



## Butterfly Conservation Gloucestershire Branch

### Minutes of AGM held at Christchurch Abbeydale, Heron Way, Abbeydale, Gloucester GL4 5EQ At 2pm on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Tricia Atkinson, Vice Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Approximately 60 members attended.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Sue Smith, Chris Wiltshire, Ruth Wollen, Paul Arnold, Rob & Rose Mabbett, Mo Gardener
2. **Minutes of the last AGM**  
The minutes of the last meeting were adopted unanimously.
3. **Matters arising from the 2016 AGM minutes** - None.
4. **Reports from Branch Officers:**
  - 4.1 **Chairman's report – Sue Smith (read by Bob Smith)**

Although the financial year ends beginning of April and so the accounting year runs from April 2016 to April 2017, the rest of the reporting we do at the AGM usually relates to the year from one AGM to another (ie October – October).

Butterfly Conservation has had a big change in the last year with the departure of Martin Warren and the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer – Julie Williams. She has a very different skill set to Martin and there have been changes in staff structuring already within the national organisation. I think there will be exciting times to come, membership is very nearly 33,000 and next year we will all be celebrating Butterfly Conservation's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In the meantime, we are looking forward to the national AGM in Cheltenham in two weeks and the Branch Chairs' meeting next February.

The Chair reported that sales from the walks books have gone very well. New display panels have been created to replace those printed six years ago. The new Prestbury Reserves leaflet has been produced and is available and a new ID board for Prinknash has been produced ready to put in the garden in the spring. The Chair expressed thanks to the Gloucestershire Naturalists Society for the generous donation for the production of the leaflets and board.

Butterfly Conservation and seven others were successful in bidding for a large Heritage Lottery funded project called Back from the Brink in March 2017. As from summer 2017 two new Butterfly Conservation posts were created as part of this Project – a Conservation Officer (Julian Bendle) and a Community Engagement Officer (Jennifer Gilbert). Jenny Plackett (the South West Regional Officer) will be their line manager. They are based at the Stroud Valleys Project Office in Stroud. There will be more about this from Jen later in the afternoon.

Field visits and work parties have continued throughout the year, with continued involvement with volunteers from Ecotricity. Cleeve Hill Conservators and National Trust cattle continue to graze Prestbury and Rough Bank respectively. This relationship is very much valued as the cattle are vital to the management of the sites.

Lots of events were held in conjunction with Stroud Nature and an extremely good day was held in Stratford Park in July. Frampton Country Fair was not as successful as usual probably due to the weather. In all, about 80 names have been added to the All Aflutter newsletter database throughout the year.

David Drew, the labour MP for Stroud, has agreed to be the Large Blue Species Champion. Nigel Bourne, Rachel Jones, Sarah Meredith and Sue Smith met him on Painswick Beacon recently, together with representatives from the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group. Because of his background and the fact that he is the Shadow Minister for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, we know that he is knowledgeable about many wildlife issues. We look forward to a good on-going relationship with him as our Species Champion.

Thanks were expressed to everyone on the committee for all their hard work and to Sandra Attaway who has resigned as Minutes Secretary. A replacement is required. Thanks were also expressed to everyone else in the Branch who helps in various ways.

Plans are on-going for the tombola, plant stall and raffle for the national AGM. Thanks to all those who have contributed. The raffle will include a butterfly quilt made and donated by Chalford Stitchers, a moth trap made and donated by Peter Hugo, a bird nesting pot made and donated by Victor Hugo, and a moth print by local artist Cath Hodsmen. A rota for the day is currently being drawn up.

Two Indoor Meetings for members are planned for February and April – details in Antennae/on the website., as well as various committee meetings during the winter. We hope we will see you at some of these events so that we can chat about the ups and downs of 2017! In the meantime, enjoy the Branch AGM.

#### **4.2 Finance Officer's report – Serena Meredith (SM)**

SM said that income has increased by just over £9,000 mainly due to 2 items – an increase in grant income received of £7,673 and walks booklets sales of £1,200. The former is mainly due to the timing of the receipt of the annual agri-environmental grant payments for the Prestbury Hill reserves. This is claimed by HO and after deducting amounts for work required under the terms of the agreement undertaken by contractors organised by them, the balance is transferred to the branch. During this accounting period effectively 2 of these balancing amounts were received, one in June 2016 and another in March 2017. It is therefore anticipated that a much reduced amount will be received in the current year. An excellent start was made with the sale of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Butterfly Walks booklets, both to individuals and retail outlets. Since April, the balance of the full cost of production has been recovered so each additional sale is helping us to hopefully achieve our fundraising goal.

Expenditure: contributions to HO projects continue to be made where they benefit local lepidoptera. £2,000 was passed to the Large Blue project and a similar amount has been given this year to Back from the Brink. Although contractors undertook scrub and gorse clearance work on Prestbury Hill Reserve during last winter, payment was made by HO directly from the grant funds claimed by them on our behalf as already mentioned, and are therefore not reflected here. This accounts for the apparent reduction in amounts spent on charitable conservation. Branch newsletter costs reflect the 3 editions prepared and issued in the year, against 2 the previous year. 3 people undertook brushcutter courses at a total cost of £450. This is necessary to ensure that they are covered by our insurance whilst working on our reserves or under the BC umbrella.

The branch continues to have a healthy working bank balance and will therefore be in a position to fund further planned works on Prestbury Hill Reserves this winter. In case anyone wonders why there is no mention of Rough Bank, the financial set up for that is administered entirely by HO at present.

As these have been included in, and audited as a part of the main society accounts for the year, may I please just ask for their adoption. Proposed Vic Polley, seconded John Coates.

#### **4.3 Membership Report – Tricia Atkinson (TA)**

Membership has continued to grow. TA reported that last year there were 550 household memberships but as some are joint or family memberships, there were about 750 individual members in the branch. This year the number of household memberships has increased to 604 and the number of individual members increased to 825.

This number will probably rise even further as Head Office is at present offering a free year's membership to anyone wanting to join Butterfly Conservation. The condition for this is that they must join by direct debit although no money will be taken until after the first year. Members can of course cancel after one year and have nothing to pay. This offer expires at the end of October. After that there is another offer running through November which is a half price offer. Details are on the national website. Hopefully most people who join for free will continue to be members for at least a few years.

Over the last 2 or 3 months, we have started using a simpler way of emailing all members using a system set up by Head Office. To use this method, we have to use the membership email list that Head Office holds. There were some members for whom we hold an email address but HO don't, so we emailed these members to ask permission for us to pass on their email address to HO. This is for data protection rules. Not everyone replied but those who did, did give permission and are now on the system.

Members should have received an email from Sue about this meeting. If anyone didn't, and would like to receive emails from us usually about meetings etc, then let TA know who will send the email address to HO. However, the emails sent this way do look a bit odd and the computer might think that it is a scam and possibly put it in a junk box folder, so members may need to check on this.

#### **4.4 Butterfly Recorder's Report – Chris Wiltshire (CW) (read by Vic Polley)**

The season got off to a warm and very early start with at least six species, including the Holly Blue, flying in mid-March. This is a good two weeks earlier than usual and even migrants were early with the first Painted Lady seen on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Good weather continued into the beginning of May resulting in total butterfly numbers being up by an average of 16% compared with the poor season of 2016. The weather remained warmer than average and very dry throughout May followed by some hot weather in June. By mid-June some of the hotter grassland slopes with thin soils were showing signs of drought with some of the plants wilting. We need not have worried because before the month was out the "typical British Summer" arrived with some refreshing rain! The rain gauge in my garden indicated 30mm had fallen in the 24 hours to 8.00am on 28<sup>th</sup>. From then on there were many days of rain and August and September seemed rather wet months although October brought us some warmer than average fine conditions again for the late-season butterflies.

**SKIPPERS** – Small, Large and Dingy Skippers did quite well and my prediction that we would see second generation Dingies this season came true as Vic Polley reported at Coombe Hill. Grizzled Skipper numbers were down giving cause for concern and Essex Skippers were in very low numbers this year.

**WHITES** – Brimstones were in good numbers as were Orange-tips but Small, Large and Green-veined all had a poor early season although Small and Large numbers did improve late in the year. There were even a few Clouded Yellows reported late in the year but the surprise was that Wood White was seen on Edge Common for the third consecutive year.

**HAIRSTREAKS & COPPERS** – Green Hairstreak was in poor numbers, Brown Hairstreak was still breeding on "our" side of the county boundary with reasonable numbers of eggs found during winter counts. Purple Hairstreak was

hardly to be seen and those people who searched for it commented on its rarity this year. White-letter was seen in rather modest numbers but surprisingly more than the Purples. Small Copper was only found in ones and twos except for a record of about a dozen first generation adults seen at Uley Bury.

