

Sherwood Forest Lepidoptera - Butterflies

Historical and modern species lists and records - First Edition 2009



T. and D. Pendleton

Introduction to Sherwood Forest Lepidoptera - Butterflies First edition 2009

This publication is aimed at providing an accurate record of all Sherwood Forest Lepidoptera recorded from the 1800's, the 1900's, post-2000 records and completely up to date with the inclusion of the latest records from 2008 and follows the same format as we have used in the accompanying publications on Sherwood Forest Lepidoptera and Coleoptera published in January 2009 and more recently, Sherwood Forest Arachnids which was published in August 2009

Again, this is by no means a complete list and should not be treated as so, but represents a start to eventually producing a definitive Sherwood Forest site list, by trying to gather all available Butterfly records in one document.

This is the first edition of this project and includes traceable public records and those held privately by local naturalists and our thanks go to those individuals who have provided their records for inclusion. It is hoped that more old records will be made available over the coming years, helping to create a more accurate record of the forest's Lepidoptera.

The full site species list which has been compiled from various sources and includes historical records sourced from J.W. Carr's book "*The Invertebrate Fauna of Nottinghamshire*" published in 1916.

Trevor and Dilys Pendleton
August 2009

Butterflies at Sherwood Forest

The recording of butterflies in what is now Sherwood Forest NNR, has remained relatively poor in over a century of recording. This seems rather surprising, given their considerably more obvious habits of being active than moths during the day.

There were without doubt, more species flying around the forest a century ago than there are today. Whilst some of this is too easily put down to climatic changes over that time, much has to be credited with changes in land use around the NNR and the increase in commercial forestry. The whole of the Sherwood Forest area is still extremely poor in it's floral diversity and species which continue to flourish today, are mainly grass feeding butterflies such as the Browns. The Fritillaries, Large Tortoiseshell and Purple Emperor, all died out many years ago and are unlikely to ever make any sort of comeback at Sherwood. Reintroduction schemes are unlikely to work for any formerly occurring species', due to the Forest's poor floral diversity.

Potential new species to the NNR are Essex Skipper and Brown Argus especially, but also Marbled White, which appears to be spreading across parts of north Nottinghamshire towards Market Warsop, from released stock at Kirkby-in-Ashfield. Essex Skipper and Brown Argus have both spread rapidly north-west throughout the county during the last 20 years and are found all around the the outside of the NNR.

Throughout the species list, it may be noticed that there are no historical records for many of our most common butterflies, namely the *Pieridae* and *Nymphalidae* such as Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock, Meadow Brown and Ringlet.

Included records and recording boundaries

Due to a legal loophole, Natural England had to notify the ancient Sherwood Forest area as two separate Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which they continue to regard as representing the whole of the Birklands and Bilhaugh (Sherwood Forest) complex. The two SSSI's are known as Birklands and Bilhaugh and Birklands West and Ollerton Corner. We have included detailed maps of both SSSI's in this edition, which also sees the inclusion of all Coleoptera records from both SSSI's. Records which were sourced to specific areas within either SSSI and where known, are published.

Records are included from the following sites located within the two SSSI's.

Birklands and Bilhaugh SSSI

Sherwood Forest Country Park	(Birklands and Bilhaugh)
Budby South Forest	(Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF)
Proteus Square	(Birklands and Bilhaugh / Proteus Sq)
Buck Gates	(Birklands and Bilhaugh / Buck Gates)

Birklands West and Ollerton Corner SSSI

Sherwood Heath	(Birklands West / Sherwood Heath)
Clipstone Old Quarter	(Birklands West / Clipstone Old Quarter)

To save space in the records section, we have had to abbreviate location specific records down to individual areas of both SSSI's. Consequently, a record from Proteus

Square would be abbreviated to *Birklands and Bilhaugh / Proteus Sq*, or a record from Sherwood Heath would be abbreviated to *Birklands West / Sherwood Heath* etc. Any other records shown only as Birklands West and Ollerton Corner, are from areas away from Sherwood Heath and Clipstone Old Quarter and are largely attributable to areas situated to the west of the Country Park. At the current time, it is thought impractical to abbreviate all of the known sites within the SSSI's and this also serves to avoid the records becoming over complicated to the reader.

Sourcing records

Most of the records included in the lists, are thought to have originated from what is now the Sherwood Forest Country Park area, but without accurate grid references or specifically indicated sites for most of the records, we found this could not be guaranteed.

It was our original intention to produce a document which listed records only from the Country Park area, but this idea was soon abandoned by what seemed a greater need for encompassing all of the Sherwood Forest records we had available to us for inclusion.

Many of the records were sourced from hand-written lists provided by individuals or the Derbyshire Entomological Society. These were held by staff at the Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre. Many of these lists were extremely vague in their dating, or providing a reference source for these records, leading to some gaps in the main list. Quite often the document was untitled, or had no accompanying note or correspondence to help those reading it.

Unfortunately, further appeals for records via a variety of media was disappointingly received, but we continue to search for additional records for inclusion in the second edition which should be ready in early 2010.

