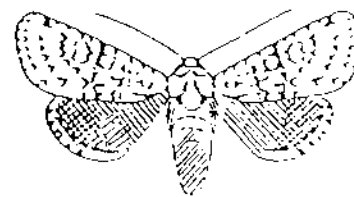


The Glamorgan Moth Recording Group

Founded 1995

President: Steve Moon
Recorder (West): Barry Stewart
Recorder (East): Dave Gilmore
Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Mike Powell
Treasurer: Stefan Golaszewski
Committee: David Slade, Martin White



Dichonia aprilina

NEWSLETTER No. 40 – FEBRUARY 2000

INDOOR MEETINGS

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Mike Wilson has arranged two workshops at The National Museum of Wales, Cardiff on behalf of the GMRG. The first takes place on Saturday 4th March when Colin Hart will run a workshop on Plume Moths between 10.30 and 4.30. Members are encouraged to bring along specimens for identification. Numbers are strictly limited to a maximum of 25 and a cover charge of £5.00 will unfortunately have to be levied to cover the cost of car parking plus refreshments during the day. Lunch can be purchased in the restaurant.

Car parking is at the rear of the Museum. Drive through the barrier to the car park but be sure to collect your exit pass from Mike Wilson on the day.

Please ring Mike Powell on (02920) 762182 to confirm your wish to attend.

The second meeting takes place on Saturday 8th April when Tony Davies will run a workshop on Pyralids. Details will follow.

HARLEY BOOKS

Harley Books have confirmed that the next volume to be published in the series "The Moths & Butterflies of Great Britain & Ireland" by Heath & Maitland Emmet will be volume 4 (*Oecophoridae* to *Scythrididae*), published in two parts sometime during the first half of 2000. Volume 8 (*Geometridae*), again in two parts, will then follow. The last two volumes, 5 (*Tortricidae*) & 6 (*Alucitidae*, *Pyralidae* & *Pterophoridae*) are still some way off and volume 11 (larvae) is unlikely ever to appear.

There is also no likely-hood of British & Irish Pug Moths appearing within the next six months unfortunately.

LATEST REPORTS

The first moth reported of the new millennium was a December Moth found by James Hill in Whitchurch shortly after midnight. Barry & Sandra Stewart recorded Winter Moth and Mottled Umber 57 minutes into the new Millennium, but were outdone by David Painter who saw an Angle Shades at his porch light at three minutes past midnight. On the 2nd of January, Mottled Umber's were also seen on the lights at Carpetland, Gorseinon and at the entrance sign to Neath Port Talbot offices at Penllergaer. Other species recorded at these same lights included Early Moth, 4th February & March Moth and Pale Brindled Beauty on 20th. The results of three separate nights trapping in Barry & Sandra's Gorseinon garden during February produced only one moth; the tortrix *Acleris ferrugana*.

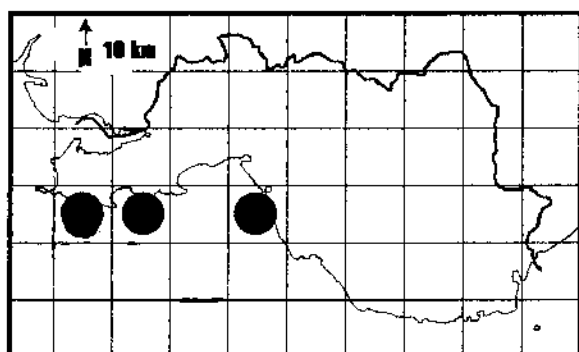
MICRO NEWS

Dave Gilmore recorded the leaf mines of *Phyllonorycter leucographella*, the Firethorn Leaf-miner in Roath on 7th January and subsequently found at several sites in Cardiff by both Mike Wilson & Dave Slade. This species was recorded in Great Britain for the first time in Essex as recently as 1989 from where it has spread north and west. David's record is provisionally the first Welsh record and a full account will appear in the Entomologists Record. Several attempts to find the species in a number of Swansea localities failed to produce any results, indicating that the species has not yet reached that particular part of the county. The sites checked will however be monitored annually to determine the year of arrival and a crude estimate of the rate of spread in South Wales. Jeff Williams recorded *Mompha epilobiella* at Ferndale on 13th January.

