

## Daneway Magic

by CJB, 21-Jun-14 06:22 PM GMT

Hello All UKB'ers,

I managed to steal 45 minutes yesterday morning at Daneway bank and with HUGE thanks to Mike I found what I was after and managed to snap a new lifer on my mobile.

First things first, if anyone feels they have lost their marbles, you need to go to Daneway Bank as I have never seen so many Marbled Whites; they were literally everywhere and hatching too. I managed to snap a freshly emerged individual who was drying out:



*Marbled white*

There were also large skippers, meadow browns, ringlets, small tortoiseshells, common blues all over the bank but the star of the show was undoubtedly the LARGE BLUE!!!!!! I saw at least 3 separate individuals and managed to get a few shots on the mobile:



*LB and Orchid*



*Open Wing LB*



*Large Blue*

I cannot recommend enough that you pay a visit if you can to this amazing spot. Where I saw them isn't even the hotspot, so I can't imagine how many are there at the moment but a local said it was the best year he had seen for a while as they were clearly spreading across the reserve.

So much Thanks again to Mike.

Flutter on!!!

CJB

**Re: CJB**

by jasonbirder, 22-Jun-14 10:17 PM GMT

Great stuff...sounds like a good day out...

**Re: CJB**

by CJB, 23-Jun-14 09:41 AM GMT

Thanks Jason,

Unbelievable day out. Topped off this weekend by the 17th species to be seen in the garden which was a marbled white! 🤩

I am hoping that a DGF makes an appearance as we are surrounded by down lands.

If you can make it to Daneway, I cannot recommend it enough!

Flutter on!

CJB

**Re: CJB**

by NickMorgan, 23-Jun-14 12:42 PM GMT

Wow, lovely pictures, particularly from a phone! I would love to see Large Blues one day, or Marbled Whites, come to that!

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 23-Jun-14 01:45 PM GMT

Hi Nick,

Thank you for your compliments!

If you have any chance of getting to Daneway, I cannot recommend it enough. There never seems to be many people around and it is literally awash with butterflies. If you do go, let me know and I will try and point you towards the LB's.

I am still blown away by the appearance of a Marbled White in my garden at home! 🤩

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by Wurzel, 23-Jun-14 10:41 PM GMT

Great LB's CJB 😊 I managed to get my first ever this weekend but no top shots 🍷 Good luck with the garden DGFs 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: CJB

by jasonbirder, 23-Jun-14 10:42 PM GMT

Couldn't agree more! What a marvelous site...literally alive with Butterflies...we had 10 species of Butterfly, some interesting Moths and some lovely Orchids in a couple of hours today...including the star of the show...my first Large Blue...

Thanks for the head's up...

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 24-Jun-14 12:19 PM GMT

Hi Nick/Wurzel/Jason,

Thanks for your compliments lads.

Glad to hear Wurzel that you got your LB last weekend; where were you? Keeping fingers crossed on home DGF's! Very jealous of your SSB's! 🍷 Great photos, as ever. Jason managed to snap a few as well, so big congrats to him as well. 😊

MikeOxon was instrumental in my success at Daneway, so huge thanks to him.

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 25-Jun-14 08:05 PM GMT

Hi UkB'ers

I couldn't resist another trip to Daneway this afternoon and it didn't disappoint. I would say that I saw at least 10 individuals in 4 different areas within the reserve, including a very fresh one which I failed to get a picture of.

However the mobile managed to snap this particular flutterer:



LB

Marbled Whites were everywhere, plus Small and Large Skippers, Meadow Browns, Ringlets, Small Tortoiseshells, Small Heathes, Common Blues and of course the Large Blues.

I also came across what I can only describe as a nest of caterpillars; any clues on the id?



*Mystery Cats*

I look forward to reading comments and suggestions.

Flutter on!

CJB

**Re: CJB**

by Willow, 25-Jun-14 08:26 PM GMT

Hi CJB,

Nice report, your larvae are Small Eggar (macro moth) 😊

Bill 😊

**"When in doubt...venture out"**

**Re: CJB**

by CJB, 25-Jun-14 10:20 PM GMT

Hi Bill,

Thank you for the id on the cats; I couldn't believe how many there were and the fact that they were all in that huge 'web'.

So chuffed with the LB; amazing to have them on my doorstep.

Flutter on!

CJB

## Re: CJB

by Willrow, 26-Jun-14 09:02 AM GMT

Should have mentioned CJB – Small Eggar are a Nb (Notable Scarce B) category macro moth, I'm sure your county moth recorder would be pleased to have this significant record, although Gloucestershire is still considered one of the species few remaining strongholds.

Hope you enjoy your 'local' **Large Blue** 😊

Bill 😊

"When in doubt...venture out"

## Re: CJB

by jasonbirder, 26-Jun-14 09:12 AM GMT

Saw some "moth'ers" looking for Small Eggar while I was at Daneway on Monday...

I wondered why they had nets and were "swishing" them through the grass...I approached them as I was concerned about this behaviour (my mothing has always been done with a bright light and a cup of tea) but they assured me it was very much the norm...does anyone know what they were doing?

## Re: CJB

by CJB, 26-Jun-14 10:19 AM GMT

Hi Jason and Bill,

That sounds somewhat worrying and I am sure that those in authority would like to know about these 'moth'ers', which I can't help feeling is an abbreviation!! 😊

That cocoon was about the length of a large beer can and it was crammed full of cats, so there will be no shortage of Small Eggar moths.

Thank you for the heads up on the Small Eggar being a Nb. When I have finished my ludicrous quest to photograph all UK species on my mobile I will move on to moths! I have so far snapped 45 species, including a Monarch(!), with a few easy (ish) ones to go, including DGF and WLH, so then it all becomes geographical. Saying that I am heading up to Scotland in a couple of weeks so if I am lucky will snap a few of the locals if they are still on the wing.

Flutter on!

CJB

## Re: CJB

by jasonbirder, 26-Jun-14 11:10 AM GMT

Hehehe...why not go for all the Dragonflies after you've finished with the Butterflies LOL 😊 I keep meaning to devote some time to learning about and seeing them...but something else always distracts me!

## Re: CJB

by Wurzel, 26-Jun-14 02:26 PM GMT

Another open winged Large Blue 🦋 By the way where can I get one of these new fangled WMS from? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: CJB

by CJB, 26-Jun-14 03:40 PM GMT

Hi Wurzel,

Apparently the latest version of WMS (2014) is available for either download or purchase from the Apple Store.

It does have a habit of crashing when exposed for too long to the World Cup. 😊

Flutter on!

CJB

## Hummingbird Hawkmoth

by CJB, 01-Sep-14 10:09 AM GMT

Good morning UK B'ers,

I have returned from two weeks in Cornwall and thought I would share my best picture (taken on the mobile) together with reports of all things fluttery.

I saw quite a few different species and rather than resorting to photographing them, I made a mental note instead:

- 1.Common Blue
- 2.Brown Argus
- 3.Meadow Brown
- 4.Wall Brown
- 5.Hedge Brown
- 6.Red Admiral
- 7.Small White
- 8.Large White
- 9.Green-veined White
- 10.Speckled Wood
- 11.Small Tortoiseshell
- 12.Painted Lady
- 13.Comma
- 14.Small Heath
- 15.CLOUDED YELLOW!!! 😊😊

It was not a bad selection and I was so pleased to see my first CY of the year. Interestingly it was in exactly the same spot as I saw one almost a year to the day. However, the highlight was my first attempt at capturing a HH on camera-phone; without too much of a build up, here it is!



*Hummingbird Hawkmoth*

I also had a scout round my local patch yesterday and saw Red Admiral, Brimstone, Large White, Small White, Green-Veined White, Speckled Wood, Meadow Brown, Common Blue, Comma, Brown Argus, Small Tortoiseshell; not bad really! 😊

Just me or does it feel as though we are piling towards Autumn? I noticed that there was no summer bird-song to be heard yesterday evening although the Swallows and Martins are still here? The Swifts have definitely gone and the only noticeable songster was the Robin, which made it sound almost wintery..... 😞 Do they know something we don't?!?!? 😞

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by MikeOxon, 01-Sep-14 11:56 AM GMT

Aren't iPhones wonderful! That's a marvellous shot of the hawk moth 😊

Mike

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 01-Sep-14 03:40 PM GMT

Thanks Mike!!

I am not sure I could capture that again!

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by Wurzel, 01-Sep-14 11:06 PM GMT

Congrats on the Clouded Yellow and that is an absolutely cracking shot of the Hawkmoth 😊🍷 A good cold winter would be good for the butterflies though I don't think the season is done yet, keep that iPhone fully charged 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 02-Sep-14 09:31 AM GMT

Thank you Wurzel and wise words about more possibles to come; I heard on the Radio that they are expecting it to stay mild until November. I tried to emulate your ability at catching dragon-flies/darters on camera and couldn't get anywhere near them, which highlights just how good your picture was! 🍷

I will watch with interest to see the reports coming in if the weather stays mild.

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by Maximus, 01-Oct-14 12:35 AM GMT

Nice Brown Trout you posted in Wurzel's PD CJB. I had a rod on the Longford Estate, downstream from Salisbury for many years, when Tom Williams and Mike Trowbridge were the river keepers, Downton was my second home. Included in the ticket was some classic chalkstream fishing for Brown Trout on the river Ebble, great times. Also some brilliant Salmon fishing on the estate, caught my fair share! Those were the days 😊

Mike

### Re: CJB

by CJB, 01-Oct-14 08:57 AM GMT

Good morning Mike,

Sadly last night was the last time I can fish as the season is now over! I know exactly where you are talking about on the Ebble.

I am lucky enough to have access to the Colne below where I live on a stretch that hasn't been fished for 20 years!? It is plagued by American Signal Crayfish (I caught 400 from one pool!!) so the fish have struggled to breed, but as ever have managed to keep going! It means that they are fully wild brownies and as cunning as you like!

Happy times!

Flutter on!

CJB

### Re: CJB

by Maximus, 03-Oct-14 12:34 AM GMT

Hi CJB, the Gloucestershire Colne in common with many other rivers in this country, has suffered abstraction, lack of weed growth, Signal Crayfish and various other kinds of predation on it's fish stocks. It's really good to know that it still capable of supporting a population of wild Brown trout, as illustrated in your excellent photo 😊

On the butterfly front today, I have seen Small Tortoiseshells, Commas, Red Admirals and a lone Peacock enjoying the warm autumn sunshine 😊

great stuff,

Mike

### Re: CJB

by Goldie M, 04-Oct-14 01:10 PM GMT

Just seen your moth CJB , love it Goldie 😊