

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 01-Jan-19 08:25 PM GMT

Certainly is a cheery image though I would have thought that they would have been posed oppositely with the Springer having sprung up onto the chair 😊😊 Hope you had a great New Years Eve 😊😊 Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 02-Jan-19 06:15 PM GMT

Thanks for your New Year cheer David and Wurzel, No way was the Springer allowed the chair Wurzel, he sprung there once and was literally sprung off 😊😊 Toby made it plain it was his chair, he's my Daughter's Dog, Max was just visiting 😊😊 We did manage to drink quite a lot of the booze David 😊😊 Goldie 😊😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 08-Jan-19 11:23 PM GMT

Good to hear you shifted that booze, Goldie. Here's hoping you have an excellent 2019. All the best.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 09-Jan-19 04:22 PM GMT

Today was a lovely day, cold with lots of Frost but at least the Sun was shining. I decided it was time to visit Penn Flash if only for a short walk, my Husband used to do all the driving,( I was a lazy passenger )which was a mistake because I'd to make myself start to drive again, I felt nervous at first, I didn't know where the stupid wing screen wipers were worked from and kept putting them on instead of indicating lights 😊😊 It's taken a while but I've got the confidence back and have been out and about ever since, ( actually if I'm really truthful my Daughter got me going again with a bit of Bullying ) 😊😊

Any way , I arrived at Penn Flash and it seemed strange at first to be on my own there but I gradually got into the walk and went into the first Hide, (my favourite really because of the small birds you can see in there,) of course it was too soon for migratory birds but I was pleased to see the male Bull Finch in all his glory and his Female counter part 😊😊

After taking a walk and few shots I was feeling the cold and got myself a coffee and sausage sandwich to eat in the car, (well you've to spoil yourself bit Havant you) 😊😊 It was a first for me, now I'm looking forward to the Spring. 😊😊

Thanks David for your post, I've made a start now. Goldie 😊😊







### Re: Goldie M

by jenks, 09-Jan-19 06:56 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

Your second photo looks to have a female (or first winter male) Reed Bunting looking wistfully at the Robin taking all the bird seed. Not a common sight at bird tables (the Bunting that is not the Robin!). It shows the advantage of putting out food for the birds. Even those not commonly seen at feeders will summon up the courage when the weather gets colder.

Jenks.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Jan-19 07:39 PM GMT

I was just about to mention the Reed Bunting – but scrolling down Jenks beat me to the punch 😊 Great set of shots – good on your daughter for bullying you I bet after a delightful visit you were glad that she did 😊 Happy New Year – in case I missed this a week ago 😊 – this time of year is surprisingly hectic 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 09-Jan-19 08:15 PM GMT

Great to see you made the most of a beautiful winter's day, Goldie.

Sadly, I was left to admire it from within the workplace, which was frustrating as I'm sure there would have been a butterfly or two taking advantage of the unseasonably mild conditions.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 10-Jan-19 10:28 AM GMT

Hi! Jenks, I thought you may be interested in these photo's I took of the Reed Bunting, I took them a distance a way and didn't include them because I liked the shot with the Robin in best. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, Happy New Year to you 😊 I think I was too wrapped up in dreading Christmas for the first time with out Jim to take in any thing going on around me at the time 😊 Christmas had it's moments for all the family but we knew how much he enjoyed it and wouldn't want us to sad but get on with it 😊

I've included another bird I took a shot of, i'm not quite sure what it is, it looks like a Female Gold Finch with it's marking's on it's back but it seems too big, I thought Green Finch but they don't have those markings do they?, I'm still not sure and I was too far a way . Any Idea's?

Hi! David, It was far too cold here for Butterflies yesterday, even though the Sun was shining it wasn't warm, my fingers were frozen taking the shots 😊 but it was good to get out with out the wind biting into you 😊 We could do with a few more days like yesterday, lets hope it's nice weather for you this week-end then you can get out and about. 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by bugboy, 10-Jan-19 10:36 AM GMT

Hi Goldie, Happy new year and all that 😊. Good to see you're getting out and about. You're right about that final bird, it is a female (or juvenile) Greenfinch 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 11-Jan-19 08:58 AM GMT

Thanks for the that BB, at least I'm right for once 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Andrew555, 11-Jan-19 04:19 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, lovely selection of birds. 😊 Well done getting back in the drivers seat. 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 12-Jan-19 01:31 PM GMT

Lovely shot of the Reed Bunting Goldie 😊 Like the Greenfinch as well – I'd be tempted to think it a juvenile more than female because it looks more 'streakier' but then again I'm not sure – I'd call it a juvenile female Greenfinch and then you're covered 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 12-Jan-19 01:39 PM GMT

Thank's Andrew and Wurzel, I want to go to the Flash again , may be if we get another really nice day and in a week or two, there may be some Spring birds coming by then 😊

The weather's to change I believe next week it looks like we could have some Snow at some point, there should be a few more birds coming into the Garden if so. Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 13-Jan-19 06:19 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

Just wanted to say that I've got nothing but admiration for the way you're getting on with things, getting out, driving again, and so-on. Especially at this time of year, when it can be hard to get motivated at times. Keep up the good work!

Your husband would be proud. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 14-Jan-19 09:13 AM GMT

Many thanks for that essex, I think January is one of the worst months of the year for getting depressed so getting out and about in my circumstances is a must, I also have great memories to draw from, what can I say , " we'd a great marriage " Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 14-Jan-19 06:57 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

I too am very impressed at the positive attitude you are showing in carrying on and getting out and about.

Well done,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 14-Jan-19 09:27 PM GMT

Thanks Neil, It's getting much easier but I've had loads of help from family and my Neighbours which helps, loads of encourage meant and knocks on the door. 😊

Today in my Garden I took some shots of a Blue Tit and a Chaffinch, they were the only ones that stayed long enough for a shot 😊 Goldie



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 14-Jan-19 11:16 PM GMT

That's a very quizzical look on the Chaffinch – was it trying to work out how to get some more scan? 😊 Is it me or are they starting to look a bit smarter ready for the forthcoming season?

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 15-Jan-19 12:30 PM GMT

Great to see all those birds keeping you busy, Goldie. You might get quite a few more soon if the weather turns colder (as is forecast).

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Jan-19 07:12 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and Dave,

I think Wurzel the Chaffinch are definitely looking brighter and there's quite a few of them around at present, I think that one was looking for his Buddy there was two of them in the tree this morning 😊

Hi! David, I took this shot this morning of three Gold Finch through the kitchen window it was raining hard but it didn't seem to worry them 😊 Cold tomorrow and Friday maybe snow will come to lower levels, I've to go over the moor to my Cousins tomorrow so hope fully if it Snows, it'll be on Friday Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by dave brown, 16-Jan-19 07:59 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

I am so glad that, with the support of your loving family, you managed a Christmas that your husband would have been proud of and enjoyed. I have been luckily enough to have met both of you, when a couple of years ago you were running around the steep slopes of Lydden Bank chasing Silver Spotted Skippers. Neither of you looking your now declared age. I remember your husband had taken a chunk out of a tree, as well as his head, and was still smiling and enjoying the butterflies. With memories like that I am sure that you are well equipped to make the most of life whilst still cherishing the love and support of the man beside you for so long. I look forward to perhaps bumping into you again on one of your butterfly holidays in Kent (especially if we got the Long Tailed Blues back at Kingsdown).

Take care  
Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 17-Jan-19 04:52 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, that was a great day out, not too much for Jim with the bang to his head,( which he blamed on the nab of his cap saying he didn't see the branch for it ) 😊 with your help I did manage some shots of the SSS.

Jim was always cheerful and always saw the better side of things, he'd joke about things I moaned about and get me laughing too 😊

Everybody liked him and I was shocked at his funeral when every one of the neighbours came to the funeral, they all said the same that he'd made them laugh, he'd a real sense of humour 😊

I intend to go back to Temple Ewell next time I'm in Kent so it would be good to see you again, if while I'm there you see the Long Tailed Blue just let me know 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Andrew555, 18-Jan-19 11:30 AM GMT

Great shots Goldie. 😊 I do like birds on feeders. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 19-Jan-19 06:17 PM GMT

Great birdfeeder shots Goldie – the Goldfinches look like they're having a good gossip and the male Chaffinch is definitely in the doghouse 😊😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 19-Jan-19 11:02 PM GMT

Lovely to see those Goldfinches, Goldie. When I was a kid they never appeared on our bird table (whereas things like siskin and greenfinch were commonplace when it was cold).

I see them all the time out in the fields so one presumes they have become commoner whereas many other bird species have been in decline.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 20-Jan-19 07:19 PM GMT

Hi! Andrew, Wurzel and David, I'm getting lots of birds visiting now, If it Snows tomorrow night, Tuesday could be very interesting 😊 At the moment there's a lovely Moon and the sky's clear so I may set my clock for an early rise to see the Blood Moon .( May ) 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by MikeOxon, 20-Jan-19 07:26 PM GMT

After a sunny start, it has clouded over here, so the 'may' is very weak indeed in my case 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 20-Jan-19 07:44 PM GMT

Just looked outside and it's the same here Mike but you never know, they did say it would be at it's best around 6am, fingers crossed 😊😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Padfield, 20-Jan-19 09:46 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

... they did say it would be at it's best around 6am, fingers crossed 😊😊 Goldie 😊

Hi Goldie. Just in case you do get up for the blood moon, totality begins at 04h42 and ends at 05h51 – so 06h00 will be too late. Double check – I've been wrong before ( 😊 ) – but I wouldn't want you to get up early *and* miss it!

Guy

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 21-Jan-19 08:15 AM GMT



Hi! Guy, I looked out before going to bed and there was nothing but clouds, so I thought that's that! Anyway I was up about 7pm and heard on the news that there was still a chance to see it, so I went out into the garden and saw it ,first in the clouds but then they lifted a bit so I did my best to get some shots by using different setting's 😊 Best I could do 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by MikeOxon, 21-Jan-19 11:46 AM GMT

It was totally overcast here, although I did manage to get up and look! You have some nice shots, Goldie; well worth making the effort 😊

Mike

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 21-Jan-19 10:19 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie 📷 - you joined prestigious ranks of photographers capturing the Wolf Blood Moon this morning including Brian May 😊 I had a look for it but the cloud was so thick over this way you I had to cut my way through it to get to my car 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 21-Jan-19 11:17 PM GMT

Well done for giving it a go, Goldie. The blood moon was worth getting up for, though I've no idea where the 'wolf' bit comes from.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 22-Jan-19 10:28 AM GMT

Many thanks for your post Mike, Wurzel and essex, I found it a bit awkward at first taking the shot, I tried all the different modes because there were

clouds passing over the Moon and some of the modes were obscuring it all together showing only brightness, it was only when I got into the TV mode ( shutter priority AE ,Speed 1/400 ) that I got the Moon proper, I was amazed at the difference, this mode took a way all the Brightness surrounding it.( It's the first shot in the post.) I was thrilled 😊 I must say though I could have missed it altogether but for the news saying the Moon was still showing and to get out there 😊

We're getting the snow showers this morning but the birds are keeping a low profile at present. I saw a Sparrow Hawk yesterday morning but it didn't land for any shots, it was circling round. I put the bird food out and as usual my little Robin was waiting patiently 😊 He greets me every morning and I really look forward to seeing him 😊 He keeps himself very close to the bush so he can dodge in and out. 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 22-Jan-19 12:08 PM GMT

Well done on getting those Moon images, Goldie.

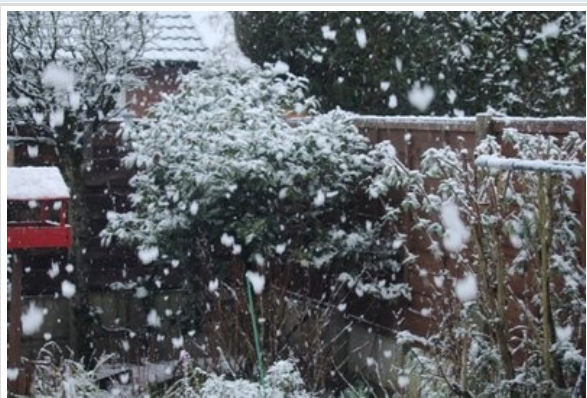
I was up early myself but in Swansea it was mostly cloudy. 😞

Had it been THIS morning, conditions would have been perfect. 😞

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 22-Jan-19 01:00 PM GMT

Thanks David, conditions are not too good here at present, I've just taken these shots through the window of the back garden, now I'm waiting to see what the birds think of it 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 22-Jan-19 08:33 PM GMT

If you could send some of the white stuff down our way Goldie that would be great – my younger daughter has been stomping around upset proclaiming "why can't we have snow!" 😊😞

The cold should be good for the butterflies though – knocking any parasites etc on the head, fingers crossed for a bumper year 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by MikeOxon, 22-Jan-19 09:56 PM GMT

After a bright, sunny start, it clouded over and then large snowflakes started falling – so it reached at least this far south.

A Grey Wagtail, which is a regular Winter visitor to the garden, appreciated the food I put out and a Song Thrush also visited during the snow.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 23-Jan-19 10:22 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, Snow's okay if you don't have to go out in it 😊 Last night was really cold so the snow hasn't moved but we didn't get a lot last night which I'm glad about because I've got the decorator in doing my bedrooms so I wanted him to turn up 😊 It's one of the job's that got put on hold, so I thought I'd carry on and get it done. Tell your Daughter she'll probably be getting some if the forecast is right 😊

Hi! Mike, I've had a lot of Birds visiting but nothing unusual up to now, I went into the garden and had to use the Sun room door because I couldn't get my garden Gate to open, the lock was solid 😊 when I did go to fill the Bird nuts up I couldn't move the container it was solid ice, any way the Sun's been out and it's lovely , a real Winters day and I've managed the nuts 😊

Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 24-Jan-19 10:50 AM GMT

That garden scene looks pretty austere, Goldie. Once again, we've missed the snow in Swansea, although some of the higher slopes had a dusting yesterday.

I'm sure the birds appreciate what you put out for them even more during these times.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 25-Jan-19 03:38 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, the foods all gone within an Hour from the bird stand, 😊

The Snow has only just gone since Tuesday but they say it's to get cold again on Sunday so I'll have to get out before then and do a bit of shopping , the roads have been very slippy here, so before it gets cold again I'll have to make a move. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 30-Jan-19 08:54 AM GMT

This morning I got quite a surprise when I looked outside and saw all the snow 😊 and they say, " more to come " looks like I'm in for the day 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 31-Jan-19 08:33 PM GMT

My younger daughter has been seeing all the snow on the news and is now in an even worse mood than the other day- fingers crossed that we get the forecast heavy fall tonight 😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 31-Jan-19 11:53 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

This morning I got quite a surprise when I looked outside and saw all the snow...

We've finally had a dose down here in Swansea too, Goldie. Only about half a centimetre but with freezing temperatures through the night I suspect we'll be 'all white' through tomorrow.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 01-Feb-19 09:29 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel , your Daughter should be really pleased today with all that Snow 😊

I'm wondering if you got even more snow over night David 😊

I think we're going to be lucky here and mss the Snow that's mostly in the South,( hope fully ) we've got quite enough here 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 01-Feb-19 02:18 PM GMT

Unfortunately there wasn't enough snow for her to get the much longed for Snow Day - so she is still a Mighty Grump 😞 To make matters worse her older sisters school was closed 😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 02-Feb-19 09:45 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

I think we're going to be lucky here and mss the Snow that's mostly in the South,( hope fully ) we've got quite enough here 😊 Goldie

Yes, looks like the south took the brunt on Friday, Goldie. We managed to miss it, but there's still plenty lying over higher ground.

**Re: Goldie M**



by Goldie M, 04-Feb-19 01:11 PM GMT

Lovely outside today, Wurzel and David ,it really feels like Spring and the Snow didn't spoil the Snow Drops, I always think Wurzel when we arrive in the S's for Favourite Photos ,Spring is just around the corner 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 06-Feb-19 08:37 PM GMT

I hope you're right Goldie and we don't get another Beast from the East like last year which knocked everything back. 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 07-Feb-19 12:24 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I think we're due tomorrow for the Beast from the West 😊 ( 70 mile an hour winds ) It's made me think and hope of things to come in my Garden just to take my mind off it 😊 Any way I've posted a few shots of the Garden from last year 😊

I wonder if you know of any Butterflies to be found in the Cheddar Gorge, Western- Super-Mare in the the middle of May, I've just agreed to a five day trip with my Sister-In-law, so I'm hoping to see some thing there with out putting her out too much ( she's not at all interested in them but won't mind if we're some where like that and I'm at it with the camera 😊 ) Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 09-Feb-19 11:57 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

..I wonder if you know of any Butterflies to be found in the Cheddar Gorge, Western- Super-Mare in the the middle of May..

You could check out Sand Point, which is just north of Weston Super Mare, Goldie. Until recently, there was a colony of Glanville Fritillaries there (artificially introduced). They vanished about 4 years ago but in the past the population has been 'topped up', although emergence was normally towards the end, rather than in the middle of May.

At that time of year, I suspect there'll be sites where you could find Grizzled Skippers and Dukes too.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Matsukaze, 09-Feb-19 10:20 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

I wonder if you know of any Butterflies to be found in the Cheddar Gorge, Western- Super-Mare in the the middle of May, I've just agreed to a five day trip with my Sister-In-law, so I'm hoping to see some thing there with out putting her out too much ( she's not at all interested in them but won't mind if we're some where like that and I'm at it with the camera 😊 ) Goldie 😊

Black Rock reserve might be your best bet - travelling up from Cheddar through the gorge, it is on the left at the point where the gorge becomes less obviously gorge-like and more wooded. Follow the path (level but uneven/stony and can be muddy) through the woods and the limestone slope on your left has Dingy and Grizzled Skipper, and probably Common Blue and Brown Argus too. Just beyond is Long Wood which is a bluebell wood and should have Orange-tips on the wing.

[https://www.somersetwildlife.org/cheddar\\_complex.html](https://www.somersetwildlife.org/cheddar_complex.html)

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 10-Feb-19 06:13 PM GMT

Lovely garden shots that brightened up this cold dreary evening 😊 I'm a bit further East than that area so don't know it that well but both David and Matsukaze make very good suggestions. Whenever I go somewhere new I always check out the Sites page here on UKB

[https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/sites\\_square.php?square=ST&species=All](https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/sites_square.php?square=ST&species=All)

Brean Down, Crook Peak, Tickenham Ridge and Walton Common all look good. I'd also check out the local Wildlife Trust website...

<https://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/>

I hope this helps! With luck you should be able to pick up Grizzlies, Dingies and Greenstreaks 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 11-Feb-19 11:19 AM GMT

Thanks a lot David, Matsukaze and Wurzel, that's really helpful, I do hope I finally get to see a Grizzled Skipper and if I'm lucky a Glanville Fritillary 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 25-Feb-19 03:40 PM GMT

My first Butterfly photo of the year today, a Small Tortoiseshell in my front garden on my White Heather, I was so pleased to see it after missing out on the Comma at HLB. Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

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

Lovely shots Goldie and great news that you got your first Small Tort 😊 - I got mine as well today though in less relaxed circumstances I guess as mine came in a hurried lunch 1/2 hour 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 26-Feb-19 10:30 AM GMT

Thanks a lot Wurzel, funny thing for me was the fact I'd been to HLB a few times and only got a glimpse of a Comma 😊 Then I spotted this Small Tort in the Garden 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 26-Feb-19 08:46 PM GMT

Fabulous, Goldie. Great to see you're off the mark, and in your own garden too! 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 27-Feb-19 09:06 AM GMT

Thanks David, it was a good feeling seeing the Tortoiseshell 😊 I hope they find some shelter over the week-end, the forecast is not too good.

Yesterday was lovely, I started out by going to Hall-Lee-Brook my local haunt, I thought I'd give it another go 😊 I was glad I did because I saw another Small Tort and also a Comma and this time I got a shot of the Comma 😊

I went back home for lunch and decided I'd visit Yarrow Valley Park at Chorley, It's an unusual park, it contains a large Lake and a River which has a Salmon run, also a pond for Fishing.

Has I walked through the tree's with the Lake on my right the Swans and other Birds were in full competition for Mates 😊

When I reached the end of the Lake I walked passed the River and continued towards the fields, I'd seen Peacocks there before so I was hoping to see some but when I reached the field lots of men were there with big camera's filming a Kestrel ,I knew my camera would never pick the bird up so I went back to the lane, a man was filming there sat by the fence and I politely asked what had caught his eye, he said a Bank Vole, not having seen one before I asked him if I could get a shot at it and he said " it's a free Park", to which we'd a good laugh 😊  
I took a few shots of it , it was so cute 😊 Not seeing any Butterflies I retreated and went to the Garden centre for tea and a scone 😊 To say my legs went one way and me another would be an under statement 😊 after walking round HLB then the lake I certainly slept well last night 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 28-Feb-19 11:39 AM GMT

Glad you managed to capture the Comma, Goldie, and you're right, that little bank vole is beyond cute.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Mike Robinson, 28-Feb-19 11:40 AM GMT

The Bank Vole: a dear looking Soul...

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 28-Feb-19 05:11 PM GMT

Thanks for your post, Mike and David, what a change in the weather, it's rained all day today certainly glad I made the most of the Sunshine 😊  
What's the old saying " March comes in like a Lion and goes out like a Lamb " I hope so! 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 28-Feb-19 10:48 PM GMT

Great shots of the Comma Goldie and that Bank Vole is a little cutie – I'll show it to my girls tomorrow and I'm sure they'll break out in a cacophony "Awwws" 😊 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 01-Mar-19 11:04 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, I wish it had come further out of it's shelter so I could see it's colour better, I know now where to look for it so hope to see it again. Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 01-Mar-19 08:12 PM GMT

Love the Bank Vole Goldie...and the Small Tortoiseshell on the White heather in the previous post 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

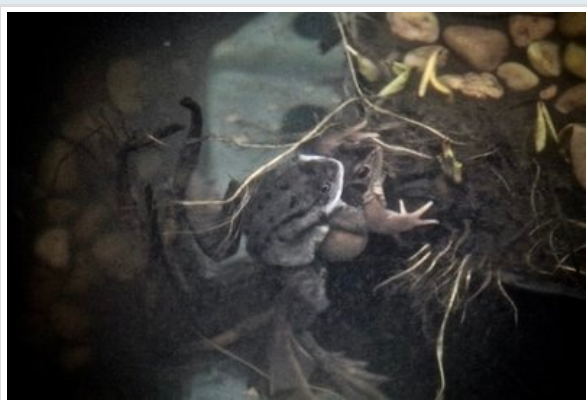
by Goldie M, 03-Mar-19 01:10 PM GMT

Many thanks Neil, we seem to be having some rough weather on the way 😊 They've even forecast Snow for the Pennines 😊  
Hope it misses us but doubt it will. Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 19-Mar-19 06:17 PM GMT

I've not been posting for a while, my Daughter's been visiting me and were trying to dodge the various storms!!!! What awful weather we've had! She's gone back now and I'd just been playing Mahjong at my weekly library visit when my next door neighbour called me in to look at the frogs mating in his pond, he knows I'm into anything with my Camera when the Butterflies aren't about 😊 The weather was very dull and they were at the bottom of the pond but I thought I'd post a single shot anyway because it's the 19th day of March in 2019 and at last Spring has sprung with the Frogs 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 19-Mar-19 11:54 PM GMT

It's been pretty wet and windy down here too Goldie, but it's the spring equinox tomorrow, so we're on the right road now, just a case of getting a few breaks in that cloud...

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 20-Mar-19 04:50 PM GMT

Hi! Essex, we got the break in the cloud today, lovely day here, so I decided to give Hall-Lee-Brook a look and see if anything was flying there, I'm so glad I went for the first thing I saw was a Small Tort 🍷

I decided to walk by the pond just in case the same mating was going on there like in Pauls Garden but nothing much was moving and there was very little Frog Spawn and I didn't see any Frogs.

Just as I was leaving this Comma flew in and landed right beside me so that was a bonus 🍷

I walked on a little ways and saw a Brimstone but he wasn't stopping so that was a disappointment but as I tried to follow it I scared a Peacock Butterfly which circled round and came back to land near me so I was very happy with that. 🍷

If the weather is nice again tomorrow I'll give HLB another go to see if I can see the Brimstone again, I was pleased with the Peacock Butterfly though because last year I saw very few around here so hope fully it's a good sign of things to come. Goldie 🍷





### Re: Goldie M

by MikeOxon, 21-Mar-19 01:04 PM GMT

Good to see Spring is happening in the North West 😊 Dull, damp, and generally miserable down here in Oxon, still.

Mike

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 21-Mar-19 01:53 PM GMT

Those butterflies cheered me right up Goldie 😊🍀 I've had/am still having similar weather to Mike 😊 Fingers crossed it'll improve at the weekend when I can get out and about 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 21-Mar-19 05:15 PM GMT

Hi! Mike, it was for one day only, today it's been dull all day but at least I could get into the Garden to some work. Goldie 😊

Hi! Wurzel, it's been dull here today, I hope things start to pick up for you weather wise, it was really great to see the Butterflies, looks like Janet had a good day too, I don't think she lives too far a way from where I live, it got up to 16 degrees yesterday so it's no wonder the Butterflies were out. 😊 The Sun is trying hard to come through the clouds at present 4 pm now a bit late for Butterflies at this time of year Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 23-Mar-19 11:08 PM GMT

Delighted to see things take off for you, Goldie. All four native adult hibernators in a single day! Hopefully we'll all get a break from this dreary weather and encounter some of our own!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 25-Mar-19 03:26 PM GMT

Many thanks David, the weather went cold again and in the the mornings we had really cold temp's, today was the the same but the bitter cold wind had gone let's hope it keeps up. 😊

With the Sun feeling really hot this lunch time I decided to give Hall-Lee-Brook another go ( I still hope to get a shot of a Brimstone) 😊  
The first Butterfly I saw was a Small Tort, then two of them were flying in circles so I waited to see if one of them would land, when one did it landed to my surprise on the grass not on a near by Dandelion, then it started to wave it's wings, opening them wide and closing them again, there was still a coolest breeze so I was convinced it was trying to get as much Sun as it could.

Next I saw a Peacock again and it was doing the same thing, thinking about it, I think they were both warming up after a very cold night, what ever, I managed to get a couple of shots in-between the wing flaps 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 25-Mar-19 05:32 PM GMT

Those two were definitely trying to make the most of the sunshine, Goldie – and that Tortoiseshell is a very dark-looking individual as well. It looks hardly marked after its months of hibernation.

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 25-Mar-19 11:36 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie 😊 I agree with Dave; that is a very sultry looking Small Tort 🐛🌿

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 27-Mar-19 12:56 AM GMT

Things are looking good up North, Goldie with those Peacocks, which means Speckled Woods and Holly Blues can't be far off in my neck of the woods!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 27-Mar-19 01:45 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, the Tort's I've seen so far have looked in good condition barring one which had lost some of it's wing, the Peacock was a bit worn too but in my previous post that Peacock was in good condition, I saw the Peacock in the same place has I saw one before but I can't see it being the same one, you never know though with this weather. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, the Tort's seem to be enjoying this weather , but the morning's here are very cold, may be that Tort hadn't warmed up properly and that's why it was so dark 😊 it was still cold 😊 Goldie 😊

Hope your lucky and find some Speckled Wood's David, we don't usually see them here until April's well on the way, the same goes for the Holly Blue, I'm looking out for the Orange Tip and the Brimstone now but I think I'll have to go further a field to find them. Still waiting for the Sun to shine here today. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 28-Mar-19 09:13 AM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

Hope your lucky and find some Speckled Wood's David, we don't usually see them here until April's well on the way, the same goes for the Holly Blue, I'm looking out for the Orange Tip and the Brimstone now but I think I'll have to go further a field to find them. Still waiting for the Sun to shine here today.

Thanks, Goldie. I'm sure they'll be out by now after four successive mild and sunny days. I've never seen an Orange Tip in March but that may change this year!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 29-Mar-19 09:40 AM GMT

Hi! David, I see you got a bonus shot with the OT's 😊

I also got some bonus shots of a Peacock in my Garden yesterday, It's the first time for eighteen months since I'd seen one in the Garden so I was really pleased.

I'd been worried about their decline, so to see two in the garden was a relief 😊

I also took another trip to HLB , I saw a Brimstone again but it didn't stop for a shot 😊 I did get some more shots of a Comma and the Tort's were really coming out I counted six, also two more Peacocks,( may be they followed me home) 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

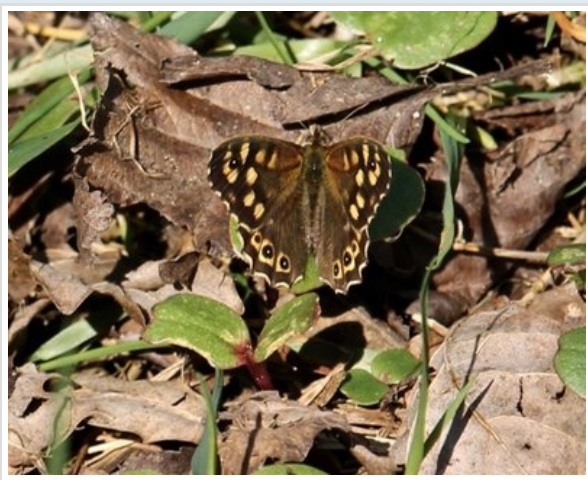
by Goldie M, 29-Mar-19 05:07 PM GMT

I've just got back from Hall-Lee-Brook where I saw my first Speckie of the year 😊 Not just one but ten they were very active But I managed a few shots 😊

When I got back I sat in the Garden and although I've posted quite a few Tortoiseshell photos I couldn't resist one more 😊 It landed on the same flowers as the Peacock yesterday, the flowers I think show off their lovely colours 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 29-Mar-19 08:03 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, those Speckled Woods are early for your neck of the woods, I saw my first one today but they haven't appeared in my garden yet.

A nice selection of hibernators too, nice to see so many Small Tortoiseshells and Peacocks showing up this spring after being thin on the ground last year.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 29-Mar-19 09:30 PM GMT

Lovely Small Torts Goldie and those Specklies 🤩 I've not seen one yet and they've only just appeared down South so they're well early in your neck of the woods 🍷🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 30-Mar-19 05:56 PM GMT

Hi! Neil and Wurzel, I was very surprised to see those Speckies , HLB has very sheltered area's, the tree's are on a slope which slopes down to a stream, the stream has Garlic flowers along both sides which at present are well behind for the season but the tree's do give lots of shelter for the Speckies. It's a bit lonely down by the stream so I've not really been down there until yesterday, some women were walking their dogs there so I kept a discreet distance behind them and lucky for me the dogs disturbed the Butterflies 😊 of course when I saw the Butterflies that's has far down the lane and through the woods that I ventured 😊  
I was amazed to see so many. 😊

The weather here has been rough until these last few days when it's been cold in the mornings but really hot during the day, I've had the sun broily out in the garden , any way, it's supposed to go cold again soon, that may slow down the Holly Blues from coming out too soon but I hope not 😊 I've seen the Brimstone again but not managed a shot yet 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 31-Mar-19 03:37 PM GMT

Wow! Your Specklies are out before mine, Goldie! 😊 You're seeing more Small Tortoiseshells too, and I'm not surprised you had a visit from a Peacock – I don't think I've ever seen so many in early spring as this year.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 01-Apr-19 12:15 PM GMT

Hi! David, It's so nice to see the Peacocks again in my garden and the Speckies were a big surprise 😊 I've also seen the Brimstone's but they've been too active to get any shots 😊 The weather has been very nice but since last Friday we've had really cold winds with no Butterflies flying into the garden, I may take a look over to HLB today but it feels more like Winter here at present, hope fully the week-end will turn Mild again 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Andrew555, 02-Apr-19 03:15 PM GMT

Gorgeous shots Goldie, love the garden Small Tort. 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 03-Apr-19 06:14 AM GMT

{quote}...I've also seen the Brimstone's but they've been too active to get any shots

Tell me about it, Goldie! I find they slow down somewhat further into their flight period so keep on trying!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 05-Apr-19 11:30 AM GMT

Thanks for your posts Andrew and David, the weather 's been awfully cold here but at least we missed the Snow, tomorrow looks more promising So David I hope to catch sight of a Brimstone 😊 getting a shot !!! 😊 Glad you liked the Garden Butterfly Andrew lets hope there's some more arriving tomorrow 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 05-Apr-19 06:43 PM GMT

Keep trying with those Brimstones when they next come out Goldie as getting shots of them is a bit like waiting for a Bus – nowt for ages and then all of a sudden you can't stop getting shots 😊 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 06-Apr-19 04:20 PM GMT

I will keep trying Wurzel 😊

I went back to Hall-Lee-Brook this Morning, I saw three Butterflies in total, one Comma trying to get the frost out of it's wings and one Peacock trying to hide in the long grass 😊 A Speckie that flew past in a hurry and that was that 😊 I told myself at least I'd seen some thing 😊 The weather's been really lovely this afternoon, I think now I went out too early. 😊 I did see a Peacock in my garden but it went sailing through and didn't stop. I may have to go further a field for my Brimstone Wurzel 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 06-Apr-19 05:13 PM GMT

Three butterflies today is nothing to be ashamed of, Goldie. The fierce weather we've had over the past couple of days has no doubt taken its toll. I sincerely hope that is the last truly cold spell of spring.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 06-Apr-19 06:37 PM GMT

You certainly did well today Goldie and at least three times better than me, three butterflies, three species and a shot of one 🍷 All I could muster was a paltry Speckle that wouldn't stop for a photo – I hope the weather bucks up in the next few days 😞😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 09-Apr-19 11:06 AM GMT

Hi! David and Wurzel, we've had some good weather up here since my last post, yesterday for instance in spite of the bitter cold east wind the Sun was really good shining all day 😊

I'd got up pretty early and was surprised to see the Sun, surprised because it didn't seem to have any rays, it was just a round red ball, of course I had to take a shot which included my Cherry tree 😊

I decided to give HLB my local haunt another go, I didn't want to travel too far because my car needs an MOT and two new front tyres, ( they've just been and taken the car ) so it won't be back while later, any way back to the story 😊

I went to where the sheltered area's were, lots of sun, no wind, to my delight I saw six Peacocks and a Tortoiseshell, I didn't manage any shots of the Speckies though this time, when I got back home the wind had lessened and I saw two Speckies soaring up from next door's tree, off they went without stopping 😊 whilst I was sitting in the Garden having a brew and hiding from the breeze as best I could a Peacock dived on me, it was unexpected and my movement made it fly off 😊

Today the wind is supposed to die down , so may be I'll get some more visitors Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 09-Apr-19 05:28 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,

I see that your down in "sunny " Kent shortly ,in my part of Kent things are pretty slow at present ,you,ve seen a lot more where you are compared to what I,ve seen as yet.

As far as I,m aware there have been no Grizzles reported locally yet ,the weather just hasn,t been up to it ! if I was coming through to K ent in the next week or so ,I think I would probably head for Dungeness ,it,s an excellent site for Grizzlies ,but they are very spread out there ,and also a top site for Small Coppers (as you know ) ,again as far as I,m aware ,none have been reported as yet ,but if the weather picks up ,I reckon another week or so (maybe a little more ) they should start appearing. If I hear of any local sightings (of Grizzlies ) I,ll let you know .

Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by essexbuzzard, 09-Apr-19 07:55 PM GMT

Yes, I'm with Allan, I fear you may be just a tad too early. I think Mill Hill, near Shoreham in Sussex, is the only UK site with Grizzled Skippers so far. In a weeks' time though, you never know!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 09-Apr-19 08:15 PM GMT

Thanks so much Allan and essex, I should be there over Easter which gives me a chance I think 😊 That's if I can persuade my Daughter to run me to Dungeness 😊 I'll have to bend her arm a little 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Apr-19 08:56 PM GMT

Cracking shots Goldie especially that first one of the Peacock – gurt lush 😊👍

Good luck with the Grizzlies – hopefully there might be a few around in a weeks time for when you're down that way although things have noticeably slowed over the last week 😊 Keep checking that Kent BC Branch website and the sightings board here 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 10-Apr-19 09:28 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, it's been cold winds all week here which as taken the edge off things really but at least it's been sunny.

I do hope I see a Grizzle when in Kent, I am going to Eastbourne the end of May but I suppose I might have missed them by then.

Sunny again today but we've still got the wind 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 10-Apr-19 05:42 PM GMT

Hello again Goldie ,

I see that you,re coming down to the Eastbourne area towards the end of May .Looking in Neil Hulme and Michael Blencowes excellent "BUTTERFLIES OF SUSSEX" I noticed that on the Grizzlies distribution map there seem to be quite a cluster of sites in the Eastbourne area , its not my area ,but I,m sure there will be a few on the forums that could suggest a site or two for you within easy striking distance of Eastbourne ,and I would also reckon ,that although late ,there should still be a few about.

Another site (in Kent ) that may be worth a look is at Bonsai bank (the excellent Duke site ) in Denge wood ,which I believe you,re familiar with I,ve not seen them there myself ,but I believe Dave Brown found some ,a season or two back.

Good hunting ! Regards Allan.W.

PS; And of course you also have the Dukes at Bonsai !

## Re: Goldie M

by David M, 11-Apr-19 08:45 AM GMT

Good that you're still seeing the butterflies, Goldie. It's been a bit frustrating lately, with cool temperatures everywhere, but at least the sun has been out occasionally. Hopefully you'll pick up a couple of new species when you're down south.

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Apr-19 07:29 PM GMT

Hi! David, I hope so, maybe I'll see a Brimstone and get a photo 😊

This morning we had a hard frost but also lovely Sunshine and for once, NO Wind, Miracles do happen 😊 I decided it was time I ventured a field, it would be hard for me, but had to be done. The last place I visited with my late Husband was Brockholes CP so I thought if I headed there it would be a step forward.

I set off about 10am and arrived about 10.30am, it's not too far but it means taking the M 61 and M6 which is always packed, by going early I passed lots of Caravans going to the Lakes but I'd no hold ups, so that was good.

It was bitter cold when I got there but by lunch time much warmer, I met another lady on her own and we got chatting and walked through Bolton Woods for company, she seemed to know all the bird calls and was very interesting, another couple shouted to us and pointed to where an Orange Tip was sitting catching the Sun warming up it's wings, I'd never seen one so fresh looking before and it sat there while we took loads of shots 😊

On the way back to the car for my picnic I saw this Kestrel high in the tree , he gave me a frosty look then continued looking for prey 😊

The Bluebells were just coming out in the woods and in the fields Cow Slips were beginning to open ,altogether it was a good day and I'm glad I went , maybe the Lakes next stop 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 11-Apr-19 07:40 PM GMT

Well done M 😊 That is a huge step forward. You should be proud of yourself and I'm damn sure Jim would be too! As a bonus you got some really good shots there. As I said recently, that new lens has made a massive difference so good decision. The OT's are great but I love the Kestrel 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 11-Apr-19 09:44 PM GMT

Yes, well done you, the M61 and M6, quite an undertaking. Your late husband would be proud of you. And you saw some good stuff as well!



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 12-Apr-19 07:49 AM GMT

It's great that you're out and about Goldie 😊, I hate motorways too and having to face two of the blighters isn't something I'd want to do 😊 Mind you those OT shots are a brilliant reward for the hassle, they almost jump out of the screen 🤩🤩🤩

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 12-Apr-19 08:24 AM GMT

I admire your positive attitude, Goldie. You did the right thing and those Orange Tips were thoroughly deserved.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 12-Apr-19 08:48 AM GMT

Many thanks Pauline, we shared every thing and did every thing together, this may sound boring to some people but when things just click , they click!!!! 😊

The lens I bought has a stabiliser , which helps a great deal when your a bit wobbly 😊 That Kestrel was a bonus, it was so regal looking, I love to see these Birds of prey in the wild so free, mind you, I'm not happy when they're in my Garden 😊

Thanks Essex, those motor ways are a night mare especially the M6 which is blocked going towards the lakes in Summer most of the time ,unless you set off very early in the morning, which I can do, people coming up from the South usually are the ones to get stuck in the jams. It was great to see those Orange Tips ,I only got shots of one but they were every where non stop after that one 😊

Hi! Wurzel, I've done it once, now a little further each time would be great, I so want to go to see the Large Heath and the Fritillaries which are only found in the Lakes, at my age it's an effort, 😊 Driving there looking round and driving back quite an effort 😊 I'll have to try Bed and Breakfast I think!!! 😊

Glad you liked my shots of the Orange Tips , I'd read on Lanc's BC they'd been seen at Brockholes so I was hoping I'd see them 😊

Just got your post has I was about to post mine David 😊 Thanks very much, Jim would want me to get on with things that was his character , I can hear him now saying " Life's too short let's do it" .

It was great seeing the Orange Tip's , they herald Spring like nothing else 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 12-Apr-19 07:34 PM GMT

Good to see you getting out and about a bit further again Goldie, well done!...and glad to see you caught up with some Orange-tips 😊

I know what you mean about the M6, been caught up in it a few times on our way up there over the past few years. Aiming to spend a few days up in Arnside/Silverdale again this year 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 16-Apr-19 02:03 PM GMT

Sorry for taking so long to reply Neil, I've been busy getting ready for the off 😊 Kent tomorrow, may be I'll see a few more Butterflies in Blean Woods when we take the Dog for a walk 😊 I'd love to see a Brimstone in there, may be a Holly Blue . 😊

I'm looking forward to a few more wanderings, may be if I can twist a arm "Dungeness " 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 16-Apr-19 06:32 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,

Small Coppers are now emerging at Dungeness (see Hoggers diary ) and with some warm weather promised ,I think you,Il hit it spot on if you do manage the trip.For Grizzles ,see my post to you dated 9th April .

Good Luck !! Regards Allan.W.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 16-Apr-19 10:41 PM GMT

Good luck with the Grizzlies Goldie 😊 I found two the other day in very unfavourable weather conditions and so I reckon you've timed it just right 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 16-Apr-19 11:27 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

..I'm looking forward to a few more wanderings, may be if I can twist a arm "Dungeness "

I'd say that's a must, Goldie. Who knows, you may encounter a migrant or two, and certainly a few Small Coppers. 😊

You've definitely timed this trip to perfection with the warm weather set to sweep in to coincide with your arrival.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Andrew555, 17-Apr-19 02:23 PM GMT

Well done with your Brockholes trip Goldie, you got some great shots! 📷 😊 Good luck in Kent. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 18-Apr-19 01:57 PM GMT

Many thanks for your posts, Andrew, David, Wurzel, Allan, What can I say!!!!!!

My Journey down was great and last night my Daughter had booked a show at the Marlow Theatre as a surprise but when I was coming down the steps after the show I tripped and fractured my foot 😞 😞

The Hospital has given me a special shoe they use for fractures also two crutches 😞 I've to rest for a couple of days then try getting rid of the crutches one at a time 😞 Any way it looks like I may be in Kent for a couple of weeks 😞

I've to wear this shoe for six weeks until the foot's healed, I should be able to walk but not too far, my Daughter said we'd still go out to Dungeness , I suppose it's one way of twisting the arm but this time it was the foot 😞

The funny thing is when I was leaving home I saw a Small White Butterfly and thought to my self great there should be loads in Kent, if they're out here, I've watched them in the Garden here and it's made me determined to get rid of the crutches quickly 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 18-Apr-19 10:21 PM GMT

Sorry to hear about your accident 😞 😞 I hope you make a speedy recovery 😊

To cheer you up here's a more comical response...

Cricky Goldie – I know I wished you 'good luck' with the Grizzlies but you didn't have to take it as 'break a leg' 😞 😞 Seriously though I hope you're be away from the clutches of the crutches soon – mind you if you have one you could use it as a monopod 😊 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 18-Apr-19 11:32 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...I should be able to walk but not too far, my Daughter said we'd still go out to Dungeness , I suppose it's one way of twisting the arm but this time it was the foot 😞

😞 You'll get better in no time with a sense of humour like that, Goldie.

Seriously, that's awful luck and my best wishes for a full and speedy recovery....as well as a productive short outing to Dungeness!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 19-Apr-19 11:03 AM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel and David, I've got rid of one crutch already and had a brief walk around the Garden , I hope to get rid of the other one tomorrow all being well, the shoe they gave me is great but it's like having a club foot, it needs balance. 😞 I'm getting there slowly but surely 😊

Wurzel I think the Grizzlies are following me round at present and I don't mean Butterflies 😞

Weather keeps up David I should be at Dungeness next week 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 19-Apr-19 03:49 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,  
43 Small Coppers at Dungeness today ! and a further 8 on the RSPB Reserve ,including a stunning female Radiata ,which wouldn,t hang about for a pic..... and I did try !! Good Hunting ! Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 20-Apr-19 10:55 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

Many thanks Wurzel and David, I've got rid of one crutch already and had a brief walk around the Garden , I hope to get rid of the other one tomorrow all being well, the shoe they gave me is great but it's like having a club foot, it needs balance. 😊 I'm getting there slowly but surely. Weather keeps up David I should be at Dungeness next week 😊 Goldie 😊

Sounds like good progress, Goldie. I hope your Dungeness trip passes off spectacularly.

All the best.

### Re: Goldie M

by ernie f, 21-Apr-19 07:15 AM GMT

Goldie - I'm going through peoples posts of the last few weeks.

Love the shots of the Kestrel up a tree looking down at you, but sorry to hear about your foot. Hope you get well very soon.

### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 21-Apr-19 09:10 AM GMT

Blimey Goldie, you don't 'alf have some rough luck, sorry to here about your foot.  
Hope you are soon up and about and seeing some butterflies...nothing better to help recovery 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 21-Apr-19 09:47 AM GMT

Thanks ever so much everyone, Allan, David ,Ernie, Neill, for your post 😊  
I kicked the other crutch into touch yesterday and we went to Blean Woods 😊 although I saw a Peacock and a Brimstone they didn't stop for any shots but it was good just to get out in the Sun and see the Butterflies, I couldn't walk very far but I'm hoping to go out today and go a bit further, by next week I should be ( if a bit unsteady ) 😊 able to go to Dungeness, fingers crossed, Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 21-Apr-19 03:33 PM GMT

This morning we decided to go to the White cliffs, I decided to take one crutch with me just to steady me on uneven ground 😊

We were very lucky we got put on the same level has the cafe, ( Parking wise) When I got out of the car the first thing I spotted was a Small White, which cheered me no end 😊

After we'd had (Jam And Cream scones ) my Daughter said lets see how far you can WALK, naturally I walked in the direction I'd seen the Butterfly 😊

I managed quite a way but kept pretty level and on the path , until we saw some Small Whites landing and taking off again, I got diverted slightly 😊 It was worth it, I spotted a patch of Bluebells on which a Peacock was feasting and while I was taking the shot a Small White landed slightly higher up, in one of my photos the SW is top right 😊 Other Whites followed and I got more shots, my first Small White's this year and shots I didn't think I'd get after Wednesday night 😊 So we had a good day, Well!!!! I had 😊 Goldie 😊









### Re: Goldie M

by Pauline, 21-Apr-19 05:59 PM GMT

Some great shots there Goldie. With broken foot you're still getting further afield than me M. 😊 Here's wishing you a speedy recovery. I'll be in touch v soon.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 21-Apr-19 10:04 PM GMT

Good to see that you're on the mend Goldie, just getting out is the best rest/cure/medicine and lovely shots as well especially the Small White, tricky little bu\$\$ers they can be 😊👍

"my Daughter said lets see how far you can WALK, naturally I walked in the direction I'd seen the Butterfly 😊" That's proper butterflying that is! 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 22-Apr-19 11:56 AM GMT

Thanks Pauline, we keep getting out and about but we're not seeing too many Butterflies so I'm thankful the foot is easier but disappointed about that, we're just wondering where to go today, Toby, Kath's dog has had the runs so we may have to be careful where we take him, it could just the heat .

Many thanks Wurzel, your right it was great to get out , the Cream tea helped a lot as well 😊 I feel much better, just hoping to see a Grizzled Skipper now, we may set off tomorrow to Dungeness, depends if Toby is okay. Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 22-Apr-19 05:28 PM GMT

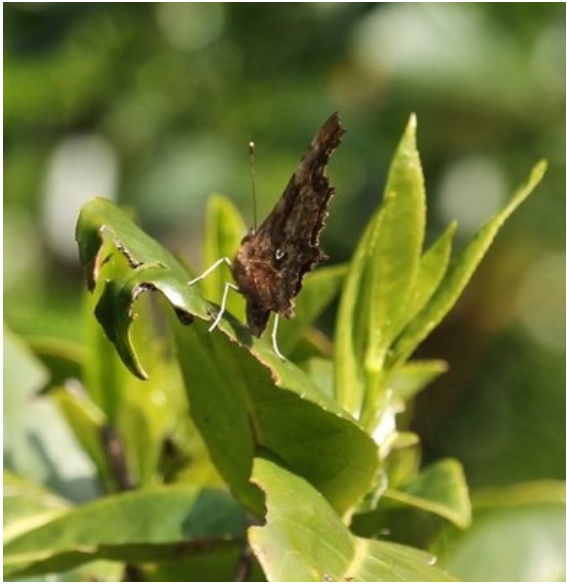
We went to East Blean Woods today, my Daughters Dog wasn't too well, so we didn't go out too soon,( I was glad to put my foot up for a while) 😊

It was lovely in the woods lots of Wild Flowers and Blue Bells, I just missed an Orange Tip on a Blue Bell but spotted this Comma looking rather regal 😊

This White flew down but never opened it's wings and flew off almost at once so I need a bit of help to find out if it's GWW or SW 😊 It did seem slightly bigger than a SW but I'd like to be sure. 😊

On the way back we called at Mac' Donalds and ordered ice Cream's and yet another Comma landed nearby so I took a shot from the car 😊

Toby seems much better 😊 Goldie 😊



*Outside Mac's*





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 22-Apr-19 10:29 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie – you're warming up nicely ready for the bucket loads of Grizzlies you're going to see 😊 Lovely set of shots – I reckon the White is a Small White as I can't see any streaks on the underside and the black markings on the wing tips aren't solid 😊 I wouldn't have thought to take my camera to McDonalds, but I will from now on 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

ps glad Toby is better 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 22-Apr-19 11:49 PM GMT

Fabulous, Goldie. You're not letting this injured foot beat you! Glad you saw plenty of butterflies. I especially like your second Small White from the previous page which has caught the light perfectly. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 23-Apr-19 08:50 AM GMT

Thanks a lot Wurzel and David, I'm certainly trying my best 😊

I can put a name to the white now Wurzel 😊 I've seen a few Whites now but they never open their wings once they've landed this one stumped me because of the angle and I couldn't get closer because the ground was so uneven 😊

Hi! David I was so pleased to finally get a shot of that Small White open winged or closed 😊

The Sun is hiding behind cloud today so we've not decided any thing yet and Toby seems okay but we'll have to see what the day brings , I really would like to go to Dungeness ,BUT!!! it's a big but today the foot is kicking in a bit 😊 Goldie 😊

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 23-Apr-19 05:27 PM GMT

We had intentions today to go to Dungeness but once again Toby had the runs, not as bad as before but we didn't want to chance a long journey so we settled for Reculver being as it's much nearer.

When we arrived there wasn't much Sun it was very hazy and by the sea it felt really cool, we took the path which runs by the Pub " Allan I think you'll know where ". 😊 because it's sheltered there from the sea by the Roman Wall.

I was looking to see if any Holly Blues were out yet because I'd seen them there before ,when I saw this very dark brown Butterfly, it landed on what remains of the Roman Wall with it's wings closed, I took lots of shots because the wall being so bright and the fact I couldn't get near enough to identify it, I'm certainly glad I did when it turned out to be a Wall Butterfly 😊

I was treated to some open wing shots when the Sun did make an appearance and to some passing Whites and a lovely Peacock, so although I'd to ditch plans for Dungeness I still came out tops 😊 Also had a good pub lunch 😊 Goldie 😊









### Re: Goldie M

by Pauline, 23-Apr-19 05:40 PM GMT

Wow! Some great shots there Goldie. Wall Brown AND a pub lunch 🍷 That's definitely my sort of outing. Good on ya"!!

### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 23-Apr-19 06:25 PM GMT

Well done Goldie ! with the Wall ,it is a good spot for them ,by the old wall , if you,re feeling more up to it later on , if you walk up onto the sea wall path(towards Birchington ) ,and look down to your right (landward ) you,ll see a lower path ,this is a very easy to manage path ,and takes you along a nice piece of grassland ,and it is also very sheltered ,it is excellent there for Small Copper , Common blue (although a bit early ) numerous Whites and particularly Clouded Yellow + other bits and pieces ,we once saw 14 Little Egrets perched in an old tree. Hope you do manage to get down to Dungeness at some stage . Your best bet for The Coppers is to park by the old lighthouse ,walk towards the power station fence ,and follow the wire fence inland towards the row of houses (the end one is the bird obs;) If its sunny you should see up to twenty along this stretch ,just before you reach the line of houses ,you,ll cross a dry moat ,this is the hotspot for Dungeness Small Coppers (in my opinion ) and if its fine you can,t fail ! you also see Grizzled Skippers here (and along the fence ) although they are few . Good Luck .!! Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 23-Apr-19 10:25 PM GMT

That was a cracking find Goldie and great shots too 🍷🍷🍷 Looks like excellent consolation for not getting to Dungeness 😊 and when you do get there the Grizzlies will be all the sweeter 😊😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-Apr-19 09:46 AM GMT

Thank's Pauline, that's Butterfly for you, you never know, 😊 You set out looking for one thing and find the unexpected 😊 I just wish I could visit you again, we so enjoyed our time there and I know I'd be assured of finding my Grizzled Skipper for sure . I'm visiting Eastbourne end of May so I'd better get this foot okay by then , a few more Pub lunches before that Pauline 😊😊

Thanks Allan, I'll be sure to check that out next time, I could be here another week yet, so there's still a chance I could get to Dungeness. It helps when you have an Idea where to look 😊

It was pretty cold yesterday at Reculver on the sea front, so we kept to the Lane and sheltered areas, so glad we did, 😊 there was no sign at all of Holly Blues yet, maybe next time we visit I'll see some. 😊

Thanks Wurzel, I couldn't believe it when I saw them, it was all the sweeter because I only saw one last year and I've always to go to Southport usually to see them which I won't be able to do for a while yet. 😊

My Daughter had to get up with Toby early this morning again, so we'll have to keep journeys short for a while, she's back into school next week so my journeys will be at an end for a while, any way that's life , swings and roundabouts 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Andrew555, 24-Apr-19 11:05 AM GMT

Sorry about your foot Goldie! Glad you are on the mend. 😊 Great shots of the Wall! 😊

Cheers

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-Apr-19 02:59 PM GMT

Thanks Andrew, yes I'm getting there 😊 nothing today though, cloudy this morning and now a cold wind has arrived 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by bugboy, 24-Apr-19 06:26 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, I've seen Grizzled Skipper on the South Downs Way between Eastbourne and Beachy Head, only one or two here and there but they are there and on the wing at the end of May 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 25-Apr-19 08:02 AM GMT

What an unexpected but pleasant surprise with your Wall Brown, Goldie! 😊

Here's hoping you have a speedy recovery and you enjoy the rest of your trip.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 25-Apr-19 08:41 AM GMT

Bug Boy, you've cheered me up no end 😊 On one of the free days I get on the holiday I'll be heading there if I can't manage to get to Dungeness whilst I'm here. 😊

Thank's David, even with the foot I've been able to get about, at the Hospital they said I'd done the fracture the Foot Baller's get 😊 not much consolation there 😊 I'm walking slowly now without the crutches so i'm getting there 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 25-Apr-19 09:38 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

..Thank's David, even with the foot I've been able to get about, at the Hospital they said I'd done the fracture the Foot Baller's get

That'll be the famous metatarsal job that Beckham/Rooney had at varying times.

