

Review of 2014 non-avian records



Moths

The micro moth highlights of the year included two superb examples of the rare migrant ***Tebenna micalis*** (Vagrant Twitcher), trapped on consecutive nights at Hythe on 31st October and Saltwood on 1st November. These appear to be the first records for VC15 (East Kent) and the first in the county since 1860, and were part of a small influx to the south and west coasts of Britain in 2014.



Tebenna micalis at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Tebenna micalis at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

Other significant records involved the scarce immigrants ***Uresiphita gilvata*** (Yellow-underwing Pearl) at Hythe on 22nd October and ***Catoptria verellus*** (Marbled Grass-veneer) at Saltwood on the 25th July, and the first area record of the adventive ***Cydalima perspectalis*** (Boxworm Moth) at Saltwood on 30th July.



Uresiphita gilvata at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Cydalima perspectalis at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

It was an excellent year for the more regular immigrant micro moths, as demonstrated by figure 1:

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	2014	2013	2012
<i>P. xylostella</i>	1	1	4	35	1155	259	187	40	34	1716	796	222
<i>C. amplana</i>					2	10				12	0	23
<i>E. limbata</i>			1	16	25	4	3			49	19	8
<i>U. ferrugalis</i>				1	1	50	12	112	120	296	15	9
<i>N. noctuella</i>						1	1	2		4	111	93
<i>P. vitrealis</i>					1	4		29	4	38	16	3
Total	1	1	5	52	1184	328	203	183	158	2115	957	358

Figure 1: regular migrant micro moths in the Folkestone and Hythe area in 2014 (no records of migrants in Jan, Feb or Dec)

Of particular note were a record total of up to 38 *Palpita vitrealis* (Olive-tree Pearl), the bulk of which occurred in the second half of October, with a fairly even split between Hythe (17) and Saltwood (21), and an influx of up to 12 *Cydia amplana* (Vagrant Piercer), with two at Hythe in late July, one at Seabrook on the 5th August, and up to nine at Saltwood in August. This was the second largest local arrival of the latter species, following the influx in 2012.



Palpita vitrealis at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Cydia amplana at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Udea ferrugalis (Rusty-dot Pearl) had a very good year, with the up to 296 trapped far exceeding the totals for the previous two years (as shown in figure 1), as did *Plutella xylostella* (Diamond-back Moth), with up to 1,716 showing a marked improvement on 2013 and 2012. In contrast the total of just four *Nomophila noctuella* (Rush Veneer) was well down on previous years.

Evergestis limbata (Dark Bordered Pearl) continues to increase, with up to 49 trapped and is almost certainly established locally.



Evergestis limbata at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Udea ferrugalis at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Records of note amongst the more regular resident micros included *Eriocrania subpurpurella* (Common Oak Purple) at Saltwood on the 13th April and *Ectoedemia sericopeza* (Norway-maple Pigmy) there on the 15th September, with up to seven *Incurvaria masculinella* (Feathered Bright) there between the 24th April and the 5th May. Single *Psychoides filicivora* (Fern Smut) were at Saltwood on the 5th and 16th May, and Hythe on the 5th and 18th September, whilst *Triaxomera parasitella* (Large Brindled Clothes Moth) were at Saltwood on the 19th May and the 7th July, with *Monopis laevigella* (Skin Moth) there on the 20th July and the 31st August. A *Monopis imella* (Felt Clothes Moth) was at Saltwood on the 17th September.

A *Caloptilia cuculipennella* (Feathered Slender) and two *Bucculatrix ulmella* (Oak Bent-wing) were at Saltwood on the 2nd July, whilst there were single *Caloptilia robustella* (New Oak Slender) there on the 18th July, *Caloptilia semifascia* (Maple Slender) on the 5th September, *Aspilapteryx tringipennella* (Ribwort Slender) on the 25th July and *Callisto denticulella* (Garden Apple Slender) on the 18th May. The same site also produced *Phyllonorycter leucographella* (Firethorn Leaf Miner) on the 16th May, *Phyllonorycter ulmifoliella* (Red Birch Midget) on the 12th July, *Phyllonorycter trifasciella* (Honeysuckle Midget) on the 6th August, and *Phyllonorycter geniculella* (Sycamore Midget) on the 21st July, with *Phyllocnistis xenia* (Kent Bent-wing) there on the 6th June (2) and 7th July.

