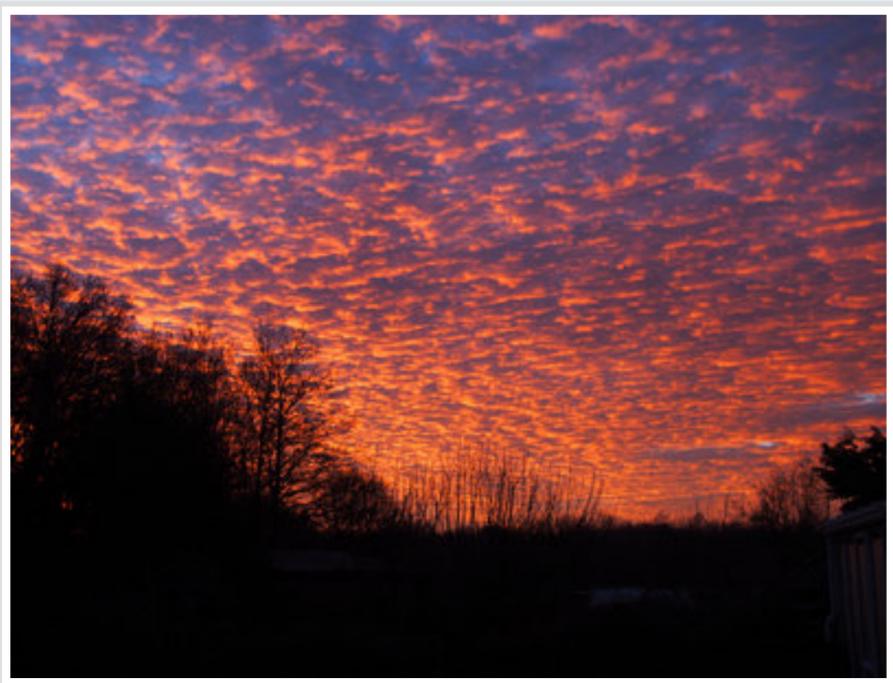


Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 05-Jan-14 01:23 PM GMT

Dawn from my back garden, looking towards Botany Bay.
P.J.U.



A rather nice sky

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by Susie, 05-Jan-14 01:54 PM GMT

Stunning sunrise Philip 😊

It was the same over Horsham but I missed it. You know the saying 'red sky in the morning shepherd's warning' so we're in for more grotty weather later.

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 05-Jan-14 04:16 PM GMT

I did not have to venture far to find this one, today. A firerug inkcap (*Coprinus domesticus*) growing out of the window sill (oak-85 yrs old) in my bathroom. I think we need to clean the windows!
P.J.U.



A firerug inkcap out of place!

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 19-Mar-14 08:20 PM GMT

Rome.

I am pleased to be able to report that my season of overseas butterflies has started with two Cleopatra's in the Palatine gardens of Rome about a week ago. They were both males and had obviously emerged from hibernation.

P.J.U.

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 17-Apr-14 12:47 PM GMT

Botany Bay today. Much better than recently with Brimstones and Peacocks out in force. Also a few orange tips and Green veined whites. And then my first Wood Whites of the season, a pair fluttering in the ride at a favoured early spot. I am 7 days later than previous years. I was also joined by my first Nightingale, that was in good voice.
P.J.U.



Re: P.J.Underwood.

by Wurzel, 17-Apr-14 11:46 PM GMT

That's fantastic news PJ – you seem to have access to an early site because this is the first sighting again isn't it? 😊 What happened in Rome – you got as far as the Cleopatra and then jumped a month?

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by Neil Hulme, 18-Apr-14 12:18 AM GMT

Hi PJ and Wurzel,

Chiddingfold is certainly an early site, but there has been a sighting which slipped under the radar. Will McCall posted a nice pic he took of a Woody White at Tugley on 13th April on the BC Sussex Facebook page.

BWs, Neil

Re: P.J.Underwood.