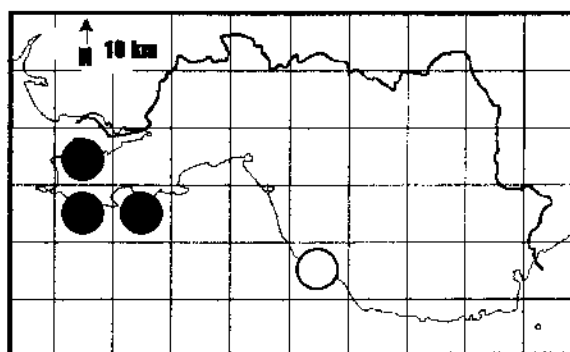
STATUS OF NOTABLE PYRALIDS IN V-C 41, GLAMORGAN

Following the distribution maps published in the last newsletter covering the Crambinae. This month we publish the distribution maps of the two notable Scopariinae, *Eudonia lineola* and *E. delunella*.

"Scopariinae"



1341. *Eudonia lineola* [Curt.]
Striped Grey
GB: Notable Nb



1343. *Eudonia delunella* [H.-S.]
Resin Grey
GB: Notable Nb

MEMBERS WEEKEND TO FLAT HOLM

The Flat Holm Project have confirmed that we can visit the island on the weekend of 11th to 13th August 2000 taking a maximum of 24 members. Details are as follows:

Depart Barry Pierhead at 13.45 on Friday 11th

Depart Flat Holm at 16.00 on Sunday 13th

Costs per adult are £22.40 and £20.00 per child, which covers the boat transport and two nights dormitory style accommodation but not food, which we will take ourselves.

A provisional booking has been made, but firm numbers are now required by the Flat Holm Project. If you are interested in joining other members on the island for what promises to be an exciting visit please complete the booking form enclosed and return it with a £10.00 deposit per person in the pre-addressed envelope.

Further details about the island and the accommodation are enclosed.

HUMMING-BIRD HAWK-MOTH: SUMMER AND WINTER MIGRANT!

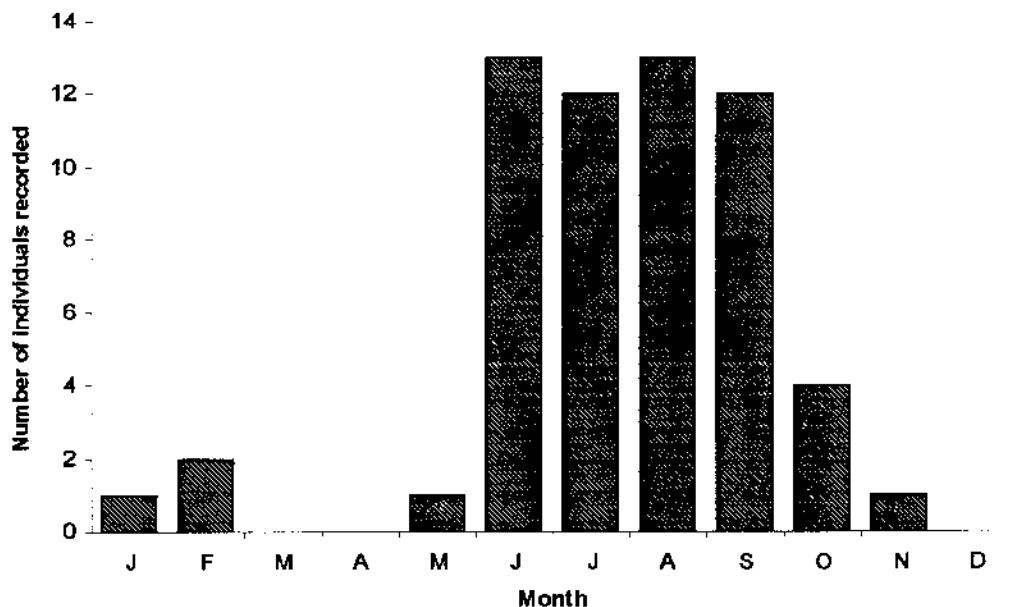
The Humming-bird hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum* recorded on the exceptionally early date of the 5th February this year at Pilton, Gower by Steve and Sarah Walmsley prompted this brief examination of the county's database. Most of the 59 records follow a pattern that would be expected for a typical summer migrant, with peak numbers recorded between June and September (as shown in Figure 1). However, Steve and Sarah's record constituted the third mid-winter record for this species.