**BLUES** – The good news is that Small and Large Blues did very well and Holly Blue also had a good year. Common and Adonis Blues had poor first but better second generations especially Adonis which not only increased in number but also spread to new sites too. Chalk Hill Blue had an average sort of year but Brown Argus – where were they? Both generations produced very low numbers.

**DUKE OF BURGUNDY** – had a mixed year apparently disappearing from some small sites while others had reasonable numbers and even some new or recolonised sites being recorded. On one private site in the north Cotswolds there was much conservation work carried out for this species and it responded by being seen in greater numbers across the whole of the site.

**ADMIRALS etc** – White Admiral showed a marked improvement with the Wetmoor transect count up from zero to five and Lower Woods South transect count up from two to seven. These numbers are still low compared to ten or twelve years ago. Unfortunately, I have not yet received any other records for this species. Red Admiral was to be seen in modest numbers early in the year but late summer onwards it seems to have been everywhere especially on the ivy blossom where I have frequently seen six or seven at once. Painted Lady as mentioned earlier started on the first official transect recording day of the season and appeared in ones and twos throughout the season which is about all that can be said for the Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock which did very poorly in both flight periods. In contrast the Comma has been relatively abundant everywhere; as an example on the Lower Woods South transect it was recorded on 16 of the 26 weeks giving a total count of 65.

**FRITILLARIES** – Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary is still just with us in the Dean but the question is just how much longer will it survive with such low numbers on possibly just two sites? Pearl-bordered Fritillary is in a slightly better state with higher numbers being found in the woodland complex of the Bathurst Estate. (BC Glos is active in the conservation for both of these species). Dark Green Fritillary was almost absent this year, of four transects where I record this species not one was seen in fact I only saw one in Gloucestershire in 2017, and so far only received one record of another! Silver-washed Fritillary numbers were up compared with 2016 but only about average. Marsh Fritillary gave cause for concern, few post-hibernation larval webs being found but moderate numbers were flying later.

**BROWNS** – Speckled Woods were in low numbers early on but by the end of the season the numbers had risen to a five year peak. Wall continues to struggle with climate change and is still hanging on at Cleeve Common and Nottingham Hill, the only two sites in Gloucestershire where you can be sure of finding it. Marbled White, Meadow Brown and Ringlet all did reasonably well but Gatekeeper and Small Heath had poor seasons particularly the Gatekeeper.

There were a few “exotics” as noted in Antennae with a Monarch at Daneway and at least two at Tetbury, a Camberwell Beauty at Lower Woods and a Julia at Rough Bank; none of these are likely to be migrants but almost certainly “Wedding releases”.

Overall impressions – the season started very early with above average temperatures. Overall it was a better year than 2016. The season is still continuing with above average temperatures and Brimstone, Large White, Red Admiral (lots!), Small Tortoiseshell, Comma and Speckled Wood all still flying in the last few days and Red Admirals this morning.

Please send in your records as soon as possible please!

#### 4.5 Moth Officer's Report – Peter Hugo (PH)

Despite the very variable, often extreme, weather we've been experiencing, because of the steadily increasing numbers of moth enthusiasts there is always plenty of moth news to talk about and this is widely reported on the Gloucestershire Moths Facebook site and in Roger Gaunt's regular newsletters.

This year Gloucestershire hosted the annual **Garden Moth Scheme Conference** at Apperley Village Hall, for the second time at this venue, and was well organised by **Ken Cservenka** assisted by **Tony Perry**. Almost 100 people attended, from all over the country. The Garden Moth Scheme has grown to become a well-respected citizen science survey with data now being widely interpreted, some of the latest research being on the effect of street lighting on moth populations. PH said he is very worried about street lighting especially as GCC have declared that they are going to replace every street light in the county with LED bulbs - to "help protect the environment." LED bulbs are more attractive to moths and other night flying insects than many existing light sources. This means that the insects will now spend all night around the street lights, be asleep during the day and visit the lights again night after night, thus disrupting their normal behaviour. In PH's opinion it might be better for the environment if they were to be switched off for a few hours while most people are asleep.

