MOTH NEWS FOR DERBYSHIRE©

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

VC57

August Moth News

1st August - John Turner produced the first records for August from New Mills, the highlight was a **Yellow-barred Brindle** and 3 **Rusty Dot Pearl**. Andrew- John Shervill reported 18 species from his inner city garden light trap at Normanton with highlights of ***Scythropia crataegella***, ***Epinotia ramella***, ***Agriphila selasella***, and ***Ypsolopha sequella.*** Ann Wood recorded a **Dark Sword-grass** and a ***Palpita vitrealis.***

Epinotia ramella - ©Andrew-John Shervill

Ypsolopha sequella - ©Andrew-John Shervill

Dave Evans first trap for August from Belper, produced an **Antler Moth,** Dave's second to the garden in 18 years, a **Straw Underwing** and ***Nomophila noctuella*** (**Rush Veneer**).

Antler Moth - ©Dave Evans

Nomophila noctuella - ©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

2nd August - Dave Evans had a really good moth trap in Belper with 192/72, which included ***Epinotia cruciana***, a significant record with only three previously reported. Dave's other highlights were **Twin-spotted Carpet**, **Six-striped Rustic**, **Chocolate-tip**, **Small Mottled Willow**, ***Nomophila noctuella*** and **Rusty Dot Pearl**.

Epinotia cruciana - ©Dave Evans

Chocolate-tip - ©Dave Evans

Sid Morris recorded ***Evergestis pallidata*** to light at Markham Vale, a scarce species in Derbyshire with only a handful of records each year. Sid also attracted ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** (**Beet Moth**) to the same light trap at Markham Vale. I ran the Melbourne light trap in my garden and recorded a respectable 88/41 with a 20W actinic. Highlights were **Small Mottled Willow** (2), **Lychnis**, **Straw Underwing**, **Spectacle**, **Alder Kitten**, **Nutmeg** (2) and ***Bryotropha terella***.

Scrobipalpa ocellatella - ©Sid Morris

Bryotropha terella - ©Tony Davison

Nutmeg - ©Tony Davison

Lychnis - ©Tony Davison

August Moth News:

2nd August cont'd - Clive Ashton raised the stakes at Cromford with 169/62 with highlights of **Dewick's Plusia**, **Golden-rod Pug**, **Small Mottled Willow**, **Purple Bar**, **Red Twin-spot Carpet**, ***Scrobipalpa costella*** and ***Argyresthia bonnetella.***

Scrobipalpa costella - ©Clive Ashton

Argyresthia bonnetella - ©Clive Ashton

The Markham Vale moth team, comprising of Mark Radford, Sid Morris and Don Cambridge, trapped for a few hours on the North Tip and recorded another 10 new species for the site (pending verification). The Markham Vale complex is fast becoming one of the premier mothing sites in Derbyshire. The team have added 100 new species for the site so far this year, taking Markham Vale's moth list to 616 species. In just three years of trapping, this is a fantastic achievement.

3rd August - Two separate records of ***Nephopterix angustella*** were attracted to light, one from Staveley by Mark Radford and one from Normanton, Derby by Andrew-John Shervill. These represent the second record of this species for Derbyshire, since 18/8/2025.

Nephopterix angustella - ©Andrew-John Shervill

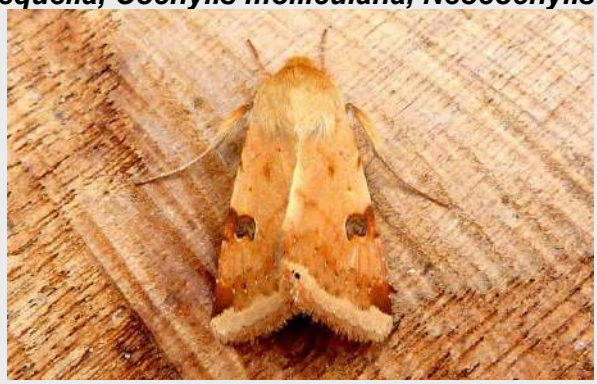
Nephopterix angustella - ©Mark Radford

Martin Roome attracted ***Pyla fusca*** to his garden light trap at Chaddesden. A moorland species, so an unusual location, but likely to have come from a nearby garden centre or a local garden *erica* collection. John Turner at New Mills recorded highlights of **Alder Kitten**, **Coxcomb Prominent** and **Small Mottled Willow** (3). Dave Evans recorded 230/75 from his garden in Belper, with highlights of Small Clouded Brindle (only his 2nd garden record) and ***Plutella porrectella***, ***Ypsolopha scabrella*** and ***Scrobipalpa costella***. A few other decent micros including ***Metalampra italica***, ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** and ***Mompha propinquella***.

August Moth News:

Clive Ashton had 207/69 from his Cromford light trap, with highlights of **Maple Pug**, **Orange Swift, Small Mottled Willow, Lychnis** and **Lesser Wax Moth**.

