

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 05-Mar-13 11:56 AM GMT

I'm working from home today on what looks like being the best day of the week and a Peacock has just slowly fluttered past my front window. My first butterfly of 2013. 😊

Guess where I'm going this afternoon...

Lee

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 05-Mar-13 03:11 PM GMT

What a glorious day. A lunchtime walk along The Pilgrim's Way rewarded me with 1 Comma, 1 Red Admiral and 2 male Brimstones. That's 4 of the 5 hibernators today.



Comma, Wrotham, Kent, 5th March 2013

Interesting to watch the Brimstone's behaviour; at around 13.30, they were both already scouting Ivy bushes, presumably for places to rest up for the night.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Wurzel, 05-Mar-13 09:29 PM GMT

👍 Great shot of a Comma in an unusual looking pose 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Lee Hurrell

by David M, 05-Mar-13 09:31 PM GMT

Heart-warming stuff, Lee.

I guess your part of the country has seen 14 or maybe even 15c?

Hardly surprising that early spring butterflies have been out in decent numbers.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Neil Freeman, 05-Mar-13 09:38 PM GMT

Great stuff Lee, good to see you managed to make the most of the weather.

Neil F.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 05-Mar-13 09:46 PM GMT

Thanks Wurze, David & Neil. It was nearer 17 degrees in my part of Kent!

Seconds after I took that shot a gust of wind disturbed the leaf the Comma was resting on and it was away.

Best wishes,

Lee

Re: Lee Hurrell

by essexbuzzard, 05-Mar-13 10:11 PM GMT

Good to hear from you again, Lee!

Having been so cold for so long, it's amazing how quickly butterflies respond to just one day of good weather. 😊

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 05-Mar-13 10:56 PM GMT

Thanks EB. Indeed it is. It was like summer today. Back to normal tomorrow though. 😊

Best wishes,

Lee

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 17-Apr-13 10:58 PM GMT

Sunday 14th April

Had a lovely walk around Epsom and Ashted Commons in Surrey this warm and sunny afternoon and found a male Brimstone searching for a roost around 4pm. My first butterfly since 5th March!

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 23-Apr-13 01:46 PM GMT

Tuesday 23rd April

A lunchtime walk around Twyford Crescent Gardens in Acton W3 found as I hoped for, a male Holly Blue. This is the same location I saw my first one in 2012, although that was almost a month earlier, on 26th March.

EDIT - A later quick nip to the high street and another Holly Blue seen on Mill Hill Road.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Gibster, 23-Apr-13 09:02 PM GMT

Lee, I'm on Epsom Common so often that I practically LIVE over there!!!! 🍷 Gimme a shout next time?

Be very good to catch up again soon. Sami and I are moving to a new home in May (still in Epsom) so you two shall have to drop in for drinks etc.

Holly Blue egg laying on gorse today (on Epsom Common, naturally 😊) You ever seen that before? I hadn't.

Cheers mate,

Seth.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 29-Apr-13 01:21 PM GMT

I will do mate.

PM me your new address will you?

No, not seen HB laying on Gorse...Dogwood yes, Gorse no.

All the best for now,

Lee

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 02-May-13 11:19 PM GMT

Wednesday 1st May

Working from home today and with such warm sunny weather I had to have a walk along the downs at lunchtime. I'd already seen a Small White from my lounge room window and I saw one other Small White, 1 male Green Veined White, 3 male Brimstone, 1 Holly Blue and 4 Peacock. No Grizzled Skipper or Green Hairstreak though.



I can finally post photos again! 😊 I have much to catch up on from last year.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Mark Colvin, 08-May-13 04:49 PM GMT

Happy Birthday, Lee.

I hope 2013 brings you all you wish for.

Good hunting.

Kindest regards. Mark

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Neil Hulme, 08-May-13 07:19 PM GMT

Happy Birthday from me too. Hope to catch up this year ... it's been a while!

BWs, Neil

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Neil Freeman, 08-May-13 08:11 PM GMT

Many Happy Returns Lee, hope you had a good one.

Neil F.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Nick Broomer, 08-May-13 08:52 PM GMT

Happy birthday Lee, have a good one.

All the best, Nick.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Susie, 08-May-13 08:54 PM GMT

Happy birthday from me too, Lee 😊

Re: Lee Hurrell

by David M, 08-May-13 10:24 PM GMT

Many happy returns, Lee.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by essexbuzzard, 08-May-13 10:27 PM GMT

And from me too, across the water! My it be a successful one, and with butterflies in abundance!

