

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 25-Jan-19 02:55 PM GMT

A few signs of Spring this afternoon.

The Snowdrops and the Daphne are from my garden.  
The Daffodils are on a South facing bank in the old station car park.  
This is not a record for this clump however, they were out on Boxing day in 2015.

Enjoy.  
Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 25-Jan-19 03:15 PM GMT

Great to see the Spring flowers Trevor, my Daffs are getting there but no where near out yet, but my Snow Drops were out when I came back from Kent after Christmas, they were a welcome sight 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 27-Jan-19 05:56 PM GMT

Spring is definitely on the march over your way Trevor 😊 and over this way with Snowdrops, Cocci, Daffs and Aconites all blooming at the moment 😊  
Fingers crossed we don't get another 'Beast' 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by John W, 27-Jan-19 10:26 PM GMT

Hi Trevor,

I saw a primrose in Madgeland Wood on Saturday (26th Jan). Which was a lot earlier than last year, when I didn't see any till March!



Cheers  
John W

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 27-Jan-19 11:09 PM GMT

Many thanks Goldie, Wurzel & John. We have just past the middle of the mid-Winter month, and gained about an hour in the evenings, all this plus a few early flowers make me a little optimistic that we are on the right side of things.

BUT! I will be more careful than last February, when on a Springlike day on the 15th I saw my first Butterfly, a Brimstone, and foolishly proclaimed " were off the mark ".

I think we all remember the weather that followed.



*February 15th 2018.*

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 29-Jan-19 11:24 PM GMT

Great to see, Trevor. The first daffs have flowered round my way and it is giving me a lift before even January is out!! We need to be on our guard though - last year, late February was abnormally cold so we still have 4 or 5 weeks to go!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 31-Jan-19 09:16 PM GMT

IT PAYS TO LOOK TWICE !.

One day on our trip to the French Pyrenees we pulled in to a lay-by, which was surfaced with fine granite chippings. I soon spotted a very fresh Dark Green Fritillary taking moisture from the damp surface, and having secured several satisfactory images, re-joined the rest of the group. On our return to the minibus, I noticed that ' the DGF ' was still there, so I snatched a couple more shots. Only this evening did I notice that the DGF had been replaced by a Niobe Fritillary, which was also taking moisture from almost the same spot!.



*Dark Green Fritillary*



*Niobe Fritillary.*

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 31-Jan-19 11:28 PM GMT

Crickety Trevor what a twofer 🤪🍷🍷 I'll have to go back through all my images and check them again now 😊

Have a goodun  
Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Feb-19 07:46 AM GMT

Cheers Wurzel, I have awarded myself a 🤪.  
Still, on the bright side, I now have one more Niobe image than I originally thought.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 01-Feb-19 02:16 PM GMT

That's still several more than me 🤪🍷🍷

Have a goodun  
Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Feb-19 06:12 PM GMT



Looking through a memory card from our trip to the French Pyrenees, I have selected some images not seen before. I hope some of the Butterflies below can be identified.

Looking forward to any help.  
Trevor.



?



*Sooty Copper ?.*



*Spotted Fritillary.*





*Queen of Spain Fritillary.*



?



?



*Large Blue.*



Large Blue.



Large Blue

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 02-Feb-19 03:22 PM GMT

Great set of shots Trevor 😊 – certainly help to keep the cockles warm in this wintry blast 😊 I reckon the blue before the Large Blues could be a Provencal Short-tailed Blue and the one before that could be a Silver Stud or at least one from that Genus? 😊 I agree with you on the Sooty Copper. The first one though really has me really stumped – it looks like a Ringlet species and looking through the Butterflies of Europe app I saw only one that fitted the bill with no markings whatsoever and that was a Water Ringlet 😊 Or it could be a non-marked Ringlet (*A. hyperanthus*) or even a very dark non-marked male Meadow Brown – a real puzzler 😊  
Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 02-Feb-19 09:57 PM GMT

Hi Trevor,

Although I've never seen it myself, I think your first image may well be the *constans* form of Yellow Banded Ringlet (*erebia manto*).

Quite a few others have posted images of this seemingly 'blind' species from the Pyrenees.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Feb-19 11:40 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel & David.

It's amazing what information is stored at the back of the brain, and just needs a prompt to bring that information forward.

I now remember our tour leader puzzling over the 'all brown Butterfly' and he came up with Yellow banded Ringlet. I now recall showing my image of this Butterfly to him during our alfresco lunch.

Thanks for the info on the Blues, Wurzel. Provencal Short Tailed Blue could be right, my bad open wing shot of that Butterfly shows very minute tails.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Feb-19 03:38 PM GMT

On three occasions my first Butterfly of the year has been found on Feb.15th. Like last year it was a Brimstone. Today I was with Dave Cook and together we spotted seven male Brimstones in different parts of Park Corner Heath and Rowland Wood.

On arrival at home, a Red Admiral was flying around the garden and landed on my neighbour's hedge, hence the bad, distant shot.

No bold statements this year! 😊 but a very enjoyable first day. Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by David M, 15-Feb-19 06:27 PM GMT

Well done, Trevor! I too saw male Brimstones during my lunch break at work today but, unlike yours, they remained frustratingly airborne! 😞



### Re: Trevor

by essexbuzzard, 15-Feb-19 07:12 PM GMT

Well done Trevor. We don't want to tempt fate but, whisper it, there is no sign of last years 'beast from the east'. And, as each week passes, it gets less likely.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Feb-19 08:42 PM GMT

Cheers David & Mark. Of the seven Brimstones seen today we only got our cameras near two, David. After last years pronouncement I'm not even going to whisper it, Mark. But the Sun was gorgeous today. It is nice to see the natural world waking up.

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 15-Feb-19 09:46 PM GMT

Well done Trevor, I knew this warm spell would get a few sightings. Sadly it's also coincided with my fortnightly run of 6 days at work so I'm spending my lunch break hoping something appears there 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 16-Feb-19 10:51 PM GMT

A fantastic rate of return for the first trip out Trevor 😊 The Mail still seems to think that we're going to be hit by a Beast from the East Mark 2 - so if they're as accurate as predicting this as they are Bar-Be-Que summers we should be okay 😊😊 Saying that I've got to head to Wales to visit the Outlaws soon so apologies in advance for any sudden downturn in the weather 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Feb-19 08:51 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

Cheers David & Mark. Of the seven Brimstones seen today we only got our cameras near two, David.

That's two more than I managed, Trevor!

This mild period shows no sign of easing up; in fact, Friday is forecast to threaten record February highs in some areas of the UK.

I trust you'll make the most of it.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 23-Feb-19 02:40 PM GMT

The fog and general gloom that has plagued the extreme South for the last few days finally lifted today to leave a clear blue sky, with some warmth.

A day too good to miss, I headed over to Rowland Wood where I eventually found nine male Brimstones and a single Comma. A moment of intense activity occurred as I was trying to photograph a settled Brimstone, with another flying close by. I was then buzzed by a non-stop Comma, later the Comma kept returning but never landed. Somewhere later I saw Gary Norman crouching down in the distance. He was photographing the Comma which had stopped to bask at last.

A great morning, and a promise of some Dog Violets for Gary's Pearl Cats, when they resume feeding.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by ernie f, 23-Feb-19 02:50 PM GMT

Trevor

Great Stuff. I have only seen two Brimstones so far and they did not hang around to have their photos taken.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 23-Feb-19 10:40 PM GMT

Great stuff with the Brimstones Trevor 😊 They're a right pain at this time of year – I saw numerous ones today but they just wouldn't hold still – mind you I didn't mind too much as my lens is with Nikon having the Autofocus totally replaced (wore out after 8 years of abuse 😊) so I couldn't have done any behaving butterflies justice anyway 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 24-Feb-19 09:10 AM GMT

Well done with the settled Brimstone, Trevor. Not one of the half dozen I've thus far seen has been so obliging.

Good to see Commas again too. One of my favourite British butterflies.

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 24-Feb-19 06:00 PM GMT

I'm also very envious of those settled Brimstones, Trevor, and of your early start to the season! 🌞🌿 Great shots.

Still, it's all started happening everywhere now, and three more days at least of decent weather too.

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 25-Feb-19 05:20 PM GMT

Many thanks, Gentlemen. I'm pleased the Brimstones were enjoyed. 😊 .

Today it was a Peacock and at least three Commas that were the stars. From a frost to 16c in about five hours, and boy was it warm after the freezing start.

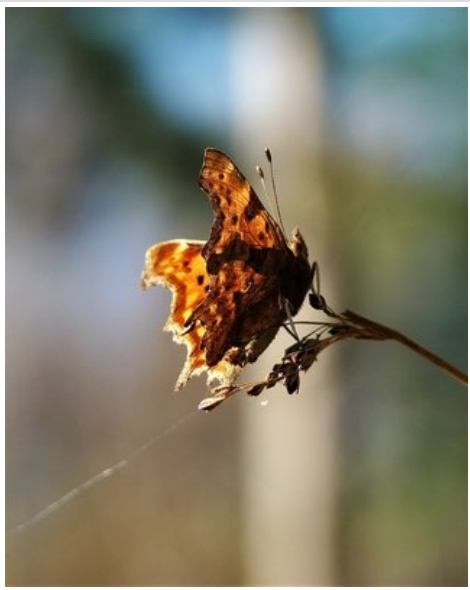
The first sighting was the Peacock, which was basking on the rough path. As I walked on I spotted a basking Comma, and after a few shots, two more Commas were seen sparring in the air. How many of the three I managed to photograph, I'm not sure as they were very lively in the warmth ( heat! ).

Today I broke a personal record for the number of Butterflies seen in February, I imagine I am not alone with that record either!.

Trevor.









### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 25-Feb-19 05:29 PM GMT

Some very nice Comma shots there, Trevor – and you're right, my February sightings in the last three days are far more than all other Februaries added together. 😊

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 25-Feb-19 10:34 PM GMT

Cracking Comma Trevor 😊👍 I reckon the Graveyard is definitely worth a check the next time you're back over this way – the Small Tortoiseshells have started emerging well 😊 Still trying to bag my first Peacock 🐦

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 26-Feb-19 11:46 AM GMT

Great shots Trevor, those Commas look very well behaved 😊

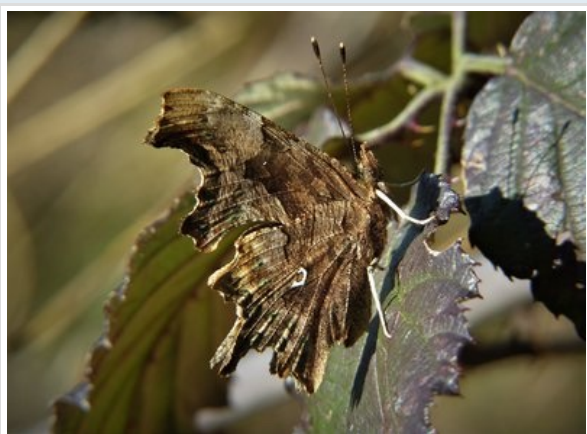
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Feb-19 09:02 PM GMT

Many thanks, Dave, Wurzel & Paul.

More of the same today, but it was the Peacock that was seen most often. As the Peacocks warmed up, high speed chases and sparring sessions were frequent. In the heat, yes that is the right word, several Peacocks and Commas thoughtfully closed their wings shortly after landing, allowing for some underside shots.

Another interesting day,  
Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 26-Feb-19 10:56 PM GMT

Great Peacock shots Trevor 😊 Better make the most of it tomorrow as it looks set for 'all change' in time for the weekend 😊 Interesting to hear that the Peacock is the most commonly seen at that site - for me it's been the Small Tort 😊 I recall Philzoid saying something similar - is this an East/West thing I wonder?

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 27-Feb-19 04:18 PM GMT

Nice work, Trevor. Most of the country seems have turned into a 'Comma-fest' at the moment. Hopefully they will have a good season this year.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 27-Feb-19 04:48 PM GMT



Many thanks, Wurzel & David.

I was hoping for a Small Tort fest today, Wurzel, not seen one yet. So for a change of scene, I went to Hampden Park on the outskirts of Eastbourne. Despite very promising habitat, and cracking weather, all I saw in three hours was two male Brimstones. Fortunately one of the Brimstones was very camera friendly. It was interesting watching the Brimstones and how they ignore one another when they meet, unlike Speckled Woods which will squabble for ages.



### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 28-Feb-19 05:32 PM GMT

Fantastic shots of the Comma's Trevor and I love your shot of the Brimstone, I've just booked a trip to Eastbourne in early June, I'll put that Park on my to do list. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 28-Feb-19 10:30 PM GMT

Great Brimstone shot Trevor 😊 You might have to wait a little longer for the Small Tort fest – normal weather service has resumed it seems 😊 oh well it was enjoyable while it lasted 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 01-Mar-19 12:06 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

..Fortunately one of the Brimstones was very camera friendly.

That's the shot I've been after for a fortnight! 😊

Well executed, Trevor. Not an easy task at all.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Mar-19 03:27 PM GMT

Many thanks, Goldie, Wurzel & David.

Goldie, When you are in Eastbourne, the bus service called ' the loop ', run by Stagecoach takes you to Hampden Park from the town.

After all the action earlier this week, the last two days have had an end of season feel about them, Wurzel. Hope that wasn't our Summer, a la 2012.

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 01-Mar-19 07:44 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

...Hope that wasn't our Summer, a la 2012...

Indeed, I remember that 2012 began with an early, rather warm and dry spring.

But then again I saw 50 species in 2012 despite the deterioration in the summer weather, something I have not managed to do in any year since.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Mar-19 08:02 AM GMT

That is remarkable, Neil. I just remember nearly every planned trip out being scuppered by poor weather. I have never kept a record of species seen in a particular year, but I am very aware of species I have yet to see. Even last year I managed two new species, the Swallowtail and Black Hairstreak. For the rest I have to travel. Just to think that one on my list, the High Brown, could once be found locally.

Hoping for a great year for us all,  
Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by Benjamin, 02-Mar-19 12:19 PM GMT

Echoing the thoughts of many others, I'm really impressed with your Brimstone success Trevor – I must be well into 3 figures over the last few days, but not a single decent photo opportunity. Granted I haven't really been trying very hard, but I'd have expected to have stumbled across a few opportunities with the kind of numbers that have been airborne. I suppose to console myself I can reflect that the real joy was, of course, to be seemingly continually accompanied by their graceful fluttering flight alongside miles and miles of otherwise largely deserted river bank habitat – had they all been settled and posing perfectly for photographs the experience would have been far less memorable. Hmm – you can see what I've done there – not convinced? No – me neither!

Great pics and reporting – no doubt bump into you soon –

cheers–

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Mar-19 05:20 PM GMT

Many thanks, Ben. My Brimstone shots weren't just a fluke. There has been a lot of scrub and tree clearance work in Rowland Wood and this has opened up some very wide vistas. Even patrolling male Brimstones have to land at some point, and it is now possible to watch one from a distance as it searches the undergrowth for females, finally go down to bask, and then carefully creep up on it. Even then I sent a few up as I approached them. Glad my images have been enjoyed.

All good fun!  
Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by Maximus, 02-Mar-19 08:24 PM GMT

I concur with everyone else, Trevor, particularly nice Brimstone shots (and Commas too) 😊

Mike

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 08-Mar-19 12:01 PM GMT

Many thanks, Mike. Another Comma this morning!

A cool morning of temporary sunshine tempted a visit to the old railway, in Hailsham. As soon as I walked from the car park I spotted a lone Comma high up a tree full of blossom. Filled with optimism I walked the entire path, but nothing else was seen.

At only 9c, with increasing cloud, perhaps I was lucky to find just one Butterfly today!

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 10-Mar-19 07:38 PM GMT

A fantastically springlike shot Trevor – it practically shouts "SPRING!" from the screen, a beauty of a shot 😊🍀🍀 Hopefully that might be one reasonable day again sometime this week 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 10-Mar-19 09:21 PM GMT

Thanks, Wurzel. I was quite pleased to capture anything at all, the Comma was about 30ft up in that tree. I think we are in debt to the weather gods for those very fine late February days. My car was nearly blown off the road this morning on the A27, as I was passing under the bridge that leads to Mill Hill!

Looking forward to a week at the Pub in April.

Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 14-Mar-19 12:44 PM GMT

A rare shot of a UK March butterfly! Well done, Trevor. I've yet to see anything since 27th February! 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 24-Mar-19 09:28 PM GMT

I was thrilled this morning to discover the first of an eventual eight Small Tortoiseshells. These had obviously overwintered in the roof space of the farm outbuildings. Most were found basking or nectaring on Dandelion and White Dead Nettle.

I do hope today wasn't the peak emergence on the farm, as several years ago I counted about forty, in similar weather conditions.

These were my first Small Torts since early last Summer. Great to see them at last.

As I was searching the meadow for more Small Torts, three Brimstones were flying within the meadows boundaries.



Halnaker, West Sussex.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 25-Mar-19 11:30 PM GMT

Great news one the Small Torts find Trevor 😊 I had a paltry 5 today by comparison 🍀 – mind you I only did a little sample as walking is still uncomfortable.

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 26-Mar-19 09:30 AM GMT

Eight Torties isn't bad going, Trevor. I've only seen three myself so far this year, and south Wales is normally a very good spot for them.

Let's hope they weren't hit too hard by the heatwave through May, June & July.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 27-Mar-19 05:06 PM GMT

Many thanks, Wurzel & David.No one could have been happier than me to see those Small Torts.

Monday's outing was spoilt when my newer camera failed to focus properly on any setting.

So Tuesday, with my spare camera suitably armed, I headed off to the old railway.

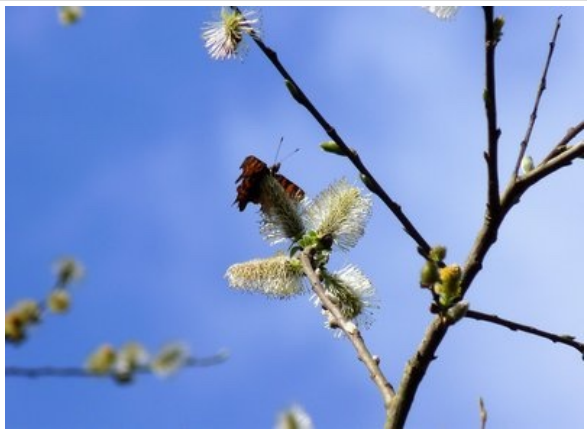
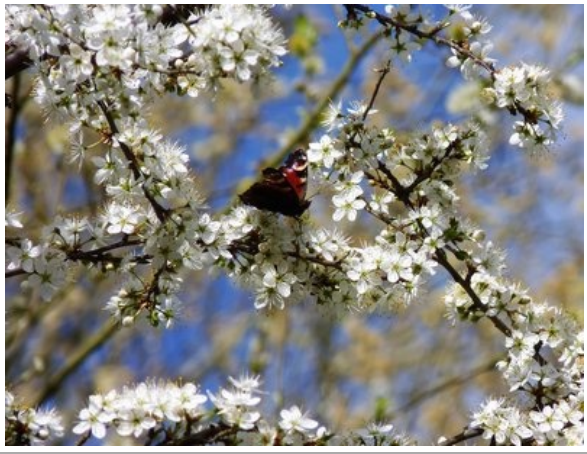
Three species were seen, Peacocks, Commas and Brimstones, though on Monday a solitary Small White flew past me.

One of Tuesdays Brimstones presented me with the gift of an opportunity, when after patrolling up and down, it suddenly landed where I was standing. So close in fact that all I had to do was twist around and crouch down to get some shots!.

Also the site is host to quite a few Bee Flies.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 28-Mar-19 12:29 AM GMT

Cracking stuff Trevor – especially the Brimstone – they don;t often do that in the spring 🤗🌍 I hope this warm spell lasts but I hear tell that the Mail is predicting "3 months of glorious spring weather" – so it could all be over by the weekend 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 28-Mar-19 08:42 AM GMT

If the Mail was predicting Arctic storm and tempest I would feel more optimistic for some fine Spring weather. I am partly at fault for the weather here, I foolishly whispered ' we're off ', now we have had two days of grey gloom!.

### Re: Trevor

by essexbuzzard, 28-Mar-19 08:29 PM GMT

I would take those long-range predictions with a pinch of salt if I were you. I seem to remember some of the papers predicting the worst winter for goodness knows how long. The exact opposite of what actually happened.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 29-Mar-19 05:59 PM GMT

A wonderful morning was spent at the old railway today. The highlights include three Speckled Woods, my first this season, and another first in the shape of a female Brimstone. She was not at all bothered by my presence as she hopped from one flower to another, Dandelions were favoured over Celandine. I was hoping the three patrolling males seen earlier would find her, but where are they when you need them!. All the usual species were present, and the old line is shaping up nicely for the Orange Tips, any time now.

Hats and gloves next week?.  
Trevor.







**Re: Trevor**

by Neil Freeman, 29-Mar-19 07:57 PM GMT

A nice selection there Trevor, I particularly like that first Speckled Wood, a lovely fresh example 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 29-Mar-19 09:23 PM GMT

Yes, nice Specklies, Trevor – and the others as well. Female Brimstones definitely like dandelions – I found one today that just wasn't going to budge however close I got!

I wish you hadn't mentioned the hats and gloves – I've also just seen the forecast from the start of British "Summer" Time on Sunday... 😞

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 29-Mar-19 09:35 PM GMT

Lovely Brimstone Lady Trevor and a great set of Specklies 😊🍷 I look forward to the Specklies arriving as then I know that it shouldn't be too long until the Greenstreaks and Grizzlies etc start to put in an appearance 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 29-Mar-19 10:30 PM GMT

Heartwarming selection of images, Trevor, particularly those Specklies, which I fear I'm going to HAVE to find this weekend otherwise it might be mid-April given the weather forecast! 😊

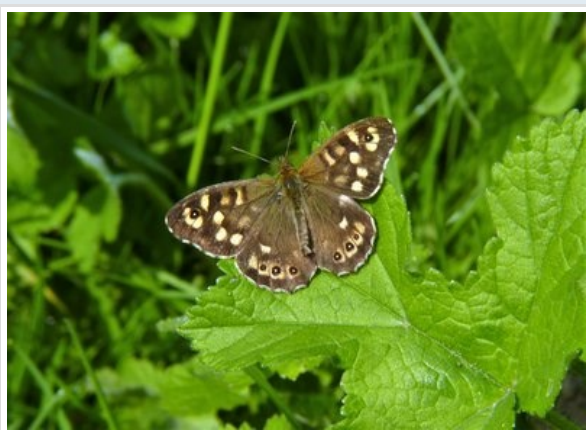
**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 30-Mar-19 08:03 PM GMT

Many thanks, everyone, Speckled Wood numbers are increasing daily around here.

Considering the very fine weather today, the number of Butterflies seen was surprisingly low. No Commas at all, and only a handful of manic Peacocks. Male Brimstones were quite abundant but none stopped. At least the Specklies were obliging.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 30-Mar-19 09:04 PM GMT

Lovely Specklies Trevor 😊 I reckon that if the butterflies round your way were even half as solar charged/twitchy as those round my way that could explain the low numbers Trevor 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 31-Mar-19 07:04 PM GMT

I had a surprisingly bountiful day today, given the very strong, cool breeze blowing. No fewer than nine Small Tortoiseshells were found basking or nectaring at Halnaker. Presumably, they were all fresh from hibernation. The roof space in the farm buildings provides ideal Winter protection for them, and they are seen every year at about this time, and always make for the same piece of ground, which offers plenty of Dandelions and Nettles.

No other species were seen today.

Trevor.









The only worn specimen seen today.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 31-Mar-19 10:25 PM GMT

It was hard work butterflying round my way today Trevor so your haul of 9 Small Torts definitely deserves 🍷🍷. I finding the build of Small Torts is taking a bit longer this year as the season seems to be stop-starting 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 01-Apr-19 06:50 AM GMT

Nine Tortoiseshells is some going, Trevor – in fact it's three times as many as I've seen all year! 🍷🍷

### Re: Trevor

by Andrew555, 01-Apr-19 10:41 AM GMT

A cluster of Small Torts ? Lovely stuff. 🍷😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 05-Apr-19 06:50 AM GMT

The Sunrise here in East Sussex this morning, 5/4/2019 at 06.20



### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 05-Apr-19 11:45 AM GMT

Hi! Trevor, fantastic shot of the Sunrise 😊 we've yet to see the Sun for a while too much cloud, you were lucky to see all those Small Torts in that cold wind ,well done,! I went round my local spot and saw nothing even in the sheltered area's , I'm hoping tomorrow will be better 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 05-Apr-19 12:15 PM GMT

I'm glad you enjoyed the Sunrise Goldie, it was one of the best I've seen.

