

Re: Susie

by Susie, 17-Feb-16 09:23 AM GMT

Spring has almost sprung! The first frogspawn of the year arrived in my pond last night, a week earlier than last year.

I've only had one butterfly sighting so far this year. An unidentifiable butterfly flew high over Cranleigh High Street back in January (possibly a painted lady), twice it was attacked in flight by jackdaws and both times it managed to escape. Hurrah!

Hopefully the next sighting will be soon.

Re: Susie

by Wurzel, 21-Feb-16 08:46 AM GMT

I'm glad that you're off the mark Susie, I'm still deep in the winter blues but hopefully it won't be too much longer now 😊

Have a goodun
Wurzel

Re: Susie

by Susie, 26-Apr-16 08:13 PM GMT

I think you were a tad optimistic, Wurzel! Today I watched a holly blue which as been hanging around my garden for the past week trying to fly in a snow/hail shower as the warmish sunshine suddenly turned wintery.

Re: Susie

by Goldie M, 27-Apr-16 04:01 PM GMT

Same here today Susie, awful weather. Goldie 😞

Re: Susie

by Wurzel, 29-Apr-16 10:07 PM GMT

Sorry Susie – I jinxed it 😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Susie

by Susie, 04-May-16 09:54 PM GMT

Lol, no worries Wurzel!

I am pleased to say my luck has definitely changed. At the weekend I went to Denbies and saw one green hairstreak, one grizzled skipper and one small tort before the rain came down. I went back this morning and there were at least a dozen green hairstreak, a holly blue, a couple of peacocks and brimstones, a dingy skipper and the odd unidentifiable white. A definite improvement! 😊

Re: Susie

by millerd, 04-May-16 10:25 PM GMT

I'm glad to see Denbies is starting to burst forth – time for another visit I think. 😊

Dave

Re: Susie

by Susie, 16-May-16 08:23 PM GMT

Time to update my diary.

I had a couple of trips to Denbies. The green hairstreaks seem to be doing well there this year.

The weekend before last I went on two of Neil Hulme's walks for Sussex BC; Rewell Wood on the Saturday and Heyshott Escarpment on the Sunday. Both times the walks were excellent and we were all delighted to see the target species.

On Saturday I went to Heyshott Escarpment again and was amazed to have the whole place to myself for hours. This has to be one of the best butterfly sites I know. The Dukes were showing really well but I am afraid it was the green hairstreaks who again stole the show for me.

Today I went to Hutchinsons Bank and was pleased to bump into Pauline and later Martin and Fred. They were all so helpful and knowledgeable and I am very grateful.







Re: Susie

by Maximus, 16-May-16 08:45 PM GMT

We also had Heyshott to ourselves last week, Susie, which was surprising it's such a great place. The Green Hairstreaks were amazing.

Nice Glanville shots from Hutchinsons Bank, that's an attractive pupa too.

Re: Susie

by bugboy, 16-May-16 09:04 PM GMT

Glad you got your Glanvilles Susie, nice shots 😊 You Greenies and Dukes aren't too shabby either!

Re: Susie

by trevor, 16-May-16 09:14 PM GMT

What a combination, Green Hairstreak on an Orchid and Glanvilles as well !.
Lucky Lady, and great images.

Best wishes,
Trevor.

Re: Susie

by Wurzel, 17-May-16 10:57 PM GMT

A fantastic sequence of shots Susie, especially envious of the Glannies 😊👍👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Susie

by Susie, 21-May-16 07:58 PM GMT

trevor wrote:

What a combination, Green Hairstreak on an Orchid and Glanvilles as well !.
Lucky Lady, and great images.

Best wishes,
Trevor.

Thanks Maximus, Trevor, Bugboy and Wurzel.

