

**Butterfly Conservation Dorset Branch**

# **Butterfly and Moth Events in Dorset**

**No. 90**

**April 2019 to September 2019**



**Butterfly  
Conservation**

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment



## 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 at 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 in which case 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.
- **Reduce the risk of being bitten by ticks**: avoid exposed skin by wearing long trousers tucked into socks and long sleeves, avoid long and overhanging vegetation, keep to footpaths and consider using insect repellent. Check skin and clothing when in the field and again on return home.
- **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 10.00am** unless stated, 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.

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### BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION

Company limited by guarantee. Registered in England (2206468)  
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## **SUNDAY 28 APRIL**

### **POT PLANT PREP PARTY**

Lyn Pullen in Winfrith Newburgh sells plants in aid of Butterfly Conservation from her driveway over the summer months, giving us a very useful source of income. She needs some help with getting the pot plants which have been sitting over the winter weeded, possibly re-potted and generally tidied up. A little bit of gardening knowledge would be helpful, but there will also be jobs like cleaning up labels and pots for re-use.

Tea and cake will be supplied and you will be welcome to look round the garden, though there are no guarantees as to the state it will be in!

Please let Lyn know if you are planning to help, in case the weather is bad and the event has to be re-scheduled.

Cobblers Cottage, Winfrith Newburgh. 2.00pm - 5.00pm.

Contact Lyn for details of how to find her if you need them. Email: [cobblers@btinternet.com](mailto:cobblers@btinternet.com). Tel: 01305 853946

## **SATURDAY 4 MAY**

### **CERNE DOWNS - Landscape, flowers and butterflies**

Guided walks along the Cerne Downs at Cerne Abbas. This should be a perfect time to see the rare Duke of Burgundy butterfly, a

species that thrives on this site and which has been the target of a lot of our recent management efforts.

There will be a choice of two walks at either 10.30 am or 2.00 pm, both starting from the Village Hall car park and finishing in St Mary's Church for refreshments approx 2 hours later. The charge for the walk and tea will go towards St Mary's church funds and the other Festival charities. For further information go to: <http://cernegiantfestival.uk/>.

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

## **SUNDAY 12 MAY**

### **GUIDED WALK – CHASE WOODS**

Spring butterflies and wild flowers are our targets on this walk. Expert help will be on hand for the plant identification which should include some ancient woodland specialities. Bring lunch.

Meet 11.00 am inside the gate to Greatstone Coppice on the north side of the B3081 about one mile west of Sixpenny Handley, map reference ST 978 173.

Contact is Arthur Bryant on 01747 228252 or 07711 404190 on the day.

## **WEDNESDAY 22 MAY** **GUIDED WALK – THE** **BUTTERFLIES OF** **LULWORTH**

This is the first of a series of walks that are being hosted by The Heritage Centre at Lulworth Cove throughout the summer. These will be led by either a Ranger or a representative of BC. The walks will involve a climb onto Bindon Hill which will be steep in places. The events are free to BC members but pre-booking is advisable as numbers may be limited. Charges apply in the large car park next to The Centre, map reference SY 822 801.

Target species are Adonis Blue, Dingy Skipper, Green Hairstreak, Small Blue and Small Copper..

On later walks, Lulworth Skipper, Dark Green Fritillary and Chalkhill Blue will be among the target species.

The start time is 11.00 am and it is expected that the walk will last about 2 hours after which you may wish to stay on the hill with lunch or visit The Heritage Centre.

For further details and booking, ring The Heritage Centre on 01929 400155.

## **SATURDAY 25 MAY** **WORKSHOP ON** **IDENTIFYING, SURVEYING** **& RECORDING** **BUTTERFLIES AND DAY-** **FLYING MOTHS**

In Dorset we run more than 60 transect walks for 26 weeks a year. That is more than 1500 walks, each requiring a skilled walker to record all the butterflies seen. We also take part in the national Wider Countryside Recording Scheme, garden recording and casual recording. This means that we are always looking for more recorders, and to help you get started, we offer a free workshop for beginners and those who would like to improve their skills in order to take part in recording.

