



# Huntingdonshire Moth & Butterfly Group

Newsletter No 15

September 2000

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## A Clouded Yellow Year

There have been many sightings of the **Clouded Yellow** during August and early September, making this the best year for the butterfly since at least 1983. Notable records include 60+ near St. Ives, around 40 at Diddington, 20 or more at Little Paxton Pits, a dozen or so in the fields and grasslands around Grafham Water, as well as single specimens from various parks, gardens and golf courses. Please report all sightings

to Barry with dates and a grid reference, as he intends to plot them all on a map for inclusion in our annual report.

As regards migrant moths, the **Silver Y** has been exceedingly numerous, with an estimated 20,000 seen on one day in late August in a meadow near Grafham Water. There have also been some **Rush Veneers** in the county, and two **Hummingbird Hawkmoths** were seen in St. Neots in July.

## GREMLINS

Apologies to anyone who has tried to e mail info to me. Due to a typographical error, the address printed at the top of the last two newsletters was incorrect. I have now changed my e mail address, which appears in the header of this newsletter and is definitely correct!

-AB

### National Moth Night Saturday 23rd September

Meet at Little Paxton Pits reserve car park at 6.30pm. If anyone can't make this time, please contact Barry so he can arrange for the gate on the reserve to be unlocked. If you have a mobile phone, please bring it. Paxton Pits is a large site and mobiles should prove useful. We plan to trap until midnight, but will finish sooner if the catch is sparse. For more details, ring Barry on 01480 475689.

**Stop Press:** The date for National Moth Night 2001 will be August 11, to tie in with the flight period of the White Spotted Pinion. More details will be published nearer to the time.

## White Spotted Pinion

*The survey of this local speciality species continued into early September, and resulted in the moth being found in two new sites. This was despite rather low numbers in established locations. A full report of this year's work will be published in the annual report.*

### .....Annual Report.....

Despite the change in dates for winter meetings, the deadline for the annual report remains February 1st. However, the earlier Barry receives these the better as it makes completion of the report much easier.

## Winter Meetings

The First of three winter meetings takes place at Brampton Methodist Church Hall on October 4th. A map of the location is enclosed with this report. Please do not park in front of the houses next to the church. A large lay by is situated a few yards down the road in front of the school; please park there instead.

Dates

Wednesday 4th October 2000: Mac Simpson on antiquarian moth and butterfly equipment.

Wednesday 10th January 2001: Nick Greatorex-Davies; Garden Moths.

Wednesday 11th April 2001; Member's evening & quiz.

All meetings start at 8.00p.m.

### Other dates

AES, Kempton Park:  
Saturday 7th October,  
doors open at 11.00am.  
BENHS Exhibition  
Imperial College, South  
Kensington: Saturday  
11th November.

● Next Year's Newsletters are planned for April, July & September. Information should be sent to the address at the top of the page.

\*\*Members are reminded that subs are due at the first meeting. £5.00 single, £6.00 joint.\*\*