Two *Argyresthia trifasciata* (Triple-barred Argent) were trapped at Saltwood on the 12th May, with single *Argyresthia spinosella* (Blackthorn Argent) there on the 20th and 29th May, and *Argyresthia albistria* (Purple Argent) at Hythe on the 25th July and Saltwood on the 10th September. A single *Yponomeuta sedella* (Grey Ermine) was at Hythe on the 21st July. *Zelleria hepariella* (Brown Ash Ermel) were taken at Saltwood on four dates between July and October, whilst a *Swammerdamia caesiella* (Birch Ermel) was recorded there on the 29th June. An *Ocnerostoma friesei* (Grey Pine Ermel) was at Saltwood on the 27th October, with it or another there on the 30th October.

Prays ruficeps (Dark Ash Bud Moth) was added to the area list, having recently been recognised as a distinct species from *Prays fraxinella* (Ash Bud Moth), and may prove to be relatively common locally, with up to nine recorded between the 18th May and the 19th September (up to four at Hythe and five at Saltwood). Single *Ypsolopha dentella* (Honeysuckle Moth) and *Ypsolopha scabrella* (Wainscot Smudge) were at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August, with an *Ypsolopha sequella* (Pied Smudge) at Saltwood on the 19th September.

An *Orthotelia sparganella* (Reed Smudge) was at Hythe on the 26th July, whilst three *Acrolepia autumnitella* (Bittersweet Smudge) were at Saltwood on the 15th June. A single *Elachista rufocinerea* (Red-brindled Dwarf) at Saltwood on the 3rd June was noteworthy and *Elachista argentella* (Swan-feathered Dwarf) were present in very large numbers at Samphire Hoe, with an estimated 1,000 there on the 1st May.



Incurvaria masculella at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

Orthotelia sparganella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Metalampra italica (Italian Tubic) continues to be established in the Saltwood area, with up to 21 trapped there, whilst, following the first last year, there were a total of 16 at Hythe. The flight period was also longer, with records between the 3rd June and the 30th September. Another adventive *Tachystola acroxantha* (Ruddy Streak) is also resident in the Hythe area, where there were records from two sites between the 22nd April and the 31st August. There were single records of *Agonopterix scopariella* (Broom Flat-body), at Saltwood on the 17th August, *Agonopterix nervosa* (Dark-fringed Flat-body), at Hythe on the 16th September, and *Agonopterix liturosa* (Large Purple Flat-body), six at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August.

The scarcer *Ethmia* species were well-represented, with up to 12 *Ethmia terminella* (Five-spot Ermel) at Hythe between the 8th and 24th June, single *Ethmia dodecea* (Dotted Ermel) at Saltwood on the 28th June and 3rd July, an *Ethmia quadrillella* (Comfrey Ermel) there on the 30th July, with it or another on the 1st August, and a total of up to 16 *Ethmia bipunctella* (Bordered Ermel) between the 10th May and the 18th August (5 at Hythe, 11 at Saltwood).

A *Monochroa palustrella* (Wainscot Neb) was at Hythe on the 31st July and a *Bryotropha senectella* (Dull Red Groundling) was trapped at Saltwood on the 15th June, whilst a *Mirificarma mulinella* (Gorse Groundling) was noteworthy there on the 31st August and up to five *Aroga velocella* (Dusky Groundling) were at Hythe in late June/early July, where *Platyedra subcinerea* (Mallow Groundling) and *Pexicopia malvella* (Hollyhock Seed Moth) were again recorded, with up to six of the former in May and up to five of the latter in June/July.



Ethmia terminella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Monochroa palustrella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Single *Scrobipalpa costella* (Winter Groundling) were at Saltwood on the 26th July, and on two dates in October, with *Scrobipalpa acuminatella* (Pointed Groundling) there on the 6th May. *Aproaerema anthyllidella* (Vetch Sober) were trapped there on the 26th and 29th August, with *Syncopacma larseniella* (White-strap Sober) there on the 28th and single *Dichomeris marginella* (Juniper Webber) at Hythe on the 3rd and 6th July. Two *Stathmopoda pedella* (Alder Signal) were taken at Hythe in July (on the 12th and 19th), whilst a *Batrachedra praeangusta* (Poplar Cosmet) was at Saltwood on the 15th July.

