

NO:16 AUGUST 2024

MOTH NEWS

FOR DERBYSHIRE 2024

Derbyshire Moths Facebook Group (DMFG)

Derbyshire
Moths
Facebook
Group

VC57

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Errata - refer to August Thorn - incorrect date given as "last one recorded 2013". There are 5 reported records prior to Martin Roome's record of 14/7/24. These were 2 in 2018; 11/8/22; 12/8/23 and 9/7/24. A further two were reported on 30/7/2024.

Belated records from July 2024 - A new species of micro moth was recorded for the VC57 & Derbyshire, *Caloptilia honoratella* (Pale Maple Stilt). One was trapped on 31st July 2024 at Norton Lees, Sheffield by Pete Mella. Later confirmed by Gen Det (Chris Lawrence).



Caloptilia honoratella - Pete Mella 31/7/24

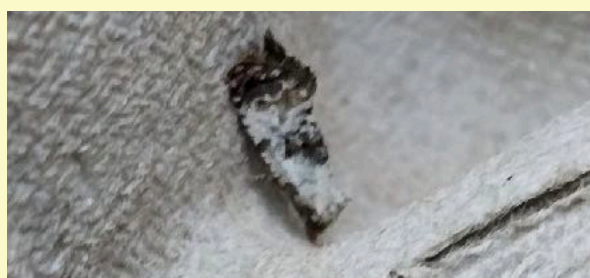
August Moth News - Following the crazy moth month of July, I'm wondering what the month of August may turn-up. I can't believe the volume of moth records that are now being reported via the **DMFG**. The good news is that the majority of the information is now being entered to iRecord, which is enabling the Derbyshire Moth Recording Team to really put our county's moths back on the map.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Graham Pollock from Quarndon made the first DMFG post for August - recording a few interesting species - **Lesser Treble Bar**, **Small Phoenix**, **Tawny-barred Angle**, **Lime-speck Pug**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **White Satin**. A record of **Knot Grass** in inner-city Normanton by Andrew-John Shervill was unusual on 1st. Steve Orridge from Buxton recorded **320/70 species** overnight on 1st, so the warmer weather was having an effect on the moth catch results, 88 **Dark Arches** was a good number.

The first few **Copper Underwing** eggs were beginning to appear, ironically it is generally thought that **Svensson's Copper Underwing** is more common than **Copper Underwing**!

All moths are good moths, but the first **GOOD** moth for August was a **Neocochyliis hybridella** trapped by Clive Ashton in his Cromford garden overnight on 2nd. **This account was the first record for VC57 and Derbyshire of this species.**



Neocochyliis hybridella - Clive Ashton© 2/8/24



Webb's Wainscot - Stephen Plant©

Followed by the second county record of **Webb's Wainscot** by Stephen Plant from Allestree on 1st. He also had another **Isophrictis striatella**.

Other good micros from the same trap were **Calamotropha paludella**, **Acrobasis advenella**, **Crassa unitella**, **Cochylis atricapitana**.

Hot on the heels of Martin Roome's **Oncocera semirubella** last moth, came a second record from Paul Buxton on 1st, when he recorded one from his Sandiacre garden, along with a **Haworth's Pug**, a species not often recorded.

On the 2nd Sid Morris recorded 79/35, an excellent range of species, from his Staveley garden moth trap. Also on 2nd Clive Ashton recorded an **Argyresthia pruniella** from his Cromford garden.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages



Oncocera semirubella - Paul Buxton©



Haworth's Pug - Paul Buxton©

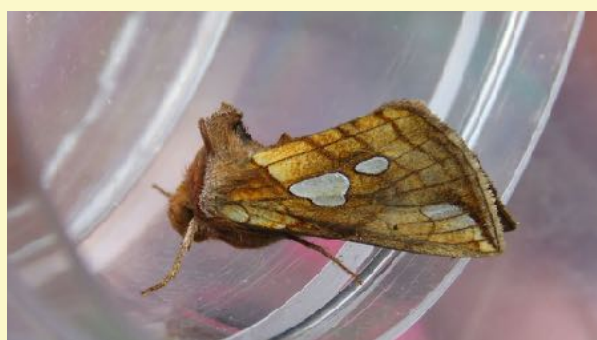
Steve Thorpe ran his garden moth trap overnight from Breaston on 2nd and recorded several good species from over 200 moths, including 2 x **Twin-spotted Wainscot**, *Isophrictis striatella*, which seems to have arrived in the county in recent weeks, this being the third record, **Tree-lichen Beauty**, *Anacamptis blattariella* and **Dark-barred Twin-spotted Carpet**. Stephen Moores recorded a **Lempke's Gold Spot** from Darley Dale on 2nd. Not many records from Derbyshire of this scarce Plusia.



