



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION HIGHLAND BRANCH



NEWS-SHEET – Nov 2013

Welcome to new members

A warm welcome to all new members who have joined Butterfly Conservation in recent months and have been allocated to Highland Branch. We hope you join in with some of our Branch events and will be able to contribute to the recording of butterflies and moths in Highland, Moray, Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles.

Email contact

If you are not already on the Branch emailing list and would like to receive reminders about events and details of any changes to the programme, please email Audrey at unicorn64@btinternet.com and ask to be added to the list. Emails are sent out as blind carbon copies and email addresses are never shared, given or sold to anyone else. Having your email address really helps us keep costs down by sending this newsletter by email.

AGM

The next AGM will be held on Saturday the 12th of April 2014 at the Charleston Community Complex, General Booth Road, Inverness. We will commence at 10.00am for 10.30am and once the AGM is complete there will be a talk by Jim Asher the vice chairman of Butterfly Conservation, subject to be confirmed. This will be followed by Pete Moore talking about the field trips planned for 2014 and Tom Prescott will give a round-up of his work. After lunch there will be a moth trap to look through, followed by a walk up the Great Glen Way from SNH HQ, weather permitting. Please bring your own lunch, but tea and coffee will be available.

Butterfly Records

The butterfly season is coming to an end so now is the time to get the rest of your 2013 butterfly records together. Ideally records are best sent by e-mail on a spreadsheet and details are on the Branch Website. The various butterfly recorders are

Highland and Moray Dr David Barbour, 125a High Street, Aberlour, Banff-shire AB38 9PB
e-mail dbfis@btinternet.com; Tel 01340-871850

Orkney Sydney Gauld, Quoyberstane, Work Road, St Ola, Kirkwall, KW15 1UF
e-mail orklander45@gmail.com; Tel 01856 872468

Shetland Paul Harvey, SBRC, Shetland Amenity Trust, Garthspool, Lerwick, ZE1 0NY
e-mail sbrc@shetlandamenity.org

Western Isles Steve Duffield, 5 Drimsdale, South Uist, HS8 5RT
e-mail steveduffield@hebrides.net; Tel 01870 620241

Moth Records

The Vice County Moth recorders were listed in the Highland Branch Newsletter in the spring and are also listed on the branch website – see below.

If you don't have access to these please contact Audrey Turner for a copy of the list, address below.

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We would welcome articles of any length, ideally contributions will relate to butterflies and moths in a northern setting, including the Hebrides and Northern Isles. However, we will also welcome items from further afield, for example holiday reports. Please send text and photos as separate files, inserting photos into a word document restricts editing functions.

Please send items no later than Friday the 17th of January 2014 to unicorn64@btinternet.com or Audrey Turner, 12 Grampian View, Aviemore, Inverness-shire PH22 1TF. 01479 811517

Looking ahead

The 2014 Scottish Recorders' Meeting for those involved in recording butterflies and moths will take place at the Battleby Conference Centre near Perth on Saturday 15th March 2014. Further information is on the Butterfly Conservation Scotland website at

butterfly-conservation.org - in your area – Scotland - Events

or contact Butterfly Conservation Scotland at Balallan House, 24 Allan Park, Stirling, FK8 2QG
Tel 01786 447753, e-mail scotland@butterfly-conservation.org

Branch Website

Up to date information about butterflies and moths in the area and news about the Branch is available on the Branch website and please send in items for the home page as well as short snippets of news or information.

www.highland-butterflies.org.uk

Duke of Burgundy

A 3-5 night trip to Cumbria/Lancashire during the last week of May 2014 has been proposed. This would involve travelling by minibus and staying in a guest house, please contact Mark Wynn to register your interest, by email, markwynn@highland-butterflies.org.uk telephone 01463 729977, or in writing to 74 Balnafettack Road, Inverness, IV3 8TF

The main target species would be Duke of Burgundy Butterflies, but there should also be quite a few other species such as Brimstone, Comma, Wall Brown, Holly Blue, Pearl-bordered Fritillary etc, with Lady's Slipper Orchids, Marsh Harriers and Bearded Tits also nearby.

There are plenty of sites of interest in the area including BCs Myers Allotment reserve, Leighton Moss RSPB reserve, Gait Barrows NNR, Arnside Knott and Warton Crag. Leighton Moss also has a very good café and does very good cake as those of you who watched the recent BBC Autumnwatch programme will know.

Field Trips

If anyone has any ideas for field trips, either a site to visit or a species to see, please contact Pete Moore, by email to theconfused@btinternet.com or write to 90a High Street, Grantown on Spey, Moray PH26 3EL. You don't have to lead the field trip unless you want to, but are welcome to do so if you like.

Volunteers Required

We are always looking for new people who can contribute to the running of the Branch and this year there are some opportunities for people to play an active part.

Volunteers to become **Committee Members** are always welcome, we only have 2 or 3 committee meetings per year. In addition we are looking for someone to take on the role of **Webmaster** as sadly Bill Slater has decided to step down, he will be sorely missed. This involves adding snippets of latest news, information about field trips and surveys etc to the website and takes up roughly 12 hours per month.

We are also looking for anyone who can help produce our annual Newsletter, The Chequered Skipper. Do please come forward and offer your services.

MapMate

Highland branch currently pays for a small number of annual Mapmate licences which ensures that users get regular programme updates and corrections. If you currently use MapMate for your Butterfly and Moth records, send those records to the appropriate VC recorders and would like to receive the updates, then please contact Audrey Turner unicorn64@btinternet.com