

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 22-Jan-17 09:03 PM GMT

There was a visibility problem in some windows in the hides today. No butterflies today but I saw a weasel.



Brimstone start

by Katrina, 11-Mar-17 08:29 PM GMT

At last my first butterflies of the year 3 Brimstones at Pulborough Brooks this afternoon. 😊

Re: Katrina

by David M, 13-Mar-17 09:53 PM GMT

Good to see that you too are off the mark, Katrina. Plenty more to come hopefully.

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 14-Mar-17 12:38 AM GMT

Sorry I missed this somehow Katrina - congrats on getting your first (of many I'm sure) butterflies of 2017 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Mill Hill

by Katrina, 09-Apr-17 09:41 PM GMT

I went to Mill Hill this evening. By co-incidence John arrived in the car park just ahead of me. It was a pleasure to meet Bryan and to meet Michael again. We had quite a few sightings of Grizzlies initially but it took quite some time for them to decide to roost. I eventually found a very obliging one. It seems to have a love heart on its left wing.



Re: Katrina

by David M, 10-Apr-17 11:57 AM GMT

Great images, Katrina. I think I must pay a late afternoon visit to my own Grizzled Skipper site to see if I can observe them similarly co-operative.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 11-Apr-17 10:25 PM GMT

Thanks David, I was glad I persuaded myself to go out – good luck with your Grizzlies.

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 12-Apr-17 05:44 PM GMT

Great set of Grizzlie shots Katrina 😊 – they are also quite amenable first thing in the morning as well. I can see the love heart too, it's great when things like that turn up on butterfly wings 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Butterfliesaurus rex, 13-Apr-17 09:19 PM GMT

You're off to a great start with those lovely Grizzlies Katrina. Hopefully this is the beginning of a much better year than the last. Although we didn't do too badly considering it wasn't a very good year for many of our butterflies. I hope to see my first Grizzled Skipper of the year soon.

Best wishes,

James

Re: Katrina

by Pauline, 15-Apr-17 05:58 AM GMT

That's a great shot of the Weasel Katrina – you must have been very quick off the mark to capture that. I had to look up the difference between Weasel and Stoa and had no idea they were so similar. I had always assumed the Stoa was markedly bigger but not always the case seemingly, the tail being a fairly key identifier. Really like the GS shots too which I shall probably look for if this dull weather continues.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 22-Apr-17 10:22 PM GMT

Thank you Wurzel and Brex. Thanks Pauline, it was a mixture of speed and persistence as it kept coming out every now and again.

Cambridgeshire

by Katrina, 22-Apr-17 10:26 PM GMT

I went to Cambridgeshire for 2 days. On Thursday the weather was cloudy. I saw no butterflies flying but spotted one roosting orange tip which turned out to have an egg on the same plant.



Re: Katrina

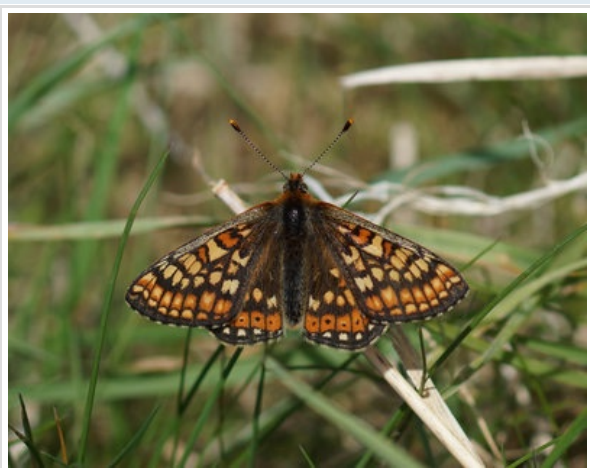
by David M, 23-Apr-17 07:41 PM GMT

It's amazing how regularly you find Orange Tips tucked away on the cuckoo-flower when it's overcast, Katrina. It's almost as if they know that's where they're best camouflaged.

My First Marsh Fritillary

by Katrina, 11-May-17 05:28 PM GMT

Yesterday my sister and I went to a hill in Wiltshire hoping to see Marsh Fritillaries. The first butterfly we saw was a roosting Grizzled Skipper. Later we saw more Green Hairstreaks than you can point a camera at. Also seen were plentiful Dingy Skippers, Grizzled Skippers, Brown Argus and Small Heaths. There was an Orange-tip, some Brimstones, Red Admirals, Peacocks, a Wall, Holly Blue and Speckled Wood. We were fortunate to meet Millerd who later showed us where he had seen a Marsh Fritillary. We then had a couple of fly-bys. He also showed us some Small Blue he had found. Later on I searched nearby and found resting Marsh Fritillary. Many thanks to Millerd for showing us the area with the Marshies and for his expertise in identifying butterflies in flight saving me from chasing up hills after Walls and Peacocks.



Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 11-May-17 08:58 PM GMT

Today on a 20 mins stop off at Kithurst me and my sister found 6 Duke of Burgundys and a mating pair of Dingy Skippers. Also seen was a Red Admiral and Speckled Wood. At Amberley Wildbrooks in on and off rain we saw one Red Admiral and one Small Tortoiseshell. At Anchor Bottom where we only looked in a small area we saw approx 40 Common Blues, one or two Wall Browns and a Cinnabar Moth.



Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 11-May-17 10:44 PM GMT

Cracking shots of the Marshie and the Dingies Katrina 😊 That Hill is normally covered in Marshies but it's still a bit early for them...at least I hope that's why there are only single figures of them there at the moment 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by David M, 11-May-17 11:22 PM GMT

Lovely images of the mating Dingies, Katrina. I think I've only ever seen that once so you have happened upon quite an enviable event!

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 11-May-17 11:56 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, I was very relieved to get a photo after the drive. I have never seen so many Green Hairstreaks in one place though 😊
Thanks David, I think we were lucky 😊

Re: Katrina

by Goldie M, 12-May-17 12:29 PM GMT

Fantastic shots Katrina 🍷🍷 Goldie 😊

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 12-May-17 06:37 PM GMT

Thanks Goldie – much appreciated 😊

Re: Katrina

by millerd, 12-May-17 10:03 PM GMT

Your shot of that Marsh Fritillary came out much better than mine (you no doubt saw I tracked it down again – or rather it found me...). 😊 Those Dingies at Kithurst were a nice find too. 🍷 😊

Dave

Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 12-May-17 10:13 PM GMT

Some very nice recent pictures Katrina 😊

Re: Katrina

by Butterflysaurus rex, 14-May-17 08:48 PM GMT

I agree, very nice photos Katrina, especially of the fabled push-me-pull-you butterfly. 😊

James

Re: Katrina

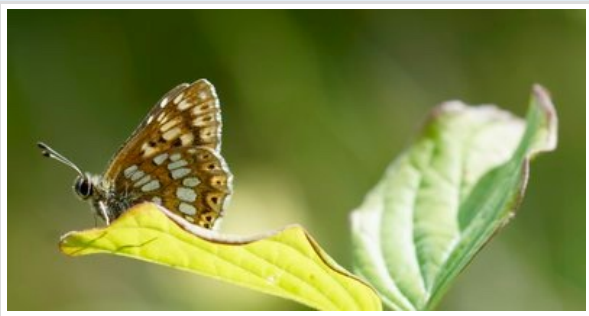
by Katrina, 24-May-17 10:48 PM GMT

Thanks Dave, I thought our photos were very similar. Thanks Bugboy and Brex.

Heyshott

by Katrina, 24-May-17 10:51 PM GMT

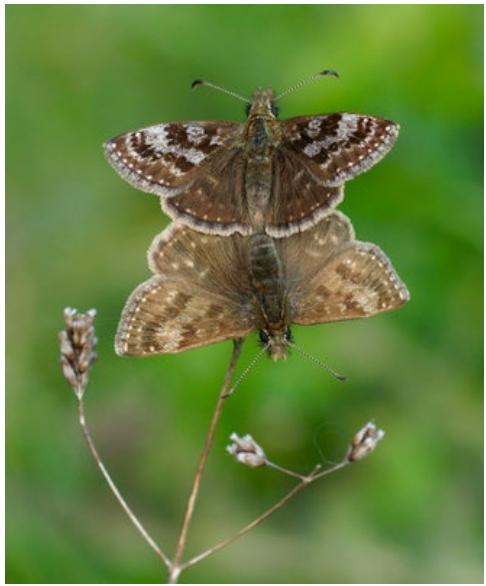
This morning I went to Heyshott. I found two Dukes. There were a lot of Small Heath about it seemed like one every 2 metres at least. I also saw 2 Green Hairstreaks as well as Dingy Skippers, Common Blues, Brimstones, Red Admirals and a Peacock.



More Dingys

by Katrina, 24-May-17 11:06 PM GMT

At a stop off on the way back I found a pair of Dingys.



Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 25-May-17 10:20 PM GMT

Cracking 'in cop' shot Katrina 😊👍 You can really see the eyelashes on the female 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Silver-studded Blue

by Katrina, 29-May-17 03:59 PM GMT

Thank you Wurzel.

At lunchtime today I was delighted to find a single Silver-studded Blue at Iping common in the intermittent rain.



Re: Katrina

by trevor, 29-May-17 04:11 PM GMT

Great shot of the Silver Studded Blue, and your earlier Dingy shots. Went past Iping yesterday, not enough time to pop in.

All the best,
Trevor.

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 29-May-17 10:18 PM GMT

As Trevor says a cracking shot of the Silver Stud, things are certainly motoring ahead now 😊
Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 29-May-17 10:42 PM GMT

My, that is a rather early SSB 😊

Re: Katrina

by Pauline, 30-May-17 07:46 AM GMT

That's a great find Katrina – Thought they were early last year on 4 June at Bramshott. I wouldn't be at all surprised if it's the first in the country. Great shot too 😊

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 30-May-17 08:48 AM GMT

Thanks Trevor, Wurzel, Bugboy and Pauline. Travelling to Iping certainly was a long shot and I just got lucky. I didn't notice any heather in bloom so I hope it manages to find enough nectar.

Chantry Hill and Botany Bay

by Katrina, 17-Jun-17 11:09 PM GMT

I had a very quick stop off at Chantry this morning then went to Botany Bay. At Chantry at about 7.30 am the butterflies were already flying round at crazy speeds. I saw Meadow Browns, Ringlets, Large skippers a Common Blue and a Hummingbird Hawk-moth. At Botany Bay again most were flying round at double speed. It was a pleasure to meet Nick Broomer again and his friend and other enthusiasts. I saw a Purple Emperor flying briefly high and then later another flew past me quite close but wasn't stopping. I know there was at least one sighting on the ground I missed. Strangely a Wood White I found seemed to be virtually roosting despite the high temp. Also seen were White Admirals, Silver washed Fritillaries, Red Admirals, Meadow Browns, Ringlets, Large Skippers, Large Whites, Brimstones, Speckled Woods and a Fox.



Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 18-Jun-17 11:48 AM GMT

Fantastic Wood White Katrina 🍷 😊 – are those still first brood?

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 18-Jun-17 05:25 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, I don't know. I expect so as this one had a nic in its wing on the other side

Holiday

by Katrina, 09-Jul-17 10:02 PM GMT

I have just returned from 2 weeks in Scotland. One week near Aviemore and one week on the island of Lismore. We were unlucky with the weather with not much sun but the scenery was beautiful.

At Insh Marshes we saw a few Northern Brown Argus, a Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary , some Red Admirals, Ringlets, Common Blues, Meadow Browns and Small Heaths.

On Lismore we saw Common Blues, Ringlets, Red Admirals, a few whites flying by and a single Marsh Fritillary which stayed in the same place nectaring for a long time. Thanks to Noelle for pointing us in the right direction for the Marsh Fritillary.





PS

by Katrina, 09-Jul-17 10:30 PM GMT

I noticed there are three brown spots on the closed wing photo which I haven't seen on the photos under the species section or stock photos section of

this butterfly. Does anyone know if this is just part of the variability of this species?

Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 09-Jul-17 10:35 PM GMT

Nice Marshie, you had better luck with them than me up there but sounds like we got the same weather!

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 09-Jul-17 10:42 PM GMT

Thanks, luckily we had been pointed in the right direction and I had my sister who spotted it! I think we just caught the end of the Marshies , I believe a few weeks earlier there were a lot of them. I was quite envious of your chequered skippers though!

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 09-Jul-17 11:14 PM GMT

Great shots Katrina - they certainly seem darker than the southerners I'm used to seeing 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Amazing Knepp

by Katrina, 12-Jul-17 10:41 PM GMT

I visited Knepp this afternoon with a friend who had never seen a Purple Emperor. I thought it was bit of a gamble so late in the season but as it turned out there were still plenty about. It was a pleasure to meet Phil and a highlight was two coming down from a tree together and landing together on his jeans. Other highlights were seeing large numbers of Purple Hairstreaks and some fresh Commas. Also seen were Gatekeepers, Meadow Browns, Speckled Woods, Red Admirals, Marbled Whites, deer and a black rabbit.

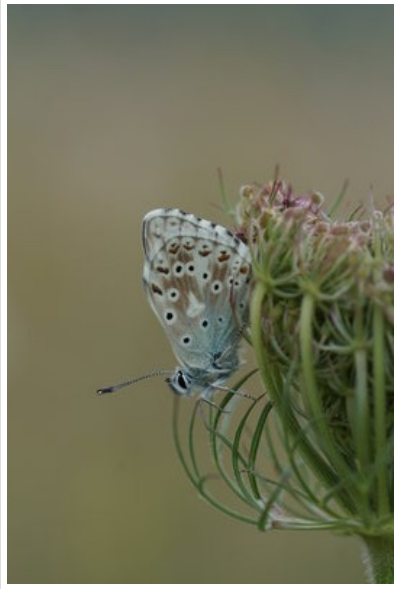


Evening at Friston

by Katrina, 15-Jul-17 10:21 PM GMT

I spent just over an hour at Friston Gallops this evening. I spent most of my time photographing but saw over 60 roosting blues within a small area. I suspect someone more intent on counting and with time to check the whole site would find hundreds. They were nearly all Chalk Hill Blues with a few Common Blues. Also seen were Meadow Browns, Marbled Whites and Skippers





Re: Katrina

by Butterflysaurus rex, 15-Jul-17 11:27 PM GMT

Hi Katrina, the Chalk-hill Blues are doing very well at Friston Gallops this year, like you I found lots when I was there last Thursday, including a freshly emerged male that crawled onto my hand! Well done getting some photos this evening, it was a bit windy! I saw loads of Essex Skippers and Gatekeepers on the upper slope there too.

BW's

James

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 15-Jul-17 11:46 PM GMT

Thanks James,
It certainly was windy, I gave up on photographing any on the top of tall grasses!

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 16-Jul-17 09:49 PM GMT

Beautiful Chalkhill shots Katrina 😊 The evening roost is a fantastic time to spend with butterflies 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 30-Jul-17 05:00 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel they are certainly easier to photograph in the evening!

Knepp Brown Hairstreaks

by Katrina, 30-Jul-17 05:38 PM GMT

This morning I went to Knepp and met Neil Hulme . I had been on a couple of occasions and had been unlucky with the weather and not seen any. Neil, however, changed my fortunes spotting 10 and I managed to spot one myself. Even better one of the ones he spotted was a fresh female who obligingly flew onto a flower for us. I had a wonderful morning.







Re: Katrina

by Goldie M, 30-Jul-17 06:04 PM GMT

Lovely Brown Hair Streak katrina, 🍷🍷 Goldie 😊

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 30-Jul-17 06:18 PM GMT

Thanks Goldie and thanks to Neil too. Added bonus photo



Re: Katrina

by trevor, 30-Jul-17 06:20 PM GMT

Brilliant stuff, Katrina. Knepp is a different proposition to Steyning, with many males coming down to nectar. (never seen a male at Steyning). With the Brown Hairstreak putting in so many appearances at Knepp, it's possibly more addictive.

