



# Huntingdonshire Moth & Butterfly Group

Newsletter No 17

July 2001

All information to :- Andrew Booth, 55, Avenue Road, St. Neots, Cambs, PE19 1LJ.  
Phone 01480 472076. e mail: erato@talk 21.com

## BUTTERFLIES SCARCE

The Marbled White colony at St. Neots station is in good shape, and a new site for this butterfly has been found at Stangate Hill. Two individuals were also seen at Paxton Pits on July 1st. The Black Hairstreaks in Brampton Wood appear to be having a better year, with a number of sightings in the second half of June. A new colony of White Letter Hairstreaks has been located in the wood, at the top end of the main ride. Generally, though, numbers of butterflies are still well down on what would be expected.

## MOTH NUMBERS PICKING UP

After a slow start to the season, the moth populations seem to be on the up, with around 90 species recorded in Brampton Wood in the 1st week of July. An Orange Footman was recorded there on May 26th. This is a scarce moth in our part of the country. There have also been a smattering of new county records, which will be detailed in the annual report.

## Winter Meetings 2001-2002 Update

We have now booked the new hall at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park for our winter meetings. We have four dates this winter; October 3rd, December 5th, February 13th & April 10th. Speakers will be detailed in with the next newsletter, with which will also be included a map. Hu.M.B.G. has been given a discount for the hall, on proviso that members do some recording. Any records, not limited to butterflies & moths, will be appreciated, and should be sent to Barry, who will pass them on.

### National Moth Night

National Moth Night goes ahead on Saturday August 11th, despite the aftermath of the foot and mouth epidemic. The target moth this year is the White Spotted Pinion. It is hoped to trap Aversley Wood, since Raveley Wood is still closed, being next to cow pasture. Anyone interested should contact Barry as soon as possible.

### Belgium

Despite some poor weather, which prevented any moth trapping, an interesting and enjoyable weekend was had by attending members, with a number of European butterflies sighted. A full account will appear in the next annual report.

**Large Blue**  
Sunday July 15th

The site in near Cheddar Gorge, where the Swedish race of this butterfly was introduced some years ago, has just been given the all clear, and we plan to go there on the above date. The short notice is unavoidable, since notification only arrived on July 7th, therefore if you would like to go contact Barry urgently. Places are likely to be limited.

● The next newsletter is due for publication in early September. Information should be sent to the address at the top of the page.