

# BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION UPPER THAMES BRANCH

## Wood White Species Champion Report 2025

Nick Board



The weather in Spring was warm and mainly settled although it wasn't until the end of May and into June that more sunny spells appeared.

The warm weather continued throughout the summer although July and August were a little unsettled

The early conditions proved more favourable than previous years for the emergence of Wood White and, whilst we wait for any IRecord details, in the north of the county it was first seen on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May at Wicken Wood when 15 were recorded

Previously first recorded sightings at Wicken were:

2022 10<sup>th</sup> May

2023 20<sup>th</sup> May

2024 18<sup>th</sup> May

Sightings remained strong and consistent throughout May with numbers reaching 30+ on the 13<sup>th</sup> May at Wicken and 25+ on the 31<sup>st</sup> May at the privately owned Leckhampstead Wood.

Neighbouring Bucknell Wood and Hazelborough Wood also had good numbers of sightings throughout May and into June (See Northants BC Sightings Report for 2025)

Not guaranteed every year, but a second brood throughout the last three weeks in July saw a last recorded sighting on the 13<sup>th</sup> July

Work continues with local landowners to offer advice about the suitability of their woodland environment for Wood White and how to protect it whilst they manage their own challenges around deforestation and replanting of trees.

