

Clive

by Clive, 23-May-10 07:12 AM GMT

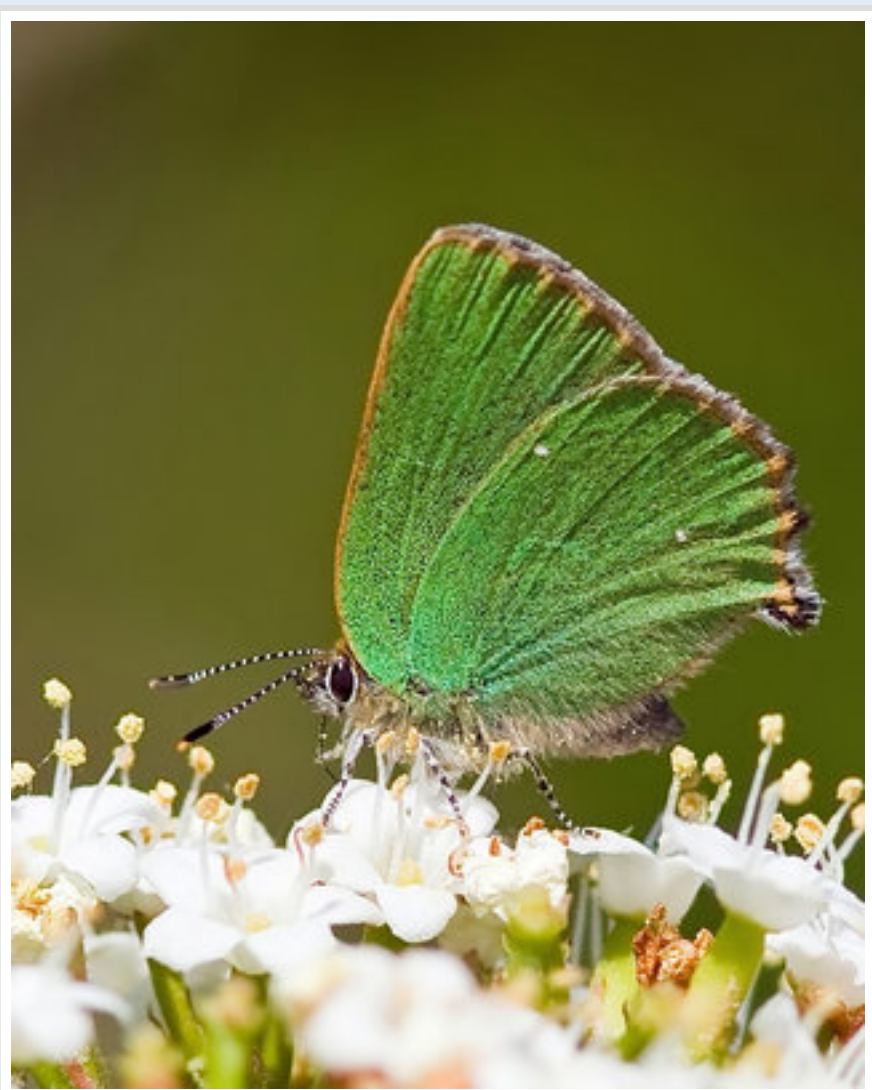
Hi

Shirley & I had a wonder around Magdalen Hill Down today, never seen so many Green Hairstreaks! We had a very enjoyable couple of hours watching them, they're just so interesting leaping into action every time an insect passed by and returning to their perch.

Then down to hillside to see the Common Blue & Brown Argus, loads about, but by now very active and only settling for a brief moment.

Also Orange-tip, Brimstone and white ones, again very active ...

Good to have bumped into Pete, Roger & Ian ...



Re: Clive

by Jack Harrison, 24-May-10 01:47 AM GMT

I briefly visited Magdalen Hill Down Winchester last Monday but obviously didn't find the hot spots and saw only one Green Hairstreak. I stayed in/near the top path. For future reference, where should I have gone?

I like your pics and am surprised how fresh the butterflies still are.

Jack

Re: Clive

by Clive, 24-May-10 02:27 AM GMT

Hi Jack

From the car park up the main path to the reserve, turn right along the small path between the hedge & fence ... but I have been along there many times before and not seen any ...

Clive

Re: Clive

by Jack Harrison, 24-May-10 02:29 AM GMT

That's exactly where I was. Maybe in view of the pristine condition of your specimens, I was too early in this rather mixed up season.

Jack

Re: Clive

by Clive, 24-May-10 05:47 AM GMT

Out again today for a walk around Stockbridge Down ... this time it was the Brown Argus chasing the Common Blues away. Walking back down the hill we watched a Small Copper chase the Common Blues away ...

Other Butterflies seen ... Brimstones, Small Heaths, Grizzled Skipper, Orange-tips, Speckled Woods & Peacock ...

