

MOTH NEWS FOR DERBYSHIRE©



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

VC57

July Moth News - Belated news from June - A record of **Welsh Clearwing**, a new species for VC57 Derbyshire, was reported via iRecord and was recorded by Stuart Winter on 26th June 2026. The moth, a female, told by the orange fan-tail, was photographed and had been attracted to a bottle of Ketchup on his patio table in Old Glossop. Quite an unusual occurrence of such a rare and range restricted species.



Welsh Clearwing - ©Stuart Winter



Welsh Clearwing - ©Stuart Winter

After June's epic month of moths, it certainly looked like July would follow suit. I had two weeks away in Tanzania and only got back on 17th July. In order to play catch up I will only be detailing the months real highlights, as I have quite a lot to do in order to get myself up to date. Apologies if I miss anything out of the update, but will do my best to cover all the main highlights.

1st July - Any Clearwing in Derbyshire is a highlight, so Pete Mella's record of a **Yellow-legged Clearwing** attracted to AND Lure at Norton Lees is noteworthy. Martin Roome recorded several good species from Upper Moor, Matlock including a **Welsh Wave**, ***Pyla fusca*** (**Dusky Knot-horn**), **Bilberry Pug** and **Satin Beauty**. A **Leopard Moth** from Ann Wood's Sandiacre moth trap and Daniel Shaw from Long Eaton recorded an ***Epiblema foenella***, a species that is only recorded in Derbyshire in very small numbers each year.

July Moth News:**Welsh Wave** - ©Martin Roome***Pyla fusca* (Dusky Knot-horn)** - ©Martin Roome

2nd July - Of note, Clive Ashton recorded 44 **Common Footman** from his Cromford garden light trap.

3rd July - Dave Evans hit the jackpot from his Belper garden light trap recording the first record for VC57 Derbyshire of **Sharp-angled Peacock**.

**Sharp-angled Peacock** - ©Dave Evans**Small Marbled** - ©John Turner

Martin Roome recorded his 400th species for his Chaddesden garden, a **Small Mottled Willow**. As Martin is fairly new to Moth-ing, this is quite an achievement in a short space of time. Sid Morris recorded ***Aphelia viburnana* (Bilberry Tortrix)** from his Staveley garden light trap, along with **Plain Pug** and **Small Ranunculus**. Another **Small Mottled Willow** from Ann Wood's garden light trap at Sandiacre. Daniel Shaw recorded 116/35 from his Long Eaton garden light trap including **The Shark** and **Toadflax Brocade** as highlights. A **Chocolate-tip** from Peter Walley's Mickleover garden. Clive Ashton recorded 105 **Dark Arches** and a **Brown Plume** from 330/60 at a relative's garden in Middleton. A belated record (30th June) of another good migrant moth was recorded by John Turner from New Mills, a **Small Marbled**, the 6th record for VC57 Derbyshire.

July Moth News:

4th July - Brian Hobby's garden moth night (GMS) produced 200/39 with highlights of ***Epagoge grotiana* (Brown-barred Tortrix)** with less than 10 records, ***Anarsia innoxia*** and **Small Elephant hawk-moth**.



Epagoge grotiana - ©Brian Hobby



Palpita vitrealis - ©Pete Mella

5th July - **Golden Plusia** and **Double Lobed** were good highlights from Clive Ashton's garden Moth trap at Cromford. Dave Evans had 392/101 from his Belper garden light trap which included highlights of **Gold Spangle**, ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***, ***Borkhausenia fuscescens*** and ***Ypsolopha parenthesella***. **Bordered Beauty**, **Least Carpet**, **Tree Lichen Beauty** (2), **Small Ranunculus** and **Dusky Sallow** were highlights from Daniel Shaw's garden light trap in Long Eaton. Neil Loverock recorded ***Elachista maculicerusella*** and ***Recurvaria leucatella***.

6th July - The first ***Palpita vitrealis*** of the year was recorded by Pete Mella at Norton Lees. Clive Ashton recorded **Pinion-streaked Snout**, **Common Lutestring**, **Orange Footman**, **Purple Bar** and **Coronet** as his highlights from Cromford. A **Slender Pug** from Andrew-John Shervill's inner city garden in Normanton is a good record. A large count of 110 species from Clive Ashton at Cromford, included **Pinion-streaked Snout**, **Common Lutestring**, **Orange Footman** and **Brown Scallop** (2). Dave Evans from Belper recorded 503/117 which included some very good species - **Olive**, **Haworth's Pug**, and ***Stathmopoda pedella***. A massive 107 **Box-tree Moth** along with 63 **Uncertain/ Rustic** agg, 32 **Riband Wave**, 33 **Dark Arches** and 20 **Common Footman**.



