



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION HIGHLAND BRANCH



NEWS-SHEET 12 – (Sept 2007)

AGM

The Highland Branch AGM will be held on **Sunday 11th November** from 11.15 to 13.15 in Charleston Academy Community Complex. It is appreciated that this is Remembrance Sunday but we were unable to obtain a room for the Saturday.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Election of Committee members
6. Finance
7. Atlas
8. 2007 field trips and moth nights
9. Any other business

This will be followed by a presentation on "Butterfly Recording and Moths Count in Sutherland" by Tony Mainwood.

Field Trips 2008

We are already looking to next year and provisionally four butterfly field trips have been proposed. There will also be a number of moth events - details will be available later. Please note that National Moth Night will be on 7th June in 2008.

- Corrimony in late May if possible to look for Pearl-bordered Fritillary.
- Insh Marshes in June or July
- Loch Fleet Sunday 20th July – a repeat of the cloudy event from 2007 but with sunshine.
- Findhorn Dunes 26th July – a repeat of the washed-out trip from 2007 but without the rain.

Butterfly Conservation – Highland Branch Website

Don't forget to log on to the Branch website for news and updates on field trips and meetings.

www.highland-butterflies.org.uk

Bill Slater has now taken over as webmaster and would be delighted to have comments on the layout and content of the website. News, photographs, snippets of information etc would all be very welcome. Bill's e-mail address is - bill@billslater.wanadoo.co.uk.

Newsletter 13

This will be being produced over the winter for publication in the spring. Articles and short items will be very much welcomed by the chairman who is also the Newsletter editor. Please send items to Jimmy McKellar, 24 Scorguie Gardens, Inverness IV3 8SS.
E-mail: jimmy.mckellar@bopenworld.com



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MapMate software for keeping records.

A grant application to "Awards for All" for a laptop, digital projector, screen and software has been successful and the Branch has ordered 25 copies of MapMate primarily for keeping moth records to contribute to the Moths Count National Moth Recording Scheme. Branch members and moth recorders for whom we have an e-mail address have been asked if they would like a copy of MapMate to use for moth recording. So far Tony Mainwood, Mary Winsch, Andrew Call, Murdo Macdonald, Sue Agnew, Pete Moore and Ian Evans have asked for copies. If you would like to be added to the list please get in touch with Tony by e-mail at tony.mainwood@btinternet.com or phone on 01408633247

It is planned to arrange some initial training in MapMate during the winter or early spring but we would need some more people to express an interest in this before we make any firm plans.

Other moth training courses have been suggested but there has been limited response so far from those contacted by e-mail for sessions on "Basic moth identification", "Identification of difficult species or groups", "Identification of Larvae", "Preserving voucher specimens and genitalia examination". If you are interested in any of these courses please let Tony know

Orange-tip postcard survey

The Orange-tip postcard survey has been a great success but if you haven't sent your records in yet please do so as soon as possible. Either use the postcards or e-mail your records to Shona Greig at sgreig@butterfly-conservation.org and copy the message to David Barbour at DbFIS@aol.com.

Butterfly Records

The spring showed great promise with many early sightings but the weather went pear shaped from May onwards. Now is the time to get your 2007 butterfly records together and send them to David Barbour the Highland Butterfly Recorder, any butterfly records straggling into the late autumn can always be sent later.

Dare one say it but there may well be some 2006 records outstanding and it is particularly important to get these to David as soon as possible. A support team has been assembled to help David get the updated Highland Butterfly Atlas together over the next few months ready for publication in the spring.

Please submit records to David either on the famous yellow forms or put them on a spreadsheet and send it by e-mail.

Dr David Barbour, 125a High Street, ABERLOUR, Banff-shire AB38 9PB;
E-mail: DbFIS@aol.com
Tel: 01340-871850

Moth Records

The moth season extends a lot longer than the butterfly one but as the evenings start to draw in it is also time to think about assembling your records ready to be sent to the vice-county recorders. Names and addresses etc were given in the Spring Newsheet No. 11 and this is also available as a download on the branch website.

Tony Mainwood