

# Lepidoptera in Cheshire in 2002

**A Report on the Micro-Moths,  
Butterflies and Macro-Moths of VC58**

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## 1. Introduction

Welcome to the 2002 report on lepidoptera in VC58 (Cheshire). This is the second report to appear in 2003 and follows on from the release of the 2001 version earlier this year. Hopefully we are now on course to return to an annual report, with the 2003 report planned for the middle of next year. Plans for the 'Atlas of Lepidoptera in VC58' continue apace. We had hoped to produce a further update to the Atlas but this report is already quite a large document. We will, therefore produce a supplementary report on the Pug Moths recorded in VC58 sometime in early 2004, hopefully in time to be sent out with the next newsletter. As usual, we have produced a combined report covering micro-moths, macro-moths and butterflies, rather than separate reports on all three groups. Doubtless observers will turn first to the group they are most interested in, but please take the time to read the other sections. Hopefully you will find something of interest.

**Many thanks to all recorders who have already submitted records for 2002. Without your efforts this report would not be possible. Please keep the records coming! This request also most definitely applies to recorders who have not sent in records for 2002 or even earlier. It is never too late to send in historic records as they will all be included within the above-mentioned Atlas when this is produced.**

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## 2. Micro-Moths

The Small-leaved Lime *Tilia cordata* is a rare tree in Cheshire. It has been planted at a few sites, although in the Weaver Valley, upstream from Frodsham in the old woodlands, it may well be indigenous. A number of different species of lepidoptera are associated with this tree, so a visit was arranged to search out the trees in this area in the hope of finding some of these moths. Accompanied by KM & AW on 14th September 2002 we searched the area around Kingsley. The first tree was located in Hunters Wood SJ55357631, on which we soon found the vacated mines of *Stigmella tiliae* (Frey), a species new to Cheshire. Moving on into nearby Warburton's Wood SJ554763 we again managed to locate the Small-leaved Limes and again the vacated mines of *S. tiliae*. Following the success of our visit I met KM on the 20th



Mine of *Stigmella tiliae* on Small-leaved Lime

September 2002 to search for more trees on the northern side of the Weaver. We soon came across a small plantation of Common Limes *Tilia vulgaris* at Aston SJ56067819 and were

surprised to find that *S.tiliae* also occupied these trees. Moving on into Bird's Wood, we again tracked down a Small-leaved Lime at SJ57127853, which again held *S. tiliae* mines. *S. tiliae* could be described as locally common in this small area. We now need to establish the full extent of this population. Is it restricted to this valley and if so on how many trees and at how many sites? We also need to search for Small-leaved Limes at other sites to see if they have colonies of *S. tiliae* associated with them. Certainly none of the Common Limes that I have looked at elsewhere in Cheshire held colonies of them.



Leaf mine of *Stigmella paradoxa* on Hawthorn

Despite the interest in leaf miners during recent years, reports of *Stigmella paradoxa* (Frey) have been restricted to two single mines. A visit to Darnhall on 22nd September 2002 with KM & AW changed all that, as several vacated mines were found in the hedgerows at SJ6362, SJ6363 & SJ6462. During the field meeting to Crimes Brook, Beeston the following weekend, with IK & AW, other colonies were also discovered in the hedgerows SJ5159 & SJ5259. So as not to retrace our steps at the Crimes Brook meeting we walked back along the Shropshire Union Canal and in the hedgerow by the towpath at SJ5160 found a vacated mine of *Bucculatrix bechsteinella* (Bech. & Scharf.), a species new to Cheshire. A number of vacated mines were later found by IK, during the field meeting at Appleton SJ6384 on 19th October 2002. Another vacated mine of *S. continuella* (Stt.) was found on a small birch by marl pits in a copse completely surrounded by arable land near Chance Hall, Congleton SJ825590 on 1st September 2002. Vacated *S. malella* (Stt.) mines were found in a hedgerow Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris* along the Weaver Valley, Kingsley SJ5576 on 14th September 2002 (SHH, KM, AW).

Leaf mine of *Bucculatrix bechsteinella* on Hawthorn



Leaf mine of *Bucculatrix bechsteinella* on Hawthorn

A further 25 sites were found during the 2002 season for *Parornix finitimella* (Zell.). Current knowledge would suggest that *P. finitimella* is both common and widespread throughout most of Cheshire, although possibly less so towards the North and east.

Whilst searching for leaf mines along the Middlewood Way, Hazel Grove SJ9485 on 2nd October 1999, I found an adult *Acleris ferrugana* (D.& S.), resting on the leaf of a young Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*. Another *ferrugana* was attracted to my garden MV light trap

at Carleton Road, Higher Poynton SJ945838 on 21st July 2000 and another was disturbed from an Oak *Quercus sp.* at Prestbury SJ8876 on 19th July 2001. A female was taken at Riverside Park, Macclesfield SJ907752 on 27th July 2002 at MV light operated by RB. With all four of these sites being in the east, I did wonder if it was restricted to the eastern side of the county. Was the lack of any previous records from elsewhere, due to its similarity to *A. notana* (Don.), which is locally, fairly common amongst birches *Betula sp.*, especially on the mosses? However, older records have just come to light from Delamere Forest SJ550710 in 1984 (Anon) and Dunham-Massey Park SJ737875 between 1991-93 (DO).

As well as *Pyracantha*, larval mines of *Phyllonorycter leucographella* (Zell.) have been found on a number of trees and shrubs in the county, such as Hawthorn, Apple, Cherry, Cotoneaster, Rowan, Whitebeam and Pear. To this list we can now add Wild Service Tree *Sorbus torminalis* and more surprisingly Beech *Fagus sylvatica*. Single mines were found on Beech in gardens at Hurdsfield SJ9274 on 18th August 2002 and Mere SJ736813 on 20th August 2002.



*Roeslerstammia erxlebelli* at Riverside Park, Macclesfield

New to Cheshire is *Roeslerstammia erxlebelli* (Fabr.) Several came to Roger Brereton's light at the visitor centre, Riverside Park, Macclesfield SJ914746 between 24th April - 16th May and 6 - 16th August 2002. A single adult *Eidophasia messingiella* (Fisch. V. Rosl.) was swept from Large Bittercress *Cardamine amara* at Sutton Reservoir feeder SJ9270 on 19th July 2002 (SHi). This is only the fourth county record and the first since 1948. Two *Coleophora vitisella* Gregs. larval cases were found on Cowberry *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* at Bosley Cloud SJ9063 on 12th May 2002 (SHi). This

is one of only three sites in the county, where *vitisella* has been found in the past, the last time at this site was 1950. Several larval cases of *Coleophora violacea* (Strom) were present in a Sloe *Prunus spinosa* hedge along Dog Lane, Threapwood SJ4445 on 7th October 2002 (SHi). This species is mapped as occurring in the county in *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland* Vol. 3 (Emmet, 1996) p. 234, although no records exist on the county database. *C. violacea* must be rare or local in the county, as the large blotches produced by the larvae are unlikely to be overlooked. Threapwood lies in the extreme south west of the county, an area that is under recorded. More visits to this area could well reveal more colonies. Another species that is mapped for Cheshire in *MBGBI* Vol. 3:237, to which we have no records is *Coleophora binderella* (Koll.). A single larval case of *binderella* was found on the underside of a birch leaf, during a visit to Warrington Common SJ7469 on 8th October 2002 (SHi, BTS).

Tenanted larval mines of *Chrysoesthia sexguttella* (Thunb.) were common in Common Orache, *Atriplex patula* along Tarvin Road, Frodsham SJ5075 on 7th September 2002 (SHi, AW). Several vacated mines of *C. drurella* (Fabr.) were found in Fat Hen *Chenopodium album* at Arthill Farm, LittleBollington SJ7285 on 9th October 2002 (SHi, KM). These are the first *drurella* records away from the Wirral. Tom Edmondson sent me a photograph of *Dichomeris marginella* (Fabr.), taken in his garden at Shepherd's Lane, Chester SJ411681 on 18th June 2002. This species has only previously been taken at Heald Green. Galls produced by *Mompha sturnipennella* Fuchs were found on Rosebay Willowherb *Epilobium angustifolium* in AW's garden at Bramhalls Park, Anderton SJ645754 on 28th July 2002 (CMG, Newsletter 1007). Another county first. A limited search of other plants in the county failed to find further galls. *Olindia schumacherana* (Fabr.) came to light at Martin Clough, Etherow Country Park SJ971912 on 15th June 2002 (SF, BS, PG, MS et al).

*Amblyptilia punctidactyla* (Haw.) was flying amongst Hedge Woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, on the track to Gam's Wood, Kidnal SJ4749 during the early evening of 15th July 2002 (SHi). This is the first county record since the 19th century and the first away from the Wirral.

## Steve Hind VC58 County Micro-Moth Recorder

\*Many thanks to Rob Edmunds and Ian Kimber for allowing use of the leaf mine shots above. These and many others can be viewed at the British Leaf-mining Fauna website at <http://www.leafmines.co.uk/>

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### 3. Butterflies

It is doubtful whether 2002 will be remembered fondly by many lepidopterists with records indicating that few, if any, butterfly species had a particularly good breeding season. Over the last few years there appears to have been a continual downward trend of even our commoner insects, with the halcyon days of the mid-1990s now seeming a distant memory.



The year began with a period of cold weather until mid-January. This was followed by milder, though windy, conditions that included some heavy rainfall. There was very little sunshine throughout this period with

the only butterfly sightings relating to the occasional Peacock disturbed from hibernation. During February strong winds and heavy rainfall was again a feature of most days with the month proving to be the wettest February since 1990. A brief period of mild, sunny weather occurred during the second week when conditions tempted a few butterflies out of hibernation. As usual at this time of year most reports were of the Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell, but more unexpected were sightings of the Red Admiral at Norley on the 11<sup>th</sup> and Bollington on the 14<sup>th</sup>. In recent years there have been an increasing number of reports of this butterfly overwintering in the southern counties of England, but these were the first February sightings for Cheshire.

The beginning of March was again dominated by cool and windy conditions. Earliest noteworthy sighting was a Red Admiral at Widnes on the 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by a Brimstone at Congleton on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Throughout the rest of the month there was a scattering of Brimstone, Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock reports, plus the earliest Comma at Lindow Moss on the 13<sup>th</sup>. A few more Red Admiral sightings occurred, but it was not until a spell of warm weather towards the end of the month that the earliest “non-hibernators” were seen – a Small White at Woolston Eyes on the 26<sup>th</sup>, an Orange Tip at Stanney Woods on the 27<sup>th</sup>, a Speckled Wood along the Wirral Way on the 27<sup>th</sup>, a Holly Blue at Rivacre Valley on the 28<sup>th</sup> and a Green-veined White at Congleton on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

April commenced with a continuation of warm weather that was maintained for most of the month with temperatures reaching 19°C on a few days. Several insects emerged earlier than normal in these conditions with the most noteworthy being the earliest Cheshire record of a Green Hairstreak at Saltersley Moss on the 4<sup>th</sup>. This was followed by early Small Copper sightings at Tattenhall on the 15<sup>th</sup> and Moore on the 21<sup>st</sup>, whilst the first Large White appeared later than normal at Crewe Business Park on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Finally, the only recorded April sighting of a Dingy Skipper in Cheshire was found at Ashton’s Flash (Northwich) on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Unsettled weather, coupled with mainly cool conditions, was a feature throughout May and there were few highlights to report. Counts of 42 Green Hairstreak’s at Flaxmere on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 91 Dingy Skipper’s around Northwich on the 12<sup>th</sup> were, however, excellent totals for both localities. The earliest Wall was at Inner Marsh Farm on the 1<sup>st</sup>, a Common Blue at Moore Nature Reserve on the 5<sup>th</sup> and a Small Heath at Inner Marsh Farm on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was then a lull until the 25<sup>th</sup> when a Large Skipper was found at Sandy Lane (Congleton), followed by the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary at Bagmere on the 31<sup>st</sup> and a Painted Lady at Hale Shore on the same date.

Temperature, sunshine and rainfall were reported as close to the long-term normal for June, although there seemed to be few days that were ideal for butterflies. A brief warm spell during the first week produced a small influx of Painted Lady butterflies, commencing with one at Widnes on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16 flying in off the sea at Hilbre Island on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. A Meadow Brown at Woolston Eyes on the 1<sup>st</sup> was earlier than normal and the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary colony at Bagmere peaked at a maximum count of 16 butterflies on the 6<sup>th</sup>. At Lower Heswall the earliest Small Skipper was recorded on the 18<sup>th</sup>, whilst at Thurstaston Common the first Silver-studded Blue was seen slightly earlier than normal on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Gatekeeper put in an appearance at Heswall on the 20<sup>th</sup> and the latest of several Orange Tip sightings was at Wildboarclough on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The month ended with the earliest county record of a Purple Hairstreak near Tattenhall on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Record levels of rainfall in some parts of the country during July, coupled with brief periods of hot weather, meant that it was a mixed month for butterflies. Conditions did not favour migration with hardly any reports of the Painted Lady and not a single Clouded Yellow seen in the county. During the first week freshly emerged Small Tortoiseshell were recorded at many sites, but the Peacock was almost two weeks behind schedule with very few sightings by the end of the month. The earliest White-letter Hairstreak was found at Lea-by-Backford on the 6<sup>th</sup>, followed by reports from several sites around Thurstaston and Wigg Island on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Weather conditions certainly favoured the Ringlet where there was a massive count of 318 individuals in the Wych Valley on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The earliest Grayling was slightly later than normal and was not recorded until the 18<sup>th</sup> at Thurstaston Cliffs.

Although the weather pattern during August for southern England was generally warm and humid, a series of Atlantic troughs brought cool and wet conditions to north-western parts. There were few noteworthy highlights during the month with the exception of a Dark Green Fritillary at Wallasey on the 6<sup>th</sup> and a Clouded Yellow at Hale Shore on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Several species reach peak numbers during August, but with unfavourable conditions it was only the Peacock that was widely recorded in significant numbers with a largest count of 198 at Rixton Claypits on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

September turned out to be the sunniest since 1991 with only half the normal rainfall. Despite this, numbers of the Red Admiral and Painted Lady remained unexceptional, whilst the Clouded Yellow was only seen at a single locality - Carey Park (Northwich) on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Many contributors commented on the increased number of butterflies visiting gardens during this period with the Small Tortoiseshell and Comma being the most numerous.

Even though there were several periods of warm weather in October it was surprising that butterfly numbers remained fairly low, although the first week did produce an unusually late Meadow Brown at Arclid Sand Quarry on the 5<sup>th</sup>. During the month a Holly Blue was recorded at Hale on the 4<sup>th</sup>, a Wall at Birchall Moss on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the latest Small Copper at Old Pale (Delamere) on the 24<sup>th</sup> – all sightings probably relating to partial third broods. The latest report of a Painted Lady was at Clinton Wood on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the final Brimstone sightings were at Wybunbury Moss and Holmes Chapel on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.



November produced a flurry of Peacock sightings, presumably insects disturbed from early hibernation, with reports from Woolston Eyes, Lower Heswall and Congleton on the 3<sup>rd</sup>,

Chester and Somerford on the 4<sup>th</sup> and Heswall on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The only other species recorded during the month related to a Small Tortoiseshell at Woolston Eyes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Red Admiral at Heswall and Woolston Eyes on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

As usual, all contributions should continue to be forwarded to the under-mentioned address.

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### **SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED IN CHESHIRE & WIRRAL DURING 2002**

#### **Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*)**

Still widespread in the county, but numbers are now much lower than they were during the mid-1990s. This year only 5 sites recorded counts of 30+ insects, compared with 30 sites in 1995. The only 100+ count was at Thurstaston Cliffs on 6<sup>th</sup> July. In recent years some localities, especially Pickering's Pasture, Rostherne Mere and Bath Vale, have suffered dramatic declines to the point where the species has almost disappeared. Earliest sighting at Lower Heswall on 18<sup>th</sup> June; latest at Crewe Business Park on 27<sup>th</sup> August.



#### **Large Skipper (*Ochlodes venata*)**

Records over the last five years show that numbers of the Large Skipper have stabilised, although at a lower level than seen in the mid-1990s. It is, however, less numerous than the Small Skipper with no site in the county where it can be seen in large numbers. During 2002 the highest counts were of 32 at Handforth on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 25+ at Bagmere on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 10 at Wickentree Waste (Delamere) on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 11 at Greasby on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 10 at Danes Moss on 12<sup>th</sup> July and 13 at Rixton Claypits on 26<sup>th</sup> July - these were the only sites to record double-figure counts. The regularly worked transect walk at Rostherne Mere produced just a single sighting in 2002 and could possibly be the last report from that site. During the past 10 years the earliest sighting has consistently occurred during the last week of May - this year was no exception with the first report from Sandy Lane (Congleton) on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Latest reports from Wirral Country Park, Northwich and the Middlewood Way on 29<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Dingy Skipper (*Erynnis tages*)**

Peak numbers were recorded at the complex of sites around Northwich where there was a maximum count of 91 butterflies on 12<sup>th</sup> May. The majority of these sightings were from the adjacent colonies at Ashton's Flash and Carey Park SSSI, but with smaller numbers also seen at the nearby Anderton Nature Park. Unfortunately, only a few insects were found at the other mid-Cheshire site at Weaver Parkway, although this colony was not monitored to the same degree. Only other sightings in the county were from the Thurstaston area where the small colony on the Wirral produced a maximum count of just 3 insects on 31<sup>st</sup> May. A former breeding site at Lea-by-Backford was also checked but without success and it is possible that this habitat may have become too overgrown to support a viable colony. Earliest county record at Ashton's Flash on 24<sup>th</sup> April; latest sighting along the Wirral Way on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Clouded Yellow (*Colias croceus*)**

A poor year for this species with the only confirmed sightings relating to a single butterfly at Hale Shore on 26<sup>th</sup> August and four at Carey Park (Northwich) on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. These latter insects were in fresh condition and were found in good breeding habitat amongst clover - it is a matter of conjecture as to whether they were recently arrived immigrants or had bred at the site.

### **Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*)**

Sightings of this insect in Cheshire are closely allied to the distribution of its breeding plant, Alder Buckthorn. Most breeding localities still occur in the east of the county, but with the recent trend continuing of increased numbers recorded along the Mersey Valley. There were also a few scattered reports from more southerly and western localities included confirmed breeding at Hatchmere, whilst a sighting at Port Sunlight on 2<sup>nd</sup> April was a good record for the Wirral. The Brimstone is less frequently seen during the winter months than other hibernators as it tends to shelter in areas of dense vegetation away from buildings - as a consequence a sighting at Congleton on 10<sup>th</sup> February was noteworthy. Next sightings were not until mid-March with reports from Thelwall on the 17<sup>th</sup> and Moore Nature Reserve the following day. Latest sighting at Wybunbury Moss and Holmes Chapel on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **Large White (*Pieris brassicae*)**

In recent years there has been no notable change of status for this species. Largest concentrations were predictably found close to gardens and allotments, whilst the butterfly was less frequently encountered in upland areas. Numbers remained extremely low throughout the spring brood with no discernable peak. As usual the summer emergence was larger, but with peak figures covering an extensive period from mid-July to mid-September - maximum count of 42 at Pickering's Pasture on 3<sup>rd</sup> August. Earliest sighting at Crewe Business Park on 15<sup>th</sup> April; latest at Greasby on 17<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Small White (*Pieris rapae*)**

There is a tendency for contributors to under-record this species, especially as it is difficult to specifically identify in flight. Even taking this into account it appears to have been a poor year for this insect, with numbers seen during both broods being significantly lower

than those recorded in recent years. Numbers of the spring emergence peaked in late May, whilst as usual the summer brood was more numerous with a peak in early August. Survey work at Pickering's Pasture during the year revealed a fall in numbers in excess of 50% compared with 2001. It is possible that a large count of 100 at Hale Shore on 5<sup>th</sup> August could have included immigrants. Earliest sightings at Woolston Eyes on 26<sup>th</sup> March and Rivacre Valley on the 28<sup>th</sup>; latest at Kelsall on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **Green-veined White (*Pieris napi*)**

For the fifth successive year the Green-veined White was the commonest "white" in Cheshire, not only in terms of recorded tetrads, but also in numbers seen. The spring brood peaked in mid-May and the second generation in late July - highest count of 145+ at Hale Shore on 5<sup>th</sup> August. Earliest sighting at Congleton on 31<sup>st</sup> March; latest at Greasby on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*)**

Not every year produces sightings in March of the Orange Tip in Cheshire, but this year the earliest was seen at Stanney Woods on the 27<sup>th</sup>, followed by another at Eaton on the 31<sup>st</sup>. A survey at Pickering's Pasture resulted in a count of 76 eggs on 5<sup>th</sup> May, whilst the earliest larva was noted at Dunkirk on 12<sup>th</sup> May. Although 2002 showed a notable increase of localities where the Orange Tip was recorded, this was undoubtedly due to the lack of recording work that was possible in the previous year due to the Foot & Mouth restrictions that were at their height during the spring months. Latest sightings from mid-June onwards at Tattenhall on the 16<sup>th</sup>, Hague Bar on the 20<sup>th</sup> and Wildboarclough on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Green Hairstreak (*Callophrys rubi*)**

It was not possible to check many sites last year due to access restrictions, but this year there were noteworthy counts of 30+ at Maiden Castle on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 42 at Flaxmere on 4<sup>th</sup> May and 43 at Brookhouse Moss on 31<sup>st</sup> May. In the Pennine foothills smaller numbers were recorded at several regularly recorded localities. Earliest county record of a single insect at Saltersley Moss on 4<sup>th</sup> April; latest sightings at Cut-thorn Hill, Three Shire's Head and Bosley Cloud on 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

#### **Purple Hairstreak (*Quercusia quercus*)**

A few contributors commented that the species was hard to find this year and this assessment seemed to be confirmed by the total number of records received. Most noteworthy counts were of 20 insects at Hockenhull Platts on 13<sup>th</sup> July and 12 at a new site at Mill Wood (near Hale) the following day. It is worth reiterating that although the Purple Hairstreak breeds on Oak, it is often observed feeding on nearby Ash or Elm. Earliest sighting by the Shropshire Union Canal near Tattenhall on 30<sup>th</sup> June; latest at Crewe Business Park on 27<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrium w-album*)**

Whilst many contributors have probably never seen this elusive species in Cheshire it has, during the past 10 years, been recorded in 70 tetrads. It would appear that either the White-letter Hairstreak is becoming more numerous, or contributors have become more skilful at identifying this treetop insect. Comments from contributors indicate that 2002 was a good

year for this butterfly with reports from 21 sites in 16 tetrads, although it was depressing to hear that at a number of colonies the elm trees were either dying or showing signs of disease. This year new 10km square records were received from SJ87 where a small colony was discovered at Alderley Edge on 10<sup>th</sup> July and from SJ58 where 15+ were recorded at Wigg Island on 15<sup>th</sup> July. A further noteworthy report was from Vale Royal where this butterfly has rarely been recorded - a single insect was seen at Leftwich on 18<sup>th</sup> July. The flying season in 2002 was certainly not protracted with the earliest sighting at Lea-by-Backford on 6<sup>th</sup> July and the latest at Capenhurst, Mollington and Chorlton on 27<sup>th</sup> July.



#### **Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*)**

There was again no evidence to suggest any recovery in numbers to the level seen in the mid-1990s. Favourable weather conditions in 1995 resulted in the Small Copper being found in 58% of recorded tetrads – a figure that had reduced to 14% in 2002. This year the only locality recording a count in double-figures was Old Pale (Delamere) where 18 were seen on 17<sup>th</sup> August. Several contributors used the word “dismal” to describe numbers seen, whilst the regularly surveyed site at Rixton Claypits failed to produce a single sighting. Earliest sightings at Tattenhall on 15<sup>th</sup> April, Redesmere on the 19<sup>th</sup> and Moore Nature Reserve on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There

were October reports, relating to a partial third brood, from Ettiley Heath on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Hale on the 14<sup>th</sup> and Old Pale (Delamere) on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Silver-studded Blue (*Plebejus argus*)**

Results were disappointing for the introduced colony at Thurstaston Common. In 2001 the population had significantly increased following earlier years when it had suffered through the effects of the Heather Beetle outbreak. It had been hoped that numbers would increase in 2002, but this did not occur. The reason would appear to be that at present the heather is not in a suitable condition for larvae to survive in any great numbers and it is proposed to carry out more radical management work at the site in the hope of improving the situation. Maximum count of 20 insects on 11<sup>th</sup> July (compared with 34 on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2001). Sightings on the Common extended from 19<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> August.

#### **Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*)**

In recent years there have been disturbing declines in this species abundance, both nationally and in Cheshire. Records show that in 1990 the species occurred in 28% of recorded tetrads in the county, with this percentage reducing annually to the present figure of only 13%. Significant counts this year were modest compared with those of a few years ago, but included 30 at New Ferry on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 78 at Ashton's Flash (Northwich) on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 27 at Arclid Sand Quarry on 4<sup>th</sup> June and 22 at Pickering's Pasture on 21<sup>st</sup> August. It is, however, easy to overlook small colonies, especially when numbers have decreased to a

critical level. An example of this has occurred at Rostherne Mere where regular transect work has been undertaken for many years. At this site there had been no spring sightings for five years and no sightings at all since 1999, but this year very small numbers were again recorded in May and August. Earliest sighting at Moore Nature Reserve on 5<sup>th</sup> May; latest at Heswall on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*)**

Numbers remained at a moderate, though stable level, compared with a few year's ago and there was little sign of a recovery to its abundance of the late 1990s. As usual the majority of records were from contributors undertaking garden surveys, although an insect flying over Bakestonedale Moor (1,100ft) was a considerable distance from this insects favoured breeding habitat. Numbers of the spring generation peaked in mid-May, with the summer brood being most numerous in late July – in most years the second generation is larger, but this year numbers of both broods were similar. Earliest sighting at Rivacre Valley on 28<sup>th</sup> March, followed by Wistaston on the 29<sup>th</sup>. A late sighting at Hale on 4<sup>th</sup> October could possibly have related to an insect from a partial third brood - this sometimes occurs in more southerly counties, but rarely in Cheshire.

#### **Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*)**

Reports from eight sites during February and March was unprecedented for Cheshire and would seem to indicate that a few insects overwintered successfully, especially as weather conditions at that time were not favourable for migration. Earliest sightings were at Norley on 11<sup>th</sup> February, Bollington on the 14<sup>th</sup> and Widnes Town Centre on 5<sup>th</sup> March. During the rest of the year numbers of this immigrant were, however, disappointing with not a single site recording a double-figure count. Latest sightings at Heswall and Woolston Eyes on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **Painted Lady (*Cynthia cardui*)**

The year was not particularly good for most migrants, but records show that the Painted Lady fared better than other species. Earliest sighting was at Hale Shore on 31<sup>st</sup> May, followed by a small influx at widespread localities over the next few days. Most notable of these was a count of 16 coming in off the sea at Hilbre Island on the 2<sup>nd</sup> – this sighting turned out to be the only double-figured count of the year. Another modest influx, possibly coupled with locally bred insects, was noted during the first week of August. Latest sightings at Northwich on 4<sup>th</sup> October and Clinton Wood on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*)**

There were several mid-February sightings – Woolston Eyes and Northwich on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Anderton on the 12<sup>th</sup> and New Ferry on the 17<sup>th</sup>. During the summer months freshly emerged insects were noted at several sites across the county on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, whilst garden surveys highlighted a further increase in numbers by early September. In general, however, there was only a marginal improvement on figures seen during the last few years and certainly little evidence to suggest a return to numbers seen in the mid-1990s when this species was abundant throughout Cheshire. Fairly typical of any patchy recovery was at Pickering's Pasture where 2002 produced a maximum daily count of only 7 individuals on 29<sup>th</sup> March. In contrast, there were noteworthy counts of 70 nectaring on Purple

Loosestrife at Aldford on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 70 nectaring on Lucerne at Old Pale (Delamere) on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Latest sighting was at Woolston Eyes on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

### **Peacock (*Inachis io*)**

The first reports were of insects disturbed from hibernation at Fearnhead on 22<sup>nd</sup> January and Moore on the 29<sup>th</sup>, followed by sightings at several localities in early February. Most noteworthy amongst February reports was one at Bollington on the 17<sup>th</sup> during cold and overcast conditions – this insect was at a height of 800ft where it was observed flying into the crevice of a dry stone wall. Despite a spell of warm weather in late July hardly any butterflies had emerged at that time with most insects still in the larval stage. Records suggest that there was a synchronised emergence in mid-August with highest counts at many sites during this period – largest of these was at Rixton Claypits where 198 were recorded on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Latest sightings at Woolston Eyes, Lower Heswall and Congleton on 3<sup>rd</sup> November; Chester and Somerford on the 4<sup>th</sup>; Chester Zoo on the 9<sup>th</sup> and Heswall on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Comma (*Polytonia c-album*)**

Sightings were fairly typical in the early months following hibernation with a notable peak in early April. First brood insects were most numerous in mid-July, but as has occurred in several recent years there was a much larger peak from mid-September to mid-October. Many of these butterflies were in fresh plumage and would be the offspring of the *hutchinsoni* race that appeared in July. Most sightings at this time of year were of insects nectaring in gardens, although the largest count was of 12 at Birchall Moss on 29<sup>th</sup> September. Earliest sightings at Lindow Moss and Alderley Park on 13<sup>th</sup> March; latest at Rostherne Mere on 31<sup>st</sup> October and Chester Zoo on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*)**

Conservation efforts, including management work, are continuing at the private site at Bagmere in an effort to improve the breeding habitat of this butterfly. In particular, this work has concentrated on scrub clearance with the aim of encouraging the spread of Marsh Violet. This insect has a partial second brood at some sites in southern England, but in Cheshire it is single-brooded where, as can be seen from the following figures, numbers remain at a low though relatively stable level. Earliest sighting on 31<sup>st</sup> May; latest on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

1999	Maximum count of 11 on 13 <sup>th</sup> June
2000	Maximum count of 19 on 16 <sup>th</sup> June
2001	Maximum count of 8 on 17 <sup>th</sup> June
2002	Maximum count of 16 on 6 <sup>th</sup> June

### **Dark Green Fritillary (*Argynnis aglaja*)**

This year the only report was of a single butterfly at Wallasey on the fairly typical date of 6<sup>th</sup> August. The Dark Green Fritillary is a highly mobile insect and even though it has not bred in Cheshire for many years the occasional individuals stray from breeding colonies beyond our borders. During the past 10 years this butterfly has been recorded in the county on 25 occasions, with 12 of these sightings recorded at localities on the Wirral.

### **Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*)**

Although few sites recorded unusually high numbers, this butterfly undoubtedly had another good breeding season. The Speckled Wood is now firmly established throughout the county, not only at woodland sites, but also in marginal habitats along hedgerows and shrubby areas. This species range expansion since the early 1990s has meant that it is no longer unusual to find small numbers in many areas of the Pennine foothills, except in the bleaker moorland areas where there is a complete absence of shade. Earliest sightings along the Wirral Way on 27<sup>th</sup> March and at Dorchester Park (Runcorn) on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Latest report from Bath Vale on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Wall (*Lasiommata megera*)**

Figures clearly indicate that there has been a further substantial decline in this species fortune, despite the fact that numbers have already been at a worrying low ebb for several years. There was certainly no evidence of any recovery from regularly surveyed sites at Rostherne Mere, Woolston Eyes, Crewe Business Park and Pickering's Pasture where there were no sightings during 2002. Perhaps the only crumb of comfort can be gained by the fact that although the Wall was only recorded from 23 tetrads (compared with 45 tetrads in 2001), these were widely scattered across the county. The fact remains, however, that it is not now possible to visit any site in Cheshire and be optimistic of seeing this butterfly. Earliest sighting at Inner Marsh Farm on 1<sup>st</sup> May; latest at Birchall Moss on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Grayling (*Hipparchia semele*)**

A survey of coastal sites on the Wirral revealed small numbers at Inner Marsh Farm, Thurstaston Cliffs, Red Rocks Marsh and Wallasey Gun Site. Some of these localities cover a substantial area, but this insect appears to be fairly thinly distributed with a maximum count of only 16 at Wallasey on 26<sup>th</sup> July. In addition, there would seem to be a number of coastal sites of suitable breeding habitat where the Grayling is not found. Interestingly, the only inland breeding colony in the county at Sandbach Flashes comprises of a very small area of suitable habitat, but contained 21 individuals on 29<sup>th</sup> July. Earliest sightings at Thurstaston Cliffs on 18<sup>th</sup> July; latest at the same site on 21<sup>st</sup> August.

### **Gatekeeper (*Pyronia tithonus*)**

This species is most abundant at coastal areas on the Wirral where counts of 1,000+ are not unusual. During 2002 good numbers were also recorded from several sites in the north of the county, especially Rixton Claypits where 447 were counted on 26<sup>th</sup> July and Woolston Eyes where there were "several thousand" on 29<sup>th</sup> July. During the past few years the Gatekeeper has steadily extended its range into upland areas in the east of the county where it has now been recorded for three successive years in Wildboarclough. Earliest sighting at Heswall on 20<sup>th</sup> June; latest at Congleton on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Meadow Brown (*Maniola jurtina*)**

Statistics reveal little change in the status of the Meadow Brown in Cheshire, although detecting these changes is often more difficult with the commoner butterflies. There is, however, evidence to show that populations are much reduced in areas of intensive agriculture, whilst even in other areas figures can show considerable fluctuations – this year systematic recording work at Pickering's Pasture revealed a fall in numbers since last year

of more than 50%. By way of contrast the Meadow Brown was the most abundant butterfly at Rostherne Mere, whereas a few years ago it did not even feature in the “top five” commonest species at that site. Earliest sighting at Woolston Eyes on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Latest report was of a very worn specimen at Arclid Sand Quarry on 5<sup>th</sup> October – the only October sighting in Cheshire since one at Chester on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1994.

#### **Ringlet (*Aphantopus hyperantus*)**

Due to access restrictions in the countryside during 2001 the breeding sites of the Ringlet in the Wych Valley were not checked. This year visits were made along the length of the valley from Threapwood in the west to an area east of Higher Wych. Results of this survey were highly encouraging with a maximum count of 318 insects on 7<sup>th</sup> July – a total far in excess of numbers recorded in earlier years. There was also evidence that the species was becoming established in areas of suitable habitat close to the original colony. The only disappointment was in finding that the site of a nearby colony at Greaves Wood had been destroyed due to the construction of a road. Specific searches were also made during the year at other areas of suitable breeding habitat in the south-east and north-east of Cheshire, but unfortunately these failed to locate any additional colonies. Sightings in the Wych Valley from 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **Small Heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*)**

It was another disappointing year for the Small Heath with only one site recording a count in double-figures – 35 at Bakestonedale Moor, near Pott Shrigley, on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Only very small numbers were recorded at other traditional sites in the eastern hills and along the Wirral coast, whilst this butterfly is now extinct at many lowland sites where suitable habitat still appears to exist. By the mid-1990s this species had already been lost at many sites in the county, with subsequent figures showing no signs of this pattern abating. On a more optimistic note a small colony was found during the year at a site at Delamere, whilst there was also a single sighting at a former breeding locality at Woolston Eyes. Earliest sighting at Inner Marsh Farm on 16<sup>th</sup> May; latest at West Kirby on 11<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Barry T. Shaw** **Cheshire County Butterfly Recorder**

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### **4. Macro-Moths**

The following report is based upon the current records held on the main database for the Cheshire Moth Group and includes data from the database at rECOrd, the County Biological Information System. During the report certain comments are made regarding the status of selected species, usually relating to the number of records on the system that we hold. There are likely to be records of both common and rarer species out there that we have not seen, or records that we have not yet input – for example there are many records within the excellent book by Ian Rutherford that have yet to be placed onto the system.

2002 represented a consolidation of recording effort following the dramatic increase from 2000 to 2001. It is excellent to see so many recorders (new and old) contributing to a very active mothing group. A list of recorders is given at the end of the report; during the body of the report the records are allocated using initials. To date we have received 17,284 records of 52,781 moths in 2002 representing 371 species. The total species list for Macro-moths in VC58 stands at just over the 500 mark so we don't do too badly each year! The totals for the last three years are summarized in the following table.

Year	Species	Records	Individuals
2000	306	9,112	21,518
2001	394	17,131	62,131
2002	371	17,284	52,781

One of the interesting features of 2002 was a remarkable influx of The Blackneck *Lygephila pastinum* into the County. The numbers recorded more than doubled our previous total records. All records were clustered in mid-July.

Site	Gridref	Quantity	Date	Recorder
Westover, Romiley	SJ9390	1	24 Jul 2002	SF
Westover, Romiley	SJ9390	1	23 Jul 2002	SF
Westover, Romiley	SJ9390	1	17 Jul 2002	SF
Stockport	SJ9090	1	16 Jul 2002	EK
Westover, Romiley	SJ9390	2	15 Jul 2002	SF
Higher Poynton	SJ9483	1	15 Jul 2002	SH
Westover, Romiley	SJ9390	1	14 Jul 2002	SF

If you have not yet submitted your records for 2002 (or 2003) please do so as soon as possible. This report is only possible because of all your hard work – it is greatly appreciated. If you have records for 2001 (or even earlier!), which you have not yet submitted, please send them in to the County Macro-Moth Recorder for Cheshire, Shane Farrell, 15 Westover, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 3ER. Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to [shane.farrell@ntlworld.com](mailto:shane.farrell@ntlworld.com) but submissions in any format are very welcome.

#### 4.1 The Commonest and Rarest Species in 2002

Eight species broke through the 1000+ individual barrier with the data being analysed in the following table. The species are ordered according to the number of individuals recorded with the corresponding numbers for 2001 shown in brackets. In 2002, there were clear changes from the abundance of species when compared with records in 2001. Whilst this is just a general impression, not a scientific study, it does seem that although the numbers of records of species has increased or remained stable, the numbers of individuals has in some cases dropped markedly. These reductions in numbers seem to have occurred mainly in species that emerge during what is normally the hottest part of the year. Perhaps the fact that the summer was relatively wet and cold explains this phenomenon. Setaceous Hebrew Character *Xestia c-nigrum* has risen into the top group for the first time in recent years and looks like it had a great year in 2002.

Code	Vernacular	Taxon	Records	Individuals	2001 Position
2107	Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	702 (715)	12959 (17377)	1
2187	Common Quaker	<i>Orthosia cerasi</i>	323 (186)	3274 (1019)	7
2089	Heart and Dart	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	493 (319)	2909 (2240)	3
2190	Hebrew Character	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	376 (281)	1895 (1188)	6
1713	Riband Wave	<i>Idaea aversata</i>	471 (322)	1730 (1162)	5
2343x	Common Rustic agg.	<i>Mesapamea secalis</i> agg.	283 (312)	1728 (2613)	2
2321	Dark Arches	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>	311 (352)	1210 (1380)	4
2126	Setaceous Hebrew Character	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>	242 (198)	1002 (613)	14

At the other end of the spectrum we have received only 1 record for 45 species on the list this year. Many of these are expected to be rare in the County, while some refer to positively identified examples of species that are usually recorded as an aggregate grouping unless dissected (e.g. Ear Moth).

A systematic list of the species for which 3 or fewer records have been registered in 2002 follows. A brief comment on each is made regarding status and where appropriate the number of previous VC58 records. There have been two new species of Macro-moth added to the VC58 list this year, both of which were recorded at the superbly productive garden MV Light trap at Mere SJ736813 (SBI). One of these species was also recorded at Romiley SJ931900 (SF).

## Systematic List of Rarer Species in VC58 in 2002

### 0016 Gold Swift *Hepialus hecta* (Linnaeus, 1758)

There was a single record at the same site for the second year running to MV Light at Allostock SJ745712 (PMH) on the 16 Jun 2002.



Lunar Hornet Moth *Sesia bembeciformis* at Greasby, Wirral

### 0161 Leopard Moth *Zeuzera pyrina* (Linnaeus, 1761)

A single record at actinic light. Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) 06 Aug 2002.

### 371 Lunar Hornet Moth *Sesia bembeciformis* (Hübner, 1806)

A single, daytime record representing the only known breeding colony of this species in VC58. There is another record from this site in 1995 so the colony would appear to have been resident for at least 7 years. Greasby, Wirral SJ257874 (LH) Date not specified.

### 0381 Large Red-belted Clearwing *Synanthedon culiciformis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

The first record of this species for thirty years was recorded when pupal exuviae were found at the Row-of-Trees SJ8279 (SHi, KM) on 11 May 2002. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> database record.

### 1637 Oak Eggar *Lasiocampa quercus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Two daytime records, both on the same day by the same recorder of six individuals. It is possible that the bulk of the specimens recorded (5 males) were called to a hidden female as they all dived into the same part of a

thick hedge. One at Overton Scar SJ4648 (SHi) and 5 at Overton Hall SJ477481 (SHi) both records on 15 Jul 2002.

**1638 Fox Moth *Macrothylacia rubi* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Three records, one of which represented large numbers of males seen in the daytime. Pym Chair SJ9976 (SHi) 30 males during the day. A further 2 females were taken at MV light also on 01 Jun 2002 (SHi, MD, DS, AW). The other record was at Pym Chair SJ9976 (AW) 31 Aug 2002 - larval record.

**1643 Emperor *Saturnia pavonia* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Two records, both daytime. An adult at Cat and Fiddle SK0071 (SHi) 19 Apr 2002 and a cocoon at Danebower VC58 SK0070 (SHi) on the same date.

**1645 Scalloped Hook-tip *Falcaria lacertinaria* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Two single records to MV light by the same observer at the same site. Mere SJ736813 (SBI) 29 Jul 2002 and 10 Aug 2002.

**1667 Blotched Emerald *Comibaena bajularia* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

Two single records to MV light by the same observer at the same site. Mere SJ736813 (SBI) 30 Jun 2002 and 05 Jul 2002.