The Olive -©Dave Evans



Haworth' Pug - ©Dave Evans

July Moth News:

6th July cont'd - Sid Morris recorded the first *Ptycholomoides aeriferana* (Yellow Larch Tortrix) of the year at Markham Vale when one was attracted to light.

7th July - Dave Evans recorded the 7th record for VC57 of **Lesser Cream Wave** from his Belper garden light trap. Also the second record for V57 of *Cochylidia rupicola*. Neil Loverock recorded *Bucculatrix thoracella* (4) from his Chaddesden garden light trap.



Lesser Cream Wave - ©Dave Evans



Bucculatrix thoracella - ©Neil Loverock

Another Moth Survey was completed at Calke Park Explore when 1125/163 were recorded by Graham Finch. Martin Roome and Sean Brown were also in attendance. Highlights from Graham were the second record for VC57 of **Rosy Footman**, 8th record of *Agonopterix angelicella*, *Evergestis pallidata*, *Orthotelia sparganella* (only one previous record from Repton in 1881 per Harrison and Sterling), *Batrachedra preangusta* *Cnephasia conspersana* (ID by Gen Det) and **Small Emerald**. Martin Roome recorded **Small Mottled Willow**, **Tree-lichen Beauty**, **Dark Umber**, **Yarrow Plume** and **Fen Wainscot**.



Rosy Footman - ©Graham Finch



Orthotelia sparganella - ©Graham Finch

8th July - Dave Evans had a second record of **Marbled Brown**. Also **Dewick's Plusia** and **Satin Wave** of note.

July Moth News:**Marbled Brown** - ©Dave Evans**Dewick's Plusia** - ©Dave Evans

9th July - Sandiacre strikes again when Paul Buxton recorded a new species for the VC57 Derbyshire, ***Choreutis nemorana*** (**Fig Leaf Skeletonizer**) from his Sandiacre garden.

***Choreutis nemorana*** - ©Paul Buxton**Lempke's Gold Spot** - ©John Turner

John Turner from New Mills recorded the first **Lempke's Gold Spot** of the year. Clive Ashton hit the jack pot with another new species of micro moth for VC57 Derbyshire, ***Blastobasis rebeli***. He also caught a second individual on the 10th, quite incredible. A third was recorded from Midway (irecord) on 15th. Nikki Barrow recorded ***Endotricha flammealis*** from her Shirland light trap.

***Blastobasis rebeli*** 1st record - ©Clive Ashton***Blastobasis rebeli*** - 2nd record - ©Clive Ashton

July Moth News:

9th cont'd - Sid Morris recorded an ***Agonopterix angelicella*** to light at Markham Vale.

10th July - A fine **Leopard Moth** was found on a wall in Cotmanhay Road, Ilkeston by Lee Fitchett. Sid Morris recorded the tiny ***Paraswammerdamia albicapitella*** at Staveley. Recorded in small numbers each year.



Agonopterix angelicella - ©Sid Morris



Paraswammerdamia albicapitella - ©Sid Morris

During the second and third weeks of July, the weather conditions were perfect for moth trapping and moth-ers across Derbyshire were recording extraordinary numbers from their garden traps. A wide variety of common and not so common species were being noted.

Neil Loverock reported highlights from his Chaddesden garden light trap of **Brown-tail**, **Slender Brindle**, ***Carpatolechchia alburnella***, ***Phycita roborella***, ***Phyllonorycter rajella*** and ***Phyllonorycter trifasciella***, and **Dewick's Plusia**.



Slender Brindle - ©Neil Loverock



Dewick's Plusia - ©Neil Loverock

Paul Buxton from Sandiacre recorded 121 species from his garden light trap including 5 **Small Mottled Willow**, 2 **Dewick's Plusia**, 8 **Tree Lichen Beauty** and **Common Lutestring**.

July Moth News:

9th/ 10th July - Dave Evans and Richard Taylor ran traps at Wyver Lane NR 9/10th recording a staggering 181 species.

Dave Evans writes - Once traps were set up a steady trickle of species for the first hour, being swamped by *Chrysoteuchia culmella*. The first highlights were **Black Arches**, **Small Mottled Willow**, *Epiblema foenella* and **Bulrush Veneer**. The intensity increased and soon traps were filling up with **Large Emerald**, **Buff Arches**, **Scarlet Tiger**, **Ruby Tiger** and hundreds of various **Footman** and **Yellow Underwing** species.

Then three main highlights for the third hour of darkness were, *Sitochroa verticalis*, a county first and likely a migrant, the scarce **Lunar-spotted Pinion** and a **Dewick's Plusia**. Back on site the following morning and carefully removing the sheets off the traps in the vain hope of trying to prevent a mass exodus, we discovered another dozen or so species. Another **Small Mottled Willow**, taking the tally to five and a smart **Dusky Sallow**. The final tally was a staggering c3000 moths of 181 species.