Sources of Reference

- Ref: 1** Carr, J.W. (1916) *The Invertebrate Fauna of Nottinghamshire*. Nottingham: J.& H. Bell Ltd.
- Ref: 19** BRC Files
- Ref: 36** Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. Privately held record (published)
- Ref: 48** Harrison, F.
- Ref: 52** Harrison, F. (1979) *Notes concerning the status and distribution of the less common species of Nottinghamshire Macro-lepidoptera*.
- Ref: 73** Joynt, G. Privately held record (published)
- Ref: 81** Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre. *Untitled handwritten document*.
- Ref: 90** Wright, S. 2001. *The Conservation Status of Lepidoptera in Nottinghamshire. Second edition, December 2001*. Nottingham Natural History Museum.

- Ref: 107** Frost, R.A. (1989) Annual Lepidoptera report (1989) Part1: Butterflies. *Derbyshire Entomological Society Quarterly Journal*, No. 97: 16-34

Hesperiidae

Hesperiinae

1526	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i> Small Skipper	Harrison, F. 1980 Harrison, F. 1982 Frost, R.A. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1531	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i> Large Skipper	Lievers White, M.C. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36

Pieridae

Dismorphiinae

1541	<i>Leptidae sinapis</i> Wood White	Sterland 1906 1907 1908 1909	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 19 Ref: 19 Ref: 19 Ref: 19
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Coliadinae

1543	<i>Colias hyale</i> Pale Clouded Yellow	Sterland	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
1546	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i> Brimstone	Frost, R.A. 1978 White, M.C. 1982 Frost, R.A. 1983 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36
1548	<i>Aporia crataegi</i> Black-veined White			
1549	<i>Pieris brassicae</i> Large White	Harrison, F. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1550	<i>Pieris rapae</i> Small White	Harrison, F. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1551	<i>Pieris napi</i> Green-veined White	Harrison, F. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36

1553	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i> Orange-tip	Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 36 Ref: 36
Lycaenidae				
Lycaeninae				
1555	<i>Callophrys rubi</i> Green Hairstreak	Sterland	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
1557	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i> Purple Hairstreak	Rodgers, W. 1857 1953 1969 1982 Frost, R.A. 1981 White, M.C. 1981 Harrison, F. 1982 Baker, D.1982 White, M.C. 1982 Braddock, A. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Frost, R.A. 1983 1983 Baker, D. 1989 Joynt, G. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 52 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 48 Ref: 107 Ref: 73
1561	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i> Small Copper	Birchall, H. 1872 Frost, R.A. 1979 Harrison, F. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Harrison, F. 1983 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1571	<i>Plebeius argus</i> Silver-studded Blue	Brameld	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
1574	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i> Common Blue	White, M.C. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Harrison, F. 1983	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81
1580	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i> Holly Blue	Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2004 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2005 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2006 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands West and Ollerton Corner Birklands West and Ollerton Corner Birklands West and Ollerton Corner Birklands West and Ollerton Corner Birklands West and Ollerton Corner	Ref: 36 Ref: 36 Ref: 36 Ref: 36 Ref: 36

Nymphalidae

Apaturinae

1585	<i>Apatura iris</i> Purple Emperor	Hardy, J.R. 1874 Hardy, J.R. 1875 1899	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 1
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Nymphalinae

1590	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i> Red Admiral	Frost, R.F. 1979 White, M.C. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36
1591	<i>Vanessa cardui</i> Painted Lady	1892 White, M.C. 1982	Edwinstowe Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 81
1593	<i>Aglais urticae</i> Small Tortoiseshell	Culpin, J. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Harrison, F. 1983 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1594	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i> Large Tortoiseshell	Hardy, J.R.		
1596	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i> Camberwell Beauty	Wilson 1858 Sterland Birchall, H. 1872	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 1
1597	<i>Inachis io</i> Peacock	Harrison, F. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 White, M.C. 1982 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh / Budby SF Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1598	<i>Polygonia c-album</i> Comma	Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 36 Ref: 36
1600	<i>Boloria selene</i> Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	1916	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
1601	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i> Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Brameld 1916 1939	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 19
1606	<i>Argynnis adippe</i> High Brown Fritillary	Tyrer, R. and W. 1868 1916 1939	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 19

	1607 <i>Argynnis aglaja</i> Dark Green Fritillary	Sterland Brameld 1916	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 1
	1608 <i>Argynnis paphia</i> Silver-washed Fritillary	Sterland Brameld Hardy, J.R. 1916	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 1 Ref: 1
Melitaeinae	1610 <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> Marsh Fritillary	Trueman, J. 1899	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
Satyrinae	1614 <i>Pararge aegeria</i> Speckled Wood	Sterland and Brameld Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
	1615 <i>Lasiommata megera</i> Wall	Sterland, Brameld and Herdy, J.R. White, M.C. 1982 Harrison, F. 1982	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1 Ref: 81 Ref: 81
	1621 <i>Hipparchia semele</i> Grayling	Sterland	Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 1
	1625 <i>Pyronia tithonus</i> Gatekeeper	Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 36 Ref: 36
	1626 <i>Maniola jurthina</i> Meadow Brown	Frost, R.A. 1979 Harrison, F. 1982 Harrison, F. 1983 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36
	1629 <i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i> Ringlet	Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 36 Ref: 36
	1627 <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i> Small Heath	Harrison, F. 1980 Harrison, F. 1982 Harrison, F. 1983 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2007 Pendleton, T.A. and Pendleton, D.T. 2008	Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh Birklands and Bilhaugh	Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 81 Ref: 36 Ref: 36