded a brief look at the evenings results could be taken. Over 650 moths of 26 species were recorded with the **White-marked** tally finishing at seven. The two county firsts were obvious highlights but a late deluge of **Brindled Beauty** (61) was another. Overall the best thing though was Martin's trolley, which was a huge success and without it we could not have done what we did.

A few days later we made a visit to Ryton Meadows. It has become a bit of a chore getting through all the gates although Val gave us a laugh as when she tried to open one, the latch disintegrated in her hand! We were joined by Martin, John and Nigel (again). Nigel getting out so often - it will never last! When we reached 'Scrub Hill' we discovered that some over enthusiastic 'management' had left us with no shelter from the always-nagging breeze. So we all ended up along the edge of the reserve doing the best we could. It was a slow night and a lot easier to tally than recent nights out. Even so, we ended up with 30 species recorded with **Parornix devoniella** and **Acleris cristana** being a couple of the micros. Amongst the macros were **Scalloped Hook-tip**, **Shoulder Stripe** and **Powdered Quaker**.

A few days later the same 'crew' who went to Ryton visited Weston Wood, that is all apart from Nigel-told you it would never last! It was a much warmer evening than at Ryton and that was reflected in the amount of moths and the species count rose to 36. New for the wood were the micros **Eriocrania sparrmannella** and **Incurvaria pectinea** with **Perittia obscurepunctella** being recorded for the first time since 1953! **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Seraphim** and **Chocolate-tip** were amongst the macros.

As we'd missed the regular Chaddesley Wood session earlier in the month Alan decided to make up for it the following night. He was joined by Hilary and Geoff Harvey on an excellent night for mothing. Cloudy and mild with no wind - the prospects looked good. And so it proved with 36 species being recorded. ***Eriocrania subpurpurella*** was the most numerous with 110 counted. **Streamer, Waved Umber, Lobster Moth** and **Knot Grass** were some of the macros. A good end to the month.

## **May**

The official Chaddesley Wood trip three days later was a completely different story. Miserable conditions met our arrival and we weren't surprised to find only Roger had turned up. We decided to put a trap up by the gate and leave it at that. Just as we'd finished setting it up Dave Grundy arrived and said he'd drive up the track and put 'only' three traps up. We admired his optimism and hoped it would pay off for him. Val decided to have a wander to see the bluebells that looked somewhat bedraggled in the heavy rain but they would probably be over before next month's visit. She visited Dave on her way back and saw what few moths he had and then they joined Alan and Roger who were huddled under the umbrella covering our trap. The 'tea shop' was very well used to try and keep everybody warm. After four hours we decided to give up. A pitiful total of 54 moths of 16 species were recorded with Dave just managing to beat our total for one trap with his three! **Golden-rod Pug, Great Prominent** and **Lunar Marbled Brown** were three of the species recorded. We did feel a little guilty about leaving Dave while he was still packing up but there wasn't much we could do to help. The highlight of this particular evening was going home!!

After missing all of John Sirrett's visits to Upton Warren last year, Alan was determined to attend at least one this year. After spotting Dave Grundy's car in the Swan pub car park he joined them inside to find they still had drinks on the table. Shock-NOT! It was a while before they all headed off to the trapping site. Alan had brought a 'token' Actinic trap and hoped one of them would kindly allow him to plug in to a generator. Just as everything was up and running the sky lost its clouds and became clear. With so much water around this site it was no surprise that the temperature dropped quickly and it was soon very cold. The distance between the two trapping locations helped keep us moving and warmed us up. With more traps, 16 species but, one less moth was recorded than the previous week's trip to Chaddesley. However, John was pleased to get a couple of new species recorded for the site. The star moth was a superb **Puss Moth** that Dave had found plastered to the side of one of his traps. **Pale Pinion** was the other new species and so a worthwhile evening despite the cold.

A week later the weather was still poor but we had to catch some moths to show off at the annual Middleton Hall Bird Fair. Keith and Heather Warmington had already arrived and set up the Gazebo in the glade ready for tomorrow. Other recorders to lend a hand were John and Martin with a surprise reappearance from Nigel! Swelling the numbers were Richard Orton and Anne Cole while Steve Cheshire popped in for a while later.

With the weather being so cold it's a good place to go, as Caretaker Bob lets us use a nice warm room instead of the mobile 'tea shop'. The room was well patronised this evening and for long periods! However, when we did venture out to the traps we did find a reasonable range of species that should go down well over the weekend. Amongst the 35 species were **Flame Carpet**, **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Swallow Prominent**, **Muslin Moth** and the undoubted star many people's first sighting of **Mullein Moth**.

The following night was National Moth Night and we joined Martin at Bishop's Hill, a very under-recorded site at this time of year. John also added his trap to make a total of six that were set up. Also joining us were Jason Hawkes, Chris, the reserve Warden and a local chap named Peter. They couldn't wait to see the traps switched on but, with a clear sky it didn't get dark for ages. Officially it was supposed to be a Bat and Moth night but none of us knew much about the moth eaters so when someone shouted "there's a bat!" they instantly became our Bat expert! When the lights did finally go on the first moth to appear was a **Brimstone**. Chris was straight out with his camera and over the course of the next hour or so we worked out that his camera only appeared when a colourful species was discovered! Some people are so superficial!! It led to some entertaining banter throughout the rest of the evening, which was all taken in a good spirit. Peter was really getting at Val as she'd heard a Cuckoo while setting up and it was a first record for the site! The temperature plummeted down to 2°C and as our 'public' had departed happy, we decided to pack up. We were pleased with the 30 species we'd managed to record as many of them were new for the site. Amongst the micros were **Parornix anglicella** and **Approerema anthyllidella** with **Purple Thorn**, **Peppered Moth** and **Pebble Prominent** some of the macros. So despite the cold it was a successful night.

Finally the weather improved and so Alan decided to revisit Tiddesley Wood. On arrival he found that one of the car tyres didn't appear as full of air as it should be. As it wasn't flat he decided to set up anyway and keep an eye on the tyre to see if it went down any further. Tiddesley strikes again! It was a slow start to the evening but, by the end the first 50+ species count of the year was made with seven newly recorded species for the wood. **Elachista maculicerusella** and **Metzneria lappella** were two of the micros while **Broken-barred Carpet**, **V-pug** and **Dusky Brocade** some of the macros. Thankfully, the tyre hadn't deflated anymore so, after some careful loading of the car Alan decided to try and get home. After a slow and steady journey he made it home safe and sound. The following day a large nail was removed and the tyre repaired! Phew!

With the weather still good we decided to make a long overdue visit to Crown East Wood. As the decision was made quite early it meant that wood owners Richard and Carol Moore could join us. We decided to do something a little different this time and instead of setting up all the traps within the wood we'd put one on the edge, in the field. With Richard and Carol not having been mothing with us at this time of year we were able to show them quite a few species they hadn't seen before. Although they seemed to find the Cockchafer invasion a bit of a highlight. We'll have to be better at educating them that so many 'Maybugs' in the traps are, at the very least, an annoyance! However, through it all we managed to record eight new species for the wood amongst the 71 seen.

Some of the micros were ***Coleophora striatipennella***, ***Cosmiotes freyerella*** and ***Spatalistis bifasciana*** with the two new macros being **May Highflyer** and **Barred Umber**. A very successful and enjoyable night neared its end with a Cuckoo 'serenading' us as we set off for home.

A couple of days later Alan joined Dave at Shrawley Wood. He'd missed out on going here many times in the past and so really wanted to go this time. As it's quite an unusual wood being full of small-leaved lime quite a crowd had gathered. Alan had already agreed that John could plug in to his generator and Dave pointed them in a direction where they could fit the three traps in. Eventually, they managed to get traps either side of a large block of bracken in a nice open area with what was expected (and proved to be!) to be a **Brown Silver-line** magnet in the middle. It was a nice evening and it was relaxing just sitting and watching the moths come in. However, the relative quiet was disturbed when John tried to pick up a **Lime Hawk-moth** but just proceeded to fall off his stool! Embarrassed but seeing the funny side and after a good laugh we decided to do a round of the traps. It turned out to be the only tour before counting started as there was plenty to see. The last trap was almost counted when Dave drove up and told us we were last to finish. If we had realised he had a training course to prepare for we would have started counting earlier-sorry Dave. The final result was 82 species recorded with ***Bucculatrix thoracella***, ***Roeslerstammia erxlebella*** and ***Metendothenia atropunctana*** being some of the micros and **Pauper Pug**, **Alder Kitten** and John had an impressive 20 **Alder Moth** in his trap amongst the macros. A couple of days later Martin joined us on a return visit to Weston Wood. It was a generally quiet and relaxed night with a manageable amount of moths recorded with seven of the 74 species being new for the site. Among them was a first county record of ***Lampronia fuscata***. Other micros included ***Argyresthia trifasciata***, ***Coleophora alnifoliae*** and ***Eucosmomorpha albersana*** whilst **Lime-speck Pug**, **Miller** and **Green Silver-lines** being some of the macros.

The final trip of the month was down to the annual Ryton Meadows Open Day the following day. Nigel managed to join Alan for a tour of the meadows before the final decision to set up by the gate was made. It was by far the most sheltered part although one of the traps would still be exposed to the wind. Unsurprisingly the sheltered trap did twice as well as the one in the wind but 50 species still managed to be recorded. The micro ***Esperia sulphurella*** was even new for the meadows! A nice range of moths to show at the open day included **Purple Bar**, **Elephant Hawk-moth**, **White Ermine** and **Gold Spot**. Alan would like to thank Nigel for help with potting and labelling the moths.

## **June**

The month began with a visit to Bishop's Hill. It was a lot warmer than three weeks earlier and it looked like we'd be in for a good night. Martin, Nigel and Roger were the others to set traps up with Martin even doing one on the other side of the big hill. Jason and his son Farrell also attended. Although the couple of hours they were with us was not as long as either of them would have liked, due to tiredness.



