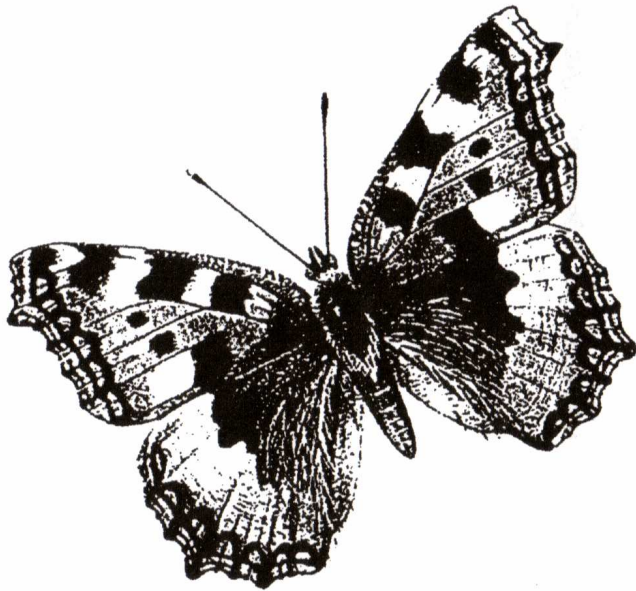


# BUTTERFLY AND MOTH EVENTS in Dorset

No. 69

Autumn 2011



Compiled by the Dorset  
Branch of Butterfly  
Conservation

## Butterfly Conservation Dorset Branch

Butterfly Conservation is an organisation dedicated to saving wild butterflies and moths and their habitats. Dorset has a very active branch of the Society, which as well as carrying out conservation work, organises guided walks and survey days.

- **Everybody is welcome to all events**, except the few marked 'members only'
- **Most events are free** - if there is a charge it will be mentioned in the listing, unless it is an event put together by another organisation, when we may not have received the relevant information
- **Butterflies will not fly unless it is fairly warm and sunny**, so if the weather makes you dubious you are welcome to phone the contact listed for each walk
- **Some of the walks are on private land** which is not open to the public at times other than those stated
- **Conservation Work Days start at 10.00 am** (ending around 3.30 pm) and are suitable for all the family except the very young. Children should be accompanied. Please wear stout footwear and protective gloves, and bring a packed lunch. You are advised to ensure your tetanus injections are up to date.

**For further information about the Society, please contact the  
Branch Secretary Sue Rawles on  
01305 268471 or [srawles11@btinternet.com](mailto:srawles11@btinternet.com), or visit the website:  
[www.dorsetbutterflies.com](http://www.dorsetbutterflies.com)**

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION

Company limited by guarantee

Registered in England (2206468)

Registered Office: Manor Yard, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5QP  
Charity registered in England & Wales (254937) and in Scotland (SCO39268)

Tel: 01929 400209 Fax 01929 400210

email: [info@butterfly-conservation.org](mailto:info@butterfly-conservation.org)

[www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

**SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER**  
**WOODLAND MANAGEMENT DAY**

**Duncliffe Hill (North Dorset)**

Work parties meet monthly at this Woodland Trust site to carry out a variety of conservation tasks, such as coppicing, tree thinning and scrub clearance aimed at creating better and more varied habitats for butterflies and the other fauna and flora of the wood.

Meet 10.00 am in Scotchey Lane, Stour Provost adjacent to the west entrance to the wood, map reference ST 816223.

Contact is Ian Hounsell on 01747 841089.

**SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY AT ALNERS GORSE**

We continue the woodland and scrub management work. There will be a bonfire with soup and baked potatoes for lunch.

Do join us if you can between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.

Alners Gorse reserve entrance is on the road from Hazelbury Bryan to Kings Stag beside the Hazelbury Bryan village sign and 30mph sign. Park on the road verge well away from the bend, map reference ST 736100.

For further information please contact Nigel Spring on 01963 23559 or 07981 776767, or email [nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

**SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

**Fifehead Wood (North Dorset)**

Organised by the Woodland Trust, conservation tasks are primarily the continuation of rotational hazel coppicing and general maintenance of rides and paths.

Meet 10.00 am at the lay-by on the road from the A30 (mid-way between Sherborne and Shaftesbury) to the village of Fifehead Magdalen, map reference ST 779217.

Contact is Tony Copper on 01963 250415.

**SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER**  
**PRACTICAL CONSERVATION DAY**

**Giant Hill, Cerne Abbas**

This grassland hillside is a crucial domain of five species of our downland Blues - with a constant requirement for the clearance of invasive bramble, scrub and trees.