Of note amongst the Tortrix moths were single *Phalonidia manniana* (Water-mint Conch) at Saltwood on the 7th July, *Cochylimorpha alternana* (Kentish Conch) in Folkestone Warren on the 24th August, and *Aethes smeathmanniana* (Yarrow Conch) at Hythe on the 16th May, whilst four *Eupoecilia ambiguella* (Vine Moth) were taken in Folkestone Warren on the 24th August. A single *Cochylis roseana* (Rosy Conch) was at Hythe on the 21st June and an *Archips xylosteana* (Variegated Golden Tortrix) was trapped there on the 24th June, with single *Archips rosana* (Rose Tortrix) there on the 9th July and at Saltwood on the 13th August.

A *Cacoecimorpha pronubana* (Carnation Tortrix) was seen at Capel-le-Ferne Gun Site on the morning of the 7th September, a *Syndemis musculana* (Dark-barred Twist) was taken at Saltwood on the 19th May, with it or another there the next night, and a *Ptycholomoides aeriferana* (Larch Twist) was recorded there on the 23rd June. A *Clepsis spectrana* (Cyclamen Tortrix) was trapped in Folkestone Warren on the 24th August.



Stathmopoda pedella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Dichomeris marginella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Aleimma loeflingiana (Yellow Oak Button) were at Hythe on the 12th June and Saltwood on the 13th June, with an *Acleris holmiana* (White-triangle Button) at the latter site on the 26th July, *Acleris laterana* (Dark-triangle Button) at Saltwood on the 20th July and Folkestone Warren on the 24th August, and *Acleris comariana* (Strawberry Tortrix) at Saltwood on the 11th July and the 3rd August.



Cochylimorpha alternana and *Eupoecilia ambiguella* at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)

There were singles of *Acleris ferrugana* (Rusty Oak Button) at Saltwood on the 8th November, *Acleris hastiana* (Sallow Button) at Saltwood on the 16th May, *Acleris literana* (Lichen Button) at Saltwood on the 13th April and *Acleris emargana* (Notch Wing) at Saltwood on the 1st September. A *Celypha cespitana* (Thyme Marble) was at Saltwood on the 19th June, with it or another there on the 21st June, and a *Lobesia abscisana* (Smoky-barred Marble) was trapped there on the 25th July, whilst single *Lobesia littoralis* (Shore Marble), possibly the same individual, were trapped at Hythe on four consecutive nights from the 9th June, and a *Bactra lancealana* (Rush Marble) was at Saltwood on the 24th October.

An *Epinotia ramella* (Small Birch Bell) was at Saltwood on the 11th September, with single *Epinotia immundana* (Common Birch Bell) there on the 24th April and 20th May, *Epinotia nisella* (Grey Poplar Bell) at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August and Saltwood on the 30th August, *Epinotia abbreviana* (Brown Elm Bell) at Hythe on the 15th June, *Epinotia caprana* (Large Sallow Bell) at Saltwood on the 18th October, and *Epinotia solandriana* (Variable Bell) at Saltwood on the 2nd and 3rd August. Singles of *Crociosema plebejana* (Southern Bell) at Hythe and Saltwood on the 17th November, and another at the latter site on the 20th November, were perhaps immigrants.

A *Gypsonoma minutana* (Brindled Shoot) was at Saltwood on the 21st June and an *Epiblema foenella* (White-foot Bell) was at Hythe on the 11th July. *Eucosma campoliliana* (Marbled Bell) was recorded from Folkestone Warren on the 24th August, when about ten were attracted to light, whilst an *Eucosma obumbratana* (Two-coloured Bell) was at Hythe on the 25th July and a *Thiodia citrana* (Lemon Bell) was at Saltwood on the 12th July. Singles of *Spilonota laricana* (Larch-bud Moth) were at Saltwood on the 8th June and the 15th July, with a *Clavigesta purdeyi* (Pine Leaf-mining Moth) there on the 30th July.



Epiblema foenella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Eucosma campoliliana at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)

Rhyacionia pinicolana (Orange-spotted Shoot) was recorded at Saltwood on the 23rd June and the 18th July, whilst single *Rhyacionia pinivorana* (Spotted Shoot Moth) were at Saltwood on the 25th May and Hythe on the 18th June. Two *Enarmonia formosana* (Cherry Bark Tortrix) were at Hythe on the 29th May with singles at Saltwood on the 6th June, 26th June and 2nd July, where a *Pammene regiana* was trapped on the 18th July and a *Grapholita funebrana* (Plum Fruit Moth) was trapped on the 7th August.

At Hythe there were singles of *Cydia coniferana* (Pine-bark Piercer) on the 23rd July and *Dichrorampha alpinana* (Broad-blotch Drill) on the 3rd July, with a *Chilo phragmitella* (Reed Veneer) there on the 29th July (and it or another on the 31st July). Singles of *Agriphila latistria* (White-streak Grass-veneer) were at Hythe and Saltwood on the 4th September, and up to seven *Platytes cerussella* (Little Grass-veneer) were at two sites in Hythe between the 9th and 19th June, including a count of two on the 12th. There were up to three *Schoenobius gigantella* (Giant Water-veneer) at Hythe in late June/early July and single *Donacaula forficella* (Pale Water-veneer) there on the 13th June and 20th July, with another at Saltwood on the 1st August.



Agriphila latistria at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Platytes cerussella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Two *Evergestis pallidata* (Chequered Pearl) were at Saltwood on the 19th July, with one there the following night, whilst a *Pyrausta nigrata* (Wavy-barred Sable) was noted along Crete Road West on the 3rd May. Single *Ostrinia nubilalis* (European Corn-borer) were at Folkestone Warren and Saltwood on the 5th July, with another at the latter site on the 13th July. Up to eight *Dolicharthria punctalis* (Long-legged China-mark) were at Hythe between the 29th June and the 17th July, including two on the 12th July.



Ostrinia nubilalis at Folkestone Warren (Ian Roberts)



Dolicharthria punctalis at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

The only *Aglossa pinguinalis* (Large Tabby) was at Saltwood on the 5th July, whilst three *Galleria mellonella* (Wax Moth) were trapped there in July, with another in October, and an *Achroia grisella* (Lesser Wax Moth) was recorded there on the 24th July. A *Conobathra repandana* (Warted Knot-horn) was at Saltwood on the 6th August and single *Pempelia obductella* (Kent Knot-horn) were taken at Hythe on the 25th July and Folkestone Warren on the 24th August.

Other notable pyralids included single *Dioryctria simplicella* (Brown Pine Knot-horn) at Saltwood on the 28th May and the 6th August, *Hypochoalcia ahenella* (Dingy Knot-horn) at Saltwood on the 18th and 20th June, and Hythe on the 19th June, an *Assara terebrella* (Dark Spruce Knot-horn) at Saltwood on the 19th July, *Nephopterix angustella* (Spindle Knot-horn) at Hythe on the 7th June, Folkestone Warren on the 24th August (two) and Saltwood on the 3rd October, and an *Ancylosis oblitella* (Saltmarsh Knot-horn) at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August.



Nephopterix angustella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Hypochoalcia ahenella at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Singles of *Marasmarcha lunaedactyla* (Crescent Plume) were noted at Samphire Hoe on the 30th June and at Hythe on two dates in July, whilst *Adaina microdactyla* (Hemp-agrimony Plume) were again recorded from Folkestone Warren where there were about a dozen on the 24th August.



Marasmarcha lunaedactyla at Samphire Hoe
(Paul Holt)



Adaina microdactyla at Folkestone Warren
(Rob Lee)

The macro moth highlight of the year was undoubtedly the first area record of **Dusky Marbled Brown** at Saltwood on the 6th August. This was only third modern British record (all of which have come from South-east Kent since 2003). Also of particular note were the fourth and fifth area records (but only the tenth and eleventh British records) of **Pale-shouldered Cloud**, at Hythe on the 20th May and Saltwood on the 12th September, which prompted suggestion that perhaps it might be locally established.



Dusky Marbled Brown at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Pale-shouldered Cloud at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

An **Oak Processionary** at Saltwood on the 10th August was another new species for the area, whilst a single **Dusky Hook-tip** was trapped there on the 20th May, with two on the 6th August. This is the third successive year that this species has been recorded at this site (with a total of nine individuals).



Dusky Hook-tip at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Oak Processionary at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

A single **Dewick's Plusia** was taken at Saltwood on the 29th September and there was an exceptional run of **Golden Twin-spot** records, with one at Hythe on the 29th July, one there on the 14th September, two at Hythe and one at Saltwood the following night, another at Hythe on the 22nd September and one at Seabrook on the 2nd October.

