



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION HIGHLAND BRANCH



NEWS-SHEET – Dec 2014

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

In order to ensure that you keep getting the email reminders about events and details of any changes to the programme, please ensure that my email address, unicorn64@btinternet.com is added to your address book or approved contact lists. This will ensure any emails sent won't be marked as spam. 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 11th of April 2015 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 an update on his work by Tom Prescott. This will be followed by a brief coffee break then a short talk by Stuart Bence on the outline of his PhD on the Pine-tree Lappet moth. From approximately 12 noon until 1pm there will be a talk and question and answer session by a guest speaker, followed by lunch. 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 2014 butterfly records together. Ideally records are best sent by e-mail on a spreadsheet and details are on the Branch Website. This is the final year of the 5 year recording cycle and so Butterfly Conservation will be keen to get all records in and processed by early spring at the latest.

The various butterfly recorders are;

Highland and Moray Dr David Barbour, 74 Blarmore Avenue, Inverness IV3 8QU
e-mail dbfis@btinternet.com; Tel 07896 783245

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 paul@shetlandamenity.org

Western Isles Steve Duffield, 7 Carinish, North Uist, HS6 5HL
e-mail steveduffield@hebrides.net; Tel 01870 620241 Mob 07867 555971

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.

Highland Branch Newsletter 20 – Spring 2015

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 6th of February 2015 to unicorn64@btinternet.com or Audrey Turner, 12 Grampian View, Aviemore, Inverness-shire PH22 1TF. 01479 811517 Please note that this will be printed in A5 format, so I'd be grateful if any graphs, charts or tables be designed to fit that.

Looking ahead

The 2015 Scottish Recorders' Meeting for those involved in recording butterflies and moths will take place at the Battleby Conference Centre near Perth on Saturday 7th March 2015. Further information is on the Butterfly Conservation Scotland website at

[Butterfly Conservation 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 In Your Area page of the main Butterfly Conservation website;

[Highlands & Islands](#)

Items for the home page as well as short snippets of news or information will be welcome, please send to; webmaster@highland-butterflies.org.uk

Archived information is still available on the old branch website; [Highland Butterflies](#)

Facebook

We now have a Facebook page [Butterfly Conservation Highlands & Islands](#)

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, 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 particular we are looking for a **Branch Publicity Officer**

Role:

- To identify anything newsworthy occurring in your Branch area.
- To liaise with the Regional Publicity Officer at head office on all things media-related, including press releases and any potential interaction with the local newspapers, magazines, radio or TV stations.
- Knowledge of the media and writing press releases is a bonus but not a requirement, as the media team at BC HQ in Dorset can write and distribute the Branch press releases. Advice and training is available on request.

Primary Responsibilities:

- To stay in regular contact with the Regional Publicity Officer by phone or email, discussing content for press releases. This could be a rare or unusual moth or butterfly sighting / a Branch event / new projects/partnership working, such as running an educational day at a school or providing assistance to the local authority or a tourist attraction, to create a butterfly bank or garden.
- To inform the Regional Publicity Officer of any press releases you plan to put out and to email a final draft for official sign-off before distribution.
- To act as the media spokesperson or identify the best spokespeople for the Branch during annual national events such as The Big Butterfly Count and Moth Night.

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