

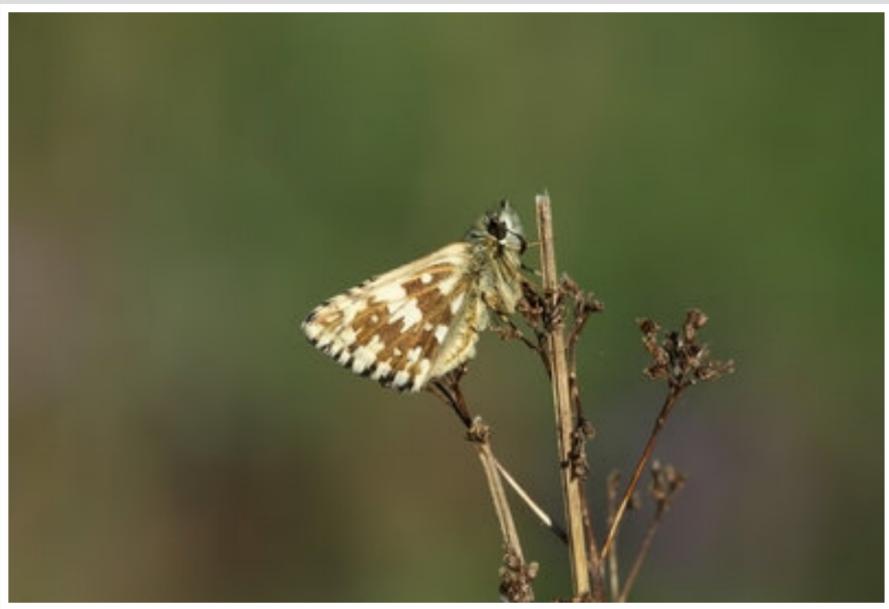
## Andy Brown

by andy brown, 05-May-14 09:03 AM GMT

Here are a few Pictures and a varied mix taken this weekend from various places and I must thank Pauline for her kind assistance with the White Admiral Larvae



*Small Tortoiseshell Larvae*



*Grizzled Skipper*



*Common Lizard*



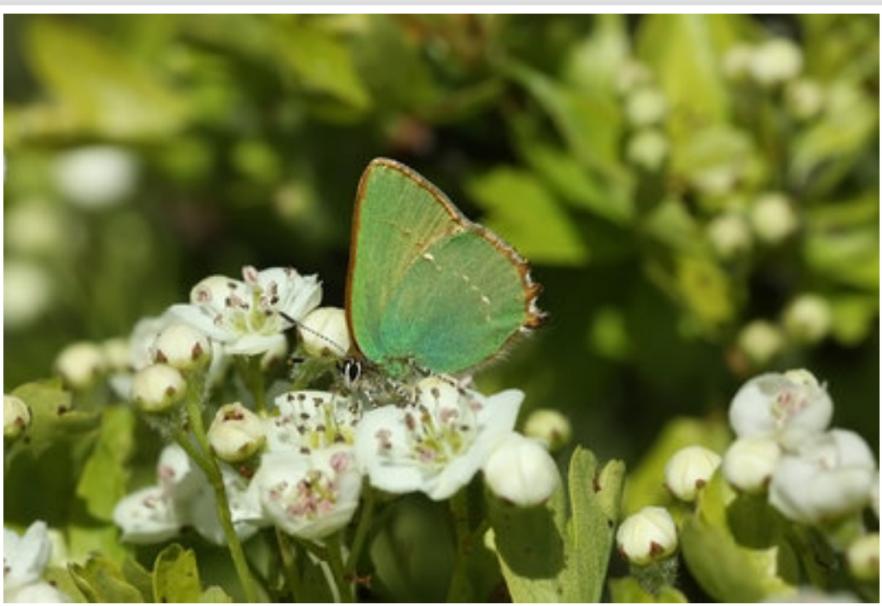
*Dingy Skipper*



*Duke of Burgundy Fritillary*



*Garden Tiger Moth Larvae*



*Green Hairstreak*



*Green Hairstreaks*



*Wood Tiger Moth*



*White Admiral Larvae*

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Pauline, 05-May-14 10:35 AM GMT

Wonderful shots Andy but you already know what I think of your Hairstreaks 🍷🍷🍷 Thanks for sharing.

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 05-May-14 05:53 PM GMT

Went out today determined to find my own White Admiral Larvae after Pauline kindly showed me where and what to look for it really helped with the scale of things and came up trumps, found 2 within half an hour. even with a 180 macro/plamp and tripod it is really difficult (for me anyway) to get well focused but please with these non the less.



*White Admiral Larvae Early Instar*



*White Admiral Larvae*



*White Admiral Larvae*

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Pauline, 05-May-14 06:00 PM GMT

Marvellous! It's quite addictive isn't it? Don't think I'll be able to walk past any Honeysuckle now without looking 😊

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 09-May-14 06:11 PM GMT

Hi,

Went to Bentley wood for a couple of hours this afternoon plenty of Pearls about and tens of Brimstone, this pearl stood out as being very pale, great condition though and an amazing green hue which the picture doesn't do justice. Is this normal variation? and also a couple of other interesting critters for note, help on the spider appreciated.

Thanks

Andy



*Pearl Bordered Fritillary*



*Meloe proscarabaeus*



*To ID*

## Re: Andy Brown

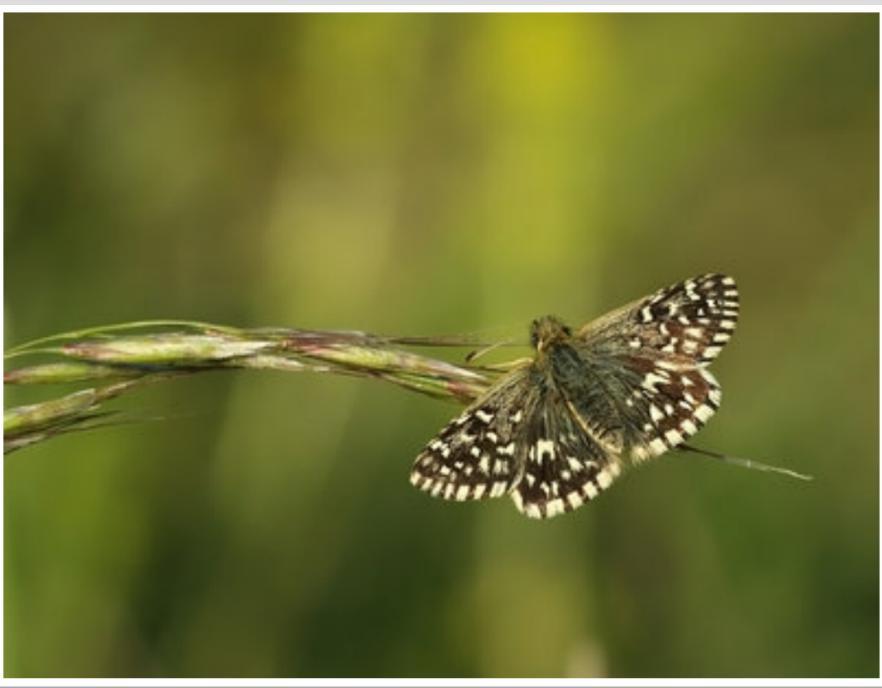
by andy brown, 14-May-14 10:02 PM GMT

Spent the evening With Fishee at Old Winchester Hill,  
5-10 Common Blues  
4-5 Dingy Skippers  
4-5 Grizzled Skippers  
3-4 Brimstones  
and numerous Micro moths

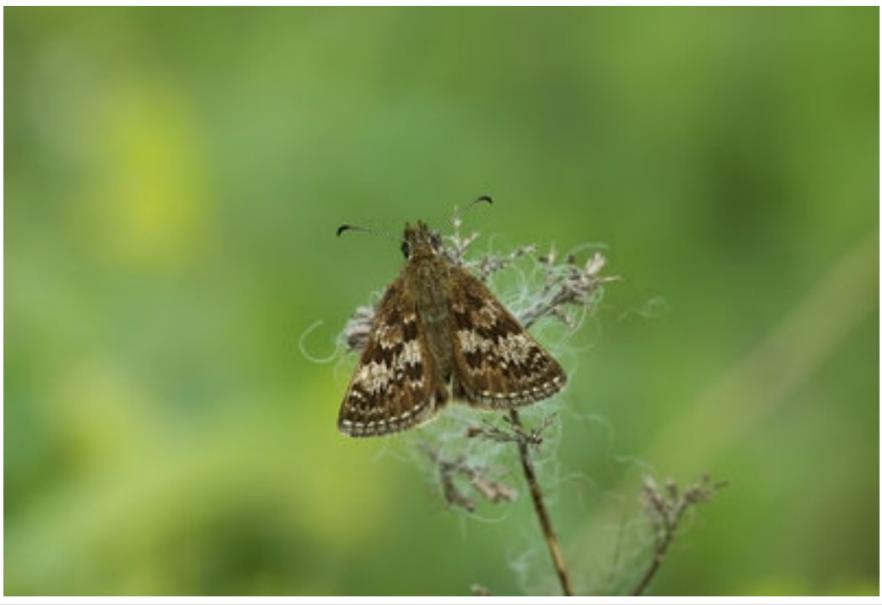
Here are a few pics to share.

Thanks

Andy



*Grizzled Skipper*



*Dingy Skipper*



*Corizus hyoscyami*



*Common Blue*



*Common Blue*



*Common Blue*



**Re: Andy Brown**

by Katrina, 14-May-14 11:24 PM GMT

Lovely set of photos. I particularly like the Grizzled Skipper Shot!

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 16-May-14 07:08 PM GMT

Went to Wrecclsham on the off chance and found these as a compensation for no Glanville's 😞





Met up with Pauline for a WA Larvae hunt and came up with this one I found the other week but others were MIA or I am loosing it and could not find where I found them.



On Pauline's kind offer went back to take some pics of the Black Hairstreak  
An whilst there, there was a new arrival





And when I arrived home found one of these Bruisers



So all in all a great afternoon beating any day at work 😊

Thanks

Andy

## Re: Andy Brown

by Pauline, 16-May-14 08:04 PM GMT

I just love that first shot of the early emergence Andy. Talk about being in the right place at the right time ..... 😄🍷

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 18-May-14 08:21 AM GMT

Popped out for the day starting at the crack of sparrows with Fishee for a day in pursuit of our favourite friends, here are a few of my better photo's from the day, I am sure John will have some better ones.



*Dingy Skipper*



*Elachista argentella*



*Adonis Blue*



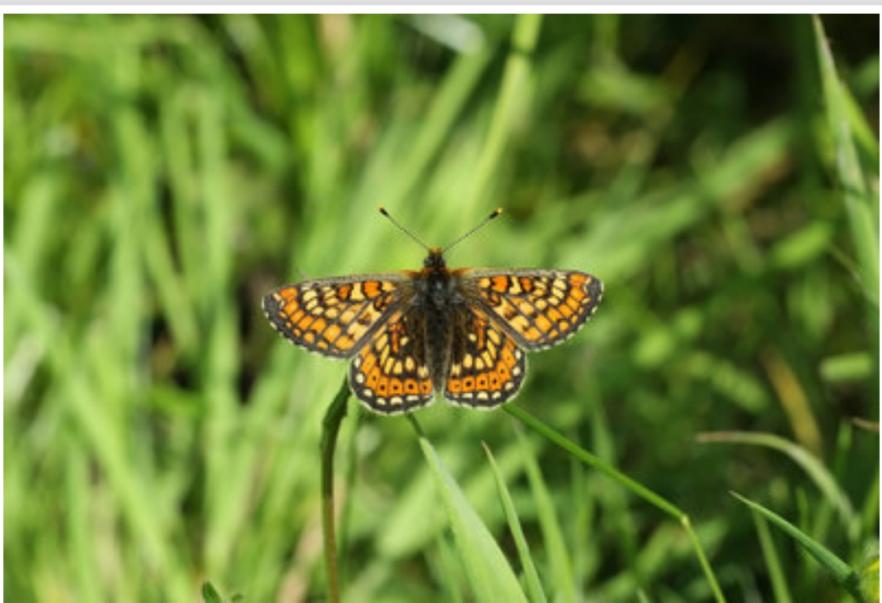
*Brown Argus*



*Scarce Chaser – Imature Colours*



*Small Heaths*



*Marsh Frit*



*Dingy Skipper suspect aberrant rather than worn*



*Marsh Frits*

Have orders for a day of gardening today so will have to try a couple of evenings this week depending on the forecast probably Magdalene Hill as it is only 15 mins away.

Thanks

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Neil Hulme, 18-May-14 08:55 AM GMT

Lovely pair of lusty Marsh Frits! Great image.  
BWs, Neil

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by William, 18-May-14 10:22 AM GMT

#### **"Neil Hulme" wrote:**

Lovely pair of lusty Marsh Frits! Great image.

I second that, I was out photographing them yesterday and I found several mating pairs, but all low down in the grass so I know how hard it is to get an image that good 😊 – fantastic!

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Butterflysaurus rex, 18-May-14 12:30 PM GMT

Lots of great images there Andy, nice to see a Brown Argus they are avoiding me like the plague at the moment.

All the best

B'saurus

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 26-May-14 11:25 AM GMT

Popped out to Wrecclesham (very little there) and the Straits to get out of the wind, it was just nice to get out after the weather on Friday and Saturday anyway here is a mixed bag of the days sightings

Ta

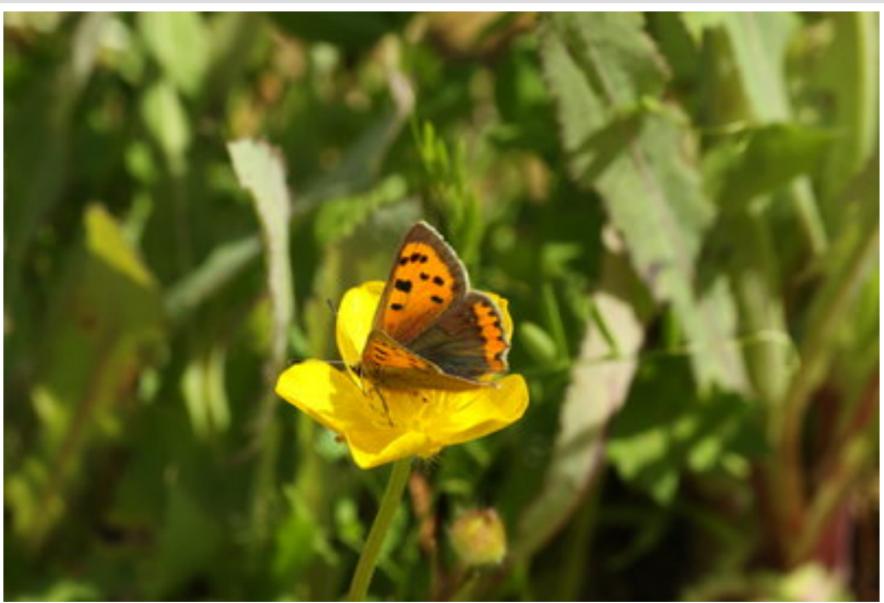
Andy



*Common Blue*



*Speckled Wood*



*Small Copper*



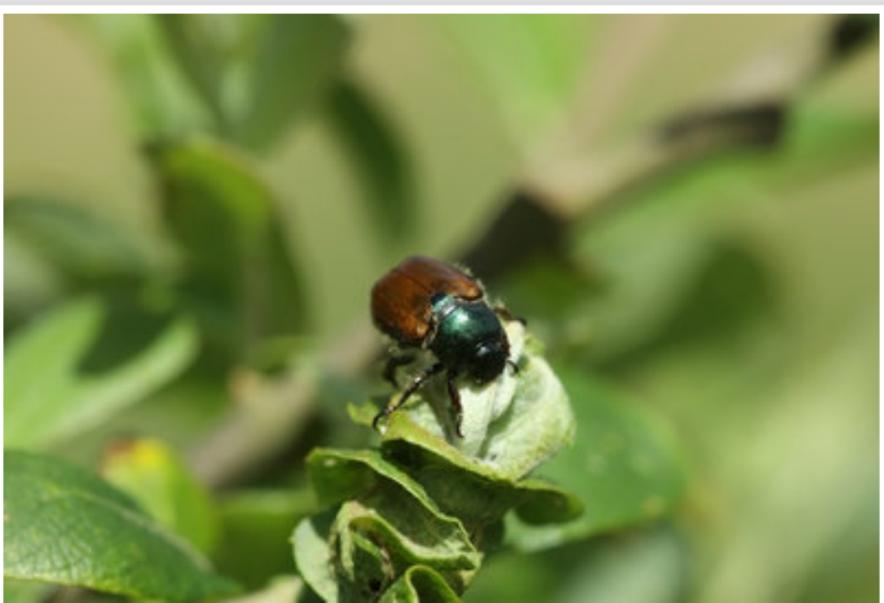
*Red Admiral*



*The Vapourer Larvae*



*Swollen-thighed Beetle Male - Oedemera nobilis*



*Garden Chafer - Phyllopertha horticola*



*Black-striped Longhorn Beetle Male - Stenurella melanura*



*Unidentified Sawfly Larvae*



*Small Tortoiseshell Larvae*



*Large Red Damselfly*



*Black-spotted Longhorn Beetle – Rhagium mordax*



*Black-headed Cardinal Beetle*



*Small Quaker Larvae*



*Blossom Underwing Larvae – Orthosia miniosa*

by Wurzel, 27-May-14 09:50 PM GMT

Fantastic range of photos Andy 😊 My personal favourite is the wrap around Dingy I love seeing them in that pose 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 29-May-14 06:46 PM GMT

Its been cloudy and windy all week and managed to get in the garden this evening after work to catch up with my orange tips, here are a few pics. Cannot wait to order my extension tubes at the weekend but will be to late for the last Ovum which looks ready to eat its way out of the egg case.



*Orange Tip Ovum*



*Orange Tip Ovum*



*Orange Tip Larvae*

[



*Orange Tip Larvae*



*Orange Tip Larvae*

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 29-May-14 08:31 PM GMT

News Flash!!!!!!!!!!!!

Just went out to check the egg and hey presto! still windy so not the best but very pleased non the less.





Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Pauline, 30-May-14 05:57 AM GMT

Great shots Andy - I took some similar ones yesterday but tbh my little camera is struggling. Can't wait to see what you produce with your extension tubes.

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 30-May-14 05:20 PM GMT

Bit of a mix again, some moths from the Garden and the results of a trip to Bentley Wood which I had the pleasure of seeing a Marsh Fritillary setting up next years generation, Unfortunately they were all past there best but good to see non the less about 10ish all in all.

Enjoy

Andy



*Pale Tussock*



*Spectacle*



*Small Square-spot Diarsia rubi*



*Drinker*



*Marsh Frit*





*Small-pearl*



*Crab Spider*

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Pauline, 01-Jun-14 06:44 AM GMT

Never thought I'd say this Andy but that's a great moth! 😊 (the spectacle) and your photo shows it off so well. Wish I'd seen it – you seem to be single-handedly converting me! 😄

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 01-Jun-14 03:31 PM GMT

Hi had a great day out on Saturday and have never seen so many Adonis Blues along with freshly emerged Common Blues, Small Blues, Dingy Skippers and Brow Argus I have uploaded a selection here maybe to many but there were so many stunning Butterflies I wanted to do them justice. What was evident with the Female Adonis is the amount of colour variation which make them a really stunning butterfly.

Enjoy

Andy



*Adonis Blue*



*Adonis Blue Male*



*Adonis Blue Male*

From These 3 pictures you can see the amazing colour range of the Female Adonis Blue "Stunning"



*Adonis Blue Female*



*Adonis Blue Female*



*Adonis Blue Female*



*Adonis just emerged*



*Adonis Blue Pair on Orchid*



*Adonis Blue Pair on Orchid*

Still Never work out why They called this Dingy



*Dingy Skipper*



*Dingy Skippers*



*Dingy Skippers*



*Brown Argus*

This one had a rather light Forewing didn't look to have been caused through damage though



*Brown Argus*



*Small Blue*

This one had a funny marks on its forewings looks like a water stain, any thoughts



*Small Blue*

One for the moth'ers amongst us



*Mother Shipton*

On the way home popped into Bentley wood which was very busy and managed a few snaps



*Speckled Wood*



*Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary*



*Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary*

### Re: Andy Brown

by Pauline, 01-Jun-14 03:51 PM GMT

I certainly am enjoying them Andy. You're Adonis are way better than mine. I see you had another early start but clearly worth it – I love the Small Blue surrounded by the dew droplets.

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 01-Jun-14 06:17 PM GMT

Some Moths from last nights catch and had a wander around Magdalene Hill for a couple of hours, most prolific was Small white well distributed over the site, a dozen fresh Common Blues and 6ish Large Skippers and my first Meadow Brown of the year. Found a few Mullein Larvae at various instars and plenty of Small Tort Larvae and day flying moths

Cheers

Andy



2337 – *Marbled Minor (Oligia strigilis)*



1937 - Willow Beauty (*Peribatodes rhomboidaria*)



1937 - Willow Beauty (*Peribatodes rhomboidaria*)



2221 - Mullein (*Shargacucullia verbasci*)



2221 - Mullein (*Shargacucullia verbasci*)



2221 - Mullein (*Shargacucullia verbasci*)



2221 - Mullein (*Shargacucullia verbasci*)



Small Tortoiseshell



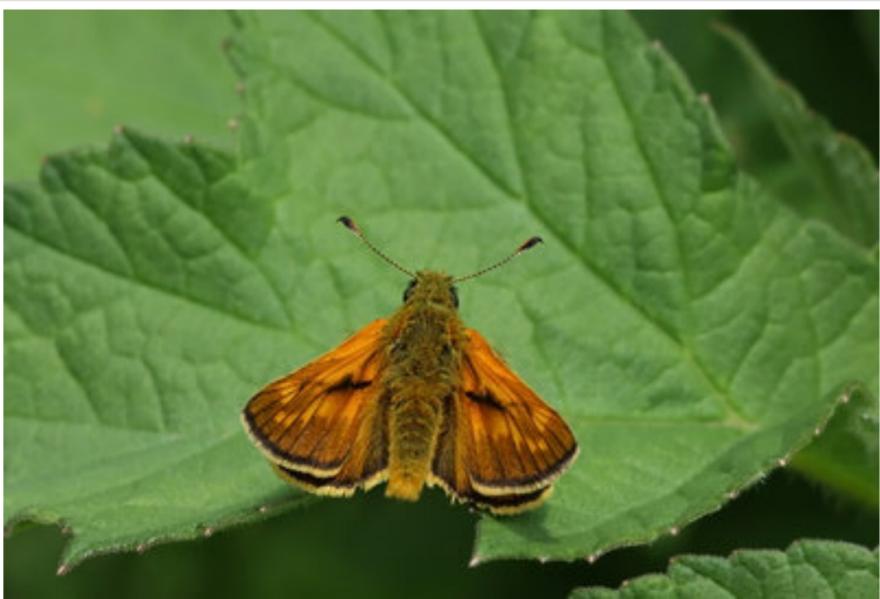
0385 - *Anthophila fabriciana*



1361 - *Pyrausta aurata*



1727 - *Silver-ground Carpet (Xanthorhoe montanata)*



*Large Skipper*



*Small Blue*



*Peacock Larvae*



*The Poppy*

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Katrina, 01-Jun-14 06:20 PM GMT

Adonis pair on orchid and newly emerged Adonis – what brilliant finds and brilliant photos!

**Re: Andy Brown**

by FISHiEE, 01-Jun-14 08:11 PM GMT

Excellent shots Andy. You kept the emerging Adonis quiet!

Had a look at old Winchester hill and beacon hill this morning. Not much at either really. Chalton down had several common blues but they were hyper at 9:30.

I spotted some caterpillars on a plant in the garden yesterday and you have answered what they are now. First instar mullion moths 😊 my orange tip caterpillar count is 4 now.

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Willow, 02-Jun-14 03:01 PM GMT

Very natural looking images Andy, just as they should be!!! Also a nice selection of moths to enjoy 😊

Bill 😊

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

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Paul Harfield, 02-Jun-14 10:09 PM GMT

Hi Andy

It was good to meet you at the weekend, good luck with your Sallow.

Looks your Saturday morning early start paid off 😊 Looks like a fantastic site, I have added it to my list of places to visit. I particularly like your emergent Adonis Blue and the range of females. Was your Moth catch in the garden or elsewhere? some superb camouflage amongst them 😊

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 03-Jun-14 08:03 AM GMT

Hi Paul, pleasure to meet you and thanks again for the Sallows, glad you like the pictures and yes the moths were caught in the garden using my 22watt atanic.

Thanks

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Jul-14 11:14 AM GMT

Here is my latest eclectic mix quite a few as had no computer and been on hols, hope you enjoy, next post will have more butterflies as I am off to the Pyrenees on Wednesday for a weeks butterfly and moth hunting. Probably my fault that Pauline is becoming bit of a moth'er 🤔 and really impressed with the pictures of the Puss moth and Eyed hawk she got yesterday when we were out and glad I was able to show her one of the larvae that she was wanting to see 😊

Thanks

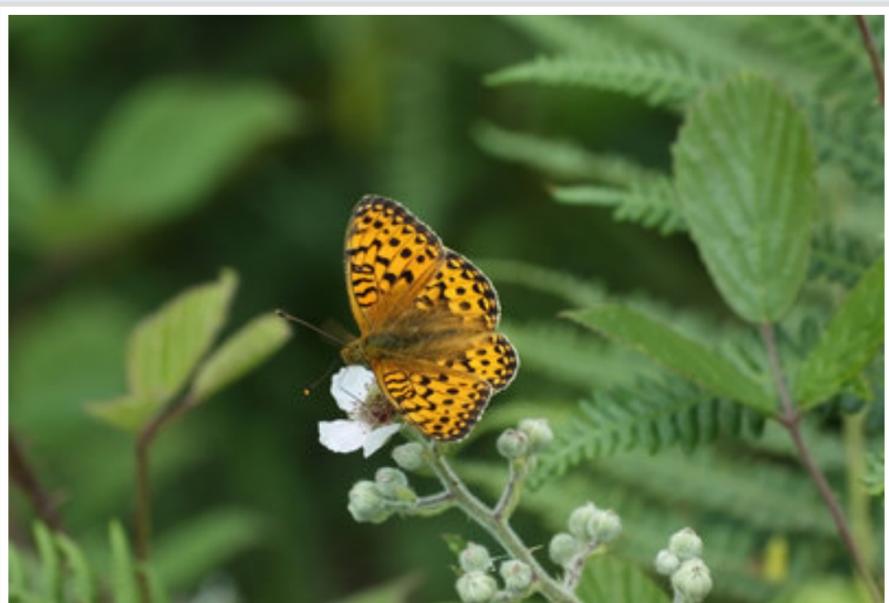
Andy



*Coxcombe Prominent*



*Peacock Larvae*



*High Brown Frit*



*High Brown Frit*



*Dark Green Frit*



*Poplar Hawk Moth*



*Burnished Brass*



*Rhogogaster viridis*



*Plain Golden Y*



*Marbled White*



*Small Skipper*



*Comma Egg*



*Broom Moth*



*Small Skippers*



*Pammene fasciana*



*Elephant Hawk-moth*



*Privet Hawk-moth*



*Privet Hawk-moth*



*Buff-tip Larvae*



*Puss Moth*



*Puss Moth*



*Eyed Hawk Moth*



*Eyed Hawk Moth*

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Pete Eeles, 12-Jul-14 11:23 AM GMT

Superb Andy - very nice! The Eyed Hawk larva might be parasitised given the dark spots, and I reckon your first Small Skipper is actually a male Essex,

based on the sex brand (and antennae, to a degree) ... 😊

Cheers,

– Pete

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Jul-14 11:27 AM GMT

Thanks Pete always grateful for the info and having correct ID's and interesting on Eyed hawk moth will keep an eye on in as we walk the dog there every day but looks ready for pupations due to it's size.

Ta

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by FISHiEE, 12-Jul-14 03:33 PM GMT

Good to see you got the high browns. Will have to compare them to my Niobe/high brown frits to see if I can work out what I found in Switzerland!

Waiting for the plane to take me away from this butterfly Paradise 😞

I think you will have an excellent time in the Pyrenees! I am already planning my next mountain butterfly holiday!

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 09-Aug-14 02:50 PM GMT

Here is a selection of Butterflies, Moths and Larvae from July.



*Diamond-back Moth (Plutella xylostella)*



*Riband Wave (Idaea aversata) Ab. remutata*



*Alder Moth Larvae (Acronicta alni)*

What a Stunning Larvae; the moth is nice but cannot live up to the larval stage



*Peppered Moth (Biston betularia)*



*Scarce Footman (Eilema complana)*



*Cydia splendana - Melanic Form I think*



*Eyed Hawk-moth Larvae (Smerinthus ocellata)*

Found a number of these very locally but still never had one in the moth trap



*Grey Dagger Larvae (Acronicta psi)*



*Painted Lady*



*Painted Lady*

Will add more tomorrow few from Old Winchester hill today then will start to post the pics from my trip to the Pyrenees later tomorrow.

Enjoy

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 10-Aug-14 08:54 AM GMT

Took a trip to Old Winchester Hill Yesterday morning with "FISHiEE" crack of sparrows as usual and very wet from the previous nights rain loads of blues around although no Adonis, unfortunately it was a bit windy but got a few nice pics none the less and also nice to see a few Striped Lychnis Larvae.



*Chalk-hill Blue (Polyommatus coridon)*



*Chalk-hill Blue (Polyommatus coridon)*

Lots of aberrant chalk-hill blues around still just wished I had got some pictures when in better condition



*Chalk-hill Blue (Polyommatus coridon) Abb*



*Chalk-hill Blue (Polyommatus coridon)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue Female (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Large White (Pieris brassicae)*



*Large White (Pieris brassicae)*



*Meadow Brown (Maniola jurtina)*



*Striped Lychnis (Shargacucullia lychnitis)*



*Striped Lychnis (Shargacucullia lychnitis)*

Cheers

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Katrina, 10-Aug-14 10:06 AM GMT

Fabulous set of photos – I particularly like the first common blue.

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Neil Freeman, 10-Aug-14 11:26 AM GMT

Hi Andy,

Some great photos in your diary, great to see some of the moths and larvae, particularly the Hawk Moths. Brings back memories of looking for those when I was a nipper back in the 1970s.

Cheers,

Neil.

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 10-Aug-14 04:25 PM GMT

Hi,

Here is the start of my pics from a recent trip with Naturetrek to the Spanish Pyrenees in July the weather great a tad warm though and unfortunately quite windy, food excellent with nice wine in support while staying at Casa Sarasa on the bottom slope of Berdun.

Location lovely and generally sites chosen by the guides came up trumps even found a number of Swallowtail Larvae in our hosts garden along with a number of butterflies. Apologies for the quality of some of the pics because as I said it was quite windy, butterflies were always very active due to the time of day searching and to top it all my macro lens started to come apart, although it could be that I am just rubbish photographer.

I have hopefully identified them correctly however I am asking for help/confirmation with some and if you think I have got it wrong please shout.

We were at altitudes up to 2000m and there was still pockets of snow around, as this was the first trip I had been on I could not get over the quantity of butterfly species that were present on roadside verges unlike here in the UK.

Lots of Pictures so will generally post the am then pm so it will give those of you interested time to review my identifications and comment accordingly

Hope you enjoy

Cheers

Andy

Day 1 - This is the morning batch

The first 10 were found in the garden of the accommodation.



*House Centipede (Scutigera coleoptrata)*



*Swallowtail Larvae - (Papilio Machaon gorganus)*



*Common Blue - (Polyommatus icarus)*



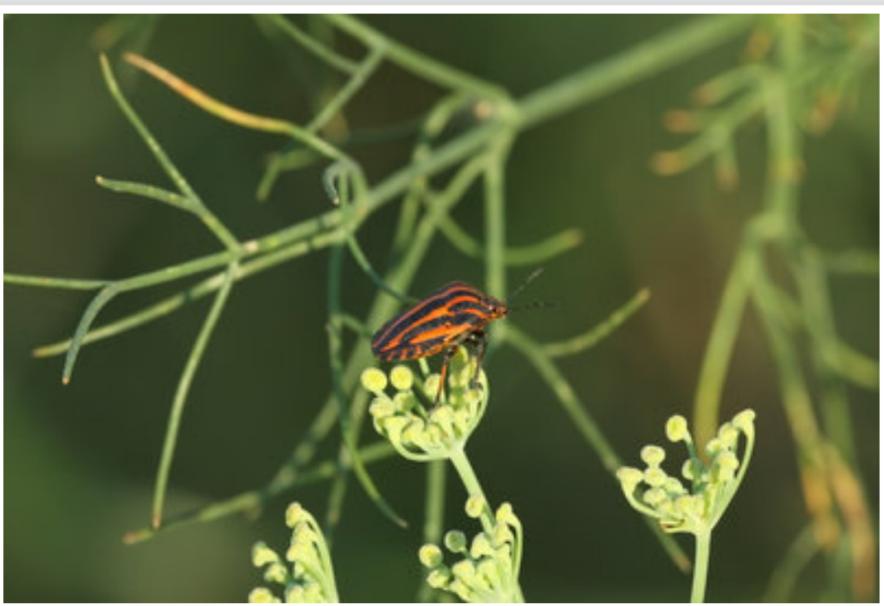
*Shield Bug – Carpacoris fuscispinus*



*Large Skipper – (Ochlodes sylvanus)*



*Gatekeeper – (Pyronia tithonus)*



*shield bug – (Graphosoma lineatum)*



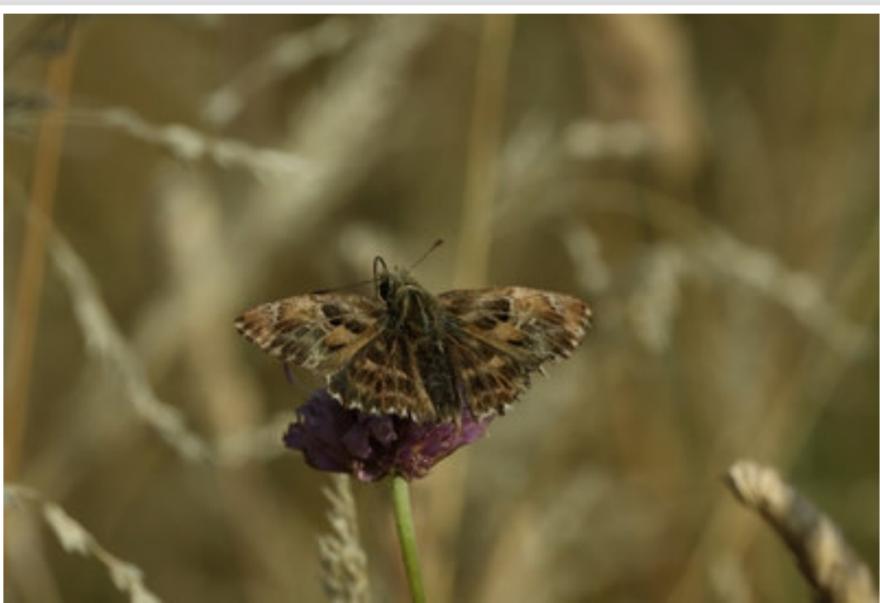
*Pine processionary moth – (Thaumetopoea pityocampa)*



*Humming-bird Hawk-moth – (Macroglossum stellatarum)*



*Hoverfly – (Volucella zonaria)*



*Mallow Skipper – (Carcharodus alceae)*



*Mallow Skipper - (Carcharodus alceae)*



*Shield Bug - (Carpocoris fuscispinus)*



*Turquoise Blue - (Polyommatus dorylas)*



*Glandon Blue - (Agriades glandon)*



*Spanish Wall Lizard - (Podarcis hispanicus)*



*Silver Studded Blue may be Idas Blue need confirmation*



*Lesser Butterfly-orchid - (Platanthera bifolia)*



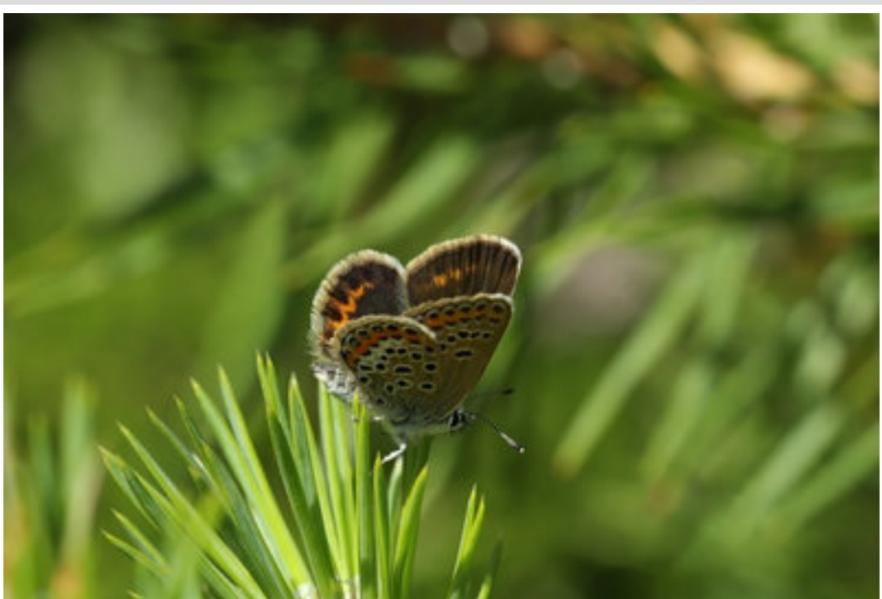
*Spectacular scenery*



*Piedmont ringlet - (Erebia meolans) I Think*



*Silver-studded Blue - (Plebejus argus)*



*Silver-studded Blue - (Plebejus argus)*



*Green-eyed Horse Fly - (Tabanus bovinus)*



*Piedmont ringlet - (Erebia meolans) 1 I Think*



*Safflower Skipper - (Pyrgus carthami) need confirmation*



*Large Blue - (Maculinea arion)*

Comments appreciated so feel free, will post the afternoons selection tomorrow evening if I have time

## Re: Andy Brown

by Wurzel, 10-Aug-14 10:16 PM GMT

Cracking reports and shots Andy 😊👍 Though I am probably most envious of the Peppered Moth – which for me is the stuff of evolutionary legend 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 11-Aug-14 08:54 PM GMT

Hi Andy. Happy memories – I have spent many happy holidays camping in the Spanish Pyrenees.

Your 'large skipper' is a female Lulworth skipper. Apart from that, I agree with your IDs. The common blue does have a lot of *escheri* about it and I would love to see an underside – but I think it probably is *icarus*. As for the first female *Plebejus* – that is harder. The undersides of *idas* and *argus* are both very variable and I've never been convinced by stories about how pointy the black crescents are. She does look very different from the female you show lower down (*argus*), which suggests she might be *idas*, but I would hesitate to call that one.

Did you get up to any of the endemic *Erebia* species, like *lefebvrei*, *gorgone* or *sthennyo*?

Guy

## Re: Andy Brown

by Pauline, 12-Aug-14 06:59 AM GMT

Some smashing shots there Andy but I love the dew/rain shots – really worth getting up early for 🍷 ...and yes, we must catch up sometime soon.

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Aug-14 04:45 PM GMT

Thanks Guy Updated with your comments not sure if I/we had any of the endemic *Erebia* species, like *lefebvrei*, *gorgone* or *sthennyo* will take a look as I go through the pictures.

Here is the last batch for the first day and think I have the butterflies nailed apart from the first Ringlet however if I have something wrong please comment.



Ringlet ?





Wood White - (*Leptidea sinapis*)



Brimstone - (*Gonepteryx rhamni*)



*Crambus pascuella*



Scarce Copper Male - (*Lycaena virgaureae*)



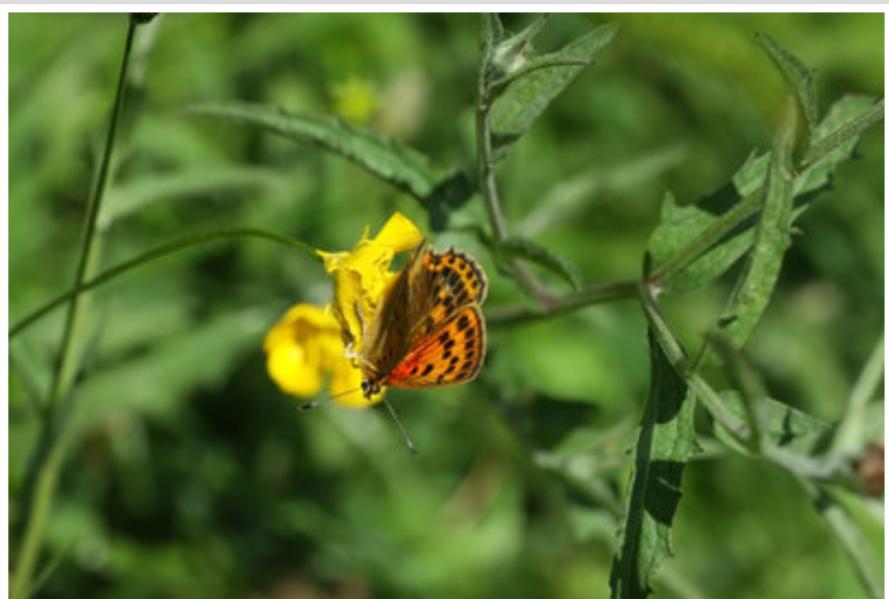
*Striped Lychnis Larvae - Shargacucullia lychnitis*



*Marbled Skipper - (Carcharodus lavatherae)*



*Marbled Skipper - (Carcharodus lavatherae)*



*Scarce Copper Female - (Lycaena virgaureae)*



*Scarce Copper Female - (Lycaena virgaureae)*



*Pearly Heath - (Coenonympha arcania)*



*Large Skipper - (Ochlodes sylvanus)*



*Holly Blue - (Celastrina argiolus)*



*Striped Lychnis Larvae – Shargacucullia lychnitis With parasitic fly eggs*



*Zygaena (Zygaena) ephialtes Need confirmation*



*Silver-washed Fritillary – (Argynnis paphia)*



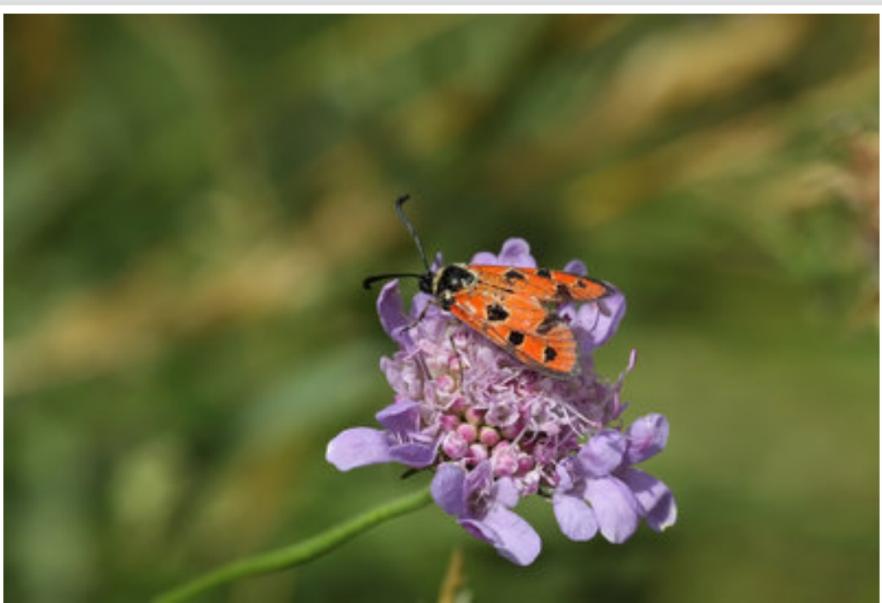
*Blue-spot Hairstreak - (Satyrium spini)*



*Which Forester*



*Which Forester*



*Zygaeninae Felix maybe*



Long shot but Larvae ID needed



Meadow Brown – (*Maniola jurtina*)



Froghopper ID needed

End of day 1, what I have found interesting is the quantity of Zygaenidae out there in the big wide world, will look to see if there is a book available to aid ID's so if anyone can point me in the right direction that would be great

Cheers

Andy

## Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 12-Aug-14 04:59 PM GMT

Hi Andy.

The ringlet is a female Piedmont. The first burnet is *ephialtes* as you suggest. The next, I believe, is *fausta*, not *felix*, which is North African.

For the Zygaenids, I can recommend this:

<http://www.napeditions.com/en/19-papillons-de-nuits-d-europe-volume-3-zygenes-pyrales-1.html>

It is very comprehensively illustrated and has excellent text, with detailed descriptions and maps.

Guy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 12-Aug-14 05:06 PM GMT

Thanks again Guy for the pointers and will see if I can pick up the book at the AIS show in October as I am also after a copy of butterflies of Europe by Tristan Lafranchis. Will start day 2 tomorrow after I go over them again to confirm any Skippers and Ringlets.

Ta

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 12-Aug-14 05:40 PM GMT

Not sure how I missed this from day 1 but not sure if Spotted or Lesser Spotted being drawn to the latter I know there is variability. Either that or I am totally wrong 😊



*Spotted or lesser spotted Fritillary*

Thanks

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Padfield, 12-Aug-14 05:46 PM GMT

I would say that is spotted fritillary. The submarginal markings are round and there is no trace of the discocellular vein – I think your picture is sufficiently good to see that if it were there.

Guy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 13-Aug-14 04:58 PM GMT

Evening, here is the latest (day 2) from Spain, again will just upload the morning selection for perusal first, bit of a mix but you know me 😊



*Moth ID Needed*



*Swallow-tail Larvae Early Instar*



*Swallow-tail Larvae Early Instar*

Unfortunately this one died a few days later no obvious reason why



*Swallow-tail Larvae*

By the end of the week this one had marched of somewhere to pupate



*Swallow-tail Larvae Fully Grown*



*Typical scenery*



*Where we got the ski lift, a couple of us did walk down though*



*Elder-flowered Orchid - (Dactylorhiza sambucina) Yellow form*



*Wall Lizard*



*Small Heath*



*Spotted Orchid (Dactylorhiza fuchsii)*



*Fragrant Orchid - (Gymnadenia Conopsea)*



*Pyrausta cingulata*



*Purple-edged Copper - (Lycaena hippothoe)*



*Ringlet ID help needed Please*

The afternoon picture are all bar 1 Butterflies

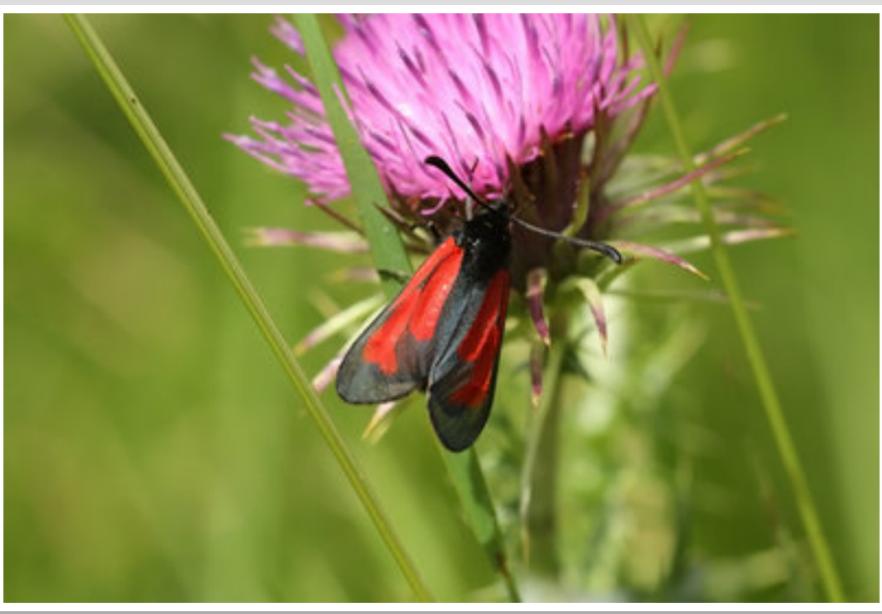
Cheers

Andy

## **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 14-Aug-14 04:41 PM GMT

Here is the afternoons selection from day 2, as always if anyone can fill the gaps for id's and let me know if I am wrong that will be really useful



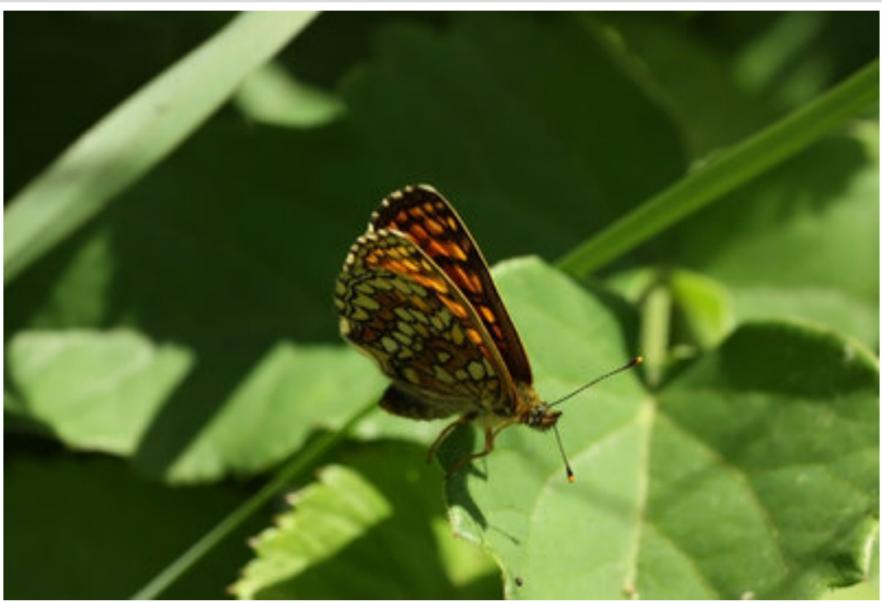
*Zygaena (Mesembrynus) purpuralis* Confirmation needed



*Idas or Silver Studded* ID Help Please



*Idas or Silver Studded* ID Help Please



*Heath Fritillary*



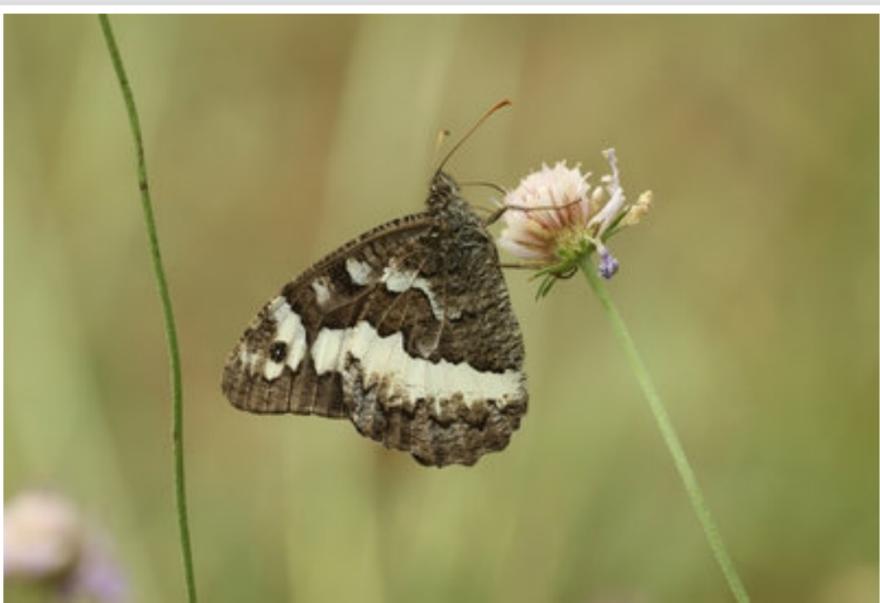
*Heath Fritillary*



*Large Skippers*



*ID Needed*



*Great Banded Grayling (Brintesia circe)*

Still not 100% with the yellow id and will be posting a few as the days go on so again if I am wrong please shout



*Clouded Yellow (Colias crocea) Female*



*Clouded Yellow (Colias crocea) Male*

Sorry only pictures I have of these 2 skippers



*Skipper long shot but ID Needed*



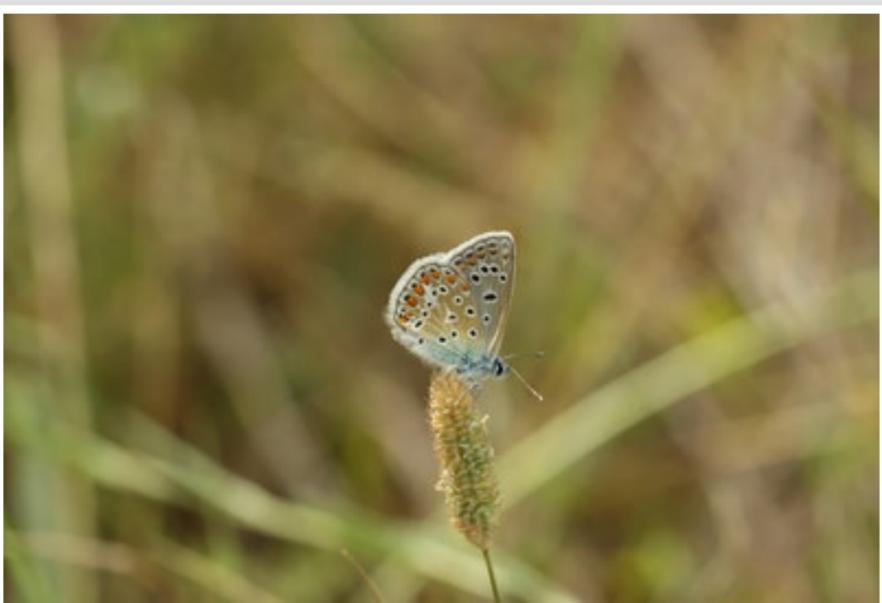
*Skipper long shot but ID Needed*



*Marbled White*



*Wall Brown*



*Common Blue*

This is one of my favourite pics of the trip shame it was so windy and I did not get them on a less busy flower to show them off better



*Knapweed Fritillary (Melitaea phoebe)*

I was more surprised as the week went on with the quantity of really fresh individuals and the size variation for various species.

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 15-Aug-14 06:52 PM GMT

Hi Andy. From my experience of the Pyrenees I'm pretty sure your *Plebejus* is silver-studded. As for the *Carcharodus* skippers, I'm not 100%. If I had to put money down I'd probably call the first mallow and the second tufted marbled. But I don't have to! 😊

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by The Annoying Czech, 15-Aug-14 08:08 PM GMT

Hi, I don't dare to identify those two half-dead Skippers, but

<download/file.php?id=57266&mode=view> This reminds me of worn *Zygaena laeta* the most or st. similar "Pyrenees-specific"

<download/file.php?id=57265&mode=view> You'd have to genitalize this to identify, I'm afraid

<download/file.php?id=57261&mode=view> *Zygaena ephialtes* f. *ephialtoides*

<download/file.php?id=57435&mode=view> This animal seems to be *idas/argyrognomon* to me

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 15-Aug-14 08:42 PM GMT

#### "The Annoying Czech" wrote:

This animal seems to be *idas/argyrognomon* to me

*P. argyrognomon* doesn't fly in the Pyrenees, but I'm interested you considered it a possibility, Marek, because in its western range it never has broad borders like this. *P. idas* is very variable but I'm not aware of it having broad borders in the Pyrenees either. This individual looks very like the *argus* (silver-studded) I see when I visit this region. I wouldn't claim any authority, but with this group it helps to have local knowledge of the forms and my experience of the Spanish Pyrenees suggests very strongly this is *argus*.

Sometimes I'm spectacularly wrong! 😊

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

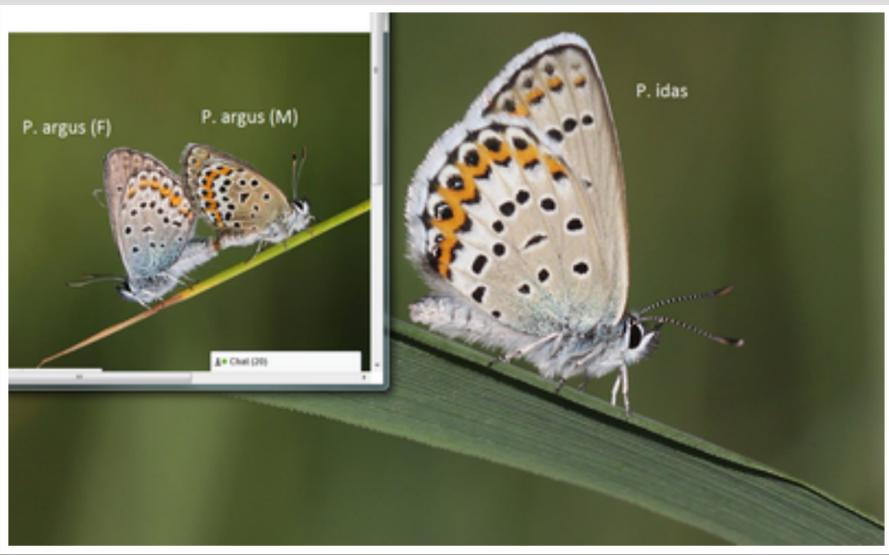
by The Annoying Czech, 15-Aug-14 09:47 PM GMT

The truth is I worked with Central European know-how and counted with some visible differences between our *argus* vs. *idas-argyrognomon* (those two always have to be genitalized here, which is kind of unpleasant as *idas* is considered to be CR, whereas *argyrognomon* is locally common).

And as far as I know (and saw), both rear sides of the wings seems to be more *idas-argyrognomon* than *argus* to me, as the black rim is rather thin and the blue color is not dark enough. Also, our *argus* males, and I believe those photos are one and very same male individual, tend to be more brown and the spots are also slightly different, but it may be just a feeling.

Since I've actually never been to Pyrenees, I obviously may be wrong.

Also, *argus* is considerably smaller. At least that Central European.



*Czech argus vs. idas*

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 16-Aug-14 07:52 AM GMT

Thank you Guy and Marek interesting debate and useful info, will keep the id as silver studded/unconfirmed for now, I can see where you are coming from as the photo's I have of silver studded in the UK do seem to have in many instances less rounded hind and forewings, it means I will just have to go back next year and try harder 😊. Marek thanks for the pointers on the Burnett's and again will just have to leave the forester and unknown. At least I managed the yellows as I was worried about the id's.

Cheers

Andy

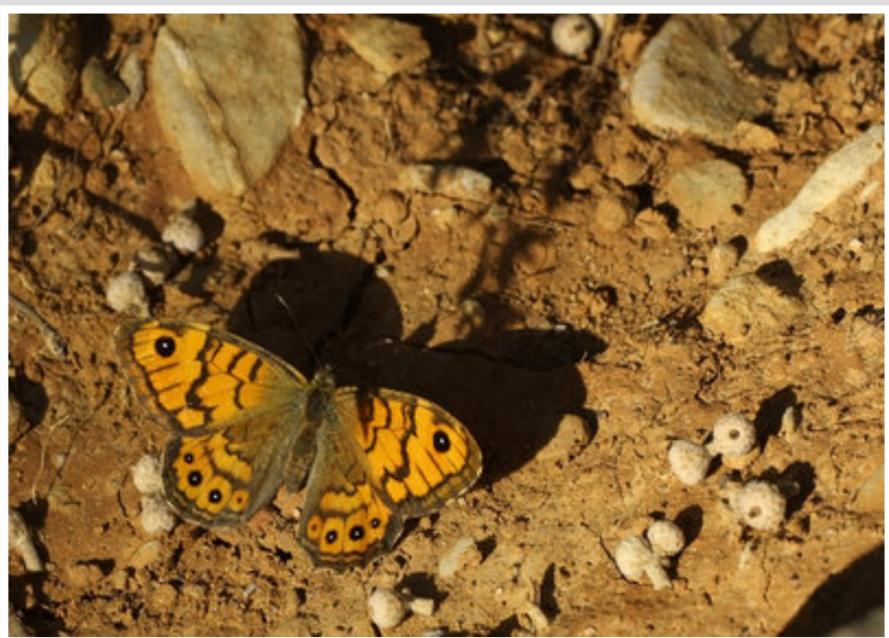
### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 16-Aug-14 04:18 PM GMT

Here is the start of day 3 usual mix but mainly Butterflies, again a few I need ID for and confirmation so feel free to chip in.



*Long-horn beetle - ID Needed*



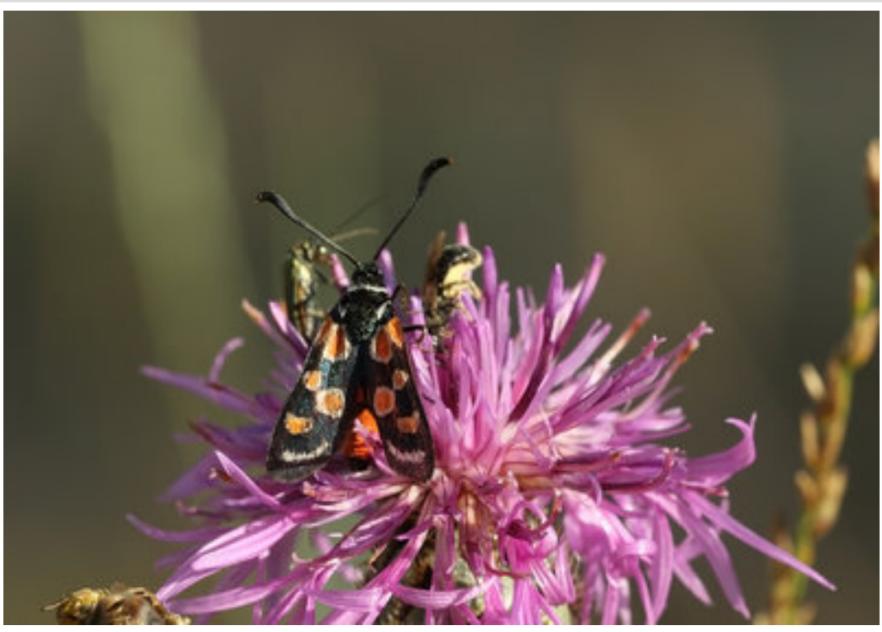
*Wall Brown*



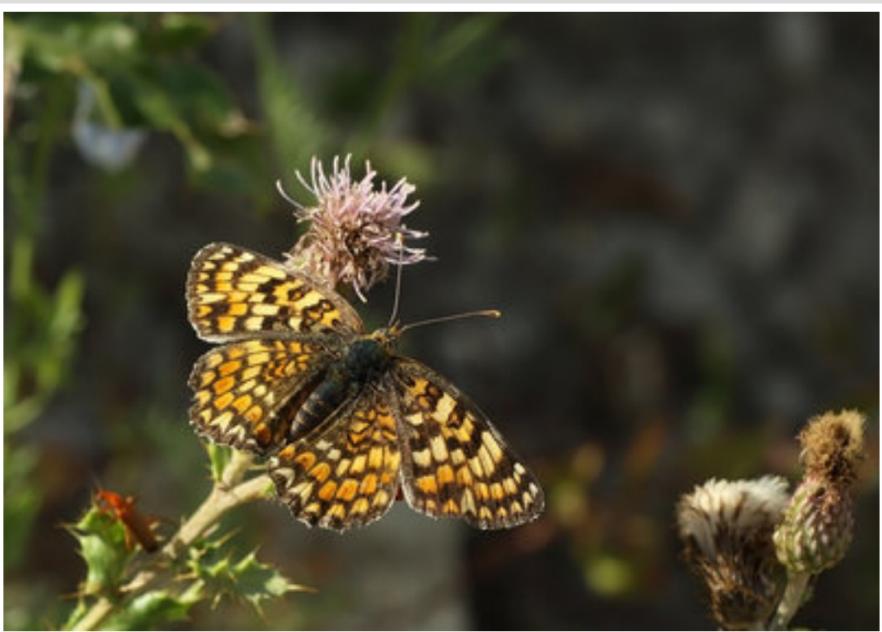
*Southern Gatekeeper (Pyronia cecilia)*



*shield bug - (Graphosoma lineatum)*



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) occitanica*



*Knapweed Fritillary (Melitaea phoebe) I think*



*High Brown Fritillary (Argynnis adippe)*



*Adonis Blue (Lysandra bellargus) I Think*



*Scarce Swallowtail (Iphiclides podalirius)*



*Scarce Swallowtail (Iphiclides podalirius)*



*Forster's Furry Blue - (Polyommatus (Agrodiaetus) fulgens) Male*



*Woodland Grayling (Hipparchia fagi)*





White-legged Damselfly – (*Platycnemis pennipes*) I Think

Thanks

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Colin Knight, 16-Aug-14 09:51 PM GMT

Andy, Your longhorn looks like *Stictoleptura cordigera* (aka *Leptura cordigera*)

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 17-Aug-14 08:17 AM GMT

Thanks for the ID Colin, will try to get a book at the AES show on beetles if cheap enough,

Here is another batch from day 3



Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*)



Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*)



*Grayling - Great Banded I think*

Pretty sure this is a Common Blue but just seems a lot of orange!



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



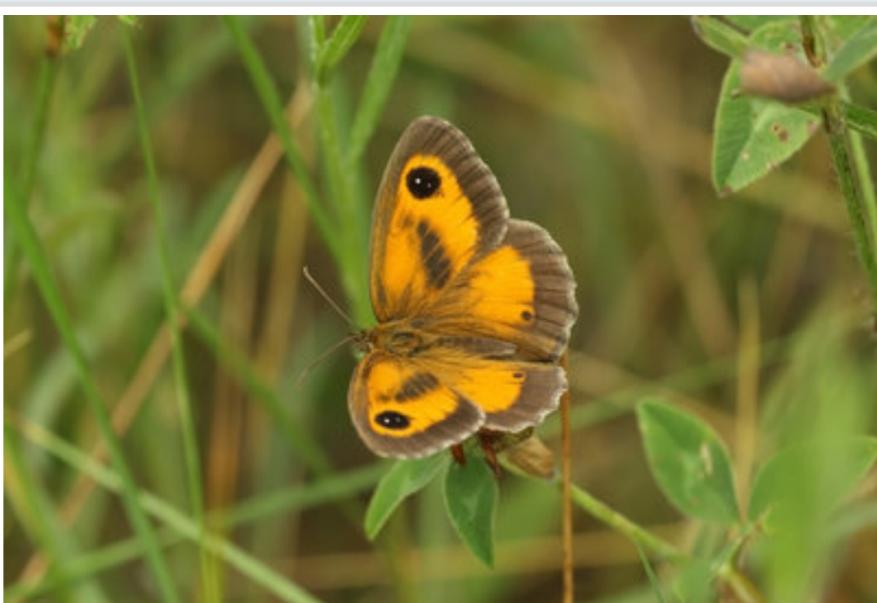
*Marbled White (Melanargia galathea) Leucomelas form*



*Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Brown Argus (Aricia agestis)*



*Gatekeeper - (Pyronia tithonus)*



*Gatekeeper - (Pyronia tithonus)*



*Common Heath (Ematurga atomaria) I Think*



*ID Needed*



*Great Banded Grayling (Brintesia circe)*



*Provençal Short-tailed Blue (Everes alcetas) Female*

Cheers

Andy



*Clouded Yellow (Colias crocea) Male*

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 18-Aug-14 04:59 PM GMT

Hi,

Here is the last batch of Day 3. Tomorrow I will post the pictures from the weekend which are mostly Larvae.



*Bath White (Pontia daplidice)*



*Carpenter Bee*



*Swallowtail Larvae - (Papilio Machaon gorganus)*



*Great Banded Grayling (Brintesia circe) 1*



*False Ilex Hairstreak (Satyrium esculi) I think*



*Pearly Heath (Coenonympha arcania)*



*Grizzled or red underwing skipper*



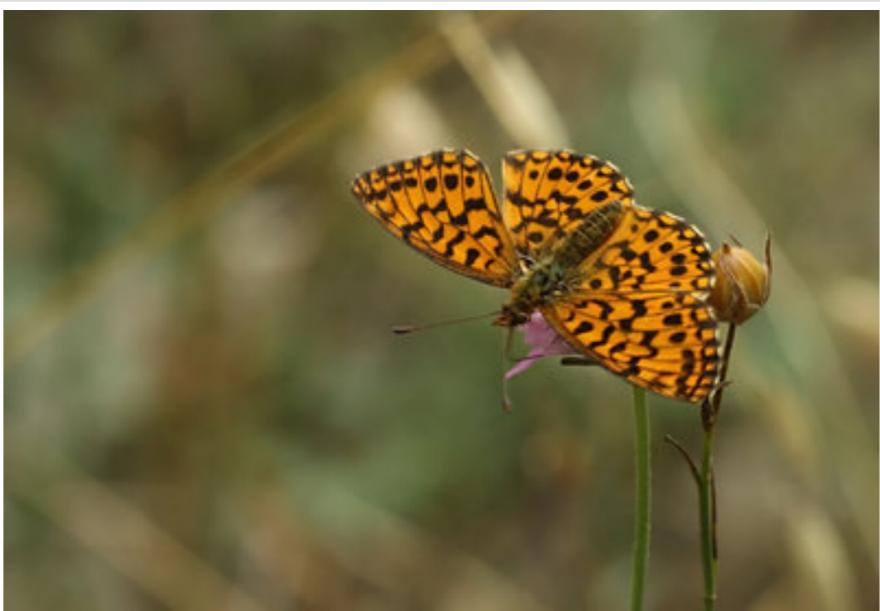
*Adonis or Chalkhill Blue*



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) occitanica 1*



*Marbled White (Melanargia galathea) Female*



*Weaver's Fritillary (Boloria dia)*



*Marbled White (Melanargia galathea) Leucomelas form*



*Marbled or Southern Marbled Skipper*



*Spanish Gatekeeper (Pyronia bathseba)*



*Ilex Hairstreak (Satyrium ilicis) Maybe*

Enjoy

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by David M, 18-Aug-14 06:00 PM GMT

Nice images, Andy, though your Skipper is not Red Underwing.

The Carpenter Bee is fascinating.

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 18-Aug-14 06:24 PM GMT

Thank David,

Will put the Skipper down to Grizzled and do have a Red underwing in day 4 pics.

Cheers

Andy

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 19-Aug-14 05:02 PM GMT

As I said in my earlier post here are the pictures from my weekend exploits and may be the last upload until next week. My usual eclectic mix I'm afraid.

First thing was to see the colour variation in these the Pebble Prominent Larvae



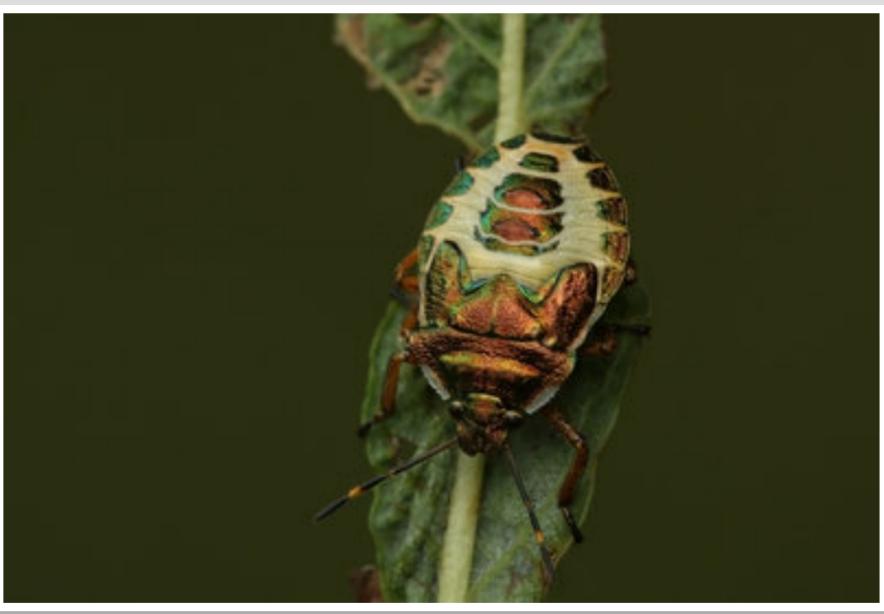
*Pebble Prominent*



*Pebble Prominent*



1305 - *Agriphila tristella*



*Bronze Shieldbug – (Troilus luridus) Late Stage Nymph*

Found lots of Larvae of these at various stages of growth and an extraordinarily large amount of these at various sites



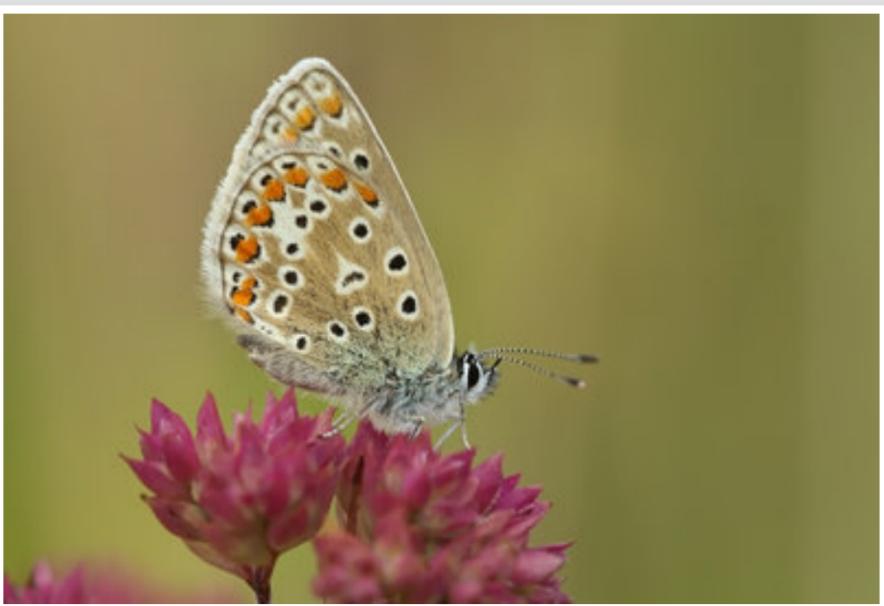
*Buff-tip eggs*

Been lucky with these as well in finding them at various sites, I was disappointed to see lots of nettles cut back at Magdalene hill where I had seen egg laying recently. (Perhaps this needs to be taken into consideration by the powers that be before they carry out this exercise at this time of year)



*Comma Larvae*

Nice to see the common blue in good numbers wherever I have been and in various condition



*Common Blue – (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue - (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue - (Polyommatus icarus)*

Again been lucky in finding at least 10 of these over the last month



*Eyed-hawk Moth Larvae*



*Grey Dagger*



*Pale Prominent*

Lucky to have a colony of these 2 mins from work and easy to find at head height 😊 probably one of our more stunning regular larvae



*Pine-hawk Moth Larvae*

Found this while trying to find Marsh Fritillary Larvae (No Joy)



*Skullcap Sawfly - (Athalia scutellariae)*

Been a great year for these beauties and seen them everywhere and in various stages lets hope it lasts.



*Small Tortoiseshell - (Aglais urticae)*

I think I will need to speak to some of you expert egg photographers out there but here is an attempt from the garden using extension tubes on my macro.



*Small White*



*Small White*



*Speckled Bush-cricket*



*Swallow Prominent*



*The Vapourer*

Anyway of to northern climes for the weekend (family) will take the camera and moth trap and hope for something special.  
Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Pauline, 20-Aug-14 04:53 PM GMT

Great report A. and I see I have got one of my ID's incorrect! Well done identifying those eggs and I am looking forward to some spectacular results from your trip 'oop North' (why do folk even say that??!!) 😊

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 26-Aug-14 07:10 AM GMT

Day 4 of the Pyrenees trip, pretty poor on the butterfly front. Again any help appreciated.



*Black Satyr (Satyrus actaea) 1*



*Black Satyr (Satyrus actaea) 1*



*Clouded Yellow (Colias crocea)*



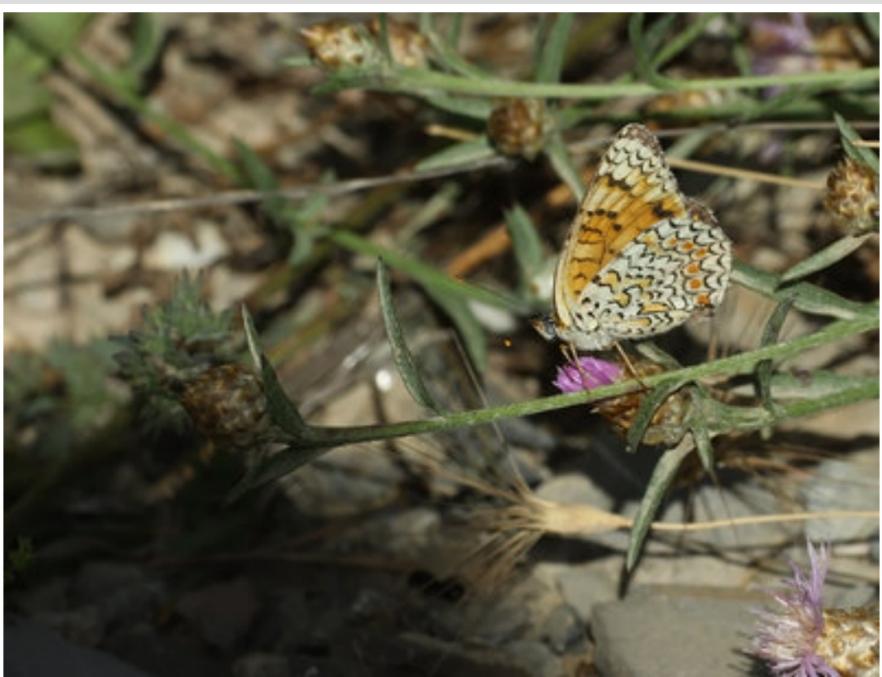
*Forsters Fury Blue – Pretty sure*



*ID help please*



*Knapweed Fritillary (Melitaea phoebe) I think*



*Knapweed Fritillary (Melitaea phoebe)*



*Red Underwing Skipper (Spialia sertorius)*



*Small Chocolate-tip - (Clostera pigra)*



*Soldier beetle - (Trichodes alvearius)*



*Upside Chalk-hill, Spanish or Provence or Chalk-hill Blue ID confirmation needed 1*



*underside of the butterfly above*



*Yellow or Western clubtail Dragonfly*

Enjoy

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by David M, 26-Aug-14 05:29 PM GMT

I'd say image 5 is of Weaver's Fritillary.

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by Padfield, 26-Aug-14 08:41 PM GMT

Hi Andy. I'm getting behind on looking through everyone's diaries – but more great pictures here. On the previous page you have a tufted marbled skipper labelled, 'marbled or southern marbled'. And I agree with David that the frit on this page is violet frit (or 'Weaver's' – I don't know why, but I've never liked that name).

Guy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 27-Aug-14 07:25 AM GMT

David and Guy,

Thanks again for you time and input, each time i get ready to upload the latest pictures and review them and still spot some errors where i have missed the obvious or less obvious, i think i will take more time in the future to identify.

Cheers

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by FISHiEE, 27-Aug-14 09:01 AM GMT

I'll take a punt at female Small Pincertail for the dragonfly

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 28-Aug-14 06:36 PM GMT

Hi here we go with the start of day 5.



*Weaver's Fritillary - (Clossiana dia)*



*Black Satyr - (Satyrus actaea)*



*Chalk-hill Blue - (Lysandra coridon) I think*



*Chalk-hill Blue upperside - (Lysandra coridon) I think*



*Common Blue - (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue - (Polyommatus icarus)*



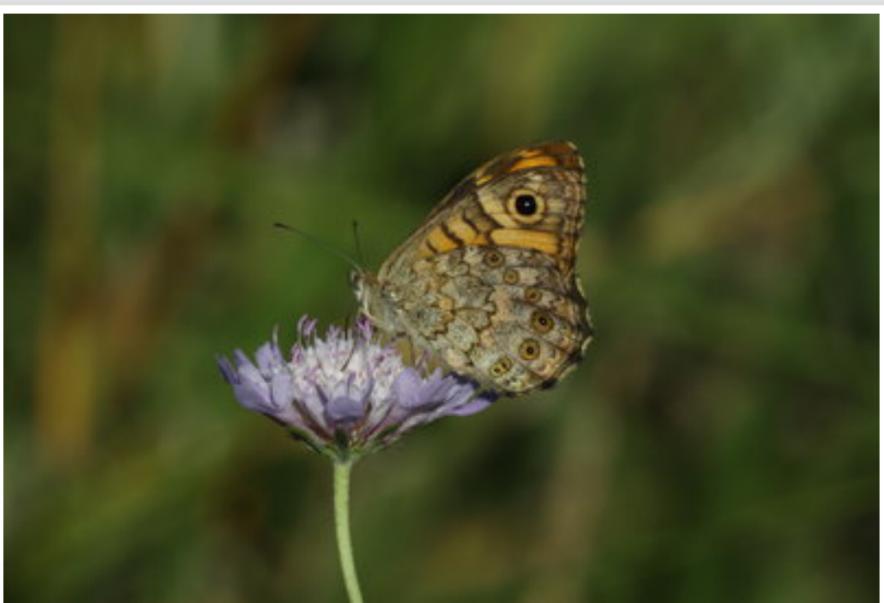
*Southern White Admiral – (Limenitis reducta)*



*Woodland Grayling – (Hipparchia fagi)*



*Silver-washed Fritillary Male – (Argynnis paphia)*



*Wall – (Lasiommata megera)*



Wall - (*Lasiommata megera*)



Mallow Skipper - (*Carcharodus alceae*)



Forster's Furry Blue - *Polyommatus (Agrodiaetus) fulgens*



*Great Banded Grayling*



*Dusky Heath - (Coenonympha dorus)*

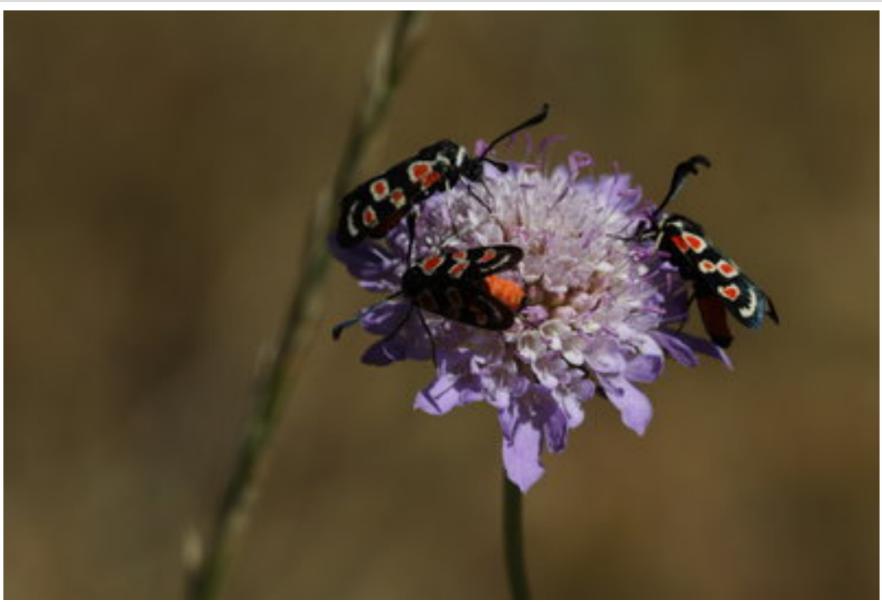


*Clouded or Burgers Clouded Yellow*





*Southern Gatekeeper - (Pyronia cecilia)*



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) occitanica*



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) fausta I Think*

Again any comments most welcome on the ID's

Thanks

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 28-Aug-14 06:41 PM GMT

Great shot of the Southern White Admiral, Andy. Whenever I've seen them, they've always settled either on the ground or on leaves. To get one on a flower with minimal background interference is quite an achievement!

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 28-Aug-14 07:00 PM GMT

Thanks David,

It stood out like a beacon when I saw it the only problem was getting to it without disturbing it and it was about 3 foot of the ground and had to get the tripod legs up etc. so yes very pleased to get such a great pose.

Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by FISHiEE, 28-Aug-14 10:18 PM GMT

Nice dusky heath. A stunning little butterfly!!

**Re: Andy Brown**

by David M, 28-Aug-14 11:08 PM GMT

"FISHiEE" wrote:

Nice dusky heath. A stunning little butterfly!!

Indeed. I love this species but have only ever encountered them in single figure numbers.

**Re: Andy Brown**

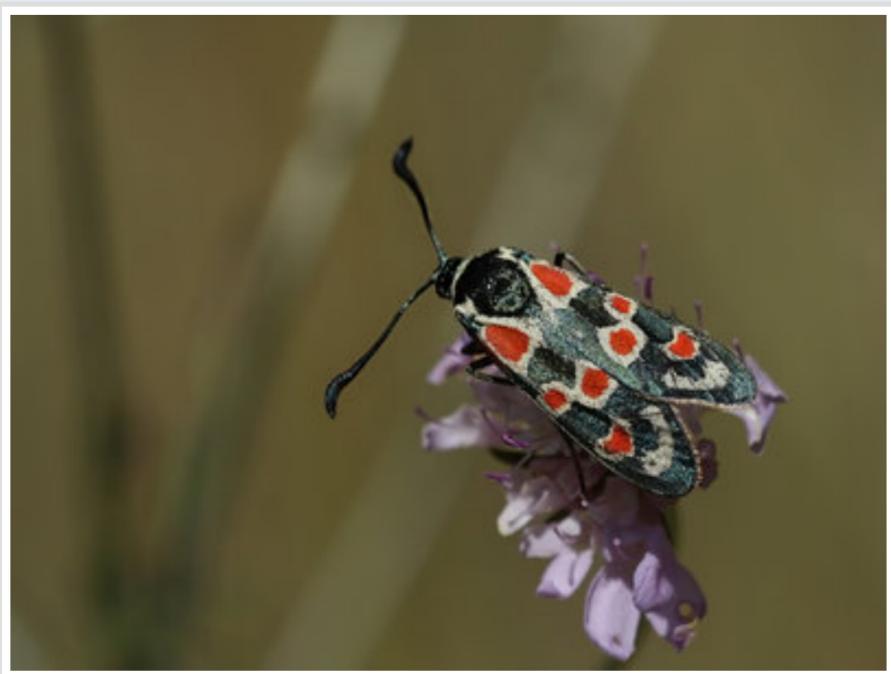
by FISHiEE, 29-Aug-14 07:56 AM GMT

Don't think I have ever seen more than ones or twos myself either

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 30-Aug-14 03:50 PM GMT

Next part of day 5, again If anyone can concur on the Osiris Blue that would be good or advise accordingly.



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) occitanica*



*Marbled White (Melanargia galathea) Leucomelas form*



*Dark Green Fritillary - (Argynnis aglaja)*



*Dark Green Fritillary - (Argynnis aglaja)*



*Rock Grayling (Hipparchia alcyone)*



*High Brown Fritillary - (Argynnis adippe)*



*High Brown Fritillary - (Argynnis adippe)*



*Spanish Purple Hairstreak - (Laeosopsis evippus)*



*Osiris Blue - (Cupido osiris) I think*



*Osiris Blue - (Cupido osiris) I think*

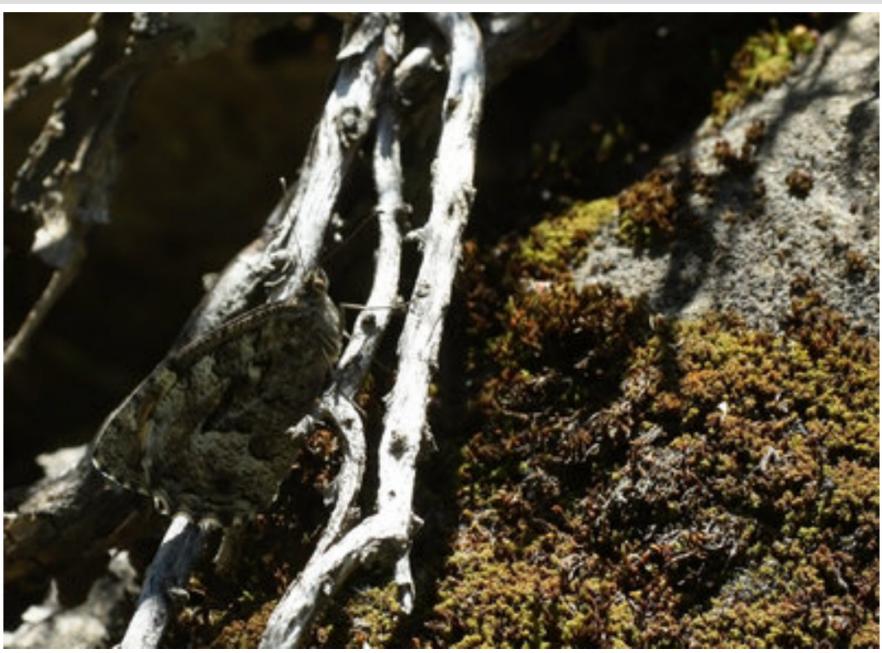




Heath Fritillary - (*Mellicta athalia*)



Small Copper - (*Lycaena phlaeas*)



Grayling - (*Hipparchia semele*)



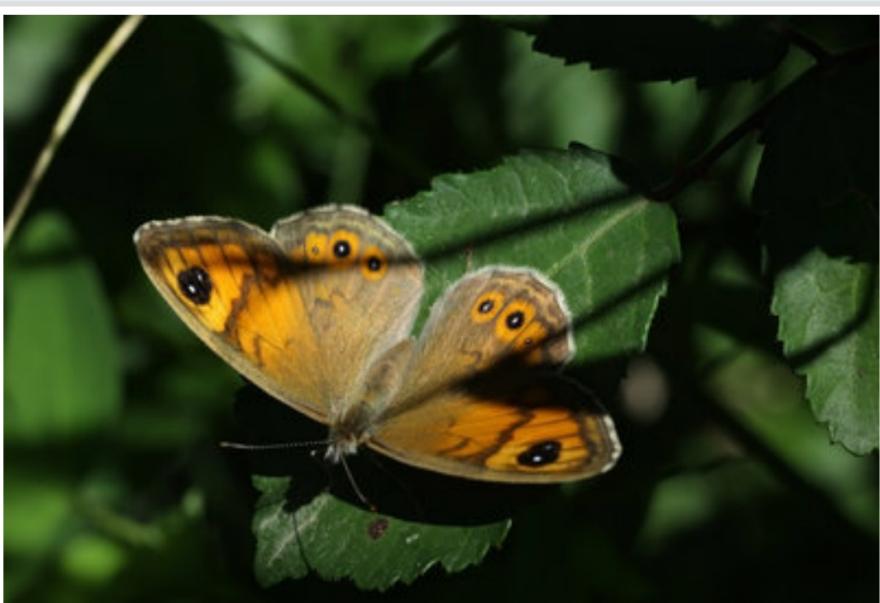
*Marbled Fritillary - (Brenthis daphne)*



*Marbled Fritillary - (Brenthis daphne)*



*Five-spot Burnet - Zygaena (Zygaena) trifolii*



*Large Wall - (Lasiommata maera)*

Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Padfield, 30-Aug-14 04:36 PM GMT

Definitely *osiris*!

Guy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 30-Aug-14 05:12 PM GMT

Guy Thanks for the confirmation, another one for the trip list.

Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by David M, 30-Aug-14 09:02 PM GMT

Wow! Quite a return.

Your Spanish Purple Hairstreak is a particularly good 'spot'. Nice to see your *leucomelas* Marbled White too.

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 31-Aug-14 12:01 PM GMT

David,

Yes this was a good day with a great mixture of species, over the week we saw quite a few leucomelas Marbled Whites at various sites not sure if they occur here if so I have never seen one. still more to post for day 5 with a couple of crackers 😊, may try to upload later as got orders for gardening now 😊.

Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 01-Sep-14 05:51 PM GMT

Evening, Last part of day 5 with I think a few stunning butterflies that I hope the pictures do justice, this was the first time I had seen most of the them but the one that really stood out was the Male Scarce Copper it was just one of those moments when you think how can a Butterfly have such a vivid colour which has the same sheen as the Adonis Blue. However the Chestnut Heath and Apollo are right up there in the league of wonderful European butterflies. Hope you enjoy! and help with the not sure etc will be useful.



Scarce Copper Female – (*Lycaena virgaureae*)



*Scarce Copper Female - (Lycaena virgaureae)*



*Chestnut Heath - (Coenonympha glycerion) I Think*



*Scarce Copper Male - (Lycaena virgaureae)*



*Scarce Copper Male - (Lycaena virgaureae)*



Scarce Copper Male - (*Lycaena virgaureae*)



Spotted Fritillary - (*Melitaea didyma*)



Spotted Fritillary - (*Melitaea didyma*)



Chalk-hill Blue (*Lysandra coridon*)



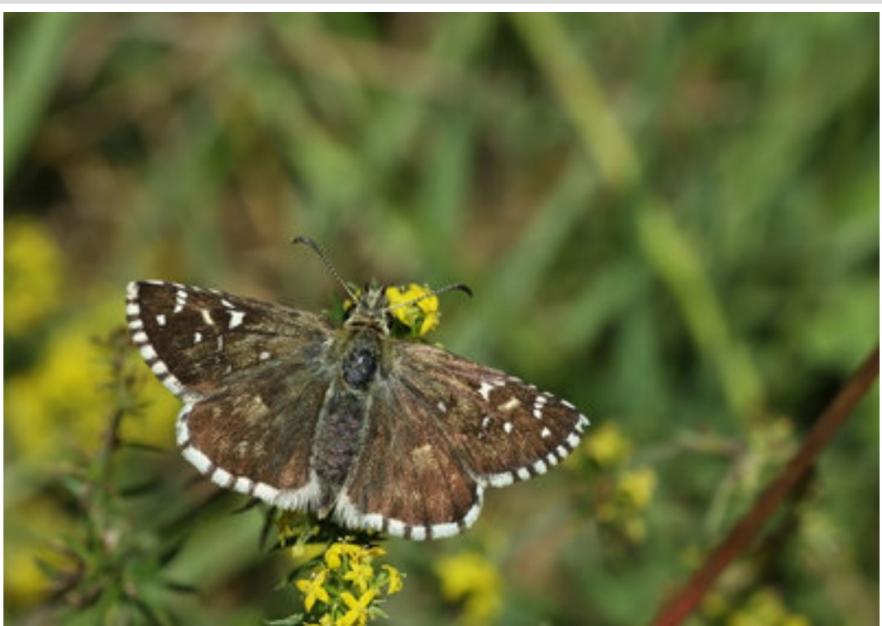
*Piedmont Ringlet - (Erebia meolans) I Think*



*Apollo - (Parnassius apollo)*



*Apollo - (Parnassius apollo)*



*Large Grizzled Skipper - (Pyrgus alveus)*



*Five-spot Burnet - Zygaena (Zygaena) trifolii*



*Not Sure*



*Not Sure*



*Black-veined White - (Aporia crataegi)*



*Ringlet - Not Sure Which*



*Pyramidal orchid*



*Southern White Admiral - (Limenitis reducta) 1*



*Silver Washed Fritillary Male – (Argynnis paphia)*

Cheers  
Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by William, 01-Sep-14 06:38 PM GMT

Superb Stuff Andy, I too saw my first ever Scarce Coppers this year, and could not believe my eyes – stunning butterflies 😊

BWs

William

### Re: Andy Brown

by Maximus, 01-Sep-14 09:18 PM GMT

Great Scarce Copper shots Andy, what a beautiful butterfly they are 😊

Mike

### Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 01-Sep-14 11:02 PM GMT

Lovely images, Andy. I'm looking forward to reacquainting myself with some/all of these species in 2015.

