

Huntingdonshire Moth & Butterfly Group

Newsletter No 20 July 2002



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NATIONAL MOTH NIGHT: RESULTS

Thirteen lights were run across Woodwalton Fen on June 15th, with an impressive count of 177 species, despite some rain in the early hours. Traps were also run at Kimbolton & Catworth, and the total for the night from all sites is 190. There is one new county record, the tortrix *Phtheochroa sodaliana*. There were no **Concolorous** recorded on the site.

OTHER MOTH RECORDS

5/7/01, *Momochroa lucidella*, (Andrew Frost, new county record).

Feb 02, *Adoxophyes orana*, (David Evans, Ramsey, new county record).

Spuleria flavicaput, 11/5/02 (Nick Greatorex-Davies, first record since VCH).

Request

The County Recorder (Barry Dickerson) would like to remind those submitting butterfly and moth records to include a tetrad number or grid reference with records. The name of a site is not enough, as sites often have more than one square. If you need assistance working out references, contact Barry.

Winter Schedule Update

The venue for 2002-03 is confirmed as the smaller meeting room at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park.

The three slots for speakers have now been filled. The line-up is as follows:

Wednesday October 2nd 2002: Nick Greatorex-Davies & Barry Dickerson. Dissection Workshop. A fun introduction to identifying moths by dissection. Microscopes, equipment and moths all provided.

Come along and have a go!

Wednesday December 4th 2002: Peter Rowlings. Butterflies and moths from the Mediterranean.

Wednesday February 12th 2003: Nick Greatorex-Davies. Micro moths.

Wednesday April 9th 2003: Member's night. Bring slides, specimens and other items of interest. Take part in devious but entertaining quiz!

Butterflies

Despite some indifferent summer weather, some species are having a good year. The **Black Hairstreak** has been seen in good numbers in Brampton Wood, as has the **White Admiral**. Around 40 **Marbled Whites** were seen on an afternoon at Stangate Hill near the end of June. First brood **Holly Blues** were numerous in places during April and May, whilst the **Ringlet** seems to have emerged early on many sites.

Large Heath

The trip to see the Large Heath at Crowle Marsh in North Lincolnshire was a success. After a spot of early confusion about the meeting place ("We're on the site. Where are you?" "No, we're on the site. Where are you?") we set out across the moor as the weather brightened up. At first there were no Large Heath to be seen, but then we met a man on a large quad bike with fifty friends (all of them sheep). He proved to be the site warden, and as he fed the sheep he directed us to the part of the reserve where the butterflies were most likely to be found. When we reached that area the sun came out and with it numerous Large Heaths. Everyone was able to take plenty of photos. A full account will appear in the annual report.

Trip Cancelled

We have had to cancel the two day trip to see the **Lulworth Skipper** in August due to lack of interest.

Reminder

This is the last newsletter but one unless a new editor comes forward. Contact Barry if you would like to take over.



Images from Crowle Moor

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