4th August - Dave Evans ran his Belper light trap and attracted some good moths including ***Monopis crocicapitella***, **Bordered Straw**, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and **Small Mottled Willow**, all signs of some migrant activity, also **Black Arches**, **Dewick's Plusia** and **Nutmeg** as other highlights. A good set of moths from Clive Ashton at Cromford including highlights from 180/60 - 14 **Dusky Thorn**, 16 **Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing**, 2 **Small Mottled Willow, Lychnis**, **Straw Underwing** and **Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet.** Micro highlights were ***Epermenia falciformis, Ypsolopha sequella, Cochylis molliculana, Neocochylis dubitana*** 4, and ***Cochylichroa atricapitana.***



Bordered Straw - ©Dave Evans

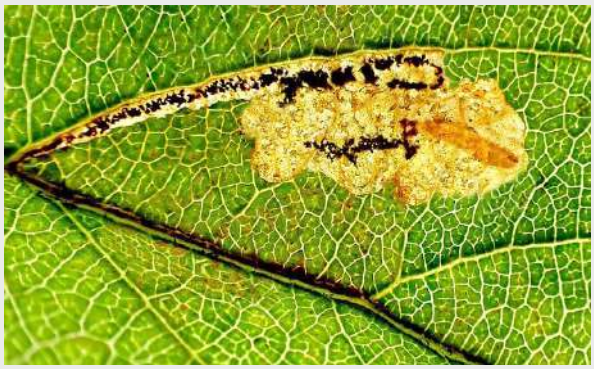
Ypsolopha sequella - ©Clive Ashton

John Turner from New Mills recorded ***Ypsolopha sequella***, always a nice micro to get on the year list.

5th August - Mark Radford was recoding leaf mines at Markham Vale, North Tip and finding ***Stigmella plagicolella, Bedellia somnulentella, Stigmella ulmivora, Callisto denticulella*** and ***Mompha raschkiella.*** Whilst Dave Evans discovered a new leaf mine species for the VC57 at Wyver Lane, Belper, ***Bucculatrix ulmifoliae*** and a second VC57 record of ***Stigmella incognitella***.

Clive Ashton remarked that overnight conditions made for a quieter night at Cromford, but he still produced a few nice moths, **Iron Prominent, Lesser Swallow Prominent**, **Least Yellow Underwing**, and the **Small Mottled Willow**, obviously.

Bucculatrix ulmifoliae - 1st VC57 record
©Dave Evans



Stigmella incognitella - 2nd VC57 record
©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

6th August - Mark Radford discovered the sixth record for Derbyshire of ***Apodia martinii***, three adults in fact, on Common Fleabane flowers at Markham Vale, Seymour, and what is most likely ***Phyllonorycter oxyacanthe*** as the adult was found on the underside of a Hawthorn leaf adjacent to the leaf mine I would have thought that is enough evidence to claim the species?

Phyllonorycter oxyacanthe - ©Mark Radford

Phyllonorycter oxyacanthe
adjacent to the leaf mine. - ©Mark Radford

Apodia martinii - ©Mark Radford

Phyllonorycter lantanella - ©Mark Radford

Daniel Shaw, one of our latest young moth-ers recorded 66/33 from his Long Eaton garden which included **Varied Coronet** and **Tawny-speckled Pug,** both good county moths.

7th August - Mark Radford discovered a good species of leaf mine at Hall lane Ponds, Markham Vale. He found ***Phyllonorycter lantanella*** on Guelder Rose. I ran my Melbourne light trap from the garden and recorded 78/35 which included highlights of **Orange Swift-**male, **Small Mottled Willow**, ***Phycitodes binaevella***; ***Euzophera pinguis***, **Nutmeg** and **Lychnis.** Pete Mella recorded a **Centre-barred Sallow**, the first one for the year.

Matt Leedell ran his Belper light trap and recorded 79/36 which included **Small Mottled Willow, Pebble Hook-tip, Lychnis** and **Lesser Swallow Prominent.**

August Moth News:

Orange Swift - ©Tony Davison

Phycitodes binaevella - ©Tony Davison

The third Moth Survey at Kedleston Hall took place on 7th August with Dave Evans, Clive Ashton, Dave Newcombe and NT Ranger Ellen. Traps were set up on a warm Thursday evening and with a little time on hand, a search was made for leaf mines. Several common leaf mine species being discovered, but the star find was the larvae of ***Choreutis nemorana***, more commonly known as **Fig Leaf Skeletonizer.** This moth was only discovered in the UK in 2014 and these Kedleston records represent only the 2nd county record of what is an attractive but diminutive species. A **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** was found over the flower beds.

Upon returning on Friday morning at 5am on the 8th, there was mist over Cutler Brook, dew on the grass and an air temperature of 7c, Oh dear.. Fear not, the moths were present and a final tally of 398/76 and 19 new species being recorded for the site was not a bad effort. Of note were **Copper Underwing agg, Least Yellow Underwing, White-point, Rosy Rustic, Six-striped Rustic, August Thorn, Scorched Wing, Purple Thorn, Flounced Rustic, Square-spot Rustic, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Coxcomb Prominent, Turnip, Rusty-dot Pearl** and ***Agonopterix arenella*.** Also some large counts of **54 Setaceous Hebrew Character, 41 Common Wainscot, 25 Ear Moth agg** and **31 Flame Shoulder.** This return shows the value of trapping (and searching) away from gardens and in suitable habitat. The running total now over three surveys stands at 243 species.

Once again the Derbyshire Moth recording Team would like to extend thanks to NT Kedleston Hall for allowing our volunteers to trap within their grounds and to NT Ranger Ellen, who really goes out of her way to provide the team with everything they need to make the session a super smooth operation, and of course the hot drinks early into the morning was a welcome sight.

August **Thorn** - ©Dave Evans

Scorched Wing - ©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

Kedleston Moth Trap Survey

Kedleston Moth Trap Survey

Kedleston Hall grounds

Fig Leaf Skeletonizer larva

Mark Radford deployed his LED array in his Staveley garden for two and half hours recording 66/29 with highlights of a **White Point** and ***Monopis laevigella*** (Skin Moth). Martin Roome recorded his first **September Thorn** for the year.

