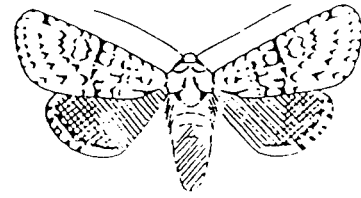


# The Glamorgan Moth Recording Group

Founded 1995

**President: Steve Moon**  
**Recorder (West): Barry Stewart**  
**Recorder (East): Dave Gilmore**  
**Field Meetings Sec./Newsletter Editor: Mike Powell**  
**Treasurer : Stefan Golaszewski**



*Dichonia aprilina*

## NEWSLETTER NO. 22-JULY 1998

### FIELD MEETING, SATURDAY 6th JUNE

Nine members and guests attended the meeting at Nant Cwm-Du Wood in the Llynfi Valley on a rather damp 6th June, Paul Alton, Phil Bristow, Stefan Golaszewski, Martin Hnatiuk, Steve Moon, Paul Parsons, Mike Powell, Jeff and Richard Williams. The persistent rain and drizzle stopped at 9.30 just in time to allow one MV light to be run from 9.45 until 00.45 with 39 species being recorded of which Small Elephant Hawkmoth and Tawny Marbled Minor were new for the 10km square.

Species recorded;

Map-winged Swift  
*Agapeta hamana*  
*Chrysoteuchia culmella*  
*Scoparia subfusca*  
*Scoparia ambigualis*  
Peach Blossom  
Silver-ground Carpet  
Water Carpet  
Purple Bar  
Small Phoenix  
Common Marbled Carpet  
Green Carpet  
May Highflyer  
V-Pug  
Brown Silver-line  
Scorched Wing  
Scalloped Hazel  
Peppered Moth  
White-pinion Spotted  
Clouded Silver



Small Elephant Hawkmoth  
Iron Prominent  
Pale Tussock  
White Ermine  
Heart and Dart  
Flame  
Flame Shoulder  
Ingrailed Clay  
Green Arches  
Pale-shouldered Brocade  
Bright-line Brown-eye  
Shoulder-striped Wainscot  
Dark Arches  
Clouded-bordered Brindle  
Rustic Shoulder-knot  
[Tawny] Marbled Minor  
Marbled White Spot  
The Snout  
Small Fan-foot

## **FIELD MEETING, FRIDAY 26th JUNE**

Eleven members and guests attended the meeting at Cwrt-y-Ala Woods, Dinas Powis on another very damp evening. In fact the decision to go ahead with the meeting was only taken at 19.30 following confirmation that the rain up to that point would in fact cease at around 21.00, which it did more or less on time. Those attending were Martin Bevan, Dave Gilmore, Stefan Golaszewski, Steve Moon, Dominic & Mike Powell, Rob Taylor, Geri Thomas, Tony & Martin White and Jeff Williams. Although very wet under foot and with water constantly dripping from the trees overhead, a shelter for the single MV trap was erected and 40 species were recorded, most notably Blomers Rivulet, Pretty Chalk Carpet, Beautiful Hooktip, Dingy and Buff Footman & Slender Brindle.

Species recorded;

Ghost Moth	<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i>
<i>Tortrix viridana</i>	<i>Scoparia subfusca</i>
<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>	<i>Dipleurina lacustrata</i>
<i>Perinephala lancealis</i>	<i>Udea olivalis</i>
Peach Blossom	Buff Arches
Common Emerald	Blood-vein
Small Fan-footed Wave	Riband Wave
Garden Carpet	Barred Straw
Pretty Chalk Carpet	Twin-spot Carpet
Blomers Rivulet	Small Yellow Wave
Scorched Carpet	Brimstone Moth
Peppered Moth	Willow Beauty
Mottled Beauty	Common White Wave
Clouded Silver	Light Emerald
Dingy Footman	Buff Footman
Heart & Dart	Large Yellow Underwing
Ingrailed Clay	Double Square-spot
The Clay	Small Angle Shades
Slender Brindle	Beautiful Hooktip
The Snout	Small Fan-foot

## **FIELD MEETING, SATURDAY 11th JULY**

Our next field meeting is an all day meeting to south Gower on Saturday 11th July. For those wishing to attend just the morning session, meet at the main beach carpark at Port Eynon at 11.00am. The purpose of this session is to visit some of the quiet south facing valley's to seek out day flying species and to beat vegetation for larvae.

Additionally we will pay particular attention in looking for the recently discovered Silky Wave on the warm slopes. Those wishing to attend the evening session should again meet at the main beach carpark, this time at 9.00pm. Both meetings will be led by Barry Stewart, West Glam. recorder.