### Re: Andy Brown

by FISHiEE, 01-Sep-14 11:04 PM GMT

Bit of a stab without a book to hand and having not seen one before, but could the unknowns be alcon blues?

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 02-Sep-14 07:38 AM GMT

Thanks Guys and will take a look John especially now i have my new book

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 02-Sep-14 08:41 PM GMT

A rest from The Pyrenees, here are a some pictures from the last week of so with a few butterflies thrown in.



*Long Winged Cone-head – Conocephalus discolor*



*ID needed*



*ID needed*



*Large White – (Pieris brassicae) Larve Parasitised*



*Common Green Shieldbug (Palomena prasina) Nymph Final Instar*



*Common Green Shieldbug (Palomena prasina) Newly Emerged*



*Common Green Shieldbug (Palomena prasina)*



*Rose Sawfly (Arge pagana) Larva*



*Small Copper*



*Small Copper*



*Angle Shades*



*Adonis Blue*



*Adonis Blue*



*Hairy Shieldbug (Dolycoris baccarum)*



*1309 Agriphila geniculea*



1356 Garden Pebble (*Evergestis forficalis*)

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Pauline, 02-Sep-14 09:01 PM GMT

Lovely Small Copper Andy (any blue spots ? 😊) and very artistic saw fly.

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 07-Sep-14 09:59 AM GMT

Decided to sacrifice my Brussel sprouts to butterfly gods especially as there are no Sprouts forming 😞 . Anyway spent about an hour watching this female Large White who kept flying around then disappearing to other areas of the garden. From the 5 large plants she eventually decided on a place to lay which is a very popular leaf, 4 lots of eggs already and east facing not sure that that matters except to get the morning sun. Here is a sequence of shots of the batch she laid.

There was probably a 10 second pause between each egg so the whole process took some time



*The start*





Close up and very interesting on the placing of the eggs feeling around with here abdomen!



And the last one has been laid



Not the best picture and have not counted yet, will keep an eye open and try to photo the birth



More from the same leave better image to see the structure



Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 08-Sep-14 05:22 PM GMT

A selection from the last few days nearly all Moth larvae for those moth'ers out there. Still trying to work out if I have willow or poplar kittens so if anyone can confirm either way. Nearly all located in the local park which is handy.



*Sphaerophoria scripta*



*Small White first instar*



*Small Copper*



*Buff-tip*



*Pebble Hook-tip early instar*



*Pebble Hook-tip*



*Pebble Prominent*



*Poplar Hawk Moth*



*Sallow or Poplar Kitten*



*Sallow or Poplar Kitten*



*Sallow or Poplar Kitten*



*Sallow or Poplar Kitten*



*The Drinker*

Just love these tropical looking beauties



Wasp Spider

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 08-Sep-14 09:19 PM GMT

Hi Andy. I'm a week behind on this one – sorry! There are so many diaries and I don't get round to looking at them all before they stop appearing on the new posts page.

Your first 'not sure' blue, a page back, is *amandus*, as is, I think, the rear butterfly in the next picture. As FISHiEE says, the other one looks like *alcon* (so *rebeli*). I can't remember what date this trip was. I always see *amandus* on my trips to the Pyrenees in July and August but *rebeli* is usually over by mid-July in Switzerland.

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 09-Sep-14 07:12 AM GMT

Thanks for that Guy and appreciate that we rely on you for help so thanks again, the trip was July and I will update accordingly I have held off putting the last two days of the trip pics up because I did notice the amount of traffic here and that you were replying to a lot of them.

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Paul Harfield, 09-Sep-14 10:19 PM GMT

Hi Andy

That is an impressive haul of larvae 😊 I assume your local park is Knowle Park. Was the Wasp Spider there as well? I have never managed to find one of those.

Hope your Sallow is doing ok 😊

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 10-Sep-14 07:24 AM GMT

Hi Jack yes and yes the Sallows are doing well and will be ready for next year I have made a walk in cage to protect any larvae which is outside so a natural environment for them as i fancy rearing some eyed hawk as I have found lots of the larvae this year and hope it will be the same next and the park is Knowle so if you want me to show you around let me know as your just around the corner.

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Sep-14 05:22 PM GMT

Day 6 of the Pyrenees with the Graylings being the issue with there ID's instead of the Blues and frits that I need help/confirmation with.

From the garden of the accommodation



*Swallowtail Larvae - (Papilio machaon)*

The village where we stayed pictured from a site across the valley



*Berdun*



*Not sure if Woodland or Rock Grayling 1*



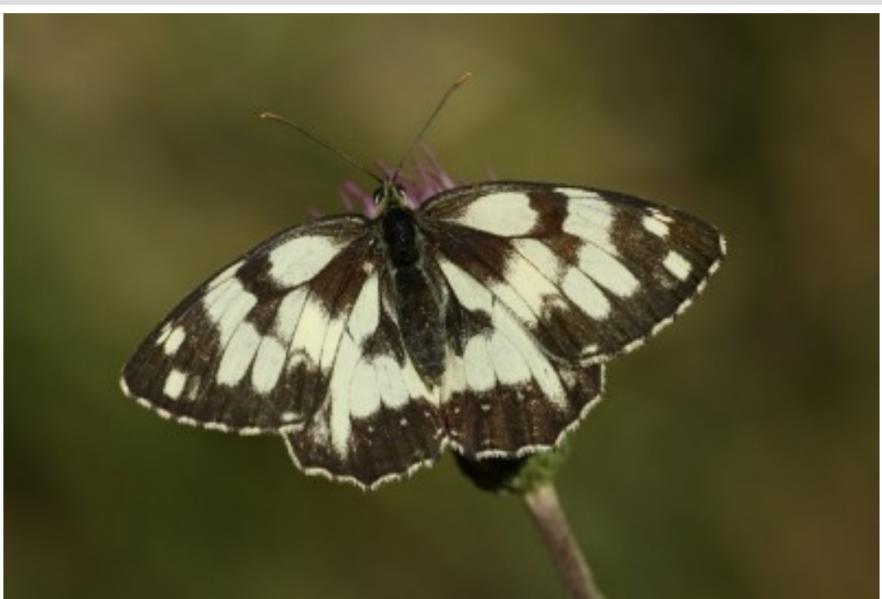
*Pretty sure False Grayling (Arethusana arethusa)*



*Note sure which Grayling*



*Assassin bug – Rhynocoris iracundus*



*Marbled White – (Melanargia galathea)*



*Marbled White - (Melanargia galathea)*



*Queen of Spain Fritillary - (Issoria lathonia)*

Cheers

Andy

## **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 13-Sep-14 12:17 PM GMT

Day 6 pt2.

Feeding station for the local Vulture population, I think I will stick with bird feeders for the sparrow's 😊



*Feeding Time*



*In the Que*



*Don't lie down for a kip or your next on the menue*



*Zygaena (Agrumenia) occitanica 1*



*Forster's Furry Blue Female*



*Forster's Furry Blue Female*



*Assume Brown Argus 1a*



*Clouded Yellow - (Colias crocea)*



*Comma - (Polygonia c-album)*

Thanks

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 13-Sep-14 12:29 PM GMT

"andy brown" wrote:

Feeding station for the local Vulture population

Wow. That looks like the aftermath of a lion kill!

### Re: Andy Brown

by Mikhail, 13-Sep-14 01:06 PM GMT

Your Furry Blue upperside shows conspicuous androconial patches so must be a male. In which case it must, I assume, be Ripart's Anomalous Blue. Are you sure about the underside shot, because that could be Ripart's as well?

M.

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 13-Sep-14 01:10 PM GMT

I'll stick my neck out and say that female *fulgens* is actually a male *ripartii* ... The androconia are quite conspicuous.

Good to see the vultures. Some years back the Spanish law changed so farmers had to clear dead animals, leaving sparse pickings for the vultures. They can indeed be frightening. I once lay on a hillside filming vultures on the opposite hill only to find that one by one they had drifted over to my side – and when I got up there were about forty of them circling low over my head.

Guy

EDIT – my post crossed with Misha's.

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 13-Sep-14 01:32 PM GMT

Thank you gentlemen, I had not considered the Ripart's Anomalous Blue and yes the underside shot is the same butterfly so that's great as it was one we had not identified on the trip. I will have to look again at some of the ones I have put down as Forster's and still need to work out the Grayling posted yesterday. The Vultures were everywhere in the sky and coming in from miles around I didn't see that many when in India or Africa so are certainly doing well now they are being supported with the food.

Cheers

Andy

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 14-Sep-14 09:57 AM GMT

day 6 part 3



*Common Blue – (Polyommatus icarus)*



*Common Blue – (Polyommatus icarus) 2*



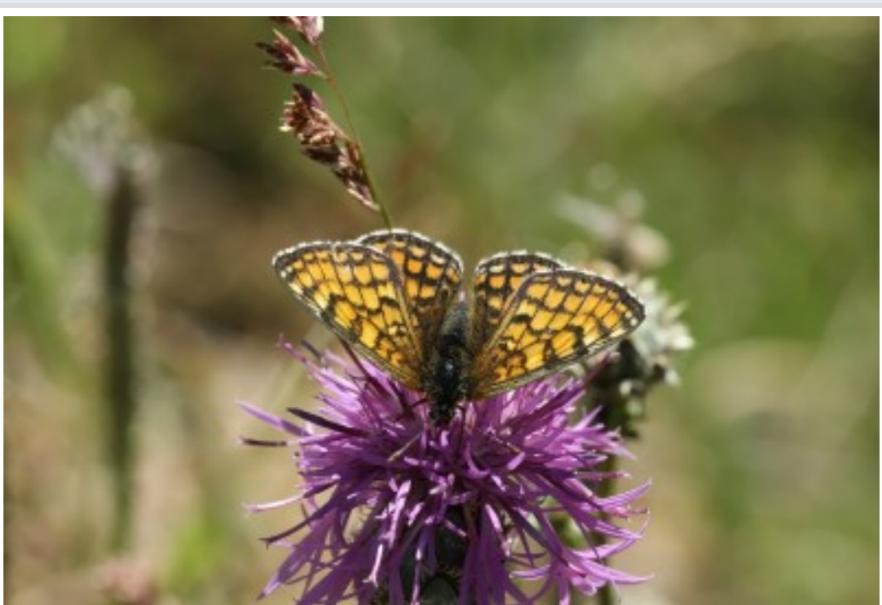
*Forster's Furry Blue Male - Polyommatus (Agrodiaetus) fulgens*



*Berger's or Pale Clouded Yellow*



*Assume Brown Argus 1*



*False Heath Fritillary - (Melitaea diamina)*



*False Heath Fritillary - (Melitaea diamina)*



*'Owly Sulphur' - (Libelloide macaronius) need confirmation*



*ID help please*

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 14-Sep-14 10:18 AM GMT

Hi Andy. Your first blue is certainly Chapman's. Again, the visible androconia on the upperside leave no doubt – though the discrete black spots set in white in the submarginal markings of the underside hindwing are also a clear indicator.

I strongly suspect Berger's for the yellow, both from appearance and location.

The brown argus appears to me to be a female common blue – and she is on common blue foodplant.

Finally, the fritillary is meadow fritillary, *Melitaea parthenoides*!

I hope some of these changes at least 1are good news for you!

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 14-Sep-14 11:57 AM GMT

Thanks again Guy, I made a pigs ear of this selection 😞, my school report said must try harder!

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Mikhail, 14-Sep-14 01:30 PM GMT

Your owlfly seems to be *Libelloides longicornis*. *L. macaronius*, which has more black on the forewings, does not occur west of Italy. I hesitate to enter the minefield of the Coleoptera, but your mating beetles might be *Clytra quadripunctata*, *Chrysomelidae*.

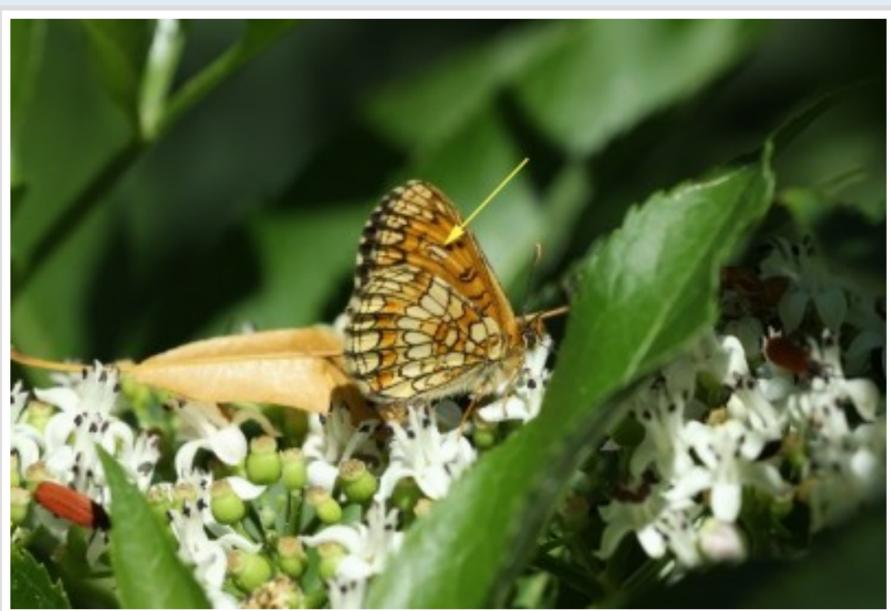
M.

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 14-Sep-14 03:52 PM GMT

Thanks Michael I have updated my pics accordingly.

After Guys great observations of my schoolboy errors I have gone back through day 6 pics and am stuck on this one I thought Heath/False heath then Meadow based on Guys previous note, but the white elongated spot has thrown me any help appreciated.



Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 14-Sep-14 06:02 PM GMT

Been Sorting pictures and gardening so not had the chance to go out this weekend but have been trying out my new extension tubes in the garden on the large and small white Larvae/eggs, still need more practice but a couple are ok I think. With the amount of eggs that have been laid I am not sure they will have time or the food to mature, we will see and look forward to recording them grow over the coming weeks.





About ready to hatch



And they started the following morning







And a pristine Small Copper from Friday



Cheers

Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by Padfield, 14-Sep-14 08:16 PM GMT

Do you have any uppersides of that last fritillary, Andy? The underside is compatible with Provençal frit, *Melitaea deione*.

Guy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 15-Sep-14 04:32 PM GMT

Sorry Guy, no upperside pictures just one from the other side which has the larger white dot/patch missing, see attached.



Thanks Andy

**Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 16-Sep-14 06:28 PM GMT

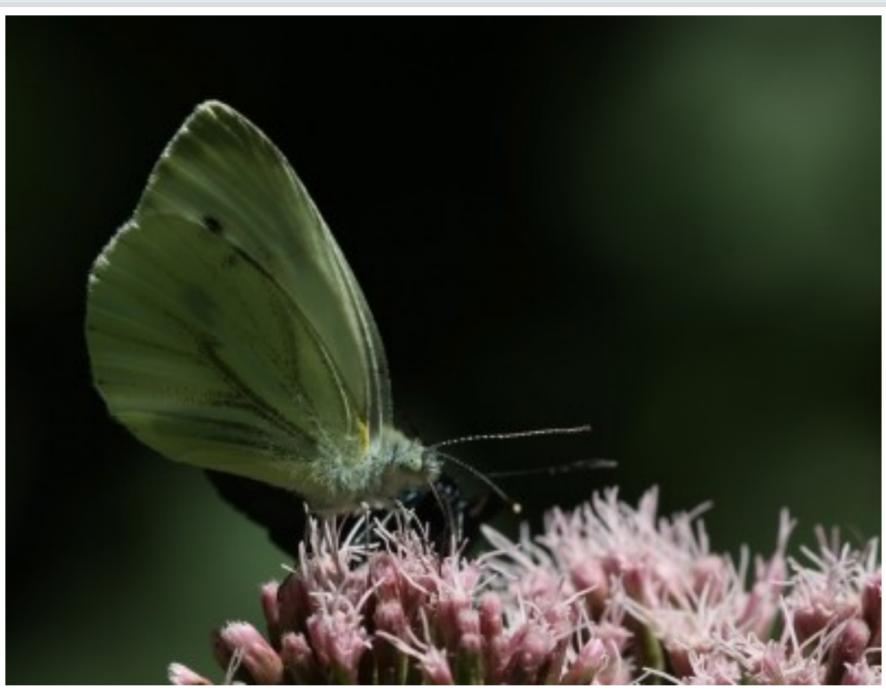
Last part of day 6, just the one for ID help and if your reading this Guy any thoughts on the Fritillary you wanted another picture of, unfortunately its only from the other side did not get one of upperside.



*Nearest I can see is Large Grizzled*



*Grayling - Hipparchia semele*



*Green-veined White -(Pieris napi)*



*Marbled Fritillary - (Brenthis daphne)*



*Silver-washed Fritillary 1 (Argynnis paphia)*



*Woodland Grayling - (Hipparchia fagi)*

This I have as Brown Argus but is a very rich rusty colour so assume its right for the summer brood



*Brown Argus - (Aricia agestis)*



*Sussex Emerald*



*Long-Tailed Blue - (Lampides boeticus)*

Cheers

Andy

### **Re: Andy Brown**

by andy brown, 18-Sep-14 06:32 PM GMT

Another Fritillary I need some help with, missed this from Day 5 and initially though Spotted but looking back it is much Brighter and heavier spots, could it be lesser spotted? no underside picture I'm afraid.



Thanks

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 18-Sep-14 08:07 PM GMT

Hi Andy. For that earlier fritillary, I'm just not sure. The hindwing looks good for Provençal and in general the forewing does too, though there is considerable heavy black branding inside the submarginal lunules in your second picture. The pattern of this branding is quite compatible with Provençal but the intensity suggests heath. I'm afraid I'm going to pass, as I have rather little experience of Provençal fritillary in the Pyrenees and here in Switzerland we have a distinctively different subspecies.

The skipper is large grizzled, Oberthür's or, with an outside chance, Foulquier's. I'm pretty sure I've found Foulquier's in the Pyrenees. I'd be most inclined to call it Oberthür's, because of the tone of the hindwing and the visibly brighter veins.

I can't see any reason not to call the spotted fritillary just that – nothing lesser spotted leaps out at me.

The brown argus is presumably southern brown argus, *Aricia cramera* (if you recognise that as a good species) – it certainly looks like it. *A. agestis* doesn't fly in Spain. I don't know what current orthodoxy is on the status of *cramera* but my most recent books treat it as a species. In a sense, it doesn't really matter – the taxon is well defined and distinctive and definitely worth getting acquainted with.

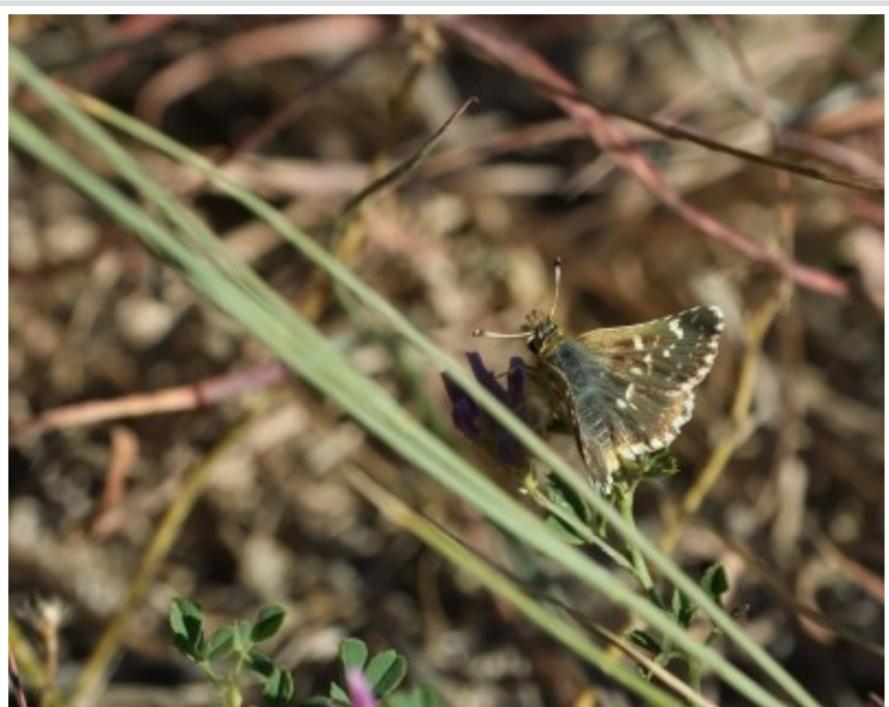
Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 19-Sep-14 08:42 AM GMT

Guy That's great thanks, glad my first assumption on Spotted was right and will stick with Heath for now on the earlier one, and yes Southern Brown Argus and having looked at many pictures now of the underside will go with Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper, that will be another one to add to the species list for the trip. Next year I think I will concentrate on picture quality and try to get shots of upper/undersides to ease identification although I know it will not always be possible. Just got to decide where to go, Bulgaria looking favourable at the moment although Hungary is still in contention.

Part 1 of the last day 😊



Red Underwing Skipper – (*Spialia sertorius*)



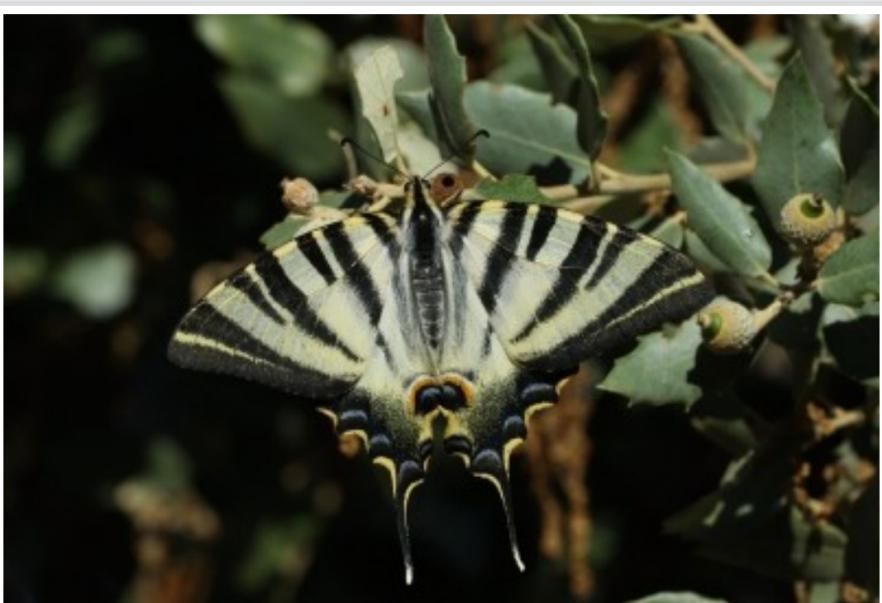
*Provençal Short-tailed Blue*



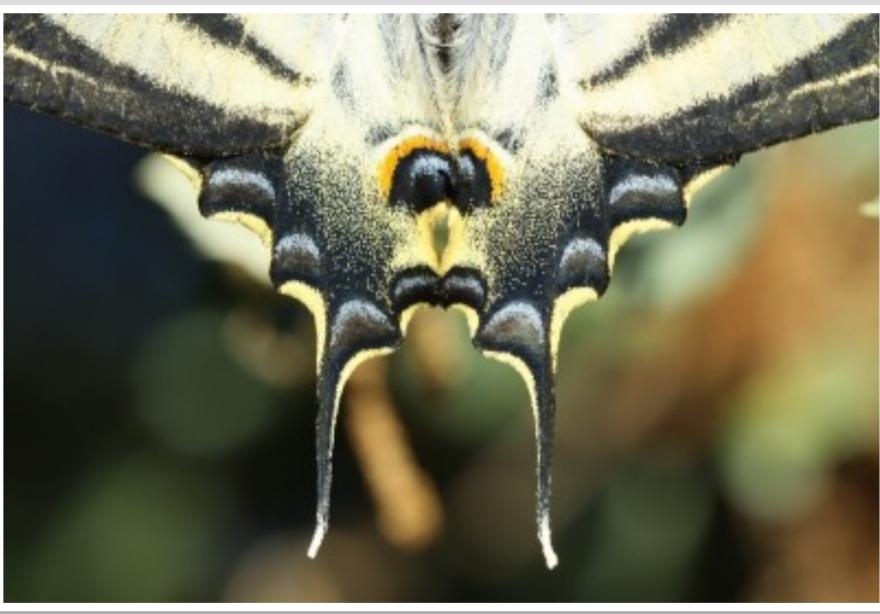
*Provençal Short-tailed Blue*



*Help with this one please*



*Scarce Swallowtail – (Iphiclides podalirius)*



*Purple Hairstreak (Neozephyrus quercus)*

[attachment=0]Spanish or Provence Chalk-hill Blue – any ideas please.JPG[/attachment  
how do you tell the difference between the two

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Goldie M, 20-Sep-14 04:33 PM GMT

Amazing pictures Andy, love the Silver Washed Frit and the Scarce Swallow Tail Goldie 😊

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 20-Sep-14 06:11 PM GMT

Did you see the upperside of the chalkhill blue, Andy? The northern Spanish subspecies (sometimes considered a good species) of Spanish chalkhill blue, *aragonensis*, is similar to Provence chalkhill blue and unlike the southern, nominate subspecies has silvery blue tones to the upperside. The underside is also less chalky white than that of the nominate subspecies. But in flight it looks white and to the naked eye looks very pale when it spreads its wings. I found that in my photos it always came out looking a little more blue, and sometimes very like Provence chalkhill blue. This is *aragonensis* (two different individuals):



Most of the individuals I saw had those rather heavy spots on the underside of the forewing but this is not shown in all photos of the subspecies.

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 22-Sep-14 06:51 PM GMT

Thanks for that Guy no upper wing shots in this instance, I have in some earlier post where I am asking the same question from different location/Day, I will take a look based upon your observations though and see what I can conclude, in the meantime here is the latest batch from the last day.



*Red Underwing Skipper - (Spialia sertorius)*



*Berger's Clouded Yellow - (Colias alfacariensis) I Think*



*Scarce Swallowtail - (Iphiclides podalirius)*





Cardinal - (*Argynnis pandora*)

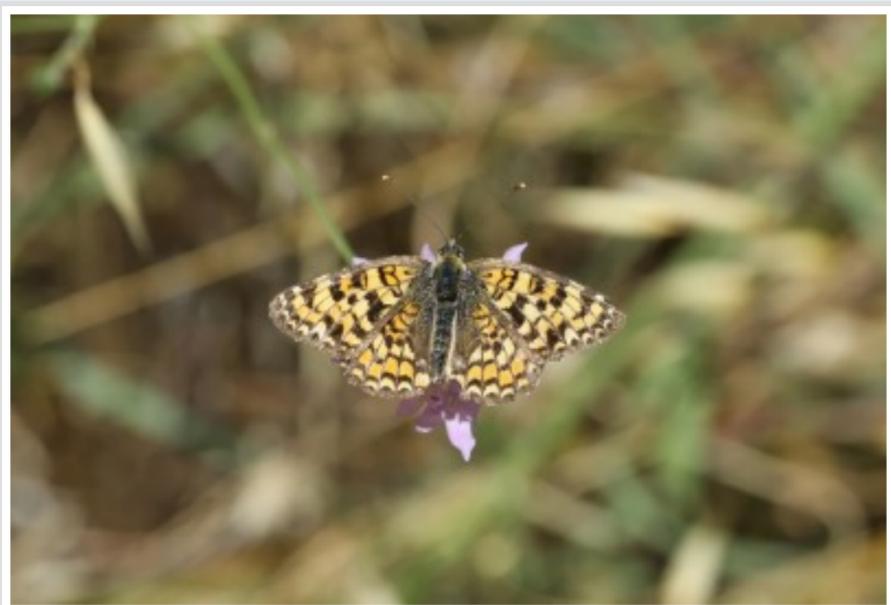


Cardinal - (*Argynnis pandora*)

These 2 are the same Butterfly and cannot seem to ID!



Not Sure



Not Sure

Thanks

Andy

## Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 27-Sep-14 08:41 AM GMT

Alas here is the last few from the last day, already making plans for next year, where! still not sure.



*Turquoise Blue - (Polyommatus dorylas)*



*Cleopatra - (Gonepteryx cleopatra)*



*Painted Lady - (Vanessa cardui)*



*Bath White - (Pontia daplidice)*



*Chapmans Blue*



*Common Blue*



*Short-tailed Blue - (Everes argiades)*



*Mallow Skipper - (Carcharodus alceae)*

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Maximus, 30-Sep-14 12:22 AM GMT

Great series of photos, from your trip to the Pyrenees, Andy 😊 I am also very interested to know the progress of the Large White ova/larvae you posted on 14th September?

Mike

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 30-Sep-14 07:17 AM GMT

Morning Mike,

Thanks for your comments, The current position with the Large White Larvae is that I am awash with them 100-200 I would say along with Small White and moth larvae all on my Brussel Sprout (Sounds Painful) 😊 . I will try to get some pictures tonight if calm enough, most are of a size now I won't need my extension tubes so the breeze shouldn't be a problem so will post once done.

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by kevlings, 30-Sep-14 10:56 AM GMT

Andy,

Enjoyed the photo collection from your travels. Some great species seen.

Also liked the Large White larvae pictures. I too have some late eggs, spotted this week on a Nasturtium in my garden.

Lets hope we get some success between us.

Regards Kev

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 30-Sep-14 05:11 PM GMT

Evening Mike,

As promised just been out and taken a couple of quick snaps still a bit breezy, as you can see lots of Large white larvae of different sizes and some fresh eggs as well, just a quick look I recon i must have a 100+larvae on a few plants





Will try to keep up to speed with their growth/stages assuming they make it through to pupation. If so will have to put finer mesh over next years crops or they will eat me out of house and home 😂

Cheers

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Maximus, 30-Sep-14 08:00 PM GMT

Hi Andy, thanks for posting shots of the Large White ova/larvae, you certainly have a fair few! They certainly appear healthy looking at the moment and I hope it continues that way. Of the 24 larvae I brought inside only 12 are left, the remainder having succumbed to parasitism. The first of the batch to pupate is doing so now, I must also keep my eye on the one which survived parasitism, it will hopefully pupate soon.

Mike

### Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 30-Sep-14 08:08 PM GMT

Hi Andy. I'm well behind on your diary, I'm afraid, but they're great pictures of super butterflies. The 'not sure' frits you posted on 22nd Sept are knapweed.

Guy

### Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 30-Sep-14 08:16 PM GMT

Thanks for the ID guy took ages to get an upper and underside shot as it was faded and thought may need both angle's.

Mike, good luck with cats but mine will have to take their chances outside, lets hope it stays fair for them to mature

Thanks

Andy

### Re: Andy Brown

by Maximus, 03-Oct-14 12:37 AM GMT

Hi Andy, It will be interesting to see how they fare outside.

Mike