

MOTH NEWS FOR DERBYSHIRE

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VC57

August Moth News - So we kick off August with a second county record of **Gypsy Moth**, when Adrian Watson recorded one from his Littleover moth trap on 1st August, other notables were a **Red Underwing** and *Helcystogramma rufescens*.



Gypsy Moth - Adrian Watson©



Zelleria hepariella - Sid Morris©

Sid Morris recorded the scarce micro *Zelleria hepariella* (**Ash Spinner**) from 20w Heath Actinic light at his Staveley garden on 1st. Also on 1st Clive Ashton ran an actinic in Cromford recording **Gothic**, 2 **Dotted Clay**, **Coxcomb Prominent**, 2 **White-spotted Pug**. Matt Leedell ran his 20w Actinic in his Belper garden on 1st recording 50/26 including highlights of **Rosy Rustic**, **Straw Underwing** and **Clay**,



Straw Underwing - Matt Leedell©



Swallow Prominent - Graham Pollock©

August Moth News -

Graham Pollock from Quarndon recorded **Poplar Hawk-moth** and a smart **Swallow Prominent** overnight on 2nd. Also on 2nd Brian Hobby ran his usual GMS light trap at Kirk Hallam, using 125mv Skinner. Just 44/23 with the first **Six-striped Rustic** for the year, *Agriphila geniculea* and *Agriphila selasella*.

Clive Ashton ran his garden mv light at Cromford on 3rd recording his 2nd **Dewick's Plusia**, 3 **Old Lady**, **Vine's Rustic**, **Straw Underwing**, **Lychnis**, *Cochylichroa atricapitana*, *Ypsolopha dentella*, and *Acleris aspersana*.



Dewick's Plusia - Clive Ashton©



Vine's Rustic - Clive Ashton©



Old Lady - Clive Ashton©



Cochylichroa atricapitana - Clive Ashton©

Paul Buxton recorded a good catch from his Sandiacre garden on 3rd with a **White-point** and a *Cochylis molliculana*. Andrew-John Shervill recorded the micro *Aproaerema anthyllidella* (Vetch Moth), on 3rd from his inner city garden in Normanton, the third record for Derbyshire.

Sam Goddard recorded the leaf mine of *Caloptilia cuculipennella* at Alvaston Park on 6th. Also on 6th Ian White recorded *Acleris aspersana* from Hay Dale. Dave Evans had a good day searching for Leaf Mines also on 6th recording 24 species, including 15 species of *Stigmella*, and 3 species of *Phyllonorycter*. One or two leaf mines are pictured below.

August Moth News



Acrocercops brongniardella - Dave Evans©



Caloptilia cuculipennella - Sam Goddard©



Phyllonorycter nicellii - Dave Evans©



Stigmella plagicolella - Dave Evans©



Acleris aspersana - Ian White©



Aproaerema anthyllidella (Vetch Moth)
Andrew-John Shervill©

August Moth News - Sid Morris ran his Staveley garden light trap overnight on 6th recording 106/38, with a good variety of common species. Dave Evans also ran his Belper garden light trap on 6th recording 131/47 with highlights of **Pearly Underwing**, his first **Square-spot Rustic** of the year, **Lesser Swallow Prominent**, *Ypsolopha scabrella* and **Magpie Moth**.



Pearly Underwing - Dave Evans©



Magpie Moth - Dave Evans©

Clive Ashton had a good catch on 6th with 133/38 which included a couple of “tricky” individuals - **Dark Marbled Carpet**, *Neocoxyliis dubitana* and *Mompha miscella*. Dave Newcombe also on 6th from his garden in Belper recorded 119/43 with main highlight of a **White-point**. Another trapping session from Dave Evans in Belper on 7th produced *Scrobipalpa costella*, **Oak Hook-tip**, and **Six-striped Rustic** from 126/42.



White-point - Dave Newcombe©



Scrobipalpa costella - Dave Evans©

Dan Martin struck lucky on 7th when he recorded an **Annulet** from his Matlock garden light trap. A scarce species and the first one since 2021. Dave Newcombe from Belper recorded *Ethmia quadrillella* overnight on 7th. There were also several reports of the **Old Lady** moth from various locations including Allestree (William Grange) on 8th and one from Mickleover (Sue Jones).

Dave Evans recorded the migrant *Nomophila noctuella* (**Rush Veneer**) and also a **Tawny Speckled Pug** on 8th from Belper. Nikki Barrow from Shirland ran her garden light trap on 8th and recorded a **Devon Carpet**, first one for the year.

August Moth News -***Nomophila noctuella* (Rush Veneer)**

Dave Evans©

**Devon Carpet** - Nikki Barrow©

Clive Ashton recorded ***Agonopterix kaekertiziana*** from his Cromford light trap on 8th. A decent record of a scarce species in the county, with only around five previous records, the last one from Millers Dale on 25th June 2025.

A superb record of ***Duponchelia fovealis* (European Pepper Moth)** was recorded by Adrian Watson from Littleover on 8th. This is the fifth record of this species for the VC57 Derbyshire recording area. John Turner from New Mills recorded an **Antler Moth** from his garden light trap on 8th.

Dave Evans recorded a Nutmeg on 9th from his Belper garden light trap, along with the second modern day record of ***Stenolechia gemmella* (Black V Bud Moth)**, the last one was in 2014. Also a second ***Nomophila noctuella* (Rush Veneer)**, ***Mompha propinquella***, **Six-striped Rustic** and a **Poplar Hawk-moth**. Sid Morris recorded 18 **Old Lady** moths roosting in the railway underpass at Markham Vale Seymour on 10th.

***Duponchelia fovealis*** - Adrian Watson©***Stenolechia gemmella*** - Dave Evans©

A **Lime-speck Pug** from Barrow-upon-Trent on 10th by Richard Pittam and Martin Roome discovered an **Orange Swift** in his house in Chaddesden on 10th.

