

Butterfly Conservation Upper Thames Branch

Moth Sightings Archive - June to December 2008

~ Wednesday 31st December 2008 ~

Final Moth Species count for 2008 was 766.

*Dave Wilton took his trap to Finemere Wood on 22nd December in order to escape the Christmas preparations for a few hours: "I caught **Acleris hastiana** (2), **Acleris ferrugana/notana** (6), **Winter Moth** (109), **Pale Brindled Beauty** (1), **Spring Usher** (2), **Scarce Umber** (1), **Mottled Umber** (34), **Satellite** (2) & **Chestnut** (1). Spring Usher was a bit of a surprise."*

*David Redhead reported the following on 23rd December: "The milder weather encouraged me to fire up the garden moth trap (*Littlemore, Oxon*) on Sunday evening, *21st December*. It produced 4 **Winter Moths**, 2 **Mottled Umbers** and a **Pale Brindled Beauty**. Nothing small except for 6 small Caddis Flies."*

*Ched George sent the following report on 20th December: "I found a **Brick** alive and well in the road in *Radnage, Bucks on December 19th*. There appear to be clouds of presumably **Diurnea fagella** flying in the local lanes at present."*

*20/12/08 - Peter Hall added the following micros to the 2008 species list: "Here are a couple more that I've just got round to checking under the microscope. Dave Wilton and I trapped **Coleophora gryphipennella** in *Chinkwell Wood on July 10th* (see Dave's report dated 14th July). Also **Coleophora albitarsella** here at *Ballinger Common on July 13th*."*

~ Saturday 20th December 2008 ~

*Dave Wilton sent the following on 11th December: "Moth activity at *Westcott* all but ceased during the recent cold snap, although I did find an example of **Agonopterix arenella** flying around inside the garage on *10th December*. However, with thanks once again to Peter Hall, I do have a final batch of species to add to the UTB list from warmer times a few months ago. The following are all from sites in Bucks: **Acleris aspersana** (*Westcott 10/8*), **Agonopterix conterminella** (*Finemere 26/8*), **Agonopterix subpropinquella** (*River Ray Reserves 24/8*), **Anacampsis populella** (*Kingswood 20/8*), **Autumnal Moth** (*Rushbeds 24/10*), **Bactra furfurana** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Batrachedra praeangusta** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Cacoecimorpha pronubana** (*Westcott 19/8*), **Calamatropha paludella** (*Westcott 28/7*), **Caloptilia robustella** (*Finemere 15/8*), **Coleophora coracipennella** (*Westcott 23/7*), **Coleophora peribenanderi** (*Westcott 23/7*), **Coleophora saxicolella** (*Westcott 27/7*), **Eana incanana** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Endothenia marginana** (*Gallowsbridge Farm 22/7*), **Epagoge grotiana** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Epinotia solandriana** (*Kingswood 20/8*), **Epinotia tenerana** (*Westcott 21/8*), **Eudonia angustea** (*Westcott 30/8*), **Gelechia nigra** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Gelechia rhombella** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Lesser Common Rustic** (*Rushbeds 25/7*), **Mompha jurassicella** (*Westcott 9/10*), **Monochroa lucidella** (*Westcott 23/7*), **Monochroa lutulentella** (*Gallowsbridge Farm 22/7*), **Monopis weaverella** (*Finemere 26/8*),*

Nemapogon wolffiella (Kingswood 20/8), **Oegoconia deauratella** (Westcott 23/7), **Pammene populana** (Finemere 13/9) and **Trachycera suavella** (Westcott 23/7)."

Wendy Wilson sent this report on 9th December: "This moth emerged from its pupa on **Monday 8th December** on a cultivated geranium which I had brought indoors for the winter from my garden in **Gerrards Cross, Bucks**. It is 10mm in length. Thanks to Martin Albertini for confirming the id as a **Light Brown Apple Moth (Epiphyas postvittana)**."



Epiphyas Postvittana
Photo © Wendy Wilson

On 26th November Margot Nicholls reported that this *Palpita vitrealis* moth had been on her kitchen ceiling in Flackwell Heath Bucks for 5 days: "It was in a different place each morning and has now disappeared. It was possibly feeding on Christmas cactus flowers or orchids but I'm not sure of that."



Palpita vitrealis
Photo © Margot Nicholls

~ Tuesday 25th November 2008 ~

News from Ched George on 23rd November: "We trapped **Argyrotaenia Ijungiana** in our MV at a Bucks Invertebrate Group meeting at **Denham Marsh Wood** on 22/7/2008. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the id."

Peter Hall sent the following report on 16th November: "Nothing new, but a trapping session on November 15th near to Lane End, Bucks, brought in: **Scarce Umber, Winter Moth, December Moth, Feathered Thorn, Chestnut, Yellow-line Quaker, Spruce Carpet, Acleris sparsana, Acleris cristana** and **Red-green Carpet**."



December Moth
Photo © Peter Hall



Feathered Thorn
Photo © Peter Hall



Scarce Umber
Photo © Peter Hall

Nigel Partridge sent the following report on 15th November: "One more for the list: **Caloptilia betulicola**, 13-11-08, Loosley Row. Thanks to Peter Hall for help with the ID."



Caloptilia betulicola
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Dave Wilton sent the following report on 14th November: "Another species to add to the 2008 UTB list was found flying around in our kitchen at [Westcott, Bucks on 12th November](#), presumably looking for somewhere to hibernate: it was the micro-moth **Acrolepia autumnitella** (see photo below). Martin Albertini, Martin Townsend, Peter Hall and I ran four MV traps at a site near to [Northend, Bucks on 14th November](#) in the hope of finding **Plumed Prominent** and we were successful although only the one specimen turned up. Other species trapped included **December Moth, Red-green Carpet, Spruce Carpet, Winter Moth, Northern Winter Moth, Pale Brindled Beauty** (very early!), **Mottled Umber, Satellite, Chestnut, Brick and Yellow-line Quaker**. Thanks to Peter Hall, I also now have another small batch of moths to add to the list from back in mid-July: **Bryotropha domestica** ([Westcott 22nd](#)), **Coleophora glaucicolella** ([Westcott 14th](#)), **Coleophora ibipennella** ([Finemere Wood, Bucks 14th](#)), **Coleophora spinella** ([Westcott 15th](#)), **Dark Dagger** ([Gallowsbridge Farm, Bucks 22nd](#)), **Epiblema roborana** ([Finemere 14th](#)), **Epinotia cruciana** ([Finemere 14th](#)), **Eucosma obumbratana** ([Finemere 14th](#)), **Exoteleia dodecella** ([Westcott 15th](#)), **Spilonota laricana** ([Finemere 14th](#)) and **Toadflax Pug** ([Westcott 15th](#)). There will doubtless be more to follow!"



Acrolepia autumnitella
Photo © Dave Wilton

~ Wednesday 12th November 2008 ~

*The following came from Dave Wilton on 7th November: "A **Scarce Umber** appeared in the trap at *Westcott* on *Thursday 6th November*."*

*Ched George sent the following on 6th November: "Several **Red-green Carpets** in *Radnage* this week, plus 1 male **December Moth** and 1 **Dark Swordgrass** on *5th November*."*

*Dave Wilton found that **Sunday 2nd November** was the first suitable trapping night for a while and it was interesting to see what had managed to survive a week of frosts: "Four hours at *Finemere Wood, Bucks* produced **Caloptilia stigmatella** (2), **Phyllonorycter messaniella** (1), **Acleris ferrugana/notana** (1), **Acleris hastiana** (2), **Acleris cristana** (1), **December Moth** (1), **Red-green Carpet** (1), **November Moth spp** (18), **Feathered Thorn** (45), **Mottled Umber** (2), **Sprawler** (14), **Green-brindled Crescent** (8), **Satellite** (1), **Chestnut** (5), **Red-line Quaker** (5), **Yellow-line Quaker** (1) and **Brick** (3). The catch of 111 moths might have been 10% greater if there hadn't been so much activity from some very hungry bats! I also ran a trap in the garden at *Westcott, Bucks* and that managed 14 species, of which **Common Marbled Carpet**, **Winter Moth**, **Lesser Yellow Underwing**, **Setaceous Hebrew Character** and **Blair's Shoulder-knot** were additional to the Finemere list (it seems very late in the season for Common Marbled Carpet and Lesser Yellow Underwing still to be flying). Three of the moths caught are illustrated below, the micro being only 4mm from head to wingtip."*



Winter Moth
Photo © Dave Wilton

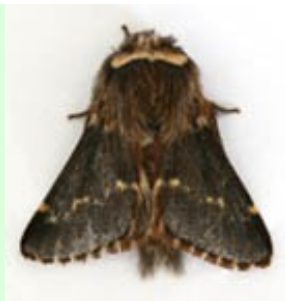


Phyllonorycter messaniella
Photo © Dave Wilton



December Moth
Photo © Dave Wilton

*On 3rd November Nigel Partridge reported a **December moth**, seen on 02-11-08 in *Loosley Row, Bucks*.*



December Moth
Photo © Nigel Partridge

On 18th October Dave Wilton's daughter was unlucky enough to find a caterpillar inside a Spanish clementine she was about to eat: "It measured 9mm at that stage and was tentatively identified at the time as Scarce Bordered Straw. Keeping strictly to its clementine diet, by 31st October it had more than doubled in size to 20mm and looked even more like a **Scarce Bordered Straw larva**. By rearing it indoors I'm hoping to see the adult appear before the end of the year so that Bucks can lay claim to at least one migrant moth in this abysmal season, even if it did gain some assistance in crossing the Channel! It may be worth mentioning that the species is actually still on the "notifiable" list of plant pests but DEFRA have not shown much interest in this particular specimen."



Scarce Bordered Straw
larva?
Photo © Dave Wilton

Scarce Bordered Straw
larva?
Photo © Dave Wilton

Peter Hall had a November Moth at *Ballinger Common* on *25th October*.

Dave Maunder reported the following moths seen in Aylesbury during the last few weeks: "A **Large Ranunculus** (1) on *23rd October*, **Vapourer** moth on *24th October* (my latest ever record!), **Green-brindled Crescent** (1, on *24th October*) and **November moth agg.** on *25th October*. **Beaded Chestnut** (1) and **Angle Shades** (1) came to my garden m.v. trap on *5th November* and at the local shopping centre at Walton Court I found:- **Sprawler** (1); **Blair's Shoulder-knot** (1); **Angle Shades** (2); **Setaceous Hebrew Character** (2); **Feathered Thorn** (2); **Emmelina monodactyla** (1); **Common Marbled Carpet** (1); **Red-green Carpet** (1) and my first **Winter Moth** of the season - not bad for a couple of dull, dismal and damp days! I love some of the cryptically marked autumn moths around at the moment, such as the Red-green Carpet, Feathered Thorn and Sprawler!"



Red-green Carpet and
Feathered Thorn
Photo © Dave Maunder

Sprawler
Photo © Dave Maunder

~ Thursday 23rd October 2008 ~

Dave Wilton sent these moth trap results today: "12 species in the garden trap last night, *22nd October*, but nothing exciting: **Acleris variegana**, **November spp**, **Feathered Thorn**, **Setaceous Hebrew Character**, **Sprawler**, **Brown Rustic**, **Green-brindled Crescent**, **Chestnut**, **Red-line Quaker**, **Yellow-line Quaker**, **Sallow** and **Silver Y.**"

Peter Hall recorded a Pale November moth at *Ballinger Common* on *22nd October*.

Alan Gudge sent this report on 20th October: "After a summer of not too successful mothing on account of the weather, we had a good couple of days a week or so ago. On the *8th October* we set a trap in our garden in *Bucks* and had a total of 15 species including two new to our garden. The new ones were **Brindled Green** and 3 specimens of **Merveille du Jour**. We have long wanted to see the latter and I attach a picture of one of them (see below). Then on *11th October* Juliet spotted our first **Hummingbird Hawkmoth** of the summer in our garden. 'Normal service' has now been resumed with a trap on *13th October* only producing 4 species!"



Merveille du Jour
Photo © Alan Gudge

David Redhead provided a photo of the Large Wainscot that he trapped on *12th October* (see report below):

The photos below were from Alastair Driver's moth trap on *12th October* (see report below):



Blair's Shoulder-knot
Photo © Alastair Driver



Bulrush Wainscot
Photo © Alastair Driver



November Moth egg.
Photo © Alastair Driver

Thomas Merckx sent this report on 16th October: "I see that you're still after **Dark Chestnut**. Martin Townsend and I saw several during moth traps at a number of farms in Oxon recently:

09/10 - 1 in *Marsh Gibbon*;

12/10 - 1 in *North Leigh*; 2 in *Deddington*;

13/10 - 1 in *Marsh Gibbon*;

14/10 - 1 in *Merton*.

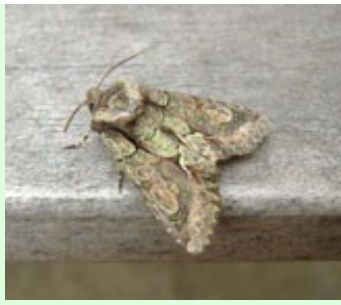
Wendy Wilson found the following in her house in Gerrards Cross, Bucks on 13th October: "A micromoth called **Amblyptilia acanthadactyla** sitting on my kitchen wall." (Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the id.)



Amblyptilia acanthadactyla
Photo © Wendy Wilson

~ Tuesday 14th October 2008 ~

Dave Maunder saw his first November moth egg. (2) on *12th October* in a porch near his house in *Aylesbury*. "On *13th October* moths seen were: **Pale Mottled Willow** and a **Feathered Thorn** while my garden m.v. trap in the evening produced **Green-brindled Crescent** (3); **Red-line Quaker** (1); **Burnished Brass** (1); **Large Yellow Underwing** (2); **Lesser Yellow Underwing** (1) and **Light-brown Apple Moth** (2). I've included a photo of a Green-brindled Crescent - one of my favourite autumn moths!"



Green-brindled Crescent
Photo © Dave Maunder

Alastair Driver says he had a good session with the Robinson trap at Ali's Pond LNR in Sonning on 12th October: "I added **Green-brindled Crescent** (*f. capucina*) to my parish records and added **Yellow-line Quaker**, **Red-line Quaker**, **Blair's Shoulder-knot**, **November Moth** agg. and **Bulrush Wainscot** to my year-list. Also caught **Lunar Underwing**, **Setaceous Hebrew Character**, **Large Yellow Underwing**, **Burnished Brass** and **Deep-brown Dart**."

David Redhead ran a garden moth trap on 12th October in Littlemore, Oxon, with the following results: "Burnished Brass, Chestnut, Common Marbled Carpet, Green Brindled Crescent (2), Large Wainscot, Lunar Underwing, Red-green Carpet, Red-line Quaker (2), Snout and Straw Dot. The Straw Dot is rather late and the Lunar Underwing looked remarkably fresh for an end of flight period specimen - so I wonder if the recent improved weather is leading to extended flight periods. One of the Red-line Quakers was the allegedly rare, in our area, *Rufa* form recently caught by Dave Wilton (*see 2nd October report*), but I have to say I have never seen one before."

Martin Harvey sent this update on 11th October: "On *27th September* the British Entomological and Natural History Society organised a field trip to *Otmoor RSPB reserve*. The evening's mothing was rather cold, but among my short species list from the reedbeds was **Large Wainscot**, which seems to be new for the UTB year list."

Nigel Partridge reported the following on 11th October: "**Acleris sparsana**, 09-10-08, *Loosley Row*. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the id."



Acleris sparsana
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Dave Wilton reported the following today, 10th October: "With not even a hint of green brindling to be seen, calling the moth illustrated below a **Green-brindled Crescent** seems a bit of a cheek! However, that's what it is. This fresh melanic form *capucina* came to MV light in a private wood at *Kingswood, Bucks* on *9th October*."



Green-brindled Crescent *f. capucina*
Photo © Dave Wilton

Eleanor Slade says the HSBC Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project team opportunistically set 3 moth traps last night, 9th October, in the beech plot in Wytham Woods and ended up with a good catch: "It included 4 **Yellow-line Quakers**, 3 **Sprawlers**, 4 **Feathered Thorns**, 14 **Green-brindled Crescents**, 22 **Mottled Umbers** of all varieties, 1 **Figure of Eight**, 1 **Red-line Quaker** and the usual **Bricks**, **Satellites**, **Spruce Carpet**, **Common Marbled Carpet** and **Snouts**. I notice nobody has reported a **Small Wainscot**. The first one we caught in Wytham this year was on the *30th August*. We've had several, including both forms. Update 14/11/08: Just to let you know I had the November spp moths we caught checked by Darren Mann (Uni Oxford Natural History Museum) and we had 2 **Pale November moths**."

