

## Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-Oct-10 01:20 AM GMT

Near where I live there's some waste land. It was left over a few years ago when some houses had been built. We all expected more houses to be built there, nothing happened. I took a walk there with my husband late July to my delight found that the council had taken it over. The land had been very muddy before and wellington boots were always called for, imagine our surprise then when we found grassy slopes and paths made for people to walk through the tree's shrubs and meadow. We saw Small and Large Skippers, Comma's, Red Admirals, Whites, Gate Keepers, Speckled Wood.

We'd not been there for ages ( no dog to walk ) we kept to the dry land. Now we've found the place improved we're looking forward to Spring. It will be interesting to see if any other Butterflies make the place their own.

A stream runs along the bottom of the slope and people have seen Badgers, so it's looking good for the future For wild life as well.

This September, my garden was full of butterflies, loads of Small Tortoiseshells, I even had Holly Blues ,not seen them before in my garden. So I'm hoping it all as some thing to do with the Waste Land, which is not so wasteful any more. 😊

## Small Tortoiseshell

by Goldie M, 24-Oct-10 11:50 PM GMT

October 24th

Lovely day today, we went for a long walk, on our return I spotted a Small Tortoiseshell on next doors Mahonia, I Didn't get a picture it was too quick for me. I thought all the Butterflies had found places for the Winter, so i'd not taken my camera with me, I think tomorrow is going to be nice according to the forecast so I'll be ready just incase Goldie M 😞

## Re: Small Tortoiseshell

by David M, 25-Oct-10 12:16 AM GMT

They'll come out if it's sunny enough, Goldie (and assuming the temperature isn't ridiculously low). I once saw a Red Admiral the Saturday before Christmas in Abergavenny town centre. It was attracted by the hanging baskets which still had some plant life in them. Temperature was only about 10C but it was sunny and still.

## Goldie M

by Goldie M, 15-Nov-10 12:19 AM GMT

When I joined UK Butterflies last year, I wrote a blog about buying a new camera for Christmas. I did this and although I feel my pics are improving I've never really quite been satisfied with the outcome.

I feel I'm either taking them too near or, too far away. The colour also I keep having to change. When it's very bright for instance, I know you're supposed to do this, in some instances though, it can make it too dark.

My camera is fitted so I can take fast moving objects like sports etc, I suppose this could take a Butterfly in flight , I've not tried that yet . Ah well! suppose I'll have to press on regardless. I did take some nice shots last week of a Heron and a Green Finch while out for a walk, they were along way off so I'd to use my zoom. I guess what they say is right' practise makes perfect, I'll just have to keep plodding along. 😊



*Heron and Green Finch*

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 15-Nov-10 12:24 AM GMT

Forgot my Heron



## Goldie M

by Goldie M, 18-Nov-10 04:58 AM GMT

Today was a really bad day weather wise, but I still fancied trying my camera out on the sports menu,( why I didn't do this in the Summer I don't know) anyway, the Starlings helped by arriving on my bird table. I set the camera in the continuous mode, continuous H approx 11 frames per sec and put the pre shooting cache to on, low and behold I got a picture of the Starlings in flight. (Actually I got loads more than I bargained for) 😄

I did all this while bravely looking through my window, I'm not entirely stupid, 😊 just slightly.

In the Summer I was too busy trying to film the butterflies while they were still to bother about taking ,are trying to take them flying. I wonder if everybody when starting to use a new camera for the first time does the same thing ?

Anyway I'm pleased with todays pic, not too bad for a first time 😊 GM



## Re: Goldie M

by Michaeljf, 18-Nov-10 08:48 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,  
11 frames per second is pretty impressive for any camera. I had a professional Canon SLR and the top rate was 10FPS but it was nearly 3 thousand pounds new. Out of interest which camera are you using?  
Michael

p.s. There are a lot of new HD camcorders on the market now that are talking about very high FPS, which is an interesting prospect... 😊

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 20-Nov-10 04:14 AM GMT

Hi! Michael, my camera is a Nikon Coolpix P90, It's taken me sometime to get use to it, there seems to be so many things you can do with it. It 's got a Close up on it's menu for insects and very small subjects, flowers etc, of course they have to be still!!!!!! My pics of butterflies have improved from the ones I used to take however, I'm still getting use to the camera so I'm still hopeful of better pics. GM 😊