Sitochroa verticalis - ©Dave Evans



Epiblema foenella - ©Dave Evans



Lunar-spotted Pinion - ©Dave Evans



Elachista maculicerusella - ©Dave Evans

A few of the crazy numbers recorded at Wyver Lane - c1000 *Chrysoteuchia culmella*, c100+ **Common Footman**, 50 **Dingy Footman**, 100+ **Large Yellow Underwing**, 40 **Uncertain/Rustic** agg, 100+ **Smoky Wainscot**, 75 **Common Rustic** agg, 40 *Agapeta hamana*, 12 **Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**, 60 **Dark Arches**.

July Moth News:

10th July - Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded **Black Arches** (seems to be having a good year in Derbyshire) and the very scarce ***Apodia martinii***. Clive Ashton ran a trap at Middleton by Wirksworth recording 580/100 with highlights of another ***Blastobasis rebeli***, **Fen Wainscot**, **The Shark**, **Scallop Shell**, **Purple Bar**, **Juniper Pug** and **July Highflyer**. Another **Slender Brindle** at Chaddesden by Martin Roome. John Turner from New Mills recorded his first **Drinker Moth** for his garden along with **Gothic (2)**, **Small Mottled Willow** and a **Coronet**. Darren Clarke found an ***Evergestis pallidata*** on a fuel station window in Bakewell.

The next notable moth was the first record since last year's influx of **Four-spotted Footman**. Angie Seymour recorded a male to light at Whaley Bridge.



Four-spotted Footman - ©Angie Seymour



Cochylis roseana - ©Mark Radford

Martin Roome recorded a **Rusty Dot Pearl** from his Chaddesden garden, surprisingly not many recorded so far this year, despite the volume of immigrant moths that have arrived into the country during the recent hot weather. Another good moth trap from Mark Radford at Staveley recording 347/94 which included highlights of **Brown-veined Wainscot** (the first record since 2024), **Small Mottled Willow**, **Maiden's Blush**, **Small Angle Shades**, ***Cochylis roseana*** and ***Blastodacna hellerella***. Dave Newcombe from his Belper garden light trap recorded another **Small Mottled Willow** (quite an influx taking place), **Black Arches** and another **Dewick's Plusia**, a species that is surely now a resident in the county. ***Piniphila bifasciana***, ***Ptycholomoides aeriferana*** and ***Stenolechia gemmella*** were all good records from Dave Evans at Belper.

11th July - Steve Thorpe joined the **Small Mottled Willow** Club recording one from his Breaston garden light trap, along with **Black Arches**, **Dewick's Plusia**, **Shark** and a **Latticed Heath**.



Piniphila bifasciana - ©Dave Evans



Ptycholomoides aeriferana - ©Dave Evans

July Moth News:

10th July cont'd - Brian Hobby ran his regular GMS at Kirk Hallam (temperature 15.9°C) - Highlights from 196/43 were **Tree Lichen Beauty**, **Dusky Sallow** and **Black Arches**.

11th July - Graham Finch recorded a ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** at Ticknall Lime Yards.



Scrobipalpa ocellatella - ©Graham Finch



Dark Marbled Carpet - ©Clive Ashton

12th July - From Woodland near Cromford Clive Ashton had an excellent trapping session recording around 575/58 which included highlights of 30 **Engrailed**, 30 **Riband Wave**, 30 **Common Footman**, 25 **Large Yellow Underwing**, 20 **July Highflier**, 20 **Dark Arches**, 15 **Dun-bar**, **Dark Marbled Carpet**, **Clouded Magpie** and a host of other species. Micros included ***Patania ruralis*** 15, ***Udea olivalis*** 15, ***Ypsolopha parenthesella*** 2, ***Catoptria falsella***, ***Acrobasis advenella***, ***Plutella porrectella***, ***Hypsopygia glaucinalis***, ***Agonopterix angelicella***, ***Epinotia solandriana/brunnichana***, and ***Eudonia lacustrata*** c200. Two micros worthy of note came from Neil Loverock's garden light trap at Chaddesden, ***Elachista canapennella*** and ***Eudemis profundana***.

14th July - Mark Radford discovered the leaf mines of ***Leucoptera malifoliella*** at Markham Vale North Tip, first records since 2018. Sid Morris recorded ***Chilo phragmitella*** to light at Markham Vale.



Leucoptera malifoliella - ©Mark Radford



Chilo phragmitella - ©Sid Morris

July Moth News:

14th July cont'd - Sid Morris recorded *Phalonidia manniana* at Markham Vale South Tip, the first record. Clive Ashton trapped at Carsington by the Hopton reed bed and attracted a whole host of species, including some large numbers of common moths: 60 **Smoky Wainscot**, 50 **Dark Arches**, 50 **Uncertain egg**, 40 **Large Yellow Underwing** and 15 each of **Scarce Footman**, **Dun-bar** and **Scalloped Oak**. More unusual species were **Haworth's Pug**, **Pinion-streaked Snout**, 4 **Small Mottled Willow**, **Least Yellow Underwing** and **The Olive**.



Haworth's Pug - ©Clive Ashton



The Olive - ©Clive Ashton

John Turner recorded a **Northern Rustic** from New Mills, an unusual location away from the high moorlands.

15th July - Daniel Shaw recorded **Cream-bordered Green Pea**, **Black Arches** and **Tree Lichen Beauty** from his Long Eaton garden light trap. Martin Roome recorded *Ypsolopha nemoella* from Bryans Coppice, the first since 2011.



Cream-bordered Green Pea - ©Daniel Shaw



Ypsolopha nemoella - ©Martin Roome

Dave Evans recorded 62 species from his Belper garden light trap which included **Slender Pug**, **Least Carpet** and *Donacaula forficella*. Dave Newcombe from Belper recorded *Apotomis lineana*, a real quality record as there has only been four previous records.

July Moth News:

16th July - A **Haworth's Pug** was recorded by Richard Pittam from his Chellaston garden light trap. An unusual location. A **September Thorn** by Ann Wood at Sandiacre.

17th July - A **Dewick's Plusia** recorded by Martin Roome from his Chaddesden garden light trap. Richard Pittam trapped one of the brown forms of **Silver Y**, *ab. rufescens*, a very attractive looking moth.



Dewick's Plusia - ©Martin Roome



Silver Y - *ab. rufescens* - Richard Pittam

17th July cont'd - Another **Dewick's Plusia** at Kirk Hallam recorded by Brian Hobby. A **Dotted Clay** from Norton Lees by Pete Mella. Martin Roome discovered another good quality moth from the bottom of his light trap at Chaddesden, a **Ni Moth**, the eighth record for Derbyshire of this rare migrant from southern climates. Adrian Watson ran a moth trap in his daughter's garden at Littleover recording 405/81, which included a whopping count of 23 **Small Mottled Willow**, a county record. Also 2 **Dewick's Plusia**, 4 **Rush Veneer** and 3 **Rusty Dot Pearl**. A gluttony of migrants!

The 17th also proved to be a rather special day for Claire Richardson Longmoor from Long Eaton, when she discovered a new species for Derbyshire, a **Plumed Fan-foot**. Such an incredible record of a species that has established itself in southern counties of England and is gradually expanding its range inland. It is also an immigrant from Europe, North Africa and Asia.

The second **Kedleston Hall NT Moth Survey** took place on 16th July with Dave Evans, Clive Ashton, Dave Newcombe, along with NT Ranger Ellen Corne in attendance. Four traps were set up, two MV and two actinic. A total of 134 species were recorded of which 80 were different over the previous survey. The running total over two surveys stands at 225 species. Highlights were **September Thorn**, **Maiden's Blush**, **Least Carpet**, **Oak Hook-tip**, **Rush Veneer**, **Small Mottled Willow** and a large female **Black Arches**. Further good species were **Slender Pug**, **Small Rufous**, **Round-winged Muslin**, **Barred Hook-tip**, *Calamotropha paludella*, *Bucculatrix ulmella*, *Pammene regiana* and *Acleris literana* (affectionately known as the 'Mini Merv' which is in reference in its liking to its larger green cousin, the Merveille-Du-Jour).

Some higher aggregates of note were over 50 **Ear Moth agg**, 30 **Dun-bar**, 30 **September Thorn**, 60 *Ditula angustiorana*, 35 *Blastobasis adustella* and 12 **Small Mottled Willow**. A huge thank you to Ellen at Kedleston NT for the hospitality and assistance with equipment.

The National Trust Moth Surveys are now well underway at Hardwick Hall, Kedleston Hall and Calke Park, and are proving to be a great success.

July Moth News:

September Thorn - Kedleston Moth Survey
©Dave Evans



Acleris literana - Kedleston Moth Survey
©Dave Evans



Plumed Fan-foot - ©Steve Thorpe



Plumed fan-foot - ©Claire Richardson Longmoor

18th July - Several good leaf mines were found at Calke Park by Graham Finch, these were **Callisto denticulella**, **Bohemannia pulverosella** and on Goosefoot **Chrysoesthia sexguttella**. There are very few records for all three species.

19th July - Martin Roome recorded another **Welsh Wave** from Upper Moor, Matlock and a **Scallop Shell**. Nikki Barrow ran a moth trap at Tibshelf, recording **Brown-line Bright-eye**, **Dusky Sallow**, **Dotted Clay** and **Maple Pug**. Neil Loverock recorded **Bucculatrix bechsteinella** from his Chaddesden garden light trap. A lack of a dark apical streak identifies it from the similar **B. albedinella**.