And a lifetime first this morning!

In the vain hope of finding some Butterflies, I risked a trip to the old railway this morning. As I was carefully searching an area which can be good for an early Holly Blue, I noticed the unmistakable shape of a Brimstone wing tip protruding from under a leaf. Lifting the leaf to have a better look, I was pleasantly surprised to discover a mating pair. I have done quite well with temporarily immobile Brimstones so far this season, but this pair were in no hurry to complete their act, and were still locked in their embrace an hour later.

It was worth going out after all!  
Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Pauline, 05-Apr-19 01:46 PM GMT

That's a lovely shot of the sunrise Trevor and well found with the mating Brimstones. They're usually well camouflaged and well-hidden so you did well to spot them.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 05-Apr-19 06:46 PM GMT

That is a cracking find Trevor and a species I've yet to add to my In Cop Collection 🤔🐛🐛 It really reveals the the difference in colour between the male and female 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 05-Apr-19 08:05 PM GMT

Great find with the mating Brimstones Trevor.

A cracking selection of Small Tortoiseshells too, they really show off the variation that can be found in this species.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 05-Apr-19 08:31 PM GMT

Very envious of that pairing, Trevor – not one I've see either, though I've seen endless rounds of courtship. A very nice find. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 05-Apr-19 08:45 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor, Like Dave I've watched countless desperate males being rejected but never managed a pair in cop 🐛

**Re: Trevor**

by essexbuzzard, 05-Apr-19 10:42 PM GMT

Me neither. Well done Trev!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-Apr-19 11:02 PM GMT

Many thanks folks. Further research today suggests that finding Brimstones mating is quite rare, as they usually choose to copulate on the underside of a leaf. Indeed this was the case today.

I thought a couple more images of the pair might be in order. I might add that after photographing them I carefully replaced the surrounding foliage in a similar fashion to how I found it.



*My first view.*



**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 05-Apr-19 11:06 PM GMT

I've had mating Brimstones on my radar for quite some while, Trevor, but have never seen them.

Fabulous images and even more well earned for having gone out in conditions not conducive to butterfly activity.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 06-Apr-19 04:18 PM GMT

UPDATE ON THE MATING BRIMSTONES.....

Still there at 3.40 this afternoon!. Is that a record?.

Given the weather at the moment, It is possible they will still be present tomorrow. If anyone within driving distance wishes to add them to their portfolio, PM me tonight. I can give very precise directions.

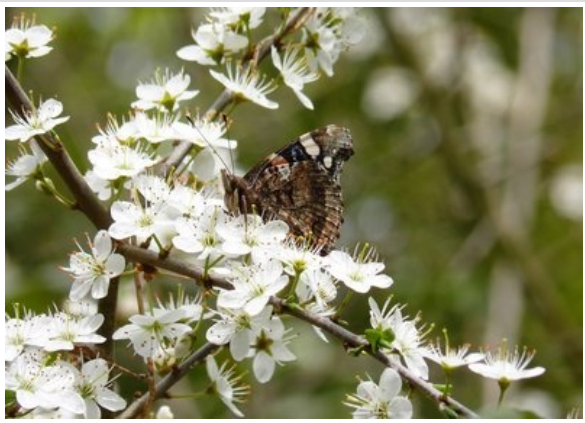
Also seen this afternoon, a very shy Red Admiral.

Trevor.





Image taken at 3.35 6/4.



### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 06-Apr-19 04:26 PM GMT

I wish I lived nearer Trevor, I'd follow your directions to the letter 🍷🍷😄 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 06-Apr-19 06:34 PM GMT

I reckon that there are a couple of explanations for their long copulation Trevor – either they're frozen solid or they've evolved Tantric Copulation 🤔😬  
😄 A few years back I found a male Brimstone sitting with its wings open, it looked like it could have been dead but the minute the temperature rose ever so slightly and the sun came out it was off. It was as if someone had hit the 'play' button on a remote and taken it off of 'pause'. Could be a similar thing here – they were copulating and the temperature was okay and then it dropped by a degree to start with and they just went into 'lock down' where they were and whilst they were doing what they were doing.

I'd love to take you up your offer and add this species to my collection but tomorrow has already been planned for me 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 06-Apr-19 07:31 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel. I think it's all down to the weather of the last few days. We have had, at best, a few glimpses of Sun, coupled with a chilly breeze. How long had those Brimstones had been under that leaf before I found them I wonder?.

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 06-Apr-19 08:56 PM GMT

{quote} Still there at 3.40 this afternoon!. Is that a record?

Amazing, Trevor. Have they been frozen into torpor by last night's cold weather?

It surely can't be advantageous for such short lived creatures to be in 'cop' for so long.

**Re: Trevor**

by Andrew555, 08-Apr-19 11:44 AM GMT

Well done with the Brimstones Trevor, I like the shot of the RA as well. 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 08-Apr-19 05:00 PM GMT

My guess would be the weather is the reason they've not gone their separate ways too. I wonder how many others are frozen in cop out there, unseen by human eyes 🤔

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 15-Apr-19 05:44 PM GMT

Many thanks, everyone. The mating Brimstones seem an age ago now !.

I finally caught up with Spring today.

On the Butterfly front I can only describe the last week, or so, as dire.

It was Thursday last week before I spotted any Butterflies in Wiltshire at all, then a male Brimstone and a male Orange Tip were seen flying at Lacock, and that was it until today. After a very slow start this morning, the Sun slowly began to win over the cool breeze, and several male Specklies came out to play. I then caught sight of a very fresh male Large White. This specimen really made me work for a photo, by long periods of flight between brief landings on Dandelions, then taking off just I pressed the shutter. Finally I nailed the b\*\*\*\*r.

Next my first male Holly Blue of the season landed in an awkward spot, for one shot only.

I had a lunch appointment with Doug, so I had to reluctantly leave the old railway.

After a fabulous meal, we headed off to Waldron, where Doug remembered a large patch of Cuckoo flower by the side of a lane. Sure enough there was a mass of flowering Cuckoo plant, where a Comma and an OT could be seen in the distance. The OT was quite obliging for the camera, probably as a result of less than perfect OT flying conditions.

According to the forecast, this week should get better!.  
Trevor.





*Part of the mass of Cuckoo flower.*





### Re: Trevor

by MrSpOck, 15-Apr-19 06:38 PM GMT

I have known butterflies get stuck in cop, normally its the male that wont let go, the female normally throws the male off when she is ready. I have known pairings to be 3 days, then i have made the male let go, before they both starve. If a pairing is late in the day, they normally stay overnight and seperate when it warms up the next day.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 16-Apr-19 10:36 AM GMT

It was hard work last week in Wiltshire Trevor – it was like Spring had been put on hold and when I went out I really had to search and work for my butterflies – it's not got much better so far this week 😊 Oh well in a weeks time it will be great...just as I go back to work 😊 That 'line' of Cuckoo Flowers is a great sight to see 😊 and love the stained glass OT 🍷



Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 16-Apr-19 02:36 PM GMT

Your shots of the Holly Blue are encouraging Trevor, not seen one White or HB yet here it's been so cold and today is cloudy, I hope to have more luck in the next few days. Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Andrew555, 16-Apr-19 02:42 PM GMT

Good stuff Trevor, glad you were able to catch up with spring. 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 16-Apr-19 10:20 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

...I finally caught up with Spring today....

Certainly seems like it, Trevor. Better late than never, I suppose.

I guess we're all going to get a taste of summer over the next few days – dust off the T-shirts and get out there!

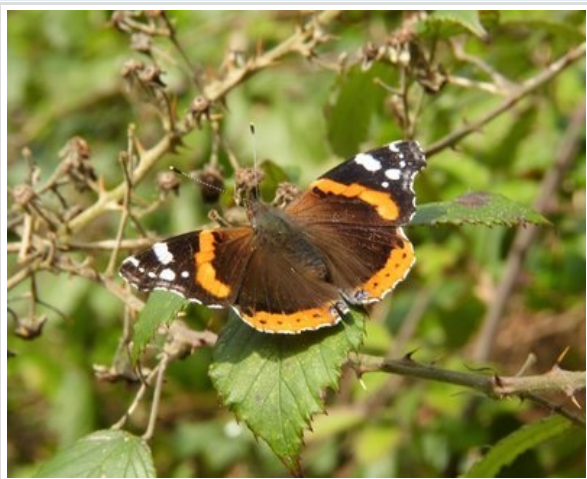
**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 17-Apr-19 08:25 PM GMT

Many thanks all. Spring really did arrive today.

The old railway performed almost at it's very best today, with nearly all ' normal ' Spring species seen. The weather was mild with weak milky Sunshine, near perfect for bringing out the Butterflies, but cool enough to make sure most species would frequently stop to bask. These conditions made the likes of the Small White and Orange Tip easier prey for the camera.

Hope to have an OT fest tomorrow!  
Trevor.







Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Apr-19 05:21 PM GMT

Great spring selection, Trevor. I'm especially envious of your Small White, a species I haven't managed to get a photograph of so far this year. 😞

### Re: Trevor

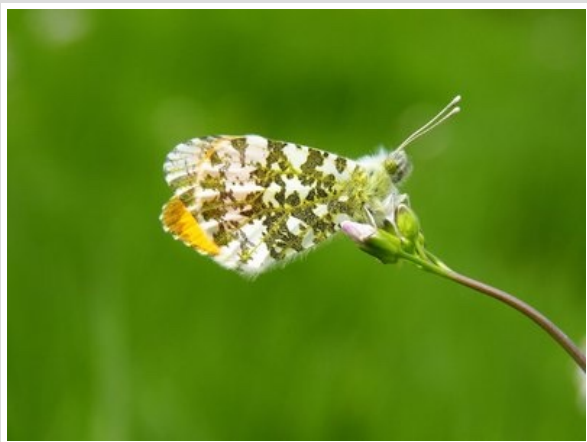
by trevor, 18-Apr-19 09:05 PM GMT

OD'D on OT'S!!

This afternoon I was taken to a wonderful, unimproved, meadow near Billingshurst, West Sussex. This is a noted site for the Orange Tip, and it did not disappoint. Although a lot of patience was required because the OT's had plenty of room to patrol. In the late afternoon things began to quieten down, and photography became easier as the OT's selected suitable flower heads on which to roost. Amazingly we all came to the conclusion that there were probably no more than four males present, but I did obtain a very bad image of a female.

My thanks to Doug Neve for driving, and to our guide Nigel Symington for a wonderful afternoon.

Trevor.









### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 18-Apr-19 10:51 PM GMT

Great to see you managed to fill your boots with OTs Trevor 😊 Great sequence of shots 📷 but I like the attitude of the second – he looks like he's just tucking his shirt in and straightening his tie, making himself presentable 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Apr-19 11:46 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**  
OD'D on OT'S!!..

Sounds positively cathartic, Trevor. I must say Orange Tips were around in superb numbers on the Gower today; I've rarely seen so many. They must be close to peaking now.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 19-Apr-19 06:46 PM GMT

Thanks, David & Wurzel.

After yesterday's success with the male Orange Tip, I decided that today would be dedicated to tracking down some females. Over the course of the morning and late afternoon I visited three sites, and each site provided a few females. Photography was difficult as the heat built, but as is often the case those found at either end of the day were more co-operative.

For some reason I saw many female Brimstones today and very few males. It would seem that mating is complete, as the few males seen were soon sent packing by the females.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by ernie f, 20-Apr-19 07:20 AM GMT

Trevor

I've been going through your last few weeks posts and came across your mating Brimstones for the first time. Marvellous. I have never seen Brimstones in-cop and it always amazes me that I haven't given how many Brimstones I have seen.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 20-Apr-19 06:42 PM GMT

You did well with those females Trevor better than me at any rate - I've only managed a couple of grab shots 📷📷 Love the first one - for some reason it reminds me of a Koala 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 21-Apr-19 08:12 AM GMT

Must admit, female Brimstones and Orange Tips are becoming commoner by the day down my way. I often feel a bit sad when I see male Brimstones searching the evergreens, because the chances of them finding a virgin female are surely nil or thereabouts?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 22-Apr-19 06:46 PM GMT

Having been inspired by some fabulous images of Green Hairstreaks in various diaries, I went over to Abbots Wood this morning specifically to look for them. There were none to be seen in my usual location, but I did spot a single Small Copper, and many Green Longhorn Moths while searching.

Later I explored another area of the Wood, and met Theresa Turner. She kindly recommended an area within the Wood where Green Hairstreaks had recently been seen. Sure enough I saw four at this spot, and managed images of one.

On the way back to the car several Large Whites were flying. As I watched them two met mid-air and immediately dived to the ground, landing among some Wood Anemones. When I located them



they had coupled. All this happened in a few seconds.  
As Wurzel once said ' no chocolates and fine wine ' for their courtship!.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 22-Apr-19 10:45 PM GMT

Glad you go the Green one Trevor 🤔🍷 Butterfly courtship is very much 'wham bam' I don't think they even give a 'thank you mam' 😳😂

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 23-Apr-19 02:22 PM GMT

ORANGE TIP AT REST.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 23-Apr-19 08:59 PM GMT

That's a lovely shot Trevor – my favourite style 🤔🍷 I'll get round to a reply to your PM in a bit 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 24-Apr-19 12:24 PM GMT

Well done with the Green Hairstreak, Trevor. I know you were looking on with envy at others' postings, but right now I'm doing likewise with your Small Copper. It'd be nice if a few of these would turn up in my neck of the woods.

## Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 24-Apr-19 02:50 PM GMT

I love your Green Hair Streak Trevor 🍷🍷 I wish I knew where they were here in Kent, they're one of my favourite Butterflies, lovely shot 😊 Goldie 😊

## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 25-Apr-19 08:39 PM GMT

Many thanks, folks.

The weather improved by late morning, so I risked a local trip, not too far from the car!

But what a brilliant Butterfly afternoon lay in wait, only the strong breeze spoiling photography with everything swaying around.

Orange Tip numbers must be nearing peak, with many flying, and diving for cover when the cloud came.

Specklies provided an additional challenge when trying for Holly Blues, as they constantly saw them off as they tried to land, and many were seen low down today, but never had time to settle.

A bonus Green veined White added to the days tally.

Trevor.









*Female Speckled Wood.*

### **Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 25-Apr-19 09:03 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor - I just can't get close to a Green-veined White at the moment 🍷, mind you over the next few days it's a case of batten down the hatches 😊😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### **Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 26-Apr-19 10:53 AM GMT

Lovely shots Trevor, like Wurzel I can't pin down a Green Veined White, not even seen one yet. Goldie 😊

### **Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 26-Apr-19 03:37 PM GMT

Cheers Wurzel & Goldie. I'm sure a GVW will pass (land) your way soon.

After yesterdays frustration with the Holly Blues being hassled by Specklies, I decided this morning

to try High and Over, always a reliable site for this species, and importantly today out of the wind. Although this location is high up on the Southdowns, the dense shrubbery makes an excellent windbreak.

In all, I found five Holly Blues, three males and two females. The icing on the cake came when one of each sex fully opened their wings for the camera! The male, in particular, took me by complete surprise. I watched it flying high up and was amazed when it swooped down and landed at waist height on a bramble leaf right by where I was standing. After several closed wing shots he suddenly opened up completely, and very quickly. Usually, from my observations, wing opening can be a very slow affair.

I wonder how that male scores on the Millerometer!.

Trevor.



*2nd female*



*male*



*Female*

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 26-Apr-19 08:02 PM GMT

First of all has Dave been tutoring you on the sly – and if so how much are you paying him 😊😂 I reckon the both will score highly on the millerometer 😊 and I'll easily give you 🍷🍷 for those shots 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 26-Apr-19 09:27 PM GMT

Great spring images, Trevor. Yes, Orange Tips must now be at their apogee, but Holly Blue females are still there to be seen, and you have been more fortunate than me so far this year with your image of that one in your most recent post.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 28-Apr-19 07:08 AM GMT

Many thanks, David & Wurzel. Those Holly Blue images were all the sweeter that day, as it was the species I had set out to see. I was amazed when the male just flicked it's wings wide open, in an instant.

My first Sussex Pearl Bordered Fritillary, taken on Wednesday 24/4. Within 10 mins of taking these images, I received a thorough soaking from a passing shower.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 28-Apr-19 03:39 PM GMT

Brilliant Trevor 😊 I love the look of the dark margins 😊🍷 I can't wait to get out looking for them too 😊  
Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 28-Apr-19 06:01 PM GMT

Lovely Holly Blues, Trevor – less than perfect weather days are probably best for seeing them like that. That male is better than any I've found so far this year... 😊

The Pearl is a real treat, too. Hopefully there will be many more to come!

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 28-Apr-19 11:48 PM GMT

Beautiful PBF, Trevor. A particularly nicely marked one.

Well worth a soaking, I'd say! 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Andrew555, 29-Apr-19 10:06 AM GMT

Great stuff from your local patch Trevor, I particularly like that GWV. 😊

Well done with Holly Blues, I'm still waiting for open wings. 😊

Very nice PBF. I was glad to get off the mark with this species myself on Sunday. 😊

Cheers



## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 29-Apr-19 08:07 PM GMT

An early morning visit to Abbots Wood was made in order to find some butterflies in the process of warming up.

This was largely successful, aided by several spells of cloud cover.

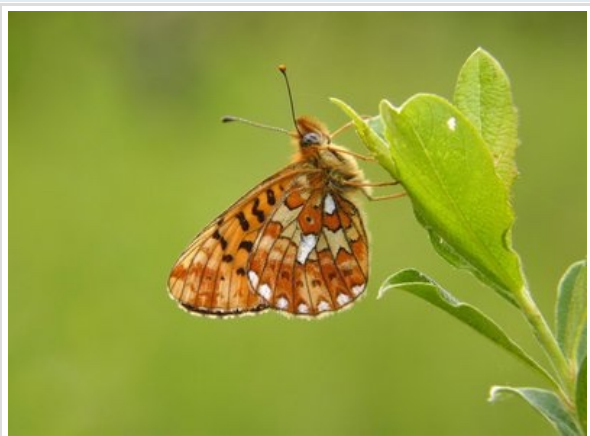
The first sighting was of a male Pearl Bordered Fritillary on a Birch sapling, followed by a very nice Small Copper.

Over the course of the morning, several Green Hairstreaks put in an appearance, including one that obligingly perched on a Bluebell, a lovely combination.

I was later joined by James and later, Ben, and I think we all obtained some satisfactory PBF. closed wing shots during a longer spell of cloud.

Good to see you both again.

Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 29-Apr-19 08:11 PM GMT

Fantastic shots Trevor 🍷🍷 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 30-Apr-19 03:49 PM GMT

Thanks, Goldie.

YOUR HELP REQUIRED.

This morning I went up to High and Over. I spotted a Small Tortoiseshell with unusually pale forewing markings which extended into the hind wings. This was the first Small Tort I've seen in East Sussex this year. Unfortunately, the butterfly was distant and on the wrong side of a barbed wire fence, so the image below was taken on full zoom and then heavily cropped.

Any thoughts ?  
Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-Apr-19 05:48 PM GMT

High and Over was my destination this morning to catch up with Spring brood Wall Browns. They were easy to find, one was even found within 2mins of arrival. All were very frisky, except one which I nicknamed ' new boy ', because he was very fresh, and hadn't learnt the art of quick escape, when there was an attempt to photograph him. Only males were found, about twelve in all, and they all, except the one mentioned above, maintained their reputation as one of the trickiest butterflies to approach.

Trevor.



*Note twin eye spots.*



### Re: Trevor

by Pauline, 30-Apr-19 06:32 PM GMT

Ah, Trevor, what can I say. I'm sat here with no heating or hot water and the engineer can't get here til Thursday. The fence is only half up and I've had to have a tree surgeon out to take down another tree..... and you are posting smashing images of PBF and Walls and the sun has been out all day 🌞🌳🌳🌳🌳🌳

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 30-Apr-19 07:21 PM GMT

Cracking Wall shots Trevor - I can't remember the name of the ab with extra eye spots - anticrassipuncta or something? 😊 Whatever the name brilliant 😊 As for the Small Tort it could be one of several things - water/abrasive scale damage, pathogenic or possibly age but due to the consistency is it a aberrant? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by essexbuzzard, 30-Apr-19 10:17 PM GMT



Excellent stuff Trevor. I was in Sussex yesterday, hoped I might see you at Mill Hill, perhaps next time!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-May-19 07:24 AM GMT

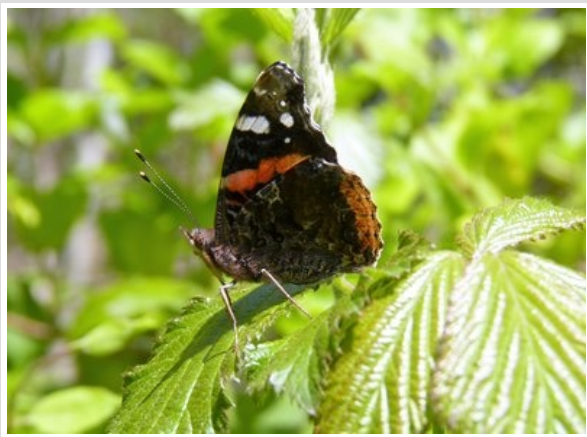
Cheers, everyone. I'm sure our paths will cross, Mark. We met in Sussex and Wilts last year!.

I had a spare hour yesterday afternoon, so it was off to the old railway.

This site in particular is better in the morning, so pm visits aren't made very often.

Highlights included two female Red Admirals, a Green veined White, and the discovery of a single OT egg.

Back home, a fresh female Holly Blue landed on one of my shrubs for a quick shot.





### Re: Trevor

by ernie f, 01-May-19 07:52 AM GMT

Trevor - Lovely "String of Pearls" shots and an interesting Small Tort aberration. Also the Walls, not a butterfly I am able to get to see where I live. Fantastic stuff.

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 01-May-19 08:48 AM GMT

You've had a productive few days by the look of things, Trevor. Good to see the Wall Browns, but the Pearl Bordered Fritillaries are the most eye-catching. Let's hope they have a good flight period.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-May-19 07:42 PM GMT

Today almost turned out to be a waste of time. Leaving home, the cloud was breaking up nicely. But on arrival at Kithurst flower meadow the cloud cover was complete, and the very light breeze was chilly. It was not until after lunch that some milky sunshine appeared, and the temperature rose. This brought out three Dingy Skippers, a fresh Grizzled Skipper, a very fresh Brown Argus, and two Green veined Whites, and flyby Brimstone, Red Admiral, male OT, and a Holly Blue. Unfortunately no Duke of Burgundy appeared. But at least I managed three new species for this year. 😊.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 01-May-19 07:59 PM GMT

Lovely set of shots Trevor especially the Brown Argus 🇧🇪 not seen one yet but I reckon there could be some at Tilshead by now 😊 I still haven't got a passable shot of a Green-veined White either 🇧🇪

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 01-May-19 08:52 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. It might be worthwhile leaving Tilshead until the three blue species are on the wing. It was fabulous there last Spring. I was under constant pressure, which of the dozen or so butterflies in view at any one time do I point the camera at!. And yes there were plenty of Brown Argus to be seen.

All the best,  
Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 02-May-19 09:27 AM GMT

Lovely Butterflies Trevor especially the Grizzled Skipper 🍃🍃🍃 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 02-May-19 05:52 PM GMT

That's a lovely female GVW, Trevor, and your Dingy Skipper is making me yearn for a bit of sunshine over the Bank Holiday weekend so I can go out and track down a few myself.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-May-19 09:01 PM GMT

Fast asleep this evening. My first Common Blue of the season.



**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 05-May-19 09:50 PM GMT

A very restful pose, Trevor – still, if you had the same weather today as I did, I'm surprised it's not tucked into a duvet!

Dave



## Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 06-May-19 07:43 PM GMT

Nice one Trevor they make a lovely sight when they roost like that, must have cheered you up 😊🌱  
First Marshie today...soon be time to get to the hill 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 06-May-19 08:01 PM GMT

I awoke to see the sun rising and a totally cloudless sky this morning  
By about 07.30 my east facing rear garden was really starting to warm up so I thought  
a sheltered spot, I visit regularly at this time of year, in Abbots Wood might be worthwhile.  
This proved to be the case with two Green Hairstreaks, about eight male Pearl Bordered Fritillaries,  
And two Small Coppers found. As the cloud increased I thought it was about time for some breakfast.

A very good morning.  
Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 06-May-19 08:38 PM GMT

Eight Pearls before breakfast 🤪😄 That's some going Trevor 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 07-May-19 12:12 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

I awoke to see the sun rising and a totally cloudless sky this morning

That was an excellent move by the look of things, Trevor. At this time of year, when the sun is rising so early, it's not impossible to find a few butterflies in the breakfast slot.