Winter migrants are not common, but are also not out of the ordinary; for example, Glamorgan's Striped Hawk-moth *Hyles lineata* was found at Kenfig on 15 February 1998, and there are also other winter records of the Humming-bird Hawk-moth, such as that recorded in Cardiff City centre by C. Matheson in 1948. These unseasonal moths

clearly originate from warmer climes and typically occur during periods when weather patterns produce warm air flows from Southern Europe and North Africa. Heath & Emmet (1983) state that winter records of Humming-bird Hawk-moths probably originate from Southern France, although they are also believed to overwinter in the southwest in mild winters.



Figure 1. Numbers of Humming-bird Hawk-moths recorded per month in Glamorgan.



References:

Heath, J. & Emmet, A.M. (1983) *Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, Volume 9, Harley Books.

Barry Stewart & Dave Gilmore

EARLIEST DATES OF LATE WINTER MOTHS

The following list presents the earliest occurrences in Glamorgan of resident macro-moths that appear in January, February and March. Species that hibernate are not included on the list as these can appear at any time during mild winter spells. Migrants are also not included, as these will be dealt with separately. Hopefully the list will make members aware that there are a significant number of species likely to be encountered in these early months (often in good numbers) and that it will encourage an early start to the season. Hibernating species that may also be encountered include Red-green Carpet, Red Sword-grass, Grey Shoulder-knot, Satellite, Chestnut, Dark Chestnut, Angle Shades, Herald and you never know your luck, you may hit the jackpot and come across a Conformist. If you do find the latter, PLEASE give a member of the committee a ring straight away!

Common Name	Date	Method	Site name	Grid ref.
Pale Brindled Beauty	06-Jan-99	Act	Llanishen/Cardiff	ST1880
Dotted Border	11-Jan-98	Cas	Bryn Bach Common	SN6102
Early Moth	29-Jan-99	MV	Manselfield/Bishops Wood	SS5988
Spring Usher	29-Jan-99	MV	Manselfield/Bishops Wood	SS5988
Hebrew Character	08-Feb-98	Act	Rest Bay/Porthcawl	SS8077
Common Quaker	10-Feb-98	MV	Manselfield/Bishops Wood	SS5988
Mottled Grey	12-Feb-84	MV	Kenfig NNR	SS7981
March Moth	13-Feb-98	MV	Hensol Forest	ST0475
Oak Beauty	13-Feb-98	MV	Manselfield/Bishops Wood	SS5988
Red Chestnut	15-Feb-98	MV	Kenfig NNR	SS7981
Clouded Drab	17-Feb-98	MV	Penyrheol	SS5899
Engrailed	19-Feb-98	MV+	Gelli-hir Wood	SS5692
Double-striped Pug	19-Feb-98	MV+	Gelli-hir Wood	SS5692
Small Quaker	23-Feb-92	Cas	Bridgend Paper Mills	SS8787
Early Grey	25-Feb-98	MV	Manselfield & Kenfig NNR	SS5988/SS7981
Northern Drab	25-Feb-98	MV	Kenfig NNR	SS7981
Yellow Horned	01-Mar-97		Darran Park/Pontypridd	ST0791
Brindled Beauty	02-Mar-91	Cas	Bridgend Paper Mills	SS8787
Powdered Quaker	05-Mar-93		Porthkerry CP	ST0867
Shoulder Stripe	07-Mar-97	Act	Park Pond NR/Tondu	SS8984
Twin-spotted Quaker	09-Mar-97	MV	Coed-y-Bedw LNR	ST1182
Brindled Pug	13-Mar-98	MV+	Gelli-hir Wood	SS5692
Early Tooth-striped	13-Mar-98	MV	Draethen	ST2187
Orange Underwing	15-Mar-99		Bargod Taf	SO0802
Pale Pinion	17-Mar-97/99		Manselfield & Llanishen	SS5988/ST1880
Pine Beauty	22-Mar-98	MV	Kenfig NNR	SS7981
Purple Thorn	30-Mar-97		Darran Park/Pontypridd	ST0791

Barry Stewart & Dave Gilmore

NEWPORT MOTHS 1999

Kevin Dupe has recently forwarded Newport Moths 1999, a report covering, as the title suggests, the Newport area. A total of 292 macro's & 86 micro's were recorded, in the main by the three most active members, Kevin, Roger James & Chris Renshaw.

