

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 18-Apr-15 04:29 PM GMT

thought it was time to start the diary again and as usual here is my eclectic mix of pictures

Starting with this Beauty which is in my greenhouse, surprised it has not hatched yet with the heat we have had



Large White Chrysalis

This was from Noar Hill on Friday will keep an eye on it and hopefully get some pictures of an early instar



Brown Hairstreak Ovum

and here are the moths



2015 - Lunar Marbled Brown (*Drymonia ruficornis*)



2425 – Nut-tree Tussock (*Colocasia coryli*)



1643 – Emperor Moth (*Saturnia pavonia*)

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by trevor, 19-Apr-15 02:07 AM GMT

Magnificent Emperor Moth and image , what a lucky find !. I've only seen one once , sunning itself on a wall at work , a sight not to be forgotten. Just got to wait for the other Emperor now.

Best wishes ,
TREVOR.

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 20-Apr-15 02:02 AM GMT

Sorry no Butterflies but here are a couple more of emperor moth and if anyone can help with the Chrysalis (hawk moth size)





Cheers

Andy



Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 20-Apr-15 02:07 AM GMT

Great images there, Andy. I haven't seen a grounded Emperor moth for years. Well done!

Re: Andy Brown

by keving, 20-Apr-15 04:15 AM GMT

Nice photos Andy. As for the Large White, I have two on my fascias at home and another dozen that I have looked after when they hatched very late on last year. As yet not one has hatched.

Regards Kev

Re: Andy Brown

by Pete Eeles, 21-Apr-15 03:11 AM GMT

"andy brown" wrote:

Sorry no Butterflies but here are a couple more of emperor moth and if anyone can help with the Chrysalis (hawk moth size)

Hi Andy - looks like an Elephant Hawk-moth pupa.

Cheers,

- Pete

Re: Andy Brown

by Neil Freeman, 21-Apr-15 03:22 AM GMT

"Pete Eeles" wrote:

"andy brown" wrote:

Sorry no Butterflies but here are a couple more of emperor moth and if anyone can help with the Chrysalis (hawk moth size)

Hi Andy – looks like an Elephant Hawk–moth pupa.

Cheers,

– Pete

I would second that, I reared these years ago when I used to find the fearsome looking caterpillars most summers, a beautiful moth when freshly emerged. Your pupa looks very familiar and brings back great memories 😊

Cheers,

Neil

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 21-Apr-15 04:05 AM GMT

Thanks, Pete and Neil just had a look on UKleps and yes dead ringer for Elephant Hawk moth

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 25-Apr-15 12:05 AM GMT

Day of work today and after being inspired with Pauline's Silver-washed Frit Larvae decided to go out hunting with her to find another, luckily I found one after 10 minutes or so, here are some pictures from the day and a couple of Prominent's from the moth trap.



0006 – *Dyseriocrania subpurpurella*



0150 – *Adela reaumurella* – Female



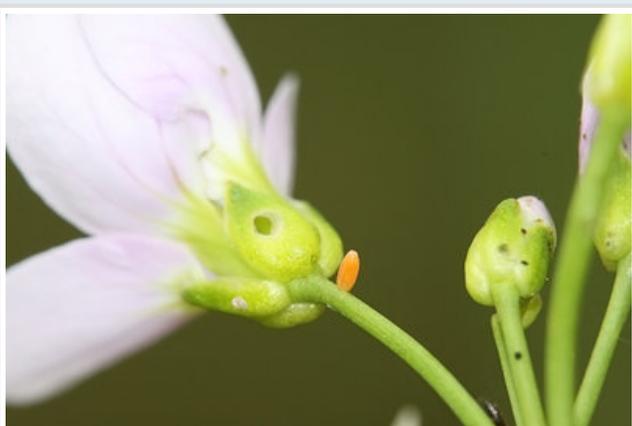
0150 – *Adela reaumurella* – Male



1608 – *Silver-washed Fritillary Larvae 1*



1608 – *Silver-washed Fritillary Larvae*



1553 – *Orange Tip Ovum*



1553 - Orange Tip Ovum Cropped



2006 - Lesser Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia gnoma*)



2007 - Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia tremula*)

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 05-May-15 12:31 AM GMT

Here are some pictures from today, chocolate Tip was in the moth trap and the others are from Magdalen Hill.



