

Bristol & District Moth Group field meeting
Troopers Hill, Bristol ST627 735
18th June 2005.

Present: John Aldrich, Ray Barnett, Rupert Higgins, John Martin, Steve Ogden.
Bristol City Council Local Nature Reserves officer – Sally Oldfield, Friends of Troopers Hill – Rob and Susan Acton-Campbell and approximately 35 members of the Friends of Troopers Hill and the general public.

A very warm and extremely humid day was followed by very similar conditions at night with the temperature remaining close to 20°C. These ideal conditions were only slightly hampered by a slight breeze and a rather large moon. Three MV traps were operated by RB (x1), JM (x1) and SO (x1) from 21.45 until 12.30. This was the first time that the site had ever been trapped and consequently nearly all records are new. The site has an interesting mix of habitat with heather, bell heather, broom and gorse with grassland and scrub.

0017	Common Swift	<i>Hepialus lupulinus</i> (L.)	
0148	<i>Nemophora degeerella</i> (L.)		
0254	<i>Leucoptera laburnella</i> (Stt.)	Laburnum Leaf miner	
0281	<i>Caloptilia populetorum</i> (Zell.)		
0411	<i>Argyresthia goedartella</i> (L.)		
0641	<i>Batia lambdella</i> (Don.) (Historic)		
0776	<i>Teleiopsis diffinis</i> (Haw.)		
0874	<i>Blastobasis decolorella</i> (Woll.)		
0905	<i>Blastodacna hellerella</i> (Dup.)		
0937	<i>Agapeta hamana</i> (L.)		
0968	<i>Cochylis nana</i> (Haw.)		
0970	<i>Pandemis cerasana</i> (Hb.)	Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	
0972	<i>Pandemis heparana</i> (D. & S.)	Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix	
0994	<i>Clepsis consimilana</i> (Hb.)		
0998	<i>Epiphyas postvittana</i> (Walk.)	Light Brown Apple Moth	
1011	<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i> (Fabr.)		
1033	<i>Tortrix viridana</i> (L.)	Green Oak Tortrix	
1063	<i>Celypha striana</i> (D. & S.)		
1076	<i>Celypha lacunana</i> (D. & S.)		
1083	<i>Heydia nubiferana</i> (Haw.)	Marbled Orchard Tortrix	
1133	<i>Epinotia bilunana</i> (Haw.)		
1169	<i>Gypsonoma dealbana</i> (Frol.)		
1175	<i>Epiblema uddmanniana</i> (L.)	Bramble Shoot Moth	
1177	<i>Epiblema rosaecolana</i> (Doubl.)		
1219	<i>Lathronympha strigana</i> (Fabr.)		
1229	<i>Pammene albuginana</i> (Guen.) (to be confirmed)		
1293	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i> (L.)		
1301	<i>Crambus lathionellus</i> (Zinck.)		
1333	<i>Scoparia pyralella</i> (D. & S.)		
1334	<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i> (Treits.)		
1361	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i> (Scop.)		
1376	<i>Eurrhypara hortulata</i> (L.)	Small Magpie	(photo)
1377	<i>Perinephela lancealis</i> (D. & S.)		
1392	<i>Udea olivalis</i> (D. & S.)		
1428	<i>Aphomia sociella</i> (L.)	Bee Moth	