Mark radford's LED Array

September Thorn - ©Martin Roome

August Moth News:

8th August - Sid Morris and his son conducted an intensive survey of the two tunnels and underpass at Seymour, Markham Vale. Hawkbrook tunnel east produced 78 **Old Lady** and Hawkbrook west 91 **Old Lady** and 13 **Herald.**

Gathering of Old Lady - ©Sid Morris

Herald - ©Sid Morris

When Emily Milnes fired up her garden light trap at Sandiacre on the evening of the 8th, the last thing she expected to find in the trap the following morning was a first county record. Well Emily discovered just that, a first VC57 Derbyshire record of ***Cydia amplana,*** plus a **Scarce Bordered Straw**, first for the year and ***Dichrorampha simpliciana***, the first since 2014. Plus supporting cast of ***Palpita Vitrealis***, 3 **Small Mottled Willow**, ***Cydia fagiglandana*** (**Beech Mast Piercer**) and ***Neocochylis molliculana*** (**Tawny-fronted Straw**). Many thanks to Emily for the invite to photograph the moths.

Cydia amplana 1st VC57 record - ©Tony Davison

Dichrorampha simpliciana - ©Tony Davison

Scarce Bordered Straw - ©Tony Davison

August Moth News:

8th August cont'd - Dave Evans, fresh back from Kedleston, ran his Belper light trap recording 266/79. The main highlight being a ***Palpita vitrealis.*** Others of note were **Small Mottled Willow** (seems one can't run a moth trap now without catching one!!), **Orange Swift** and **Old Lady**.

Palpita vitrealis - ©Dave Evans

Old Lady - ©Dave Evans

Nikki Barrow at Shirland recorded 155/47 from her 20W actinic Heath Trap. Highlights of 3 **Small Mottled Willow**, **Rusty Dot Pearl**, ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***, **Miller**, ***Acleris cristana*** and ***Cochylis atricapitana.*** Steve Thorpe had a good moth trap in his Breaston garden with the first **Vestal** of the year, plus **Rush Veneer, Rusty Dot Pearl, 2 Turnip Moth** and **2 Silver Y**, giving a good migrant vibe. Dave Newcombe from Belper recorded a **Small Marbled.** Since the first one in June 2025, this is the 11th record for Derbyshire, and Dave's second to his garden having trapped one back in June. Suzie Hill from urban Pear Tree in inner city Derby, recorded **Small Dusty Wave** and **Brown China Mark** amongst six species.

9th August - I ran the Melbourne 20W actives light trap from my garden overnight on 9th recording 125/55. Highlights were **Sallow Kitten; Wax Moth** (2). **Small Mottled Willow** (3); **Rusty Dot Pearl**; ***Homoeosomia sinuella; Clavigesta purdeyi***; **Poplar Hawk-moth**; **Nutmeg** (5); ***Agriphila geniculea*** (2); ***Phycitodes binaevella***; **Centre-barred Sallow**; **Maiden's Blush.**

Sallow Kitten - ©Tony Davison

Agriphila geniculea - ©Tony Davison

August Moth News:

Homoeosomia sinuella - ©Tony Davison

Clavigesta purdeyi - ©Tony Davison

9th August cont'd - Clive Ashton recorded 387/107 species from his Cromford garden light trap which included another ***Blastobasis rebeli.*** Looks like this species is established in his area. Dave Evans recorded 111 species from his light trap in Belper with highlights of **Angle-striped Sallow, Centre-barred Sallow, Bordered Straw, Red Underwing, Tree-lichen Beauty, Orange Swift, Miller, Sallow Kitten** and **Rusty Dot Pearl.**

A **Vestal** was recorded by Richard Pittam from his garden light trap at Chellaston.

The Vestal - ©Richard Pittam

Triangle Plume - ©Clive Ashton

John Turner at New Mills recorded **10 Lesser Swallow Prominent, Antler Moth** and **2 Small Mottled Willow** from his garden light trap. A couple of **Triangle Plumes (*Platyptilia gonodactyla*)** have been recorded, one from Kirk Hallam by Brian Hobby and one from Carsington by Clive Ashton. Small numbers are recorded most years.

10th April - The first **Golden-rod Brindle** for the year was recorded from Glossop by Christian Heintzen. A localised moorland species in Derbyshire and a real special moth.

Dave Evans had 47 species to his MV in Belper which included ***Epinotia ramella***, **Mouse Moth**, **Dewick's Plusia**, **Treble Bar** and **Rusty Dot Pearl.** Dave Newcombe recorded 49 species to his MV at Belper with highlights of **Centre-barred Sallow**, **Tawny-barred Angle**, **Maiden's Blush**, **Small Mottled Willow**, **Small Ranunculus** and ***Achroia grisella*** **(Lesser Wax Moth).**

August Moth News:

Golden-rod Brindle - ©Christian Heintzen

Rusty Dot Pearl - ©Dave Evans

11th August - Dave Evans recorded 16 species of leaf mine at Wyver Lane, Belper including, ***Caloptilia stigmatella***, ***Phyllonorycter sorbi***, ***Stigmella speciosa*** and ***Stigmella tiliae.***

Achroia grisella - ©Dave Newcombe

Caloptilia stigmatella ©Dave Evans

Andrew-John Shervill recorded 36 species which included a **Pinion-streaked Snout** and **Small Mottled Willow** in his inner city garden light trap. David Knass recorded **Red Twin-spot Carpet** and **Grey Chi** from Hathersage.

12th August - Turned out to be a rather good moth night, with some amazing species recorded. There seems to be a small influx of **Vestal** into Derbyshire. Several have been recorded including one from Norton Lees by Pete Mella, one from Melbourne by Tony Davison, one from Sandiacre, Emily Milnes one from Wyver Lane, Belper Clive Ashton, Dave Evans and one from Birch Vale, Jane Hewitt, so far! The second record of **Cydia amplana** was recorded from Cromford by Clive Ashton, along with a superb ***Neocochylis hybridella*** from 340/90***.*** Dave Evans recorded 435/104 from his Belper MV light trap which included highlights of ***Bedellia somnulentella,*** **Small Wainscot** and **Dark Sword-grass, Small Mottled Willow, Tree Lichen Beauty** and 28 **Double-striped Pug.**

August Moth News:

12th August cont'd - Another Moth survey took place at Calke Park with Graham, Sean and Martin at the helm. An incredible moth session transpired and I'll report on this later.