Before it got dark we were grateful to Martin who managed to find a couple of roosting **Small Blue** butterflies. They were the first we'd seen for a very long time. As we expected, the traps were very busy and we only managed one round of all the traps before everybody went to count up. It had long been light and the dawn chorus was dying down before the final light went off. The first really big night of the year ended with the final total of almost 1,200 moths of 172 species. The highlights were many and included ***Bucculatrix bechsteinella***, ***Coleophora frischella***, ***Syncopacma cinctella*** and ***Aethes tessarana*** amongst the micros, while **Fern**, **Shaded Pug**, **Small Elephant Hawk-moth** and **Tawny Shears** were some of the macros.

There wasn't much time for Val to rest as she had a lunch appointment at a pub. She managed to return in time to join the monthly session at Chaddesley Wood although, there was a possibility she was just a little on the tipsy side of sober! With the weather still good for mothing, it was decided to split the trapping sites with Martin, John and ourselves running a trap each in Black Meadow (as Mervyn had remembered to bring the big trolley), while Steve Whitehouse, Mervyn and Rose ran two traps near Jubilee Gate. Just before switching on, a short shower got people running around putting umbrellas over traps. However, it had stopped by the time the lights went on and we didn't get any more for the rest of the night. As at Bishop's Hill there was only time for one tour of the traps. Steve, Mervyn and Rose had the quietest traps and were the first to leave before the rest of us ventured back into Black Meadow. The traps there were a different proposition. John had left his umbrella unfolded near his trap and it was absolutely smothered in **Lobster Moths**. A truly memorable sight. The other two traps hadn't escaped the **Lobster** invasion as a total of 109 were counted! They contributed to just short of 1,000 moths of 132 species being recorded. Micro highlights were ***Pseudotelphusa scalella***, ***Pammene germana*** and ***Cryptoblades bistriga*** while some of the macros were **Poplar Lutestring**, **Devon Carpet**, **Eyed Hawk-moth** and **Clouded Brindle**.

The following day it was Alan's turn to miss some rest as he headed down to Essex for the annual 'jobs' visit to his Mums. On arrival the first job is always to set the trap up in the garden. After that it was time to see what was in the heath trap that his Mum had kindly put out while we were busy at Chaddesley. There wasn't too much to get excited about in it but, when Alan checked the wall it was next to he spotted a moth he didn't recognise. After potting it and doing some research it turned out to be a **Sand Dart**, which is one of the scarcer brown jobs! That got the visit off to a good start. With the weather being pretty good Alan later decided to put another trap out to add to the catch. It did bring in a few more species, which totalled 52 by dawn. Additions to the garden list were ***Glyphipterix simpliciella***, ***Coleophora albicosta*** and **Pine Hawk-moth**. Normally on these visits there is a night that isn't particularly good and a well-earned rest can be taken. However, the following night was wet but still produced another 50+ species count with only the two traps. It also got Alan silently screaming "GOT ONE" in the cul-de-sac as he discovered a species he's wanted to catch for a long time. A photo of which now adorns the cover of this report. Although the **Cream-spot Tiger** is not uncommon in coastal areas, in all the years Alan's been going to Essex he'd never caught one before.

And what a gaudy looking moth it is, easily outdoing any butterfly you could see in this country (although you may judge that to be a slightly biased opinion!). The heath trap had come up trumps again, just like last year when it pulled in a **Privet Hawk-moth**. Alan also got another new species in the other trap when he found a **Chamomile Shark**. Other new species for the garden that night were **Scrobipalpa instabilella** and surprisingly, **Flame Carpet**. The last night of this visit was a record breaker. With three traps out again the species count went up to 80. Another **Cream-spot Tiger** was caught, (the original was still in a pot awaiting release), again in the heath trap along with two more new species for the garden. They were **Monopis crocicapitella** and **Cameraria ohridella** (Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner). So overall 106 species had been recorded during this visit with many new species for both the garden and Alan! He was glad to be heading home for a rest as, apart from the mothing all his Mums jobs had got done as well!

The rest didn't last long as we next went to Middleton Hall. The usual fun and relaxed night this wasn't. The RSPB had also arranged a moth night on their reserve and so there were some unfamiliar faces amongst our usual crowd. Val takes seriously the responsibility and trust that Caretaker Bob puts in her to make sure nobody takes advantage of the facilities he lets us use. So having people around she didn't know was a little unsettling. With people all over the place it wasn't easy to keep track of everything. However the RSPB night didn't last long as their generator ran out of petrol! We'll say no more about that but on their return they somehow managed to reverse their vehicle into Chris Johnson's car. We don't see Chris that often and we think he'd rather not have taken this opportunity to see us after this incident! Thankfully, the damage wasn't major but it shouldn't have happened in the first place. At least the RSPB took responsibility for their staff and everything got settled as best it could. However, it did put rather a damper on the evening and you can't put a price on that or the stress it caused Chris. Our evening had promised much early on, as Val had finally managed to get Steve Lane to come out with us and catch his own beetles instead of us doing it all the time! He kept people amused with his various methods of catching his quarry. Hilary and Geoff had also made an all too rare appearance with Martin, Nigel, Keith and Heather running other traps. Martin had also brought enthusiastic newcomer to mothing, Stephen Trinder with him. He was certainly thrown in at the deep end with all the chaos that was going on around him! After all that had gone on the mothing results were 131 species recorded and Steve managed to identify 23 different species of beetles and bugs. As Val had a wedding to get to in a few hours time Martin was left to lock the final gate so she got at least a little bit of sleep! We could certainly do without any more nights like that one!

After recovering from the Middleton fiasco we made a late decision to go to a local site where Izumi Segawa had organised her first moth night for the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Martin had also decided to go and we think Izumi was pleased we all had gone to 'help'! After having a tour of New Fallings Coppice we decided to set up our traps in a completely different area from the Bracken rich area of the others. Just as we'd finished setting up we came across a lost-looking latecomer wandering around with a trap wondering where to go. Her name was Anna Ryder and it was decided to add her trap on to our line. After being on some other moth nights she wasn't quite expecting the way we do it.

Izumi had already assured us that we wouldn't be locked in, as we're almost always the last to leave (anywhere-so be warned!), especially as the official event finished at midnight! As Anna hadn't expected the event to last all night she was 'excused' a little before we and Martin packed up. It had been quite a cool night and so the 72 species recorded was a reasonable return. Some of the micros were ***Phylloporia bistrigella***, ***Narycia duplicella*** and ***Strophedra weirana*** with **Map-winged Swift**, **Beautiful Carpet** and **Scorched Wing** amongst the macros.

A couple of days later Chris Johnson had arranged a long overdue return to see Ray Healey and his 'wilderness' near Brandon. Alan arrived to find Ray, Chris and Martin wandering along the field edge looking for moths. Just after Alan joined them, Martin came across what he'd been looking for - a web with lots of larvae in of the **Apple Ermine** (*Yponomeuta malinellus*). After a tour of the field it was time to set up. It was another clear and cool night with no wind. After switching on it was time for a sit down and a chat in Ray's conservatory. It wasn't the intention to do a full night but Ray's enthusiasm kept us going and it was light before we headed for home. A good total of 90 species had been found with quite a few new ones for Ray's patch. Some of the micros were ***Argyresthia curvella***, ***Coleophora peribenanderi***, **Juniper Webber** and ***Lobesia reliquana*** with **Figure of Eighty**, **Barred Yellow**, **Marbled Brown** and **Purple Clay** some of the macros.

The next night we made our first trip down to Gloucestershire for the year. Steve Chappell was waiting to welcome us at the gate to Ryall's Cottage. Unfortunately, neither Martin nor Roger could make it tonight but we had an able deputy in our old friend Neil Woodward who had already arrived. After a cuppa our hosts Richard and Ennis took Neil and Val down to the hide to watch the nine Badgers stuffing their faces. Reluctantly dragging themselves away when it was time to switch on the traps they returned to find some of the lights already up and running. After all the traps were on, it was time to relax in the luxuriant surroundings of the cottage and catch up with Steve and Neil. Due to all the chat only one round of the eight traps was made before the count was started. We finally finished on a chilly morning with 1,250 moths of 113 species counted, it was no surprise that we were able to say goodbye to Richard and Ennis in the morning, as we didn't leave for home until after 7.a.m.! Some of the micros recorded were ***Nematopogon metaxella***, ***Chilo phragmitella*** and **Rush Veneer** with **Drinker**, **Privet Hawk-moth**, **Obscure Wainscot** and **Cream-bordered Green Pea** amongst the macros. The highest count was somewhat of a surprise as we managed to record 177 **Flame**, which even knocked **Heart & Dart** into a distant second place! Next, for the third year running, Alan joined Dave at Severn Valley Country Park to catch moths for his training course the following day. Alan set up in his usual spot while Dave had to make other arrangements as his regular part had been taken over by a 'kids play area'! However, the field he did put his traps in provided us with the rare treat of watching a hunting Barn Owl for a while before the lights went on. It was yet another clear and cool night but with no wind again, so at least the moths would be flying early. On a round of the traps they'd arrived at Alan's furthest and were sitting chatting when a colourful moth landed on the plexi. Alan said in amazement "**Ruddy Carpet**", (if you were wondering yes-that is the name of the moth not just an exclamation!).

Luckily, both had cameras ready although the moth was at a strange angle for them as, in the blink of an eye, it was gone never to be seen again. It turned out to be a first county record for Shropshire, so at least there are some photos of it, even if they are at a strange angle! By the end of the night 127 species had been recorded with **Ruddy Carpet** the obvious highlight. Some of the other moths were *Ectoedemia subbimaculella*, *Coleophora ibipennella* and *Dichrorampha alpinana* amongst the micros with **Blotched Emerald**, **Light Brocade**, **Sycamore** and **Blackneck** some of the macros.

The following night we both went down to Alcester. It was Val's first time at this event where some of the Grammar School teachers have a wildlife week for their students and we'd be showing off the moths. After staying on the playing fields last year we decided to venture onto the adjacent River Arrow Local Nature Reserve this time. While we were setting up the students went on a bat walk and when they returned we had some early arrivals to show them. The star proved to be a perfectly behaved **Lime Hawk-moth** that made a good impression as it was passed from hand to hand. Everybody else then headed for some sleep in the tents dotted around the playing field while we continued nothing in peace. That was until Val was heading back to the car for a cuppa and got spooked by one of the students who'd got up to see how we were doing! At least that ended in laughter! By 4 a.m. we'd all but finished counting up and were waiting to show off our haul before the students went on a dawn chorus walk. The guide for that had arrived and waited with us until a trickle of bleary-eyed people headed in our direction a short while later. It had been light for ages and we'd heard the chorus in full swing, we thought they might have needed to get up a bit earlier! However, not our problem! Our efforts resulted in almost 500 moths of 88 species being recorded. We'd got good records for the micros *Calybites phasianipennella*, *Coleophora taeniipennella* and *Epinotia tedella* with **Barred Straw**, **Swallow-tailed Moth** and Beautiful Hook-tip some of the macros. The most unusual record was of a **Large Skipper** that we must have disturbed while it was roosting by one of the traps.

Alan was again sent on a mission to catch moths for Val to show off the following day. This time he combined it with a visit to Weston Wood. After picking up Stephen on the way they arrived on yet another clear but windless night. Alan set Stephen the task of counting **Gold Swift** while he set up the traps. Stephen did well and reached a final tally of 28. It proved to be a busier night than expected and the time went quickly with all the potting and photo taking. The count was a bit slower as over 500 moths of 105 species were recorded including a dozen new for the wood. Some of the micros were *Coleophora violacea*, *Coleophora pyrrhulipennella* and *Parachronistis albiceps* with **Lilac Beauty**, **Satin Beauty** and **Eyed Hawk-moth** amongst the macros. As was becoming the norm, it was after 5 a.m. before home was headed for.

A couple of hours after Alan had arrived home, Val set off for Kingfisher Country Park to run the tombola and with great assistance from Keith and Heather showing off the moths he'd caught. After a good day fundraising there was little rest for Val, as when she got home we had to load the car and were off out again. This time it was to the annual Moth and B-B-Q night at Norton Covert in Stourbridge. Gill, Barry and Tony were awaiting our arrival and Val soon had a glass of wine in her hand.

We were a little worried we'd come on the wrong day, as it wasn't raining! It turned out to be completely the reverse with too many moths to really cope with. It was a smaller gathering than normal, as they hadn't advertised it much. Alan was certainly grateful for that as when he looked in the traps they were jammed full of moths. As soon as Gill had said goodnight (she's always the last!), we started to count our two traps. Alan finally finished four hours later absolutely exhausted. An incredible 2,114 moths of 140 species had been counted. Not bad for a bit of woodland at the back of some houses! They included 37 new species for the site. Some of numbers were amazing, with the top three being ***Aleimma loeflingiana*** (826), **Green Oak Tortrix** (506) and **Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix** (94). The top three macros were **Light Emerald** (52), **Heart & Dart** (26) with **Mottled Beauty** and **Small Fan-foot** equal at 20 each. It just proves that you don't have to be in an enormous bit of pristine habitat for a place to be productive. Yet again it was way after 5 a.m. before we were dodging the foxes on the journey home!

A couple of nights later Alan made a late decision to get Ryton Meadows done. It wasn't the most enjoyable of nights but reasonably productive. It was cloudy and mild early on and Alan enjoyed watching a male **Ghost Moth** going backwards and forwards on his territory for a while. A Fox suddenly appeared out of the wood and as he was downwind, Alan got to watch that too, before the fox turned round and rumbled it was being watched! The traps were so busy with flies of one sort or another they were impossible to get near. When the wind increased and made the flies less of a problem they could finally be GPS'd. Just as counting had begun the rain started and with the wind being so strong it was a real struggle to hold onto the umbrella and write at the same time. Finally, everything was wiped down and loaded back in the car with the result being 112 species recorded, including half a dozen newly recorded for the meadows. Some of the micros were ***Coleophora flavipennella***, ***Phalonidia manniana*** and ***Pandemis cinnamomeana*** with **Blue-bordered Carpet**, **Dot Moth** and **Broom Moth** being amongst the macros.

The last trip of the month proved somewhat of an epic. Permission had been given for some mothing to be done in the Bishops Bowl Lakes area and Alan joined leaders Mike Slater and David Brown. Martin also made the effort to be there, as it was a rare privilege. At a site close to the entrance, a few more traps had been set up by members of the Warwickshire Moth Group. Alan Martin and David spread out around the Lakes and there was a fair distance between each of the trapping locations. The traps were busy early on and the species list grew quickly. There was only time for a single tour of the traps due to the amount of interesting moths in each one. Martin decided against the long walk to the other traps but Alan decided to give it a go. After catching up with the others, Alan pointed out one of the moths to David who dismissed it as a **Clay**. However, when Alan continued by saying that he'd never seen "a Clay with stripes before" it prompted further investigation. Alan thought he knew what it was as he'd seen some before and didn't wish to curb David's enthusiasm at finding **Double Line**, a first for the county. It certainly seemed to make his night! As for Alan and Martin they two managed to confirm two more county firsts from amongst the micros. They were ***Coleophora trigeminella*** and both a male and female of ***Schoenobius gigantella***. An excellent night resulted in a species count of 207 and it was no wonder the journey home wasn't begun until you guessed it ...after 5 a.m.



## July

After some much needed recuperation, the monthly Chaddesley Wood night got things underway. Apart from us, regulars Martin, Mervyn and Rose we had some honoured guests join the recording tonight. Les and Martin Finch had come up from Berkshire to see if Val could provide a woodland birthday party for Martin. Why they ever would doubt her, the rest of us had no idea!

However, Les and especially birthday boy Martin were very impressed with the car bonnet picnic table! The trouble started when Val started lighting candles on Martin's favourite (and specially made) Lemon Meringue Pie. As there were 38 of them, the candles that were lit first had almost melted before the last ones were alight! Rose stepped in and helped before everyone was mightily impressed by Martin's puff as he blew them all out in one go! As for the mothing, well over 1,000 moths of 133 species were recorded with three new species for the wood. Les and Martin also saw some new moths for them and so it was a successful night all round. Some of the micros were ***Argyresthia retinella***, ***Coleophora trochilella*** and **Brown China-mark** while **Northern Spinach**, **Great Oak Beauty** and **Small Dotted Buff** were some of the macros.

Another moth night another birthday, this time Alan's! It proved a much happier visit than our last one to Middleton Hall! The car bonnet had been replaced by the palatial surroundings of the volunteer's room where Val unleashed a feast on the attendees. Even caretaker Bob was persuaded to have a glass of wine and a piece of cake before resuming getting the hall ready for the wedding that was booked for tomorrow. All sorts of people had come out of the 'woodwork' to join in. Anne Cole had brought husband Alf as there was no way he was missing the opportunity to demolish one of Val's cakes! Richard Orton, Mike & Annie West had also come from Walsall, Steve Lane and David had come to record the beetles etc. again and Stephen had cadged a lift from Martin, bringing a trap this time. The two Johns (Bates and Hoyle) arrived 'trapless' but, by the end of the night wished they hadn't after realising they missed running them. Keith and Heather brought a special present. Heather had done a special painting of the Beautiful Marbled we caught in Essex a few years ago, which now resides on our wall. Last but not least, Nigel reappeared again after a month "off". All of this led to such a ridiculously long night that we feared the wedding guests would be arriving before we'd left! The months hadn't helped either with an all time record for Warwickshire of 239 species recorded. There were county firsts for moths and beetles. Steve managed to record over 40 species of beetle and bug. This was a truly mammoth effort from all concerned. Ok so let's name a few, the first for county moth was ***Coelophora adjunctella*** and the beetle was *Atomaria turgida*. Other highlights included ***Epiblema cirsiiana***, ***Chilo phragmitella*** and ***Catoptria falsella*** amongst the micro moths and **Brown Scallop**, **Suspected** and the only **Garden Tiger** we saw all year (well done Stephen).

After a week to recover, the night that Alan was most concerned about had arrived. Quite a bit of arranging by Mike Slater had gone on to make the night at Bubbenhall Meadow possible as it was a site that had never been recorded before. Surrounded by woods in the Princethorpe Complex this large and varied open area has so much potential.

Alan had been hoping for a good turn out due to the large nature of the site. Thankfully, Martin, Stephen, Keith, John, Nigel and Anna (complete with a very useful wheelbarrow!) all came with traps to ease his mind and they were set up over a wide area. One trap even ended up in Bubbenhall Wood thanks to Martin's legendary cables! That cable, which went across the lane, caused a few enquiries from the locals who were driving past. With so many traps only one complete tour was made before counting started. John was the first to depart as he had a long drive to Devon to do the following day. Anna kept her promise and was still around to see the spectacular sunrise over the Meadow. A great effort from everyone had produced records for 155 species and almost 1,000 moths counted. Alan passes on grateful thanks to everyone who made this night such a success. Some of the micros found were ***Coleophora binderella***, ***Coleophora hemerobiella*** and ***Recurvaria leucatella*** with **Small Scallop**, **Nutmeg** and **Lunar-spotted Pinion** some of the macros. Next it was the annual 'Moths in the Middle' Group field trip. After a few years we decided to return to Ladywalk Local Nature Reserve this year. We arrived at a perfect time to follow the warden and his wife down the track while they did all the hard work opening the gates. The reminder of what the two Johns had been missing a couple of weeks ago at Middleton meant they arrived 'fully loaded' and ready for trapping this time! Alan went to retrieve John Finlay from the entrance car park, as he wasn't sure he would know he should drive down the track. By the time he got back Martin, Stephen, Anne, Richard, Mike and Annie had completed the line up for tonight's session. It was a busy night with plenty of moths in the various habitats around the reserve. As is usual when this group meets the traps disappear at slow but regular intervals until the usual suspects are left. It had proved an excellent decision to do Ladywalk again as we managed just over 1,000 moths of 171 species. Highlights amongst the micros were ***Eidophasia messingiella***, ***Agonopterix conterminella*** and ***Gypsonoma aceriana*** with **Chevron**, **Mere Wainscot**, **Crescent** and **Brown-veined Wainscot** some of the macros.

