

MOTH NEWS FOR DERBYSHIRE©



Produced and edited by Tony Davison - www.derbyshiremoths.org

VC57

May Moth News:

1st May - Dave Evans reported the first moths for May on the evening of 1st May - **Pebble Prominent, Waved Umber, Oak-tree Pug, Grey Pine Carpet** and a **Diamond-back Moth** were early highlights. His final trap records were 39/23 including a **Puss Moth, Currant Pug, White Ermine, White-spotted Pug, Orange Footman, Pale Tussock** and **Seraphim**.

Brian Hobby recorded 11/8 for his GMS night, with **Least Black Arches** and **Chinese Character** as highlights.

Matt Leedell recorded 10/8 which included **The Flame**, first one for the year.

Clive Ashton recorded **Rivulet, Yellow-barred Brindle, Red Twin-spot Carpet** and, **Dwarf Pug**.

Mark Radford from Staveley recorded 53/27 which included highlights of **Orange Footman, Chocolate Tip** and **Grey Birch**.

Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded an **Oak Nycteoline**

Dave Newcombe recorded 19/14 from his Belper garden including **Pale Tussock** and **Pebble Prominent** as main highlights.

John Turner from New Mills caught a **Pine Beauty**, the best from 4 moths of four species.

Richard Pittam recorded **Ochreous Pug** from his Chellaston light trap.



Dwarf Pug - ©Clive Ashton



Grey Birch - ©Mark Radford

May Moth News:

2nd May - Chaddesden - Martin Roome recorded a **Seraphim** from 29/11. The first **Clouded-bordered Brindle** for the year was recorded by Steven Bell from Buxton.

3rd May - Martin Roome ran his LED Lights at Milltown, Matlock and after moving them to a more sheltered spot due to heavy rain, he recorded a **Nut-tree Tussock** and a **Nutmeg**.



Nut-tree Tussock - ©Martin Roome



May Highflier - ©Dave Evans

Dave Evans recorded 28/18 from his garden light trap at Belper which included **Clouded-bordered Brindle** and a first record for the year of **May Highflier**. Clive Ashton recorded 21/13 from Cromford which included **Common Swift**, **Spruce Carpet**, another **Dwarf Pug** and ***Incurvaria masculella***.



Incurvaria masculella - ©Clive Ashton



Spruce Carpet - ©Clive Ashton

Mark Radford recorded more larval cases of ***Coleophora gryphipennella*** at Markham Vale South Tip.

4th May - An **Ochreous Pug** was recorded by Martin Roome from Chaddesden. Dave Evans recorded his third garden record of **Scorched Carpet** at Belper, from only 15/11.

May Moth News:**Scorched Carpet** - ©Dave Evans***Pammene rhediella*** - ©Clive Ashton

5th May - Matt Leedell found a **Tawny Pinion** roosting on an office building on Chequer's Road, Derby.

Clive Ashton found a **Grass Rivulet** at Rose End Meadows during the afternoon, along with a ***Plutella xylostella* (Diamond-back Moth)**. **Poplar Hawk-moth** and a **Pale Tussock** were highlights from Clive Ashton's garden moth trap at Cromford (16/10) in cold overnight conditions.

A **Spectacle** and **Common Swift**, and the first **Heart and Dart** of the year from Dave Evans catch of 19/15 in Belper.

7th May - Clive Ashton recorded the first rare moth of the month and the fourth record for Derbyshire of ***Pammene rhediella*** which was resting on Wych Elm, close to Crab Apple and Hawthorn, at Rose End Meadows.

Matt Leedell recorded a very early **Large Yellow Underwing** on the corner of a wall on High Street, Belper and also a **Foxglove Pug** at Costco, Wyvern Lane, Derby (Urban Mothing!).

Sid Morris recorded ***Prays ruficeps* (Cryptic Ash Bud Moth)** and ***Cochylimorpha straminea*** to light at Staveley from 20/11.

Clive Ashton recorded **The Shears**, **Coxcomb Prominent** (2) and **Pale-shouldered Brocade** to light at Cromford, all first records for the year.

**The Shears** - ©Clive Ashton**Pale-shouldered Brocade** - ©Clive Ashton

May Moth News:

7th May cont'd - Dave Evans attracted 34/25 to MV light at Belper and highlights included **Campion**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Coxcomb Prominent**, **Ruby Tiger** and ***Cochylis atricapitana***.



Pebble Hook-tip - ©Dave Evans



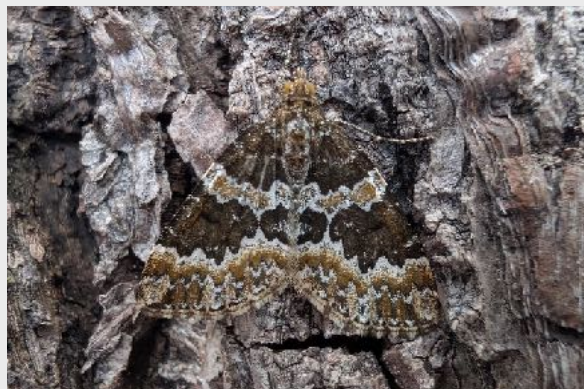
Campion - ©Dave Evans

Brian Hobby ran his GMS light trap at Kirk Hallam and recorded 49/21 with highlights of **Toadflax Brocade**, first record for the year, **Waved Umber** (4), **Pale Tussock** (2), **Oak Nycteoline** and **Ochreous Pug**,

8th May - Nikki Barrow recorded the first **Broken-barred Carpet** and **Small Magpie** of the year from her Shirland light trap. Other highlights **Peppered Moth** and **Ochreous Pug**.



Toadflax Brocade - ©Brian Hobby



Broken-barred Carpet - ©Nikki Barrow

Emily Milnes from Sandiacre recorded 48/24 with highlights of **Buff-tip**, **Seraphim**, **Knot Grass**, **Narrow-winged Pug**, ***Scrobipalpa costella*** and ***Elachista canapennella***.

Dave Evans recorded 50/27 from his garden light trap in Belper. Highlights were **Maiden's Blush**, **Narrow-winged Pug**, **Broken-barred Carpet**, **Silver Y** and ***Argyresthia trifasciata***.

Graham Pollock at Quarndon recorded the first ***Aethes smeathmanniana*** and **Lychnis** for the year, along with **Common Swift** and **Seraphim** as other highlights.

May Moth News:

Maiden's Blush - ©Dave Evans



Clouded-bordered Brindle - ©Clive Ashton

8th May cont'd - Clive Ashton from Cromford recorded 45/29 which included a few highlights - **Maiden's Blush**, **Clouded-bordered Brindle**, **Pale Tussock**, **Rivulet**, **Least Black Arches** and **Aethes smeathmanniana**. **Grey Birch**, **Orange Footman**, **Least Black Arches** and **Puss Moth** were Dave Newcombe's highlights from Belper. Highlights of **Buff-tip** and a **Silver Y** from Ann Wood at Sandiacre.

9th May - Graham Pollock from Quarndon recorded the first **Lychnis** for the year, **Waved Umber**, **Common Swift** and **Seraphim** as his highlights from 22/13. A **Chocolate Tip**, **Swallow Prominent** and **Rustic Shoulder-knot** were John Turner's highlights at New Mills.



Puss Moth - ©Dave Newcombe



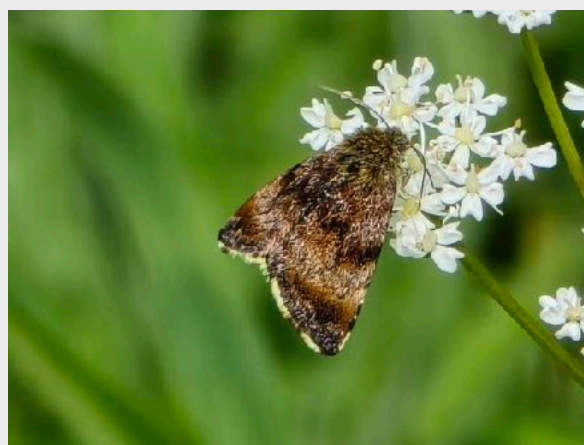
Chocolate Tip - ©John Turner

10th May - Clive Ashton recorded a few **Nematopogon swammerdamella** on the wing at Cromford's Rose End Meadows. **Mottled Pug**, **Teleiopsis diffinis**, **Small Magpie** and the **Flame** were all highlights from Dave Evans at Belper. Ann Wood recorded the first **Nutmeg** of the year from her Sandiacre garden

11th May - Clive Ashton had a few day flying species at Rose End Meadows, Cromford including **Glyphipterix fuscoviridella**, **Scoparia ambigualis**, **Ancylis badiana** and **Micropterix aruncella**.

May Moth News:*Nematopogon swammerdamella* ©Clive Ashton*Teleiopsis diffinis* - ©Dave Evans

12th May - Dave Evans recorded the leaf mines of *Eriocrania salopiella* as new for the year. Brian Hallam recorded the first Vine's Rustic for the year in somewhat cold and unfavourable mothing conditions. The beginning of May has been very cold with unsuitable temperatures for moth trapping.

*Endothenia marginana* - ©Clive Ashton

Small Yellow Underwing - ©Clive Ashton

14th May - Clive Ashton recorded *Endothenia marginana*, managing to see the white hindwing, 2 more *Pammene rhediella*, *Adela reaumurella* and *Grapholita jungiella* were all at Gang Mine, Cromford.

15th May - Two **Small Yellow Underwing** were on the wing at Gang Mine, Cromford, reported by Clive Ashton. Nikki Barrow recorded just two moths from her Shirland garden light trap: a **Nutmeg** and a **Pale Tussock**, not bad for just two moths! The cold overnight weather continued and Brian Hallam from Findern also reported only two moths from his garden light trap: a **Peppered Moth** and a **Flame Shoulder**.

16th May - A better result for Clive Ashton at Cromford with 13/10 from his garden light trap: **Lime Hawk-moth**, **Pale Prominent**, **Treble Lines** (3), **Rivulet**, **Yellow-barred Brindle**, *Syndemis musculana*, Martin Roome also recorded **Lime Hawk-moth** and a **White-spotted Pug** from his Chaddesden light trap.

May Moth News:

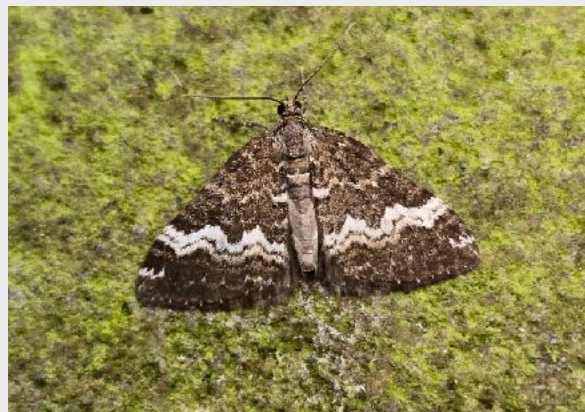
Treble Lines - ©Clive Ashton



Nutmeg - ©Nikki Barrow



Lime Hawk-moth - ©Clive Ashton



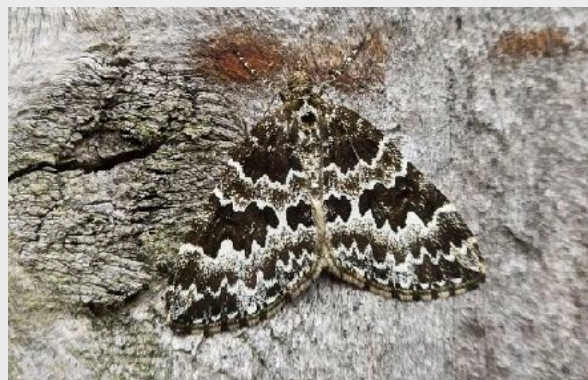
Rivulet - ©Clive Ashton

16th May cont'd - Brian Hobby reported his GMS results from Kirk Hallam of 20/13 - Temperature of 7°C, 125w – Skinner Trap, with highlights of **Gold Spot**, **Willow Beauty** and **Lime-speck Pug**, all firsts for the year.

17th May - Graham Finch discovered 2 *Glyphipterix simplicella* that had come to grief in a flight trap set up for Beetles in a field in Ticknall. Clive Ashton found a Broken-barred Carpet in his garden at Cromford.

18th May - Clive Ashton found *Hysterophora maculosana* perched on Comfrey that was adjacent to Bluebells at Gang Mine, Cromford. The second record this year of this species.

*Glyphipterix simplicella* - ©Graham Finch

May Moth News:**Hysterothra maculosana** - ©Clive Ashton**Broken-barred Carpet** - ©Clive Ashton

19th May cont'd - A Pale Tussock was a NFY for me from my Melbourne garden moth trap. A **Grass Rivulet** and a **Vine's Rustic** were Martin Roome's highlights from Elvaston Castle CP. Clive Ashton ran his garden light trap at Cromford recording a few highlights - **Rivulet**, **Least Black Arches**, **Dwarf Pug** and **Pale Prominent**.

20th May - Clive Ashton recorded a few day flying species from Rose End Meadows and Gang Mine which included **Burnet Companion**, another *Hysterothra maculosana*, *Teleiopsis diffinis*, the first record for the year of *Micropterix calthella* and *Micropterix aruncella*

**Pale Tussock** - ©Tony Davison*Teleiopsis diffinis* - ©Clive Ashton

May Moth News:

20th May cont'd - A warm high pressure system arrived overnight and it certainly made a difference to local moth trapping returns. Emily Milnes at Sandiacre recorded two **Pale Tussock** and a **Cinnabar** from 26/12, whilst Clive Ashton at Cromford returned 50/29 including **Orange Footman (2)**, **White-spotted Pug**, **Mottled Pug**, **Freyer's Pug**, **Rustic Shoulder-knot**, **Pebble Prominent** and **Alder Kitten**.



Orange Footman - ©Clive Ashton



Alder Kitten - ©Clive Ashton



Freyer's Pug - ©Clive Ashton



Mottled Pug - ©Clive Ashton

Dave Evans from Belper also returned good numbers with 54/33 including the first **Alder Moth**, **Sandy Carpet**, **Buff Ermine** and **Common White Wave** of the year, also **Lime Hawk-moth**, **Clouded Silver**, and **Vine's Rustic**. Brian Hallam from Findern returned 10/7 with **Treble Lines**, **Angle Shades** and a **Rustic Shoulder-knot** as his highlights. Pete Mella from Norton Lees remarked that it was good to see a few moths coming through after a pretty dismal month so far. He recorded *Ancylis badiana*, the first adult *Enarmonia formosana* and *Cydia pomonella* for the year and his first **Common Swift** of the year. Dave Newcombe reported 16/14 from his Belper garden light trap which included **Alder Kitten**, **Bright-line Bright Eye** and the first **Setaceous Hebrew Character** for the year.

May Moth News:

Alder Moth - ©Dave Evans



Sandy Carpet - ©Dave Evans



Vine's Rustic - ©Dave Evans



Lime Hawk-moth ©Dave Evans

21st May - Clive Ashton recorded the day flying *Cauchas fibulella* (first record for the year), **Small Yellow Underwing**, **Grass Rivulet** (3), *Grapholita jungiella*, *Micropterix calthella* and the larva of **Six-spot Burnet**. During the afternoon Clive recorded a few more day flying species at Gang Mine, including *Aethes hartmanniana*, *Ethmia quadrillella*, *Elachista argentella* and *Epliblema cirsiana*. **Toadflax Brocade** was best from Paul Buxton's moth trap in Sandiacre from 27/19. Emily Milnes recorded a **Puss Moth** on a house wall in Sandiacre. Another mammoth garden moth trap at Belper by Dave Evans, 63/34 with highlights of **Buff-tip**, **Grey Dagger agg**, *Monopsis obviella* and *Coleophora trifolii*.

22nd May - More day flying moth records from Clive Ashton at Gang mine, *Spuleria flavicaput* sweep netted near Hawthorn, *Aethes hartmanniana* and another *Hystetophora maculosana*.

The evening of the **22nd May** turned out to be the best moth trapping evening of the year so far, producing not only a scattering of migrant moths, but a first for the VC57 recording area and a first class rarity. I trapped in my garden in Melbourne and highlights from 69/34 were **Small Mottled Willow**, **Pine Hawk-moth**, **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Elephant Hawk-moth**, *Crambus lathoniellus*, *Plutella xylostella* (3), **Least Black Arches**, **Brown Silver-line**. Clive Ashton recorded the first **Bird's Wing** for the year and a strange aberration of **Scorched Wing**. Brian Hobby recorded another **Small Mottled Willow** during his regular Friday night GMS at Kirk Hallam. Brian mentions that he is now one short of 400 species for his garden.

May Moth News:

22nd May cont'd - Emily Milnes recorded 117/38 with highlights of **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Sandy Carpet**, **Oak Hook-tip**, **Treble Lines**, **Seraphim**, *Plutella xylostella* (6). Sid Morris from Staveley recorded 41 species from his garden light trap with highlights of **Eyed Hawk-moth**, **Buff-tip**, **Figure of Eighty**, and **Seraphim**. Another **Small Mottled Willow** recorded from Stonebroom by Jon Bradley.

Shane Harper from North Wingfield recorded **Chocolate-tip**, **The Miller**, **Scalloped Hook-tip**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Pale** and **Iron Prominent**.



Silver Y - ©Tony Davison



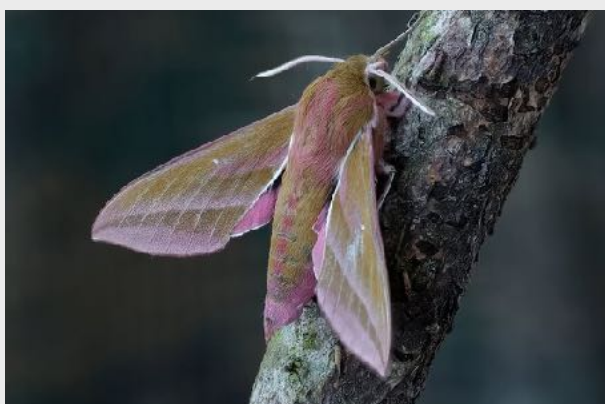
Small Mottled Willow - ©Tony Davison



Pebble Hook-tip - ©Shane Harper



Scalloped Hook-tip - ©Shane Harper



Elephant Hawk-moth - ©Tony Davison©



Poplar Hawk-moth - ©Tony Davison

May Moth News:

22nd May cont'd - The star moth of May, so far, and what may be the star moth of the year was trapped by Dave Newcombe in his Belper garden Moth Trap. He recorded ***Phtheochora schreibersiana* (Gold Cloak)**, a nationally endangered species but one that may be on the increase due to new saplings being planted on housing estates. Of course Dave's specimen may well be a migrant. A really significant record for VC57. A very distinctly marked tortrix.



Phtheochora schreibersiana - ©Dave Newcombe



Phtheochora schreibersiana - ©Dave Newcombe

John Turner from New Mills returned 15/12 and some good moths from his garden light trap. He said he was about to give up hope! Well **Scorched Wing, Chocolate-tip, Yellow-barred Brindle, The Shears** and **Brown Silver-line** would keep any local moth-er happy.

Finally for 22nd Dave Evans bumper moth trap in Belper returned 174/59 which included **Small Elephant Hawk-moth, Pine Hawk-moth, Freyer's Pug, Golden-rod Pug, Shears, Oak Hook-tip, Small Angle Shades, May Highflier** and a few micros. There's no keeping up with Dave!!



The Shears - ©John Turner



Small Elephant Hawk-moth - ©Dave Evans



Golden-rod Pug - ©Dave Evans



May Highflier - ©Dave Evans

May Moth News:

23rd May - The hot weather continued and with the warm nights there was still plenty of moth action available - Clive Ashton from his Cromford garden light trap recorded **Devon Carpet**, the first one for the year, **Sandy Carpet**, **Chocolate-tip**, **Scorched Carpet**, **Broken-barred Carpet**, **Shears** and a **Small Elephant Hawk-moth** were amongst his highlights. Richard Pittam trapped a **Seraphim** from his Chellaston garden light trap.



Chocolate-tip - ©Clive Ashton



Devon Carpet - ©Clive Ashton

Dave Evans pulled off another good moth trapping session in his Belper garden when he recorded a **Bordered Straw**. A really good migrant and one that doesn't normally appear until the autumn. Also **Plutella xylostella** (**Diamond-back Moth**) (17), **Poplar Hawk-moth**, **Lime Hawk-moth** and the micro **Mompha ochraceella**. Andrew-John Shervill recorded a **Plutella xylostella** (**Diamond-back Moth**) in his inner-city garden in Normanton.



Bordered Straw - ©Dave Evans



Lime Hawk-moth - ©Dave Evans



Shears - ©Clive Ashton



Plutella xylostella - ©Andrew-John Shervill

May Moth News:

23rd May cont'd - Martin Roome recorded 44/23 from his Chaddesden garden light trap with a **Miller** and two **Figure of 80**, first record of the year, as highlights. Pete Mella announced proper mothing has arrived, from his Norton Lees n garden light he recorded his third ever ***Triaxomera parasitella***.

24th May - Ian White trapped a **Striped Twin-spot Carpet**, a first record for the year, at Buxton, an uncommon species and one that is range restricted to the Peak District moorlands where it can be found in isolated colonies. Dave Evans ran his garden light trap at Belper recording 107/50 with **Varied Coronet**, ***Clepsis consimilana***, ***Celypha striana***, all firsts for the year, **Scorched Wing** and ***Cydia pomonella***, as highlights.



Striped Twin-spot Carpet - ©Ian White

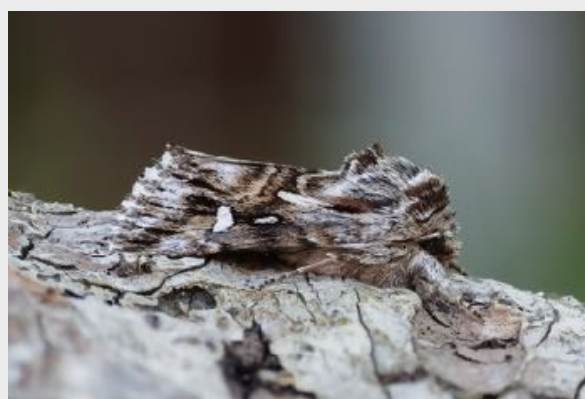


Varied Coronet - ©Dave Evans

Highlights from my Melbourne moth trap were **Common Wainscot** (first for the year), ***Nemapogon cloacella*** (first for the year) and ***Notocelia trimaculana***. I also had a new moth tick, finally a **Toadflax Brocade**, courtesy of Richard Pittam as he trapped one over night from his Chaddesden moth trap. Amanda Palethorpe recorded a **Nut-tree Tussock** at Walton. The sixth record for Derbyshire of **Pale Oak Beauty** was trapped at Markham Vale by Sid Morris.



Common Wainscot - ©Tony Davison



Toadflax Brocade - ©Tony Davison

25th May - A variety of moth traps were set up for what was to be the warmest night of the year so far, a balmy 20 degrees C. So local moth-ers were in eager anticipation of what would be in the traps the following morning.

May Moth News:



Mark Radford's LED Set-up - Staveley



Mark Radford's set-up - Staveley



Dave Evan's Actinic - Belper



Dave Evan's MV - Belper

25th May cont'd - Emily Milnes was the first to post on the morning of 26th, not one but two **Small Mottled Willow** in her Sandiacre moth trap. Other highlights were **Figure of 80** (3), **Plutella xylostella** (11), **Silver Y** (1), **Sandy Carpet** and **Privet hawk-moth** (first one for the year).



Small Mottled Willow - ©Emily Milnes



Pine Hawk-moth - ©Emily Milnes

May Moth News:

25th May cont'd - Pete Mella recorded a number of good micros from the Norton Lees moth trap including *Ptycholoma lecheana*, *Triaxomera parasitella*, *Mompha epilobiella* and *Argyresthia cupressella*, all were first records for the year. Another **Privet Hawk-moth** was recorded by William Grange at Allestree. Clive Ashton's Cromford light trap produced a few good species including **Beautiful Golden Y**, **Purple Bar**, both first records for the year, **Pale Tussock** (10) was a good count, and the micro *Ethmia quadrillella*. Clive Ashton also recorded a **Rush Veneer** on Gang Mine, the first one for the year.



Ptycholoma lecheana - ©Pete Mella



Ethmia quadrillella - ©Clive Ashton

Another good moth record came from John Turner at New Mills, an **Obscure Wainscot**. Whilst Martin Roome from his Chaddesden moth trap found *Caloptilia robustella/alchimiella* agg, **Red-barred Tortrix** and an **Elephant Hawk-moth** from 65/22. **White-pinion Spotted** and **Light Brocade** were two good records for the year from Dave Evans in Belper from 184/67.



White-pinion Spotted - ©Dave Evans



Light Brocade - ©Dave Evans

Mark Radford from Staveley had a couple of goodies a **Scorched Wing** and **Alder Moth** from his garden light trap.

May Moth News:

26th May - Warm nights still continued and local moth-ers were taking advantage of the weather. Clive Ashton ran his garden light in Cromford recording **Pauper Pug**, **Grey Pug** and **Purple Bar** as highlights. Dave Evans from Belper recorded 83/41 to his MV light with **Green Silver-lines** and **The Shark**, were both new for the year, another **Eyed Hawk-moth** and, a **Shoulder-striped Wainscot** and **Small Chine Mark**.



Pauper Pug - Clive Ashton©



Grey Pug - ©Clive Ashton



Green Silver-lines - ©Dave Evans



The Shark - Dave Evans©Dave Evans

Neil Loverock recorded a stunning **Privet Hawk-moth** and a **Scarlet Tiger** from 41/20 and his first moth trap of the year I ran my Melbourne light trap and recorded **Freyer's Pug**, **Ruby Tiger**, ***Ephestia woodiella***, **Buff-tip**, ***Diamond-back Moth*** (4) and **Silver Y** (3) from 61/30. Mark Radford recorded the rare ***Epiblema sticticana*** (**Colt's-foot Root-borer**), an incredible number of 12. The highest quantity of what is supposedly a rare species in the county with only 10 records of 13 individuals since 1979. An unusual record came from inner-city Derby when Andrew-John Shervill recorded a **Small Yellow Underwing** in his Normanton garden.

May Moth News:

27th May - Clive Ashton recorded a **Marsh Pug** at Rose End Meadows, along with **Grass Rivulet** (10), **Burnet Companion** (3) and a single ***Ethmia quarrilella***, Shane Harper trapped a **Varied Coronet** from North Wingfield.



