# **Butterfly Conservation Upper Thames Branch Moth Sightings Archive - July to December 2012**

#### MOTH SPECIES COUNT FOR 2012 = 946

#### ~ Friday 25th January 2013 ~

Andy King sent the following: "Peter Hall has identified a number of moths for me and just one of them is of particular note for your site: A Coleophora currucipennella flew into my trap on 23 July 2012 at Philipshill Wood, Bucks. This was a small, brownish unprepossessing thing. Its significance is that it was only the second Bucks record for this proposed Red Data Book 3 species. "

#### ~ Tuesday 8th January 2013 ~

05/01/13 - Dave Wilton sent the following report: "On 5th January Peter Hall completed the final dissections of difficult moths from me for 2012 and the following can now be added to the year list: Maple Pug (Westcott 8th August), Acompsia cinerella (Steps Hill 14th August), Agonopterix nervosa (Calvert 9th September), Anacampsis blattariella (Finemere Wood 19th August), Caryocolum fraternella (Calvert 12th August), Coleophora albitarsella (Westcott 10th August), Coleophora versurella (Ivinghoe Beacon 9th August), Cosmiotes stabilella (Calvert 17th August), Depressaria badiella (Calvert 12th August), Depressaria chaerophylli (Ivinghoe Beacon 3rd September), Depressaria douglasella (Ivinghoe Beacon 3rd August), Monochroa lutulentella (Finemere Wood 1st September), Oegoconia quadripuncta (Ivinghoe Beacon 9th August), Phyllonorycter oxyacanthae (Westcott 18th August), Scoparia basistrigalis (Calvert 12th August), Stigmella obliquella (Finemere Wood 19th August), Stigmella salicis (private wood near Buckingham 20th August) & Stigmella samiatella (Finemere Wood 17th July). Thankyou Peter!"

~ Friday 7th December 2012 ~

**Dave Wilton sent this update:** "On 20th November here at Westcott, Bucks my garden actinic trap managed Caloptilia rufipennella (1), Acleris schalleriana (1), an as yet unconfirmed Depressaria sp. (1), Red-green Carpet (1), Winter Moth (1) and another late Silver Y (1). The following night I got only Winter Moth (4) and that proved to be it for the rest of November as the overnight temperatures plummeted. Elsewhere, a group search for Brown Hairstreak eggs at Shotover Country Park, Oxford on 23rd November produced a female Mottled Umber and three Blue-bordered Carpet eggs, while on my way home a hibernating Drinker caterpillar was found on roadside blackthorn near Boarstall, Bucks. So far this month all I've seen in the garden at Westcott is one very hardy Winter Moth which came to the light of the kitchen window on 4th December."



Mottled Umber female Photo © Dave Wilton

Andy King reported the following: "All quiet here, but I have a new one for the 2012 list. Actually, I caught the Coleophora milvipennis as a larva in its case on 21st May and wasn't sure enough of its ID until it emerged. The photos show its over-wintering case and the Maytime one on the same leaf and, of course, the adult. It originally lived in *Black Park, nr. Fulmer in Bucks.*"



Coleophora milvipennis larva<br/>Photo © Andy KingColeophora milvipennis adult<br/>Photo © Andy King

## ~ Wednesday 28th November 2012 ~

Ched George reported a male Winter moth at his front door light on 19th November.

**Dave Wilton reported the following:** "A visit to a couple of private woods near *Marlow, Bucks on 7th November* in search of **Plumed Prominent** produced five examples (four to MV at the first and one to actinic at the second). **Scarce Umber** made its first appearance of the year in the actinic trap here at *Westcott on 13th November* and **Acleris sparsana** came to a lit window on *19th November*. Between those two dates the garden trap also brought in **Emmelina monodactyla, December Moth, Red-green Carpet, Winter Moth, Feathered Thorn, Mottled Umber, Sprawler, Black Rustic, Grey Shoulder-knot, Blair's Shoulderknot, Red-line Quaker, Beaded Chestnut & Silver Y. Caught on the 16th, the Silver Y was my latest ever garden record for that species."** 

~ Monday 19th November 2012 ~

**Dave Maunder sent these sightings on 18th November:** "A few more moths found in *Aylesbury, Bucks* over the last week were:- **Large Wainscot** (1, female) in my garden trap on *16th November* - a late specimen! Also seen were **Feathered Thorns** (4); **Scarce Umber** (1, 13th); **Mottled Umber** (1, 17th); **Winter Moths** (3); **Small Dusty Wave** (1, 13th); **Red-green Carpet** (2, 13th); **Sprawler** (1, 17th); **Chestnut moth** (1, 14th); **Brick moths** (3, 13th, 17th + 18th); **Turnip moth** (1, 12th); **Angle Shades** (1, 12th). A few more in my garden trap on 14th November were **Blair's Shoulder-knot** (1), **Red-green Carpet** (1), and **Light Brown Apple Moth** (1)."



Large Wainscot

Mottled Umber Photo © Dave Maunder Photo © Dave Maunder

*Marc Botham sent this update:* "Despite a very warm night on 13/11/12 I caught very few moths in MV traps set at both *Harcourt Arboretum* and *Bagley Woods* (both Oxon). The only potentially new moth amongst these was a **Diurnea lipsiella** at Bagley Woods. A fair number of **Red-green** and **Spruce Carpets** again amongst smaller numbers of other geometrids, but barely any noctuids at all."

Ched George reported the following: "I made another attempt at finding Ptilophora plumigera amongst mature maples at Water End, Radnage (Bucks) on 13th November. I ran a trap from 4.45pm to 7pm. It attracted: **December moth** 1m, **Angle Shades** 1, **Red-Green** Carpet 1m, 1f, E.postvittana 1, Merveille-du-Jour 1 and Acleris sparsana? 1. I ran a second MV at a sheet nearby from 5pm to 7.10pm. It attracted: Yellow-line Quaker 1, Dark Chestnut 2, Chestnut 1, Mottled Umber 1m, Barred Sallow 1, Satellite 1, Acleris sparsana ? (PH) 1, Red-Green Carpet 6m, Brick 1. Surprisingly no Feathered Thorn even though I had 3m in the garden trap the previous night!"

Chris Pickford sent the following report from Chilton, South Oxon: "Good to see that some species are still flying despite the atrocious weather! This Beautiful Plume (Amblyptilia acanthadactyla) came in with me on the night of 12th November to get out of the rain; it was indeed 'beautiful'!"



Amblyptilia acanthadactyla Photo © Chris Pickford

Steve Goddard sent this report: "A speculative night's moth trapping in Wolvercote, Oxon on 8th November produced our first December Moth, two Feathered Thorns and three Bricks, the latter also a first for our garden."

*Marc Botham reported the following:* "I had my first **Scarce Umbers** of the year in my garden in *Benson*, Oxon on 09/11/12 amongst a reasonable catch (compared to recent) including Feathered Thorn (3), Sprawler (2), Satellite (2), Brick (1), Acleris notana/ferrugana (1), Angle Shades (3), Red-green Carpet (1) and Blair's Shoulder-knot (1). On the same evening at *Warburg*, Oxon there were 20 Plumed Prominents amongst a modest catch of 16 species of 83 moths including: Spruce Carpet (3), Red-green Carpet (14), Feathered Thorn (6), December Moth (6), Sprawler (6), Acleris sparsana (6), Mottled Umber (5), Satellite (5), Angle Shades (2), Yellow-line Quaker (3), Setaceous Hebrew Character (1), Brick (1), Acleris notana/ferrugana (3), Acleris hastiana (1),

**Caloptilia semifascia** and **Chestnut** (1). At this point I was commenting to Rob Payne and Dave Morris who joined me that I still hadn't seen Winter Moth this year and then I was walking back through *Wallingford (Oxon)* town centre on *10/11/12* evening there was a male **Winter Moth** in a shop window - my first of the year."

~ Saturday 3rd November 2012 ~

**Dave Wilton reported the following:** "Having had **Mottled Umber** to light at *Westcott, Bucks on 28th October* and then **December Moth** on 2nd November, I suppose I'll have to accept that my garden list is unlikely to increase much further this year. Roll on 2013!"



December Moth Photo © Dave Wilton

Steve Goddard sent this summary of his October moth trapping: "Relatively quiet over October in my Wolvercote, Oxford garden, with quite a few nights unsuitable for putting the trap out. Regular moths included Lunar Underwing, Common Marbled Carpet, Blair's Shoulder-knot, Snout, Beaded Chestnut, Black Rustic, Large and Lesser Yellow Underwings, Acleris variegana and Epiphyas postvittana. Singles of Silver Y were present on 12th and 26th, and one-offs included Pink-barred Sallow (2nd), Pale Mottled Willow (8th), Plutella porrectella (9th), Brown-spot Pinion (18th), Yellow-line Quaker (23rd), Svensson's Copper Underwing (24th), Mottled Umber, Red-line Quaker and Turnip Moth (all 25th), Large Wainscot (26th) and Sprawler (two specimens, 30th). Feathered Thorn began to be regular towards the end of the month."

## ~ Monday 29th October 2012 ~

**Dave Maunder sent the following:** "I thought you might be interested in these eggs (see photos below) obtained from a **Barred Sallow** moth last week - they're orange when first laid, turning to brown a few days later. More eggs to overwinter, along with my **Canary-shouldered Thorn** eggs!"







Barred Sallow eggs (newly laid) Photo © Dave Maunder

Barred Sallow eggs (a few days old) Photo © Dave Maunder

Canary-shouldered Thorn eggs Photo © Dave Maunder

The following report came from Dave Wilton: "Garden list additions for 2012 here at Westcott, Bucks over the last week have included Udea ferrugalis (19th October) and Dark Chestnut (22nd October), while an Autumnal Moth was confirmed at Finemere Wood on the latter date. It was also good to see Figure of Eight doing well as usual at Finemere, with a combined total of 71 individuals recorded during visits to two different areas of the wood on the 20th and 22nd. A Vapourer was amongst 22 species in the garden trap on 24th October. This is the latest I've ever seen an adult although in Bucks the date has been equalled once before and bettered twice (30th October 2010 being the latest recorded example). With thanks as usual to Peter Hall and his microscope, I now have confirmed IDs for a few more species from the second half of July which appear to be additional to the UTB list: Satyr Pug & Paratalanta hyalinalis (both 21st July near Princes Risborough), Coleophora saxicolella, Coleophora squamosella, Ptycholomoides aeriferanus & Grapholita janthinana (all 22nd July at Calvert), Coleophora lutipennella, Gelechia rhombella, Endothenia ustulana & Piniphila bifasciana (all 23rd July at Finemere Wood), Garden Dart, Syncopacma taeniolella, Blastodacna atra, Cnephasia longana & Hedya ochroleucana (all 24th July at Ivinghoe), Coleophora peribenanderi & Gelechia senticetella (both 25th July at Westcott), Paraswammerdamia albicapitella, Coleophora taeniipennella, Gelechia sororculella, Syncopacma larseniella, Phalonidia manniana & Epinotia cinereana (all 26th July in a private wood near Buckingham), Anacampsis populella (27th July at Westcott) and Bryotropha senectella & Coleophora sternipennella (both 27th July at Calvert). Coleophora squamosella and Epinotia cinereana were both new to Bucks. Epinotia cinereana (given Bradley & Fletcher number 1138a) has only recently been restored as a species in its own right after decades in the doldrums as a form of Epinotia nisella."



Epinotia cinereana Photo © Dave Wilton





Garden Dart Photo © Dave Wilton Hedya ochroleucana Photo © Dave Wilton

## ~ Friday 19th October 2012 ~

**Dave Morris sent the following report today:** "Some trappings from my Seer Green, Bucks garden over the last couple of nights. No new species for the list, but I was quite pleased with the high number of Figure of Eight which I understand have become rarer? Wed 17 Oct - Figure of Eight (3), Silver Y (1), Dark Chestnut (1), Common Marbled Carpet (1), Green Brindled Crescent (1), Snout (1).