We did another annual event the following night as we went over to Crown East Wood. Richard and Carol were busy getting things ready for the crowd that was steadily arriving. They had also done an excellent job of clearing the paths in readiness for the traps to be set. So good in fact, we couldn't decide where to put them! Eventually, after Oliver Wadsworth had arrived to add to the recording effort, locations were decided. Once the traps had been set, Val headed straight towards the enticing smell that was wafting from the B-B-Q. She was overjoyed that mushrooms had been added to the menu this year and thoroughly enjoyed her first ever barbequed ones. She definitely hopes they make a return next year! Unfortunately, soon after the traps were switched on Oliver found that he'd sited one trap too close to a wasp's nest and had to move it. We'd found a budding young moth recorder last year in Holly and she chose **Black Arches** as her favourite moth. As soon as Oliver mentioned that one had arrived she was off like lightning to see it. You have to admire the enthusiasm but it's certainly difficult for us to keep up with her pace! It was the best nights mothing we'd had in quite a while at Crown East and it was relatively easy to impress the visitors to the traps, as there were plenty of good moths to show them.

Oliver managed to get the best moth-***Drybenna stephensi*** as it was a county first! However, that was only one of 1,004 moths from 138 species recorded. Other moths found were ***Athrips mouffetella***, ***Psoricoptera gibbosella*** and ***Scoparia basistrigalis*** amongst the micros with **August Thorn**, **Ruby Tiger**, **Lesser Common Rustic** and **Waved Black** some of the macros. Again it was an incredibly late finish with the last light not going off until 6 a.m. Even Alan had some breakfast from the B-B-Q before we said our goodbyes and headed for home to see what the Robin had left for us to count in the garden trap! With time in the month running out, Alan thought he better get a visit to Weston Wood in. After picking Stephen up on the way, they arrived at the wood with Alan well prepared to do some bracken bashing. One particular part always gets overrun with over head high bracken and it's a really good spot for a trap, as it has proved early and late in previous years. This time some of it wasn't going to prevent a trap being sited there in peak season, it was for the chop! After Alan had made the initial inroads, Stephen took over the task while he set up the traps. Stephen had made such a good job that Alan said he deserved to put his trap there. With everything up and running it was time for a rest. However, the skies remained cloudy and the temperature mild and stable. That meant it would be a much busier night than anticipated and it wasn't until just before 5 a.m. that the last light went off. A very productive night had resulted in records for 114 species, with 15 being new for the wood. The bracken bashing had certainly paid off and ensured there would be more of it on the next visit. There was even a butterfly record for every trap with a couple of **Purple Hairstreak** and a **Ringlet**! Some of the micros recorded were ***Agonopterix ciliella***, ***Anacampsis blattariella*** and ***Epinotia caprana*** with **Large Emerald**, **Antler Moth** and **Suspected** amongst the macros. The last trip of the month was to Purley Quarry in north Warwickshire. Keith had arranged a visit last year and we'd decided to give it another go this year. This time we'd picked the date to hopefully coincide with a moth we suspected (no pun intended!) was there. Apart from Keith, Heather, Martin and us who were running traps we had 'help' from Ron Thomas and his net. The first to arrive though were Steve and Debbie Cheshire and we had a brief chat while we waited for the key to the gate to turn up. Once on site, where to put the traps was discussed and eventually decided. They would be well spread to cover the variety of habitats. It was a cloudy, damp night with occasional heavy showers. There were the drier spells in between when you could dry off and overall it wasn't too bad. The moths certainly didn't seem to mind as there was a constant stream flying to the traps. Val was first to see our 'hoped for' moth on the inside of one of the traps. However, nobody appeared to believe her, as the others who were there claimed it was some sort of beauty. Luckily, Martin arrived and confirmed its identity as an **Annulet**. Val was proud of herself in a na-na-na-na-na sort of way! With it being one of the first moths seen, we could all relax. That was until Ron started using the wrong end of his net attempting to point at moths. He only succeeded in disturbing them most of the time until Alan politely (*it's OK I know nobody will believe that!*) told him to stop! It proved to be yet another long and big night with over 1,000 moths of 172 species recorded. Some of the micros were ***Chionodes fumatella***, ***Agriphila latistria*** and ***Evergestis pallidata*** with **Tawny Speckled Pug**, **Sloe Pug**, **Straw Underwing** and **Small Rufous** being amongst the macros.

## **August**

Alan decided to do a 'duty' visit to Ryton Meadows as the first trip of the month. Nigel had made the effort to come over as well but the weather didn't look promising and he decided not to trap. After a slight shower on their wander around the meadows it didn't appear that it would be that busy. However, it had remained cloudy and as soon as the two traps were switched on the moths came flooding in. Nigel was glad that he hadn't set up traps as by the time he wanted to leave around midnight Alan already had over 100 species recorded. He did offer to do some of the dissections though which Alan gratefully accepted! The pace didn't let up after Nigel left and so Alan decided to start counting. After doing the less busy trap and discovering over 400 moths in it, he decided to leave the light on so they didn't all immediately fly to the other one! Yet another long night finished after 5 a.m. before the journey home could begin. That was when Alan found out he'd been quite fortunate with the weather as a lot of the roads were flooded and he'd only had a little bit of rain at the end. The final count was over 900 moths of 158 species including ten new species for the site. Some of the micros were ***Epermenia falciformis***, ***Eulamprotes atrella***, ***Cnephasia genitalana*** and **Meal Moth** with **Yellow-tail**, **Lychnis**, **Dusky Sallow** and **Rosy Rustic** amongst the macros.

The monthly Chaddesley visit was next and we went early to do a bit more bracken bashing so we could trap in some of the least recorded areas. Luckily, John Finlay had also arrived early to help. Val waited at the gate for any other arrivals while John and Alan made a start. Since last month, Mervyn had managed to get a large area of bracken flattened, which was a great surprise. We later found out he'd organised a horse to pull a heavy roller to do the job - brilliant! When Martin arrived he was pleased as well, as it was now possible to put traps in the area he'd wanted to do last month. Mervyn and Rose were the only other additions to a rather select band tonight. With the bracken problem dealt with, our other large problem was hornets. They kept on coming all night and so were a constant nuisance. It's not because of their sting they are a problem, it's the fact that they'll eat the moths if they are not removed from the traps. Val didn't have a good time tonight either, with a series of mishaps. The funniest was that she'd remembered to bring a long spoon to get the sugar at the bottom of the jar for Martin's tea. However, she didn't realise her own strength as she managed to put the spoon straight through the bottom of the jar. Thankfully the spilt sugar didn't attract any more hornets! She redeemed herself during the trap counting by potting one of the 'moths of the night' that had landed near her. The **Cloaked Carpet** was new for Chaddesley and everyone else apart from Alan. Things had started looking up for Val! As Martin was a fair distance from the rest of us and in a really good spot (now the bracken had been controlled), he was last to finish. Yet another night with over 1,000 moths counted of 128 species was the result of our efforts. They included seven new species for the wood and a first for the county when ***Cnephasia genitalana*** was confirmed. The other new species were **Willow Ermine**, ***Udea lutealis***, **Scorched Carpet** and we finally got around to confirming both **Common** and **Lesser Common Rustic**!

Our next trip was a mid-week visit just across the border into Gloucestershire. Peter Hugo met us at Greystones Farm Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust Reserve in Bourton-on-the-Water. He gave us a grand tour of what was a large site with lots of potential, but it was heavily overgrazed and so prospects for the night's mothing appeared limited. However, we would do our best to help provide some good moths for him to show at his 'mothing breakfast' event the following morning. Peter set up his traps at various locations around the site while we decided to have a go at a decent looking hedgerow in one of the fields. Peter also had one trap sited further along the same hedgerow. Once all was set up and switched on it was time for a rest and catch-up chat. It was a clear night with a nagging north-westerly breeze, so not the best of conditions for mothing. However, it was an excellent night to witness the Perseid Meteor shower in all its glory. That kept Val and Peter busy for quite a while as Alan went looking for some moths! At one point we heard a terrible sound coming from an adjacent field. Peter informed us that it was some badgers having a bit of a scrap. That was followed by a Tawny Owl that flew right past the 'stargazers' in the middle of the field. So there were plenty of things going on to pass the time, as the mothing was slow but steady. Not long after Peter had gone for some shut-eye, Val spotted what she thought might be a bat just within the trap lights reach. After further investigation it turned out to be a **Red Underwing**. It gave us quite a chase until we finally managed to pot it, as we thought if that doesn't impress Peter's public tomorrow nothing will! By the time it was getting light it was pretty chilly and we packed up having managed to record 58 species. Some of the micros were ***Parornix scoticella***, ***Aproaerema anthyllidella*** and **Garden Pebble** with **Chinese Character**, **Sallow Kitten** and **Dark Dagger** amongst the macros. The following morning Peter was greeted by over thirty people eager to see what we'd caught.

Two nights later we were at yet another annual event. This time it was the Moth 'N' Nosh night at Windmill Hill in Nuneaton. Martin, John, Nigel and Chris Johnson also put out traps. Sandra put on a great spread as usual and Val always enjoys it because she doesn't have to do anything but eat it! Some of us had great views of a **Red Underwing** that was flying around the tree understory by John's trap. We all watched mesmerised by its tiger-like stripes as it flew backwards and forwards. It never did make it into the trap! It was the normal entertaining evening (thanks Nigel-you know what we mean!) and with reasonable weather the mothing was good with over 1,500 moths of 139 species recorded. Some of the micros were ***Opostega salaciella***, ***Oecogonia quadripuncta*** and **Rusty-dot Pearl** while **Treble-bar**, **Six-striped Rustic**, **Sallow** and **Mouse Moth** were amongst the macros.



Another mid-week trip was next. This time Alan had arranged with Tony Simpson to visit Tiddesley Wood to see if **White-spotted Pinion** was there. We were joined by Oliver, John, Steve Whitehouse and Ian and Loz Machin. A part of the wood that had a lot of Elm was targeted and all the traps were put in that area. Tony was hopeful we would catch our target and with some of the first moths in the traps being **Lesser-spotted Pinion** it looked promising. It was a good weather night for mothing but as time went by and still no sign of our target hopes were fading. Tony concluded we may have been just a bit too early and we should try again next year. As usual we were the last to leave and not that disappointed as we'd recorded 113 species with 15 new ones for the wood and we get to come back next year! Some of the micros were **Bucculatrix ulmella**, **Mompha propinquella**, **Agriphila selasella** and **Pyla fusca** with **Devon Carpet**, **Vapourer** and a final count of 12 **Lesser-spotted Pinion**.

For the following three Fridays we would be heading down the M5 to Gloucestershire. Our first visit was a return to Ryall's Cottage. We received the usual warm welcome and Roger was back with us to put his trap in the veggie garden. Andy, who lends Steve extra traps when we go down for these nights, was also around briefly just to say "hello". It was an exceptionally mild night with cloud and intermittent drizzle and after the traditional badger and fox watch all the traps were on and soon filling up. We made one round of them before we started what was to prove a mammoth count session. Just as we'd finished the last of Steve's the rain came which had us scrambling to get umbrellas over traps. After waiting for the worst to pass the counting resumed. Ennis was up and counting rabbits by the time the final light went out at 7:30 a.m.! The results were staggering as we'd counted almost 2,500 moths of 118 species. The clear winner with 986 was **Setaceous Hebrew Character**. We think we'll be counting those in our sleep instead of Ennis' rabbits! A distant second was **Large Yellow Underwing** with 410. Some of the other moths included the micros **Caloptilia semifascia**, **Ypsolopha horridella**, **Leek Moth** (Richard wasn't very happy with that one!) and **Ringed China-mark** with **Magpie Moth**, **Dark Sword-grass** and **Dog's Tooth** amongst the macros. Thankfully, the roads weren't too busy on our weary journey home.

A week later and back down the M5 we went, only this time our destination was the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Centre at Slimbridge. Pete Cranswick who was running this public event had reserved us our usual spot in the reed bed and so we went straight there and set up. Steve Chappell was also in his regular spot at the bottom of the ramp. Then we went to find anybody else. We found Roger setting up near the Peng Observatory, although it should have been renamed the Pong Observatory tonight as the smell of paint was overpowering! We had an unexpected visit from Roger and Sheila Wasley who put their trap under the gazebo. There were also three other traps run by Liz and Roy Radcliffe. That should keep Pete's public busy with something to look at! This was the first public moth night Pete had run at the centre and we were all eager to hear his talk.

We were in the plush surrounding of the lecture theatre where Pete put the big screen to good use and gave an excellent general presentation about moths. After he'd finished it was time to see some of the real things. With around 25 people it was decided to split the group in half and take them to different traps so everybody got a chance to see what we'd caught. That worked well and each group potted up moths as they went until everybody reconvened by the theatre examine what had been caught over tea and biscuits. After all this it was around midnight and the public disappeared as usual. The Wasley's also departed soon after and with Liz and Roy retiring to their campervan in car park it was the typical 'hard core' mothers left until our last light went off at 4 a.m. Pete was pleased with how the night had gone and although it was a clear cool night the 67 species recorded was a reasonable return. Some of the micros were ***Scrobipalpa costella***, ***Dichrorampha acuminatana*** and ***Nephoterix angustella*** with **Canary-shouldered Thorn**, **Centre-barred Sallow** and **Nut-tree Tussock** amongst the macros.

For the final trip of the month Martin joined Alan at Weston Wood. After setting up and switching on Martin went of a leaf-mine search while Alan did some more bracken bashing. Both were reasonably successful and Martin provided an extensive list of mines towards the site total. It was just as well as it was a slow night for the adults! After walking back from the gate after letting Martin out, Alan decided an early finish was in order due to the lack of activity around the traps. Martin's 22 extras added to a disappointing 33 species in the traps at least that gave the final list some respectability. A couple of the micros were ***Hypatima rhomboidella*** and **Water Veneer** with **Lesser Swallow** **Prominent** and **Small Wainscot** a couple of the macros. When he got home there appeared to be more moths in our garden trap than Alan had seen all night at Weston!

## **September**

The last of our three consecutive Friday visits to Gloucestershire was the first trip of the month. We were back at Slimbridge for Pete's second moth night. He was expecting a smaller group tonight, which would have been good as only us and Roger had brought traps. It meant Pete put a couple up as well which turned out to be a good thing, as after a last minute radio advertisement the smaller group was swelled to over thirty! The same arrangements as last week were put into action and all went well with the 'public' all gone by just after midnight. So, let the best moths arrive now!! The 60 species mark was reached again with ***Coleophora alcyonipennella***, ***Pyrausta purpuralis*** and **Rush Veneer** some of the micros, while **Bordered Beauty**, **Feathered Gothic** and **Large Wainscot** were amongst the macros. We also found a couple of **Common Blue** butterflies roosting by one of our traps. Congratulations to Pete for making his first Slimbridge moth nights such an enjoyable success. We look forward to next years!

Chaddesley Wood was the venue the following night and with most of the regulars busy doing other things, we thought we may be on our own tonight. That was until we reached the gate and found Dave Grundy waiting with Hilary and Geoff. That was a welcome surprise, as we don't see any of them as often as we used to. After driving up the track we set up seven traps around the shed area and then got to catch up on what everyone had been up to. The hornets were again a total annoyance and we had to be vigilante constantly to keep on top of the problem. Apart from the hornets it was a good night with 74 species recorded. Some of the micros were **Honeysuckle Moth**, **Apotomis betuletana** and **Mother of Pearl** with **Pale Eggar**, **Autumnal Rustic** and **Angle-striped Sallow** amongst the macros.

A smaller than usual group met for the final visit of the year to Middleton Hall. We managed three Johns tonight with Messrs Bates, Hoyle and Finlay all present, Anna came for her first visit and Martin completed the recorders. Whilst all the trapping locations were being sorted out, Val went and collected some apples from the orchard. It was a damp but mild night and once everything was up and running we all met up in the volunteer's room. Roger arrived late after an awful journey up from Cheltenham and was relieved he wasn't required to start setting up his trap. During the drier interludes we made a round of the traps. It was just starting to get to that nice time of year when the really colourful autumn moths were emerging. We certainly always look forward to September after the generally drab brown month of August. By the end of the night a very respectable 77 species were recorded. Some of the micros were **Monopis laevigella**, **Acleris e-mar-ga-na** (just for you Anna!) and **Eudonia angustea** with some of those nice autumn macros being **Orange Sallow**, **Pink-barred Sallow** and **Frosted Orange**. After everyone else had left, we felt a bit unlucky to get caught in the only heavy rain we'd had all night while packing up our last trap. It was a shame as we'd managed to stay dry until then!

The following Friday we made a return to Bishop's Hill. We warned everybody that it was going to be cold, but Anna, Roger, Stephen and John Finlay joined Martin and us anyway. Are we teaching them well or badly to venture out on a night like this. We'd decided to do it, as the weather didn't look like it would get better anytime soon. So seven traps were set up ready for the trickle of moths that was expected to arrive. One surprise arrival was Steve Lane with some Christmas Crackers for Val (don't ask!). He stayed until he was due to pick David up from a pub. With a slow night getting slower it was decided to follow Steve's lead and head for home. However, we had managed to get 23 species recorded, many of which were new for the site, so job done. **Depressaria badiella** was the best micro with an extraordinary looking **Deep-brown Dart** the most interesting macro.

Alan made a very late decision to get an overdue visit to Ryton Meadows in. It was almost dark when he arrived and with all the extra gates to open he was rushing to get the traps set up. It was an unusual night at the meadows due to the lack of wind, so he managed to put one trap out in the open for a change. However, the usual pattern at this time of year appears to be that after the initial arrivals nothing much happens for hours until, suddenly, moths start arriving again. Knowing this, he gave himself every chance of doing the best he could. The result was 26 species recorded with ***Ypsolopha alpella*** and **Bramble Shoot** being a couple of the micros and **Brindled Green, Lunar Underwing** and **Sallow** amongst the macros.

With the end of the month fast approaching a return to Weston Wood was due. John had agreed to join Alan at an agreed time so Alan left early enough to set up and switch on before meeting John at the gate. In fact he was early enough to finish the bracken bashing that he'd started two visits earlier! However, after that he only had one pace when walking to the gate – slow! He'd seen headlights arrive at the gate as he was half way through Waverley Wood, but couldn't get there any quicker. It was just as well because just after letting John in Martin arrived after receiving a message and deciding to come as well. At least Alan got a lift back and he enjoyed the rest while the others set up their traps. It proved to be a very productive night as it was mild, drizzly with little wind. Although John had a minor hornet problem, the blackberries next to his trap had attracted some good moths as well. Martin stayed until around midnight as he had work the following day, but John stuck it out to the end. Alan was certainly grateful for that, as he proved an able deputy for Val by holding an umbrella over the trap as he counted while the rain got heavier and heavier. By the time everything was loaded they were almost paddling in the car park! However, you don't generally mind when you've had such a good night like this one. A pleasing total of 41 species were recorded with seven being new for the wood. Some of the micros were **Caloptilia betulicola**, **Rabbit Moth** (*Ypsolopha sequella*) and **Rhomboid Tortrix** with **Black Rustic**, **Barred Sallow** and the first **Merveille Du Jour** of the year putting the icing on the cake for the macros. So bedraggled, but happy John and Alan made their way home.

## **October**

Chaddesley Wood was the first destination this month. Roger had phoned to say he wasn't coming due to a horrendous weather forecast. Now everyone should know how completely useless forecasts are and we suspected Roger may have regretted his decision when he found out how we got on. John, Martin and Stephen didn't bother with forecasts and arrived ready to trap. Mervyn and Rose came but decided to just be onlookers. With traps set up and umbrellas poised we awaited the forecasted deluge of precipitation from the sky. It turned out to be a hour or so of light rain followed by a dry night. With no wind and a good temperature we had a great night with plenty of moths. John's actinic did particularly well, which he was well pleased with. The final tally was nearly 200 moths of 36 species, two of which were new for the wood. A couple of the micros were **Phyllonorycter messaniella** and **Agonopterix arenella** with **Pale Pinion**, **Green-brindled Crescent** and **Pinion-streaked Snout** amongst the macros.

The following Friday we made our last visit of the year to Bishop's Hill and what a night it proved to be. Martin, Roger and Nigel made the effort to make the early start time although Martin was late arriving. He still proceeded with the plan to use his trolley and get two traps on the other side of the hill. We had a mainly cloudy night with a nagging easterly wind. However it didn't seem to put the moths off flying, as it was really mild. Nigel had one trap in the windiest spot and it did really well. Our target was 20 species but that was exceeded pretty quickly and by the end had ballooned to an incredible 49. Many of them were new for the site and Martin's long trek paid off as he got the only **Pink-barred Sallow** of the night. With everybody packing up, we made sure we left our last light on to give Martin a target to aim for on his long journey back with the trolley from the dark side! It worked well and he made it back safely. A thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile evening was had and everybody went home happy they'd made the effort. Some of the micros recorded were **Ectoedemia decentella**, **Argyresthia albistria** and **Aproaerema anthyllidella** with **November Moth**, **Blair's Shoulder-knot**, **Brown-spot Pinion** and **Beaded Chestnut** amongst the macros.

After last night's success we decided to give Ryton Meadows a go. It was another cloudy and mild night but the wind was strong. With the poor management on 'scrub hill' that had gone on earlier in the year, we were left with little choice but to bury ourselves in the meadow hedge to seek some shelter. Nigel and Martin did the same and it paid off, although it wasn't particularly comfortable at some traps. Martin had long wanted to see a **Dusky-lemon Sallow** at the meadows after Alan and Mike Astley had caught one year before. Our other target was **Merveille Du Jour** as that would be new for the meadows. It was a successful night but Alan got Martin's target and vice-versa! With targets achieved we all decided to call it a night a little earlier than at Bishop's Hill. The final total was 33 species with a couple of the micros being **Ypsolopha sylvella** and **Epinotia maculana** and **Red-green Carpet**, **Satellite** and **Red-line Quaker** amongst the macros.

(Note for Mr. Slater - if you do allow some more 'management' on the meadows please leave our scrub ALONE!).

A trip back to Alan's Mums in Essex was made mid-month. With the nights Alan had had in June being so good, this visit was never going to compete. Two disappointing nights due a persistent north wind, resulted in only 18 species being recorded with a cracking **Large Wainscot** being by far the best. The final trip of the month was also the final visit for the year to Weston Wood. John and Martin again made up the recorders with Anna and her camera completing tonight's attendees. It was a good weather night with the skies cloudy, barely any wind and the temperature hardly changing from start to finish. After the initial rush and the surprisingly early find of a **Sprawler**, things slowed down and the rest of us had to put up with Val and Anna making monster shadow shapes on the trees surrounding the traps. How some people pass their time is beyond some of us! When Alan returned from letting one half (Anna) of the 'dynamic duo' out of the wood, it was decided to start packing up. A very satisfactory evening had resulted in 24 species being recorded with five new for the wood. A couple of the micros were **Caloptilia stigmatella** and **Ypsolopha parenthesella** with **Autumnal Moth**, **Dark Chestnut** and **Yellow-line Quaker** some of the macros.



## **November**

We managed to get a last visit to Chaddesley Wood in for the year although it was a chilly one. Martin, Roger, Anna and Steve Whitehouse made up the recording crew for this evening. We were expecting a slow night and we weren't disappointed. Thankfully, we didn't have any fireworks in the wood but could hear plenty going off all around us. It wouldn't have surprised us if we found the world had ended on our journey home! With quite a few traps we managed to keep warm by visiting them and the 'tea shop' was in full use. Anna was determined to try and photograph all the different versions of **Mottled Umber** – good luck with that! Steve decided he wanted to get home for 'Match of the Day' and was first to leave. When Alan got back from letting him out the generator ran out of petrol as it had been going for over six hours already. After a refill, it was suggested we look on tree trunks for some moths, so we passed some time doing that and we found quite a few. It ended up that we somehow worked our way down to one of Martin's traps and so, after having a look in that and the others we headed back up the hill and started to tally. Just as we'd finished loading everything into the cars the rain started. Perfect timing! It had been a long, but pretty successful evening with over one hundred moths of 20 species being recorded. The last micro to arrive was **Acleris sparsana** and **December Moth, Chestnut** and **Brick** were some of the macros.

The following Saturday Alan and John went to Tiddesley Wood in search of **Plumed Prominent** again. Things looked promising on the journey, as there appeared to be a large bank of cloud heading in the right direction. However, it never did arrive in time and so even with little or no wind it was a cold night. There were moths arriving slowly at the traps although as usual there was a long time with nothing happening. With the first spots of rain felt the decision to pack up was made. Alan had a late rush of moths that helped the total count pass 50 individuals of 11 species. Not bad for such a cold night. As with last week **Acleris sparsana** put in an appearance right at the end with **Northern Winter Moth** and **Feathered Thorn** being a couple of the macros recorded.

The last visit of the year was also a first, as Alan joined Martin and John at Hay Wood. This visit was more in preparation for next year, as Martin will be attempting to do a monthly recording session here. Alan and John watched avidly as Martin tried his brand new key to the gates. The good news was it worked and so we all drove up the track to a crossroads a set up the traps in that area. It was fairly similar to the previous weeks conditions, so we didn't expect too much. However, we did manage to get seven species recorded with the 'stars' being some extremely fresh and vibrant looking **Scarce Umber**. The visit was more than valuable for getting an idea of the best places to set up c traps for next year and so it was well worth suffering the cold.

## **Summary**

After the slow start to the year due to the winter dragging on longer than we've become accustomed to the year really picked up. Generally it was probably an average sort of year weather wise, if there can be such a thing. That was until the big freeze hit us all in late November and put an end to our recording trips. As always thanks to all the people who have put up with us over the year, as well as those who have invited us back in 2011. Thanks also to Nigel for putting the mountain of records we create into the Mapmate system. Hopefully we'll see many of you again throughout the coming year.

## **Clarification**

All species mentioned in the text have been adults. No leaf-mines or cases etc. have been included. Difficult to identify species will have been confirmed via dissection.

## **Further Information**

For information on Moth Nights or Butterfly Walks in Warwickshire see the Butterfly Conservation web site at: <http://www.warwickshire-butterflies.org.uk>

Or contact David Brown on 01789 840295 or Keith Warmington on 01827 715873



Date	Site	Species
6/2/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	10
6/3/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	4
17/3/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	22
8/4/10	Tiddesley Wood, Worcestershire	29
17/4/10	Whichford Wood, Warwickshire	26
23/4/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	30
27/4/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	36
28/4/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	36
1/5/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	16
9/5/10	Upton Warren, Worcestershire	16
14/5/10	Middleton Hall, Warwickshire	34
15/5/10	Bishop's Hill, Warwickshire ( <i>National Moth Night</i> )	30
18/5/10	Tiddesley Wood, Worcestershire	57
20/5/10	Crown East Wood, Worcestershire	72
22/5/10	Shrawley Wood, Worcestershire	82
24/5/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	75
29/5/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	51
4/6/10	Bishop's Hill, Warwickshire	172
5/6/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	125
6/6/10	Weeley, Essex	52
7/6/10	Weeley, Essex	51
8/6/10	Weeley, Essex	80
11/6/10	Middleton Hall, Warwickshire	129
15/6/10	New Fallings Coppice, Warwickshire	70
17/6/10	Highlands, Brandon, Warwickshire	90
18/6/10	Ryall's Cottage, Gloucestershire	113
21/6/10	Severn Valley Country Park, Shropshire	127
22/6/10	River Arrow LNR, Warwickshire	88
25/6/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	105
26/6/10	Norton Covert, Worcestershire	140
28/6/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	110
30/6/10	Bishops Bowl Lakes & TISHA, Warwickshire	207
3/7/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	133
9/7/10	Middleton Hall, Warwickshire	239
17/7/10	Bubbenhall Meadow & Wood, Warwickshire	152
23/7/10	Ladywalk NR, Warwickshire	171
24/7/10	Crown East Wood, Worcestershire	139
28/7/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	112
30/7/10	Purley Quarry, Warwickshire	172
3/8/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	158
7/8/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	127
12/8/10	Greystones Farm, Gloucestershire	58
14/8/10	Windmill Hill, Nuneaton, Warwickshire	128
17/8/10	Tiddesley Wood, Worcestershire	100
20/8/10	Ryall's Cottage, Gloucestershire	118
27/8/10	Slimbridge WWT Centre, Gloucestershire	66
31/8/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	34
3/9/10	Slimbridge WWT Centre, Gloucestershire	60
4/9/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	74
10/9/10	Middleton Hall, Warwickshire	77
17/9/10	Bishop's Hill, Warwickshire	24
20/9/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	26
28/9/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	41
2/10/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	37
8/10/10	Bishop's Hill, Warwickshire	49
9/10/10	Ryton Meadows, Warwickshire	33
12/10/10	Weeley, Essex	11
13/10/10	Weeley, Essex	11
30/10/10	Weston Wood, Warwickshire	22
6/11/10	Chaddesley Wood, Worcestershire	20
13/11/10	Tiddesley Wood, Worcestershire	11
20/11/10	Hay Wood, Warwickshire	7

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<b>6</b>	<i>Eriocrania subpurpurella</i>	4	<b>523</b>	<i>Coleophora hemerobiella</i>	13
<b>9</b>	<i>Eriocrania sparrmannella</i>	3	<b>535</b>	<i>Coleophora ibipennella</i>	10
<b>14</b>	Ghost Moth	11	<b>541</b>	<i>Coleophora pyrrhulipennella</i>	10
<b>16</b>	Gold Swift	10	<b>544</b>	<i>Coleophora albicosta</i>	8
<b>18</b>	Map-winged Swift	9	<b>553</b>	<i>Coleophora striatipennella</i>	6
<b>20</b>	<i>Ectoedemia decentella</i>	21	<b>556</b>	<i>Coleophora trochilella</i>	12
<b>38</b>	<i>Ectoedemia subbimaculella</i>	10	<b>559</b>	<i>Coleophora peribenanderi</i>	9
<b>119</b>	<i>Opostega salaciella</i>	16	<b>581</b>	<i>Coleophora taeniipennella</i>	10
<b>128</b>	<i>Phylloporia bistrigella</i>	9	<b>590</b>	<i>Perittia obscurepunctella</i>	3
<b>129</b>	<i>Incurvaria pectinea</i>	3	<b>609</b>	<i>Elachista maculicersusella</i>	5
<b>138</b>	<i>Lampronia fuscataella</i>	6	<b>631</b>	<i>Cosmiotes freyerella</i>	6
<b>143</b>	<i>Nematopogon metaxella</i>	10	<b>649</b>	<i>Esperia sulphurella</i>	6
<b>175</b>	<i>Narycia duplicella</i>	9	<b>666</b>	<i>Semioscopis avellanella</i>	2
<b>227</b>	<i>Monopis laevigella</i>	19	<b>667</b>	<i>Semioscopis steinkellneriana</i>	2
<b>230</b>	<i>Monopis crocicapitella</i>	8	<b>674</b>	<i>Depressaria badiella</i>	19
<b>273</b>	<i>Bucculatrix thoracella</i>	6	<b>689</b>	<i>Agonopterix ciliella</i>	14
<b>274</b>	<i>Bucculatrix ulmella</i>	17	<b>697</b>	<i>Agonopterix arenella</i>	20
<b>275</b>	<i>Bucculatrix bechsteinella</i>	7	<b>704</b>	<i>Agonopterix scopariella</i>	2
<b>283</b>	<i>Caloptilia betulicola</i>	20	<b>710</b>	<i>Agonopterix conterminella</i>	14
<b>288</b>	<i>Caloptilia stigamtella</i>	21	<b>724</b>	<i>Metzneria lappella</i>	5
<b>290</b>	<i>Caloptilia semifascia</i>	17	<b>731</b>	<i>Eulamprotes atrella</i>	15
<b>296</b>	<i>Calybites phasianipennella</i>	10	<b>756</b>	<i>Parachronistis albiceps</i>	10
<b>303</b>	<i>Parornix anglicella</i>	5	<b>758</b>	<i>Recurvaria leucataella</i>	13
<b>304</b>	<i>Parornix devoniella</i>	3	<b>762</b>	<i>Athrips mouffetella</i>	14
<b>305</b>	<i>Parornix scoticella</i>	17	<b>764</b>	<i>Pseudotelphusa scalella</i>	7
<b>321</b>	<i>Phyllonorycter messaniella</i>	20	<b>790</b>	<i>Chionodes fumatella</i>	14
<b>366a</b>	Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner	8	<b>812</b>	<i>Scrobipalpa instabilella</i>	8
<b>391</b>	<i>Glyphipterix simpliciella</i>	8	<b>819</b>	<i>Scrobipalpa costella</i>	18
<b>409a</b>	<i>Argyresthia trifasciata</i>	6	<b>843</b>	<i>Aproaerema anthyllidella</i>	5,17, 21
<b>414</b>	<i>Argyresthia curvella</i>	9	<b>849</b>	<i>Syncopacma cinctella</i>	7
<b>415</b>	<i>Argyresthia retinella</i>	12	<b>854</b>	<i>Anacamptis blattariella</i>	14
<b>422</b>	<i>Argyresthia albistria</i>	21	<b>858</b>	<i>Hypatima rhomboidella</i>	18
<b>426</b>	Apple Ermine	9	<b>859</b>	<i>Psoricoptera gibbosella</i>	14
<b>428</b>	Willow Ermine	15	<b>862</b>	Juniper Webber	9
<b>447</b>	<i>Roeslerstammia erxlebelli</i>	6	<b>870</b>	<i>Oecogonia quadripuncta</i>	16
<b>453</b>	Honeysuckle Moth	19	<b>888</b>	<i>Mompha propinquella</i>	17
<b>456</b>	<i>Ypsolopha horridella</i>	17	<b>907</b>	<i>Drybenna stephensi</i>	14
<b>458</b>	<i>Ypsolopha alpella</i>	20	<b>926</b>	<i>Phalonidia manniana</i>	11
<b>459</b>	<i>Ypsolopha sylvella</i>	21	<b>939</b>	<i>Aethes tesserana</i>	7
<b>460</b>	<i>Ypsolopha parenthesella</i>	21	<b>970</b>	Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	11
<b>462</b>	Rabbit Moth	20	<b>971</b>	<i>Pandemis cinnamomeana</i>	11
<b>469</b>	<i>Eidophasia messingiella</i>	14	<b>1023</b>	<i>Cnephasia genitalana</i>	15
<b>473</b>	Leek Moth	17	<b>1025</b>	<i>Tortricodes alternella</i>	2
<b>481</b>	<i>Epermenia falciformis</i>	15	<b>1032</b>	<i>Aleimma loeflingiana</i>	11
<b>492</b>	<i>Coleophora flavipennella</i>	11	<b>1033</b>	Green Oak Tortrix	11
<b>496a</b>	<i>Coleophora adjectella</i>	12	<b>1034</b>	<i>Spatalistis bifasciana</i>	6
<b>498</b>	<i>Coleophora alnifoliae</i>	6	<b>1041</b>	<i>Acleris sparsana</i>	22
<b>502</b>	<i>Coleophora trigeminella</i>	11	<b>1042</b>	Rhomboid Tortrix	20
<b>509</b>	<i>Coleophora violacea</i>	10	<b>1051</b>	<i>Acleris logiana</i>	3
<b>512</b>	<i>Coleophora binderella</i>	13	<b>1054</b>	<i>Acleris cristana</i>	3
<b>517</b>	<i>Coleophora alcyonipennella</i>	18	<b>1061</b>	<i>Acleris laterana</i>	2
<b>517a</b>	<i>Coleophora frischella</i>	7	<b>1062</b>	<i>Acleris emargana</i>	19

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<b>1106</b>	<i>Lobesia reliquana</i>	9	<b>1735</b>	RUDDY CARPET	9, 10
<b>1142</b>	<i>Epinotia tedella</i>	10	<b>1746</b>	SHOULDER STRIPE	3
<b>1152</b>	<i>Epinotia maculana</i>	21	<b>1747</b>	STREAMER	4
<b>1154</b>	<i>Epinotia caprana</i>	14	<b>1748</b>	BEAUTIFUL CARPET	9
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<b>1184a</b>	<i>Epiblema cirsiiana</i>	12	<b>1755</b>	CHEVRON	14
<b>1217</b>	<i>Eucosmomorpha albersana</i>	6	<b>1756</b>	NORTHERN SPINACH	12
<b>1221</b>	<i>Strophedra weirana</i>	9	<b>1758</b>	BARRED STRAW	10
<b>1237</b>	<i>Pammene germmana</i>	7	<b>1760</b>	RED-GREEN CARPET	21
<b>1274</b>	<i>Dichrorampha alpinana</i>	10	<b>1765</b>	BARRED YELLOW	9
<b>1279</b>	<i>Dichrorampha acuminatana</i>	18	<b>1766</b>	BLUE-BORDERED CARPET	11
<b>1290</b>	<i>Chilo phragmitella</i>	10, 12	<b>1773</b>	BROKEN-BARRED CARPET	5
<b>1303</b>	<i>Agriphila selasella</i>	17	<b>1778</b>	MAY HIGHFLYER	6
<b>1307</b>	<i>Agriphila latistria</i>	14	<b>1782</b>	FERN	7
<b>1316</b>	<i>Catoptria falsella</i>	12	<b>1791</b>	BROWN SCALLOP	12
<b>1328</b>	<i>Schoenobius gigantella</i>	11	<b>1793</b>	CLOAKED CARPET	15
<b>1331</b>	Water Veneer	18	<b>1795</b>	NOVEMBER MOTH	21
<b>1334a</b>	<i>Scoparia basistrigalis</i>	14	<b>1797</b>	AUTUMNAL MOTH	21
<b>1342</b>	<i>Eudonia angustea</i>	19	<b>1799</b>	WINTER MOTH	1
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<b>1358</b>	<i>Evergestis pallidata</i>	14	<b>1838</b>	TAWNY SPECKLED PUG	14
<b>1362</b>	<i>Pyrausta purpuralis</i>	18	<b>1840</b>	SHADED PUG	7
<b>1388</b>	<i>Udea lutealis</i>	15	<b>1851</b>	GOLDEN-ROD PUG	4
<b>1395</b>	Rusty-dot Pearl	16	<b>1858</b>	V-PUG	5
<b>1398</b>	Rush Veneer	10, 18	<b>1859</b>	SLOE PUG	14
<b>1405</b>	Mother of Pearl	19	<b>1867</b>	TREBLE-BAR	16
<b>1417</b>	Meal Moth	15	<b>1879</b>	SERAPHIM	3
<b>1433</b>	<i>Cryptoblabes bistriga</i>	7	<b>1884</b>	MAGPIE MOTH	17
<b>1451</b>	<i>Pyla fusca</i>	17	<b>1888</b>	SCORCHED CARPET	15
<b>1465</b>	<i>Nephoterix angustella</i>	18	<b>1902</b>	BROWN SILVER-LINE	6
<b>1531</b>	Large Skipper	10	<b>1903</b>	BARRED UMBER	6
<b>1557</b>	Purple Hairstreak	14	<b>1904</b>	SCORCHED WING	9
<b>1569</b>	Small Blue	7	<b>1906</b>	BRIMSTONE MOTH	5
<b>1574</b>	Common Blue	18	<b>1907</b>	BORDERED BEAUTY	18
<b>1629</b>	Ringlet	14	<b>1910</b>	LILAC BEAUTY	10
<b>1631</b>	DECEMBER MOTH	22	<b>1912</b>	AUGUST THORN	14
<b>1632</b>	PALE EGGAR	19	<b>1913</b>	CANARY-SHOULDERED THORN	18
<b>1640</b>	DRINKER	10	<b>1919</b>	PURPLE THORN	5
<b>1645</b>	SCALLOPED HOOK-TIP	3	<b>1922</b>	SWALLOW-TAILED MOTH	10
<b>1648</b>	PEBBLE HOOK-TIP	3	<b>1923</b>	FEATHERED THORN	22
<b>1651</b>	CHINESE CHARACTER	17	<b>1925</b>	SMALL BRINDLED BEAUTY	2
<b>1654</b>	FIGURE OF EIGHTY	9	<b>1926</b>	PALE BRINDLED BEAUTY	1
<b>1655</b>	POPLAR LUTESTRING	7	<b>1927</b>	BRINDLED BEAUTY	3
<b>1659</b>	YELLOW HORNED	2	<b>1930</b>	OAK BEAUTY	2
<b>1663</b>	MARCH MOTH	2	<b>1931</b>	PEPPERED MOTH	5
<b>1666</b>	LARGE EMERALD	14	<b>1932</b>	SPRING USHER	1
<b>1667</b>	BLOTCHED EMERALD	10	<b>1933</b>	SCARCE UMBER	22