I ran my garden moth trap and I was somewhat overwhelmed with moths on the morning of 13th. My third best trap ever in my garden with at least a conservative estimate of 400 moths but I only managed to count 334/74. Highlights were **Jersey Tiger**, **The Vestal**, **Scorched Wing**, **Small Ranunculus**, **10 Small Mottled Willow**, **21 Brimstone**, **42 Common Wainscot**, ***Ancylosis oblitella*** the second VC57 record, as I was pipped to the post by Steve Thorpe who recorded one on the 8th from Breaston, ***Nephopterix angustella*** and 4 **Rush Veneer**.

Nephopterix angustella - ©Tony Davison

Ancylosis oblitella - ©Tony Davison

Jersey Tiger - ©Tony Davison

Rush Veneer - ©Tony Davison

Pete Mella recorded his first 200+ catch at Norton Lees with **White Point,** 2 **Rush Veneer, Rusty Dot Pearl,** 3 **Small Mottled Willow** and his second **Maiden's Blush** of the year. Nikki Barrow from Shirland recorded 310/53 which included another ***Cydia amplana,*** also ***Cochylimorpha straminea*** and ***Enarmonia formosana***, 8 **Small Mottled Willow**, 4 **Rush Veneer**, **Coronet** and **Tree Lichen Beauty.** Another ***Cydia amplana*** from Dave Newcombe at Belper, also ***Anania perlucidalis***, ***Bedellia somnulentella*** (adult), ***Caloptilia stigmatella*** and ***Phycitodes binaevella***. The micros certainly out weighed the macros on this occasion, from a catch of 275/80. Brian Hallam from Findern recorded 268/60 which included another ***Cydia amplana***, also **Clay Triple-lines** and a **Jersey Tiger**.

August Moth News:

European Corn Borer - ©William Grange

Cydia amplana - ©Dave Newcombe

Cydia amplana - ©Nikki Barrow

Cochylimorpha straminea - ©Nikki Barrow

Vestal - ©Emily Milnes

Bedellia somnulentella - ©Dave Newcombe

13th August - Emily Milnes from Sandiacre recorded 408/64 which included a **Vestal**, **4 Small Mottled Willow**, **Tawny Barred Angle**, **Old Lady**, **Small Rufous** and a record count of 88 **Hawthorn Moth.** Another **Vestal** from Long Eaton by Claire Richardson Longmoor. William Grange from Allestree recorded ***Ostrinia nubilalis* (European Corn Borer).** Another large trap by Dave Evans at Belper, 340/77 included ***Caloptilia semifascia***, **Mottled Beauty** (scarce at the moment) and **Bordered Straw**, **Six-striped Rustic**, **White-point** and ***Stenolechia gemmella*** best of the rest. A record of **The Gem** was recorded by Don Cambridge from Inkersall, the first since Nov 2024. Stephen Plant recorded the second record for VC57 of ***Evergestis extimalis*** from his garden light trap at Allestree.

August Moth News:

Evergestis extimalis - ©Stephen Plant

The Gem - ©Don Cambridge

Brett Sentence is one of our latest recorders and new to moths. He resides in Ashbourne and is one of a very small number of recorders from this area of Derbyshire, what we call the “Black-Hole” of Derbyshire. It’s great to see his records coming in and a recent trap on 13th produced 200/30 which included **Straw Dot**, **Gold Spot** and **Orange Swift**.

13th August cont’d -

Dave Newcombe and Clive Ashton trapped on private land near Belper in very warm conditions with temperatures in the high 20’s at 20.00hrs. Two actinic traps produced around 1700/128 with highlights of **Vestal**, **European Corn Borer**, **Delicate**, **4 Dark Sword-grass**, **15 Small Mottled Willow**, **2 Galium Carpet**, **Beautiful Carpet**, **The Sallow**, **Angle-barred Sallow** and **c500 *Agriphila tristella.***

European Corn Borer - ©Dave Newcombe

Beautiful Carpet - ©Clive Ashton

Nadine Snowshill from Darley Moor ran her light trap and recorded **Tawny-barred Angle**. Brian Hobby commented on his best ever garden trap for GMS in Kirk Hallam with 277/48. His highlights were **Treble-bar**, **September Thorn**, **Varied Coronet** and **35 Common Wainscot**.

Between the **12-14th August** there was a small influx of **Vestal** into Derbyshire with 11 individuals being recorded so far.

John Turner from New Mills recorded a **Bordered Straw** and a superb **Antler Moth** from his garden light trap**.**

August Moth News:

Bordered Straw - ©John Turner

Ancylosis oblitella - ©Dan Brown

The third record for Derbyshire of ***Ancylosis oblitella*** was recorded by Dan Brown from Quarndon, Dan also had **45 Small Mottled Willow**, **Bordered Straw**, **14 Rush Veneer, Rusty Dot Pearl**, **Dewick's Plusia, Tree Lichen Beauty** and **14 White Point.** Not a bad effort!

14th August - Clive Ashton recorded just over 60 species on a breezy night in Cromford, with his highlights of ***Palpita vitrealis***, **11 Dusky Thorn**, **Purple Thorn**, **10 Centre-barred Sallow** and a **White Point.**

Dave Evans tallied 71 species to his Belper MV light, finally joining the **Vestal** and ***Cydia amplana*** club!, along with **Sallow** and a **Short-cloaked Moth**, **Rusty Dot Pearl**, **Rush Veneer** and ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***

The Vestal - ©Dave Evans

Cydia amplana - ©Dave Evans

Our intrepid inner city Derby Moth-er Andrew-John Shervill recorded a few good species - **Rosy Rustic, *Pyla fusca* (Dusky Knot-horn), Nutmeg, Dusky Thorn** and **Rush Veneer.**

Ann Wood from Sandiacre recorded **The Vestal, Orange Swift, Sycamore, White-point** and **Small Ranunculus** as her highlights. John Turner from New Mills attracted a **Bordered Straw** to his garden light trap.

August Moth News:

15th August - From the Melbourne 20W Actinic garden light trap I recorded 84/34 with highlights of **2 *Palpita vitrealis***, **2 White-point**, **Centre-barred Sallow**, **2 *Batrachedra praeangusta*** and ***Catoptria falsella*** and a rather strange looking **Garden Carpet.** The aberration' is ***Xanthorhoe fluctuata* ab. *costovata*** and was originally described by Haworth in 1809 in his Lepidoptera Britannica: Part II, p. 334. Thanks to one of our recording team, Christian Heintzen, for the research to find this aberration

Palpita vitrealis - ©Tony Davison

White-point - ©Tony Davison

Garden Carpet - aberration *Xanthorhoe fluctuata* ab. *costovata* - ©Tony Davison

Catoptria falsella - ©Tony Davison

Clive Ashton ran his MV light overnight in Cromford returning 39 species with highlights of **Chevron, Sallow**, **Spectacle, Turnip Moth**, **Lesser Swallow Prominent**, **Tawny Speckled Pug** and **Wormwood Pug**. A few micros, ***Epermenia chaerophyllella, Notocelia uddmanniana*** and ***Udea lutealis***.

Dave Evans also ran his MV light at Belper, attracting just about 40 species in much cooler conditions, but nevertheless recording the third county record of **Webb's Wainscot**. Steve Thorpe ran his garden light trap at Breaston recording a slightly reduced catch which included some decent migrants including **Bordered Straw**, **Dark Sword-grass**, **Rusty Dot Pearl, Small Mottled Willow** and **4 Rush Veneer,** along with **Varied Coronet** and a **Small Blood-vein.**

August Moth News:

Webb's Wainscot - ©Dave Evans

Dark Sword-grass - ©Steve Thorpe

Amongst the many migrant moths that have arrived in Derbyshire, there have been numerous reports of **Hummingbird Hawk-moth**. So far this year we have received 172 records, including this one that I had in my garden on 16th August.

Humming-bird Hawk-moth - ©Tony Davison

Humming-bird Hawk-moth - ©Tony Davison

16th August - The 4th record of **Striped Hawk-moth** was recorded from Atlow by Jeremy Erde, one that 100% of Derbyshire's Moth-ers would want in their traps. This year we all have a chance to trap this superb Hawk-moth, as there have been large numbers arriving into the country

A moth thought to be extinct in the county, or at least still present but in very small isolated pockets in remote corners of Derbyshire, most likely Dovedale where it was last recorded in 2011, has been re-discovered. Christian Heintzen recorded **The Anomalous** in his moth trap on 17th August 2026 at Glossop. A fantastic moth and a fantastic record.

Dave Evans trapped at Belper overnight and recorded 223/74 with highlights of **Ni Moth**, **Bordered Straw**, **White-point**, **Maiden's Blush, *Ypsolopha sylvella*** and ***Teleiopsis diffinis***

17th August - Dave Evans recorded the first adult **Frosted Orange** of the year.

August Moth News:

Striped Hawk-moth - ©Jeremy Erde

The Anomalous - ©Christian Heintzen

Ni Moth - ©Dave Evans

Teleiopsis diffinis - ©Dave Evans

17th August - I ran my Melbourne moth trap overnight recording 202/52 which included highlights of **3 Beet Moth**; **Rush Veneer 2 Rusty Dot**; ***Argyresthia albistria***; **Oak Hook-tip**; **Black-neck**; **8 Small Mottled Willow** and a melanic form of **Box-tree Moth**.

Scrobipalpa ocellatella - ©Tony Davison

Rusty Dot Pearl - ©Tony Davison

August Moth News:

Clive Ashton ran his Cromford garden light trap with only about 70/40 during a wet night and only running his 20W Actinic. His highlights were **6 Dusky Thorn**, **2 Centre-barred Sallow**, **2 Orange Swift**, **Iron Prominent, Tawny Speckled Pug**, a late **Bird's Wing**, **Purple Bar**, ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella, Notocelia uddmanniana, Teleiopsis diffinis*** and ***Nemophila noctuella.***

Stephen Plant from Allestree recorded a **Scarce Bordered Straw**.

Scarce Bordered Straw - ©Stephen Plant

Box-tree Moth - melanic form - ©Tony Davison

18th August - Well Dave Evans really shook the world of Derbyshire moths on the morning of the 19th August. As he processed his overnight moth trap from 18th, apart from his second **Ni Moth** in a few days and an ***Anania perlucidalis***, all looked “Standard Fare”, that was until he turned over the penultimate egg tray. “Boom”, a top notch **Beautiful Marbled** was staring him in the face. Absolutely pristine, clothed in Purple and Yellow. A new species for VC57 Derbyshire and I can’t imagine how Dave must have felt when he clapped eyes on it. The moth of dreams and what must be a contender for Derbyshire Moth of the Year.

Beautiful Marbled - ©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

Clive Ashton couldn't compete with Dave Evans overnight at Cromford, but 150/53 was reasonable, which included the first **Frosted Orange**, for the year, slightly worn probably caused by the recent wet weather, along with **11 Dusky Thorn**, **Small Ranunculus** and **2 Juniper Pug.**

Anania perlucidalis - ©Dave Evans

Frosted Orange ©Clive Ashton

Ni Moth - ©Dave Evans

Satin Wave - ©Dave Evans

Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded his second **White Point** for his garden, plus ***Prays fraxinella*** (**Ash Bud Moth**).

19th August - Dave Evans recorded 16 species of Leaf Mine at Wyver Lane. Dave also ran his garden moth trap in Belper, recording 85/46 including a **Satin Wave**, **Dewick's Plusia, Feathered Gothic** and a large buff-form of **Poplar Hawk-moth.** I ran my garden 20W actinic in Melbourne recording 74/25 before the rain arrived. Highlights were my first **Cabbage Moth** for a number of years, **Iron Prominent**, **Orange Swift**, **2 Small Mottled Willow**, **2 Rush Veneer**, **3** ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** and a ***Cochylimorpha straminea***.

20th August - Mark Radford from his Staveley garden attracted **Frosted Orange, Bordered Pug**, and **Treble-bar** as highlights from 114/41. Another **Frosted Orange** was recorded from Atlow by Jeremy Erde.

At this time there were still numerous records of **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** and **Small Mottled Willow** being recorded.

August Moth News:

21st August - A total of 41 species were recorded to Dave Evans MV at Belper with **Sallow**, **Rusty Dot Pearl** and ***Dichrorampha acuminata*** being of interest. Brian Hobby ran his garden light trap at Kirk Hallam for the GMS, recording 182/42. Highlights of **Vestal** and an **August Thorn**, showing the white “Knee Socks” which Brian managed to show on one of his images. A **Clifden Nonpareil** was recorded from the A38 slip road at Burnaston by John-Paul Bryan - (per iRecord).

22nd August - Mark Radford recorded 143/48 from his Staveley garden light trap with ***Grapholita funebrana,*** **Sallow** and **Frosted Orange** being highlight. I ran my 20W actinic from the garden in Melbourne with 58/28 being recorded. A **Grey Chi** was a particular highlight, with **Angle Shades**, **Campion**, **Orange Swift**, **Small Mottled Willow** and **Rush Veneer** being a good supporting cast.

The Sallow - ©Mark Radford

Grey Chi - ©Tony Davison

Angle Shades - ©Tony Davison

Campion - ©Tony Davison

Dave Evans recorded 156/49, which was a better catch than he expected. **Brown-spot Pinion**, added an early autumn flavour to the current moth trapping sessions, **Feathered Gothic**, **Burnished Brass**, **Six Stripe Rustic**, **Small Ranunculus**, **Rosy Rustic** and ***Epinotia lamella***.

23rd August - Another moth trap by Dave Evans at Belper produced the 4th county record of **Jersey Tiger**, from 103/38 which also included a **September Thorn.** Pete Mella recorded ***Pyla fusca*** at Norton Lees, along with his third ***Palpita vitrealis.*** Paul Buxton recorded a **Mullein Wave** from his Sandiacre garden moth trap. Below a comparison between **August Thorn** (Brian Hobby) and **September Thorn** (Dave Evans), showing the subtle differences between the two.

August Moth News:

August Thorn - ©Brian Hobby

September Thorn - ©Dave Evans

Brown-spot Pinion - ©Dave Evans

Feathered Gothic - ©Dave Evans

Jersey Tiger - ©Dave Evans

Pyla fusca - ©Pete Mella

Clive Ashton recorded 87/33 from his Cromford light trap which included **Frosted Orange, Orange Swift**, **White-point** and **3 Centre-barred Sallow,** which seems to be having a good year.

August Moth News:

Frosted Orange ©Clive Ashton

Clifden Nonpareil - ©Jeremy Erde

24th August - A **Clifden Nonpareil** was attracted to light at Atlow and recorded by Jeremy Erde, this is only the third record so far this year and all three recorded during August. Clive Ashton recorded 177/58 a good number for late August, which included **Clay Triple-lines**, 2 **Purple Bar,** 3 **Tawny Speckled Pug** and 13 ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella***, a recording number at Cromford. Martin Roome recorded ***Monopis crocicapitella*** and identified it by checking the hind wing, which he described as pale grey, which best fits this species, and also a very fine example of ***Apotomis betuletana.*** Both from his Chaddesden garden moth trap. Another good number was taken at Staveley by Mark Radford, 188/46 which included several new species for Mark's garden, **Oak Hook-tip**, **Small Ranunculus**, ***Ypsolopha dentella*** and ***Epinotia tenerana***. Dave Evans trap at Belper resulted in 165/56, with his highlights of **Small Ranunculus, Rosy Rustic, Centre-barred Sallow, Canary-shouldered Thorn** and **Green Carpet**. The first **Small Autumnal Moth** of the year was recorded from Glossop by Christian Heintzen, his earliest record of this species so far.

Monopis crocicapitella - ©Martin Roome

Apotomis betuletana - ©Martin Roome

25th August - Dave Evans found a good selection of Leaf Mines at Wyver Lane, Belper - 27 species in all including the following highlights of ***Bedellia somnulentella, Phyllonorycter messaniella, Phyllonorycter tristrigella, Stigmella speciosa, Acrolepia autumnitella,*** and ***Phyllonorycter nicellii***.

August Moth News:

25th August cont'd - Traps were set up at the Markham Vale site producing 86/36 which included the following highlights - **Oak Hook-tip**, **Scalloped Hook-tip**, **Purple Thorn**, **White Point, Rusty Dot Pearl** and ***Aproaerema anthyllidella* (Vetch Moth)**, Pete Mella from Norton Lees recorded **Small Ringed** and **Brown China-mark** and a strangely marked **Centre-barred Sallow,** variant form **-*unicolor.***

Markham Vale - ©Mark Radford

Markham Vale - ©Mark Radford

***Aproaerema anthyllidella* (Vetch Moth)**
©Sid Morris

Centre-barred Sallow - variant form unicolor -
Pete Mella

Nikki Barrow from her Shirland garden light trap recorded the first **Brick** for 2026 from 192/36. Also 7 **Small Mottled Willow**, **Nutmeg** and **Currant Pug**.

Dave Evans from his Belper light trap had 239/60 with a ***Palpita vitrealis,*** his 2nd one this year. Also **Purple Thorn, Small Ranunculus, Nutmeg, Orange Swift, Small Mottled Willow, September Thorn, *Epinotia ramella*** and **Rusty-dot Pearl** as other decent highlights.

The Brick - ©Nikki Barrow

August Moth News:

Palpita vitrealis - ©Dave Evans

Purple Thorn - ©Dave Evans

25th August cont'd - Clive Ashton trapped 225/58 from his Cromford light trap. 63 were **Large Yellow Underwing, 2 Old Lady, 2 Small Mottled Willow, Small Ranunculus, Dark Spectacle** and **4 *Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** as other highlights.

26th August - Mark Radford recorded ***Scrobipalpa plebjana*** (**Tree-mallow Tortrix**) from his Staveley garden light trap. Also ***Adaina microdactyla***, **Treble-bar** and ***Aproaerema anhyllidella***.
I ran the Melbourne light trap and recorded **2 Red Underwing**, ***Nephopterix angustella***; **Small Mottled Willow**; **2 Rush Veneer and a single Beet Moth** as highlights from 165/40.

Scrobipalpa plebjana - ©Mark Radford

Scrobipalpa plebjana - ©Mark Radford

Red Underwing - ©Tony Davison

Nephopterix angustella - ©Tony Davison

August Moth News:

26th August cont'd - The fourth Kedleston Hall National Trust Moth Survey took place overnight on 26th August. Due to the weather forecast, the trap session was planned at the last minute. The traps were set up early evening, comprising of three MV and a single actinic. All the team could do was to keep fingers crossed for a dry night. Arriving back on site at 4:45am the team proceeded to process the first MV, which was located by the visitor centre. This trap produced a good start., with **Orange Sallow, Small Ranunculus, Feathered Gothic, Clay Triple-lines, *Pyrausta despicata*, *Anania perlucidalis*, *Argyresthia albistria*, *Cochylis molliculana*** and **Small China-mark.** The final three traps were less productive but nevertheless still held some decent species.

High counts included **Common Wainscot** (72), **Square-spot Rustic** (57), **Large Yellow Underwing** (183), **Vine's Rustic** (73), **Setaceous Hebrew Character** (37), ***Agriphila tristella*** (132), ***Scrobipalpa ocellatella*** (52) and ***Celypha lacunana*** (50). **White-point** (11) was also noteworthy.

Just as the team packed away the final traps and photographed the moth highlights, it suddenly went dark, and thunder and lightening rolled across the park, followed by heavy rain. Talk about good timing!.

Once again a huge thanks to NT Ranger Ellen for all her hard work in organising the event, which is not easy at this site. Additional thanks to Dave E, Dave N and Clive A for running and processing the survey.

Kedleston Moth Survey

Kedleston Moth Survey

Kedleston Moth Survey

August Moth News:

A few of the highlights from Kedleston Moth Survey No:4

Feathered Gothic - ©Dave Evans

Orange Sallow - ©Dave Evans

Anania perlucidalis - ©Dave Evans

White Point - ©Dave Evans

Clay Triple Lines - ©Dave Evans

Maiden's Blush - ©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

26th August cont'd - Pete Mella record the 3rd VC57 record of ***Evergestis extimalis*** from his light trap in Norton Lees. he managed just a record shot before it "zoomed" out of his moth trap. What a great find and record. Paul Buxton recorded **Cypress Pug**, the first one of the year.

28th August - Mark Radford discovered the leaf mines of ***Coleophora potentillae*** (**Potentilla Case-bearer**) on Bramble at Markham Vale (Seymour) the 3rd record of this species for VC57 and first since 2024. Also ***Stigmella basiguttella***, the 3rd county record of this leaf miner.

Evergestis extimalis - ©Pete Mella

Stigmella basiguttella - ©Mark Radford

Coleophora potentillae - ©Mark Radford

Coleophora potentillae - ©Mark Radford

Clive Ashton had a small catch from his Cromford garden light trap which included **Small Blood-vein**, and **Feathered Gothic** being best of the bunch. Brian Hobby recorded **The Sallow** as a highlight from his GMS Night (78/24 species).

30th August - Clive Ashton found several species around the outside lights at Carsington reservoir including a rather smart looking ***Acleris emargana.*** Mark Radford discovered the mines of ***Caloptilia elongella*** on Alder at Markham Vale South Tip.

August Moth News:

Acleris emargana - ©Clive Ashton

Caloptilia elongella - ©Mark Radford

31st August - Ann Wood from Sandiacre recorded the second **Cypress Pug** for the year and Matt Leedell recorded 97/17 from his Belper garden light trap which included highlights of **Feathered Gothic** and **The Snout.** Clive Ashton ran his last moth trap for August and recorded **29 Autumnal Rustic**, at Cromford Moor from 61/10.