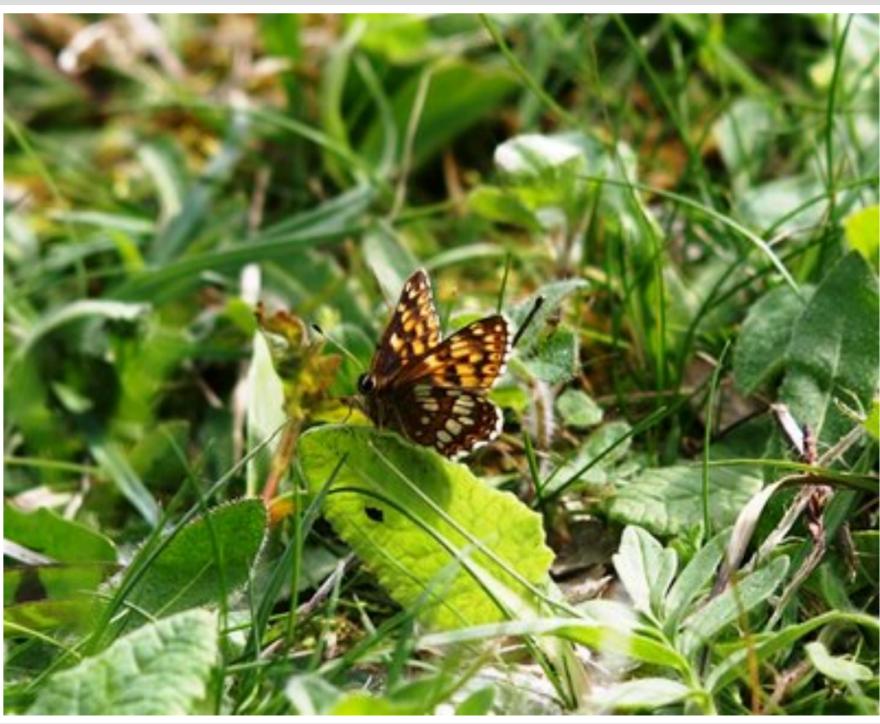
by P.J.Underwood, 18-Apr-14 08:20 AM GMT

Sorry, I have been a little sluggish on the butterfly front. We sold our house before Rome and found another in Chiddingfold within four days. We are now in the middle of moving, otherwise I would have been out on the 13th when the weather was good. But I am very happy hearing a nightingale as well.
P.J.U.

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 30-Apr-14 04:34 PM GMT

As I am still between houses and living in a Camper, with my computers in moving boxes, life is somewhat tiresome. However, I managed to visit Noar Hill yesterday with Bill Plumb, Malcolm Greenwood and Simon Cross and saw many Dukes and Grizzled Skippers, and today at Kithurst Hill saw my first Duke of the season there, after 3 recent visits in the last four days. So life is coming better and we move into a house soon!



A Kithurst Duke

Re: P.J.Underwood.

by P.J.Underwood, 16-Jun-14 08:45 PM GMT

Two things have happened in the last week. Firstly after a lapse of six weeks I am back on the internet, and secondly myself and Bill Plumb have returned from a week at Farm Latour in Hungary. Pete Eeles has recommended this spot for butterflies and I believe he has been there three times. We were apparently between the early and the summer butterflies and our aim was to find the Poplar Admiral.

When we arrived there was a slight drizzle so we went on Rob's bird tour for that day. We saw Saker falcons, bee-eaters, rollers, imperial eagles, lesser grey shrikes and many others. The highlight for me was finding a Large Copper lurking in the reeds.

The next day the sun was out so we joined Rob's butterfly trip. Firstly a field with Clouded Apollo's, Assman fritillaries, Chestnut Heaths and a chequered skipper. Then to the hills to find the Hungarian glider on a patch of Spirea. We also saw about three cardinals. All the time we were seeing various blues and fritillaries whose identification I will sort out later. We finally went to a valley that day where we saw Black Hairstreaks, a Pale Clouded yellow, twin spot fritillaries, lesser marbled fritillaries, Eastern Bath whites, and others.