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<b>1934</b>	DOTTED BORDER	1, 2	<b>2176</b>	ANTLER MOTH	14
<b>1935</b>	MOTTLED UMBER	1, 22	<b>2178</b>	FEATHERED GOTHIC	18
<b>1936</b>	WAVED UMBER	4	<b>2182</b>	SMALL QUAKER	2
<b>1940</b>	SATIN BEAUTY	10	<b>2185</b>	LEAD-COLOURED DRAB	2
<b>1941</b>	MOTTLED BEAUTY	11	<b>2186</b>	POWDERED QUAKER	3
<b>1943</b>	GREAT OAK BEAUTY	12	<b>2191</b>	DOUBLE LINE	11
<b>1961</b>	LIGHT EMERALD	11	<b>2193</b>	CLAY	11
<b>1964</b>	ANNULET	14	<b>2204</b>	OBSCURE WAINSCOT	10
<b>1976</b>	PRIVET HAWK-MOTH	8, 10	<b>2214</b>	CHAMOMILE SHARK	8
<b>1978</b>	PINE HAWK-MOTH	8	<b>2221</b>	MULLEIN MOTH	5
<b>1979</b>	LIME HAWK-MOTH	6, 10	<b>2227</b>	SPRAWLER	21
<b>1980</b>	EYED HAWK-MOTH	7, 10	<b>2231</b>	DEEP-BROWN DART	19
<b>1981</b>	POPLAR HAWK-MOTH	5	<b>2232</b>	BLACK RUSTIC	20
<b>1991</b>	ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH	6	<b>2236</b>	PALE PINION	4, 20
<b>1992</b>	SMALL ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH	7	<b>2240</b>	BLAIR'S SHOULDER-KNOT	21
<b>1995</b>	PUSS MOTH	4	<b>2245</b>	GREEN-BRINDLED CRESCENT	20
<b>1996</b>	ALDER KITTEN	6	<b>2247</b>	MERVEILLE DU JOUR	20, 21
<b>1997</b>	SALLOW KITTEN	17	<b>2248</b>	BRINDLED GREEN	20
<b>1999</b>	LOBSTER MOTH	7	<b>2256</b>	SATELLITE	21
<b>2003</b>	PEBBLE PROMINENT	5	<b>2258</b>	CHESTNUT	22
<b>2005</b>	GREAT PROMINENT	4	<b>2259</b>	DARK CHESTNUT	21
<b>2006</b>	LESSER SWALLOW PROMINENT	18	<b>2262</b>	BRICK	22
<b>2007</b>	SWALLOW PROMINENT	5	<b>2263</b>	YELLOW-LINE QUAKER	21
<b>2013</b>	PLUMED PROMINENT	22	<b>2264</b>	RED-LINE QUAKER	21
<b>2014</b>	MARBLED BROWN	9	<b>2266</b>	BROWN-SPOT PINION	21
<b>2015</b>	LUNAR MARBLED BROWN	4	<b>2267</b>	BEADED CHESTNUT	21
<b>2019</b>	CHOCOLATE-TIP	3	<b>2268</b>	SUSPECTED	12, 14
<b>2026</b>	VAPOURER	17	<b>2269</b>	CENTRE-BARRED SALLOW	18
<b>2030</b>	YELLOW-TAIL	15	<b>2270</b>	LUNAR UNDERWING	20
<b>2033</b>	BLACK ARCHES	13	<b>2271</b>	ORANGE SALLOW	19
<b>2057</b>	GARDEN TIGER	12	<b>2272</b>	BARRED SALLOW	20
<b>2058</b>	CREAM-SPOT TIGER	7, 8	<b>2273</b>	PINK-BARRED SALLOW	19, 21
<b>2060</b>	WHITE ERMINE	6	<b>2274</b>	SALLOW	16, 20
<b>2063</b>	MUSLIN MOTH	5	<b>2275</b>	DUSKY-LEMON SALLOW	21
<b>2064</b>	RUBY TIGER	14	<b>2279</b>	SYCAMORE	10
<b>2089</b>	HEART & DART	10, 11	<b>2280</b>	MILLER	6
<b>2091</b>	DARK SWORD-GRASS	17	<b>2281</b>	ALDER MOTH	6
<b>2093</b>	SAND DART	8	<b>2283</b>	DARK DAGGER	17
<b>2098</b>	FLAME	10	<b>2289</b>	KNOT GRASS	4
<b>2107</b>	LARGE YELLOW UNDERWING	17	<b>2299</b>	MOUSE MOTH	16
<b>2117</b>	AUTUMNAL RUSTIC	19	<b>2303</b>	STRAW UNDERWING	14
<b>2122</b>	PURPLE CLAY	9	<b>2313</b>	ANGLE-STRIPED SALLOW	19
<b>2126</b>	SETACEOUS HEBREW CHARACTER	17	<b>2316</b>	LESSER-SPOTTED PINION	17
<b>2133</b>	SIX-STRIPED RUSTIC	16	<b>2317</b>	WHITE-SPOTTED PINION	17
<b>2140</b>	WHITE-MARKED	3	<b>2319</b>	LUNAR-SPOTTED PINION	13
<b>2145</b>	NUTMEG	13	<b>2327</b>	CLOUDED BRINDLE	7
<b>2155</b>	DOT MOTH	11	<b>2330</b>	DUSKY BROCADE	5
<b>2157</b>	LIGHT BROCADE	10	<b>2343</b>	COMMON RUSTIC	15
<b>2159</b>	DOG'S TOOTH	17	<b>2343a</b>	LESSER COMMON RUSTIC	14, 15
<b>2163</b>	BROOM MOTH	11	<b>2345</b>	SMALL DOTTED BUFF	12
<b>2167</b>	TAWNY SHEARS	7	<b>2349</b>	MERE WAINSCOT	14
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<b>2364</b>	FROSTED ORANGE	19	<b>2452</b>	RED UNDERWING	16
<b>2368</b>	CRESCENT	14	<b>2466</b>	BLACKNECK	10
<b>2371</b>	BROWN-VEINED WAINSCOT	14	<b>2469</b>	HERALD	2
<b>2375</b>	LARGE WAINSCOT	18, 21	<b>2475</b>	WAVED BLACK	14
<b>2379</b>	SMALL RUFOUS	14	<b>2484</b>	PINION-STREAKED SNOUT	20
<b>2418</b>	CREAM-BORDERED GREEN PEA	10	<b>2492</b>	SMALL FAN-FOOT	11
<b>2422</b>	GREEN SILVER-LINES	6			

**COMING SOON!**

**FOR ONE DAY & NIGHT ONLY**  
**Saturday 30th July, 2011**

**THE WARWICKSHIRE BRANCH**  
**MOTH BLITZ**

We would like to invite anybody with an interest in Lepidoptera to record and report what they see on this date.

Whether you are just out for an afternoon stroll or run a moth trap in your garden.

Alternatively you could attend one of the county wide events near you that will be recording Lepidoptera.

Every sighting that is reported will be extremely valuable to help us gauge the state of the county's butterflies & moths.

Please either help record or attend an event but at the very least ENJOY the variety of Warwickshire's Lepidoptera.

*Please report your sightings to  
[www.warwickshire-butterflies.org.uk/mothnight.asp](http://www.warwickshire-butterflies.org.uk/mothnight.asp)  
as soon as you can after 30/7/11  
so they can be collated. THANK YOU.*





14 Ghost Moth



1654 Figure of Eighty



2015 Lunar Marbled Brown



2182 Small Quaker



1927 Brindled Beauty



2245 Green-brindled Crescent



1997 Sallow Kitten



1978 Pine Hawk-moth





1825 Lime-speck Pug



1867 Treble-bar



2159 Dog's Tooth



1913 Canary-shouldered Thorn



2221 Mullein Moth



2064 Ruby Tiger



**Butterfly  
Conservation**

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