Clive



Re: Clive

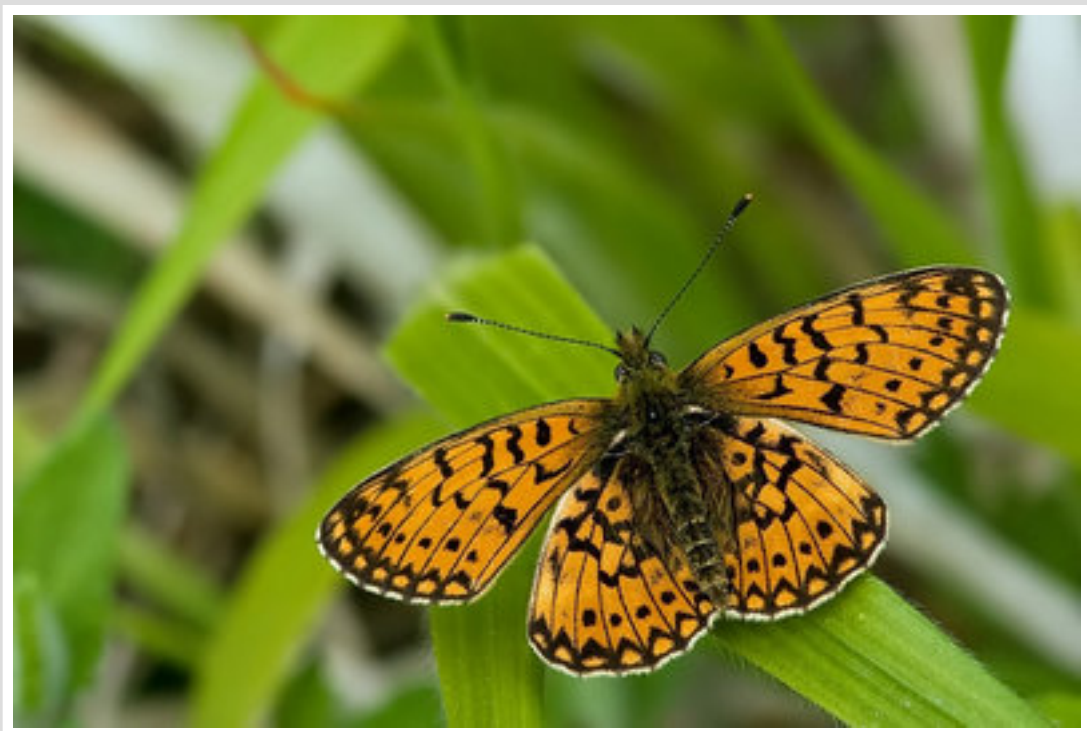
by Clive, 31-May-10 07:21 AM GMT

Hi

A very enjoyable day at Bentley Wood with the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries ... much better than the heat wave last weekend! ...

Orange-tips, Green-veined Whites & Brimstones also made an appearance ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by walpolec, 31-May-10 04:34 PM GMT

Lovely photos, Clive. 😊

May I ask what camera/lens you use? And what aperture are the majority of these taken on? (You've achieved a great depth of field).

Cheers

Chris

Re: Clive

by Clive, 31-May-10 04:47 PM GMT

Hi Chris

I used a Canon 40D & 300 F4 IS L lens, F7.1 for the first shot & F8 for the other two ... that lens has a MFD of 1.5m & I find if I ease back a little from that I get better shots ...

Clive

Re: Clive

by Clive, 01-Jun-10 07:57 AM GMT

Hi

Lots of blue Butterflies today at Martin Down ... Adonis Blue, Common Blue & Small Blue ...

Also Brown Argus, Grizzled Skippers, Dingy Skippers, Brimstones, Green-veined White & Orange-tips ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by walpolec, 02-Jun-10 06:19 PM GMT

"Clive" wrote:

Hi Chris

I used a Canon 40D & 300 F4 IS L lens, F7.1 for the first shot & F8 for the other two ... that lens has a MFD of 1.5m & I find if I ease back a little from that I get better shots ...

Clive

Thanks Clive. I'm always interested in good advice.