49.210 [BF 1125] *Ancylys unculana*



70.051 [BF 1724] Red Twin-spot Carpet *Xanthorhoe spadicearia*



71.027 [BF 2019] Chocolate-tip (*Clostera curtula*)



Brimstone



Brown Argus



Crab Spider



Holly Blue



Nursery Web Spider – Pisaura mirabilis



Small Heath

Ta

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-May-15 03:39 AM GMT

Pretty sure this is a Small white Pupae found today on a pond net in the garden



Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 23-May-15 12:32 AM GMT

Hi,

Here are some pictures from the last week or so, today was the first time I have been out in a while and it was raining and breezy so now to displeasd with the blues, wish I had gotten a better pic of the female as the colours and pattern was striking, any help with the Geometridae Larvae would be grateful

This is the Beauty that hatched from the Pupae from my last post



Small White

One of our more attractive hawk moths



69.001 [BF 1979] *Lime Hawk-moth (Mimas tiliae)*



71.012 [BF 2000] *Iron Prominent (Notodonta dromedarius)*



Lackey Web



Lackey

Pretty sure I have the ID right for this



63.066 [BF 1333] *Scoparia pyralella*



Common Blue



Common Blue



Small Blue

Geometridae ??????



Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by FISHiEE, 25-May-15 07:09 AM GMT

Nice lime hawk moth! Never seen one myself.

Nice small blue too. Only managed to find two this morning and both a bit worn... Hope there's more to come as there were dozens at their peak last year.

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 26-May-15 03:08 AM GMT

Hi,

Popped up to Magdalen Hill this morning and found a nice selection of insects plenty of small Blue around and a number of Common Blues, here is a selection of pictures and one that if anyone has thoughts on please shout I think it is a larvae case for a moth.



Orange Tip Larvae



Small Copper

I think this is right for ID



49.186 [BF 1097] *Endothenia gentianaana*



49.294 [BF 1175] Bramble Shoot Moth (*Notocelia uddmanniana*)



Macrophyta annulata



63.086 [BF 1301] *Crambus lathoniellus*



Small Blues



Small Blues



Small Blue



Help Please



07.001 [BF 0148] *Nemophora degeerella*

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by bugboy, 26-May-15 03:12 AM GMT

Your unknown tiny pile of twigs is a bagworm moth larval case, *Psychidae* 😊

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 26-May-15 03:32 AM GMT

Thanks for that Buggy

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Goldie M, 26-May-15 10:42 PM GMT

I love the Small Blues and Copper photos there great Goldie 😊

Re: Andy Brown

by Tony Moore, 27-May-15 12:28 AM GMT

Hi Andy,

Could the geometer larva be Feathered Thorn?

Tony M.

Re: Andy Brown

by Willow, 27-May-15 11:15 PM GMT

Good range of images there Andy covering some interesting moth species too – enjoyed 😊

Regards,

Bill 😊

"When in doubt – venture out"

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 19-Jun-15 11:23 PM GMT

Here are the first few pictures from m recent trip to Bulgaria with Spatia Wildlife, who I would thoroughly recommend, we saw most of the target species and the company was great and the food/Drink was good and terrific value for money.

I will need confirmation on a few as I post and will ask as and when they appear, anyway here goes.



Silver-studded Blue



Lesser Spotted Fitzwilliam



Silver-studded Blue



Chestnut Heath

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 20-Jun-15 03:51 AM GMT

Looking forward to seeing more of these.

Were you up early before the dew burned off? 😊

I always appreciate these types of images. The moisture somehow makes the butterfly even more natural-looking.

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 23-Jun-15 04:05 AM GMT

Hi a couple more from Bulgaria, really pleased with the painted lady this is the underside shot I have been trying for, for ages, will try to get more uploaded soon but catching up with the gardening and decorating, consequence of going away for 2 weeks I suppose.



Chestnut Heath



Painted Lady

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 23-Jun-15 04:25 AM GMT

I agree with David - lovely pictures. I look forward to more.