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Wurzel, 08-May-13 10:58 PM GMT

Happy B'day, and great to see you're back with images 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 13-May-13 02:14 PM GMT

Thanks all for your birthday wishes 😊 I had the best day ever – I was in the Atlas mountains!

It was a 4 day city break to Marrakech last week and an additional present was my first ever Moroccan Orange Tip on a day trip to the mountains. Along with one other, also seen on the day were numerous Speckled Wood ssp aegeria, Large White, Small White, Green Veined White, Bath White, Clouded Yellow, a single Red Admiral, Small Copper and a couple of unidentified Blues and Fritillaries. Stunning.

In Marrakech itself, Bath White, Large White, Small Copper and Crimson Speckled moths were seen.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 14-May-13 04:40 PM GMT

Seeing my first UK Swallows of the year last night at Raynes Park station reminded me I saw my first Swifts, Martins and Swallows of the year all in Morocco. Screeching at head height across the roof tops at sunset, they were beautiful to watch.

It was a different species of Martin though, I'm sure. I also saw plenty of Storks; they nest within the ruins of El Badi Palace.

Re: Lee Hurrell

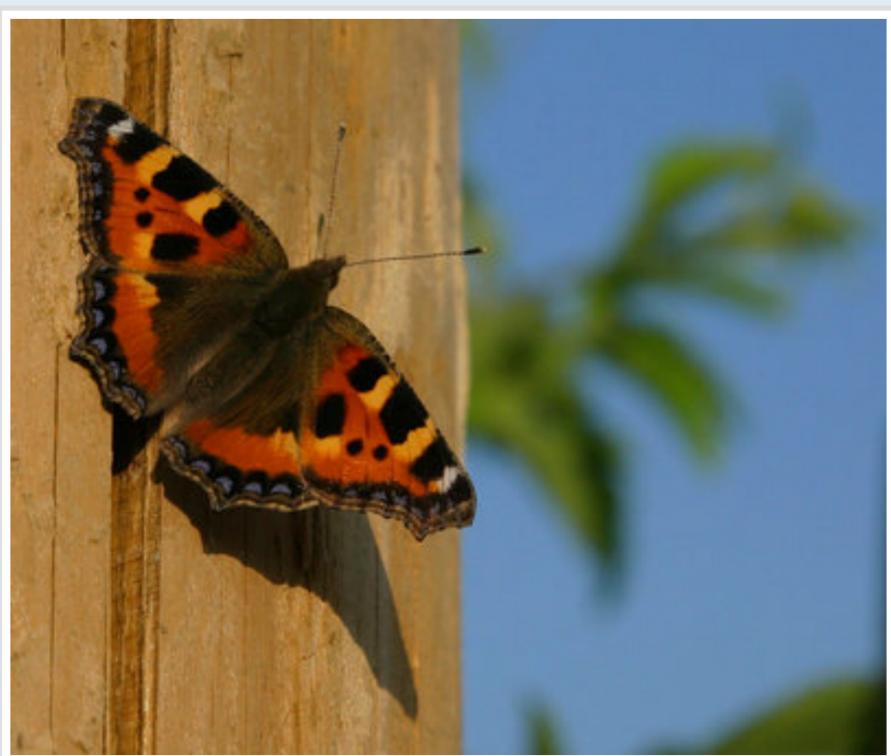
by Lee Hurrell, 10-Jul-13 01:43 PM GMT

I have been busy with so much recently that it has been an age since I have been out, not least, moving house!

But last night I had a very enjoyable walk in warm evening sunshine at Denbies. I wasn't sure what I would see, I wasn't even sure where we are in the season, given the cold start to the year and having not being out recently.

I needn't have worried. It was heart warming to see a few new male Meadow Browns flitting about, a handful of Ringlet near the top tree line, plenty of Small Skippers and then loads of fresh Marbled Whites, all enjoying the last rays of the evening. A few Small Heath were disturbed too. Perhaps best of all, 2 Small Tortoiseshell were defending the gate at the top left, which leads into the Silver Spotted Skipper area.

Sightings; 2 Small Tortoiseshell, 30+ Meadow Brown, 30+ Marbled White, 5 Ringlet, 3 Small Heath, 30+ Small Skipper, 2 Burnet Companion, 2 5-Spot Burnets.



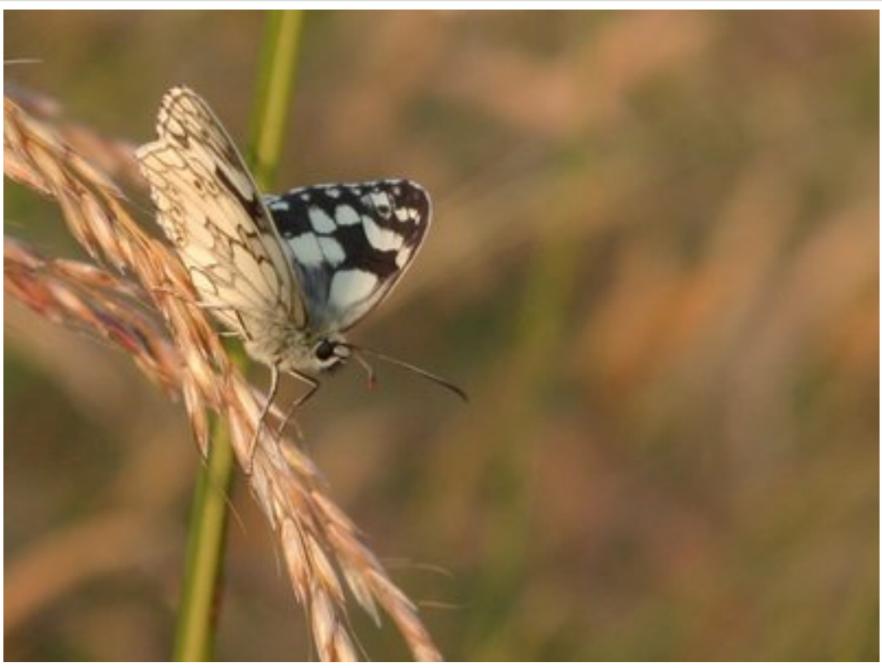
Small Tortoiseshell, Denbies, Surrey, 9th July 2013



Marbled White, Denbies, Surrey, 9th July 2013



Marbled White, Denbies, Surrey, 9th July 2013



Marbled White, Denbies, Surrey, 9th July 2013

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 16-Jul-13 11:13 PM GMT

Photos added above 😊

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Nick Broomer, 16-Jul-13 11:30 PM GMT

Lovely to have met up with you again Lee. Good to see you posting some photos at last, beautiful dark Small Tortoiseshell.



All the best, Nick.

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 17-Jul-13 10:24 AM GMT

Sunday 14th July - Part 1

With some free time today I decided to catch up a little. Being only one junction away, this morning I nipped along to Fairmile Common to see some Silver Studded Blues. The males were mostly past their best but females were still fresh and admirable. They were approx. 3:1 male to female and could be seen reasonable numbers.

Sightings: 40+ Silver Studded Blue, 4 Gatekeeper, 1 Ringlet, 4 Meadow Brown (including a mating pair), 1 Comma, 5 Small Skipper, 1 Essex Skipper.



Silver Studded Blue, male, Fairmile Common, Surrey, 14th July 2013



Silver Studded Blue, female, Fairmile Common, Surrey, 14th July 2013



Silver Studded Blue, female, Fairmile Common, Surrey, 14th July 2013

Re: Lee Hurrell

by Lee Hurrell, 17-Jul-13 11:16 AM GMT

Sunday 14th July 2013 – Part 2

Later, what with it being *Iris* season...I drove to Botany Bay, Oaken Wood. I spent a lovely couple of hours there, also bumping into Neil and Nick. Several Emperors were seen flying.

Sightings: 2 Purple Emperor, 8 White Admiral, 12 Silver Washed Fritillary, 4 Comma, 10 Large Skipper, 25+ Small Skipper, 40+ Meadow Brown, 10 Speckled Wood, 10 Ringlet, 1 Large White, 1 Green Veined White.



White Admiral, Oaken Wood, Surrey, 14th July 2013

I even got a lucky in-flight shot!



White Admiral, Oaken Wood, Surrey, 14th July 2013



Interestingly marked Ringlet, Oaken Wood, Surrey, 14th July 2013



Large Skipper, male, Oaken Wood, Surrey, 14th July 2013