Ephestia woodiella - ©Tony Davison



Buff-tip - ©Tony Davison

Clive Ashton Cromford moth trap produced 86/34, with staggering count of 16 **Pale Tussock**, a **Small Angle Shades**, ***Bucculatrix nigricomella***, **Silver Y** (9) and **Common Swift** (8) as highlights. Dave Evans recorded 94/45 in the Belper moth trap with **Small Clouded Brindle** being notable. Dave Newcombe had the first record of the year of ***Anania coronata*** and ***Monopsis crocicapitella***



Pale Tussock (16) - ©Clive Ashton



Silver Y -© Clive Ashton

May Moth News:

28th May - Well William Grange struck gold yet again, when he recorded his second **Striped Hawk-moth** in his Allestree garden - The news was announced on the 29th May. William trapped his first **Striped Hawk-moth** back in 2022. At the time it was the first record since 1947. He now holds the only two records in Derbyshire since 1947. What an event.. Surely a candidate for Moth of the month.



Striped Hawk-moth - ©William Grange

Clive Ashton ran his garden light trap at Cromford till 2am The star moth was a **Small White Wave**, the first record since 2018. Other notables were **Small Elephant Hawk-moth**, **Bird's Wing** and **Shoulder-striped Wainscot**. Clive also ran a trap at Cromford Moor which was dominated by 40 **Brown Silver-line**, 12 **Pale Tussock**, 10 **Common Swift**, and 10 **Green Carpet**. **Beautiful Snout** was the first for the year. Best micros were: *Eulia ministrana* - "The Minister" 2, *Capua vulgana*, *Orthotaenia undulana*, *Carpatolechta proximella*, and *Syndemis musculana*. From the MV in Belper, Dave Evans recorded Toadflax Brocade and Blood-vein as notables. So far there has only been one record of *Udea ferrugalis* (**Rusty Dot Pearl**) which was recorded by Jan Turner from Sheffield. Richard Pittam recorded a **Toadflax Pug** from his Chellaston garden light trap.



Blood-vein - ©Dave Evans



Toadflax Brocade - ©Dave Evans

May Moth News:

29th May cont'd - Clive Ashton found a **Wood Tiger** caterpillar two weeks ago and today it hatched. Mark Radford attracted (6) **Six Belted Clearwing** to pheromone lure at the former Arkwright Colliery site. The 29th turned out to be a bumper moth night for the moth-ers who ran their traps overnight.



Wood Tiger - ©Clive Ashton



Six-belted Clearwing - ©Mark Radford

Some exciting migrant activity overnight to moth traps in Belper and Melbourne. Dave Evans and myself both recorded a **Small Marble**, other migrants at both traps were **Silver Y**, **Plutella xylostella**. Dave's moth trap attracted another **Small Mottled Willow** and a **Rush Veneer**. My moth Melbourne moth trap had a **Varied Coronet**, another **Ephestia woodiella** and **Teleiodes vulgella** as notables from 46/24. Shane Harper recorded a **Small Mottled Willow** from North Wingfield.



Small Marbled - ©Dave Evans



Small Marbled - ©Tony Davison



Varied Coronet - ©Tony Davison



Small Mottled Willow - ©Dave Evans

May Moth News:

29th cont'd - Clive Ashton's MV Light trap at Cromford attracted a smart looking **Green Silver-lines**, **Poplar Hawk-moth** (2), **Cinnabar** (11) and **Pale Tussock** (5). John Turner at New Mills recorded a **Bordered White**, a species that is not reported very frequently, with this one being the first of the year. Andrew Watchorn recorded *Isotrias rectifasciana* at Barlow, the first one since 2015.



Green Silver-lines - ©Clive Ashton



Bordered White - ©John Turner

On the evening of 30th Brian Hallam posted his catch data from his overnight trap from 29th. It included a real Mega, Derbyshire's first record of **Eastern Bordered Straw**, also his first record of **Toadflax Brocade**. I'm really not surprised as to what is arriving migrant wise, into the county. There are literally hundreds, if not thousands of migrant moths that have arrived during the past week of hot high pressure weather from the Sahara. We are really being treated to a range of really rare species,



Eastern Bordered Straw - ©Brian Hallam



Eastern Bordered Straw - ©Tony Davison

30th May - With the month drawing to a close moths simply kept pouring in and the overnight sessions on 30th recorded some interesting results. Emily Milnes from Sandiacre recorded 220/48 with a supporting cast of migrants of 24 **Diamond-back Moth**; a **Rush Veneer**, **Silver Y** (2), **Turnip Moth** (5) and a **Small Mottled Willow**. Also 64 **Heart and Dart**, **Coronet**, **Large Nutmeg** and **Freyer's Pug** (10) were amongst the usual suspects. Dave Evans reported next from Belper with a stunning **Privet Hawk-moth** and a **Bordered Straw**, his second in three days. From 201/61 Dave also had **Peach Blossom**, **Treble Lines**, **Golden-rod Pug**, **Varied Coronet** and 57 **Heart and Dart**.

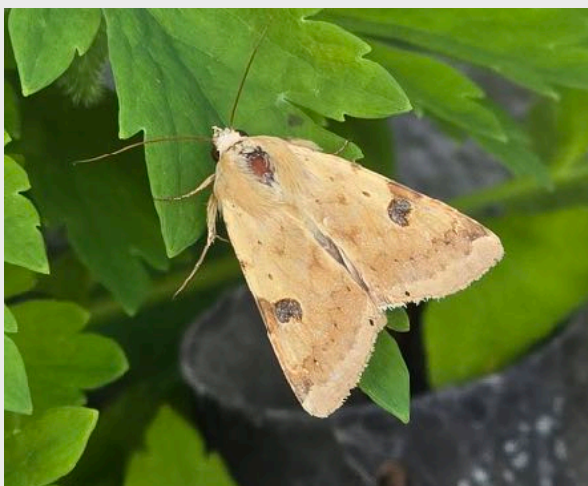
May Moth News:

Bordered Straw - ©Dave Evans



Privet Hawk-moth - ©Dave Evans

30th May - cont'd - Dave Newcombe recorded another *Triaxomera parasitella* that arrived at his trap late evening in Belper. Remarkably another **Eastern Bordered Straw** was trapped at Sandiacre by Paul Buxton overnight, the second record for Derbyshire. Clive Ashton's Cromford moth trap produced a **Bordered Straw**, **Privet Hawk-moth**, **Oak Hook-tip**, **Bird's Wing**, **Pauper Pug** and **Orange Footman**.



Bordered Straw - ©Clive Ashton



Small Ranunculus - ©Sam Goddard

Sam Goddard ran a moth trap in his garden in Allenton and recorded a smart looking **Small Ranunculus**, also **Lime Hawk-moth**, **Broad-barred White** and *Ephestia woodiella* (5). Martin Roome recorded a **Small Mottled Willow** from a trapping session in Ashover.

31st May - Clive Ashton had a daytime count of 51 **Grass Rivulet** at Gang Mine, most probably a Derbyshire record for this species. Also a **Marbled White-spot**, **Wood Tiger**, and *Cochylimorpha straminea*. Using LEDs, Martin Roome recorded 252/54 at Ashover which included **Pale Tussock** (21), **Treble Lines** (13), **Green Silver-lines** (2) and **The Shears**. Dave Evans final moth trap for May produced 72/41 which included **Snout**, **Bird's Wing**, *Aproaerema anthyllidella* and *Argyresthia brockeella*.

May Moth News:

Well that brings the month of May 2026 to a close and what a month it has been for moths, mothers and for recording. An amazing month for migrant moths and so far Derbyshire Moth-ers have recorded:-

1 x *Phtheochora schreibersiana* (Gold Cloak) - 1st record for VC57 Derbyshire

2 x **Eastern Bordered Straw**, (1st and 2nd records for VC57 Derbyshire)

1 Striped Hawk-moth

8 x Bordered Straw

2 x Small Marbled, (joint 5th records for VC57 Derbyshire both trapped on 29th May)

18 x Small Mottled Willow (15 records)

254 x Silver Y (113 records)

4 x Rush Veneer

1 x Rusty Dot Pearl

217 x Diamond-back Moth (77 records)

11 x Hummingbird Hawk-moth

Not including Turnip Moth and Large Yellow Underwing, as other possible migrants.

The true highlights for May have been the two county firsts, *Phtheochora schreibersiana* and the two **Eastern Bordered Straw** and the **Striped hawk-moth**, quite remarkable records from the exceptional late May migration influx. With other excellent records of *Pammene rhediella*, a real rarity for the county, *Isotrias rectifasciana* (the first record since 2015) and the five records of *Hysterophora maculosana* (including one in April).

Looking forward to the start of summer, check out the Moths By Month button on the website - "What to Look for Now", this will show you the potential species available during June.

If we have any further southerly high pressure systems during June, we will almost certainly get another stream of migrant moths and who knows what may turn up next.

Good Moth-ing.

Tony Davison.

May Moth News:



Pine Hawk-moth - ©Tony Davison