At least you won't be relying on kicking a football with the affected area once you recover! 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 26-Apr-19 10:37 AM GMT

Your right David, that's what I've fractured 😊 It's doing okay though, no crutches now and another week and a half and hope fully the shoe's off 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 26-Apr-19 07:46 PM GMT

Good to hear that your recovery is going so well Goldie I won't get to call you Long John Goldie anymore 😊 I reckon so long as Storm Hannah is brief you should still be able to fit in some good butterflying – the Grizzlies have got your name on them 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 26-Apr-19 08:01 PM GMT

Great sighting, and pictures, of the Wall, Goldie!

Speedy recovery from your foot injury , what are we going to do with you!

If you don't get Grizzled Skippers this time, don't give up. I recon you have every chance at the end of May.

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 26-Apr-19 09:24 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...that's what I've fractured 😊 It's doing okay though, no crutches now and another week and a half and hope fully the shoe's off

I'm counting the hours down for you, Goldie. Hopefully, by early May Bank Holiday you'll be right.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 27-Apr-19 12:21 PM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel,essex,David, Looks like I could be here another week or so yet , my family have been great but I don't want to turn into the Mother-in-law who stayed too Long 😊 besides which i'm too independent and like my own way too much!!! 😊

Luckily I've got an open train ticket so as soon as I'm steady enough I'll be off 😊 Hope fully with some more Butterfly shots 😊

Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 27-Apr-19 01:06 PM GMT

Hopefully you'll bag a Grizzlies before you set off homewards 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 28-Apr-19 08:44 PM GMT

That really is a splendid Wall from Reculver, Goldie – and you really are not letting that foot slow you down, are you?! 😊

I hope it mends quickly or you'll be stuck in Kent for the summer – I can think of worse places to be from a butterfly perspective to be honest! 😊

Cheers,

Dave



**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 29-Apr-19 08:09 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and Dave, every thing as slowed now because the holidays are over and my family 's back at work, so I'm unable at present to wander about , ( a fact my Daughter believes will help the foot 😊 )

I've been doing Jig -saw's today which they've found for me ( any thing to keep me quiet ) 😊 It's still cool and I did go into Blean Woods this morning but nothing was seen, lovely bird song though 😊 too cold!!!!

I watched my Grandson playing Rugby yesterday so the day wasn't a total loss his team won 😊 I stayed in the car too watch 😊

The wind was wild 😊 I've just enjoyed a rather large glass of wine , Well!!!! one has to console ones self 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 30-Apr-19 07:20 PM GMT

Hello Goldie,

Thought you may be interested to know ,the first Grizzlies from Dungeness reported today (2) and Small Coppers are probably at their peak(first brood ) at Dungeness ,I also found my first Grizzle of the year at my local site.

Regards Allan.W.

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 01-May-19 08:44 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...I've just enjoyed a rather large glass of wine , Well!!!! one has to console ones self 😊

Think you deserve the full bottle after what you've been through lately, Goldie. 😊

Here's hoping you get back to normal some time soon so you can get back out unassisted.

**Re: Goldie M**

by ernie f, 01-May-19 08:46 AM GMT

Goldie - Hope you are mending better and better each day. If the butterflies are not forthcoming then wine is the ideal substitute! And if your jigsaws are of pictures of butterflies - even better!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 01-May-19 01:25 PM GMT

Thanks so much for your post's Allan, Dave, ernie, The weather here has been very cloudy and cold I've not been able to get out much 😊

My Daughter has taken me up to Blean Woods in the morning(she works in the afternoon's) but there's not been a sign of any thing I went up there today and the Sun was out but again, nothing, I'm here until next week when I see the Doctor at the Hospital so it's a Bank Holiday and I'm hoping the weather will be better and we can venture further a field 😊 ( other wise it's back to the wine) 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 01-May-19 07:54 PM GMT

Careful on the wine Goldie or you could end up staying even longer 😊😊 I keep reading your PD hoping to see a Grizzlie or two, my fingers have been crossed so long I'm starting to get cramp now 😊

Havea goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 02-May-19 09:05 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, it's more like uncrossing the fingers and praying instead 😊

If I don't see one whilst I'm here I've another chance at the end of May when I go to Eastbourne for a few days 😊 I've told my Sister-in-Law, " I'm going even if I've to wear the shoe 😊 " Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 02-May-19 02:10 PM GMT

Good plan having a back-up visit in the pipeline 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 03-May-19 11:16 AM GMT

[quote] I'm here until next week when I see the Doctor at the Hospital so it's a Bank Holiday and I'm hoping the weather will be better and we can venture further a field 😊 (other wise it's back to the wine)

The only real consolation for you, Goldie, is that the weather has been quite poor. Imagine having this temporary handicap in a heatwave with butterflies everywhere!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 04-May-19 08:51 AM GMT

Thanks for your posts Wurzel and David,

If every thing goes okay with my foot Wurzel and I miss the Grizzled Skipper this year I'll just have to wait until next year 😊  
If I get my foot better and it's looking that way I've got the rest of the Summer a head of me 😊 Who knows what I'll find!!!! 😊

Hi! David, your right about the weather, when I've looked outside in the mornings and it's been dull that's been my thoughts " I'm not missing any thing" , 😊 hope fully when I get home I'll have loads in the Garden 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

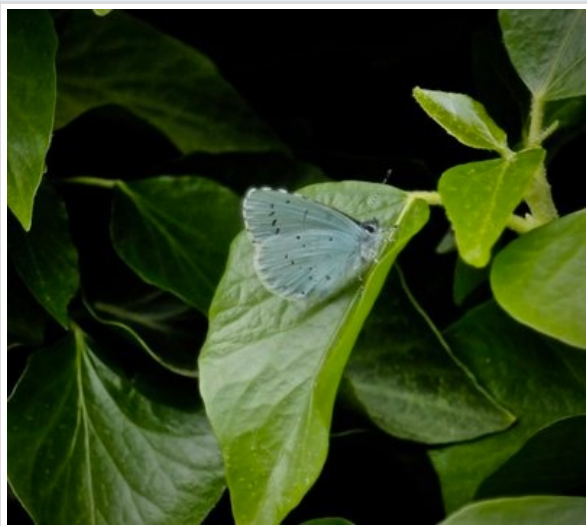
by Goldie M, 05-May-19 05:56 PM GMT

At last, I've got some Butterflies to post 😊 They may not be the Grizzled Skipper I'm looking for but after days of nothing I'm happy 😊  
We went to Reculver again because the weather was cloudy but had some Sun in the forecast, I thought of "Samphire Oh" but it was windy and with more shade than Sun decided on Reculver.

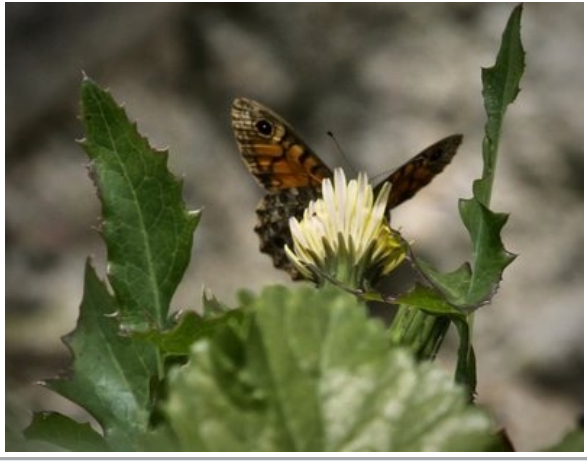
When we got there it was cool and cloudy so after a walk up the Lane ( with out Crutches this time 😊 ) and no sign of Butterflies we decided to have Lunch at the Pub there with the hope maybe the Sun would come out!!!!

It did, so up the lane we went again and my Daughter spotted a Holly Blue, (my first of this season,) it was a long way up in the Ivy and when I got back to the house I've had to make the shots closer to see it properly and it looks like it could have been egg laying 🙄

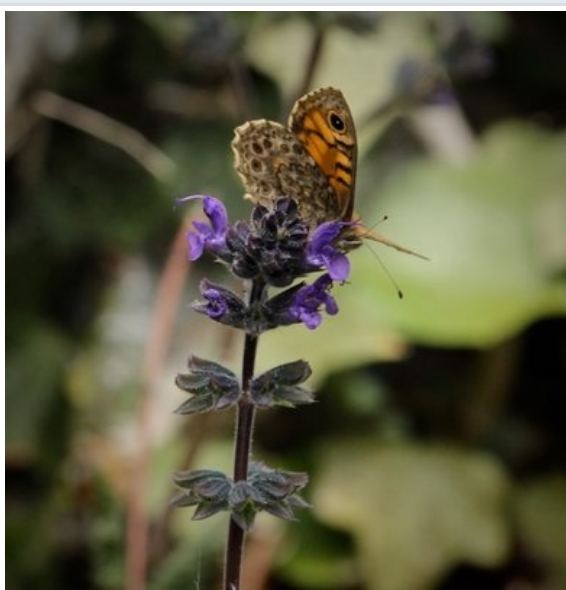
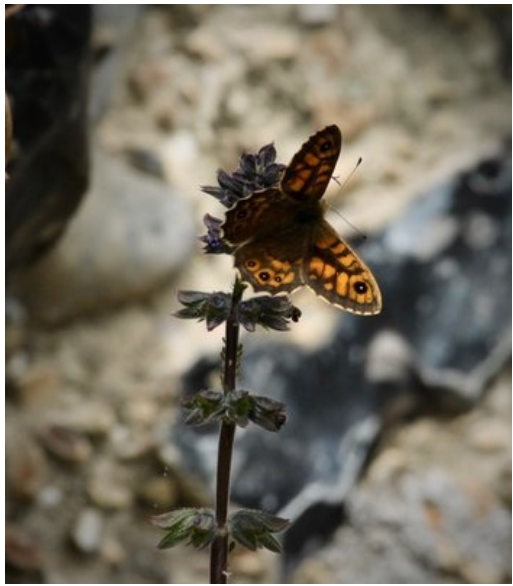
Then I saw the Wall's again and this time I caught one on a flower 😊 so all in all, not a bad day today, not sure about tomorrow yet but I hope I can get another day out before they go back to work on Tuesday.Goldie 😊











**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 05-May-19 10:00 PM GMT

Very good shots of the Wall, Goldie, and of the Holly Blue too! You were lucky to find some sun today.

Incidentally, that Holly won't be laying eggs, as your pictures are of a male butterfly! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 06-May-19 09:32 AM GMT

You'd think I'd know by now wouldn't you Dave 😊 I'll blame it on the distance 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 06-May-19 07:47 PM GMT

Cracking shots Goldie especially the Holly Blue – did you do some Dave Miller whispering to get it to open up 😊😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 07-May-19 09:54 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, many thanks 😊 It was good to see the Holly Blue, it was one Butterfly I thought I'd miss out on this year.

We just had short glimpses of the Sun and that's all the Butterfly needed to open it's wings 😊

I've just got the all clear from the Hospital and told I can try walking without the shoe and wear some trainers to help so I'm definitely on the mend 😊

We went to "Sapphire Oh" yesterday, it was cloudy and cold no sign of any Butterflies but it was nice to get out and get some Sea air I did take one shot of the sea when we'd a brief visit from the Sun. Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 07-May-19 06:45 PM GMT

Glad to see you caught up with some butterflies down there Goldie, nice Holly Blue and Wall photos.

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 08-May-19 06:48 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

..I've just got the all clear from the Hospital and told I can try walking without the shoe and wear some trainers to help so I'm definitely on the mend..

That's good to hear, Goldie. Best of luck with it.

Well done with the Wall Browns and I'm so pleased you managed to catch the Holly Blue.

### Re: Goldie M

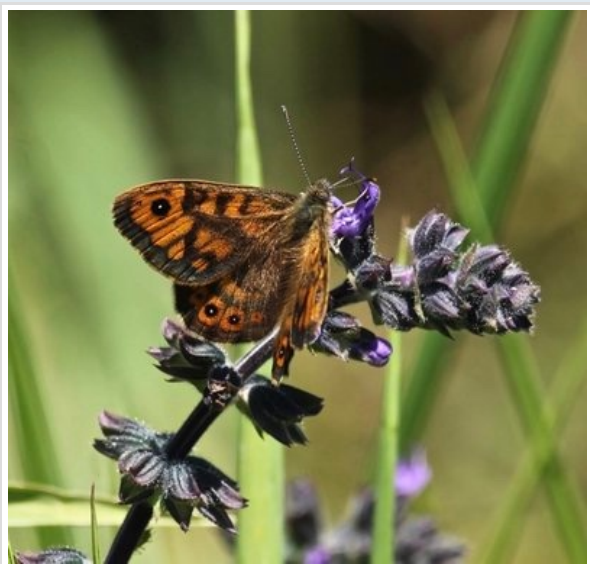
by Goldie M, 08-May-19 10:37 AM GMT

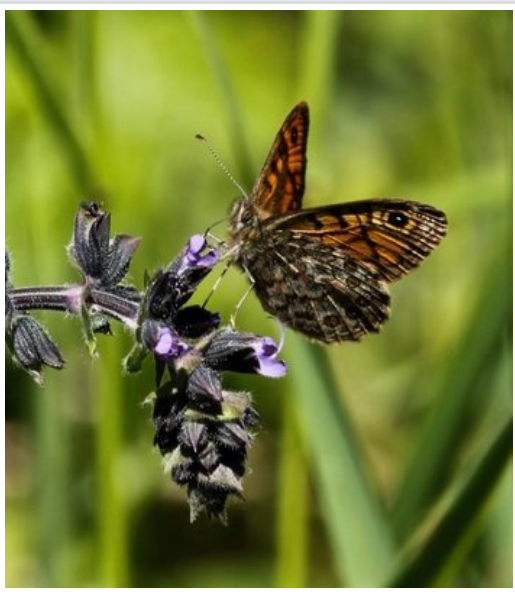
Thanks for your posts Neil and David, I've got another week here yet so if the weather improves and I can get out I should see some more Butterflies 😊  
Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 12-May-19 05:28 PM GMT

Just a quick post today, 😊 It's been a week in and weather wise here not too good until today 😊  
My Daughter was free from work after being a way for three days with the school children so took me out once again to Reculver, she was tired after the trip so it was great she did this for me 😊  
I once again saw the Wall's who were very active and chasing one another has they do when the Sun shines 😊 I also got my first Large White shot for this year , unfortunately with closed wings but I'll take that 😊  
I saw yet more Holly Blues who were far too active for photographs with the exception of one, again closed wings 😊  
It was a good day and although only the LW was new I'm slowly adding species up 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 12-May-19 10:41 PM GMT

Good to see you're out and about Goldie 😊 Loveing those Walls – still not seen one hopefully next week at the Hill, if the weather plays ball 😊

Have a goodun

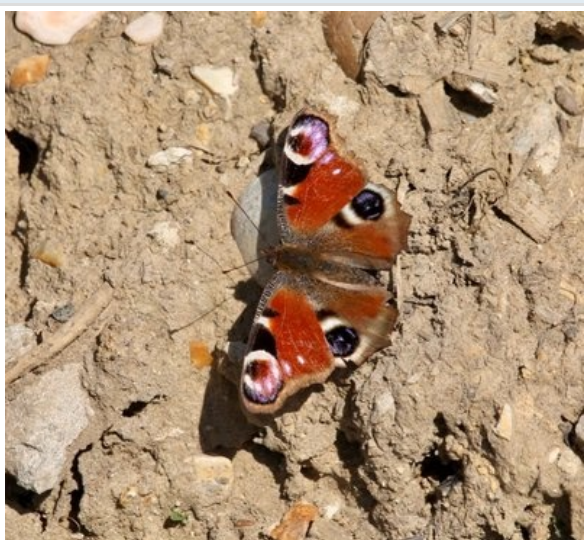


**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 13-May-19 08:08 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, my Grandson came to visit me today and showed me a way to get into Blean Woods without using Transport, a little Known pathway off the road near my Daughters house, it turned out to be fantastic, bit of a walk for me but okay, Holly Blues were every where and I saw Brimstones, Peacock Butterflies even Orange Tips 😊

The Pathway was very sheltered yet full in places of the Sun I didn't manage the Brimstone yet but I'm 😊 off back there over the next three days, 😊 Home on Friday 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 13-May-19 11:17 PM GMT

Great that you're off exploring again Goldie and getting great shots – the juxtaposition of beautiful butterfly and something a bit icky always makes me smile 😊😁

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-May-19 10:04 AM GMT

I really like that to Wurzel, the Peacocks were not perfect, infact one was really ragged ( no shot ) but I love to see them, it still surprises me how they still manage to fly with half a wing etc, I still take their photo 😊

I'm getting out more now in a pair of my Granddaughters training shoes which have stabilisers in 😊 out of a family of five only one of them doesn't run 😊 They go through shoes very quickly, which is to my advantage this time 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Andrew555, 14-May-19 10:24 AM GMT

Good stuff Goldie, I like the Wall particularly. 😊

Never been to Blean. I must get down there, maybe for the Heath Frits. 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-May-19 03:34 PM GMT

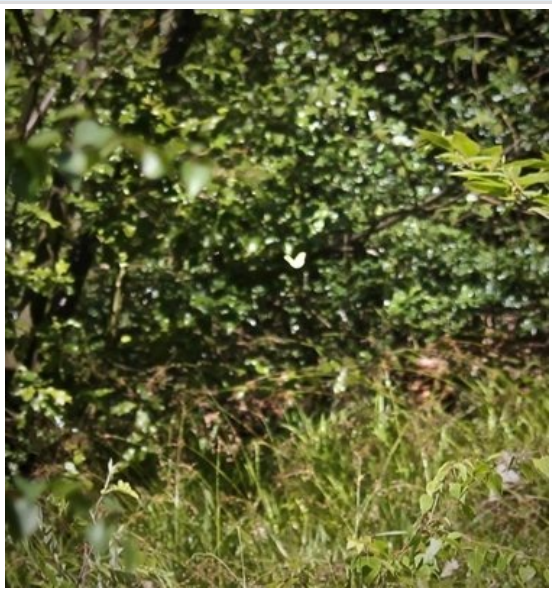
Hi! Andrew, it's a great place for the Frits but I think East Blean Wood may be better they're usually in the car park there 😊

I went back to Blean today on the path my Grandson showed me yesterday, I was determined to try and get a shot of a Brimstone 😊 At first they were flying all around me but never settling 😊 in the end I thought" blow this" if I see another I'll put the camera onto Sport and I may get one in flight, (desperate by this time) 😊 I'd tried for ages back home to shoot one with out any luck!!!!

This Lady came along with her dog, ( I'd seen her the day before and we'd had a natter) we did the same again, then she walked off into the wood, just about then up a slope where the Bluebells were one landed, I was too far a way but I took the shot any way hoping I'd got some thing at last 😊

The lady reappeared with her dog ,( I'd seen this gate marked private in the lane) and of course seen the Butterflies land there, so I was surprised and delighted when she opened the gate and asked me to go in 😊 I couldn't get in there quick enough 😊

I was only in there for a few seconds when one landed on a dry leaves not too far a way, I was elated 😊 She was very nice, it seems they were trying to clear brambles and trying to make there Garden better after buying the house, she led me through a rather over grown path way which I didn't envy them trying to clear, it was a short cut to the road which was great, by this time I was feeling the foot 😊 So was ready for a good cup of tea. Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 14-May-19 07:14 PM GMT

Well done with the Wall Browns Goldie, a bogey species for me as they are no longer found in Warwickshire and I always seem to be between broods when I am on my travels.

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**



by Wurzel, 14-May-19 11:05 PM GMT

Lovely Brimstone shots Goldie I especially like the second one 🤔👍 Good to see you getting the VIP treatment what with Private viewings and all 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 15-May-19 06:41 AM GMT

Glad to see you got your Brimstone, Goldie, and that you're getting a little more mobile. 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 15-May-19 04:55 PM GMT

Thanks Neil, Wurzel and David for your posts, I keep trying to get out a bit more each day but had to rest a bit today:D

Glad you liked the Wall's Neil, the shots I got last year numbered one, I'd not been too lucky with them until this year, it was great seeing so many and getting lots of shots. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, I like the second shot has well even though it's a bit tattered round the edges 😊

Thanks David, I hope my foot stays okay until I get Home ,with three trains to catch stepping on and off will be exciting if you know what I mean!!!! 😊

I went out again today but I didn't stay too long, I'm giving my foot a rest for going home Friday, I'd been out in the garden earlier that morning and seen a Green Veined White (not as good as your shot Neil 😊) but another first of the year for me 😊 It was the first Butterfly to land in the Garden since I got here, believe it or not 😊

I went down the lane again today and just missed an Orange Tip, a Comma shot passed me and into the bushes and I got a shot of that also the same Peacock was still there in the same area (must be the same one) 😊

Has I passed the field before I entered the wood a Small White landed on a Dandelion, it was only when I got back and put the photos on my computer that I saw the image of a fly or some thing 😊

Once in the wood coming towards me down the path way was a Holly Blue but it never settled this time but a Brimstone flew onto some dry leaves and seemed to lie side ways onto the leaves, really strange!!!

I was glad once again to get my shoes off when I got back but really satisfied with my day 😊 Goldie 😊









### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 15-May-19 07:12 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie brilliant capture with the photo-bombing fly 😄😄 You did well with the Green-veined Whites shots 🍷 - I've only managed a couple so far this year and some have had to be binned as they're looked bleached 😞

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 16-May-19 07:30 AM GMT

That's a nice looking female GVW, Goldie. Not seen too many of those myself so far this year. 😊

Hope you have a safe and trouble free trip home tomorrow.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-May-19 11:16 AM GMT

That was a real fluke shot Wurzel 😄 So was the GVW, I was just sat in the Garden when it popped over the Wall 😄 Lucky for me it spotted the flowers. 😊

Hi! David, my Daughters traveling back with me and staying a couple of nights so that's a big help 😊  
I thought I would probably see a GVW in the garden when I got home, at least now if I miss one I've already got a shot of one 😊

I think my next posts will be from home now, I've just looked on the Lanc's web site and I see the Duke's are out at Gait Barrow, also the PBF's at Warton, I don't think I'll be going up there for a while sadly but it's good news about the Duke's because I think only one or two were seen last year, That's Life!!!!!! Goldie 😊

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-May-19 04:20 PM GMT

I wasn't going into the woods today but with the weather being so nice I thought "last day, why not," 😊 I'd lunch with my Daughter first then with the camera on the ready I set off once again, before I even got to the edge of the wood I spotted this White Butterfly which I thought at first was a large White, when it turned out to be a Female Brimstone I was really pleased 😊

I reached the lane by the Meadow when this large Fox also entered the lane, it stopped for a while looking at me then continued down the lane, I was surprised to see one during the day, I thought at first it was a dog. 😊 that was my second surprise, I began to wonder what else I'd see for a third surprise 😊

I got my answer in the woods when for the first time I saw two then three Males circling the Bluebells and I was actually able to get more than just a couple of shots, I didn't hang about wanting to get back and pack, I was so glad I decided to take one last trip to the woods 😊 Goldie 😊







*Female Brimstone*





*Female Brimstone*



*Female Brimstone*



### **Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 16-May-19 08:34 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,

I,m pleased to see that you,re getting over the mis-hap with your ankle ,and that it didn,t holdyou back too much .

I,m also sorry that you never managed to see Grizzled Skipper ,if you could have found us in Ashford I would have been pleased to show you some , and the reason I never offered ,was that the two good sights close-by would have been hard going for you with two good ankles let alone a Gammy one

! ,one in particular is a bit of an assault course and I,ve gone a\*\*\* over tip ,many times.  
That said if you,re down this way at the right time next year ,the offer stands ! Keep up the good work !  
Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by Pauline, 16-May-19 08:46 PM GMT

Just loving that shot of the fox M. 🐾 Safe trip home – speak soon x

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 17-May-19 10:32 PM GMT

I too am sorry that you you didn't get your Grizzlie Goldie but hen you always have to leave something for the next time 😊😊 Those Brimstones and the Fox will have made up for it though 😊 Safe journey back!

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 18-May-19 09:59 AM GMT

Well! I finally made it home but the 11am train from Euston didn't leave the station until 11. 45am, we were all sat on the train waiting, at least we were comfortable 😊

My Garden's gone berserk in the month I've been a way, I don't think even the Butterflies will find the plants 😞  
I've got a Gardener coming to sort it out for me on Monday, I can't do much at present, so the Butterflies will have to wait a while. 😊

Thanks Allan for your post, if I don't see any when I go to Eastbourne I'll take you up on that next year 😊

The Fox was a nice surprise Pauline, I was amazed that it actually stopped and looked at me and that it didn't run off, just trotted a way slowly. 😊

Thanks Wurzel, hope fully I may have a second chance in a couple of weeks 😊 At least I'm back home in one piece. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by millerd, 18-May-19 09:01 PM GMT

Some very photogenic Brimstones there, Goldie! They are really tricky to approach and shots on bluebells provide a great contrast. 😊

Good to see you made it home okay as well.

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 19-May-19 09:16 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

...My Garden's gone berserk in the month I've been a way, I don't think even the Butterflies will find the plants 😞  
I've got a Gardener coming to sort it out for me on Monday, I can't do much at present, so the Butterflies will have to wait a while.

Yes, those plants have had all they need to grow like triffids these last few weeks, Goldie....rain, sun, warmth; a bit of everything.

Glad to know you got back safely and hopefully all will be back a little bit like normal quite soon.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 20-May-19 07:44 PM GMT

Thanks for your posts Dave and David, 😊 it's so good to be home although I'll miss all the family, the neighbours have already been round to see how I am so I've got lots of support here has well 😊

The weather today was sunny yet cloudy at first, then it was really warm and I had my lunch in the garden under cloudless sky's 😊  
I was surprised when a Small White appeared, with only having seen one Butterfly in my Daughter's garden all the time I was there to see one my first day of being in my garden well!!! I was amazed. 😊

The gardener couldn't get here today so I went round doing a bit here and there that's when I saw the Holly Blue, which of course flew on as usual right through the garden 😊 but then another one arrived and landed on the leaves of my bush, I got my camera which I keep just by the open door 😊

At first it had closed wings then it started to open them slowly to catch the Sun, trouble was it was rather breezy and the poor thing was blown a bit

from side to side ( not too good for taking shots) 😊 I noticed also that it was rather worn but who cares I'd finally got a shot of a Holly Blue in the garden 😊

Later I was ready for going in when this Green Veined White popped over the fence 😊 for my first day in the Garden it was icing on the cake 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 20-May-19 08:52 PM GMT

What a welcome home for you, Goldie! 😊

I can see why they visit; you have so many irresistible purple blooms for them.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 20-May-19 11:08 PM GMT

Lovely shots Goldie especially the Holly Blue – looks like you've got the knack of Holly Blue whispering now too 😊🌿 Looking at the marvelous selection of blooms I reckon your garden is bringing in butterflies from all around 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 21-May-19 07:41 PM GMT

Many thanks David and Wurzel, there was quite a cool breeze today so although I saw some Butterflies they never settled in the garden, there was also too many large clouds which covered everything and then it was quite cold, can't grumble though the Gardner turned up to help me 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 21-May-19 07:47 PM GMT

You're doing a whole lot better than me Goldie! I had 2 Holly Blues in the garden and didn't manage a shot of either of them, and well, you've seen the shot of my GVW!.....

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 23-May-19 07:48 PM GMT

Hi! Pauline, I'll swop you the Holly Blue to see the Duke and some Wood Whites 😊

Today was a lovely day, I did the jobs I had to do then spent the rest of the day in my Garden.

I saw a couple of Small White's but it was the antics of the Birds and Bee's that caught my eye. 😊

The garden was full of Bee's both large and small, one was huge, I tried to get a shot of it but it was never still, in and out of the Cornflowers all the time has was all the others 😊

My local Blackbird was in full throat singing for the Grapes I throw him when I'm in the Garden 😊 Talk about "singing for your supper" 😊

The Robin was funny ,I've never seen a look like that on a bird before, he'd just bathed 😊 well !! I hope he had or he's in a bad way 😊 I think the first and second shots may be the Robin but what ever bird he was singing his head off on next door's roof, then I saw the Robin in my garden, bedraggled and thought it must be the same Bird 😊 It was certainly an interesting afternoon 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

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

Your 'Pop Idol' entrant is a male Chaffinch, singing the bird equivalent of Barry White probably 😄 Great shots especially the last one of the Small White – that's lush that is 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-May-19 02:43 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, so much for Bird ID 😊 They both looked rough! 😊 Glad you liked the Small White, it would be good to see more Butterflies though. 😊 I walked into Town today got my hair done the Hair Dresser couldn't believe it was me i'd so much hair to cut 😊 one more week and I'm off South again 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 24-May-19 08:44 PM GMT

These poor, spoiled birds must be bereft when you go away, Goldie. 😊

Perhaps that's why they're out in force – they're glad to have you back!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 26-May-19 05:05 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and David, Thanks for your posts, it's been raining hard today here but now it's Sunny again but very windy and much cooler, no Butterflies I'm a afraid but some Gold Finches are back in the Garden and another bird I think maybe a Warbler, knowing me I could be wrong 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 27-May-19 09:39 AM GMT



Lovely shots of the Sparrow and Goldfinch Goldie, that Sparrow is right stuffing it's face – just like me with...well pretty much anything 😊 Hope you can get some butterflies soon. 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 27-May-19 10:45 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, another bird I got wrong 😊😊 I've not seen many Sparrows a round here and I was going with the yellow mark across the top side of it's head, when I looked in my book it looked similar to a Warbler 😊

The weather has to be bad all week but the week-end looks really good also next week when I'm on Holiday the weather looks great in Eastbourne. I should get the all clear from the Hospital tomorrow and I'll be able to drive( hope fully) so before I go a way I'll visit a few places and see if I can bag a few more shots before I go on my Hol's. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 27-May-19 05:23 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

I should get the all clear from the Hospital tomorrow and I'll be able to drive( hope fully) so before I go a way I'll visit a few places and see if I can bag a few more shots before I go on my Hol's

Good luck with that, Goldie. Fingers crossed you'll be signed off and free to travel! 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 27-May-19 07:14 PM GMT

Don't worry about the bird IDs Goldie – I've made plenty of even worse IDs myself 😊😊 Of course the weather is going to be great next week – it's not half term then 😊😊 I'm sure you'll be rolling in the butterflies soon 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 28-May-19 01:17 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and David, not good news I'm afraid, the Doctor wasn't happy with how the foots healing, ( sounds like I've done a bit too much, too soon) I've now been issued with a boot 😊 I've to keep it on another month and can't drive!!! 😊

Any way I'm still going on the Holiday, I'll just keep steady and not do too much walking!!!! That'll be the day 😊 If any body knows where in Eastbourne I can see Butterflies and not walk too far please let me know 😊

I'm not disheartened, I've been waiting for the third thing to happen and hope fully that's it now, that's life. Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by bugboy, 28-May-19 09:42 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

Hi! Wurzel and David, not good news I'm afraid, the Doctor wasn't happy with how the foots healing, ( sounds like I've done a bit too much, too soon) I've now been issued with a boot 😊 I've to keep it on another month and can't drive!!! 😊

Any way I'm still going on the Holiday, I'll just keep steady and not do too much walking!!!! That'll be the day 😊 If any body knows where in Eastbourne I can see Butterflies and not walk too far please let me know 😊

I'm not disheartened, I've been waiting for the third thing to happen and hope fully that's it now, that's life. Goldie 😊

Hi Goldie, sorry to hear about your foot 😊. I'm a fairly regular visitor to Eastbourne, walking along the seafront westwards from the pier and onto the South Downs proper close to Beachy Head. The seafront is well planted with flowers that attract a wide variety of insects and there's always a chance of some hungry migrants stopping off to feed upon landfall (there's also ample seats if you need to rest your foot!). The area between where Eastbourne ends at Holywell and a playing field is relatively flat and here I often find Blues, Dingies and the occasional Grizzlie amongst other things.

I hope that's useful and I hope your foot gets better soon 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 28-May-19 10:52 PM GMT

"Hi! Wurzel and David, not good news I'm afraid, the Doctor wasn't happy with how the foots healing, ( sounds like I've done a bit too much, too soon) I've now been issued with a boot 😞 Sorry to hear that Goldie 😞 What about mixing up some sugar and water and coating your boot in it so that the butterflies come to you? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 29-May-19 06:35 AM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

...not good news I'm afraid, the Doctor wasn't happy with how the foots healing, ( sounds like I've done a bit too much, too soon) I've now been issued with a boot 😞 I've to keep it on another month and can't drive!!! 😞

Any way I'm still going on the Holiday, I'll just keep steady and not do too much walking!!!! That'll be the day 😞 If any body knows where in Eastbourne I can see Butterflies and not walk too far please let me know 😊  
I'm not disheartened, I've been waiting for the third thing to happen and hope fully that's it now, that's life. Goldie 😊

Sad to hear that, Goldie. Good to see you're not letting it beat you though. As you say, maybe this is the final chapter in the bad luck series.

Safe journey and have a good time in Eastbourne.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 08-Jun-19 02:50 PM GMT

Well I'm back !!! 😊 Thanks David for your post on the 29th May, we did have a good journey but the journey back was awful, the weather was rough and they'd closed two lanes of the M1 so a lot of traffic was on the M40 .

We set off from Eastbourne at 8.45 am and I finally got home at 8pm UGH! I wasn't bothered really I'd had a good time and been motored about doing nothing, we'd had one day of rain that's all and if I'd been at home I wouldn't have got out to see any Butterflies 😊

I didn't see any Grizzlies: 😞 on the Tuesday it rained all day and although we went to Beachy Head on the Wednesday ( I nearly got blown off the top 😞 ) I saw only two Butterflies which I was really glad to see not having them on my list of species yet 😊  
The Common Blue and a Small Copper. I only managed one shot of the Common Blue today

I also got a shot of a Cream Spot Tiger moth which I'd not seen before, ( I'd to look the name up in GB Moth's 😞 ) I was thrilled to see it, it's colours were so out standing 😊 Can't understand it's choice of landing though 😞

I was also taken aback by the wild flowers up there, really out standing 😊

That evening we saw from the Hotel the planes going over to Portsmouth for the celebrations the pier there was crowded with people 😊 So Wednesday ended on a really good note. Goldie 😊











### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 08-Jun-19 03:30 PM GMT

On Thursday we went to Scotney Castle, I'm not too keen on going round Country houses or Castles, I find them usually dark and morbid but it was a case of give and take so I went in with my Sister-in-Law because she'd gone up Beachy Head with me 😊 Of course I couldn't go up to see the bedrooms with my foot, so I hopped out-side into the walled Garden waiting for her 😊😊 I was surprised in this Walled Garden when I saw this little Holly Blue land where it did. 😊

It was more like a Hall we'd gone through not a house, the real Castle was at the bottom of the Hill which I thought strange for a Castle, It was in a really lovely setting, although a ruin it still had a Tower of sorts and a lovely Moat full of Water Lilies, at the side of the Moat a small field had been left for wild flowers and it was in there I saw more Common Blue, and I was chuffed to see a Large Skipper. 😊

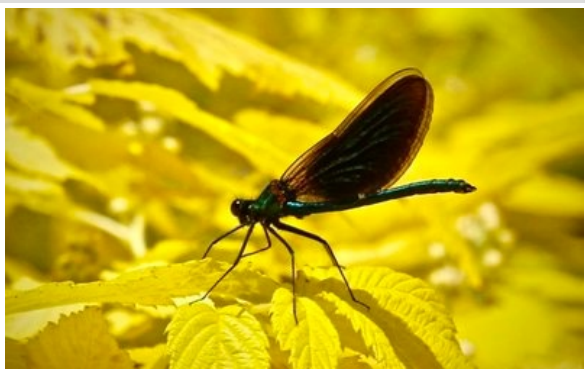
I know this year I'll miss out on a lot of Butterflies so when I see some I may not get to see I'm thrilled 😊

I also saw this rather Black looking Dragon Fly, at first I thought it was a Butterfly 😊 when it landed on some yellow leaves I managed a shot 😊

That was my five day' s Two of travel, One of Rain, Two lovely days when I saw the Butterflies, I'd a really good time but the next few days I hope I see Butterflies in the Garden again 😊 Goldie 😊













### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Jun-19 03:07 PM GMT

Great to see you back out and about Goldie 😊 Thta is the great thing about visiting the big Stately Homes – they often have cracking gardens and the walled ones in particular are great for butterflies – 😊 less wind, sun trapping and plenty of nectar 😊 Love the shots of the Small Copper, Large Skipper and the Blues 😊 I reckon that dragonfly is a Beautiful Demoiselle? 😊🇮🇪

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

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

Hi! Wurzel, I was hoping I'd see some Butterflies in the Gardens, I don't get Common Blues, Small Coppers in my Garden and I only once saw a Skipper there, so to find some was a bonus 😊 Now I've to have patience for another four weeks than maybe I can get going driving again 😊 Glad you liked the the three some 😊 I was surprised the CB's looked a bit worn they don't seem to have been out that long, the weather I suppose .Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 09-Jun-19 08:30 PM GMT

Glad you managed to get out a few times, Goldie, even if the Grizzlies continued to elude you. 😊

That castle has a distinct 'Constable' look about it, although like you, I prefer to admire from the exterior rather than venturing inside.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Jun-19 08:42 AM GMT

Thanks for your post David, It was a fantasy castle even if there wasn't much of it 😊

I'm glad I got some Butterflies but with this Boot on my foot I can't be on uneven ground taking shots , 😊 I've had to take quick ones and take pot luck when I've done this 😊 so it could be the Grizzle would be too quick for me 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Janet Turnbull, 11-Jun-19 10:47 AM GMT

Your holiday looks like a real success Goldie, and the butterfly shots are gorgeous. Especially love the Small Copper. I haven't seen any Skippers at all yet. Janet 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by philm63, 11-Jun-19 12:12 PM GMT

Hi Goldie

An interesting day out with some nice sightings, I am also waiting for my first skippers as others appear to be.

I agree with Wurzel, the dragonfly is a male Beautiful Demoiselle. a species I have not seen yet, locally we only get the similar Banded Demoiselle. Phil

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Jun-19 06:35 PM GMT

Many thanks Janet, I was pleased to see the Large Skipper more so because I've not been able to get out much with my booted foot 😞 Trust me to do some injury at this time of year. 😊

I see the Small Pearls are out at Warton and the Northern Brown Argus at Gait Barrow if your interested Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Jun-19 06:42 PM GMT

Hi! Phil, Many thanks for your post, for once last Thursday the weather was lovely, I think that's why the Skipper appeared, I don't think it'd been out long because it wasn't doing the usual bobbing about. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 11-Jun-19 07:30 PM GMT

Sorry you never got your Grizzlie Goldie ,had a one hour visit this late afternoon to a local site and was quite surprised to find 4 , including a freshly emerged individual (and Abberant as well !),weather permitting I,m going to have a look at another site tomorrow, after work to see if theres any still flying there ,they seem to have done quite well locally this year.

As I,ve already said ,when you're down next spring I,ll be happy to show you some. Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by millerd, 11-Jun-19 08:36 PM GMT

Nice shots of that Large Skipper, Goldie. They've been very thin on the ground near me this year. I think the weather has stopped them in their tracks just as they started to get going.

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Jun-19 08:46 PM GMT

Hi! Allan, I'll definitely get in touch with you next Spring 😊 I'll try to stay in one piece next year 😊

I should be down there again some time this Summer hope fully looking for some Cloudies 😊 I'll probably be going to Reculver again, " less walking there and a good pub my Daughter likes for lunch 😊 " ( another way to twist the arm ) 😊

Hi! Dave, I've not been able to get out here looking for them, so to see them when I did made my day 😊 It also made me less restless to move knowing I'd seen them, it's the rest of the Butterflies I'm going miss, most of them, Fritillaries and Northern Brown or all up in the Lakes, still may be I'll be able to drive next month, I hope so. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Jun-19 11:44 AM GMT

Hi! everybody, the only species I'm seeing lately are Birds 😊 Hope fully the weather will take up before long. I took these shots from my kitchen window, at least the Birds were enjoying it. 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 14-Jun-19 07:07 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, just seen your Cream-spot Tiger Moth from a few posts back. I have seen these a few times in Dorset and Cornwall but never managed a photo as good as yours...well done 🍷 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Jun-19 10:05 PM GMT

Thanks Neil, I was really surprised when I saw the moth it was so lovely, I'm really thinking about getting some thing in the Garden to see if I can catch any, I know for a fact I get lots of visitor's . It's just making a start on doing it 😊 The more I see the different ones the more I'm surprised at their colours and shapes. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 14-Jun-19 10:52 PM GMT

I'm sharing your frustration Goldie – the weather just seems to have gone into a time warp – it's like we're back in April 🤔😞 Still it'll have to break soon and then the butterflies will be that much sweeter 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Jun-19 11:08 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I'm frustrated, on the other hand if it was a year last last year weather wise and I couldn't get out much I'd be more frustrated, 😊 lets hope you get some good weather in the South soon, hope fully I'll be down to Kent some time again this Summer 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Katrina, 16-Jun-19 02:17 PM GMT

Your large skipper and beautiful demoiselle shots have just brightened up a rather dull day for me 😊😊😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Jun-19 09:50 PM GMT

Hi! Katrina, Glad I brightened your day 😊

I was in the Garden a couple of days ago, the Sun came out in-between the showers, the Boules Mauve was covered in Bee's but no Butterflies appeared, I took a couple of shots and one shot in particular made me smile,( the Bee in the shot ) it looked at me has much has to say we're fed up with the weather too. 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 17-Jun-19 12:09 PM GMT

Lovely shots Goldie 😊 I use the Bees as a marker – after the Bees a degree C or more and the butterflies won't be far behind! 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 17-Jun-19 06:13 PM GMT

Finger's crossed Wurzel!!! 😊 The forecast for us isn't too good for the next few days 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 17-Jun-19 10:53 PM GMT

I can sense your frustration, Goldie, if you're having to resort to photographing bees on your bowles mauve!!

Just when will this dreary spell end? 😞

**Re: Goldie M**

by ernie f, 18-Jun-19 01:47 PM GMT

Hi, Goldie

Horrible weather but glad to see you are making the most of it. I actually went out in drizzle the other day to find butterflies!!!

I know its not butterflies but it was nice to see a picture of Scotney Castle in your PD – one of my all time favourite places in England.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 20-Jun-19 07:05 PM GMT

Hi! David, we've had a few more showers here but also two days of Sunshine with cloud covering which I hoped would bring some Butterflies but none have appeared 😞 Any way hope fully the next couple of days seem to have a good forecast so I'll be on the look out 😊

Hi! ernie, I really enjoyed myself at Scotney Castle, the weather that day was perfect, it was the last time I saw any Butterflies as well which was the 6th of June , so you've an Idea what the weathers been like here 😞 hope fully the next few days will be better 😊 Goldie 😊

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 28-Jun-19 10:43 AM GMT

At last! After quite a few frustrating weeks with my foot and not being able to get out with the weather having been so bad incase I did any thing to make it worse, I took the Bull by the horns and walked in the Sunshine to Hall-Lee-Brook on Wednesday 😊

I must say thank you Pauline for the phone call that lifted me out of my Rut 😊

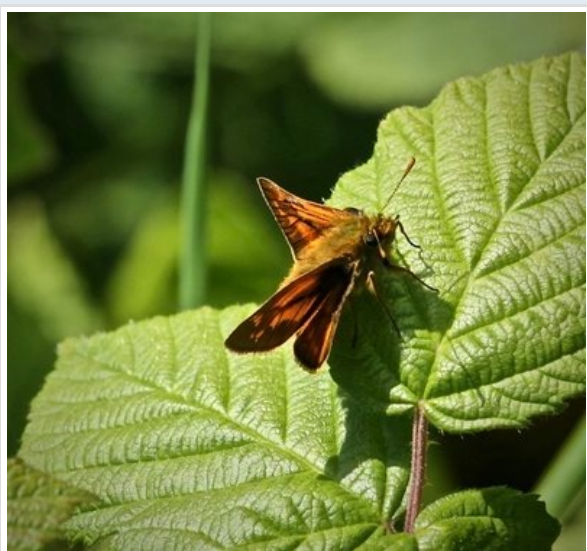
I didn't see much activity but I did see a Meadow Brown, a Large Skipper and a Speckie 😊 My photo's I'm afraid suffered because with the Boot on I can't get the balance I need, ( talk about Long John Silver ) 😞 The grass was very high and the Meadow Brown played hard to get. 😊

Yesterday I didn't go out but stayed in the Garden, I didn't expect to see much with only seeing the three species at HLB but has I was sat enjoying an Ice Cream cone 😊 this white Butterfly which I thought at first was a Large White landed on my Boules Mauve, I was pleasantly surprised when I saw it was a Brimstone 😊 tired looking but happy. 😊

Later in the afternoon Three Painted Ladies paused but not long enough for any shots but later one did land together with a Small Tortoiseshell , It was a toss up which to go for 😊 The Painted Lady won, you don't see too many of those was my thinking.

Sadly the Painted Lady was in rather bad condition but was still very active, being the first I'd seen since last year I'm still keeping the shot 😊 I'm hoping I see some more today although it's really windy here. Needless to say I missed the small Tort 😞

Any way fingers crossed this weather keeps up for a while. 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 29-Jun-19 06:34 AM GMT

Glad to see things are finally improving, Goldie. I was starting to get worried about you!

Nice to see a Brimstone in late June. I guess she's almost a year old now.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 29-Jun-19 08:54 AM GMT

Hi! David, thanks for your post, I've certainly had my moments lately 😊 It's surprising how the sight of Butterflies can cheer you up 😊 I was amazed when I saw the Brimstone, it made my day 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 29-Jun-19 04:59 PM GMT

Hey Goldie – a Painted Lady in your garden!!! 🍀 I've seen quite a few about but haven't had one in the garden yet 😊 . Great to see you posting again 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 29-Jun-19 11:06 PM GMT

I reckon that you made the right call Goldie great shots of the Painted Lady 😊 Great to see you adventuring forth again, Long Jean Goldie 😊😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**



by Neil Freeman, 30-Jun-19 06:13 PM GMT

Good to see you catching up with some butterflies Goldie, nothing better to lift the spirits 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 01-Jul-19 04:16 PM GMT

Hi! Pauline, I was lucky with that one PL, although it was a bit worse for wear, I'd seen two land before that and take off right a way they were in good condition but no shots they were too quick for me. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, I've tried a day without the boot but in the end had to put it on for walking distances 😊 not seen any Butterflies since, one day it was too hot, since then we've had loads of clouds and some rain, fingers crossed this wind will die down soon. 😊

Hi! Neil, That's what I need a good dose of Butterflies, my Buddleia's are nearly out and my Boules Mauve nearly at it's best, all I need now is less wind and more Sun 😊 Goldie 😊

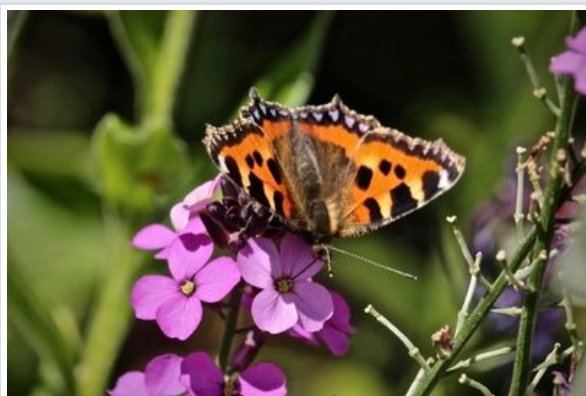
### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 02-Jul-19 07:11 PM GMT

Lots of clouds today until about 3pm and then when the Sun came through it was lovely and warm , still quite Breezy though, the Butterflies started to arrive in the Garden then, first a couple of Green Veined Whites then another Painted Lady which I missed 😊 ( too quick for me ,) then a Lovely fresh Small Tortoiseshell which I patiently followed round 😊

I hope tomorrow brings in more 😊

I couldn't resist putting the Coal Tit shot in Sun Bathing after a wash 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Pauline, 02-Jul-19 07:28 PM GMT

Unusual shot of the bird M. - think it might be a Great Tit.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 03-Jul-19 06:38 PM GMT

Cracking shot of the Great Tit Goldie - it looks like it's finding it all a bit too warm 🤔😓 I was like that the other day - just gave up moving as it was far too hot 😊 Good to see the butterflies in your post 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 03-Jul-19 09:11 PM GMT

Hi! pauline and Wurzel, I thought it was a Coal Tit because of the white patch on it's neck ,looking at my other shot your probably both right, the other bird is much smaller, I thought it was a young Coal Tit 😊😊

It's looking at the bigger bird has much as to say "what on earth are you doing" 😊 there's just so many birds about they're mixing me up 😊 doesn't take much these days 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by ernie f, 04-Jul-19 07:37 AM GMT

Goldie - Just love your sunbathing bird. Hope it remembered to put on its "Factor 50". 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Janet Turnbull, 04-Jul-19 12:01 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, your sunbathing tit picture is priceless! 😊

Janet

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 04-Jul-19 04:47 PM GMT

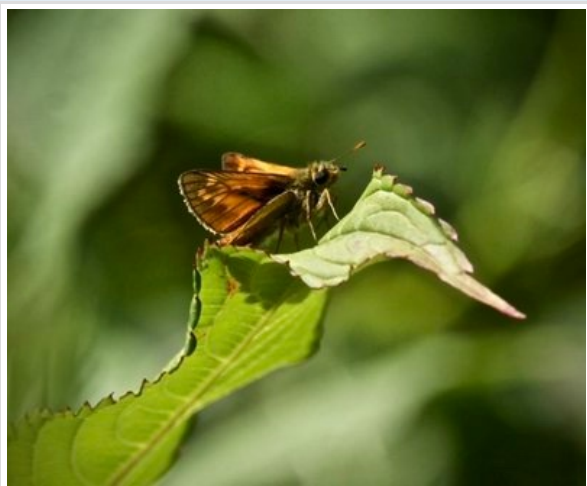
Thanks Janet and ernie, I wondered at first what on earth the bird was doing 😊 It get's pretty hot on that shed so they had sense to bathe first. 😊

I was fed up today, I'd been in the Garden and just gone in the house when I happened to look back and a Painted Lady had just landed on the the Boules Mauve , needless to say I grabbed the Camera again but with that Boot on my foot I couldn't hurry and it took off, 😊😊

I decided to set off and visit Hall-Lee-Brook boot and all 😊 the weather was lovely not too hot and a nice Breeze , when I got there the first Butterfly I saw was a Painted Lady but it was in such poor condition I was wondered how it was managing to fly, so I left it alone and carried on.

. Meadow Browns were every where which is good and no mowing had been done in any of the three fields I saw, which I suppose had helped but there were so few Butterflies there, for instance I saw only one white which was too far a way for recognition, I still couldn't get a good shot of a MB so again although trying my best in walking through the tall grass boot and all they'd take off when I got near 😊 frustration is the word!!!!

I took a few shots of Large Skippers, I love these little Butterflies they remind me of that song "King of the Road" the way they survey from the top of leaves the surrounding area 😊 Any way I'd to be content with a few shots of them, maybe the PL will be back tomorrow.Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 05-Jul-19 05:39 AM GMT

Those bird images made me chortle, Goldie. I've never seen one spread its wings out and collapse like that. 😊

Good luck with the Painted Ladies. I'm sure there are plenty around.