August Moth News - Last Wednesday, 5th August, David Walsh and Christian Heintzen participated in a mini Bioblitz with several others at Dinting Nature Reserve, Glossop, a site that is in imminent danger of becoming a housing estate. Alex Lees, Steve Bailey, and Bill Underwood did some bird and plant recording, and Christian and David did some evening netting and left two moth traps each overnight, an 8W Heath, two 15W synergetic Heaths, and a 15W synergetic Skinner.

They recorded 473 moths of 69 species, with notable counts of 52 **Six-striped Rustic**, 38 **Eudonia pallida**, 18 **Blood-vein**, 16 **Flame Carpet**, and 5 **September Thorn**. They also had 2 **Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet**, a UK BAP species, a **Psoricoptera gibbosella** (which appears to be only the 4th record for Derbyshire), and only the second **Crescent** recorded in the northeast of the county (although David gets many records four miles away in VC58).

They were both pleased with the results despite conditions being somewhat cool and breezy, at a site containing some great habitat, with a rich diversity in flowering plants. Unfortunately it appears that it will be lost to housing, another great shame. **David Walsh & Christian Heintzen.**



Crescent - Christian Heintzen©



Psoricoptera gibbosella - Christian Heintzen©

Adrian Watson ran two double skinner 20W traps in his Littleover garden on 9th and recorded a **Coptotriche marginea**. Sixteen records between 2020-2024 but only five records so far this year.

Dave Evans recorded 167/57 from his Belper garden on 10th - highlights were **Orange Swift**, **Neocochylis molliculana**, **Bucculatrix thoracella** and **Mompha raschkiella**. Nikki Barrow ran a moth trap at the Jim Mart Reserve on 10th using a 20W actinic. Just 25 species which included **Straw Underwing**, **Swallow Prominent** and **Pebble Prominent**.

Brian Hobby reported low numbers on the GMS Moth Night of 9th with 34/14 from his garden trap at Kirk Hallam.

Adrian Watson from Littleover recorded the fourth recording for the county of **Ypsolopha alpella** (**Short-barred Ochre**) on 10th from 99/24, also a **Rosy Rustic** of note.

August Moth News - Dave Evans reported some migrant activity from his trapping session at Belper overnight on 11th. Recording **Bordered Straw**, *Nomophila noctuella* (**Rush Veneer**) and *Plutella xylostella* (**Diamond-back Moth**), also **White-point** and **Dewick's Plusia**.



Ypsolopha alpella - Adrian Watson©



Bordered Straw - Dave Evans©



White-point - Dave Evans©



Dewick's Plusia - Dave Evans©

Dave also recorded **Small Rufous**, **Blood-vein**, **Sallow Kitten** and **Currant Pug** as additional highlights from his MV in Belper on 11th, but star of his trap was the third county record of the migrant *Gelechiid*, *Scrobipalpa ocellatella*, and a nationally scarce species.



Small Rufous - Dave Evans©



Currant Pug - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Neil Loverock recorded a few good species from his Chaddesden garden light trap on 11th from 100/41 - The first **Orange Sallow** of the year, *Gelechia senticetella* and *Argyresthia albistria*.



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Dave Evans©



Orange Sallow - Neil Loverock©

Clive Ashton ran two moth traps at Cromford on 11th - the first from his garden, recording a **Poplar Grey**, **Wormwood Pug**, *Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla*, *Galleria mellonella* and *Agonopterix arenella*. The second trap on Cromford Moor with highlights from 174/40 of **Orange Swift** 5, **Barred Hook-tip**, **Scalloped Hook-tip** 2, **Chevron** 5, **Lesser Swallow Prominent**, **Common Lutestring**, **Ruby Tiger**, **Flounced Rustic** 3, **Least Yellow Underwing**, **True Lover's Knot** 2, **Lime-speck Pug**, *Metalampra italica* 2, *Crassa unitella* and *Phylloporia bistrigella*.



Poplar Grey - Clive Ashton©



Phylloporia bistrigella - Clive Ashton©



Argyresthia albistria - Neil Loverock©

Pete Mella recorded what is most likely *Zimmermannia atrifrontella* on 12th at Norton Lees, a potential new species for VC57 Derbyshire. Also *Homoeosoma sinuella*, *Tinea trinotella*, **Lime-speck Pug**, **Common Wainscot** and **Scarce Footman**.



Possible *Zimmermannia atrifrontella*
Pete Mella©

August Moth News - Clive Ashton also ran his garden light trap in Cromford on 12th recording 146/46 with highlights of **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Yellow-barred Brindle**, **Orange Swift** (2), **Purple Bar**, **July Highflyer** and ***Pyrausta despicata***.

Martin Roome also recorded 257/55 from his garden light trap at Chaddesden on 11th with highlights of **Nutmeg**, **Treble-bar**, **Latticed Heath** and 24 **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**.



Treble-bar - Martin Roome©



Nutmeg - Martin Roome©

Anne Butler recorded **Wax Moth**, ***Elophila nymphaeata*** (**Brown China-mark**) and ***Calamotropha paludella*** (**Bulrush Veneer**) at Sandiacre on 12th.

Dave Evans recorded more Leaf Mines during the day on 13th at Wyver Lane, Belper, including two rare species, ***Bucculatrix demaryella***, and ***Stigmella crataegella***. More common leaf mines were ***Phyllonorycter nicellii***, ***Stigmella anomalella***, ***Stigmella plagicolella***, ***Stigmella nylandriella***, ***Stigmella hybnerella***, ***Stigmella luteella***, ***Phyllonorycter coryli*** and ***Stigmella lemniscella***, ***Stigmella tityrella***, ***Phyllonorycter tristrigella***, ***Parornix anglicella*** and ***Stigmella hemargyrella***. A fantastic selection of these fascinating micro moths. A total of 31 species were found during the day.



Stigmella crataegella - Dave Evans©



Stigmella tityrella - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Dave Newcombe had a good return on 12th from his Belper garden light trap with 118/42 producing a few highlights of 3 **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Black Arches**, **Rosy Rustic**, **Maiden's Blush** and **Orange Swift**. Otherwise a good selection of common species for the time of year.

Dave Evans recorded **Small Wainscot**, and ***Epinotia ramella***, from his Belper light trap on 12th.

Then Nikki Barrow hit the headlines when she tentatively posted a photograph of what she thought might be ***Evergestis extimalis*** (**Marbled Yellow Pearl**), from her Shirland garden light trap overnight 13th. Well it sure was and a new species for Derbyshire. Apart from some wear on the thorax, it was in good condition and obviously a wandering migrant. It is a resident in certain parts of the southern counties, an immigrant and temporary colonist. Quite remarkable that this individual found its way to Shirland. Also a **Rush Veneer** and **Yellow-barred Brindle**.



Evergestis extimalis - Nikki Barrow©



Nutmeg - dave Evans©

Dave Evans ran another light trap overnight on 13th from Belper and recorded a few goodies - **Black Arches**, **Oak Hook-tip**, **Nutmeg**, **Orange Swift** and **Ear Moth** egg to name a few.

Clive Ashton was the next to post his results from 13th at Cromford recording 200/65 including his highlights of **Maiden's Blush**, **Vapourer**, **Frosted Orange**, **Burnished Brass**, **Bird's Wing**, **Juniper Pug**, **Large Twin-spot Carpet**, ***Bucculatrix nigricomella*** and ***Metalampra italica***.

Graham Finch discovered the leaf mines of ***Roeslerstammia erxlebella*** on the Lime trees at Calke Park on 13th, also the larval case of the pistol case-bearer ***Coleophora anatipennella*** on Cherry.

Christian Heintzen recorded ***Agonopterix ocellana*** and ***Epermenia falciformis*** at Chisworth on 12th, and also his first **Golden Rod Brindle** of the year.

Sid Morris recorded another **Bordered Straw** at Staveley on 13th, a really nice specimen. Neil Loverock ran his 125w skinner trap at Chaddesden on 13th and recorded 150/75 - Highlights were ***Leucoptera laburnella*** (**Laburnum Leaf-miner**), **Chinese Character**, 2 **Burnished Brass**, ***Epinotia nisella***.

August Moth News -**Bordered Straw** - Sid Morris©***Epermenia falciformis*** - Christian Heintzen©***Leucoptera laburnella*** - Neil Loverock©***Epinotia nisella*** - Neil Loverock©

Nikki Barrow recorded a few good micros on 13th from her Shirland garden moth trap - ***Neocochylis hybridella*** and another ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***. One or two records of ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** appearing so maybe indicating an influx of migrants?

Another **Bordered Straw** was recorded by Dave Evans from his Belper garden moth trap on 14th, along with **Swallow Prominent**, **Red Underwing** and **Barred Hook-tip**.

**Bordered Straw** - Dave Evans©**Centre-barred Sallow** - Nikki Barrow©

August Moth News - `Nikki Barrow had a good catch overnight on 14th from Shirland with 254/50 and highlights of **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Straw Underwing**, **Orange Swift** and ***Endothenia nigricostana***, first record for the year.

Pete Mella recorded a few Leaf Mines from Graves Park, Norton Lees on 15th including ***Bohemiannia pulverosella*** on Apple and ***Acrocercops brogniardella*** on Oak. A possible ***Phyllonorycter blancardella*** on Apple and ***Stigmella aceris*** on Field Maple. Also on 14th, Martin Roome from his Chaddesden light trap recorded **Orange Sallow** and ***Caloptilia semifascia*** as highlights from 225/34, of which 30 were **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing** and 42 **Light-brown Apple Moth**.



Caloptilia semifascia - Martin Roome©



Grey Chi - Clive Ashton©

Dave Newcombe ran his garden light trap at Belper on 14th recording highlights of **Small Ranunculus**, **Lesser Swallow Prominent** and **Yellow-barred Brindle** from just a couple of hours of trapping.

Clive Ashton ran a moth trap from a garden in Middleton-by-Wirksworth on 15th recording **Grey Chi** (3), **Flounced Rustic** (2), **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Rosy Rustic**, **Dusky Thorn** (11) and another ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** as highlights. Dave Evans also trapped another ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** overnight on 15th from his Belper garden light trap, as well as other highlights of **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Buff-tip** and **Small Ranunculus**.



Small Ranunculus - Dave Evans©



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Graham Pollock recorded a **White-point** from his Quarndon garden moth trap on 15th, a new moth species for Graham, **Dingy Shell** and ***Tachystola acroxantha*** as highlights from 170/36. Steve Thorpe found a dead **Oblique Carpet** in his kitchen on 16th. He has caught two from his garden in Breaston before 2021 & 2022, so clearly a small population exists nearby.

Stephen Plant recorded the 3rd county record of **Ni Moth** from his Allestree garden on 15th, along with **Bordered Straw** and **Rusty Dot Pearl**. Quite a nice catch of migrants.