20th July - Dave Evans ran his Belper garden light trap recording a few decent species including **Bordered Pug**, **Toadflax Brocade** (This species is certainly expanding its range across the county), **Grey Chi**, **Sallow Kitten**, **Leucoptera laburnella** and **Mompha propinquella**.

Single **Hummingbird Hawk-moths** were seen on 20th & 21st July, from Melbourne and Staveley.

Martin Roome recorded **Gelechia senticetella**, along with **Toadflax Brocade** and 3 **Small Mottled Willow** from his Chaddesden garden light trap.

July Moth News:*Bucculatrix bechsteinella* - ©Neil Loverock**Bordered Pug** - ©Dave Evans**Grey Chi** - ©Dave Evans**Toadflax Brocade** - ©Dave Evans

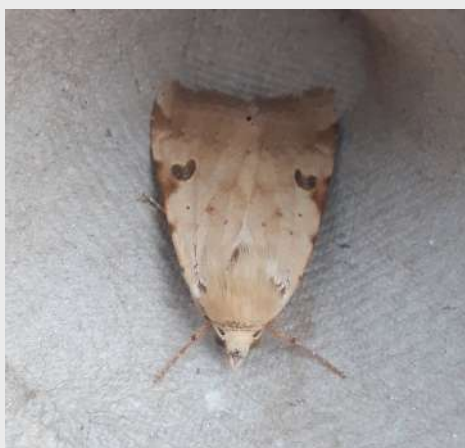
20th cont'd - Always good to see new moth-ers coming on board, and Jeremy Erde from Atlow recorded a **Chocolate-tip**, **Orange Swift** and **Dingy Footman**.

21st July - **Dark Umber** was a good find by Clive Ashton from his Cromford garden light trap, along with **Black Arches** and **Knot-grass**. Another trap at Belper by Dave Evans recorded another **Dewick's Plusia**, **Yellow-barred Brindle**, **Alder Kitten** and **Orange Swift**. Dave Newcombe recorded highlights of **Least Yellow Underwing**, **Alder Kitten**, 2 **Lesser Swallow Prominent** and 6 **Dusky Thorn**.

22nd July - Martin Roome had a **Bordered Straw** from his Chaddesden light trap. Dave Evans recorded **Lesser-spotted Pinion**, **Haworth's Pug**, *Elachista canapennella*, *Aethes rubigana* and *Evergestis pallidata* from his garden light trap in Belper. Clive Ashton followed on in Cromford with 70+ species including **Tawny Speckled Pug**, with only a handful of modern day records of *Oxypteryx atrella*, **Small Phoenix**, **Gold Spot** and **Blood-vein**.

The Calke Park NT Moth Survey Team ran another trapping session overnight and although species and numbers were down, c100 species was still a good return. The star moth was **Devon Carpet**, when 5 were attracted to MV light. This appears to be the first record of this carpet moth from the south of the county. Several **Maple Pug**, **Ear Moth** agg, *Calybites phasianipennella*, *Aproaerema anthyllidella* and at least 50 of *Cochylimorpha straminea*. Thanks to Graham and Sean for their efforts.

July Moth News:



Bordered Straw - ©Martin Roome



Lesser-spotted Pinion - ©Dave Evans



Oxypteryx atrella - ©Clive Ashton



Ear Moth egg - ©Graham Finch



Devon Carpet ©Graham Finch



Maple Pug ©Graham Finch

23rd July - A minimum of 10 **Silver Y** were feeding around my lilies in my Melbourne garden this evening.

July Moth News:

Ann Wood recorded a **Rusty Dot Pearl** and **Yellow-tail** from her Sandiacre garden light trap. A belated update from Pete Mella at Norton Lees was a ***Palpita vitrealis***, on 22nd, his second of the year. Very few have been recorded in Derbyshire so far this year.



Palpita vitrealis - ©Pete Mella



Rusty Dot Pearl - ©Ann Wood

24th July - I ran my garden light trap in Melbourne recording 45/29 which I felt was somewhat disappointing. Highlights were little but **Least Yellow Underwing**, ***Cydia splendana***, ***Nomophila noctuella***, **Pale Prominent** and **Barred Hook-tip** were all NFY.



Pale Prominent - ©Tony Davison



Nomophila noctuella - ©Tony Davison

Nikki Barrow recorded 99/30 from Shirland, of note were 4 **Small Mottled Willow** and a ***Nomophila noctuella*** (**Rush Veneer**). Sid Morris recorded a **Twin-spotted Wainscot** at Staveley.

July Moth News:

24th July cont'd - Clive Ashton had a decent session at Middleton with 106/43 which included **Northern Spinach**, 2 **Straw Underwing**, and 2 **Rosy Minor**. Sid Morris attracted a rather unusually marked **Maiden's Blush** to his Staveley light trap.