Other notable events involving moths have been the Box Wood Bioblitz and the Westonbirt Arboretum Bioblitz. At Box Wood Peter Cranswick, Matthew Hollands and PH recorded around 100 new moth species for this new GWT Reserve and at Westonbirt we had an all-time Gloucestershire record of 247 moth species! In fact, we have now managed to establish a very good relationship with Westonbirt, who would like us to undertake more recording on their site.

SS and PH ran a successful moth (and butterfly) course on behalf of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust at Lower Woods. The weather was poor but there was positive feedback. In future, SS and PH have thought about possibly running our own course as several attendees thought the cost (£40.00) was rather too much. However, we did receive a generous payment, part of which was donated to the branch funds.

PH has been trialling a new type of moth trap using a 3 watt LED bulb emitting only UV light. The trial started last autumn and over the winter the results were very impressive but during this summer numbers coming to the light have really dropped. Some of the bulbs (from China) are unreliable and a lot more work on this type of moth trapping is needed before we can say it's a success. However, battery operated LED bulbs seem more reliable. GM and PH have been using them and results from trapping at Rough Bank have been quite impressive, considering how light the battery needs to be in order to operate just a 3 watt bulb. This type of bulb emits hardly any visible light and so does not attract intruders.

We now have to ensure that all our electrical equipment is safe and so each year PH now checking over all the branch moth traps and other equipment and getting it tested for electrical safety.

The moth trap loan scheme is continuing to tick over with another four traps having been placed throughout the county this year. We now have another waiting list and so will be issuing further traps within the next few weeks but as of today there is one spare trap should anyone wish to, or know of, anyone, who would like to trial one between now and next spring.

As for the moths themselves, GM has, as usual, been very active, scouring the county for new micro records and targeting individual moths with the usual success.

The Back from the Brink project is now underway. There is also a one day a week post for Fiona Haynes (FH) who will be working on improving sites for the Barberry Carpet moth. FH lives in Sussex but has already made several visits to Gloucestershire and has delivered 100 Barberry plants to PH to look after, 50 of which have recently gone to Highgrove Estate, some more have gone to Westonbirt Arboretum and also to Westonbirt School, the plan being to join up the Gloucestershire site with those in North Wiltshire and create corridors for this extremely rare moth to spread. We have a few spare plants and would particularly like to place some of them in the area South and West of Tetbury, extending down into North Wiltshire, if anyone would like to plant one, or knows someone else who would, please contact Peter Hugo.

PH said he had managed to obtain an annual permit for moth recording in the Forest of Dean. The annual Plumed Prominent meeting is imminent and the hunt for new sites continues. This year Guy and PH managed to get a permit for the whole of November to search for it at Westonbirt Arboretum.

As usual, PH praised the Gloucestershire Moths Facebook site for making it so easy to promote events, share information and get help with identifications. At the last count there were 137 members and rising. There is also a similar, growing, Butterfly site and PH said he uses both these sites to promote our events in addition to our branch Facebook and Twitter sites.

PH is also Branch Contact and he suggested people contact him rather than SS if they were not sure who to ask. He will then pass you on to the right person.

#### **4.6 Bill Smyllie/The Masts Report – John Coates (JC)**

JC said that 5 days of work parties were organised for this winter. More helpers are needed. All welcome. Ash die back is taking hold and needs to be cleared. Some work was done in Happy Valley by contractors but had to stop in March due to bad weather. Work needs to be completed by the end of December. Both the Duke of Burgundy and the flora will benefit from this. JC was concerned about Adder's Tongue Fern but it was plentiful this year.

On the Masts, Glebe Contractors cleared gorse to encourage the heather which is growing on acid soil there. A few years ago, a fence was erected around the heather to keep rabbits out and this year it has done very well. Glebe are coming back to prepare the ground there. JC plans to obtain seed from the heather enclosure to broadcast when the seed is ready.

Cowslips were marvellous this year and orchids did very well. There were lots of moths.

30 Belted Galloway cattle owned by Cleeve Hill Conservators were on the Masts Reserve in early September, then moved to Bill Smyllie part of the reserve. They are due to come off before 5<sup>th</sup> November. They are excellent grazers. There have been 2 incidents of TB locally which is worrying. The cattle will be tested again.

Work party dates are 25-26 November, 3-4 February and 10<sup>th</sup> March to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Butterfly Conservation.

Butterflies that did well included Small Copper as there was plenty of Sorrel. Chalk Hill Blue also did well. Brown Argus were down but Common Blue did well.

TA made an appeal for more help even if only for an hour or two.

#### **4.7 Rough Bank Report – Sue Smith (read by Peter Hugo)**

Butterfly numbers have recovered slightly this year from last year. Adonis Blues and Small Blues had a better year and a few Green Hairstreaks were also seen. A White Letter Hairstreak was spotted on the grassland although no Dark Green Fritillaries were recorded on the transect.

The total number of moth species now stands at 627, including another national scarce species. To date, three national rarities and 40 national scarcities have been recorded since 2012. The total biodiversity for the reserve is now 1276, including 49 bryophyte species recorded by Claire Halpin.

Guy Meredith has been taking photographs from fixed point locations once a month through the year and these can be viewed on the Gloucestershire Branch website. They are well worth looking at and we are hoping to persuade Guy to continue doing, say four, a year to help with management planning. Thank you, Guy, for this excellent contribution.

The two water troughs on Rough Bank have now had hardcore and stone put around them to prevent the deep mud becoming too much of a problem.

The bunds continue to do their job; the higher one in Little Myers actually dried out this summer whereas previously once it filled up it continued to hold water for a long time.

Both the new hedges are growing well with few casualties. Unfortunately, some Blackthorn was planted in the Access Strip hedge and it is the Rough Bank committee's intention to remove this and also transplant a Barberry plant to a more suitable location.

There have been several fallen boughs which have needed attention. Further trees have been felled and scrub cleared in an attempt to regain more grassland.

A new fence has been put in along the bottom boundary with Lord Harrington's land. This has not been totally satisfactory and Lucy Morton is following it up with the contractor.

Lucy has been organising a felling licence with the Forestry Commission and a contractor to remove several bays of trees along the bottom section of Rough Bank. This work will start as soon as a contract has been organised and the licence granted. Ash Die-back is present on the reserve but we will have to wait until next year to see how many trees have been affected.

Julian Bendle has managed to contact the Hancocks who own land along the top of Rough Bank and asked them to put in a fence on their side of the land to prevent either their or the National Trust stock touching noses. Work has either just started or is beginning to be done.

The National Trust Belted Galloway cattle are on both the Myers fields and Rough Bank. A new stock person has been appointed by the National Trust and we look forward to meeting her soon.

There have been two committee meetings and several site meetings during the year, as well as work parties once a month during the winter periods. There were two Ragwort pulling days – hopefully we will be getting on top of this soon!

The current HLS scheme finishes on 30 April 2018 and the new scheme has to be applied for by May 15, to start on January 1, 2019. The new scheme contains many more options but this also means that we will miss out on some funding during the intervening period.

Peter Hugo, John Davis, Becky Miners and Sue Smith joined Valerie Seager to discuss the Richard Seager Annual Arts Award. It is proposed that a gate be commissioned for this award. This is potentially a very exciting project and one which could attract attention from a different group of people to our usual audience. We will make sure it enhances the area rather than detracts from it.

The power line contractors, Birch Utilities, visited the site to look at the area needing to be cleared under the power lines at the eastern end of the site, near to the bridleway. Later in the winter, they will clear under the power lines along the western boundary of the SSSI. Chris Wiltshire is in contact with them about trees to conserve.

It is planned that the Rough Bank leaflet will be available in the new year.

#### **4.8 Forest of Dean Update – Threatened Habitats by Simon Glover**

Habitat change is the main threat for the Forest of Dean butterflies. This is mostly man-made such as built development, lack of woodland edge, limited grassland management along with a lack of sheep grazing. Large areas that were open and grazed twenty years ago are now 4-5 metres high Ash or Alder woodland with the ground flora shaded out so no nectar or caterpillar foodplants survive. The latest issue which is fast becoming critical is the effect wild boar are having. The current population estimated by the Forestry Commission is 1600 (July 2017) up from 1000 in only two years. This is with six rangers now actively attempting to control them with 500 shot in the last year. Butterfly habitat for the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary is suffering considerably from ground disturbance by boar. They block ditches with their wallows and add to the drying out of downstream areas where areas of Marsh violet, the caterpillar food plant are found. They also root up important nectar feeding areas. Wet summers also seem to promote bracken growth. Bracken is important for caterpillar basking, but too much swamps the violets. Conservation work in the Dean is therefore currently proving particularly difficult with few fritillaries flying this year. We are looking at the Foresters Forest Lottery funding to help over the next five years to address some of these new habitat maintenance challenges.

#### **4.9 Back from the Brink Update – Jennifer Gilbert (JG)**

This is a four-year project and JG explained that the aim is to restore Cotswold limestone grasslands and species associated with them. There are 19 projects supporting 30 species including Large Blue, Duke of Burgundy and Marsh Fritillary butterflies. Julian Bendle is employed to liaise and support landowners and JG's role is community engagement, schools and training local people to help survey species. Both will be tracking the impact the project has.

#### **5. Butterfly monitoring in Gloucestershire – Trish Atkinson**

Butterfly monitoring has continued again this year. There are about 26 transects operating throughout the county, mainly on good butterfly sites to keep a check on the populations of all butterfly species.

Records have been collected from 39 1km squares for the Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey. This is a national recording project to record 1km squares chosen at random throughout the country. These are really mini-transects which are carried out usually just twice in the summer, in July and August. We have 28 members taking part, some recording in more than one square. This year has been a bit trickier for two reasons. Firstly, after quite a good July,



we had a cool, cloudy and often wet August making it difficult to find good weather for recording. Secondly, records had to be submitted to Head Office using a new online system which did take a bit of getting used to.

TA doesn't know yet how key site recording has gone this year. She has had some records sent to her, but thinks there are more records to come in. There may not be as many records this summer, partly as several recorders suffered injuries or an illness during the summer and partly because the weather in the latter part of the summer wasn't conducive to recording butterflies. TA reported that in 2016 we recorded at 114 key sites throughout the county.

Also we have casual butterfly records which are sent directly to the Butterfly Recorder. TA asked members that even if they did not officially do key site recording, if they did see a key species somewhere, then to please send in their record. It is probably not important on sites where transects are carried out as they will be well recorded, but records from elsewhere would be gratefully received. Wall Brown records would be of particular interest from anywhere in the county as that is a species that is declining fast in inland areas.

TA thanked all recorders for their time and efforts not just doing the recording but also filling in the forms afterwards.

## **6. Election of Officers**

### **6.1 Re-elections**

The following committee members were due to stand down from the committee (after three years) but are willing to stand for re-election:

Tricia Atkinson

Vic Polley

Ken Cservenka

John Coates

**Chris Tracey proposed , Dave Sims seconded; all duly elected.**

**6.2** TA told members of the audience that two committee places were available, that of Publicity Officer and Minutes Secretary.

Juliet Bowman kindly offered to take on the role of Minutes Secretary.

**Vic Polley proposed, Serena Meredith seconded; duly elected.**

## **7. Any Other Business**

Simon Glover (SG) read an extract from British Wildlife which highlighted a recent study in Germany in which amateur entomologists trapped flying insects over a period of 27 years and found an 80% decline in biomass caught in their traps. SG said that in the same period Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries in the Forest of Dean had declined from 40 sites in the 1980s to 12 individuals flying in 2017. Could this be due to neonicotinoids? But the Forest and our commons are not surrounded by agricultural fields. Something serious is happening.

**8. Date of next AGM: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018.** Details will be published in the Spring 2018 edition of Antennae and on the branch website/Twitter/Facebook.

**The AGM closed at 15.30**

Speaker Peter Eeles judged the photographic competition:

Congratulations to:

UK Butterflies:	Orange Tip by Andrew Daw
UK Moths:	<b>Buff Tip and Pale Prominent by Dave Sims - and overall winner</b>
Overseas Butterflies and Moths:	Broad-bordered Bee Hawk Moth by R Dine
Habitat:	Woodland by Teresa McGrath
First Time Entrants:	Chalk Hill Blue by Helen French

Then followed a talk by Peter Eeles. Peter grew up in Cheltenham, although now lives in Berkshire. He explained how he became interested in butterflies as a boy and it was interesting to hear how life for children and the number and species of butterflies around were different to those of today. He explained how he became interested in photographing butterflies and then set up and developed the wonderful UK Butterflies website and subsequently the Garden Butterfly Survey. We all learnt about these websites and how they are used. Thanks were expressed to Peter for coming back to Gloucestershire and giving such an interesting and inspiring talk.