

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION UPPER THAMES BRANCH

Purple Emperor (*A. iris*) Report for 2011

Dennis Dell



Acknowledgements

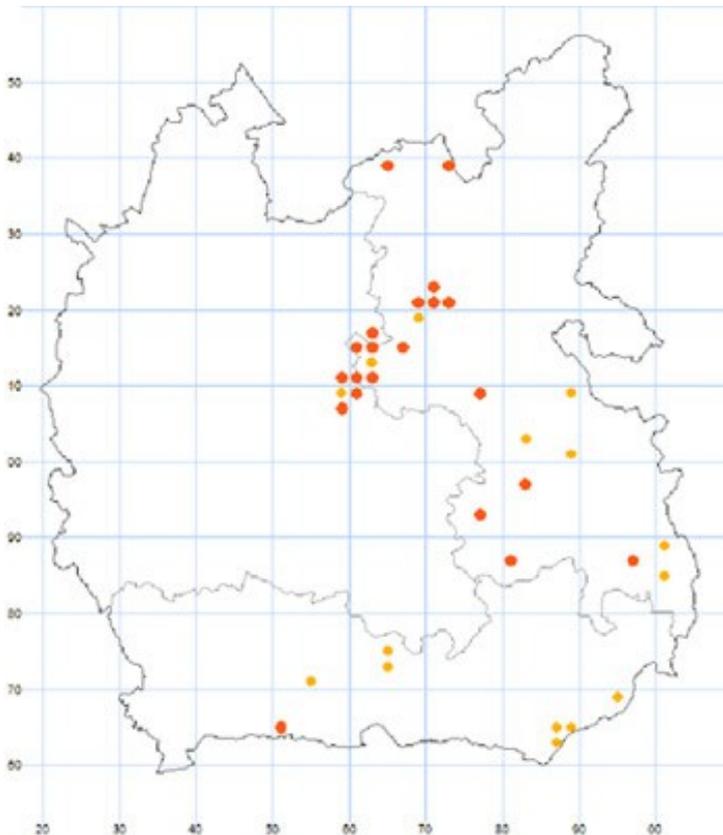
Thank you all once again for sending me your sightings. A special thanks is due to Wendy Campbell for regularly drawing my attention to sightings which are sent to her for the website. The Appendix indicates the recorders, not all members, who contributed to this report.

1. Introduction

The details of the individual observations are in the Appendix and the difficulty of recording numbers of individuals is still with us, so that the numbers given here can only be used as an approximation, but is still useful for comparing trends from year to year.

2. Summary

- The sightings at **217 (32 2km squares)** did not match last year's bumper numbers (393), but were still better than average.
- 6 new habitats were found.
- No new territories were found.
- The first observation was on June 20th. The season was brought to a premature end by the poor weather from the middle of July, with the last sightings on the 24th July.



A. *iris* distribution 2011 (data from Levana)

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Weather

It was the warmest **April** for 350 years and the sunniest since 1929. It was also exceptionally dry. **May** started fine and warm, then quickly became changeable and cloudy, but still very dry. Sunshine was about normal. **June** began fine, but gradually became unsettled with some very welcome rain. The end of the month brought very warm sunny weather. It was the coolest June, overall, since 2001. Sunshine levels were close to average for the whole month. The end of June and start of **July** was very warm and sunny. Subsequently, the weather deteriorated and most of the month was cooler than average for July, but still with a few sunny, warm, days. Strong winds and thundery showers during the 3rd week were followed by more settled and sunny weather at the end of the month.