Ni Moth - Stephen Plant©



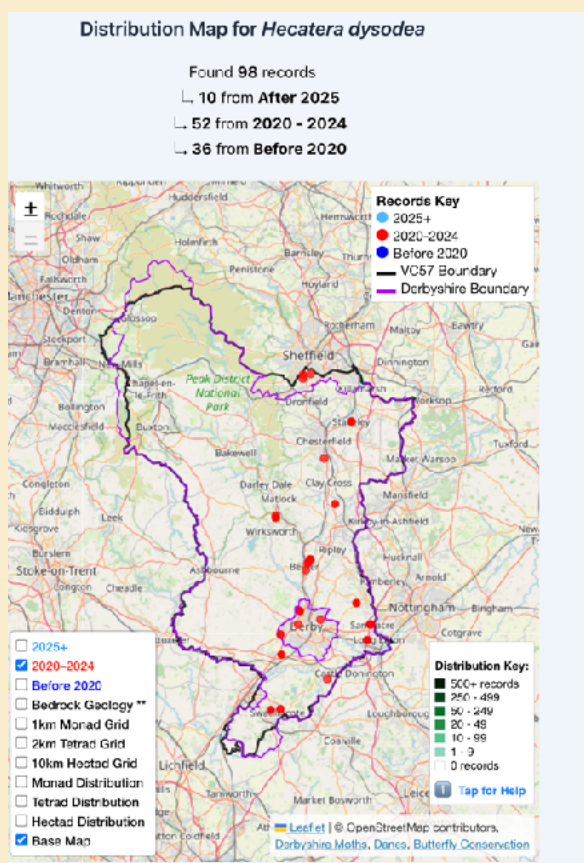
Bordered Straw - Stephen Plant©

Dave Newcombe joined the "Clifden Club" when he attracted a superb **Clifden Nonpareil** to his garden light trap on 15th in his Belper garden. Found outside the trap, as they often are, having checked his moth traps at 02:30am. A very fresh looking individual. Not many so far this year.



Clifden Nonpareil - Dave Newcombe©

A Small *Ranunculus* was trapped by Don Cambridge at Inkersall Staveley on 15th. Since the first record in 2009, this species is now well established in Derbyshire, favouring the eastern side of the county and is appearing in new localities with regularity. See current distribution map .



August Moth News - Nikki Barrow recorded 51 species from her Shirland garden light trap on 15th, with highlights of **Flounced Rustic**, **Nutmeg**, **Orange Swift**, **Sallow Kitten** and ***Pyrausta despicata***.



Orange Swift - Nikki Barrow©



Flounced Rustic - Nikki Barrow©

Brian Hobby ran his 125w MV Skinner for GMS night on 15th in Kirk Hallam. With overnight temperatures to 16.4°C, he recorded 148/39 with highlights of **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Orange Swift** (both these species seem to be having a good year so far), **Rosy Rustic** and a **Toadflax Pug**.

There were also three records of rare migrants reported via iRecord, first a **Small Mottled Willow** recorded from Froggatt by Bryan Barnacle on 16th and two records of **Scarce Bordered Straw**, one from VC57 Sheffield on 14th recorded by Jan Turner and one from Wingerworth on 15th recorded by Jim Windle.

Dave Evans recorded **Angle-striped Sallow** and **Feathered Gothic** from his garden light trap at Belper on 16th from 158/47. Andrew - John Shervill recorded **Orange Swift** from his garden light trap in Normanton, Derby also on 16th, surely a good species for inner city Derby, showing that this species is clearly having a very good year.

Dave Evans reported a **Golden Plusia** as a main highlight from a garden light trap in Belper on 17th, with **Angle-striped Sallow**, **Centre-barred Sallow** (2) and ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** (4).



Angle-striped Sallow - Dave Evans©



Golden Plusia - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Matt Leedell also ran his garden light trap in Belper on 17th recording 114/37, which included a **Maiden's Blush**, **Lychnis** and **Centre-barred Sallow**. He also attracted eight **Hornets** to the trap, making things rather challenging for him. Clive Ashton ran his moth trap at Cromford on 17th recording another **Dewick's Plusia** (Getting rather difficult now to decide whether our records are migrants or from a small resident population?), **Pale Mottled Willow**, **Scrobipalpa ocellatella** and **Hypatima rhomboidella**, a very good micro.



Hypatima rhomboidella - Clive Ashton©



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Clive Ashton©

It now looks certain that we have had an influx of the migrant **Scrobipalpa ocellatella** into the county this year, with numerous records of this little micro moth being received.

Sam Goddard discovered the leaf mine of **Phyllonorycter comparella** on White Poplar at Alvaston Park on 18th, representing a new species for VC57 and Derbyshire. Possibly this has been overlooked in the past, however it is a Nationally Scarce A species.

Dave Newcombe recorded another **Scarce Bordered Straw** overnight on 17th from his garden light trap in Belper. Nikki Barrow from Shirland, also on 17th had a successful trapping session at the Jim Mart Reserve, Ashover, recording 43 species, of which 8 were new site records. These were **Old Lady**, **Turnip Moth**, **Light Brown Apple Moth**, **Purple Bar**, **Scrobipalpa ocellatella**, **Epinotia nisella**, **Mompha propinquella** and a **Parornix** sp which is most likely **p. devoniella** as the trap was located next to a Hazel hedge along with the leaf mines.

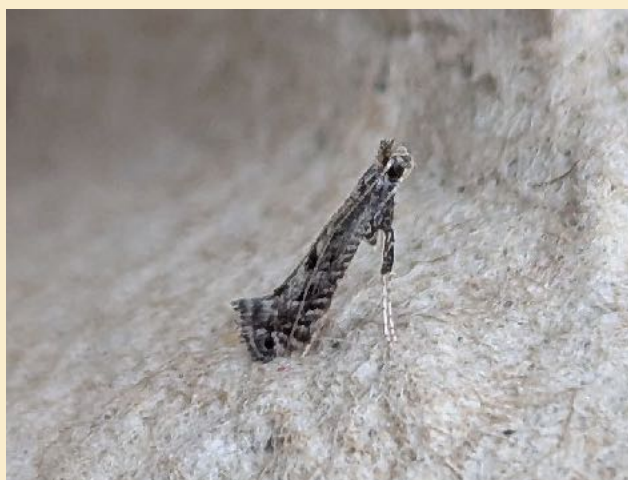


Scarce Bordered Straw - Dave Newcombe©



Scarce Bordered Straw - Jan Turner©

August Moth News -

*Parornix devoniella* - Nikki Barrow©*Parornix devoniella* - Nikki Barrow**Bulrush Wainscot** - Dave Evans©*Epinotia nisella* - Nikki Barrow©

Sid Morris recorded 95/26 from his Staveley garden light trap on 17th, which included 40 **Vine's Rustic**, a **Small Ranunculus** and a **White-point**.

Overnight rain on 18th caused a few problems for local recorders, opening up traps with soggy egg trays. Dave Evans managed to attract a **Bulrush Wainscot**, **Maiden's Blush**, **Iron Prominent**, **Centre-barred Sallow** (2), **Lime-speck Pug**, **Dusky Thorn** and **Six-striped Rustic**, from his Belper garden light trap on 18th. Whilst Neil Loverock fared better at Chaddesden in Derby with a **Dewick's Plusia**, a **White-point**, **Orange Swift** (6) and **Spectacle**.

Martin Roome, also at Chaddesden on 18th, recorded **Red Underwing**, **Brown China-mark**, **Rush Veneer** and **Square-spot Rustic** from his garden light trap.

Alan Kydd from Hathersage recorded a rather worn ***Palpita vitrealis*** (**Olive Tree Pearl**) overnight on 18th. Dave Newcombe from Belper seems to be on a roll, recording another **Bordered Straw** from his garden light trap on 18th amongst 167/38. Also **Tree Lichen Beauty**, **Silver Y**, as other highlights from a good selection of species.

August Moth News -**White-point** - Neil Loverock©**Dewick's Plusia** - Neil Loverock©**Bordered Straw** - Dave Newcombe©**Udea ferrugalis** - Clive Ashton©

Further recording on the 18th from Clive Ashton at Cromford, produced a few migrant micros from 34 species - ***Udea ferrugalis*** (**Rusty Dot Pearl**), ***Plutella xylostella***, and ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***. Andrew-John Shervill from Normanton, Derby record a **Small Ranunculus** from his inner city garden light trap. A new species for his garden and maybe a new location in the county. A **Small Mottled Willow** was verified by one of the recording team on iRecord from Parwich on 18th

I ran my 20W actinic Skinner from my garden in Melbourne overnight on 19th and from 136/36 highlights were **White-point**, **Treble-bar**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Orange Swift** and ***Neocochylis Hybridella***, ***Plutella xylostella*** (**Diamond-back Moth**) (2) and **Pale Mottled Willow** (13).

Dave Evans surveyed Wyver Lane on 20th for leaf mines, discovering around a dozen species. Two of which included ***Stigmella perpygmaeella*** and ***Stigmella crataegella***. Dave surveyed around 20 Hawthorn Trees to try and get an idea of density of leaf mines. He recorded 124 mines - ***Stigmella hybnerella***, 13 mines - ***Stigmella perpygmaeella***, 62 mines - ***Stigmella crataegella***, c400 mines - ***Parornix anglicella***, 47 mines ***Phyllonorycter oxyacanthae*** and 8 mines of ***Lyonetia clerkella***.

August Moth News - Clive Ashton recorded the 4th record of **Ni Moth** for VC57 Derbyshire on 20th/21st August when he found one in his Cromford garden light trap. A superb record of this rare visitor to Britain. Also in the same trap were **Poplar Hawk-moth** (2), **Centre-barred Sallow** (3), **Purple Bar** and **Turnip** as other highlights.



Ni Moth - Clive Ashton©



Ni Moth - Clive Ashton©

Dave Evans recorded a **Dark Sword-grass** also on 20th from his moth trap in Belper along with the micro ***Stenolechia gemmella*** and **Rusty Dot Pearl**. Andrew-John Shervill recorded his first ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** (Beet Moth) on 20th. Quite a remarkable record for inner city Derby.



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Andrew-John Sherwin©



Dark Sword-grass - Dave Evans©



Rusty Dot Pearl - Dave Evans©



Stenolechia gemmella - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Nikki Barrow recorded a **Dark Sword-grass** from 66/18 from her Shirland garden moth trap on 21st. I found a **Dark Spectacle** in my Melbourne garden early evening on 21st. A migrant or a local resident? Not many recorded so far this year.



Dark Spectacle - Tony Davison©



Dark Sword-grass - Nikki Barrow©

Also on 21st Dave Evans from his Belper garden moth trap recorded 103/34, a decent range of species, including **Nutmeg**, **Small Ranunculus**, **Orange Swift**, **Six-striped** and **Flounced Rustic**, **Centre-barred Sallow** (3), **Blood-vein** and **Scrobipalpa ocellatella**.



Small Ranunculus - Dave Evans©



Nutmeg - Dave Evans©

Christian Heintzen recorded another **Scrobipalpa ocellatella** from Glossop on 21/22nd. What a stunning image of this little migrant species.



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Christian Heintzen©

August Moth News - Clive Ashton ran a moth trap on Cromford Moor on 21st with just over 100 moths of 31 species, which included **Neglected Rustic**, **Autumnal Rustic**, **Angle-striped Sallow** (2), **Barred Chestnut** (2), *Hypatima rhomboidella*, and *Epinotia ramella* (5).



Autumnal Rustic - Clive Ashton©



Neglected Rustic - Clive Ashton©

Sam Goddard recorded an adult *Phyllonorycter platani* on 22nd which he had reared from the leaf mine he collected on 11th August from Alvaston Park, Derby. Most probably the second adult to be recorded for Derbyshire.



Phyllonorycter platani - Sam Goddard©

Sid Morris ran his garden light trap at Staveley on 21st with highlights of **Spectacle**, **Nutmeg**, **Orange Swift** and **Centre-barred Sallow** from 24 species. Pete Mella recorded a few Leaf-mines from his Norton Lees garden on 22nd including *Phyllonorycter tristrigella*, *Stigmella salicis*, *Stigmella microtheriella*, *Stigmella aceris*, *Phyllonorycter coryli*, *Phyllonorycter sorbi* and *Lyonetia clerkella*.