Twin-spotted Wainscot - Steve Thorpe©



Isophrictis striatella - Steve Thorpe©



Lempke's Gold Spot - Stephen Moores©

Martin Roome recorded a **Garden Tiger**, **Double Lobed** and **Dusky Thorn** from his Chaddesden garden on 3rd. Also on 3rd from Belper, Matt Leedell recorded **September Thorn**, **Knot Grass**, **Iron Prominent**, **Dun-bar**, *Udea lutealis* and **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing** from a good selection of species.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

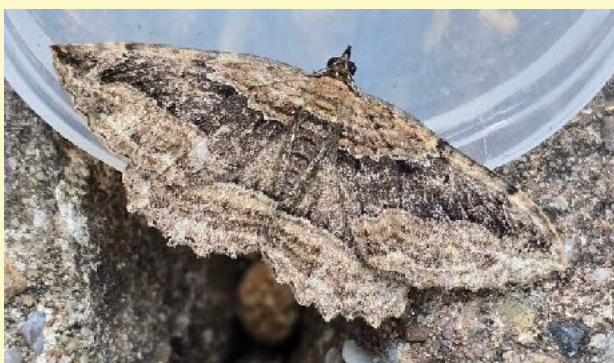
Sid Morris recorded the second County & VC57 record of *Ypsolopha horridella*, from his Staveley garden on 4th. A good selection from Clive Ashton's moth trap at Cromford overnight on 4th produced, **Dotted Clay**, **Purple Thorn**, **Dark Umber**, **Juniper Pug** and **Northern Spinach**.



Dotted Clay - Clive Ashton©



Ypsolopha horridella - Sid Morris©



Dark Umber - Clive Ashton©



Juniper Pug - Clive Ashton©



Northern Spinach - Clive Ashton©



September Thorn - Matt Leedell©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

In addition to the *Ypsolopha horridella* from Sid Morris's overnight moth trap on 4th, it produced 185/52 species from his Staveley garden. One or two highlights were **Toadflax Pug**, **Campion** and **Dusky Thorn**.

Overnight on the 5th, Clive Ashton recorded another **Lesser Treble Bar** for the year from his Cromford garden moth trap. A species not often encountered and one that can be confused with the **Treble Bar**.



Lesser Treble Bar - Clive Ashton©



Argyresthia albistria - Clive Ashton©

Six days into August and the records keep pouring in. Plenty of good results of a wide range of common garden species. Dave Evans from his Belper garden recorded **Six-striped Rustic**, **Least Yellow Underwing** and *Acleris variegana*, whilst Clive Ashton recorded the tiny micro *Argyresthia albistria* and *Metalampra italica* on 5th from his Cromford garden. Also on 5th from Findern, Brian Hallam recorded 150/50 species from his garden moth trap that included, **Ear Moth egg**, **Tree-lichen Beauty**, **Double Lobed**, and **September Thorn**.



Least Yellow Underwing - Dave Evans©



Acleris variegana - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Sid Morris posted a micro moth that had him "Head Scratching" on 8th, it turned out to be the second record of **Neocochyliis hybridella**, "hot on the heels" of the first one from Cromford on 2nd. Recorded from his Staveley garden overnight on 7th.



Neocochyliis hybridella - Sid Morris©



Neocochyliis hybridella - Sid Morris©

Martin Roome ran his garden moth trap at Chaddesden overnight on 7th, recording his 200th species for his garden with a **Sallow Kitten**, also **Ruby Tiger**, **Orange Swift** and **Cochylimorpha straminea** (**Common Straw**) being other NFG species. Also on 8th Clive Ashton recorded another **Lesser Treble Bar** from his Cromford garden.

Steve Thorpe reported that his Breaston trap was alive on the night of 9th, with plenty of insect action including **Old Lady**, **Brown China-mark**, **Orange Swift** and the first **Flounced Rustic** and **Agriphila geniculea**, for this year.



Agriphila geniculea - Steve Thorpe©

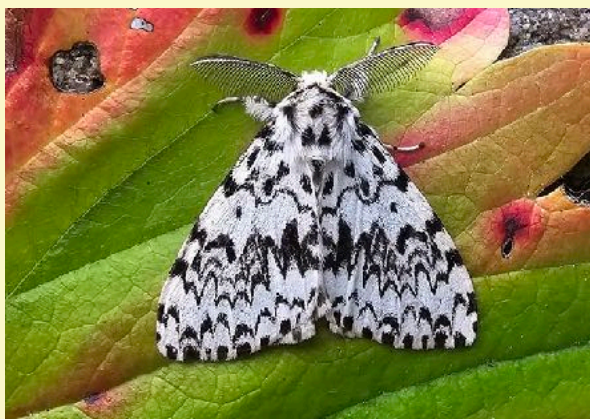


Orange Swift - Steve Thorpe©

Sid Morris recorded two good species of Wainscot from Markham Vale overnight on 9th, **Brown-veined Wainscot** and **Silky Wainscot**.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Clive Ashton keeps turning up the good moths from his Cromford garden, overnight on 9th with **Black Arches**, *Enarmonia formosana*, **Early Thorn**, **Common Lutestring** (second generation), **Barred Straw**, **Tawny Speckled Pug**, **White-spotted Pug**, **Chinese Character** and **Cabbage Moth** from 59/29 MV & 39/25 actinic.



Black Arches - Clive Ashton©



Enarmonia formosana - Clive Ashton©

Emily Louise Milnes recorded 144/43 from her Sandiacre garden moth trap overnight on 9th. A **Tree-lichen Beauty**, **Rosy Rustic**, **Pebble Hook-tip** and **Lesser Swallow Prominent** were highlights. Paul Buxton turned-up the first **Clifden Nonpareil** of the year from his Sandiacre trap overnight on 9th. A real early one, indicating a locally hatched individual rather than a migrant, as it was in pristine condition.



Clifden Nonpareil - Paul Buxton©



Clifden Nonpareil - Paul Buxton©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Nikki Barrow ran a 20W actinic moth trap at the Jim Mart NR , Ashover on 10th and recorded 27 species including **True Lover's Knot**, the first record for the year of **Small Wainscot**, **Canary-shouldered Thorn** and *Evergestis pallidata*.

The next **GOOD** moth was discovered by Martin Roome in his Chaddesden garden moth trap overnight on 10th, a **Cream-bordered Green Pea**. Exceedingly rare, with the first Derbyshire record in 1993. A Nationally Scarce B species. A record from Derby in June 2017 and only three records between 2013 & 2018, and one trapped at Darwin Forest on 28/6/2023. Also from same trap session a **Golden-rod Pug**.



Cream-bordered Green Pea - Martin Roome©



Golden-rod Pug - Martin Roome©

Brian Hobby ran his garden moth trap at Kirk Hallam overnight 10th - 119/36 species included **Copper Underwing** agg; *Agriphila geniculea*; *Acrobasis advenella*, **Square-spot Rustic** and **Maiden's Blush** being a few highlights. Anne Butler from Sandiacre recorded a **Broad-bordered White**, 2 **Tree Lichen Beauty**, **Knot Grass** and **Scarce Footman**, also on 10th.

Nikki Barrow ran her Shirland garden moth trap on 11th with a return of 41/33 from a 20W actinic Heath trap. A fresh **Red Underwing** and a **Bordered Pug** were good highlights.

Clive Ashton recorded a few good ones for the year from his Cromford moth traps overnight on 11th with a **Scallop Shell**, **Grey Chi**, the first *Udea ferrugalis* (**Rusty Dot Pearl**) for the year, and **Twin-spot Carpet**. There was still an **Elephant Hawk Moth** on the wing on 11th recorded by Dan Martin. Sid Morris recorded 129/31 from his Staveley garden moth trap also on 11th. A *Pyrausta cingulata* recorded by Clive Ashton from his Cromford garden moth trap on 12th was a new species for the year and was **number 645**. Dave Evans recorded another *Udea ferrugalis* on 12th from his Belper garden moth trap.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages



Grey Chi - Clive Ashton©



Twin-spot Carpet - Clive Ashton©



Red Underwing - Nikki Barrow©



Scallop Shell - Clive Ashton©



Bordered Pug - Nikki Barrow©



Udea ferrugalis - Clive Ashton©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Several **Maiden's Blush** were reported from Allestree, Stephen Plant on 12th and Belper, Matt Leedell also on 12th.



Maiden's Blush - Stephen Plant©



Pyrausta cingulata - Clive Ashton©

Clive Ashton recorded ***Pyrausta cingulata*** on 12th from his Cromford garden.



Cochyliis molliculana - Sid Morris©



Waved Umber f. *fuscata* - Martin Roome©

Probably one of the rarest moths recorded so far this month was a very dark **Waved Umber**, of the melanic form ***fuscata***, trapped by Martin Roome from his garden moth trap in Chaddesden on 12th. This form appears to be very rare and not many get discovered. It certainly took some sorting out to decide what it was. Also Martin recorded the first **Ringed China-mark** for the year.

Sid Morris had a bumper moth trap at Markham Vale complex on 12/8/24 recording 295 moths of 71 species. A really broad range of species, with a few highlights of **Dusky Sallow**, **Maiden's Blush**, **Black Arches**, **Bordered Pug**, **Lime-speck Pug**, ***Neocochyliis molliculana***, **Ringed China-mark**, and ***Eucosma campoliliana***, a first record for the year.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

There are only a handful of records of ***Neocochylis molliculana*** received from Derbyshire. This species has been spreading and moving northwards. The first Derbyshire record was in August 2023.

Clive Ashton scored with another migrant overnight on 13th from his Cromford moth trap, with a **Dark Sword-grass**, a new species for the year., bringing up the 650th species, so far for Derbyshire this year.



Dark Sword-grass - Clive Ashton©



Ringed China-mark - Martin Roome©

More **Tree Lichen Beauties** from Sandiacre with Emily Louise Milnes and Anne Butler recording several during garden moth traps 13th-14th. This species is really established in this area now. A smart **Sycamore** caterpillar at Chellaston on 14th from Ian Viles.

Sid Morris recorded the **Chevron** from his Staveley garden light trap on 14th



Chevron - Sid Morris©



Sycamore moth larva - Ian Viles©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Sid Morris also recorded an **Angle-barred Sallow** from his Staveley garden light trap on 14th from 33 species /115 moths. Another species that seems to be well distributed across the county. Martin Roome ran a light trap at Slaley Meadows, Cromford 14/15th with highlights of **Tawny Speckled Pug** (5), **Antler Moth** (2), **Ear Moth agg** (1), and **Purple Bar** (1).

Clive Ashton recorded **Yellow-tail**, **Chalk Carpet**, **Least Yellow Underwing** and **Opostega salaciella** from his Cromford garden moth trap on 15th.



Yellow-tail - Clive Ashton©



Least Yellow Underwing - Clive Ashton©



Chalk Carpet - Clive Ashton©

Steve Thorpe ran his garden moth trap at Breaston over night on 16th and recorded a superb **Drinker** and a **Crescent**, a very subtly marked specimen, the first one of the year so far.



Crescent - Steve Thorpe©



Drinker - Steve Thorpe©

The Waingroves Moth and Bat night took place on 17th at Waingroves Woodlands and Steve Thorpe was manning the moth traps during the event.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages



Waingroves 2024 - Matt Leedell©



Waingroves 2024 - Matt Leedell©

50 people attended the Waingrove event with several of the county's top "Mothers" in attendance. Two traps recorded 39 species from 108moths with highlights of **Barred Hook-tip**, **Orange Swift**, **Iron Prominent**, **Ruby Tiger**, **Canary-shouldered Thorn** and ***Ypsolopha sequella***,



Haworth's Minor - Paul Buxton©

Martin Roome made comment to his moth trap overnight on 17th as a terrible night with only 14 moths of 8 species! Mid August!

A **Haworth's Minor** was a huge surprise for Paul Buxton when emptying his moth trap at Sandiacre on 18th. This is a moorland species, and so probably the first record in Derbyshire away from the gritstone moors and an incredible record. Also from the same trap a **Tawny-barred Angle** and a **Tawny-speckled Pug**.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Nikki Barrow ran a moth trap at the Jim Mart NR on 17th and recorded **Small Wainscot**, first record of the year, and **Bulrush Wainscot** from 24 species.



Small & Bulrush Wainscot - Nikki Barrow©



Gypsy Moth - Sam Goddard

On 17th August Brian Hallam recorded 47/128 from his Findern garden moth trap, including **Least Yellow Underwing**, **Bulrush Wainscot** and **Old Lady**.

On 19th Sam Goddard sent me a photo of a **Gypsy Moth** that his brother had taken on a wall in Allenton, Derby. Unfortunately the moth flew off before it could be potted. The photo is very poor in quality but it clearly shows a **Gypsy Moth**. This represents the first record for VC57 & for Derbyshire.

On the 18th Dave Evans recorded a few leaf mines from the Cromford Canal. **Stigmella microtheriella**, **Phyllonorycter coryli** and **Phyllonorycter oxyacanthae**.



Phyllonorycter oxyacanthae - Dave Evans©



Phyllonorycter coryli - Dave Evans©

Clive Ashton recorded the first **Feathered Gothic** of the year on 21st from his Cromford garden moths traps, along with a **Small Square-spot**.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Also on 21st Martin Roome ran a moth trap at Ambaston GP works yard and did quite well, recording the following highlights, **White-point** (a new site for this species), **Angle-striped Sallow**, another good record as not many in the southern part of Derbyshire yet, and an incredible 10 **Pale Eggar**, more than was recorded during the period 2019-2023 when only five records received. Seems like Martin has discovered a good site for this species.



White-point - Martin Roome©



Pale Eggar - Martin Roome©



Feathered Gothic - Clive Ashton©



Angle-striped Sallow - Martin Roome©

Brian Hallam recorded a good migrant, for an inland county, on 23rd from his Findern garden moth trap, a **Nomophila noctuella** (**Rush Veneer**). Although a regular and can arrive in their thousands, not many reports are received from Derbyshire.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

On 24th from New Mills, John Turner recorded a **Pale Prominent**. Stephen Moores on 23rd from Darley Bridge ran his moth trap and had **Blood-vein** and a **Feathered Gothic**.



Rush Veneer - Brian Hallam©



Pale Prominent - John Turner©

On 24th Steve Thorpe trapped at the High Leas farm site. Main highlight of the evening was a **Barred Chestnut** from 115 moths of 29 species. On 23rd Brian Hobby from Kirk Hallam had the first **Centre-barred Sallow** of the year, along with a **Red Underwing** and a late **Poplar Hawkmoth**. Indicators of the autumn creeping upon us.

Dave Evans had one of my favourite migrant moths in his Belper moth trap on 26th, a **Palpita vitrealis** (**Olive Pearl**). In my opinion, one of the best moths so far this month and only the 6th record for VC57 and Derbyshire.



Barred Chestnut - Steve Thorpe©

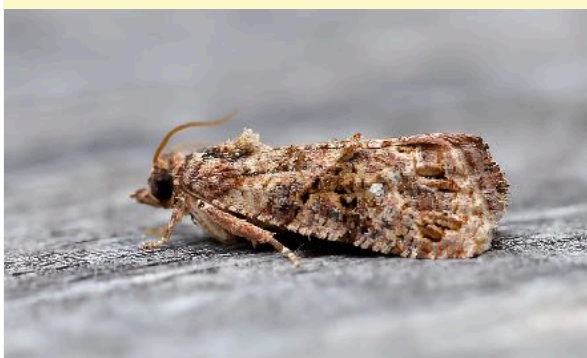


Palpita vitrealis - Dave Evans©

On 27th Matt Leedell found two **Treble-bar** on a building wall at Pride Park, Derby. A **Bordered Beauty** was recorded during the usual moth trap at Markham Vale on 27th, Sid Morris & April Darby.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

I ran my garden light trap at Melbourne on 27th and recorded some interesting moths, including a new species of micro for VC57 from 35/113. Highlights were ***Thaumatotibia leucotreta*** (False Codling Moth) (New micro species for VC57); ***Cochylichroa atricapitana*** (Black-fronted Straw); ***Tinea trinitella*** (Triple-spotted Nest Moth); Centre-barred Sallow (2); Maiden's Blush; Orange Swift; Dusky Thorn (7); ***Agriphila geniculea*** (3); ***Eudemis profundana*** (Oak Marble).



Thaumatotibia leucotreta - Tony Davison©



Maiden's Blush - Tony Davison©



Orange Swift - female - Tony Davison©



Agriphila geniculea - Tony Davison©



Cochylichroa atricapitana - Tony Davison©



Tinea trinitella - Tony Davison©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

Brian Hallam ran his garden light trap at Findern on 27th and recorded a **Toadflax Pug**, **Centre-barred Sallow**, and **Nutmeg** (first one for the year).



Nutmeg - Brian Hallam©



Toadflax Pug - Brian Hallam©

Dave Evans recorded another ***Palpita vitrealis* (Olive-tree Pearl)** on 28th from his Belper garden, making this the seventh record for VC57 of this Mediterranean rarity. Also from the same trap **Green Carpet**, **Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing** and the first **Brown-spot Pinion** of the year.



Palpita vitrealis - Dave Evans©



Brown-spot Pinion - Dave Evans©

On 29th Brian Hobby recorded a **Cypress Pug** during his Garden Moth Scheme in Kirk Hallam. This represents the seventh record of this species for VC57.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages



Cypress Pug - Brian Hobby©



Neglected Rustic - Nadine Snowhill©

As the month came to a close Nadine Snowhill recorded the first **Autumnal Rustic** of the year at Darley Moor on 29th.

Steve Thorpe ran his Breaston light trap on 30th and had 43 species including 3 different **China-mark** species, **Beautiful**, **Brown** and **Ringed**, also a **Bulrush Wainscot** all indicators of nearby water or wetland habitat. Brian Hallam ran his last moth trap for August on 31st and recorded two first records for the year of **Sallow** and **Cochylis molliculana**. Also on 31st Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded **Pine Carpet**, 7 **Vine's Rustic** and a **Dicrorampa acuminatana**. Nadine Snowhill **managed to get the year list to 680**, with a **Neglected Rustic** (a red-brown variant) also on 31st. Finally August came to a close with Dave Newcombe trapping another **Palpita vitrealis** on 31st from his Belper moth trap, that is three this month and the eighth record for VC57, and Stephen Moores recorded **Phyllonorycter leucographella** (**Firethorn Leaf-miner**) at Darley Bridge on 31st, the first one for the year.



Palpita vitrealis - Dave Newcombe©



Dicrorampa acuminatana - Pete Mellor©

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

MOTHS OF THE MONTH - Hard to choose one species this month.



Waved Umber - f. fuscata - Martin Roome©



Palpita vitrealis - Dave Newcombe©



Palpita vitrealis - Dave Evans©



Ypsolopha sequella - dark form - Christian Heintzen©

Following the record by Ian White of an unusual colour form of **Ypsolopha sequella** in last months bulletin, Christian Heintzen caught a similarly dark morph on the 17th of July in Swallow's Wood, Glossop and initially also struggled identifying it but eventually concluded it could only be Y. sequella - a beautiful morph.

August Moth News - From the DMFG pages

We hit the 500th species in mid July, and by the end of the month there were **681** species that I have managed to extract from the DMFG postings. I'm sure this is not an accurate total, as it is so easy to miss a few, but it's a bit of fun and fairly close to the mark.

NEWS UPDATES.

Whilst the team were verifying moth records during the month, a new micro moth species has been discovered for Derbyshire and VC57. Christian Heintzen recorded ***Lampronia fuscata*** (No:9.006) (**Birch Gall Moth/Scarce Bright**) at Longdendale on 30/5/2024. It is a Nationally Scarce B species and the adults seem to be rarely seen, as most records are from the galls on Birch.



Lampronia fuscata - Christian Heintzen©

Well there we have it, another bumper month for Derbyshire Moths is completed. I do hope you all enjoy reading these bulletins, feedback is always appreciated. Let us all hope that we have some improvement in the weather, especially as we are entering the period when there are opportunities for catching migrant moths.

"Good Mothing". *Tony Davison.*