

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 16-Feb-18 08:06 AM GMT

'A Chalke Grassland' habitat video'.

We were at a National Trust Property near Guildford in Surrey. – April 2017.

<https://youtu.be/boTkVewWozQ>

"It might be quite hard to get an Orange Tip Butterfly to naturally pose on a daffodil because they (and other United Kingdom native Spring butterflies), generally, do not feed on their nectar source":



April 11th 2017, Lincolnshire.

'Gardeners 'Deadhead' daffodils to encourage the plants to put energy into bulb division'.

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 18-Feb-18 01:47 PM GMT

That's a lovely contrast between butterfly and flower, Phil. Must admit, I don't think I've ever seen any butterfly nectaring from daffodils. Crocuses, yes, and bluebells quite regularly, but never daffs!

**Re: PhilBWright**

by Wurzel, 18-Feb-18 03:13 PM GMT

Great shot Phil 😊 I've not seen them taking nectar from Daffs but I have seen a number using them it at a perch or roosting site, I reckon its because they have nice big petals and the tubular shape gives them strength 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 19-Feb-18 09:39 AM GMT

"Thank you for your contributions 'Wurzel' and David.

As I write, there are now daffodil heads appearing in a garden in Lincoln. Not long now.

I have yet to see any flowering in Lincolnshire but I have not been to the right locations to see the 'early narcissi' or the 'greenhouse grown'. We have seen the 'cut flowers', flowering rather early in supermarkets.

In the south of the United Kingdom, where the season was slightly more advanced, there were very few 'daffs' flowering in 2017 by April 11th.

I think I have a picture from 2016 of a Small Tortoiseshell, very briefly entering a daffodil head (proboscis first), but it was thought, generally speaking, they only try it once at most. I will edit that picture back here later (if I can find it).

**'Common Blue Proboscis Study –27th May 9:57 –9:58'**

'When thinking about extracting a McDonalds milkshake through a 'broad channeled straw' and the suck power required for the thick milkshake to enter ones mouth, it became more obvious to me that 'sticky nectar could be retracted into a butterflies head in 'drip form', or stuck around the outside of the curled up end of the proboscis.

How much use a butterfly makes of that form of feeding is unclear to me.

Some Butterflies often leave their perch with the proboscis not curled up and can be retracted back into their mouths, while in flight, later (another study).

I think that a proboscis varies considerably between species.

A Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth, which uses much energy at the same time as feeding has quite a long straight, apparently more obviously tubular, long proboscis that it holds quite straight for longish periods. One might say that it needs to extract nectar fast, to make up for the energy loss, while not landing and not remaining still while feeding.

<https://youtu.be/ctxMrpmcCc8>



9:57 and 43 seconds iPhone digital zoom (cropped).



9:57 and 48 seconds



9:57 and 53 seconds



9:58 and 16 seconds.

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 24-Feb-18 08:23 AM GMT

<https://youtu.be/4awQgJExVos>

'We had an opportunity to work on the above video, last night, this morning. I think that we captured "one of those moments" 😊😊

Saint Mary's Church, Walton on Thames, is located at the top of the hill in Walton. It is a very old building (with a roof) and has a mature, traditional churchyard.

On 16th April 2017, there were also, plenty of Holly Blue Butterflies, seen in the sunny periods.

'If using a camera with a 'view finder' and magnification, please don't look at the sun (high risk of eye damage), unless one has a specialised filter. Please view video, here are a couple of 'artistic screen shot frames' for a taste:



*WARNING! When practicing backlit photography, it was strongly advisable not to use a camera, where one was viewing through the lens, because of possible serious eye damage.*



Video shot at 240 frames per second -iPhone 6Splus (with software updates)."

### Re: PhilBWright

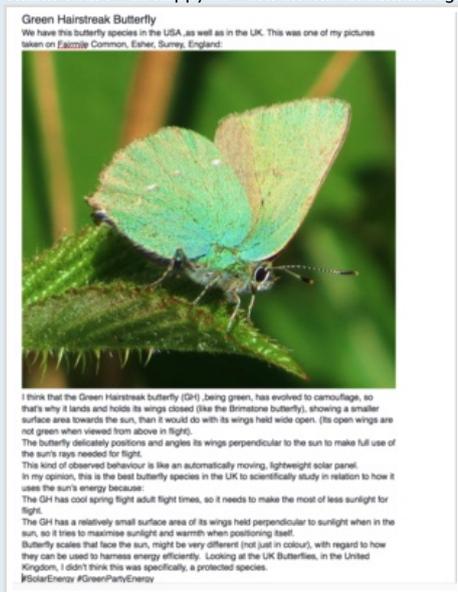
by Goldie M, 24-Feb-18 01:19 PM GMT

That's a great video Phil, Aprils not too far a way now 😊 Goldie 😊

## Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 24-Feb-18 04:11 PM GMT

Thank You. I was happy to work on this document again today,



The edit here is to do with:  
"cool Spring flight times" ('cooler Spring flight times')

'In comparison with (for example) The Purple Emperor Butterfly, which emerges mid-summer through to July, average daily temperatures in England are much higher then'

## Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 01-Mar-18 01:39 PM GMT

Thanks for posting that delightful (almost hypnotic) Speckled Wood video, Phil. It gave me quite a lift on this most miserable of St David's Days! 😊

## Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 12-Mar-18 11:18 PM GMT

Thanks David,

I had not yet seen the flight slow motion of some species, other than 'take off' and 'landing' but please keep me up to date if there is something i have missed.

Their flight is amazing in slow motion and I also think more can be learn't about mid air collisions (of butterflies) and deliberate 'near misses.

## Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 14-Mar-18 12:44 AM GMT

I love these 'off beat' sequences, Phil. I hope you can provide a few more during the year as they are quite fascinating (even though most of us see them for ourselves).

I must get round to experimenting with my own video setting on my camera!

## Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 15-Mar-18 03:43 PM GMT

"Thanks David, my iPhone does 240 frames a second. Swifts and Swallows seen recently on BBC iplayer catch up, I think were recorded at 1500 frames a second, so I think a rainy Spring day in Lincolnshire, I made this for you guys"

<https://youtu.be/Mrt9bzMpLKM>



## Re: PhilBWright

by Wurzel, 17-Mar-18 07:23 PM GMT

Cracking video Phil – really brightened up my day 😊 – so much so that I was almost out the door with my camera...only to realise it was getting dark and snowing 😞😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 19-Mar-18 10:42 AM GMT

Thanks 'wurzel', I have just added that one to the Species Specific Videos. I am very happy for 'you guys' to critique the narrative here (as it might help me make future publishing improvements).

Here is another seasonal, fun Brimstone video, made last year with Melissa:

<https://youtu.be/buhdHwmFWKU>

**Re: PhilBWright**

by NickMorgan, 19-Mar-18 01:27 PM GMT

**PhilBWright wrote:**

"Really good to be at Butterfly Conservation's members day in Cheltenham, yesterday with Melissa who took this picture.

IMG\_8503.jpg

We got some Alder Buckthorn which was still in leaf (a caterpillar food plant of the Brimstone).

Brimstone Butterflies were present in Sweden, on about the same latitude as the Shetland Islands in Scotland.

Brimstone Butterflies were absent on a Brimstone distribution map of Scotland."

Hopefully, I will catch up with news of the re-introduction (natural or otherwise), of this butterfly in Scotland, later.



I have just seen this Phil. I would be very interested to know more about Alder Buckthorn and Brimstones in Scotland. I have just planted ten Alder Buckthorn plants in a new hedge I am putting in near Selkirk. I have heard that most years there are one or two records of Brimstones in Selkirkshire, so thought I would give them a helping hand if Brimstones wanted to move up here! I don't think we have much in the way of Alder Buckthorn in Scotland, so I guess that is limiting the spread of Brimstones.

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 29-Mar-18 12:02 PM GMT

Melissa and I were very fortunate to meet the BBC presenter, Matthew Oates, recently who has worked with the:

National Trust &

Friends of Bookham Commons.

He gave a talk about the Purple Emperor Butterfly (PE) species.