PS. Just seen your female..... Stunning.

Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 30-Jul-17 08:02 PM GMT

Wonderful Hairstreaks Katrina, the weather's not allowed me an open wing shot this year yet 🍴

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 30-Jul-17 09:44 PM GMT

Thanks Trevor, Knepp is certainly on a different scale than Steyning. Thanks Bugboy, I really liked your Brown Hairstreak on Hogweed with the dark background shot too.

Re: Katrina

by essexbuzzard, 31-Jul-17 07:23 AM GMT

Wow, absolutely stunning hairstreak pictures, Katrina. Looks like Knepp will be going on my list of places to visit! 😊

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 31-Jul-17 09:55 PM GMT

Absolutely beautiful shots Katrina – the contrast between the bright bodies and the white body is cracking 😄🍴🍴

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by David M, 31-Jul-17 10:49 PM GMT

You hit the jackpot when you bump into Neil Hulme, Katrina!

So glad you got a good audience with this precious species. Even better that you did so when the weather wasn't your friend!

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 01-Aug-17 09:44 PM GMT

Thanks essexbuzzard – Knepp is certainly worth a visit – much bigger than any other site I go to (still get lost a bit). Thanks Wurzel and David, very lucky allround.

Roosting Blues

by Katrina, 02-Aug-17 04:02 PM GMT

With bad weather forecast I decided my only chance was to get out early. I went to Chantry Hill and found flying Meadow Browns and roosting Blues and one roosting Small Heath. I needn't have got up so early as they were all still roosting when I left at 8am. It seems trickier than you would think identifying them. Can anyone tell me if the photo below is a female Chalkhill or Adonis Blue?



Re: Katrina

by Neil Hulme, 02-Aug-17 04:42 PM GMT

Hi Katrina

I only ever see Adonis at Chantry as solo wanderers, once every couple of years. Based on this, and timing, you can be almost certain that this is a female Chalk Hill Blue.

BWs, Neil

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 02-Aug-17 04:48 PM GMT

Thanks Neil

Re: Katrina

by kevlings, 02-Aug-17 05:42 PM GMT

Katrina,

You know when you live 3 hours away from Knepp and everyone keeps posting great photos of Brown Hairstreaks....grrr 😊

Seriously though, enjoying your sequence of photos. The bonus photo on 31/7 is simply stunning. The colours are so bold and vivid.

Regards Kev

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 02-Aug-17 09:19 PM GMT

I'd also go with Chalkhill and a beautifully marked one at that, cracking photo 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 02-Aug-17 10:52 PM GMT

Thanks Kev, if it makes you feel better I know the frustration of seeing people get great photos when you're at work and then it raining when you are off!

Thanks Wurzel, I have decided I can't tell the difference by closed wing appearance, it looked to me just like a photo in the Chalkhill and Adonis photo albums!

Still Purple Hairstreaks

by Katrina, 06-Aug-17 09:53 PM GMT

I wasn't planning on going back to Knepp but my sister decided she wanted to see Brown Hairstreaks having never seen them. We saw some but they weren't coming down for us. Also seen were Meadow Browns, Gatekeepers, Small Coppers, Small Heaths, Large Whites, Speckled Woods, Purple Hairstreaks, Small Tortoiseshells, Red Admirals, Common Blues a single Peacock and a single Small Skipper.





Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 06-Aug-17 10:00 PM GMT

That's a cracking shot of the Small Tort Katrina, great composition 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Bonus photo

by Katrina, 07-Aug-17 10:36 PM GMT

While I was at Knepp on Sunday I was sitting on the grass looking up at a tree with a few Purple Hairstreaks when I noticed one 30cm from me in the grass. I watched it for a while and noticed it had half a wing missing and half an antenna. I wondered if it couldn't fly and tried to put it back on the oak. It happily walked onto my thumb but was having none of going back onto an oak (I tried several oaks several times) and it stayed on my thumb for 20 mins until flying back into the grass. I have seen White-Letter Hairstreaks in the grass before . I don't know why it preferred to be there or if it just couldn't fly back into the oak.



Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 08-Aug-17 09:39 PM GMT

That is one hell of a shot to have 😊👍 I've only experienced that once before but as I was in the middle of Splash Towers at Legoland and surrounded by children I couldn't get my camera out 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 13-Aug-17 10:09 PM GMT

Thank you Wurzel! I couldn't decide if it was a little tragic with the state of the hairstreak but I enjoyed the experience anyway.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 13-Aug-17 10:16 PM GMT

This afternoon / evening I went to Chantry Hill. It was a pleasure to meet Garry outside of a work party. I saw Meadow Browns, Small Heaths, Chalk Hill Blues , Brown Argus , one Red Admiral and about 14 Silver-spotted Skippers. They seem to be having a good year. I then briefly stopped at Anchor Bottom for about 30 mins but only found a few butterflies



Re: Katrina

by millerd, 13-Aug-17 10:35 PM GMT

A nice trio of photos, Katrina – very restful poses, especially considering how manic the Skippers can be in bright sunshine! 😊 I also missed your Knepp Brown Hairstreaks earlier and the Purple one too – excellent shots, and in particular the open-winged female. 🍷 😊

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 14-Aug-17 10:24 PM GMT

I particularly like the second shot, the way the wings are held gives it a mores striped than spotted appearance 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 15-Aug-17 10:22 PM GMT

Thanks Millerd. They certainly can be manic, I had to wait until early evening to get one resting!
Thanks Wurzel I see what you mean about the stripes!

Bonus photo

by Katrina, 15-Aug-17 10:28 PM GMT

Bonus photo



Re: Katrina

by trevor, 15-Aug-17 10:54 PM GMT

Lovely bonus photo, Katrina. I have yet to catch up with the Silver spots, this season.
Can't be everywhere at once !.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 16-Aug-17 08:07 PM GMT

Thanks Trevor, sometimes it would be good to have more time to see go to more sites in a week

Re: Katrina

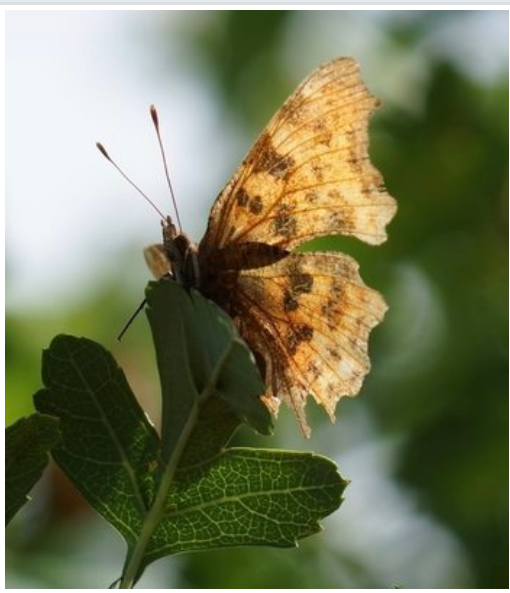
by Goldie M, 16-Aug-17 08:11 PM GMT

That's a lovely shot of a SSS Katrina, I love how the light catches it's head 😊 Goldie 😊

Steining

by Katrina, 16-Aug-17 08:14 PM GMT

I went to Steining today with a friend who had never seen a Brown Hairstreak and wanted to. Almost immediately I saw one flying and my friend found where it landed. Shortly followed by one a gentleman from Kent found. Also found were some caterpillars, I would be grateful if anyone could identify. We later found three more. Also seen were Adonis Blues, Common Blues, Small Heaths, Commas, Clouded Yellows , Meadow Browns and Small Coppers. Prior to that we had spent 30 mins at Southwick with no luck.



Re: Katrina

by Pauline, 16-Aug-17 08:25 PM GMT

Hi Katrina

I'd hazard a guess that they are the larva of the Buff-tip moth. You've probably noticed I'm not great at moth ID's but think I've seen these cats before.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 16-Aug-17 08:29 PM GMT

Much appreciated Pauline ! 😊

Re: Steyning

by David M, 16-Aug-17 10:06 PM GMT

Katrina wrote:

I went to Steyning today with a friend who had never seen a Brown Hairstreak and wanted to...

I've been in similar situations and it is an absolute joy after spending a few minutes observing when this precious quarry descends and reveals itself to a new audience.

I hope your friend returned home imbued with the same degree of satisfaction that we hardened enthusiasts enjoy.

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 17-Aug-17 10:11 AM GMT

Great shots as usual Katrina 😊 Sounds like another convert to butterflying has been initiated 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 17-Aug-17 07:36 PM GMT

Thanks David and Wurzel. I don't think their enthusiasm is as big as mine but they were talking about incorporating a return trip with a spot of butterflying with a longer walk another time.

Lullington Heath

by Katrina, 20-Aug-17 07:07 PM GMT

I took a walk with my friend today from Seven Sisters Country Park to Lullington Heath and back. We saw Meadow Browns, Small Heaths, Speckled Woods, Small Coppers, Common Blues, Commas, Red Admirals, a single Brimstone and some Whites. Back at the Seven Sisters Country Park there was a Hummingbird Hawk Moth by the visitor centre. Also seen were numerous dragonflies.





Castle Hill

by Katrina, 23-Aug-17 07:55 PM GMT

I went to Castle Hill for the first time today with a friend. I was pleased to find some fresh butterflies. Conditions were terrible for photography with very active butterflies and windy conditions. We saw Small Coppers approx 8, Chalk Hill Blues and Adonis Blues in the hundreds, some Common Blues, some whites, many Small Heaths and Meadow Browns one Clouded Yellow which looked particularly orange in flight which we got close enough to clearly id but wouldn't stop for a photo, one Wall, one fresh Green-veined white some Silver-Y moths and one Blood-vein moth. One Chalk hill Blue female seemed to have particularly prominent white spots on its wings.

Can someone identify the mating whites for me . I am thinking Small Whites but cant make up my mind.





Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 23-Aug-17 07:58 PM GMT

Small Whites Katrina 😊

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 23-Aug-17 08:00 PM GMT

Thanks bugboy!

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 25-Aug-17 09:52 PM GMT

Yep Small Whites Katrina, you did pretty well for shots despite the windy weather 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 25-Aug-17 11:35 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, eas a case of keep snapping and hope for the best!

Queries from Castle Hill

by Katrina, 27-Aug-17 02:19 PM GMT

This morning I went to Castle Hill again. I saw Common, Adonis and Chalk Hill Blues, Small Heaths, Meadow Browns, Speckled Woods, Whites, about 5

Small Coppers and a single Clouded Yellow. Amongst these I found some blue eggs and caterpillars / larvae. Does anyone know what they are? I also found a butterfly with a stripe of black instead of spots – can anyone identify the species? Will post prettier pictures later.



Prettier Photos

by Katrina, 27-Aug-17 05:14 PM GMT

Of an obliging Small Copper





Re: Katrina

by Butterflysaurus rex, 27-Aug-17 07:13 PM GMT

Really lovely Small Copper images Katrina, I'm quite partial to a bit of back lighting.

BW's

James

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 27-Aug-17 09:45 PM GMT

Thanks, Brex, but what do you make of the strange eggs on the previous posting?

Re: Katrina

by Butterflysaurus rex, 28-Aug-17 12:00 AM GMT

Katrina wrote:

Thanks, Brex, but what do you make of the strange eggs on the previous posting?

I'm not sure, my guess is they are probably moth cats. I suppose they could be sawfly larvae but I don't really know anything about them.

Sunshine. Bank Holiday and Queen of Spain Fritillary (A Winning Combination)

by Katrina, 28-Aug-17 09:31 PM GMT

Having checked the butterfly websites early this morning it was clear where I needed to go today. I convinced my friend of this and we headed off to see the Queen of Spain Fritillaries. We were very fortunate it being a bank holiday, sunny and they were within easy driving distance. When we arrived on site someone immediately pointed out a Q.O.S. so there was no searching required. It was a pleasure to see Badger Bob, B.rex, Colin Knight and Neil Hulme amongst others and brilliant to see this rare visitor. A special thank you to Dave Harris for finding them, Neil for posting about them and the farmer for being welcoming.



Re: Katrina

by millerd, 28-Aug-17 09:40 PM GMT

Nice photos of Queen of Spain, Katrina. Much 🍷!

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 28-Aug-17 10:13 PM GMT

Absolutely cracking set of shots Katrina, 🍷 multiply by a bucket load 🍷 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by trevor, 28-Aug-17 10:43 PM GMT

I can't say well found it seems, but you came away with some great images.

Re: Katrina

by David M, 28-Aug-17 10:50 PM GMT

Seems like it was an impromptu UKB late summer gathering, Katrina!

If I didn't live so far away I'd have been there myself!

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 28-Aug-17 10:54 PM GMT

Thanks Dave, Wurzel and Trevor! 😊

Thanks David, it certainly was like a get together so expect more postings of photos by others. Just shows the power of the butterfly websites!

Re: Katrina

by Maximus, 29-Aug-17 12:01 AM GMT

Fantastic shots of the Queen of Spain Fritillary, Katrina 😊 not that I'm 🇮🇪

Re: Katrina

by Goldie M, 29-Aug-17 10:28 AM GMT

Your so lucky Katrina to live so near to them 🇮🇪 lovely shots and some thing to remember through the Winter 😊 Goldie 😊

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 29-Aug-17 08:39 PM GMT

Thanks Maximus and Goldie! I do feel lucky to have seen them and lucky there are so many enthusiasts in Sussex keeping their eyes open!

Re: Katrina

by Pauline, 30-Aug-17 09:31 PM GMT

Smashing images there Katrina. Great shots of the underside which I personally think are more attractive. Wish I could have joined you.

Re: Katrina

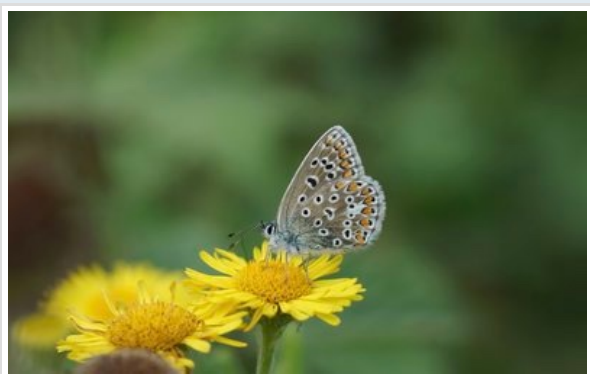
by Katrina, 02-Sep-17 09:14 PM GMT

Thanks Pauline, we wished you could have joined us too, would have been good to catch up.

Rowland Wood

by Katrina, 02-Sep-17 11:43 PM GMT

I went to Rowland Wood this morning. I saw four fresh Commas, some Common Blues, some Red Admirals, a Painted Lady, a Green-Veined White, Small Heaths, Meadow Browns, Speckled Woods and a worn SPBF. In Park Heath Corner there was a Peacock.