Several notable species were recorded namely Oblique Carpet, Netted Pug, Scarlet Tiger, Double Line & Tawny Pinion. Two species recorded proved to be only the 2nd records for Wales, Small Ranunculus taken in Rogers garden and *Calamotropha paludella* at both Hartridge flood lagoon & Duffryn Pond.

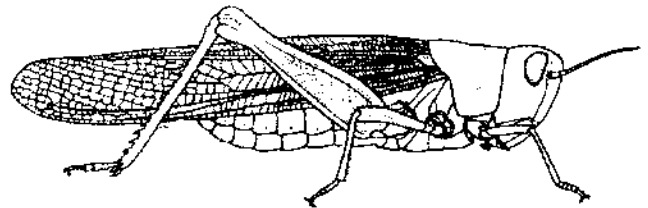
Roger James is to be congratulated for completing the 60-page report so soon after the end of the year. The report has now been lodged with Dave Gilmore.

1999 COG MOORS SURVEY REPORT

Dave Gilmore has now completed the Cog Moors constant effort site report, covering the period March to October 1999. A copy of the 19 page report is available to all members upon request from Mike Powell.

Copies have been lodged with Welsh Water who commissioned the survey.

ORTHOPTERA RECORDING SCHEME FOR BRITAIN AND IRELAND



Greg Jones in his excellent article on the Orthoptera Recording Scheme in last months newsletter mentioned that a user friendly field guide was long overdue but did list several useful publications. Amongst this list is the very good Grasshoppers and allied Insects of Great Britain and Ireland by Judith Marshall and Chris Haes published by Harley Books in 1988. Currently the price of this book is £18.95 plus £3.75 postage & packing for the soft back version. However members of the GMRG can obtain a copy at the substantially reduced price of £16.50 including postage & packing until the end of March. Please make your cheque payable to Glamorgan Moth Recording Group and send it to Mike Powell at 87 Coed Glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff, CF14 5EL. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

Another book on Orthoptera, but not included in the list produced by Greg, has just been published by the Surrey Wildlife Trust. Grasshoppers & Crickets of Surrey by David Baldock covers all the species recorded in that county with each one illustrated in colour. The book is worth buying just for the colour photographs. Of the native Glamorgan species listed by Greg only two are not included, Grey Bush-cricket and Cepero's Ground-hopper as they do not occur in Surrey. There are also photographs of Roesel's Bush-cricket, Woodland & Rufous Grasshoppers and Lesser Cockroach which Greg lists as new and potential colonists in Glamorgan. This hardback book is available from the Marketing Department of Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN for £14.00 (including P&P). Cheques payable to Surrey Wildlife Trust.

GLAMORGAN MOTH RECORDING GROUP

2000 FIELD MEETINGS

Detailed below are the planned field meetings for the forthcoming 2000 season. Members as well as guests and friends are encouraged to attend with or without a means of trapping moths. For reasons of safety to everyone present, it is requested that generators are well maintained and traps are plugged into generators via an automatic circuit breaker.

It is always advisable to check that the meeting is still to take place if the weather is likely to be either wet, cold or windy, so as to avoid a wasted journey. Call Mike Powell on 02920 762182 or 07808 096972 if in doubt. Lifts can be arranged for those without transport. Warm clothing & hot drinks are advisable, especially early or late in the season. Boots and a good torch are also recommended.

