

LEPIDOPTERA 1989

The mild damp winter of 1989 took its toll of the butterfly population and some species were widespread and patchy; however, some useful sightings were made:

Dr A.P. Radford – mostly in the West Bagborough and West Quantoxhead areas.

Butterflies

Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*), Peacock (*Nymphalis io*), Dark Green Fritillary (*Argynnis aglaia*), Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Comma (*Polygonia c-album*), Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*), Marbled White (*Melanargia galathea*), Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*), Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*), Silver-Studded Blue (*Plebejus argus*), Silver-Washed Fritillary (*Argynnis paphia*), Wall Brown (*Pararge megera*), Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*), Grayling (*Eumenis semele*), Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*), Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*).

Mrs Julia Small, Langford Budville – early and late sightings.

26 March – Peacock (*Nymphalis io*), 2 April – Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*), 25 April – Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*), 10 June & 12 Nov. – Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), 24 July – Silver-Washed Fritillary (*Argynnis paphia*).

Moths

Mr Ian Bolt (World Wildlife Fund) – a selection of moths taken 'at light' in reserves in the Wellington area.

Local species

Grey Arches (*Polia nebulosa*), Oak Hooktip (*Drepana binaria*).

Uncommon species

Barred Hooktip (*Drepana cultraria*), Blotched Emerald (*Comibaena bajularia*), Fanfoot (*Herminia tarsipennalis*), Four-dotted Footman (*Cybosia mesomella*), Grass Emerald (*Pseudoterpna pruinata atropunctaria*), Green Arches (*Anaplectoides prasina*), Hedge Rustic (*Tholera cespitis*), Lobster Moth (*Stauropus fagi*), Lunar Hornet Moth (*Sesia bembeciformis*), Maiden's Blush (*Cyclophora punctaria*), Map-winged Swift (*Hepialus fusconebulosa*), Oak Lutestring (*Cymatophorima diluta hartwegi*), Peacock (*Semiothisa notata*), Scalloped Hooktip (*Falcaria lacertinaria*), Scarce Footman (*Eilema complana*), White Pinion-spotted (*Lomographa bimaculata*).

Rare species

Double Line (*Mythimna turca*).

BRYAN W. MOORE, *Recorder*.