Until then, I had not seen or heard an argument presented for the PE's use of Honey Dew (aphid secretion), to be 'irrelevant', 'somewhat irrelevant' or 'nonsense'.

I think that removing 'non native' Turkey Oaks on a Bookham Common is a political ambition, anyway, as they tend to be some of the tallest trees near the top of the Common. Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*) has different shaped leaves to our native 'master trees' and are used by fewer native English Species, in comparison to our native *Quercus rubur*.



*Matthew Oates & myself.*

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 30-Mar-18 11:05 PM GMT

Impressive, Phil. Hope you enjoyed your encounter.

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 16-May-18 07:32 AM GMT

May 15th 2018

Melissa and I went to Anderby Creek in love of the Green Hairstreak Butterfly.

Last year Butterfly Conservation in Lincolnshire (which we are both members of) went on a field trip on 14th May there, so we retraced some steps. 😊

There were plenty of territorial chases where some males were perched on wild rose and Hawthorn, where they were also nectaring (May Tree).

It was thought that males emerge first, find a territorial perch about head height and wait for a passing female.

These two came together on Ivy foliage in full sun after a very short 'fluttering' courtship.

Interference from another Green Hairstreak while mating lead this pair into a retreat position under wild rose foliage after a short flight together:



15:28pm



Habitat – Sand Dunes

This butterfly species was thought to have evolved a relationship with a specific species of ant to complete its life cycle.

### Re: PhilBWright

by Goldie M, 16-May-18 10:14 AM GMT

Lovely second shot of the mating HS's Phil and you've caught their lovely bright colours too 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 16-May-18 11:17 AM GMT

Thank you 'Goldie M',



*"Back lit ('not') for extra warmth in the sun (wings together)*

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 17-May-18 05:38 PM GMT

Witnessing mating Green Hairstreaks is not a common event so well done there, Phil!

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 18-May-18 08:26 AM GMT

Thank you very much, David.

Here was the video:

<https://youtu.be/3f0U4gW6M9I>

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 19-May-18 07:45 PM GMT

Love it, Phil! Thanks for sharing.

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 01-Jun-18 07:41 AM GMT

[quote="PhilBWright"]**The White Admiral in Lincolnshire**

The Lincolnshire 'Black & White Admiral species' has been important in recent history (up to 2017) as being in The northern most limit of it's range in the UK.

My colleague Peter Cawdell saw his first White Admiral Butterfly in Lincolnshire on 12th or 13th June in Southrey Woods, Bardney (near to where I have worked with him).

"The season was very early this year as also shown by Rob Hill's first sighting of a Purple Emperor butterfly at Bookham Common in Surrey on a date "seasonally earliest" in living memory. Rob has the knowledge to find and record those wild butterflies first, as he has photographically proven year on year".

Peter Cawdell's early Lincolnshire sighting prompted me in some planning, to study the early emergence of The White Admiral butterfly in Old Wood, Skellingthorpe owned and managed by The Woodland Trust.

My presence was noted in Old Wood, Skellingthorpe on 15th June.

Here is an early Lincolnshire Lemenitis camilla filmed for UKB & BC, also eventually I hope, The Woodland Trust who manage this site):

[https://youtu.be/wKzmlg\\_O4dQ](https://youtu.be/wKzmlg_O4dQ)

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 01-Jun-18 07:51 AM GMT

It's June! 'If you go down in the woods...'

We have been working on this video from last June:

[https://youtu.be/wKzmlg\\_O4dQ](https://youtu.be/wKzmlg_O4dQ)

Not long to go now before we see the "Black & White Admirals"

(Black Admirals were sometimes mentioned, referring to unusual aberrations, where white markings were less significant).

Were there any Black Admirals in Office in the British Navy, at that colonial time of butterfly naming?

I asked this because there was a big difference in amount of whiteish colouration between a Limenitis camilla and another butterfly named something "white".

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 03-Jun-18 12:01 AM GMT

Delightful footage, Phil. White Admirals must be the most graceful of all our endemic species. They glide around without a care in the world.....except for bramble blossom! 😊 😊

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 06-Jun-18 06:12 AM GMT

Celebrating Longevity

5th June 2018 Lincolnshire

"It was nice to see an over-wintered Peacock Butterfly at Chambers Farm Wood and this 'Old Wings Brimstone' at the Butterfly Conservation Reserve, Snakeholm Pit"



An Over-wintered Male Brimstone June 5th 2018

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 06-Jun-18 10:15 PM GMT

A June Brimstone is a precious thing, Phil – he must be nearly a year old!

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 08-Jun-18 10:52 AM GMT

White Admirals

Our best efforts from last year, just finished processing:

<https://youtu.be/ahT09XV6Hv8>

This year, HM The Queen of England's Official Birthday is tomorrow (June 9th 2018).

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 09-Jun-18 01:38 PM GMT

Thanks for posting that, Phil. It's lovely to watch them in slo-mo....such graceful butterflies and they seem to navigate their way through the small gaps in the leaves with ease.

**Re: PhilBWright**

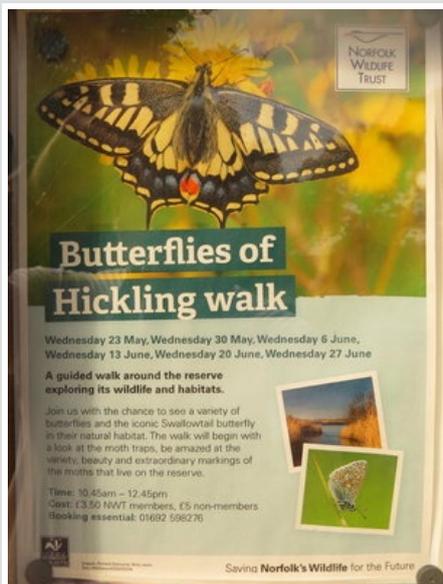
by PhilBJohnson, 11-Jun-18 08:31 AM GMT

June 10th 2018

Melissa and I were very excited to visit the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Nature Reserve and visitor centre, yesterday at Hickling Broad, situated off Stubb Road, Norfolk.

It was a good opportunity to speak to local people about the wildlife.

We saw our first Painted Lady of 2018, an old over-wintered Peacock Butterfly, Red Admirals, Speckled Woods and Swallowtails (that still appeared fresh). Some people reported that there were more on the wing at the same time last year. We hope this single picture is immediately helpful:



**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 12-Jun-18 08:12 PM GMT

June 10th 2018 Hickling Broad Nature Reserve, Norfolk Wildlife Trust

Thanks to my Wife and Family for early birthday treat!

This was our first trip to see English Swallowtail Butterflies on the Beautiful Norfolk Broads.

Hickling Broad Video:

[https://youtu.be/\\_B0657t6tFY](https://youtu.be/_B0657t6tFY)

Please Enjoy

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 22-Jun-18 09:23 PM GMT

June 22nd 2018 –Chambers Farm Wood, Lincolnshire.

'Back to record photos' with my Bridge Camera as we could not get my iPhone to work for me or us, to our satisfaction.

A Peacock Butterfly from the 2017 brood (or warm house reared), was the latest one I have ever seen in June.

A late male Orange Tip seen also, elsewhere in the Chambers Farm Wood:



22nd June, Peacock. My Wife looking the wrong way.



22nd June (normally spring brooded, Orange Tip Butterfly)

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 24-Jun-18 12:27 PM GMT

Black Hairstreak. June 24th 2018

We hope you enjoy this short video. Melissa and I have much to learn about this butterfly:

[https://youtu.be/03kVw-F\\_-rc](https://youtu.be/03kVw-F_-rc)

### Re: PhilBWright

by Neil Freeman, 24-Jun-18 06:07 PM GMT

Just watched your video of Hickling Broad, great stuff 😊

We were there the day after you (Monday 11th June) during our recent few days in Norfolk and it brought back some great memories 😊

Cheers,

Neil

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 27-Jun-18 05:23 PM GMT

Those are phenomenally late sightings for both those species, Phil. I bet you didn't see any Orange Tips in June this year?

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 21-Jul-18 10:33 AM GMT

Thank you Neil and David. I think that was the second last, male Orange Tip Butterfly that I saw in Lincolnshire in summer 2018, David. If you had female Green-veined White butterflies in your garden, touching leaves repeatedly looking to lay an egg, I noticed that watering 'the borders' early morning, helped to provoke extra interest (as it had not rained recently).

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 21-Jul-18 09:41 PM GMT

Thanks for posting this, Phil. It's really interesting to see the butterflies in slow motion – it gives you a better sense of their behaviour in the air and, of course, what they're doing when on the ground!

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 22-Jul-18 08:27 PM GMT

July 22nd 2018

The Lincolnshire Branch of Butterfly Conservation's AGM took place at Chambers Farm Wood, today.

A walk led by Chairman Peter Cawdell got better as the sunshine began to appear from behind the clouds.

The Big Butterfly, count.

I think I saw two or three, one female and this very old male, which looked like it had been in a few battles:



*"On it's last leg or legs"*

My Wife was delighted at seeing her first Purple Emperor!

We sat for lunch at the picnic table and it just floated down out of an Oak Canopy, onto the grass in front of us and looked a little as if it might not be able to take off again, but it did.



*'Marsh Fritillary Web, thought to be 3rd Instar*

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 26-Jul-18 10:55 PM GMT

Purple Emperor **does** seem to be extending its range, Phil.

How many reliable sites for it are there in Lincolnshire?

### Re: PhilBWright

by CallumMac, 27-Jul-18 08:37 AM GMT

**David M wrote:**

Purple Emperor **does** seem to be extending its range, Phil.

How many reliable sites for it are there in Lincolnshire?

I wouldn't take any butterfly's appearance at Chambers Farm Wood as a reliable sign of range expansion, David! 😊 For comparison, see my Marshies from earlier in the year...

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 29-Jul-18 01:27 PM GMT

Thanks David,

The size of the Oak/Willow Scrub Woodland, I think is suitable at Chambers Farm Wood (CFW) for the Purple Emperor (PE). The Black & White Admiral there is also quite far north (but there was plenty of wild Honeysuckle).

I think that there had been sustained populations at CFW for several consecutive years now. In view of my limited knowledge of the Forestry Commission's management plans and their commitment to providing amenity for several different interest and conservation groups, my analysis was, that those butterflies are there to stay.

I didn't have Purple Emperor in my back garden.

July/August 2018

Presentationally, introducing our Cabbage White Diaries:

[https://youtu.be/ACp\\_imoypfs](https://youtu.be/ACp_imoypfs)

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 26-Sep-18 10:02 AM GMT

September 26th 2018

"Large White Caterpillars (approx. 2cm long on Brassica) were possibly from some of the last Large White eggs laid in our garden.

This was an important note to imagine an egg laying date that can see this species over-winter in a pupa 'metamorphic' State.

Large White Butterfly broods have been less numerous in a Spring than in a Summer."



*Large White Larva*

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 05-Oct-18 07:20 AM GMT

Thursday 4th October

No sign of any remaining Large Cabbage White Caterpillars

Outside. A Dawn Chorus this morning near the neighbours bird feeders.

Friday 5th September 2018

"Pip"

A Large Cabbage White Caterpillar that somehow found its way onto the nasturtium on our window ledge.

I wonder, who might see the last Cabbage White Butterfly in Lincolnshire in 2018?



'Pip'

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 09-Oct-18 10:13 PM GMT

**David M wrote:**

Nice to see an unusual European destination, Phil. More images please!

<https://youtu.be/HhD-F9LUdY8>

More images on the above link, please enjoy.

**Re: PhilBWright**

by David M, 09-Oct-18 11:46 PM GMT

Nice piece of work, Phil...a fair eulogy to Scarce Copper! 😊

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 12-Oct-18 09:33 AM GMT



October 12th 2018 "Pip" on our window frame.  
#LastCabbageWhite 🤔

**Re: PhilBWright**

by PhilBJohnson, 21-Oct-18 09:54 AM GMT



20th October 2018 "Pip on a window frame"

"Because of overlapping broods which favour a cabbage White's species succession, much was attributed to Brassica being grown under glass (at a different average temperature to normal outside conditions). In Lincolnshire on 20th October 2018, it was still just about warm enough for a Cabbage White's short flight during the micro-climatic warmest periods of the day"  
#ClimateChange

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 11-Nov-18 05:22 PM GMT

Butterfly Conservation Members Day in Nottingham, recently.  
I was very happy to meet some special members of Butterfly Conservation including people from our local Lincolnshire branch.