### Re: Goldie M

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

At least the Large Skippers were some consolation Goldie 😊 – sometimes the butterflying goes like that – mind you I reckon the butterflies (particularly the Browns) have been extra twitchy this year 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 06-Jul-19 01:56 PM GMT

Hi! David, yes loads of Painted Ladies about but all I keep finding are in really bad shape 😊 Still may be one will land, i keep looking. Glad you like the bird shot 😊 I've taken shots of the Black bird doing the same , first time I saw them doing the Sun bathing I thought they were hurt. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, the Butterflies don't seem to be landing in the Garden much , when they do they don't stay long enough for shots I think they're looking for partners 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by ernie f, 06-Jul-19 04:00 PM GMT

Goldie – glad to see you got out. Those Large Skips are pretty good.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 06-Jul-19 05:52 PM GMT

Thanks ernie, they were a consolation 😊 I keep missing the odd Butterfly because I'm too slow these days, today I missed my first Red Admiral of the season, it hopped over next doors fence 😊

I did take some shots of what I think must be a Humming Bird Hawk moth, it's wings were a sight to see, I took some quick shots of it and I'm really chuffed with seeing it , I'd never seen one before so I'm thrilled, it's well named, I used to watch the Humming Birds when I was in the west Indies and it's flight is identical 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 07-Jul-19 05:15 PM GMT

A hummingbird hawk moth – what a tonic for you, Goldie, after you had been feeling fed up.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 07-Jul-19 06:00 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, yes, it came at just the right time, it really fascinated me and cheered me up 😊

These last two days in the Garden I seem to have missed more Butterflies than I managed to photo 😞  
I missed a Red Admiral a large White, a Tortoiseshell and a Comma, I was about to give up when I saw this Small White fly in and for once Managed a shot 😊 I walked round to the front garden and just spotted another Small Tort, I just got a shot rather dark because it was in amongst the flowers but I was happy to see it. 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 07-Jul-19 06:02 PM GMT

Somehow I missed out your last post Goldie 😊 Cracking Hummingbird Hawk Moth 😊 Great stuff today as well, really interesting shot of the Small Tort 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 07-Jul-19 07:35 PM GMT

Wow M! I sometimes get one in the garden ( but not this year yet) but I don't think I've ever got shots as good as those 📷 Really well done!!! Just goes to show - you don't really need to go that far 😊😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 07-Jul-19 07:39 PM GMT

Those really are great shots of the Humming-bird Hawk, Goldie. 😊 They move so fast it is tricky to get more than a blur normally. 📷

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 07-Jul-19 09:43 PM GMT



Hi! Wurzel, I only got one shot of the ST, I'd tried three times today to catch it, ( that's if it was the same one) so I was determined that no matter where it was I wasn't going to wait for it to settle this time 😊

Hi! Pauline, I'd never seen the Moth before and at first I thought it was a Bee, I then thought no, it's wings are too fast, I followed it round the back garden hoping for a shot and when it found those flowers it twisted into just the right position, I didn't care I just took one shot after another and hoped for the best. 😊

Hi! Dave, I set my camera on repeat and just kept shooting hoping I'd get some thing 😊 when I saw the results, the actual moth, I was really chuffed, some times things work don't they 😊 I'd love to see again 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by MikeOxon, 07-Jul-19 10:10 PM GMT

Congratulations on your shots of the Hummingbird Hawk, Goldie. It's a species I've never managed to photograph, although I've tried many times. I think it's great that, while you are limited in your own movements, these wonderful insects are coming to find you 😊

Mike

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 07-Jul-19 10:32 PM GMT

Many thanks Mike, coming from you it's praise indeed 😊 I was very lucky I think with the shots, the Moth was slower than usual although it's wings were going fast, when it found that particular flower it hovered, the wings were fast but the body of the moth was just hovering which was a big help. 😊 The Butterflies have started to come but with some I've been too slow and just missed the shots , at least they're coming now , I'm using my foot more if it's only going from the front garden round to the back 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 09-Jul-19 09:12 AM GMT

Yesterday we were back in the gloom again dark skies heralding the coming rain, the Butterflies have been very few and far between even in the nice few days we've had here .

I was in the Garden having fed the birds wondering why none had come to feed, when I looked up to the sky I realised why, Three Hawk's were circling round , one took off leaving just two , I couldn't make out just what they were but took some shots any way because I loved watching how they used their wings 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Jul-19 10:23 PM GMT

Greta shots Goldie – they're Buzzards using the thermals from the looks of it 😊😁 I hope the weather picks up again for you so you can get back to the butterflies 😊😁

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 09-Jul-19 11:02 PM GMT

Thanks for naming them Wurzel, they did seem rather large for Sparrow Hawks 😊  
Good new's today, I was discharged from the Hospital and can get rid of the boot in two weeks and start driving again 😊  
My Daughter wants me to go down there for the two weeks so it looks like I'll get to see more Butterflies 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Jul-19 11:37 PM GMT

That's brilliant news Goldie – I reckon you're chomping at the bit by now 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 10-Jul-19 10:06 PM GMT

Impressive, Goldie. I wonder if there was any carrion in the near vicinity? It's unusual for three birds to be circling over suburban gardens unless they've spotted something of interest.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Jul-19 02:12 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and David, not sure about carrion David, my garden gets loads of Birds and they were just high enough for me to see them, I saw one again today chasing a Sea Gull of all things, or would it be the other way round 😊 it was the noise they were making that drew my attention, I've certainly seen fewer birds in the last two days.

I'm off next week Wurzel to Kent, I've been looking at your post lovely Butterflies again, 🌞😁 We've had Sunshine and showers here, it's been more like April than July, so still nothing in the Garden as yet. I'll keep looking !Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Old Wolf, 11-Jul-19 04:07 PM GMT

Hello Goldie,  
I am just catching up on diaries and have come across your sunbathing great tit, hilarious.

The HBHM sequence is something special 😊 I have only ever seen one hovering around some high up Buddleia against the sun so my view was not very

good, but I do hope I get to see one a bit closer like you did.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 11-Jul-19 08:22 PM GMT

Hi! Old Wolf, that HBHM was also the first I'd seen, I was lucky, it found a flower just in front of me and Hovered over it like an Helicopter 😊 I was really impressed 😊 Hope you see one this year and get a shot of it. Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 12-Jul-19 04:38 PM GMT

It rained this morning and was much cooler but by lunch time the Sun was out and whilst I was in the bedroom dusting I spotted a Red Admiral on my Buddleia , grabbing the camera I hoped it was still there when I got outside, I was lucky and managed a few shots before it flew off 😊 It's been like that lately I keep seeing them and missing them. 😊 this time it didn't get a way. 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 12-Jul-19 07:40 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

Just seen your HBHM sequence. Great shots, well done 😊

Glad you managed to get that Red Admiral as well. We had rain here last night but today was not too bad and the weekend is looking to be reasonable.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 12-Jul-19 10:28 PM GMT

Great shots of the Red Admiral Goldie 😊 Glad you got there in time – it's great when you can catch up with a butterfly after a break 😊 Good luck in Kent 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 13-Jul-19 06:40 AM GMT

Nice to see a Red Admiral, Goldie. During a fortnight in the French Alps I saw a grand total of just TWO! 😞

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 13-Jul-19 04:51 PM GMT

Thanks so much Neil, I must admit my chief photos ( the ones I like ) are usually Butterflies but when I saw the HBHM for the first time I was blown a way 😊 to actually get some shots of it was icing on the cake. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, I can't wait to set off for Kent 😊 I just hope my family are in Butterfly mode 😊

Hi! David, that Admiral was back today, the photo I took of it yesterday, when I looked the Admiral had a small white patch on it's wing , so had this one today. 😊 The patch seemed more out standing today, I think the Sun was brighter 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 14-Jul-19 02:39 PM GMT

This morning was Sunny and I walked round the front Garden enjoying the roses when I saw this small orange speck, when I took a closer look I found my first Gate Keeper and probably the last Butterfly before i'm off on holiday 😊 It was a really nice surprise, I'm glad the Garden keeps giving me these little gems, Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 14-Jul-19 08:41 PM GMT

"Hi! Wurzel, I can't wait to set off for Kent 😊 I just hope my family are in Butterfly mode 😊 - I'm sure you'll sort them out Goldie 😊😊  
A cracking description of the Gatekeeper (although I prefer Hedge Brown 😊) - one of my favourites 😊

Have a goodun  
Wurzel

## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 17-Jul-19 05:11 PM GMT

I arrived safe and sound into Kent on Monday and Wurzel you were right I've seen loads of Butterflies, 😊

Yesterday morning we took the dog to Blean Woods and there was loads Of Butterflies, trouble was because of the nice weather they never seemed to settle 😊 I got a shot of a Gate Keeper that only had one spot instead of the usual two which made him interesting, also saw Red Admiral's and Meadow Browns, Ringle't's ,loads of large and Small Whites, Comma's. the list goes on 😊

In the afternoon we went to the White Cliffs and at first we didn't see much, then we found patches of Wild Thyme and the Butterflies were every where, Marble Whites, Chalkhill Blues, Common Blues, even a Small Copper which really stood out with the Blue Badges brighter than I've ever seen, it was only there moment's before taking off again so I couldn't get a full shot which was a shame.

This morning we decided to take the dog to East Blean Woods, I thought I might see the the Purple Hair Streaks but I didn't see any, I'll go back later in the week, I did see a White Admiral which was slightly the worse for wear but still good for some shots, my surprise of the day though was a Heath Fritillary which landed just to the side of me , I didn't expect to see any I thought they'd all gone by now, I'd already walked the length of the path where they usually are and seen nothing and there was none in the car park so I was convinced none were there, it didn't stay I took two quick shots hoping to catch some thing, I did but not too well 😊 at least you can tell it's an Heath Fritillary 😊😊

Not sure about the weather tomorrow but in only a day and a half i've had a great time 😊 I even got a shot of the Moon last night in the partial Moon eclipse 😊 Goldie 😊













**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 17-Jul-19 05:23 PM GMT

Cracking shot of the moon M and some very nice butterfly images there. I'm so pleased for you 😊.

**Re: Goldie M**

by trevor, 17-Jul-19 07:40 PM GMT

Great shot of the Moon, last night, Goldie. I saw the partial eclipse as I walked home about 10.45  
You have certainly found a good selection of butterflies in Kent. The Heath Fritillaries have gone from the car park at East Blean, the area where they were found is now overgrown.

Best wishes,  
Trevor.

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 17-Jul-19 09:49 PM GMT

Fabulous, Goldie! You've really filled your boots there. That is a wonderful and varied array of species you've been privileged to see and especially nice that you've got a few that you won't see up north – White Admiral, Chalkhill Blue & Heath Fritillary.

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 17-Jul-19 09:52 PM GMT

I'm very pleased you found a surprise Heath Fritillary, Goldie. From what you can see of it, it seems to have a lot of dark splotches on the upperside – maybe even an ab of some sort. 😊 It looks like the rest of the Dover area is performing well too, and your eclipse shot is far better than my feeble efforts... 🍷

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 17-Jul-19 10:51 PM GMT

Flipping cracking Goldie 😄😄😄 A lovely set of images – you've gotten a Chalkhill before me and I reckon your Hedgie looks good for an aberrant as I can only see one 'pupil' in it's fore wing eye 😄😄😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 18-Jul-19 09:13 AM GMT

Thank's Pauline, I'd to rid of of quite a few images to get that one of the Moon 😄

Many thanks Trevor, I tried all the settings to get a decent shot of the Moon 😄

I was amazed when I saw that Heath, I didn't expect to see any fritillaries , it's just a pity it was too quick for me to settle on for a decent shot 😄 still at least I got some thing 😄

Thanks David, it's been great here so far, I think they've forecast rain for today, I think I could do with a break though 😄 I even saw a Silver Washed Fritillary fly passed when I was in East BW so I've got to go back there soon again 😄

Thanks Dave, it's just a pity I couldn't get a better shot of the Heath because from what I saw of it , it looked in pretty good shape, it was certainly quick 😄

Dover was perfect that day, Sunny, no wind to speak of in the sheltered area's and loads of Butterflies, talking about Boots, mine's coming off this weekend 😄

Hi! Wurzel, I thought the Hedge Brown could be an ab, I tried to take it from a different angle but nothing was staying any where for very long, I even tried to follow it but it didn't settle again just flew off. 😄

I can get rid of my Boot this week-end, I tried a few days without it, on and off and my foots been okay so I can't wait to bin it 😄 Goldie 😄

### Re: Goldie M

by Padfield, 18-Jul-19 10:02 AM GMT

Lovely set of pictures, Goldie. Funnily enough, I thought of you when I went out at 22h30 the other night to try and see the eclipse. Cloud around the horizon in woodbridge. 'But I bet Goldie gets a shot...' I thought!

Guy

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 18-Jul-19 11:32 AM GMT

Hi! Guy, I was lucky, I'd to try all the various settings before finally getting some thing reasonable 😄

This morning in Blean Woods there was no Butterflies it was too cloudy but a Quick White bungle shot across in front of the car has we were going in, we thought at first it was a cat, imagine our surprise when it turned out to a White Squirrel 😄

I got out of the car so quick, I nearly tripped 😄 I did manage a couple of shots but you know what Squirrel's are like, it was up the tree and down the other side quick has a flash, I waited to see if it settled and then hoped I'd got some thing just prove we'd seen it. 😄 Goldie 😄





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 18-Jul-19 11:40 AM GMT

That is a rare sight Goldie 🤩👍 - you do really well with Albino/leucistic forms 😊👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 18-Jul-19 11:50 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, never seen any thing so pretty for a long time has that Squirrel, exception of course ,the Butterflies.Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 18-Jul-19 09:14 PM GMT

Never seen one of those before, Goldie. That must have given you palpitations at first?

**Re: Goldie M**

by Pauline, 18-Jul-19 09:36 PM GMT

Just seen your squirrel M. They're as rare as hens teeth so you must be pleased as punch. There was one used to come round here about 10 years ago and I managed a few shots. Hope you don't mind me showing you on your diary:



**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 19-Jul-19 03:35 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, it's my first too, I will look for it again though when I go back to the wood 😊

Hi! Pauline, I don't mind you showing it in my Diary at all, you got a far better photo than I did, mine was all over the place 😊 Aren't they pretty!!! .



Nothing to report for the last couple of days, we've been out for lunch in Canterbury and taking a look at the shops, we're off to the Athletics in London tomorrow, the weather looks awful so I won't be missing much and with the coming forecast for a heat wave plenty of time for more butterflies 😊  
Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

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

Hi Goldie,

Glad to see you have been catching up with some nice butterflies down in Kent 😊

That white Squirrel is a lovely looking critter, I have seen black ones but never a white one.

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

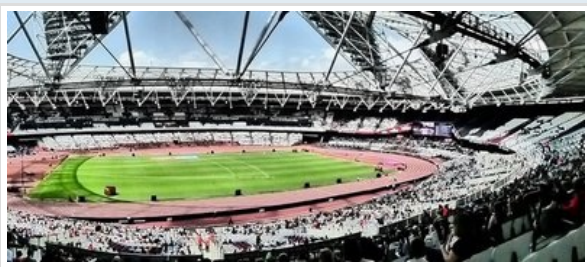
by Goldie M, 21-Jul-19 07:28 PM GMT

Hi! Neil, Yes I'm seeing lots of Butterflies and really enjoying myself here 😊 Can't wait until the warmer weather arrives to see more. 😊

Yesterday I took a Panoramic shot of the Olympic Stadium where I went with my family yesterday to watch the Athletics

All my family are into running ( didn't get that from me) 😊 Today was Cricket day, I went to watch my Grandson's play, of course I always look for long grass to venture into during the interval 😊 that's when I found this very dark looking Gate Keeper and before i ventured to the Cricket I went across the road to the edge of Blean woods where I found this Comma that seemed to have two round marks on both wings, other Butterflies spotted was Peacock, Gate Keeper's, Meadow Brown , Red Admiral ,Brimstone, Ringlet.

I also took shots so that in the Winter Months I can look forward to the Summer 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 21-Jul-19 07:40 PM GMT

Lovely set of shots Goldie 😊 That Comma is an interesting looking beastie, those marks look like eyes and seem to follow me round the screen 🤪  
:wink:Hope the cake at Tea was good, that's the only reason I ever watched village Cricket matches 😊😊

Have a good

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 22-Jul-19 09:21 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, the only reason I watch the Cricket when I'm in Kent is because my Grandsons play 😊 My Husband used to be a keen Cricket fan though and watched it all the time. 😊

I was surprised when I saw that Comma Wurzel, I've not seen one with eyes before, I'm going to go back across the road today to the entrance of the Wood, passed experiance has taught me Comma's seem to have their own spaces and you can usually find them again , (hope fully )Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 22-Jul-19 11:04 PM GMT

Good luck with the Comma search 😊 Looking at those eyes again I'm wondering if something has pierced the wings when they were closed together - it kinda looks like someones poked a knitting needle through though what could cause that I don't know? 😊 Maybe if you can catch up with it again all will be clear 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 23-Jul-19 12:09 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...All my family are into running ( didn't get that from me)

LOL! Love your sense of humor, Goldie. Yes, right now I guess running is the last thing you wish to pursue.

Good to hear you're seeing lots of butterflies though.

By the time you're back up north there'll be Scotch Argus to look forward to. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 24-Jul-19 09:45 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I went across the road into the lane again looking for the Comma on Monday, I couldn't go until the afternoon and although I saw a Comma flying it went straight into a bush and never came out 😊 It was actually too warm for them even the Meadow Brown's were hiding so I'll have to try again when the weather cools down bit.

I did wonder when I saw the photo on the computer if somebody had actually had it and pinned it then let it go 🤔 It's certainly strange looking, any way I'll keep looking for it. 😊

Hi! David, I've got rid of the Boot at the beginning of the week and it feels great not to lug it about 😊 It's a good job I've a sense of humour, these last few months have been rough, at least there's light now at the end of the tunnel 😊

I don't think I'll be driving to the Lakes though, the foot I injured was my left and I've been told I can drive but only short distances for a while until it gets stronger. I'll just have to wait for next year to arrive 😊

I've not been too Idle looking for Butterflies, Tuesday morning we took the Dog into the woods and I saw this lovely Peacock Butterfly, also with it being warm the Ringlet's were slow and I managed a few shots of them plus a few of Large Whites of which there was loads. Lot's of Brimstones too.

In the afternoon although it was roasting we took the car ( hood down ) 😊 and went to a Wye, we'd been told about this Nature Reserve which was on the slopes of the Kent Downs, we found it hard to find at first but when we did ,discovered a small car park as well, it was very hot but a lovely breeze cooled us a little.

I must say it was a fantastic place and I'd love to go back there when the weather is cooler before I go home, don't think I'll manage that though, anyway it was great and we even ended up at Samphire Oh! for late lunch 😊 Butterflies were hiding again but I did manage a Marbled White here as well as the Wye NR. Also got my first Small Heath at the NR. 😊 Goldie 😊











### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 24-Jul-19 04:49 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,

You found the Devils Kneading trough on Wye NNR. ,a place I know very well ! an excellent butterfly site ,all the usual downland species are found there ie; Adonis ,Chalkhill s, Dingy Skips ,Brown Argus and I have seen Duke of Burgandy on a couple of occasions ,also home to some exceptionally rare moths ,and good numbers of Orchids ,but be a little aware of where you tread ,as it was used as a practice area in WW2, and they do warn of possible unexploded ordnance ! from the little car park (Brook end ) you pass through a little bit of downland ,before reaching the Kneading trough, and this area is particularly good for Common Blues ,especially as they go to roost .  
Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-Jul-19 06:23 PM GMT

Hi! Allan, you've just put my Daughter off the place for good 😊 When we got there we went through the field from the car park, when we got through the gate of the next field I looked for her and she said I can't go down there, it's a sheer drop has you can see from the photo isn't it, the path though is good so she walked very slowly down and we kept a way from the edge 😊

I didn't realise you could see all those species of Butterfly there, i'll chalk that one up for next Spring 😊 If I can see the Dukes there that will be good , I don't fancy going to Gait Barrow on my own the Dukes are quite a walk from car park. 😊

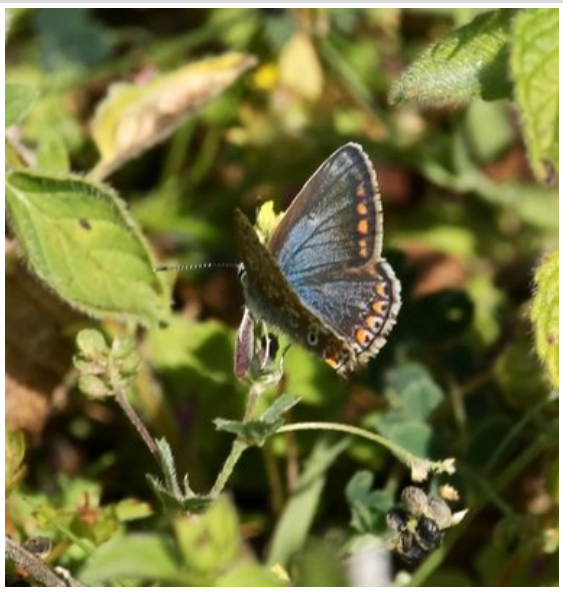
Today we went once more to Dover, on the cliffs it was lovely and cool with the sea breeze just right, I'd my last cream tea there has I'm going home on Friday, my Daughters coming with me for the week-end so that will be nice.

I looked once more for the CHB's and I was pleased to see Common Blues, Brown Argus, Small Skipper and even a Large Skipper there. 😊

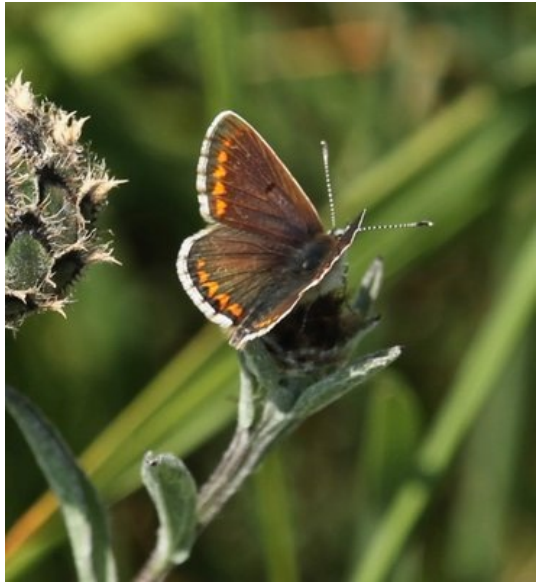
My big surprise was this small Butterfly which I took to be a Brown Argus because of it's size and Marking's which was a lovely blue, I followed it and watched has it opened its wings , I could be wrong and it could be a CB Female but if it was it was tiny.Goldie 😊













### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 24-Jul-19 07:51 PM GMT

Hello again Goldie ,

It looks like you entered the Kneading trough from the top , a much easier route is at the bottom of the valley ,with a small (hidden !) car park, when you, re down again I, ll give you a grid ref for this car park and where to enter the area from the bottom , so you actually enter the trough at the base of the valley! Wall Brown ,Small Copper and even the occasional Silver Spotted Skipper are also found (though I, ve never seen them there myself ) Although Dukes are present ,they, re hard to find ,I reckon you, d be better off (next season ) visiting Bonsai Bank (Denge wood ) to be more or less certain of seeing them. Regards Allan.W. ps; Although you do see warnings for unexploded ordnance ,I, ve been stomping around the area for 30 odd years ,and never had any problems ,and I haven, t heard of any incidents either .

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 24-Jul-19 11:01 PM GMT

Cracking set of shots of the Blues and all Goldie- good to see you out and about in style 😊 I reckon your Ringlet is an aberrant *arete*? 😊🇮🇪 Keep up the good work 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 24-Jul-19 11:16 PM GMT

Hi! Allan, that would be much better an entrance into the bottom of the valley would help so my Daughter wouldn't get too nervous 😊 I did notice a lot of the Butterflies were coming up from there so I'll keep in touch about that.

Do they get Grizzled Skippers there? that would be a bonus 😊

Thanks Wurzel, I didn't realise I'd got an ab 😊 I was just pleased to get a decent shot of a Ringlet 😊 all my other shots were of rather weary looking Ringlets 😊 Only one day to go before I go home now so I just hope some of those Painted Ladies are there in the garden when I get there. Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 26-Jul-19 10:19 PM GMT

You've seen some good stuff lately, Goldie. You must be in your element?

I love the shot of Devil's Kneading. The name might sound off-putting but it looks like a butterfly paradise!

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 27-Jul-19 09:15 AM GMT

Hi! David, I would find the place just before I went home 😊😊 Considering I've only just got rid of the Boot and I've not been able to Drive, I've done okay all down to my Daughter driving me about when I was in Kent and my Garden here, I say here because I'm home now 😊 but the Butterflies keep coming 😊

I arrived home yesterday, the weather was very warm and Sunny, this was about 3.30 pm, the garden looked great and Butterflies were all over the place, Large White's, I counted loads, Small White's, Peacock's, I even saw a Holly Blue and a Tortoiseshell, my big surprise was a Speckled Wood on my Hose Pipe 😊 I didn't manage shots of the HB or the TS and although the Peacock's were in the shade I did manage a shot 😊

I didn't unpack until much later 😊 Today it's raining and with rain forecast for tomorrow as well, looks like the camera will be quiet for a while. 😊  
Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 28-Jul-19 10:51 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

... Today it's raining and with rain forecast for tomorrow as well...

Same here Goldie, it didn't stop all day yesterday (Saturday) and is dull and drizzly today.

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 28-Jul-19 11:39 AM GMT

It's still raining here Neil, UGH! hope fully tomorrow will be better 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 28-Jul-19 10:32 PM GMT

Fingers crossed the weather improves for you Goldie 😊 It was okay here today but I was trapped at home, I'd already packed my camera which was a bit of a mistake 😊😊 Still hopefully it'll be worth it in the next few days 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 29-Jul-19 09:49 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, it was certainly a good day for me today 😊 After two days of rain which dropped half a month's rain in the two days, it was a perfect day with clouds, hot Sun and Butterflies 😊

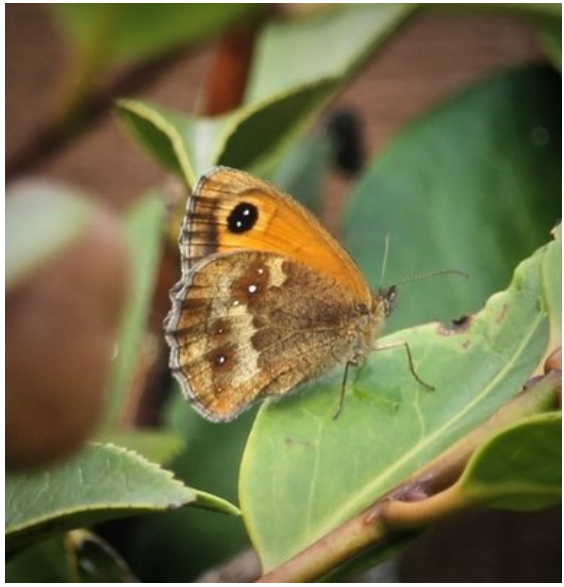
They said those Painted Ladies were on their way and they got into my Garden today 😊 I totally lost count of how many, it wasn't just the Painted Ladies, ( It was one of those dream days, the ones you look back on and never forget. 😊 ) I'll skip my shots of the Whites because I seemed to have posted loads. 😊 But it was the Whites I saw first in the Garden 😊

All the Whites appeared, GV, LW, SW, never seen has many five on a bush at one point, then I saw a flurry and Gate Keepers appeared and not in Ones, then it was the Painted Ladies, every where, I was open mouthed at one time 😊 Then I saw the Red Admiral's on the Buddlia.

The Peacocks arrived next I counted five but there was many more, then I spotted the Small Tort's, when a Holly Blue passed I really couldn't believe it 😊 When I turned and looked again at an Orange Butterfly that had just come into the Garden it was a Comma 😊 It was followed by a Speckled Wood, by this time I couldn't keep up 😊 I took loads of shots but once again the Holly Blue dodged me 😊

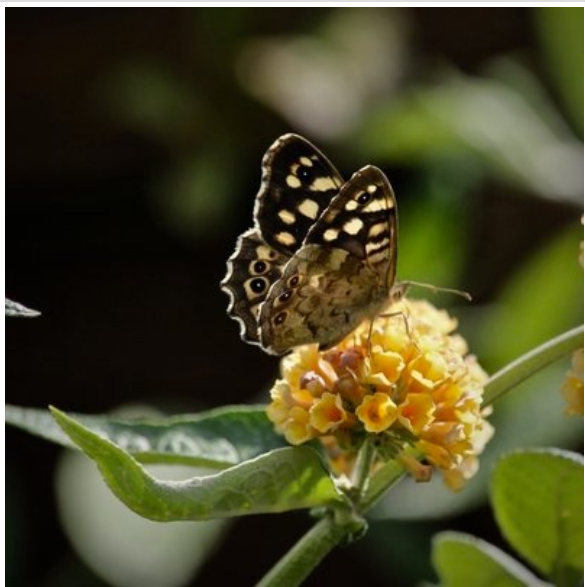
What a fantastic day it was, I just hope we don't pay for it, they say Thunder Storms tonight 😊 Goldie 😊











**Re: Goldie M**

by MikeOxon, 30-Jul-19 11:07 AM GMT

A wonderful day, Goldie, and beautifully recorded 😊

Mike



**Re: Goldie M**

by trevor, 30-Jul-19 11:38 AM GMT

Some lovely shots there, Goldie. Especially the fresh Painted Ladies. Apparently there has been an explosion in numbers of fresh ones in Scotland, maybe they are gradually heading south.

