

# MOTH NEWS FOR DERBYSHIRE.©



Produced and edited by Tony Davison - [www.derbyshiremoths.org](http://www.derbyshiremoths.org)

VC57

## April Moth News:

**1st April** - The first moths reported for April came from Wyver Lane, when Dave Evans found *Emmelina monodactyla*, *Amblyptilia acanthadactyla*, *Epiphyas postvittana*, *Agonopterix heracliana/ciliella* and *Alucita hexadactyla*, either in the bird hide or in other areas of the reserve. Dave also had a **Waved Umber**, first one for the year, on the back door window of his house. Andrew-John Shervill recorded an **Oak-tree Pug** from Normanton, Derby. Mark Radford found the mines of *Aspilapteryx tringipennella* on Ribwort Plantain at Markham Vale North, a new moth species for the site.



**Waved Umber** - ©Dave Evans



**The Streamer** - ©Clive Ashton

**2nd April** - Clive Ashton recorded a **Streamer** from Cromford. Clive also ran a light in Bow Wood, near Cromford for a few hours, producing 17/7 with a couple of highlights, **Purple Thorn**, **Early Tooth-striped** (5), **Brindled Pug** (6) and **Oak-tree Pug**. Another **Oak-tree Pug** from Normanton recorded by Andrew-John Shervill.

**3rd April** - Mark Radford discovered larval feeding signs of *Notocelia trimaculana* on Hawthorn, causing the shoots to wilt. Upon opening one he revealed the larva, returning it to the original tree.

**4th April** - Mark Radford found a larval case of *Coleophora lutipennella* on an Oak tree bud at Foxlow Ponds. Clive Ashton risked storm Dave and decided to power up his garden light trap at Cromford. The only highlight was a fine **Pine Beauty**.

**5th April** - A **Red Chestnut** was John Turner's highlight from his light trap at New Mills.

**Moth News:***Notocelia trimaculana* - ©Mark Radford**Red Chestnut** - ©John Turner

**6th April** - Steve Orridge recorded the first **Emperor Moths** on the wing near Buxton. Another **Emperor Moth**, a stunning female, was attracted to Christian Heintzen's 15W synergetic trap at Glossop. Mark Radford recorded *Grapholita jungiella* flying in sunshine over last year's Bramble flowers at Hall Lane Ponds. Mark also checked on the leaf mines of *Coptotriche marginea* that he collected a couple of weeks ago and found one contained a cocoon/pupa about 4-5mm long. Nikki Barrow ran her moth trap in Shirland and recorded 16/7 including **Brindled Beauty**, **Double-striped Pug** and *Agonopterix arenella*. Martin Roome recorded an **Oak-tree Pug** from his Chaddesden garden moth trap.

**Emperor Moth** - female - ©Christian Heintzen*Coptotriche marginea* pupa case - ©Mark Radford

Dave Evans recorded the first **Lunar Marbled Brown** of the year from 15/12 at Belper, also **Oak-tree Pug** and **Waved Umber** as other highlights.

**7th April** - Dave Evans found an **Old Lady** caterpillar in his Belper garden, the first record for the year. There were a few light traps fired up during the evening of the 7th with a variety of new species for the year being recorded. I ran my light trap in Melbourne recording **Least Black Arches**, along with **Pine Beauty**, **Early Tooth-striped**, **Streamer**, **Brindled Pug** and **Oak-tree Pug** all NFY (New For Year) for my garden.

**Moth News:**

**7th April cont'd** - The Markham Vale Moth Group ran 4 x 125w, 2 x 20w actinic 1 x 125w blue/black and were rewarded with 57/16 species. Highlights from the list were **Water Carpet**, **Purple** and **Early Thorn** and **Lunar Marbled Brown**. Ann Wood from Sandiacre recorded a **Muslin Moth** and **Streamer**. Dave Evans recorded the first **Bright-line Brown-eye** of the year from Belper and Dave Newcombe had the first **V-Pug** of the year, also from Belper. Clive Ashton from Cromford recording the first *Depressaria radiella* of the year.

**8th April** - Clive Ashton attracted **Emperor Moth** and *Philedonides lunana* to EMP Lure on Beeley Moor. Whilst Christian Heintzen recorded the first record since 1970 of *Eriocrania unimaculella*, one of the easiest *Eriocrania* to ID as an adult.



Least Black Arches - ©Tony Davison



*Eriocrania unimaculella* - ©Christian Heintzen



Lunar Marbled Brown - ©Dave Evans



Pine Beauty - ©Tony Davison

**Moth News:**

**8th April cont'd** - Dave Evans recorded the first **Yellow-barred Brindle** of the year from his garden light trap at Belper, also **V-Pug**, **Oak-tree Pug**, **Water Carpet**, **Lunar Marbled Brown** and **Waved Umber**. Clive Ashton ran a light trap session in Bow Wood, Nr. Cromford, recording **Lunar Marbled Brown** (2), **Satellite**, **Purple Thorn** (2), **Early Thorn**, **Chestnut**, **Water Carpet** and ***Incurvaria pectinea*** (2). The first **Chinese Character** of the year was trapped by Emily Milnes at Sandiacre from 46/16, also **Diamond-back Moth** (5) and **Lunar Marbled Brown**. Nikki Barrow from Shirland recorded **Streamer**, **Waved Umber**, **Oak-tree Pug** and **Lunar Marbled Brown** from 29/12.



Lunar Marbled Brown - ©Nikki Barrow



Waved Umber - ©Nikki Barrow



Yellow-barred Brindle - ©Dave Evans

*Incurvaria pectinea* - ©Clive Ashton

Oak-tree Pug - ©Dave Evans



Water Carpet - ©Dave Evans

**Moth News:**

Pete Mella at Norton Lees recorded 49/13 including **Tawny Pinion**, **Purple Thorn** (his 2nd record for the garden) **Lunar Marbled Brown** (3), **V-Pug** and **Diamond-back Moth** (2). Mark Radford recorded 51/21 from his Staveley garden light trap including **Streamer**, the first **Chocolate Tip** of the year, ***Acleris cristana***, ***Esperia sulphurella***, ***Acrolepiopsis assectella*** and ***Acleris hastiana***.



Tawny Pinion - ©Pete Mella

*Esperia sulphurella* - ©Mark Radford

Chocolate Tip - ©Mark Radford

*Acrolepiopsis assectella* - ©Mark Radford

**10th April** - Graham Pollock recorded the first **Lesser Swallow Prominent** of the year from his garden light trap in Quarndon.

The Derbyshire Moths Team have taken up a new challenge. We have been invited by the National Trust Rangers at Hardwick Hall to help them conduct a session of moth surveys throughout 2026 within the grounds of the Hardwick Estate. The first session took place on 10th April 2026 and the "Hardwick Hall Moth Team" ran three light traps. Highlights from 23/7 were **Pine Beauty**, **Lunar Marbled Brown** and **Brindled Pug**. A good start considering the weather was not the best for moth trapping. Further trapping sessions will be planned for the rest of the year. The Derbyshire Moths Recording Team are very pleased to be involved with the National Trust at Hardwick in this exciting project.

**Moth News:**

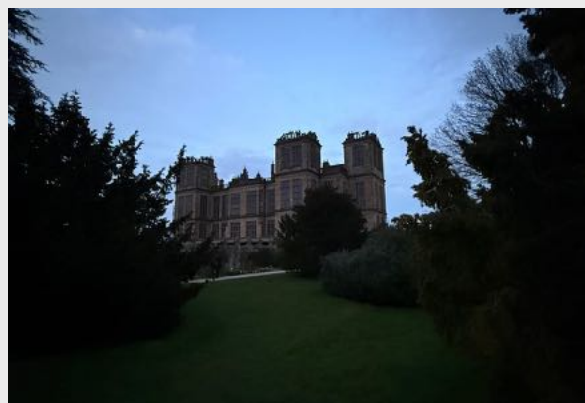
**Pine Beauty** - Hardwick Hall - ©Emily Milnes



**Lunar Marbled Brown** - Hardwick Hall - ©Emily Milnes



The NT Rangers enjoying their first moth trap session.



**Hardwick Hall** - ©Tony Davison

**12th April** - Mark Radford discovered several leaf mines and larval cases at the Markham Vale site, including the leaf mines of ***Coleophora paripennella*** on Knapweed and larval cases of ***Coleophora serratella*** on Silver Birch, old cocoons of ***Pammene regiana*** found under loose Sycamore bark.

**13th April** - Ian White found the attractively marked ***Acleris hymana*** at Grin Low, Buxton. At Foxstone Wood, Mark Radford found the frass covered silken tubes of ***Nemapogon clematella***, there is only one other record of the frass of this species from May 2025 at Pleasley. Ann Wood recorded her very first **Chinese Character** from her Sandiacre garden MV light trap.

**14th April** - Overnight was cold, wet and windy, but Clive Ashton managed 12/9 from his Cromford garden light trap including **Streamer**, **Early Tooth-striped** and ***Plutella xylostella***.