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 07-May-19 01:00 PM GMT

Great run of posts Trevor. I reckon that Small Tort had some sort of scale defect. Also I'm very jealous you can just wake up and walk to Abbots Wood. Doesn't matter how early I leave, 9am is the earliest I can ever get there 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 07-May-19 05:12 PM GMT

Many thanks David & Paul.

I prefer an early morning butterfly session, especially in the Summer, when it soon hots up. Having said that I discovered the delights that a warm mid to late evening can offer, last year, at Mill Hill and Park Corner.

I am fully aware of how lucky I am to live so close to some wonderful sites, with woodland and downland in the local area, and of course the old railway for Spring species.

Have a great season,  
Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 08-May-19 07:12 PM GMT

So he is Trevor 😊, no doubt he's not the only butterfly we both saw independently!

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 08-May-19 08:50 PM GMT

Yes, it's easy to forget that on sunny mornings, the butterflies are up before I am! Well worth the effort to go out and find them before they get too energised (or before it clouds over, which has been the main problem here recently!) 😊 Those PBF were a great reward for that effort.

Cheers,

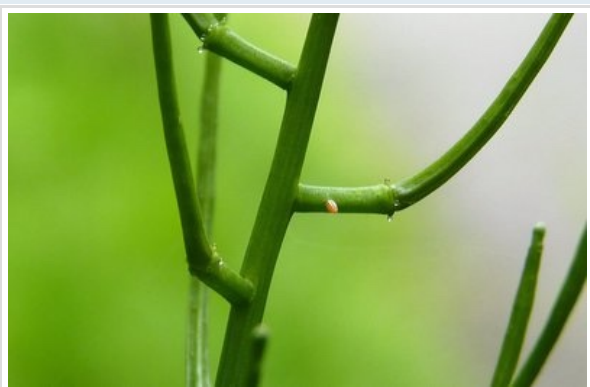
Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 09-May-19 12:14 PM GMT

Cheers Dave, the early Bird catches the butterfly!.

This morning I found a mature Orange Tip egg.  
Also a new one for me in the form of a Nursery Web Spider.





## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 10-May-19 07:42 PM GMT

As today is the eve of my Birthday, I thought I would seek out two rare Species, and have a pub lunch. I achieved all three!

First, it was Kithurst flower meadow for His Grace, the Duke of Burgundy. Despite a horrendous traffic jam near Washington, caused by road resurfacing, I arrived just in time to watch a Duke, Dingy and a Brown Argus sparring. When they broke off the Dingy Skipper landed side by side with the Duke, apparently the best of friends.

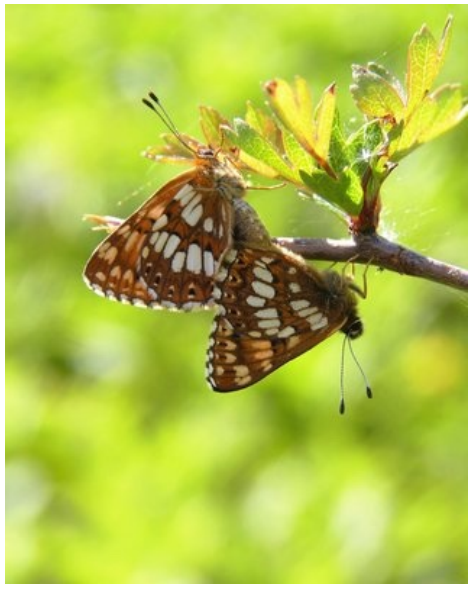
I witnessed many sparring sessions, but one in particular took a different form to the others I had seen, more of a playful chase than a dispute. So I followed them and sure enough I soon had a mating pair of Dukes to photograph. This pair also delighted the three other enthusiasts on site.

Kithurst was also host to some Holly Blues, a Green Hairstreak, two very fresh Common Blues, and several Brimstones.

Part two to follow.









**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 10-May-19 08:39 PM GMT

After a fabulous couple of hours a Kithurst flower meadow I headed over to Chiddingfold forest, via The Blacksmiths Arms, at Adversane where I had lunch and a strong coffee. Suitably refreshed I arrived at Chiddingfold under threatening skies, which fortunately came to nothing. As I walked along the ride I was amazed at the number of Brimstones, Orange Tips and Green veined Whites flying. Of course the Wood White was my target, and they were initially quite hard to find, with not many on the wing yet. I spotted my first Wood White flying parallel with me as I walked, and it was soon joined by another. I am amazed when one landed on a dead bramble, with the other one flying around it, this one then joined the first one and after a short head to head session they coupled, a second mating pair of the day!

My next piece of good fortune came as I headed back to the car, when a pair of Brimstones were found fluttering in a ditch. This courtship attempt resulted in the male, with wings wide open, being given the brush off by the female. Unfortunately the male's upperside was not in pristine condition.

And so concluded a fabulous pre Birthday treat.  
Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 10-May-19 08:41 PM GMT



**trevor wrote:**

..Also a new one for me in the form of a Nursery Web Spider.

Strange looking beast, Trevor. I always thought spiders had 8 legs?

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 11-May-19 06:54 PM GMT

Happy Birthday Trevor 😊 I can see that you filled your boots with Butterfly Birthday pressies 😊 Fantastic Dukes and Duchesses and the pairing couple – lush 🍷🍷 Great Wood Whites and the courting Brimstones – sounds like a Birthday (eve) to remember 😊🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 11-May-19 07:34 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. The whole day worked to perfection, and saved about 85 miles.

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 11-May-19 09:10 PM GMT

That's quite a collection of pairings, Trevor. Seems like the return of sun and warmth has raised passion levels in the butterfly world!

How on earth you managed to get a Duke and a Dingy to sit still next to one another is extraordinary. These two are in the top ten for 'twitchiness' and intolerance, with Dingies difficult enough when they're on their own!

The Wood White sequence is fascinating too. You've had a great day and an early birthday treat.

**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 12-May-19 06:37 AM GMT

Belated Happy Birthday !

**Re: Trevor**

by kevlng, 12-May-19 08:27 AM GMT

Happy Birthday Trevor. What a cracking day, even under inconsistent weather conditions. Love the Duke & Duchess mating and as if that was not enough the Wood whites too. Well done.

Regards Kev

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 12-May-19 05:57 PM GMT

Fantastic shots of the Dukes Trevor, also the Wood Whites 🍷🍷 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 12-May-19 08:37 PM GMT

That was a good day out, Trevor – The Wood White pairing is interesting in that it took so little time to start after the couple found each other. This adds to the debate about the alleged "courtship" ritual which can go on for some time... 😊

The Duke & Dingy combo is a great shot to get – a very unlikely couple to find together. 🤪

And a very happy birthday from me as well. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 12-May-19 10:33 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for the Birthday greetings and favourable comments.



Today I fancied some Adonis Blue therapy, but I have to say that they seem to be able to detect a camera from 10 paces away. I lost count of how many, posing perfectly, escaped just as I was about to approach them. Anyway patience paid off, but I was denied that flash of electric blue.

Another star was a very docile Small Copper, which was not at all flighty. Not a first sighting for the year, but a Small Heath landed ( for a change ) in an ideal spot for an image.

Another enjoyable session,  
Trevor







### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 12-May-19 10:52 PM GMT

A lovely set of Adonis Trevor 😊 I know what you mean about the flash of electric blue, I the dot see that more with these second brood possibly as the lighting is stronger then? You forgot to mention the cracking little hideaway Dingy 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 13-May-19 11:20 PM GMT

You did alright with the Adonis, Trevor, in spite of their twitchiness!

Nice to see a Small Heath posing in a place unobstructed with grass blades for a change. If only they were as accommodating as those Small Coppers! 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Andrew555, 14-May-19 02:32 PM GMT

Dukes and Wood Whites in cop, A Duke and a Dingy side-by-side, fresh Adonis, to say nothing of the rest. Great sights and shots Trevor. 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 14-May-19 02:38 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel & David. Tilshead should be just right for Adonis when I arrive.

Early this morning I popped over to Abbots Wood to see how the Pearl Bordered Fritillaries were faring. I needn't have arrived so early, as it was nearly 8am before the first one was seen. This was mainly down to the fairly strong, cool, breeze, but by 8 o'clock the Sun's warmth could be felt.

My main aim was to try and locate a female PBF, as for me it's been all males so far this season. The butterflies seen today varied greatly in condition, from fairly fresh to near death. Indeed one poor old fellow lost part of it's left hind wing as I photographed it!. ( see images ).

As is usual the female PBF I was after, turned up in the main ride as I was heading home. It was also good to see at least four PBF flying along this ride as the best Bugle and Violets grow along there.

From my observations the numbers of PBF at Abbots Wood seem to be down this year, Tired gene pool?.

Trevor.



*Female PBF.*



*Female PBF.*







*Left hindwing complete.*



*Note piece of left hindwing missing*

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 14-May-19 11:02 PM GMT

Great set of shots Trevor, there are Adonis at Martin Down now so they'll be bucket loads at Tilshead when you get there 😊 Really get capture of the 'now you see it, now you don't' piece of hind wing 🤔 I always put wing damage down to ears from Brambles etc or bird strikes, I didn't realise that butterflies can just fall to pieces 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 15-May-19 06:23 AM GMT

Interesting observations, Trevor. I'm glad you managed to see a female; as you say, the males tend to be far more ubiquitous, although now that their season is past its peak, I'd expect that to change.

How did your faded specimen lose part of its wing?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 17-May-19 06:29 PM GMT

Just a quick image from a trip to Wiltshire. 16/5.



### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 17-May-19 07:01 PM GMT

Hi Trevor,

Just catching up on your recent stuff, some great reports and photos of a nice selection of species.

Looking at the Pearl with the 'apparent' piece missing from the hind wing, I could be wrong but I notice the angle is slightly different from the previous photo and it appears that the small leaf below the butterfly is over the wing giving an illusion of a piece missing...if you see what I mean.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 17-May-19 07:10 PM GMT

Well spotted Neil, I usually greatly enlarge my images on the laptop before posting. On this occasion I didn't, so you are quite right, when enlarged it is a leaf in the way 🤔.

Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 17-May-19 10:16 PM GMT

That first female PBF is very heavily marked – such a contrast to a "normal" male. It does make it easy to tell them apart. 😊

And a nice Marshie too – they seem to be out on all their sites now (was that any particular bit of Wiltshire? 😊)

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 17-May-19 11:05 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor 😊 Did you manage a trip to Tilshead on your flying visit? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 17-May-19 11:33 PM GMT

Well done with the Marshie, Trevor. Seems they're taking off everywhere!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 18-May-19 07:59 PM GMT

On Thursday I set out at 5.10am for my annual trip to see the Marsh Fritillary.  
My first call was Tilshead, Wilts. This usually busy site was quiet save for quite a few Brown Argus.  
Another week or so should see the three regular Blue species found there flying.

Onward, to find the Marsh Fritillaries, which were slow to show, but Green Hairstreaks ( including one with a full set of white spots ), Grizzled Skippers and a surprise, solo, Duke of Burgundy kept me more than busy as I searched for my first Marshie.

Most of the Marsh Frits seen were in a different area. Once found, some were supercharged and others quite placid, and all except one were in good condition.

Trevor.







*Basking on luxurious Lambs wool.*







*Only a single Duke was found.*



*Tilshead Brown Argus.*

### **Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 19-May-19 06:16 PM GMT

Cracking shots Trevor especially the Duke 🤩🇧🇪 Was that taken in the little depression just off the main track on the usual side? Tried the other side of the Hill today – blooming brilliant – so much better now than a few years back when you could barely get to it 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 19-May-19 06:56 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. Yes, that part of the hill really did perform. Unlike my usual spot!.

Forgot to post this image the other day, and it is my favourite!  
Marsh Fritillaries don't usually pose so 'open', more often than not it's a moth like pose.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 19-May-19 07:58 PM GMT

That is an unusual posture Trevor – like you say they're normally more Moff like 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 19-May-19 08:54 PM GMT

Yes, thanks for directing us to the other part of the Hill, Trevor – many more Marshies round there as well as a fair bit of other stuff. 😊 And your Duke is not the same as either of those we saw...

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by Maximus, 19-May-19 09:04 PM GMT

Some lovely Marsh Fritillaries, Trevor, I must take a look soon, before they're past their best.

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 19-May-19 09:32 PM GMT

Can't get enough of these Marshies, Trevor. That last Duke is impressive too with it's extremely dark hindwings. Nice individual.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 20-May-19 07:04 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for your kind comments.

This morning I spent several hours searching, and hoping, to find some early Small Pearl Bordered Fritillaries. After covering a wide area I eventually located two, a male and more surprisingly a female. As might be expected both were very fresh.

Trevor.



Female.



Male

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 20-May-19 08:47 PM GMT

Glad to see they're starting to emerge, trevor. I got a shock when I saw one in my local area last week; I had thought they'd only be around about now.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 20-May-19 10:58 PM GMT

Great find Trevor 😊🍀 Fingers crossed they've managed to cling on in Bentley – the habitat was much improved and the Pearls were liking it 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 21-May-19 09:58 PM GMT

I spent a very enjoyable evening searching for roosting Butterflies. As well as a Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary, I met the two most obliging Small Heaths, not on the ground tilted to one side, but on Bracken fronds.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 21-May-19 11:15 PM GMT

Brilliant Small Pearl Trevor 🤩🌱 I'm not used to seeing Small Heaths unobstructed, let alone on Bracken 🤩🤩

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 24-May-19 02:32 PM GMT

Nice work with the roosting butterflies, Trevor. Sure beats chasing them around in the heat of the day.

**Re: Trevor**



by Goldie M, 24-May-19 02:53 PM GMT

Mouth watering shot's Trevor, love the Pearl's and great shots of the Small Heath, not managed to see them yet. Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 26-May-19 09:58 PM GMT

DEW FRESH SMALL PEARL. 24/5/ 2019.



*COVERED IN EARLY MORNING DEW.*



*VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE.*



*WINGS DRY*



READY FOR THE DAY AHEAD.

### Re: Trevor

by Katrina, 26-May-19 10:08 PM GMT

Gorgeous shots Trevor 🍷🍷🍷

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 26-May-19 10:28 PM GMT

The benefits of being an early riser, Trevor! Lovely shots of those Small Pearls just waking up. 🍷 Goodness knows what time I'd have to set my alarm to be there to see them like that... 😊😄

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-May-19 10:30 PM GMT

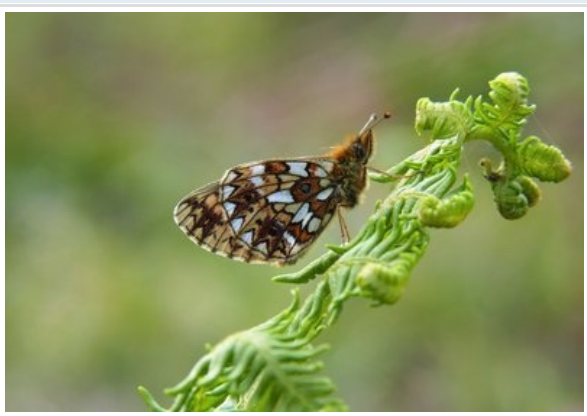
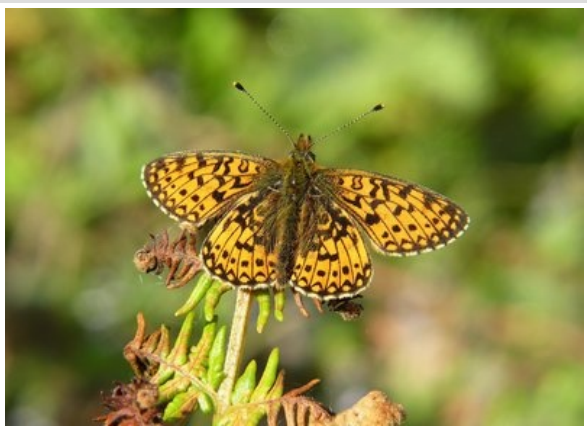
It's good to be back!. For some reason my laptop wouldn't connect to the net from Thurs until tonight.

With the emergence of the Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary this last week at Park Corner/ Rowland Wood, and the closeness of this site to my home, it is little wonder that I have spent quite some time there recently. My visits have mainly been early am or late pm, so most of the images below are of resting SPBF.

Also over the past few days PCH/Rowland Wood has also played host to a strong UKB contingent!, including..... Neil Hulme, Gary Norman, James ( B.saurus ), Dave ( millerd ), Katrina, John W, Andrew555. ( Hope I haven't left anyone out! ).

Good to see you all again,  
Trevor.











**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 26-May-19 11:05 PM GMT

Some great recent posts Trevor, those Sussex Fritillaries are doing fabulously now aren't they, and long may that continue 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 27-May-19 09:29 AM GMT

A cracking collection of Small Pearls Trevor – especially liking the dew covered individual 🤩🌿

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 27-May-19 10:47 AM GMT

Many thanks, Katrina, Dave, Bugboy & Wurzel.

I've taken so many images over the past few days, and here is another. I think this one should be titled 'Ole blue eyes' !.

Sorry Frank!.



**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 27-May-19 11:01 AM GMT

"Lovely Butterfly shots Trevor 🌿🌿 especially the the one in your post," Blue Eye's" Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 27-May-19 05:15 PM GMT

Fabulous, Trevor. What is it about butterflies and moisture that captures the attention so much?

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 28-May-19 07:46 PM GMT

Many thanks Goldie & David. It's good to have such a rare species in my local area.

Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-May-19 06:29 PM GMT

I am currently in Wiltshire. A visit to 'The Hill' this morning found the Marsh Fritillaries all but over, only five seen in fairly good conditions.

The prize of the day was this pair of mating Brown Argus.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 30-May-19 06:58 PM GMT

Cricky Trevor that was fast – they've only been out for a couple of weeks there! I suppose they were making hay while the sun shone 😊😄 Still the Brown Argus in cop must have made up for the lack of Marshies and Tilshead must be booming by now?! 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-May-19 07:09 PM GMT

The best of the rest today.

Tilshead performed well early this morning, but photography was hampered by a strong breeze.

This site produced my first Small Blue of the year. Moving on, I later found a fabulous, fresh 'blue' female Adonis Blue, and my first Large Skipper.

A great day spoilt by the wind, but very productive.

Trevor.



*One of very few Marsh Frits today.*





**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 30-May-19 07:25 PM GMT

Ooooooh, that is a VERY attractive female Adonis 🍷

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 30-May-19 08:43 PM GMT

More attractive to me is the female Brown Argus. How chocolate brown with orange lunules can present itself in such a striking way remains a mystery.

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 31-May-19 08:27 PM GMT

Some rather nice female butterflies there, Trevor. That Small Blue is nearly perfect, the Brown Argus has larger-than-average orange lunules and is quite striking, but that Adonis with unusual amounts of blue takes the prize for me! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**



by Neil Freeman, 31-May-19 08:36 PM GMT

Hi Trevor,

Just catching up with all your recent excursions, loads of lovely photos of beautiful butterflies, many of which I don't get locally but always good to see. 🍷😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 01-Jun-19 10:22 AM GMT

Tilshead, Wilts, at it's very best this morning.

Lots more to come!.



**Re: Trevor**

by Pauline, 01-Jun-19 06:57 PM GMT

That's a great shot Trevor – 2 butterflies and both pin sharp – takes some doing!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 01-Jun-19 07:30 PM GMT

Thanks, Pauline, hope you enjoy the rest!.

Must be brief, low battery, charger at home!.

An early morning visit to the MOD grassland site at Tilshead, Wilts found an astonishing array of butterfly species present. the dominant species being the Adonis Blue followed by Brown Argus then Common Blue.

Any one familiar with Mill Hill, West Sussex, would find this site just as good with the added bonus of being virtually flat.

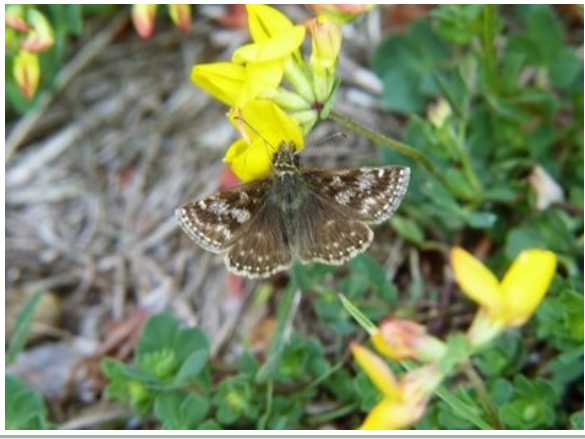
Trevor.











**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 01-Jun-19 10:11 PM GMT

I love the double Adonis photo

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 01-Jun-19 10:35 PM GMT

Great to see Tilshead is going great guns Trevor – I might need to wangle a pop-in on the way home from work but I'm already overdrawn in Brownie Points 😊😞😞 That female is very striking looking – the markings on the fore wings are reminiscent of a female Purple Hairstreak 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 01-Jun-19 10:45 PM GMT

Fabulous, Trevor. That first image of the Brown Argus with the Adonis Blue will take some beating!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 02-Jun-19 07:22 PM GMT

Many thanks, Katrina, Wurzel & David.

I had plenty of time to compose those shots, as Salisbury Plain was shrouded in a thick mist when I arrived on site. Increasing warmth was gradual, so the butterflies basked for longer than usual. Actually they were sitting Ducks!.

Wurzel, if the Brownie point situation is so bad, may I suggest a little 'creative' thinking'.

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 02-Jun-19 08:51 PM GMT

just gonna leave a few of these here, 🍷🍷🍷 don't think I need to say why 😊

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 02-Jun-19 08:58 PM GMT

That open-winged female Brown Argus is a real stunner, Trevor, and I've seen a few this year. Most of mine are worn now, so to see such a beautiful fresh one is terrific. Great shot too. 😊🍷

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Jun-19 09:30 PM GMT

Cheers Dave & Paul.

That site is well worth an early morning or evening visit, and quite easy to find.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 03-Jun-19 09:34 PM GMT

Day 1 at Strumpshaw Fen.

Firstly can you spot any dodgy characters amongst this lot, there's a Swallowtail in there somewhere!.







**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 03-Jun-19 09:43 PM GMT

Ok 🍵🍵🍵

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 03-Jun-19 10:18 PM GMT

Fantastic images Trevor 😊🍵🍵🍵 I'm not seen the British race/subspecies 🍵 I think I can make out a Dave Miller in there 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 03-Jun-19 10:57 PM GMT

Lovely set of images, Trevor. Is that the garden of the late Dr Martin George?

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 04-Jun-19 07:16 AM GMT

Thanks Katrina, Wurzel & David.

Wurzel, you are correct!, and you'll have to make the Fens a ' must visit ', on your list.

David, no, the flower bed is just outside the RSPB reception building.

Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by Pauline, 04-Jun-19 07:19 AM GMT

A wonderful butterfly and one I would love to see. Your images have properly done it justice Trevor 🍵🍵

**Re: Trevor**

by Janet Turnbull, 04-Jun-19 03:38 PM GMT

Wow Trevor, what a wonderful set of Swallowtail pics! 🍵 I've booked a few days there from the 14th and desperately hoping they will still be there.. 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 04-Jun-19 05:42 PM GMT

Curses! I am discovered...

Great photos, Trevor 😊 - it'll be a little while before you get to see mine I think. I stayed quite late and at the end of the afternoon they were visiting the Doctor's garden, which had been largely ignored throughout the day.

Good to see you again.



Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by NickMorgan, 04-Jun-19 06:37 PM GMT

Fantastic pictures Trevor. I have always wanted to take pictures with more than one species in the frame to show the differences in size. I have never managed to get a picture with both butterflies in focus!  
I am always amazed to see pictures of large groups of butterfly enthusiasts photographing a butterfly. I have only once come across another butterfly enthusiast when I have been out here in Scotland. I would feel very uncomfortable in a large group, fearing that I would scare the butterfly away if I moved to quickly!!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 04-Jun-19 08:22 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for your kind comments and observations.

Today was a bit special.....

Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 04-Jun-19 08:39 PM GMT

Srumpshaw Fen. Day 2.

Today was once again to be about Swallowtails, and indeed it was, until the discovery of a pair of mating Eyed Hawk Moths. A particular thrill for me, as my lifetime Hawk Moth encounters can be counted on one hand!  
I have selected some shots from several angles, as neither Moth could clearly be seen in one image.

Hope you enjoy.

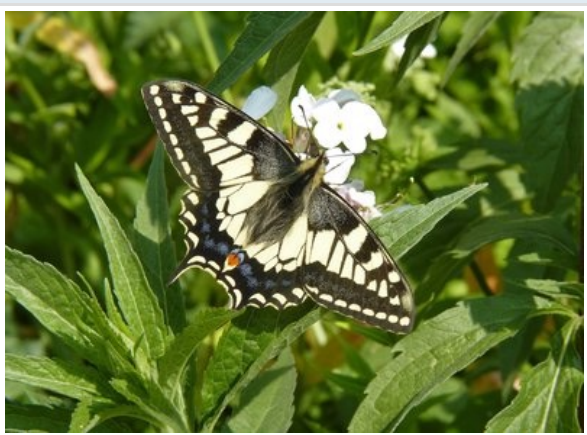




**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-Jun-19 07:34 PM GMT

Strumpshaw Fen. Day 2. The Swallowtails.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 06-Jun-19 11:37 AM GMT

More stunning photos Trevor 🤩🤩🤩🤩 A visit to the Fens is on the list for sure, I just need to start depositing some serious Brownie points...I mean SERIOUS amounts 😁😁😁

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

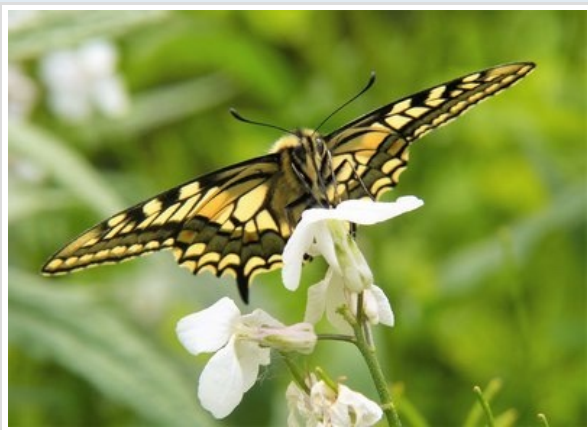
by trevor, 06-Jun-19 07:50 PM GMT

Strumpshaw Fen. Day 3.

On Tuesday evening ( day 2 ) we decided to cut our visit short, the result of a poor weather forecast for Thursday. So after breakfast on day 3, we had a do we or don't we moment, head straight home, or risk a last visit to Strumpshaw. In spite of building cloud we decided to head for Strumpshaw, then head for home around lunchtime.

It turned out to be a good decision, the weather improved and the Swallowtails responded, although as ever they proved difficult to photograph. When nectaring they constantly flap their wings to help balance on the flowers, and never spend more than a couple of seconds on each flower before flitting on to the next. Once again, a few cloudy spells calmed them down a little, making photography a little easier. Any sharp shots I managed to get had more to do with the capabilities of the camera, than any skill on my part!

Reluctantly we had to leave at 1.10pm, to avoid the London rush.









**Re: Trevor**

by Pauline, 06-Jun-19 07:53 PM GMT

More wonderful images Trevor - a memorable trip for sure 🍷

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 06-Jun-19 08:51 PM GMT

Brilliant Swallowtails, Trevor. I'm glad they continued to deliver. I do believe I recognise that last individual, still sitting on his nettle stalk! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 06-Jun-19 09:15 PM GMT

Many thanks, Pauline & Dave.

It is indeed the same Swallowtail, Dave. We saw him on all three days, always perched on a nettle top in the same area, only shifting to see off an intruding male. Within minutes he would return, and on occasion nectar on Red Campion.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 07-Jun-19 09:22 AM GMT

Fantastic shots Trevor 🤩👍👍👍 That last individual in that light looks more honeyed than the others 😊 You definitely made the right call 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 07-Jun-19 10:37 AM GMT

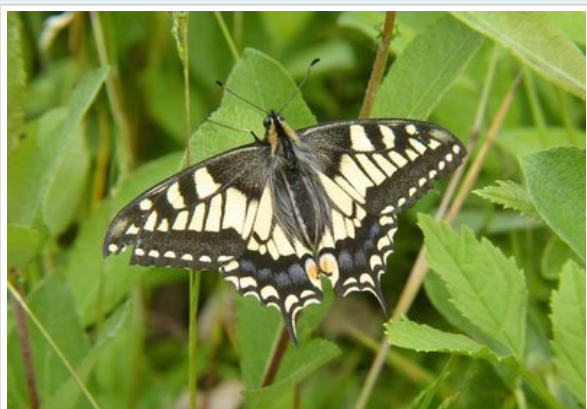
Cheers, Wurzel.

The individual Swallowtail you mention, was unique in some respects.

He was probably the oldest specimen we saw, and was identifiable by a small nick on the left hand forewing. After encountering him on many different occasions we knew him as 'Nicky'. He was also present in the same location on all three days of our visit. Unlike all the other Swallowtails we saw, which were all nectaring like mad, this one hardly ever moved from his nettle top perch, and then only to see off the competition. It would seem that this one alone had established a territory to defend.



'Nicky' on our first day, 3rd June.



The second day, 4th June.



*The third day, 5th June.*

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 07-Jun-19 04:45 PM GMT

What a trip, Trevor! I'm not sure which is better – those gorgeous Swallowtails or that rare image of Eyed Hawk Moths in cop.

Stunning!

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 07-Jun-19 07:19 PM GMT

A great series of reports from Norfolk Trevor with some cracking photos, brings back memories of the few days I spent there last year, can't believe that was a year ago now.

I am jealous of the Eyed Hawk Moth pair, I have not seen one of these for a few years now. One that I am hoping will turn up to my moth trap eventually.

Great stuff 😊👍👍 ,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 07-Jun-19 08:28 PM GMT

Many thanks David & Neil.

I took note of the week that you visited Strumpshaw last year, Neil. I remembered your stunning images of pristine Swallowtails. Whereas when we went a little later and only found worn specimens. On our visit this year all were fresh except for two, so like you we caught them just right.

Glad you enjoyed the Eyed Hawk Moths, Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 07-Jun-19 10:52 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

..Glad you enjoyed the Eyed Hawk Moths..

'Enjoy' isn't the word, Trevor...I don't think I've ever seen an image of any Hawk moth pair in cop so unless someone can better what you've posted, it will remain a unique event.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 09-Jun-19 08:20 PM GMT

Yesterdays weather, high winds and heavy rain in the morning, suggested time would be better spent on household chores. So I was very surprised to read that those who braved the wind found success with the Black Hairstreak at Ditchling common.

As the forecast for the rest of next week is poor, I decided to try my luck today. Even at 9.00am I found some hopefuls on site, and was told of a settled Black Hairstreak earlier. Shortly after arrival another settled on bracken for a few shots. Generally the day was slow going, but plenty of high up action was observed.

Eventually I managed images of five Black Hairstreaks, a Large Skipper, and a lovely Bee Orchid.

It was great to meet so many old and new faces today.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 09-Jun-19 08:31 PM GMT

Fantastic shots of Blackstreaks Trevor 😊 In the words of my girls I'm "well gel" 🌧️🌧️😞 It seems that we're going to be stuck with a load of awful weather for at least the next week 😞😞 so you did well to get that before it all goes to pot 🌧️

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 09-Jun-19 09:42 PM GMT

Great. delighted for you, Trevor.

It's only a short window with this species but you got in early. 😊

Sadly, the flight period for this species doesn't look too promising this year, with the adverse weather forecast. 😞

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 10-Jun-19 08:12 PM GMT

Good to see there has been some Black Hairstreak activity at Ditchling, Trevor. You got some great shots too. 😊 I missed this last weekend's gathering by being up on Yorkshire, but the weather may improve for the coming weekend and a trip down beckons... (but I did find some in Oxfordshire last week... 😊 )

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 11-Jun-19 09:52 AM GMT

Catching up with posts Trevor, great shots of the Swallow Tail it looks fantastic every time I see shots of it. 😊  
Your Black Hair Streak shots look really good, I bet your well chuffed with them 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 11-Jun-19 07:24 PM GMT

Thanks everyone. No success today with the Black Hairstreak, and I'm glad we went to Norfolk last week!

Firstly my good deed of the day. Just before setting off for Ditchling Common I went into the garden with my coffee, and there on the patio was a young Nuthatch with my Cat 'guarding' over it. Care was needed to frighten off the Cat in such away that he didn't have time to grab the Bird before making off. As far as I know the Nuthatch made a successful escape. It was not injured.

At Ditchling Common sunshine was in short supply, but there was much tree-top action during the short cloud breaks, only one Black Hairstreak was seen low down before I left. I did however manage an image of a BH pupae.

Trevor.



*The young Nuthatch, unharmed.*



*Black Hairstreak pupae.*

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 11-Jun-19 07:33 PM GMT

Great Swallowtails Trevor, I was there on the Saturday and you're right, we all picked the right week to go! I'm itching to get down and find myself some Black Hairstreaks but I have to wait until the weekend now when the weather looks like it will start behaving itself again.... and also I don't have to be at work! The fact that there's still pupae though is a good sign I won't be too late 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 13-Jun-19 06:26 PM GMT

Cheers Paul, we certainly did pick the right week.

For those interested either Neil Hulme or Dave Cook will probably post an image of a pretty unique event at Ditchling Common today. This should be found on the Sussex BC sightings page. I dashed over there but missed it by a few minutes.

Do look,  
Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by keving, 13-Jun-19 08:22 PM GMT

Trevor,

Great photos of the Swallowtails at Strumpshaw Fen. Without knowing it, we may have crossed paths, as I was there on Monday 3rd June too. About to finally post my images. It was a great morning and they were showing well, particular on the hillside beyond the doctors house.

Regards  
Kev

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 13-Jun-19 09:02 PM GMT

It's quite incredible that there are so many images of Black Hairstreak pupae right now.

They must have had an exceptional year in 2018 for this early stage to be so conspicuous?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 13-Jun-19 09:32 PM GMT

I just missed something more exciting than a BH pupae today, David.

This lunchtime I had one of those Dave Cook phone calls. " if you can make it, I am looking at a mating pair of Black Hairstreaks ". Of course I could try and make it, but Ditchling Common is about 45 to 50 mins away. Despite making good time I arrived too late, and they had separated. But the booby prize was seeing up to 10 Black Hairstreaks low down, in less than ideal weather, or maybe after Saturday and today's performance it was ideal weather!.

It was good to see Dave and Neil on top form.  
Trevor.







**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 13-Jun-19 10:42 PM GMT

Fantastic shots Trevor of a species that I've still to see 🍷🍷🍷 Mind you I think they're mis-named it as it looks more like the Velvet or Moleskin Hairstreak 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 14-Jun-19 11:30 AM GMT

Great shots Trevor 🍷🍷 Like Wurzel I've yet to see them 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 14-Jun-19 07:19 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel & Goldie.

This morning I stayed local, and had a good look around part of Abbots Wood.

I was amazed at how Meadow Brown numbers have built in the last few days. An area of bramble, now in full blossom, and ready for the White Admiral any day now, was host to many Meadow Browns. On another patch of Bramble, a lone Red Admiral nectared almost oblivious to my presence, and may have landed on my back briefly.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 14-Jun-19 07:56 PM GMT

Bad luck on missing that Black Hairstreak pairing by a whisker, Trevor. At least there were a few around to otherwise entertain. They do seem to be active even without bright sunshine, and appear to come down a bit lower on the vegetation when it's cloudy as well. 😊

Red Admirals are definitely on the increase now, after a pretty poor start to their season – they are turning up everywhere. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 14-Jun-19 10:37 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor – really like the way the Red Admirals colour changes from chocolate brown to silky black at the different angles 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Jun-19 08:02 PM GMT

Doug and I visited East Blean Wood today.

On arrival a male Holly Blue was flying around the car park, and eventually settled briefly for a couple of shots.

Later I spotted another Holly Blue, a female, apparently ovipositing on Heather!.

I watched her for some minutes, landing on several Heathers, always on the tip of the plant, and curl her abdomen up. There is no doubt about the butterfly species, but I do doubt her choice of plant.

Has this been seen before ?.

Trevor.





*Egg laying on Heather ?.*

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 15-Jun-19 08:27 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

Doug and I visited East Blean Wood today.  
On arrival a male Holly Blue was flying around the car park,  
and eventually settled briefly for a couple of shots.  
Later I spotted another Holly Blue, a female, apparently ovipositing on Heather!  
I watched her for some minutes, landing on several Heathers, always on the  
tip of the plant, and curl her abdomen up. There is no doubt about the  
butterfly species, but I do doubt her choice of plant.

Has this been seen before ?  
Trevor.

Page 150 of Thomas & Lewington and page 276 of Blencowe & Hulme 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Jun-19 08:50 PM GMT

Cheers, Paul. Live and learn !.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Jun-19 10:53 PM GMT

Of course the real reason for visiting East Blean was to see the Heath Fritillary.  
It is some years since I have been to East Blean and the Heath Fritillaries have been in fresh condition.  
Our last visit two years ago was a little late, but a fresh, female, open wing Purple Hairstreak made up for that.  
Today we had ideal weather, apart from the breeze, of Sun and cloud. The cloudy spells certainly calmed  
the Heaths down and allowed some good photo opportunities.  
It was also good to see the Heaths flying in many areas of the wood, as well as the coppiced areas.

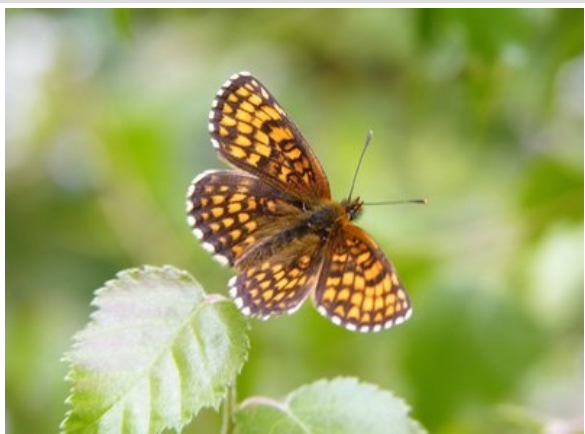
Wellies are recommended for anyone planning a visit soon,  
Trevor.







*A lovely little female.*



### **Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 16-Jun-19 07:49 AM GMT

I was waiting for the Heath shots Trevor 😊 And they were worth it - a great selection 😊 Having seen Glanvilles this year I don't think I'll be able to see Heaths as well, I can't justify the travelling 🚗🚗 I've been there twice now - the first time it was cloudy all day so under wing shots were the order of

the day and the second time it was wall to wall sun so topsides filled my memory card – looks like you got exactly the right balance of sun and cloud 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 16-Jun-19 11:29 AM GMT

Lovely Heath shots Trevor, I usually see Purple Hair Streaks there but I've never got one with open wings yet, last year I even saw a Silver Washed Fritillary in the Car Park but it didn't stay long enough for any shots 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 16-Jun-19 06:09 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

...But the booby prize was seeing up to 10 Black Hairstreaks low down...Trevor.

Blimey!...that's one hell of a booby prize Trevor 🍷🍷🍷😊

That would have been one of my highlights of the season irrespective of missing the pair in cop.

Nice Heath Fritillaries too...have another 🍷😊

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 16-Jun-19 09:58 PM GMT

Some nice Heath Fritillaries there, Trevor – good to see they are doing fine in Kent as well as well as in Essex. There's loads of variation between individuals there too – at least in the UK there is only one species they could be! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 17-Jun-19 05:13 PM GMT

Good to hear the Heath Frits are around in decent numbers in Kent, Trevor. Looks like this population is stable at the very worst.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 17-Jun-19 09:19 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for the kind comments.

Today was a bit of a ( mini ) marathon.

I started at my local Abbots wood, but it was still early and thus quiet.

Then on to Ditchling common. Even at 9am the place was well populated with enthusiasts, including at least three UKBers. While I was there I managed images of three Black Hairstreaks, but several more were seen and photographed by others.

My third BH was, for a pleasant change, seen taking honeydew from a Oak leaf.

Then on to Iping common.....



## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 17-Jun-19 09:45 PM GMT

It is quite some time since my last visit to Iping common, and as I traced my way to my usual spot for Silver Studded Blues, it was noticeable how much clearance work has taken place. Shortly after arrival at my chosen spot a few male SSB's were flying nearby, but one male located a mating pair and tried to get in on the act. This disturbed the mating pair, which conveniently flew to a much better position for a few shots. With the prize of the day in the bag, I carried on searching, and many male SSB's were found, but only one other female was seen, in the air.

A long, but rewarding day,  
Trevor.





*Mating pair disturbed.*



*Relocated mating pair.*







**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 17-Jun-19 10:00 PM GMT

Good to see you today Trevor 😊. That final underside SSB maybe an ab, the spotting looks rather elongated, particularly on the forewing 🇩🇪

**Re: Trevor**

by ernie f, 18-Jun-19 09:51 AM GMT

Trevor - One of these days I am going to have to get off my backside and take a trip to see Black Hairstreaks. Your pics are making me envious.

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 18-Jun-19 10:30 PM GMT

What a cracking day Trevor - Black Hairstreaks would be my highlight for sure 😊 Mind you the ab Silver Stud is pretty snazzy too 🇩🇪 🇩🇪

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 19-Jun-19 06:01 AM GMT

A 'marathon' it was, Trevor, but when you've species like Black Hairstreak and Silver Studded Blue on the menu, it's worth the time and effort. 😊

**Re: Trevor**

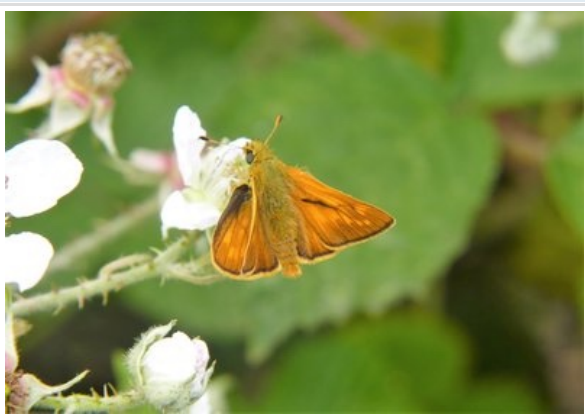
by trevor, 20-Jun-19 08:31 PM GMT

Many thanks gentlemen, Black Hairstreaks and Silver Studded Blues in one day takes some doing, the two sites are far apart.

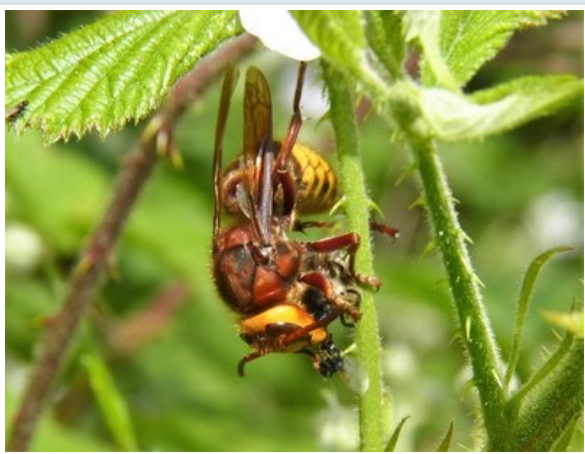
Today I spent a couple of hours at Rowland Wood, at a spot I call 'bramble corner'. This is a large patch of bramble at the junction of two rides, and was host to the highest number of Large Skippers I have ever seen in a small area. Even a worn Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary was attracted to the copious bramble blossom on offer. I was pleased to find my first two Ringlets of the season, together with a huge Hornet which had just grabbed a snack, a Spider from what I could see.

Everything was looking good for the imminent arrival of the White Admiral and Silver Washed Fritillary.

Trevor.







Re: Trevor

by trevor, 21-Jun-19 10:57 PM GMT

Just the one Butterfly of note today. My second East Sussex Small Tortoiseshell of the year. Seen on the outskirts of Brighton, so still not local to home!.

Trevor,



### Re: Trevor

by Maximus, 22-Jun-19 12:57 AM GMT

Well done seeing your first Ringlets of the season, Trevor 😊 And also the fabulous shots of the Swallowtails, Black Hairstreaks, Heath Fritillaries and Silver-studded Blues, which have featured in your diary recently 😊

Mike.

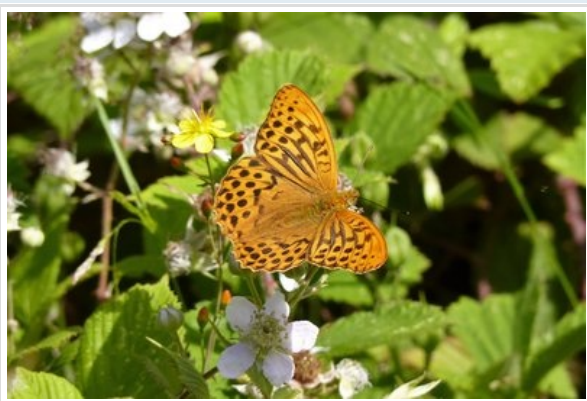
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 22-Jun-19 08:22 PM GMT

Thanks Mike, it's been quite hectic catching up with them all!

I went over to Rowland Wood this morning specifically to look for White Admirals and Silver Washed Fritillaries. No White Admirals were seen, but I managed a shot of one of the two Silver Washed Fritillaries spotted, a male.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 22-Jun-19 08:51 PM GMT

Cricky is it that time of year already Trevor? 😊 I've only just caught up with Large Blues, Marbled Whites and DGFs and now you've gone and seen White Admirals and SWFs 🤖🚗

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 23-Jun-19 08:34 PM GMT

I had a little spare time this morning on my way to Chichester, so I thought

it be a good idea to search for some Marbled Whites. Having found a suitable looking site, I almost gave up after a while with nothing flying. As usual it was on my way back to the car when a Marbled White flew up from the grass, then several more followed, until I had a choice of which one to follow. I was delighted to get a couple of shots of one with no vegetation in the way, and find a single specimen still asleep.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 23-Jun-19 11:06 PM GMT

The 'I give up and I'm off home' trick is one I've used quite a lot over the years Trevor and got you great shots 😊, I've found it works really well if you utter it loudly in a frustrated tone, that really brings them out from hiding 😊😂

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 24-Jun-19 06:06 AM GMT

Nice to see a summer brood Small Tortoiseshell, Trevor. Well done with the Silver Washed Fritillary as well. I daresay these will explode in numbers when this hot spell of weather arrives.

### Re: Trevor

by ernie f, 24-Jun-19 02:16 PM GMT

No Marbled Whites near me yet, Trevor, but with the hot spell just around the corner I don't suppose I will have long to wait now.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 24-Jun-19 05:47 PM GMT

Cheers Wurzel. Exactly, that certain law guaranties it!.

Thanks David and Ernie. I expect things will have really kicked off by the end of this week. The seasons about to peak already!.

Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

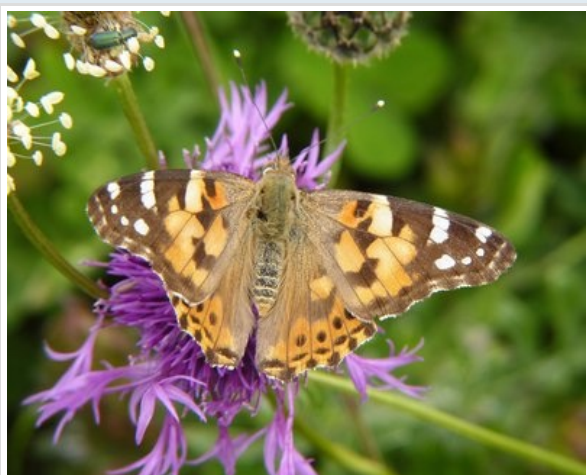
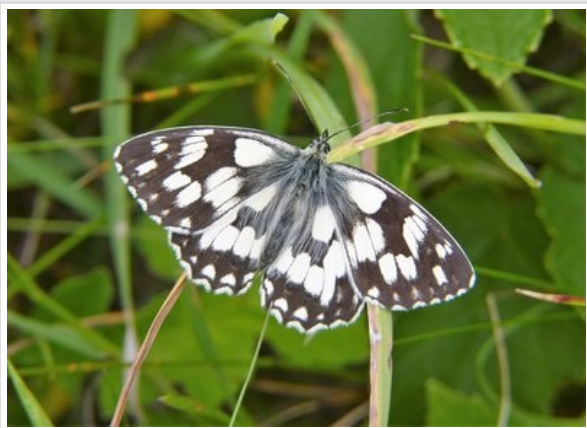
by trevor, 24-Jun-19 07:27 PM GMT

This morning I went over to Birling Gap to a site which, has in the past, been good for Dark Green Fritillaries and Marbled Whites. Despite a complete absence of sunshine throughout my visit, the butterflies were responding to the very warm, humid air.

A total of three Dark Greens were seen, all males, but only one was free from damage. Painted Ladies were frequent, and busy nectaring after their Chanel hop, none were fresh.

Despite the lack of sun, Marbled Whites rarely paused for more than a second or two, while the Skippers were all motionless. One surprise was a fresh, but slightly damaged, Speckled Wood.

A morning of variety,  
Trevor.









### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 24-Jun-19 10:54 PM GMT

That mix of species is very similar to those I saw at Box Hill this evening, Trevor. The DGFs were being harassed by the Painted Ladies which seem to have appeared everywhere, and none was bothered by the lack of sunshine. That shot of the undamaged DGF is a corker! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 24-Jun-19 10:58 PM GMT

Great set of images Trevor 😊 There seems to have been a bit of an influx of Painted Ladies recently – I've seen them mentioned across Facebook with increasing regularity – hopefully they'll have encouraged their Yellow distant relations to make the journey too 😊  
I also saw on Facebook that a Purple Emperor was seen and photographed last Thursday (something Penn?) so we could be off in the next few days 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 25-Jun-19 04:45 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

This morning I went over to Birling Gap to a site which, has in the past, been good for Dark Green Fritillaries and Marbled Whites. Despite a complete absence of sunshine throughout my visit, the butterflies were responding to the very warm, humid air.

I like these conditions, Trevor. It is far better than bright sunshine if you want to take photographs.

Surprised the Marbled Whites were still zooming around though. Usually they are slightly becalmed in cloud.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Jun-19 03:45 PM GMT

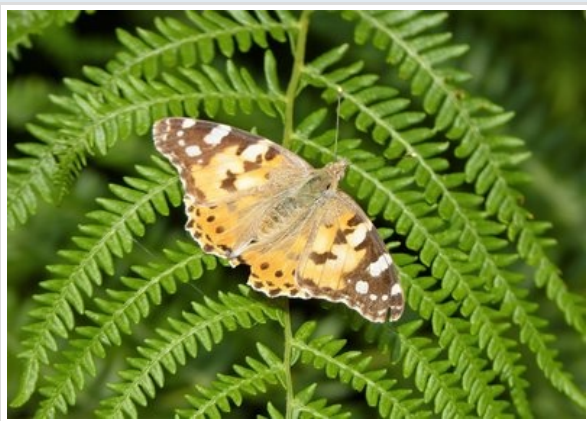
Many thanks, Dave, Wurzel & David.

You're both right about an influx of Painted Ladies.

Yesterday I popped over to Rowland Wood, to my favourite Bramble patch, and it, and the surrounding area was festooned with Painted Ladies, all faded, tatty and worn. Most struck me as being ( in butterfly terms ) very old, and had obviously flown a long way. Maybe the severe heat wave in France had sent them north.

Here are some images, not of pristine butterflies, but perhaps a tribute to their stamina.

Trevor.





## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Jun-19 09:21 PM GMT

The weather this morning was cloudy, breezy, but very mild. With very few signs of the cloud parting anytime soon, I decided to stay local. So it was off to Abbots Wood, just three miles away. My first find was a fresh female Meadow Brown, one among many. Then came a real surprise, a Purple Hairstreak flew right past me at eye level, then landed on a nearby bracken frond. A nice fresh male. Unfortunately it was a little high up so I had to hold the camera in such a way that I could not see the screen properly. Next came the first of two, male Silver Washed Fritillaries of the morning, then one of the four White Admirals seen settled very briefly on a bracken frond for just one shot.

Considering the conditions, not a bad morning!.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by Old Wolf, 26-Jun-19 09:34 PM GMT

Hello Trevor.

Not a bad morning is a bit of an understatement 😊 If I had seen a PH with it's wings open, a SWF and four White Admirals then I would be over the moon!

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 27-Jun-19 02:20 PM GMT

I echo Old Wolf's sentiments Trevor 😊😞😞 All of those species and luscious shots while I was stuck at work 🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 27-Jun-19 05:18 PM GMT

Good to see you back again, Old Wolf. Hopefully you'll show us what Beds. and Cambs. have to offer.

Look on the Bright side, Wurzel. You're not going to get sun burnt, bitten by insects, soaked to the skin half a mile from the car, or lose your best lens. Work has it's compensations1.

Today I went after two ' white ' species!.

Trevor.

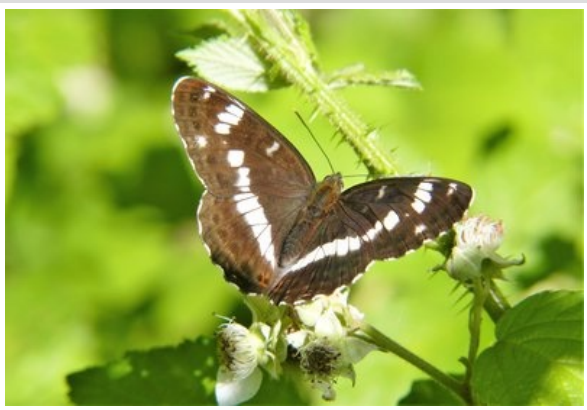
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 27-Jun-19 09:26 PM GMT

I was pleased to see a clear blue sky from my bed early this morning.  
I was less pleased when I went into the garden with my coffee, and saw how windy it was.  
My plans to find some Purple Emperors were put on hold, but the day did get better!  
Firstly I went over to Abbots Wood, where I eventually found seven White Admirals,  
and most of them paid a visit to the various bramble patches, either to nectar or bask.

I then went over to Hollingbury park for the White Letter Hairstreak, the theory was that the wind was blowing from the east, and the WLH site faces west, so the trees should act as a wind break. It was certainly calmer close to the trees. Surprisingly only three WLH were found, but at least both sexes were seen, and were quite fresh. I hope Ben had more luck after I left.

Trevor.







**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 27-Jun-19 10:46 PM GMT

This is starting to get a little unbearable now Trevor 😞😞😞😞 To make matters worse I'm going to be effectively trapped in Salisbury all day Saturday as it's the Armed Forces weekend 😞😞 Still I'll have 11 your PE shots by then to make me feel even worse 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 28-Jun-19 11:31 AM GMT

Fantastic shots Trevor, they make me long for Kent 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Old Wolf, 28-Jun-19 02:58 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

Good to see you back again, Old Wolf. Hopefully you'll show us what Beds. and Cambs. have to offer.



Thanks for the welcome and yes, When I get the time I will be updating my diary with the highs and lows of the year so far very soon.

p.s. lovely shots of the WA and WLH. I am very hopeful that I will be adding a WA to my list of firsts this year. Two seconds through a viewfinder does not count as I will disclose in my diary soon 😊

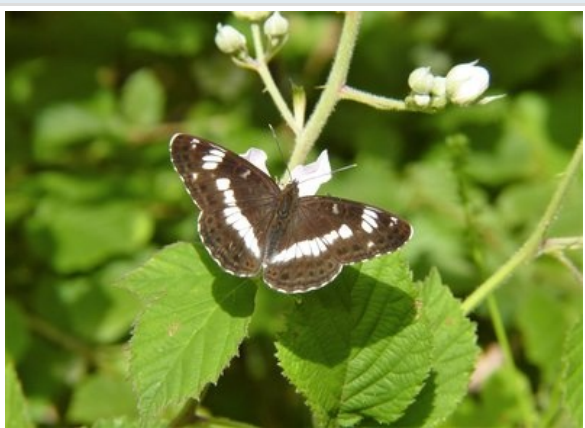
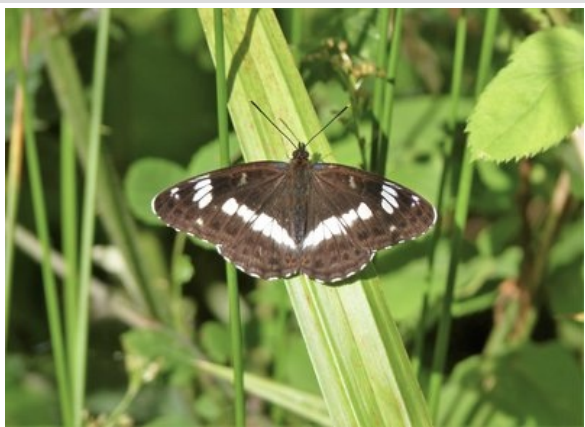
## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 28-Jun-19 08:22 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel, Goldie & Old Wolf.

You will have to wait a little longer for any Purple Emperor images, Wurzel, they failed to show at Chiddingfold today.  
But the day had it's compensations. A surprise find, shortly after arrival, was a roosting Wood White.  
White Admirals were seen in good numbers, and early on in the day posed nicely for the camera.  
Several, fresh, Red Admirals spent the whole morning flying locally and sometimes basking for ages in one spot, and occasionally caused a little excitement by doing a fairly good impression of an approaching Emperor.

It was pleasant to spend part of the morning with Dave ( millerd ).  
Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by Maximus, 28-Jun-19 08:41 PM GMT

Nice White-letter Hairstreaks, Trevor, and it's nice to see some White Admirals starting to show 😊 It can't be long now before 'his nibs' puts in an appearance 😊

Mike

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 29-Jun-19 08:03 PM GMT

First of all thank you for your consideration in not filling your PD with shots of His Nibs quite yet Trevor 😊😊 Mind you the consolation was pretty great a lovely bevy of WA shots 😊🍀 Fingers crossed I can bag me some of those tomorrow 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by kevlng, 29-Jun-19 08:08 PM GMT

Trevor,

Loving the WLH photos. They always seemed so elusive to me until a couple of years ago, when I shot a sequence with my iPhone, they were so close. Still waiting for my first White Admirals of the year, so your photos have whetted my appetite.

Regards  
Kev

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 30-Jun-19 01:14 PM GMT

Some envy-inducing stuff there, Trevor, particularly the Whites (Admiral and Letter Hairstreak). I doubt I'll get as close to those myself this year. 😞

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 01-Jul-19 07:26 PM GMT

I went over to Knepp this morning. I arrived too early for the Purple Emperor, but not too early for the Purple Hairstreak, as one was found on arrival. A further eight were found by myself and others within the range of most cameras. Other butterflies of interest were Marbled Whites and Fresh Ringlets. Personally I only saw two Purple Emperors today, and both were flying.

Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 01-Jul-19 08:34 PM GMT

Doing well with those Hairstreaks Trevor 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 01-Jul-19 10:56 PM GMT

Brilliant Purps Trevor 😊🌱🌱 After reading Pauline's PD I reckon I know where you're heading tomorrow 😊🌱

Have a goodun

Wurzel



**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 03-Jul-19 03:57 PM GMT

You may have missed out on grounded Emperors, Trevor, but those are mint fresh Purple Hairstreaks.

Beautiful. 🍷

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-Jul-19 12:20 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone, the Purple Hairstreaks were particularly well behaved that morning.

Despite pandering to his every whim, and taking gifts of the finest cuisine,  
His Majesty has yet to grant me a full audience.  
Either it's been no show on the days I've been, or when he did show on Thursday  
he was not wearing his finest regalia.

However I'm determined to catch up with the b\*\*\*\*r.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 05-Jul-19 12:25 PM GMT

Good luck with your further escapades with His Nibbs Trevor – hopefully a few will have woken up at Bentley in time for this weekend 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-Jul-19 01:04 PM GMT

Tilshead was alive this morning.

An early morning visit to this vast grassland site revealed 100's of Marbled Whites, outnumbering all other species. My attention was soon drawn to some large Fritillaries, flying very fast, and later searching the flora very slowly and thoroughly for females. What I was after was positive identification of the species, of the sort that Dave Cook saught when he discovered the Black Hairstreak far from known colonies. This confirmation came when two males dived into the grass, and as I approached

I could see a third butterfly that had caught their attention, drying it's wings down low. They were Dark Green Fritillaries. I was hoping for something more exotic, after all this vast site is rarely visited, and is left to manage itself and it is this sort of habitat where discoveries are made.

Trevor.



*Very fresh, male, Dark Green Fritillary.*





*A welcome, if battered Small Tort.*







**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 05-Jul-19 08:49 PM GMT

Cracking stuff Trevor 😊 Tilshead is a cracking site, I had a suspicion that it would hold a few DGFs as they're all over the Plain 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 05-Jul-19 10:04 PM GMT

Cheers Wurzel, more from the Plain this evening.

More from Tilshead this evening, This time roosting Marbled Whites.









**Re: Trevor**

by ernie f, 06-Jul-19 04:01 PM GMT

Trevor - love the pic of the skipper making friends with the Marbled White.

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 06-Jul-19 05:59 PM GMT

Cracking shots Trevor, their a lovely Butterfly hope I get see them this year 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 06-Jul-19 09:39 PM GMT

Many thanks, Ernie & Goldie.

I returned to Tilshead this morning, unfortunately I didn't arrive until 8am, by this time it was difficult to find a settled butterfly.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 07-Jul-19 04:49 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor – especially the two species shot 😊🍷 Have the Hedge Browns emerged over that way yet? I was at Five Rivers and there were one or two on every Bramble bush 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 07-Jul-19 08:47 PM GMT

Just for you Wurzel!. A Hedge Brown from Wednesday.



**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 07-Jul-19 09:13 PM GMT

Another lovely shot of the Marbled White Trevor and I love the contrast with the purple flower 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 08-Jul-19 06:51 AM GMT

That's a particularly attractive Green Veined White, Trevor. Nice, yellow hindwings.

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 08-Jul-19 08:18 AM GMT

Just catching up Trevor, some great shots over Tilshead way, looks like an impressive site with so many species to choose from! 🇬🇧

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 08-Jul-19 08:11 PM GMT

Cheers Trevor cracking Hedgie 😊 I saw my first on Sunday, last year I also saw my first before I went looking for Emperors so fingers crossed this was a good omen 😊😊

Have agoodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 08-Jul-19 08:15 PM GMT

Many thanks, Goldie, David & Paul.

When I arrived at Chiddingfold forest this morning, I was very optimistic that a good day lay ahead. The weather was near perfect, ie. part cloud and sun, no wind, a slight dampness to the air, and mild. Walking through the forest from the car, I noticed a Purple Hairstreak resting on Bracken, and then another. Next a beautiful, fresh, male Silver Washed Fritillary posed while nectaring, he was much more orange than usual. Soon the whole area was bobbing with butterflies.

As the morning wore on exciting things began to happen !.





**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 08-Jul-19 08:52 PM GMT

Well you've reeled me in with that Purple Hairstreak 🦋 Trevor so I await the next report with baited breath 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 08-Jul-19 10:23 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. I feel your pain, I'm out Emporing while you're at work. I hope this makes you feel better, the best one today was probably found around the time of your lunch break. 😊.

I spent some time today with P.J.Underwood, We decided to walk up to the ' High point ' area, as Emperors seem to be favouring that area, and the ride leading to it, this season. We soon spotted one down, enjoying Horse dung, And later one at the high point, but this one refused to settle, I did, however, manage a couple of shots when it landed on Bramble. This Emperor was rather scratched and worn.

As we returned to the triangle area, we saw two Chiddingfold regulars, Dawn and Jim, standing over the PE that we saw earlier on Horse dung, it had returned. This PE was the most settled of the day, and allowed many shots, including some purple flashes as it moved around on it's meal.

Several other PE's were seen in the air, but the one on Horse dung returned a few more times, until finally disturbed by a jogger with Dog.

I felt it was time to call it a day just after lunchtime, and headed for the car. As I approached the Oaken wood junction, my footsteps sent up a nearby grounded PE., so I dropped my baggage and waited hoping for it's return. About five mins. later he re-appeared, and I could see that this one was a magnificent specimen. Unfortunately he couldn't locate anything to suit his taste and kept flying and landing in short hops. Perseverance paid off, and I obtained some very satisfactory shots, and what is more, had him all to myself!

A thoroughly enjoyable, and exhausting day.  
Trevor.







**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 08-Jul-19 10:54 PM GMT

Cracking shots Trevor 😊📷📷 Why is it always a jogger and a dog? Why can't they find something useful to do during the day? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 09-Jul-19 02:50 PM GMT

Always satisfying when you get good vibes in the morning about how things are going to turn out and then they go on to exceed expectations!

Not difficult with all those Purple Hairstreaks resting on bracken.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 09-Jul-19 10:48 PM GMT

I popped over to Abbots Wood early this morning to look for Purple Hairstreaks.

Three were quickly located, two females and a male. The male caused great frustration, as it was displaying full purple when spotted, but while glancing down at my camera settings, he escaped. The females were much more obliging.

I then went over to Ditchling Common to the PH hotspot there, but there were no more photo ops. While there two Purple Emperors were seen in the air. But the real treat of the day awaited back in the car park, when I spotted two, fresh, Small Tortoiseshells nectaring on Creeping Thistle. This find instantly doubled my count of this species for East Sussex this year.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 09-Jul-19 11:08 PM GMT

Wow! Trevor those are great shots 📷📷 especially the Hair Streaks Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 09-Jul-19 11:36 PM GMT

Wow simply stunning Trevor 🤩🤩📷📷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 10-Jul-19 10:03 PM GMT

That first image of the female Purple Hairstreak is sublime, trevor. It speaks volumes when it knocks spots of a series of Purple Emperor photos.

Well done!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 11-Jul-19 02:34 PM GMT

Thanks everyone. My Purple Hairstreak spot in a local Woods keeps delivering, another one today.

Yesterday I returned to Chiddingfold forest, and it would seem that the grounding period for male Purple Emperors is almost over. Despite a thorough baiting and almost ideal weather there were no male groundings (at least in the part of the complex I explored.)

But I was thrilled to watch an Empress touch down a couple of times in a Sweet Chestnut tree.

To pass the time I managed shots of Small Skippers, a puddling Holly Blue and a fresh male Brimstone. The place was alive with bobbing Ringlets, which were flying under the grey skies when I arrived.

This morning a male Purple Hairstreak flew down to a low Oak branch to bask.

Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by Old Wolf, 11-Jul-19 04:02 PM GMT

Beautiful shots Trevor. You especially deserve a few of these for the PHS's 🍷🍷

The PHS in the last shot appears to be missing a deely bopper or appears it has it's head cocked 😊

Also, do you know what the red spot on the Meadow Brown's body is?

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 12-Jul-19 12:12 PM GMT

What is the secret to all of these Purple Hairstreak shots Trevor? 🤔🍷🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 12-Jul-19 02:16 PM GMT

Cheers Old Wolf. That red spot is a Trombidium mite also found on Graylings, and other species. Apparently it does no harm to it's host.

There is no secret, Wurzel, other than find the right Oak, and an early start!. Anyway here is another male from this morning. A little higher up this time.

The best of luck to you both,  
Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by Maximus, 12-Jul-19 03:12 PM GMT

Great shots of the PE and PH recently, Trevor 😊

Mike

**Re: Trevor**

by Neil Freeman, 12-Jul-19 07:37 PM GMT

Hi Trevor,

I am really jealous of your Purple Hairstreak shots, you make it look so easy 🍷🍷🍷

I find it amazing that you were more pleased with the Small Tortoiseshells, they seem to be doing a bit better here this year, certainly better than last year.

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 13-Jul-19 06:32 AM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

...There is no secret...other than find the right Oak, and an early start!

Ah! So that's how you do it! You must be 'purpled out' right now, Trevor, with all this activity.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 13-Jul-19 08:47 PM GMT

Many thanks, Mike, Neil & David. Not quite purpled out yet David I had another one today.

Doug Neve and myself went over to Chiddingfold forest this morning, hoping for Purple Emperor. One did touch down briefly, then flew onto the back of my jeans!

The day was to be one of several highlights. First find was a Purple Hairstreak resting on bracken. Then a single, second brood Wood White turned up, followed up later by a mating pair. This was very quick work by this pair, as we were told by a Lady recorder for BC Surrey that the first specimen was only recorded on Thursday.

I also found two pairs of mating Ringlets. These were constantly pestered by other males trying to get in on the act. Many fresh Silver Washed Fritillaries, both male and female were seen, but nearly all were too active to be photographed.

The last photograph of today was of a fresh female Brimstone.

A very absorbing day.  
Trevor.

PS. The Comma was taken yesterday morning at Abbots wood.









### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 14-Jul-19 08:26 PM GMT

Brilliant stuff Trevor 😊 Those 2nd brood Wood Whites are noticeably different from the first brood – much 'cleaner white' more Daz than Own brand 😊  
😊 I tried the early morning trick for PH but it didn't pay off, yet today after 2:30 I saw three down low 😊 – that's butterflies for you 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 14-Jul-19 09:20 PM GMT

'Absorbing' is rather an understatement, trevor. Mating Wood Whites & a feast of Purple Hairstreak (along with the supporting cast)...there aren't many places in the UK where you can see that.

### Re: Trevor

by ernie f, 15-Jul-19 06:39 PM GMT

Trevor – I've just been enthusing about Wurzel's in-cop shots on his PD and now I find your Wood Whites!!! Amazing. 🍷



## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Jul-19 09:50 PM GMT

Thanks, Wurzel, David & Ernie, I'm making the most of the 'silly season', which we are in the middle of at the moment!

For a complete change of routine and scenery, I went out for a rare (for me) evening site visit. My destination was Horseshoe Plantation, for Chalk Hill Blues and Dark Green Fritillaries. At the far end of this site there is a good view of the famous 'Belle Tout' lighthouse, which was moved further inland, away from the cliff edge in March 1999.

The two target species were easily found, although only about a dozen Dark Greens were seen, the Chalk Hills were everywhere, in their hundreds, although only one female was spotted. These were complemented with many Marbled Whites, Skippers, Meadow Browns, Hedge Browns, (including a mating pair) and a few, fresh, Brown Argus.

Hope you enjoy the fruits of a perfect evening.  
Trevor.

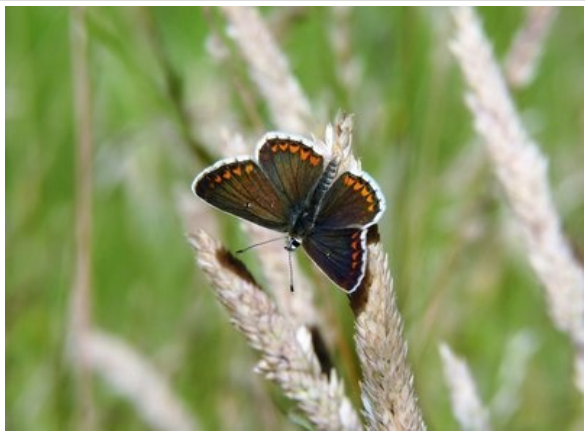


*Belle Tout Lighthouse.*









*Mating Hedge Browns.*



**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 16-Jul-19 07:48 AM GMT

You've certainly been filling your boots while I was away up north, Trevor. 😊 As ever I have particular envy for the Purple Hairstreak shots 📷📷 but

there is a very impressive mix of species. Chiddingfold has been good to you this year = but you've certainly put in the hours. It's been great meeting up with you (and everyone else too) down there for the annual Emperor Festival. 😊

Those DGF females are pretty striking too. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 16-Jul-19 07:00 PM GMT

Thanks, Dave. As you know there was a 'purple' party at Chiddingfold today!. Great to see you and others.

I arrived at a quiet Chiddingfold forest just before 8am today. I had just reached my chosen spot, and was pouring a coffee, when an equally early Neil Hulme approached. Emperor bait laid days ago was duly 'refreshed'. Neil had actually paid a visit for Wood Whites, and it was a pleasure to point him in the direction of one I had photographed earlier.

I was kindly shown a couple of rare Broad Leaved Helleborine's ( images below ). As I returned from viewing the Helleborines I could see Neil acting 'carefully' in the distance, sure enough he had a male Purple Emperor down on the very bait refreshed earlier, which was right by my base for the day!. This part worn specimen took off and returned several times, and each time he came back the crowd eager to see him had grown. ( see image ).

We all had a great morning and everyone went home happy.  
Trevor.







*Guess who's legs frame this Emperor!*



*Plant 1*





*Close up of plant 1*



*Plant 2*



*Close up of plant 2*

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 16-Jul-19 09:40 PM GMT

Yes, another very sociable morning at Chiddingfold, Trevor. I see that when you enlarge your shot of the Emperor seen between Neil's legs, you can just make out that Holly Blue which shared the bait for quite a while. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 17-Jul-19 10:41 PM GMT

Morning cracking Purple antics Trevor 🤔🇮🇪 I really need to get to Chiddingfold next year for a proper Purple fix 😊🇮🇪

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Jul-19 03:25 PM GMT

An excellent outing it seems, Trevor. I noted what went on from Neil's own PD earlier, so it comes as no surprise that you saw both Wood Whites and a grounded Emperor. Sadly, if Neil is right, that may be the last of the 2019 season. 😞

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 18-Jul-19 03:46 PM GMT

Great shots of the Emperor Trevor, I hope they're not finished yet, we thought of going to see them next week some time, my Daughter says they're in the forest at Tunbridge Wells, I hope so. Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 21-Jul-19 09:01 PM GMT

Many thanks folks, a little more purple today!.

A search for Purple Hairstreaks this morning was quite hard going.

In all five came within reach of my camera, but all were partially obscured by Oak leaves.

Then one individual flew to the ground and settled on wood chips at the edge of a large,

felled tree trunk, used for children to play on.

Later I caught a Speckled Wood on the point of take off, I think the resulting image might qualify as 'interesting', or just plain awful!.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 22-Jul-19 10:55 PM GMT

That is a great Purp shot Trevor 😊👍 As for the Specklie it is interesting but I find I can't look at it for too long lest I get a migraine 😬😬

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 22-Jul-19 11:50 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

...A search for Purple Hairstreaks this morning was quite hard going.

You should try living in south Wales, trevor....they're almost impossible here!

LOL! I know exactly how you feel when a butterfly takes flight as you press the shutter! 'Interesting' it certainly is.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 23-Jul-19 11:33 PM GMT

Cheers Wurzel & David, Sorry about the migraine Wurzel!.

Today I had a day on the Isle of Wight with an old friend. We visited the steam railway and Ventnor Botanical Gardens, and I have to say that the Island was absolutely useless for butterflies today, possibly due to the heat. The only cause for excitement was at Smallbrook, where the train terminates. Opposite the line is an unmanaged meadow, which I am sure was heaving with Dark Green Fritillaries, but they were too far away for positive ID. The one wildlife highlight today was one of the famous Wall Lizards, at Ventnor BG, which posed perfectly for the camera.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 24-Jul-19 09:17 AM GMT

Nice pose, Trevor – living up to its name. Really appropriate to see a Mediterranean species during the current bout of weather too. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 24-Jul-19 10:04 AM GMT

Hi! Trevor, I'm trying to catch up on a few posts 😊 Great shots of the Purple Hair Streak, I've looked here for one but not been lucky yet 😊😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 24-Jul-19 10:48 PM GMT

Great capture of a wiley beastie Trevor 😊🇬🇧 Is that the same species that are found in Dorset? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 28-Jul-19 10:14 PM GMT

Having been very unwell since Wednesday and also confined by the post heatwave storms and rain, I decided to risk a local trip today. My destination was High and Over for summer brood Wall Browns. As I made my way from the car park I made an accurate count of seven males, then the Sun broke through, and mayhem ensued with male Walls seeing off each other, and chasing the many Hedge Browns present. I came away confident that the summer brood is doing very well there this year.

Trevor.

Wurzel, I believe there are Wall Lizards living in the Portland Quarries, Sand Lizards are found on Dorset Heaths.







### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 28-Jul-19 10:45 PM GMT

Great set of Walls Trevor especially the second swarthy individual 😊👍 You did well to capture so many shots 🤩👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 29-Jul-19 10:13 AM GMT

Great shots of the Walls, Trevor – never an easy one to get close too. 😊 You may have helped me decide where to go once I get back from the soggy north (and the unseasonal wind forecast for the middle of the week has died down a bit!). I hope you're feeling a lot better too – nothing like a bit of English countryside and a few choice butterflies to give you a lift I always think... 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 29-Jul-19 08:30 PM GMT

Cheers Wurzel & Dave. Thanks Dave, I'm on the mend, but a little weak after five days without food.

This morning I went over to Ditchling Common, with Doug. Neve to see what around. We bumped into Dave Cook and Kirsty Gibbs and had a tour of the area. It was good find a fresh male and female Common Blue. One amusing incident occurred when Dave found a female Silver Washed Fritillary on an egg laying mission. After depositing many eggs in the proper places, she flew around us and promptly laid an egg on Dave's trousers!.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 31-Jul-19 03:15 PM GMT

I bet you all had a good laugh Trevor 😊 Lovely Common Blue shots Goldie 😊

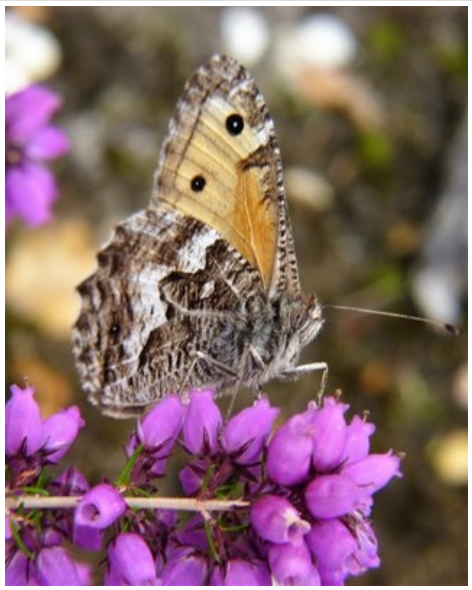
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Aug-19 10:22 PM GMT

Although there are Grayling locally, I really like to see them on Heather.  
A reliable site for Heathland Grayling is in Pirbright, Surrey. A 72 mile drive from home.  
Despite a journey largely in sunshine, there was very little on arrival. but several Grayling were found quite quickly but always landed on the ground, and promptly dropped their forewings.  
Another Sussex enthusiast, Patrick Moore, arrived as I was searching and we were later delighted when during a brief spell sun the Grayling became very active, with many chases taking place, including a chase of four. It was noticeable that the behaviour of the grayling changed as well as many now chose to nectar on Heather, with exposed forewings, as opposed to grounding.

I also had three trouserings, one on my back, and Patrick had a thorough shirting ( see image ).

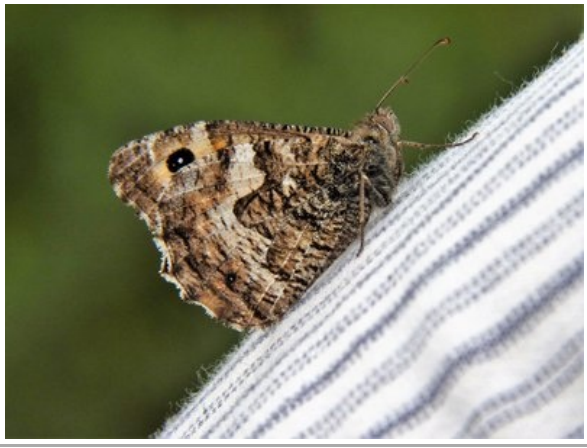
A very rewarding day,  
Trevor.











On Patrick's shirt sleeve!.

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 03-Aug-19 06:11 PM GMT

Lovely shots of the Grayling Trevor, 🍷 I never seem to get good shots , they always seem to melt into the back ground of the stones etc. Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 05-Aug-19 07:47 PM GMT

I popped over to Park Corner Heath this afternoon to see if any second brood Small Pearl Bordered Fritillaries were present. Two, a male and a female were found on the patch of Heather by the former hut.

In Rowland Wood, among the many Gatekeepers, an immaculate Painted Lady was found nectaring on the Fleabane. In the North of the UK, Painted Ladies are being reported in huge numbers, but so far this has not happened in my area ( yet? ).

Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 06-Aug-19 07:05 PM GMT

I found my first female Brown Hairstreak this morning, at Steyning.



**Re: Trevor**

by Pauline, 06-Aug-19 07:12 PM GMT

Lovely shots Trevor and well done. What is the situation over there?

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 07-Aug-19 11:16 AM GMT

Nice to see, Trevor. 😊🇬🇧 I had a brief glimpse of one on a visit to Steyning last Friday (actually in the lane up from the bowling club), but it was too quick for me to photograph. Some fresh Walls, though, contrasting with the worn ones later at Mill Hill.

Cheers,

Dave

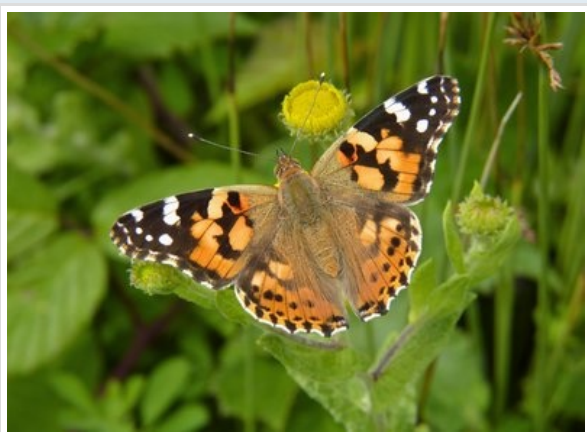
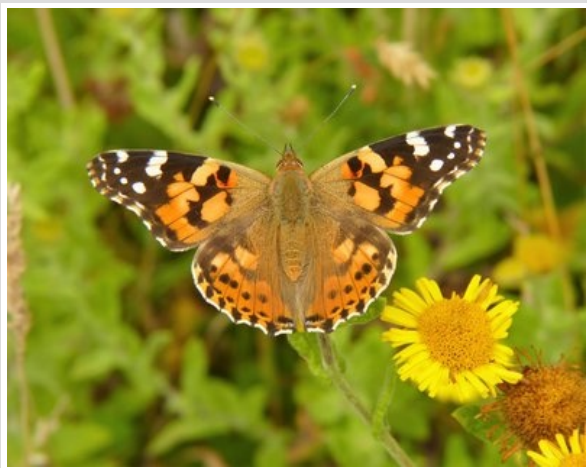
**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 08-Aug-19 07:35 PM GMT

Thanks Pauline & Dave. The one concern, over this way, Pauline, is a total lack of Small Tortoiseshells. I have only seen four in East Sussex this year!

I had a very enjoyable few hours in Rowland Wood this afternoon. The highlights were several fresh Painted Ladies and a stunning 'blue' female Common Blue. Probably the best example I've ever found.

Trevor.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 08-Aug-19 08:45 PM GMT

Great set of images Trevor – good to hear that you're mended and out again with an eclectic collection of butterflies 😊 Pretty envious of the Brostroke 🍷 as I've still to track one down – they're playing hard to get at Shipton on top of emerging late 😊

Have a goodun



Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 09-Aug-19 06:55 PM GMT

Wonderful to see that fresh, female Brown Hairstreak, Trevor. Those Graylings are delightful too. They gave you a good performance! 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 10-Aug-19 01:02 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel & David, I hope to see a few more Brown Hairstreaks in the coming days.

Once again, like last year, I have managed to photograph all five UK Hairstreak species in Sussex this year. The Black and Purple in particular gave the best opportunities ( so far ).



10/5/2019 Abbots Wood.



9/6/2019 Ditchling Common.



27/6/2019 Hollingbury.





9/7/2019 Abbots Wood.



6/8/2019 Steyning.

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Hulme, 10-Aug-19 01:26 PM GMT

Nice full house of Sussex hairstreaks, Trevor.

I suspect that Steyning will under-perform this year, as the Dexter cattle have absolutely hammered the Blackthorn again 😞. Unfortunately, they seem far more keen on browsing this than grazing the coarser grasses as requested.

BWs, Neil

### Re: Trevor

by Janet Turnbull, 10-Aug-19 04:23 PM GMT

Lovely shot of the graylings, Trevor, especially on the ones where the forewings are exposed. I've only seen one so far this year!

A nice collection of hairstreaks too! 🍷🍷

Janet

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 10-Aug-19 08:27 PM GMT

Congrats on getting all 5 UK Hairstreaks Trevor – great shots too 😊🍷🍷 I really need to get onto a Black Hairstreak next year...

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 11-Aug-19 07:12 PM GMT

WILTSHIRE WALLS.

On my heavily delayed journey to Wiltshire today, I decided to take a quick look at Tilshead. I arrived with my drivers side window wound right down, only to see a Wall Brown chase, probably male after female, heading straight for my open window, fortunately they swooped over the car roof at the last moment!. Heading for the vast grassland I had a quick glance of a pristine female Wall. These were my first ever sightings of Walls at Tilshead, so something else to watch out for.

At Great Cheverell I had a quick visit to the Church grounds, just after a heavy shower, and located a male Wall, who allowed one bad shot. So given some decent weather over the next few days I might be in for a Wall Brown fest!.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 11-Aug-19 08:17 PM GMT

That's great news Trevor - I reckon the county recorder would like to know about the Tilshead Walls 😊😊 I'm off for Brostreaks tomorrow but I might try and push my luck and get out that way on Tuesday...I'll let you know if I can 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 12-Aug-19 07:16 PM GMT

Well done on photographing all five Hairstreaks Trevor 🍀🍀🍀 That's one green smiley for each of the ones I have missed 😊 I have only managed to photograph Green and Purple this year (and last) I may yet catch up with the Brownies but that is by no means guaranteed in my part of the world.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 12-Aug-19 07:45 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel & Neil. Have a look at today's fruits, Wurzel.  
Better luck next year, Neil. Not sure about Brown H for you but Black H just down M40.

Tilshead early this morning.

I arrived on site to 14c and the Sun struggling to clear the menacing cloud.  
This provided an ideal opportunity to photograph roosting Common Blues, including three together.  
As the weather warmed I found a few Chalk Hill Blues, the first I've seen at Tilshead, also another Wall Brown, torn to shreds by a Bird attack.  
As usual the place was teeming with butterflies.





**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 12-Aug-19 07:54 PM GMT

Church yard Walls.

Back at Great Cheverell, I went to explore St. Peters church grounds for Wall Browns. Quite a few were found, varying from very worn to fresh. I suspect there were still a few Spring brood hanging on, flying with Summer Brood. One female had obviously performed her duty sometime ago and was just about to expire.

Trevor.

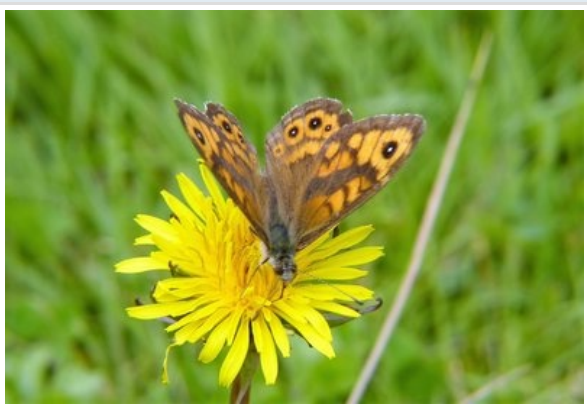




*Resting on vertical headstone.*



*Very old female.*



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 12-Aug-19 08:43 PM GMT

Cracking shots Trevor 😊 and great to see the Walls still holding ground in the Churchyard 😊 I didn't make it to Shipton (going tomorrow) so spent the morning doing jobs like attic runs and shopping 😊😊 Still I've earned some Brownie points 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 13-Aug-19 06:06 PM GMT

That first male Wall Brown is beautiful, Trevor. Strange that the female that follows is so tatty. Guess she's been at the bramble flowers?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 14-Aug-19 10:44 AM GMT

I could afford to spend a little more time exploring the MOD land at Tilshead yesterday, and discovered another Wall Brown colony. This was on the other side of the road, where a well used vehicle track is located. Altogether about a dozen males were basking on the side of the track, and seeing one another off in frequent squabbles, and one individual was sent packing by the one female I saw.

Given there is a Wall Brown presence at Cotley Hill, Tilshead, and the local Church, this could indicate that Walls are doing well on other suitable areas of Salisbury Plain.

Also of note was the sighting of several, fresh Adonis Blues.



*Female Wall, Tilshead.*



*Male Wall, Tilshead.*



**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 14-Aug-19 10:57 AM GMT

Nice Walls Trevor, good to know they're doing ok inland somewhere in the south of the country!

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 14-Aug-19 06:17 PM GMT

The Wall's are great Trevor but I love the Adonis more 🤔🌱 it's colour really stands out 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 14-Aug-19 07:29 PM GMT

It really does seem as if the Walls are making a bit of comeback in that area, Trevor. Over at Shipton Bellinger with Wurzel yesterday, we saw a good half a dozen or so along various tracks - the Hampshire BC page is quite excited by this development. With so much M.O.D. land in that general area, you do wonder how widespread and numerous they might actually be.

Cheers,

Dave



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 15-Aug-19 08:28 PM GMT

Great set of shots Trevor – especially that first shot it's a cracker! 🤔👍👍 The Wall does seem to be doing okay inland in my neck of the woods – last year there was a count of 50+ at Morgans Hill 😊)so it's not always doom and gloom when it comes to butterflies, makes a nice change 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by Maximus, 15-Aug-19 08:47 PM GMT

Great shots of the Wall Browns, Trevor, it would be fantastic if they could regain some lost ground 😊

Mike.

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 15-Aug-19 10:25 PM GMT

I don't know which make me more envious, Trevor – the Walls or the Adonis.

Both species are pristine.

There's clearly life left in the season yet!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 15-Aug-19 10:52 PM GMT

Thanks everyone, Salisbury Plain has many hidden secrets, and more suitable sites for Wall Browns.

Before heading for home this morning I popped up to St. Peters Church for a Wall Brown farewell. No doubt they'll be over by my next visit. About six males were found, and one individual provided me with the shot I had hoped for, basking on a Lichen covered headstone.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 16-Aug-19 09:12 AM GMT

Great final shots, Trevor – I do like the last one casting its perfect shadow... 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 16-Aug-19 10:08 PM GMT

That first on the headstone is a corker Trevor – if I can escape Wales some time soon then I might have to put all of my beliefs aside and actually go to church in the near future...well I'll get as far as the churchyard 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 17-Aug-19 07:59 PM GMT

I went over to Steyning this morning to look for Brown Hairstreaks.

The weather was not the best, the only useful sun appeared too near the end of their normal time.

I did find one female BH, But had to concede that the butterfly of the day was a fresh, female Meadow Brown.

That just about sums up a poor day!

It was good to spend time with Andrew555, John Williams and the editor of the Sussex BC sightings page, Jonathan Crawford.

Trevor.





*Oh Dear!. Poor old girl.*



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 17-Aug-19 08:44 PM GMT

Sorry to hear that Steyning wasn't as productive as you'd hoped some days are like that but at least you did see a Brostreak – many have tried and many have failed this year 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 17-Aug-19 09:39 PM GMT

The way my Brown Hairstreak season is going so far, I'd be over the moon with that one 😄

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 19-Aug-19 06:36 PM GMT

Even a tatty Brown Hairstreak is a welcome sighting, Trevor, although it IS worrying how few seem to be around this year.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 19-Aug-19 08:10 PM GMT

Thanks, chaps. I hope to try a different site for BH if the weather improves, though finding any fresh ones might be difficult by now.

Despite a blustery morning I drove over to Rowland Wood this morning. This location has been host to some very fine 'blue' female Common Blues, and two more were present today, including a fresh one. I had close encounters with two very fresh Painted Ladies, both of which for some reason allowed very close approach. I could almost touch one of them.

All images taken between strong gusts of wind!.  
Trevor.





Underside of blue female.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 20-Aug-19 08:51 AM GMT

Great set of very blue Blues Trevor and those Painted are indeed in very fine fettle 😊👍 Especially like the second one as it has the blue spots inside the black spots on the hind wing 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 21-Aug-19 09:27 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

...All images taken between strong gusts of wind!

Yes, the wind has been unabating for most of August, Trevor. Seems like we may get some respite though....just in time for Bank Holiday weekend. 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 22-Aug-19 09:58 AM GMT

Hi! Trevor, lovely shot's of the Painted Lady, I've found the ones in my garden very approachable when taking shots of them, may be their exhausted from their journey 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 24-Aug-19 09:52 PM GMT

Very nice deeply tinted Painted Ladies, Trevor, and some attractive female Common Blues. 😊 I haven't seen many of those in the second brood this year wherever I've been.

I'm waiting hopefully for you to discover a field full of Clouded Yellows down there in Sussex soon... 😊 (To make up for the cows at Steyning munching all the Brown Hairstreak caterpillars... 😊)

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Aug-19 09:21 AM GMT

On Friday ( 23rd Aug.) I visited Southwick ( Shoreham harbour ) for what turned out to be one of my quietest butterfly expeditions ever!.

Shortly after arrival I met Lindsay Morris, a well known local enthusiast, and someone with a very keen eye. But as we patrolled this usually busy site all we saw in three hours was lots of Small Whites and three, worn, Common Blues.

We hoped we might find a Long Tailed Blue on the abundant Ever Lasting Pea, or what we both went for, the odd Clouded Yellow, none were seen.

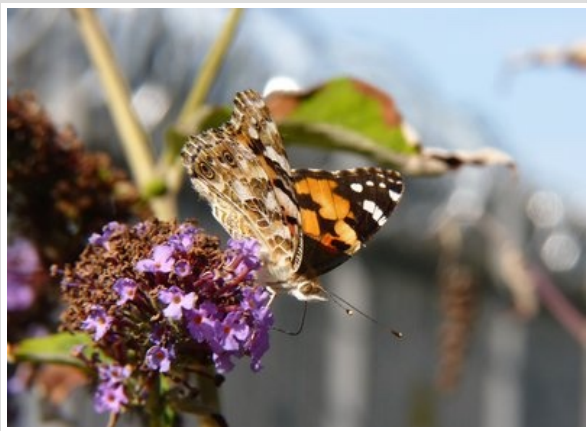
Relief came when we visited the Buddleia bushes near the fuel storage tanks, here there was upwards of a dozen Painted Ladies, some no bigger than a Small Tortoiseshell, and an immaculate, fresh, Red Admiral.

We left the site wondering where all the butterflies were in such perfect conditions!.



Trevor.

PS. Many thanks everyone for the previous comments. 😊.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 26-Aug-19 10:09 AM GMT

Things have gone a bit quiet at the moment Trevor – and just as the better weather has arrived 😊 You did well to get those shots – mind you I've noticed a few more Cloudies being recorded over the last few days, hopefully the vanguard, fingers crossed 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Aug-19 12:32 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. I hope Tilshead is not quiet next week, looking forward to an Adonis fest. Early start of course!.

Good luck with the new term.  
Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 26-Aug-19 02:07 PM GMT

There were 2 or 3 cloudies there last week, one was a female so hopefully she laid a few eggs. I too had a look at the pea but couldn't help but notice the majority had gone over, it's in a much better state at Newhaven.

As for it being quiet, I think it's a symptom of climate change moving the whole season forward, replacing the June gap (now one of the busiest months) with an August gap. I even cut short my Dorset trip due to a near complete lack of butterflies. Lulworth Skippers are now over before the end of August 😞!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 26-Aug-19 03:19 PM GMT

Thanks, Paul. We were told that a Cloudie had been seen at Southwick the day before, but I think it's a bit early for them at that site. They seem to thrive there in Sept and Oct. Hopefully there will be two migrant species to keep us on our toes this Autumn. It could be only Dec and Jan without butterflies if we get a late Autumn, and another February 'heatwave'. Sorry to hear that Dorset was quiet as well.

All the best,  
Trevor.

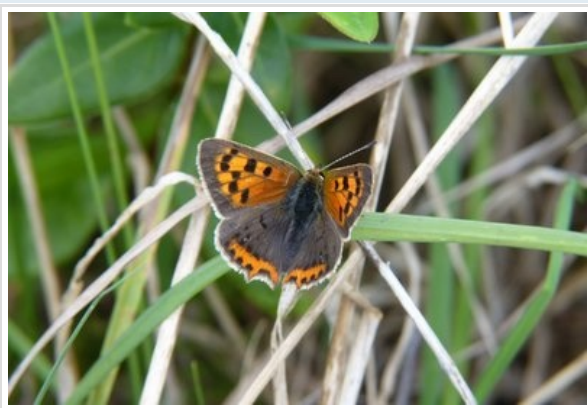
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 29-Aug-19 06:47 AM GMT

Yesterday I travelled by train to Dungeness. After lunch I had enough time to explore some of the rough ground near the station. I soon found the first of five of the famed Dungeness Small Coppers. Photographing them was made difficult by the stiff sea breeze. While searching for the Coppers I had what could have been a nasty accident, when my left leg suddenly plunged down a hole, right up to my crotch, with my right leg left where it should be. Fortunately I was able to haul my leg out of the hole easily, and escaped without any injury at all.

The moral of the tale is watch where you tread, as well as the butterfly you are following!.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 29-Aug-19 07:52 PM GMT

The perils of butterflying Trevor 😬 Glad to hear you're okay and some sound cautionary advice 😊 Lovely looking Small Coppers would have taken your mind off of any pain through 😊😂 Cracking shots of some swarthy looking Coppers 😊🍷

Have a goodun

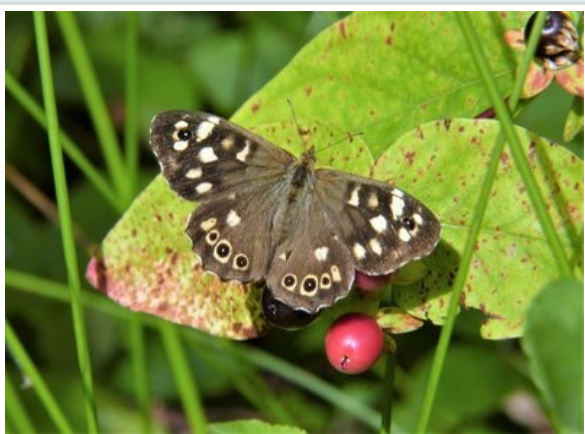
Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-Aug-19 07:42 PM GMT

A very quiet day today, with the exception of lots of Small Whites. I was very pleased to find a female Speckled Wood in good condition, unlike some very worn males.

Trevor.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 31-Aug-19 03:56 PM GMT

That is a nice chocolately fresh Specklie Trevor – I've not seen a Specklie for a few days now so it's good to know they're still going 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 31-Aug-19 06:07 PM GMT

After an abortive trip to see the Long Tailed Blues at Whitehawk Hill, Brighton, on Tuesday, nowhere to park, only double yellows and permit holders spaces available, I chose a 'sensible' double yellow spot and dashed up the hill, saw nothing, and returned to the car in haste.

That was no way to enjoy a butterfly trip, so I went again today, nice and early. Parked legally and easily. As I walked up the hill the vibes were good, perfect weather and no worries about the car! I remembered where the 2015 LTB 'Hotspot' was, and this was confirmed by a severely trampled area I stumbled upon. At 09.03 my first LTB was spotted, and in my camera lens.

Even at this relatively early hour, visitors began to arrive, some from Essex and one from Swindon, and in the next hour we saw three LTB's altogether. These ranged from good condition to nearly expired. Hopefully all three male LTB's had done their duty, and we will see the fruits of their labours in a few weeks.

A very enjoyable hour, all done by 10.00.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 31-Aug-19 06:59 PM GMT

That tatty one may be edging his way ever closer to his last flutter but he was my first ever LTB so I look on at him through rose tinted glasses 😊 Glad you escaped unscathed from that hidden hole, losing the ability to walk just weeks before the LTB season kicks off proper is unthinkable!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 31-Aug-19 07:33 PM GMT

Thanks Paul. As you say the tatty LTB was very welcome, he was my first one today. Had he been the only one seen I would still have regarded the day a success. As for the hole it was covered in grass, probably an old Badger set. Fortunately my foot reached the bottom of the hole, had it been any deeper something more delicate could have been damaged. Such is life.

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 31-Aug-19 10:29 PM GMT

Excellent shots of the LTBs, Trevor, especially the first one. 😊👍 I've been up north for the last few days, so it is very tempting to head south tomorrow... 😊 (Though they did have Cloudies up there 😊)

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 01-Sep-19 08:37 PM GMT

That first LTB is a cracking shot Trevor 😊👍 They're a bit too far for me to travel too so I'll just enjoy yours and others shots 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Sep-19 06:31 PM GMT

Many thanks, Wurzel & Dave.

This morning I drove over to the fabulous Tilshead site nice and early. When I arrived the temperature was only 12c, and all the 'Blues' were still in their resting positions, with wings closed, on their grass stems. Happily I selected one particular Adonis Blue to photograph when the Sun finally warmed things up. When this particular, female, started to open up I couldn't believe my eyes, for she was a stunning example of a 'blue' female Adonis. Her blue even shimmered just like a male. Soon the site was alive with glistening blue jewels down in the long grass.

I think my 'blue' female Adonis deserves two images.  
Trevor.





**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 02-Sep-19 06:40 PM GMT

When female Adonis go blue..... **phwoar!!!** 🍀🍀🍀

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 02-Sep-19 07:04 PM GMT

That's a really striking Adonis female, Trevor. The second brood seems to produce a few corkers, and that one is exceptional. 🍀 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 02-Sep-19 08:27 PM GMT

Whilst the Common Blue is none to shabby that female Adonis is an absolute cracker 🤩🍷, when you picked that one you picked a winner 😊 - I don;t suppose you have any suggestions for the Lotto numbers? 😊😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by essexbuzzard, 02-Sep-19 09:14 PM GMT

Agreed, that female AB is a stunner!

**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 02-Sep-19 10:40 PM GMT

What a beautiful butterfly! Well done Trevor

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 04-Sep-19 07:34 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for your appreciation of that stunning ' blue ' female Adonis Blue.

This morning I called in at Tilshead, on my way back to Sussex, at the civilised time of 9am. As the overnight cloud began to break, there were still many Common and Adonis Blues clinging to their grass stems from last night. This gave me plenty of time to select some fresh specimens, which all turned out to be females, the males of both species were mostly worn. Fortunately the warming up process was slow and staggered, allowing me enough time to photograph each butterfly in turn. A rare luxury !.

Trevor.









### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 05-Sep-19 07:37 PM GMT

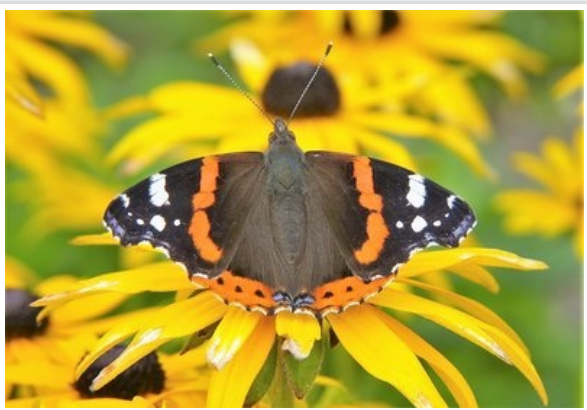
This afternoon I visited the gardens of Herstmonceux Castle. Many species were present, including a single Small Tortoiseshell, but no Peacocks or Commas. It was surprising to find three Small Coppers and two female Common Blues in such a setting. Less of a surprise were the many Red Admirals, Painted Ladies, and fresh Large Whites.

Some enthusiasts frown upon photographing butterflies on brash, brightly coloured flowers in a garden setting, but I hope the following images are just that, Colourful !.

I also noticed two large clumps of Broad Leaved Everlasting Pea, I wonder ?.

Trevor.











Everlasting Pea, sorry it's out of focus!.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 05-Sep-19 10:36 PM GMT

Great stuff from Tilshead Trevor 😊 and a lovely sequence from today, I'm all for the brash and colourful shots like those 😊, interesting looking blue as well 😊🌱 I reckon the BLEP is a worth a punt 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 06-Sep-19 05:40 PM GMT

That certainly is a fabulous female Adonis Blue, Trevor. Nice also to see a few Red Admirals popping up in peoples' PDs. They are mysteriously scarce round my way this summer. 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 10-Sep-19 06:37 PM GMT

Thanks, Wurzel & David, hope you enjoy today's sightings.

This morning I went up to High and Over for an overdue visit. I particularly went to see the third brood Wall Browns. I saw about eight males, some quite worn, but my morning was made complete when a mating pair of Wall Browns was discovered. The female was obviously looking for a suitable boudoir to consummate the partnership, as she flew, with her mate in tow, to many locations before finally flying over the edge of the hill near the White Horse, and out of sight. Many Red Admirals were enjoying the abundant Ivy Blossom, as was a Comma before it landed on a fence post to bask. A Brown Argus was another single sighting, as was a male Holly Blue. A very productive and enjoyable morning.

Trevor.







### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 10-Sep-19 07:21 PM GMT

Fantastic shots lately Trevor, especially that Blue in your other posts 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 10-Sep-19 07:44 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

...Some enthusiasts frown upon photographing butterflies on brash, brightly coloured flowers in a garden setting, but I hope the following images are just that, Colourful... Trevor.

I like them Trevor, lovely vibrant colours 😊

And some nice fresh Wall Browns too 🍷 😊

Cheers,

Neil

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 10-Sep-19 08:27 PM GMT

Certainly am enjoying them Trevor 😊 🍷 Is one of those Walls that you caught in flagrante an aberrant as the eye on the fore wing seems miniscule compared to the other one's? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 11-Sep-19 08:08 PM GMT

I wondered whether the third brood of Walls were flying down there yet, Trevor and you've just answered the question! I may have to pay a visit... Great shots of them, especially the pair – they are still looking reasonably fresh as well. 😊



Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 12-Sep-19 08:48 AM GMT

That's an enviable line up for the time of year, Trevor, especially the mating pair of Wall Browns.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 13-Sep-19 09:57 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone.

After a session trying to photograph Wall Browns on Tuesday, I fancied something easier today.

This afternoon I returned to Herstmonceux Castle gardens. Not long after arrival it became obvious that numbers of Small Coppers had grown since my visit last week, and they had spread over a wider area. At least three ' pairs ' were seen with the female refusing the advances of persistent males. I managed to photograph one of the acts of rejection .

The rest of the afternoon became very colourful.....



*The Lady is not interested.*







### Re: Trevor

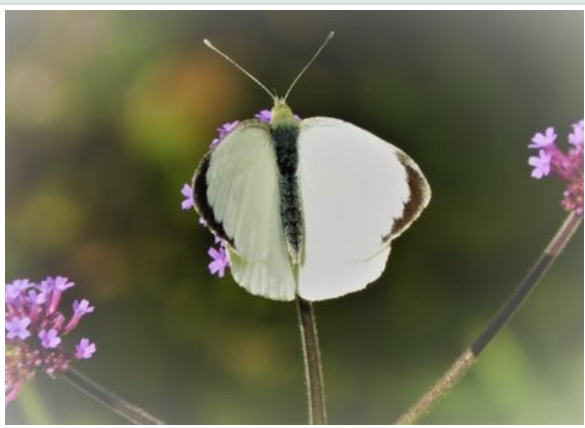
by trevor, 13-Sep-19 10:36 PM GMT

A feature of this afternoon was the sight of newly emerged Peacocks, all in absolutely pristine condition. Having not seen a Peacock for some months they really were welcome . Other butterflies on the wing in the gardens were several Commas, two Painted Ladies, many Red Admirals, and fresh Large and Small Whites.

The afternoon was polished off with ground coffee and cake in the restaurant!.







**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 14-Sep-19 06:47 PM GMT

Encouraging selection of fresh butterflies there, good work Trevor!

**Re: Trevor**



by Wurzel, 14-Sep-19 07:38 PM GMT

More cracking photos Trevor – the Small Coppers et al all look brilliant on the amuve background and the SC on the orange flower is a cracking image 😊👍 Coffee and cake is definitely one of the best ways to round off some exhausting butterflying 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 14-Sep-19 10:30 PM GMT

That Copper sequence is Hoggers-esque, Trevor! 😊

Nice to still see Peacocks in September too. Round my way, they seem to vanish by late August, and you're lucky if you see more than a couple of singletons before the season is out. 😞

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 16-Sep-19 09:02 PM GMT

This morning I drove over to Tide Mills via High and Over.

At H&O the Wall Browns were very lively, despite the lack of much sunshine.

Maybe the temperature of 22c was enough to keep them active.

Some fresh males were seen, including one that had clearly had been attacked by a Bird, suffering much wing loss, but again still very lively.

At Tide Mills all was quiet, no Clouded Yellows or LTB, but another male Wall Brown gave me a little more exercise, before finally settling for a shot.

On the way back to the car I managed a distant shot of a solitary Egret.

Trevor.



*Fresh but badly damaged.*





Tide Mills Wall Brown.



### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 16-Sep-19 10:31 PM GMT

More lovely looking Walls, Trevor. I think an excursion to Sussex this week is a must. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 16-Sep-19 10:36 PM GMT

The first and third Walls are great looking Trevor 😊👍 I do feel a bit sorry for the second – it's looks like it's had a run in with the 'scissor beak' bird 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 17-Sep-19 02:03 PM GMT

Lovely Wall shots Trevor, they seem to have had a good year this year. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Sep-19 03:28 PM GMT

I really should keep my eyes out for Wall Browns near the coast round my way, Trevor. Those you found appear to be in good nick so next time I'm out I'll be on my guard.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 19-Sep-19 10:30 PM GMT

This afternoon I returned to Herstmonceux Castle specifically to see how the Small Coppers were getting on.

There were many flying, some fresh, some worn.

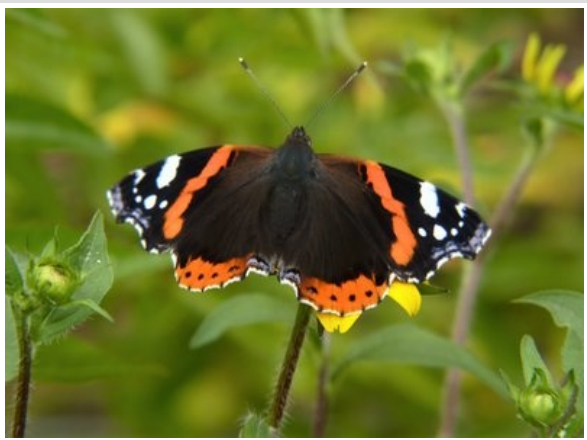
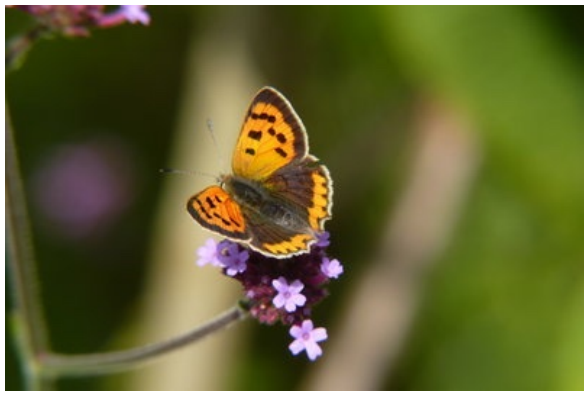
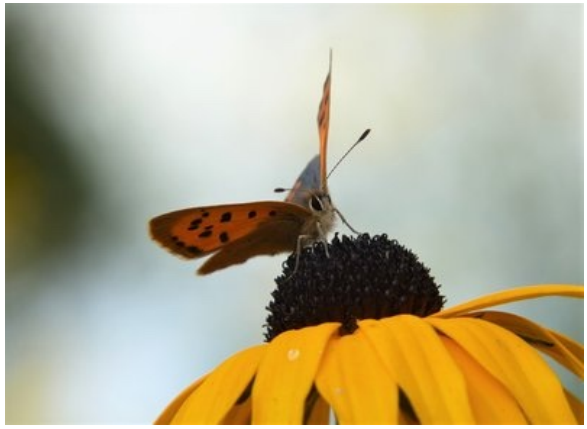
Unlike yesterday's failed trip to find some Long Tailed Blues, the plentiful Coppers provided many photo opps.

Unfortunately the two large clumps of BLEP in the grounds have been 'tidied' up since my last visit.

Trevor.

Many thanks everyone for your comments on the Wall Browns.







One of many fresh Large Whites.

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 19-Sep-19 10:44 PM GMT

Great set of shots as per usual Trevor 😊 Those first 2 Small Coppers are the very worthy winners of the 🏆 though; stained glass and the second it positioned so perfectly it's like it growing out of the petals 😊🏆

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 21-Sep-19 09:31 AM GMT

Whoa! Those Copper images are ravishing, Trevor. Seems they're as keen on the ornamental asters as they are on the wild ones.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 23-Sep-19 07:59 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel & David. Glad you both enjoyed my afternoon with the Coppers.

With a beautiful blue sky early this morning I had high hopes that a search for Long Tailed Blues could be undertaken before the forecast weather collapse arrived. Then while watching BBC Breakfast, a reporter was standing on the seafront at Brighton talking about the Labour party conference, behind him, out to sea, was an ominous looking black cloud!. Consulting the Weather Radar on my laptop this confirmed a small but heavy shower was in progress over Brighton. About 20 mins later it started to chuck it down at home.

So I set out for Whitehawk hill in pouring rain, safe in the knowledge that the rain shower was temporary. On arrival several areas of the hill was searched, and soon several high speed LTB flybys were seen. It was not until mid morning that sightings became regular, and the building cloud calmed the LTB's down, allowing some good photo opps. In all about five LTB's could be identified throughout the morning. Dogfights between males were quite frequent, with one individual intent on defending his patch and seeing of any passing LTB, then returning to a particular small area to be photographed by myself and other admirers. Just before leaving a very fresh, nicely marked, female Speckled Wood landed on the path.

Trevor.







*Wing rolling.*





### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 23-Sep-19 09:42 PM GMT

Very nice LTB shots, Trevor. 🍷😄 It just shows that bright strong sunshine isn't the best for getting really good views of this species (and other Blues as well, when you think about it).

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 23-Sep-19 10:36 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor 😄🍷 Those open wing shots are cracking – love the soul-less black eyes on the hind wings 😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 25-Sep-19 01:19 PM GMT

Nice work, Trevor. Well done for persevering in spite of the heavy showers.

All we need now are for these infernal storms to disappear.

### Re: Trevor

by Janet Turnbull, 25-Sep-19 06:48 PM GMT

I shall have to move south! Lovely pics of the LTBs. I haven't been following the news lately – has there been a special influx this year or would you expect to find them at Whitehawk Hill? Janet

### Re: Trevor

by Neil Freeman, 27-Sep-19 08:35 PM GMT

#### Janet Turnbull wrote:

...I shall have to move south!..

Yep, my thoughts exactly 😄

Great series of LTB photos Trevor 🍷😄 I can only admire these from a distance from up here in the midlands as Sussex is further than I will travel for a day trip and I am out of holiday entitlement from work for this year.

My favourite of your recent photos however are those Small Coppers on the yellow rudbeckias, beautiful complementary colours 😄

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-Sep-19 08:04 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for your comments/enjoyment of last weeks LTB adventure.

## MEET NEIL!

This morning the weather looked just about good enough to risk another trip to Whitehawk Hill. On arrival, the temperature was OK, and for once there was minimal breeze but the Sun was constantly behind high and low cloud. For over an hour I had the site to myself, then a couple from Edinburgh turned up, I told them that I was optimistic of some LTB sightings, and as it was quiet, I took them to several areas of the hill where LTB's had been found. Later two Guys from Essex joined us, and we waited and watched for hours with no luck.

Whenever Neil Hulme turns up on site my hopes of success are raised, but still nothing appeared, even during a short spell of bright sunshine.

By early afternoon the other visitors had given up, but had taken with them some advice on other areas to search. I was now on my own again, when I thought I heard a feint call, then a louder call ' Trevor ', it was Neil beckoning me to follow him. I hurriedly tried to catch him up ( he can't half shift! ) and we finally ended up near Manor park road, right on the edge of the site, and there was a perched a mint fresh male LTB, and utopia it was on a BLEP bloom !, a combination I had long wished for.

Many images later, the weather was becoming a problem and we called it a day.

My thanks to Neil for showing me the only LTB of the day, and for the lift back to my car.

In honour of that wonderful experience today, I christened that male LTB ' Neil '.

Trevor.



*The famous transmitter from the car park I use.*









**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 30-Sep-19 08:14 PM GMT

Absolutely cracking images Trevor 😄😄👍👍 Those underside markings when fresh like that are stunning! 😄👍 My cup floweth over with the 🍷🍷👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Neil Hulme, 30-Sep-19 08:33 PM GMT

Hi Trevor

Just rewards for toughing it out. What a great day! Hopefully plenty more to come once the weather settles.  
BWs, Neil

**Re: Trevor**

by Katrina, 30-Sep-19 08:35 PM GMT

Glorious photos. Congratulations to you and Neil. 😄😄😄👍

**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 30-Sep-19 09:39 PM GMT

Great shots, Trevor. 😄 Hopefully I'll be able to join in later in the week!

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by bugboy, 30-Sep-19 10:01 PM GMT

My train ticket is already booked for Wednesday 😄!

**Re: Trevor**

by essexbuzzard, 30-Sep-19 11:55 PM GMT

Great, Trevor! Now I know where I'm headed on Wednesday, provided the weather forecast is correct.

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 03-Oct-19 12:33 PM GMT

Marvellous, trevor. Neil has a habit of pulling rabbits from a hat....and what a 'rabbit' that was; positively radiant. 😊

### Re: Trevor

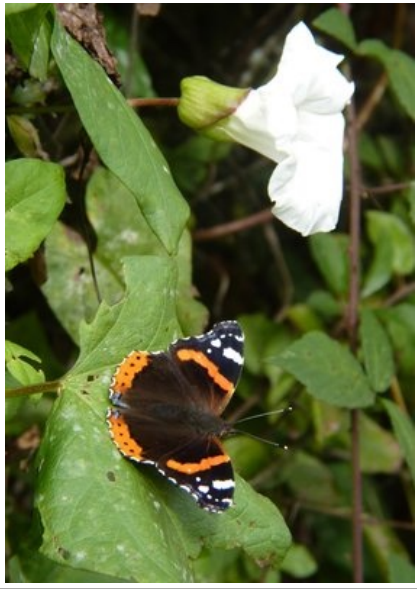
by trevor, 04-Oct-19 06:42 PM GMT

I had planned to end up at Tidemills today, but as I pulled into the car park at High and Over I could see from there that Tidemills would be out of the question. With the weather deteriorating I didn't hold out much hope for any butterfly sightings, that was until I unexpectedly found upwards of twenty fresh Red Admirals nectaring on Ivy Blossom. As the strong wind was blowing from the west, the thick vegetation made an excellent wind break, and along the hedge in the meadow the wind could hardly be felt. Three Wall Browns were found on the steps, and in the meadow, but understandably all were worn. A fresh, lively, Peacock eventually settled in the meadow for several shots, as did a reasonable Speckled Wood found on the way back to the car park.

Trevor.

Many thanks everyone for your kind comments on the LTB, it was an unforgettable experience!. 😊









### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 04-Oct-19 08:40 PM GMT

Great stuff Trevor – but that Peacock seems a little out of place – they're normally well tucked up by now 🤔😄 Nice find 😊🌿

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 04-Oct-19 10:43 PM GMT

So that's where all the Red Admirals stop off on their journey south, Trevor! 😊 You were lucky to have a bit of sunshine today. That may well be a second brood Peacock – one or two have been appearing in my neck of the woods as well, but the last ones were seen round here nearly two months ago now. It looks like a last fling for the Walls, though... 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 07-Oct-19 03:38 PM GMT

You made the right decision, Trevor. No point heading out somewhere if conditions look to be marginal (or worse) and you have better prospects nearby.

Find a patch of flowering ivy in a sheltered spot at this time of year and you can almost guarantee Red Admirals.

The Wall Browns are a nice bonus too. Is it me or do they seem to have had a particularly strong September/early October this year?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 12-Oct-19 08:11 PM GMT

Many thanks Dave, Wurzel and David. Those Red Admirals were a sight for sore eyes!.

Seasons greetings to you all!

The image below was taken today, and apparently the display was opened in the last week of September, a full three months before the day itself!

They were obviously hoping to catch people just back from their summer hols, or those who like to skip Autumn altogether.

To put it another way, the images in my last posting ( above ) were taken a week after we're told Christmas is coming.

Personally I think this sort of commercialism so early is obscene.

Not a happy Bunny.  
Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 13-Oct-19 05:42 PM GMT

Tell me about it Trevor 😊 Last year Waitrose were taking down the Christmas decorations and displays on the 27th December (they could at least wait until 12th night) and replacing them with Easter Eggs 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 13-Oct-19 10:17 PM GMT

That's appalling, Trevor – though I noticed that the Christmas lights went up in Staines last week... They had better not turn them on yet, mind. I never quite understand why supermarkets start selling mince pies in September with sell-by dates well in advance of Christmas. How does that work? At the moment the emphasis in these places is on Hallowe'en though, but once that is out the way we will no doubt be clobbered by Yuletide with a vengeance... 😞

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 14-Oct-19 11:33 PM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

...Seasons greetings to you all!

...To put it another way, the images in my last posting ( above ) were taken a week after we're told Christmas is coming.

Personally I think this sort of commercialism so early is obscene.

Grrr! 😞

They could at least leave it until after Hallowe'en like they used to.

How can you think about Christmas when there are still Long Tailed Blues about?

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 16-Oct-19 03:22 PM GMT

A look back on the 2019 season 1.

Every season produces some memorable moments, and one this year was the February ' heatwave '. Rowland Wood was alive with awakened Commas, Brimstones and Peacocks.

Trevor.



### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 16-Oct-19 04:26 PM GMT

Memorable moments of 2019. 2

On two Sundays, 24th and 31st of March, the Small Tortoiseshells at Halnaker, emerged from hibernation. This has become an annual event, usually towards the end of March, when the Sun produces enough heat to warm up the roof spaces in the farm outbuildings.

What makes this particularly memorable? Only a small number were seen this year, and worse, those two Sundays produced the highest number of Small Tortoiseshells that I've seen in one place for the whole year.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 16-Oct-19 10:58 PM GMT

Lovely images Trevor 😊🇬🇧 Small Tort's are still doing well over this way, the footpath at my workplace can easily turn up double figures in a lunch break so if you're over this way from late Feb give it a go 😊 Cheers for the postcode by the way, I've banked that and started the Brownie Point collection 😊

Have a goodun

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Oct-19 09:32 PM GMT

#### trevor wrote:

..Every season produces some memorable moments, and one this year was the February ' heatwave '. Rowland Wood was alive with awakened Commas, Brimstones and Peacocks.

Now you're causing me pain, Trevor! 😞

It was indeed a glorious February, yet we have 4 months to wait until it returns.

Right now, that seems a long way off. 😞

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 22-Oct-19 06:06 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel & David.

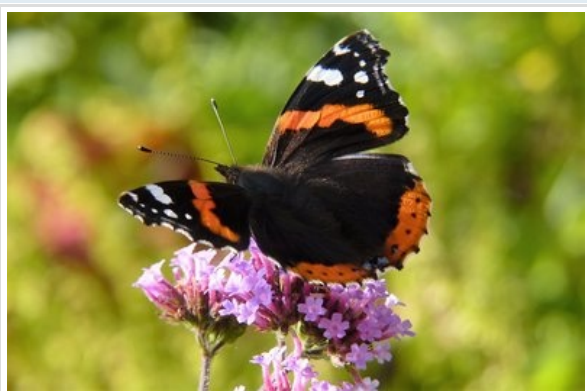
An interruption to my memorable moments of 2019, for some LIVE butterflies found today.

After a weekend of hell with a stomach problem, which the professionals have failed to diagnose, I was almost back to top form this morning. So I fancied going out for a decent meal in the rare sunshine of today. While in the restaurant I saw a Red Admiral flying out side, and walking back to the car afterwards, a Comma flew past me.

So early this afternoon I thought that Herstmonceux Castle gardens might be the place to look for some late season butterflies. After a quiet start I was later entertained by at least two Peacocks, one of the freshest Red Admirals possible and a couple of Small Coppers. A real surprise was a very quick, darting, Hummingbird Hawk Moth, no images of that, unsurprisingly.

What a rare treat the weather was today!!.

Trevor.









**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 22-Oct-19 06:51 PM GMT

That Copper looks quite fresh, Trevor. 😊🍷 Very good to see along with the others. Today was a glorious day for once, but it could easily be the last one like that we'll see this year, unfortunately.

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 22-Oct-19 07:25 PM GMT

My thoughts about the weather exactly, Dave.  
I think the last couple of Autumns have spoiled us with good weather, this year it's been something of a rude awakening.  
I have doubts about any November butterflies for this year.

**Re: Trevor**

by Maximus, 22-Oct-19 07:42 PM GMT

Lovely butterflies, Trevor 😊 It's good that you made the most of today! As Dave says that Copper does look quite fresh 😊

Mike.

### Re: Trevor

by bugboy, 22-Oct-19 08:16 PM GMT

Trust a day like today to appear this week after I took the whole of last week off 😊. Luckily I was half day so I managed a couple of hours this afternoon with similar results to you 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 23-Oct-19 08:48 PM GMT

Cracking images Trevor- that Red Admiral is in mint condish, fresh out of the box – where's it been hiding? 😊🍀🍀

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 24-Oct-19 08:42 PM GMT

Peacock and Small Copper are decent returns within 2 months of the winter solstice, Trevor!

Hope you remain 'on form' and shake off that stomach infection.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 29-Oct-19 01:00 PM GMT

Identification sought.

Whilst clearing the front garden this morning, I found two of our friends. I know the one on the right, but the furry one on the left, I'm not sure of.

It has to be a Moth of some kind, I am sure.

Many thanks in advance.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 29-Oct-19 08:59 PM GMT

I'd hazard a guess that the hairy little blighter is a Ruby Tiger cat, I'll wait to be corrected though 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Nov-19 02:13 PM GMT

Thanks, Wurzel.

I've checked out some images of Ruby Tiger cats, and your suggestion fits the bill. 😊  
Pity I missed the egg laying female in my garden as I can't recall ever seeing a Ruby Tiger.

Many thanks again,  
Trevor.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 01-Nov-19 07:04 PM GMT

Memorable moments 2019. 3.

A real surprise occurred on 5/4/2019, on a day not really conducive to butterflying. Walking along the old railway on a cloudy, cold day I found a pair of mating Brimstones. The weather was similar the next day, and they were still locked in embrace!



### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 02-Nov-19 09:38 PM GMT

Memorable moments of 2019. 4.

On April 24th a visit to High and Over produced several fresh Holly Blues. All were initially found resting with wings closed. One of them, a male, suddenly flicked it's wings wide open, instead of the more normal slow opening I'm more familiar with. Luckily the camera was ready, as it took off after a few seconds of basking.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 03-Nov-19 10:27 PM GMT

Great shots from your last two postings Trevor 😊 I remember the Tantric Brimstones 😊😊 Did you do a bit of whispering prior to the cracking Holly blue shot? 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 04-Nov-19 06:33 PM GMT

trevor wrote:



Memorable moments 2019. 3.

A real surprise occurred on 5/4/2019, on a day not really conducive to butterflying. Walking along the old railway on a cloudy, cold day I found a pair of mating Brimstones. The weather was similar the next day, and they were still locked in embrace!

That was indeed a highlight, Trevor. I've yet to see this species in cop and you had 24 hours of it! 😊

### Re: Trevor

by Janet Turnbull, 06-Nov-19 10:50 AM GMT

What absolutely beautiful images, Trevor! A perfect specimen, a joy to behold. 😊😊 plus a few 🍷🍷!

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 08-Nov-19 02:17 PM GMT

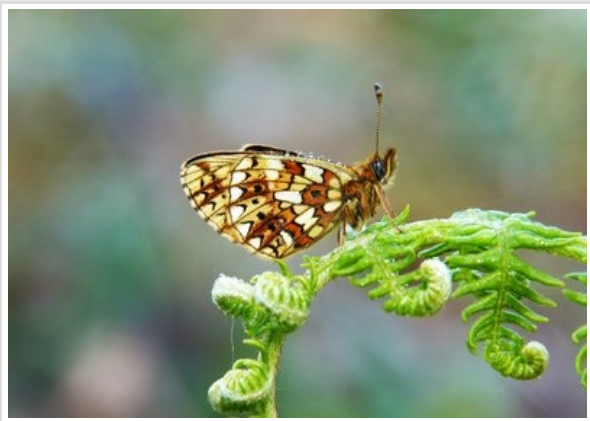
Many thanks, Wurzel, David & Janet for the comments.

Memorable moments of 2019. 5.

This Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary had chosen to roost near some tall Oaks. At 09.45 the next morning it was still in deep shade, covered in dew, while other SPBF were already up and about. Thus ensued a waiting game for it to open up, giving plenty of time for many closed wing shots.

It was cool in the shade, but the butterfly eventually detected the warmer air just before the sun actually reached it, and opened up to reveal a lovely fresh male. It soon took flight to join the others after a prolonged roost.

7





## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 08-Nov-19 03:35 PM GMT

Memorable moments of 2019. 6.

On the 10th May 2019 on a visit to Chiddingfold forest I was fortunate to witness a lone Wood White that wouldn't remain that way for very long!

As I photographed it, another Wood White flew in, and after a few moments of clumsy entanglement, and no time wasted, they coupled right in front of my eyes.

To quote Wurzel ' they don't waste time with chocolates and fine wine ' !.





**Re: Trevor**

by millerd, 08-Nov-19 05:20 PM GMT

Nice Wood White sequence, Trevor, and evidence that the elaborate "courtship" ritual often observed in this species is not a definite requirement ahead of mating. (To be honest I've never once seen it actually lead to coupling... 😊😄)

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 08-Nov-19 08:29 PM GMT

Lovely Wood Whites Trevor and that Small Pearl with the droplets - lush 🌿🌿🌿 Loving the 'Memorable Moments' though I'm still trying to remember and write mine up for the first time 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 09-Nov-19 07:46 PM GMT

Cheers Dave & Wurzel. I now jump forward a month to June 1st.

Memorable moments of 2019. 7.

Tilshead, Wilts. has to be one of my favourite sites, especially for the variety of ' Blue ' species to be found there. Indeed as far as I can see only the Large Blue and Silver Studded blue are absent there.

It is a site well worth an early morning visit, and could be combined with a trip to Cotley Hill for those travelling from the East or from the Salisbury direction.





**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 09-Nov-19 08:09 PM GMT

Memorable moments. 8. Strumpshaw Fen, 3rd June.

Early June turned out to be rather hectic on the butterfly front. No sooner had I returned from Wiltshire, than the Swallowtails of Norfolk beckoned for a three day visit. On the first day I met more familiar faces at Strumpshaw Fen than I would normally expect to meet in Sussex!.

Unlike our visit last year when the weather played havoc, and we were a little too late for fresh specimens, this year we hit the jackpot!.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 10-Nov-19 06:04 PM GMT

Wow! Lush shots Trevor - no wonder they made a memorable moment 🍷🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 12-Nov-19 08:24 AM GMT

Memorable moments of 2019. 9. Abbots Wood and Chiddingfold Forest.

After some success with the Purple Hairstreak in 2018, this year I was determined to search more thoroughly for them. I was a little late for fresh specimens last year, so I started looking for them in earnest in late June.

Fortunately I have a brilliant site for PH very close to home, and had some excellent sightings there. The only failure this year, which I hope to put right next season, was capturing a male displaying full purple.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 12-Nov-19 10:39 PM GMT

I remember the cracking images of your Purps from the summer Trevor – you definitely had a cracking year with them and that first image wow 🤩🤩🤩

Have a goodun

Wurzel

## Re: Trevor

by David M, 13-Nov-19 12:04 PM GMT

You've presented us with so many delightful images in this highlights sequence, Trevor, but I have to say the one with the Brown Argus and Adonis Blue at either end of the sainfoin flower is itself a highlight within this series.

First class.

## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 13-Nov-19 02:51 PM GMT

Many thanks, Wurzel & David.

David, I managed about 20 images of the Brown Argus and Adonis Blue, all of similar quality. In each image the Brown Argus has moved position slightly. All taken very early morning.

Memorable moments 10. Ditchling Common, 9/6/ 2019. Black Hairstreak.

The really memorable experience at Ditchling Common occurred last year. After a rather cryptic phone call from Dave Cook ( the Guy who actually discovered the BH at Ditchling Common in 2017 ), he asked me to meet in the car park, on the Monday at 10am. Refusing to tell me anything of use, other than to say it was exciting, left me with 14+ hours to ponder/anticipate and did little for a good nights sleep!

The rest is now history, but I had been invited to the BH preview day, the day before the discovery was made public.

In 2019, as in 2018, the Black Hairstreak did not disappoint, many were seen, and what is more they are usually very placid when at rest, and seemed at their best on cloudy days. In my experience I would say that they are one of the easiest butterflies to photograph.



## Re: Trevor

by trevor, 13-Nov-19 03:41 PM GMT

Memorable moments of 2019. 11. Chiddingfold forest, Purple Emperor.

No Summer for me would be complete without a few visits to the Chiddingfold forest complex to seek out His Majesty. Last year was fabulous for sightings with the bonus of two ab's as well !.

The 2019 Emperor season was slower going than last year, and started about a week later. When male groundings started, the more enthusiast numbers grew,



and a grounded Emperor soon drew a small crowd, this is understandable but not ideal for photography, as only one person will have the best position for a square on shot. Humour and good manners are always at their best with the Chiddingfold regulars, and everyone gets a turn.

On one visit this year, just after lunch, I decided to head for home and having said farewell to the others, started walking back to the car, when suddenly, in an area of deep shade, an Emperor flew up in front of me, and could be seen flying close to the ground and off into the distance and touching down, very briefly, a couple of times.

I waited hoping for a return visit and after a short while he reappeared, still flying low and frequently landing for only a second or two. With nothing to lose I gave chase and snatched an image when possible. Finally he flew right down the track almost out of sight and landed in a distant sunny spot, and was still there when I caught up. Here in front me was, by far, the best specimen of the week, and I had him all to myself!



### Re: Trevor

by David M, 18-Nov-19 10:20 AM GMT

**trevor wrote:**

...Here in front me was, by far, the best specimen of the week, and I had him all to myself.

Short of serendipitously encountering a rare migrant species, having a grounded Emperor all to yourself has to be the pinnacle of UK butterflying. 😊

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 19-Nov-19 09:15 AM GMT

Many thanks, David. That Emperor certainly was a bonus, I had to share all other groundings this year, I don't mind that at all, but so much more enjoyable to have to myself.

Memorable moments. 12. Pirbright, Surrey. 1/8/2019.

I only met up with the Grayling once in 2019, and the trip looked at one time as though it might turn out to be a waste of time!

I left home in bright, warm sunshine, but as I approached Guildford it clouded over.

On arrival at Dawney's Hill, the cloud had turned into a heavy grey gloom.

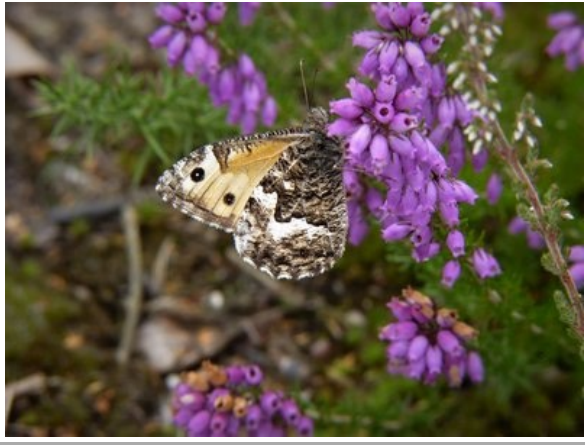
Walking around the site all looked hopeless, but I later sent up a couple of grounded Grayling which landed after a short flight, but I was not after Grayling on the ground, it was Grayling on Heather that I had driven a long distance for.



Fortunately, after a couple of hours on site, the Sun broke through the cloud and it suddenly became very warm, and did the Grayling respond!. Chases were frequent, and I was lucky to witness four in one chase!

The abundant Bell Heather at the far end of the site soon proved to be attractive for Grayling seeking nectar, and I was able to obtain the shots I wanted after all. It was noticeable that Grayling on the ground quickly retract their forewings, but while nectaring their forewings were always erect.





### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 19-Nov-19 03:46 PM GMT

Those are lovely shots of the Grayling Trevor especially with being on the Heather 📷📷 Goldie 😊

### Re: Trevor

by essexbuzzard, 20-Nov-19 10:30 PM GMT

Sounds like a good trip, Trevor! I've never been to that site—another to add to my site list. I too prefer to see Grayling on something, though that isn't always possible.

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 21-Nov-19 03:02 PM GMT

Many thanks, Goldie & Mark.

Yes, Mark, Dawney's Hill is well worth a visit for Grayling. Get the weather right and head for the Heather at the far end of the site, and Bingo!

Memorable moments 13. Tilshead, Wilts. 2/9/2019.

As with the Spring brood, Tilshead came up trumps again with the Summer brood of Adonis Blue. And again my effort of getting up early was rewarded. On this visit all was quiet when I arrived on site, with all the members of the blue family still in their roosting positions on the grass stems. I spent some time looking for fresh specimens, in this case butterflies with intact fringe hair, and having selected a couple of likely targets, waited until the Sun gained warmth. When this particular female Adonis opened up I was astounded, a very fine, fresh 'blue' female. And did she sparkle!. Up to that point in the season this was my butterfly of the year.



### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 21-Nov-19 10:22 PM GMT

Great Grayling shots Trevor and great to see Tilshead made it into the Memorable Moments list with that luscious Adonis Blue 📷📷📷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Neil Freeman, 22-Nov-19 07:14 PM GMT

Just catching up with your memorable moments Trevor. Hard to pick a favourite but particularly impressed with the open wing male Holly Blue in no.4 and the Brown Argus and Adonis Blue combo in no.7 🍷🍷😄

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 22-Nov-19 08:05 PM GMT

Thanks, Wurzel & Neil, I was very pleased with the Adonis Blue shots, which were only possible because I had plenty of time to do some 'gardening' around the subjects, and could spend time with composition, while waiting for warmth from the Sun.

Memorable moments. 14. Whitehawk Hill, Brighton. 31st August and 23rd September.

I travelled to Whitehawk Hill as often as possible during September. On most occasions the wind strength was the dominant factor. This did not always deter male Long Tailed Blues from flying, but did make photography difficult on occasions. All butterflies seen on the above dates were migrant males, indeed females were rather scarce, and I personally did not see any.

The really memorable, and final, moment of 2019 is reserved for No.15.



**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 22-Nov-19 10:25 PM GMT

Cracking stuff Trevor 🍷🍷🍷 If this was number 14 and number 15 is truly memorable Trevor it's going to be stunning 🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 25-Nov-19 10:03 PM GMT

Final memorable moment of 2019. 15. Whitehawk Hill, 30/9/2019.

This was to prove to be my final visit to the above site, and because of the weather, this would turn out to be my penultimate butterfly trip of the year.

As I walked up the hill I was filled with optimism, the wind had dropped, it was very mild, only lack of Sun was the missing ingredient for a great day. But the day would only yield one single butterfly, and what a butterfly!. Found by Neil Hulme, an absolutely fresh, pristine, male Long Tailed Blue saved the day, and it was perched on a BLEP bloom. Utopia!!.

This was undoubtedly my butterfly of the year, and one of the most exciting moments of 2019.

Thanks Neil !.





### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 25-Nov-19 11:43 PM GMT

Absolutely fantastic Trevor – stunning shots 🤩👍👍👍 Utopia indeed 🤩👍👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Trevor

by David M, 26-Nov-19 10:45 PM GMT

Those Long Tailed Blues are obvious highlights, Trevor. I've seen plenty on the continent this year but none as pristine as that last one.

Must say though, that utterly radiant female Adonis is equally eyecatching – an absolute beauty 🤩

### Re: Trevor

by Goldie M, 27-Nov-19 09:06 AM GMT

Fantastic Trevor, 🤩👍👍 lovely butterfly shots 🤩 Goldie 🤩

### Re: Trevor

by millerd, 27-Nov-19 09:48 PM GMT

You certainly saved the best till last, Trevor, but the whole review of 2019's highpoints has been excellent. Let's hope 2020 can match or exceed it! 🤩  
Especially on the LTB front... 🤩🤩

Dave

### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 06-Dec-19 07:44 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone. That Long Tailed Blue really was the ultimate way to end to the 2019 season.

On a rather grotty day weather wise, what could be better than a look through some full memory cards, that go back through the years.

One of them reminded me of a fabulous few days I had at Chiddingfold forest in 2017. The weather on most days was near perfect, and the Purple Emperors responded in style. One occasion I will never forget was one Thursday, when I had planned to call in at Chiddingfold on my way home from Wiltshire. I arrived at about 11.30, and at the triangle was met by a very excited P.J. Underwood. He said " Trevor they have been landing everywhere, on your baited log, on the ground, and along the rides ". No sooner had he spoke when an Emperor landed on my log. After several shots we went to investigate another PE that had landed nearby, after this, on return to the log there were two PE's on it!. Prior to the Thursday I was with Dave Cook, who skilfully persuaded a PE to climb onto his finger.

On July 1st, my final day at Chiddingfold, I was with Doug. Neve, and in a whole morning we did not see a single grounded male PE, but we saw several ' Oak edging ' and flying from tree to tree. But, the day had not finished with us, as on the way back to the car we were entertained by a very restless Empress, my first encounter with one.

Hope you enjoy those few days of high Summer from 2017!.

Trevor.



Emperor and Admiral at lunch 22/6/ 2017



*Relaxing on baited log 22/6/ 2017.*



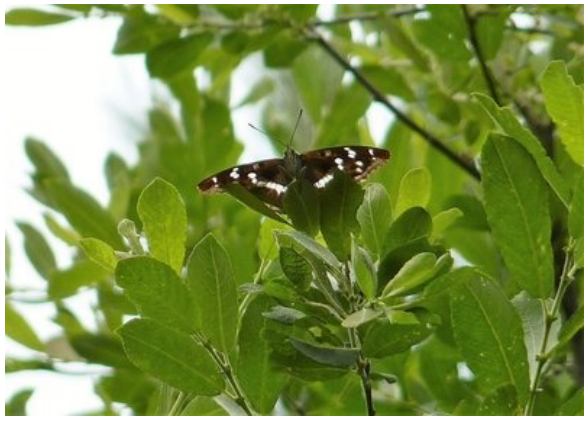
*The baited log 22/7/ 2017*



*A real beauty 23/6/ 2017*



*Tame Emperor 23/6/ 2017*



Perched in a willow 1/7/ 2017



Empress 1/7/ 2017



Empress 1/7/ 2017

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 09-Dec-19 10:56 PM GMT

Brilliant shots of Emperors and Empresses Trevor but the Emperor and White Admiral together is a real cracker - I've not seen anything like that before 🤩👍👏

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by Goldie M, 10-Dec-19 09:19 AM GMT

Like Wurzel, I think that shot of the White Admiral and Purple Emperor is great 🤩 Goldie 😊

**Re: Trevor**



by David M, 12-Dec-19 12:07 PM GMT

Nice combo, Trevor. Seems Emperors are more tolerant on the ground than they are in the air!

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 22-Dec-19 08:04 PM GMT

fb]/b]

WISHING EVERYONE ON UKB A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW DECADE !.

ALL THE VERY BEST TO YOU ALL

Trevor.

**Re: Trevor**

by Wurzel, 23-Dec-19 10:32 AM GMT

Cheers Trevor 😊 All the Christmas Cheer to you and yours to! 😊 Hope you have a butterfly filled 2020 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Trevor**

by David M, 23-Dec-19 10:24 PM GMT

Yes, all the best to you too, Trevor. Here's wishing you a fine Christmas and an excellent butterfly year in 2020. Enjoy. 😊

**Re: Trevor**

by trevor, 30-Dec-19 03:26 PM GMT

Signs of hope on the penultimate day of the year ( Decade ).  
My front garden this afternoon.







### Re: Trevor

by Wurzel, 30-Dec-19 05:10 PM GMT

Great to see Trevor 😊 Mind you I'm already thinking about Spring – I watched Waitrose staff putting out Easter Eggs on Christmas Eve 🤪🤪

Have a great New Year!

Have a goodun

Wurzel

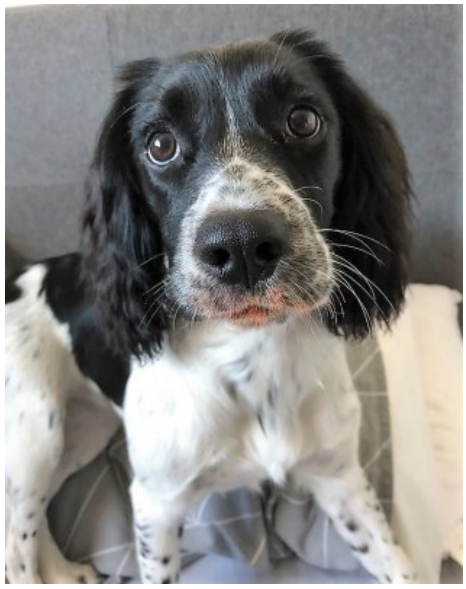
### Re: Trevor

by trevor, 30-Dec-19 08:29 PM GMT

Cheers, Wurzel. That sounds about right.

I stayed with my Daughter over Christmas, and as well as the Children, she has a Spaniel called Jess. This Dog is very bright and never fails to amaze with some of her antics. On Friday evening I was eating a bag of crisps, naturally the Dog was hoping to have some too, but scrounging is discouraged for obvious reasons. Not to be put off in her quest for a crisp she went off to fetch her food dish and placed it squarely on my lap, the ultimate hint!. I gave in and placed a crisp in her bowl as a reward for this ingenious hound!. The bowl was promptly replaced on my lap after I had put it on the floor, and yes she won another crisp.

All this from a Dog that's only about nine months old.



*Meet Jess!*