Cheers

Chris

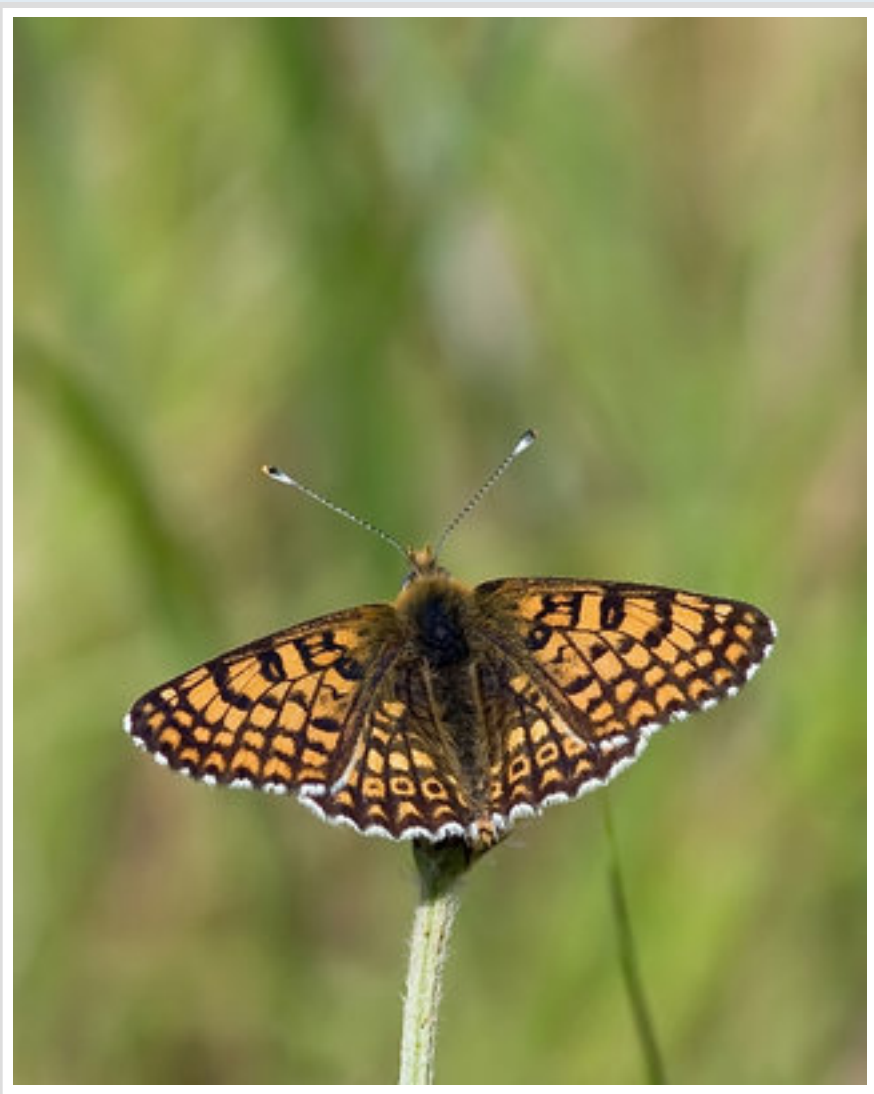
Re: Clive

by Clive, 06-Jun-10 06:53 AM GMT

Hi

Yesterday we found the Glanville Fritillary. followed by a walk along the ancient track way to look for the Wall, only a fleeting glimpse ... but returning along the sea wall we found about a dozen, far to active for any photo's ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Clive, 07-Jun-10 06:29 AM GMT

Hi

The Common Blue really was out in force today at Magdalen Hill Down ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 13-Jun-10 06:28 AM GMT

Hi

A visit to Stockbridge Down today and we saw our first Large Skippers this year ...

Also Common Blue, Brown Argus, Grizzled Skipper, Painted Lady, Small Tortoiseshell, Small heath, Speckled Wood, Brimstone, Orange-tip, Green-veined White ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 14-Jun-10 07:02 AM GMT

Hi

Another visit to Martin Down today and we saw our first Meadow Brown this year ... lots of Large Skippers, Small Heaths and Small Blues ... the other blues are looking very worn now ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 20-Jun-10 05:52 AM GMT

Hi

Our first visit today to Silchester Common and the Silver-studded Blues ... also quite a number of Small Heaths and one Grizzled Skipper looking a little worn ... nice to see a Red Kite too ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Clive, 22-Jun-10 07:37 AM GMT

Hi

A very enjoyable walk around Broughton Down yesterday, spotted our first Marbled White although he didn't settle anywhere ... We watched a Green Hairstreak guarding his patch from the lower leaves of a beech tree ... A large number of Small Heath where just about everywhere, along with the usual suspects ... We did see a couple of Brown Argus not looking to bad amongst the faded ones ...

Clive



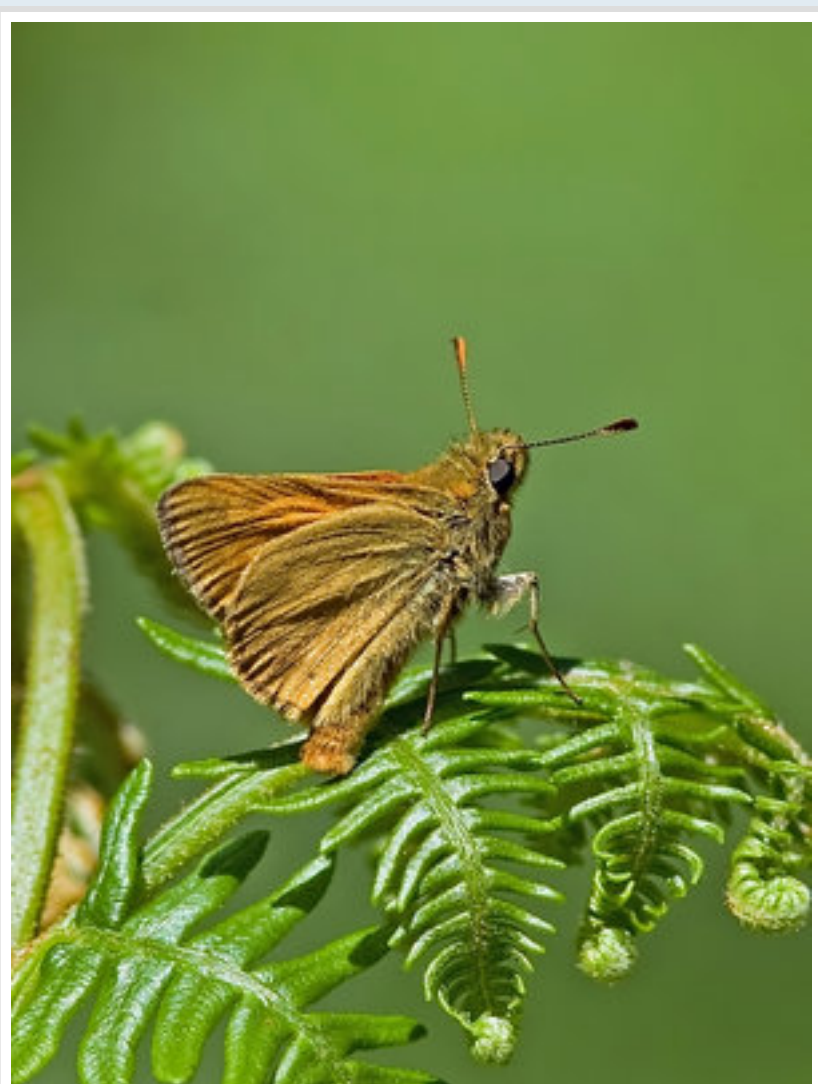


Re: Clive

by Clive, 27-Jun-10 06:59 AM GMT

A large number of Silver-washed Fritillary in Bentley Wood today along with a good number of Ringlets & Large Skippers ... also a few White Admirals and a glimpse of the White-letter Hairstreak high in the treetops ... a couple of Marbled Whites spotted on the way round too ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 04-Jul-10 05:54 AM GMT