1481	<i>Homoeosoma sinuella</i> (Fab.)	
1653	Buff Arches	<i>Habrosyne pyritoides</i> (Hufn.)
1654	Figure of Eighty	<i>Tethea ocularis</i> (L.) ssp. <i>octogesimea</i> (Hb.)
1728	Garden Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata fluctuata</i> (L.)
1738	Common Carpet	<i>Epirrhoe alternata alternata</i> (Mull.)
1764	Common Marbled Carpet	<i>Chloroclysta truncata</i> (Hufn.)
1813	Haworth's Pug	<i>Eupithecia haworthiata</i> Doubl.
1819	Mottled Pug	<i>Eupithecia exiguata exiguata</i> (Hb.)
1827	Freyer's Pug	<i>Eupithecia intricata</i> (Zett.) ssp. <i>arceuthata</i> (Frey.)
1860	Green Pug	<i>Pasiphila rectangulata</i> (L.)
1876	Small Yellow Wave	<i>Hydrelia flammeolaria</i> (Hufn.)
1883	Yellow-barred Brindle	<i>Acasis viretata</i> (Hb.)
1887	Clouded Border	<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i> (L.)
1902	Brown Silver-line	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i> (Scop.)
1906	Brimstone Moth	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i> (L.) (photo)
1931	Peppered Moth	<i>Biston betularia</i> (L.) (photo)
1941	Mottled Beauty	<i>Alcis repandata repandata</i> (L.)
1958	Clouded Silver	<i>Lomographa temerata</i> (D. & S.)
1961	Light Emerald	<i>Campaea margaritata</i> (L.)
1981	Poplar Hawk-moth	<i>Laothoe populi</i> (L.)
1991	Elephant Hawk-moth	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i> (L.)
1992	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i> (L.) (photo)
2039	Red-necked Footman	<i>Atolmis rubricollis</i> (L.)
2060	White Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i> (L.) (photo)
2088	Heart & Club	<i>Agrotis clavis</i> (Hufn.)
2089	Heart & Dart	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i> (L.)
2092	Shuttle-shaped Dart	<i>Agrotis puta puta</i> (Hb.)
2098	Flame	<i>Axylia putris</i> (L.)
2102	Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i> (L.)
2107	Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i> (L.)
2109	Lesser Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua comes</i> Hb.
2120	Ingrailed Clay	<i>Diarsia mendica mendica</i> (Fabr.)
2128	Double Square-spot	<i>Xestia triangulum</i> (Hufn.)
2147	Shears	<i>Hada plebeja</i> (L.)
2150	Grey Arches	<i>Polia nebulosa</i> (Hufn.)
2160	Bright-line Brown-eye	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i> (L.)
2193	Clay	<i>Mythimna ferrago</i> (Fabr.)
2199	Common Wainscot	<i>Mythimna pallens</i> (L.)
2205	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Mythimna comma</i> (L.)
2289	Knot Grass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i> (L.)
2306	Angle Shades	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i> (L.)
2321	Dark Arches	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i> (Hufn.)
2322	Light Arches	<i>Apamea lithoxyloa</i> (D. & S.)
2330	Dusky Brocade	<i>Apamea remissa</i> (Hb.)
2337	Marbled Minor	<i>Oligia strigilis</i> (L.)
2339	Tawny Marbled Minor	<i>Oligia latruncula</i> (D. & S.)
2340	Middle-barred Minor	<i>Oligia fasciuncula</i> (Haw.)
? 2343	Common Rustic	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> (L.) ? Genitalia not checked
2380	Treble-lines	<i>Charanyca trigammica</i> (Hufn.)
2387	Mottled Rustic	<i>Caradrina morpheus</i> (Hufn.)
2422	Green Silver-lines	<i>Pseudoips prasinana</i> (L.) ssp. <i>britannica</i> Warren (ph)
2441	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i> (L.)
2463	Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i> (L.)
2473	Beautiful Hook-tip	<i>Laspeyria flexula</i> (D. & S.)
2474	Straw Dot	<i>Rivula sericealis</i> (Scop.)
2477	Snout	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i> (L.)
2492	Small Fan-foot	<i>Herminia grisealis</i> (D. & S.)

Odonata

Common Blue Damselfly *Enallagma cyathigerum* (Charp.)

Hemiptera

Birch Shieldbug *Elasmotherethus interstinctus* (L.)

Grassbug *Leptopterna dolabrata* (L.)

Common Froghopper *Philaneus spumarius* (Fall.)

Orthoptera

Dark Bush-cricket larva *Pholidoptera griseoptera* (DeG.)

Conehead larva (? Long-winged) *Conocephalus ?discolor* (Thunb.)

Field Grasshopper larva *Chorthippus brunneus* (Thunb.)

Meadow Grasshopper larva *Chorthippus parallelus* (Zett.)

Dermaptera

Earwig larva *Forficula auricularia* L.

Coleoptera

Lesser Stag Beetle *Dorcus parallelipedus* (L.)

Cardinal Beetle *Cantharis rufa* L.

Seven-spot Ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata* L.

Orange Ladybird *Halyzia 16-guttata* (L.)

An interesting species list emphasising the importance of this site for grassland, heathland and birch scrub/woodland. The considerable numbers of the Shears, Shoulder-striped Wainscot and the Heart and Club reflected the grassland community. The single Burnet Companion had presumably been disturbed from a roost in the grass as it is a day flying species.

Batia lambdella is a specialist feeder associated with gorse (a species noted on the 2005 field meetings list as worth seeking in such habitat). *B. lambdella* was recorded at this site in 2000 by Dave Gibbs but is the only known site in the region at present. Small Elephant Hawk is more a species of heathy habitat than its commoner and larger cousin the Elephant Hawk.

Caloptilia populetorum is a first record for the region. It is a local species across southern England and as a larva feeds on birch. *Cochylis nana* is very local in the region and confined to a few birch woodland sites. *Epinotia bilunana* is another fairly local birch feeding species. The most interesting macro-moth of the night was probably the Red-necked Footman which occurs locally across the region in woodland and occasionally appears as a migrant. The larvae feed on lichens growing on deciduous trees.

Ray Barnett