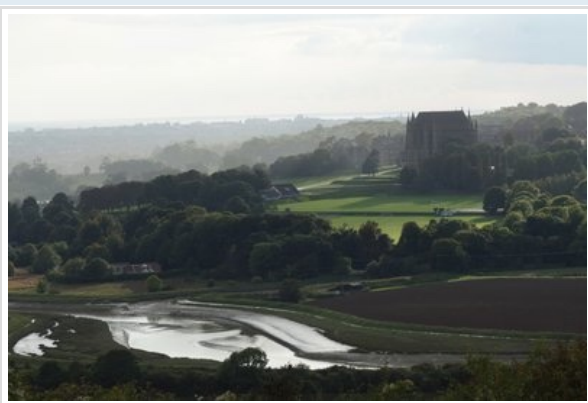




Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 17-Sep-17 06:38 PM GMT

Yesterday evening I stopped off at Mill Hill. I did find a few Meadow Browns, Small Heaths and roosting blues but the best part was the views. Today I went to Castle Hill and saw at least 12 Small Coppers and a Migrant Hawker as well as Meadow Browns, Small Heaths, some fresh Common Blues and a Red Admiral





Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 17-Sep-17 07:56 PM GMT

Cracking views there Katrina – and the Small Copper is mighty fine 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by trevor, 17-Sep-17 08:20 PM GMT

A very moody and atmospheric image of the river and Lancing college. Although taken in the evening, it has an early morning feel to it.

Very nice,
Trevor.

Re: Katrina

by David M, 17-Sep-17 09:23 PM GMT

Twelve Small Coppers is a respectable haul anywhere, Katrina, and if you're still seeing Meadow Browns and Small Heaths then that's a bonus.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 21-Sep-17 09:19 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel and Trevor, I was pleased with the shots.
Thanks David, when I go out I keep thinking there will barely be any butterflies left but some are still turning up.

Small or Large White

by Katrina, 21-Sep-17 09:24 AM GMT

I went out yesterday to Castle Hill in almost continuous rain. I found this white – is anyone confident on Small Or Large? My initial thought looking at it was small but it does look like you can just see the black through the outside wing and it looks like it extends quite far round the wing. Later when the rain stopped I saw 2 Red Admirals and 2 Meadow Browns.



Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 21-Sep-17 10:31 AM GMT

My moneys on a Large White there Katrina 😊

Re: Katrina

by millerd, 21-Sep-17 11:58 AM GMT

I'd go with Buggy on that one, Katrina. You're right about the black showing through much further than it would on a Small White. I think the smudge of black scales on the top of the hindwing may be a Large White thing too, but wouldn't swear to that one! 😊

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 21-Sep-17 08:40 PM GMT

Thanks Buggy, you are becoming my go to white ID person.
Thanks Dave I think the smudge may be a thing too looking at the pictures in the pocket guide.

Re: Katrina

by David M, 21-Sep-17 10:52 PM GMT

Large White for sure.

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 21-Sep-17 11:35 PM GMT

It was a tricky one Katrina, but I've used the 'smudge' marking before to distinguish between Small and Large 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 27-Sep-17 11:58 PM GMT

Thanks for the ID help everyone

Mill Hill

by Katrina, 28-Sep-17 12:02 AM GMT

I went to Mill Hill today. It was a pleasure to meet Jerry who pointed out a Wall on my arrival. It was also a pleasure to finally meet Dave Cook (and Bella and Bertie). Stationary Clouded Yellows and Walls were as elusive as Trevor (who I kept missing). I did manage to find a relaxing Peacock who had nice blue streaks on the hindwings.



Re: Katrina

by trevor, 28-Sep-17 08:16 AM GMT

Sorry to have missed you yesterday, Katrina. I did, earlier in the day, mention to Dave Cook that we might see you, as I know you sometimes have Wednesday off work. Might bump into you at my second home, High and Over, sometime !.

Trevor.

PS. Peacocks don't come better than that one.

Re: Katrina

by David M, 28-Sep-17 09:16 PM GMT

Hard to see how one could improve on that Peacock image, Katrina. A beautiful, fresh specimen with its wings extended perfectly. Few insects are more striking than this.

Re: Katrina

by millerd, 28-Sep-17 10:03 PM GMT

That's a lovely shot of the Peacock, Katrina. 😊 I'm pretty certain it's the same butterfly I photographed on Tuesday – those hindwing streaks are spot on identical. It wouldn't keep very still for me, though... 😊

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 28-Sep-17 10:24 PM GMT

That is a picture perfect Peacock Katrina 😊 Does having those blue streaks make it a named ab or form?

Have a goodun

Wurzel

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 28-Sep-17 10:58 PM GMT

Thank you David , you are too kind. At the risk of sounding like a perfectionist there could have been a better background and the antennae could have been more in focus but otherwise I was very pleased. It certainly was/ is a beauty of a butterfly though. Thanks Trevor, I will bump into you sometime no doubt.

Thanks Millerd, I think you are right it looks like the same one. I like you Cloudie and Wall photos.
Thanks Wurzel, I don't know if an ab or not but I have looked at a few more Peacock images on this site and some of them posted on this site have a little blue there so probably not but who knows.

Re: Katrina

by Vince Massimo, 29-Sep-17 09:59 AM GMT

Hi Katrina,

Your Peacock is ab. diopthalmica, which is often overlooked.

<http://www.britishbutterflyaberrations.co.uk/species/inachis-io/aberrations>

I cannot take the credit for discovering this, because other members have previously flagged this up (most recently Allan.W)

<http://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/phpBB/viewtopic.php?f=16&t=9517>

Could you add the image to the Species-Specific Album (Peacock aberrations category) when you get time please.

Vince

Re: Katrina

by Allan.W., 29-Sep-17 04:35 PM GMT

Hello Katrina ,

I,m glad someone else is also finding these Blue spotted AB; Peacocks ,I,ve seen four now this season ,and even found one or two amongst my old shots ,can,t say I,ve really noticed them, before this season ,yours is a beauty ,with very large spots /streaks . Nice one !!

Regards Allan.W.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 29-Sep-17 08:10 PM GMT

Thanks Vince and Allan and apologies Allan for missing yours before (sometimes not enough hours in my day!) Also what a great resource the website linked is

The Neil Freeman photo 10.08.13 in the species section seems to have the blue dots too!

Re: Katrina

by millerd, 30-Sep-17 07:17 PM GMT

Thanks for spotting the Peacock's unusual markings, Katrina. I can now file my photos in the "abs" drawer! 😊

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 30-Sep-17 11:27 PM GMT

I went to Mill Hill at about 3pm today. I saw in rather dodgy weather Walls, Meadow Browns, Common Blues, a White and a Small Copper.



Re: Katrina

by Butterflysaurus rex, 01-Oct-17 09:10 PM GMT

Very handsome Peacock there Katrina! Good to see you're still finding some fresh butterflies. The weather has been a bit dodgy lately, seems autumn is on time this year.

ATB

James

Re: Katrina

by bugboy, 01-Oct-17 09:22 PM GMT

Katrina wrote:

I went to Mill Hill at about 3pm today. I saw in rather dodgy weather Walls, Meadow Browns, Common Blues, a White and a Small Copper.

I was there in the morning Katrina (left about 1). Saw a good range of species, mostly hiding from the wind at the base of the steep slope.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 02-Oct-17 07:01 PM GMT

Thanks James, I think the Peacock saved the day photography wise.

Thanks Bugboy, sorry to have missed you I should have got out sooner. The bottom of the slope is where I found most too.

Re: Katrina

by Goldie M, 03-Oct-17 11:06 AM GMT

Just seen your Peacock shot Katrina, it's quite Perfect 🍷 😊 Goldie 😊

Re: Katrina

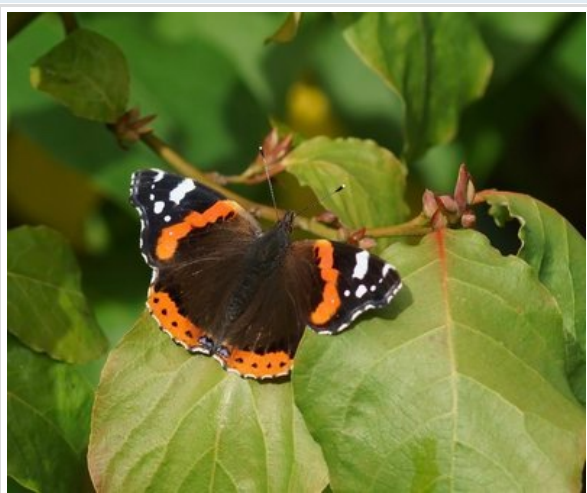
by Katrina, 03-Oct-17 08:00 PM GMT

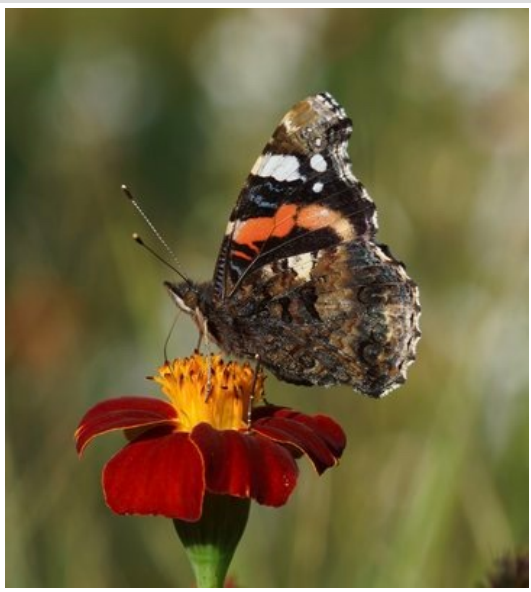
Thanks Goldie, the Peacock was perfect, now if only I could train them to sit on flowers on command.

Nymans

by Katrina, 25-Oct-17 07:37 PM GMT

Following reading about large numbers of Red Admirals at Nymans Gardens on Sunday on the Sussex Butterfly Website myself and a friend decided to go today. We saw a total of 43 Red Admirals including 3 bialbatas , 2 Peacocks and 2 Commas.





Re: Katrina

by trevor, 25-Oct-17 08:45 PM GMT

I envy you Katrina, the sun never quite reached me today, although I was right on the edge of the cloud. Your images suggest it could be Spring !.

Trevor.

Re: Katrina

by Katrina, 25-Oct-17 09:47 PM GMT

I was lucky with the weather for a change, grey when I left home and it turned into t-shirt weather at Nymans.

Re: Katrina

by David M, 25-Oct-17 10:23 PM GMT

That's a great return for a late October day, Katrina.

We'll all be mesmerised by such figures in 2-3 weeks time so well done for getting a last 'show' in before the season ends!

Re: Katrina

by millerd, 25-Oct-17 10:33 PM GMT

A nice selection and excellent numbers of Red Admirals, Katrina. They are very fond of mahonia flowers (second photo) - I've seen them on this late-flowering shrub into December. That Comma looks quite distinctively marked too.

Dave

Re: Katrina

by Wurzel, 25-Oct-17 11:04 PM GMT

43 Red Admirals is a remarkable count Katrina, I thought I was doing well with 8 or 9 today! 🤩 🍀 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel