

Warrington Organic and Wildlife Gardening Society

1995

Part 2

POTENTIAL VALUE

Some sites have the potential to provide greater nature conservation interest than presently exists, for example abandoned quarries, spoil heaps and flooded gravel pits.

POSITION WITHIN ECOLOGICAL/GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT

A site which is near or adjacent to other similar habitats may have a higher conservation value than if it were isolated, particularly if sites are linked by wildlife corridors such as hedges and watercourses.

TYPICALNESS

When a site is considered in the context of the local or regional area, certain habitats assume importance because they are good examples of what is, or has been historically typical of the area.

RECORDED HISTORY

The history of a site is important, and a well-documented past presents a valuable insight into its ecology. Such information is important educationally, and also provides a basis for current and future management.

NATURALNESS

Naturalness is a measure of the degree to which an area has been modified by human activity. Naturalness is often indicated by the presence of indicator species, and can be valued according to the degree to which it represents the original natural landscape.

INTRINSIC APPEAL

This refers to value in popular rather than ecological sense. A host of golden daffodils in the Lake District can be as valuable as a colony of rare orchids elsewhere. This highlights the fact that value is derived from society's preferences, and is not just based purely on ecology.

In the U.K. sites and species considered to be of national or international importance are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, while sites and species of regional and local importance can be given non-statutory protection at local planning level.

Although most of the plant species identified within the Grappenhall Heys area are not considered to be rare, with the exception of some of the ornamental species such as the fern beech and the alpen rose, the vegetation community overall is unusual because of its particular species composition which includes planted native and ornamental species together with those which occur by natural regeneration. This vegetation community, because of its wide diversity, provides a large number of different habitats which

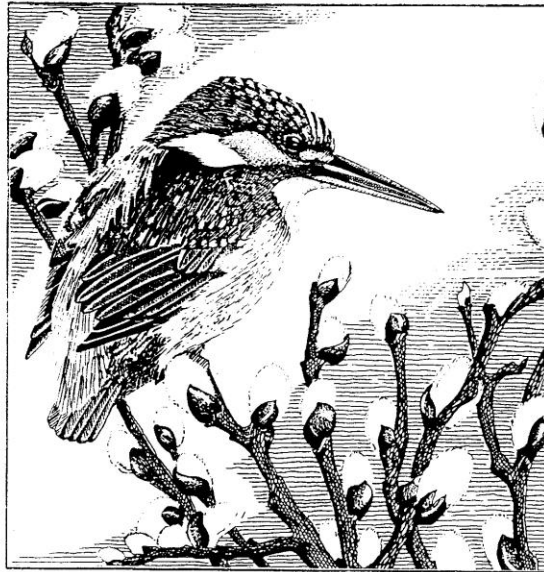
support a correspondingly wide variety of fauna.

Because the area of Grappenhall Heys is relatively small and confined, and surrounded by agricultural land, many habitats are also small and isolated, and therefore more susceptible to irreversible damage which may result in total loss of that particular habitat together with its associated flora and fauna.

A number of species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 have been identified at Grappenhall Heys. These include bats, badger, barn owl and kingfisher.

A special survey of kingfishers and dragonflies is being carried out in Cheshire in 1995. As well as the kingfisher, Grappenhall Heys also supports a number of species of dragonfly and damselfly.

Planning Policy Guidance Note 9 : Nature Conservation states that the presence of a protected species is a material consideration when a planning authority is considering a development proposal which, if carried out, would be likely to result in harm to the species or its habitat.



THE ROLE OF WARRINGTON ORGANIC AND WILDLIFE GARDENING SOCIETY

Members of the Warrington Organic and Wildlife Gardening Society (WOWGS) were invited by the owner of Grappenhall Heys, Mr Phillip Power, in 1988, to garden organically within the walled garden. This arrangement has continued to date, although the land has been compulsorily purchased by the Commission for the New Towns, and was rented from them by Mr Power until his untimely death earlier this year.

The area known as Grappenhall Heys has a Section 7(1) planning agreement on it, dating from 1989, with 'executive' housing proposed for much of the site (Figure 9). It is unlikely that the walled garden will be demolished for housing, but there are proposals to incorporate it into a 'local park', which are likely to include radical changes to the site.

Rather than let this happen, which would result in the loss of a unique area of high heritage and ecological value in Cheshire, the Warrington Organic and Wildlife Gardening Society would propose that the walled garden be sensitively restored to retain all the existing features of historical and ecological interest, and managed as a Victorian kitchen garden and pleasure grounds under the auspices of the Henry Doubleday Research Association.

The part of the walled garden not in use as a kitchen garden offers an ideal setting for development of a small arboretum, because of its enclosure and presence of a number of interesting trees and shrubs, in particular the fern beech. The arboretum would enhance the nature conservation importance of the site by increasing diversity and maintain the heritage interest of the garden, as well as adding to its educational and recreational value.

WOWGS have access to a number of sources of funding, as befits their charity status, and the walled garden may also be eligible for grant aid from English Heritage. Voluntary assistance may be available from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), the Community Service Programme and Appleton Thorn Y.O.C. for less specialised work.

WOWGS would provide a management plan for the garden, which would also encompass proposals suggested by the Woodland Trust and hopefully include the adjacent parkland and lime avenue, so that the estate could be managed as an integrated unit. Public access to the Woodland Trust property is always available, and it is envisaged that access to the walled garden would be available at most times by arrangement, thus providing an important leisure and educational facility for the area.

A summary of work required, listed in order of priority, is given below :

1. Repair sandstone wall.
2. Repair and repoint brick wall
3. Construct new double gates
4. Repair/reroof outbuildings
5. Restore Victorian glasshouses
6. Remove free-standing glasshouse*
7. Remove poultry houses*
8. Restore layout of kitchen garden*
9. Tidy pleasure grounds, re-establish footpath network*
10. Carry out selective tree work
11. De-silt ponds and restore banks, including aquatic planting*
12. Restore metal archways
13. Improve access*
14. Provide interpretive material

* Tasks suitable for non-skilled volunteers, under supervision of WOWGS.

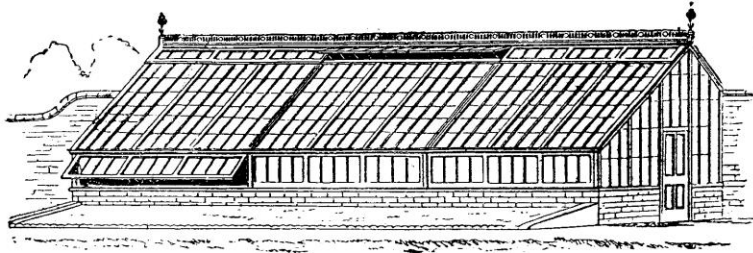
The organic approach to gardening and farming recognises that the whole growing environment is more than the sum of its parts, and that all living things are inter-related and inter-dependent.

Organic growing involves :

- treating the soil and growing environment as a resource to be husbanded for future generations, rather than mined for short term gain.
- providing plants with a balanced food supply, by feeding the many creatures that live in the soil, with composts, manures and other organic materials.
- choosing renewable resources, thereby creating a sustainable future.
- reducing pollution of the environment, by recycling garden, household and other wastes, rather than dumping or burning them.
- combating pests and diseases without using synthetic pesticides that may prove harmful to human health.
- encouraging wildlife, by creating suitable habitats and by not using synthetic pesticides.
- the whole garden : flowers, trees, shrubs and lawns, as well as vegetables, fruit and herbs.
- creating an environment that is safe and pleasant in which to work and play.
- moving with the times : taking new scientific discoveries and ideas into account, as well as the best traditional knowledge.

- using good horticultural practices.
- recognising the importance of genetic diversity and hence the preservation of threatened plant varieties.

The Warrington Organic and Wildlife Gardening Society would undertake to manage the Grappenhall Heys walled garden, encompassing all the principles of organic growing outlined above.