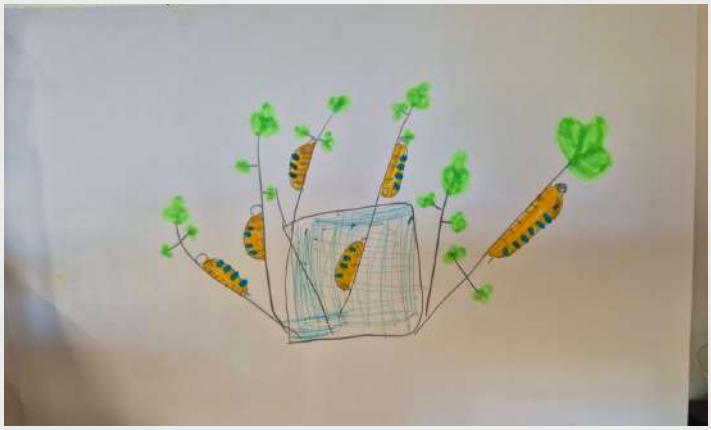
Cypress Pug - ©Ann Wood

The Snout - ©Matt Leedell

August Moth News:

A budding Moth-er

Death's Head Hawk-moth Larvae



Project - Death's Head Hawk-moth

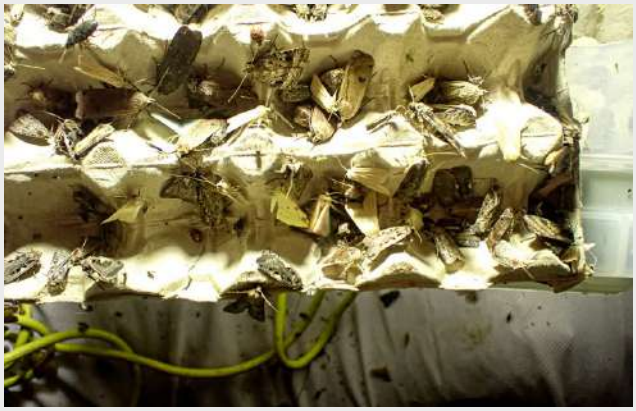
This young lady has set herself a project and that is to raise 6 Death's Head Hawk-moth larvae to adults. They are growing fast and hopefully will begin to pupate soon. We can then look forward to seeing one of the most stunning of moths. I can't wait to set the outcome of this fascinating project. Of course all under control by one of our verification team members. Not only an up and coming moth-er, but a great artist too.

August Moth News:

12th AUGUST 2026 - Calke Park NT Moth Survey - Recorders Graham Finch, Sean Brown and Martin Roome.

This moth survey turned out to be what is highly likely the largest concentration of moths recorded from a single site in the county. The team ran a number of light traps at the NT Ticknall Lime Yards site with at least 4 x 125MV box traps running in conditions that were beyond perfect. The temperature at 21:10hrs was 21C dropping to only 19C at 03:30hrs.

Needless to say the term “Bucket Load” doesn’t’ seem to fit the bill here, as they were confronted with several thousand moths to contend with. The total was c2200/c140+ species from the three recorders. The full list will eventually appear on iRecord, but some of the highlights were **The Fern (3); Vestal (2), Clifden Nonpareil, Scarce Bordered Straw, *Ostrinia nubilalis*, *Catoptria falsella*, Small Mottled Willow (at least 45), Fen Wainscot (3); Pale Eggar (3), Clay Triple Lines (13), Pearly Underwing (7), *Nephopterix angustella*.**



Moth Trap - Calke Park 12/8/2026 - Graham Finch

Moth Trap Calke Park 12/8/2026 - Graham Finch

Pale Eggar - ©Sean Browne

Clay Triple Lines - ©Sean Browne

Some incredible totals - **220 Large Yellow Underwing; 150 Setaceous Hebrew Character; 130 Common Wainscot; 162 Small Mottled Willow; 106 Flame Shoulder.**

August Moth News:

The Fern - ©Graham Finch

Clifden Nonpareil - ©Graham Finch

14th AUGUST 2026 - Another National Trust Moth Survey took place at Hardwick Hall overnight on 14th August, with traps processed on the morning of 15th August. Our all lady moth team at Hardwick comprised of NT Rangers Emily and Grace, Nikki and Emily.

Three traps were running with total moths not yet available, but will appear on iRecord at a later date. Highlights were **2 Delicate, 28 Small Mottled Willow, Rush Veneer, Rusty Dot Pearl** and **7 White Point**. Also evidence was found of **8 Fig Leaf Skeletonize**r larval webs as well as a couple of live larvae. Many thanks to the NT Team at Hardwick for the event.

Moth Trap - Hardwick Hall NT - ©Emily Milnes

Hardwick Hall NT - ©Emily Milnes

August Moth News:

Small Mottled Willow - Nikki Mahadevan

Delicate - ©Emily Milnes

Hedya ochroleucana - ©Nikki Mahadevan

White-point - ©Nikki Mahadevan

Rusty Dot Pearl - ©Nikki Mahadevan

Small Rufous - ©Nikki Mahadevan

August Moth News:

Please remember - when entering your records to the iRecord data base please ensure that the date to be entered to iRecord is the date the moth trap was set (i.e. the evening the trap was switched on) and **NOT** the date of the morning the trap is inspected.

Also if you visit another “moth-ers” catch, that is you “Twitch” a moth such as the recent Beautiful Marbled in Belper, please do not enter the record to iRecord. The recorder will do that as it was their moth, this then avoids duplicating a record unnecessarily. Many thanks.

Well August certainly produced some very special species and a huge number of records. The star moth of the month has to go to Dave Evans, his Beautiful Marbled simply stole the show.

Let’s all look forward to a wonderful autumn of mothing and it will be interesting to see what the NT Moth Surveys turn-up during September.

All the best.

Tony Davison.

Beautiful Marbled - 19th August 2026 - Belper - ©Dave Evans

August Moth News:

The Vestal - ©Nikki Barrow