I was so excited when the green hairstreak landed on the orchid, it was pure luck. Unlike the glanville on the dandelion stalk where I gave it a bit of assistance! Lol

Re: Susie

by Wurzel, 22-May-16 10:01 PM GMT

Good to bump into you today Susie, looking forward to seeing your shots! 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Susie

by Susie, 23-May-16 06:18 PM GMT

Wurzel wrote:

Good to bump into you today Susie, looking forward to seeing your shots! 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

It was lovely to bump into you and Philzoid too! Quite unexpected to see you so far from home 😊

It was nice to bump into John W later on too.

Re: Susie

by Susie, 23-May-16 09:10 PM GMT

My main thanks go to Phil and Wurzel yesterday for giving me the heads up on bordered bed hawk moths being about. I've wanted to see these for more than 10 years and was thrilled to see some very shortly after they had said the wed beasties were about. Smashing!

I saw about half a dozen wood whites in the end, plenty of brimstones, some green veined whites and speckled woods too.



Re: Susie

by Susie, 23-May-16 09:15 PM GMT

Today I headed to a hill in Wiltshire. As the clouds gathered on my journey down my spirits fell too. Upon arriving I met our very own Trevor who I discovered used to live just round the corner from me (small world! 😊) and he cheered me up no end by saying that he had seen some on site this morning. Although there wasn't much on the wing due to the conditions I found two marsh Frits and a brown argus. While taking photos one decided to take a rest on my bag 😊



Re: Susie

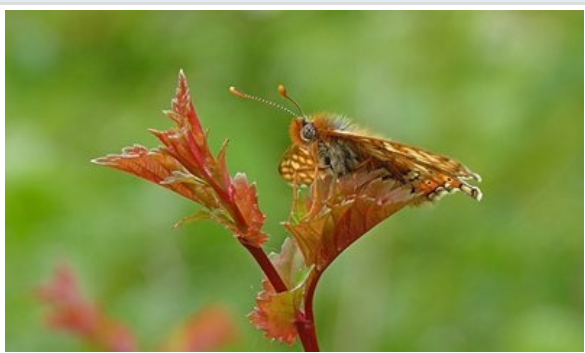
by Katrina, 23-May-16 09:19 PM GMT

Loving the butterfly on the bag photo. I wonder if it was attracted by the butterfly badges 😊

Re: Susie

by Susie, 23-May-16 09:21 PM GMT

Thanks Katrina. Quite possibly. 😊





Re: Susie

by millerd, 23-May-16 09:23 PM GMT

Brilliant, Susie! 😊 I hope to visit that hillside sometime soon... It's quite a site.

Dave

Re: Susie

by Susie, 23-May-16 09:29 PM GMT

It's well worth a visit, Millerd! Good luck.

<https://www.facebook.com/susie.milbank/posts/10154206045871972>

Hopefully the above link will work and you can see the moth.

Re: Susie

by MrSp0ck, 23-May-16 09:36 PM GMT

If its at Oaken Wood, its Broad-Bordered Bee Hawk, we often find the eggs on the Honeysuckle there, they have fenced off around the most favoured honeysuckles.

Re: Susie

by Susie, 30-May-16 08:15 PM GMT

Thanks, Martin 😊

Yesterday I went to Kithurst Hill and had a short while in the meadow. I had gone to see small blue and they were everywhere but not really settling. Also seen were my first meadow brown of the year, some common blues, dingy skippers, brimstone, a single duke, and some beautifully fresh red admirals. A high light was a swam of bees which has landed on a tree branch.

Re: Susie

by Susie, 07-Jun-16 09:38 PM GMT

A quick trip to Iping this afternoon with the kids and dog turned up a couple of Silver studded blues. I wasn't sure if they'd be there yet so didn't take a camera. My daughter took a snap on her phone for me.



Re: Susie

by David M, 07-Jun-16 10:41 PM GMT

Not bad at all for a phone camera, Susie!

Lesson learned – always take your camera! I've been caught out too often in the past to forget this now.

Re: Susie

by Wurzel, 07-Jun-16 11:33 PM GMT

That's a great shot for a camera Susie – I always take my iPod now just in case 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel