



North East England Branch



President Sir David Attenborough CH. FRS

DEDICATED TO SAVING WILD BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR HABITATS

Newsletter No. 22

November 2010



Butterfly Conservation

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Thank you to all who have contributed to this edition of our Newsletter. Our new members might like to know that there are two Newsletters each year and we are always delighted to include any articles, letters, photos or drawings that any member cares to submit.

If you have a question or observation on a butterfly or moth related subject, how about writing to me; or if you are electronic, send an e-mail. We also have an excellent web site, check it out!

Copy dates are unquestionably:

1 MarchApril Edition

1 SeptemberNovember Edition

Contributions should be sent to the Editor at this address:

21 West Acres, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 2QA

E-mail jacquelinebeaven@btinternet.com

The Committee of North East England Branch would be very interested to hear from any Members who have ideas and suggestions for site visits, conservation opportunities or anything of interest within the Branch area.

Any Member of the Branch who has a particular skill to offer, and feels able to give their services, would also be welcomed.

A list of Committee members can be found on the back page of this Newsletter.

Photograph Credits to Jim Asher (Butterfly Conservation Trustee) for Purple Hairstreak, and Orange Tip Caterpillar.

David Stebbings for Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary and White Letter Hairstreak

**The Annual General Meeting of North East England
Branch of Butterfly Conservation**

Will be held at Rainton Meadows on
Saturday 19th February at 2 pm.

Reports will be given by the Chairman, Treasurer
and Conservation Officers before the election of
officers for the next year. Results of the
photographic Competition will be announced.

**It is hoped that
Robert Woods will talk on Northeast Moths**

As you will see on the back page of this Newsletter,
there are a number of Committee posts that have
fallen vacant over the past year.

We are still in desperate need of a
Conservation Officer for County Durham

The post has been vacant for two years now.

Also needed are: **Butterfly Recorder and Education
Officer.**

Please contact a member of the Committee if you
will help the Branch in these capacities.

2010 Photographic Competition

There are three categories:

1. British Butterfly
2. British Moth
3. Immature Stages of Either.

The best of these will be judged the “Over all winner”.

Pictures must have been taken during 2010, and not digitally enhanced.

The Committee, who will not be allowed to enter, will adjudicate, and the winners will be announced at the 2011 AGM.

The photographs will be published on the Web Site and in the following Newsletter.

Entries to be sent, preferably by e-mail, no later than 6 January 2011.

To Jaci Beaven – details on the back cover.

So – get sorting your pictures now!



**An Exhibition of Butterfly
Paintings
And Abstract Works
By Andrew Mills**

**Is being held at
La Fiesta Cafe
Heaton Park Road**



**Until Saturday 27 November 2010
For further details Contact
Jessie Mills on 0191 218 9424**

Northumberland Park, North Shields (NZ363692) is public park created in 1885 when the Duke of Northumberland gifted part of the Spital Dene, which ran from North Shields Fish Quay inland to Preston Village, to the local council for recreational use. The Park is registered as being located on a Local Wildlife Corridor adjacent to the River Tyne Strategic Wildlife Corridor as identified in the Tyne and Wear Nature Conservation Strategy 1988. It is situated half a mile inland from Tynemouth Pier, and comprises seventeen and a half acres of mature mixed woodland.

The park is a natural dene, and although some areas have been planted with ornamental species, much of it is characterised by native broadleaved trees, dominated by Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Wych Elm (*Ulmus grabla*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). In May 2004, I counted over fourteen hundred trees of forty-six species, of which over seven hundred were Sycamore representing 54% of the total. Wych Elm was the second most common, although the majority of the one hundred and fifty-six counted representing 12% were saplings. Third most common was Ash with sixty-seven representing 5%, fourth was Beech where fifty-six represented 4% of the total. Of the forty-six species of trees listed, there are some unusual species of which I have only found single specimens, among these are the Sessile Oak, the Holm Oak, the Contorted Willow, the Turkish Hazel, the Strawberry Tree and the Sweet Chestnut.

The Strawberry Tree in particular is a spectacular sight in late September when in flower and can often have two dozen or more Red Admirals on the top of its rounded crown feeding on its flowers.

In over fifty years I have recorded one hundred and eleven species of birds in this park and having identified the trees, thirty-two species of

shrubs and eighty-five species of wild flowers, but had little knowledge of butterflies.

The first "new" butterfly for me was a Comma I saw in September 2004, and this made me realise how little I knew about butterflies and sparked my interest.

No previous survey appears to have been done in the Park but to date I have recorded twenty-one species.

These are :- Large and Small Skippers, Large, Small and Green Veined Whites, Orange Tip, Purple Hairstreak, White Letter Hairstreak, Small Copper, Camberwell Beauty, Peacock, Comma, Meadow Brown, Speckled Wood, Common Blue, Holly Blue, Wall Brown, Ringlet, Red Admiral, Painted Lady and Small Tortoiseshell.

The two Skippers, three Whites, Peacock, Comma, Meadow Brown, Speckled Wood, Red Admiral and Small Tortoiseshell are all seen regularly each year in the park.

I first saw Holly Blues in August 2004 when up to four were regularly seen on a large Holly tree and in the next few years were seen on various Hollies, there being fifty-one throughout the park. The last two seen was in June 2008 and following that wet summer no second broods were seen in 2008 or since following a regional trend.

Three Common Blues were seen in July 2006 and then not till August 2010 when two were seen in the same place.

The Camberwell Beauty is one of only two species where there is only one record and this was seen on 14 and 15 August 2006, when there was an influx on the east coast.

A single Wall Brown was seen in August 2005, then no others till two on 28th August 2010, when there were large numbers in flight regionally.

One Painted Lady was seen in 2006, two in 2007, then eight in 2009 during the period of the large influx throughout the British Isles. Surprisingly none were seen here in 2010.

I saw my first Speckled Wood in July 2006, being a striking very dark second generation individual, then in 2007, up to ten were seen with a

very late record of one on 11 November. The first in 2008 was on the 29 April, and up to sixteen were seen this year. In 2009 the trend continued with the first seen on 20 April, then seen in new areas of the park with a maximum count of twenty-eight in September. In 2010, I saw the first two on the 3 May, then smaller numbers generally than 2009 but more widespread. The largest count was twenty-two on the 9 September. This is a very welcome, aggressive and very mobile species, often being the most numerous species seen on sunny days.

One White Letter Hairstreak was seen high on a Lime Tree feeding on flowers accompanied by two Holly Blues in August 2006, and then in July 2007, two were seen on the same tree.

By the end of 2009, I had recorded eighteen species, then on four dates in July 2010 I saw a single Ringlet (being the second species to be represented by a single specimen) and in the same area during August, I saw up to three Small Coppers.

With the number of species recorded now standing at twenty, Mike Nattrass and Roger Norman both said I would be struggling to get another, but because in the park there are about a dozen large mature Oak Trees, there was a possibility for the Purple Hairstreak, which, as everybody knows, is only seen on the very tops of Oak Trees.

I had looked for this last year but now keen for another species, for weeks I craned my neck, scanning the tops of the Oaks with my binoculars without luck.

Then on the 26 August when I was watching seven Speckled Woods on this same Lime Tree where the White Letter Hairstreaks had been seen, two small butterflies flew spiralling out of this tree and one landed four feet in front of me on the grass. I managed to get three photographs within a minute before it disappeared and although I waited for an hour they did not reappear. The only clear picture with wings closed looked like a White Letter Hairstreak so I called at Mike Nattrass's house on my way home to check as I didn't have a reference book with me and was delighted when we compared the pictures to confirm they were Purple Hairstreaks. Species twenty-one !!!

Five days later Roger Norman saw a single Purple Hairstreak high on some Laurel bushes next to this Lime Tree.

For weeks I had been scanning the tops of Oak Trees in the hope of finding this species without luck, then two fly out of a Lime Tree and instead of being in the treetops, and land on the ground !!!

This park is currently subject to a regeneration programme financed partly by a Heritage Lottery Grant and because of my local knowledge I was invited to sit on the Project Board with the local Council and have been allowed to express my thoughts with regard to improving the flora and fauna within the programme.



Because of the Park's status as a site of Nature Conservation Importance it is intended to manage the woodland areas for the benefit of as much biodiversity as possible. This would involve the removal of a good number of the mature sycamores which have made the park generally dark, to replace with some indigenous trees and to create more open areas with the introduction of a variety of wild flowers. I am confident this will create a greater variety of habitat resulting in a better mix of ground flora and a staggered tree canopy height, which will attract a greater variety of all species.

The Curious Case of the Butterfly in the Office

David Stebbings

I volunteer regularly with the Northumberland Wildlife Trust. We meet in the Trust's offices in Gosforth before going out to work on reserves. On one Thursday morning in late June, I turned up as usual for a task day to find staff in the office had caught a butterfly. It had been found flying around the office when it was opened that morning and put in a specimen jar. I was amazed when I examined the insect to find it was a White-letter Hairstreak.



How had such a rare butterfly found its way into an office in the middle of Gosforth? The butterfly uses Elm trees as a caterpillar food plant and is not usually found far from Elms. I am pretty sure there are no Elm trees in the parks around Gosforth and the nearest known colonies are in the Derwent valley near Blaydon and along the Tyne valley towards Corbridge.

A bit of detective work was required. About ten days before the butterfly was found someone from the trust had been collecting seeds from Wych Elm trees at the Trust's South Close Field reserve near Riding Mill in the Tyne valley. The plan was to grow the seeds on the Trust's allotment in order to plant Wych Elm on other reserves. The seeds were spread out on trays in a warm spot in the office to dry. It

would seem that a White-letter Hairstreak caterpillar or, more likely, a pupa had been accidentally collected with the seeds. It had then completed its development to emerge into the alien environment of the Trust's office.

Happily the task that day was to work on another reserve along the Tyne valley. As we were almost certain the butterfly had been inadvertently collected from South Close Field we decided to make a detour to release in there. So after photographing the butterfly it was released back into the wild: a happy ending for the butterfly concerned, and a new record for the reserve of a White-letter Hairstreak.



Don't forget to check out our Web Site regularly.
Send your sightings and comments to Jonathan at

www.northeast-butterflies.org.uk

When I saw my first Orange Tip butterfly in the garden a few years ago, I decided to make sure that there would be caterpillar food plants available, in case a wandering female might lay its eggs. I started with a few Lady's Smocks at the back of my pond; then planted a few Garlic Mustards by the hedge at the other side of the garden. I found an egg on the Lady's Smock, and later saw a caterpillar. However, being smallish plants, they were eventually crowded out by other things, but the Garlic Mustards are, being more robust, appeared all over the place, often standing like sentinels where you don't really want to see them.

This year, I didn't see any adult Orange Tips, but I found my first egg on 3 June. I decided to keep an eye on the situation, checking all the mustards regularly. Eventually, there were at least seven individual caterpillars, at varying stages of development. Generally, you only find one per plant, as there is not enough food for two. The caterpillar is a light shade of pastel green with a white lateral stripe. It eventually ascends the plant to feed on the seedpods. As each larva grew to about three centimetres long, it would disappear from the plant, and I assumed it had crawled away to pupate. I haven't found a chrysalis, and not wanting to damage the habitat, have not been looking for them.

The 'latest' caterpillar lived on a tall mustard plant right next to the garden gate. It seemed to be doing fine, despite its 'home' being knocked about by the gate. However, as I passed through on one occasion, I noticed it had become immobilised and 'contracted'. A minute later, a spider scurried up from the base of the plant to keep guard over its catch! (I took some pictures for the record, but as the plant was waving about in the wind, only the background shows in focus.) The hapless larva remained stiffly in situ, and appeared to be abandoned by the spider; maybe that got eaten in turn, by another predator?

This event was rather intriguing, and led me to consider what percentage of caterpillars survive to become adults.



**The Discovery of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary
Butterfly at Mill Burn** **David Stebbings**

I had my Eureka moment in early July this year. I found a rare butterfly that I had been searching for on the Mill Burn reserve near Elsdon since 2007 – not just one but six specimens of the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary.

The Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary is a rare butterfly in Northumberland. It is found on only a handful of sites, mainly in the Sweethope Lough area with occasional sightings in Wark Forest. It is a very sedentary butterfly living in discrete colonies and is unlikely to be seen far from these colonies. In Northumberland the butterfly lives on damp rough grassland especially around the edges of conifer plantations and on sheltered acid boggy ground such as wet flushes beside streams. The sites must have an abundance of violets as the caterpillars feed exclusively on its leaves. As most of the sites in Northumberland where the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary is found are

very wet it is the Marsh Violet (*Viola palustris*), which the caterpillars eat.

The Mill Burn reserve fits all the requirements for the butterfly. It is a sheltered valley running between stands of coniferous trees on the edge of Harwood Forest. It has damp grassland with a fairly thick sward, interspersed with boggy wet flushes. Most importantly it has lots of violets; Dog Violet in the grassland and Marsh Violet in the wet flushes.

The habitat on the reserve looked perfect to me for the butterfly. So for three years in late June and early July, the flight season for the butterfly, I visited the reserve searching for the butterfly with no success. I had almost given up hope of finding it as Mill Burn is about ten kilometres from the nearest known colony and maybe it was just too far for it to spread.

However, in July 2010, I was working on the reserve clearing bracken with a work party from the Wildlife Trust, when I disturbed a butterfly in the long grass. It flew off but it looked very much like a Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary. Two days later I was back to do a more thorough search and, eureka! I found six butterflies. So against the odds the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary has spread to Mill Burn and it would seem that the habitat does meet its requirements. Hopefully the colony will thrive and I will be back next year to monitor its progress.



Walk through a flowery meadow on a sunny day in July and the chances are that – perhaps clustered around the flowers of thistles – you will encounter numbers of a rather attractive day flying moth with striking dark metallic green, glossy wings bearing bright crimson spots. These are Burnet Moths and they give the lie to the notion that moths are just dull coloured night-flying creatures that bang against the bathroom window at night.

In fact there are seven species of Burnet Moth that occur in the British Isles, as outlined in the table below. Most of these species are rare with very restricted distributions and only two of the species actually occur in our region. These two are the Six-spot Burnet *Zygaena filipendulae* and the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet *Zygaena lonicerae*.

Common Name	Latin Name	Range and status in UK
Scotch Burnet	<i>Zygaena exulans</i>	Montane species with very restricted distribution in the Scottish Highlands
Slender Scotch Burnet	<i>Zygaena loti</i>	Found only on half a dozen sites on Ulva and Mull in the Hebrides.
New Forest Burnet	<i>Zygaena viciae</i>	The New Forest population is extinct and the species is now known from only a single site in Argyll, Scotland.
Six-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>	Widespread and common across the British Isles.
Five-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>	Locally distributed in South-West England and Wales.

Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena lonicerae</i>	Occurs across much of England but absent from the South-west. Absent from most of Scotland: sub species <i>jocelynae</i> ('Talisker Burnet') occurs only on the Isle of Skye whilst the sub-species <i>latomarginata</i> has recently become established in a few colonies in the Borders and Dumfries and Galloway.
Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	A very restricted distribution on several of the Hebridean islands and a small number of sites on the Scottish mainland.

Table 1: Species of Burnet Moth found in the British Isles and their distribution and status.

The Six-spot Burnet may be described as having dark greenish forewings with a metallic sheen and decorated with six conspicuous crimson spots, it also has crimson hind-wings with a dark trailing edge, a dark blue-black head and body and black, forward-pointing clubbed antennae. The other Burnet moths offer variations on this theme. The other species occurring in our region, the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet, as its name suggests, is distinguished from the Six-spot by having one fewer crimson spots on its forewings. The Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet (in particular the sub-species *latomarginata* that occurs in our region) is much harder to distinguish, as an adult, from *Zygaena trifolii*, the Five-spot Burnet, even by examination of genitalia but, in principle, this is not a problem in

Durham and Northumberland as the latter species does not occur here.



Six-spot Burnet Moth. Photo J Wallace



Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet Photo: Tim Nelson

Nevertheless, the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet does quite often get misidentified as the Five-spot and it is worth bearing in mind that in our region any record of the Five-spot Burnet would need to be supported by very compelling evidence for it to be accepted. If unsure, by far the safer bet is Narrow-bordered Five-spot!

In butterfly and moth species, colour 'aberrations' sometimes occur and in the Six-spot Burnet, one such is the form '*flava*' in which due to the expression of a recessive gene the spots and hind wing are yellow instead of the usual crimson. This appears to be very rare and in our region only a couple of records of this form exist - in both cases from Holy Island where Harry Eales recorded thirteen in June 1966 and a single one in July 1967. There have been no records of the *flava* form since then although the normal form is common on Holy Island and

has been well scrutinised. Should you come across a yellow Burnet Moth you will certainly have found a real rarity!

The larvae of the Burnet Moths are also distinctive. The Six-spot Burnet has a pale green background colour and two rows of black spots along the back with each row being made up of two spots per segment of which the forward (anterior) spot is significantly larger. A row of yellow spots runs along each side just below the dorsal rows of black spots and then below the yellow spots on each side is a further row of black spots. Again, the other Burnet Moth species show variations around this same theme. The larvae also display rows of bristly hairs or setae and these offer a reliable method for distinguishing between the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet and other species (including the Five-spot Burnet) as it has rather long setae whereas in the other members of the genus the setae are short. Both the Six-spot Burnet and the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet over-winter as larvae. The larvae can be found quite easily in the early summer as they often sit and bask in exposed positions and the papery cocoons are also conspicuous as they are formed high up on grass stems. The Six-spot Burnet Moth feeds on Bird's Foot Trefoil whilst the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet's larval food plants include Red Clover, Meadow Vetchling and various other legumes.

The striking colouring of the adult and larval stages of these moths is an example of aposematic (or warning) coloration. Both stages contain hydrogen cyanide as well as other toxic or noxious chemicals including pyrazines (the latter obtained through the diet whilst the former are self-synthesised). Presumably birds and other predators rapidly learn to avoid these distinctively coloured insects after trying one or two, with the result that the surviving moth siblings have an enhanced probability of surviving to reproduce and pass on their genes to the next generation. This defence mechanism helps explain the confiding nature of these species; as we have remarked the caterpillars are easily found due to their tendency to sit conspicuously

in exposed positions, whilst the adults are very easy to approach closely and are cooperative photographic subjects.

Interestingly, although it is not closely related to them, another common day flying moth, the Cinnabar Moth, *Tyria jacobaeae* adopts rather similar adult colouring to the Burnet Moths (although the crimson on its forewings is arranged as streaks rather than pairs of spots). This is an example of what is known as Mullerian mimicry in which two or more species evolve to share both a similar defence mechanism (a noxious taste, say, or a sting) *and* similar warning signals. Each of the mimics benefits by having its warning reinforced by the other species in the mimic group. In this case the Cinnabar is also toxic to predators due to alkaloid poisons its larva sequesters from its food plant, Ragwort. This kind of mimicry is in contrast to the so-called Batesian mimicry in which the mimic has no real 'weapon' of its own but evolves to display warning colours resembling those of another species that genuinely does. A classic example of this is the close resemblance of the entirely harmless Lunar Hornet Moth, *Sesia bembeciformis*, to a hornet or large wasp.

Burnet Moths occur in discrete colonies rather than uniformly spread out across the countryside but both the Six-spot Burnet and the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet are quite widespread in our region. The magnesian limestone sites of Durham such as Bishop Middleham Quarry and Thrislington Plantation NNR are excellent places to see them although they may also be found in other habitats including many brown-field sites. It seems that they are heavily under-recorded – probably because they are too often taken for granted. In Durham for example the moth record data-base holds only ninety records of one hundred individuals of the Six-spot Burnet whilst for Northumberland the figures are eighty records of three hundred and thirty-six individuals! These figures do not come close to reflecting the true abundance of this species and the picture is similar for the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet.

So next summer when you are out 'lepidoptering' don't just count and record the butterflies you see but also make note of the Burnet Moths and any other day-flying moths that you encounter. The County Moth Recorders will doubtless be delighted to receive any records that they are sent. For County Durham the Recorder is Keith Dover (k.dover879@btinternet.co.uk) whilst for Northumberland the Recorder is Tom Tams (tom-tams@blueyonder.co.uk).

Thanks to Tom Tams for helpful comments and to Tim Nelson for giving permission to use his photograph of the Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet.

Membership Matters	Jaci Beaven
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Welcome to the following new members of North East England Branch of Butterfly Conservation.

Rev D Atkinson	Pelton, Chester-le-Street
Mr G Bowman	Hazlerigg, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mrs C Fenwick	Fishburn, Stockton-on-Tees
Mr D B and Mrs M J Lovie	Alnwick
Mr S J and Mrs J Lowther	Bowburn, Durham
Mr R J D McBeath	Lamberton, Berwick-upon-Tweed
Ms C Mather	Seaton Burn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mr A Mills	High Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mr M Taylor	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mr A J Thurm	Prudhoe
Mr D W Turner	North Shields
Mrs D Wright	Linton Colliery, Morpeth

I hope you all had a good butterfly year. Mine was disappointing. I have been spending a lot of time in my garden, but have not seen as many insects as last year. Perhaps I'll do better in 2011.

The Branch occasionally organises events which members are invited to attend, such as moth nights, winter work parties and the Annual General Meeting. Currently we have two ways of publicising any such events that are organised: the Newsletter and the Web-site. Both of these have their limitations. The Newsletter is sent to all members and probably (!) read by the majority but as it is only published twice a year, some events cannot be advertised in it because they are organised too late to go into one newsletter but take place before the next one is due. The Web-site does not suffer this limitation as it is able to be updated with details of any event as soon as it is planned but, because events are relatively infrequent, it has to be doubted that many members are regularly checking the 'Forthcoming Events' section of it!

It is proposed therefore to set up an electronic mailing list for advertising events. Any members who would like to receive e-mail alerts about events we are planning and other activities of the Branch, are invited to send their e-mail addresses to the Membership Secretary (**see back page for contact details**). We will not use these addresses for any other purpose. Any messages that are sent using the mailing list will have the addressees' in 'blind copy' so that individual e-mail addresses are not revealed.

It is stressed that this is entirely voluntary and will be an additional means of advertising events; members who do not wish to, or are unable to join the electronic mailing list will continue to be able to get information through the Newsletter and Web-site.

Butterfly Conservation Safety Note

As with any other activity, there are hazards in the countryside and everyone taking part in a Field Trip or Working Party has a responsibility, for their own safety and that of others. We always ensure that our events present no greater hazard than any other walk in the countryside, but please note and act on the following:

1. The leader will provide a briefing on the trip before setting out, with details of any known hazards, and will give advice on what to do in an emergency. Please listen carefully.
2. At the briefing, let the leader know if a) you have a mobile telephone and are able to take it with you on the walk, and b) if you have a first aid qualification.
3. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Stout shoes are a minimum requirement for any walk.
4. In sunny weather take a hat, use sun cream or protection for exposed skin. Make sure that you have adequate food and liquid to drink with you.
5. When on a walk, look out for any hazards – rabbit holes, fallen or hanging branches, barbed wire, boggy areas etc.
6. Children are welcome on our walks, but if under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by at least one adult for two children. It is the responsibility of the accompanying adult(s) to ensure that the trip is within the children's capability.
7. Dogs are normally welcome on our walks, but must be kept under control.
8. If you are uncertain about any details of the trip, ring the leader/contact in advance. If you decide to leave the trip early, please tell the leader.
9. Take care at all times and above all ENJOY YOURSELF.

Submitting Butterfly Records 2010

Records are the bedrock of conservation and the North East Branch welcomes records of all species, for all dates and places, and of course for all forms.

As for 2008 there will be two ways of sending your records in. For those without a home computer, the existing yellow paper casual record sheets will continue unchanged. However, if you have a PC, the Branch would strongly urge you to send in your records using a spreadsheet such as Microsoft Excel or Lotus 123. Each record should occupy one line and the format of the spreadsheet should look something like the following example:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Name/s of recorder/s	NZ274423	Palace Green, Durham City	22-Aug-2010	Large White	7	
2	Name/s of recorder/s	NZ196858	Morpeth (riverside)	24-Sep-2010	Peacock	2	Very worn
3	Name/s of recorder/s	NZ2514	Baydale Beck Darlington	1-Jul-2010	Comma	1	<i>Hutchinsoni</i> form

Column A – Recorder/s names.

Column B - Grid reference, which should be two letters, (NT, NU, NY or NZ), followed by four or six numbers. The first two (or three) numbers are the Easting, read from the top or bottom of OS maps, the last two, (or three) numbers represent the Northing, read from either side of the map.

Column C - Site name. For obscure place names please include a nearby town or village.

Column D – Date (please try to follow the format shown) **This is really important**

Column E - The name of the species seen.

Column F – Please give the actual number seen if possible, **We no longer use letters for abundance.** (A, B, C etc.) For larva (L), ova (O), pupa (P) or mating (M) records, please use the code letter provided, optionally adding numbers seen.

Column G - For any comments you may wish to add.

Optionally, you can add a habitat code to column H if you wish.

A blank spreadsheet, with the date formatted, is available by contacting the recorders. Electronic records are most easily sent as an email attachment. However, you can also send them in by post on CD, Floppy disc or Memory stick. The deadline for records to be included, and credited, in the 2010 Annual Report is 30 November 2010. Depending on where you live, please send records to:

DURHAM

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 7 Albert Street
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 DH1 4RL
 0191 386 7309
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North East England Branch Serving Committee Members for 2010

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Vacant

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Conservation Officer (Durham)

Vacant

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