**1674 Little Emerald *Jodis lactearia* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

There was a record of an adult flushed during the daytime at Old Pale Woodland SJ552700 (BB) on 08 Jun 2002. The only other record was of a single specimen to MV Light at Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 15 Jul 2002.

**1705 Dwarf Cream Wave *Idaea fuscovenosa* (Goeze, 1781)**

One record of this species to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 25 Jul 2002. 8<sup>th</sup> database record.

**1709 Satin Wave *Idaea subsericeata* (Haworth, 1809)**

One record of this species to MV Light at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 24 Jun 2002. 4<sup>th</sup> database record.

**1715 Plain Wave *Idaea straminata* (Borkhausen, 1794)**

A single record of this species to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 25 Jul 2002. This record does not appear to have been dissected in accordance with the normal CMG criteria.

**1719 Oblique Carpet *Orthonama vittata* (Borkhausen, 1794)**

The only two records for this species in 2002 were at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) to MV Light on 2 Jun 2002 and at an actinic light at Anderton, SJ6475 (AW) on the same day. These are the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> records on the database.

**1720 The Gem *Orthonama obstipata* (Fabricius, 1794)**

A single record of this scarce VC58 migrant was recorded at MV Light in Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 21 Aug 2002. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> record on the database.

**1724 Red Twin-spot Carpet *Xanthorhoe spadicearia* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

One record to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) 12 May 2002.

**1734 July Belle *Scotopteryx luridata plumbaria* (Fabricius, 1775)**

A single specimen to MV Light at Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Visitor Centre) SJ914746 (RB) on 02 Jun 2002 was the 10<sup>th</sup> Database record. This is another species group (along with Lead Belle) which would normally require adults to be dissected for records to be accepted at a new site.

**1744 Grey Mountain Moth *Entephria caesiata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

The only record of this species in 2002 was at Pym Chair SJ9976 (AW) on 31 Aug 2002. This was a daytime record at a typical site in the hills bordering VC57.

**1748 Beautiful Carpet *Mesoleuca albicillata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This well-named moth was only trapped once this year at an MV Light at Marbury CP, SJ6576 (PMH) on 15 Jun 2002.

**1749 Dark Spinach *Pelurga comitata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

One record of a single moth to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 29 Jul 2002.

**1775 Mottled Grey *Colostygia multistrigaria* (Haworth, 1809)**

Moths that emerge earlier in the year are often under-recorded. There were two records of this species in 2002. The first to MV Light at Higher Poynton SJ945838 (SHi) on 23/3/2002. The other was taken at MV Light in Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 24/3/2002.

**1789 Scallop Shell *Rheumaptera undulate* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This moth only appeared at one site this year with two moths at an actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 26 Jun 2002 and 16 Jul 2002.

**1795 November Moth *Epirrita dilutata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

This is another species group (along with Pale November Moth and Autumnal Moth) that requires dissection (or at least assessment of the male genitalia on live specimens) to confirm identification. The only specimen formally identified as this species in 2002 was to MV Light at Higher Poynton SJ945838 (SHi) on 06 Oct 2002. The male specimen was dissected (SHi).

**1797 Autumnal Moth *Epirrita autumnata* (Borkhausen, 1794)**

The only specimen of this moth in 2002 was attracted to MV Light at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 19 Sep 2002. The male specimen was dissected (SF).

**1807 Grass Rivulet *Perizoma albulata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

Two trappers recorded this species in 2002. Singletons were attracted to MV Light at Oxmoor LNR - Manor Park, Runcorn (MAGBRA) SJ649766 (JC) and Marbury Country Park SJ649766 (PMH). Interestingly both specimens were trapped on 15 May 2002.

**1816 Toadflax Pug *Eupithecia linariata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

This species is very similar to the far commoner Foxglove Pug and although scarce could potentially be overlooked. A single moth was attracted to an actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 03 Sep 2002.

**1821 Valerian Pug *Eupithecia valerianata* (Hübner, 1813)**

An MV Light at Riverside Park, Macclesfield attracted the only two specimens of this species in 2002. One was at SJ907551 (RB, Shi, EC) on 08 Jun 2002 and the other at SJ905755 (RB) on 15 Jun 2002. Hopefully the new Pug Book will make people more confident in the identification of this and other species within this difficult group.

**1822 Marsh Pug *Eupithecia pygmaeata* (Hübner, 1799)**

A second brood Marsh Pug was a major surprise on the at Wigg Island (SJ5383) (SHi, BTS gen det AW) during the daytime on 05 October 2002. This appears to be only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Autumn record of this species for the British Isles.

**1825 Lime-speck Pug *Eupithecia centaureata* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

There were three records in 2002 of this very attractive moth. All were to MV Light at the followings sites, Heald Green SJ853863 (BTS) on 07 Jul 2002, Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 17 Aug 2002 and Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 23 Aug 2002.

**1835 White-spotted Pug *Eupithecia tripunctaria* Herrich-Schäffer, 1852**

This species is almost certainly more common than the numbers of records suggest. Just two were recorded in 2002, both to MV Light. One was at Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Visitor Centre) SJ914746 (RB) on 07 May 2002 and the other at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 13 Aug 2002.

**1839 Bordered Pug *Eupithecia succenturiata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This is another attractive moth and again two specimens attracted to MV Light. One at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 29 Jul 2002, the other at Willaston, Nantwich SJ676525(DT) on 03 Aug 2002.

**1842 Plain Pug *Eupithecia simpliciatata* (Haworth, 1809)**

This is a rare moth in Cheshire and the two specimens in 2002 represent the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> records on the database. One was attracted to an actinic light at Anderton SJ645754 (AW) on 14 Jul 2002 and the other to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) with no specified date. Both were dissected to confirm their identification formally (AW).

**1844 Ochreous Pug *Eupithecia indigata* (Hübner, 1813)**

Three records with two moths attracted to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) no specified date, and Heald Green SJ853863 (BTS) on 20 May 2002, and one to an actinic trap at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 09 May 2002.

**1846 Narrow-winged Pug *Eupithecia nanata* Prout, 1938**

This is a surprisingly scarce species with just a single record on 2002. This was 3 specimens at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 06 Jun 2002.

**1851 Golden-rod Pug *Eupithecia virgaureata* Doubleday, 1861**

Another difficult moth to identify when presented with melanistic or worn specimens, there were three records this year. One to MV Light at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 05 May 2002 (gen. det. SF), four moths were attracted to MV Light at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 08 Jun 2002 and another single specimen to MV Light at Willaston, Nantwich SJ676525 (DT) on 29 Aug 2002.



Blomer's Rivulet *Discoloxia blomeri* at Mere

**1856 Larch Pug *Eupithecia lariciata* (Freyer, 1842)**

A single moth to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) (date unspecified) was the only 2002 record. This was dissected to confirm the identification (AW).

**1864 The Streak *Chesias legatella* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

The south of the county proved the place to be for this species with three moths attracted to MV Light. One at Willaston, Nantwich SJ676525 (DT) on 09 Oct 2002, and two at Alsager SJ819545 (MD) on 01 Nov 2002 and 02 Nov 2002.

**1865 Broom-tip *Chesias rufata rufata* (Fabricius, 1775)**

A single specimen of this moth was recorded in 2002 to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 07 Jul 2002. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> database record.

**1872 Blomer's Rivulet *Discoloxia blomeri* (Curtis, 1832)**

The excellent species list in SBI's garden continues to rise with another **county first record**. A single specimen of this species was pulled in to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 on 02 Jun 2002.

**1873 Welsh Wave *Venusia cambrica* Curtis, 1839**

A single moth represents the 5<sup>th</sup> Database record of this species. It was attracted MV Light at Goyt's Clough Quarry (VC58) SK0173 (MD, SHi, KM, SO, DT) on 20 Jul 2002.

**1879 The Seraphim *Lobophora halterata* (Hufnagel, 1767)**

This early season geometer was caught on two occasions this year. To MV Light at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 10 May 2002 and at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 07 Jun 2002.

**1897 V-Moth *Macaria wauaria* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This is a very scarce moth in VC58 these days and the only record of the year was at an MV Light trap at Marple SJ955892 (MS) on 26 Jul 2002.

**1907 Bordered Beauty *Epione repandaria* (Hufnagel, 1767)**

A single record of this lovely moth was at an actinic light at Anderton, SJ6475 (AW) on 31 Jul 2002. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> database record.

**1912 August Thorn *Ennomos quercinaria* (Hufnagel, 1767)**

A single specimen was attracted to an actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 09 Sep 2002. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> database record.

**1927 Brindled Beauty *Lycia hirtaria* (Clerck, 1759)**

Much rarer than Pale Brindled Beauty, there were two records. One to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 17 Apr 2002 and the other at an MV Light trap at Allostock SJ745712 (PMH) on 09 May 2002

**1928 Belted Beauty *Lycia zonaria* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

In April, there were counts of 5 (3 male, 2 female) Belted Beauty *Lycia zonaria* at Meols SJ2390 (SHi) on the Wirral on the 07 Apr 2002 (SHi) followed by 8 (2m, 6f) at Meols Common SJ2491 (BTS, GL) on 09 Apr 2002.

**1933 Scarce Umber *Agriopis aurantiaria* (Hübner, 1799)**

Sterling larval searching work produced 3 records of larvae (no adults at all) in 2002. Single larvae were located at the following sites. Jackson's Brickwork's, Higher Poynton SJ9484 (SHi) on 19 May 2002, Middlewood SJ9485 and SJ9484 (SHi) on 23 May 2002.

**1952 Common Heath *Ematurga atomaria* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This is normally a species encountered during the day on the moors. There were only three records in 2002 all of which were no exception to this general rule. Two at Little Budworth Common SJ5865 (AW) on 13 Apr 2002, twenty at Pym Chair SJ9976 (SHi) on 01 Jun 2002 and a single moth at Jacksonedge Quarry, Disley SJ9685 (SHi) on 07 Jun 2002.

**1957 White-pinion Spotted *Lomographa bimaculata* (Fabricius, 1775)**

Never a common moth, there were two records in 2002. Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Visitor Centre) SJ914746 (RB) on 16 May 2002 and Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 02 Jun 2002.

**1970 Grass Wave *Perconia strigillaria* (Hübner, 1787)**

A single larva was found by sweeping at Little Budworth Common SJ5866 (SHi) on 13 Apr 2002.

**1984 Humming-bird Hawk-moth**

***Macroglossum stellatarum* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Two records of this scarce migrant, day-flying hawk-moth were noted in 2002. One was present at both Kelsall Allotments SJ527681 (BB) on 29 Jun 2002 and Ettiley Heath SJ732603 (CK) on 28 Aug 2002.

**1990 Striped Hawk-moth *Hyles livornica***

**(Esper, 1779)**

Another migrant hawk-moth and possibly one of the highlights of the year in 2002. A single moth was attracted to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 17 Jun 2002. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> record on the database.



Striped Hawk-moth *Hyles livornica* at Mouldsworth

**1995 Puss Moth *Cerura vinula* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Given the amount of Sallow in the county, this species is surprisingly scarce at light. There was just a single record to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 08 May 2002.

**1996 Alder Kitten *Furcula bicuspis* (Borkhausen, 1790)**

There were two records (three specimens) of this species in 2002, both at MV Light. Two at Higher Poynton SJ945838 (SHi) on 02 Jun 2002 and one at Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Cattle Crush area) SJ907551 (RB, EC, SHi) on 08 Jun 2002.

**1998 Poplar Kitten *Furcula bifida* (Brahm, 1787)**

Again two records. One at actinic light at Stockport SJ907902 (EK) on 15 May 2002, the other at MV Light at Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 02 Jun 2002.

**2031 White Satin *Leucoma salicis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Three records of single moths were recorded in 2002; all were to MV Light. Elton SJ453753 (MB, SHo) on 09 Jul 2002, SJ3173 (MB, SHo) on 18 Jul 2002 and Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 31 Jul 2002.



**2039 Red-necked Footman *Atolmis rubricollis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

A single specimen to MV Light at Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 17 Jun 2002 was an excellent find and represents only the 2<sup>nd</sup> record on the database.

**2040 Four-dotted Footman *Cybosia mesomella* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

This species is recorded more frequently than the last but there was also just a single record to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 24 Jun 2002.

**2049 Buff Footman *Eilema depressa* (Esper, 1787)**

Red-necked Footman *Atolmis rubricollis* at Bramhall

This species has undergone an apparent range extension recently so the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> county records this year were possibly predictable. Rather surprisingly the two records of single moths were caught on the same night! They were both to MV Light with one at Romiley (SF) (gen. det. SF) and the other at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 25 Jul 2002.

**2078 Least Black Arches *Nola confusalis* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1847)**

Just a single record of this easily missed (or mistaken for a micro) moth. To actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 10 May 2002.

**2081 White-line Dart *Euxoa tritici* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

One specimen to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 28 Jul 2002.

**2082 Garden Dart *Euxoa nigricans* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

A total of three specimens with one to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB, SHo) on 26 Jul 2002 and the other two to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 28 Aug and 29 Aug 2002.

**2088 Heart and Club *Agrotis clavis* (Hufnagel, 1766)**

Just one record of this species, on the same night and location as the following species to MV Light at Wigg Island, Astmoor Saltmarsh, Runcorn SJ529836 (JC) on 15 Jun 2002.

**2114 Double Dart *Graphiphora augur* (Fabricius, 1775)**

A single specimen to MV Light at Wigg Island, Astmoor Saltmarsh, Runcorn SJ529836 (JC) on 15 Jun 2002.

**2127 Triple-spotted Clay *Xestia ditrapezium* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

A single specimen of this scarce moth to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 27 Jul 2002. This species is very similar to the much more common Double Square-spot and recorders are asked to retain specimens of Triple-spotted Clay if trapped at a new site, particularly in the east of the county.

**2132 Neglected Rustic *Xestia castanea* (Esper, 1798)**

There was just a single record of this species in 2002, with 2 larvae swept from ling at Walkerwood Reservoir surrounds SJ9998 (SHi) on 29 Mar 2002. This is only the 5<sup>th</sup> record on the database of this species.

**2138 Green Arches *Anaplectoides prasina* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

This species seems to be doing quite well in recent years and there were three records in 2002. Single specimens were recorded at MV Light at Etherow Country Park, Martin Clough SJ971912 (SF, PG, BS, MS et al) on 15 Jun 2002, Marple SJ955892 (MS) on 16 Jun 2002 and Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 29 Jun 2002.

**2142 Beautiful Yellow Underwing *Anarta myrtilli* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

On 23 Apr 2002 a single adult was located by sweeping at Billinge Quarry, Rainow SJ9577 (SHi).

**2162 Glaucous Shears *Papestra biren* (Goeze, 1781)**

Two records representing seven specimens, all attracted to MV Light with one at Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Visitor Centre) SJ914746 (RB) on 16 May 2002 and six at Pym Chair SJ9976 (MD, SHi, DS, AW) on 01 Jun 2002. These are the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> records on the database.

**2164 Broad-barred White *Hecatera bicolorata* (Hufnagel, 1766)**

This species was attracted to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 11 Jul and 23 Jul 2002 and also at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 26 Jul 2002.

**2186 Powdered Quaker *Orthosia gracilis* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

This species, although flying early in the year is genuinely scarce. There were just three records with singles to actinic light at Anderton SJ645754 (AW) on 24 Mar 2002, to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 06 Apr 2002 and to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 06 May 2002.

**2214 Chamomile Shark *Cucullia chamomillae* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

The only record of this species was to MV Light at Higher Poynton SJ945838 (SHi) on 19 May 2002.

**2216 The Shark *Cucullia umbratica* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

There were two records of this species, both to MV Light. The first at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 10 May 2002 and the other at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 22 Jun 2002.

**2235 Tawny Pinion *Lithophane semibrunnea* (Haworth, 1809)**

This moth is rare at light traps and can sometimes be found more frequently on ripe blackberries. There were two records in 2002, both at MV Light. Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 11 May 2002 and Willaston, Nantwich SJ676525 (DT) on 28 Sep 2002. These are only the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> records on the database.

**2237 Grey Shoulder-knot *Lithophane ornitopus lactipennis* (Dadd, 1911)**

Both of the records of this species were attracted to MV Light at Dungeon Wood (Heswall) SJ251832 (JC) on 17 Mar 2002 and Alsager SJ819545 (MD) on 02 Nov 2002. These are the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> records on the database.



Grey Shoulder-knot *Lithophane ornitopus lactipennis* Dungeon Wood (Heswall)

**2241 Red Sword-grass *Xylena vetusta* (Hübner, 1813)**

Although there are several records in the Rutherford book on Cheshire Macro-moths, the single moth to MV Light at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 03 Apr 2002 is the first on the database. On this basis it may be the first record of this species in VC58 for 10 years.

**2255 Feathered Ranunculus *Polymixis lichenea* (Hübner, 1813)**

This species was only recorded once this year to actinic light at Greasby, Wirral SJ257874 (LH) (date unspecified). This is the 6<sup>th</sup> record on the database.

**2259 Dark Chestnut *Conistra ligula* (Esper, 1791)**

This species may be under-recorded and is not easily split from the far more common moth, The Chestnut. A single Dark Chestnut was attracted to MV Light at Willaston, Nantwich SJ676525 (DT) on 15 Oct 2002.

**2265 Flounced Chestnut *Agrochola helvola* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Never a common species, there were three records in 2002. The first two were at MV Light at Alsager SJ819545 (MD) on 30 Sep 2002 and at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 07 Oct 2002. The other was to actinic light at Mouldsworth SJ512706 (IEL) on 12 Oct 2002.

**2275 Dusky-lemon Sallow *Xanthia gilvago* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

One site recorded this species on two occasions this year with singles attracted to MV Light at Alsager SJ819545 (MD) on 24 Jun 2002 and 26 Jun 2002.

**2281 Alder Moth *Acrionicta alni* (Linnaeus, 1767)**

Normally recorded in small numbers each year there were just two records in 2002. One of a single moth to MV Light at Riverside Park, Macclesfield (Sycamore Wood area) SJ905755 (RB) on 16 May 2002. The other related to several larvae found at Hoo Moor Plantation SK0077 (SHi) on 21 Aug 2002.

**2286 Light Knot Grass *Acrionicta menyanthidis* (Esper, 1789)**

Pym Chair SJ9976 is a typical location for this species and there was just a single record of four moths to MV Light (MD, SHi, DS, AW) on 01 Jun 2002. This is only the 9<sup>th</sup> record on the database.

**2291 The Coronet *Craniophora ligustri* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775)**

A single specimen attracted to MV light at Allstock SJ745712 (PMH) on 24 Jun 2002 was an important find. This is the first database record and appears to be the first record since one at Ince no later than 1960. The only reference to this record seems to be in Rutherford's book and is unfortunately undated.

**2303 Straw Underwing *Thalpophila matura* (Hufnagel, 1766)**

Two records of this species, both at MV Light. One at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 22 Jul 2002 and the other at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on 01 Aug 2002.

**2327 Clouded Brindle *Apamea epomidion* (Haworth, 1809)**

This is a rather scarce species, possibly overlooked. A single moth came to MV Light at Bromborough SJ344798 (ES) on 24 Jun 2002.

**2336 Double Lobed *Apamea ophiogramma* (Esper, 1793)**

Three specimens were attracted to MV Light with two at Mere SJ736813 (SBI) on 29 Jul 2002 and a single moth at Romiley SJ931900 (SF) on the same day.

**2360 Ear Moth *Amphipoea oculea* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

Another species group which require dissection to be certain of their identity. One moth was caught at MV Light at Heald Green SJ853863 (BTS) on 07 Aug 2002 (gen. det.)

**2368 The Crescent *Celaena leucostigma* (Hübner, 1808)**

Two specimens with both caught at MV Light. One at Heald Green SJ853863 (BTS) on 09 Aug 2002 and the other at Oxmoor LNR - Manor Park, Runcorn (MAGBRA) SJ493869 (JC) on 15 Aug 2002.

**2369 Bulrush Wainscot *Nonagria typhae* (Thunberg, 1784)**

Three specimens of this rather impressive Wainscot were recorded in 2002. One to actinic light at Anderton SJ645754 (AW) on 10 Aug 2002, the other two at MV Light. One at Alsager SJ819545 (MD) on 11 Sep 2002 and the other at Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on 30 Sep 2002.

**2379 Small Rufous *Coenobia rufa* (Haworth, 1809)**

Just three specimens of this moth this year at the same site. To MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 19 Jul 2002, 27 Jul 2002 and 29 Jul 2002.

**2380 Treble Lines *Charanyca trigrammica* (Hufnagel, 1766)**

A single specimen of this scarce moth was attracted to an actinic light at Anderton SJ6475 (AW) on 15 Jun 2002. This is only the 5<sup>th</sup> database record.

**2440 Lempke's Gold Spot *Plusia putnami gracilis* Lempke, 1966**

A rather nice surprise this species after the first record (of two specimens) at Arnfield in 2001, there were two specimens attracted to MV Light and retained at Cheadle Hulme SJ876863 (GL) in Sep 2002 which after dissection proved to be Lempke's Gold Spot. These were the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> records for VC58. The distance between the two sites suggest that this species may well be overlooked.

**2462 Mother Shipton *Callistege mi* (Clerck, 1759)**

This day flier was seen on three occasions this year, one moth at Moore SJ567850 (MM) on 11 May 2002, two moths at Dorchester Park LNR, Runcorn, Halton SJ559833 (JC) on 17 May 2002 and four at the same site on 21 May 2002.

**2484 Pinion-streaked Snout *Schrankia costaestrigalis* (Stephens, 1834)**

This moth is definitely one that may be passed off as a 'micro' and is quite scarce, leading to few records. The only record in 2002 was a single moth to MV Light at Elton SJ453753 (MB and SHo) on 19 Jul 2002. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> database record.

## 4.2 Migrants during 2002

A number of interesting migrants were recorded during the season. These are summarized in the table below. The highlight, without doubt, was the superb Striped Hawk-moth *Hyles livornica* caught at Mouldsworth (SJ5170). The Humming-bird Hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum* was recorded twice this year and Dark Sword-grass *Agrotis ipsilon* records were scattered from the 31<sup>st</sup> May to mid-September with records in 4 grid squares (MD, SF, PMH, IEL), while Silver Y *Autographa gamma*, appeared between the 4<sup>th</sup> May (MB, SH) and the 8<sup>th</sup> November (MD). Finally, our only 2002 record of The Gem *Orthonama obstipata* at Bramhall SJ887842 (ACh) on the 21st August.

Code	Vernacular	Taxon	Records	Individuals
1720	The Gem	<i>Orthonama obstipata</i>	1	1
1990	Striped Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>	1	1
1984	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	2	2
2091	Dark Sword-grass	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>	7	7
2441	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	190	242

## 4.3 Notable and RDB Species

This year we have received no reports of Sandhill Rustic *Luperina nickerlii*, which is usually the only RDB species recorded in Cheshire. We are aware though that monitoring work is in progress and this does not indicate any problems with the species' stronghold on

The Wirral. The National Notable species recorded are summarized below and further details can be found in the systematic list above.

Code	Vernacular	Taxon	Records	Status
0381	Large Red-belted Clearwing	<i>Synanthedon culiciformis</i>	1	Nb
1821	Valerian Pug	<i>Eupithecia valerianata</i>	2	Nb
1865	Broom-tip	<i>Chesias rufata rufata</i>	1	Nb
1872	Blomer's Rivulet	<i>Discoloxia blomeri</i>	1	Nb
1928	Belted Beauty	<i>Lycia zonaria</i>	2	Na

Note: Brindled Green *Dryobotodes eremita* was formerly classified as Nr but has been reclassified as Common so no longer appears in this section.

#### 4.4 Recorders

Thank you again to all recorders that are included in the following list and who have made this report possible by sharing their data. Please accept our sincere apologies for any unintentional omissions. If you have not been included on the following list please, please contact us to let us know and we will make sure your efforts are noted in the next annual report.

AC – Alan Creaser, ACh – Andrew Charlton, AK – Alan Kimber, AMB - A.M.Broome,  
 AW – Adrian Wander, BB – Brian Bull, BM – B Murphy, BS – Ben Smart, BTS Barry Shaw,  
 CIR – Ian Rutherford, CK – Chris Knibbs, DO – D Otter, DS – D. Stephenson, DT – Dave Taylor,  
 EC – E. Chackal, EK – Eric Kearns, ES – Edwin Samuels, GB – Gavin Broad, GC – G Cooke,  
 GJo – Graham Jones, GL – Geoff Lightfoot, GS – G. Stringer, HEB – H.E. Beaumont, IEL – Ian Landucci,  
 IS – Ian Smith, JC – Jeff Clarke, JO – J. Oxenham, KM – Kevin McCabe, LH – Les Hall, MB – M. Barlow,  
 MD – Mike Dale, MM – Mike Mulholland, MS - Martyn Stanyer, NS – N Stones, PG – Paul Greenall,  
 PH – Peter Hardy, PMH – Paul M Hill, RB – Roger Brereton, RBe – R. Bertera, RFB – R. F. Botterill,  
 RHo – Ray Holmes, SBl – Sheila Blamire, SF – Shane Farrell, SHi – Steve Hind, SHo – S. Holmes,  
 SMc – Steve McWilliam, SO – Steve Orridge, TE – Tom Edmondson,

**Shane Farrell, Adrian Wander and Steve McWilliam.**