Guy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 25-Jun-15 05:10 AM GMT

Here are a couple of Hummingbird Hawk-moths from Bulgaria



Hummingbird Hawk-moth



Hummingbird Hawk-moth

These are a few from a quick visit to Bramshott Common for Silver Studded Blues Last Friday Morning found plenty of fresh individuals and mating pairs and a nice female with the Blue Dots





Burnet Companion

Then off to Magdalen Hill Saturday morning for a wander with a fair few very fresh Small Tortoiseshells flying and a few Ringlet along with non stop Marbled Whites



Orange Tip



Vapourer



Small Tort

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Willrow, 25-Jun-15 05:28 AM GMT

Lovely set of images Andy, those Hummingbird Hawkmoth shots are top-rate, hard insects to get as clearly as you have 😊

BW's

Bill 😊

"When in doubt - venture out"

Re: Andy Brown

by Pete Eeles, 25-Jun-15 05:35 AM GMT

"Willrow" wrote:

Lovely set of images Andy, those Hummingbird Hawkmoth shots are top-rate, hard insects to get as clearly as you have 😊

I couldn't agree more – really excellent!

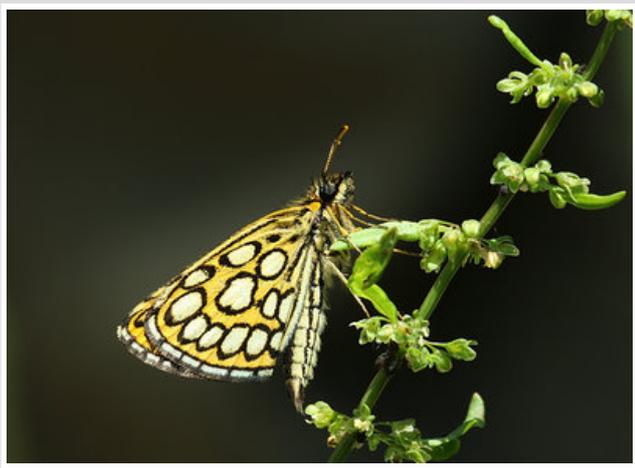
Cheers,

– Pete

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 26-Jun-15 11:51 PM GMT

Thanks Bill and Pete for your comments and yes very please to get the pictures I did of the Hummingbird hawks, here are a couple more from Bulgaria and the Tessellated Skipper mentioned in Tony's Bulgaria Butterflies thread



Large Chequered Skipper



Tessellated Skipper

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 04-Dec-15 08:38 PM GMT

Not been here for some time, busy moth recording in the back garden (271 species confirmed this year) and the usual DIY Tasks, oh and that annoying thing called work. Hardly done any butterfly photography this year then again the weather hasn't helped. Luckily managed to get away with Spatia Wildlife on there Scarce Butterflies trip in early June and managed to find some lovely species along with my usual eclectic selection of moths and bugs. I will over the winter period add the picture as I get time mainly because I am still trying to ID and Confirm ID's, as usual if I have made an error or if you can help with the ones I have not ID'd please shout.