August Moth News - Adrian Watson from Littleover recorded highlights of ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***, **Centre-barred Sallow** and **Orange Swift**.



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - Adrian Watson©



Orange Swift - male & female - Adrian Watson©

Dave Evans was joined by Dave Newcombe, Richard Taylor and Chris Brown when they set up two traps at Wyver Lane on 22nd. ***Elachista maculicerusella*** (12th county record) and ***Ypsolopha horridella*** (4th county record) were two highlights. Result was 143/41, 40 **Square-spot Rustic** and 33 **Setaceous Hebrew Character** were highest counts.

Matt Leedell from Belper recorded 5 **Maiden's Blush** from his garden light trap on 22nd. Another species that seems to be having a decent year.



Elachista maculicerusella - Dave Evans©



Ypsolopha horridella - Dave Evans©



Wyver Lane - Dave Evans©



Up and running - Dave Evans©

August Moth News - Adrian Watson had a bumper moth trap at Littleover on 22nd recording 612/61. Highlights were **Rusty Dot Pearl**, **Pale Eggar**, 126 **Setaceous Hebrew Character** and 69 **Common Wainscot**.



Rusty Dot Pearl - Adrian Watson©



Pale Eggar - Adrian Watson©

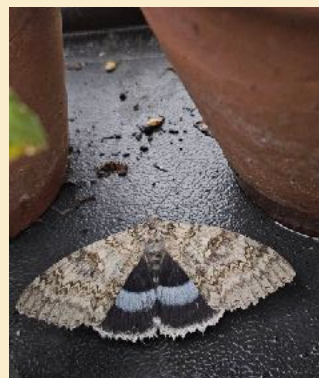
Brian Hobby recorded a **Clifden Nonpareil** from his garden light trap at Kirk Hallam on 22nd.

Sam Goddard from Fenny Bentley recorded **Palpita Vitrealis**, **Dark Sword-grass**, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and **Rush Veneer** as a nice selection of migrants on 22nd, along with 17 **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Feathered Gothic** and **Six-striped Rustic**. Brian Hallam recorded **Frosted Orange**, both male & female **Orange Swift**, **Angle Shades** and **Nutmeg** from 180/36 on 22nd

Paul Buxton from Sandiacre also had a few migrants on 23rd including two **Clifden Nonpareil** !!, a **Palpita Vitrealis** and **Rusty Dot Pearl**. Probably a first county record of two **Clifden's** in one trap?



Clifden Nonpareil - Paul Buxton©



Clifden Nonpareil - Paul Buxton©

Clive Ashton reported another **Rusty Dot Pearl** from Middleton-by-Wirksworth on 24th and Andrew-John Shervill recorded the Leaf Mine of **Stigmella trimaculella** from Sinfin, Derby also on 24th.

August Moth News - Dave Evans checked on an actinic trap that was run at a private butterfly reserve in Belper overnight on 23rd. Some really good numbers were recorded including, 50 **Common Wainscot**, c200 **Large Yellow Underwing**, 42 **Setaceous Hebrew Character**, 30 **Square-spot Rustic** and 16 **Centre-barred Sallow**. From his own Belper garden moth trap on 23rd Dave recorded **Brown-spot Pinion** (first one for the year), **Rusty Dot Pearl**, **Small Ranunculus** and **Black Arches** as main highlights from 213/61.



Brown-spot Pinion - Dave Evans©



Black Arches - Dave Evans©

August has seen an unprecedented arrival of migrant moths into the county, and this trend continued towards the end of the month. **Clifden Nonpareil** were recorded from Allestree on 24th by Stephen Plant, and from Sandiacre also on 24th, Emily Milnes.



Clifden Nonpareil - Stephen Plant©



Bedellia somnulentella - Andrew-John Shervill©

Andrew-John Shervill recorded **Bedellia somnulentella** (Bindweed Sleeper) on 24th from his inner city Normanton garden light trap. The 2nd record for VC57 Derbyshire.

Then came **Palpita vitrealis** during 23rd - 24th - In addition to the above the following were recorded, Pete Mella, Norton Lees, Martin Roome, Chaddesden (23rd) 3, Emily Milnes, Sandiacre 24th (2), Anne Butler, Sandiacre (24th) 3 and (25th) 1 and Dave Newcombe, Belper (24th).

Clive Ashton recorded 150/47 from his Cromford garden light trap on 24th with highlights of 10 **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Beautiful Hook-tip**, 2 **Old Lady**, **Grey Chi** and **White-spotted Pug**.

August Moth News - Dave Evans trapped in his garden at Belper on 24th and recorded 158/43 with highlights of **Rush Veneer** and 4 **Old Lady** from a wide range of common species.

Dave Newcombe at Belper also ran his garden moth trap on 24th recording 210/68 with highlights of **Feathered Gothic**, ***Ypsolopha sequella***, ***Aspilapterix tringipenella*** and **Tawny-barred Angle**.



Clifden Nonpareil - Emily Milnes©



Beautiful China-mark - Adrian Watson©

Adrian Watson from Littleover had a huge haul of moths on 23rd, 850/70 with highlights of **Beautiful China-mark**, **Oak Hook-tip**, ***Agonopterix arenella***, ***Paraswammerdamia albicapitella***, **Clay**, **Waved Umber**, **Dark Spectacle** and a **Dark Sword-grass**.

John Turner from New Mills recorded a **Bordered Straw** on 25th, the 10th record this year, also a **Tree Lichen Beauty**, which could also have been a possible migrant.