25th July - Highlight from today's moth notes go to Martin Roome. An astonishing 48 **Small Mottled Willow** and 3 ***Oncocera semirubella*** (**Rosy Knot-horn**) from his light trap at Ashover. Emily Milnes recorded 252/51 from her garden light trap at Sandiacre. One **Small Mottled Willow** and another unusually marked **Maiden's Blush** which was very similar to the one recorded by Sid Morris on 24th. Dave Evans from his Belper light trap had **Bulrush Wainscot**, **Mouse Moth**, **Small Ranunculus**, **Scalloped Hook-tip**, 3 **Small Mottled Willow** and **Yellow-barred Brindle** as his highlights.



Rosy Minor - ©Clive Ashton



Oncocera semirubella - ©Martin Roome



Tree Lichen Beauty - ©Emily Milnes



Mullein Wave - ©Daniel Shaw

Clive Ashton recorded **Lesser-spotted Pinion**, **Slender Brindle**, **Juniper Pug**, and **Purple Thorn** amongst 60 species attracted to his Cromford garden light trap. Daniel Shaw from Long Eaton recorded **Tree-Lichen Beauty**, **Cream-bordered Green Pea**, a **Mullein Wave** and **Small Rufous**.

26th July - Andrew-John Shervill recorded **The Lychnis**, **Spectacle**, **Straw Underwing** and **Silver Y** from his inner city garden light trap at Normanton, Derby.

27th July - I ran my Melbourne light trap and bingo, my very first **Tree-Lichen Beauty**, two in fact, and a welcome addition to my garden list. Also from 91/40 were **Oak Nycteoline**, **Miller**, **Knot-grass**, **Pine Hawk-moth**, ***Euzophera pinguis***, ***Acrobasis advenella*** and ***Ypsolopha scabrella***, all NFY.

July Moth News:

Ian White recorded a **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** in his Buxton garden, one of around c60 reported during the month. Dave Evans ran his Belper light trap and from 66 species, slight breeze and a cool temperature affected the catch. Highlights were **Tree-Lichen Beauty**, (new for Dave's garden), **Old Lady**, **Small Mottled Willow** (still making appearances across the county), ***Pandemis corylana*** and ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** were notable micros.



Tree-Lichen Beauty - ©Tony Davison



Miller - ©Tony Davison



Old Lady - ©Dave Evans



Garden Dart - ©Clive Ashton

Garden Dart, Scorched Carpet, Yellow-barred Brindle, Small Rufous, *Lychnis* and micros of: *Agapeta zoegana*, *Nomophila noctuella*, *Cochylichroa atricapitana*, *Neocochylis dubitana* 4, *Ethmia quadrillella*, *Mompha propinquella*, *Ypsolopha dentella*, and *Aspilapteryx tringipenella* 4, were highlights from Clive Ashton's Cromford moth trap.

July Moth News:

28th July - Another bumper trap from Clive Ashton at Cromford. I think he is going for the big total for the year!! - **Chalk Carpet** (first record for the year), **Tawny Speckled Pug**, **Waved Umber**, **Purple Bar** and ***Pterophorus pentadactyla*** were highlights.



Chalk Carpet - ©Clive Ashton



Mompha langiella - ©Graham Finch

Graham Finch discovered the vacated leaf mines of ***Mompha langiella*** on Enchanter's Nightshade at Calke Park. A new leaf mine for the website Leaf Mine Gallery. Sid Morris really hit the jackpot when he discovered two rare micro moths from his garden light trap at Staveley. An adult ***Elachista bisulcella*** (**Yellow-edged Grass-miner**) the first record since 1979 and ***Aristotellia ericinella*** (**Heath Elder**) the first record in Derbyshire since 1981. Quite remarkable recording.



Aristotellia ericinella - ©Sid Morris



Elachista bisulcella - ©Sid Morris

Dave Evans ran his Belper light trap and recorded a smart **Red Underwing**, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and **Lesser Wax Moth**. Also 3 **Tree-Lichen Beauty**. This species appears to be still spreading across the county. Dave Newcombe recorded 194/58 from his Belper garden light trap, including a **Brown Plume**, ***Etainia decentella***, ***Mompha langiella*** and ***Opostega salaciella*** as highlights. William Grange recorded a **Toadflax Brocade** from his Allestree garden light trap.

July Moth News:

29th July - Dave Evans reported a variety of common leaf mines from Wyver Lane, Belper including *Phyllonorycter nicellii*, *Phyllonorycter coryli*, *Phyllonorycter geniculella* and *Stigmella samiatella*. Also a record of **Apple Leaf Skeletonizer** at Wyver Lane which was a 2nd site record. Clive Ashton recorded the tiny *Adaina microdactyla* (**Hemp Agrimony Plume**), with barely 12mm wingspan, at Cromford, also **Small Mottled Willow** (3), **Red Twin-spot Carpet** and **Scorched Carpet**.

Dave Evans ran his Belper light trap commenting on a reduced catch under a full moon, but did record **Small China Mark** and *Acrobasis consociella*.



Small China Mark - ©Dave Evans



Acrobasis consociella -©Dave Evans

30th July - Pete Mella found the leaf mines of *Bedellia somnulentella* at several locations around the Gleadless Valley woodlands site. To my knowledge the first records of the leaf mine. I'm guessing a species that is overlooked, as Pete found up to a 100 or so on Bindweed.



Bedellia somnulentella - ©Pete Mella



Bedellia somnulentella ©Pete Mella

Ann Wood from Sandiacre recorded 17 species from her garden MV light trap which included another **Ni Moth**, the fourth record of this rare migrant this year. Andrew-John Shervill also recorded a scarce micro from his inner city garden trap in Normanton, Derby, a fine example of *Ypsolopha horridella*, only five previous Derbyshire records.

July Moth News:



Ni Moth - ©Ann Wood



Ypsolopha horridella - Andrew-John Shervill

Nikki Barrow from Shirland ran her 20W actinic Heath Trap in her garden recording 40/20 which include a few highlights worthy of mention - the tiny micro ***Bedellia somnulentella*** (**Bindweed Sleeper**) (only two previous Derbyshire records of adults), **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Rusty Dot Pearl**, **Straw Underwing** and **Beautiful Plume**. John Turner from New Mills recorded his first **Antler Moth** of the year.

31st July - Bringing July to a close were Dave Evans with 46/27 from his Belper light trap which included, ***Dichrorampha acuminata***, **Square-spot Rustic**, the final **Small Mottled Willow** of July, **Line-speck Pug** and **Yellow-tail**. Brian Hobby with his final GMS for July recording 51/2, which included a good range of common species, but **Copper Underwing** egg and **Chequered Fruit-tree Tortrix** were both NFY for Brian's Kirk Hallam garden.



Bedellia somnulentella - ©Nikki Barrow



Rusty Dot Pearl - ©Nikki Barrow

Finally Dave Newcombe's results from his Belper garden were 54/32 with his highlights of **Square spot Rustic** and ***Ypsolopha dentella***, ***Plutella xylostella*** (**Diamond back Moth**), **Knot Grass**, **Orange Swift**, **Pebble Hook-tip**, **Waved Umber**, **Silver Y**, and 3 **Spectacle**.

July Moth News:

During July 2026 an unprecedented arrival of **Small Mottled Willow** took place across the UK. The species began to arrive in Derbyshire during May 2026, making an appearance in numbers from 7th July onwards. The **Small Mottled Willow** was first recorded in Derbyshire in 1988 and up to the end of 2025, there were only 26 records of 27 individuals from 16 widespread sites across the VC57 recording area. In July alone we have received 90 records of 243 individuals from 50 sites.

Date	No:	Site	Recorder
3/July 26	1	Chaddesden	Martin Roome
3/July 26	1	Sandiacre	Ann Wood
5/July 26	2	Atlow Moat	Jeremy Erde
6/July 26	1	Shirland	Nikki Mahadevan
7/July 26	1	Calke Park NT MS	Martin Roome
8/July 26	2	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
8/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
8/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Newcombe
8/July 26	1	Walton	Amanda Palethorpe
9/July 26	1	Normanton	Andrew-John Shervill
9/July 26	11	Sandiacre	Paul Buxton
9/July 26	3	North Wingfield	Shane Harper
9/July 26	5	Wyver lane, Belper	Dave Evans
9/July 26	1	Mickleover	Christine Maughan
10/July 26	1	Allestree	Stephen Plant
10/July 26	1	New Mills	John Turner
10/July 26	1	Staveley	Mark Radford
10/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Newcombe
11/July 26	1	Chellaston	Richard Pittam
11/July 26	3	Ticknall Lime Yards	Martin Roome
11/July 26	4	Froggatt	Bryan Barnacle
11/July 26	1	Breaston	Steve Thorpe
11/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
11/July 26	1	Mickleover	Christine Maughan
12/July 26	1	Bamford	Roger Butlin
11/July 26	9	Park Head Crich	Jonathan Bradley