Anyway Hope you enjoy

Day – 1, First evening – Kamentsi village



Silver-studded Blue



Silver-studded Blue



Chestnut Heath - Coenonympha glycerion



Silver-studded Blue Female



Common Blue – Polyommatus icarus

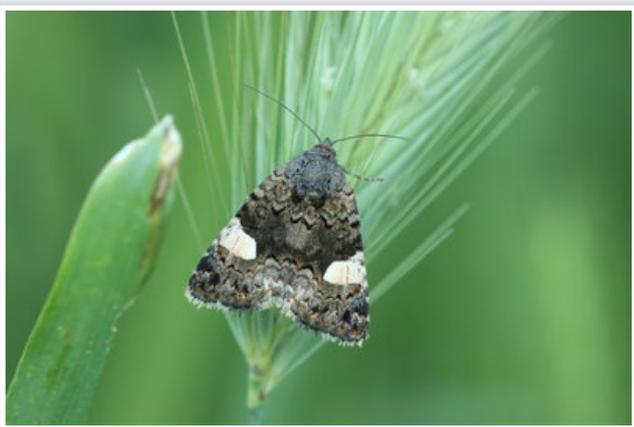


Maybe Reverdin's Blue

Not sure on this could be Reverdin's Blue if not probably Silver-Studded



45.030 [BF 1513] *White Plume (Pterophorus pentadactyla)*



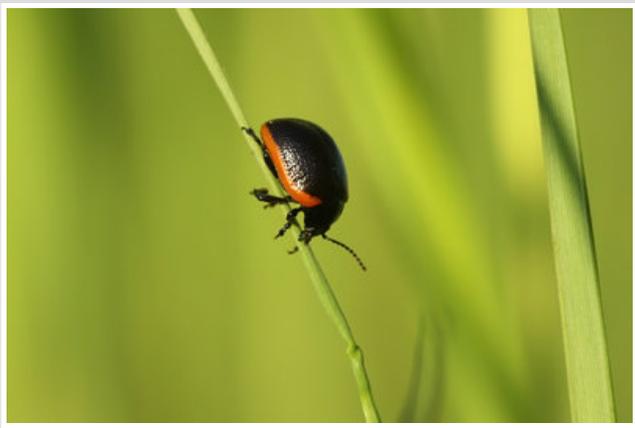
73.031 [BF 2465] *Four-spotted (Tyta luctuosa)*

Nice moth that is Local/nationally scarce in the UK



73.029 [BF 2414] Spotted Sulphur (*Acontia trabealis*)

Again a nice moth but unfortunately extinct in the UK since the 60's



Chrysolina sanguinolenta (Linnaeus, 1758) [Toadflax Leaf Beetle]



Help Please

Large cricket that I could do with help Identifying please

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Wurzel, 06-Dec-15 07:11 AM GMT

Some great shots there Andy 📷 looking forward to some more 😊 I'd go for Reverdin's as the orange almost makes a complete band, mind you I don't know much 😊.

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Andy Brown

by Goldie M, 06-Dec-15 09:13 PM GMT

Wow Andy, 271 Moths looking forward to your post and some photos to brighten up the Winter for us Goldie 😊

Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 08-Dec-15 05:46 AM GMT

Lovely images, Andy. Feel free to post some more from your trip (as well as your moth trapping exploits).

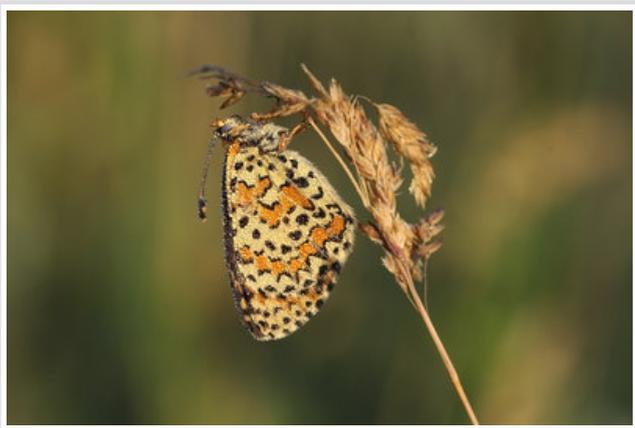
Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 09-Dec-15 01:30 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, Goldie and David, plenty of images to come and always planned for it to be the winters task of putting names to the pictures.

Wurzel I thought It probably was Reverdin's and always happy for confirmation with these European Blues/Frits and Skippers which there will plenty to come from this trip 100ish species all in all and some rarities/uncommon species to boot.

Will also post selections of beetles/Larvae/Dragonflies and moths etc. many of which I will appreciate the help with so here goes with pictures from the same place (Day 2 Kamentsi village) very early morning around the accommodation before breakfast and moving to our next location.



Lesser spotted fritillary - Melitaea trivia



Silver-studded Blue



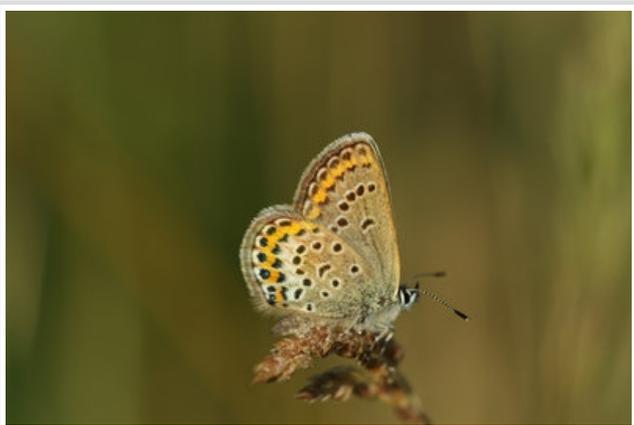
Silver-studded Blue



Chestnut Heath – Coenonympha glycerion



Maybe 63.028 [BF 1375] European Corn-borer (Ostrinia nubilalis)