Trevor.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 31-Jul-19 09:04 AM GMT

Hi! Mike, it was a great day and you can't beat it when it happens in your garden 😊

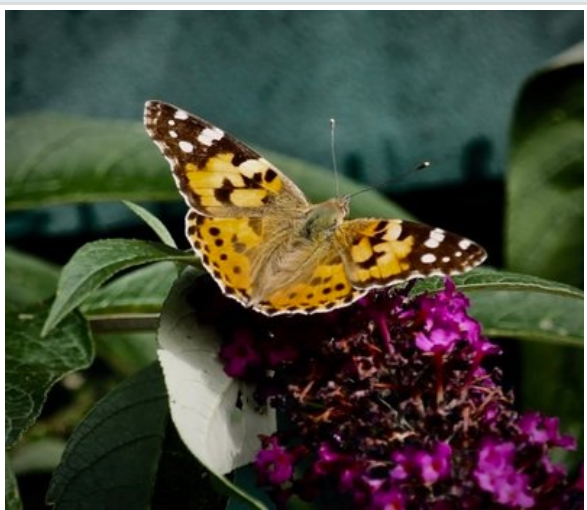
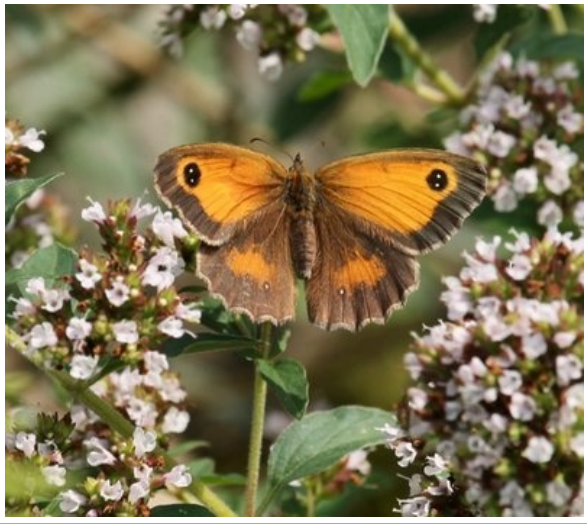
Thank you Trevor, I hope you see the Painted Ladies soon, they're fantastic and you just can't count them there's so many 😊

We were lucky with the weather here yesterday, we didn't see rain until about 3.pm and then the heavens opened and it's rained since then. In the morning though the Sun was out also patchy cloud, which helped when the Butterflies settled, taking photos was easier.

The Painted Ladies were still in the Garden, also the Gate Keeper's, in fact the only two missing yesterday day were the Speckie and the Comma 😊 I was strolling round taking shots when I caught sight of a blue flash, I quickly went round to the Rockery and there was the elusive Holly Blue 😊 I managed some shots at last, I can't think what the plants called it landed on, I know I bought a Marjoram but that's a pinky colour, this plant is similar and has suddenly appeared at the side of it but it's White, I can only think it's the same but a different colour( White ) what ever it is the Gate Keeper's and the HB love it. 😊 Goldie 😊









**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 31-Jul-19 10:30 AM GMT

Wonderful photos from your garden, Goldie – the Painted Ladies seem to have swarmed to your buddleia, but there's so much other variety as well. You must have wondered where to point the camera next! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 31-Jul-19 02:23 PM GMT

It's all happening here Dave, 😊 even with the rain this morning when the Sun came out so did the Butterflies, I took these shots on the front garden this morning before we were back with the heavy down pours 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 31-Jul-19 02:46 PM GMT

I'm really pleased for you, Goldie! Plenty of Peacocks but no Painted Lady for us down here, yet. And yes, your flower is marjoram.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 31-Jul-19 02:53 PM GMT

Many thanks for the info essex , I bought a pink Marjoram, it's still there but this one must be an off shoot then 😊  
I don't think the Painted Ladies can get a way from here because of the rain 😞 in fact It's a wonder they've not been washed a way 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

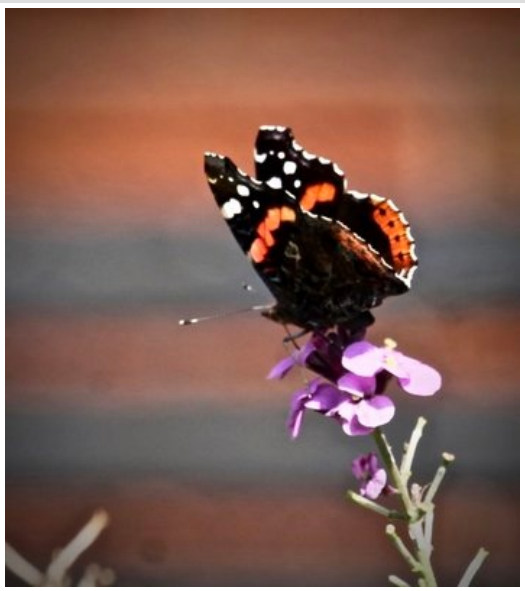
by Pauline, 31-Jul-19 04:47 PM GMT

Hey! Goldie! Some fabulous shots there 😊 What a spectacle!!!! I love the Peacock on the rose (unusual) and the Painted Lady looking into the camera. In fact, I love all the Painted Lady shots 🍷🍷 Such a selection to choose from. I hope you have some Thistle in your garden – if not, keep checking your nettles for Painted Lady eggs/larva.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 01-Aug-19 05:14 PM GMT

Hi! Pauline, they were still here today, I'm sure the Peacocks have had an influx from some where has well, I counted nine on the Bush this morning, sadly I'd to go out today but Butterflies were every where again it's been a great three days.  
Before I went I took a few rough shots, I was in a hurry 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 02-Aug-19 08:17 PM GMT

Well in-spite of the rain, this morning was a lovely day, the heavy rain seems to arrive about 3pm which means the Butterflies are very active from early Morning so they avoid the rain in the afternoon, I was out before 8am this morning and the Buddleia's were full of Butterflies, It's such a pleasure to watch them especially the Painted Ladies, they're so quick 😊

For once it didn't rain this afternoon but very dark clouds cut out the Sun from time to time, I noticed last year the Peacock Butterfly was not seen too much, I myself saw very few , this year there's definitely been loads, the Painted Lady is every where here also the Peacock, which is very welcome news. Goldie 😊











### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 03-Aug-19 05:46 PM GMT

Today was a lovely day and since the forecast for tomorrow was thunder Storms, I decided to leave what I'd to do in the house till tomorrow and just sit in the garden and enjoy watching the Butterflies and being lazy 😊 I'd taken so many photo's over the last few days I thought I could relax . 😊 How wrong can you get!!!! 😊

Once again Butterflies were every where and a Comma was the first to catch my eye, I took the occasional photo and enjoyed a very chocolate Ice cream lolly and took some shots of the Small Whites in the distance whilst eating it 😊

I did move out of curiosity when I saw these two whites disappear just below the Lavender, I saw them about to mate when a flash of Blue flew passed, I quickly took some shots of the mating pair and whizzed off after the Holly Blue which settled once again on the Marjoram , I spent loads of time just with the Holly blue and once again a Gate Keeper arrived so of course I'd to take shots of that. 😊 Another Holly Blue arrived shortly after and they sorted one another out flying high and off they went, one finally came back but I'm not sure which 😊

In my Buddleia's ( I've got four one on the front garden and three on the back) I couldn't resist taking more shots of the PL, Peacock, Small Tort, quite a satisfying day. 😊 Goldie 😊













**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 03-Aug-19 06:14 PM GMT

A cracking selection of butterflies in your garden recently Goldie and some lovely photos, I particularly like the ones with the Peacocks and Painted Ladies together 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by bugboy, 04-Aug-19 06:49 PM GMT

Crikey, your back garden looks like my one when i was a kid with all those butterflies, sadly it's not something I've seen in real life since the 80s 😞

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 05-Aug-19 04:58 PM GMT

Thank's Neil, glad you've enjoyed them 😊 I've really had a great time in the garden with the Butterflies, we've all managed to dodge the showers up tp now 😊

Hi! Bugboy, I don't think I've had a year like this in the Garden for a long time, the Painted ladies arrived all at once loads of them, and there's been just as many Peacocks , they've had a bumper year too. the other's coming all at once with them was fantastic 😊

Yesterday afternoon and Morning was great lots of Butterflies again but they were all very wary of the coming weather and as soon as it started to get dark they were off.

I've never seen any thing like the down pour that arrived, when I looked out into the Garden it was flooded, luckily it didn't last very long but I couldn't go into the Garden after wards for ages the water was just like a stream and huge puddles were every where, it drained a way slowly and thank goodness it didn't do too much damage to the garden 😊

I really thought" that's it I won't be seeing too many Butterflies after this", how wrong can you be! 😊

Yesterday before the storm, I'd Peacock's, Painted Ladies, Small Tort's, the usual Whites, Speckled Wood, Comma, Gate Keeper, the list , ended with a Green Veined White, I've not seen too many of those in the garden up to now. Oh! I nearly forgot a Red Admiral which looked worse for wear but still very proud 😊

Today same thing but add an Holly Blue to the list and take a way Small Tort and it's been great again , no rain which makes a change 😊 Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Maximus, 07-Aug-19 02:02 PM GMT

Some lovely photos from your garden in recent posts, Goldie 😊 you've certainly been blessed with lots of butterflies 😊

Mike.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 07-Aug-19 08:00 PM GMT



Thanks Mike, the butterflies have been every where every day since I came back from Kent a fortnight ago, even through the bad weather we've had, which really surprised me 😊 Just a few from yesterday , it was very windy and heavy cloud for most of the day. It doesn't seem to put the Whites off they still come rain or shine 😊

None today though it's rained most of the day although it's Sunny right now.

We've the promise of better weather tomorrow and then it's back to the heavy rain again,UGH! 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 07-Aug-19 10:06 PM GMT

Yes, August certainly looks like living up to it's soggy reputation!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 08-Aug-19 08:21 PM GMT

Lovely set of shots Goldie – love the one with the Painted Lady and the Peacock 🤔🇬🇧 The weather at the moment looks atrocious for the next couple of days 😊 hopefully things will improve soon 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 09-Aug-19 06:02 PM GMT

Hi! essex, we've got Sunshine and showers here, more showers at present than Sunshine 😊 Yesterday was a lovely day though, calm before the storm 😊

Hi! Wurzel, many thanks, I like that photo too, the Painted Ladies are still here, and Boy can they move 😊 I watched them in the Garden yesterday and a bird tried it's best to get one off the Buddleia, no chance, it took off like a Rocket 😊

I did see a Comma, PL's, Red Admiral ( in a bad way ) Gate keeper, SPEckie, Peacock, LW/SW's and three Holly Blues, yesterday, one Painted Lady looked like it was so glad to land and finally get some Sun , It was in one piece at least 😊 it rested a few seconds then took off like a rocket 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 09-Aug-19 07:56 PM GMT

That is one tired looking Painted Lady Goldie 😊 looks like how I feel at the moment 😊😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 09-Aug-19 09:21 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,

For me ,your Pale Painted Lady is a warn AB;Pallens ,Rivoldini has posted a couple recently ,one in the July Sightings and another in the August sightings .....Excellent .....nice find !! Regards Allan.W.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 10-Aug-19 09:42 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I thought it was tired looking but Allan thinks it's an ab ! It certainly looked to be in one piece I just thought it was faded, I didn't get the chance to take any more photos I just got the one 😊 it was so quick.

Hi! Allan, I hope your right, I can add it to my ab list 😊 If it is ,my Garden has certainly done well this Summer, makes up for the fractured foot 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 10-Aug-19 08:24 PM GMT

I hop it turns into an aberrant for you Goldie – it certainly lacks the peachy colour 😊🌈

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Janet Turnbull, 10-Aug-19 09:52 PM GMT

Just catching up with your diary Goldie – I've not had much chance to get on the computer lately. That rain was something special wasn't it! 😊 Love the photos you took before it came, hard to pick a favourite but I do like the Holly Blue. And what a year it seems to be for the Painted Ladies! Hope the weather picks up again soon.  
Janet

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 10-Aug-19 10:08 PM GMT

Your PD's been a riot of colour lately, Goldie. I'm especially envious of that fresh-looking female Holly Blue. 🌈

Bet you were chuffed to bits to see that?

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 12-Aug-19 09:25 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I hope so too 😊 It would add some thing to the year at least. 😊

Hi! Janet, Many thanks , It's been unusual this year seeing so many different Butterflies in the garden all at once, I'd seen the Holly Blue a few times and it hadn't stayed long enough for any shots, then another one turned up and they flew around together like Butterflies do, it was just after this that this one arrived , I'd just time for a couple of shots before it took off again 😊  
The weather's been awful over the last couple of days but I've still seen Butterflies in-between the showers when the Sun was out.  
By the way Brown Hair Streaks have been seen at Gait Barrow, unfortunately I can't get there this year. 😊😊

Hi! David, you wouldn't believe how many times in the last few weeks I've tried to get a shot of one that's opened it's wings fully 😊 I'm still trying!! I hope the weather picks up soon 😊

Saturday was an awful day , the wind was scary at times but we missed the worse of it here with Cumbria seeing the worse of it. Yesterday was another miserable day, the Sun showing itself briefly between the rain showers, it's amazing though the Small Whites were taking advantage of this even though the flowers were full of water, when I saw a Peacock also taking advantage of the short spell I was surprised 😊 I hurried in and grabbed my camera for a quick shot 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 12-Aug-19 08:36 PM GMT

Great shot of the Peacock Goldie 😊 It looks like the minute the sun comes out so do the butterflies – mind you at the moment they have to; looks like they've got just as little idea about what's going to happen to the weather as the forecasters 😞😞 Fingers crossed that things settle down soon and the Jet Stream gets back on course 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 13-Aug-19 08:50 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, the weather was awful yesterday until 1–30pm and then the Sun broke through, although still cloudy at times ( which helped getting some shots 😊 ) the Butterflies were every where again, I'm hoping today I'll see more again. 😊

Yesterday the first to appear were the SW's still up to their mating tricks 😊 The Painted Ladies looked in good coditon and landed on the ground a lot before flying up to the Buddleia. Speckies were also flying, one in particular made me laugh, hugging the my sliding door when ever the cloud arrived 😊 I also managed a shot of a Large White before it took off.

My biggest surprise was to find a Holly Blue on the Lavender, has I watched it a cloud came over the Sun and it shot into my Camellia bush , I followed it and waited until the Sun came out again and got a partial open wing shot 😊 they seem to be regular visitors these days. 😊 All in all not a bad day after all.Goldie 😊









### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 13-Aug-19 10:16 PM GMT

In the garden today this little frog jumped out and was just missed by the lawn mower, I picked it up and put into one of the bird bath's I keep on the ground, it enjoyed that for while before taking off. 😊

I also took more shots of the Painted lady and the first Red Admiral for a few days flew in but it was again the Small Whites who took over the Garden arriving every few min's 😊 Once again they were in the mating mood 😊 Goldie 😊









### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 13-Aug-19 10:18 PM GMT

A cracking set of shots Goldie especially the first translucent looking Holly Blue 😊😊😊 Also great sequence of the Small Whites failed courtship 😊😊 Hopefully the weather will start to improve next week so might get a bit of lengthy summer weather rather than this one nice day a few not so good cycle that we seem to be in at the moment 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Aug-19 05:54 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I thought you might like that shot! 😊 The weather today's been awful, it's never stopped raining and the weekend doesn't seem any better, the forecast for next week seems much better, I may pay Brockholes CP at Preston a visit 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by millerd, 14-Aug-19 06:54 PM GMT

Some nice shots there Goldie! 😊 Especially the Holly Blues of course... 😊 I was up in your part of the world last week visiting Arnside for the day to see the Scotch Argus - I'd completely forgotten that there are Brown Hairstreaks at Gait Barrows or I'd have detoured for a look. I passed the sign for Brockholes on the M6 too - is it far off the motorway? That might be another side trip on a future visit... 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 14-Aug-19 06:55 PM GMT

Love those images of the Small Whites, Goldie. Keep persevering with the Holly Blues - you'll crack it sooner or later! 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 15-Aug-19 05:08 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, sorry you didn't get to Gait Barrow, I went last year and we never saw a one and we were in a group looking for them 😊 Brockholes is right next to the M6, if your coming back from the lakes just follow the signs for Brockholes. It's easier to visit going up to the Lakes, it's just following the signs at the roundabout and turning left at the lights. there is a charge of five pounds for the day though. You won't see any fritillaries there but the White and Purple Hair Streaks are there at the entrance to Bolton Woods. 😊

Hi! David, the little devils keep eluding me 😊 I still keep trying though 😊 Glad you liked the White's there's been loads of them in the Garden this year, let's hope the weather's better next week. 😊

Today was a rough day for Butterflies, it rained this morning and when the Sun did finally come out the wind was blustery and cool, definitely cardigan weather 😊 I did see more Whites and the Painted ladies were still about I counted three but what really caught my eye was this tiny White Butterfly with the very dark colouring more than I've seen before, it could be the time of year for it's size but the darkness of it really stood out. I took a shot of it while the Sun was out and then it moved onto some Nettles, ( I always keep some at the bottom of the Garden next to the Hydrangea ) when the cloud came it looked even darker. Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 15-Aug-19 10:17 PM GMT

That's a beautifully marked Small White, Goldie. I don't think I've ever seen one with that black suffusion on the forewing before.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Aug-19 09:00 AM GMT

It certainly caught my eye David , I'd never seen any marks like that on Small White before and the Butterfly was half the size of the Small White has well.  
😄 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 16-Aug-19 10:12 PM GMT

I don't know what happened but my post didn't seem to get through the other day Goldie 😊 so I'll try and remember what I wrote and try again :wink: I think it went something along the lines of...

That is a stunning looking butterfly Goldie – but more of a grey than a white 😊🌿 I don't know if round your way you enjoyed the heatwave but I seem to recall that the tone of a butterfly can be influenced by temperature and I just read on Guy Padfields PD that the smaller size could also be due to the heat (if you got it up there that is) 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 17-Aug-19 01:01 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, thanks for your post, Vince has put the Butterfly in the Species album I think because of the dark markings, I've seen small Butterflies before but never as small as this one was, it was half the size and the markings really dark.

I was at my Daughters for most of that heat wave because of my foot but the neighbours said it was hot here but they still had rain at times.

I don't know about your Garden Wurzel but every thing in mine is twice as big as last year 😊 I've had to hire a gardener to help me with it, he's been really good and kept it tidy.

Of course I've been in there too 😊 ( supervising ) 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 17-Aug-19 08:25 PM GMT

I'd love to be able to report that the plants in my garden are Triffid like but I only have a tiny concrete courtyard; not even enough room to grow some tomatoes, we can only just fit in the wood store and the bins 😊 Still one day I'll buy my own wood to make up for it 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 18-Aug-19 04:54 PM GMT

That would be great Wurzel, we could all come and visit you then 😊

Yesterday and today has been really blustery with the wind battering the Buddleia bushes or what's left of the flowers, that's not stopped the Butterflies visiting the Garden which as really surprised me.

They now visit the Boules Mauve 😊 I'd visit's yesterday from the PL again also the SW and a Comma which refused to open it's wings, which didn't surprise me 😊

Today, same again in the morning but in the afternoon I got a surprise when three Peacocks visited and spent the best part of the afternoon on the different plants, all except for the Buddleia which was being blown all over the place, I enjoyed taking shots of them especially the PL's because if they only visit like this every ten years like they say, I probably won't be here to see it 😊  
Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Sonam Dorji, 18-Aug-19 05:39 PM GMT

Would love to see the peacock!!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 18-Aug-19 10:06 PM GMT

Great set of Vanessa shots Goldie, there seems to be a resurgence of Peacocks at the moment – I think I've seen more in the last few days than over a month in the spring 😊 If I get my wood you'll be more than welcome to come and visit 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 19-Aug-19 04:39 PM GMT

I hope you get the the chance Sonam, their on the wing here 😊

Hi! Wurzel, strong winds again today and until 2–30pm it was really cloudy but in-between the Sun was out, glad you liked the shots, I've been lucky so far with the Butterflies coming into the Garden, it's a good job they did because I wasn't getting out much with my foot in the boot 😊

Today in the Garden I saw the PL again and still the SW's were every where, I was pleased though when the Large Whites appeared I think they look fantastic with that black edge to their wings, ( if only they'd open them fully when you want a shot) 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 20-Aug-19 08:42 AM GMT

Great shots of the Large Whites Goldie 🤔👍 – the contrast between the white and black margins is great isn't it – but you seldom get the full effect, awkward little pains 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 20-Aug-19 04:59 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I keep trying with the Large White's, I don't know which has been the most awkward this year the LW's or the Holly Blues 😊 they've both seemed to keep their wings closed 😊

Today i saw loads of Small Whites again, they've had a great time this year, today for the first time no Painted Ladies, I bet their fed up with the weather round here 😊 I just put my washing out and it started to rain then when I'd brought it all in the Sun came out 😊

I took some shots of a peacock it flew about in the garden in-between showers, I've posted one with a back view for a change 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 21-Aug-19 08:24 PM GMT

Interesting view of the Peacock Goldie – don't normally see their backsides 😊 I too was struggling with Holly Blues opening up, and then this year I had a breakthrough. I found 7 Holly Blues along one stretch of hedge and all of them opened up but this was at about 9ish on a cool spring morning 😊 Failing that you could always send Dave Miller a PM and ask for some whispering tips 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 21-Aug-19 09:23 PM GMT

Great to see your garden visitors, Goldie, especially the Large White, a species that has been in short supply in south Wales throughout 2019. 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 22-Aug-19 09:40 AM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel, the Peacock refused to turn round 😊 so I thought, " back view , why not!! " 😊 You were lucky with the Holly Blues Wurzel, I've seen them in the Garden only when the weather has been really warm and Sunny, with rain everyday and Sun occasionally they've not been back for a while, hope fully this week-end I'll get another visit , that's if the forecast is right. 😊

Hi! David, I'd got to the point where I was wondering where the Large White's had got too, when they started to arrive, not a lot of them, it's been a Small Whits's year around here these last few weeks, I lost count of them, they were never out of the Garden let's hope this week-end brings a few more Butterflies 😊

Yesterday was a very cloudy day and I'd some shopping to do so I wasn't in the Garden much, I did see the SW's and when I got back just before the shower's started I managed a shot of a single Peacock in the front Garden on my Buddleia, I've posted the shot's because the Peacock was high up in the bush and in the Winter I can look at the shot's and think of Spring and things to come 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 22-Aug-19 08:32 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie 😊 " that's if the forecast is right..." Good luck with the forecast Goldie - I've not known a year when they've been so inaccurate round my way. On one weekend they got the forecast spot on only Saturdays weather was on Sunday and Sunday's was on Saturday 😊😊 Guess which day I was stuck in Ikea? 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

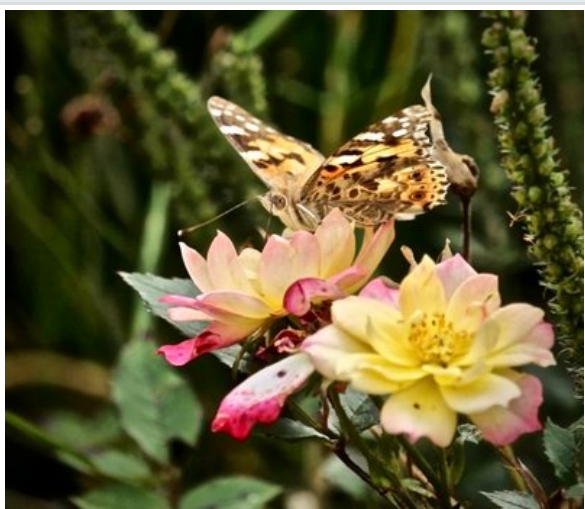
by Goldie M, 23-Aug-19 08:55 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, it was cloudy round here until about 3-0pm then the Butterflies arrived when the Sun did and boy were they in force, I lost count of the Painted Ladies and there was nearly has many Red Admirals, then the Peacocks arrived, I'm not kidding when I say my Buddleia 's were full of Butterflies. 😊 Looks like the forecast here could be bit hit and miss here, what's the betting 😊

My Daughter's arriving tomorrow, so we may venture further a field, Hope fully ,weather permitting. 😊

I had to smile because I also had a Garden full of Birds, lots of young ones who tried their best to capture the Butterflies 😊 my heart was in my mouth in case they did, happily Butterflies were too quick for them 😊

I know I've posted loads of shots of the Painted Ladies and the other's but at present that's what I've been seeing, so here goes again 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 24-Aug-19 09:38 PM GMT

This is where your garden comes into its own, Goldie, with your buddleias and Bowles Mauve. You still have Peacocks too, whereas mine have all disappeared now till next spring. The Painted Ladies this year are a terrific bonus as well. Nice shots! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 24-Aug-19 10:49 PM GMT

I hope you can get out when your daughter visits Goldie but then again with a garden producing those goods it won't matter if you don't 😊👍 Great set of shots especially the Comma 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 26-Aug-19 06:01 PM GMT

Nice you had a Comma visiting, Goldie. I don't think I've seen one since I returned from Spain early this month. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 28-Aug-19 10:40 AM GMT

Hi! Dave, These last few day's in the Garden as been like Fairy Land 😊 We've had really hot weather but lovely light breezes has well, this certainly brought out the Butterflies, I can't believe how many, I just lost count. 😊

Hi! Wurzel, that Comma has been back every day, I've now got Small Tort's to add to the list 😊 over the last few day's I've been out with my Daughter and must admit there's more Butterflies in my Garden than what I've seen when we've been out, the exception being Common Blues which we saw at Brockholes CP 😊

Hi! David, that Comma comes and goes, that's if it's the same one 😊 each day it's visited and it looks so fresh. The weather this morning is quite wet, hope fully it will take up. 😊

Well! it's been a fantastic few days, I finally left my garden to go with My Daughter to Brockholes CP on Sunday morning, the Traffic was awful I think every one was going to the Lakes for the day, or to Blackpool, luckily for us we'd only a short distance to go on the M61 before hitting the M6 then our's was the first exit off there.

The Sun was really too hot for Butterflies and really the only ones flying were Common Blues and of course Painted Ladies 😊  
So we came back from there very hot and with very few shot's. 😊

On Monday we went to Penn Flash and walked a round the Bird Hides, nothing much too see there but the Buddleia Bushes near the Lake were full of Butterflies like my Garden but I'd got more species on mine 😊 My Daughter said "we could really have saved ourselves a few journeys and stayed home" 😊 Which we did on Tuesday 😊



*My Garden*



*Garden Centre*





*Brockholes CP*



*Brockholes CP*



*Penn Flash*



*My Garden*



*My Garden*



*My Garden*



My Garden

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 28-Aug-19 08:44 PM GMT

A great set of shot especially like the Common Blue Goldie 😊 The weekend was hot down here and so the butterflies were even harder work than normal – I reckon your daughter had the right idea 😊 Sitting camera ready, cup of tea and cream scone at hand waiting for the butterflies to come to me – perfect! 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 29-Aug-19 11:12 AM GMT

We found that was the best way to do it Wurzel, Just sit in the shade in the Garden and watch them flying, of course with cream tea 😊 What a change in the weather here , yesterday my Daughter went back dodging the rain showers, it rained all day Wurzel, I hope today is better I've just hung my washing out 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 29-Aug-19 08:29 PM GMT

There seems to be plenty of action round your way, Goldie, both close to home (or even in it) and further afield.

How's your foot doing these days? Is it nearly back to normal now?

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 30-Aug-19 11:13 AM GMT

Hi! David, thanks for asking, my foot is doing great, when I drive some times it feels a bit uncomfortable, so I've just been doing short distances up to now. I walked a lot over the Bank Holiday and it's been fine so I think I can say I'm nearly there 😊 The weather here is grim at the moment, very windy and lots of showers so not too many Butterflies at present, the week-end sounds awful so I'm wondering about next week's weather now and hoping that will be better. I hope the weather where you live is better than here 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 01-Sep-19 08:58 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

Hi! David, thanks for asking, my foot is doing great, when I drive some times it feels a bit uncomfortable, so I've just been doing short distances up to now. I walked a lot over the Bank Holiday and it's been fine so I think I can say I'm nearly there.

Good to hear, Goldie. Hope you are experiencing the same benign weather that we currently are in the south. There are still a few weeks left for you to get the most out of your flowering garden plants.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 02-Sep-19 02:51 PM GMT

Hi! David, the weather here has been awful, lots of rain and the wind has been cool, not really Butterfly weather, they've been few and far between in the Garden. 😊

Over the week-end I managed a few shots of Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Small White, not too many were in good condition, this morning was quite warm and Sunny up till about 1pm then we were enveloped once more into the cloudy weather a waiting the the forecast rain 😊 I did manage a few shots of PL, RA and Small Tort's, they were mostly on the Buddleia apart from the Small Tort's who were in the back Garden on the Mauve, I did see another dark coloured Small White but this one was the usual size , slightly nibbled though 😊

I've been having trouble with my internet communication the Broad band going hay wire so I hope this post gets through. Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 02-Sep-19 08:24 PM GMT

More great shots Goldie 😊 Your garden came up trumps again 😊🇬🇧 All of the country will be back in school in the next few days and so the weather will probably improve drastically then 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 03-Sep-19 08:52 PM GMT

I don't think the weather will be too good here Wurzel in the next week, we keep getting the rain, I do manage to get a couple of shots before it arrives so I'm happy with that 😊

The Spiders have started to come in the house now, so that's a sure sign of Autumn 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 05-Sep-19 10:10 PM GMT

It's not been brilliant down my way but hopefully nipping out between showers will keep paying off. 😊 I've seen a few massive spiders this week, they suddenly appear in the middle of rug. I had one the other night as big as my fist trying to bite me through the glass I was using to transport him out! 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

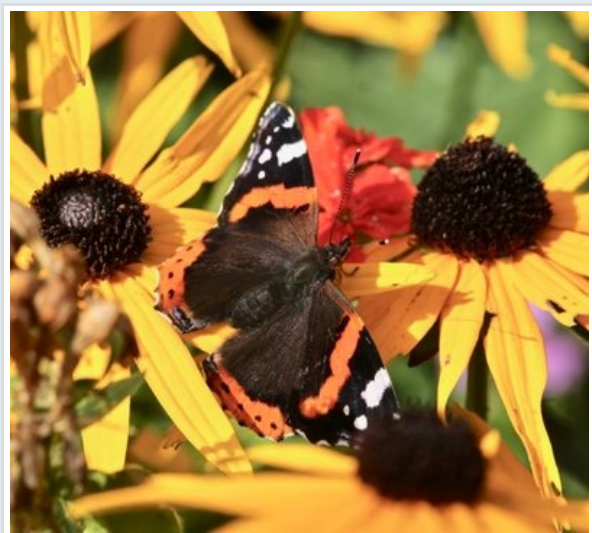
### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 06-Sep-19 04:33 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I used to trap them and carry them out, I still do if their ground level, 😊 certainly not if their over my headUGH!

just fancy if they fell on your head 😊 I let this one get a way but I know where they hide, so I'll wait until it's gone to ground 😊

I expect if you've seen the cricket so you'll know what our weather's like 😊 In-between the showers yesterday and today, I saw a painted Lady or two, one in a bad way the other one looked really good, also two or three Admirals holding up in spite of the weather but clinging like mad to the flowers from time to time, they were really blown about, they may look fragile but their tough 😊 let's hope the week-end is better. 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 07-Sep-19 05:58 PM GMT

That is a cracking Red Admiral Goldie, really silky 😊 I hope the weather was okay up there for you this weekend it's been a bit hit and miss so far down here but at least it's not raining 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 07-Sep-19 08:04 PM GMT

I'm encouraged to see that you've got Painted Ladies and Red Admirals visiting you, Goldie.

Here in south Wales, we have plenty of the former but precious few of the latter. It's very strange why RAs are so scarce this year; normally they're very common at this time of year.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 09-Sep-19 01:39 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, we'd nice weather for a couple of days although on Sunday in the afternoon it disappeared, very cloudy at times.

I went out all day Saturday with my Sister-in-Law so didn't see much but Sunday the Butterflies were out in force again 😊 Red Admirals every where 😊

Hi! David, we've had loads of Red Admiral's here, I counted five on my Buddleia and my Neighbour had quite a few as well, we don't seem to get many in early Summer but usually come September and well into October they arrive here, this seems to happen every year, the most unusual thing about this year is the fact they all seem to have arrived at once. 😊

Yesterday I saw Painted Ladies, a very fresh Peacock with the wiggly blue line on it's wings, really standing out, fresh looking Red Admiral's and quite a lot of Small Tort's, my Neighbour even had a Comma on his Buddleia and I took some shots of that 😊 Not forgetting the Small Whites, today we're back in the rain, although it has stopped now but still cloudy and I believe the next two days will be rough 😞 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 09-Sep-19 06:49 PM GMT

You're getting more garden variety up there, Goldie – Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells have long since disappeared down here in the south. Good to see them! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 10-Sep-19 07:10 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, We've been lucky this year with the Butterflies although, saying that, they usually arrive in September at this time, I think maybe because we're



a little behind the South with the weather, we've certainly had loads of rain so maybe that's why they're showing themselves now. Better late than never!!!! 😊

I must say today has been lovely, but in the Garden strange things were happening!!!! I saw this Small White, ( hope fully it is a Small White and I'm not wrong) actually mating with a Large White. I couldn't believe it and still don't maybe the shots I took will prove it, other wise I'm going to be showing lots of red next post 😊

Besides those there were, PL, RA, ST's, and a Comma in my Garden this time and not my Neighbours 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 10-Sep-19 08:37 PM GMT

That is a really interesting sequence Goldie 😊 You're right the male isn't a Large White as they don't have the black spot on the fore wing which this one does and the female is a Large White. I can't tell what's caused it but it looks like the male seems to be having a go, although the female isn't having any of it 😊 Perhaps it's mixed messages, the males just wants the nectar and the female is hogging it and she's got the idea that he's after a bit of the other 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Sep-19 08:35 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I thought the Large White was interested because her abdomen was raised 😊 I always thought this was a come on to the Male 😊 I've seen it loads of times with different Butterflies, at least I got a shot of the Large White with open Wings for a change 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by millerd, 11-Sep-19 09:15 AM GMT

That is a fascinating series of photos Goldie! As Wurzel says, the raised abdomen is a rejection sign to tell amorous male butterflies that she has already mated. The poor male Small White looks very confused though, and must have thought his luck was in with that splendid Large White female! 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Sep-19 01:18 PM GMT

Hi! Dave, every time I think I know lot's about Butterflies, I find, I learn some thing new. 😊 I was so sure they were mating 😊😊 There's loads of Butterflies out again today although it's very windy, I wonder if any thing else will happen 😊 Goldie 😊



## Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 12-Sep-19 07:20 AM GMT

After lots of rain yesterday morning, the afternoon was fine and Sunny at times and the Butterflies tried their best to hang onto the flowers and Buddleia bush's that were being blown about by a fairly strong wind, at least the wind was warm 😊

I was surprised at the amount of Red Admiral's that arrived, I counted 14 on the Buddleia at one point, the Small Tortoiseshell were also having a good day, it seems the better the weather gets. more of them or seen. Painted Ladies are fewer now but some are still very fresh looking, my big surprise was finding a Small Speckled Wood on the Autumn Glory plant, although it's wing was damaged and was blowing about in the breeze it didn't stop it flying about but the poor thing was certainly being tossed about. 😊

I'm afraid my photos are getting repetitive but I do like taking shots every time I go into the garden, I'll breeze through them when the weather is colder and start sorting then. 😊 Goldie 😊







### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 13-Sep-19 07:43 PM GMT

Lovely set of shots Goldie especially like the 'two species' one 🤔👍 Don't worry about the shots becoming similar that's just a sign of the time of the season – mind you there's still at least a few weeks left 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 13-Sep-19 10:13 PM GMT

Love the images of the Whites, Goldie. Really impressive. I'd pay a ransom just to see a Large White in isolation right now, let alone a *pas des deux* with its close cousin! 🤔

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Sep-19 10:02 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I hope to see a few different species when I go to Kent in a couple of weeks, meantime, I'll enjoy what arrives in the Garden weather permitting and I'm glad you liked the shots thank you, 😊 I've put one or two more in from Yesterday 😊

Hi! David, I've put a shot of one I saw briefly yesterday in, they're not long in settling like the other Butterflies, they just fly in and out very quickly, this one didn't open it's wings until it flew a way. 😊

I have four Buddleia's and they were all covered yesterday in Butterflies, I counted 10 Small Tort's, 12 Red Admiral's, 1 Speckie, 2 Peacocks, 2 Large White's ( I lost the count on Small White's ) 3 Painted Ladies. I got some good exercise going a round from one side of the house to the other. 😊

I must say my favourite shot was the Red Admiral that landed in the front garden on my Rose, it didn't nectar, just soaked up the Sun and avoided the rain drops still on the Rose 😊 Goldie







### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 14-Sep-19 07:41 PM GMT

That is a cracking sequence of the Red Admiral on the rose Goldie 🤔👍 It couldn't have chosen a better background to contrast so beautifully with its livery 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 15-Sep-19 10:54 AM GMT

Good that you're seeing increased numbers of Red Admirals, Goldie. I agree there are lots of butterflies around at the moment, especially Painted Ladies, which are extremely common near me right now.

### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 16-Sep-19 07:25 PM GMT

Some great photos from your garden recently Goldie, especially liking the colour combination of that that Red Admiral on the Rose 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 17-Sep-19 01:09 PM GMT

Thanks every one, it's been a pleasure just going into the Garden lately , I'll really miss the Butterflies when Winter arrives.

I was surprised when the Admiral landed on the Rose Wurzel and just in front of me has well 😊 Tha Rose is called "Peace" which I think just further adds to the shot. 😊

Hi! David, these last couple of days I've not seen a Painted Lady in the Garden, still lots of Red Admiral's though and Increasing numbers of Small Torts, the weather here has been cooler in the morning and today there's a cold wind so I think the Painted Ladies may be waiting for the week-end when its warmer, ( so the forecast say) 😊

Glad you like the Admiral on my Rose Neil, 😊 One swooped a round the same Rose this morning but the Rose was really faded so it changed it's mind 😊 I wonder if it was the same Admiral 😊

Yesterday was a lovely day, today there's a cool breeze, it really feels like Autumn now, I saw another Comma yesterday and there seems to be more Large White's on the wing also Small Torts one even landed on my towel has I was hanging the washing out 😊

There's still lots of Butterflies about, loads of RED Admirals but I've not seen any Painted Ladies for a Couple of days. Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 17-Sep-19 10:09 PM GMT

Cracking shots Goldie 😊 It must have been wet up your way – even the butterflies are in need of a towelling down 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 19-Sep-19 10:50 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, never thought of that! 😊

The Butterflies have been trying to beat the weather here, we've had the Sun then the cloud would arrive and they'd head for cover, the only ones to hang in there were the Admiral's, I'd not seen a Painted Lady for four days, then yesterday I spotted one on my Neighbour's tree so I grabbed my camera. 😊

I'm getting the same Butterflies each day but they're getting less every day except for the Small Tort's who are having a good season a round here with lot's of reports of them all over Lanc's 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 19-Sep-19 10:36 PM GMT

Good to hear (and see obviously) the Small tort having a good year up your way – they seem to be doing okay in Wiltshire as well and long may it last 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 21-Sep-19 09:28 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...except for the Small Tort's who are having a good season a round here with lot's of reports of them all over Lanc's

Yes, same here too, Goldie. After such a paucity in spring I feared the worst, but they have bounced back admirably.

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 21-Sep-19 08:08 PM GMT

Nice shots of the Torties, Goldie. 😊 My eyes must be going – I thought I was looking at a bright blue variety of buddleia for a moment... and then Wurzel's comment made the penny drop. 😊😊😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 22-Sep-19 01:30 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, the Small Tort's were copying the Red Admiral's last week by landing on the Rose's , I think they like to warm up on them before landing on the Buddleia. 😊 They've exchanged the Towel for the Rose. 😊

Hi! David, we've had an abundance of Butterflies here, not just the Small Tort's but Admiral's and Painted Ladies, it's been quite an experience and I'm wondering if the hot Summer weather we had last year helped in any way 😊

Hi! Neil, I think maybe I fooled that Small Tort with that Blue Towel as well!!!! 😊

Well the weather was great until today!!!! we'd heavy showers and I heard the Thunder but it's settled now although still cloudy, no Butterflies today but over the last few day's I took a few more shots of their antic's 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 22-Sep-19 10:20 PM GMT

Great set of shots Goldie – especially like the Small Tort 'warming up' on the rose – brill! 🤩🇬🇧 I'm glad they've moved from the towel to the rose – I do't know what brand of washing powder you use but I'm sure the Rose is a bit more fragrant 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 23-Sep-19 04:52 PM GMT

Thank you Wurzel, it's been a pleasure these last few weeks,( in between the Sun and the rain) just watching the Butterflies in the garden, I hope I see a few more whilst in Kent, I've no transport though, every one's working so it could be hit and miss 😊 But the company will be good. 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 24-Sep-19 11:14 PM GMT

Lovely, Goldie. How do you get your butterflies to perch on such unusual things? 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 26-Sep-19 05:38 PM GMT

Hi! David, thanks for your post, glad you liked the butterflies and their antics 😊

We've had a lot of rain but also some Sunshine so the Butterflies are still coming into the Garden, I'm off to Kent shortly so I don't think they'll still be about when I get back, so I've put a few more shots in my post, the Red Admiral took off when I was taking the shot 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 26-Sep-19 08:01 PM GMT

Lovely shots again Goldie – I really like the Red Admiral in flight 😊😊 I hope you have a great time on Kent – good luck searching for LTBs 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 27-Sep-19 01:30 PM GMT

Safe journey down to Kent, Goldie. I hope the weather hasn't taken its toll too badly and that there may be a few 'exotics' awaiting you maybe. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 05-Oct-19 05:50 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and David, sorry it's taken so long to reply, but since I came to Kent, ( it started on the Monday )I've had a bad chest infection and spent most of my time inside the house and in bed, trust me 😊 I'm feeling much better now but I think Butterfly hunting as gone for this year, mind you the weather has been bad except for one or two days which made me feel a bit better about it 😊

I think that this week has just put the last year into prospective for me UGH! 😊

Looking on the bright side, I've seen some lovely Butterflies in my Garden, caught my first sighting of a Humming Bird Hawk Moth and a fairly good shot for once of Silver Y moth, I also enjoyed taking my first decent shots of a Wall whilst stumbling about on a crutch getting some odd looks 😊

I don't think I'll ever get used to loosing my partner but life goes on and I must with it. Goldie

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 05-Oct-19 06:58 PM GMT

Sorry to hear that you weren't well Goldie 😊 The thing with butterflies is that you never know when they'll turn up – it only takes a little bit of sun so you might still be able to pick a few more up before the 2019 season is finally over 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 05-Oct-19 10:20 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

...I think that this week has just put the last year into prospective for me UGH!

Yes, I believe that might well sum things up, Goldie. You've had such a dreadful time these last few months. Surely you're due a bit of good fortune very soon? Life can be wonderful and cruel in equal measure, but I think the cruel element needs to release its grip now.

I wish you a speedy and full recovery, although, as you say, it might be next year before the butterflies are back. Things are looking just as dismal round my way too. I've seen just two Whites and a Small Tortoiseshell in the last fortnight!!! Roll on next spring!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 06-Oct-19 04:48 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel and David,

It was good to hear from you 😊 sorry I sounded so morbid in my last post, one of those senior moments feeling sorry for one's self 😊 Since then, today, I went to see a film at the Cinema with my Daughter, I thought I'd cough a lot, my Daughter said "she'd help to throw me out ",if I did. Ha! Ha! some family 😊 After the film she took me to this French Cafe, she knows I love French Onion Soup and it was great melted cheese has well 😊 It did me so much good, even though I felt like death warmed up 😊

I'm nearly back to normal maybe next week will be better before I go home, I thought I'd put a few shots in taken Of my front garden this time just get in the mood for a better year to come 😊 Goldie 😊 PS I love Roses 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 06-Oct-19 06:09 PM GMT

"PS I love Roses 😊" – looking at those photos I'd never have guessed this Goldie 😊😂 Your garden looks stunning Goldie 😊🌱 Good to hear you're getting back on track, the French Onion soup sounded delicious 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by millerd, 06-Oct-19 07:09 PM GMT

Wow – I can see why the butterflies love your garden, Goldie! A beautiful display of colour. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 07-Oct-19 03:28 PM GMT

What a riot of colour your front garden is, Goldie...with one hell of a buddleia further back! 😊 I now understand why it is such a draw for insects.



Glad you're feeling a bit better. Can't beat a dose of French onion soup – one of my favourites too!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 09-Oct-19 12:11 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, Dave, David, Glad you like my front garden and my Roses 😊 Yes ! the Butterflies like the Roses but basically to land on, 😊 I've noticed after the rain they often do this opening their wings to the Sun before taking off to land on the Buddleia, which is conveniently placed to ward off the wind which comes down the front of the garden from the North, they can feast in piece without getting blown about too much 😊

I'm not seeing any thing here at present but may be when I get home I'll see one or two on the Buddleia again before I've to cut it down. 😊 I've already cut down two on the back Garden and I've one to go there yet, I've put a few shots in this time of the back garden which this year kept me busy with the Camera, 😊 hope fully next year I'll get out and about more.Goldie 😊







**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 09-Oct-19 10:45 PM GMT

Lovely sequence Goldie especially loving the ethereal final shot 😊🍷 Cracking stuff 😊 Hopefully you can get out a bit more next season – but if you can't you have a great backup plan prepared 😊🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 10-Oct-19 10:41 AM GMT

Many thanks Wurzel, 😊 I've missed loads of Butterflies this year so the Garden was a God send in more ways than one!!!!

I'm hoping to travel a bit more all being well next year being very limited this year, not too far but I'd love to get to Cornwall and see Dorset again I've not been for years, in the mean time I'll be going for a Tinsel and Turkey week-end in Wales in November 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Katrina, 10-Oct-19 09:26 PM GMT

What an uplifting series of photos. That has brightened up this evening 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Oct-19 10:57 AM GMT

Thank you Katrina, The garden shot's are some thing I like to look back on in those cold Winter month's and think it won't be long off Spring again 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 12-Oct-19 06:32 PM GMT

Well if you do make it down to the Dorset make sure you give me a shout and we can meet up 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by bugboy, 12-Oct-19 08:27 PM GMT

After seeing those pictures of you garden Goldie, I now understand why it's always full of butterflies whenever the sun shines 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 13-Oct-19 06:29 PM GMT

Whoa...that image of the Peacocks on the large yellow flowers in wonderful, Goldie.

Yes, you've had your travails this year. 2020 can only be far, far better. Here's hoping....

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Oct-19 04:18 PM GMT

Many thanks everyone for your posts, If I get to Dorset I'll definitely give you a ring Wurzel 😊

Hi! BB, I was surprised again today, I saw two Butterflies in my Garden 😊

Hi! David, that Blue Buddleia on the front didn't let me down today nor did my Yellow one on the back 😊

I arrived home yesterday in the pouring rain, the train journey was good but I still feel rather fragile from the infection so it wasn't long before I had a lovely hot drink and went to bed.

This morning whilst I was in the kitchen I looked out and to my surprise although we'd very little Sun a Comma was on my late flowering Buddleia in the back Garden, it was like a welcome home 😊 Of course I'd to check the Buddleia on the front Garden then and there was a Red Admiral 😊 It was very cloudy and dark by then but the Butterflies were still flying , I took the shot of the Comma through the kitchen window because I thought with the weather like it was I'd probably miss it, I'm glad I did because by the time I got outside it'd gone 😊

I did go out to try for the Admiral but the light was very bad and try has I may I couldn't seem to get a good shot, having said that I was sneezing like an Idiot 😊 It looks like another early night 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 14-Oct-19 09:27 PM GMT

Good to see you still have butterflies, Goldie. 🍄😄 The sun has been a bit of a stranger the last few days down here – unlike the rain – so there's been nothing. 😞

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 14-Oct-19 11:12 PM GMT

I too am glad for those shots Goldie as like Dave I've experienced nothing but drear for what feels like a month 😞 (but is probably only a few days 😊) – keep em coming 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 14-Oct-19 11:45 PM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

Hi! David, that Blue Buddleia on the front didn't let me down today nor did my Yellow one on the back 😊

You're doing much better than I am at the moment, Goldie.

All I've seen in over a week is a solitary Small White. 😞

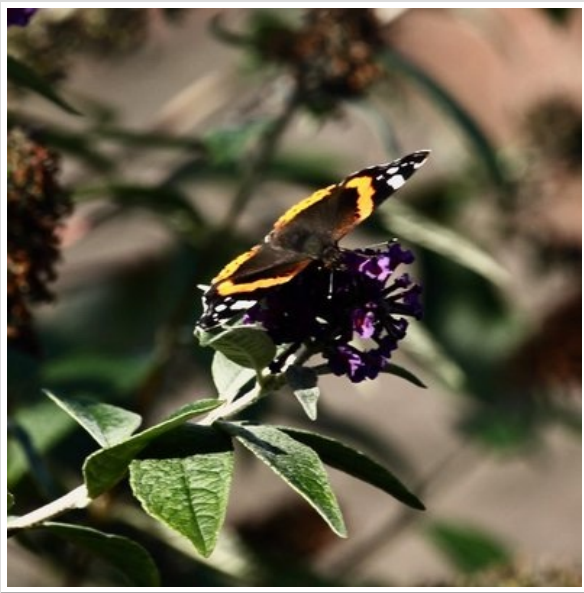
Love that yellow buddleia. I must look out for some.

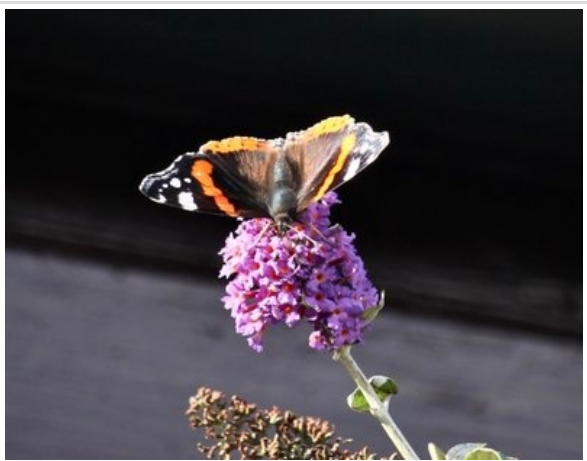
### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Oct-19 03:37 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, David, Dave, It poured down this morning until about 11am and then the Sun came out and so did the Admiral's, I counted six in all, I've not seen any other species but to see them is a great pick-me-up after all the rain, only thing that was wrong was the wind, it was very cold this morning and the Butterflies were blown about all over the place but it certainly didn't stop them 😊  
Autumn has arrived here with a vengeance and more bad weather is forecast for tomorrow and unsettled weather for the rest of the week so we'll have to see if this affects them in any way.

When you look closely, some of them seem to have a fur lining 😊 No wonder!!!! Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 16-Oct-19 10:53 PM GMT

Great Admirals Goldie 😊 I love their furry coats and they look really luxurious when they first emerge, like a dark Rag Doll cat 😊😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 18-Oct-19 11:18 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, not seen any more Butterflies for a couple of days now and the weather is much cooler, no frost yet but definitely top coat weather. 😊  
Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 18-Oct-19 08:11 PM GMT

Hi Goldie, I've not seen a butterfly for a couple of weeks now with last weekend being a shocker around here and the only dry days being whilst I have been at work.