*Thu 18 Oct* - Figure of Eight (6), Red Green Carpet (2), Grey Pine Carpet (2), Common Marbled Carpet (5), Blair's Shoulder Knot (1), Emmelina monodactyla (1)."

Dave Wilton reports that, against the odds, the actinic trap in his garden at Westcott, Bucks on 18th October produced 26 species: "An amazing total for this October: Endrosis sarcitrella, Acleris variegana, Common Marbled Carpet, Red-green Carpet, Spruce Carpet, Feathered Thorn, Figure of Eight, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Black Rustic, Sprawler, Blair's Shoulder-knot, Green-brindled Crescent, Merveille du Jour, Satellite, Chestnut, Redline Quaker, Yellow-line Quaker, Beaded Chestnut, Lunar Underwing, Pink-barred Sallow, Sallow, Angle Shades, Pale Mottled Willow & Burnished Brass. Additional species trapped over the previous few days included Deep-brown Dart (14th October), November Moth, Copper Underwing, Silver Y (all 15th October) and Barred Sallow, Dusky-lemon Sallow (both 17th October), so the season is far from over yet. Further searching for leaf-mines on *16th October* produced several active mines of **Phyllonorycter platani** (*new to the UTB All-time list*) on London Plane in the Tring Road Tesco car-park in *Aylesbury*. A look the following day at the single tree to be found in the High Street here in Westcott produced more of the same. Considering that London Plane is an uncommon tree outside towns and cities, it is amazing to me that this tiny moth (which was only discovered in the UK in 1989) has managed to find its way to our village."

*Marc Botham reported the following:* "Amongst a modest and unremarkable catch last night (*18th October*) was my first **Sprawler** of the year and first **Mottled Umber** of this season at *Warburg NR, Oxon.*"

Andy King sent this report: "Peter Hall and his microscope have been working overtime to identify some awkward Buckinghamshire moths for me and the list includes a number that are not so far registered on the 2012 list: Coleophora coracipennella in my back garden (Chorleywood) on 27 July and, in the same place on 19 August, Bactra lancealana and Cnephasia genitalana. Swammerdamia pyrella turned up to light beside the River Chess at Chesham on 9 August. Coleophora alcyonipennella was caught at Long Crendon where several people ran lights on 18 August. Two Bryotropha basaltinella were also present at Long Crendon. Gypsonoma aceriana was captured in Chesham on 9 August and Monopis crocicapitella (try saying that fast) turned up in my garage on 1 August (probably attracted by the litter in the snake cages there). I've put the last three at the end because they are also not on the UTB All-time list (see Moth Stats)."



Swammerdamia pyrella Photo © Andy King Monopis crocicapitella Photo © Andy King

Dave Wilton sent this update: "A fully-grown Grey Dagger caterpillar was found on hawthorn in our garden at Westcott, Bucks on 8th October, while further additions to the year list trapped here over the past few days have included Barred Sallow (9th October), Yellowline Quaker & Brick (both 10th October) and Pale November Moth (12th October). Compared to last year the numbers of individual species, particularly of the various Sallows, have been pitifully low but I suppose we were treated to an unusually warm October in 2011 and this one has been quite the opposite. Further searches for leaf-mines have been completed locally but the only species new to the UTB list has been Ectoedemia angulifasciella found on Dog Rose near Shalstone, Bucks on 6th October. However, a very successful leaf-mine day at Rushmere Park near Leighton Buzzard on 13th October by members of the Beds Moth Group and Bucks Invertebrate Group produced evidence of more than 50 moth species and a number of those found on the Bucks side of the county boundary are new to this year's UTB list: Bucculatrix cidarella (on Alder), Bucculatrix demaryella (on Birch), Bucculatrix ulmella (on Oak), Caloptilia rufipennella (on Sycamore), Ectoedemia argyropeza (on Aspen), Ectoedemia atricollis (on Apple), Heliozela sericiella (on Oak), Leucoptera spartifoliella (on Broom), Luffia ferchaultella (cases on an Oak trunk), Mompha terminella (on Enchanter's Nightshade), Parornix scoticella (on Rowan), Phyllonorycter kleemannella (on Alder), Phyllonorycter maestingella (on Beech), Phyllonorycter rajella (on Alder), Phyllonorycter ulmifoliella (on Birch), Stigmella betulicola (on Birch), Stigmella confusella (on Birch), Stigmella

continuella (on Birch), Stigmella floslactella (on Hazel) & Stigmella luteella (on Birch)."



Grey Dagger larva Photo © Dave Wilton







Mompha terminella larva & mine Photo © Dave Wilton

**Dave Maunder reported the following:** "Found in my Aylesbury, Bucks garden on 14th October were Barred Sallow and Pink-barred Sallow (see photos) - very pretty autumn moths. A selection of typical autumn moths found around Aylesbury recently include:-Feathered Thorn (first adult) (1, 14th October); Sallow moth (2); Barred Sallow (2); Pinkbarred Sallow (1); Green-brindled Crescent (1); Large Ranunculus (6); Lunar Underwing (1); Red Underwing (1) and Blair's Shoulder-knot (4)."



Barred Sallow Photo © Dave Maunder

Pink-barred Sallow Photo © Dave Maunder

#### ~ Sunday 14th October 2012 ~

Andy King sent this update today: "Another aborted trapping session, thanks to the rain. So I've sat down and run through the UTB list to see if I can add anything. Mostly, I've been beaten to it by other people, but there are a few Buckinghamshire leaf-mines I can add. Next to the River Chess in *Chesham* were mines of **Acrolepia autumnitella** in leaves of Woody Nightshade, nearby **Phyllonorycter froelichiella** on Alder trees (2nd October). On 5th October I found some **Phyllonorycter nicellii mines** in Hazel leaves near *Chalfont St Giles* and, in *Chartridge*, not far from Chesham, **Phyllonorycter trifasciella mines**, in Honeysuckle leaves in a shady lane (9th October)."

**David Redhead sent the following news on 13th October:** "The return of the sun after two dreary days resulted in some noticeable butterfly activity in our garden in *Littlemore, Oxon on 12th October.* By contrast my garden moth trap last night produced my worst ever result for October - just 2 **Red-green Carpets!**"

**Darren Seaman sent this report on 12th October:** "Another new moth for the year list, **Orange Sallow** (11/10) taken at actinic light in my *Milton Keynes* garden. Others new for the season this week: Large Ranunculus, Barred Sallow, Blair's Shoulder-knot and Greenbrindled Crescent all on 4/10 and Pink-barred Sallow (5/10). Plus numerous Lunar Underwing, Sallow, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Garden Carpet but out-numbered by Common Marbled Carpet. Singles of Snout, Beaded Chestnut, Setaceous Hebrew

#### Character, Spruce Carpet and Large Yellow Underwing were also caught."

*Marc Botham reported the following:* "My monthly survey at *Harcourt Arboretum, Oxon* yielded very few moths on *10th October* but some may be new to the UTB list: **Merveille du Jour** (1); **Pale November Moth** (1) – gen. Det. MB *11/10/12;* **November Moth** (1) – gen. Det. MB *11/10/12;* **November Moth** (1) – gen. Det. MB *11/10/12;* **November Moth** (1) – gen.

My first and second **Bricks** of this year's generation in my garden in *Benson, Oxon* over the two nights of *9th & 10th October* as well my first **Dark Chestnut** of this generation on the 10th. Not seen many of the **Sallows** so far this year and after seeing **Large Wainscot** pretty much anywhere I trapped last year, and in good numbers, I've only seen 1 or 2 so far this year."

#### ~ Tuesday 9th October 2012 ~

*Marc Botham sent this report:* "I've found another moth that I missed from my last report: Mecyna flavalis on the *10th August*, in my garden in *Benson, Oxon*. I seem to get quite a few chalk species drifting over. Having struggled to get past 10 species of 30 moths for what seems like weeks now, last night (08/10/12) was somewhat of a surprise. Cloudy, mild, drizzle-dominated weather appears to have provided the best conditions for some time and I caught 165 moths of 23 species in my garden MV trap, predominantly made up of Lunar Underwing (41), Setaceous Hebrew Character (40), Large Yellow Underwing (27) and Black Rustic (19). Whilst not unusual for most years, I have had very poor catches so far this autumn so this was very welcome. The catch also included my first of the year Yellowline Quakers (2) and first of this year's generation Satellite (1) and Chestnut (2), as well as a Pearly Underwing."

Dave Wilton reported the following: "My first Beaded Chestnut & Satellite of the season appeared in the garden trap here at Westcott, Bucks on 30th September. They were followed on 1st October by Green-brindled Crescent & Red-line Quaker then on 4th October by Red-green Carpet & Blair's Shoulder-knot. On 1st October a half-grown Vapourer caterpillar was discovered on our hornbeam hedge, indicating an attempt at a second brood locally this year. A three-hour session with two MV lights at Calvert, Bucks on 1st October produced a very poor return (just 17 moths of 11 species) with **Dusky Thorn, Figure of** Eight & Bulrush Wainscot being the only items of any interest. During the day time, leafmines found on 29th September included Stigmella viscerella on elm (near Ford) and Bucculatrix albedinella on elm & Phyllonorycter esperella on hornbeam (both in Weedon). On 30th September a cocoon of Caloptilia falconipennella was found near *Winslow* inside a mine on alder, while mines of **Stigmella hemargyrella & Stigmella** tityrella were found on beech at Addington. On 3rd October sycamores in Mentmore churchyard produced mines of Phyllonorycter geniculella, while on 4th October near *Mursley* I found mines of **Phyllonorycter acerifoliella** on field maple and **Phyllonorycter** corvlifoliella on hawthorn.

Thanks to Peter Hall and his microscope I've also had another batch of micro-moth IDs sorted out from late-June and the first half of July, including the following: **Coleophora deauratella** & **Stenoptilia pterodactyla** (*Ivinghoe Hills 26th June*), **Coleophora follicularis** (*Westcott 27th June*), **Coleophora mayrella**, **Coleophora niveicostella**, **Biselachista cinereopunctella** & **Scrobipalpa artemesiella** (*all Ivinghoe Hills 27th June*), **Coleophora anatipennella** & **Coleophora glaucicolella** (*both Westcott 5th July*), **Coleophora trigeminella**, **Elachista biatomella**, **Eulamprotes atrella** & **Endothenia oblongana** (*all Ivinghoe Hills 5th July*), **Coleophora trigeminella** was a first for Bucks, Coleophora follicularis, Coleophora niveicostella, Scrobipalpa artemesiella (*Ashridge Estate 17th July*). Coleophora trigeminella was a first for Bucks, Coleophora follicularis, Coleophora niveicostella, Scrobipalpa artemesiella & Endothenia oblongana were all 2nd county records while Elachista biatomella was a 3rd county record (all six are new to the all-time UTB list)."



Vapourer larva Photo © Dave Wilton

## ~ Friday 5th October 2012 ~

*Marc Botham sent the following report:* "As I was finishing putting my home trap data through mapmate the other night I noticed a few species not on the UTB list as yet: **Beaded Chestnut** – *24th September* 

**Blair's Shoulder-knot** – 26th September

Deep-brown Dart - 1st October

Mallow (2) – 30th September

and this morning there was a **Green-brindled Crescent** in the trap from last night – *3rd October*. Also I noticed a few species from the summer that haven't been recorded so thought I'd add these records too:

Marbled Coronet - 1st, 2nd, 8th and 11th July

Festoon - 17th and 23rd July

## Nutmeg - 10th August

Finally, a pretty micro which feeds on Spindle: **Nephopterix angustella** caught on the *4th September* and for which I have attached a photograph (see below). All of these records are from my garden in *Benson, Oxon* (SU6288)."