6th October - Helen Hyre says she's had some extraordinary visitors to her garden in Bierton, Aylesbury, in the past few weeks: "An **Elephant Hawk-moth caterpillar** on *11th September* decided to investigate our birdbath but didn't like the water when it had climbed the slope and a **Privet Hawk-moth caterpillar** on *15th September* (see photos below). On *6th October* in the local churchyard I saw a **Pale Tussock caterpillar** - very bright green, almost luminous, VERY hairy. Unfortunately I didn't have the camera at the time. On *20th September* near the lake at *Watermead, Aylesbury*, we saw this most incredible creature. It was hovering, then it cruised round the local trees, then after 2 minutes we lost it. I had my camera with me but it did not stay still long enough to take a photo! I looked it up at home and it was a **Red Underwing**. My husband had also seen one which flew briefly into our house on 16th September."



Elephant Hawk-moth_caterpillar

~ Saturday 4th October 2008 ~

Since Dave Wilton's last report, trapping sessions in his garden at Westcott have produced nothing new: "However, on *2nd October* I did get one or two items of passing interest which appear in the photographs below. The **Red-line Quaker** has a reddish "wash" over the forewings instead of being slate grey, so is presumably the locally uncommon form *rufa* mentioned in some text books. The **Beaded Chestnut** in the same shot is a fresh example showing almost no markings at all. The other picture shows two **Green-brindled Crescents** which were different both in size and ground colour."



Red-line Quaker and
Beaded Chestnut
Photo © Dave Wilton

Green-brindled Crescents
Photo © Dave Wilton

With the overnight temperature plunging to 6.5C David Redhead's garden moth trap in Littlemore, Oxon, produced just four forlorn moths on the morning of 2nd October: "The four moths were: 2 **Black Rustic**, 1 **Green-brindled Crescent** and 1 **Red-green Carpet**. At least the first two species were additions to my 2008 garden list. Rather unusually the trap contained a house spider - I don't think it had anything to do with the dearth of moths but a Caddis Fly appeared to have come to an untimely end."

The HSBC volunteers working on the Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project in Wytham Woods ran a moth trap on 1st October. David Redhead passed on the following report: "They appear to have caught the first of the "Novemnals" (i.e. November/Pale November/Autumnal moths) in the UTB region on the 1st October. As it was not microscopically examined unfortunately it cannot increase the UTB total for 2008. Also amongst their catch were **Mottled Umber** (two and again difficult to believe they were the same species - see report on 26th September), **Green-brindled Crescent**, **Figure of Eight**, **Satellite**, **Brick** and a magnificently fresh **Merveille du Jour**."

Dave Wilton sent this report on 29th September: "As the weather looked set to remain quite mild for the first half of the night I took two traps to *Finemere Wood, Bucks* yesterday evening (*28th September*). The results showed a slight improvement over recent sessions, bringing in 56 moths of 29 species: **Ypsolopha parenthesesella** (1), **Agonopterix arenella** (1), **Acleris rhombana** (1), **Acleris emargana** (2), **Celypha lacunana** (1), **Amblyptilia acanthadactyla** (1), **Red-green Carpet** (4), **Common Marbled Carpet** (10), **Grey Pine Carpet** (4), **Spruce Carpet** (3), **Brimstone Moth** (1), **Bordered Beauty** (1), **Canary-shouldered**

Thorn (1), Figure of Eight (2), Setaceous Hebrew Character (1), Square-spot Rustic (1), Common Wainscot (1), **Green-brindled Crescent** (1), **Merveille du Jour** (1), Brindled Green (1), Satellite (2), Chestnut (2), **Brick** (2), Barred Sallow (3), Sallow (2), Copper Underwing (1), Frosted Orange (1), Straw Dot (1) and Snout (3). Photos of the Bordered Beauty (looking freshly-emerged), Figure of Eight and Merveille du Jour appear below. With grateful thanks to Peter Hall, I can also give the UTB total a boost past the 700 mark with some more micro-moth confirmations from June and July. All were seen at [Westcott](#) unless otherwise stated: **Acleris schalleriana** (1st July), **Aethes rubigana** (Finemere 29th June), **Ancylis uncella** (Stoke Common 28th June), **Blastodacna hellerella** (1st July), **Bryotropha senectella** (1st July), **Bryotropha terrella** (1st July), **Clepsis consimilana** (4th July), **Coleophora betulella** (Rushbeds 13th July), **Coleophora lutipennella** (Rushbeds 13th July), **Coleophora prunifoliae** (Rushbeds 13th July), **Endothenia ustulana** (4th July), **Epinotia abbreviana** (1st July), **Epinotia tedella** (1st July), **Eupoecilia angustana** (1st July), **Lobesia abscisana** (Rushbeds 13th July), **Paraswammerdamia lutarea** (1st July), **Pseudosciaphila branderiana** (Rushbeds 28th June), **Scoparia basistrigalis** (Rushbeds 28th June), **Scythropia crataegella** (River Ray 24th June) and **Tischeria ekebladella** (Finemere 29th June)."



Bordered Beauty
Photo © Dave Wilton



Figure of Eight
Photo © Dave Wilton



Merveille du Jour
Photo © Dave Wilton

~ Friday 26th September 2008 ~

David Redhead reported the following: "I thought visitors to the website might be interested in the contents of three 6MV Heath traps recently run on farmland near [Marsh Gibbon, Bucks](#):

22nd/23rd September : Farm A : **Black Rustic** 5, **Setaceous Hebrew Character** 5, **Common Wainscot** 3, **Lunar Underwing** 2, **Small Square-spot** 2, **Common Marbled Carpet** 1, **Flounced Rustic** 1, **Straw Dot** 1. (20 macro-moths/8 species)

25th/26th September : Farm B : **Common Wainscot** 17, **Lunar Underwing** 5, **Brindled Green** 4, **Sallow** 3, **Black Rustic** 1, **Brown-spot Pinion** 1, **Figure of Eight** 1, **Large Yellow Underwing** 1, **Red-line Quaker** 1, **Setaceous Hebrew Character** 1, **Silver Y** 1, **Small Square-spot** 1, **Square-spot Rustic** 1. (38 macro-moths/13 species).

The two farms are about a mile apart and Farm B is managed more sympathetically for wildlife."

The following report was received today from David Redhead and Eleanor Slade: "On **24th September** the HSBC volunteers working on the Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project in [Wytham Woods](#) were not content with catching just one **Mottled Umber** before the books say they should be back on the wing - they caught three of them. They were a classic example of the variability of many of our moths - in fact we had trouble convincing the volunteers they were

all the same species. A suspect Dark Chestnut was found to be a very dark **Chestnut**. Wing shape is one of the main diagnostics for separating the two, being more rounded in The Chestnut."



The Chestnut
Photo © David Redhead

Mick & Wendy Campbell were looking for Brown Hairstreak eggs in a field near Ickford, Bucks, on 25th September: "As in Dave Wilton's report below, we saw probably a hundred of the micro **Anthophila fabriciana (Nettle-tap Moth)** flying in the hedgerows. While uploading the photo of one to the computer I also came upon this photo of a **Wood Tiger caterpillar** which we discovered during a walk on the Ridgeway near **Wantage, Oxon on 8th September**. According to Jim Porter's "Caterpillars of the British Isles" they hibernate when about half grown and this specimen was 15-17mm (full-size 30-35mm). Thanks to Martin Townsend for confirming the id."



Anthophila fabriciana Wood Tiger caterpillar
Photo © Wendy Campbell Photo © Wendy Campbell

Dave Wilton sent the following report today, 26th: "At the moment my garden is out-performing the other sites that I trap at regularly by a margin of about 3:1 and recent sessions in local woodland have been particularly disappointing. However, I'm sure that the situation will be reversed in a few months time. My last three trapping sessions at **Westcott, Bucks (21st/23rd/25th September)** have between them produced the following 41 species: **Plutella xylostella/Diamond-back Moth, Blastobasis adustella, Acleris rhombana/Rhomboid Tortrix, Acleris variegana/Garden Rose Tortrix, Celypha lacunana, Garden Carpet, Red-green Carpet, Common Marbled Carpet, Brimstone Moth, Lilac Beauty, Canary-shouldered Thorn, Dusky Thorn, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Small Square-spot, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Square-spot Rustic, Smoky Wainscot, Common Wainscot, Deep Brown Dart, Black Rustic, Grey Shoulder-knot, Blair's Shoulder-knot, Red-line Quaker, Beaded**

Chestnut, Lunar Underwing, Barred Sallow, Pink-barred Sallow, Sallow, Dusky-lemon Sallow, Mouse Moth, Angle Shades, Flounced Rustic, Frosted Orange, Vine's Rustic, Pale Mottled Willow, Burnished Brass, Silver Y, Red Underwing, Straw Dot and Snout. Beaded Chestnut was first seen here on *18th September* and Red-line Quaker at *Finemere Wood, Bucks on 23rd September*; I also got **Figure of Eight** at *BBOWT's River Ray Reserves, Bucks on 20th September*. **Red-green Carpet** (first noted at *Rushbeds Wood, Bucks on 24th September*) and **Grey Shoulder-knot** (at *Westcott on 23rd September*) are the first of the new generation of these two species but they are already on the UTB list because both of them hibernate and re-appear in the Spring. It is also worth reporting that the tiny day-flying micro **Anthophila fabriciana/Nettle-tap Moth** has been seen in very large numbers in my local area for the past couple of weeks. In my garden each individual aster flower seems to have at least one of them in residence. A check today (*26th September*) found that they'd been joined on the asters by half a dozen examples of **Choreutis pariana/Apple Leaf Skeletonizer**, a similar-sized day-flying moth from the same family."



Anthophila fabriciana
Photo © Dave Wilton

Choreutis pariana
Photo © Dave Wilton

Since returning from holiday in France at the start of September David Redhead has managed to run six garden moth traps: "These have added 11 macro-moth species to my 2008 list and takes the total number of macro-moth species caught in my garden (*in Littlemore, Oxon*) this year to 200 - a record (previous best 189). This does not say anything about the quality of 2008 as a moth year but merely reflects the fact that I have run my trap far more frequently. My September additions (with date first caught) are : **Blairs Shoulder-knot** (21st), **Brindled Green** (21st), **Brown-spot Pinion** (21st), **Centre-barred Sallow** (11th), **Frosted Orange** (16th), **Lunar Underwing** (11th), **Pale Mottled Willow** (24th), **Pink-barred Sallow** (14th), **Red Underwing** (7th), **Rosy Rustic** (21st) and **Sallow** (11th)."

~ Wednesday 24th September 2008 ~

Nigel Partridge had a Blair's Shoulder-knot at *Loosley Row* on *23-09-08*.



Blair's Shoulder-knot
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Alastair Driver sent his latest moth news on 24th September: "Just back from my travels and catching up with the mothing. Set the Robinson Trap at [Ali's Pond LNR, Sonning](#), on [22nd September](#) and caught 24 macro species, including **White-point** which was new for my parish records. Firsts for my yearlist were: **Light Emerald, Black Rustic, Copper Underwing, Deep Brown Dart, Sallow, Barred Sallow, Orange Sallow** and **Turnip Moth**. I trapped again at Ali's Pond LNR last night ([23rd September](#)) and added **Mallow** to my all-time site list."

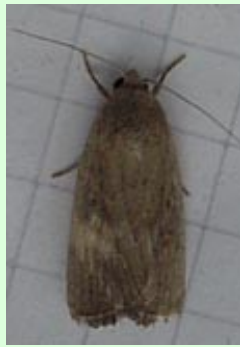
David Redhead sent the following on 22nd September: "**Blair's Shoulder-knot** caught last night, [21st September](#), which might still be a UTB first for 2008. The [Earthwatchers](#) (Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project) might also have another addition with a **Barred Sallow** caught last [Thursday, 18th September](#)."

22nd September - Tony Croft says he came across this rather attractive caterpillar on blackthorn in his garden in Long Crendon, Bucks, recently: It's the larva of the **Grey Dagger** moth.



Grey Dagger caterpillar on blackthorn
Photo © Tony Croft

Richard Ellis sent the following report on 19th September: "Two more UTB macro firsts to add to the list: a **Porter's Rustic** on [2nd September](#) and a **Hoary Footman** on [11th September](#), both females, here at [Chorleywood in Bucks](#) (VC24). Photos below. Previous UK records of Porter's Rustic (*Proxenus hospes*) confined to Cornwall and Scilly. Hoary Footman usually only seen in SW coastal areas or, as a suspected immigrant, on S and SE coasts."



Porter's Rustic
Photo © Richard Ellis



Hoary Footman
Photo © Richard Ellis

Dave Maunder went to Waterperry Gardens in Oxon on 14th September and, along with the butterflies, saw two moth species: Silver Y (4), and Juniper Carpet (1).

On 14th September Dave Wilton visited the disused railway cutting west of the disused airfield at Westcott: "Along with the butterflies, I found these moths: Green Carpet (1), Lesser Treble-bar (2) and Silver Y (8)."

~ Wednesday 17th September 2008 ~

Dave Wilton says his trapping session at Westcott, Bucks on 16th September brought in a typical autumn collection of moths: "Acleris variegana/Garden Rose Tortrix (1), Emmelina monodactyla (1), Garden Carpet (1), Common Marbled Carpet (6), Lesser Treble-bar (1), Brimstone Moth (4), Turnip (1), Large Yellow Underwing (5), Lesser Yellow Underwing (3), Small Square-spot (3), Setaceous Hebrew Character (20), Square-spot Rustic (10), Common Wainscot (9), Deep Brown Dart (1), Centre-barred Sallow (2), Lunar Underwing (4), Pink-barred Sallow (1), Sallow (6), Dusky-lemon Sallow (2), Flounced Rustic (1), Frosted Orange (4), Burnished Brass (3) and Snout (3)."



Deep Brown Dart
Photo © Dave Wilton

Dusky-lemon Sallow
Photo © Dave Wilton

Eleanor Slade reported the following on 18th September: "The HSBC volunteers monitoring the moths of Wytham Woods as part of the Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project recorded a Brown-spot Pinion on 10/09/08 and a Satellite on the 16/09/08."

Mark Calway sent the following on 16th September: "I was contacted yesterday (15th) by UTB member Michael Jolley. He reported finding a Convolvulus Hawk-

moth on the lawn in his garden in *Shiplake, Oxon*. He said it looked like a piece of bark on his lawn, but on closer inspection he saw it was a moth and his first thought was that it might be a Pine Hawk-moth. He quickly recognised it as a Convolvulus Hawk-moth."

Ched George caught a Large Ranunculus in his MV trap in *Radnage, Bucks*, on the night of *12th September*.

Eleanor Slade recorded a Large Ranunculus on the *07/09/08* in her house in *East Oxford*.

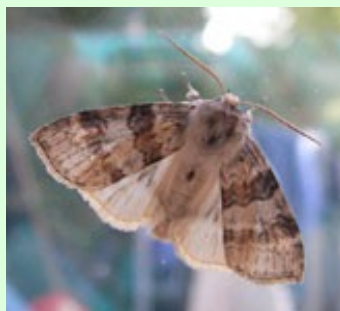
~ **Wednesday 10th September 2008** ~

Ched George sent the following on 9th September: "Below is a photo of **Toadflax Brocade larva** found feeding on Purple Toadflax in my *Radnage (Bucks)* garden last night (*8th*). Martin Albertini says this is the first Bucks record."



Toadflax Brocade larva
Photo © Ched George

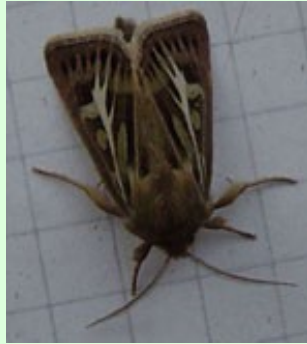
The following came from Dave Ferguson on 9th September: "I notice from your 2008 moth list that **Oak Lutestring** isn't on it. I attach a picture of one trapped in our garden in *Beaconsfield, Bucks* on the night of *29/30 August*. It was kindly identified by Martin Albertini."



Oak Lutestring
Photo © Dave Ferguson

Dave Wilton's latest update on 9th September shows that Autumn has officially arrived! "On *7th September* my garden trap at *Westcott, Bucks* produced **Black Rustic, Centre-barred Sallow, Lunar Underwing, Frosted Orange** and **Red Underwing** amongst 36 species caught, while an otherwise very disappointing few hours at *Rushbeds Wood, Bucks* on *8th September* added **Brindled Green** and **Sallow**."

Richard Ellis sent this report on 8th September: "An **Antler Moth** here in **Chorleywood** (TQ 023963) last night (7th), the first I have seen at this site."