Take the A4118 from Swansea City centre onto the Gower. Follow this road past Swansea airport then through Parkmill, past the turnings for both Oxwich & Rhossili and down into Port Eynon. Park at the main beach carpark, SS 467 852.

### **FIELD MEETING, FRIDAY 24TH JULY**

The second field meeting of the month takes place at Crymlyn Bog NNR on Friday 24th July at 9.00pm to be led by Kevin Dupe and Martin White. Prior to the start of the meeting proper, David Painter, local CCW warden for the Swansea/Gower area has agreed to present a slide show at the reserve centre, commencing at 8.00pm.

We hope to run at least four MV lights at this meeting, covering a range of habitats, therefore given a warm night there should be plenty to look at.

To find the reserve centre, leave the M4 at junction 42, and follow the signs for Swansea on the A483. After approx. 4 miles you arrive at a set of traffic lights. Turn left. Use the mini roundabout to do a "U turn" then head back along the A483 towards the motorway. Take the next left at The Mile End pub in Port Tennant. From here follow the road ahead under the railway bridge(Wern Terrace) to the T junction where you turn right. Follow this road (Dinam Road), taking the left fork where after half a mile you will find the visitor centre on your right, SS 686 943.

This is a joint meeting with our friends from Butterfly Conservation, South Wales Branch.

### **DAVE GILMORE-NEW PHONE NUMBER**

Please note David has changed his telephone number to (01222) 215723.

### **BRISTOL MOTH GROUP**

The BMG have a field meeting to Brown's Folly, near Bath, on Friday 24th July.

Meet at 9.00pm at the carpark at the entrance to the wood.

Turn left off the A363 at Bathford and travel east through the village. Turn right at ST 797 667 and go up the steep hill. The carpark is on the right.

Full details appeared in our Newsletter No.17, Feb.98.

### **GLOUCESTERSHIRE MOTH GROUP**

GMG have a field meeting at Dowdeswell Wood, Cheltenham on 14th July starting at 9.30pm. Contact Jon Brock (01242 675890) for more details and to confirm date.

### **SOMERSET MOTH GROUP**

SMG have a field meeting at Bickham Wood SWT NR, Chard on Saturday 11th July at 2.30pm and again at 8.00pm. Meet at ST 270 085

## RECENT REPORTS-JUNE 1998

Jeff Williams(JW) continues to add to our knowledge of moths in the Rhondda area with Small Phoenix, Early tooth-striped, Brown Silver-line, Iron Prominent, Lesser Swallow Prominent, Knot-grass & Nut-tree Tussock added to SS99. JW also recorded Glaucous Shears at Stanleytown, the first record for that square and only the third post 1980 record for East Glam.

Dave Gilmore (DG), Stefan Golaszewski (SG) & Mike Powell (MCP) continued the survey at Draethen on a rather blustery 10th recording 15 species new for the 10km square. The highlights were Clay Triple-lines, Haworth's Pug, Green Arches, Larch Pug and The Rivulet. Scorched Carpet was also taken. On the 30th DG & MCP recorded Clay Triple-lines, Blomers Rivulet, Small Engrailed, Satin Lutestring, Coronet and Scorched Carpet on a much better evening for trapping at the same site. Barry and Sandra Stewart were busy during the month as usual. On 4th two Narrow-bordered Bee Hawkmoths were seen at Lletty'r-scilp and Silver Hook at Waun-y-Garn Wen on the same day. On 5th Cream Wave was recorded at Nicholaston, Satin Wave (first West Glam. record), Grass Rivulet and Confused at Overton and at The Oxwich Bay Hotel on the same day Oblique Carpet, Small Seraphim, Sand Dart, Striped, Shore & Obscure Wainscots, Alder Moth and Bordered Sallow were all seen.

A Goat Moth at Morrison on 6th was a big surprise and two Gem's were recorded at Burryalley on 13th . On 15th at Oxwich Bay Hotel, Wood Carpet, Small Seraphim and Striped Wainscot were seen as was Crescent Dart at Overton on the same date. Red-necked Footman was taken at Bryn-y-Gwyddel on 19th. The 20th at Penlleger resulted in Map-winged Swift, Grass Rivulet, Scorched Wing, Double-line, Striped & Silky Wainscots and a migrant Small Mottled Willow. The 21st produced Plain Wave and Small Seraphim at Cwmllywd East, Vestal, Howarth's Pug, Bloomer's Rivulet, Waved Carpet and Coronet at Mansfield, Lead-coloured Pug at Graig-y-Pal and Gem and Bordered Sallow at Penyrheol.

A Scarlet Tiger at Gorseinon on 22nd indicates there may be a colony locally. Finally Sand Dart, White Colon and Bordered Sallow were all seen at Port Talbot on the 23rd. Kevin Dupe (KD), Martin White (MW) and Rob Taylor(RT) are continuing with their moth survey in the Mewslade Valley on South Gower which started last autumn. During three sessions so far this spring, they have recorded White Colon & Galium Carpet on 14th May, Small Elephant Hawkmoth & Broom Moth on 26th May and Burnished Brass on 9th June.

Steve Moon (SJM) recorded several interesting species at his Porthcawl garden during the month including Figure of 80, Garden Tiger, Heart & Club, Pearly Underwing, Nutmeg and White Colon.

## MICRO NEWS-JUNE 1998

DG and MCP spent a weekend on Flatholm in August last year, with the macro species recorded reported in newsletter # 13, September 1997. Several micro's were also recorded and Ray Barnett at the Bristol Museum has identified two as *Agonopterix alstromeriana*, not recorded since the early eighties and *Cochylis flaviciliana*, a nationally notable Tortrix moth and a first for the vice county.

There is only one record of *Cochylis flaviciliana* in the Bristol recording area and it is unrecorded in both Gwent and Breconshire.

May 1998 records include new post 1980 records by BS of *Epinotia rubiginosana* and *Rhyacionia pinivorana* in Swansea also *Phlyctaenia stachydalis* at Penlleger on 20th June. MCP recorded several *Nemophara degreella* at Lisvane Reservoir early in the month and SG found *Tinea semifulvella* in his Llanishen garden.

DG recorded *Stigmella cathartica*, *Parornix betulae*, *Ditula angustiorana* & *Apotomis betuleana* in his Roath garden and *Monopis laevigella* at Whitchurch, this being the first post 1980 record for Glamorgan.

Thanks to both Ray Barnett and Martin White for identifying specimens.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS 1998/99**

Subscriptions fall due on 1st July and as reported in newsletter #19, April 1998, have increased by £1.00 to £4.00 per year. Please use the enclosed renewal form and return the slip with your cheque in the pre-addressed envelope to Mike Powell.

We could not produce as many newsletters or run as many field visits as a group without your membership, please re-subscribe to ensure we continue to grow.

### **OVER THE BORDER**

Mike Powell, on a visit to Yorkshire on 1st June ( this time to look for Lady's Slipper Orchid) recorded over ten *Cistus* Forester at Grassington.

### **PYRALID & PLUME RECORDING SCHEME**

A field meeting is being held at Gilfach Nature Reserve, Nr. Rhayader, Radnorshire on Saturday 1st August. The meeting starts at 12.30pm with a search for Crambids and larvae during the afternoon and at 8.30pm evening light trapping will commence.

If you wish to stay overnight, camping at the site has been agreed with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust. The meeting will provide a great chance to learn much about Pyralids and plume-moths with several experts present.

From Rhayader town centre take the A470 north, signposted for Aberystwyth. After 2 miles the road bends sharply back upon itself. At the apex of the bend, having just crossed the River Marteg, take the right hand turning signposted to St. Harmon. Park near the cattle grid which marks the entrance to the reserve, SN 953 715.

### **GLAMORGAN RECORDS**

Enclosed with this mailing is a sheet of pre-addressed labels to enable you to submit your East Glamorgan records to Dave Gilmore. West Glam. records should be sent to Barry Stewart and a set of labels for Barry will go out with next months newsletter.

Please send in your records for inclusion in **your** newsletter by the last day of the month. Your records, even of common species, do add to the distribution picture as the last newsletter proved. Records of Engrailed at Gethin, Merthyr and Silver-ground Carpet at Llanfabon, Nelson, both very common species, were new for their respective 10km squares.

## BROWN TAILED MOTH

In newsletter #11, July 1997 a short note gave details of the poor press this species receives. The following article appeared in The Mail on Monday 22nd June.

SEX traps are being used to snare amorous moths which cause misery to holiday-makers.

The brown tailed moth is the scourge of barbecues and trips to the beach across southern England and the Channel Islands.

Its tiny hairs get under the skin of victims and can cause a severe rash or allergic reaction, particularly among asthma sufferers.

But just as it sends summer visitors mad, the male moth is driven crazy by the smell of the female.

And a combination of its incredibly high sex drive and poor eyesight is now being used

to draw its sting. The new moth traps, designed by Dr Philip Howse, attract the insects by emitting a strong female pheromone.

Once inside, the male is sprayed with powder that makes it smell like a female. Confused and disorientated, it then finds it impossible to mate.

The six-inch, triangular traps, on trial in Portsmouth, have been welcomed as a green alternative to heavy spraying with insecticides, which had only limited success.

Dr Howse, of Southampton University, says they are easily

installed, cheap and have proved very effective in tests.

He said: 'After visiting the traps, the moth's chance of finding a mate are pretty impossible.

'If they cannot mate there will be no caterpillars next year. And there will be little or no people suffering from the unpleasant rash that they cause.'

Sarah McCarthy-Fry, of Portsmouth council, said: 'These caterpillars have proved a never-ending nuisance and caused health problems.

'We hope this environmentally-friendly control will dramatically reduce their numbers and the problems they bring each year.'

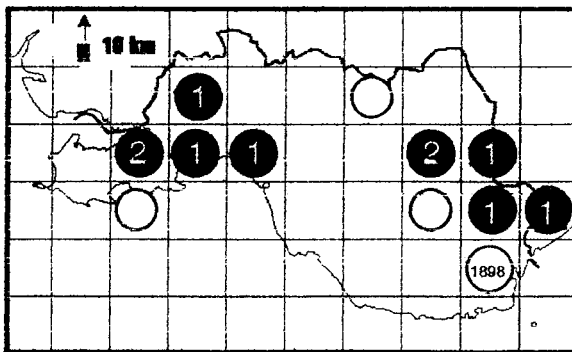
## ANGLIAN LEPIDOPTERIST SUPPLIES

ALS have recently sent out their May 1998 catalogue. This small company offers a large range of products from traps, generators, electric's, nets, specimen tubes etc. at very competitive prices. For example they are offering a Skinner trap including control gear, bulb holder and bulb for £80.00, £43.00 for a DIY Skinner trap and £65 for a Heath (actinic) trap. More details are available by writing or phoning ALS at:

PO Box 370,  
Cambridge,  
CB4 1ZT  
01223 330101

All prices quoted exclude carriage.

## STATUS OF SQUARE SPOT *Paradarisa consonaria* [Hubner] IN GLAMORGAN



1949. Square Spot.  
*Paradarisa consonaria* [Hb.]  
GB: Local

Map showing the present status of Square Spot in Glamorgan V-c 41. This species is classified as 'Local' in Great Britain ie; recorded from 101-300 x 10km sq. In Glamorgan it seems fairly localised and at present of a low density. But as there is now a greater coverage within the county its quite probable that this species may be somewhat under-recorded. Mainly inhabiting broadleaf woodland, although several records have come from forestry plantations. The adults are flying from April through to mid June and come sparingly to light.

## CRYMLYN BOG SURVEY

The Lepidoptera survey of Crymlyn Bog NNR (which Kevin and I began in earnest in 1996) is still going on, with Rob Taylor joining in for the last year or so. However, with more than 400 species already recorded, it is becoming harder to discover new Macro-moths. The Micro's are still undoubtedly under-recorded, hence more new Micro's than Macro's have been discovered so far in 1998. The latest records include:

7/4/98 - Purple Thorn(2), *Accleris notana*(1);

23/4/98 - Lunar Marbled Brown(3);                    28/4/98 - Grey Birch(3);

14/5/98 - Green Hairstreak(5+);

1/6/98 - Lime Hawk-moth(1), Dentated Pug(3), Silver Hook(1), Alder Moth(1), *Coleophora albicosta*(2), *Ancyliis witterbachiana*(1), *Adaina microdactyla*(1), *Crambus pratella*(2);

3/6/98 - *Myelois cribrella* ('Thistle Ermine')(1);

5/6/98 - Mother Shipton(1);

16/6/98 - Figure of Eighty(1), Dark Dagger(1), *Eana osseana*(1), *Coleophora frischella*(1), *Aethes cnicana*(1), *Phycitodes binaevella*(1), *Parornix betulae*(1), *Apotomis turbidana*(2), *Cryptoblabes bistriga*(1);

I've included the Green Hairstreak as an honorary moth because it had not been seen in Crymlyn Bog since 1986, so it was encouraging to see it return and in good numbers. Dentated Pug and Silver Hook had previously been recorded by others but not seen by us; Dark Dagger was determined by a genitalia check; *Parornix betulae* was previously known from its leaf-mine, but not confirmed as an adult moth. Dentated Pug was seen in good numbers on both 1/6/98 and 16/6/98, but could easily be overlooked as it was in only in one area of the site.

Among species that have been recorded in the past but not seen recently are the Old Lady and Hedge Rustic, while the Goat Moth has been seen as larva, pupa and adult but tantalisingly, has never come to any of our traps - so there will be a few targets to look out for on our Moth Group Meeting on July 24th!

If there is one major compensation for only discovering small numbers of new things in the Bog, it's the sheer number of different species it is possible to see in a single evening. On 1/6/98 we saw around 120 species, including four different Hawk-moths; while on 16/6/98, with much poorer weather, we still saw 89 species, including specialities like Striped Wainscot, Silky Wainscot, Pinion-streaked Snout, and Dentated Pug - all of which bodes well for the Moth Group Meeting.

Martin J. White