



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION HIGHLAND BRANCH



AUTUMN NEWS-SHEET – Nov 2017

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 the Western Isles.

Email contact

In order to ensure that you keep getting 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. **If you have received this by post but have previously given us an email address, that is because the email address we have for you isn't working so please send us your current one.**

AGM

The next AGM will be held on Saturday the 14th of April 2018 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 some talks, more details will be in the Chequered Skipper and on the website once finalized.

Butterfly Records

The butterfly season has ended so now is the time to get the rest of your 2017 butterfly records together and sent to the recorder. Ideally records are best sent by email on a spreadsheet and details of what information is needed are on the Branch Website.

David Barbour our long-standing Butterfly Recorder (receiving and processing your records for BC's national recording scheme) is leaving Highland area and will be giving up the Recorder duties. He is happy still to receive all records from this (2017) butterfly season, leaving time for someone else to take on the task from 2018 on. David does ask you to be a bit prompt sending your returns this time, so as soon as possible please and certainly no later than January of the new year. Some people still also have records from pre-2017 seasons – it would be particularly appreciated if these can be brought to light and sent in now, so that the database can be tidied up and completed for the coming hand-over.

You can send your records to David, or the other Butterfly Recorders, as detailed below.

Highland & Moray Dr David Barbour, 74 Blarmore Avenue, Inverness IV3 8QU
email dbfis@btinternet.com Tel 07896 783245

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

Shetland Paul Harvey, SBRC, Shetland Amenity Trust, Garthspool, Lerwick, ZE1 0NY
email paul@shetlandamenity.org

Western Isles Steve Duffield, 7 Carinish, North Uist, HS6 5HL
email steveduffield70@gmail.com 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.

New Butterfly Recorder(s) Wanted

As mentioned above, David Barbour is moving on, so we are now looking for someone to take over as Butterfly Recorder for Highland and Moray. If you would like to be considered to fill this position please email Pete Moore, our Branch Chairman at tonuptwitcher@gmail.com If you feel that all of Highland and Moray would be a bit much, but wouldn't mind taking on one or more of the Vice Counties, then please also email Pete for consideration.

The Chequered Skipper Highland Branch Newsletter 23 – Spring 2018

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 Sunday the 21st of January 2018 to unicorn64@btinternet.com or Audrey Turner, 12 Grampian View, Aviemore, Inverness-shire PH22 1TF. 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 2018 Scottish Recorders' Meeting for those involved in recording butterflies and moths will take place at the Battleby Conference Centre near Perth on Saturday 17th March 2018. The 2018 Scottish Members Day will also take place at Battleby on Saturday 7th October. 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, email 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; [Highland Butterflies](#) which has an events list, event reports and Latest News pages.

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

Information is also on the “In Your Area” page of the main Butterfly Conservation website:

[Highlands & Islands](#)

Facebook

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

Twitter

We now are also on Twitter. You don't need to be a member of Twitter to see the branch Twitter feed, which is here: [BC Highland](#)

Field Trips

Pete Moore is currently putting together a programme of interesting field trips, but if anyone has any other ideas, either a site to visit or a species to see, please contact him, by email to tonuptwitcher@gmail.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 opportunities for people to play an active part, we only have 2 or 3 committee meetings per year. Please contact Audrey if you are willing to help unicorn64@btinternet.com

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

Herald Moths

East Scotland branch have set up a survey to run across the whole of Scotland looking at Herald moths which can be found hibernating at this time of year in sheds, outbuildings, cellars, caves and so on. They would like people to have some fun and go out and try to find them, and also find which hibernation sites they prefer. You can see how the survey is progressing by looking at the survey map http://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/activities/explore?group_id=858&implicit=f. (You need to be logged in to iRecord to see this)

Take a look at the survey's [@hibernatingheralds](#) FB page and you can then get out and find some of these lovely looking moths and add your dot to the map. If you don't use Facebook, you can still contribute through the [Hibernating Herald](#)s group on iRecord.