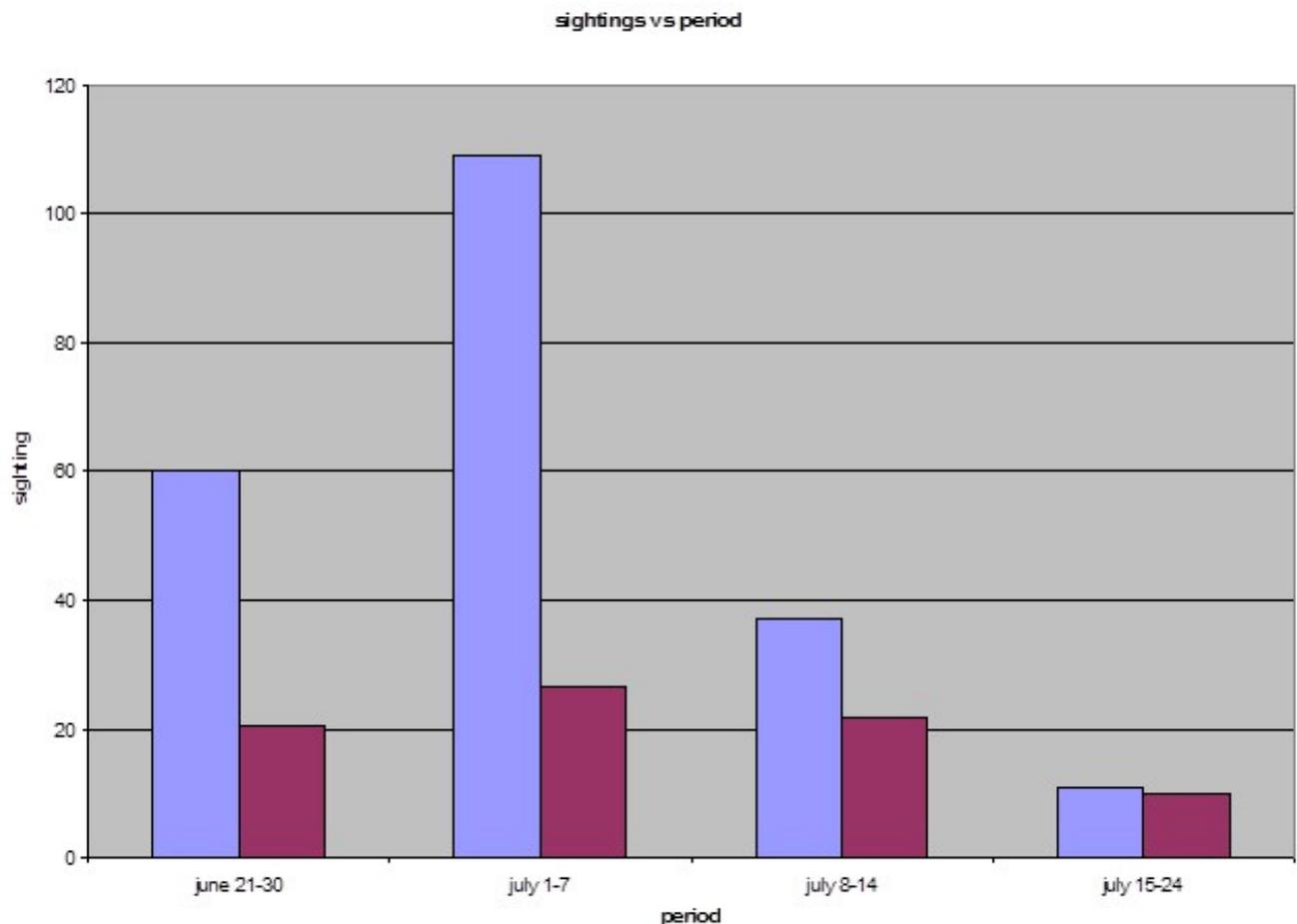
The weather influenced the *iris* season in that:

- 1) the very warm April accelerated larval development resulting in more sightings in June than in the previous 7 years;
- 2) the poor weather during the 3rd week in July curtailed the season.

3.2 Sightings

From 2009 we have seen a large increase in numbers compared with the period 2004 to 2008; 2009 and 2011 were similar, and 2010 was exceptional. Taken over the period of these annual reports, 2011 was certainly an above average year and continues the upward trend since 2004. This must be treated with caution, however, since more and more people have been sending in records.