The next day it was now getting hotter. So we took the plunge and asked Rob where to find a Poplar Admiral. We drove the car some two hours north, up near the border. We parked the car by a cafe in the village he had directed us to. We walked about half a mile along a stream and then further along a dry path in gorgeous meadows. We stopped by a house and looked on the sparse horse droppings. And there it was on the ground just as he had said. Our mission was accomplished.

The next few days we went to other sites everywhere finding something different. The last day, as we were leaving we even spotted a common glider at a mud puddling pool.

Here are a few pictures of some of the goodies. I will do a complete list later.

The place is easy to get to, thoroughly recommended and I can't wait to go again.

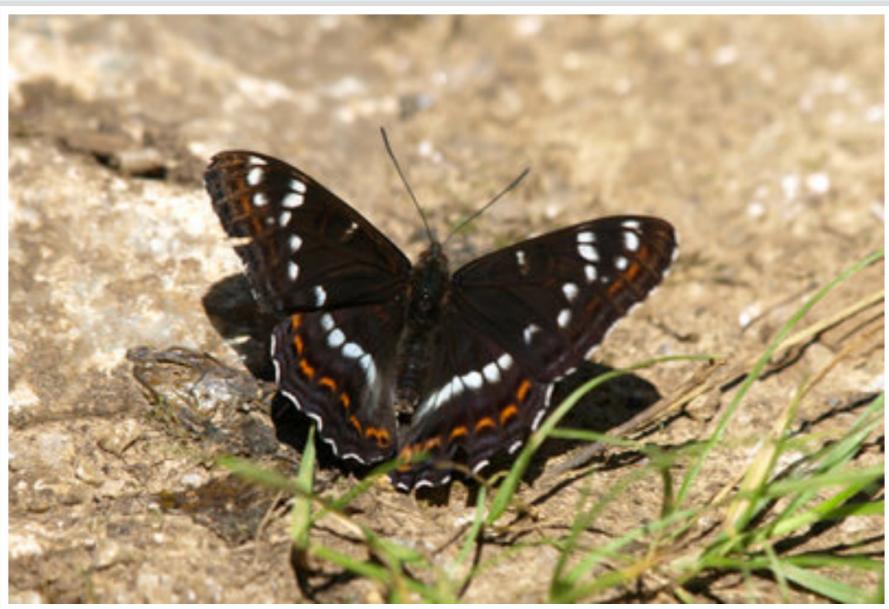
P.J.U.