We would aim to start around 10.00 am and finish by 4.00 pm, so bring a packed lunch if staying for both morning and afternoon.

Our meeting point is in the picnic area car park opposite the village hall, OS Map Ref ST 663015.

Contact is Adam Gale on 01935 508842 or 07557 358587.

## **SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER**

### **CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

#### **Lydlinch Common (North Dorset)**

Lydlinch is part of an area crucial to the Marsh Fritillary, and conservation work is vital to ensure that the habitat is kept suitable for its survival at this site.

Meet 10.00 am and park in the lay-by just outside the village on the Sherborne to Sturminster road, map reference ST 736137.

Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219.

## **SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER**

### **CONSERVATION ACTION DAY AT ALNERS GORSE**

See October 9 for details.

## **SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER**

### **CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

#### **Cashmoor Down (North Dorset)**

Today's task is scrub removal from banks as well as strimming the cleared areas.

Meet 10.00 am at the top of the bridleway that leaves the A354 at the eastern end of the Cashmoor 50mph speed restriction, map reference ST 980139.

Contact is Arthur Bryant on 01202 892816.

## **WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER**

### **CONSERVATION ACTION DAY AT ALNERS GORSE**

#### **Joint with BTCV mid-week group**

See October 9 for details.

## **SATURDAY 12 NOVEMBER**

### **CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

#### **Broadcroft Quarry Butterfly Reserve, Portland**

Broadcroft is Dorset Butterfly Conservation's reserve managed specifically for butterflies, notably the Silver-studded Blue.

To find the reserve, turn off Easton Road into Grove Road and about 100 yards on, turn right onto a track (opposite Portland Football Club) which leads to the car park, map reference SY 695723.

Meet 10.00 am.

Contact is Bernard Franklin on 07711 304412 or Nigel Spring on 01963 23559.

## **SATURDAY 12 NOVEMBER**

### **WOODLAND MANAGEMENT DAY**

#### **Duncliffe Hill**

See October 1 for details

## **SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER**

### **NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This year's AGM will be held at Cheltenham Racecourse in Cheltenham.

Full details in national newsletter 'Butterfly' no. 108 and on the BC national website [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)

## **SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER**

### **CONSERVATION WORK DAY 4 Fifehead Wood**

See October 15 for details

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**  
**Lankham Bottom Reserve**  
**Joint with DCV**

We continue the task of gorse and thorn scrub clearance on this important downland reserve.

Meet 10.00 am. The reserve entrance is off the minor road from Cattistock to the A37 about ½ mile from the A37. Park inside the metal gate at map reference ST 606004.

Contact is Nigel Spring on 01963 23559 or 07981 776767 or email [nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

**SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**  
**Lydlinch Common (North Dorset)**  
See October 30 for details.

**WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**  
**Lankham Bottom Reserve**  
**Joint with BTCV mid-week group**  
See November 26 for details

**SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**  
**AT ALNERS GORSE**  
See October 9 for details

**SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER**  
**WOODLAND MANAGEMENT DAY**  
**Duncliffe Hill**  
See October 1 for details.

**SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER**  
**BROWN HAIRSTREAK EGG SEARCH**  
**Alners Gorse and Rooksmoor Common**

Brown Hairstreak eggs are quite easy to see once you know what to look for and are more easily counted than the elusive butterflies which spend most of their lives in the treetops.

Brown Hairstreaks are very rare in Dorset, so this is an important exercise. Training will be given.

Wear waterproof footwear, bring a magnifying glass or botanical lens if you have one, and a packed lunch if attending all day.

10.30 am Alners Gorse map reference ST 737100.

1.30 pm Berry Farm, Rooksmoor off the B3143, map reference ST 737115.

Contact is Brian Dicker on 01963 32453, or his mobile 07817 301203 on the day.

**SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**  
**Fifehead Wood**

See October 15 for details.

**SATURDAY 7 JANUARY 2012**  
**WOODLAND MANAGEMENT DAY**

**Duncliffe Hill**  
See October 1 for details.

**SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2012**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**  
**AT ALNERS GORSE**  
See October 9 for details

**SATURDAY 14 JANUARY 2012**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

**Fifehead Wood**

See October 15 for details.

**SUNDAY 15 JANUARY**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

**Lydlinch Common**

See October 30 for details.