Nephopterix angustella Photo © Marc Botham

## ~ Wednesday 3rd October 2012 ~

**David Redhead reported the following on 30th September:** "On the 10th September I reported I was surprised to find a Poplar Hawkmoth in my first September garden mothtrap on the night of the 9th. Today I can report I was astounded to find a **Poplar Hawkmoth** in my second September garden mothtrap on the night of the 28th September. The latest sighting I can find in my previous records is 3rd September in 2005. Also in the trap were 5 **Snout** and singletons of **Copper Underwing, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Lunar Underwing, Pink-barred Sallow & Red-green Carpet.** 



Poplar Hawkmoth Photo © David Redhead

Also, I had news from Martin Townsend that he had a **Convolvulus Hawkmoth** in his *Cowley, Oxford* garden."

Dave Wilton sent this update on 28th September: "Over the last ten days only Deepbrown Dart (21st September) and Mallow (26th September) have been added to my garden year list here at *Westcott*, *Bucks*. On the latter date, because thundery showers were forecast all night I tried running the actinic light inside our conservatory and at dawn there were 30 moths spread around the outside of the windows: Acleris variegana (1), Common Marbled Carpet (1), Mallow (1), Brimstone Moth (1), Canary-shouldered Thorn (2), Lesser Yellow Underwing (1), Setaceous Hebrew Character (2), Deep-brown Dart (2), Black Rustic (1), Lunar Underwing (17) & Pale Mottled Willow (1). Not a bad result and because the moths all landed on vertical window surfaces I didn't have the usual problem of finding a number of them upside down, glued to a sopping wet sheet under the trap! While out and about looking for leaf-mines near Haddenham, Bucks on 22nd September I found examples of Stigmella ulmivora & Phyllonorycter tristrigella on elm, Phyllonorycter coryli on hazel and Stigmella plagicolella on blackthorn (along with a half-grown Dark Dagger caterpillar). Back at Westcott on 27th September I discovered several mines of Stigmella lemniscella on elm in the garden, while near Upper Winchendon, Bucks on 28th September I found mines of Stigmella aceris & Phyllonorycter platanoidella on maple. On the latter date two adults of **Phyllonorycter messaniella** emerged from leaf-mines on oak collected from Finemere Wood on the 15th September."



Dark Dagger larva Photo © Dave Wilton



Stigmella lemniscella Photo © Dave Wilton



Phyllonorycter messaniella Photo © Dave Wilton

## ~ Thursday 27th September 2012 ~

**Wendy Wilson sent this report:** "On 8th September, at Billet Lane PYO fruit farm in *lver,* Bucks I spotted a 3-year old child peering excitedly at this **Lime Hawkmoth larva** crossing the path. As she was intent on stamping on it, I rescued it and took it home where it took two days to pupate. I look forward to its emergence next spring."



Lime Hawkmoth larva Photo © Wendy Wilson Lime Hawkmoth pupa Photo © Wendy Wilson

**Dave Maunder sent the following:** "A few early autumn moths are appearing here in *Aylesbury, Bucks* now including:- Large Ranunculus (2, 22nd); Sallow moths (3, 23rd); Lunar Underwings (5, 21st); Dusky Thorns (2, both in garden trap, 18th+21st); Snout moth (1); still quite a few Large/Lesser Yellow Underwings, Square-spot Rustics and Setaceous Hebrew Characters. Also, my Maple Prominent Iarvae are all 5th instar or pupating, so doing ok with these."



Dusky Thorn Photo © Dave Maunder Maple Prominent larvae Photo © Dave Maunder

# ~ Saturday 22nd September 2012 ~

**Dave Morris reported the following:** "More trapping in Seer Green, Bucks on 20th September and one new moth for the list: Garden Carpet (2), Garden Rose Tortrix (Acleris variegana) (1), Common Marbled Carpet (2), Lesser Yellow Underwing (3), Square-spot Rustic (1), Large Yellow Underwing (3), Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (1), Silver Y (1), Emmelina monodactyla (1), Large Ranunculus (1)."



Large Ranunculus Photo © Dave Morris

**Dave Wilton sent this update on 21st September:** "I've had very little of interest to the garden actinic trap at *Westcott, Bucks* over the past ten days. The only new species have been **Acleris hastiana** (12th September), **Brown-spot Pinion** (13th September, a welcome guest appearance from a common moth that I don't often see here), **Lunar Underwing** (15th September), **Dusky-lemon Sallow** (also 15th September) and **Pink-barred Sallow** (20th September). Apart from the lack of Silver Y, the garden catch on 20th September was fairly

typical of those over the period: **Common Marbled Carpet** (4), **Brimstone Moth** (1), **Dusky Thorn** (1, eighth garden record this year, making a come-back locally?), **Light Emerald** (1, second brood), **Turnip** (1), **Large Yellow Underwing** (3), **Lesser Yellow Underwing** (1), **Setaceous Hebrew Character** (13), **Square-spot Rustic** (3), **Black Rustic** (4), **Centrebarred Sallow** (1), **Lunar Underwing** (4), **Pink-barred Sallow** (1), **Sallow** (1), **Copper Underwing** (1), **Mouse Moth** (1, having an excellent year here, this being the 33rd individual caught), **Dark Arches** (1), **Pale Mottled Willow** (1) & **Burnished Brass** (1). Elsewhere locally, **Caloptilia syringella, Ypsolopha sylvella** & **Sallow** were caught at a private wood near *Buckingham* on *16th September* and **Barred Sallow** was one of only 19 moths of 13 species trapped in *Finemere Wood on 17th September*.

I can give another small boost to the year's total thanks to further IDs kindly provided by Peter Hall for moths caught during June, which included: **Coleophora albidella**, **Coleophora alticolella, Coleophora Iusciniaepennella, Elachista gleichenella** & **Gypsonoma sociana** (all from a private wood near *Buckingham on 19th June*), **Bryotropha politella** & **Cnephasia incertana** (both from *Ivinghoe Beacon on 20th June*, the former being a first for Bucks), **Aethes cnicana** (from *Finemere Wood on 24th June*) and **Coleophora ibipennella** (from *Calvert on 25th June*)."

**Paul Warham sent this sighting:** "On 18/9/12, a **Hummingbird Hawkmoth** briefly visited the abelia flowers on my patio in *Marlow, Bucks* - my first sighting this year."

**Peter Cuss sent this report:** "A couple of sightings to report from where I work (*Bradfield College, Berks*). On 18/09/12 a **Hummingbird Hawkmoth** was feeding on Buddleia and on 19th September I found a **Red Underwing** sitting on a wall."

*Marc Botham sent the following:* "A few moths that I caught recently that may be of interest either as not on the website already or because generally of interest: MV Robinson trap in garden near *Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxon* (VC23: SU6288), *17/09/12* - **Pink-barred Sallow;** *18/09/12* - **Dusky-lemon Sallow.** To wine ropes (same location) on *04/09/12* - **Brown-spot Pinion.**"

**Steve Goddard sent this update:** "Here's a set of records for the last few days from my garden in *Wolvercote, Oxford.* The main thing of interest probably is the Single-dotted Waves, which I believe are very late.

15th September 2012 - Acleris variegana 1, Brimstone 1, Brown-spot Pinion 1, Centrebarred Sallow 1, Epiphyas postvittana 4, Garden Carpet 3, Green Carpet 1, Large Yellow Underwing 3, Lesser Yellow Underwing 4, Mother of pearl 1, Scoparia pyralella 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 4, Small China-mark 2, Snout 2, Square-spot Rustic 10, Vine's Rustic 2 and Willow Beauty 1.

**16th September 2012 - Acleris variegana 1, Brimstone 1, Centre-barred Sallow 2, Copper Underwing 1, Cydia splendana 1, Epiphyas postvittana 5, Garden Carpet 1, Green Carpet 1, Large Yellow Underwing 4, Lesser Yellow Underwing 1, Nomophila noctuella 1, Snout 2 and Square-spot Rustic 11**.

17th September 2012 - Acleris laterana 1, Bordered Beauty 2, Brimstone 3, Centrebarred Sallow 2, Common Marbled Carpet 6, Epiphyas postvittana 4, Large Yellow Underwing 2, Lesser Yellow Underwing 1, Lunar Underwing 3, Mother of pearl 1, Rosy Rustic 1, Scoparia pyralella 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 1, Silver Y 1, Single-dotted Wave 2, Small Square-spot 1, Snout 4 and Square-spot Rustic 9.

18th September 2012 - Acleris variegana 1, Angle Shades 1, Bordered Beauty 1, Common Marbled Carpet 1, Emmelina monodactyla 1, Epiphyas postvittana 1, Eudonia angustea 1, Garden Carpet 1, Large Yellow Underwing 3, Lesser Yellow Underwing 4, Lunar Underwing 1, Rosy Rustic 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 1, Silver Y 2, Single-dotted Wave 1, Square-spot Rustic 6, Turnip Moth 1 and Vine's Rustic 2.

20th September 2012 - Pale Mottled Willow 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 2 and

Square-spot Rustic 1.

**21st September 2012 - Acleris variegana** 1, Angle Shades 1, Brimstone 3, Centre-barred Sallow 2, Common Marbled Carpet 6, Epinotia nisella 1, Epiphyas postvittana 7,

Garden Carpet 1, Green Carpet 1, Large Yellow Underwing 5, Lesser Yellow Underwing 4, Lunar Underwing 4, Plutella porrectella 1, Rhopobota naevana 1, Scoparia pyralella 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 5, Silver Y 1, Single-dotted Wave 1, Snout 12, Square-spot Rustic 6 and Vine's Rustic 1.

22nd September 2012 - Lesser Yellow Underwing 4, Lunar Underwing 5, Scoparia pyralella 1, Snout 1, Square-spot Rustic 2 and Vine's Rustic 1."

## ~ Monday 17th September 2012 ~

**Dave Morris reported as follows:** "My largest haul for some while last night (16th September) in Seer Green, Bucks with one new sp. for the list. Lunar Underwing (1), Common Marbled Carpet (3), Large Yellow Underwing (6), Willow Beauty (1), Tawny-barred Angle (1), Brimstone (1), Square-spot Rustic (1), Setaceous Hebrew Character (2), Common Wainscot (1), Snout (2) and Garden Rose Tortrix (Acleris variegana)(3)."



Lunar Underwing Photo © Dave Morris

Steve Goddard sent the following list of moths, all trapped in his garden in

*Wolvercote, Oxford:* "Here a list for the last few nights. Nothing wildly unexpected, but the Dark Sword-grass for the 13th is probably quite an interesting immigrant and the Marbled Beauty for the 14th is a very late record (Peter Hall has confirmed the I.D. from a photo). *11th September 2012* - **Brimstone Moth** 1, **Burnished Brass** 3 (2 juncta, 1 aurea),

Common Marbled Carpet 1, Copper/Svensson's Copper Underwing 4, Garden Carpet 1, Large Yellow Underwing 13, Lesser Yellow Underwing 7, Pale Mottled Willow 1, Red Underwing 1, Rosy Rustic 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 4, Silver Y 4, Small China Mark 1, Snout 3, Square-spot Rustic 16 & Vine's Rustic 1.

**12th September 2012 - Large Yellow Underwing** 3, Lesser Yellow Underwing 3, Scoparia pyralella 1, Square-spot Rustic 6, Svensson's Copper Underwing 1.

13th September 2012 - Dark Sword-grass 1, Large Yellow Underwing 2, Lesser Yellow Underwing 1 & Square-spot Rustic 2.

14th September 2012 - Burnished Brass 1, Celypha lacunana 1, Common Marbled Carpet 1, Common Wainscot 1, Epinotia nisella 2, Large Yellow Underwing 4, Lesser Yellow Underwing 8, Marbled Beauty 1, Mother of pearl 1, Setaceous Hebrew Character 8, Silver Y 3, Snout 2, Square-spot Rustic 6 & Vine's Rustic 2."

**Rob Payne sent this report:** "I have had a couple of decent records at my flat in *Langley, Berkshire* recently: **Hoary Footman** (male) on *22nd August* which looks like it is new to this year's UTB list (confirmed by Peter Hall) and **Cypress Pug** on *3rd September.* Also two older records recently which are new to the UTB 2012 as well: **Coleophora spinella** (male) on the *15th July* and **Strophedra nitidana** (male) *29th June* - both trapped near *Beaconsfield, Bucks* and confirmed by Peter Hall."



Hoary Footman Photo © Rob Payne Cypress Pug Photo © Rob Payne

Dave Wilton reported the following: "Further additions to my year list here in mid-Bucks have included Feathered Gothic (Westcott, 26th August), Plutella porrectella (Westcott, 28th August), Agonopterix purpurea (Calvert 28th August), Centre-barred Sallow (Westcott, 2nd September), Agonopterix kaekeritziana, Adaina microdactyla & Hedge Rustic (all Ivinghoe Beacon, 3rd September), Ypsolopha sequella (Westcott 4th September), Frosted Orange (Westcott, 6th September), Black Rustic (Westcott, 7th September), Acleris rhombana, Autumnal Rustic & Brindled Green (all Steps Hill, 7th September), Acleris emargana (Finemere Wood, 8th September) and Pinion-streaked Snout (Calvert, 9th September).

I would echo David Redhead's comment about Pinion-streaked Snout: five came to light at Calvert on the 9th but I saw no sign there of the first brood earlier in the year! It is now leafmine searching time again and here in the garden at *Westcott* I've already noticed active mines of **Phyllonorycter blancardella**, **Phyllonorycter leucographella** & **Callisto denticulella** on apple (*all 5th September*) and **Stigmella microtheriella** on hornbeam (*7th September*)."

## ~ Monday 10th September 2012 ~

Andy King sent this news: "Peter Hall has either confirmed or identified some more Buckinghamshire moths for me and some of them were not on the UTB 2012 list when I looked. Dichrorampha vancouverana is a small brown moth, marked with an orange crescent. Several were flying around a layby on the A41 near *Drayton Beauchamp on 4 July*. Near *Aston Clinton* I found three moths on *8 July*, two of which were new to me, I'm pleased to say: Platyptilia pallidactyla (Yarrow Plume), Pimpinel Pug and Rufous Minor. A Coleophora serratella larval case I had found on *Stoke Common, near Fulmer, on 21 May* produced an adult in July. At *Philipshill Wood on 23 July* a Yarrow Pug came to my lighttrap. On *21 July* Dave Wilton, Jeremy Palmer, Paul Wareham and I ran some light-traps on a private site at *Windsor Hill* and saw a number of moths, including Paraswammerdamia nebulella (= P.lutarea). Of interest (to me at least) was a female Satin Beauty, completely ignoring all the lights and intent on laying eggs on a Juniper bush. Several of us were pleased to see some fresh-out, well-marked Juniper Pugs for the first time in our lives."



Pimpinel Pug Photo © Andy King

Paraswammerdamia nebulella Photo © Andy King

Dave Morris sent the following: "It's been a while since I've had anything worth reporting

from my garden trap in *Seer Green, Bucks.* I'm getting mostly **Large Yellow Underwings, Flounced Rustic** and **Agriphila geniculea**, but last night I had an **Acleris rhombana** which doesn't seem to be on this year's list yet."

**David Redhead sent this report:** "In favourable conditions my overnight garden moth trap in *Littlemore, Oxon* on *1st September* produced just 46 macro-moths from 19 species. Thus I can't disagree with Chris Bottrell's recent analysis that moth numbers are down by about 50% as at this time of year I would expect the macro-moth count in my garden traps to still be in three figures with about two dozen species represented. However, it does appear to have produced a new addition to the UTB 2012 list with two **Pinion-streaked Snout** - what happened to the first brood? A surprise was a very fresh looking **Poplar Hawkmoth** as it was absent from my last two traps in mid-August - evidence for a partial second brood in spite of the awful summer? First place was shared by the **Brimstone Moth** and the **Large Yellow Underwing** with 7 apiece."

~ Friday 31st August 2012 ~

**Chris Bottrell sent this update on 31st August:** "The August round-up from my *Merton* (*Oxon*) garden: 01/08 - 136 moths of 53 species; 04/08 - 33 of 18; 08/08 - 148 of 49; 11/08 - 149 of 45; 15/08 - 82 of 29; 18/08 - 236 of 56; 23/08 - 121 of 32; 26/08 - 72 of 21; 30/08 - 48 of 16. However the only species not on the list at the time of posting is **Rosy Rustic**, a singleton taken on the 18/08. Looking at the figures for my garden over the last three years up until the end of August would suggest that numbers at this location are down by 50%: **2010** - 34 sessions - 3353 moths = 98.62 per session **2011** - 65 sessions - 6536 moths = 100.55 per session **2012** - 68 sessions - 3414 moths = 50.21 per session."

Dave Maunder sent these sightings on 30th August: "More moths found in Aylesbury, Bucks recently include:- Red Underwings (2); Bulrush Wainscot (1, female); Maple Prominent (1, female - laid 40+ eggs for me, so more larvae to rear soon if eggs are fertile!); Orange Swift (1); Silver Y (2); Flounced Rustic (1); Yellow Shell (2); Pyrausta aurata (1). Also in my garden trap on 27th August: Orange Swift (4); Centre-barred Sallow (1); Dark Arches (1); Cabbage moth (1); Square-spot Rustic (4); Flounced Rustic (6); Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (1); Lesser Yellow Underwing (7); Large Yellow Underwing (5); Common Rustic agg. (2); Udea ferrugalis (1); Mother Of Pearl (2); Agriphila geniculea (1); Argyrotaenia ljungiana (1); Amblyptilia acanthadactyla (1); Brimstone moth (2); Garden Carpet (1) and Riband Wave (1)."



Maple Prominent Photo © Dave Maunder

Andy King sent this update on 29th August: "Not much for me to report, lately, but Peter Hall has kindly been identifying or confirming quite a large number of moths for me and nine of them don't appear to be in this year's list of sightings. In no particular order they are: Phyllonorycter schreberella (7th June), which emerged from a collection of leaf-mines from Philipshill Wood, Bucks (near Chorleywood); Ectoedemia albifasciella (19th June), Epinotia nanana (12th June) and Tinea pellionella (25th June) from my home in *Chorleywood, Bucks;* **Coleophora flavipennella** *(2nd June)* from a pupal case on *Chorleywood Common;* **Cnephasia asseclana** from the *Weedon Hill area,* near Amersham in Bucks; from *College Lake Nature Reserve* (just inside Bucks, near Tring) **Stigmella aurella** (trapped in a bird hide) *(23rd June)* and **Dichrorampha aeratana** *(1st June).* A number of **Elachista triatomea** were disturbed in short grass on *lvinghoe Beacon (Bucks) on 23rd June.* The last two are also not in the UTB all-time list and Peter believes the Dichrorampha aeratana is only the second Bucks record. The Epinotia nanana (excellent name) was only a hundred metres from Hertfordshire, where only one has been recorded in the last forty-six years. It was very small and appeared somewhat darker than the photo shows. The Tinea is related to the clothes moths and was collected from snake-cage-sweepings."



Epinotia nanana Photo © Andy King Tinea pellionella Photo © Andy King

Adam Hartley reported the following: "I'm still getting good numbers of Large Yellow Underwing and Willow Beauty in my trap in *central Oxford*. Recently I've also been recording quite a few Double-striped Pugs, Garden Carpets & Green Carpets, Setaceous Hebrew Characters and Treble-bars. Also of note were a Marbled Beauty and a Vine's Rustic on 29th August."



Marbled Beauty Photo © Adam Hartley

Vine's Rustic Photo © Adam Hartley

**Darren Seaman sent the following:** "I've had a couple more moths for the year list, **Gold Spot** and **Centre-barred Sallow** both caught on the 27th August in my Actinic trap in *Milton Keynes.*"



Dave Wilton sent the following on 27th August: "A few more new species recorded on 23rd August were Small Square-spot & Rosy Rustic (both at Westcott, Bucks) and Elachista maculicerusella & Bulrush Wainscot (both at Latimer, Bucks). With thanks to Peter Hall and his microscope I also have a number of micro-moth additions from mid-Bucks dating back to May and early June, as follows: Elachista humilis (Finemere Wood, 16th May), Pammene splendidulana (Calvert, 19th May), Parornix anglicella, Phyllonorycter salicicolella & Pammene argyrana (all from a private wood near Buckingham, 22nd May), Mompha miscella (Ivinghoe Hills, 23rd May), Heliozela hammoniella (Bernwood, 24th May), Nematopogon schwarziellus, Parornix finitimella, Deltaornix torquillella, Cosmiotes freyerella, Elachista atricomella, Cnephasia asseclana & Epiblema cirsiana (all Ivinghoe Hills, 24th May), Stigmella tityrella, Caloptilia robustella, Parornix devoniella & Elachista gangabella (all Ivinghoe Hills, 26th May), Parornix betulae (Finemere Wood, 27th May), Coleophora caespititiella (Calvert, 28th May), Ectoedemia occultella (Bernwood, 30th May), Endothenia marginana & Dichrorampha plumbana (both Westcott, 1st June) and Bryotropha affinis (Westcott, 5th June). Mompha miscella seems to be new to the all-time UTB list."



Mompha miscella Photo © Dave Wilton

**Tony Rayner sent this report:** "We had two similar moths in our *Cholsey (Oxon)* garden on 26th August - an **Old Lady** and a **Red Underwing**, the latter rested on our barn wall all day and was still there at 20.55 hrs. We also have had large numbers of **Hornet Robber Flies** recently - we counted 46 on the 22nd!"



Old Lady Photo © Tony Rayner

~ Thursday 23rd August 2012 ~

*Nigel Partridge sent this sighting:* "One more from the garden trap *(Loosley Row, Bucks):* **Yponomeuta plumbella,** 22-08-12."

Dave Wilton sent this update on 23rd August: "Here are a few more moth species from mid-Bucks over the past ten days which may still be new to the UTB list: Argyresthia semifusca & Clavigesta purdeyi (Westcott, 11th August), Argyrotaenia Ijungiana (Westcott, 14th August), Epinotia ramella & Square-spotted Clay (Steps Hill, 14th August), Ypsolopha horridella, Narrow-winged Pug & Cypress Pug (Westcott, 17th August), Sixstriped Rustic, Twin-spotted Wainscot, Large Wainscot & Fen Wainscot (Calvert Jubilee, 17th August), Dusky Thorn (Westcott, 19th August), Epermenia falciformis (Finemere Wood, 19th August) and Loxostege sticticalis, Pale Eggar & Vestal (Westcott, 20th August). It was particularly nice to see some interesting immigrants on the 20th, Loxostege sticticalis and Vestal being accompanied to Westcott by a couple of examples of Nomophila noctuella (Rush Veneer)."



Fen Wainscot

Photo © Dave Wilton



Vestal Photo © Dave Wilton



Loxostege sticticalis Photo © Dave Wilton

*Paul Reading sent this report on 20th August:* "The following moths were all found in or on the outside of the moth trap in my garden in *Amersham, Bucks:* **Pebble Hook-tip, Riband Wave, Endotricha flammealis** and **Iron Prominent.**"





Pebble Hook-tip Photo © Paul Reading Iron Prominent Photo © Paul Reading

Endotricha flammealis Photo © Paul Reading

**Ched George sent the following:** "Now the cold weather is on us the autumn species are hatching. A **Feathered Gothic** in *Radnage, Bucks* on *19th August.*"

Adam Bassett sent this news: "I had a Nemapogon clematella in my garden in Marlow Bottom, Bucks on August 17th, not currently on the year list."



Nemapogon clematella Photo © Adam Bassett

*Alan Gudge reported the following:* "We set a trap in our garden in *Little Frieth, Bucks* on *17th August* and were rewarded with 29 species of moth. The highlight was a **Jersey Tiger**.

This is the second record of the species in our garden, the first being on National Moth Night in 2007, which was then the first record of the species for Bucks. They must like our garden!"



Jersey Tiger Photo © Juliet Gudge

*Nigel Partridge sent this report:* "A couple more from the garden trap *(Loosley Row, Bucks)*. Epermenia falciformis 12-08-12. Thanks to Peter Hall's dissection skills. Ypsolopha sequella 17-08-12."

**Dave Maunder sent the following:** "Like Adam Hartley (see report below), I've had a big increase in Willow Beauty, Brimstone, Common Rustic and Yellow Underwing species over the last few days here in Aylesbury, Bucks. Also a few Square-spot Rustics, my first Flounced Rustics (2 on 13th), Yellow-barred Brindle (2), Small Scallop (1, 13th), Magpie moths (4) and on a visit to Grangelands Reserve (Bucks) on 11th August I found 13 Striped Lychnis larvae on the Dark Mulleins there, plus 2 Treble-bar moths. My 16 Lappet larvae have now changed to 3rd instar and have settled down nicely on a potted Sallow shrub in my garden."



Lappet larvae, 3rd instar Photo © Dave Maunder

## ~ Friday 17th August 2012 ~

**Darren Seaman reported the following:** "I had a **Brindled Green** on *10th August,* in my actinic trap in my *Milton Keynes* garden."

Adam Hartley sent this report from Oxford on 14th August: "In the last couple of days I've been catching lots of Large Yellow Underwing, Brimstone, Willow Beauty, Riband Wave and Common Rustic sp. Other moths have included: Yellow-barred Brindle, Common Carpet, Garden Carpet, Red Twin-spot Carpet, Copper Underwing, Red Underwing and Setaceous Hebrew Character. I've also caught a couple of Agriphila geniculea (on 14th August) which don't appear to be on the area year list."



Copper Underwing Photo © Adam Hartley



Red Underwing Photo © Adam Hartley



Setaceous Hebrew Character Photo © Adam Hartley

## ~ Monday 13th August 2012 ~

*This report came from Wendy Wilson:* "On 17th July I found a large green caterpillar on a Japanese anemone in my *Gerrards Cross, Bucks* garden. I could not identify it so I kept it and it pupated two days later. Today, *13th August,* an **Angle Shades** moth emerged from the pupa and, after photographing it from all angles, I placed it on a buddleia. It reacted immediately and poked its proboscis into a floret and started nectaring."



Angle Shades larva Photo © Wendy Wilson Angle Shades & pupa case Photo © Wendy Wilson

Steve Goddard sent the following: "The following moths were caught in my garden in Wolvercote, Oxford on 10th August: a couple of Orange Swift and a couple of Square-spot Rustic."

Dave Wilton sent this update: "The following moths from mid-Bucks that I've seen over the past ten days may still be new to this year's list: Aphelia paleana/Timothy Tortrix (1st August, Westcott), Epinotia solandriana (1st August, Finemere Wood), Vapourer (first adult) (2nd August, Finemere Wood), Aproaerema anthyllidella (3rd August, Westcott), Annulet (3rd August, Ivinghoe Beacon), Coleophora hemerobiella (4th August, Westcott), Orange Swift & Copper Underwing (8th August, Westcott), Acleris aspersana, Acleris laterana, Oidaematophorus lithodactyla, Square-spot Rustic (first adult) & Rosy Minor (9th August, Ivinghoe Beacon), Red Underwing (10th August, Westcott) and Psoricoptera gibbosella (10th August, Finemere Wood). The single Annulet at Ivinghoe on 3rd August was followed by over a dozen more to light there on 9th August so it is good to know that this uncommon moth of calcareous grassland is still well established on the Ashridge Estate."



Annulet Photo © Dave Wilton Rosy Minor Photo © Dave Wilton

**Dave Morris sent this report:** "Out of my catch in Seer Green, Bucks on 9th August of 112 moths of 45 species, there were high numbers of Mottled Beauty, Riband Wave, Lesser Broad-barred Yellow Underwing plus various other common species. Also in the catch I had Pebble Prominent, Pale Prominent, Ruby Tiger, Yellow-tail, Wax Moth (Galleria mellonella) and Trachycera advenella."



Galleria mellonella (Wax moth) Photo © Dave Morris

*Marc Botham reported the following:* "Some interesting moths recorded recently have included: **Devon Carpet** SP50 (*South Oxford: VC22*) *on 03/08/12*; **Kent Black Arches** SU59 (*Little Wittenham: VC22*) *on 31/07/12*; **Red-necked Footman** x 2 SP50 (*South Oxford: VC22*) *on 04/07/12* and x1 at same place on 25/06/12 + x 1 at Harcourt Arboretum (SU5598: South Oxford VC23) on 29/06/12."

David Redhead sent this report: "My rather dilatory mothing this year has managed to add my second all time new species for my local patch in Littlemore, Oxon - the first was a Six**spot Burnet Moth** seen on 24th July which I did not bother to report because I had reported the first in the area a few days before, so this one was only exciting to me. My second, found in my overnight garden moth trap of 26th July, Evergestis pallidata, has proved more exciting. Although it seems to have been reported to the UTB website in most years I thought I would let Martin Corley know and got the following reply: 'Unless there is an old record, there appear to be no vc 23 records of this species. This is a bit surprising as there are quite a number of Berkshire records.' I do live within a guarter of a kilometre of what moth-ers still call Berkshire. Anyway it still appears new to the UTB website for this year. Below is a rather poor photo. I also caught a Copper Underwing in my garden moth trap of the 2nd August. Bit surprised this still stands as new for 2012 UTB record as we have also had one in the bedroom since and not the one I caught which I am afraid lost some scales during the identification process. I am continuing to regularly pick up the "very local" Nemophora metallica on my nearby field scabious. Always a male based on the inordinate length of the antennae and only ever one at a time."



Evergestis pallidata Photo © David Redhead

*Wendy Wilson sent the following:* "On *Wednesday 8th August,* whilst butterflying between Aylesbury and Milton Keynes, I disturbed 2 **Udea lutealis** among thistles and brambles at *Aston Abbotts.* On Monday *6th August at Asheridge,* near Chesham, Bucks I spotted 2 **Treble-bar** and 2 **Shaded Broad-bar."** 



Udea lutealis Photo © Wendy Wilson

## ~ Tuesday 7th August 2012 ~

**Dave Maunder sent the following:** "Last night, *6th August,* in my garden trap here in *Aylesbury, Bucks* I caught:- **Dotted Rustic** (1 - a first for my garden); my first **Square-spot Rustic** of the year; **Iron Prominent** (1); **Pale Prominent** (1); **White Satin** (1); **Common Footman** (1); **Straw Underwing** (1); **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwings** (5); **Large Yellow Underwings** (2); **Dark Arches** (5); **Dot moths** (4); **Heart and Darts** (3); **Pale Mottled Willow** (1); **Scalloped Oak** (1), and **Carcina quercana** (1). I've got 16 **Lappet moth larvae** feeding up nicely in a box!"



Dotted Rustic Photo © Dave Maunder

Lappet larvae Photo © Dave Maunder

Adam Bassett sent this report from Marlow Bottom, Bucks: "A bit inactive on mothing this year, but Nemapogon wolffiella on the kitchen window on 4th August appears to be new for the UTB year list."



Nemapogon wolffiella Photo © Adam Bassett

*Nigel Partridge sent this update:* "A couple more from the garden trap *(Loosley Row, Bucks):* 

04-08-12 - Bordered Pug, Flounced Rustic and also Pammene aurita on 21-07-12 (thanks to Peter Hall for confirming the ID)."



Pammene aurita Photo © Nigel Partridge

*Mary Elford sent this report of a trapping session held at Sydlings Copse, Oxon:* "On 29th/30th July Paul Waring led a moth trapping event at Sydlings Copse (by kind permission of BBOWT) for members of BENHS. During the day **Six-spot Burnets** were abundant on the knapweed and a **Scarlet Tiger** was also seen close to the fen area. 3 traps were set up for the overnight session. There were 128 macro-moths of 40 species in the first Robinson trap on the limestone grassland, 282 macros of 62 species in the second Robinson, and 66 macro-moths of 27 species in the actinic trap in the fenland. According to Ron Louch, four of the species are new for the site: Nut-tree Tussock, Coronet, Pine Hawkmoth and Haworth's Pug, bringing the site total to 328 species of macro-moths.

Macros: September Thorn, Dark Arches, Clouded Border, Pebble Prominent, Yellow Tail, Scarce Footman, Common Footman, Nut-tree Tussock, Small Rivulet, Peppered Moth, Bright-line Brown-eye, Large Yellow Underwing, Rustic, Poplar Hawkmoth, Engrailed, Common Rustic, Dusky Sallow, Heart and Dart, Poplar Grey, Willow Beauty, Coronet (brown and green forms), Dun-bar, Black Arches, Drinker, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Lesser Yellow Underwing, July Highflyer, Small Emerald, Common Carpet, Red Twin-spot Carpet, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Smoky Wainscot, Double Square-spot, Brown-line Bright-eye, Grey Dagger, Buff Ermine, Clay, White Satin, Buff Tip, Common Emerald, Riband Wave, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Haworth's Pug, Straw Underwing, Minor Shoulder-knot, Lime-speck Pug, Ruby Tiger, Flame, Small Dotted Buff, Single-dotted Wave, Dingy Footman, Early Thorn, Silver Y, **Rosy Footman**, V-Pug, Common Wainscot, Straw Dot, Chocolate Tip, Slender Brindle, Pebble Hook-tip, Coxcomb Prominent, Pale Mottled Willow, Fan-foot, Swallow Prominent, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Common White Wave, Small Phoenix, Mottled Rustic, Campion, Pine Hawkmoth.

Micros recorded: Pterophorus pentadactyla (White Plume Moth), Pleuroptya ruralis (Mother of Pearl), Perinephela lancealis, Pyrausta purpuralis, Endotricha flammealis."



Six-spot Burnet Photo © Mary Elford

**Dave Morris reported the following:** "After a week away in Wales trapping some fantastic moths, below are some lists from my garden in *Seer Green, Bucks* last week. There are one or two (currently) new species for the list on each day.

*1st Aug* - Argyresthia cupressella (1 - pending confirmation), Pleuroptya ruralis (Mother of Pearl) (4), Endotricha flammealis (1), Trachycera advenella (2), Maiden's Blush (1), Least Carpet (1), Single-dotted Wave (1), Riband Wave (1), July Highflier (1), Scorched Carpet (1), Early Thorn (1), Scalloped Oak (4), Mottled Beauty (3), Common White Wave (1), Common Footman (1), Large Yellow Underwing (1), Double Square-spot (1), Coronet (1), Dark Arches (3), Common Rustic agg. (7).

2nd Aug - Ypsolopha scabrella (2), Acleris variegana (Garden Rose Tortrix) (1), Endotricha flammealis (1), Dwarf Cream Wave (1), Riband Wave (12), Magpie Moth (1), August Thorn (1), Early Thorn (2), Scalloped Oak (6), Willow Beauty (1), Mottled Beauty (4), Iron Prominent (1), Buff Footman (1), Common Footman (1), Dark Arches (1), Common Rustic agg. (1), Uncertain (1), Nut-tree Tussock (1).

*3rd Aug -* Ypsolopha dentella (Honeysuckle Moth) (1), Nomophila noctuella (Rush Veneer) (1), Pyralis farinalis (Meal Moth) (1), Least Carpet (1), Dwarf Cream Wave (1), Riband Wave (5), Garden Carpet (1), Common Carpet (1), Early Thorn (1), Scalloped Oak (2), Buff Footman (1), Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (1), Bright-line Brown-eye (1)."

**Rob Payne sent this update:** "Here are more of the moths that we had on the 27th/28th July at Otmoor RSPB, Oxon (see report below). These were the ones which required confirmation i.e. Common and Lesser Common Rustic, Ear Moth and Grey Dagger and ones that were missed or turned up on other lists.

Scrobipalpa costella, Brachmia blandella, Blastodacna hellerella, Cochylimorpha straminea, Acleris laterana/comariana, Endothenia quadrimaculana, Bactra furfurana, Eucosma hohenwartiana, Eucosma cana, Chilo phragmitella, Chrysoteuchia culmella, Crambus perlella, Eudonia mercurella, Phlyctaenia coronata, Udea prunalis, Trachycera advenella, Emmelina monodactyla, Acleris variegana (Garden Rose Tortrix), Marbled Orchard Tortrix (Hedya nubiferana), Ringed China-mark (Parapoynx stratiotata), Mother of Pearl (Pleuroptya ruralis), White Plume Moth (Pterophorus pentadactyla), Small Blood-vein, Yellow Shell, Small Rivulet, Bordered Beauty, Black Arches, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Common Wainscot, Grey Dagger, Common Rustic, Lesser Common Rustic, Ear Moth, Crescent and Silky Wainscot."

~ Wednesday 1st August 2012 ~

**Dave Maunder sent these moth sightings:** "Moths I've seen in the Aylesbury (Bucks) area over the last few weeks include:- Lappet moth (a rather worn female came to my garden trap on 25th July and laid 20 eggs for me); Privet Hawkmoth (also female in garden trap, laid 10 eggs for me), so hopefully I'll have my hands full rearing larvae in the future! Other species were:- Poplar Hawks (2); Privet Hawk (1,male); White Satins (3); Yellow-tail (1); Miller moth (1); Small Ranunculus (3); Broad-barred White (1); Dun-bar (3); Pebble Hook-tip (1); Chinese Character (1); Dark Spinach (1, 23rd); Leopard moths (2); Broad-

bordered Yellow Underwings (4); Least Yellow Underwings (2); Early Thorn (2); Herald moth (1); Common Footman (15); Scarce Footman (1); Dingy Footman (1); Small Emerald (2); Small Rivulet (1); Peppered moth (3); Scalloped Oak (10) and my last Hornet moth of the season on 15th July."



Lappet Moth Photo © Dave Maunder

Lappet Moth eggs Photo © Dave Maunder

This update came from Dave Wilton: "Further additions to my year list during the last week of July here in mid-Bucks included Pyrausta despicata, Conobathra repandana, Small Scallop, Chalk Carpet, Miller & Mere Wainscot (all 23rd July, Finemere Wood, 106 species to a single MV light); Acleris holmiana, Phlyctaenia coronata, Galleria mellonella/Wax Moth, Barred Rivulet, Lilac Beauty, Straw Underwing, Dusky Sallow, Ear Moth (almost certainly that species but will need dissection to confirm) & Scarce Silver-lines (all 24th July, Ivinghoe Beacon, 150 species to two MV lights); Limnaecia phragmitella & Magpie Moth (both 25th July, Westcott); Caloptilia stigmatella, Athrips mouffetella, Parachronistis albiceps, Hypatima rhomboidella, Batrachedra praeangusta, Eudemis profundana, Calamotropha paludella, Donacaula forficella, Chevron & Small Wainscot (all 26th July, private wood near Buckingham, 167 species to two MV lights); Ypsolopha scabrella, Recurvaria leucatella, Chilo phragmitella, Sitochroa palealis, Tawnyspeckled Pug, Least Yellow Underwing & Brown-veined Wainscot (all 27th July, Calvert); Least Carpet (28th July, Westcott) and Six-belted Clearwing (30th July, Calvert, daytime to pheromone lure). Perhaps the most unusual discovery was the single male Chalk Carpet caught on the main ride in *Finemere Wood*, presumably a wanderer from the colony discovered last year on the nearby Calvert landfill site. A melanic Peppered Moth f. carbonaria also came to the MV light at Finemere, the first I've seen for a couple of years. The trapping session on lvinghoe Beacon brought in a Small Purple-barred which is normally a very frisky daytime flyer. The species always seems to be rather battered and faded when I see it so this pristine example made a welcome change."





Chalk Carpet Photo © Dave Wilton

Small Purple-barred Photo © Dave Wilton



Peppered Moth f. carbonaria Photo © Dave Wilton

*Chris Bottrell sent this report:* "A roundup of the July sessions in my *Merton (Oxon)* back garden have produced the following. 11/7 - 59 moths of 27 species, 14/7 - 82 of 25, 18/7 - 75 of 23, 21/7 - 98 of 37, 25/7 - 378 of 76 but including 129 **Acentria ephemerella (Water Veneer)** and 28/7 - 88 of 28. The only definite addition for the list though at the time of posting is a singleton **Epinotia nisella** caught on 18/7."



Epinotia nisella Photo © Chris Bottrell

## ~ Sunday 29th July 2012 ~

**Rob Payne sent this report:** "A group of us ran a mothing evening on 27th/28th July at Otmoor, Oxon at the request of the RSPB. It was a great evening with 8 traps and a screen. Chris Bottrell, Marc Botham, Owain Hegarty (RSPB) and myself were present. We had an impressive 130+ species comprising a lot that are new to 2012.

Bird-cherry Ermine (Yponomeuta evonymella), Ypsolopha scabrella, Batia lunaris, Brown House-moth (Hofmannophila pseudospretella), Carcina quercana, Helcystogramma rufescens, Blastobasis lacticolella, Limnaecia phragmitella (first adult), Phtheochroa inopiana, Agapeta hamana, Agapeta zoegana, Aethes rubigana, Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix (Pandemis heparana), Rose Tortrix (Archips rosana), Cyclamen Tortrix (Clepsis spectrana), Red-barred Tortrix (Ditula angustiorana), Acleris holmiana, Celypha lacunana, Hedya salicella, Apotomis betuletana, Lobesia abscisana, Ancylis achatana, Ancylis badiana, Holly Tortrix (Rhopobota naevana), Bramble Shoot Moth (Epiblema uddmanniana), Epiblema roborana, Eucosma campoliliana, Bud Moth (Spilonota ocellana), Plum Fruit Moth (Grapholita funebrana), Calamotropha paludella, Agriphila straminella, Agriphila tristella, Donacaula forficella, Dipleurina lacustrata, Brown China-mark (Elophila nymphaeata), Beautiful China-mark (Nymphula stagnata), Small Magpie (Eurrhypara hortulata), Ebulea (Anania) crocealis, Gold Triangle (Hypsopygia costalis), Orthopygia glaucinalis, Endotricha flammealis, Phycita roborella, Lackey, Oak Eggar (first adult), Drinker, Chinese Character, Peach Blossom, Buff Arches, Common Emerald, Maiden's Blush, Lesser Cream Wave, Small Fanfooted Wave, Single-dotted Wave, Small Scallop, Riband Wave, Red Twin-spot Carpet, Large Twin-spot Carpet, Shaded Broad-bar, Common Carpet, Dark Spinach, July Highflyer, Barred Rivulet, Lime-speck Pug, V-Pug, Magpie Moth, Clouded Border, Brimstone Moth, September Thorn, Early Thorn, Scalloped Oak, Peppered Moth, Willow Beauty, Common Wave, Clouded Silver, Poplar Hawk-moth, Elephant Hawkmoth, Buff-tip, Pebble Prominent, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Swallow Prominent, Pale Prominent, Chocolate-tip, Yellow-tail, Round-winged Muslin, Dingy Footman, Scarce Footman, Common Footman, Garden Tiger, Ruby Tiger, Short-cloaked Moth, Heart and Dart, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Large Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broadbordered Yellow Underwing, Least Yellow Underwing, Double Square-spot, Bright-line Brown-eye, Campion, Brown-line Bright Eye, Clay, Striped Wainscot, Southern Wainscot, Smoky Wainscot, Suspected, Poplar Grey, Straw Underwing, Dingy Shears, Dun-bar, Lunar-spotted Pinion, Dark Arches, Light Arches, Double Lobed, Small Dotted Buff, Dusky Sallow, Brown-veined Wainscot, Webb's Wainscot, Uncertain, Rustic, Mottled Rustic, Pale Mottled Willow, Nut-tree Tussock, Burnished Brass, Silver Y, Blackneck, Herald, Straw Dot, Waved Black, Snout and Fan-foot. There are a few more to be confirmed - so there may be a follow-up report."



Brown-veined Wainscot Photo © Rob Payne





Webb's Wainscot Photo © Rob Payne

Dark Spinach Photo © Rob Payne

*Mary Elford sent the following:* "One new moth for your list – **Svensson's Copper Underwing** here in *Bampton, Oxon* on the morning of *27 July.* Also, I had a **Yellow-tail** in my trap on *26th July.*"

Alastair Driver says he's just had a blitz on moth trapping in Sonning, Berks this week thanks to the dry weather: "I caught the following to add to UTBC year list, as at the time of writing: Small Scallop at home on 22nd July and again on 23rd and at Ali's Pond LNR, Berks on on 23rd (the latter being a new site record). Ear Moth agg. at Ali's Pond LNR on 23rd. Lesser-spotted Pinion at Ali's Pond LNR on 24th I also notice that Golden Plusia is not on the list - I trapped a lovely specimen at home back on 24th June - a new parish record."

*This sighting came from Wendy Wilson:* "On Friday *27th July,* whilst doing a recce for the Langley Park event on 28th, I spotted this **Antler moth** nectaring on some ragwort. Also there were two **Six-spot Burnets** and 12 butterfly species."



Antler moth Photo © Wendy Wilson

David Redhead sent this report: "My garden moth trap in Littlemore, Oxon on 25th July added 8 new macro-species to my 2012 garden list, some of which still appear to be new to the 2012 UTB list - Canary-shouldered Thorn, Common Emerald, Least Yellow Underwing, Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Phoenix, Purple Thorn, Shortcloaked & Yellow Tail. Swallow Prominent with 23 individuals was the most numerous."

*Nigel Partridge sent these sightings:* "A few more from our garden trap (*Loosley Row, Bucks*). 21-07-12: Galleria mellonella. 24-07-12: Toadflax Pug, Marbled Beauty, Dusky Sallow."

*Laura Chapman reported the following:* "I wanted to send in my sighting of a **Scarlet Tiger Moth** in *Loosley Row in Bucks,* which was resting on my windowsill this morning (25 *July 2012*)."



Scarlet Tiger Photo © Laura Chapman

**Darren Seaman sent this report:** "A couple more moths for your year list, a **Yellow-tail** (first adult) on 23rd July, Straw Underwing and Brown-tail on 24th July. All at actinic light in my *Milton Keynes* garden."

**Derek Brown sent the following:** "This **Magpie moth** flew into our conservatory at *Beenham, Berks on 23rd July.* First one I've seen since 2008 and it appears to be new for the UTB 2012 list."



Magpie Photo © Derek Brown

*Peter Cuss reported the following:* "I had a Mullein Wave sitting on my window during the day (*Caversham, Berks on 21/07/12*). I don't think that's on the UTB list for 2012 yet."

# ~ Thursday 25th July 2012 ~

**David Redhead sent these sightings:** "21st July - Chilswell Valley just to west of Oxford - a pair of **Six-spot Burnet Moths**.

22nd July - Heyford Hill overnight garden moth trap - a pair of Olives."

*Mary Elford sent the following:* "This lovely little moth, **Marbled Green**, was on my trap in *Bampton, Oxon on 23rd July* – exactly the same date as the first appearance of this species last year."



Marbled Green Photo © Mary Elford

Dave Wilton sent this update: "Further sightings recently in mid-Bucks have included my first Hummingbird Hawk-moth of the year (Westcott, 12th July), Scallop Shell (Westcott, 13th July), Helcystogramma rufescens, Acrobasis consociella & Olive (all Westcott 16th July), Ypsolopha dentella (Westcott, 17th July), Argyresthia curvella, Epinotia brunnichana, Rhopobota naevana, Epiblema foenella, Euzophera pinguis & Marasmarcha lunaedactyla (all Ashridge Estate, 17th July with Peter Hall), Mouse Moth & Marbled Beauty (both Westcott, 19th July), Eana incanana (Finemere Wood, 19th July), Agonopterix liturosa, Beautiful Carpet & Juniper Pug (all at a Bucks Invertebrate Group) meeting on Windsor Hill, 21st July) and Schoenobius gigantella, Trachycera suavella, Trachycera advenella, Southern Wainscot & Silky Wainscot (all at Calvert, 22nd July). Silky Wainscot seems to be new to the all-time UTB list. On 17th July Peter Hall and I returned to the same area of the Ashridge Estate, just inside Bucks not far from the Bridgewater Monument, where we'd had such a poor collection of moths on 6th July. While the list was much improved this time, it still wasn't brilliant for what is prime Chiltern woodland habitat: Argyresthia brockeella, Argyresthia goedartella, Argyresthia albistria, Argyresthia bonnetella, Argyresthia curvella, Yponomeuta evonymella, Ypsolopha parenthesella, Batia lunaris, Batia unitella, Hofmannophila pseudospretella, Blastobasis lacticolella, Blastodacna hellerella, Aethes rubigana, Pandemis cerasana, Pandemis cinnamomeana, Pandemis heparana, Archips xylosteana, Archips podana, Ditula angustiorana, Aleimma loeflingiana, Tortrix viridana, Cnephasia stephensiana, Celypha lacunana, Hedya pruniana, Hedya nubiferana, Apotomis turbidana, Apotomis capreana, Ancylis achatana, Epinotia brunnichana, Rhopobota naevana, Zeiraphera isertana, Gypsonoma dealbana, Epiblema uddmanniana, Epiblema foenella, Eucosma cana, Chrysoteuchia culmella, Acentria ephemerella, Dipleurina lacustrata, Udea prunalis, Udea olivalis, Eurrhypara hortulata/Small Magpie, Aphomia sociella/Bee Moth, Cryptoblabes bistriga, Homoeosoma sinuella, Euzophera pinguis, Marasmarcha Iunaedactyla, Drinker, Peach Blossom, Buff Arches, Common Emerald, Clay Triplelines. Small Fan-footed Wave, Riband Wave, Large Twin-spot Carpet, July Highflyer, Pretty Chalk Carpet, Brown Scallop, Haworth's Pug, V-Pug, Double-striped Pug, Small Yellow Wave, Brimstone Moth, Peppered Moth, Satin Beauty, Mottled Beauty, Great Oak Beauty, Engrailed, Common Wave, Clouded Silver, Light Emerald, Iron Prominent, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Coxcomb Prominent, Buff Footman, Heart & Dart, Large Yellow Underwing, Purple Clay, Double Square-spot, Grey Dagger, Coronet, Small Angle Shades, Dark Arches, Slender Brindle, Marbled White Spot, Uncertain, Rustic, Beautiful Golden Y, Beautiful Hook-tip, Straw Dot, Snout, Fan-foot & Small Fan-foot."



Silky Wainscot Photo © Dave Wilton

Keith Mitchell reported the following from Stoke Goldington, Bucks: "An overnight trap on 19th July produced a garden first: Eucosma obumbratana. Supporting cast: Chrysoteuchia culmella (27), Crambus perlella, Agriphila tristella, Dipleurina lacustrata, Parapoynx stratiotata (Ringed China-mark) (7th July), Small Magpie, Hypsopgia glaucinalis, Endotricha flammealis, White Plume, Riband Wave, Yellow Shell, Green Pug, Brimstone, Privet Hawk-moth, Buff Footman, Common Footman, Heart and Dart, Large Yellow Underwing, Double Square-spot, Dot, Bright-line Brown Eye, Clay, Brown-line Bright Eye, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Dark Arches, Light Arches, Common Rustic agg, Mottled Rustic, Burnished Brass, Silvey 'Y', Snout, Fanfoot, Rustic/Uncertain agg."

~ Thursday 19th July 2012 ~

*Nigel Partridge sent the following:* "A few more from our garden (*Loosley Row, Bucks*). Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing 13-07-12, Scarce Footman 13-07-12, Ypsolopha nemorella 19-07-12 & Cloaked Minor 19-07-12."

**Dave Morris sent this update:** "Rob Payne and I ran a 50W MV on the fringes of woodland near Seer Green, Bucks on 18th July and caught the following - there are a few new species for the year: Tinea semifulvella, Argyresthia brockeella, Ypsolopha parenthesella, Batia unitella, Carcina quercana (3), Agonopterix heracliana (2), Dark Fruit-tree Tortix, Celypha lacunana, Mother of Pearl, Bee Moth, Dwarf Cream Wave (5), Yellow Shell, Common Marbled Carpet, Green Pug, Brimstone, Swallow-tailed Moth, Mottled Beauty (2), Black Arches, Common Footman, Lunar-spotted Pinion, Dark Arches, Slender Brindle, Uncertain, Spectacle, Snout (4)."



Black Arches Photo © Dave Morris

*This report came from Andy King:* "Here are a few moths which may still be new to the list: **Pammene aurana:** a photogenic little moth found on a leaf on the *outskirts of Tring* (about 50 yards inside the VC24 border!) on *23rd June;* from a light-trap near *Weedon Hill in Bucks:* **Bordered White, Lozotaeniodes formasanus, Prays fraxinella, Pandemis cerasana** - on *27th June;* to light near *Aston Clinton, Bucks:* **Sycamore, Ebulea crocealis** (or Anania crocealis if we're going to be modern), **Merrifieldia baliodactylus (Yarrow Plume)** and **Pempeliella dilutella** - on *8th July;* from my back garden in *Chorleywood, Bucks:* **Phlyctaenia coronata** - on *13 July.*"



Pammene aurana Photo © Andy King

**Peter Coombes sent this sighting:** "I photographed this moth in the car park at Otmoor *RSPB Reserve Oxfordshire* on the 17th July. I've looked in my reference books and I think it is an **Old Lady moth.**"



Old Lady moth Photo © Peter Coombes

*Tom Stevenson, Nature Reserve Manager of the Ewelme Watercress Beds LNR in Oxon, sent this report:* "The following represents the list accumulated during the *Ewelme Bioblitz on 13th July.* Expert identifiers included Marc Botham, Mike Wilkins and Peter Holland. 980 moths of 146 species:

Angle Shades, Barred Straw, Beautiful Hook-tip, Blood-vein, Blue Bordered Carpet (first adult), Bordered Sallow, Bright-line Brown-eye, Brimstone Moth, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Brown-line Bright-eye, Buff Ermine, Buff-tip, Burnished Brass, Clay, Clouded Border, Clouded Silver, Common Carpet, Common Emerald, Common Footman, Common Rustic, Common Wainscot, Common Wave, Common White Wave, Coronet, Dark Arches, Dark Dagger, Dingy Footman, Dingy Shears, Dot Moth, Double Lobed, Double Square Spot (larval stage), Double-striped Pug, Dun-bar, Dwarf Cream Wave, Early Thorn, Elephant Hawk-moth, Engrailed, Fan Foot, Flame, Flame Shoulder, Ghost, Gothic, Green Pug, Grey Dagger, Grey Pug, Heart and Club, Heart and Dart, July Highflyer, Large Twin-spot Carpet, Large Yellow Underwing, Least Carpet, Lesser Yellow Underwing, Light Arches, Light Emerald, Lobster Moth, Mottled Beauty, Mottled Rustic, Peach Blossom, Peppered Moth, Phoenix, Plain Golden Y, Poplar Grey, Poplar Hawk-moth, Privet Hawk-moth, Puss Moth, Riband Wave [non-banded form], Roundwinged Muslin, Rustic, Scalloped Oak, Scarce Footman, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Shark, Short-cloaked moth, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Silver Y, Single-dotted Wave, Slender Pug, Small Blood-vein, Small dotted buff, Small Fan-foot, Small Waved Umber, Smoky Wainscot, Snout, Spectacle, Spruce Carpet, Striped Lychnis, Swallow-tailed Moth, Sycamore, Tawny Marbled Minor, Tawny Speckled Pug, Miller, Treble Brown Spot, Uncertain, Vapourer, Vines Rustic, V-Pug, Willow Beauty, Wormwood Pug, Yellow Shell and micros: Acleris forsskaleana, Agapeta hamana, Aleimma loeflingiana, Ancylis achatana, Aphomia sociella (Bee Moth), Archips crataegana (Brown Oak Tortrix), Archips podana (Large Fruit-tree Tortrix), Batia lunaris, Batia unitella, Brachmia blandella, Bryotropha terrella, Celypha lacunana, Celypha striana, Chrysoteuchia culmella (Garden Grass-veneer), Clepsis consimilana, Clepsis spectrana (Cyclamen Tortrix), Cnephasia stephensiana (Grey Tortrix), Crambus perlella, Dipleurina lacustrata, Epiblema sticticana, Epiblema uddmanniana, Eucosma cana, Eudonia mercurella, Eurrhypara hortulata (Small Magpie), Hedya pruniana (Plum Tortrix), Hypsopygia costalis (Gold Triangle), Hypsopygia glaucinalis (aka Orthopygia glaucinalis), Lobesia abscisana, Metzneria lappella, Mompha ochraceella, Myelois circumvoluta (Thistle Ermine), Nomophila Noctuella (Rush Veneer), Pandemis cerasana (Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix), Pandemis heparana (Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix). Phycita roborella, Phycitodes binaevella, Pleuroptya ruralis (Mother of Pearl), Plutella xylostella (Diamond-back Moth), Pterophorus pentadactyla (White Plume Moth), Pyrausta aurata, Scoparia ambigualis, Scoparia pyralella, Spilonota ocellana, Tortrix viridana (Green Oak Tortrix), Udea olivalis, Udea prunalis, Zeiraphera isertana."

**Dave Morris reported the following:** "A bit of decent weather on 17th July obviously brought out some new moths for the list in Seer Green, Bucks. My full list (notwithstanding a handful of micros yet to be id'd): Mottled Beauty, Crambus pascuella, Dark Arches, Light Emerald (2), Scalloped Oak, Udea prunalis, Heart & Dart, Common Footman, Fern,

Large Yellow Underwing, Buff Ermine, Fan-foot, Double Square-spot (I think; it's very worn), Flame, Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing, Uncertain (4), Codling (3), Endotricha flammealis, Phycita roborella and Small Rivulet."

## ~ Wednesday 18th July 2012 ~

Steve Goddard reported the following: "I hope you don't mind records out of the blue, but I wondered whether you would be interested in some records from my garden in *Wolvercote, Oxford.* I help with a local Wildlife Explorers group and we're running a moth survey around Wolvercote over the summer: a number of families are using the group's light trap in their garden and recording what they catch. We'll be submitting the overall results once we're done, but I noticed that several of the species I've had in my garden over the last five nights aren't yet on the yearlist on the UTB website. They're Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (16th, 17th July) and Dun-bar (17th July). I've also had an adult Garden Tiger (first adult) on 16th July."



Dun-bar Photo © Steve Goddard

**Dave Morris sent this report:** "I have been trapping in my garden in Seer Green, Bucks with very poor results and nothing worth reporting for the last few weeks, but last night (16th July) I had one moth not yet on the list, a **Buff Footman.** Also, this afternoon (17th July) whilst gardening, I disturbed a **Waved Black.** On 12th July, a very damp evening, Robert Payne and myself ran a 50W MV trap on the fringes of *Hillmots Wood* near Beaconsfield, Bucks and caught 42 moths of 26 species including **Carcina quercana & Eucosma campoliliana** being currently new for the list."



Carcina quercana Photo © Dave Morris Eucosma campoliliana Photo © Dave Morris

**Darren Seaman sent the following:** "I've had 3 species that don't appear to be on the UTB list: **Gothic, Dark Sword-grass** and **Mere Wainscot.** All were caught in an actinic light trap in a private garden near *Howe Park in Milton Keynes on 9th July.*"

**David Redhead was out looking for butterflies for the Big Butterfly Count on 14th July and found the following moths:** "I was using the grassland & scrub at *Heyford Hill, Oxon* as my location and recorded, along with the butterflies: **Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet** (10), **Shaded Broad-bar** (2) and singletons of **Yellow Shell & Nemophora metallica** - the latter a slightly bedraggled specimen doing what the books say it should be doing, resting on the flowerhead of one of its foodplants, Field Scabious. Also, at *Swyncombe Down* on *15th July* I saw 2 **Cistus Foresters.**"

## ~ Thursday 12th July 2012 ~

The following update came from Dave Wilton: "Further recent additions to my year list here in mid-Bucks have included Yponomeuta evonymella (Westcott 2nd July), Archips xylosteana (first adult) & Acentria ephemerella (both Westcott 4th July), Argyresthia goedartella, Hedya salicella, Endotricha flammealis, Orthopygia glaucinalis, Dotted Rustic & Blackneck (all Westcott 5th July, very pleasing to see Dotted Rustic for the second year running), Scythropia crataegella, Teleiodes seguax, Epiblema roborana, Myelois circumvoluta & Brown-line Bright-eye (all lvinghoe Beacon 5th July), Argyresthia retinella, Great Oak Beauty & Small Fan-footed Wave (all Ashridge Estate 6th July), probable Tinea pellionella, Acleris kochiella & Agriphila tristella (all Westcott 7th July, Tinea pellionella found indoors), Gypsonoma dealbana (Westcott 8th July) and Argyresthia glaucinella, Ypsolopha parenthesella, Pandemis corylana, Archips crataegana, Spatalistis bifasciana, Epagoge grotiana, Pseudosciaphila branderiana, Apotomis capreana, Agriphila straminella, Phycita roborella, Large Emerald, Round-winged Muslin & Dingy Footman (all Finemere Wood 9th July). The Ashridge Estate session on 6th July involved running a couple of traps near the Bridgewater Monument with Peter Hall for a bat and moth event organised by the National Trust. It was a good job that their customers had reasonable views of bat activity because the moths certainly weren't playing ball! After two hours we had struggled up to just over 40 individuals of 22 species and most of them arrived well after the visitors had left for home."



Round-winged Muslin Photo © Dave Wilton



Acleris kochiella Photo © Dave Wilton



Tinea pellionella Photo © Dave Wilton

Dave Maunder says he finally managed to get a couple of reasonable nights' trapping in his garden in Aylesbury, Bucks on 9th/10th July: "The traps produced Privet Hawkmoth (1); Buff Arches (1); White Satin (1); Light Arches (2); Dark Arches (17); Common Rustics (2); Fan-foot (3); Flame Moth (1); Silver Y (1); Heart and Club (1); Heart and Dart (13); Turnip moth (1); Dot moths (5); Rustics (18); Swallow-tailed moths (3); Brimstone moth (1); Yellow Shell (1); Common Emeralds (2); Small Emerald (1 - a first for my garden); Mottled Beauty (1 - also a first for my garden); Willow Beauty (2); Clouded Silver (1); Garden Carpets (3); Small Fan-footed Wave (1); Riband Waves (4); Dark Umber (1); Endotricha flammealis (2); Pandemis ceresana (1); White plume (1); Bee moths (3)."







Mottled Beauty Photo © Dave Maunder

Privet Hawkmoth Photo © Dave Maunder Small Emerald Photo © Dave Maunder

*Nigel Partridge sent these sightings:* "A **Small Rivulet** was attracted to our house lights on 07-07-12 in Loosley Row, Bucks. Then on 08-07-12 Agriphila tristella and Small Fanfooted Wave."

**Chris Bottrell reported the following:** "Despite yet another wet night (7/7) in my *Merton* (*Oxon*) back garden a reasonable catch of 176 moths of 50 species in the 60w Actinic, including a singleton **Muslin Footman.** Two days later than last year so the weather doesn't appear to have significantly deterred this rather delicate little moth."



Muslin Footman Photo © Chris Bottrell

# ~ Friday 6th July 2012 ~

*Keith Mitchell reported the following from Stoke Goldington, Bucks: "5th July -* An interesting night with the following garden firsts: **Nemapogon cloacella, Batia unitella** (photo below), **Ephestia parasitella** (unicolorella) (2) and **Brown Scallop.** Also my first **Smoky Wainscot** of the year."



Batia unitella Photo © Keith Mitchell

**Peter Cuss sent this update:** "I put the moth trap out last night (5/7/12) in my garden in *Caversham, Berks* and for once this year had a good haul! Two of them don't seem to have been recorded yet for the current season: **Leopard moth** and **Least Carpet.**"

*The following came from Mary Elford:* "I had a **Small Blood-vein** in my garden trap in *Bampton, Oxon on 5th July* and it may be a new one for your list."



Small Blood-vein Photo © Mary Elford

*Chris Bottrell's first July session in his Merton (Oxon) back garden on 4th July produced the following despite rain again:* "89 moths of 29 species taking refuge in the trap, including singletons of **Batia unitella** and **Udea ferrugalis (Rusty Dot Pearl).** Unfortunately the latter succumbed in the pot whilst awaiting processing. Indicative maybe of how taxing conditions have been."



Batia unitella Photo © Chris Bottrell

At a moth trap run for a local group in a private garden in Chearsley, Bucks on 4th July Wendy & Mick Campbell recorded the following: "A varied and interesting catch considering the weather has been so poor. Singletons of Coronet, Elephant Hawkmoth, Lime Hawkmoth, Beautiful Hook-tip, Barred Straw, Peppered Moth, Swallow-tailed, Silver-y, Buff Ermine, Dot Moth and Buff Arches, plus 2 each of Burnished Brass and White Ermine. Most numerous in double figures were Heart & Dart and Dark Arches."

Adam Hartley sent this report: "On 1st July I caught a Bordered Sallow in my trap which I notice isn't on your UTB 2012 year list so far. I've no idea how common this species is though it's described as "Local" in my Townsend & Waring and I notice the habitat description seems to be more coastal though it does include woodland and I'm not too far (as the moth flies) from Wytham Wood, Oxon."



Bordered Sallow Photo © Adam Hartley

*Chris Bottrell sent the following:* "The remaining June sessions in my *Merton (Oxon)* back garden have been a bit up and down reflecting the weather: 13/6 - 58 moths of 16 species, 16/6 - 79 of 19, 20/6 - 191 of 43, 23/6 - 33 of 17, 27/6 - 263 of 50 and 30/6 - 56 of 17. My

most common catch **Scoparia pyralella** (148 over this period although the first was on 7/6) curiously isn't yet on the UTB 2012 list. Also for the list at the time of posting: 20/6 Pempelia Formosa (1), 27/6 Homoeosoma sinuella (1), 27/6 Dwarf Cream Wave (1), 27/6 Smoky Wainscot (1), 27/6 Lackey (first adult) and 30/6 Enarmonia formosana (Cherry-bark Moth) (1)."







Homoeosoma sinuella Photo © Chris Bottrell



Enarmonia formosana Photo © Chris Bottrell

**Rob Payne sent this report on 1st July:** "I was trapping yet again at my favourite spot in *South Bucks near Beaconsfield* - a great night with good numbers of several species. Highlights were: **Blotched Emerald** - c4, **Great Oak Beauty** - 3, **Pine Hawkmoth, Little Emerald, Peach Blossom** - 2, **Beautiful Golden Y, Coronet, Peppered Moth, Buff tip** - 3, **Beautiful Hook-tip** & **Pebble Hook-tip** plus a number of micros which will be sent to Peter Hall for id."



Great Oak Beauty Photo © Rob Payne Blotched Emerald Photo © Rob Payne

Amblyptilia punctidactyla Photo © Rob Payne

Peter Hall reports on a Bucks Invertebrate Group meeting held at Dancersend SSSI on Friday June 29th: "The following species were recorded, running 5 traps in 3 locations: Nemophora degeerella, Eucalybites auroguttella, Argyresthia brockeella, Plutella xylostella, Blastobasis adustella, Blastobasis lacticolella, Agapeta hamana, Agapeta zoegana, Pandemis cerasana, Pandemis cinnamomeana, Pandemis heparana, Tortrix viridana, Celypha lacunana, Hedya nubiferana, Apotomis turbidana, Epiblema uddmanniana, Epiblema trimaculana, Strophedra weirana, Chrysoteuchia culmella, Crambus lathoniellus, Catoptria falsella, Scoparia pyralella, Udea olivalis, Cryptoblabes bistriga, Pterophorus pentadactyla, Leopard, Ghost, Common Swift, Drinker, Peach Blossom, Buff Arches, Little Emerald, Clay Triple-lines, Riband Wave, Silver Ground Carpet, Garden Carpet, Shaded Broad-bar, Yellow Shell, Small Phoenix, Common Marbled Carpet, Green Carpet, July Highflyer, Pretty Chalk Carpet, Foxglove Pug, Freyer's Pug, Wormwood Pug, Larch Pug, Green Pug, Treble-bar, Small Yellow Wave, Scorched Carpet, Tawny-barred Angle, Brown Silver-line, Scorched Wing, Brimstone Moth, Peppered, Willow Beauty, Satin Beauty, Mottled Beauty, Common White Wave, Clouded Silver, Light Emerald, Elephant Hawk, Small Elephant Hawk, Buff-tip, Lobster, Iron Prominent, Maple Prominent, Red-necked Footman, Orange Footman, Turnip, Heart & Dart, Flame, Large Yellow Underwing, Ingrailed Clay, Purple

Clay, Setaceous Hebrew Character, Double Square-spot, Green Arches, Shears, Grey Arches, Broad-barred White, Clay, Shoulder-striped Wainscot, Minor Shoulder-knot, Coronet, Brown Rustic, Small Angle Shades, Dark Arches, Light Arches, Reddish Light Arches, Clouded-bordered Brindle, Clouded Brindle, Large Nutmeg, Small Dotted Buff, Treble Lines, Uncertain, Marbled White Spot, Burnished Brass, Beautiful Golden Y, Plain Golden Y, Straw Dot, Snout, Fan-foot, Small Fan-foot."