



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION HIGHLAND BRANCH



WINTER NEWS-SHEET – Dec 2018

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 13th of April 2019 in a new venue, the Kingsview Christian Centre, Balnafettack Road, Inverness IV3 8TF. We will commence at 10.00am for 10.30am and the brief AGM will be followed by two or three presentations. The main speaker has yet to be confirmed but there will be a short presentation on rearing moths as well as a presentation on Mountain Moth Monitoring. We expect to finish around 1pm, but you are welcome to stay a bit longer to chat and eat your packed lunch, if you have one. More details will be in the Chequered Skipper and on the website once finalized.

Moth & Butterfly Records

The butterfly season has ended and there are fewer moths about so now is the time to get the rest of your 2018 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 – see below.

The Vice County Moth recorders and Butterfly recorders were listed in the Highland Branch Newsletter in the spring and are also listed on the branch website – see below. If you are unsure of which Vice County covers your butterfly records then you can email them to sightings@highland-butterflies.org.uk or post them to Butterfly Records, 19 Culloden Court, Inverness IV2 7DX.

The Chequered Skipper Highland Branch Newsletter 24 – Spring 2019

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 18th of January 2019 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 2019 Scottish Recorders' Gathering for those involved in recording butterflies and moths will take place at the Battleby Conference Centre near Perth on Saturday 16th March 2019. The 2019 Scottish Members Day will also take place at Battleby in 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](#) and will be starting a Facebook Group soon for residents and visitors to the Highlands, Islands and Moray to discuss all things relating to Butterflies and Moths.

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 for 2019, 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.

Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey (WCBS)

After being Highland Branch WCBS champion for several years, Ewan Munro will shortly be handing over the reins to Kirstie Ross. If you'd like to be involved in the WCBS or find out more about it, please email wcbs@highland-butterflies.org.uk where Ewan, or Kirstie once she takes over, will be able to help you. There's also some information about the WCBS on the homepage of the branch website – see below – as well as a link to the 2017 results. The 2018 results will be available on the website in due course.

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