**16th April** - Another good leaf mine record from Mark Radford was the discovery of the mines of ***Coleophora albitarsella*** (**White-legged Case-bearer**) found on Ground Ivy, after much searching, at Hall Lane Ponds, Markham Vale. Mark also found more of the larval cases of ***Coleophora serratella***. Clearly this is a very common species at this site. The first record of **Cinnabar Moth** for the year was recorded by Clive Ashton at Cromford.

**Moth News:**



*Acleris hymana* - ©Ian White



*Coleophora serratella* - ©Mark Radford



*Coleophora albitarsella* - ©Mark Radford



Larval Case of *Coleophora albitarsella*  
©Mark Radford



**Cinnabar Moth** - ©Clive Ashton



**Early Tooth-striped** - ©Clive Ashton

I ran my 20W Actinic in my Melbourne garden overnight on 16th and recorded **Waved Umber**, **Purple Thorn**, **Common Pug** and *Psychoides filicivora* (2) (**Common Fern Moth**) all were new for the year, with the **Common Fern Moth** new for the garden. **Hebrew Character**, **Streamer** and **Brindled Pug** made up the 8/7.

**Moth News:**

**16th April cont'd** - Emily Milnes at Sandiacre recorded the first **Knot Grass** and **White-spotted Pug** of the year, along with ***Eudonia angustea***. A superb **Chamomile Shark** was trapped at Staveley by Mark Radford, the first Derbyshire record since 2023. John Turner from New Mills recorded a **Powdered Quaker**.



**Knot Grass** - ©Emily Milnes



**Chamomile Shark** - ©Mark Radford

Dave Evans from Belper ran his garden light trap for a few hours, recording a **Pale Pinion**, ***Plutella xylostella***, **Oak-tree Pug** (3) and **Twenty-plume Moth**.



**Waved Umber** - ©Tony Davison



**Purple Thorn** - ©Tony Davison



***Psychoides filicivora*** - ©Tony Davison



**Pale Pinion** - ©Dave Evans

**Moth News:**

**17th April** - A **Lunar Marbled Brown** was recorded by Nikki Barrow at Shirland and another at Chellaston by Richard Pittam. Another excellent leaf mine record by Mark Radford. He discovered the mines of ***Parectopa ononidis* (Clover Stilt)** on clover at Hall Lane Ponds, Markham Vale. A **Swallow Prominent** was found by Richard Pittam in his Chellaston garden whilst emptying his overnight moth trap.

**18th April** - Clive Ashton found the larva of ***Psychoides verhuella*** on Hart's Tongue Fern at Rose End Meadows, Cromford during the morning.



**Lunar Marbled Brown** - ©Richard Pittam



**Swallow Prominent** - ©Richard Pittam



***Parectopa ononidis*** - ©Mark Radford



***Psychoides verhuella* - Larva** - ©Clive Ashton

Mark Radford continued the leaf mine theme with ***Eriocrania cicatricella*** found on Silver Birch at Markham Vale. The first VC57 photographic records of the leaf mine. The next species Mark found was ***Eriocrania sangii***, blotch mine on the edge of a Silver Birch leaf containing a tenanted grey larva. Andrew John-Shervill found evidence of ***Nemapogon clematella*** on old Hazel at Coton-in-the-Elms.

**19th April** - Clive Ashton recorded two ***Pyrausta despicata*** at Gang Mine. **Angle Shades** was recorded from Sandiacre by Ann Wood and Dan Martin found an **Emperor Moth** on the wing at Matlock. Dave Evans recorded 8/8 from his Belper garden light trap with **Foxglove Pug** and **Flame Shoulder** as highlights.

**Moth News:**



*Eriocrania sangii* - ©Mark Radford



*Eriocrania sangii* - ©Mark Radford

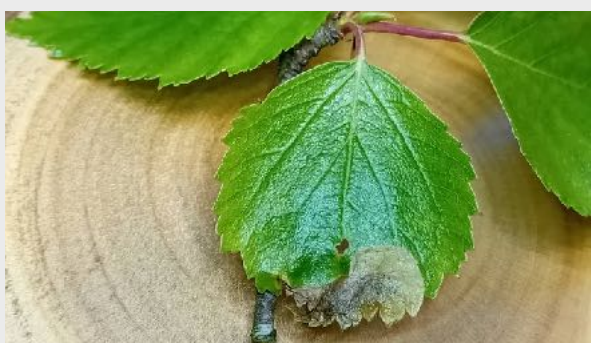
Mark Radford discovered a third species of *Eriocrania* at Markham Vale, the mines and a tenanted mine of *Eriocrania unimaculella*, confirmation of the ID came from Ben Smart. Clive Ashton recorded 13/7 from his Cromford garden light trap including **Cinnabar** and **Waved Umber**, as well as the “old guard” still being present. Dave Evans reported a **Lunar Marbled Brown** as the only highlight from his moth trap at Belper from 16/13.



*Eriocrania unimaculella* - ©Mark Radford



*Eriocrania unimaculella* - ©Mark ©Radford



*Eriocrania cicatricella* - ©Mark Radford



*Eriocrania cicatricella* - ©Mark Radford

**Moth News:**

**20th April** - More leaf mine discoveries from Markham Vale when Mark Radford found the mines and larval cases of *Coleophora discordella* (**Lotus Case-bearer**) on Bird's-foot Trefoil, which is widespread across the site.



*Coleophora discordella* - ©Mark Radford



*Coleophora discordella* - Larval Case - ©Mark Radford

**21st April** - Dave Evans recorded **Chocolate-tip**, only the second one so far this year, from 4/4. The first **Pebble Prominent** and **Golden-rod Pug** of the year was recorded by Adrian Watson from Littleover.

**22nd April** - Anne Butler had an **Emperor Moth** to pheromone lure in her Sandiacre garden. Lots of *Adela reaumurella* and *Eriocrania semipurpurella* on the wing at Wyver Lane, Dave Evans also reported *Emmelina monodactyla*, **Nettle-tap**, **Garden Carpet**, **Brown Silver-line**, *Grapholita jungiella* and *Glyphopterix fuscoviridella*. Mark Radford found the larval case and mine activity of *Coleophora bindarella* on Alder at Markham Vale South Tip. A **Powdered Quaker** and **Water Carpet** were the highlights from Clive Ashton's moth trap at Cromford. Dave Evans recorded the first **Iron Prominent** and **Dwarf Pug** for the year, from 10/9 at Belper. *Glyphopterix haworthana* was recorded by Christian Heintzen when an adult emerged from Cottongrass seeds he had collected from Snake Pass summit on 13th April 2026. The first record since 1971.



**Chocolate-tip** - ©Dave Evans



**Powdered Quaker** - ©Clive Ashton

**Moth News:**



**Iron Prominent** - ©Dave Evans



**Dwarf Pug** - ©Dave Evans



***Coleophora bindarella*** - ©Mark Radford



***Coleophora bindarella*** (larva and case)  
©Mark Radford



***Glyphipterix haworthana*** - ©Christian Heintzen

**Moth News:**

**23rd April** - Clive Ashton found *Ancylis badiana* at Rose End Meadows, the first one for the year. A **Bee Moth** was discovered by Karen Rue in her Ilkeston garden. Mark Radford recorded 17 *Cydia ulicetana* (**Common Gorse Moth**) at Markham Vale South Tip.

**24th April** - The first **Seraphim** of the year came from Mark Radford's garden light trap at Staveley along with a **Lunar Marbled Brown** from just 5/4. Dave Evans recorded 10/8 from Belper including a **Mullein** and **Pale Tussock** (first one of the year). Further good moths came from Brian Hobby who recorded **Lunar Marbled Brown**, **Seraphim**, **Muslin** and **Flame Shoulder**. Matt Leedell from Belper, **Lunar Marbled Brown** (2) and David Ridley from Glossop who recorded **Lesser Swallow Prominent**.

**25th April** - Martin Roome recorded the superb little micro moth, *Esperia sulphurella*, at Chaddesden.

**26th April** - Finally some mild weather and with it the first **Brimstone Moth**, **Peppered Moth** and *Tachystola acroxantha* of the year were trapped at Chaddesden by Martin Roome, along with **Least Black Arches**, **Knot Grass** and **Pale Tussock** as other highlights. Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded the first **Sallow Kitten** of the year, with other highlights of **Foxglove Pug**, **White-spotted Pug**, *Tachystola acroxantha* and *Mompha subbistrigella*. Clive Ashton recorded 16/11 from his Cromford garden light trap which included the first **Scalloped Hazel** of the year. Dave Evans from Belper had a bumper moth trap overnight with 42/19 including the first record of the year of **Alder Kitten** and *Tinea trinotella*, with **Muslin Moth**, **Least Black Arches** and **Mullein** as additional highlights.



*Esperia sulphurella* - ©Martin Roome



*Cydia ulicetana* - ©Mark Radford



**Scalloped Hazel** - ©Clive Ashton



**Alder Kitten** - ©Dave Evans

**Moth News:**

**26th April cont'd** - Mark Radford recorded 35/21 from his Staveley garden light trap which included the first **Orange Footman**, **Pale Prominent**, **Puss Moth** and ***Dichrorampha acuminatana*** for the year, also **Seraphim** (5), and **Chinese Character**.



**Orange Footman** - ©Mark Radford



**Pale Prominent** - ©Mark Radford

Mark Radford discovered the larval cases and feeding activity of ***Coleophora lineolea*** (**Woundwort Case-bearer**) at Markham Vale South Tip. Sid Morris recorded 12 species on his GMS (Garden Moth Scheme) week 8 at Staveley, with **Scalloped Hook-tip**, **Ruby Tiger**, **Dark Dagger** **agg**, and the first **Spectacle** of the year. John Turner from New Mills recorded **V-Pug**, a **Streamer** and a **Powdered Quaker**.

**27th April** - Clive Ashton recorded the first **Silver Y** of the year and ***Agonopterix purpurea*** at Gang Mine. Don Cambridge recorded the first **Poplar Hawk-moth** of the year at Inkersall.

**28th April** - Mark Radford found another good ***Coleophora*** species and one that hasn't been recorded since 1993! ***Coleophora milvipennis*** on Silver Birch at Poolsbrook Marsh (Markham Vale). He found the tiny larval case (4mm long) and feeding window (of 2mm), amongst the thousands of the much larger feeding windows (10-15mm) of ***Coleophora serratella***.



**Poplar Hawk-moth** - ©Don Cambridge



***Coleophora milvipennis*** - ©Mark Radford

**Moth News:**

**28th April cont'd - Small Phoenix** was recorded by Dave Evans at Belper, the first one of the year.

**29th April** - Dave Evans netted *Hysterothrips maculosana* from amongst Bluebells at Archer Wood, Wyver Lane. The first record of this species since 1971. A contender for moth of the month. Dave also recorded a few other day flying species including *Cydia ulicetana*, *Pyrausta aurata*, *Micropterix calthella* and *Glyphipterix fuscoviridella*.



*Hysterothrips maculosana* - ©Dave Evans



**Knot Grass** - ©Dave Evans

**30th April** - The first **Knot Grass** began to appear towards the month end with Dave Evans recording the first one from Belper. Another good micro moth was recorded by Clive Ashton when he netted *Micropterix tunbergella* in the Via Gellia. Dave Evans recorded the first **Grass Rivulet** and *Celypha lacunana* of the year. Mark Radford recorded **Chocolate Tip** amongst 11/8 from his Staveley garden light trap. Dave Evans recorded the first **Grey Pine Carpet** of the year, from 16/12



*Micropterix tunbergella* - ©Clive Ashton



**Grey Pine Carpet** - ©Dave Evans

**Moth News:****Male Glow-worms in moth traps.**

This is a request to those of you in the county that run moth traps, either in your gardens or elsewhere in the county. Please keep your eyes peeled when going through your traps for male Glow-worms *Lampyris noctiluca* (photo below). These small beetles are often reported by people running moth traps and, in some instances, have given away the presence of previously unrecorded Glow-worm populations.

Whilst the adult females are apterous and just sit about glowing, the smaller males fly around seeking out the yellow-green bioluminescent glow of the females and are sometimes attracted to the light of a moth trap.

Whilst we don't know just how far the males will travel, personal experience suggests they may fly up to a kilometre from their emergence site.

If you do find any male Glow-worms in your traps, please take a photo and record via iRecord on the general record form OR the Glow-worm specific form. If you are not an iRecord user (and why not?) then you can email the details to myself at [derbyshireglowworms@gmail.com](mailto:derbyshireglowworms@gmail.com).

Thanks

Jim Alder

UK Glow-worm Survey



*Photo: ©Paul Bowyer*

**Moth News:**

Based on information received to end of April, so far this year 182 species (97 macros & 85 micros) have been recorded. A total of 3,270 records have so far been submitted to irecord for 2026.

The Micro Moth Annual Report covering the years 2020-2024 is being worked on and should be published in a forthcoming DaNES Journal. Also good progress is being made on the Derbyshire Macro Moth Report for 2025. A preview of the front cover is below.

Well the end of another busy month of Spring moth news which contains some very special records. May will no doubt be "hot on the heels" of April and we look forward to another busy period of moth recording.

*Tony Davison.*



**Moth News:**

## Moth Photo of the Month by Clive Ashton



The Herald - ©Clive Ashton