Please note that everyone attending any meeting does so at his or her own risk.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 15th April 8.00pm
Leader, Barry Stewart | Ilston Cwm, Parkmill, Gower.
Meet in the car park of The Gower Inn, Parkmill on the A4118, SS 551 892. |
| Friday 19th May 8.30pm
Leader, Mike Powell | Bull Cliff, The Knap, Barry.
Meet at the far end of The Knap car park, ST 096 667. |
| Friday 9th June 9.00pm
Leader, Martin White | Crymlyn Burrows.
Meet at the pull in off the roundabout on the A483, Fabian Way, SS 716 934. |
| Friday 23rd June 9.00pm
Leader, Steve Moon | Kenfig NNR & Sker.
Meet at the Reserve Centre car park, SS 802 810. |
| Saturday 8th July 11.00am
Leader, Barry Stewart | South Gower (Day & evening meeting).
Meet at the beach car park at Port Eynon, SS 467 852 at 11.00am for the daytime session or 9.00pm for the evening session. |
| Saturday 29th July 2.00pm
Leader, Dave Gilmore | Old Castle Down (Day & evening meeting).
Meet at the unofficial layby at the foot of the slopes off the B4265 between St. Brides Major and Ewenny, SS 898 763 at 2.00pm or 8.30pm for the evening session. A joint meeting with Butterfly Conservation (South Wales branch) and British Entomological & Natural History Society. |
| Friday 25th August 8.00pm
Leader, Martin White | Pant-y-Sais Fen LNR, Nr. Neath.
Meet in the car park situated off the B4290 between Llandarcy & Crymlyn Burrows at approx. SS 717 945. |
| Sat. 23rd September 7.30pm
Leader, Barry Stewart | National Moth Night.
Langland Bay, South Gower. Meet at the car park by the tennis courts, SS 605 873. |
| Leader, Mike Powell | Porthkerry Country Park, Barry. Meet in the very end car park within the park, ST 086 668. |
| Sat. 7th October 7.00pm
Leader, Barry Stewart | Whitford Burrows, North Gower.
Meet in the small hamlet of Cwm Ivy, SS 439 937. Car parking will take place elsewhere. |

GLAMORGAN MOTH RECORDING GROUP-MEMBERSHIP LIST

Updated 1st February 2000

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Email address</u>	<u>Home tel. #</u>	<u>Work tel. #</u>	<u>Mobile #</u>
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Richard Andrews	14 Highdale Close, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0JS		01275 836931		0498 772736
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Belinda Ashong	<small>Glamorgan Heritage Coast, Dunraven Park, Southendown, CF32 0RP</small>	heritagecoast@highways.walesofglamorgan.gov.uk	01554 833887	01656 880157	
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Martin Bevan	1 Graig Crescent, Abercrombi, Aberdare, CF44 6AE	sallybrown@bigfoot.com	02920 689196		
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Alex Coxhead	6 Darran Park, Pontypridd, CF37 2AN		01792 298049		
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Ian Duncan	Midway Cottage, Upper Welland, Malvern, Worcs. WR14 4LD	duncannidway@compuserve.com	01633 216599	01633 840064	
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Martyn Hnatynuk	4 Protheroe Street, Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, CF34 0YN		01656 663137	
Clive Hurford	3 Litchard Terrace, Litchard, Bridgend, CF31 1PL		01633 215627	
Roger James	14 Summerhill Avenue, Newport, Monmouthshire, NP19 8FP	ceri.j@dnf.nfl.com	01446 407810	
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Grog Jones	19 Heol Maendy, North Comelly, Bridgend, CF33 4DD	avonwm@cix.compulink.co.uk	01454 633040	01179 9268018
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Kenfig NNR	The Reserve Centre, Ton Kenfig, Pyle, Bridgend, CF33 4PT			
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Stephen Pickering	104 St Martins Road, Caerphilly, CF83 1EN			
David Poulter	Ty Isaf, Pentrepoeth, Carmarthen, SA32 8DH			
Mike Powell	87 Coed Glas Road, Llanishen Cardiff, CF14 5EL			
Mike Price	16 Lower Terrace, Stanleytown, Fendale, Rhondda, CF43 3ES			
Chris Renshaw	95 Gaer Park Road, Newport, South Wales, NP20 3NT			
Ian Rippey	13 Enniscrone Park, Portadown, Co. Armagh, N.I., BT63 5DQ			
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Rhys Thomas	9 Julians Close, Gelligaer, Mid Glam. CF82 8DT		01443 836949	
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Martin White	8 St. Nicholas Square, Maritime Quarter, Swansea, SA1 1UG		01792 651956	
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Cliff Woodhead	101 Maes-y-Sarn, Pentyrch, Cardiff, CF15 8QR		02920 891146	