When I searched on Youtube recently for:  
Fritillaries for The Future, I found a really good video presented by Neil Hulme which appeared to be over one year old, but had only 30 views (according to youtube).  
What I know about that, is that some of those views probably had, very large audiences,

#Common Dog Violet  
(relatively more common locally and generally in England, when it was first "common named")

### Re: PhilBWright

by Neil Hulme, 11-Nov-18 05:46 PM GMT

Thanks so much for pointing this out, Philip. It's the first time I've ever seen it! I traveled down to the New Forest for the day in May 2017, to help make this promotional video for the sister project of my Sussex-based *Fritillaries for the Future*, as I'm always happy to go in front of a camera. I never heard any more, so I'm somewhat surprised that it's in the public domain ... if rather well hidden away. Sorry I didn't have time for a chat at the (excellent) AGM, but I was 'on a mission' when we passed.  
BWs, Neil

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 12-Nov-18 08:05 PM GMT

How did you unearth that gem, Phil? It's a great clip and makes me yearn for spring even more!

### Re: PhilBWright

by CallumMac, 13-Nov-18 01:47 PM GMT

Glad to hear you enjoyed the BC AGM, Phil. I've just put two and two together, and I'm wondering whether you are the Phil from Lincolnshire who I met over breakfast on Saturday? If so, nice to finally meet a UKBer in person – and let me know if you're coming up to see some of the Yorkshire specialities at any point! 😊

Cheers, Callum

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 04-Dec-18 11:24 PM GMT



"*Buddleia, Buddleja*", grown from summer outdoor cutting, flowering today.

"Not a butterfly in my sight"

#CaterpillarBush

#NativeCaterpillarBush

#NativePlantsForNativeSpecies

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 07-Dec-18 12:15 PM GMT

Hardly surprising, Phil. It's been 12-14c all week here in Swansea. The daffs are going to be up by New Year at this rate!

### Re: PhilBWright

by PhilBJohnson, 12-Dec-18 04:12 AM GMT

[quote="PhilBJohnson"]**Gardening & The Large Cabbage White 14th August**

And then I had more time to produce this one (15th November):

<https://youtu.be/6BQmdSAoBr4>

Regarding the male Brimstone, I have assumed that butter was originally more of a golden yellow colour, rather than paler, more healthy similar spreads found today (please see above video).

**20th August Lincoln**

#### "Butter-coloured Fly" or "Butter-fly"

"The first reference to butter in our written history was found on a 4,500-year-old limestone tablet illustrating how butter was made.

It is generally believed the word butter originates from the bou-tyron, Greek for "cow cheese", however it may have come from the language of cattle-herding Scythians." 2018 Reference - <https://www.dairygoodness.ca/butter/the-history-of-butter>

Buttercup- Website historians (my search) appeared to be "shy" as to when the name first appeared in English Language. What was clear, was that this plant was often left behind by grazers (poisonous), that had more of a preference for some of our, now scarce (or extinct), wild flower species.

"The Oxford English Dictionary derives the word straightforwardly from Old English butorflēoge, butter-fly; similar names in Old Dutch and Old High German show that the name is ancient. A possible source of the name is the bright yellow male of the brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*); another is that butterflies were on the wing in meadows during the spring and summer butter season while the grass was growing". Referenced here on the date of this post:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#In\\_art\\_and\\_literature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#In_art_and_literature)

"At that time of English common naming (in The King or The Queen's English), Brimstone butterflies were probably common in much of the "United English Kingdom" and Europe. A very high percentage, probable source of the name in English tongue and text, dated back to:  
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"Although a welcome sight, these Brimstones are last year's butterflies, so have little to do with the concepts of rebirth, renewal and regeneration associated with Spring"