The Ringlet was about in good numbers today at Pamber Forest and our first Small Skippers this year ... White Admiral, Silver-washed Fritillary, Large Skipper, Speckled Wood, Marbled White and Meadow Brown where also about along with one Comma ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 05-Jul-10 05:28 AM GMT

Hi

The Marbled White put on a fantastic show today at Magdalen Hill Down, they where everywere even on the steep slopes ... a good number of Ringlet and Small Skippers along quite a few Meadow Brown and the odd Comma, Small Tortoiseshell , Red Admiral and Small White ...





Back at the car park Shirley spotted a Holly Blue ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Jack Harrison, 05-Jul-10 05:04 PM GMT

What a lovely Holly Blue photo.!

Jack

Re: Clive

by Pete Eeles, 05-Jul-10 05:26 PM GMT

I agree with Jack – could you also post this in the species-specific album at gallery/album.php?album_id=432, Clive? I can then add it to the main species pages.

(and that, by the way, applies to anyone who thinks they have a shot worth adding to these pages! Thx all!).

Cheers,

– Pete

Re: Clive

by Clive, 07-Jul-10 03:26 AM GMT

Thanks Jack & Pete ... I'm glad you liked the shot 😊 I would have missed this if Shirley hadn't seen him ...

Clive

Re: Clive

by Clive, 25-Jul-10 05:28 AM GMT

Hi

A lovely day with the Butterflies and Buddlejas at Longstock, very nice to see the Red Admiral, Large & Small White, Comma & Peacock as we really haven't seen many of these this year so far ... Great to see Pete, Gary, Lisa, Roger and everyone else there too ...

Had a peep at Stockbridge Down on the way home, spotted Small Copper & Chalkhill Blue along with loads of small moths ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Cotswold Cockney, 25-Jul-10 05:38 AM GMT

"Clive" wrote:

Hi

The Common Blue really was out in force today at Magdalen Hill Down ...

Clive



To my eyes, that is the finest portrait of a Common Blue I can ever remember seeing ~ well done.