**SUNDAY 15 JANUARY**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**

**Broadcroft Butterfly Reserve,  
Portland**

**Joint with DCV**

See November 12 for details

**WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**

**Broadcroft Butterfly Reserve,  
Portland**

**Joint with BTCV mid-week group**

See November 12 for details

**SATURDAY 21 JANUARY**  
**MEMBERS AFTERNOON**

This is the annual social event where members can share their last year's experiences and photographs, meet new members and chat about butterfly habitats. If you are showing images (slide or digital), the limit is 20, i.e. 20 minutes. **Please notify Brian beforehand.**

We meet at the Village Hall, The Recreation Ground, Morden, near Wareham, BH20 7DL from 2.00 to 5.00 pm with tea and cakes. Parking is available at the hall. Charge of £3 to cover the cost.

Enquiries and offers of assistance to Brian and Sylvia Dicker on 01963 32453. Also please advise of any dietary requirements (e.g. gluten free ) and if you would like to car-share or need a lift to the event.

**SUNDAY 29 JANUARY**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

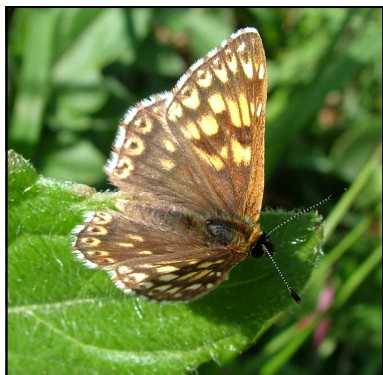
**Lydlinch Common**

See October 30 for details.

**SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**

**Lankham Bottom Reserve**

See November 26 for details



*Duke of Burgundy*

**SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**  
**Langford Valley, for the Duke of Burgundy**

Meet 10.00 am at the field gate beyond Langford Farm Cottages, near Lower Magiston, map reference ST 639958. Take the minor road northwards from Stratton to Sydling St. Nicholas along the Sydling Water. At the crossroads turn right into the Langford valley and to the farm.

Contact is Brian Dicker on 01963 32453, or his mobile 07817 301203 on the day.

**SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY**  
**WOODLAND MANAGEMENT DAY**

**Duncliffe Hill**

See October 1 for details.

**SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY**  
**Broadcroft Butterfly Reserve, Portland**

See November 12 for details

**SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY**  
**BUTTERFLY TRENDS IN WEST DORSET AND PORTLAND**

All are welcome to this presentation of the results of butterfly recording in West Dorset in 2011. Please come along as well if you might be interested in taking part in the monitoring in 2012.

Walks covered are Brackett's Coppice, Black Hill, Cerne Abbas,

Hog Cliff, Kingcombe, Lankham, Lorton Meadows, Powerstock, Portland (Broadcroft, Perryfields and Tout), Radipole and Stonebarrow. There will also be a review of the special site surveys carried out for the Regional Action Plan in this part of the county and other interesting general and garden records.

N.B. This meeting has a **new venue**, Toller Porcorum Village Hall, start time 2.00 pm.

The map reference is SY562980 and the postcode DT2 0DT.

\* **From the A356**, drive down into Toller Porcorum, over a small bridge, then second right (School Lane), and then left into Church Mead to the Village Hall.

\* **From Bridport**, follow signs to Toller Porcorum, then down into the village, over the old railway bridge, then first left (School Lane) and then left into Church Mead to the Village Hall.

Contact is Keith Miller on 01300 321007.

**SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION ACTION DAY AT ALNERS GORSE**

See October 9 for details

**SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**  
**Fifehead Wood**

See October 15 for details.

**SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2012**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

**Langford Valley**

See Feb 11 for details

**SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY**

**THE PURPLE EMPEROR  
THROUGH THE SEASONS**

**Investigations into the Ecology of  
Britain's Premier Butterfly**

A talk by Matthew Oates who has studied the Purple Emperor closely for many years.

2.00 pm at Dorchester Museum, High West Street, Dorchester.

Parking is at a premium in Dorchester so it is recommended to use the Park and Ride at Tesco to the south of the town.

There will be a £3 admission charge.

Contact is Nigel Spring on  
01963 23559 or email  
nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk

**SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY**  
**CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

**Lydlinch Common**

See October 30 for details.

**FRIDAY 2 MARCH**  
**BUTTERFLY TRENDS IN EAST  
DORSET**

Full details in Spring programme

**THURSDAY 8 MARCH**  
**BUTTERFLY TRENDS IN SOUTH  
DORSET**

Full details in Spring programme.

**FRIDAY 16 MARCH**  
**BUTTERFLY TRENDS IN NORTH  
DORSET**

Full details in Spring programme

**SATURDAY 24 MARCH**  
**DORSET BRANCH AGM and  
MEMBERS DAY**

Full details in Spring programme

**Look at Butterfly Conservation's  
website  
[www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)  
and the Dorset Branch website  
[www.dorsetbutterflies.com](http://www.dorsetbutterflies.com)  
to find out more about our reserves**