Reference: THE BUTTERFLIES OF SUSSEX 2017 Copyright by Michael Blencowe & Neil Hulme

"My thought was that the renewal and regeneration in our connected thoughts have a lot to do with our native Spring similar coloured flowers, such as Buttercups, Cowslips, Primroses and Celendine"

Flight Period

"My thought was, these early sightings need to be micro-climatic temperature related, rather than "hands up for seeing one" (which might have been disturbed in a neighbours garden, and flew ones way). It is on average, some degree or degrees celsius, cooler in Lincolnshire than in Sussex in early Spring, anyway.

This book generally has a wealth of information. I needed to rush to employment this morning so I apologise if I made my comments look bad, originally.

## Re: PhilBwright

by PhilBJohnson, 12-Dec-18 08:32 AM GMT

### PhilBJohnson wrote:

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"The first reference to butter in our written history was found on a 4,500-year-old limestone tablet illustrating how butter was made.

It is generally believed the word butter originates from the bou-tyron, Greek for "cow cheese", however it may have come from the language of cattle-herding Scythians." 2018 Reference - <https://www.dairygoodness.ca/butter/the-history-of-butter>

Buttercup- Website historians (my search) appeared to be "shy" as to when the name first appeared in English Language. What was clear, was that this plant was often left behind by grazers (poisonous), that had more of a preference for some of our, now scarce (or extinct), wild flower species.

"The Oxford English Dictionary derives the word straightforwardly from Old English butorflēoge, butter-fly; similar names in Old Dutch and Old High German show that the name is ancient. A possible source of the name is the bright yellow male of the brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*); another is that butterflies were on the wing in meadows during the spring and summer butter season while the grass was growing". Referenced here on the date of this post:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#In\\_art\\_and\\_literature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#In_art_and_literature)

"At that time of English common naming (in The King or The Queen's English), Brimstone butterflies were probably common in much of the "United English Kingdom" and Europe. A very high percentaged, probable source of the name in English tongue and text, dated back to:  
?"

"Although a welcome sight, these Brimstones are last year's butterflies, so have little to do with the concepts of rebirth, renewal and regeneration associated with Spring"

Reference: THE BUTTERFLIES OF SUSSEX 2017 Copyright by Michael Blencowe & Neil Hulme

"My thought was that the renewal and regeneration in our connected thoughts have a lot to do with our native Spring similar coloured flowers, such as Buttercups, Cowslips, Primroses and Celendine"

Flight Period

"My thought was, these early sightings need to be micro-climatic temperature related, rather than "hands up for seeing one" (which might have been disturbed in a neighbours garden, and flew ones way). It is on average, some degree or degrees celsius, cooler in Lincolnshire than in Sussex in early Spring, anyway.

This book generally has a wealth of information. I needed to rush towards employment this morning, so I apologise if I made my comments look bad, originally.

### Re: PhilBWright

by Padfield, 12-Dec-18 11:38 AM GMT

Here's another, speculative angle on the butterfly dairy connection. The German for butterfly is Schmetterling. This is probably cognate, via south German dialect, with the Czech smetana, meaning cream. Now, I can attest that in the Alps, blues, skippers and ringlets (*Erebia* sp.) gather in their thousands on the nutrient-rich, manured tracks leading to and from the mountain milking stalls. These, then, would be the 'cream flies', abundant in the vicinity of upland dairy farms.

Guy

### Re: PhilBWright

by David M, 20-Dec-18 10:36 AM GMT

#### Padfield wrote:

Here's another, speculative angle on the butterfly dairy connection. The German for butterfly is Schmetterling. This is probably cognate, via south German dialect, with the Czech smetana, meaning cream. Now, I can attest that in the Alps, blues, skippers and ringlets (*Erebia* sp.) gather in their thousands on the nutrient-rich, manured tracks leading to and from the mountain milking stalls. These, then, would be the 'cream flies', abundant in the vicinity of upland dairy farms.

I often wondered why the German for butterfly was 'schmetterling'. I understand 'papillon' and 'farfalle' but this one was a mystery.