Re: Clive

by Clive, 25-Jul-10 06:02 PM GMT

Many thanks Cotswold Cockney 😊

Clive

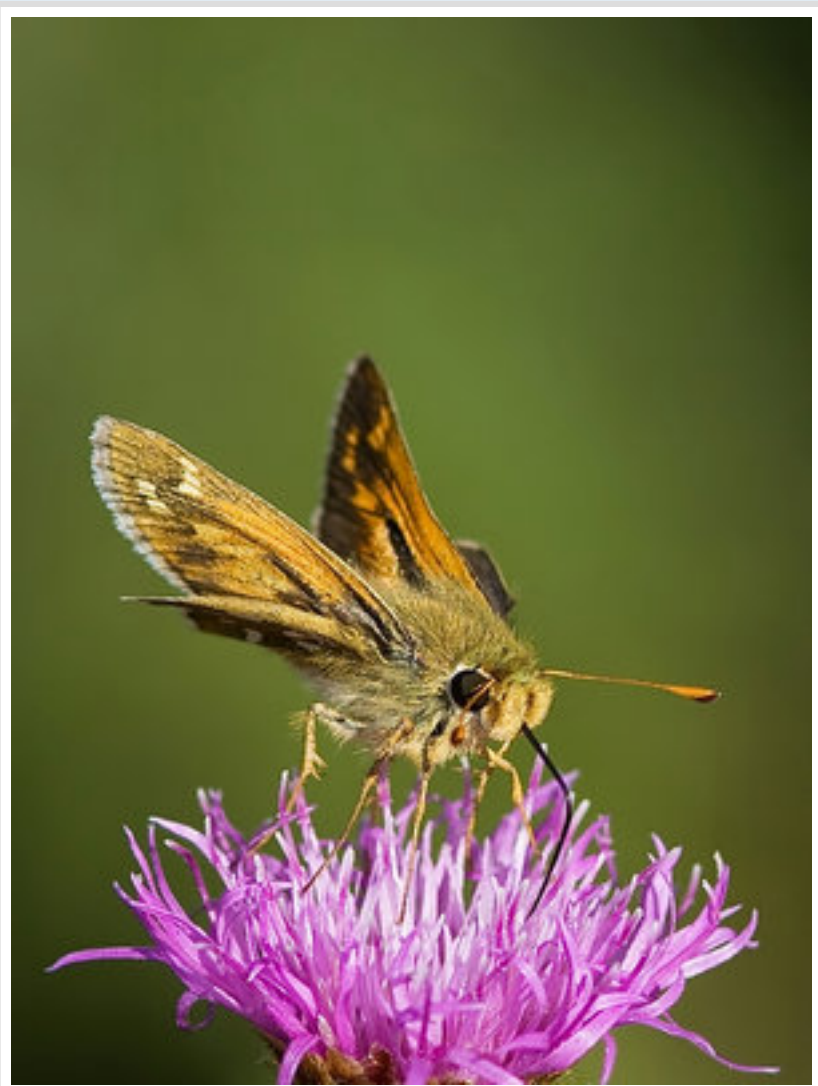
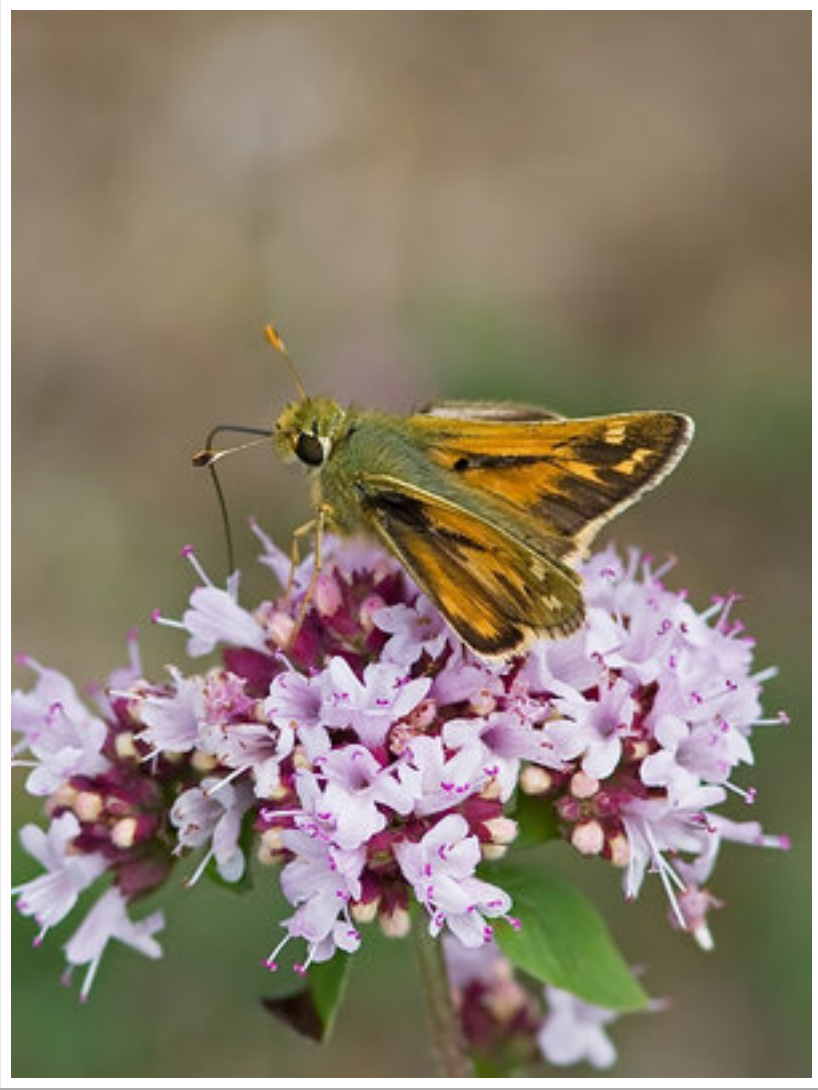
Re: Clive

by Clive, 01-Aug-10 07:11 AM GMT

Hi

Failing to find the Silver-spotted Skipper last weekend at Stockbridge Down we returned today and our luck was in ... Shirley, as usual spotted them first 😊 ... 17 different species altogether were seen today ...