The flight season was relatively short, lasting slightly less than 5 weeks (2010 was 6 weeks). As is well established, the beginning of July appeared to be the most productive period, although when this is normalised by the number of visits (purple), the differences over the period June 21st until July 14th are not great. It means that the chances of spotting *iris* are optimal from the last week in June until the middle of July.



Key:

Light blue = sightings;

Purple = sightings per visit x 10 - for example, for the period June 20th to June 30th, 28 visits were made (i.e. the number of separate occasions woods were visited) and 60 observations were made. The number of sightings (60) is divided by the number of visits (28) to get just over 2, then this is multiplied by ten so that it is visible on the graph.

3.3 Territories [male assembly areas]

- **Oakley Wood car park**
Most observations were made low down and on the ground, with little tree top activity observed.
- **Piddington Wood**
The glade, or vista, discovered by the Campbells a few years ago, is now difficult to view because of increased growth masking the views. The tall trees lining the south eastern corner at the meadow's edge seem to be a more reliable territory.
- **Little Wood**
This is arguably our best territory and has produced good displays of males clashing for some years now. This is also a south-east facing edge, at the top of a steep slope.
- **Finemere Wood**
Very little activity at the northern end high point this year. The intermediate high point, from the turning circle south to the next ride junction, produced quite intense activity on many days.

- **Greatsea Wood**

Although several are seen above the conifers at the high point edge every year, recent years indicate that no more are seen here than all along the track from the highest point down through the wood. In fact, Greatsea/Romer/Balmore Woods are proving to be one of our top habitats.

- **Rushbeds Wood**

A few sightings above the ashes at the edge of the wood bordering Lapland Farm meadows are made most years, but it is not really a high point: simply a spot offering good views into the canopy.

- **Hell Coppice old car park**

Another sighting above the Oaks, however this spot has not yet returned to its former glory as a major male assembly point, when several clashing males could be seen at the same time above the Oaks in the seventies and eighties.

3.4 'New' habitats

- **Buckleberry Common, Berks:**

On two successive days in June, a male was spotted on a garden wall, and then about 50m away on the next day.

- **Oakend Wood, near Gerrards Cross:**

This was an important discovery, because it is quite a distance from any known habitat.

- **Swinley Forest, Berks:**

Three independent sightings were made here, 11 days apart in different parts of the forest. This very large forest near Bracknell is in the south east corner of our region. The only other sighting from this part of Berks was at a window inside a conference centre on the western edge of Bracknell, a few years ago.

- **Angling Spring Wood, nr Gt Missenden:**

This is a new Chilterns record.

- **Naphill Common:**

Also a new Chilterns record.

- **Church Wood Hedgerley:**

We don't have many records from east of the Chilterns, in Bucks, so this is very gratifying. Black Park is the only established locality in this part of Bucks where sightings are made every year.

3.5 Some unusual observations

- Emma Turnbull lives in a cottage in Windsor Forest and she saw *iris* in her garden in 2010 on a Hosta leaf on which her dog had urinated and again this year when one flew very low over her duck pen and was very lucky to avoid the snapping beaks. Emma thinks that the attraction may have been the duck droppings.
- Giles Alder, the warden of the Warburg Reserve, found the wings and hollow thorax of a male (head missing) in a ride. He presumed this specimen had succumbed to a bird attack.
- Steve Croxford observed a male in Finemere Wood for 30 minutes as it landed on the ride. He noted a change in colour with time; this is discussed in detail on the Purple Emperor website, and is well worth reading. This was almost certainly a freshly emerged male and there is evidence that the purple colour takes some time to mature after emergence.

3.6 Habitat Changes

There have been significant tree felling programmes recently in some woods (Finemere and Chinkwell) and it will be interesting to see how this affects the *iris* populations. The thinning of Sallows in some parts of Oakley Wood does not seem to have affected the population; this was done in a sympathetic manner, i.e. where there was a dense line of Sallows along a ride, only every other tree was cut down. In Finemere Wood too, most of the important old Sallows lining the main track have been left alone, apart from some trimming of the lower branches.

