

Gary.N

by Gary.N, 03-Nov-15 06:14 AM GMT

It about time I started a diary. So I will start with my and Vic Downer Large Tortoiseshell we saw in April this year on my first transect at Lullington Heath.



Large Tortoiseshell at Lullington Heath

It flew past a couple of times and we wondered what it was. Luckily it landed a hundred yards away. I nearly didn't go and look at it but curiously got the better of me. A few shots and then it was gone.

Re: Gary.N

by David M, 03-Nov-15 06:30 AM GMT

Difficult to get off to a better start than that, Gary.

More please!

Re: Gary.N

by bugboy, 03-Nov-15 06:36 AM GMT



If this is a taste of future posts then get used to a lot responses like this! 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Butterflysaurus rex, 03-Nov-15 06:36 AM GMT

Hi Gary,

A fantastic find, I hope I manage to see a Large Tortoiseshell one day. I suspect you have many more surprises to come, I'm looking forward to seeing a lot more. 😊

All the best

James

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 03-Nov-15 06:41 AM GMT

About 2 weeks ago my phone broken, but thanks to Neil.H and James who got through to me on a Saturday night I got some nice shots of two LTB's at Beeding on the Sunday.

Thanks guys.



Re: Gary.N

by David M, 03-Nov-15 06:47 AM GMT

What is that wispy stuff the LTB is resting on? Is it rosebay willowherb?

Quite a few images lately have shown these butterflies taking a fancy to it.

Re: Gary.N

by Wurzel, 03-Nov-15 06:48 AM GMT

Even if you didn't see anything between April and November those two species more than make up for it 🤔🇩🇪😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 03-Nov-15 06:50 AM GMT

It's Old Man Beard.

Re: Gary.N

by David M, 03-Nov-15 06:52 AM GMT

"Gary.N" wrote:
It's Old Man Beard.

Thanks, Gary. That's a clematis, I believe?

Re: Gary.N

by Butterflysaurus rex, 03-Nov-15 07:04 AM GMT

"Gary.N" wrote:
It's Old Man Beard.

Thankfully the old man was moving so slowly we all managed to get some photos. 😊

ATB

James

Re: Blue

by Paul Harfield, 03-Nov-15 07:07 AM GMT

"David M" wrote:

"Gary.N" wrote:
It's Old Man Beard.

Thanks, Gary. That's a clematis, I believe?

Also known as Travellers Joy, I believe 😊

Great start to your diary Gary 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Butterflysaurus rex, 03-Nov-15 07:10 AM GMT

I must say I really like the last two photos of the male, really nice. 😊

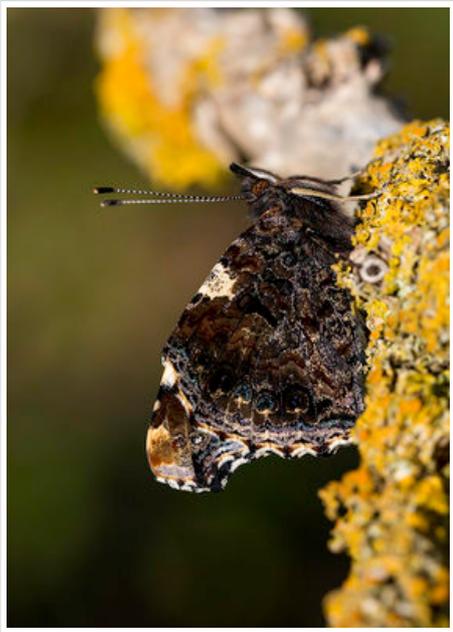
ATB

James

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 04-Nov-15 05:24 AM GMT

Had a good day out at Brighton racecourse with James on Saturday. So the photo are nearly the same. The Red Admiral I found as a black and white cat tried to catch and it flew up into the hedge. I had her on my finger for a good 5 minutes. I guess my finger was nice and warm.





Then James's phone went off. Neil had found a LTB and I got a couple of nice shots of her.



Re: Gary.N

by trevor, 04-Nov-15 04:37 PM GMT



Re: Gary.N

by Goldie M, 05-Nov-15 02:51 AM GMT

I second Trevor, what can we say 😊👍👍👍 Goldie 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 05-Nov-15 04:46 AM GMT

Thanks Trevor.
Thanks Goldie.



Re: Gary.N

by David M, 05-Nov-15 05:51 AM GMT

Can you be sure that your 'Large Tortoiseshell' isn't a Yellow-Legged (Scarce) Tortoiseshell?

Re: Gary.N

by Padfield, 05-Nov-15 06:45 AM GMT

All downhill from now on, Gary ... It's going to be tough beating a start like this! 😊

In answer to David, yes, that's large tortoiseshell.

Guy

Re: Gary.N

by David M, 05-Nov-15 07:00 AM GMT

How can you differentiate, Guy?

Re: Gary.N

by MikeOxon, 05-Nov-15 07:00 AM GMT

"Padfield" wrote:

All downhill from now on, Gary ... It's going to be tough beating a start like this! 😊

In answer to David, yes, that's large tortoiseshell.

Clearly, then, your next target has to be the yellow-legged 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 08-Nov-15 07:02 AM GMT

I have dig out a few of the aberrations I've photographed over the past five years. If anyone knows the names of any of these abs. I would love to know.



A very dark male Dark green taken on the 15th may 2011.



Two Grizzled Skippers taken on the 12th May 2012. An *ab.intermedia* and *ab.taras*.



A paired female *Ab.* taken on the 14th June 2013.



Chalkhill Blue taken on the 26th July 2013.



A dark PBF taken in Roland wood on 21th April 2014. This one looked more like a Marsh Fritillary or Speckled Wood when flying.



A Grizzled Skipper taken at Martin Down on the 18th May 2014.



Not sure if this Meadow Brown is an Ab. but the Orange band on the lower wing is more prominent than usual.

Re: Gary.N

by bugboy, 08-Nov-15 07:20 AM GMT

Those are a great selection of abs. A few stabs at putting names to some:

The DGF may be ab. *suffusa*

The third Grizzled may be ab. *fasciata*

The meadow Brown looks good for ab. *postfulvosa*

As for the Blues, I wouldn't know where to start, there's so many 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 08-Nov-15 07:24 AM GMT

Thanks bugboy 😊

Re: Gary.N

by David M, 08-Nov-15 08:13 PM GMT

Thanks for sharing those, Gary. Great sequence!

Re: Gary.N

by Paul Harfield, 09-Nov-15 07:09 AM GMT

Hi Gary

Nice selection of abs. 😊 I particularly like the female Adonis and that spectacularly orange Meadow Brown. A quick name change as well 😊

Re: Gary.N

by Neil Freeman, 10-Nov-15 04:42 AM GMT

Hi Gary,

What a start to your diary, I bet there isn't another PD that has begun with a couple of species like that... and then followed closely by a great series of abs. Lovely stuff 🍷 😊

I photographed a Meadow Brown similar to your ab. at Fermyn this year but the orange on yours looks even more clearly defined than on the one I saw, page 73 of my diary about halfway down. viewtopic.php?f=29&t=5424&start=1440.

Yours is only the second one I have seen with that amount of orange on its hindwings.

Cheers,

Neil.

Re: Gary.N

by millerd, 11-Nov-15 06:04 AM GMT

What a terrific selection, Gary. 😊 🍷 The female Adonis is particularly striking (I wonder what the upperside looked like), as are all the Grizzled Skippers.

The DGF looks like a female to me - and though these are often much darker than the males, your one is exceptionally dusky.

Dave

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 11-Nov-15 06:43 AM GMT

The DGF could well be a female after checking the other blurry photos. It was a lot darker than any of the other DGF at the time. Male or Female.

Re: Gary.N

by Wurzel, 13-Nov-15 06:37 AM GMT

Nice collection of shots Gary/Blue 😊 Could your Chalkhill be ab.post-obsolata? I'm not too sure about the DGF as I've seen females that dusky before so it might well fall in the normal range of variation – cracking shot though 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Gary.N

by Gary.N, 24-Dec-15 02:21 AM GMT

Seasonal Greeting all. 😊😊😊

I just had an early Christmas present. I went for a walk around one of my stumping grounds and I saw this yellow thing fly past me. A male Brimstone on a sunny December 23rd morning. Couldn't wish for more.



😊😊😊

Re: Gary.N

by trevor, 24-Dec-15 06:25 AM GMT

Well done with the Brimstone. I took my camera in to town this morning, everything seemed right for the odd Red Admiral sighting, but nothing!

I hope you'll share some more of your images this winter.

Look forward to seeing you around again next year.

All the best.

Trevor.

Re: Gary.N

by David M, 24-Dec-15 07:30 AM GMT

"Gary.N" wrote:

I just had an early Christmas present. I went for a walk around one of my stumping grounds and I saw this yellow thing fly past me. A male Brimstone on a sunny December 23rd morning. Couldn't wish for more.

I'm pleased for you but sad in equal measure. Butterflies shouldn't be flying about on 23rd December.....this unprecedented warm weather is not doing nature any favours. I fear there will be a high price paid if it continues through January.