Twin spotted fritillary



Poplar Admiral



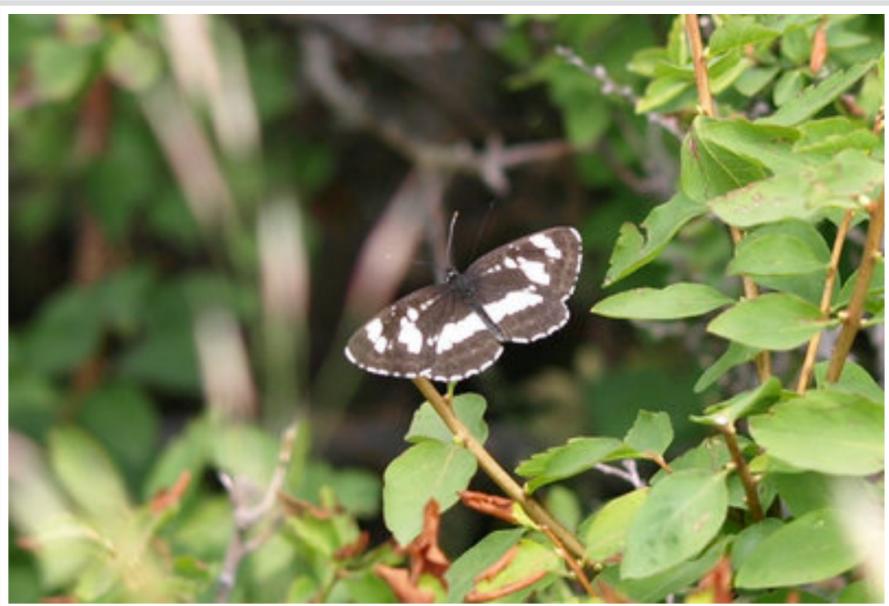
Poplar Admiral



Large Tortoiseshell



Large Copper



Hungarian Glider



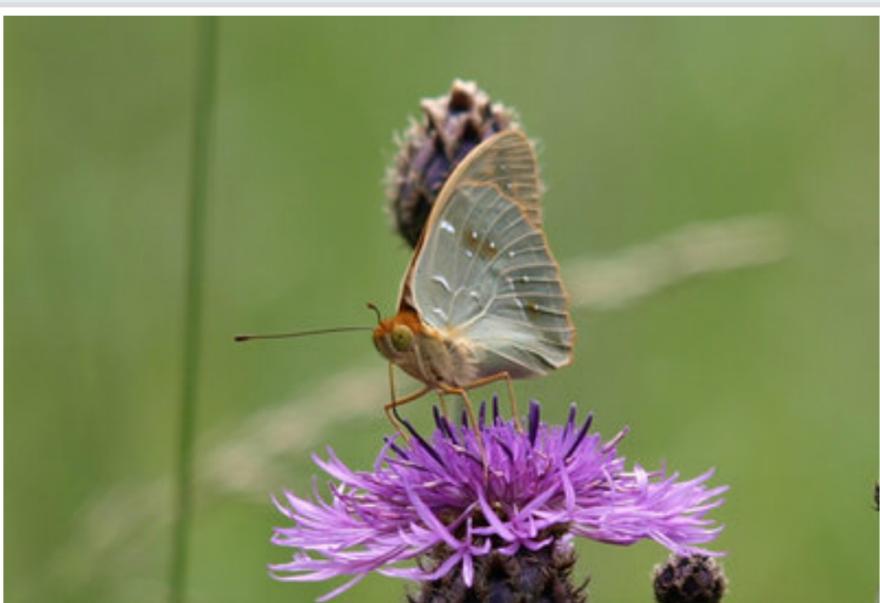
Common Glider



Chequered Skipper



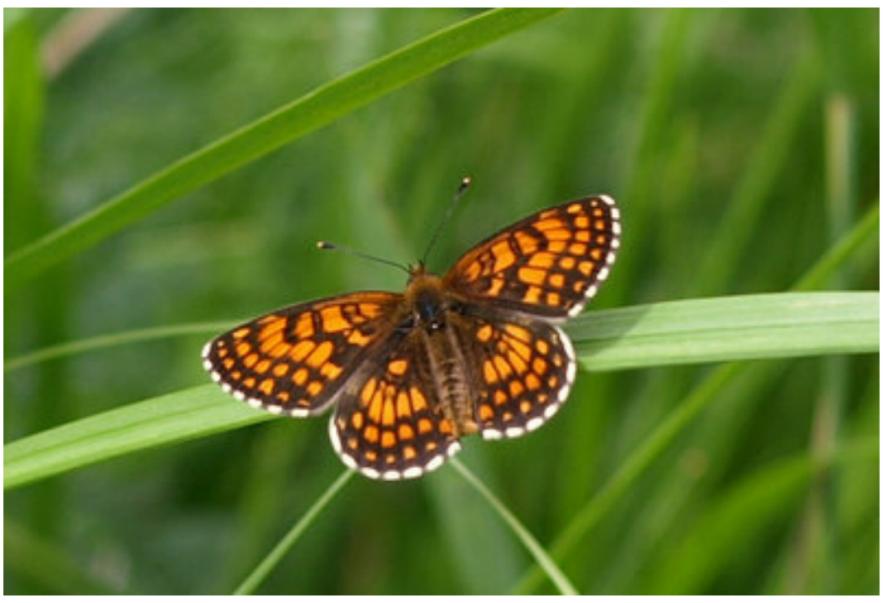
Chequered Blue



Cardinal



Balkan Zephyr Blue



Assman's fritillary