4. Comments and plans

Every year records are obtained from new habitats. This species is clearly present in a large number of woods all over the Upper Thames region, although the populations vary enormously. The Bernwood Forest remnant woods, straddling the Bucks/Oxon border, still harbour the largest colonies. What we do not know, is what the smallest number of individuals within a wood is, which is sufficient to maintain a continuous presence from year

to year. What I have noticed over the years is that a new habitat reported one year is often not reported subsequently. I usually check with the recorder whether he/she has revisited the wood. One useful analysis of the data I intend to carry out is to list all the woods which have *iris* records for at least three successive years. In that way, it may be possible to separate transient from permanent populations.

There is only one part of our region from which we have very few records - north-west Oxfordshire. Looking at the map, it is not because of a lack of woods.

As mentioned previously, Berkshire is 'under-recorded'. Every year, I receive a few records from Berks, many of them new, but we have little evidence of major, permanent colonies. I know of only two: Bowdown Woods and Windsor Forest. I will also generate a distribution map for Berkshire, 2004-2011 which will show a wide distribution, although these were nearly all single sightings.

Dennis Dell

December 2011

APPENDIX: Details of A. Iris Sightings in the UTB area during 2011

(Red denotes a new habitat)

DATE	OBSERVER	LOCATION ^a grid reference	MICRO-LOCATION ^b grid reference	NUMBER SEEN AND SEX ^c	TIME ^d	WEATHER CONDITIONS	BEHAVIOUR ^e and comments
20.6	Tim Culley	SU555706	Garden wall	1M			Basking in sun; about 200m from nearest small wood; Buckleberry Common is the nearest big wood about 1km from this spot
21.6	Tim Culley	As yesterday, about 50m away	On kitchen window	1M			
22.6	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Little Wood	Northern edge territory: SP62451577	4	16.00 to 16.20	Hot and sunny	Mainly on and around the big Ash tree, but also around the Birches and Oak near ride entrance
23.6	Steve Croxford	Little Wood	Northern edge territory: SP62451577	2	14.10	Intermittent sun	On big Ash
23.6	David Redhead	Shabbington Wood	SP624 91066; ride surface	1F	16.32	17 degrees, overcast	Swooped down from trees and landed briefly
24.6	Chris Dennis	Little Wood	Northern edge territory: SP62451577	2M, 1F		Sunny intervals	On big Ash
25.6	Emma Turnbull	Windsor Forest	Cottage garden in middle of forest	1M	13.30		Flew low over duck pen, possibly attracted to the smells
25.6	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Stanton Little Wood	SP590113	1	16.50	Moderate, strong wind	Fleeting glimpse just above Oaks; reappeared after 10 mins and patrolled Oaks before returning to perch
26.6	Wendy & Mick Campbell, and	Waterperry Wood	SP60830987	1	13.00 to 14.40	Hot & sunny	Flew Across main ride and then away

	Dennis Dell						over the tree tops
26.6	Daniel Howard	Bernwood Forest		2			One grounded in Oakley Wood car park, and one above Oak at edge of Bernwood Meadows
26.6	Jill White	Bernwood Forest		1			
26.6	Steve Croxford	Oakley Wood	Car park SP61161161	1M	10.25	Hot and sunny	On path
26.6	Steve Croxford	Yorks Wood	SP61431084	1	11.55	Hot & sunny	Flying across ride
27.6	Martin Phipps	Oakley Wood	SP611116 car park	1M 1F			Female came down from trees and settled on Sallow; male appeared from trees briefly
27.6	Chris Lamsdell	Oakley Wood	By main car park on track by doggy bin SP612117	1F	12.00	Hot & sunny	Came down to ground briefly then flew up to canopy
27.6	Nigel Cleere	Bowdown Wood	Along tarmac strip to east of main central entrance on southern edge	1M	9.30	Hot & sunny	Patrolling along tarmac strip between Oaks and scrub landing frequently to obtain nutrients near dog excrement
27.6	Steve Croxford	Oakley Wood	Car park SP61171160	1	9.20	Hot & sunny	Patrolling ride
27.6	Steve Croxford	Little Wood, territory	SP62451580	1	9.20	Hot & sunny	Patrolling between large oaks
28.6	Giles Alder	Warburg reserve	SU71748795	1M	12.00	Hot & sunny	Found dead near Sallow; wings intact but head missing and thorax hollow: presumably bird attack
29.6	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Romer Wood	SP7133723226 [1], SP7148322844[2]	4	13.00 and 14.00	moderate	[1]Above poplars near main ride in brief sunny interval;[2] above Oak 70 yds before gate on main ride. Exiting by this gate and looking back saw one above the conifers, and then 15 mins later, two chasing towards Oak mentioned here.
29.6	Chris Lamsdell	Finemere Wood	SP719217 main track	3M	11.00	Hot & sunny	Down on slightly damp area of track; stayed for up to 5 mins then flew off along track

29.6	Chris Dennis & Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP718218 main track	4M	12.00 to 13.10	Moderate	All seen along ride, often landing. Interesting change in colour for one individual observed for 30 mins
29.6	Nick Board	Leckhampstead Wood	East side bridleway SP727396	2	11.25	Moderate 20 degrees	Gliding along bridleway
29.6	Wendy Wilson	Oakend Wood	TQ01378857	1M	11.00	Warm, sunny	This is near Gerrards Cross; seen above dead branches of Oak at southern end of wood chasing a large insect, sometimes settling briefly, then flew off into wood
29.6	Chris Dennis	Bernwood Meadows	Adjoining meadows on main ride from car park near small stream SP613112	1M 1F	10.00 to 11.30	Hot & sunny	
30.6	Nigel Cleere	Bowdown Wood	Central & southern parts of wood	1m 1F	10.30	Hot & sunny	Female resting on Sallows at edge of small clearing; male grounded about 100m distant spending 5-10 min on dog excrement
30.6	Steve Croxford, Dave Turnbull	Finemere Wood	Main track between SP71882177 and SP72002163	6 or 7 probably all males	10.20 to 11.45		About 14 sightings, 3 patrolling, and the rest on track
30.6	Matthew Oates, Dennis Dell, Nick Bowles, Christopher Prideaux, Dave Wilton, Paul Bowyer	Doddershall Wood	SP698205 along main north-south track	7	11.30 to 16.10	Moderate	Activity around tops of trees and several egg laying events observed
30.6	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Stanton Little Wood	SP5894011177	1F 1M	11.45 and 13.00	Moderate 22 degrees, sunny intervals	Female flew down from trees and out into field, around Mick, and back to wood; male flying over oak territory
1.7	Steve Croxford	Rushbeds Wood	SP66701554 and SP66671563 main track to meadows	4M	10.10 to 10.20	Sunny	All on track, 3 were 'mud puddling'
1.7	Nick Board	Leckhampstead Wood	1]SP727397, bridleway; 2] SP725402, glade; 3] SP727398, path	3, 1M and 1F	8.55 to 10.10	Sunny periods, cool breeze, 18 degrees	1] soaring around tops of Oaks 2] gliding through glade 3] probing for minerals on path

1.7	Steve Croxford	Chinkwell Wood	SP66581444 on track	1F	12.20	Cloudy	Came down from trees, settled on bracken, probing, then flew off
1.7	Steve Croxford	Piddington Wood	SP63111639 over road	1M	13.50		Flew out of hedge by layby, across road, round Oak tree there and then back towards Piddington Wood
1.7	Steve Croxford	Little Wood	SP62471579 territory	1M	14.20	Cloudy	Patrolling Oak
1.7	Wendy and Mick Campbell	Rushbeds Wood	SP667154 various places	5	12.00	Warm with sunny intervals	2 females flying low and often landing briefly, males above Oaks
1.7	Dennis Dell and Oliver Dallyn [Ernest Cook Trust who own the wood]	Boarstall Wood	SP6306813039 interior of wood [private]	1	12.15	Sunny intervals	On Sallow, then gliding across tops of trees before disappearing over ride
1.7	Dave Turnbull, Dave Wilton	Finemere Wood	SP718218 main track	2F, 1M			Females grounded
1.7	Becky Woodell	Oakley Wood	SP6102511259 and SP6109311226	3			
1.7	Chris Lamsdell	Black Park	1]TQ015846, by track from Fulmer rd towards 5 points; 2] TQ011841, bottom end of restored heath; 3] TQ016846, track from 5 points towards Fulmer rd, but nearer to Pinewood	1] and 2], 2 males, 3] 1 female	10.30 to 11.30	Hot & sunny	1] flew off bramble and away 2] flew along track low at bottom of restored heath and then up and away 3] landed on bracken for a couple of minutes before flying high
2.7	Steve Croxford	Rushbeds Wood	SP66691558 to SP66621577: track leading to Lapland meadows	15 sightings, probably 7 individuals	9.14 to 11.42	Warm and humid	All activities: oak edging, patrolling above oaks, landing on track; just one female, seen ovipositing
2.7	Nick Board	Leckhampstead Wood	SP727398 eastern edge bridleway	3			One landed on hand
2.7	Martin Phipps	1] Oakley Wood 2] Hell Coppice	1] SP611116 car park 2] SP611102 3] SP611102	1]1M 2] 1F 3] 1M	13.30 11.20 11.40	Hot and sunny	1] Male gliding in car park, settling on car, then on tree trunk at sap 2] gliding at head height between Oak and Hazel

							3] flying around tops of Oaks
2.7	Becky Woodell	Oakley Wood		3	11.55 to 13.30		Male landed on shoe, probed for about 2 minutes and then flew off; two flying along ride and then up into oaks
2.7	Emma Turnbull	Windsor Forest	Cottage garden in middle of forest	1			Flew over the garden, but it didn't land.
3.7	Dave Ferguson	Finemere Wood	SP722216 along east-west ride about 200m from main track	1	13.00	Sunny, warm	Flying around tops of two Oaks on north side of track
3.7	Becky Woodell and Tony Croft	Whitecross Green Wood	See comments	3	11.00 to 15.30		At 11.00, one at large Oak near bench; at 13.00, two above Ash near pond; at 15.30, same two [?] seen above this Ash.
3.7	Steve Croxford	Romer Wood	SP71342308 and SP71352310	2, 1F	12.30 to 12.38	Hazy sun	Female looking to lay; second flying up ride
3.7	Steve Croxford	Rushbeds Wood	SP66671566 and SP66621576	1F, 1M	15.00 to 15.10	Overcast	Female checking the Sallows; male looking to land in top pen corner
3.7	Dennis Dell	Waterperry Wood	Main north-south ride	3	9.30 to 12	No sun till 11, then hazy	One around Sallows[SP6057409098] on both sides of ride, another in trees 100m further north, and the third on farm buildings in dog kennels outside wood at SP6142509823
3.7	Wendy and Mick Campbell	Homefield Wood	1]SU8089387176 and 2]SU8087387173	2	13.00	Cloudy, cool	1] over Ash tree near Sallows 2] above conifers
3.7	Dave Wilton	Whitfield Wood	1] SP643394 2] SP641393	2	14.20 to 15.00		1] male flying up and down the canopy for about 10 mins without settling 2] female buzzed Dave as he was about to leave wood and then flew along line of Sallows
4.7	Wendy and Mick Campbell	1]Oakley Wood,	1] Shabbington Wood	1] 1	11.15 to 16.00	Warm, sunny, humid	1] flying fast above track in direction

		2]Yorks Wood, 3] Hell Coppice 4]Waterperry Wood	SP6154411168 2] Yorks Wood SP6121710512 3] Hell Coppice SP6115210279 4] Waterperry Wood	2] 2 3] 1 4] 6			of Oakley wood car park 2] chasing above Oaks above ride 3] grounded, probing for salts 4] two at SP6059909170, at 12.45, chasing high above Oaks along main ride One at SP6036009014, at 13.08, female flying low near track then off into wood One at SP6042308994, at 13.45, in Sallow, moving between leaves, probably ovipositing One at SP6054709025, at 14.20, flying around top of Oak One at SP6097710008, at 15.00, flying around Sallows, landing several times, appearing to oviposit on narrow leaved Sallow
4.7	Becky Woodell and Chris Bottrell	Whitecross Green Wood	Car park SP59971496	1	10.30		Circling in car park, subsequently flew into top of adjacent Oak
4.7	Chris Gent	Swinley Forest, Berks	1] SU867642 along track from lower star post near gate 8 2] Wishmoor Bottom SU8762	1M 1M	9.15 9.30	Bright and sunny	1]Flew low over ferns, then settled on gravel track 2] settled in Birch
4.7	Chris Lamsdell	Shabbington Wood	SP620110 main track	1M	11.30	Hot & sunny	Flying along ride at about 10-15'
4.7	Steve Croxford, Dennis Dell	Finemere Wood	SP71218 along main track,	8	10.30 to 15.40		12 sightings along track, on dog faeces, skimming along ride and Oak

			and at high point SP714222				edging; 2 were at the high point above the Ashes
5.7	Mick Campbell	Piddington and Little Woods	1]Piddington, meadow edge SP63041630 2] Little, Ash territory SP62451577	5	10.00	Hot, sunny	1] four over Oaks at edge of wood 2] one over big Ash
5.7	Mick Campbell	Stanton Gt Wood		1			
5.7	Nick Board	Leckhampstead Wood	SP727397 eastern bridleway SP725398 middle of wood	2, 1M			
5.7	Dave Wilton	Doddershall Wood	SP698205 main north-south ride	1M	11.30	Sunny	Gliding above Oaks on both sides of the ride for about 5 mins
5.7	Ray Tomlin, Tony Marshall	Angling Spring Wood	SP888010 eastern edge of wood	1F	10.00	Warm and sunny	Drinking from wet mud on main ride in open spring area for a few minutes then flew to tops of surrounding beeches
5.7	Steve Croxford	Greatsea Wood	SP71472281 and SP71452299	2M	11.35 to 11.45	Sunny	On track by top gate; other on track half way down towards Romer Wood
5.7	Steve Croxford	Ham Wood	SP69351912	1	13.25	Cloudy	Half way along ride, patrolling Ash
5.7	Dennis Dell, Steve Croxford, Prem Roy and Roger Kemp	Finemere Wood	SP718218 central ride about half way up	4	9.15 to 12.52	Sunny, 24 degrees	Male on dog faeces for considerable time[30 mins]; one on Aspen nearby, and third around Sallow there. Also settling on our shoes for some time
6.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP71942170 main ride	1M	am	Sunny intervals and windy	Oak edging
6.7	Steve Croxford	Little Wood	SP624157 high point territory	5	14.50 to 15.10	Sunny with stiff breeze	3 around big Ash, and 2 around Oak engaged in aerial combat

6.7	Dennis Dell	Baltimore Wood	SP7142823093 sallows on edge of ride between Baltimore and Greatsea Woods	2F	13.10 to 13.30		Females ovipositing high up in Sallows
7.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP71862176 and SP71962167	2	10.00 to 10.20	Sunny intervals	One feeding from Oak trunk at height of 25 feet; the other patrolling Oaks along main ride
9.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP71932171	2M	11.00		Patrolling Oaks along main ride
9.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Holton Wood	SP5995307890	2M, 1F	14.00	Sunny intervals, stiff breeze	Males over Oaks in main ride; female flying in rideside trees, landing in Sallows, leaf hopping, presumably ovipositing
9.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Sergeant's Wood	SP8352403682	1	16.40	As above	Seen in short glide over Ashes near two big Sallows
9.7	Dennis Dell and 20 others [field meeting]	Bernwood Forest	Oakley Wood, Yorks Wood, Hell Coppice, Shabbington Wood	4 [2F]	10.30 to 15.00	Poor, showery with a few sunny spells	One female in Yorks wood behaved strangely: low down in scrub, landing briefly on low branches: no Sallow there. One settled for a long time in Oakley Wood car park high up in Oak
10.7	Dennis Dell and 20 others [field meeting]	Bernwood Forest	Oakley Wood, Yorks Wood, Hell Coppice, Shabbington Wood	7 [5M, 2F]	10.30 to 15.00	Sunny spells, 22 degrees	Apart from one in the trees in York's Wood, all were down on the main track running through Oakley and Shabbington Woods
10.7	Steve Croxford	Baltimore Wood	SP71362319	1M	11.40	Sunny intervals	Sallow edging
10.7	Steve Croxford	Rushbeds Wood	SP66651570	1F	16.20		On track
10.7	Chris Dennis	Hell Coppice	SP60751065 north west corner of hell coppice	1F	12.20 to 13.00	cloudy	There is a large Oak and a line of Sallows at this spot
10.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Penley Wood	SU7644393762 nr crossroads of main ride	3	12.35 to 13.30	Cloudy, 20 degrees	At least one was a female, landing on Sallow; one flying above big Ash, third flew across track to Sallow

11.7	Chris Lamsdell	Rushbeds Wood	SP665157 along main track near meadows	1M	11.00	Moderate	Flying along ride at about 4' then into trees
11.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP718218 along main track	1M	13.10	Warm & sunny	Patrolling oaks
11.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Wendover Woods	SP8907008568	1	10.40 to 13.30	Hot & sunny	Gliding over trees
12.7	Chris Dennis	Hell Coppice	SP60751065 N-W corner of Hell Coppice	1			Same spot as CD made his observation on 10.7
14.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Naphill Common	SU8349397002 nr Sallows	3	14.00	Warm & sunny	1 st flying slowly across ride, 2 nd around Oak gliding for 1 min., 3 rd further down track, oak edging
14.7	David Redhead and Mick Fry [reported by DR]	Shabbington Wood Oakley Wood	SP62491070 And Oakley Wood car park	2F [female in car park 11.30 to 13.17]			Came down from trees but disappeared quickly
14.7	David McBrien et al	Church Wood, Hedgerley	On Chiltern Society footpath HE13, just south of Church Wood about 100 yds to the east of its junction with footpath HE11	2F, possibly 3	11.45 to 12.00	Warm & sunny	First seen grounded then flew along wood edge and off into wood; then, shortly after, two seen flying northwards from grass field into the wood; definitely females
14.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood Little Wood	SP71932172 SP71942170 SP62431576	1M, 1F 1M	9.15 16.20	Sunny Sunny	Female on track then basking on Sallow; male on track On high point territory
15.7	John Ward -Smith	Swinley Forest, Berks	SU888645 Bush Fields	1M	11.00	Cloudy with sunny intervals, 19 degrees	Put up from damp soil beside drainage ditch on east side of of ride; flew into the canopy
19.7	Dave Ferguson	Black Park	TQ014846 ride in Strawberry Wood	1	12.15	Sunny, warm	Flying around top of oak on west side of ride
19.7	Steve Croxford	Little Wood	SP62431576 high point	1M	17.00	Sunny intervals, 19	On Ash territory

			territory			degrees	
21.7	Dave Brown	Stanton Great Wood	SP588098 garden by wood	1F	11.40	Bright & warm	Flitting around garden, landed on bucket containing dog faeces
22.7	Wendy & Mick Campbell	Little Wood	SP6246915789 Territory at top of wood	2	14.15	Warm, sunny spells	One male around top of oak for 10 mins, then flew down into wood; second appeared from behind big Ash and perched there.
22.7	Becky Woodell	Whitecross Green Wood	SP6012914591	1F	pm		Flying low from willow bushes to others on other side of ride
24.7	Michael Hunt	Grendon/Doddershall Woods		2F			
24.7	Steve Croxford	Finemere Wood	SP71942172	1F	13.40	Hot & sunny	Flew across ride and over an Oak
24.7	Michael Field & Lee Hurrell	Bernwood forest	SP608113 near Meadows car park	1F	13.15	Hot & sunny	Gliding above meadow, appearing from the direction of Oakley Wood, flying west over road towards Studley Wood!