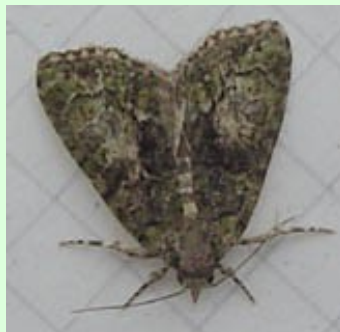


Antler Moth
Photo © Richard Ellis

~ Friday 5th September 2008 ~

Jan Haseler sent the following report on 4th September: "The **Berks Moth Group** recorded 95 species of moth at **Moor Green Lakes**, in the Blackwater Valley near Finchampstead, on **Friday 29th August**. They included: 2 **Bulrush Wainscot**, **Webb's Wainscot**, **Frosted Orange**, **Rosy Rustic**, **Centre-barred Sallow**, 4 **White-point**, **Feathered Gothic**, 2 **Neglected Rustic**, **Rosy Footman**, 12 **Sharp-angled Carpet**, 4 **Small China-mark** (*Cataclysta lemnata*), 3 **Ringed China-mark** (*Parapoynx stratiotata*), 3 **Brown China-mark** (*Elophila nymphaeata*), **Eudonia truncicolella**, **Crambus hamella** and **Epinotia ramella**. Looking back through my records, I also had **Dichromeris marginella** (**Juniper Webber**), **Tilehurst 24/8**; 20 **Evergestis pallidata**, **Moor Copse 4/8** and **Agriphila inquinatella**, **Tilehurst 24/7**."

Welcome to the website new contributor Richard Ellis who sent this report: "Dave Wilton suggested I let you know that I had a **Tree-lichen Beauty** in my trap here in **Chorleywood (Bucks)** on **25 August 2008**. The site is just inside VC24 and, according to Martin Albertini, is the first ever record for this species in Bucks. A photo is attached (see below). Also, but probably of lesser interest, a **White-point** on **27 August**."



Tree-lichen Beauty
Photo © Richard Ellis

~ Thursday 28th August 2008 ~

Nigel Partridge sent the following today: "New for my garden in *Loosley Row, Bucks* this year: **Acleris rhombana** on *27-08-08*. Thanks once again to Peter Hall for confirming the ID."

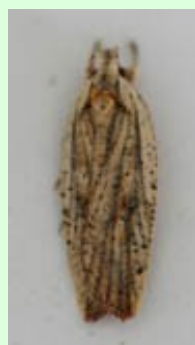


Acleris rhombana
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Peter Hall's garden moth trap in Ballinger, Bucks, on 25th August produced 52 species with one new to this year's UTB Species List: Acleris laterana, **Acleris rhombana**, Acleris variegana, Agriphila geniculea, Agriphila tristella, Ancyliis badiana, Blastobasis adustella, Catoptria falsella, Celypha lacunana, Cydia splendana, Epiphyas postvittana, Evergestis forficalis, Pandemis corylana, Pandemis heparana, Pleuroptya ruralis, Trachycera advenella, Ypsolopha dentella, Ypsolopha parenthesesella, Angle Shades, Black Arches, Brimstone Moth, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Common Marbled Carpet, Common Rustic, Common Wainscot, Copper Underwing, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Dun-bar, Flame Carpet, Flame Shoulder, Grey Dagger, Grey Pine Carpet, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Mouse, Riband Wave, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Shuttle-shaped Dart, Silver Y, Single-dotted Wave, Six-striped Rustic, Small Phoenix, Small Square-spot, Smoky Wainscot, Spruce Carpet, Square-spot Rustic, Straw Dot, Svensson's Copper Underwing, Vine's Rustic, Willow Beauty.

~ Wednesday 27th August 2008 ~

Nigel Partridge sent this sighting report yesterday: "I don't think this one is on the list yet: **Agonopterix nervosa**, *25-08-08, Loosley Row, Bucks*. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the ID."



Agonopterix nervosa
Photo © Nigel Partridge

~ Sunday 24th August 2008 ~

Dave Wilton sent the following report on 23rd August: "There has been little to report from here at *Westcott, Bucks* over the past few weeks as most "new" species seen have in fact been the second broods of moths recorded earlier in the year. The only exceptions have been **Mouse Moth** (*19th August*) and **Flounced Rustic** and **Pale Eggar** (both *21st August*). However, another batch of micro-moth confirmations has been received back from Peter Hall which means that I can now add the following to the UTB list: **Ancylis diminutana** (*Finemere Wood 7th June*), **Argyresthia retinella** (*Finemere Wood 7th June*), **Argyresthia spinosella** (private wood in the *Greatmoor area 2nd June*), **Bactra lancealana** (*Westcott 30th May*), **Bryotropha affinis** (*Westcott 8th June*), **Coleophora alticolella** (*Finemere Wood 7th June*), **Coleophora deauratella** (*River Ray Reserves 24th June*), **Coleophora luscinaepenella** (*Kingswood 23rd June*), **Cydia servillana** (*Finemere Wood 7th June*), **Elachista humilis** (*River Ray Reserves 31st May*), **Epiblema rosaecolana** (*Westcott 16th June*), **Epiblema trimaculana** (*Finemere Wood 7th June*), **Glyphipterix forsterella** (*Finemere Wood 2nd June*), **Isotrias rectifasciana** (*Westcott 19th June*), **Metzneria lappella** (*Westcott 16th June*), **Nematopogon metaxella** (*Rushbeds Wood 10th June*), **Neosphaleroptera nubilana** (*River Ray Reserves 23rd June*), **Scoparia pyralella** (*Westcott 9th June*) and **Scrobipalpa acuminatella** (*Westcott 30th May*). All of the locations given are in Bucks. Illustrated below are Pale Eggar and the rather uninspiring tortrix *Neosphaleroptera nubilana*. The usual internet moth resources don't as yet seem to have any pictures of the latter species."



Pale Eggar
Photo © Dave Wilton

Neosphaleroptera
nubilana
Photo © Dave Wilton

~ Thursday 21st August 2008 ~

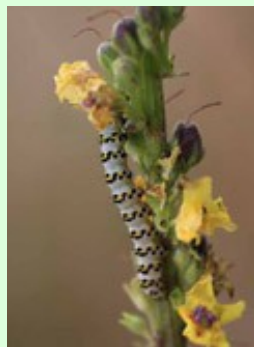
Dave Maunder sent the following report on 20th August: "I was lucky enough to find 10 full-grown **Eyed Hawk-moth larvae** feeding on riverside *Sallows* near *Quarrendon, Aylesbury* this morning - a couple included the attractive bright spotted form. Also found here was a batch of **Buff-tip eggs**, and 2 **Herald moth larvae**."



Eyed Hawk-moth larva
Photo © Dave Maunder

Eyed Hawk-moth larva
Photo © Dave Maunder

Nick Bowles and Frank Banyard were at the Holtspur Bottom reserve yesterday, 20th August: "We were there to do some conservation work, weeding the scrape and beginning the propagation of more Horseshoe Vetch, but it allowed me an excuse for a walk around. I only found 2 Dark Mullein plants, but one of them had 16 larvae of the **Striped Lychnis moth**. The site looks really good with masses of flower and many tens of **Meadow Brown** and good numbers of **Common Blue** disturbed as we pulled ragwort, despite the poor weather during our work party."



Larva of the Striped Lychnis moth
Photo © Nick Bowles

~ Wednesday 13th August 2008 ~

David Redhead has just reported the following exciting moth news: "Martin Townsend has confirmed that a moth caught in my overnight garden moth trap (*Littlemore, Oxon*) of the *6th August* is a **Brussels Lace**, which is an addition to the **All-Time UTB Moth Species List**. Martin was surprised and delighted by this catch - the latter as it was the first time he had ever seen it! Unfortunately it was not in the best of condition but I was also delighted to be able to introduce one of the authors of the "Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland" to one of his 'subjects'. This trap also set an all-time record for my garden as it contained 278 macro-moths in addition to the Brussels Lace as follows : **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (56), Large Yellow Underwing (37), Dingy Footman (23), Swallow Prominent (22), Flame Shoulder (20), Dun-bar (20), Common/Lesser Common Rustic (14), Brimstone (6), Straw Dot (5), Willow Beauty (5), Pale Prominent (5), Lesser Yellow Underwing (4), Copper Underwing (4), Small Phoenix (3), Black Arches (3), Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (3), Buff Footman (3), Least Yellow Underwing (3), Svensson's Copper Underwing (3), Riband Wave (2), Iron Prominent (2), Small Square-spot (2), Clouded Border (2), Common**

Footman (2), Dusky Thorn (2), Early Thorn (2), Nut-tree Tussock (2) and singletons of **Canary-shouldered Thorn, Green Carpet, Poplar Hawkmoth, Dot, Garden Carpet, Green Pug, Red Twin-spot Carpet agg, Common Carpet, Crescent, Dark/Grey Dagger, Double Lobed, Lime-speck Pug, Marbled Beauty, Ruby Tiger, Sallow Kitten, Scarce Footman, Shuttle-shaped Dart, Single-dotted Wave, Small Fan-footed Wave, White Satin, White-spotted Pug** and **Yellow-tail**. Four nights later I ran the trap again and the catch was nearly halved at 146 macro-moths but it included seven species not caught the previous time : **Flame Carpet (2), Knot Grass (2), Plain Golden Y (2), Spectacle (2)** and singletons of **Dark Arches, Setaceous Hebrew Character** and **Snout**. A surprising fall in numbers as the minimum overnight temperature was less than a degree lower (14.2C against 15.1C). Perhaps a sign that the season is beginning to draw in?"

Tony Croft sent the following on 12th August: "This **Red Underwing** spent quite a lot of the day today (*12th*) on one of the window frames of our house in *Long Crendon, Bucks.*"



Red Underwing
Photo © Tony Croft

~ Sunday 10th August 2008 ~

Just back from holiday, Alastair Driver sent the following news today: "I had a **Bordered Pug** come to our porch light in *Sonning* on the *3rd August* just before we left."



Bordered Pug
Photo © Alastair Driver

Peter Hall's moth trapping on August 5th at Ballinger Common produced 52 species of macro and 20 species of micro moth: "New to the UTB list are: **Agriphila geniculea**, and **Six-striped Rustic.**"

Adam Bassett ran his Marlow Bottom garden moth trap on 25th & 27th July

and on 2nd & 4th August: "Both Least Carpet and Square-spotted Clay are new for the garden list - thanks to Martin Albertini for his help in identifying the latter. The full list for the four nights was: **Leopard Moth, Small Magpie, Mother of Pearl, Barred Hook-tip, Pebble Hook-tip, Chinese Character, Large Emerald, Blood-vein, Least Carpet, Small Fan-footed Wave, Single-dotted Wave, Riband Wave, Red/Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet, Shaded Broad-bar, Common Carpet, Yellow Shell, Phoenix, Small Waved Umber, Pretty Chalk Carpet, Wormwood Pug, Magpie, Brimstone Moth, August Thorn, Dusky Thorn, September Thorn, Early Thorn, Purple Thorn, Scalloped Oak, Peppered Moth, Willow Beauty, Engrailed, Common White Wave, Poplar Hawk-moth, Sallow Kitten, Lobster Moth, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Coxcomb Prominent, Black Arches, Dingy Footman, Scarce Footman, Buff Footman, Common Footman, Ruby Tiger, Shuttle-shaped Dart, Flame Shoulder, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Double Square-spot, Square-spotted Clay, Bright-line Brown-eye, Grey/Dark Dagger, Coronet, Marbled Beauty, Copper Underwing, Straw Underwing, Dun-bar, Dark Arches, Common Rustic egg, Ear Moth, Uncertain, Rustic, Nut-tree Tussock, Straw Dot, Snout, Small Fan-foot.**

The field trip for Silver-spotted Skippers on 3rd August led by Richard Soulsby to Linky Down (central part of Aston Rowant NNR) and Shirburn Hill yielded a number of moths and caterpillars: "Moth caterpillars were **Angle Shades, Cinnabar and Fox Moth** and adult moths included **Dusky Sallow, 6-spot Burnet**, one probable **Narrow-bordered 5-spot Burnet, Silver-Y and Common Carpet.**"

~ Tuesday 5th August 2008 ~

David Redhead was delighted to find this addition to the UTB All-time Species list in his overnight garden trap on 2nd August: "One **Fen Wainscot**, along with 166 other macros of which a fifth were **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**. One other addition to my 2008 list was the **Bordered Beauty**. Otherwise nothing remarkable although I'm glad to see **Pleuroptya ruralis** on the wane at only 210!"



Fen Wainscot
Photo © David Redhead

A joint Bucks Invertebrate Group and Butterfly Conservation meet was held at Stoke Common on August 1st. Here are the combined results of 3 moth traps run on a night following rain earlier in the day: **Acleris cristana, Agonopterix arenella, Agriphila straminella, Alucita hexadactyla, Apotomis betuletana, Argyresthia goedartella, Aspilapteryx**

tringipennella, Blastobasis adustella, Cameraria ohridella, Carcina quercana, Cataclysta lemnata, Catoptria pinella, Coleophora hemerobiella, Cydia splendana, Ditula angustiorana, Endotricha flammealis, Epinotia brunnichana, Epinotia nisella, Eudemis profundana, Hypatima rhomboidella, Lyonetia clerkella, Pandemis heparana, Phycita roborella, Recurvaria leucatella, Rhyacionia pinicolana, Spilonota ocellana, Trachycera advenella, Ypsolopha dentella, Ypsolopha parenthesesella, **Beautiful Yellow Underwing** (first adult), **Birch Mocha**, Black Arches, Canary-shouldered Thorn, **Chevron**, Common Carpet, Common Footman, Common Lutestring, Common Rustic, Common White Wave, Dark Arches, Dark Spinach, Dingy Footman, **Dotted Clay**, Dun-bar, Ear, Flame Carpet, Flame Shoulder, Foxglove Pug, Grey Dagger, Heart & Dart, Iron Prominent, July Highflyer, Knot Grass, Large Emerald, Large Yellow Underwing, Least Carpet, Least Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Maiden's Blush, Narrow-winged Pug, Nut-tree Tussock, Pale Mottled Willow, Pale Prominent, **Peacock Moth**, Pebble Hook-tip, Pebble Prominent, Peppered, Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic, Scalloped Hook-tip, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, September Thorn, Shaded Broad-bar, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Phoenix, Small Rivulet, Smoky Wainscot, Straw Dot, Swallow Prominent, Tawny-barred Angle, True Lover's Knot, Vine's Rustic, Willow Beauty, Wormwood Pug, Yellow Shell, Yellow-tail.

On 30th July Peter Hall's garden moth trap in Ballinger Common produced the following: Acleris holmiana, Acleris laterana, **Acleris variegana**, Agonopterix alstromeriana, Agriphila straminella, Agriphila tristella, Ancylis badiana, Archips podana, Argyresthia goedartella, Athrips mouffetella, Batia unitella, Blastobasis adustella, Cameraria ohridella, Carcina quercana, Catoptria falsella, Celypha striana, Crambus pascuella, Cydia splendana, Endotricha flammealis, Epiphyas postvittana, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Euzophera pinguis, Hofmannophila pseudospretella, Hypsopygia costalis, **Oegoconia quadripuncta**, Orthopygia glaucinalis, Pandemis corylana, Pandemis heparana, Phycita roborella, Pleuroptya ruralis, Pseudargyrotoza conwagana, Spilonota ocellana, Tinea trinotella, Trachycera advenella, Udea prunalis, Angle Shades, August Thorn, Beautiful Hook-tip, Black Arches, Blood-vein, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Brown-line Bright-eye, Buff Arches, Buff Ermine, Buff Footman, Chinese Character, Chocolate-tip, Cloaked Minor, Clouded Border, Common Carpet, Common Footman, Common Rustic, Common White Wave, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Double Square-spot, Dun-bar, **Dusky Thorn**, Ear, Early Thorn, Fan-foot, Flame Shoulder, Garden Carpet, Heart & Dart, Iron Prominent, July Highflyer, Knot Grass, Large Yellow Underwing, Leopard, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Light Emerald, Magpie, Mottled Beauty, Nut-tree Tussock, **Orange Swift**, Pebble Prominent, Phoenix, Pine Hawk, Poplar Hawk, Purple Bar, Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, Shaded Broad-bar, Single-dotted Wave, Slender Brindle, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Phoenix, Small Rivulet, Small Square-spot, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Straw Dot, Straw Underwing, Svensson's Copper Underwing, Swallow Prominent, Waved Black, Willow Beauty, Yellow-barred Brindle, Yellow-tail.



Leopard Moth
Photo © Peter Hall



The Magpie
Photo © Peter Hall

On 29th July David Gantzel reported seeing the following moths in his Hazlemere, Bucks, garden during July: Old Lady, Heart and Dart, Large Yellow Underwing.