Bordered Straw - John Turner©



Ostrinia nubilalis - Anne Butler©

Sandiacre strikes again! Anne Butler recorded the 3rd VC57 Derbyshire record of ***Ostrinia nubilalis*** (European Corn-borer), from her Sandiacre garden on 25th/26th, along with another ***Palpita vitrealis***.

August Moth News - One or two good records from the high north of the county on 15th and 24th. From 15th at Featherbed Top, near Kinder Scout at 530m **Heath Rustic** and **Neglected Rustic** - Christian Heintzen and 24th from Bray Clough at 400m **Scarce Bordered Straw**, **Golden-rod Brindle**, **Light Knotgrass**, and **Autumnal Rustic** - also Christian Heintzen.



Scarce Bordered Straw - Christian Heintzen©



Autumnal Rustic - Christian Heintzen©

On 25th Dave Evans recorded **Flame Carpet**, **Treble-bar** and **Achroia grisella** (Lesser Wax Moth) from 154/45 at Belper, whilst at Wyver Lane, on 26th Dave found a few more Leaf Mines, **Stigmella speciosa** (9th county record and a site record), **Stigmella salicis**, **Stigmella hybnerella** and **Phyllonorycter geniculella** (site record).



Flame Carpet - Dave Evans©



Treble-bar - Dave Evans©

Clive Ashton at Cromford on 25th had 200/51 which included 10 **Dusky Thorn**, 7 **Pale Mottled Willow**, **Angle-striped Sallow** and **Pinion-streaked Snout**. Also on 25th Paul Buxton recorded a **Cypress Pug** (new for the year and 11th county record) and **Morophaga choragella**.

Brian Hallam posted his records from 24th at Findern on 28th which included the 2nd County record of **Ostrinia nubilalis** (European Corn-borer), pipping Anne Butler's record by 24 hours! Also from his trap were **Rusty Dot Pearl** and **Small Ranunculus**.

August Moth News - Another **Rusty Dot Pearl** from Andrew-John Shervill at Derby on 26th and a Dark Sword-grass both added to the months migrant tally.

Stephen Plant from Allestree recorded a **Small Mottled Willow**, *Palpita vitrealis*, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and a **White Point** on 26th.



Palpita vitrealis - Stephen Plant©



Small Mottled Willow - Stephen Plant©



Ostrinia nubilalis - Brian Hallam©



Feathered Gothic - Steve Orridge©

Many recorders were reporting reduction in numbers and species, mainly due to weather conditions around the month end. Steve Orridge from Buxton recorded 80/23 on 27th, his highlight was a **Feathered Gothic**, only Steve's third for his garden with his previous being Aug 2002 and Sept 2011!

Brian Hallam recorded a **Sallow** from his Findern garden moth trap of 109/27 on 27th, along with **Beautiful Hook-tip** and **Rusty Dot Pearl**.

Dave Newcombe reported a meagre catch on 27th from his Belper garden with 75/25 but it did contain a good micro moth, *Ypsolopha sylvella*, the 5th record for Derbyshire. Also from Belper on 29th, Dave Evans recorded the 8th record, since 2020, of the leaf mine of *Phyllonorycter rajella*.

August Moth News -***Ypsolopha sylvella*** - Dave Newcombe©***Phyllonorycter rajella*** - Dave Evans©

Towards the month end a small number of recorders were delving into the world of “Leaf Miners”. A fascinating and very much under-recorded section of moth recording. Dave Evans is currently our local expert and verifier and I’m sure he will be more than happy to help out with what will be tricky things to identify.

It is very important to obtain good photographs and a note of the food plant, especially at least one photo that has the mine back-lit. This is easily done by holding the leaf against the light/sun so the mine is lit-up showing the detail inside. Dave regularly posts his photos of his recordings of leaf mines, so follow his trend.

A few that have been observed recently are ***Stigmella plagicolella***, (Pete Mella, Norton Lees), ***Parornix scoticella***, (Nikki Barrow, Shirland), ***Stigmella salicis*** and ***Phyllonorycter leucographella*** (Sam Goddard, Ashbourne Airfield), ***Stigmella aceris***, and ***Mompha raschkiella*** (Nikki Barrow, Blackwell Trail), ***Phyllonorycter tristrigella*** and ***Parornix devoniella*** (Andrew-John Shervill, Littleover), ***Phyllonorycter tristrigella***, (Dave Evans) and ***Bucculatrix demaryella*** (Christian Heintzen, Torside Clough).

On 29th a **Dark Sword-grass** from Shirland (Nikki Barrow), two **Heath Rustic** one from Sandiacre and a second from Long Eaton (Paul Buxton, Sandiacre and Marion Bryce, Long Eaton). The two Heath Rustic records are both unusual, being so far south from the main populations on the northern moorlands.

A **Feathered Gothic** (Dave Evans, Belper), **White-point**, and **Purple Bar** (Clive Ashton, Middleton-by-Wirksworth) and **Bordered Straw**, **Dark Spectacle**, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** (Brian Hallam, Findern).

On 30th David Knass from Hathersage recorded a **Clifden Nonpareil**.

Final reports for August came from Pete Mella at Norton Lees, with an **Orange Sallow** and Christian Heintzen with an excellent record of the leaf mine, ***Stigmella myrtillella*** from Chunal Moor, Glossop.

August Moth News -

The annual **Waingroves Community Woodland Moth and Bat** event took place on 17th and was well attended. Shaun Walters and his team were on hand providing generators and traps for the moth event and Emily Milnes kindly offered to join me, and collectively we formed the “Moth Team”.

The traps were continually monitored during the evening and a number of the moths were presented to the public for them to observe at close quarters. Conversations took place on why moth trapping takes place, the reasons for moth trapping and what happens to the records.

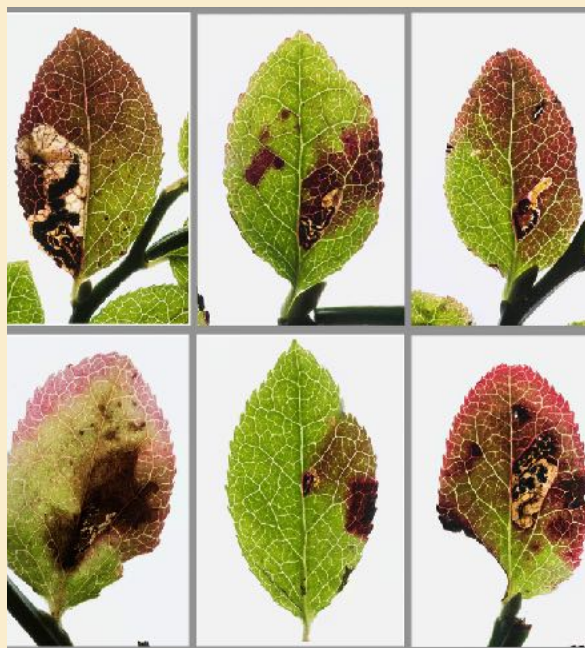
A great night with 34 species and around 100 moths between 9pm and 11pm. The main highlights were Centre-barred Sallow; Maple Stilt, Dunbar, Orange Swift, and Snout.



Caption



Caption

August Moth News -***Bucculatrix demaryella*** - Christian Heintzen©***Stigmella mytilella***- Christian Heintzen©**Clifden Nonpareil** - David Knass©

Well what another cracking month of “moth-ing” and moth recording in Derbyshire. From what we are seeing, there is still plenty of opportunities to find new species for Derbyshire, along with moths that haven’t been recorded in VC57 for many years. Looking forward to the autumn months ahead and there is still opportunities for finding more migrants, especially if we have one of those so called “Indian Summers”!

Good “Moth-ing” - *Tony Davison*

August Moth News - My photo of the month



Bird's Wing - Clive Ashton©

August Moth News -

ID FEATURE - One or two local recorders have suggested an ID Feature would be beneficial

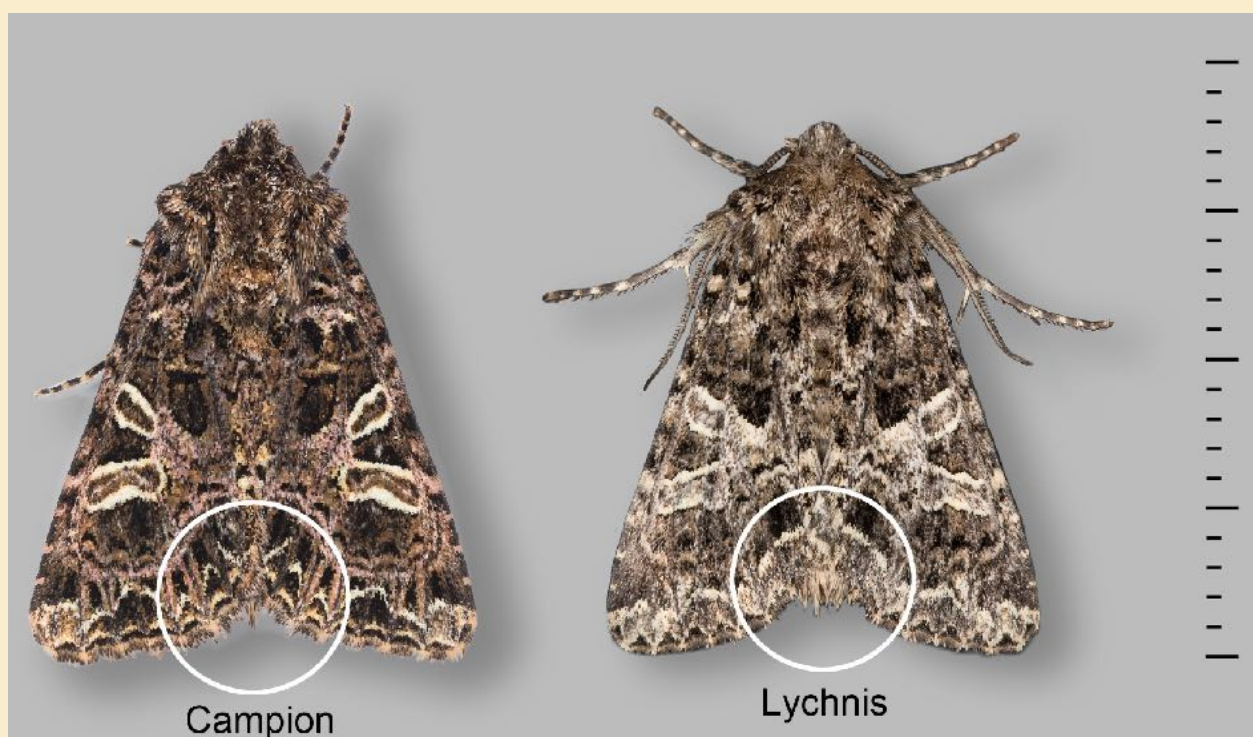
Comparison between **The Champion v The Lychnis**. Two very similar species identified by very subtle markings and colours.

When fresh, the **Champion** shows a purplish hue to the forewing which gradually fades with age, whereas the **Lychnis** has much more contrasting overall grey tones to the forewing.

On the **Champion** the oval and kidney mark are prominently outlined in white and are usually linked together at the base, forming a characteristic semi-circular shape. This feature is a good indicator for separating from similar **Lychnis**. The outer cross line is white and zig-zagged throughout, turning to finish near the leading edge.

On **Lychnis** the oval and kidney mark are separate and the outer cross-line is zig-zagged only across the final half towards the leading edge, where the line fades and finishes.

My thanks go to Christian Heintzen for his superb image showing the two species side by side and highlighting the zig-zag markings as described above.



Champion v Lychnis - Christian Heintzen©