

ARCHIVED WHAT'S ABOUT

September-August 2007

(Please note records are in reverse date order.)

30th September

Black Rustic, Red-line Quaker; Warton (M Elsworth)

Single-dotted Wave; Flixton (K McCabe)

Acrolepia autumnitella, tenanted mines on Bittersweet; Wrightington Bar near Parbold (C Darbyshire)

Tawny Pinion on the ivy blossom; Longton (A Barker)

29th September

Silver Y; Prestwich (D Johnston)

Hellinsia osteodactylus, tenanted mine of *Bedellia somnulentella* on Bindweed; Flixton (K McCabe)

28th September

Orange Sallow (10); Bretherton (A Barker, E Langrish)

Mottled Umber (4); German Lane, Euxton (E Langrish)

Chestnut; White Coppice (E Langrish)

23rd September

Heath Rustic; Yealand Conyers (B Hancock) - presumably a wind blown wanderer from the moors.

Lunar Underwing; Euxton (E Langrish)

22nd September

Black Rustic, Merveille du Jour; Hale (C Cockbain)

Amblyptilia punctidactyla, *Pandemis cinnamomeana*, Feathered Ranunculus; Freshfield (D & G Atherton)

Red-green Carpet (6); Worsley (I Walker)

21st September

Ypsolopha sylvella, Flounced Chestnut; Stanley Bank Meadow (D and G Atherton)

Blair's Shoulder-knot; Morecambe (J Girdley)

Feathered Thorn, Blair's Shoulder-knot; Preston (S Palmer)

Herald; Hale (C Cockbain)

20th September

Feathered Ranunculus (a very dark one); Marton, Blackpool (P J Barnes)

November Moth agg.; White Coppice (E Langrish). A timely posting by Eddie. This group are very tricky to identify and cannot be done by external features alone. The possibilities for this moth are November, Autumnal or Pale November Moth. If anyone wants positive

identifications of this group, please send to Steve for dissection with details of site (plus grid ref), date and recorder's name. If you would like the moth returned please enclose a stamped SAE.

August Thorn; Hutton (A Barker)

Pink barred Sallow (16), Frosted Orange, Pinion-streaked Snout (4), Green-brindled Crescent, Red-green Carpet, Snout (6); Lower Burgh Meadows (E Langrish)

19th September

Autumnal Rustic; Silverdale (Richard Griffiths)

Marbled Beauty; Longton (R Boydell) - a late record for this species

Mid-September

Death's-Head Hawk-moth, Longridge (per Will Aston). The moth flew down a chimney in Longridge hissing!!

15th September

Brown-spot Pinion; Top O'Th Slate (B Yorke)

14th September

Red-line Quaker; Worsley (I Walker)

13th September

Red green Carpet, Mottled Umber, Burnish Brass; Flixton (K McCabe)

12th September

Probable Scallop Shell larva; Rixton (B Smart)

11th September

Elephant Hawk-moth larva; Rossendale (C Payne)

Vine's Rustic; Freshfield (D and G Atherton) **first for VC59**

Sandhill Rustic (4); Birkdale (D and G Atherton)

Heath Rustic, *Cedestis subfasciella* (4) - well out of their normal flight period; Freshfield (D and G Atherton)

9th September

Feathered Thorn; Boothstown and Grey Pine Carpet; Worsley (I Walker)

8th September

Small Wainscot; Horrocksfold (J Ormerod)

Frosted Orange, Green-brindled Crescent, Mompha locupletella; Lower Burgh Meadow (E Langrish)

Grey Dagger (larva); Lancaster (B Snell) this is a sure way to identify Dark and Grey Dagger, as the moths themselves cannot be identified by wing markings and need to be dissected.

7th September

Sandhill Rustic update - Richard Burkmar spent the entire night on the green beach (7th) - he walked the entire length and didn't finish until 5.30 am! He had a further 6 Sandhill's, several some distance away from the first sightings. Richard sent in a photograph of each to Graham Jones for checking and they are all 100% Sandhill. All the females were on Sand Couch this time. Peter Gahan had a second male last Saturday on the same fence post as the first (!), that must have emerged almost straight after the high tide.

Red-green Carpet; Worsley (I Walker)

Canary Shouldered Thorn; Carnforth (D Bennett)

Feathered Gothic (unusual aberration); Morecambe (J Girdley)

Small Autumnal moth; Sabden (A Barker, K McCabe, S Palmer)

5th September

Caloptilia syringella; Heysham (J Holding)

August Thorn; Dolphinholme (N Rogers) possibly the first record for VC60. The resting posture of the moth is a very handy way of checking for this species.

Mompha locupletella (new to site), Butterbur, Black Rustic, Pinion-streaked Snout (6); Flixton (K McCabe)

Amblyptilia acanthadactyla; Bispham (C Raby)

Chevron, Haworth's Minor, Large Ear; Crossgill (P Marsh, S Palmer)

Oak Lutestring; Botton (P Marsh, S Palmer)

2nd September

Mallow; Altcar (G Jones)

1st September

Neglected Rustic (ginger coloured form); High Tatham (P Marsh)

Galleria mellonella (Wax Moth); Preston (S Palmer) -

Hedge Rustic, Grey Chi; Freshfield (G and D Atherton)

30th August

Magpie Moth; Scotforth (B Cockburn)

Sandhill Rustic (4); Birkdale Green Beach (G Jones, R Burkmar, P Gahan)

The following note received from Graham Jones - following the single female found on the 24th Aug., a search of the Green Beach produced four Sandhill Rustic. We only checked a 200m stretch so there is the possibility that this new colony could be quite large. Interestingly, 3 of these were found on Saltmarsh Grass with only 1 found on Sand Couch. I was aware that the Kent / S.E. England ssp *demuthi* feeds on *maritima* but if *Gueneei* is also feeding on *maritima* it could be anywhere. We are going to take another look at Altcar next week (early September), and if we don't find the moth a second time after our unsuccessful search last week I think it may be safe to start assuming that the

moth has gone from here. There certainly seems to have been some heavy erosion at Altcar that may have caused colonial decline. We have started to consider the possibility that the moth may be far less sedentary than we have assumed. It certainly makes sense when considering the dynamic and ever changing ecology of its habitat. Richard has plotted this years Green Beach records on an aerial photo that was taken in 2005 and you can see from the photo the area of beach where we found the moths hadn't begun to be colonised by grasses.

29th August

Brindled Green; Whittle (E Langrish)

Autumnal Rustic; White Coppice (E Langrish)

28th August

Epinotia ramella; Gait Barrows (B Hugo)

Bedstraw Hawk-moth larvae being reared by Shane Farrell from the adult that came to light at Heysham in July this year.

27th August

Small Dusty Wave, Warton (M Elsworth)

26th August

Autumnal Rustic; White Coppice (E Langrish)

Acleris sparsana; Warton (M Elsworth)

Red Underwing, Green Carpet; Boothstown (I Walker)

24th August

Small Yellow Wave, Frosted Orange; Flixton (K McCabe)

Great Brocade (a third different one from this site), nr Dolphinholme (N Rogers)

Barred Hook-tip; Longridge (D Lambert)

Vapourer (5) flying in sunshine - some pursued by Migrant Hawker; Gait Barrows (R Petley-Jones)

Dark Dagger larva; Flixton (J and K McCabe) -

Great Brocade; Lancaster (T Riden)

Great Brocade; Rochdale (D Winnard)

Pyrausta aurata; Bispham (C Raby)

The survey for the **Sandhill Rustic** at Altcar took place in near perfect weather conditions with Graham Jones and Richard Burkmar spending nearly four hours in a detailed search on the front of the dunes. Unfortunately none of the target species were found. However during the day one had been found on "Green Beach" - Birkdale Local Nature Reserve by Peter Gahan, a new site for this species. Light trapping on Altcar produced several nice moths including plenty of Grass Eggar,

Feathered Gothic, White-line Dart, Archer's Dart and a single Portland Moth.

23rd August

Sallow, Boothstown (I Walker)

Great Brocade (2); near Dolphinholme (N Rogers)

22nd August

Old Lady; Worsley (I Walker)

Great Brocade; St Michaels (G Mortimore)

Great Brocade; Hale (C Cockbain)

21st August

Morophaga choragella; Flixton (K McCabe) -

Portland Moth; Formby (G and D Atherton)

20th August

Olive; Worsley (I Walker)

19th August

Sallow; Pennington Flash (E Langrish)

18th August

Epinotia nisella; Lancaster (C Barnes)

Convolvulus Hawk Moth; near Dolphinholme (N Rogers)

Pinion-streaked Snout; Lower Burgh Meadows (E Langrish)

September Thorn; Preston (S Palmer)

17th August

White Speck; Haydock (G and D Atherton)

White-line Dart, Archer's Dart, *Anerastia lotella*; St Annes (E Langrish, S Palmer, J Wardle)

16th August

Red Underwing; Kirkham (per M Morrison)

15th August

Ypsolopha alpella; Flixton (K McCabe)

12th August

Sallow; Blackpool (D Smith)

Scalloped Hook-tip Heysham (P Marsh)

Grey Chi; St Michaels (G Mortimore)

16th August

Red Underwing; Kirkham (per M Morrison)

15th August

Ypsolopha alpella; Flixton (K McCabe)

12th August

Sallow; Blackpool (D Smith)

Scalloped Hook-tip Heysham (P Marsh)

Grey Chi; St Michaels (G Mortimore)

11th August - National Moth Night

Oidaematophorus lithodactyla; Inskip (H Barton) - first record for this species in the Fylde area

Waved Black; Flixton (K McCabe)

Enarmonia formosana; Torrisholme (A Draper)

Barred Rivulet; Lower Burgh Meadows (E Langrish)

Barred Rivulet; Prestwich (D Johnston)

Endotricha flammealis; St Annes (J Steeden) - **new county record**

Striped Twin-spot Carpet (5); Warton Crag (R Neville)

Grey Mountain Carpet, Pale Eggar (4), Confused (3), Ling Pug, Red Carpet; Leck Fell (P Marsh)

Blomer's Rivulet; Yealand Redmayne (S Stokes per R Griffiths)

Vapourer; Atherton (K Brides)

10th August

Trifurcula immundella; Billinge (C Darbyshire)

9th August

Bordered Pug; Flixton (K McCabe)

6th August (approx)

Garden Dart; Urmston (M Dockery per K McCabe) a very rare moth in Lancashire these days.

5th August (approx)

Barred Chestnut; Rochdale (P Stevens)

5th August

Barred Hook-tip; Dolphinholme (N Rogers)

Six Striped Rustic; Euxton (E Langrish)

Gynnidomorpha vectisana (many); R Wyre nr. Out Rawcliffe (J Steeden) - **first record since the 1800s**

Epiblema foenella; Euxton (P Kirk)

4th August

Slender Brindle; Dalton (C Darbyshire)

Bedstraw Hawk-moth caterpillars - breeding through from eggs laid by the Heysham moth; (S Farrell)

Blue-bordered Carpet, Scarce Silver-lines; Hutton (A Barker)

Four-spotted Footman; Millhouses (P Marsh)

Oblique Carpet, Crescent; Inskip (S Palmer)

The event at Pickerings Pasture, Hale, Merseyside went well, with good numbers attending the night-time session. We had 3MV traps, 1 actinic and a sheet set in different parts of the reserve and worked them till 1245. Although the moth numbers were low because of the wind, we got some of the more attractive species. (and the pipistrelles played their part). New to the site was Orange Swift. The follow-up on Sat was also well attended, although the butterfly numbers were low because the sun just would not shine. Paul Hill had brought along a Red Sword-grass he had reared and with all of Friday's catch on show, it produced a good display (C Cockbain).

3rd August

Eucosma tripoliana; Southport (A Forrest)

Antler moth; White Coppice (E Langrish)

Small Wainscot; Mill Leat (E Langrish)

White Satin; Radcliffe (D Johnston)

Mutuuaria terrealis; Flixton (K McCabe) second brood and the **third record** of this rare moth from Flixton in 2007

2nd August

Eupoecilia angustana; Birkbank (J Holding)

1st August

Adaina microdactyla larva (a small plume moth) feeds in the stems of Hemp Agrimony. The hole on the side of the stem shows a larva is (or has) been present. (B Smart)

Coleophora deauratella larvae feed within a case made from a Red Clover petal, they are impossible to see on the plant, but if you pick a number of flower heads and put them in a pot you may see larvae in their cases climbing up the sides of the container. I've got about six so far from about 50 flower heads I collected last week here in Chorlton, Manchester.

(White Clover heads should give the similar *Coleophora mayrella* using the same method.) (B Smart)

Svensson's Copper Underwing, Canary Shouldered Thorn, Square-spot Rustic, Rosy Rustic; Flixton (K McCabe)

Archers Dart, Four Spotted Footman, Rosy Minor, Small Blood vein, *Hypatima rhomboidella* Old Lady (3) to sugar; Haydock (G and D Atherton)