Dave Maunder ran his m.v. lamp in his Aylesbury garden on 27th July: "I caught - Privet Hawk (1, female - my first ever in Aylesbury!); Herald Moth (1); Dun-bar (1); Buff Ermine (1); Common Footman (1); Nut-tree Tussock (2); Silver-y (1); Dark Arches (16); Dot Moth (7); Cabbage moth (3); Bright-line Brown-eye (2); Marbled Beauty (1); Smoky Wainscot (9); Common Wainscot (1); Shuttle-shaped Dart (1); Cloaked Minor (1); Common Rustic (1); The Rustic (1); Vine's Rustic (1); Grey Dagger agg. (3); Lesser Broad Bordered Yellow Underwing (1); Lesser Yellow Underwing (4); Large Yellow Underwing (10); Magpie moth (1); Early Thorn (1); Scalloped Oak (3); Clouded Border (1); Brimstone moth (2); Common Carpet (1); Willow Beauty (5); Riband Wave (6); Shaded Broad-bar (2)."



Privet Hawk
Photo © Dave Maunder

~ Friday 1st August 2008 ~

Keith Mitchell reported a few more moths from his garden in Stoke Goldington on Friday 31st July: Acleris forsskaleana, Agapeta hamana, Brimstone, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Chinese Character, The Clay, Cloaked Minor, Common Footman, Common Rustic agg, Copper Underwing, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Flame Shoulder, Knot Grass (Melanistic), Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Mother of Pearl, Old Lady, Pebble Hook-tip, Phlyctaenia coronata, Poplar Hawk Moth, Pyrausta sp (prob aurata), Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic/Uncertain, Sallow Kitten (3), Scalloped Oak, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Shuttle-shaped Dart, Small Magpie, Smoky Wainscot, The Spectacle, Straw Dot, Straw Underwing, Thistle Ermine, White Satin and

Yellow-tail.

Nigel Partridge had *Agriphila tristella* in his garden in *Loosley Row* on *29th July*. (id confirmed by Peter Hall).



Agriphila tristella
Photo © Nigel Partridge

A Bucks Invertebrate Group meeting was held at Denham Marsh Wood, near Gerrards Cross on Saturday July 26th. Thanks to Martin Albertini, Martin Harvey, Peter Hall, Ched George, Andy McVeigh, Julia Carey and Neil Fletcher for their records. Overall 90 macros and 71 micros were recorded. The following are new to the 2008 UTB list: ***Acleris emargana, Acleris notana, Caloptilia alchimiella, Cochylis dubitana, Epiblema foenella, Eudonia mercurella, Hypatima rhomboidella, Pammene fasciana, Psoricoptera gibbosella, Pyralis farinalis, Schreckensteinia festaliella, Ypsolopha alpella, Dark Spinach, Dingy Shell, Ear, Scalloped Hook-tip and Svensson's Copper Underwing.***

Adam Bassett had a couple of new micros in his Marlow Bottom Bucks, garden recently: "Acleris laterana on July 21st and 22nd. Ovendenia lienigianus on July 22nd. Then on *28th July* I was startled by an ***Old Lady Moth*** flying around the lounge - it had possibly been attracted nearby from the previous night's trap and flown in through the open french window. My wife thought I'd gone mad when I told her I'd just seen an old lady in the lounge!"

David Redhead ran two overnight moth traps on 25th & 28th July in his garden in Littlemore, Oxford for European Moth Night. David describes his garden as follows: Mixed habitat near to gardens - River Thames flood channel, reed bed, waste land (with nettles), broad-leaved copse, grassland with limestone outcrop. He runs a 125MV lamp Robinson Trap. "My last two overnight garden moth traps proved to be my two most prolific ever. On the morning of *25th July* I found 231 macro-moths in my Robinson trap and three days later this record was raised to 257! The previous record was 220 set in June 2005. The most numerous macro-moth on the 25th was the ***Dun-bar*** with 37 but this was displaced on the 28th by the ***Large Yellow Underwing*** with 39. Not surprisingly a number of additions to my 2008 garden list of which the ***Canary-shouldered Thorn (25/7)*** and ***Square-spot Rustic (28/7)*** might be an addition to the UTB 2008 list. Again the most numerous moth on both nights was a micro, the ***Mother of Pearl***, with a (conservatively estimated) 410 and 500 respectively, the latter well outstripping the previous record of 350 set in July 2006.

On 30th July I stood in for Martin Townsend and emptied the contents of three 6W Heath (actinic) traps set up on arable farmland near Marsh Gibbon. With the heavy overnight rain I expected this task to not take too long - some 421 macro-moths later I was having second thoughts! Here is the full list : ***Dark Arches 161, Dingy Footman 46, Common/Lesser Common Rustic 43, Smoky Wainscot 38, Lesser Yellow Underwing 23, Yellow-tail 12, Large Yellow Underwing 11, Riband Wave 11, Common Footman 8, Willow Beauty 6, Flame Shoulder 5, Dun-bar 4, Scalloped Oak 4, Early Thorn 3, Heart & Dart 3, Magpie 3, Ruby Tiger 3,***

Brimstone 2, Chinese Character 2, Drinker 2, Lackey 2, Mottled Rustic 2, Small Blood-vein 2, V Pug 2, White Satin 2 and singletons of Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Clay, Common Carpet, Common Wainscot, Dot, Dusky Sallow, Green Pug, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Marbled Minor agg, Pale Prominent, Poplar Hawk, Sallow Kitten, Scarce Footman, Shuttle-shaped Dart, Silver Y, Small Dotted Buff, Snout, Southern Wainscot and Uncertain/Rustic. Similar traps on an arable farm near [Longworth](#) proved only half as productive for macros but a larger micro, **Scoparia subfusca** caught my attention.

Peter Hall ran his Ballinger (Bucks) garden moth trap for European Moth Night on 25th July, which produced 83 species: *Acleris forsskaeana*, *Acleris holmiana*, ***Acleris laterana***, *Agonopterix alstromeriana*, *Agriphila straminella*, *Archips podana*, *Batia unitella*, *Blastobasis adustella*, *Carcina quercana*, *Celypha lacunana*, *Cydia splendana*, *Ditula angustiorana*, *Endotricha flammealis*, *Eucosma cana*, *Helcystogramma rufescens*, *Hypsopygia costalis*, *Lozotaenia forsterana*, *Pandemis corylana*, *Pandemis heparana*, *Phlyctaenia coronata*, *Pleuroptya ruralis*, *Plutella porrectella*, *Rhopobota naevana*, *Trachycera advenella*, *Udea prunalis*, *Ypsolopha dentella*, August Thorn, Black Arches, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Buff Arches, Buff Footman, Clay, Cloaked Minor, Clouded Silver, Common Footman, Common Rustic, Coronet, Coxcomb Prominent, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Double Square-spot, Dun-bar, Early Thorn, Fan-foot, Flame Shoulder, Grey Dagger, Heart & Dart, July Highflyer, Large Yellow Underwing, Leopard, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Light Arches, Lunar-spotted Pinion, Magpie, Mottled Beauty, Nut-tree Tussock, Oak Hook-tip, Peppered, Phoenix, Poplar Hawk, Purple Clay, Purple Thorn, Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, Single-dotted Wave, Small Emerald, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Phoenix, Small Rivulet, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Swallow-tailed, Tawny-barred Angle, Uncertain, Willow Beauty, Yellow-tail.

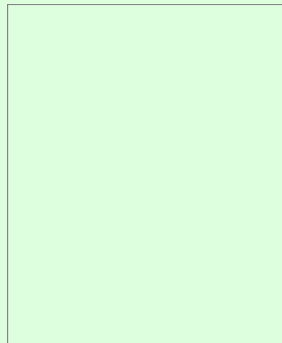
This report came from Peter Hall on 28th July: “Thanks to Andrea Polden and the Chesham & District NHS for allowing Martin Albertini and myself to trap at [Cowcroft \(Bucks\)](#) on the [25th July](#), coinciding with **European Moth Night**. 97 species were recorded (plus a few still to be checked):

Agapeta hamana, *Agapeta zoegana*, *Agriphila straminella*, *Apotomis betuletana*, *Argyresthia brockeella*, *Argyresthia goedartella*, ***Argyresthia pruniella***, *Batia unitella*, *Blastobasis adustella*, *Blastobasis lacticolella*, *Carcina quercana*, *Catoptria falsella*, *Celypha lacunana*, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, *Coleophora hemerobiella*, *Conobathra repandana*, *Cydia splendana*, *Ditula angustiorana*, *Endotricha flammealis*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, *Epinotia brunnichana*, *Epinotia nisella*, *Eucosma cana*, *Eurrhypara hortulata*, *Gypsonoma dealbana*, *Hedya nubiferana*, *Helcystogramma rufescens*, *Hypsopygia costalis*, *Pandemis heparana*, *Phlyctaenia coronata*, *Phycita roborella*, *Platyptilia pallidactyla*, *Pleuroptya ruralis*, ***Ptycholomoides aeriferanus***, *Rhopobota naevana*, *Trachycera advenella*, *Udea prunalis*, August Thorn, Black Arches, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Buff Arches, Buff Footman, Burnished Brass, Champion, Clay, Clouded Border, Clouded Silver, Common Carpet, Common Footman, Common Rustic, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Dot, Double Square-spot, Dun-bar, Early Thorn, Elephant Hawk, Fan-foot, Flame Shoulder, Garden Carpet, Heart & Dart, July Highflyer, Knot Grass, Large Twin-spot Carpet, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Lesser-spotted Pinion, Light Emerald, Mottled Beauty, Nut-tree Tussock, Oak Hook-tip, Pebble Hook-tip,

Peppered, Poplar Hawk, Purple Thorn, Red Twin-spot Carpet, Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic, Satin Beauty, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, Shaded Broad-bar, Slender Brindle, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Phoenix, Small Rivulet, Small Yellow Wave, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Straw Dot, Swallow Prominent, White-spotted Pug, Willow Beauty, Yellow-tail."

~ Wednesday 30th July 2008 ~

Tom Stevenson sent this report on 28th July: "The following were noted on *27th July* at *Benson Oxon*: indoors - Dot Moth. Home-made Skinner trap with 25w blacklight blue bulb run overnight in garden - Dusky Sallow, Pebble Hook-tip, Riband Wave (2), Nut-tree Tussock, Marbled Beauty, Willow Beauty (2), Bright-line Brown-eye, Common Wainscot, Large Yellow Underwing (2), Mother of Pearl, Copper Underwing, Dusky Brocade (3), Common Footman (2). *Millbrook Mead nature reserve* - on Spindle bush - Drinker."



Dusky Sallow
Photo © Tom Stevenson

Keith Mitchell says he's donated his old Skinner Trap to an enthusiastic lad in his village of Stoke Goldington: "These moths trapped over the weekend (*25th/26th July*) are from my new MV Hawk (Robinson) purchased from Paul Batty - I think the catch retention is better: *Acleris ferrugana*, *Acleris forsskaleana*, *Agriphila straminella*, *Agriphila tristella*, *Aphomia sociella*, Bird-cherry Ermine, Bright-line Brown Eye, Brown-line Bright Eye, Buff Arches, Burnished Brass, *Catoptria falsella*, Chinese Character, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, Cloaked Minor, Common Carpet, Common Footman, Common Rustic agg, Common Wainscot, Dark/Grey Dagger, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Dot Moth, The Dun-bar, *Emmelinea monodactyla*, *Endotricha flammealis*, Spindle Ermine agg, Fan-foot, Flame Shoulder, Heart and Dart, Large Fruit-tree Tortrix, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Maple Prominent, *Marbled Beauty*, Mother of Pearl, Mottled Rustic, *Phlyctaenia coronata*, Poplar Hawk-moth, Privet Hawk-moth, Riband Wave, Ruby Tiger, Rustic/Uncertain agg, Scalloped Oak, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Silver 'Y', Single-dotted Wave, Small Magpie, Small Waved Umber, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, The Spectacle, Straw Underwing (4), Sycamore, Thistle Ermine, Twenty Plume, *Wax Moth (Galleria mellonella)*, Yellow Shell, Yellow Tail."

Nigel Partridge added another moth to the list, with a Straw Underwing on 25-07-08 at Loosley Row, Bucks.

Derek Brown's overnight trap on 25th July, in his garden in Beenham yielded

42 species of macro moth, with **Tawny Speckled Pug** new for the UTB list.

Dave Wilton sent this catch-up on 27th July: "Peter Hall and I ran two MV traps at *Finemere Wood, Bucks* on *24th July* and got the following impressive list of species: *Acentria ephemerella*, ***Acrobasis consociella***, *Agapeta hamana*, ***Agonopterix liturosa***, *Agriphila straminella*, *Aleimma loeflingiana*, ***Ancylis badiana***, ***Apotomis betuletana***, *Archips podana*, *Archips xylosteana*, ***Argyresthia albistria***, *Athrips moufetella*, *Batia unitella*, ***Brachmia blandella***, *Caloptilia stigmatella*, *Carcina quercana*, *Celypha lacunana*, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, ***Coleophora hemerobiella***, *Conobathra repandana*, *Cydia splendana*, *Dioryctria abietella*, *Ditula angustiorana*, *Endotricha flammealis*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, ***Epinotia brunnichana***, ***Epinotia nisella***, *Eucosma cana*, ***Eudemis profunda***, *Eurrhyncha hortulata*, *Gypsonoma dealbana*, *Hedya salicella*, *Helcystogramma rufescens*, *Hypsopygia costalis*, *Lozotaeniodes formosanus*, *Pandemis corylana*, *Pandemis heparana*, ***Phycita roborella***, *Pleuroptya ruralis*, *Plutella xylostella*, *Phopobota naevana*, *Rhyacionia pinicolana*, *Spilonota ocellana*, *Udea olivalis*, *Udea prunalis*, *Yponomeuta evonymella*, *Ypsolopha dentella*, *Ypsolopha scabrella*, ***Zeiraphera isertana***, **Barred Straw**, **Beautiful Hook-tip**, **Black Arches**, **Brimstone Moth**, **Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**, **Buff Arches**, **Buff Footman**, **Buff-tip**, **Burnished Brass**, **Clouded Border**, **Clouded Brindle**, **Clouded Silver**, **Common Carpet**, **Common Emerald**, **Common Footman**, **Common Wave**, **Common White Wave**, **Coxcomb Prominent**, **Dark Arches**, **Dark Umber**, **Dingy Footman**, **Double Square-spot**, **Drinker**, **Dun-bar**, **Early Thorn**, **Elephant Hawk-moth**, **Engrailed**, **Fan-foot**, **Flame Shoulder**, **Green Pug**, **Heart and Dart**, **July Highflyer**, **Lackey**, **Large Yellow Underwing**, **Leopard Moth**, **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**, **Lesser Yellow Underwing**, **Light Emerald**, **Lunar-spotted Pinion**, **Magpie**, **Mere Wainscot**, **Minor Shoulder-knot**, **Nut-tree Tussock**, **Pale Prominent**, **Peach Blossom**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Pebble Prominent**, **Peppered Moth**, **Pine Hawk-moth**, **Poplar Grey**, **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Red Twin-spot Carpet**, **Riband Wave**, **Ruby Tiger**, **Rustic**, **Scalloped Oak**, **Scarce Footman**, **Shaded Broad-bar**, **Short-cloaked Moth**, **Single-dotted Wave**, **Slender Brindle**, **Small Blood-vein**, **Small Dotted Buff**, **Small Fan-foot**, **Small Fan-footed Wave**, **Small Rivulet**, **Small Scallop**, **Smoky Wainscot**, **Snout**, **Spectacle**, **Spinach**, **Straw Dot**, **Swallow Prominent**, **Swallow-tailed Moth**, **White Satin**, **White-spotted Pug**, **Willow Beauty & Yellow-tail**. With a number of micros still awaiting identification, the final tally will end up somewhere between 140 and 150 species, an excellent total for this year! Other recent noteworthy sightings have included **Lesser Cream Wave** (*Westcott, Bucks 15/7*), **Scallop Shell** (*Kingswood, Bucks 16/7*), **Dusky Sallow** (*Westcott 17/7*), **Recurvaria leucatella** (*Westcott 21/7*), **Waved Black** (*Gallowsbridge Farm, Bucks 22/7*), **Ypsolopha nemorella** (*Westcott 23/7*) & **Least Carpet** (*Rushbeds Wood, Bucks 25/7*). Finally, found on *Greenham Common, Berks* during the UTB field trip on *27/7* were **Oncocera semirubella** and **Grass Emerald**. Martin Harvey tells me that this is only the second Berkshire record for the very pretty phycitimid *Oncocera semirubella*, illustrated below."



Oncocera semirubella

Adam Bassett sent some more records from his garden in Marlow Bottom, Bucks, for 21st & 22nd July: "3 new species for the garden, all common, but nice to see: Small Rivulet, Short-cloaked Moth and Dusky Sallow. The full list comprised: Small Magpie, Mother of Pearl, Barred Hook-tip, Small Emerald, Blood-vein, Small Fan-footed Wave, Dwarf Cream Wave, Single-dotted Wave, Riband Wave, Garden Carpet, Shaded Broad-bar, Phoenix, July Highflyer, Small Waved Umber, Small Rivulet, Magpie, Brimstone Moth, August Thorn, Early Thorn, Purple Thorn, Scalloped Oak, Willow Beauty, Engrailed, Common White Wave, Light Emerald, Buff-tip, Lobster Moth, Iron Prominent, Coxcomb Prominent, Yellow-tail, Black Arches, Buff Footman, Common Footman, Buff Ermine, Short-cloaked Moth, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Double Square-spot, Copper Underwing, Dun-bar, Dark Arches, Common/Lesser Rustic, Dusky Sallow, Uncertain, Rustic, Uncertain/Rustic, Nut-tree Tussock, Straw Dot, Snout, Fan-foot and Small Fan-foot.

~ Friday 25th July 2008 ~

Peter Hall's garden moth trap in Ballinger Common, Bucks, on 22nd July produced the following: *Acleris forsskaleana*, *Acleris holmiana*, *Agapeta hamana*, *Agriphila straminella*, *Aleimma loeflingiana*, *Alucita hexadactyla*, *Archips podana*, *Batia unitella*, ***Blastobasis adustella***, *Blastobasis lacticolella*, *Carcina quercana*, *Catoptria falsella*, *Celypha striana*, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, *Conobathra repandana*, *Crambus pascuella*, *Cydia pomonella*, ***Cydia splendana***, *Endotricha flammealis*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, *Eurrhyncha hortulata*, *Hedya nubiferana*, *Pandemis corylana*, *Pandemis heparana*, *Pleuroptya ruralis*, *Rhopobota naevana*, ***Spilonota ocellana***, ***Trachycera advenella***, *Udea olivalis*, *Udea prunalis*, ***Yponomeuta padella/malinellus*** (can only be separated by finding the larvae on the respective foodplant), ***Yponomeuta sedella***, August Thorn, Beautiful Hook-tip, Black Arches, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Brown-line Bright-eye, Buff Arches, Buff Footman, Buff-tip, Burnished Brass, Clay Triple-lines, Clouded Border, Clouded Silver, Common Footman, Common Rustic, Common Wainscot, Common White Wave, Coxcomb Prominent, Dark Arches, Dingy Footman, Dot, Double Square-spot, Double-striped Pug, Dun-bar, Elephant Hawk, Engrailed, Fan-foot, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Green Pug, July Highflyer, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-border, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Light Emerald, Lunar-spotted Pinion, Mottled Beauty, Mottled Rustic, Nut-tree Tussock, Pale Prominent, Pebble Prominent, Peppered, Phoenix, Plain Golden Y, Poplar Hawk, Purple Thorn, Riband Wave, Rustic, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, Single-dotted Wave, Slender Brindle, Small Emerald, Small Fan-foot, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Phoenix, Small Rivulet, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Sycamore, Uncertain, V-Pug, ***Waved Black***, Willow Beauty and Yellow-tail.

Alastair Driver sent the micros to go with his moth trap report Ali's Pond LNR in Sonning on 22nd and 23rd July: "They were: *Agapeta hamana*, *Parapoynx stratiotata*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, ***Rhyacionia pinicolana***, *Carcina quercana* and *Cydia pomonella*. Many thanks to Peter Hall, as ever, for helping with the

i.d."

~ Wednesday 23rd July 2008 ~

Alastair Driver set the Robinson trap at Ali's Pond LNR in Sonning on 22nd and 23rd July: "I caught 47 macro species. New for my parish records were **Slender Pug** and Olive, new for my site records were Clouded Border, Dwarf Cream Wave and Lesser-spotted Pinion and new for my year records were Yellow Shell, **Cloaked Minor**, Common Carpet, Common White Wave, Ruby Tiger, Grey dagger egg, Fan-foot, White-spotted Pug, **Sycamore** and Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing. Micros to follow, once Peter Hall has checked my id of some of them."

David Redhead ran his garden moth trap (Littlemore, Oxon) last night, 22nd July: "It was the most prolific of the year to date with 190 macro-moths from 50 different species - just like "the good old days". Several additions to my 2008 garden list and the following appear to be new to the UTB 2008 list - **Crescent, Least Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing** and **Lesser Yellow Underwing** (first adult). The most numerous moth in the trap was a micro-moth, the Mother of Pearl with an estimated 290 and other identified micros put the grand total up to 501."

Peter Hall sent this update today: "Larvae of **Striped Lychnis** seen today (23rd July) in their stronghold near to **High Wycombe**. Also seen was **Sitochroa palealis**."



Striped Lychnis larva
Photo © Peter Hall

Sitochroa palealis
Photo © Peter Hall

The following came from David Redhead on 22nd July: "The latest batch of HSBC volunteers trapping moths in **Wytham Woods** as part of the Earthwatch/Oxford University WildCRU project have produced another couple of firsts for the 2008 UTB list. A **Maple Pug** caught on **16th July** and a **Copper Underwing** caught on **18th July**. The Maple Pug was melanic and required Martin Townsend to examine its abdominal plates before he could be sure of its identity."

Jan Haseler sent this report on 22nd July: "The Reading and District Natural History Society moth-trapping event on **Saturday 5th July**, in the north-west facing field closest to the entrance to BBOWT's **Hartslock Reserve**, must have been the most sheltered place in the Thames Valley on a night of south-easterly gales. The 88 species identified included **Kent Black Arches** and **Wood Carpet** (new to the Upper Thames Branch 'All-time' list), plus **Royal Mantle** and **The Shark**."



Kent Black Arches
Photo © Jan Haseler



Royal Mantle
Photo © Jan Haseler

Nigel Partridge sent the following records recently:

Platyptilia pallidactyla, 30-06-08, Loosley Row. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the ID.

Ypsolopha scabrella, 22-07-08, Loosley Row."



Platyptilia pallidactyla
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Ypsolopha scabrella
Photo © Nigel Partridge

~ Saturday 19th July 2008 ~

Peter Hall sent the following reports: "I saw **Udea lutealis** on 18th July along **Stocklake, Aylesbury**. My garden moth trap in **Ballinger Common** on 13th July produced 82 species but nothing very exciting: **Acentria ephemerella**, **Acleris holmiana**, **Agriphila straminella**, **Aphomia sociella**, **Archips podana**, **Athrips mouffetella**, **Batia lunaris**, **Batia unitella**, **Blastobasis lacticolella**, **Celypha lacunana**, **Chrysoteuchia culmella**, **Coleophora mayrella**, **Conobathra repandana**, **Crambus pascuella**, **Crambus perlella**, **Cydia pomonella**, **Ditula angustiorana**, **Eucosma cana**, **Hedya nubiferana**, **Lozotaenia forsterana**, **Pandemis heparana**, **Plutella xylostella**, **Pyrausta purpuralis**, **Rhopobota naevana**, **Udea olivalis**, **Udea prunalis**, **Ypsolopha dentella**, **Ypsolopha parenthesesella**, **Beautiful Golden Y**, **Beautiful Hook-tip**, **Brimstone Moth**, **Buff Arches**, **Buff Footman**, **Buff-tip**, **Burnished Brass**, **Clouded Border**, **Common Emerald**, **Common Footman**, **Common Rustic**, **Common White Wave**, **Coxcomb Prominent**, **Dark Arches**, **Dingy Footman**, **Double Square-spot**, **Double-striped Pug**, **Dun-bar**, **Early Thorn**, **Engrailed**, **Fan-foot**, **Flame**, **Flame Carpet**, **Flame Shoulder**, **Green Pug**, **Heart & Club**, **Heart & Dart**, **July Highflyer**, **Large Yellow Underwing**, **Light Emerald**, **Mottled Beauty**, **Nutmeg**, **Pebble Prominent**, **Peppered**, **Poplar Hawk**, **Purple Clay**, **Riband Wave**, **Rustic**, **Scalloped Oak**, **Short-cloaked**, **Silver Y**, **Single-dotted Wave**, **Small Emerald**, **Small Fan-footed Wave**, **Smoky**

Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Straw Dot, Swallow-tailed, Tawny Marbled Minor, Uncertain, Vapourer, Wormwood Pug and Yellow-tail."

Nigel Partridge recorded the following in Loosley Row, Bucks recently: Haworth's Pug, 16-07-08, Catoptria falsella, 16-07-08, Small Ranunculus, 18-07-08, plus one that I must have missed sending in - Caloptilia syringella on 10-05-08. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming some of these."



Caloptilia syringella
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Catoptria falsella
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Haworth's Pug
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Small Ranunculus
Photo © Nigel Partridge

*Adam Bassett ran another trap in his Marlow Bottom garden on 15th July: "A more successful trap on the 15th - nothing new, but the volume and variety is up! Small Magpie, Mother of Pearl, Bee Moth, Clay Triple-lines, Small Fan-footed Wave, Dwarf Cream Wave, Riband Wave, Garden Carpet, Shaded Broad-bar, The Fern, Dark Umber, Foxglove Pug, **The Magpie** (first adult), Brimstone Moth, Lilac Beauty, August Thorn, Early Thorn, Purple Thorn, Scalloped Oak, Swallow-tailed Moth, Peppered Moth, Willow Beauty, Mottled Beauty, The Engrailed, Common White Wave, Light Emerald, Elephant Hawk-moth, Small Elephant Hawk-moth, Lobster Moth, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Vapourer, Yellow-tail, Black Arches, Buff Footman, Common Footman, The Flame, The Clay, The Dun-bar, Dark Arches, Common/Lesser Rustic, The Uncertain, The Rustic, Pale Mottled Willow, Beautiful Hook-tip, Straw Dot, The Snout, The Fan-foot and Small Fan-foot. Other micros identified: Endotricha flammealis, Carcina quercana, Diamond-back moth, Twenty plume moth, Acleris cristana, Archips podana, Agapeta hamana and Orthopygia glaucinalis."*

Dave Wilton found that Finemere Wood, Bucks produced a pleasing collection of moths on 14th July: "More than 300 macros were trapped from the following species: Lackey, Drinker, Lappet, Peach Blossom, Buff Arches, Large Emerald, Common Emerald, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Scallop, Riband Wave, Large Twin-spot Carpet, Barred Yellow, July Highflyer, Small Rivulet, **Barred Rivulet**, Green Pug, V-Pug, Clouded Border, Brimstone Moth, Early Thorn, Scalloped Oak, Swallow-tailed Moth, Peppered Moth, Willow Beauty, Mottled Beauty, Engrailed, Common White Wave, Common Wave, Clouded Silver, Poplar Hawk-moth, Elephant Hawk-moth, Pebble Prominent, Coxcomb Prominent, Buff-tip, Yellow-tail, Black Arches, Round-winged Muslin, Scarce Footman, Common Footman, Buff Footman, Short-cloaked Moth, Large Yellow Underwing, **Gothic**, Smoky Wainscot, Common Wainscot, Minor Shoulder-knot, Poplar Grey, Lunar-spotted Pinion, Dun-bar, Dark Arches, Light Arches, Clouded Brindle, Dusky Brocade, Marbled Minor agg, **Mere Wainscot**, Uncertain, Rustic, Marbled White Spot, **Scarce Silver-lines**, Burnished Brass, Plain Golden Y, Spectacle, Blackneck, Beautiful Hook-tip, Straw Dot, Snout and Small Fan-foot. Pick of the bunch for me were the Lappet and Large Emerald (always nice to see). The micros added another 150 moths from about 50 species but identification is still 'work in progress'! The only one that I can see may be new to the UTB list so far is the giant tineid **Morophaga chloragella** which has a wing-span in excess of 30mm. Additions from my garden at **Westcott, Bucks** have included **Limnaecia phragmitella** (4th July) and **Nephoterix angustella** (10th July), while others from a trapping session with Peter Hall at **Chinkwell Wood, Bucks** on 10th July were **Ancyliis achatana**, **Argyresthia goedartella**, **Assara terebrella**, **Caloptilia stigmatella** and **Helcystogramma rufescens**."



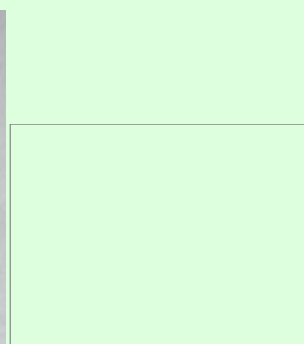
Large Emerald
Photo © Dave Wilton



Lesser-spotted Pinion
Photo © Dave Wilton



Round-winged Muslin
Photo © Dave Wilton



Morophaga chloragella
Photo © Dave Wilton

Tom Stevenson sent this news on 15th July: "Thought you might be interested in the attached photo of a Hummingbird Hawk-moth resting during its attempted escape from my conservatory this evening. I had to help it out

with a fishing net eventually!"



Hummingbird Hawk-moth
Photo © Tom Stevenson

*Alastair Driver sent these additions to his moth trap for 13th July (see report below): "13th July at home in **Sonning** - new for my yearlist were Dun-bar, Common Rustic, **Dwarf Cream Wave**, Scarce Footman, Large Yellow Underwing, Uncertain, Early Thorn, Udea prunalis, Catoptria pinella and Crambus pascuella (the latter three were photographed and appear in the preliminary report below). Then on 14th July, at **Rose Garden** (another property in **Sonning**), new for my yearlist were Buff Arches, Mottled Rustic, Coronet, Clay, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Buff Footman and Double Square-spot. I also caught the following micros: Dioryctria abietella, **Argyresthia bonnetella**, Chrysoteuchia culmella and the dainty **Acleris forsskaleana** (photo below). Many thanks to Peter Hall for helping with the identification of these."*



Acleris forsskaleana
Photo © Alastair Driver

*David Redhead's overnight garden moth trap on 13th July contained: 125 macro-moths and seven additions to his 2008 garden list - Dark Arches, **Dingy Footman**, Dot, Olive, Silver-Y, Small Angle Shades & Yellow-tail. Then on the 15th David reported the following: "This morning (**15th July**) I had the pleasure of assisting Thomas Merckx (Oxford University WildCRU) in identifying the macro-moths in three actinic traps he had set up on farmland near **Marsh Gibbon**. The farm has some very good habitat which, along with the mild night, accounts for the species diversity (30) and numbers (99), although when this farm was trapped last year at the same time numbers were much higher, reflecting what a poor year 2008 is turning out to be for our moths as well as our butterflies. The species list, in order of abundance was : Dark Arches (22), Dun-bar (10), Lackey (9), Large Yellow Underwing (9), Smoky Wainscot (6), Drinker (4), Southern Wainscot (4), Common Footman (3), Dingy Footman (3), Scalloped Oak (3), Yellow-tail (3), Common Wainscot*

(2), Mottled Rustic (2), Short-cloaked (2) and singletons of Barred Straw, Common/Lesser Common Rustic, Dingy Shears, Early Thorn, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Herald, Large Emerald, Light Arches, Poplar Hawkmoth, Riband Wave, Single-dotted Wave, Swallow-tailed, Vine's Rustic, V Pug, & Willow Beauty. Also lots of micros including **Euzophera pinguis**, Mother of Pearl & Phlyctaenia coronata."

Adam Bassett ran his garden moth trap in Marlow Bottom on 10th July and caught 31 species: Small Magpie, Mother of Pearl, Bee Moth, Common Emerald, Clay Triple-lines, Small Fan-footed Wave, Riband Wave, Yellow Shell, Dark Umber, **August Thorn**, Scalloped Oak, Swallow-tailed Moth, Willow Beauty, Mottled Beauty, Engrailed, Common White Wave, Light Emerald, Elephant Hawk-moth, Lobster Moth, **Black Arches**, Common Footman, Buff Ermine, Heart & Dart, Large Yellow Underwing, Dun-bar, Dark Arches, Common/Lesser Rustic, Uncertain/Rustic, Spectacle, Snout and Small Fan-foot.

Mick & Wendy Campbell visited Sydlings Copse, Oxon on 10th July and found several **Nemophora metallica** longhorn moths on scabious flowers and 15+ 6-Spot Burnets in the meadow, 3 Scarlet Tigers in the fen area and disturbed a Light Emerald in the wood.

~ Monday 14th July 2008 ~

Nigel Partridge sent this sighting today, 14th July: Ypsolopha dentella, 13-07-08, Loosley Row.



Ypsolopha dentella
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Alastair Driver ran his garden moth trap in Sonning, Berks, on 13th July: These three micros were amongst the catch - Udea prunalis, Crambus pascuella and **Catoptria pinella**.



Udea prunalis
Photo © Alastair Driver



Crambus pascuella
Photo © Alastair Driver



Catoptria pinella
Photo © Alastair Driver

David Redhead ran his garden moth trap in Littlemore, Oxon, on 10th July: "It was my best to date this year with 128 macro-moths from 45 species - but this is still far short of my "bests" in previous years which always occurred in July. It added two species to my all time garden list with singletons of the Buff Footman and **Lesser-spotted Pinion**. Also a further 7 additions to my 2008 list taking me through the 150 barrier for this year with 153 species of macro-moth. The rest of last night's catch was (additions to my 2008 list are marked with an asterisk) : Dun-bar (22), Poplar Hawkmoth (12, beating my previous record of 11 on July 15th last year), Snout (9), Clouded Border (8), Smoky Wainscot (5), Double Square-spot (4), Large Yellow Underwing (4), Mottled Beauty (4), Uncertain/Rustic (4), Small Fan-footed Wave (4), Buff Arches (3), Common Footman (3), Mottled Rustic (3), White Satin (3), Brimstone (3), Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (2), Common Emerald* (2), Common/Lesser Common Rustic (2), Dingy Shears* (2), Fan-foot (2), Poplar Grey (2), Riband Wave (2), Scalloped Oak (2) and singletons of Beautiful Hook-tip, Brown Rustic, Buff Ermine, Buff-tip, Coronet, **Double Lobed***, Double-striped Pug, Engrailed, Heart & Club, Large Twin-spot Carpet, Pale Prominent, Peach Blossom, Pine Hawkmoth* (only the third to grace my trap, the previous two were in 2005), Ruby Tiger*, Scarce Footman*, Single-dotted Wave*, Southern Wainscot, Spectacle, Swallow Prominent and Willow Beauty. Three (with apologies to the others) species of micro-moth were also identified : Small Magpie (8), Mother of Pearl* (4) and *Perinephela lancealis* (1)."



Double Lobed
Photo © David Redhead

~ Thursday 10th July 2008 ~

Peter Hall reports that the UTB/BIG/BBOWT night-time meeting at Dancersend on 5th July for moth trapping was a partial success:

"Unseasonal high winds put a definite dampener on proceedings and the recommendation for people enquiring was not to come. However, we did find a small corner next to the field plots where the wind was shielded and we ran 3 traps, very close together until around 1am when it began raining. Although the traps were not very busy, we did eventually record exactly 100 species, including two new species for the site: *Strophedra weirana* and *Coleophora flavipennella* bringing the site grand total to 529 species. The full list was: Agapeta zoegana, **Agriphila straminella**, Apotomis turbidana, Celypha lacunana, Celypha striana, Chrysoteuchia culmella, Cnephasia asseclana, **Cnephasia genitalana**, Cnephasia stephensiana, **Coleophora**

flavipennella, Cydia fagiglandana, Dipleurina lacustrata, Epiblema uddmanniana, Eucosma cana, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Hedya nubiferana, **Merrifieldia baliodactylus**, **Pandemis cinnamomeana**, Pandemis heparana, **Pempeliella dilutella**, Pleuroptya ruralis, Rhopobota naevana, Scoparia ambigualis, **Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla**, **Strophedra weirana**, **Teleiodes vulgella**, Udea olivalis, Ypsolopha parenthesesella, Beautiful Golden Y, Beautiful Hook-tip, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, **Brown-line Bright-eye**, Buff Arches, Clay, Clay Triple-lines, Clouded Border, Clouded Brindle, Clouded Silver, Common Carpet, Common Emerald, **Common Lutestring**, Common Marbled Carpet, Common White Wave, Coronet, Coxcomb Prominent, Dark Arches, Dot, Double Square-spot, Drinker, Dusky Brocade, Elephant Hawk, Fan-foot, Fern, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Ghost, Green Arches, Green Carpet, Green Pug, **Grey Arches**, Grey Pug, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Iron Prominent, Large Yellow Underwing, Light Emerald, Lobster, **Maple Prominent**, Marbled Minor, Marbled White Spot, Mottled Beauty, Mottled Pug, Peach Blossom, Peppered, Plain Golden Y, Poplar Hawk, Pretty Chalk Carpet, Purple Clay, Riband Wave, **Rufous Minor**, Rustic, **Satin Beauty**, Scarce Footman, Shaded Broad-bar, Silver-ground Carpet, **Slender Brindle**, Small Fan-foot, Small Fan-footed Wave, Small Rivulet, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Straw Dot, Swallow-tailed, **Tawny Marbled Minor**, Treble Brown Spot, Uncertain, V-Pug and Willow Beauty."



Pandemis cinnamomeana
 Photo © Peter Hall

David Redhead reported as follows on 8th July: "I have only managed to run one overnight garden moth trap (*in Littlemore, Oxon*) to date in July, on the **3rd** but it produced five additions to my 2008 list - Common Footman, Scalloped Oak, Small Fan-footed Wave, **Southern Wainscot** and **White Satin Moth**. The last two still appear to be additions to the UTB 2008 list which reflects the proximity of my garden to the flood plain and a reed bed. My average macro-moth catch this June was 53 against 63 for last year which is a 16% decrease. I have enclosed a picture of a pristine Swallow-tailed Moth (see *below*) which appeared in my last trap of June - usually by the time they grace my moth trap they are far from pristine."



The following moth trap results came from Alastair Driver on 7th July:

"Belated reports from me for last week's trapping at home in **Sonning:-**
30th June: Firsts for the year for me were: Short-cloaked moth, Vine's Rustic, Eyed Hawk-moth, Spectacle, Light Arches, Common Footman, Peppered moth, Smoky Wainscot, Mottled Beauty, Heart and Club, Single-dotted Wave, Riband Wave, Burnished Brass, Small Fan-footed Wave, Dark Arches, Bright-line Brown-eye, *Lozotaeniodes formosanus*, *Orthopygia glaucinalis*.

1st July: Firsts for the year for me were: Clouded Silver, Small Blood-vein, Scalloped Oak, Dot moth and Rustic, but the real highlights were two spectacular new species for my parish records: Privet Hawk-moth and Leopard moth."

Dave Wilton sent this update on 7th July: "With grateful thanks to the dissection skills of Peter Hall, I can now add more species to the UTB list for this year. There's just the one macro-moth, **Dwarf Pug** (*Rushbeds, 21st May*) but several micros: **Acleris ferrugana** (*Finemere, 23rd February*), **Aethes piercei** (*Westcott disused railway, 11th May*), **Aethes williana** (*Greatmoor, 12th May*), **Agonopterix propinquella** (*Westcott, 23rd April*), **Carpatolechia notatella** (*Rushbeds, 21st May*), **Coleophora caespititiella** (*Finemere, 29th May*), **Dichrorampha plumbagana** (*Westcott disused railway, 20th May*), **Elachista alpinella** (*Westcott, 7th May*), **Epiblema sticticana** (*Greatmoor, 12th May*), **Falseuncaria ruficiliana** (*Stonesfield, 9th May*), **Monopis laevigella/Skin Moth** (*Rushbeds, 21st May*), **Pammene splendidulana** (*Finemere, 9th May*), **Parornix anglicella** (*Westcott, 22nd April*) and **Parornix finitimella** (*Westcott, 7th May*). All of the locations are in Bucks apart from Stonesfield (Oxon). The appearance of *Aethes piercei* on the list is a good example of why any doubtful identifications should be held back until they've been given a close inspection by the experts! This moth was originally identified for me from a photo as the similar-looking *Aethes hartmanniana* (see the archived report for 12th May). Also, five of the 14 micros have yet to be illustrated on the UK-Moths web-site which is often the first call these days for anyone unsure of an identification."

~ Sunday 6th July 2008 ~

Peter Hall sent these recent sightings and moth trap results:

61 species in his **Ballinger Garden** moth trap on **30th June**, of which the following were new to the 2008 UTB Species List: **Small Rivulet**, **Turnip** and **Rhopobota naevana**.

A **Vapourer** (first adult) at **Ballinger Common** on **1st July**, flying in the sunshine.

Then on **4th July** Peter ran a moth trap at the **Holtspur Reserve** in Bucks and caught the following 64 species:

Acentria ephemerella, *Agapeta hamana*, **Agapeta zoegana**, *Apotomis turbidana*, *Archips podana*, *Blastobasis lacticolella*, *Celypha lacunana*, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, *Cochylis hybridella*, *Crambus perlella*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, *Epiphyas postvittana*, *Eucosma cana*, *Hedya pruniana*, **Homoeosoma sinuella**, *Hypsopygia costalis*, **Marasmarcha lunaedactyla**, *Pandemis cerasana*, **Pleuroptya ruralis**, *Rhopobota naevana*, *Tinea semifulvella*, Barred Yellow, Beautiful Hook-tip, Bright-line

Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, **Brown Scallop**, Buff Arches, Chinese Character, Clay, Clouded Silver, Common Emerald, Coronet, Dark Arches, Dark Umber, Double Square-spot, Double-striped Pug, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Foxglove Pug, Ghost, Green Pug, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Large Yellow Underwing, Light Emerald, Mottled Beauty, Peppered, Purple Clay, Riband Wave, Rustic, Scorched Carpet, Setaceous Hebrew Character, **Shaded Broad-bar**, Short-cloaked, Silver Y, Small Elephant Hawk, Small Fan-footed Wave, **Small Yellow Wave**, **Smoky Wainscot**, Snout, Straw Dot, Swallow-tailed, Willow Beauty and **Wormwood Pug**.



Chinese Character
Photo © Peter Hall



Ghost
Photo © Peter Hall



Small Elephant Hawk-moth
Photo © Peter Hall

One more for the moth species list, received from Nigel Partridge today: "Apotomis capreana, 4-7-08. Thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the ID."



Apotomis capreana
Photo © Nigel Partridge

Dave Wilton says Tuesday 1st July proved to be the first really good night of the year for moths, with well over 500 caught in his garden trap at Westcott, Bucks: "Those that have been identified to date comprise Yponomeuta evonymella/Bird-cherry Ermine (1), Plutella xylostella/Diamond-back Moth (1), Hofmannophila pseudospretella/Brown House Moth (1), Mompha ochraceella (1), Agapeta hamana (6), Cochylis hybridella (1), Archips podana/Large Fruit-tree Tortrix (5), Tortrix viridana/Green Oak Tortrix (1), Celypha striana (1), Celypha lacunana (6), Hedya pruniana/Plum Tortrix (3), Hedya nubiferana/Marbled Orchard Tortrix (4), Epiblema uddmanniana/Bramble-shoot Moth (2), Eucosma cana (7), Cydia pomonella/Codling Moth (1), Chrysoteuchia culmella (22), Eurrhynx hortulata/Small Magpie (8), Phlyctaenia perlucidalis (2), Udea prunalis (1), Udea olivalis (5), Hypsopygia costalis/Gold Triangle (7), Dioryctria abietella (1), Myelois circumvoluta/Thistle Ermine (1), Phycitodes binaevella (1), Pterophorus pentadactyla/White Plume Moth (2), Emmelina monodactyla (1), Leopard Moth

(1), Lackey (3), Drinker (4), Chinese Character (1), Peach Blossom (1), Common Emerald (5), Blood-vein (5), Riband Wave (10), Yellow Shell (2), Barred Straw (1), Barred Yellow (4), V-Pug (1), Green Pug (7), Clouded Border (1), Brimstone Moth (8), Lilac Beauty (1), Swallow-tailed Moth (4), Peppered Moth (4), Common Wave (1), Clouded Silver (5), Light Emerald (2), Poplar Hawk-moth (1), Elephant Hawk-moth (4), Swallow Prominent (1), Scarce Footman (3), Common Footman (4), Heart and Club (4), Heart and Dart (77), Flame (11), Flame Shoulder (18), Large Yellow Underwing (36), Setaceous Hebrew Character (1), Double Square-spot (1), Bright-line Brown-eye (4), **Clay** (3), Common Wainscot (6), Shoulder-striped Wainscot (1), Poplar Grey (3), Miller (1), Dark/Grey Dagger (4), Coronet (2, another new species added to my all-time garden list), Angle Shades (2), **Olive** (1), Dun-bar (2), **Lunar-spotted Pinion** (2), Dark Arches (20), Light Arches (4), Dusky Brocade (2), Large Nutmeg (1), Rustic Shoulder-knot (4), Marbled Minor egg (30), Small Dotted Buff (3), Uncertain (16), Rustic (10), Mottled Rustic (1), Pale Mottled Willow (2), Burnished Brass (5), Silver Y (1), Plain Golden Y (1), Spectacle (1), **Blackneck** (1), Beautiful Hook-tip (9), Straw Dot (9), Snout (8) & Fan-foot (3). Another 15 or so micro species have yet to be determined, meaning that this was my first catch of the year which exceeded 100 species. Going back over the previous few days, other highlights have included Dark UMBER (at [Westcott on 27th June](#)), **Yellow-tail** (at [Rushbeds Wood, Bucks on 28th June](#)) and **July Highflyer, Barred Red, Four-dotted Footman & Minor Shoulder-knot** (all at [Finemere Wood, Bucks on 29th June](#)). In addition, caterpillars of The Spectacle were found on nettles in our garden at [Westcott on 30th June](#)."



Barred Red
Photo © Dave Wilton

The Spectacle caterpillar
Photo © Dave Wilton



Coronet
Photo © Dave Wilton

Nigel Partridge sent the following update on 3rd July: "I think this is new for the list - **Ypsolopha sequella**, 02-07-08, Loosley Row."



Ypsolopha sequella
Photo © Nigel Partridge

~ Thursday 3rd July 2008 ~

On 30-06-08 Dave Maunder ran his garden m.v. trap in Aylesbury: "I was pleased to get a species I hadn't encountered since the mid 80's - a **Lappet moth**. Also caught were Elephant Hawk-moth (2); Light Arches (1); Dark Arches (4); Double Square-spot (2); Large Yellow Underwing (6); Grey Dagger agg. (1); Bright-line Brown-eye (1); Dot moth (1); Large Nutmeg (2); Rustic (3); Vine's Rustic (1); Marbled Minor agg.(4); Middle-barred Minor (1); Heart and Dart (4); Orange Footman (1); Swallow-tailed moth (4); Willow Beauty (4); **Dark Umber** (1); Barred Yellow (2); Brimstone moth (3); Common Emerald (1); Garden Carpet (1); Green Pug (1); Small Magpie (4); and **Phlyctaenia coronata** (2). Also seen were Silver-Y (2) and **Small Scallop** (1) on **1st July**, Vapourer moth (1 adult on 2nd, also 3 larvae on same date!); Poplar Hawk-moth eggs (10) and Herald moth larva (1) - all on **2nd July.**"



Elephant Hawk-moths
Photo © Dave Maunder



Swallow-tailed Moth
Photo © Dave Maunder

Tom Stevenson ran a borrowed 6w Heath trap in his garden in Benson on 30th June: "Nothing very special of the 14 moths of 10 species though the **Scalloped Oak** and **Endotricha flammealis** (photos attached) were worthy of note."



Endotricha flammealis



Scalloped Oak

Nigel Partridge sent this update on 1st July: "These two were not on the list when I looked this morning:

Small Blood-vein 30-06-08 and **Pterophorus pentadactyla (White Plume) 30-06-08**. Both caught in the garden (**Loosley Row, Bucks**)."

A Bucks Invertebrate Group meeting was held at Stoke Common on June 28th. Peter Hall sent this report: "During the day meeting a **Beautiful Yellow Underwing larva** was found, the following is an initial list from the night trapping.

Barred Straw, Barred Yellow, Beautiful Golden Y, Beautiful Hook-tip, **Bordered Beauty**, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Brown Rustic, Brown Silver-line, Buff Arches, **Buff Footman**, Buff-tip, Burnished Brass, Clouded Border, Clouded Silver, Common Emerald, Common Footman, Common White Wave, Coxcomb Prominent, Dark Arches, Dun-bar, Engrailed, Fan-foot, Flame, Flame Shoulder, **Four-dotted Footman**, **Great Oak Beauty**, Green Carpet, Grey Pine Carpet, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Iron Prominent, **Large Emerald**, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Light Arches, Light Emerald, Lobster, Maiden's Blush, Marbled White Spot, Miller, **Minor Shoulder-knot**, Mottled Beauty, **Narrow-winged Pug**, Pebble Hook-tip, Peppered, Pinion-streaked Snout, Plain Golden Y, Poplar Hawk, Purple Clay, Riband Wave, **Scarce Footman**, **September Thorn**, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Short-cloaked, **Silvery Arches**, **Single-dotted Wave**, Snout, Straw Dot, **Suspected**, Tawny-barred Angle, True Lover's Knot, Uncertain, Willow Beauty, *Aleimma loeflingiana*, ***Ancylis laetana***, ***Apotomis turbidana***, *Archips podana*, *Archips xylosteana*, ***Argyresthia brockeella***, ***Carcina quercana***, *Celypha lacunana*, *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, ***Conobathra repandana***, *Ditula angustiorana*, *Elophila nymphaeata*, *Epiblema uddmanniana*, *Epinotia bilunana*, *Eucosma cana*, ***Gypsonoma dealbana***, *Hedya salicella*, *Hypsopygia costalis*, ***Orthopygia glaucinalis***, *Pandemis cerasana*, *Pandemis corylana*, *Pandemis heparana*, ***Pempelia palumbella***, *Plutella xylostella*, ***Rhyacionia pinivorana***, *Tortrix viridana*, *Udea olivalis* and ***Ypsolopha parenthesesella***."



Four-dotted Footman
Photo © Peter Hall



True Lover's Knot
Photo © Peter Hall

~ Saturday 28th June 2008 ~

This news just received from Derek Brown: "I'm now up to 118 species for the year, 12 completely new so far taking the garden (**Beenham, Berks**) list to 275.

The only ones I have that don't seem to be on your list are **Lilac Beauty**, (indoors [22/6](#)), **Small Fan-footed Wave** ([27/6](#)), Common Emerald ([28/6](#)) and Short-cloaked Moth ([28/6](#)). I've also attached a picture of only my second Eyed Hawk Moth ([15/6](#)) that I thought you might like."



Eyed Hawk-moth
Photo © Derek Brown



Lilac Beauty
Photo © Derek Brown

Small Fan-footed Wave
Photo © Derek Brown

Peter Hall sent the results of two recent moth traps in his garden in Ballinger Common, Bucks:

20/06/08: Brimstone Moth, Broken-barred Carpet, Buff Ermine, Clouded Silver, Common Footman, Common Marbled Carpet, Dark Arches, Double Square-spot, Flame, Flame Carpet, Green Arches, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Ingrailed Clay, Larch Pug, Large Yellow Underwing, Middle-barred Minor, Nutmeg, **Purple Clay**, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Silver Y, Small Emerald, Snout, Straw Dot, Treble Lines, Vine's Rustic, Willow Beauty, Aleimma loeflingiana, Celypha lacunana, Chrysoteuchia culmella, **Cydia pomonella**, Epiphyas postvittana, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Hedya nubiferana, Hedya pruniana, **Pandemis corylana**, **Pandemis heparana**, Tortrix viridana and Udea olivalis.

23/06/08: Barred Straw, Beautiful Golden Y, Brimstone Moth, Buff Arches, Buff Ermine, Burnished Brass, Clouded Border, Clouded Silver, Common Footman, Common Marbled Carpet, Common White Wave, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Garden Carpet, Green Pug, Heart & Club, Heart & Dart, Ingrailed Clay, Large Yellow Underwing, Light Arches, Light Emerald, Mottled Beauty, Orange Footman, Plain Golden Y, Poplar Hawk, Riband Wave, Rustic, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Shears, **Short-cloaked**, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Snout, Straw Dot, Treble Lines, Uncertain, Willow Beauty, Archips podana, Celypha lacunana, Chrysoteuchia culmella, **Crambus pascuella**, Epiphyas postvittana, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Hedya nubiferana, Pandemis cerasana, Prays fraxinella and Udea olivalis.

"Also, a second batch of Mullein caterpillars are nearing pupation here at Ballinger Common, leaving my Verbascum thapsus a tattered mess!"



Mullein caterpillar
Photo © Peter Hall

Mullein caterpillar
Photo © Peter Hall

27th June - A few more moths seen in Aylesbury recently by Dave Maunder were: "Puss moth larvae (7, all 4th stage), all feeding on Sallows in a field close to my house (24th); also Buff Ermine (1); Willow Beauty (1); Yellow Shell (2); Barred Yellow (1); Bee moth (1); Small Dusty Wave (1) and Large Nutmeg (1) - all on 26th June."



Puss Moth larva
Photo © Dave Maunder

Puss Moth larva
Photo © Dave Maunder

Dave Wilton sent his latest moth update on 27th June: "Further moths that I've seen recently which may still be additional to the UTB list are as follows: **Celypha striana**, **Lackey** (first adult) and **Varied Coronet** all to light in the garden at **Westcott, Bucks on 19th June**, **Udea prunalis** and **Dingy Shears** both trapped at **Westcott on 20th June**, **Common Emerald** to light at **Kingswood, Bucks on 23rd June**, **Orange Moth** seen at **Waterperry Wood, Oxon on 24th June** and **Acleris bergmanniana**, **Hedya salicella** and **Small Dotted Buff** trapped in BBOWT's **River Ray reserves, Bucks on 24th June**. Other items of note at **Westcott** recently have included Small Angle Shades (20th June), which was another addition to my all-time garden list, and the oddly-marked Peppered Moth illustrated below (21st June). Darker forms of the Peppered Moth have appeared in the trap in past years but this is the first time I've seen one that is lighter than normal! The Orange Moth at Waterperry Wood (a female) came as a very pleasant surprise. This large geometer was found flying along the main ride in the middle of the day, looking from a distance a bit like an odd-coloured Brimstone. Several attempts to photograph her were not particularly successful as she insisted on hanging upside-down from grass stems every time she settled, before finally disappearing into the tree-tops when she'd had enough of me chasing her around!"



Varied Coronet
Photo © Dave Wilton



Orange Moth
Photo © Dave Wilton

An amendment to Nick Asher's report for Inkpen Common, 20th June: *Scoparia pyralella* was actually *S. ambigualis*. *Scoparia pyralella* has therefore been removed from the UTB 2008 species list.

An addition to David Redhead's moth trap report for 24th June (below): "I've just realised that the moth trap I ran on **24th June** should have included **Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing.**"

Tim & Colleen Watts reported the following on 26th June: "We've just seen (6:30 pm on 26/06/08) our first **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** of year, nectaring on Red Valarium in our **Whitchurch (Bucks)** garden."

Chris Brown surveys Kennylands Field (Sonning Common) and sent the following on 26th June: "I was pleased for once to get a couple of minutes of video close up of these Forester Moths and have grabbed a frame for the UTB web site."



Forester moths
Photo © Chris Brown

David Redhead sent this report on 26th June: "I saw my first Silver-Y of the year flying with the Meadow Browns and Ringlets in **Rivermead Nature Park, Oxford**. I thought website visitors might be interested in the picture below of the *Conversaria* form of the Mottled Beauty, caught by the HSBC Bank/Earthwatch volunteers in **Wytham Woods** on **Monday 23rd/Tuesday 24th** night - never having seen one before its identification had me stumped at first. I am told this form is not that common in our area but I managed to catch one in my garden moth trap a couple of nights later. Do other contributors see it at all?"



Mottled Beauty f. conversaria
Photo © David Redhead

Gerry Kendall sent this news on 23rd June: "We have good numbers of Scarlet Tiger Moths in our garden in **South Oxford**, about a mile from the City Centre. This evening there were half a dozen, fluttering round our loganberry."

~ Wednesday 25th June 2008 ~

David Redhead ran his garden moth trap, in Littlemore, Oxon, on 21st and 24th June: "Not surprisingly, since it was the warmest night of the year to date with a minimum temperature of 13.7C, last night's overnight garden moth trap produced my best return to date for 2008 with 109 macro-moths from 43 species. They included seven additions to my 2008 list and a previous trap, on the 21st, added 3 species:

21/06 : Barred Yellow, **Dun-bar**, Ghost Moth

24/06 : **Barred Straw**, Buff-tip, Common Wainscot, Drinker, **Large Twin-spot Carpet**, Riband Wave, **Satyr Pug** (Satyr Pug confirmed by Martin Townsend)."

Thomas Merckx sent this news on 25th June: "I had one **Pale Shining Brown** at **Stonesfield, Oxon**. They hence seem to be a week later than the two previous years at these sites."

Nick Asher sent the following report on 25th June: "**Berkshire Moth Group** held a moth trapping evening at **Inkpen Common** on **Friday 20th June**. Three traps were deployed in the paddock at the western end of the Common until 1.00am on an evening of light rain. 61 species were recorded, of which the following are as yet not included on the UTB 2008 list: **Hedya nubiferana** (Marbled Orchard Tortrix), **Large Fruit-tree Tortrix** (*Archips podana*), **Cydia fagiglandana**, **Lozotaeniodes formosanus**, **Scoparia pyralella**, **Dipleurina lacustrata**, **Epinotia bilunana**, **Larch Pug**, **Sharp-angled Peacock**, **Small Emerald** and **True Lover's Knot** Most common species were Straw Dot and Green Oak Tortrix."

On 25th June Dave Maunder sent some recent sightings from Aylesbury: "Mullein moth larvae (36) - 24 on my garden mullein, 12 on nearby dark mullein on **6th June**; Vapourer moth larvae (2), on my garden Birch on **16th June**; and on **24th June** my garden m.v. trap pulled in:- **Leopard Moth** (1); Ghost swift (1, female); Buff Ermine (1); Large Nutmeg (13); Heart and Dart (16); Broad-barred White (1); **The Rustic** (2); Cabbage moth (1); Bright-line Brown-eye (4); Common Wainscot (2); Flame moth (1); Large Yellow Underwing (1); Marbled minor agg. (7); **Swallow-tailed Moth** (1); Garden Carpet (1); Green Pug (1), and Small Magpie (1)."

On 22nd June Tom Stevenson sent these unusual photos: "It might be fairly common but I have never seen it before. In a small patch of Borage alongside a footpath in **Benson Village, Oxon** I counted 28 of these Scarlet Tigers. A photo of three stages of emergence is below."



Scarlet Tiger emergence
Photo © Tom Stevenson

On the morning of Thursday 19th David Redhead assisted the second batch of Earthwatch volunteers from HSBC Bank, who are helping Oxford University Wild CRU study the effects of habitat fragmentation and climate change on woodland species, identify the contents of their six 6W Heath traps they had set up in **Wytham Woods** near Oxford. Over 30 species of macro-moth were caught and the numbers of Lobster Moth and Green Arches were notable. A single **Drinker moth** was an addition to the UTB 2008 list.

Nigel Partridge sent the following moth sightings from his Loosley Row garden recently: **Blastobasis lacticolella** (formerly B.decolorella), on **12-06-08**, **Fern** on **20-06-08**, **Chrysoteuchia culmella** on **16-06-08**, **Paraswammerdamia albicapitella** on **20-06-08**, **Magpie (larva)** on **21-06-08** and finally, a new one for the list and a new species for our garden: **Broad-barred White**, on **23-06-08**. Thanks to Peter Hall for helping with some of the id's."



Blastobasis lacticolella
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Broad-barred White
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Chrysoteuchia culmella
Photo © Nigel Partridge



Paraswammerdamia
albicapitella
Photo © Nigel Partridge

David Redhead ran his garden moth trap in Littlemore, Oxon, on 19th June:

"It added six macro-moth species to my 2008 garden list - Common White Wave, **Double Square-spot**, **Light Arches**, Mottled Rustic, Peach Blossom, Privet Hawk-moth and Small Fan-foot. Also two new micro-moth additions to my all time garden list - the Bramble Shoot Moth/*Epiblema uddmanniana* and *Phlyctaenia perlucidalis*, the latter being caught earlier in the week but just identified by Martin Townsend. Later this morning Wendy came across our first garden Scarlet Tiger Moth of the year."

~ Thursday 19th June 2008 ~

On Thursday 19th June Mick & Wendy Campbell were looking for butterflies in Bernwood Meadow and saw their first **Six-Spot Burnets** (2) of the season.

This update came from Dave Wilton on 18th June: "Catching up on recent sightings which may still be new to the UTB list, my garden trap at **Westcott, Bucks** has produced: **Elophila nymphaeata/Brown China-mark** and **Dusky Brocade (4th June)**, **Chrysoteuchia culmella**, **Phlyctaenia perlucidalis** and **Heart & Club (6th June)**, **Emmetia marginata**, **Lyonetia clerkella/Apple Leaf Miner**, **Ditula angustiorana/Red-barred Tortrix** and **Dioryctria abietella (9th June)** and **Dot Moth** and Mottled Rustic (**16th June**). Elsewhere, at **Finemere Wood, Bucks** I trapped **Epermenia falciformis**, **Peach Blossom** and **Bordered White** on **7th June** and found daytime-flyer **Aphelia paleana/Timothy Tortrix** there on **9th June**, while **Crambus perlella** and **Myelois circumvoluta/Thistle Ermine** were daytime flyers at **Seven Barrows, Berks** also on **9th June**. The most pleasing event of late was the arrival of the garden's first Privet Hawk-moth on **16th June**, taking my macro-moth list for Westcott up to 335 species since I started trapping here in 2005."



Privet Hawk-moth
Photo © Dave Wilton

David Redhead found 16th June a slightly warmer night (min 9.4C) than his last trap: "It increased the macro-moth count in my overnight garden moth trap (**Littlemore, Oxon**) back into the fifties with 57 moths from 27 species. An addition to my all time garden list was a pristine Blue-bordered Carpet and additions to my 2008 list were singletons of Heart & Club, Light Emerald, Setaceous Hebrew Character and Round-winged Muslin."

Jan Haseler sent the following report on 17th June: "On Saturday 14th June, Reading and District Natural History Society had a recording day at **Withymead Nature Reserve**, on the north bank of the Thames between Goring and South Stoke. Moth traps were run on the board walk next to the marsh

and the 38 species identified included: Ghost Moth, **Donacaula forficella**, **Oblique Carpet**, Grey Pug, Eyed Hawk-moth, **Round-winged Muslin**, Nutmeg, Mottled Rustic and **Pinion-streaked Snout**."

Nigel Partridge sent this update on 16th June: "One more moth that wasn't on the list last time I looked: **Ghost Moth**, 13-06-08, *Loosley Row*."

David Redhead ran a garden moth trap in Littlemore, Oxon, on 14th June: "I added **Buff Arches**, Green Pug, Eyed Hawk Moth and **Uncertain** to my 2008 list. The lowest numbers of my four attempts in June with only 38 macros from 22 species, but the coldest night of the four with minimum temperature of 7.4C, the other three ranged from 8.9 - 12.8C. I also had my first Large Yellow Underwings of the year - not in the moth trap but two put up whilst mowing the lawn earlier in the evening. Then today (*15th*) an early morning dog walk produced a Green Carpet in *Rivermead Nature Park* and an afternoon walk in the grassland above the house a Straw Dot and my first **Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet** of the year."

Mark Calway sent the following news on 14th June: "Attached is a photo of a pair of **Hornet Moths**. It was taken this morning, Saturday 14th June near *Reading* town centre. This year's first sightings in Berkshire that I am aware of were three males on *6th June*. I have seen a fresh pupal case in one area (ie evidence of recent emergence), this mating pair (see *photo below*) at 9:00am in another area, another 2 recently emerged adults in yet another area along with a male patrolling for females."



Hornet Moths pairing
Photo © Mark Calway



Hornet Moth
Photo © Mark Calway



Hornet Moth
Photo © Mark Calway

Tom Stevenson ran his 25w BB moth trap in his Benson garden on 14th June and recorded: Elephant Hawk-moth, Heart and Dart (10), Treble Lines, Buff Ermine, Shears (4), Poplar Grey, Evergestis forficalis (Garden Pebble) and **Common Footman**.

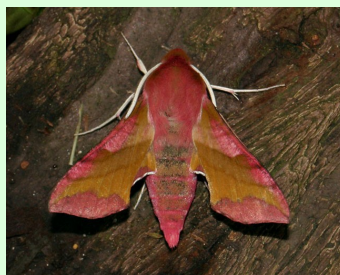


Dave Maunder ran his garden m.v. in Aylesbury on 9th June: "I caught:- **Pine Hawk-moth** (1); Poplar Hawk-moth (1); White Ermine (2); Pale Tussock (2); Large Nutmeg (12); Rustic Shoulder-knot (4); Large Yellow Underwing (2); Angle Shades (1); **Common Rustic** (1); Treble Lines (1); Flame moth (1); Heart and Dart (6); Snout moth (2); Middle-barred Minor (1); Marbled Minor agg. (12); Sandy Carpet (1); Common Carpet (1); Common Marbled Carpet (2); Brimstone moth (1); Straw Dot (3); Garden Pebble (1); Small Magpie (1). On the following day (**10th June**) I found a **Lackey moth larva** crawling on a fence in Fowler road - quite a scarce species in this area, I think these days!"



Lackey moth larva
Photo © Dave Maunder

Keith Mitchell's midweek trap on 11th June in his Stoke Goldington (Bucks) garden produced the following moths: Small Elephant Hawk-moth, Small Magpie (3), Middle-barred Minor (2), Marbled Minor Agg (9), Heart and Dart (12), Buff Ermine (3), Rustic shoulder-knot (3), Chrysoteuchia culmella, Treble Lines (2), Small Square Spot, **Mottled Rustic**, Large Nutmeg, Udea olivalis, Common Marbled Carpet, Flame Shoulder and Common Swift (3)."



Small Elephant Hawk-moth
Photo © Keith Mitchell

Tom & Ian Stevenson ran an overnight trap at Ewelme Watercress Beds (SU641916) on 9th June 2008: "Two traps were used, both home made "Skinner", the first with a 125w MV bulb and the second with a 25w Blacklight Blue energy saving bulb. I was amazed to catch 4 species of Hawks! - photos below. The full list was: Elephant Hawk-moth 1, Lime Hawk-moth 1, Eyed Hawk-moth 1, Privet Hawk-moth 1, Figure of 80 2, *Oligia* sp. 10, Buff Ermine 6, Pale Tussock 1, Treble-bar 1, Willow Beauty1, Bright-line Brown Eye 2,

Common Wainscot 3, Flame Shoulder 1, Flame 1, Heart and Dart 4, Large Yellow Underwing 1, **Nutmeg** 3, Setaceous Hebrew Character 2, Shoulder-striped Wainscot 3, Treble Lines 7, White Ermine 1, Rustic Shoulder-knot 1, Scorched Wing 1, Vine's Rustic 1, Large Nutmeg 3, Middle-barred Minor 2, Common Marbled Carpet 1, Scopariid (sp) 1, Small Square-spot 2."



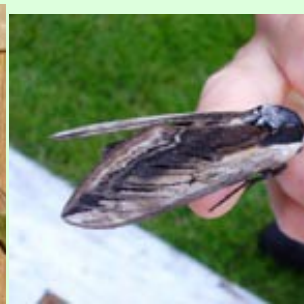
Elephant Hawk-moth
Photo © Tom Stevenson



Eyed Hawk-moth
Photo © Tom Stevenson



Lime Hawk-moth
Photo © Tom Stevenson



Privet Hawk-moth
Photo © Tom Stevenson

~ Sunday 15th June 2008 ~

David Redhead has been doing some catching up since his return from a week's holiday last Saturday, 7th June: "I've run three overnight garden moth traps, which averaged 50 macro-moths per night and added 29 species to my 2008 list taking it through the century barrier to a grand total of 106. One almost certain addition to the UTB 2008 list is the **Obscure Wainscot** with a singleton caught on *National Moth night, 7th June*, and the following night. Other possible candidates, compared to the listing updated to 5th June, are Beautiful Hook-tip, Burnished Brass, **Fan-foot** (7th), **Grey Pug**, **Plain Golden Y** (7th), Treble Brown Spot and Willow Beauty. Also some more readily identifiable micros which may be additions to the UTB list : Pandemis cerasana/Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix, **Clepsis spectrana/Cyclamen Tortrix** (9th) and **Perinephela lancealis** (9th). I've included a photo of the Figure of Eighty as I thought it was a rather well marked specimen."



Obscure Wainscot
Photo © David Redhead

Figure of Eighty
Photo © David Redhead

Ian Stevenson (BBOWT) sent the following moth records on 11th June: "At work (***Warburg Nature Reserve, Oxon***) today, ***11th***, we had two nice sightings. The first being a Red-necked Footman, and the second a **Privet Hawk-moth** (resting on a fencepost which we were trying to remove)."

Peter Hall ran a moth trap at a BBOWT reserve in the Chilterns on Monday night 9th June: "A total of 4 **Red-necked Footman** moths were recorded at this site. In 2006 2 of these moths were also trapped here indicating possible breeding status for this species in the county. This moth could possibly be following in the footsteps of the Orange Footman which started appearing in small numbers at specific sites back around 2002. Experts said they were migrants but by 2004 it was turning up everywhere. So, I'm wondering if the Red-necked is doing the same and we shall have to wait and see what records come in this year and the following years. Other species new to this year's UTB Species List were: **Argyresthia conjugella, Beautiful Golden Y, Clay Triple-lines, Epiblema uddmanniana, Green Arches and Pseudargyrotoza conwagana.**"



Red-necked Footman
Photo © Peter Hall

On 9th June David Redhead recorded the following: "Tortrix viridana or 'Green Oak Roller' in one of the oak trees at ***Slade Camp*** (part of Shotover Country Park and bordering Brasenose Wood)."

Keith Mitchell, Stoke Goldington, sent the following on 8th June: "I had Eyed, Poplar and Elephant Hawk-moths in my Skinner Trap on Friday night, ***6th June***, but more interestingly I found 11 male Aphomia sociella (Bee Moth) clustered together in the corner of my compost heap on Sunday afternoon, ***8th June.***"

Alastair Driver ran his Robinson trap on National Moth Night - 7th June: "At home in my garden in *Sonning, Berks*, I caught 14 macro species of which Willow Beauty, Mottled Pug, Green Pug, Heart & Dart, Straw Dot and Marbled Minor agg. were all new for my yearlist. The highlight however was a **Mullein Wave** in good condition (see photo below). This is a first for my parish records and I note that it has not appeared on UTB's yearlists since you started the web-based lists in 2004. Many thanks to Peter Hall and colleagues for confirming the i.d. Suitably enthused, I set the trap in the garden again the next night - *8th June* - and caught 22 species, of which the following were new for my yearlist: White Ermine, Buff Ermine, Beautiful Hook-tip, Large Nutmeg, Middle-barred Minor, **Least Carpet**, Common Wainscot, **Shoulder-striped Wainscot** and Buff-tip."



Mullein Wave
Photo © Alastair Driver

Peter Hall sent the National Moth Night (7th June) results for his garden in Ballinger Common, Bucks: Angle Shades, Beautiful Golden Y, Brimstone Moth, Broken-barred Carpet, Brown Silver-line, Buff Ermine, Celypha lacunana, Common Marbled Carpet, Common Wainscot, Elephant Hawk, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Flame Shoulder, Green Carpet, Grey Pug, Heart & Dart, Ingrailed Clay, Marbled Minor, Middle-barred Minor, Mottled Pug, Orange Footman, Pale Oak Beauty, **Prays fraxinella**, Scorched Wing, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Silver-ground Carpet, Small Fan-foot, Small Square-spot, Straw Dot, Treble Brown Spot, Treble Lines, Udea olivalis, White Ermine, Willow Beauty and Yellow-barred Brindle.

National Moth night, 7th June - Peter Hall & Martin Albertini ran moth traps at an orchard in Swan Bottom, Bucks, with the following results: "Marbled Minor, Coleophorids, Cnephasia's, Grey Dagger and Pugs were determined by dissection: Common Swift, Psyche casta, Plutella xylostella, **Plutella porrectella**, **Coleophora laricella**, **Coleophora striatipennella**, Ptycholoma lecheana, Eulia ministrana, **Cnephasia asseclana**, **Cnephasia incertana**, Celypha lacunana, Hedyia pruniana, **Eucosma hohenwartiana**, Eucosma cana, Crambus lathoniellus, **Scoparia ambigualis**, Eurrhyncha hortulata, Udea olivalis, Flame Carpet, Silver-ground Carpet, Common Carpet, Common Marbled Carpet, Broken-barred Carpet, Green Carpet, Foxglove Pug, Grey Pug, **Plain Pug**, Green Pug, Small White Wave, Small Seraphim, Yellow-barred Brindle, Scorched Wing, Brimstone Moth, Peppered, Willow Beauty, Mottled Beauty, Pale Oak Beauty, Engrailed, Common White Wave, White-pinion Spotted, Clouded Silver, Elephant Hawk, **Small Elephant Hawk**, Lobster, Marbled Brown, Pale Tussock, Orange Footman, White Ermine, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Large Yellow Underwing, Ingrailed Clay, Small Square-spot, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Light Brocade, Bright-line Brown-eye, Common Wainscot, **Grey Dagger**, **Small Angle Shades**, Angle Shades, Clouded-bordered Brindle, Large Nutmeg, Rustic Shoulder-knot, **Marbled Minor**,

Middle-barred Minor, Treble Lines, Marbled White Spot, Green Silver-lines, Nut-tree Tussock, Beautiful Golden Y, Spectacle, Straw Dot and Small Fan-foot."



Brimstone
Photo © Peter Hall



Elephant Hawk-moth
Photo © Peter Hall



Green Silver-lines
Photo © Peter Hall

Jan Haseler sent a report of the Berkshire Moth Group's National Moth Night (7th June) event at Waltham Place, Berks. The following moths are new to the UTB 2008 Species List: **Agapeta hamana, Aglossa pinguinalis (Large Tabby), Aleimma loeflingiana, Ancyliis mitterbacheriana, Archips xylosteana (Variegated Golden Tortrix), Barred Yellow, Batia unitella, Beautiful Hook-tip, Blotched Emerald, Choristoneura hebenstreitella, Cnephasia stephensiana (Grey Tortrix), Cryptoblabes bistriga, Dark Arches, Elegia similella (aka Microthrix similella), Ephestia parasitella unicolorella, Eucosma cana, Eudonia pallida, Light Emerald, Lozotaenia forsterana, Netted Pug, Pandemis cerasana (Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix), Parapohnx stratiotata (Ringed China-mark), Riband Wave, Taleporia tubulosa, Tinea semifulvella, Tortrix viridana (Green Oak Tortrix) and Willow Beauty**
[Click here to read the full report.](#)

Nigel Partridge sent a few more sightings from Loosley Row, Bucks, on 9th & 10th June:

"31/5/08 - Nemapogon cloacella - thanks to Martin Albertini for confirming the ID

National Moth Night, 7/6/08 - Treble Brown Spot

8/6/08 - Reddish Light Arches

9/6/08 - Netted Pug."

Mick & Wendy Campbell ran their Bucks garden moth trap for a couple of hours on National Moth Night, Saturday 7th June: "20 species were identified: White Ermine, Marbled Minor agg, Heart & Dart, Clouded Silver, Grey/Dark Dagger, Brimstone, Elephant Hawk-moth, Straw Dot, Spectacle, **Burnished Brass**, Angle Shades, Peppered Moth, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Bright-line Brown-Eye, Eurrhypara hortulata (Small Magpie), Figure of Eighty, The Flame, **Green Pug** and Large Nutmeg."

National Moth Night, Saturday 7th June - Lynne & Colin Lambert had a moth trap in their garden in Cheddington, Bucks: "We caught one of each: Garden Carpet, Spectacle, Treble Lines, Pale Mottled Willow, Marbled Minor agg, and 2 Large Nutmegs."

Thomas Merckx sent this report on 8th June: "On the **7th June** I saw a group of 10 or so what looked like very freshly emerged Scarlet Tigers. They were

all fluttering around a tree in the centre of *Charlbury, Oxon*. Spectacular animals!"

Dave Wilton sent this interesting news on 5th June: "I found a small colony of five-spotted burnet moths active in the *Greatmoor area* of mid-Bucks on *5th June*. Until now, the accepted wisdom has been that in our area these must be Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnets (*Zygaena lonicerae*). However, the opinion of Dr Gerry Tremewan (the expert on burnets) is that this particular colony at least is undoubtedly **Five-spot Burnet (*Zygaena trifolii*)** and that the mating pair illustrated below are both *f. minoides*, a well-known form of the species with confluent spots. The reasons for this are the early flight date, the fact that all five of the moths seen had fused spots (common in *Z. trifolii* but very rare in *Z. lonicerae*) and the fact that the female of the pair presented me with a "mound" of eggs two days later. It does not appear to have been widely circulated that a clear distinguishing feature between the two species is that the female *Z. lonicerae* always lays her eggs in a single layer while the female *Z. trifolii* always lays her eggs in an irregular heap of several layers."

On 5th June Malcolm Brownsword saw the following at Seven Barrows (BBOWT) in Berks (20C, cloudy): **The Forester** 10 and **Fox Moth** 1.



The Forester
Photo © Malcolm Brownsword

~ Thursday 5th June 2008 ~

Keith Mitchell, Stoke Goldington, sent this moth report on 4th June: "The better conditions before the rain at the weekend produced garden firsts on *31st May*: The Shears and *Cochlylis atricapitana*, plus a **Lychnis**, new to UTB this year. Other moths caught: Brimstone, Broken-barred Carpet, Buff-tip, Common carpet (2), Common Marbled Carpet (2), Common Swift (8), *Epiblema cynosbatella*, The Flame (2), Flame Shoulder (4), Garden Carpet, Garden Pebble (2), Green Carpet (9) - a record, Heart and Dart (4), Large Nutmeg (24), Light-brown Apple Moth (2), Marbled Minor agg (6), Middle-barred Minor (2), Mottled Pug (4), Pale Mottled Willow (2), Pale Tussock, Rustic Shoulder-knot (11), Scorched Wing, Setaceous Hebrew Character (4), Shuttle-shaped Dart, Small Magpie (3), Small Square-spot (8), The Spectacle (3), Swallow Prominent, Treble Lines (4), Vine's Rustic (2) and White Ermine (2).



Lychnis
Photo © Keith Mitchell

Maureen Cross reported that the following moths were seen during the Lardon Chase Field Meeting on 31st May: Heart & Dart 1, Burnet Companion 4, Yellow Shell 5, Common Carpet 1, Mother Shipton 2 and two grass moths **Thisanotia chrysonuchella** 16, Crambus lathoniellus 1.

Ched George reported the following moths in his garden trap at Radnage, Bucks on 30th May: **Small Waved Umber** (2), Poplar Grey and Orange Footman (2).

Nigel Partridge found another moth which isn't on the sightings year list yet: **Lime-speck Pug**, Loosley Row, 30-05-08.

May Webber ran two moth traps in her garden near Witney, Oxon on 28th & 30th May:

28th May - **Green Silver-lines** x1, Common Marbled Carpet x2, **Common Wainscot** x4, Shuttle-shaped Darts x4, Treble Lines x6, Garden Carpet x1, Shears x2, Rustic Shoulder-knot x1, Clouded Silver x1, Flame Shoulder x3, Setaceous Hebrew Character x1, Scalloped Hazel x1, Silver-ground Carpet x1, Double-striped Pug x1, Vine's Rustic x1, Red-green Carpet (very raggy) x1, Water Carpet x1.

30th May - Green Carpet x6, Scorched Wing x2, Rustic Shoulder-knot x6, Brimstone Moth x1, Treble Lines x7, Flame Shoulder x8, Pale Tussock x5, Scalloped Hazel x1, Common Wainscot x9, Shuttle-shaped Dart x6, Shears x4, Heart and Dart x3, Setaceous Hebrew Character x2, Large Nutmeg x2, Marbled Minor agg.x2 (Darker Brown version being one of them), Common Marbled Carpet x2, Common White Wave x1, Swallow Prominent x1, Bright-line Brown-eye x1, White Ermine x1, Vine's Rustic x1, Red-green Carpet x1, Pebble Hook-tip x1, **Snout** x1, Pale Prominent x1.

Dave Wilton spent three hours at Finemere Wood, Bucks on 29th May: "The moth trap produced **Nemophora degeerella** (1), Scrobipalpa costella (1), **Teleiodes luculella** (1), **Ptycholoma lecheana** (1), Celypha lacunana (1), Hedya pruniana/Plum Tortrix (8), Epiblema cynosbatella (2), Common Swift (3), Pebble Hook-tip (2), Chinese Character (1), **Cream Wave** (7), Silver-ground Carpet (2), Broken-barred Carpet (4), Green Carpet (29), Mottled Pug (4), Small White Wave (1), Seraphim (1), Clouded Border (2), **Scorched Wing** (6), Brimstone Moth (5), Scalloped Hazel (1), Pale Oak Beauty (12), Brindled White-spot (5), Common Wave (6), Common White Wave (2), Clouded Silver (5), Lime Hawk-moth (1), **Eyed Hawk-moth** (1), Poplar Hawk-moth (1), Pebble Prominent (1), Swallow Prominent (1), Coxcomb Prominent (1), Pale

Prominent (1), Marbled Brown (16), Great Prominent (1), Pale Tussock (16), Orange Footman (18), White Ermine (5), Flame Shoulder (5), Small Square-spot (9), Alder Moth (2, photo below), Angle Shades (1), Treble Lines (2), **Marbled White Spot** (10) & Straw Dot (3). My first Marbled Minor sp of the year was also trapped there, as were several other micro-moth species, all of which still require close inspection to confirm identity.

Further new arrivals for this year to my garden trap at Westcott, Bucks have included: Hedya pruniana/Plum Tortrix & Peppered Moth (both on *27th May*), plus *Elachista canapennella*, *Aproaerema anthyllidella*, *Acentria ephemerella*/Water Veneer, Blood-vein, Scorched Wing, **Elephant Hawk-moth, Flame**, Common Wainscot & **Middle-barred Minor** (all on *30th May*). The UTB field trip to *Lardon Chase, Berks* (see report above by *Maureen Cross*) on *31st May* produced daytime flying *Thisanotia chrysonuchella*, a visit to a private site further south in Berkshire in the afternoon added **Drab Looper**, while a trapping session that night in *BBOWT's River Ray Reserves* brought in more than 40 species which included *Elachista maculicerusella*, *Cataclysta lemnata*/Small China-mark and **Miller**."



Alder Moth
Photo © Dave Wilton