Cerne Abbas Village Hall, 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. Weather permitting, the workshop will consist of an indoor session including learning from specimens, photos and presentations, followed by an outdoor field visit to nearby butterfly-rich Giant Hill where we hope there will be plenty of opportunity to put your ID skills into practice. Please note that the hill, like many butterfly sites, is very steep in places and you will need sturdy footwear.

Numbers are limited, so to book a place, please contact Robin George on [rab.george@btinternet.com](mailto:rab.george@btinternet.com)

## **SUNDAY 26 MAY**

### **BUTTERFLY WALK ON BALLARD DOWN (SWANAGE)**

A walk along the lower slopes of Ballard Down to enjoy this chalk downland site with its stunning views and the spring butterflies. Target species are Green Hairstreak, Wall, Dingy Skipper and the first broods of Adonis Blue and Brown Argus. Meet 11.00 am at Ulwell lay-by on the Swanage to Studland road, map reference SZ 022 809.

Contact is Lorraine Munns on 07973 853628.

## **MONDAY 27 MAY**

### **GUIDED WALK - LYDLINCH COMMON**

This is a key site for the Marsh Fritillary and our winter work programme here is designed to maintain the habitat for this species. With luck, there will also be nightingales singing.

Meet 2.00 pm in the lay-by outside the village on the north side of the A357 near the turning to Sherborne, map reference ST 737 137, nearest postcode DT10 2JD. Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219 or 07849 921594.

## **WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE**

### **GUIDED WALK - THE BUTTERFLIES OF LULWORTH**

For the second of our visits see May 22 for full details.

Target species on this walk will include Adonis Blue, Lulworth Skipper, Small Blue and Wall.

## **THURSDAY 6 JUNE**

### **GUIDED WALK - WINSPIT VALLEY**

This walk will follow the route of the Winspit Valley Butterfly Transect with an additional diversion down to Winspit Cove for the lunch stop. The route is moderately steep in places and may be slippery after rain so wear stout footwear. Bring lunch.

Meet 11.00 am at Worth Matravers car park, map reference SY 974 776.

Contact is David Lonsdale on 01202 743609.

## **SUNDAY 9 JUNE**

### **GUIDED WALK - ALNERS GORSE BUTTERFLY RESERVE**

Guided walk to enjoy the butterflies and other wildlife and to hear the Nightingales if they are still singing. Meet in the hut in the wood at 2.00 pm or arrive at 1.00 pm if you would like to have a

picnic lunch there.

Alners Gorse reserve entrance is on the road from Kings Stag to Hazelbury Bryan beside the Hazelbury Bryan village sign and 30 mph sign. Park on the wide straight road verge on the Kings Stag side of the village sign, well away from the dangerous bend. Map reference is ST 736 100.

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

### **SATURDAY 15 JUNE** **GUIDED WALK – MARTIN DOWN**

**Joint with Wiltshire Branch**  
Martin Down NNR is worth a visit at any time during the butterfly season. Our targets on this, St Swithun's Day, will be early-summer species like Small Blue, Marsh Fritillary and Dark Green Fritillary. Martin Down is also renowned for its orchids.

We meet at 11.00 am at the car park, map reference SU 058 192, at the top of Sillens Lane which runs from the triangular green in Martin village. Bring lunch if you want to stay for the afternoon but there is an option to return to the car park for those who want to leave early. Contact is Andrew Daw on 07778 146297

### **WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE** **GUIDED WALK - THE BUTTERFLIES OF LULWORTH**

For the third of our visits see May 22 for full details.

Target species include Wall, Lulworth Skipper and Adonis Blue.

### **SATURDAY 22 JUNE** **MOTH TRAPPING IN MILLENNIUM WOOD, GILLINGHAM**

Organised by the Gillingham Action for Nature Group

The light traps will be put out in the wood the previous evening and the catch analysed 9.30 – 10.45 am on the Saturday morning. A good opportunity to get to know your moths! It is hoped that this will be a family event, all welcome! There will be refreshments and bacon sandwiches available.

Car Parking at 'Little Gems Nursery' 21 Brickfields Estate, Gillingham SP8 4LT. Approach off New Road onto Brickfields Industrial Estate, past South West Packaging, go between Stiles Metal Craft and Brickfields Car Sales to Little Gems. Walk through the gates to Tinknell Fuels depot and the wood is round the back.

Coming by train to Gillingham Station - exit station on South side opposite the ticket office side. At

top of footpath - turn right past Little Gems to Tinknell Fuels and Millennium Wood - 200 metre walk.

Contact is Bob Messer, email [bobmesser@hotmail.com](mailto:bobmesser@hotmail.com) or phone 01747 821269.

In the event of bad weather, this event will be held on the Sunday morning.

### **FRIDAY 28 – SUNDAY 30 JUNE**

#### **BIOBLITZ WEEKEND – CHEDINGTON WOODS (nw Dorset)**

This is a joint venture between the Dorset branch of BC and EuCAN Community Interest Company.

We are looking for a team of experts and trainees, both amateurs and professionals, to take part in a weekend of surveying and recording a wide range of animals and plants in this under-recorded area of Dorset. This will include moth trapping, bird ringing, bat detecting, butterfly counts and surveys of wildflowers and lower plants. A comprehensive survey of this land was carried out between 2006 and 2010 with the first weekend event last year. The owners and the forester responsible for Chedington Woods are very keen to continue this on a regular basis to establish a public

database of information about the site.

Accommodation will be in tents next to the farm buildings at Wyke Farm or in B&B's nearby. Day visitors also welcome. Booking is essential for this weekend. Contact is Nigel Spring on 07981 776767 or email [nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

### **SATURDAY 29 JUNE** **GUIDED WALK – BLANDFORD FOREST**

This will be an exploration of field margins as well as mature and coppiced woodland. Silver-washed Fritillary will be among the regular summer species to be seen here. Meet at 1.00 pm at the picnic area on Okeford Hill, grid reference ST 812 094,

Contact is Richard Norman on 01258 472887.

### **SUNDAY 30 JUNE** **GUIDED WALK – CHEDINGTON WOODS AND WHITEVINE FARM SSSI**

Chedington Woods is an area of hardwood and softwood plantations with some coppice woodland and with many species-rich wet flushes, on landslips west of Halstock. Whitevine Farm adjacent to the woods to the north contains extensive hay meadows

renowned for their botanical diversity. This walk, part of the survey weekend (see separate entry), will provide an opportunity to explore the fauna and flora on these two sites and is part of a weekend of biological surveying instigated by the landowner and the forester to add to the records for the area.

Meet at the farm buildings at Wyke Farm at map reference ST 500 070 at 1.30 pm for a 1.45 start. Tea will be available at the end of the walk (approx 4.30 pm).

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

[nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

Please email or phone in advance to book a place.

### **SUNDAY 30 JUNE** **GUIDED WALK ON** **BROADCROFT QUARRY** **RESERVE**

At this time of year there should be plenty to see! An impressive colony of Silver-studded Blues can be found in this quarry reserve.

Meet 1.00 pm for approx. two hour walk. To find Broadcroft Quarry Reserve, turn left off Easton Road onto Grove Road and about 100 yards on the right is a track (opposite Portland Football Club) which leads to the car park, map reference SY 695 723.

Contact is Bernard Franklin on

07711 304412

### **WEDNESDAY 3 JULY** **GUIDED WALK - THE** **BUTTERFLIES OF** **LULWORTH**

For the fourth of our visits see May 22 for full details.

Target species on this walk will include Marbled White, Lulworth Skipper and Dark Green Fritillary.

### **SATURDAY 6 JULY** **DEADMOOR COMMON –** **THE HUNT FOR THE** **ELUSIVE PURPLE EMPEROR**

Deadmoor Common is one of the last remaining tracts of what was once a wonderful species-rich habitat that extended over the Blackmore Vale.

In 2017, the Dorset branch of Butterfly Conservation received a retrospective report of three of these iconic butterflies feasting on a deer carcass and several years ago another record was sent in. Unfortunately these reports were not followed up but we would like to survey the area to see whether this elusive and charismatic species can be confirmed here. The area is also likely to be full of Silver-washed Fritillaries, Hairstreaks and possibly White Admirals. The habitat is certainly suitable as there are plenty of oaks and a few goat willows.

We will be meeting for a 10.00 am



start on the sharp bend in the track to Smetherd Farm at map reference ST 747 104 – see this

Google map:

<http://tinyurl.com/y4j97qwg>

Please wear thorn-proof and tick-proof clothing, bring plenty to drink as well as a picnic lunch as we will be out until about 2.00pm. Binoculars will be very useful for identification.

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

### **SUNDAY 7 JULY** **GUIDED WALK –** **MISTLEBERRY AND** **GARSTON WOODS**

We are heading towards Garston Wood, where the Purple Emperor was seen last year, to look for woodland butterflies along the rides recently enhanced by the RSPB's management. After lunch, we will return via a brief visit to the eastern end of Chase Woods. Meet at 11.00 am at Shermel Gate, map reference ST 989 192. North of Sixpenny Handley, turn onto Dean Lane, signposted to Deanland and Newtown and continue until the road ends. This road is narrow in places so should be followed with caution.

We will be out until about 3.30 pm so bring lunch and plenty to drink.

Contact is Tom and Jean Smith on 01305 567537 or 07717 437250 on the day.

### **SUNDAY 7 JULY** **MOTH TRAPPING AT** **CHETTLE HOUSE, nr** **BLANDFORD**

**Courtesy of Mr and Mrs Sweet -Escott**

We have been invited by the owners to set up moth traps on the night of July 6th to assess the moth fauna of the land round Chettle House. Members of Butterfly Conservation and the Dorset Moth group are welcome to join in the opening of the light traps and analysis of the catch from 9.00 am on the Sunday morning. Anyone who would like to bring a trap and spend the Saturday evening there (there are also facilities to camp overnight) should contact Nigel Spring 07981 776767 or by email

[nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

Our website:

[www.dorsetbutterflies.com/events](http://www.dorsetbutterflies.com/events)  
will take you to a map of any  
of the events listed here.

## **FRIDAY 12 - SATURDAY 13 JULY**

### **MOTH NIGHT and GUIDED WALKS – RYEWATER NURSERY, BISHOPS DOWN**

The Dorset branch of BC has been invited back to Ryewater for a weekend of mothing and butterfly walks on this fascinating and inspiring estate. We will be setting up moth traps in a number of different places on the Friday evening – meet at 7.30 pm and bring a tent if you would like to stay overnight. Map reference for parking and camping in the 'R field' is ST 664 108.

On the Saturday morning we will be going through the moth traps from 9.00 am. The guided walks to look at the butterflies and other wildlife will start at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm. There will also be access to the greenhouses to see the tropical butterfly collection. Please bring a packed lunch - and other food if you intend to camp.

Contact for these events is Wren Franklin on 07776 100613

## **SUNDAY 14 JULY**

### **OPEN DAY AT THE QUARR LOCAL NATURE RESERVE AND TERRACE MEADOWS SNCI – SHERBORNE**

The Quarr is Sherborne's local nature reserve, an area of young

woodland, scrub and grassland off the Bristol Road. The Terrace Meadow is a fascinating patch of limestone grassland adjacent to Sherborne's Terrace Playing Fields sports facilities. It is of particular interest as the soil is unusual for the area, and supports flowers (including orchids), butterflies and other species not generally seen in the locality.

Join us for one or both guided walks, with flower and insect identification sessions. We will meet on the Quarr at 11.00 am and at the Terrace Meadows SNCI at 2.00 pm. Tea will be available afterwards.

For the Quarr, meet at the entrance by the Carpenters Arms pub off the Bristol Road at map ref ST 637 174. For the Terrace Meadows, park in the Terrace Playing Fields Car Park, map reference ST 641 156, signposted off the A352 just south of Sherborne and follow the footpath back towards the town through the patch of newly planted trees and up a few steps, map reference ST 637 156.

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

## **WEDNESDAY 17 JULY**

### **GUIDED WALK – DUNCLIFFE WOOD**

This is our first visit for some time to this extensive wood owned by the Woodland Trust. Silver-washed Fritillary will be among the target species.

Meet 1.00 pm in the car park (not on the roadside) by the track that leads up to the wood, map reference ST 817 223.

Contact is Robin George on 01747 824215.

## **WEDNESDAY 17 JULY**

### **GUIDED WALK - THE BUTTERFLIES OF LULWORTH**

Continuing our visits, the target species will include Chalkhill Blue, Lulworth Skipper, Essex Skipper and Dark Green Fritillary. See May 22 for full details.

## **19 JULY – 11 AUGUST**

### **BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT**

To find out more and how to take part, go to

[www.bigbutterflycount.org](http://www.bigbutterflycount.org)

## **SUNDAY 28 JULY**

### **GUIDED WALK - ALNERS GORSE**

**Joint with Devon Branch**

The Brown and Purple Hairstreaks will be among the targets, along with other summer species like the

Silver-washed Fritillary. There may still be White Admirals and White-letter Hairstreaks on the wing. We plan to have a picnic lunch by the hut at around 1.00 pm.

Meet at 11.00 am at the Alners Gorse reserve entrance which is on the road from Kings Stag to Hazelbury Bryan, near the 30mph and Hazelbury Bryan village signs. Park on the wide straight road verge on the Kings Stag side of the village sign, well away from the dangerous bend. Map reference is ST 736100.

Contact is Nigel Spring on 07981 776767 or email

[nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelspring@yahoo.co.uk)

## **WEDNESDAY 31 JULY**

### **GUIDED WALK - THE BUTTERFLIES OF LULWORTH**

Our sixth visit to this splendid hilltop habitat. See May 22 for full details.

Chalkhill Blue, Dark Green Fritillary, Gatekeeper and Essex Skipper are target species.

## **SUNDAY 4 AUGUST**

### **RODWELL TRAIL - BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION WALK**

A walk along the old railway line between Weymouth and Portland. This walk is ideal for families and those wishing to improve

identification skills.

Meet at 2.00 pm at the café in Sandsfoot Castle gardens, Old Castle Road, Weymouth, map reference SY 675 775, postcode DT4 8QE.

Contact is Bernard Franklin on 07711 304412

### **THURSDAY 8 AUGUST** **GUIDED WALK - TYNEHAM** **and COASTAL PATH**

This walk may be steep in places but will bring rewarding sea views.

We will hopefully catch the emerging second brood of Adonis Blue and Wall and find Lulworth Skipper which will be coming to the end of its flight period.

Meet 11.00 am at the Tyneham car park (charges apply), map reference SY 882 802 and bring a packed lunch. Contact is Tom and Jean Smith on 01305 567537 or 07717 437250 on the day.

### **SATURDAY 10 AUGUST** **GUIDED WALK –** **WEYMOUTH RELIEF ROAD**

During the construction of the road an imaginative plan was devised to create new herb-rich downland on the slopes alongside it. Informal monitoring of butterflies started in 2012 and, as the site developed, an overall total of 29 species had been counted by

the end of 2017. A formal transect was set up last year and 28 species were recorded then. An impressive colony of Small Blues has developed.

Meet at 1.00 pm at the truncated end of the Broadmayne road where it meets the relief road, map reference SY 674 859. N.B. Access is only possible from the eastern side of the relief road.

Contact is Adrian Neil on 01305 832937

### **SUNDAY 11 AUGUST** **GUIDED WALK – MARTIN** **DOWN NNR**

**Joint with Bournemouth**  
**Natural Science Society**

Target species include Silver-spotted Skipper, Chalkhill Blue and hopefully second-brood Adonis Blue. Bring a packed lunch as we will be stopping for lunch about halfway round the walk but there is an option to return to the car park for those who wish to leave early.

We meet at 10.30 am in the car park, map reference SU 058 192, at the top of Sillens Lane which runs from the triangular green in Martin village.

Contact is Mark Spencer on 01202 760621 or 07926 556653.

**SUNDAY 11 AUGUST**  
**BUTTERFLY WALK ON**  
**BALLARD DOWN**  
**(SWANAGE)**

A return visit to Ballard Down to see the second brood of the Adonis Blue, Wall and Brown Argus which will now be on the wing. Meet at 11.00 am at Ulwell lay-by on the Swanage to Studland road, map reference SZ 021 809. Contact Jon Bellamy 01929 450182.

**WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST**  
**GUIDED WALK – THE**  
**BUTTERFLIES OF**  
**LULWORTH**

On this, our penultimate visit this summer, Adonis and Chalkhill Blues, Grayling and Dark Green Fritillary will be among the target species. See May 22 for full details.

**FRIDAY 16 AUGUST**  
**UPTON HEATH MOTHS**  
**AND BUTTERFLIES**

**Joint with Dorset Wildlife Trust**

9.00 am **Moths.** The inspection of the overnight moth trap.

11.00 am **Butterfly Walk** on Upton Heath for Grayling and other wildlife.

Meet at the Urban Wildlife Centre, Corfe Mullen, map reference SY 977 948, postcode BH21 3RX. Contact is Andy Fale on 07970 552673

**SUNDAY 18 AUGUST**  
**OPEN GARDEN –**  
**SHILLINGSTONE**

Mike and Jennie Adams invite BC members and the general public to visit their garden with broad borders packed with a profuse mix of plants – from the well-known and old-fashioned across the spectrum to rare and unusual – including perennials, self-seeding annuals, bulbs, climbers, shrubs, trees and edibles, covering the ground and clothing fences, walls, hedges and wooden frameworks. They were in the National Gardens Scheme Yellow Book for 20 years until 2015 (and open for Butterfly Conservation in 1994 and 95) opening every year in late August and so specialising in late-flowering and architectural subtropicals both outside and in the large glasshouse. Non-botanical surprises too! Coombe Cottage (DT10 0SF) lies on the main A357 in the middle of Shillingstone between Gunn Lane (where parking is advised) and the Old Ox pub. You are asked to donate £3 per head (under-16s free), which will be donated in full to BC. There may also be a few home-grown plants for sale. The garden will be open between 2.00 and 5.30 pm and phone enquiries may be made to 01258 860220.

## **THURSDAY 22 AUGUST**

### **GUIDED WALK - OSMINGTON (East of Weymouth)**

A downland and country lane walk on which we should find at least 15 species of butterfly. The targets will include Adonis Blue and Wall. There is a choice to return to the start making a 2 hour walk or then have a picnic lunch if you wish to continue to make a total of 4½ hours walking and watching. Meet at 11.00 am outside Osmington church, map reference SY 725 829.

Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219 or mobile 07849 921594

## **SATURDAY 24 AUGUST** **GUIDED WALK - FONTMELL DOWN**

### **Joint with Wiltshire Branch**

The last Dorset refuge of the Silver-spotted Skipper, Fontmell offers a great opportunity to study this and other downland specialities like Brown Argus, Chalkhill Blue and the second brood of Adonis Blue. Bring stout footwear and a packed lunch if staying for the afternoon visit to the lower slopes.

Meet 11.00 am at the National Trust car park, map reference ST 886 187. There is alternative parking around the triangle at ST 888 185.

This is the week of The Great Dorset Steam Fair so avoid the Blandford area at all costs.

Contact is Andrew Daw on 07778 146297.

## **SATURDAY 24 / SUNDAY 25 AUGUST**

### **OAK FAIR, STOCK GAYLARD PARK**

Stock Gaylard Estate is a small traditional country estate just over 4 miles from Sturminster Newton and 8 miles from Sherborne.

Come and find us on Conservation Row at this popular festival, details of which can be found at [www.stockgaylard.com/the-oak-fair.asp](http://www.stockgaylard.com/the-oak-fair.asp)

Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219 or mobile 07849 921594

## **WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST** **GUIDED WALK – THE BUTTERFLIES OF LULWORTH**

Our series of walks concludes today. Adonis Blue, Grayling, Clouded Yellow and Wall will be among the target species. See May 22 for full details.

## **SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER** **GUIDED WALK - WINSPIT, PURBECK**

We end the walk season with a pleasant coastal walk (steep in

places) for late butterflies and migrating birds. Wear stout footwear and bring packed lunch. Meet 11.00 am at Worth Matravers car park, map ref SY 974 776. Contact is Arthur Bryant on 01747 228252 or 07711 404190 on the day.

### **SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER DORSET COUNTY SHOW, Dorchester Showground, Dorchester.**

Come and find us in the Bee Tent at the top of the field, and visit our Information and Display Stall at this busy show. Childrens' activities, live moths and sales.

Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219 or 07849 921594

### **SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER CONSERVATION WORK DAY AT ALNERS GORSE**

We will be continuing the woodland and scrub management work to improve our wildlife habitats on this fabulous reserve. There will be hot drinks and cake for refreshment. Join us if you can between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Alners Gorse reserve entrance is on the road from Kings Stag to Hazelbury Bryan beside the Hazelbury Bryan village sign and 30 mph sign. Park on the wide straight road verge on the Kings Stag side of the village sign, well away from the dangerous bend. Map reference

is ST 736 100.

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

### **THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER NATIONAL MOTH NIGHT EVENT** (See over for further info on National Moth Night) **Urban Wildlife Centre, Corfe Mullen,**

9.00 am. Moth trap opening.

Map reference SY 978 950, postcode BH21 3RX. Contact is Andy Fale on 07970 552673.

### **SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER CONSERVATION WORK DAY**

#### **Lydlinch Common**

Lydlinch is part of an area crucial to the Marsh Fritillary. Conservation work is vital to ensure that the habitat is kept suitable for its survival. Meet 10.00 am and park in the lay-by outside the village on the north side of the A357 near the turning to Sherborne, map reference ST 737 137. The nearest postcode is DT10 2JD.

Contact is Colin Burningham on 01935 873219 or 07849 921594.

## **THURSDAY 26 – SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER**

### **MOTH NIGHT 2019**

To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Moth Night, this year there are two themes – Clifden Nonpareil and migrants.

The Clifden Nonpareil was until recent years only recorded as a scarce immigrant but it is now thought to have colonised some southern counties and there is evidence that it is breeding in Dorset. It is on the wing in September and October, so should be at its peak at this time.

September is an excellent month for migrants but their arrival is dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

Any other events we organise for National Moth Night will be on our website: [www.dorsetbutterflies.com/events](http://www.dorsetbutterflies.com/events)

## **Help us fill Dorset's 'White Holes'**

2019 is an important year for butterfly recording, as this is the last year of our current five-year recording cycle. After this year, the slate is wiped clean and we start all over again,

'White Holes' is our local term for kilometre squares in Dorset where no butterflies have been reported in the current recording cycle, and our aim is to fill as many as possible. A few are impossible because they are out of bounds, such as on the army ranges: we don't want you to be shot!

Our website has a map to show you where the white holes are. Searching them out can take you to parts of Dorset you've never seen before, and most of this County is very beautiful. Please do not trespass, and if you are walking along a road, take extra care of the traffic: lanes are not as quiet as they used to be.

Help us make this the best year ever for coverage of the County!