

The Dwarf Cream Wave (*Sterrha fuservenosa*) came to the light in the bedroom on 4th July.

The Humming Bird Hawk Moth (*Macroglossa stellatarum*) was very scarce compared with last year not more than half a dozen were seen between 20 th July and 7th October at Valerian in the garden.

During the year a record has been kept of the moths resting on the Whitehall Black Fence and up to the time of writing ( 25st November) abot 280 moths and one butterfly ( the Wall Brown) have been counted. 58 species of Moths.

Lists have also been drawn up of butterflies moths and larvae observed at Hatfield Chase, Birchanger, Broome Wood, Hoggetts Wood, and the Long Meadow area comprasing Stocking Plantation, Bloodhounds Wood, Great Plantings Wood, Bury Green Lane and the Rifir Range. These are available for inspection and information



## Butterflies & Moths of 1946.

Compared with 1945 this year has been considered a poor year for butterflies & moths. We certainly have not seen the large number of immigrant species which were recorded last year but nevertheless those who were lucky enough to be able to go out into the Country regularly managed to do fairly well.

Among the butterflies the great capture of the year was made by a member, the Hon Robert Gerard, who caught a Queen of Spain Fritillary - Argynnis lathonia at Blakesware near Widford on August. The Large Tortoiseshell - Nymphalis polychloros - was

taken by Mr. Allan in Broome Wood on 7<sup>th</sup> May and I saw one in the garden on 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> August. The Large Pearl Bordered Fritillary - Argynnis exprosyne - <sup>at Broome Wood on 7<sup>th</sup> May.</sup> <sup>was flying in</sup> Birchaufet Wood on 20<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The Holly Blue - Celestrina arfionus - was very common in the spring this year. There

was a fair number of the summer brood & the larvae were <sup>easily</sup> found on the ivy buds. The White letter Hairstreak - Stymon W-album - was not so abundant as in 1945.

Although Newport does not come into our district for the purposes of our list of local macrolepidoptera I would like to mention that Mr. Culpeper took a Striped Hawkmoth - Celerio livonica - there this year. Mr. Mellows reported the capture of the Heart Moth - Dicycla oo - at sugar on poplars in the Upper

College Field on 4<sup>th</sup> July. I took the Miller Moth - Aphatele leporina - <sup>at</sup> Birchaufet on 20<sup>th</sup> May and a Galium Carpet Moth - Epirrhoe galatella - <sup>on</sup> the Whitehall Black fence on 10<sup>th</sup> June. On an expedition to Hatfield Chase with Mr. Allan on 3<sup>rd</sup> July I caught a Blue bordered Carpet - Planyria bicolorata - and in the rough glade behind the lake the Straw Dot

New to List

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- Pistula sericealis - was flying on 25<sup>th</sup> July. In May the Grey Birch  
Moth - Ectropis punctulata - was very common at Birchaylet but on  
looking into our collections ~~from~~ Mr. Colman + I found that we had taken  
the insect last year. My record was Canfield Hart Wood on 9<sup>th</sup> May  
+ Mr. Colman's - Bishops Stortford 11<sup>th</sup> May, 1945.

Of the Hawk moths I saw only one Consolida Hawk -  
Herse consoli - on a lamp in the town this year. The Prist Hawk  
Sphinx ligustri - is increasing in the district and so is the Large  
Elephant Hawk - Deilephila elpenor - the larvae of the latter  
being found in Broome Wood, Birchaylet, + in gardens in the town.

The Grey Arches moth - Polia nebulosa - was first  
recorded last year as in the district + this year they have been found  
on the Whitehall Black Fence, Stocking Plantations + Broome Wood  
Hfley. Larvae of the Greater Swallow Prominent Moth - Pheosia tremula  
were on black poplar in the garden + those of the Frosted Green <sup>Polyproca ridens</sup> were beaten  
at Hatfield Chase. The Sycamore - Apatete aceris - is increasing  
+ the Dusky Sallow - Bremobia ochroleuca - is still fairly abundant.  
When working in the garden I discovered a larva of the Chamomile  
Shark Moth - Cucullia chamomillae - + hope the moth will emerge next  
year. The Red Underwing - Catocala nupta - was nearly a month  
later than usual this year + not so common as in 1945.

This year I took a Small Phoenix - Ecliptoptera  
Silaceata - in the Whitehall rhododendron drive at the same place  
+ on the same date as last year 23<sup>rd</sup> May. A Broken-barred Carpet -  
Electrophaes corylata - was found on a Lime trunk at the tennis  
court in Ricketfield Lane. The Beautiful Carpet - Mesoleuca  
albicillata was taken on the Whitehall black fence + also at



Hatfield Chase. The Purple Thorn - Selenia tetralunaria - was taken on Barrelsdown on 16<sup>th</sup> April, & the Sandy Carpet - Perizoma flavifasciata - came to light in my bedroom on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The Scorched Wing - Plagiodis doboraria was again found at Hatfield Chase on 9<sup>th</sup> June and the Pale Oak Beauty - Boarmia punctivalis (Consortaria) was fairly common at Birchanger & in the neighbourhood of Long Meadow.

The Dwarf Cream Wave - Storha fuscovenosa - came to light in the bedroom on 14<sup>th</sup> July.

The Hummingbird Hawk Moth - Macroglossa Stella-tarum - was very scarce compared with last year; not more than half a dozen were seen between 20<sup>th</sup> July & 7<sup>th</sup> October at Valerian in the garden.

During the year a record has been kept of the moths resting on the white and black fence & up to the time of writing about 280 moths & one butterfly (the Wall Brown) have been counted. - 51 species of moths & 1 butterfly.

Lists have also been drawn up of butterflies, moths & larvae observed at Hatfield Chase, Birchanger, Broomwood, Hoggett's Wood and the Long Meadow district comprising Stocking Plantations, Bloodhounds Wood, Seat Planting Wood, Bury Green Lanes & the Rifle Range. These are available for inspection & information.

21<sup>st</sup> November 1946.

Rifford Craufurd