July Moth News: Small Mottled Willow records cont'd

Date	No:	Site	Recorder
11/July 26	1	Stonebroom	Jonathan Bradley
12/July 26	2	Staveley	Mark Radford
12/July 26	1	Upper Padley	Sally Chadwick-Pugh
12/July 26	1	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
14/July 26	1	Findern	Brian Hallam
14/July 26	1	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
14/July 26	4	Carsington	Clive Ashton
15/July 26	1	Mellor	David Knass
16/July 26	1	Sandiacre	Ann Wood
16/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
16/July 26	12	Kedleston Hall NT MS	Dave Evans, Clive Ashton, Dave Newcombe
17/July 26	2	Stonebroom	Jonathan Bradley
17/July 26	2	Chaddesden	Martin Roome
17/July 26	1	Buxton	Steven Bell
17/July 26	1	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
17/July 26	23	Littleover	Adrian Watson
17/July 26	3	Kirk Hallam	Brian Hobby
17/July 26	1	Sandiacre	Paul Buxton
18/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
18/July 26	1	Long Eaton	Daniel Shaw
19/July 26	1	Sheffield	Jan Turner
20/July 26	1	Staveley	Sid Morris
20/July 26	3	Belper	Dave Evans
21/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
21/ July 26	3	Chaddesden	Martin Roome
21/July 26	2	Belper	Dave Newcombe
21/July 26	1	Mellor	David Knass
22/July 26	4	Belper	Dave Evans
22/July 26	1	Littleover	Adrian Watson
23/July 26	1	Allestree	Stephen Plant

July Moth News:

Date	No:	Site	Recorder
23/July 26	1	Chellaston	Richard Pittam
23/July 26	1	Bamford	Roger Butlin
23/July 26	1	Sheffield	Kim Leyland
23/July 26	1	Wingerworth	Jim Windle
23/July 26	1	North Wingfield	Shane Harper
23/July 26	1	Midway	Michael Williams
24/July 26	4	Shirland	Nikki Barrow
24/July 26	48	Ashover	Martin Roome
24/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
24/July 26	1	Findern	Brian Hallam
24/July 26	1	Glossop	Christian Heintzen
24/July 26	1	Froggatt	Bryan Barnacle
24/July 26	2	Bamford	Roger Butlin
25/July 26	1	Sandiacre	Emily Milnes
25/July 26	1	Inkersall	Don Cambridge
25/July 26	1	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
25/July 26	9	Park Head Crich	Jonathan Bradley
25/July 26	3	Belper	Dave Evans
25/July 26	5	Buxton	Steven Bell
27/July 26	2	Belper	Dave Evans
27/July 26	1	Bamford	Roger Butlin
28/July 26	4	Whaley Bridge	Angie Seymour
28/July 26	2	Belper	Dave Evans
28/July 26	2	Norton Lees	Pete Mella
28/July 26	1	Allestree	Stephen Plant
29/July 26	3	Cromford	Clive Ashton
29/July 26	1	Ashford in the Water	Steven Bell
29/July 26	1	Wingerworth	Jim Windle
29/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans

July Moth News:

Date	No	Site	Recorder
	:		
29/July 26	1	St. Chadds Churchyard	Marion Bryce
30/July 26	1	Allestree	Stephen Plant
30/July 26	1	Wingerworth	Jim Windle
30/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
31/July 26	1	Belper	Dave Evans
TOTAL	243		



Small Mottled Willow - ©Christian Heintzen

July Moth News:

Many thanks to Christian Heintzen for the use of his superb images below which show 1) the extensive colour range of July Highflyer. Christian trapped 40 on the 6th July 2026 at Longdendale, Torside and this is a sample of 23 individuals and 2) Comparison between Red Twin-spot and Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpets. Dark-barred (left) and Red Twin-spot Carpets in Long Clough, Lees Hall, 22/07/2026 (2) and Shawmoor Plantation, 20/07/2026 respectively.



Torside July Highflyer - ©Christian Heintzen



Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpets(left) and Red Twin-spot Carpets (right) -
©Christian Heintzen

July Moth News:



A trio of plusia moths - Martin Roome

July Moth News:

There we have it, another fabulous month of Derbyshire Moths comes to a close. July has really been a top month for the VC57 recording area, but I'll let you, the recorders, be the judge of that.

I'm very grateful to Christian Heintzen for supplying this newsletter with two of his fantastic plates, especially the Torside Highflyers, showing the incredible colour range of the July Highflyer. Also to Martin Roome for his trio of Plusias.,

During July the **Small Mottled Willow**, blowing all previous records away, with an incredible 69 records of 204 individuals from 42 sites across the county. I dare say there will be more during August and into early autumn and I'm sure there may have been the odd one I've missed during July.

Thanks to all your recording efforts which continue to build upon the moth data for Derbyshire. New species are continuing to be discovered.

The National Trust Moth Surveys are now in full swing with regular sessions taking place at Calke, Kedleston and Hardwick Hall. Already the surveys are producing new species, along with species that we have had very few previous records. Speaking with the NT head ranger of Calke recently, they seem well pleased with the results so far. My thanks go to all the volunteer recorders who are taking part in the surveys and for the submission of the records.

Looking forward to what August may bring.

Good Moth-ing

Tony Davison