Clive



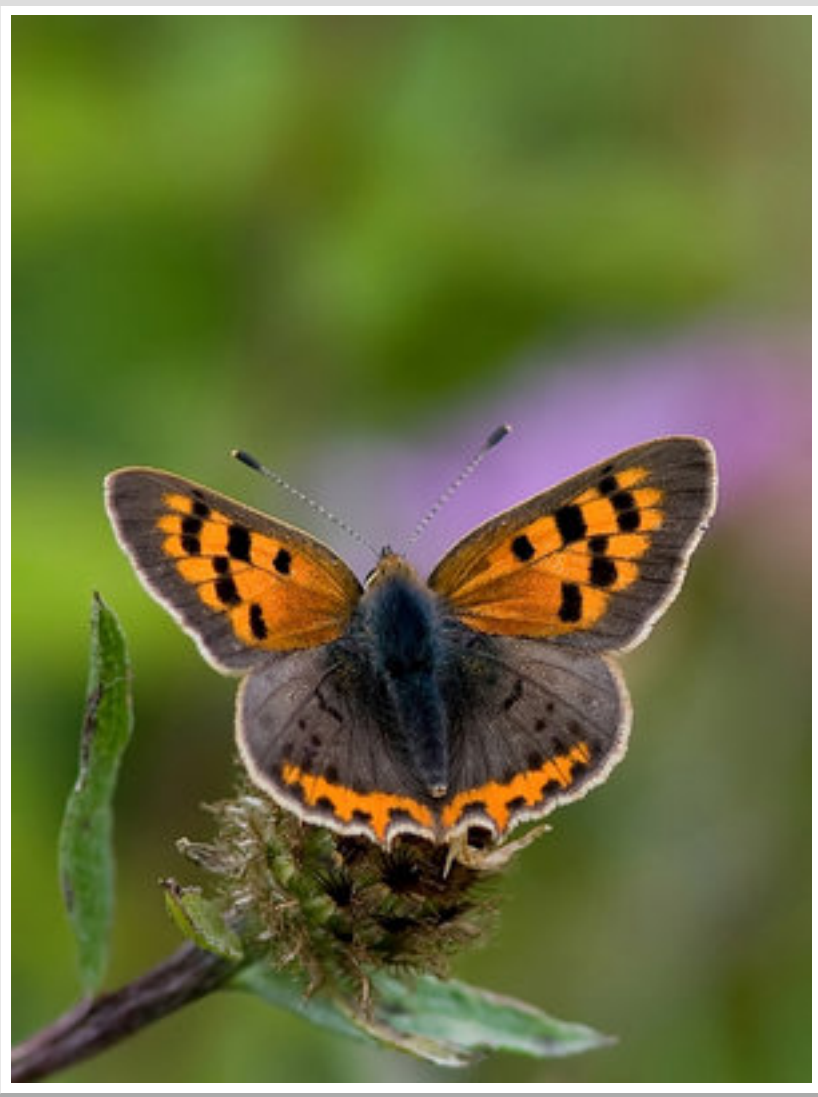
Re: Clive

by Clive, 02-Aug-10 06:59 AM GMT

Hi

Back to Stockbridge Down again today ... just an incredible amount of Butterflies again ...





Followed by a late afternoon walk around Danebury Hill ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 08-Aug-10 05:47 AM GMT

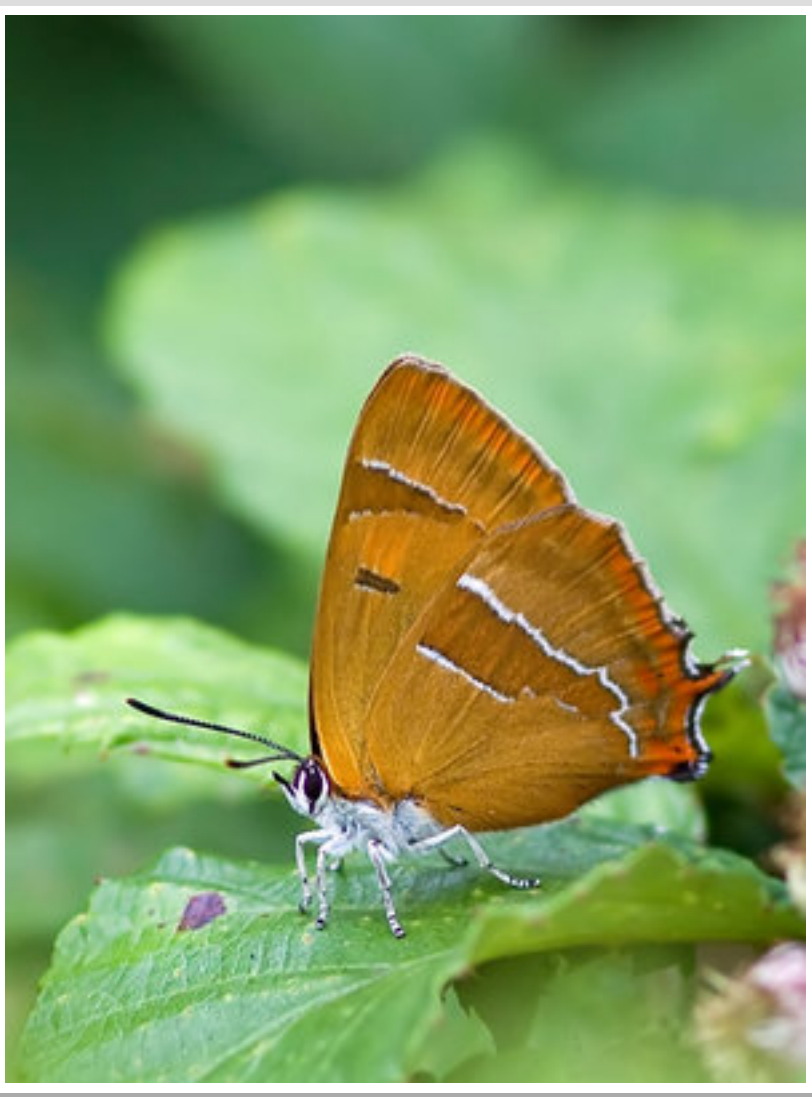
Hi

With the black clouds all around us today we had a wonder along the hedgerows at Shipton Bellinger ...

Good numbers of Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Large & Small Whites ... also some very new Common Blues & Holly Blues ... and the highlight of the day - two Brown Hairstreaks ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Trev Sawyer, 08-Aug-10 06:17 AM GMT

Yet *another* set of truly lovely shots Clive. The colours are *superb!* 🍷

PS: You have PM.

Re: Clive

by Clive, 08-Aug-10 07:25 AM GMT

Thanks for your kind words Trev 😊

Clive

Re: Clive

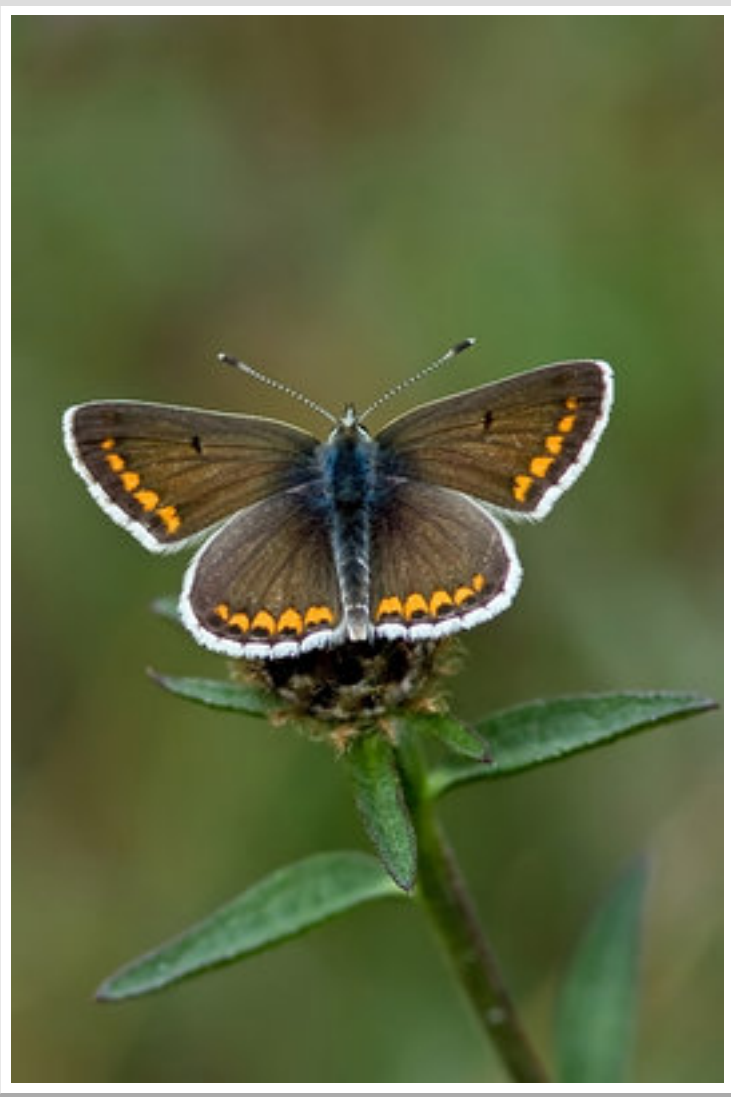
by Clive, 09-Aug-10 07:09 AM GMT

Hi

A visit to Martin Down today and we found 21 different species, 7 within a couple of hundred yards from the central car park ... including Holly Blues along the hedgerow and a very nice Speckled Wood at the first track junction ... further on we found the Adonis Blue looking very good indeed and standing out well from the Common Blues ... both old and new Brown Argus along most off the route ... good to see the Large Whites too, as until a couple of weeks ago we hadn't seen any ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Clive, 10-Aug-10 01:31 AM GMT

Hi

We visited Greenham Common today to look for the Grayling ... Shirley as usual spotted one 😊 and we had a fantastic display as she flitted along stopping every few yards to lay an egg or two ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 12-Aug-10 07:49 AM GMT

Hi

Yet another trip to Stockbridge Down ... just an amazing number of Chalkhill Blues again ... and very pleased to find three Adonis Blues along with them ... nice to bump into Phil & Rosalyn from UK Butterflies 😊 ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Clive, 13-Aug-10 07:43 AM GMT

Hi

Shirley & I managed to find five Adonis Blues today at Stockbridge Down, and for a change I spotted most of them first 😊 ... only because Shirley was reading! ... as it was cloudy and windy lots of the other blues were found resting on some nice perches...

Clive





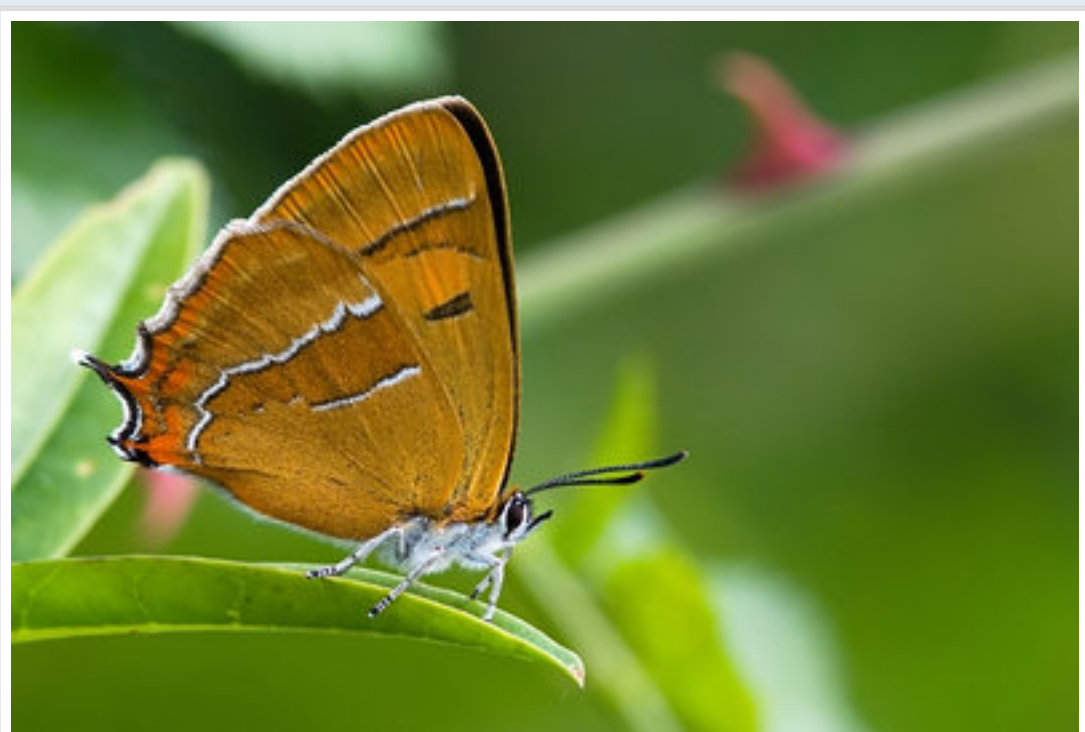
Re: Clive

by Clive, 16-Aug-10 04:27 AM GMT

Hi

Out again today looking for Brown Hairstreaks at Shipton Bellinger ... very nice to see males, females and an egg laying female ... and a good number of Holly Blues along with the usual suspects ...

Clive





Re: Clive

by Clive, 22-Aug-10 03:19 AM GMT

Hi

Not to be put off with the poor weather the Chalkhill Blues put on a fine display today at Magdalen Hill Down ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 24-Aug-10 06:29 AM GMT

Hi

The Adonis Blues were looking very nice again at Stockbridge Down yesterday, we found about a dozen this time ... and a very large number of Meadow Browns, they may have even out numbered the Chalkhill Blues! ... Holly Blues again in the car park, we've seen a good number of these over the last few weeks ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 31-Aug-10 05:24 AM GMT

Hi

We started off at Shipton Bellinger today with the hope of finding the Brown Hairstreaks again ... Shirley found one almost straight away! ... a couple of nice new Speckled Woods along with the Holly Blues, Meadow Browns and a good number of rather faded Small Whites ...



Then onto Stockbridge Down and found some good looking Small Coppers and Small Heaths and a single Adonis Blue ... the other Blues were looking very worn now ... except for one pair ...

Clive





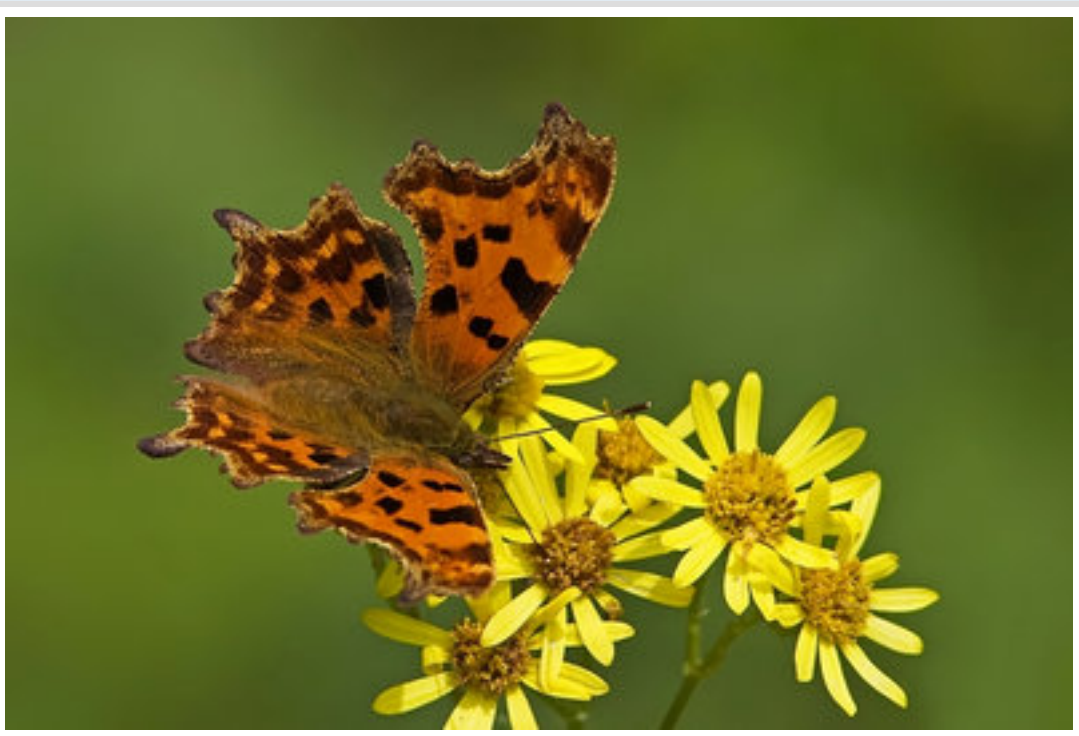
Re: Clive

by Clive, 05-Sep-10 04:31 AM GMT

Hi

A visit to Noar Hill today ... quite a lot of Common Blues still about, mainly females and looking very worn now, old and new Meadow Browns, Small Heaths, Brown Argus and Small Whites ... one female Brown Hairstreak, some Speckled Woods in good condition and two very nice Commas ... also flocks of Goldfinches feeding on the seedheads and perching in the small trees, some quite close to us ...

Clive



Re: Clive

by Clive, 05-Oct-10 07:37 AM GMT

Hi

A visit to Langford Lakes NR on Saturday 2th October and very nice to be greeted by half a dozen Speckled Woods dancing about along the path towards the first hide ... three Small Whites were also present as we walked around the reserve ... then out the far end we followed the river Wylfe for about half a mile and found along the way about a dozen Red Admirals, mainly high up amongst the Ivy ... that's more than we've seen at any one time this year! and a single Meadow Brown ...

Loads of Dragon Flies about too ...

No butterfly photo's but here's a Great Crested Grebe, there were quite a lot on the lakes ...