Reverdines Blue



Reverdines Blue



72.053 [BF 2489] Fan-foot (*Herminia tarsipennalis*)

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Goldie M, 09-Dec-15 03:06 AM GMT

Great shots Andy, love the Fritillary and Silver Studded Blue, Goldie 😊

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Dec-15 06:49 PM GMT

Day y 2 After leaving Kamentsi village after breakfast we headed for Suha Reka Valley with the Scarce Fritillary –*Hypodryas maturna* our main quarry (will post tomorrow), in the meantime here are some pictures before we found our target species

Help appreciated for these 2 Whites I have them Southern Small White based upon the little knowledge I have.



Maybe Southern Small White Pieris (Artogeia) mannii



Again Maybe Southern Small White Pieris (Artogeia) mannii



Cardinal – Argynnis pandora



Red-backed shrike (Lanius collurio)



Initial thoughts 70.275 [BF 1952] Common Heath (Ematurga atomaria)
appears lighter than our Common Heath, so if you have any thoughts as to what it may be if I am incorrect please shout



Marsh Frog - Female



Marsh Frog – Male

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 12-Dec-15 11:58 PM GMT

Update, I think the moth listed as Common Heath is in fact 70.019 [BF 1683] Lewes Wave (*Scopula immorata*) a now extinct UK species

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 17-Dec-15 12:56 AM GMT

Here is our main target for Quarry for Day 2 in the Suha Reka Valley Scarce Fritillary –*Hypodryas maturna*, a stunning butterfly and here not so scarce but was a bit of trek to get to is location followed by a few other species also at the site.



Scarce Fritillary –Hypodryas maturna Female



Scarce Fritillary – Underside



B0060 [BF 1717] Purple-barred Yellow (*Lythria purpuraria*)



Green Hairstreak – Callophrys rubi



Lesser spotted fritillary – Melitaea trivia



Large Copper – Lycaena dispar



Small Heath – Coenonympha pamphilus



I think this is Oberthur's Grizzled skipper



*Common Blue – *Polyommatus icarus**



*Provençal Short-tailed Blue – *Cupido (Everes) alcetas**

Cheers

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 17-Dec-15 01:32 AM GMT

Doesn't get much better than Scarce Fritillary, Andy (except possibly False Comma).

Nice images.

Re: Andy Brown

by FISHiEE, 17-Dec-15 01:40 AM GMT

I'm thinking your large copper might be purple shot copper?

Liking those Scarce Fritillaries!

Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 17-Dec-15 01:49 AM GMT

"FISHiEE" wrote:

I'm thinking your large copper might be purple shot copper?

Have to say that the Purple Shot Coppers I've seen all have a noticeably darker ground colour on the underside hindwing than this specimen, but the upperwing undersides do have smaller spots than the guides indicate for *dispar*.

Re: Andy Brown

by Pete Eeles, 17-Dec-15 02:55 AM GMT

"andy brown" wrote:

... and a nice female with the Blue Dots

How did I miss this?! Can you add to the SSB Abs album, if not already done. Thx Andy!

Cheers,

- Pete

Re: Andy Brown

by FISHiEE, 17-Dec-15 06:45 PM GMT

"David M" wrote:

"FISHiEE" wrote:

I'm thinking your large copper might be purple shot copper?

Have to say that the Purple Shot Coppers I've seen all have a noticeably darker ground colour on the underside hindwing than this specimen, but the upperwing undersides do have smaller spots than the guides indicate for *dispar*.

Hm... not sure what I was thinking or seeing last night. I can't see anything other than large copper when I look at it now! I could have sworn the solid band of orange on the underside hind wing was dots fading to nothing last night!

Re: Andy Brown

by Mikhail, 17-Dec-15 09:37 PM GMT

Have just seen your posting of 4 Dec., and the unidentified bush-cricket. It is a final instar nymph of the Wartbiter.

M.

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 18-Dec-15 09:40 PM GMT

Thanks Mikhail for the ID, will be posting more pics of grasshoppers later from the trip, so if you can help that would be appreciated.

All,
Again if you can help/confirm any of the ID's I have posted that would help a lot so don't be afraid to question as I am certainly no expert.

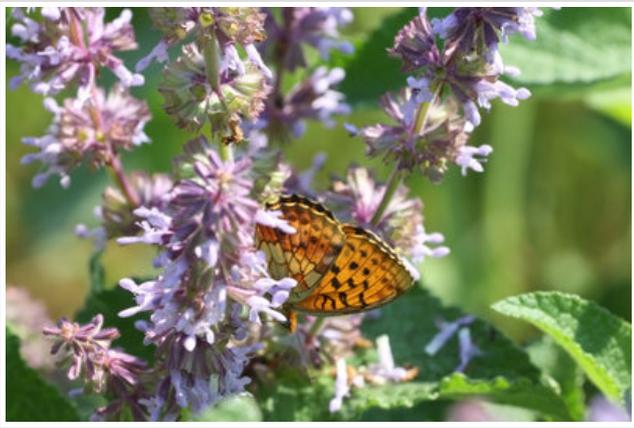
Anyway here is the latest batch pictures from Day 3 - in the Voynovo Reservoir; Sveshtari Thracian Tombs regions, sorry about the quality of the pictures as some were really just record shots and as most know trying to get the best shot in midday sun at 30 degrees isn't always easy.



Lesser Spotted Fritillary – Melitaea trivia



Adonis Blue – Polyommatus (Lysandra) bellargus



Marbled Fritillary – Brenthis daphne



Chequered Blue – Scolitantides orion Female



Silver-studded Blues - Plebejus argus



Large Skipper - Ochlodes venatus



Tufted Marbled Skipper - Carcharodus flocciferus

Thanks

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by Padfield, 19-Dec-15 06:05 AM GMT

Hi Andy. I've been so busy recently I haven't kept up at all with the diaries. Lovely pictures of brilliant butterflies here – not least the wonderful *maturna*, a species I've never seen.

Unless eastern individuals are very different, I incline against Reverdin's for your blues. A useful feature for this butterfly, in central Europe at least, is the pure white fringe. This is particularly helpful for females. Dirty fringes mean Idas or Silver-studded. In addition, the general feel and tone is wrong for Reverdin's. I'll come back when it's not very late at night and see if I still agree with me! 😊

Guy

Re: Andy Brown

by Wurzel, 19-Dec-15 06:24 AM GMT

Some cracking shots very cheering after a week of grim weather – mild but wet 😊 That Scarce Frit is just lush 🇬🇧🇬🇧

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 19-Dec-15 04:57 PM GMT

Thanks for the Heads up Guy on the Reverdin's I see what you mean about the dirty fringes in comparison, I will wait until you have had a chance to reassess. The guide was confident it was Reverdin's but as with all these trips he only has a second or two to look at our photo's and give us an appraisal so any definitive ID is always where I am trying to get to. Also what are your thoughts on the White?

Thanks in advance

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by andy brown, 21-Dec-15 02:03 AM GMT

Hi, Here are the remaining pictures from Day 3 – in the Voynovo Reservoir; Sveshtari Thracian Tombs regions



Sloe Hairstreak – Satyrium acaciae



Violet (Weaver's) Fritillary Weaver's – Boloria (Clossiana) dia



Small Copper – Lycaena phlaeas



Heath Fritillary – Melitaea (Mellicta) athalia



Chestnut Heath – Coenonympha glycerion



Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper - Pyrgus armoricanus



Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper - Pyrgus armoricanus

Thanks

Andy

Re: Andy Brown

by David M, 23-Dec-15 05:36 AM GMT

Welcome images again, Andy, particularly your Chestnut Heath, which looks totally different to the ones I see in the French Alps.

Re: Andy Brown

by Wurzel, 28-Dec-15 06:47 AM GMT

I agree with David, that Chestnut Heath is a real cracker 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel