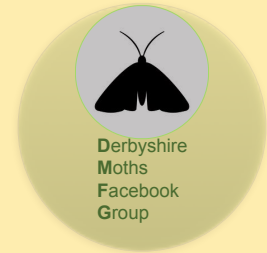


NO:3 JULY2023

MOTH NEWS

FOR DERBYSHIRE 2023



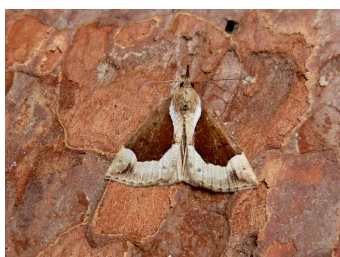
Derbyshire Moths Facebook Group (DMFG)

July - 2023

The month of July is normally the busiest summer month for trapping quantity of moths and number of species. It is also recognised as "The Micro Moth Month," as Micro Moths like warm summer evenings.

July was very wet, with heavy rain, and some thunderstorms, on and off throughout the month. Nevertheless, the wet weather did not deter our county recorders, and some very good moths were trapped, keeping up the trend in our county so far this year.

A superb **Privet Hawk-moth**, was trapped in a Sandiacre garden on 1st July, (Emily Louise Milnes), a great start to any month. This was followed by a good trap in Cromford with highlights of **Narrow-winged Pug**, **Birdswing**, **Golden Plusia**, and **Map-winged Swift** (Clive Ashton). Another **Beautiful Snout** recorded in Belper by Dave Evans also on the 1st.



MOTH OF THE MONTH

On the 10th August, Nikki Barrow trapped a single specimen of **Dark Crimson Underwing**, in her garden moth trap, overnight at Shirland. A new species for Derbyshire and another amazing county record, hot on the heels of the Rannoch Loopers in June. This moth only occurs as a breeding species in the New Forest, and otherwise, is only occasionally recorded as a rare migrant. It is classed as a **Red Data Book category RDB3**.

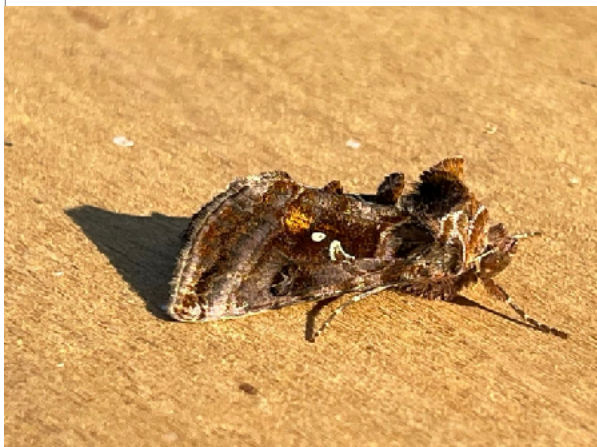
As the name suggests, the hind-wing is a bright crimson that is crossed by a thinnish black wavy cross-band, and a black border to the edge of the hind-wing. The contorted deep W-shape of the wavy black stripe, across the crimson hind-wing, is a clincher to the ID, and this can clearly be seen in the image below.



Mid-Summer Records Cont'd

On 2nd July, 45 moths of 19 species were trapped in Graham Pollock's garden moth trap at Quarndon. Highlights being several "Plusia" species - **Plain Golden Y**, **Silver Y** and **Beautiful Golden Y**. Also on 2nd a **Sycamore** at New Mills (John Turner) and a **Thyme Pug** at Cromford (Clive Ashton)

Steve Thorpe trapped the micro moth, **Endotricha flammealis**, one that doesn't turn-up too often.



Beautiful Golden Y - Quarndon - Graham Pollock



Privet Hawk-moth - Sandiacre - Tony Davison



Endotricha flammealis - Breaston - Steve Thorpe



Thyme Pug - Cromford - Clive Ashton

The first "Good Moth" of July was seen at Fernilee Reservoir by Angie Seymour on 2nd July, a **Satin Beauty** - *Deileptenia ribeata*. A rare species in Derbyshire, first recorded in 2008, then 1 trapped near Buxton on July 10th, 2021.

Image right - **Satin Beauty** - Angie Seymour



Mid-Summer records cont'd

On 3rd July John Turner recorded **Large Emerald, Dunbar** and **Elephant Hawk-moth** at New Mills.

Claire Miles recorded 272 moths of 43 species (117 Dark Arches) from her garden moth trap at Hathersage on 1st July. Highlights were **Plain Golden Y, Epinotia bilunana, Eucosma cana, Northern Spinach** and **Barred Straw**.



Large Emerald - New Mills - John Turner

On the 2nd July, Steve Thorpe posted a **Round-winged Muslin** from his weekend moth trap. This provoked me to look into the status of this species in the county, as I was suspicious that the only records of this moth in Derbyshire, were from Steve Thorpe's garden in Breaston. In actual fact, I discovered that the first record was in 2016, from Belper, but the record was never published.



Round-winged Muslin - Breaston - Steve Thorpe

Steve recorded a single of this species in 2020, then a further 19 in 2021, and 3 in 2022, all from the same site.

He had another individual in June 2023, and a further one from a garden in Sandiacre (Emile-Louise Milnes), in late June 2023. It appears that the main site for this species could well be Golden Brook Nature Reserve at Breaston, clearly a "Hotspot," and fortunate for Steve, as his garden backs on to the reserve.

Neil Loverock recorded 91 moths of 38 species from his garden moth trap in Chaddesden, that included a few micros - **Acleris Cristina, Batrachedra praengusta** and **Eucosma cana**.

The first **Yellow-tail** appeared on the group pages on 5th July, recorded by Charlotte Morton, from Findern.

Mid-Summer records cont'd

Some enterprising field-work by Sid Morris as he set-up the first ever Moth Trapping session at Markham Vale on 5th July, recording 82 moths of 36 species. Highlights were **Fen Wainscot** and **The Suspected**.

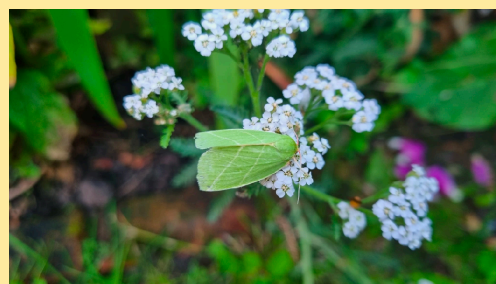


Fen Wainscot - Markham Vale - Sid Morris



The Moth Trap set-up at Markham Vale

Between the 7th and 12th July, a wide range of species were recorded, including a **Scarce Footman** at New Mills (John Turner), **Old Lady** and **Green Silver Lines** at Sandiacre (Emily-Louise Milnes), **Dark Sword Grass**, **Blackneck** and **Coronet** at Shirland (Nikki Barrow) and **Pine Hawk-moth** at Ripley (Giles Pease). A **Privet Hawk-moth** at Quarndon (Graham Pollock), and **Blue-bordered Carpet** was Claire Miles 499th species from her Hathersage garden, on 7th July, from 373 moths of 82 species.



Green Silver-lines - Sandiacre -

Clive Ashton had a **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** in his Cromford garden on 7th July.

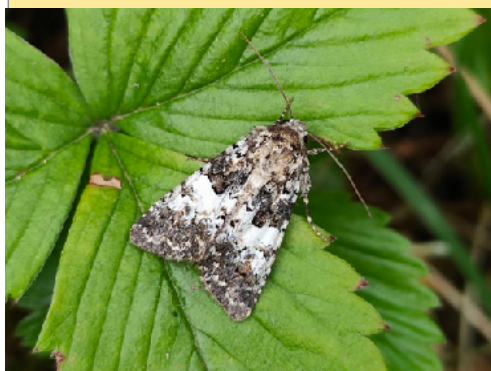
Despite the range of species being trapped, some recorders were reporting poor trapping results, due to heavy rain and storms, during the first couple of weeks of July.

Mid - Summer Records Cont'd

On 10th July an **Oak Eggar** was trapped at Whaley Bridge by Angie Seymour, along with an **Obscure Wainscot**. see below

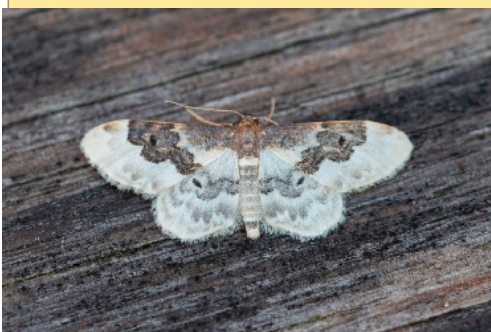


Steve Thorpe from his Breaston moth trap recorded 443 moths of 96 species on 9th/10th July inc., 2 **Drinkers**, **Varied Coronet**, **Shark**, **Dingy Shears** and a number of micros -



Varied Coronet below.

Neil Loverock trapped a **Privet Hawk-moth** and a **Least Carpet** on



Early Summer Records Cont'd

A species not often record, the **Galium Carpet**, was trapped by Clive Ashton at Cromford on 7th/8th July.



Oak Processionary Moth caterpillars were making local headlines in Long Eaton on 10th July.

Sid Morris completed another moth trap session at Markham Vale on 12th July, with 201 moths of 49 species, and a superb **White Satin** was trapped at Sandiacre by Anne Butler, posted on 13th July.



Mid - Summer records cont'd

Sam Goddard trapped another **Yellow-tail** in his Fenny Bentley garden moth trap on 13/14th July - 68 moths of 22 species. Dave Evans from his Belper moth trap, on 13th July, recorded **Yellow-tail**, **Scalloped Oak**, **Iron Prominent** and **Beautiful Hook-tip**



Yellow-tail - Sam Goddard



Scalloped Oak - Dave Evans

By the middle of July, moth records were pouring in to the group, and a variety of common species were being trapped. **The Herald**, **Chinese Character**, **V Moth**, **Lesser Yellow Underwing** and **The Rustic**, from Quarndon (Graham Pollock). 14th July from Cromford, **Early Thorn**, **V-Moth**, **Barred Straw**, **Light Arches** and **Catoptria falsella** (Clive Ashton). 16th July from Belper, **The Herald**, **Dark Arches**, **Setaceous Hebrew Character** and **Willow Beauty** (Dan Martin). Dave Evans trapped **Common Lutestring**, **Small Ranunculus** and **Chinese Character** in Belper 17th July.



Common Lutestring - Dave Evans



Small Ranunculus - Dave Evans

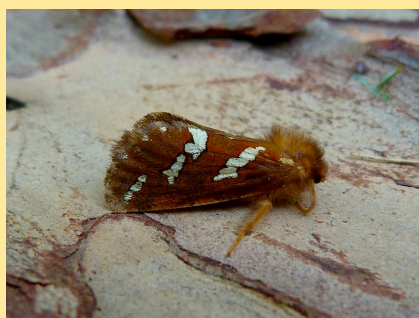
Mid - Summer records cont'd

17th July from Cromford - **Least Carpet**, **Coxcomb Prominent**, 2 **Poplar Hawk-moth** and 2 **Old Lady** (Clive Ashton). 18th July a **Silver Y** in my Melbourne garden, looking rather sandy brown.



Coxcomb Prominent and **Old Lady** to wine rope - Clive Ashton **Silver Y** - Tony Davison

19th/20th July a melanic form of **Box Tree Moth** was in William Grange's light trap in Allestree. **Small Dotted Buff** was beginning to appear with one at Fenny Bentley (Sam Goddard) and one in Belper (Dave Evans) both on 19th July. Also in Belper, on 20th July, a **Gold Swift** (Dave Evans).

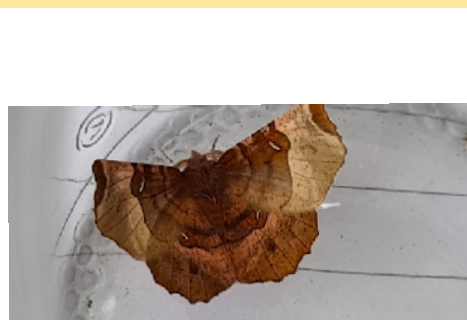
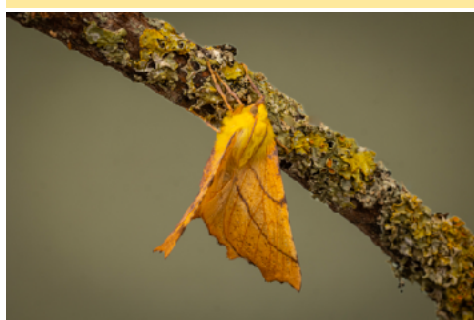


Box Tree Moth - William Grange

Gold Swift - Dave Evans

Small Dotted Buff - Dave Evans

The first **Purple Thorn** for the month appeared on the group from John Turner - New Mills on 20th July. Another **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** from the Tissington Trail on 21st July (Sam Goddard). A superb **Canary-shouldered Thorn** on 18th July from Mickleover (Christine Maughan). Sam Goddard trapped a **Light Emerald** posted on 21st July, appeared to have a reddish tinge to the cross-band.



Canary-shouldered Thorn - Christine Maughan / **Light Emerald** - Sam Goddard / **Purple Thorn** - John Turner.

Mid - Summer records cont'd

July was turning out to be a bumper month for Derbyshire moth recorders, with many new people joining the group.

Sid Morris recorded a **Southern Wainscot** on 18th July. A species that seems to be expanding its range in the county. **Golden Plusia** is another localised species and one or two were trapped during the month. Steve Orridge trapped another **Satin Beauty** in his Buxton moth trap on 21st July.

Brian Hobby trapped overnight on 21st July, and recorded **Campion, Dark Spectacle, Ghost Moth, Dun-bar, White Plume, Small Phoenix** and **Maiden's Blush** in his Kirk Hallam moth trap, quite a superb selection of moths.

Emily-Louise Milnes recorded some quality moths from her Sandiacre garden moth trap on 22nd/23rd July including **Small Rufous, White Satin, Pale Prominent, The Clay, Ruby Tiger, Champion** and **Copper Underwing**.

The species for the month was certainly increasing as recorders entered the later part of July. Matt Leedell trapped the micro ***Ypsolopha sequel*** (The Bunny Moth) on 25th July.

Giles Pease recorded **Flame Carpet, Ruby Tiger, Clouded Border** and **Campion** on 25th July in his home made 20W Actinic garden trap.

Neil Loverock trapped the attractive micro moth ***Carpatolechia alburnella*** in his Chaddesden garden moth trap on 25th July. Possibly a new micro species for the county, as it is not listed on the new Derbyshire Micro Moth List, that is currently being prepared.

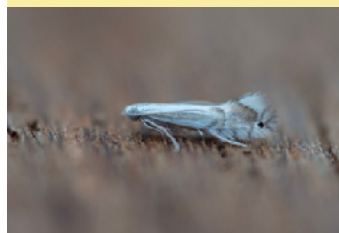


Ypsolopha sequela - Matt Leedell



Carpatolechia alburnella - Neil Loverock

27th July more micros from Neil Loverock, including ***Gelechia senticella***, and ***Phyllocnistis saligna***, two more potential new species for Derbyshire, and ***Bucculatrix nigricomella***.



Phyllocnistis saligna



Bucculatrix nigricomella



Gelechia sentinella

As the month came to an end, Clive Ashton reported that there was an influx of ***Yponomeuta rorella*** (Willow Ermine) across the Midlands. Certainly many were being recorded in county moth traps.

On 29th July Steve Thorpe recorded a **Fen Wainscot** in his Breaston garden trap, along with **White-spotted Pug** and **Sallow Kitten**. On 30th July Emily-Louise Milnes rounded the month off with a **Tree-lichen Beauty** in her Sandiacre garden moth trap. Phew! What a month.