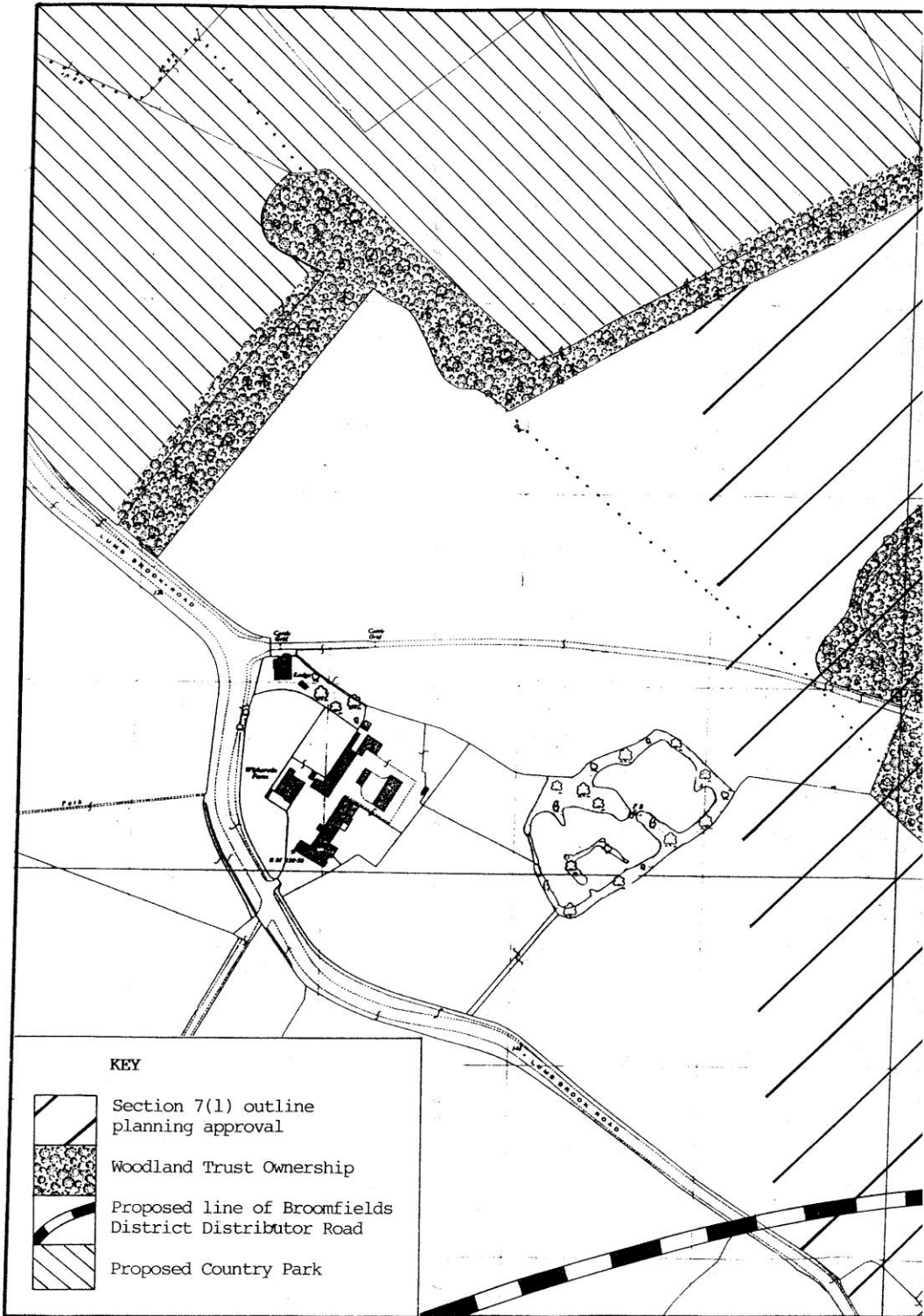


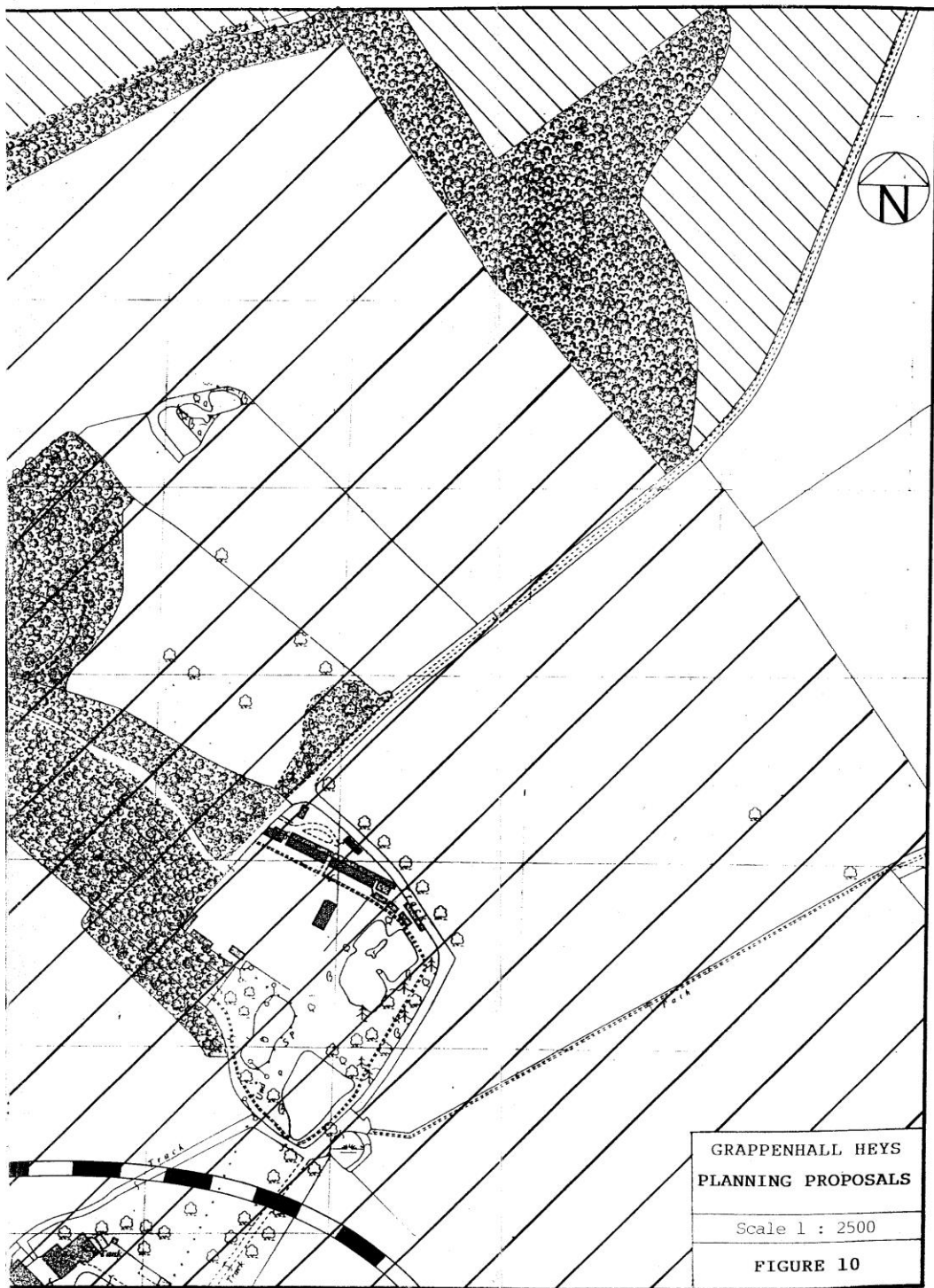
CONCLUSIONS

The Grappenhall Heys area has high conservation value in terms of its landscape and its ecological and heritage interest.

Although in a poor state of repair generally through neglect, the framework of the walled garden and pleasure grounds is intact, and substantial improvements can be achieved largely by cosmetic work. Indeed, the appeal of Grappenhall Heys, particularly in terms of its ecological value, has been achieved partly through neglect, and management to maintain the area much as it is now, rather than to attempt to re-create the Victorian landscape of over 150 years ago, or to make it into a 1990's landscape, would be the most appropriate approach. This has the added advantage of being relatively inexpensive to achieve compared with the other two options, while retaining the area's landscape, ecological and heritage value at the highest level.

The area would also retain its high educational value. Local primary schools already use the woodland areas, and Manchester Metropolitan University have expressed an interest in using Grappenhall Heys as a case study for the Countryside Management Course.





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Carter, T. (1984) The Victorian Garden. Bell & Hyman.

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English Nature (1990) Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey.

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Ormerod, G. (1882) History of the County Palatine and City of Chester. 2nd. Edition. Routledge.

Warrington Guardian Year Book & Almanac 1900-1904.

Department of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance Notes

No. 9 Nature Conservation 1994

No. 16 Archaeology & Planning 1990

MAPS

Cheshire County Record Office

Grappenhall Tithe Map & Apportionment 1828/1829. Ref. DDX 275/12 & DDX 275/1.

Appleton Tithe Map 1847. Ref. EDT 17/2

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1876. Ref. 16.12.

APPENDIX 2

ENTOMOLOGY RECORDS

The list has the species name and authority plus its English Name (where there is one) at the left hand side of the page; the right hand side of the page shows the National Status and where there is anything even slightly outstanding these are emboldened (we have found a small sprinkling of Nationally Local items). Following the main species heading lines is a shortish description of the insects distribution, life-history (where appropriate), etc. And this account is followed by the actual records for the species showing recorder's name, determiner's name, O.S. Grid Reference (all the same as it is the one site), and finally the date of the record.

So far there are about 240 individual species recognised/identified but this should really only be a scratching of the surface and I would expect two years of general low level surveying to approach the 500 mark with relative ease.

Probably the best things so far are: Scorched Wing (Nationally Local); *Mompha conturbatella* (a micro-moth which is suspected of being Nationally Local); Blotched Emerald (Nationally Local); Beautiful Carpet (although frequent in England this moth is decidedly uncommon in Cheshire); and Slender Pug (Nationally Local).

Obviously we will continue the survey, most likely via moth trapping and disking sessions on a monthly basis, and will let you have further records for the site in due course - if you need up to date information in a hurry then please feel free to give me a ring at any time.

***Enoplognatha ovata* (Clerck, 1757)**
a comb-footed spider

Common

A very common and widespread orb spider found on bushes and low plants. It is small (4-5mm) and pale and its web is a simple structure, consisting only of a tangle of threads crossing each other in all directions with no hammock or platform. The spider spins a small shelter of leaves drawn together with silk near the threads of the web and the egg cocoon is usually hung in or near this.

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***Arion ater* (L., 1758)**
Great Black Slug

Common

Large slug, to 20 cm extended length, and very variable in colour. Commonly black, red, orange or grey or black with red fringe. Common in most habitats, including bogs and high moorland. A garden pest. Taxonomically in a mess and most big black Arion specimens are usually recorded as this species. Confirmation of identification is possible only with dissection.

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***Forficula auricularia* L.**
Common Earwig

Common

The common earwig, found under stones, in plant litter, etc., in most habitats, including gardens and arable. Sometimes a minor pest, particularly of garden flowers. Shows high degree of maternal care.

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***Tingis cardui* (Linnaeus)**
Spear Thistle Lacebug

Common

A common and widely distributed lacebug throughout Britain, feeding on spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*).

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***Anthocoris nemorum* (Linnaeus)**
Common Flower Bug

Common

Very common and widely distributed predatory bug in Britain. It is generally found on low vegetation, though it has no particular habit associations. The adults hibernate under bark and amongst leaf litter moving to a variety of plants, including sallows, in March or April. It is a predator which feeds on aphids, psyllids and other small invertebrates and occasionally on leaves.

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***Cyllecoris histrionicus* (Linnaeus)**
a plantbug or grassbug

Common

A widespread and generally common bug on oak throughout Britain, both in woods and on isolated trees.

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***Dryophilocoris flavoquadrinaculatus* (DeGeer)**
a plantbug or grassbug

Common

A common and widely distributed species, partly predacious, confined to oak. Found both in woodland and on isolated trees.

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***Nebria brevicollis* (F., 1792)**
a ground beetle

Common

Fairly large (10-14mm) black ground beetle. No particular habitat specificity, being extremely abundant in situations ranging from the shore, through woodland to high moorland. Very common.

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***Pterostichus madidus* (F., 1775)**
Black Clock

Common

15-20mm long shiny black ground beetle (occasionally with red legs - *P. concinnus* Sturm), living under stones, loose bark and grass, etc. Very common species in most habitats, including gardens and arable land.

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***Athous haemorrhoidalis* (F., 1801)**
a click beetle

Common

A medium-size (10-15mm) brown and black click beetle which occurs in most types of grassland, including woodland rides. The larvae are the common wireworm pests which feed at grass roots. They live in loams and sands which are not too dry and may go deep into the soil.

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Cantharis nigricans (Mueller, 1776)
a soldier beetle

Common

6-7mm long grey and black soldier beetle. Predatory. Adults most frequently on umbel flowers, larvae in grass litter, under stones etc. Very common in most habitats throughout Britain.

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Malachius bipustulatus (L., 1758)
Malachite Beetle

Common

Metallic green malachite beetle with red tips to elytra. Common on flowers in grassy places over England and Wales. Rare in Scotland.

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Byturus tomentosus (Degeer, 1774)
Raspberry Beetle

Common

4mm long brown beetle with conspicuous ochreous yellow hair. Larvae develop in fruits of bramble and raspberry - the common white grub found in wild fruit. Adults on flowers, particularly on umbels. Very common, often a pest of cultivated fruit.

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Coccinella septempunctata L., 1758
Seven-spot Ladybird

Common

6.5-8mm long red ladybird with 7 black spots. Gardens, hedgerows etc. Larvae aphidophagous. Very common, often with vast immigrations from the continent.

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Propylea quattuordecimpunctata (L., 1758)
14-spot Ladybird

Common

3.5-5mm long black and yellow angular spotted ladybird. Larvae aphidophagous. Very common in most habitats, including gardens.

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***Grammoptera ruficornis* (F., 1781)** Common
a longhorn beetle

A small blackish longhorn beetle with legs and antennae partly reddish. Larvae develop in the wood of a wide range of tree species; adults often occur on blossom in early summer.

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***Otiorhynchus singularis* (L., 1767)** Common
Raspberry Weevil

A moderately-sized brown weevil, largely ground dwelling and polyphagous. Larvae feed on plant roots. Widely distributed and common.

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***Phyllobius argentatus* (L., 1758)** Common
Silver-green Leaf Weevil

Beautiful, sparkling golden green leaf weevil feeding on the foliage various tree and shrub species. Common on woodland edges, scrub and hedgerows.

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***Phyllobius pomaceus* Gyllenhal, 1834** Common
a weevil

6mm long green leaf beetle feeding on nettle *Urtica dioica* wherever nettle grows.

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***Cidnorhinus quadrimaculatus* (L., 1758)** Common
Small Nettle Weevil

Small brown and black weevil living on flowers of nettle. Very common just about everywhere nettles grow.

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***Nuctenea umbratica* (Clerck, 1757)** Common
an orb-weaver spider

A rather flattened, dark coloured, large spider which lives in cracks and crevices beneath bark and stones. Very frequent in garden fences, sheds, etc. constructed of overlapping boards. Widespread and common. Often known as the Toad Spider.

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Rhynchaenus fagi (L., 1758)
Beech Leaf Miner

Common

A small (2-3mm long) grey black flea weevil with pink feet. Mainly on beech but also frequent on other shrubby species and it has recently shown that it can breed successfully on introduced species of beech. Adults feed at hawthorn and other trees in early spring, and move on beech, from evergreens where they overwinter, before bud-burst. Eggs laid in the buds, larvae mine the leaves and pupation occurs in the ground.

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Glyptotaelius pellucidus (Retzius, 1783)
a caddisfly

Common

Throughout Britain. Ditches, slow streams, pools, ponds and lake margins where deciduous tree leaves accumulate in the autumn. The waterbodies dry up or considerably diminish during summer. There are comparative few records for Scotland, possibly because the habitat is principally lowland. This species may eventually prove to be Regionally Notable, at least in parts of Scotland.

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Eriocrania subpurpurella Haworth
a micro-moth

Unknown

A very common micromoth which flies in sunshine during April and May in oakwoods. The eggs are laid in the leaf-buds of oaks and the caterpillars feed inside the leaves during the summer, causing characteristic larval blotch mines which turn brown. The pupae overwinter in tough, silken cocoons in the soil.

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Hepialus humuli (Linnaeus, 1758)
Ghost Moth

Common

A large moth that is a member of a primitive suborder of the Lepidoptera. Frequenting hillsides, waste ground and other grassy places, this species is widespread over the whole of the British Isles. The larvae feed at the roots of grasses and a wide variety of wild and cultivated plants. Three subspecies are recognised.

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Hepialus lupulinus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Common Swift

Common

A moth associated with rough grassland, agricultural land and gardens. Larvae feed on the roots of grasses and wide range of cultivated plants. Can be a pest species. Common in much of England and Wales, rather local in Scotland.

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***Incurvaria masculella* Denis & Schiffermuller** Unknown
 a longhorn moth

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***Nematopogon swammerdamella* Linnaeus** Unknown
 a longhorn moth

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***Adela reamurella* L.** Common
 a longhorn moth

This micromoth is a common and widespread diurnal insect which flies around trees and shrubs, particularly oaks, in early summer and is very obvious because of its swarming habits, dark metallic-green wings and very long antennae. The caterpillars build flat cases out of pieces of leaf and feed in the leaf litter from September through to March, pupating within the cases.

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***Anthophila fabriciana* (L.)** Common
 a micro-moth

The Nettle-tap is a small day-flying moth which is extremely abundant throughout Britain, found almost everywhere that its foodplant grows. It has two generations during the summer with adults flying in May and late summer. Eggs are laid on stems or leaves of the foodplants, Stinging Nettle and occasionally Pellitory-of-the-Wall, the caterpillars spinning slight webs on the upperside of the leaves which fold them over and form a tent.

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***Glyphipterix simplicella* Stephens** Common
 Cocksfoot Moth

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***Plutella xylostella* Linnaeus** Migrant
 Diamond Backed Moth

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***Elachista argentella* Clerck** Common
 a micro-moth

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Hofmannophila pseudospretella Stainton
Brown House Moth

Common

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Endrosis sarcitrella Linnaeus
White-shouldered House Moth

Common

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Carcina quercana Fabricius
a micro-moth

Common

This micromoth flies in the summer and overwinters in the egg stage. The caterpillars feed in early summer on the leaves of a variety of trees such as oaks, Beech, Sweet Chestnut, Apple and Sycamore, spinning a silken web on the underside of each leaf and pupating in a similar way.

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Mompha conturbatella Hubner
a micro-moth

Unknown

The larva feeds in tightly spun leaves of *Epilobium angustifolium*. **Local**, southern England north to Lancashire and Yorkshire.

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Agapeta hamana Linnaeus
a micro-moth

Common

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Pandemis cerasana Hubner
Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix

Common

This micromoth is widely distributed and generally common throughout Britain. It rests during the day in foliage and flies at dusk during summer in gardens, orchards and open woodland. Eggs are laid in small batches on leaves or branches of trees such as maples, Alder, Hazel, oaks, sallows, birches, limes and elms. Some hatch in the autumn whilst others overwinter and hatch in the spring.

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***Archips podana* Scopoli**
Large Fruit-tree Tortrix

Common

This micromoth is widely distributed and generally common in the lowlands of England and Wales. The adult moths fly in the late afternoon and evening during the summer in gardens and orchards. The eggs are laid in batches of 50-100 on the upper surface of the leaves of trees or shrubs and covered by a waxy secretion. The larvae spin together the leaves and flowers of most trees and shrubs and feed within them until hibernation.

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***Clepsis spectrana* Treitschke**
a tortrix moth

Common

This micromoth is fairly common in England, Wales and Ireland though scarce in southern Scotland. It flies from dusk onwards during early summer in marshes, fens, bogs and damp woods with a smaller second brood in late summer. The eggs are laid in small batches on the foodplants which include most marshland plants such as willowherbs, Meadowsweet, nettles, irises and tormentils and it has been found on cultivated crops.

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Ditula angustiorana
Red-barred Tortrix

Common

This is a common urban and suburban micromoth in southern England though less common elsewhere. It flies at dusk and often during the day during June and July in orchards, gardens and woodland edges. The caterpillars feed in the spun leaves and fruit buds of many trees and shrubs and also in herbaceous plants before constructing silk hibernacula attached to buds or spurs. In early spring they recommence feeding.

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***Tortrix viridana* Linnaeus**
Green Oak Tortrix

Common

The Green Oak Tortrix is very common wherever oak grows. Adult moths fly at night during the summer and are easily disturbed during the day. The eggs are laid in small batches, usually on the bark of branches, and hatch the following spring. The caterpillars normally feed on oak, at first living in the buds and later rolling and folding the leaf edges, and may cause extensive defoliation in some years.

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***Olethreutes lacunana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Common

This micromoth flies at dusk during the summer and is easily disturbed during the day. It is polyphagous and eggs are laid in batches of two or three on the upper surface of the leaves of most herbaceous plants and occasionally on trees and shrubs. The caterpillars feed in spun leaves, shoots and flowers before and after hibernation and pupate in leaf litter.

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***Hedya nubiferana* Haworth**
Marbled Orchard Tortrix

Common

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***Ancylis badiana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Unknown

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***Rhopobota naevana* Hubner**
Holly Tortrix

Unknown

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***Epiblema uddmanniana* Linnaeus**
Bramble Shoot Moth

Common

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***Epiblema scutulana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Common

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Chrysoteuchia culmella
Garden Grass-veneer

Common

A somewhat variable moth with forewings creamy white variably streaked and suffused darker, and hindwings greyish; wingspan 20-24mm. The larvae feed on the culms of various grasses in which they overwinter. Pupation takes place in the surrounding soil and adults fly in June and July. It occurs in all grassland types and is widely distributed and common throughout Britain.

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Agriphila straminella Denis & Schiffermuller
a pyralid moth

Common

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during the summer and lays its eggs on Sheep's Fescue and other grasses, where the caterpillars feed from vertical silk galleries along the lower parts of the stems, in which they also overwinter. They pupate in silk cocoons during June.

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Scoparia ambiguus Treitschke
a pyralid moth

Common

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during early summer, resting tree-trunks and fences during the day. The caterpillars are thought feed on mosses.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Eudonia mercurella Linnaeus
a pyralid moth

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Eurrhpara hortulata Linnaeus
Small Magpie

Common

The Small Magpie Moth is generally distributed and very common, flying in mid-summer. The caterpillars normally feed on the leaves of Stinging Nettle, folding leaves over and attaching the edges together with silk. They make 'tents' in which to feed, though they will feed on mints and woundworts. They overwinter in cocoons spun under loose bark or in leaf litter and pupate in these cocoons in May.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Olethreutes lacunana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Common

This micromoth flies at dusk during the summer and is easily disturbed during the day. It is polyphagous and eggs are laid in batches of two or three on the upper surface of the leaves of most herbaceous plants and occasionally on trees and shrubs. The caterpillars feed in spun leaves, shoots and flowers before and after hibernation and pupate in leaf litter.

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	08 JUL 1995

***Hedya nubiferana* Haworth**
Marbled Orchard Tortrix

Common

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	08 JUL 1995
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***Ancylis badiana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Unknown

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995
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***Rhopobota naevana* Hubner**
Holly Tortrix

Unknown

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995

***Epiblema uddmanniana* Linnaeus**
Bramble Shoot Moth

Common

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	08 JUL 1995
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***Epiblema scutulana* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a tortrix moth

Common

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995

Chrysoteuchia culmella
Garden Grass-veneer

Common

A somewhat variable moth with forewings creamy white variably streaked and suffused darker, and hindwings greyish; wingspan 20-24mm. The larvae feed on the culms of various grasses in which they overwinter. Pupation takes place in the surrounding soil and adults fly in June and July. It occurs in all grassland types and is widely distributed and common throughout Britain.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Agriphila straminella* Denis & Schiffermuller**
a pyralid moth

Common

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during the summer and lays its eggs on Sheep's Fescue and other grasses, where the caterpillars feed from vertical silk galleries along the lower parts of the stems, in which they also overwinter. They pupate in silk cocoons during June.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Scoparia ambigualis* Treitschke**
a pyralid moth

Common

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during early summer, resting tree-trunks and fences during the day. The caterpillars are thought feed on mosses.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Eudonia mercurella* Linnaeus**
a pyralid moth

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Eurrhpara hortulata* Linnaeus**
Small Magpie

Common

The Small Magpie Moth is generally distributed and very common, flying in mid-summer. The caterpillars normally feed on the leaves of Stinging Nettle, folding leaves over and attaching the edges together with silk. They make 'tents' in which to feed, though they will feed on mints and woundworts. They overwinter in cocoons spun under loose bark or in leaf litter and pupate in these cocoons in May.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Phlyctaenia coronata Common
a pyralid moth
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Pleuroptya ruralis Scopoli Common
Mother of Pearl

The Mother of Pearl micromoth flies at dusk during July and the caterpillars feed and pupate in longitudinally-rolled leaves on the foodplant, which is usually stinging nettle, *Urtica dioecia*, goosefoots, meadowsweet and hop are also used. Very common wherever nettles grow.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Phycita roborella Denis & Schiffermuller Common
a pyralid moth

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during mid summer and the caterpillar feeds and overwinters in spun leaves of oak and, less often on Pear or Apple. It pupates in soil or leaf litter.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Aglais urticae Linnaeus Common
Small Tortoiseshell

A widespread and common butterfly, sometimes abundant throughout Britain and is first seen in early spring after having hibernated from the previous autumn in houses, sheds and outbuildings. It flies until March, its offspring appear in late June and July and producing the autumn brood which flies from August to October and then hibernates. The eggs are laid in untidy batches beneath the leaves of stinging nettle and the young are initially gregarious.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995

Thyatira batis (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Peach Blossom

A woodland moth which is fairly common throughout the British Isles though local in parts of Scotland and scarce in Ireland. Adults appear from May to July with an occasional second generation in southern England in August and September. The caterpillars feed on bramble and overwinter as pupae.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Habrosyne pyritoides* (Hufnagel, 1766)** Common
Buff Arches

Generally distributed and not uncommon in Wales and England north to Cumbria and Yorkshire, occurring in open woodland and on commons. The only recent Scottish record is a casual found in Inverness in 1958. There is a single generation which flies from June to August, the caterpillars feed on bramble and raspberry and overwinter as pupae in subterranean earthen cocoons.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Comibaena bajularia* (Denis & Schiff., 1775)** Local
Blotched Emerald

Inhabits oak woodlands. Larva on *Quercus*. Widespread throughout southern England, ranging northwards to Yorkshire.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Hemithea aestivaria* (Hubner, 1799)** Common
Common Emerald

Frequenter hedgerows and bushy places, the larva feeding on a variety of trees and shrubs including *Crataegus*, and *Prunus*. Distributed throughout England as far north as Yorkshire and Cumbria, also from much of Wales.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Idaea biselata* (Hufnagel, 1767)** Common
Small Fan-footed Wave

A widespread and common moth throughout most of Britain except the for the north of Scotland. The single generation flies in June and July and it inhabits a variety of habitats where dandelion and Knotgrass can be found. The long, slender caterpillars feed on these but they will also eat bramble and a variety of low growing plants, even feeding on withered leaves. and overwinter on or near the foodplant.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Idaea dimidiata* (Hufnagel, 1767)** Common
Single-dotted Wave

Damp woodland, marshes, ditches and other wet places. Larvae on cow-parsley and burnet saxifrage. Generally distributed in England and Wales, local in south-west Scotland.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Phlyctaenia coronata
a pyralid moth

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Pleuroptya ruralis Scopoli
Mother of Pearl

Common

The Mother of Pearl micromoth flies at dusk during July and the caterpillars feed and pupate in longitudinally-rolled leaves on the foodplant, which is usually stinging nettle, *Urtica dioecia*, goosefoots, meadowsweet and hop are also used. Very common wherever nettles grow.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Phycita roborella Denis & Schiffermuller
a pyralid moth

Common

This micromoth flies from dusk onwards during mid summer and the caterpillar feeds and overwinters in spun leaves of oak and, less often on Pear or Apple. It pupates in soil or leaf litter.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Aglais urticae Linnaeus
Small Tortoiseshell

Common

A widespread and common butterfly, sometimes abundant throughout Britain and is first seen in early spring after having hibernated from the previous autumn in houses, sheds and outbuildings. It flies until March, its offspring appear in late June and July and producing the autumn brood which flies from August to October and then hibernates. The eggs are laid in untidy batches beneath the leaves of stinging nettle and the young are initially gregarious.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995

Thyatira batis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Peach Blossom

Common

A woodland moth which is fairly common throughout the British Isles though local in parts of Scotland and scarce in Ireland. Adults appear from May to July with an occasional second generation in southern England in August and September. The caterpillars feed on bramble and overwinter as pupae.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Habrosyne pyritoides* (Hufnagel, 1766)** Common
Buff Arches

Generally distributed and not uncommon in Wales and England north to Cumbria and Yorkshire, occurring in open woodland and on commons. The only recent Scottish record is a casual found in Inverness in 1958. There is a single generation which flies from June to August, the caterpillars feed on bramble and raspberry and overwinter as pupae in subterranean earthen cocoons.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Comibaena bajularia* (Denis & Schiff., 1775)** Local
Blotched Emerald

Inhabits oak woodlands. Larva on *Quercus*. Widespread throughout southern England, ranging northwards to Yorkshire.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Hemithea aestivaria* (Hubner, 1799)** Common
Common Emerald

Frequenting hedgerows and bushy places, the larva feeding on a variety of trees and shrubs including *Crataegus*, and *Prunus*. Distributed throughout England as far north as Yorkshire and Cumbria, also from much of Wales.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Idaea biselata* (Hufnagel, 1767)** Common
Small Fan-footed Wave

A widespread and common moth throughout most of Britain except the for the north of Scotland. The single generation flies in June and July and it inhabits a variety of habitats where dandelion and Knotgrass can be found. The long, slender caterpillars feed on these but they will also eat bramble and a variety of low growing plants, even feeding on withered leaves. and overwinter on or near the foodplant.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Idaea dimidiata* (Hufnagel, 1767)** Common
Single-dotted Wave

Damp woodland, marshes, ditches and other wet places. Larvae on cow-parsley and burnet saxifrage. Generally distributed in England and Wales, local in south-west Scotland.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Idea aversata (Linnaeus, 1758)

Common

Riband Wave

A widespread and often common moth which can be found on hedges and bushes. The aberrant form *remutata* is often more common than the type dark-barred form, both of which can be found during the single summer generation. The caterpillars feed on a variety of low-growing plants such as bedstraws, chickweeds and knotgrass. They stop feeding when half grown and overwinter on or near the foodplant, before re-commencing feeding in the Spring.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Xanthorhoe designata (Hufnagel, 1767)

Common

Flame Carpet

A widely distributed moth found throughout the British Isles. It is found in damp woodland and along hedgerows. The larvae can be reared on members of the Cruciferae in captivity.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Xanthorhoe montanata (Denis & Schiff., 1775)

Common

Silver-ground Carpet

Widespread and common throughout Britain in a wide variety of habitats. There is a single generation each year and the adults occur during the summer. The caterpillars feed nocturnally from August through to April on a diversity of low growing plants and overwinter on them. Pupation occurs just below the surface of the ground.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Xanthorhoe fluctuata (Linnaeus, 1758)

Common

Garden Carpet

A widely distributed and common moth which occurs in most habitats and is often abundant in suburban areas. There are at least two generations a year and adults can be found from April through to October. The caterpillars feed on Crucifers such as perennial wall rocket, *D.tenuifolia*, and garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*, and then overwinters underground in a silken cocoon.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Epirrhoe alternata (Muller, 1764)

Common

Common Carpet

Generally distributed and common, double brooded in the south and flies in May and June and in August and September but is only single brooded in northern England and Scotland, where the adults fly in June. The caterpillars feed on bedstraws, including cleavers and overwinter as pupae.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

***Mesoleuca albicollata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Beautiful Carpet

Common

Larva on *Rubus fruticosus* and *R. idaeus*. Frequent throughout England, Wales and southern and western Scotland. Generally distributed **but not common** in Cheshire.

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995
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***Lampropteryx suffumata* (Denis & Schiff.)**
Water Carpet

Common

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995
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***Eulithis populata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Northern Spinach

Common

Locally common in south-western, central and north-eastern England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man. It is a moorland moth and there is a single generation each year, flying in July and August. It overwinters in the egg stage and the caterpillars feed on Bilberry, Wortleberry, Cowberry and sallows in May and June.

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	08 JUL 1995
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***Eulithis pyraliata* (Denis & Schiff., 1775)**
Barred Straw

Common

Found on downland, commons and bushy places. Larvae on various bedstraws including cleavers, *Galium aparine*. Widely distributed in Wales and Southern Scotland, very local elsewhere in Scotland and almost restricted to the east including Orkney.

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	08 JUL 1995
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***Ecliptopera silaceata* (Denis & Schiff.)**
Small Phoenix

Common

A common moth in England and Wales and, though widespread in Scotland, is less common there. It lives in a variety of habitats including woodland, downland, commons, gardens and waste ground. Throughout most of Britain there is a single generation, flying at twilight in May and June. A second brood occurs in July and August in southern England. The caterpillars feed on willowherbs from July to September.

McWilliam, SJ	Det. McWilliam, SJ	SJ630854	01 JUN 1995
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Chloroclysta truncata (Hufnagel, 1767) Common
Common Marbled Carpet

Common and widespread in a wide range of rural and urban habitats in England and Wales, where it is double brooded with adults occurring from May through into November according to locality, while a single brooded race occurs in mountain and moorland areas of the north and west; it is absent from Shetland. The caterpillars feed on a great variety of plants including willow, birch, privet, hawthorn, bilberry, bramble, and rose.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Thera obeliscata (Hubner, 1787) Common
Grey Pine Carpet

A moth that occurs in conifer plantations where the larvae feed on pines, Norway spruce, Douglas fir and other species of conifer. Generally distributed and common.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Thera britannica (Turner H.J., 1925) Common
Spruce Carpet

Larva feeds on species of Picea, the moth frequenting spruce plantations. Locally over much of England and Wales, less frequent in Scotland.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Hydriomena furcata (Thunberg, 1784) Common
July Highflyer

Very common and generally distributed in woodlands, commons, moorland, fenland and bushy places where the adults fly from late June until August. The eggs overwinter and the caterpillars feed on willow, creeping willow, heather, bilberry and hazel in May and June. They pupate in the seed-down of these trees.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Operophtera brumata (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Winter Moth

A common and widespread moth throughout the British Isles. The adult can be found from as early as October to as late as February, and the males are often attracted to lighted windows. The female is almost wingless and after emerging from the pupa on the ground, crawls up a tree trunk and sits on the bark or twigs awaiting a male. Although the female cannot fly, sometimes, during pairing, the male takes flight with the female still attached.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Perizoma alchemillata (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Small Rivulet

A rivulet moth which inhabits woodlands, commons, marshes, waste ground and downlands. Generally distributed and moderately common throughout the British Isles.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Eupithecia tenuiata (Hubner, 1813) Local
Slender Pug

Inhabits damp woodland, fenland and marshy places, the larva feeding the catkins of *Salix*. Locally over much of the British Isles.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Eupithecia pulchellata (Stephens, 1831) Common
Foxglove Pug

Found inhabiting downland, shingle beaches, woodland rides and clear commons, moorland and sea-cliffs. Larvae in the flowers of foxglove. Generally distributed and common.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Eupithecia exiguata (Hubner, 1809-13) Common
Mottled Pug

Inhabits woodland and hedgerows throughout England and Wales, though it is very local in Scotland. The caterpillars feed on hawthorn, cherries, blackthorn, sycamore and Norway maple, and in Scotland also on rowan through September and October. The adults fly in May and June and the pupae overwinter in earthen cocoons. The race *muricolor* is found in Aberdeenshire.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Eupithecia vulgata (Haworth, 1809) Common
Common Pug

A generally distributed and common moth which can be observed in May and June and there is a smaller generation in August. The caterpillars feed on the leaves of willow, hawthorn, yarrow and bilberry and on both leaves and flowers of goldenrod, ragwort and various other plants throughout the summer and autumn. The pupae overwinter in earthen cocoons.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Eupithecia abbreviata Stephens, 1831
Brindled Pug

Common

Lives in woodland throughout England and Wales and also locally in Scotland, though absent in the extreme north and the northern and western isles. The single brood flies in April and May, when it can be observed resting on tree-trunks during the day. The caterpillars feed on oaks during the summer and the pupae overwinter in slight earthen cocoons.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Lomaspilis marginata (Linnaeus, 1758)
Clouded Border

Common

A generally distributed and moderately common moth in England and Wales, and widespread but local in mainland Scotland. It is found on heathlands, commons, woodland, fens and marshy places and the adults fly from May to August according to locality, with a peak in mid June. The caterpillars feed on sallow and aspen and, occasionally, on poplar and hazel, and spin their cocoons amongst the foliage of the foodplants.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Semiothisa clathrata (Linnaeus, 1758)
Latticed Heath

Common

A white or cream moth with a lattice pattern of dark brown or blackish markings, about 3 cm in wingspan. The larvae feed on various members of the Leguminosae. It lives in grassland in a wide range of situations and is widespread and often common throughout England, Wales and southern Scotland.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Plagodis dolabraria (Linnaeus, 1767)
Scorched Wing

Local

A moth that is generally distributed over England and Wales, more local in Scotland from Galloway to Argyllshire, also noted in Perthshire. The larva feeds on *Quercus*, *Betula* and *Salix*.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Opisthograptis luteolata (Linnaeus, 1758)
Brimstone Moth

Common

Generally distributed and very common in a variety of habitats. In southern Britain it is multiple brooded but becomes single brooded in the north, the adults can be seen from April onwards flying mostly during dusk and the early part of the night. The caterpillars feed on hawthorn, blackthorn, rowan, plum and other trees throughout summer and overwinter as pupae.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Odontopera bidentata (Clerck, 1759) Common
Scalloped Hazel

Inhabiting woodland, parkland, heathland, commons, gardens etc. Larvae feed on oak, birch, privet, larch, pine, hawthorn and other deciduous and coniferous trees. Generally distributed and not uncommon north to Orkneys.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Ourapteryx sambucaria (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Swallow-tailed Moth

Generally distributed and common in England, Wales and southern Scotland though it is local as far north as Ross-shire. It lives in woodlands, gardens and on commons and the single generation, which flies in July is most active at dusk and in the early evening. The stick-like caterpillars feed on ivy and a variety of trees and shrubs from August through to June, except during winter when they overwinter on the foodplant.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Biston betularia (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Peppered Moth

A moth that is found in a wide variety of habitats. Larvae on a wide variety of trees and plants. Common and generally distributed in England and Wales, widespread but local in mainland Scotland and the inner Hebrides.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Peribatodes rhomboidaria (Denis & Schiff.) Common
Willow Beauty

Larvae on a wide variety of trees and shrubs. Generally distributed and common in England, Wales and southern Scotland, local over the rest of mainland Scotland and the inner Hebrides, but absent from the Outer Hebrides and the northern isles.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Cabera pusaria (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Common White Wave

Generally distributed and common throughout Britain, except for the northern isles, in woodland and bushy places. In Southern England there are two broods a year, flying from May to August, but in northern England and in Scotland the single brood flies from May to July. The caterpillars can be found feeding on birch, willow, alder, oak and other trees and shrubs.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
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Cabera exanthemata (Scopoli, 1763)
Common Wave

Common

A generally common and widespread moth throughout the British Isles which seems to have a preference for moist habitats such as damp woodland, fenland and sallow carr. It is found from May and throughout the summer. The rather long, dull coloured eggs are laid on the foodplant. The caterpillar is green with red marks and white edged black spots on the back and feeds from July until September on birch, alder and willows.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Lomographa temerata (Denis & Schiff., 1775)
Clouded Silver

Common

Found over much of England and Wales though scattered in Scotland to western Argyllshire. It occurs in woodlands, hedgerows and bushy places where the single brood flies in May and June. The caterpillars feed on hawthorn, blackthorn and other trees and shrubs.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Campaea margaritata (Linnaeus, 1767)
Light Emerald

Common

A woodland moth which is widespread and fairly common throughout mainland Britain. The single generation flies in July and August but there is occasionally a second brood in September in southern England. The caterpillars feed on oak, birch, Beech, Hawthorn, elm and other deciduous trees from September-May. During the winter they nibble the bark of the younger twigs and eat the buds.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Hylaea fasciaria (Linnaeus, 1758)
Barred Red

Common

Inhabits coniferous woodland. Larvae on Scots pine, Norway spruce, Douglas fir and probably other conifers. Widespread and not uncommon throughout Britain except for the Outer Hebrides and northern isles.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Euproctis similis (Fuessly, 1775)
Yellow-tail

Common

A widely distributed and often abundant moth in England and Wales, but local and scarce in southern Scotland and Ireland. The single generation flies in July and August. Its caterpillars feed in masses on oak, blackthorn, willows and many other trees and shrubs from late summer. They construct small, cocoon-like hibernacula in August and overwinter inside. In spring the caterpillars remain solitary and recommence feeding.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Eilema lurideola (Zincken, 1817) Common
Common Footman

The Common Footman Moth is widely distributed in England and Wales but is local in Scotland, where it mainly occurs along the east coast. The single generation flies throughout summer. The caterpillars feed on a variety of lichens growing on trees, fences and rocks in the autumn but feed for only a short time before overwintering. Feeding resumes in the spring when they will also accept the foliage of willow, apple and other deciduous trees and bushes.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Spilosoma luteum (Hufnagel, 1766) Common
Buff Ermine

Larvae on a wide variety of wild and garden plants and on trees including birch and elder. Widespread and common.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Nola cucullatella (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Short-cloaked Moth

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Agrotis exclamatoris (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Heart and Dart

The Heart and Dart is generally distributed and very common in England and Wales, but more thinly spread in Scotland and Ireland. Its caterpillars feed on a wide variety of wild and cultivated plants from late summer and overwinter fully grown in earthen cocoons. After hibernation in spring they remain in the cocoons and pupate, producing a single generation of moths from late May to Late July.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Axylia putris (Linnaeus, 1761) Common
Flame

The Flame is found throughout England and Wales, though local in Scotland where it occurs mainly in the south. The caterpillars feed on a wide variety of low plants from July-October and the single generation of moths flies in June and July, although it is sometimes recorded from August to October. The pupae overwinter underground in brittle, earth cocoons.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 08 JUL 1995

Ochropleura plecta (Linnaeus, 1761)
Flame Shoulder

Common

The Flame Shoulder inhabits open woodland, farmland, gardens, meadows & marshes throughout the British Isles north to Orkney and is often common. There are two peaks of emergence in May and early June and in August. The moth, which is a wild and erratic flier, occurs from April right through to the autumn. The caterpillars feed on a wide range of herbaceous plants in summer and overwinter as pupae on or just below the soil surface.

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Noctua pronuba (Linnaeus, 1758)
Large Yellow Underwing

Common

The Large Yellow Underwing occurs commonly throughout the British Isles, though mostly in lowland habitats. The single generation flies from June to September and large numbers of immigrants sometimes swarm on the south coast. They roost by day on or close to the ground and when disturbed scuttle wildly on the ground, displaying the brightly-coloured hindwings. The caterpillars feed on a wide range of wild and cultivated herbs.

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Diarsia rubi (Vieweg, 1790)
Small Square-spot

Common

The Small Square-spot occurs commonly throughout the British Isles to Shetland, most commonly inhabiting damp woodland and marshy places but also occurring in pasture and cultivated land. There are two broods in England, flying in May and June and in August and September though in Scotland the single brood occurs in July and August. The caterpillar feed on heather and a variety of herbaceous plants including dock.

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Xestia c-nigrum (Linnaeus, 1758)
Setaceous Hebrew Character

Common

A moth. Larvae on common nettle and probably many other herbaceous plants. Most common in southern England, though reported from most of the British Isles.

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Polia nebulosa (Hufnagel, 1766)
Grey Arches

Common

Larvae on a variety of plants and trees such as birch, willow, honeysuckle, bramble, hawthorn and dock. Generally distributed and not uncommon throughout mainland Britain.

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***Melanchra persicariae* (Linnaeus, 1761)**
Dot Moth

Common

Found in a variety of habitats but preferring gardens and suburban waste ground. Larvae on many wild and garden plants, also reported to feed on willow, elder and larch saplings. Widespread and frequent in England and Wales. Less frequent in the extreme south of Scotland.

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***Lacanobia oleracea* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Bright-line Brown-eye

Common

A moth which is very common in most areas throughout Britain to Orkneys and Ireland, though less so in the extreme north. The single generation generally appears from late May until August but it can be as late as July in northern Scotland. In southern England there is a small second brood in the autumn. The caterpillars are polyphagous, feeding mainly on herbaceous plants but with a preference for orache and goosefoot.

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***Mythimna ferrago* (Fabricius, 1787)**
Clay

Common

The Clay is common over most of England, Wales and Ireland, Scotland from Argyll and the Inner Hebrides in the west and to Caithness in the east. It is found in most habitats but is less common near the coast than inland and most abundant in and near woodland and flies from late June to early August. The caterpillars feed mainly on grasses but also on other low growing plants such as chickweed, dandelion and plantain.

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***Mythimna impura* (Hubner, 1808)**
Smoky Wainscot

Common

A moth which is widely distributed throughout England, Wales, Ireland, and southern Scotland, becoming local further north although locally common to Shetland. It frequents most kind of habitats but is uncommon on moorland and in dense woodland, and in the extreme north it is particularly abundant on sand-dunes. It flies from June to August, emerging slightly later in the north. The moth is mostly single brooded.

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Mythimna pallens (Linnaeus, 1758)
Common Wainscot

Common

A widely distributed and common moth throughout Britain and Ireland, common in lowland Scotland but local further north. It is especially common in marshy areas, up to 400m. The moths are double brooded in southern England, flying from early July and in September and October. From the midlands northwards the single generation flies from mid-July to September. The eggs are laid in rows in grass sheaths.

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Mythimna comma (Linnaeus, 1761)
Shoulder-striped Wainscot

Common

A common moth over most of Britain to southern Scotland and in Ireland though local in eastern Scotland as far north as Ross-shire. It is found in most types of habitat including woodlands but is particularly common in fens and marshes. The single generation flies from May to July and favours flowers at late dusk; late autumn specimens sometimes occur. Eggs are laid on grass sheaths in untidy rows and the caterpillars feed by night.

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Cryphia domestica (Hufnagel, 1766)
Marbled Beauty

Common

Inhabits coastal cliff and urban districts, the larva feeding on lichens growing on walls, roofs, rocks etc. England, Wales and southern Scotland. It is very local and mainly coastal in eastern Scotland.

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Euplexia lucipara (Linnaeus, 1758)
Small Angle Shades

Common

The Small Angle Shades is most common in woodland, parkland and large gardens where it occurs, often commonly, throughout most of Britain to Orkney and in Ireland. Moths fly in June and July, occasionally with a small second generation in autumn. The caterpillars feed polyphagously during August and September on bracken and ferns but also feed on a variety of herbaceous plants and shrubs, including birch, willow, and oak.

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Graphiphora augur Fabr.
The Double Dart

Common

A local and sometimes rare species in the British Isles and thinly distributed in Ireland, although it can be common in ideal habitat. It frequents deciduous woodland, parkland, fens and marshes where it flies in June and July. The caterpillars hibernate soon after hatching and feed in spring on opening buds of various trees and shrubs including hawthorn, blackthorn, birch and willow.

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***Phlogophora meticulosa* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Angle Shades

Common

A common moth throughout the British Isles both as a resident and an immigrant, most abundantly in the south, but may not be resident in the north-east and Highlands of Scotland. Although there are two large generations of moths in spring and autumn, specimens can be found in almost any month, particularly in the autumn when migrants are most frequent. The adults fold their forewings when at rest and mimic crumpled leaves.

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***Cosmia trapezina* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
Dun-bar

Common

The Dun-bar is a widely distributed woodland species throughout Britain including the extreme north of Scotland and in Ireland. The adults fly from July to September, resting under fallen leaves during the day. The eggs overwinter and the caterpillars feed on a variety of deciduous trees and shrubs, particularly elm, and supplement this diet with caterpillars of any moth species, particularly the Winter Moth. They pupate in June.

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***Apamea monoglypha* (Hufnagel, 1766)**
Dark Arches

Common

A common to abundant moth throughout the British Isles, including the smaller and more outlying islands, even St Kilda. There is a long emergence period from June until August followed in the south by a second generation from September to November. Adults appear at light, often in large numbers. The caterpillars feed on cock's foot and other grasses from August through to the following June, living in nest-like chambers.

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***Apamea crenata* (Hufnagel, 1766)**
Clouded-bordered Brindle

Common

A moth that occurs commonly in a wide range of habitats such as woodland rides and clearings, fenland, downland and moorland throughout the British Isles, including the Outer Hebrides. Adults fly in June and July and are often encountered flying along hedgerows at night. The caterpillars feed at first on the flowers and immature seeds of cock's-foot and other grasses, later changing to the foliage.

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Oligia strigilis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Marbled Minor

Common

A moth. Frequents a wide variety of grassy places. Larvae feed internally in various grasses including cock's foot, and reed canary grass. Widespread and generally common in England and Wales. Widespread but infrequent in Scotland.

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Hoplodrina alsines (Brahm, 1791)
Uncertain

Common

The Uncertain is found commonly in a variety of lowland habitats such as commons, gardens and waste places throughout much of England and Wales, though commoner in the south, and it is thinly scattered in Scotland and rare in Ireland. Moths fly from June until August and sometimes again in late autumn. The caterpillars feed at night through late summer until the following spring on various herbaceous plants including chickweed.

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Caradrina morpheus (Hufnagel, 1766)
Mottled Rustic

Common

A moth that frequents a wide variety of lowland habitats. Larvae on nettle, dandelion and other low plants. Common throughout England and Wales; very local and uncommon in Scotland.

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Caradrina clavipalpis (Scopoli, 1763)
Pale Mottled Willow

Common

Inhabits gardens, waste places and cultivated fields. Larvae in ears of wheat and other cereals, also plantains, various grasses, pods of peas and probably a variety of other vegetable matter. Generally common.

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Diachrysia chrysitis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Burnished Brass

Common

A well distributed moth throughout Great Britain, Ireland and its off-shore Islands, except Shetland. Its spread northwards may have been aided by improved farming techniques which have encouraged its nitrogen-loving larval foodplant, stinging nettle. It is double brooded in southern England, flying first in June and again in August, but single brooded from the midlands northwards, flying in July and August.

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Autographa gamma (Linnaeus, 1758)
Silver Y

Common

Mainly a migrant moth, most abundant in southern and eastern England but reaching all the British Isles where it breeds to produce an autumn generation. Adults can be found from late January, when large swarms have been known from North Africa, but May is more typical. They sometimes return south for the winter but, although overwintering moths have been recorded, the early stages cannot survive the cold and so die.

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Autographa jota (Linnaeus, 1758)
Plain Golden Y

Common

Locally common throughout England, Wales and southern Scotland, preferring calcareous soils, but particularly uncommon in the central Scottish Highlands and well distributed but not common in Ireland. Moths emerge from mid June in southern England to late July in northern Scotland and are seen until September, flying at dusk and feeding freely at flowers. The caterpillars feed on Umbellifers and various deciduous trees and shrubs.

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Abrostola triplasia (Linnaeus, 1758)
Spectacle

Common

The Spectacle is well distributed and usually very common in open woodland, commons, marshes, gardens and waste places throughout Britain, except for Shetland but has spread south from Durham and Yorkshire in the last twenty years. Moths fly in late May and June and in August and September in the south but are single brooded further north, with a prolonged emergence from late June to mid July.

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Scoliopteryx libatrix (Linnaeus, 1758)
Herald

Common

A well distributed moth throughout England, Wales and Ireland and occurs locally throughout Scotland and the Inner Hebrides and has once been recorded from Shetland. It inhabits woodlands, marshes and gardens. There are two broods in southern England with a lesser emergence in June, the offspring of overwintering females, and a larger brood in September, but from the midlands northwards it is single brooded.

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Rivula sericealis (Scopoli, 1763) Common
Straw Dot

A moth of marshes, fenland, mosses and the damper parts of woodland, moorland, heathland and commons. Larva on *Brachypodium*.

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Hypena proboscidalis (Linnaeus, 1758) Common
Snout

The Snout is named because of its long palpi and is common and often abundant in woodland, commons, gardens, waste ground and other weedy places wherever nettles grow in Britain and Ireland. The adults fly in June and July and again in September in the south and in July and August further north. Caterpillars can be found on stinging nettle in July and early August, and again in October in the south, before overwintering.

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Herminia grisealis (Denis & Schiff., 1775) Common
Small Fan-foot

The Small Fan-foot inhabits hedges, woods and gardens on almost any substrate and is widespread throughout England, Wales, Ireland (though not recorded from the north-west) and central Scotland, though it is local in the highlands. The moth flies from the second half of June to early August and is easily disturbed by day. The caterpillars feed all summer on birch and alder, eating living leaves and also decaying leaves on the ground.

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Chloromyia formosa (Scopoli) Common
a soldier fly

A soldier fly which is widespread and common throughout Britain, inhabiting woods, hedges, parks and gardens. The larva feeds in rotten vegetable matter in damp soil, rotting bark and leaf litter. The flight period is from May until August and the adult, which is a very common flower visitor, especially to umbels of hogweed in mid-summer, is quite conspicuous, with a shiny green thorax and a brassy coloured thorax.

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***Rhagio scolopacea* (Linnaeus)**
a snipe fly

Common

A widespread and common 'downlooker fly' in wooded areas. The long, whitish larva lives in soil, rotting wood and ground litter (where it also pupates), feeding on the larvae of other insects. The adult, which flies from May until July, is a slim, yellow black banded, predatory with brown clouded wing markings and typically sits facing downwards on a tree trunk or similar perch, from where it makes short flights at passing prey.

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***Empis (Pachymeria) tessellata* Fabricius**
a dance fly

Common

The largest British empid fly and easily recognised because there is no other closely allied species in Britain. It was originally described from North Africa but occurs widely throughout Europe and the British Isles, and is often common. The adult visits flowers from May to July. Its thorax has three dark stripes, the abdomen is tessellated with a narrow dorsal stripe appearing brownish black viewed from behind and yellow from the front.

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***Leucozona lucorum* (L.)**
a hoverfly

Common

Distinctive hoverfly with a large creamy-yellow band at the base of the abdomen. A characteristic spring hoverfly in woodland glades and marshes where the adults visit spring flowers. Larvae are predatory on aphids. Widespread and common in lowland Britain, more local in the uplands extreme north.

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***Rhingia campestris* Meigen**
a hoverfly

Common

A medium-sized hoverfly, dark brown with an orange-red abdomen, and a conspicuous rostrum and long proboscis which enable it to feed from long tubular flowers. Larvae develop in cow dung. Widely distributed generally common.

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Helophilus pendulus (Linnaeus)
a hoverfly

Common

A common and widespread hoverfly which occurs in Ireland and as far north as Shetland. The larva is a rat-tailed maggot with a long and telescopically extensible breathing tube which enables it to breathe whilst submerged in situations such as farmyard drains, very wet mangolds and very wet, old sawdust. The adult is a brightly-marked, black and yellowish hoverfly which may occur in numbers around muddy puddles.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Syrirta pipiens (Linnaeus)
a hoverfly

Common

Small hoverfly which is widespread and very common throughout Britain, though rarer in remote areas of Scotland. Occurs in urban areas, rough meadows, along hedgerows and in marshy situations. The larva develop in compost, manure, silage and other rotting organic matter. The adult is a small hoverfly with rather distinctive, swollen hind legs and is often seen at flowers. In flight it mimics a solitary wasp but its precision is much greater.

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Xylota segnis (Linnaeus)
a hoverfly

Common

Orange and black hoverfly which resembles an Ichneumon wasp. Adults characteristically seen running about, or sunbathing, on leaves in hedgerows and woodland - rarely at flowers. Wet, very rotten dead wood is the usual breeding site, but a variety of wet decomposing vegetable matter (e.g. sawdust, decomposed silage) has been recorded. Widespread and usually common in or near woods.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

Phytomyza ilicis Curtis
Holly Leaf Gall Fly

Common

A very common and widespread small, grey, leaf mining-fly which has a single generation each year. The adult flies emerge towards the end of May and lay eggs near the base of the midrib on the underside of young holly leaves. The larvae mine the midribs before moving into the leaf-blades in autumn and cause very characteristic blotch mines in the upper surfaces. They pupate in the mine in March.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Scathophaga stercoraria* (Linnaeus)**
a dung fly

Common

The common yellow dung fly is a widespread and usually abundant predatory fly which breeds in dung, especially fresh cow-dung but a wide variety of other sorts can be used. Males are typically covered in long golden-yellow fur whilst females are dirty green. Males spend most of their time near the breeding sites but females disperse widely into other habitats to hunt smaller flies.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995

***Phytotocera aterrima* (Klug)**
a sawfly

Unknown

Local in Cheshire due to the relative paucity of sites for Solomon's Seal.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995

***Aglaostigma aucupariae* (Klug)**
a sawfly

Unknown

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Aglaostigma fulvipes* (Scopoli)**
a sawfly

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Biorhiza pallida* (Olivier, 1791)**
Oak Apple Wasp

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995

***Bombus lucorum* Linnaeus**
White-tailed Bumble Bee

Common

A common black, white and yellow bumblebee found in gardens and hedgerows. It often breeds in old vole nests. Only the young fertilised queen survives the winter, having hibernated in a protected place such as in a hole or under moss. She emerges in spring and starts up her own colony, making pots of wax and pollen into which the first eggs are laid.

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***Bombus pratorum* (Linnaeus)**
Early Bumble Bee

Common

A rather small black and yellow bumblebee with a red tail. On the wing quite early in the year and may be finished by the end of July. Sometimes there is a second brood later in the summer. The nest is often well hidden in the ground, in bird nests or nest boxes for example. Widely distributed common.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Bombus pascuorum* (Scopoli)**
Common Carder Bee

Common

Widely distributed, common and often abundant bumblebee. The adult is a small, largely tawny insect with variable amounts of black. There are forms occurring in the north and south, which overlap and interbreed in northern England and north Wales. On the continent it is extremely variable, ranging from dark forms in the north to foxy red, bright forms in southern Europe. The coat is thin and rather 'scruffy' looking.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 27 MAY 1995
McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Apis mellifera* Linnaeus**
Honey Bee

Common

The common honey bee. It is a domesticated species, although occasionally colonies may persist in the wild for a few years in hollow trees, etc. Under an ancient law it is classed as livestock, but the owner is the person on whose property the colony has settled, thus it is not illegal to eradicate a colony, merely unethical.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Nemastoma bimaculatum* (Fabricius, 1775)**
a harvestman

Common

A small black harvestman with two white spots on the abdomen. Found in leaf and grass litter in many habitats. Very common.

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

***Segestria senoculata* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
a six-eyed spider

Common

McWilliam, SJ Det. McWilliam, SJ SJ630854 01 JUN 1995

APPENDIX 3

GRAPPENHALL HEYS BIRD SURVEY

The walled garden is a perfect man-made environment for all types of wildlife, and a perfect area for conservation, including the derelict buildings and glasshouses.

It provides an ideal nesting area for a wide selection of birds.

The overgrown ornamental ponds provide ideal habitat for the kingfisher, which in this area is a rare bird.

The wooded area is one of the best established breeding areas in Cheshire for the little owl and also the more common tawny owl.

Many other birds live in and around the walled garden.

Report by Paul White. Bird records from Paul White, with contributions from members of the Warrington Organic and Wildlife Gardening Society.

BIRD SPECIES RECORDED AT GRAPPENHALL HEYS

Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Tree Creeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>

APPENDIX 5

NOT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Please respect the confidentiality of this report.

BADGER REPORT

The area of south Warrington, between Appleton and Grappenhall, has been of local importance for badgers for many years, and many local residents are aware of their presence. In the 1970's there was also badger activity recorded in Parr's Wood (House Covert) and Beech Wood, although badger digging was taking place in the area at this time, and there are reports of badgers being killed in Parr's Wood.

The Dingle woodland now provides a local stronghold for badgers with a number of setts. Unfortunately there has been a report of a badger killed on Lumb Brook Road in the vicinity of Dairy Farm, earlier this year.

Although badgers are commonly associated with woodland on sandy soils, because this is where they build their setts, their food source is usually provided by more open countryside, including arable farmland.

There are a number of reports of sightings of badgers in the vicinity of Grappenhall Cricket Club, with characteristic pathways towards Grappenhall Heys along the overgrown track. It is likely that the badger population from the Dingle is using this area for foraging, with Grappenhall Heys providing safe access routes from Lumb Brook Road.

Any severance or disruption to these safe access routes from the Dingle to the foraging areas are likely to have a severe impact on the badger community in the area.

Reduction or loss of foraging grounds can also have severe repercussions because badgers are territorial, and nearby foraging areas, for example, on the other side of Broad Lane or towards Appleton Thorn are likely to already be used by badgers from another community.

The badger and its sett are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 and the badgers Acts of 1991 and 1992.