Good to see that you are still seeing a few 😊

Cheers,

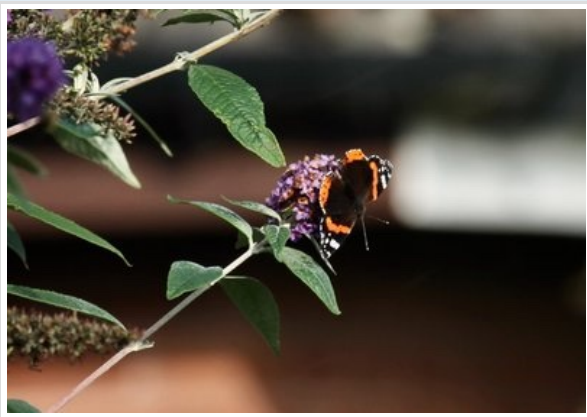
Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 19-Oct-19 11:54 AM GMT

Hi! Neil, I was just going to say no Butterflies today when I looked out of my Bedroom window and saw a Red Admiral on what's left of my Buddleia in the front garden, I grabbed my camera and managed a couple of shots through the window 😊

I do that now because the Sun comes and goes ( lots of cloud ) and by the time I get outside the Butterfly's disappeared 😊  
It was great to see it and if we get the high they've promised for Monday and Tuesday maybe I'll see a few more before I cut the bush down, I hope so anyway 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 19-Oct-19 02:46 PM GMT

The weather took up this afternoon and I decided to do some gardening, I took my camera just in case and was rewarded with the Admiral's coming back also on my neighbour's buddleia, a yellow one ( from which I grew mine in the back garden ) I got a shot from a distance of a Painted Lady, I think, they do look a lot like an Admiral from a distance 😊 Goldie 😊





*Painted Lady*



*Red Admiral in Neighbours garden*





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 19-Oct-19 06:05 PM GMT

Great shots of the Lady and Admirals Goldie – you did better than me as I could only muster and get shots of two Red Admirals 🤔👍👍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

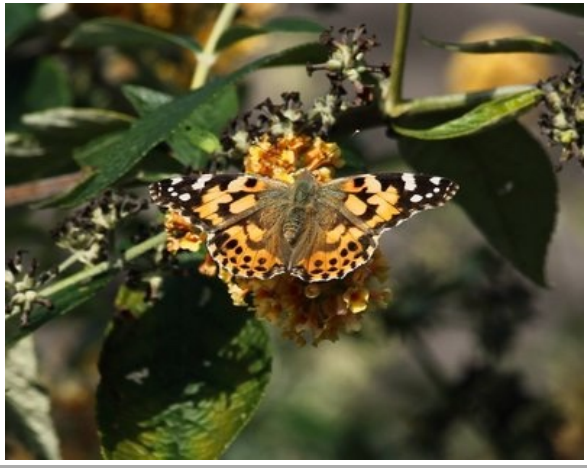
by Goldie M, 20-Oct-19 01:04 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, inspire of the cold weather this morning ( I'd to wear my Duffle Coat to church ) 😊 the Butterflies were out again 😊

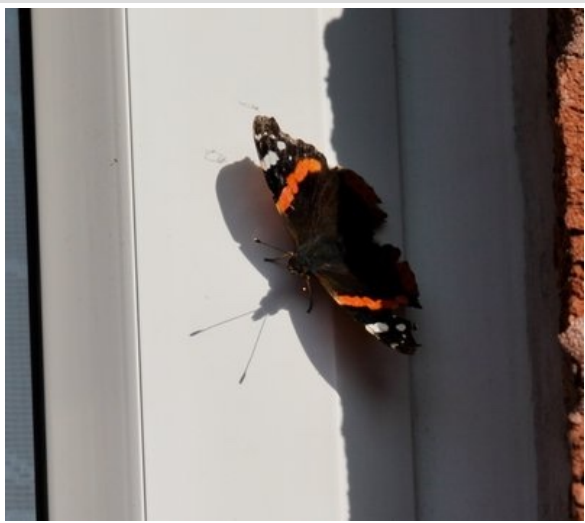
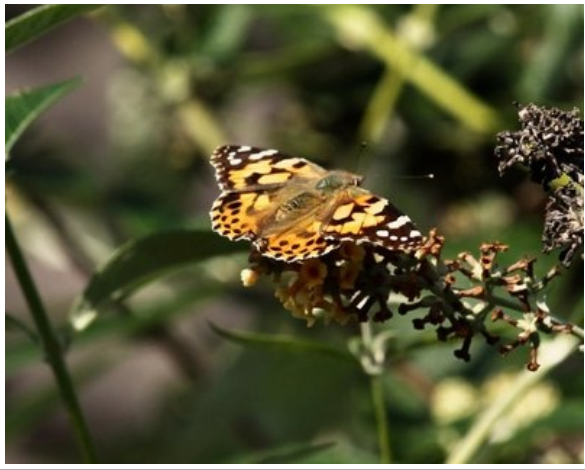
I saw a Painted Lady land on my Buddleia then go across to my Neighbours Buddleia so I followed it, I asked him if it was okay to take some shots, ( I wanted to be closer than a cross the road this time) and having got the okay waited for it to land nearer, in the mean time a Red Admiral appeared so I couldn't resist a shot of that 😊

The weather's gone colder and the Sun's disappeared now, hope fully the Sun will be back tomorrow, if this keeps happening I'll be busy all week taking

shots 🍷 Goldie 🍷







**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 20-Oct-19 05:58 PM GMT

Great stuff Goldie 🍷🍷 It was baltic round our way today - it's like someone just switched the heating off - yesterday I was in t-shirt and jumper today I had four layers and sorely missed my gloves 😞😞 Still a Comma helped me to beat the cold 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 21-Oct-19 09:55 AM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, it just shows how hardy the Butterflies are, no Sun so far today but it's early yet. 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**



by Goldie M, 21-Oct-19 02:25 PM GMT

Only one Butterfly seen today, shot taken through bedroom window, but it's ab biabata so thought I'd post it 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 21-Oct-19 06:14 PM GMT

You did better than me today Goldie 🍷😊 No butterflies and a distinct nip in the air looks like no Indian Summer this year 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 21-Oct-19 08:34 PM GMT

It's just great the way you've kept both the purple and the yellow buddleias going, Goldie, and the butterflies certainly seem to appreciate it! Lovely Painted Lady especially. 😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 24-Oct-19 12:25 PM GMT

That yellow buddleia is really doing the business for you right now, Goldie. 😊

Splendid that you should have a Painted Lady visiting so late in the year.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 25-Oct-19 05:01 PM GMT

Sorry Wurzel, Dave and David I've not answered you sooner but I've been having trouble with my Broadband, One minute it's working and the next it's gone, I've no idea why but Virgin BB has been at fault some where down the line!!!!

Nothing doing here now and weather wise it's awful really heavy rain, it looks like winter has arrived not Autumn at present 😊  
The Buddleia's have finally gone over and all but one has been cut down, that will get cut next week all being well with the weather. Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 25-Oct-19 08:27 PM GMT

No worries Goldie 😊 We were without Broadband for a night last week – it was shocking how lost I felt without it 😬😬 Hope they get the problem sorted soon 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 27-Oct-19 02:32 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, looks like the Broad Band problem is solved for now, ( till the next time 😊 ) Guess what! I saw yet another Red Admiral just now on my Neighbours Buddleia across the way I took a couple of shots through my bed room window, of course when I got outside it was gone 😞 They really are amazing, the Sun was warm but the wind very cold and after the stormy weather we've had it was great to see yet another RA, needless to say it's made my day 😊 Goldie 😊

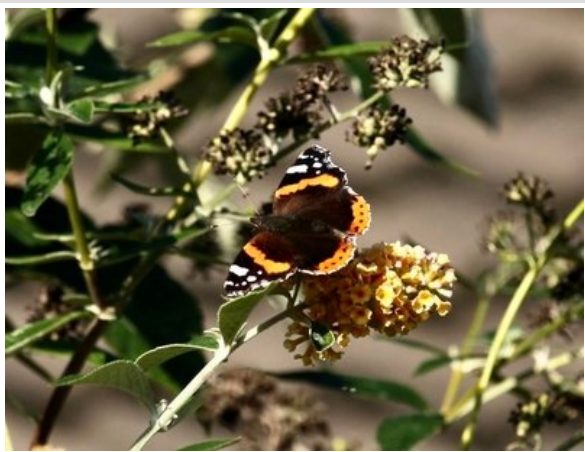
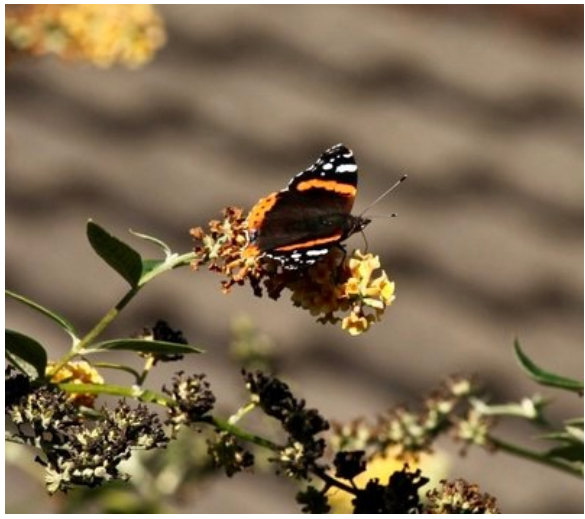


**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 28-Oct-19 11:47 AM GMT

After a very hard frost last night ( the Bird Baths were all frozen) I didn't expect to see any Butterflies today but has the Sun came out and every thing warmed up the RA's were back on my Neighbours tree, not just one this time but two and I managed some shots 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 28-Oct-19 01:39 PM GMT

Great shots of the Red Admirals Goldie 🤔👍 There was a touch of Frost on the roof tiles here this morning so I was thinking that could be it but having read your post I won't be putting the camera into hibernation just yet 😊😄

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 29-Oct-19 09:26 PM GMT



You must have a northern 'hotspot', Goldie. I'm seeing hardly any butterflies at all here in south Wales but the gardens in your street much further north are still attracting them.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 30-Oct-19 11:43 AM GMT

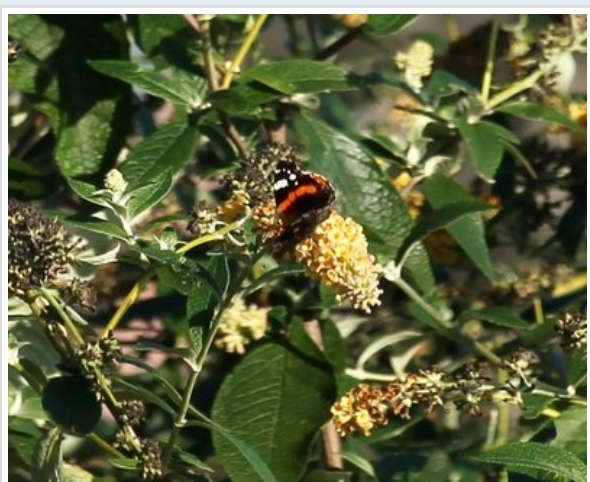
Hi! Wurzel and David, we've had some good weather here, lots of Sunshine every day but cold winds, I'd my Buddleia on the front Garden cut all the flowers had gone, my Neighbour likes to keep his Buddleia tall, it's in a very sheltered place by his garage and at this time of year has still got lots of flowers with being so big.

On my side of the Avenue facing his garden, it's good for getting shots of the late RA's, my Neighbour however to the left of me is a real grump 😞 I've had to have a gardener come to help me with my Garden this year and he told my gardener to cut my Buddleia 😞 I don't need to tell you what I said to him do I !!!! this was back in early September needless to say it's the one I've just had cut 😊

I did say to him if any of it was going into his Garden he could cut it, which is really what I was doing to his Tree which was invading my side, I couldn't understand him because he told my Husband it was okay to do this when (My Husband was alive) but he told my Gardener off, I give up!!!!

To tell you the truth I'd had enough happen to me this year and didn't want an argument, after warning him I just walked off 😊

Any way enough of being down, I saw another RA today on my Neighbours Bush and it cheered me up no end so I've once again posted it 😊 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

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

That neighbour sounds like a right one Goldie – you are perfectly within your rights to trim back any tree or bush to the limit of your property – so I hope you told him to bog off! 😊 I had the opposite problem when I rented and actually had a garden – my neighbour had a brilliant apple tree but after collecting windfalls from it which had fallen into my garden for one season he trimmed it back so the following year they all landed in his garden 😞 Glad the Red Admirals were about to cheer you up 😊🍷

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M



by David M, 31-Oct-19 09:04 AM GMT

Good to know you're still seeing butterflies at this late stage in October, Goldie. There's hardly been any sunshine round my way and that doesn't look likely to change so I fear my last sighting of the year will be the Red Admiral I saw flying past me last Thursday. 😞

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 04-Nov-19 02:27 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, you'll be pleased to know when I walked passed my Neighbour today, ( I was walking passed his house and saw his wife, I've no quarrel with her she's really nice) I glanced her way and she was in her car and waved at me, he was getting out of his car and smiled at me, rather sheepishly, so I smiled back, I can't keep grudges 😊 especially if they look sheepish 😊 I didn't speak though I was in a hurry to catch my train, also I don't like falling out with people, I say what I think and if it's taken the wrong way ( too bad ) life's too short for grudges 😊

Hi! David, sorry I'm late once more in replying, I expect at this late date and with the weather being so bad, the Butterflies have really disappeared now, still it was the end of October before they finally disappeared although I still keep checking the Buddleia's across the road just in case 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 10-Nov-19 02:45 PM GMT

#### Goldie M wrote:

....the Butterflies have really disappeared now, still it was the end of October before they finally disappeared although I still keep checking the Buddleia's across the road just in case.

Amazing they're still in flower, Goldie. Even the ivy blooms have all but dried up here in south Wales, meaning there's precious little left for any late season butterflies to feed from. 😞

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 11-Nov-19 11:27 AM GMT

Hi! David, my Neighbour hasn't cut his Buddleia down yet, it's looking a bit worse for wear now but I don't think he wants it cutting. It's still flowering.

I don't know if he's waiting for Spring, or has decided to let it grow, if he let's it grow it'll be good for next year 😊

It's like Winter here at present we've just had Hail stones and loads of rain , luckily for us we don't live near any river's, no snow yet but I don't think it'll be long before it arrives. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Neil Freeman, 11-Nov-19 07:22 PM GMT

Hi Goldie,

I always understood that Buddleias are best pruned back in early spring...unless you mean that he has never cut it down.

Cold and wet here too with some local fields flooded but luckily we are on higher ground. When it was not raining last week the clearer nights led to a few frosts. There was some snow a couple of days back on the Staffordshire moorlands, that's roughly half way between us, so might get some before long.

Cheers,

Neil.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 12-Nov-19 11:25 AM GMT

Hi! Neil, I always cut my Buddleia down in the Autumn, they grow so high in the Summer and when left, get banged about with the Winter winds, I find they easily crack and that's why I do mine, then when Spring arrives I tend to cut out any damage, mind you that's just me, I always seem to have good results with lots of flowers so I've just carried on. 😊

I don't think my Neighbour cut his down last year and it really is huge, it also gets the Sun all day which is good, I find the Yellow Buddleia also lasts a lot longer, my one was a cutting from his and as grown way passed the top of my fence in just two years, one reason to cut it. 😊

The weather here has been awful too, we've just had a couple of frosts and Sunday was the only day for weeks that was fine and Sunny all day, hope fully the Snow will keep off for a while. 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 12-Nov-19 10:49 PM GMT

First proper frost of the winter down our way this morning Goldie – that could be it 😊 Roll on Spring 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 13-Nov-19 04:07 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, it's been a nice afternoon here for a change But I'm like you ( can't wait for Spring to arrive ) 😊

I was looking through my photos yesterday for this year, ( not too many taken this year ) but I spotted this one I took of a Ringlet in Blean Woods Kent in July and compared to another photo I took of a different Ringlet in the same wood on the same day the second photo shows missing circles on the wings, Could this be an ab 🤔 Goldie 😊



Ringlet 23rd July 2019



Ringlet 23rd July 2019

**Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 13-Nov-19 06:11 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,  
Some Nice finds there Goldie ,I found one almost identical to your second (see Sightings July page 6 ) ,take a look at the Abberations on the BRITISH BUTTERFLY ABBERATIONS ,website..... I reckon the closest is probably AB;Cabeau .  
Regards Allan.W.

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 13-Nov-19 11:12 PM GMT

A great find Goldie definitely an ab 😊🇹🇷 and I had a look through the website Allan recommended (a brilliant resource) and I'd go with his identification 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 14-Nov-19 11:21 AM GMT

Thanks for the tutorial regarding when to prune back the buddleias, Goldie. I always do mine in early April to try and suppress flowering until late summer. However, mine never lasts into October, never mind November. 😞

Yes, your Ringlet is an aberrant and quite a pronounced one.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Nov-19 12:39 PM GMT

Many thanks everybody, you've made my day 😊 I couldn't get about much this year so considering I managed a couple of ab's which included that Small White I found in my Garden I'm well pleased 😊

That web site is great Allan and some thing to browse through this Winter 😊

Thanks Wurzel, I'm well pleased, another to add to my collection 😊

Hi! Dave, I used to do my Buddleia in Spring but found if I did it when they finished flowering, they seemed to do better, also I give them a bit more trimming in Spring to shape them because the Winter still shakes them up.

I'm very glad I posted that photo of the Ringlet , I'll have to take a closer look at my other shots now 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by bugboy, 14-Nov-19 07:25 PM GMT

Your Ringlet isn't *ab.cabeau* since that has no ocelli on the forewings. I'd say it's something between *ab. sexoculatus* and *ab. centrifera* which both have reduced ocelli. 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Nov-19 09:28 PM GMT

Hi! Bug Boy, thanks for your info, I'm supposed to have checked the Aberrations web site but I've got to admit I'm still depending on you Guys 😊 At least it's an ab 😊 maybe I'll start again looking them up 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Allan.W., 14-Nov-19 09:41 PM GMT

Good point Bugboy .....Looking again I think I,d go with *Sexoculatus* as well .  
Regards Allan.W.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 25-Nov-19 12:28 PM GMT

The weather here is horrible at present even the Birds are reluctant to venture forth 😊 I've nothing to report but thought I'd take a look back to one of my good days in the Garden when, for the first time I saw a Humming Bird Hawk Moth, I was so pleased it was an highlighting moment for me. 😊

I also saw this moth on the 16th of July at Temple Ewell in Kent I've not found a name for it yet having just remembered it on looking back so if anybody knows it's name I'd be pleased so I can finally name it, I've looked in my books but can't find it 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Allan.W., 25-Nov-19 06:53 PM GMT

Hello Goldie ,  
Not 100% ,but I think your moth could be Shaded broad bar (scotopteryx chenopodiata ) Happy to be corrected !  
Regards Allan.W.

**Re: Goldie M**

by trevor, 25-Nov-19 07:42 PM GMT

Excellent shots of that Hummingbird Hawk Moth Goldie,  
considering how rapidly they dart from flower to flower.  
You have frozen the action very well.

Best wishes,  
Trevor.



**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 25-Nov-19 07:49 PM GMT

Thanks Allan, at least I've got a name, we'll see if other's agree 😊 thanks also for verifying the ab 😊

Thanks Trevor, I was really pleased to see it , I thought it was a Bee at first, I'll be looking out next year for them. 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 25-Nov-19 11:38 PM GMT

Yep Shaded Broadbar – I'd go with that 😊 – probably be wrong now then 😊 Cracking shots of the Hummingbird Hawkmoth – brilliantly caught 😊🌍

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 27-Nov-19 09:10 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, when I spotted the moth, I was well chuffed, I thought the year wasn't a total loss. 😊 Goldie 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by millerd, 27-Nov-19 09:41 PM GMT

Yes, the second shot of the Hummer is terrific, Goldie, an absolutely perfect angle. It really looks like a humming-bird. 🌍😊

Cheers,

Dave

**Re: Goldie M**

by Neil Freeman, 29-Nov-19 07:16 PM GMT

**Allan.W. wrote:**

Hello Goldie ,

Not 100% ,but I think your moth could be Shaded broad bar (scotopteryx chenopodiata ) Happy to be corrected !

Regards Allan.W.

Definitely a Shaded Broad-bar.

Cracking shots of the Humming Bird Hawk Moth Goldie 😊

Cheers,

Neil.

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 02-Dec-19 11:01 PM GMT

Lovely shots of the Hummingbird Hawk Moth, Goldie. It's such a delight to see these creatures. 😊

**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 03-Dec-19 11:16 AM GMT

Thanks for your post, Neil, Dave and David, I think my year wasn't a total loss , I saw my first HBH Moth and I was so pleased to get some decent shots for a change of the Wall Butterfly in spite of the fact I'd to lean on a crutch to do it in April 😊 hope fully I'll see more Butterflies next year if I can keep a way from steps 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by trevor, 04-Dec-19 10:08 AM GMT

Well done with those Wall Browns, Goldie.  
Surely the quickest, most frustrating and infuriating butterflies of all.  
They seem to know when you are about to press the shutter button.

But they are great fun!

Trevor.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 04-Dec-19 04:37 PM GMT

Hi! Trevor, they certainly are great fun 😊 but really frustrating 😞 I know your shots of them very well by reading your posts 😊  
Now I know where to find them I hope to catch more shots of them next year if I'm in Kent in April.  
I took the shots at Reculver, it was a Roman fort I think and the Wall is still there in parts, it's also a sheltered path by the Pub a way from the Sea front and boy do they love that Wall, they were flying about it starting at one end of the path then flying full length down to the other end 😊 I really enjoyed myself watching them 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 09-Dec-19 10:53 PM GMT

Cracking set of Wall shots Goldie 🍷 –they can be right pains to get any shot of – I swear they can detect a camera focusing from 100 yards 🤪 😊

Have a goodun

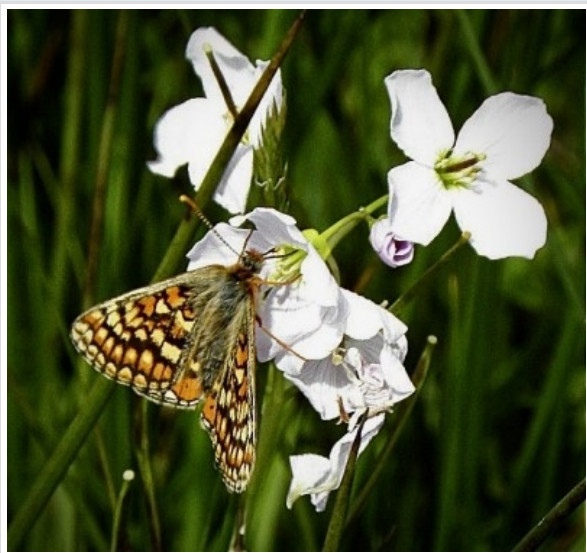
Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 10-Dec-19 09:46 AM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, I keep looking back over the year's at the photos of the Wall i've taken and they were the best shots too date:D  
I keep doing this because some of my shots of Adonis and Marsh Fritillary were not really up to scratch, in those days I'd just a hand camera and I was learning 😊 That's why I'd like to get more shots of these Butterflies, plus, quite a few more. 😊

I've included the only two reasonable shots I took of MF from way back in 2012 because I know you like your Marshies 😊 Goldie 😊



**Re: Goldie M**

by Goldie M, 11-Dec-19 07:39 PM GMT

I was looking outside tonight and spotted the full Moon, being as it may be the last for 2019 I just had to take some shots 😊 I grabbed my camera and took the shots from the bedroom window just in case it was covered by clouds  
It's amazing really when you think it's been pouring with rain on and off all day. 🙄 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 11-Dec-19 10:52 PM GMT

Indeed I do like my Marshies Goldie 😊 and those are some cracking shots of that one – really nicely marked 😊😊😊 A nice brightener on this miserable night 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by Padfield, 11-Dec-19 10:59 PM GMT

Hi Goldie. We think alike! It was a beautiful full moon tonight down here in Suffolk, though we also enjoyed a beautiful day. I photographed her on my evening dog walk at almost exactly the same time you were photographing her.

Guy

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 12-Dec-19 12:15 PM GMT

Nice work with the moon images, Goldie. Very impressive.

Love the Walls and the Marshies too.

**Re: Goldie M**

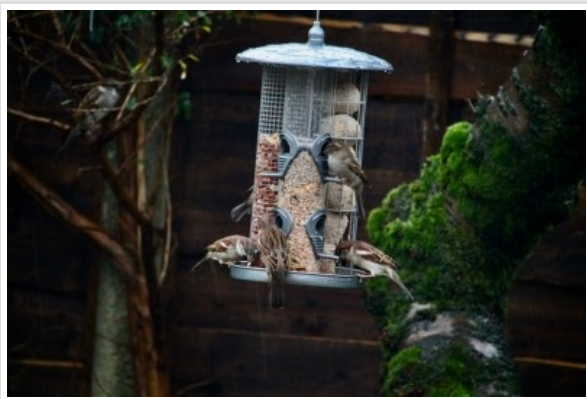
by Goldie M, 12-Dec-19 03:19 PM GMT

Thanks Wurzel, Guy and David for your posts, I was happy with those Marshie shots Wurzel but when you think it's been 7 years since I've seen them, I took the shots in North Devon.

We do seem to get the Moon shots at the same time, don't we Guy 😊

Many thanks David, it would be great to see the marshies again, hope fully next year 😊 Goldie 😊

I decided to buy a new bird feeder for the Garden so when I spotted this particular one I was pleased, it was so heavy to put up and I did wonder what the birds would think of it 😊 I needn't have worried !!!!! 😊 Goldie 😊





### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 13-Dec-19 08:42 PM GMT

Cricky Goldie that's not a bird feeder it's more like a Bird Banqueting Hall! 🤪😂 Have you got some Niger seeds? They're great for attracting Siskins and Goldfinches 😊😂

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 14-Dec-19 02:25 PM GMT

Hi! Wurzel, I thought I was doing some thing with the Bird feeder 😊 But take a look at this shot some thing looks like it's attacked the feeder 😞 there's a huge hole in it, I can only think it could be Squirrels but would they do such damage ? even one of the openings has been damaged.

I've seen the Starlings on the feeder but it looks more like a Wood pecker's been on it 😞 I don't think even they would do that.I can't even fill it up now 🤪 Goldie 😊



### Re: Goldie M

by Wurzel, 14-Dec-19 08:46 PM GMT

Hell fire Goldie what little natural vandal has been at that? 🤪 It could be a Woodpecker – I've seen them have a go at the metal casing at the top of telegraph poles before so some plastic sheeting wold be fairly easy for them. Mind you it could be Squirrels though they generally work a way round to get the nuts and if they're freely available they'll just take them without destroying the feeder 😊😂 I don't know you try and do your bit and how does nature repay you 😊😂

Have a goodun

Wurzel

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 15-Dec-19 12:53 PM GMT

Funny thing is Wurzel, what ever has done the damage has taken seeds, not the Nuts, I've seen the Squirrels take the nuts and not been interested in any thing else, another oddity is the fact I've put loads of seeds out before which only few birds were taking so I stopped filling the feeders with seeds and started using Suet pellets which they seem to like more, the seeds I filled the feeder with was the last of the seeds 😊  
I'm going to keep a check on the feeder and see if I can find the culprit 😊 I only bought the feeder because I thought it was great to fill it for when I went for Christmas and New Year.

AH! well the best played plans of mice and Men ( women ) in my case 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by David M, 15-Dec-19 03:14 PM GMT

I doubt a bird would peck right through the plastic when it can access the food from a bespoke opening, Goldie.

My money's on a squirrel.

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 16-Dec-19 03:35 PM GMT

Hi! David, I agree, they were back in the Garden this morning, two of them, I've left the feeder alone ,the small birds are still going on it and I'm a way shortly so hope fully next time they come I won't see them and when it runs out of food maybe they'll clear off 😊 My Next door Neighbour has been out with stick so obviously I'm not on my own 😊 Goldie 😊

### Re: Goldie M

by Goldie M, 17-Dec-19 12:57 PM GMT

This morning I found Gold Finch outside the Kitchen window tucking in, 😊 I couldn't resist taking shots of them, then ,one landed on the nuts because there was no room on the seeds, 😊 It seemed, if he could talk ,he would have said " Come on Guys make room for one more" 😊

I'd like to wish everybody on UK Butterflies a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW BUTTERFLYING YEAR,

See every one in 2020 and hope fully we'll get a lovely Spring and I'll have no more accidents 😊 Goldie 😊





**Re: Goldie M**

by essexbuzzard, 18-Dec-19 09:14 PM GMT

When organising next years activities Goldie, be sure to head south in May. If you are able, we will finally get you your Grizzed Skippers!

I have found sunflower hearts to be the most successful bird food in my garden. I too have had my feeders demolished by grey squirrels, and have had to resort to metal ones.

Merry Christmas to you too!

**Re: Goldie M**

by Wurzel, 18-Dec-19 11:20 PM GMT

Lovely Goldfinches Goldie 😊 I hope the loner managed to get in on the action 😊 Have a great Christmas 😊

Have a goodun

Wurzel

**Re: Goldie M**

by David M, 19-Dec-19 11:35 AM GMT

**Goldie M wrote:**

I'd like to wish everybody on UK Butterflies a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW BUTTERFLYING YEAR,

See every one in 2020 and hope fully we'll get a lovely Spring and I'll have no more accidents

All the best to you, Goldie, and yes, I sincerely hope you have a better time of things in 2020.