Following the exceptional influx of 12 **Four-spotted Footman** last year, another seven were recorded in 2014: singles at Hythe on the 8th June, Saltwood on the 16th and 18th July, Saltwood on the 14th September, Seabrook on the 15th September, West Hythe on the 26th September and Hythe on the 11th October. It seems possible that this species might now be locally established. The same may also be true of **Plumed Fan-foot** as, following four trapped at Saltwood last year, there was a remarkable total of up to 23 trapped between the 5th July and 24th October, including 18 in July and counts of four at Hythe on the 21st and the 26th. It was also an excellent year for **Small Ranunculus**, another species which might be locally resident, with up to 12 logged at Hythe between the 2nd July and the 10th September.



Golden Twin-spots at Hythe (Ian Roberts): left two from September, right single from July

Jersey Tiger must certainly be locally established with up to 55 recorded between the 11th July and the 24th August, a continued increase from 20 last year and eight in 2012. The total included 32 at Saltwood and 13 at Hythe, whilst improved coverage of Folkestone Warren (where there were five on the 24th August) and Samphire Hoe (just one on the 15th August) would have been likely to have increased this figure considerably.



Four-spotted Footman at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Plumed Fan-foot at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Jersey Tiger at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Bloxworth Snout at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

It was a record year for **Bloxworth Snout** which must also now be locally established. Following six at Hythe last year, a total of up to 31 were recorded from two sites in the town between the 21st April and the 7th November. Most were singles but three were noted on both the 29th August and the 5th September. Further to the one recorded at Saltwood in 2013, singles were trapped there on the 28th April and the 29th September.

There was a notable influx of **Red-necked Footman** into southern England which included singles at Saltwood on the 8th June, Hythe on the 13th June and Saltwood again on the 21st June, whilst a Latticed Heath at Hythe on the 28th August was well away from the usual haunts and may also have been an immigrant.



Red-necked Footman at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Considering the quality of the rare migrants recorded it was an unexceptional year for the regular immigrant macro moths, as demonstrated by figure 2:

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	2014	2013	2012
The Vestal					1					1	4	1
The Gem								6		6	4	0
Convolvulus H-m.						1	1			2	7	0
Humming-bird H-m.				2		7	2			11	7	7
Dark Sword-grass				1	11	32	25	10	5	84	243	12
Pearly Underwing						2	10	4		16	1	2
The Delicate								3		3	1	2
Tree-lichen Beauty					7	5				12	6	1
Sc. Bordered Straw						1		4		5	12	2
Silver Y			7	4	116	121	77	35	13	373	862	338
Total	0	0	7	7	135	169	115	62	18	513	1147	365

Figure 2: regular migrant macro moths in the Folkestone and Hythe area in 2014 (no records of migrants in Jan, Feb or Dec)

The only **Vestal** of the year was trapped at Hythe on the 20th July, whilst up to six **Gems** were recorded between the 3rd and the 30th October, with two at Hythe and four at Saltwood. A **Convolvulus Hawk-moth** larva was found at Abbotscliffe on the 27th August and an adult was trapped at Saltwood on the 4th September. After singles at Hythe and Saltwood in June, up to nine **Hummingbird Hawk-moths** were recorded in August / September, with up to six in Seabrook, two at Hythe and a single at Samphire Hoe.



Vestal at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Scarce Bordered Straws at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

It was a reasonable year for Dark Sword-grass, though the total of 84 was much lower than in 2013. After a early single at Hythe on the 17th June there were regular records between the 8th July and the 19th October, with a further sequence of five between the 15th and 26th November. The peak counts were four on the 9th August (at Saltwood), the 28th August (3 at Hythe, 1 at Saltwood) and the 30th August (3 at Saltwood, 1 at Hythe). An unusually small individual, with a forewing measuring just 14mm was trapped at Hythe on the 25th September.

After one on the 11th August, 15 Pearly Underwings were recorded between the 28th August and 19th October, mostly singles but with two on the 2nd, the 28th and the 29th September, and the 11th October. Single **Delicates** were at Saltwood on the 3rd and the 14th October, and at Hythe on the 29th October.

Up to 12 **Tree-lichen Beauty** were trapped between the 24th July and 12th August, with up to five at Hythe and seven at Saltwood, and a peak count of three (2 at Hythe and 1 at Saltwood) on the 29th July, whilst there were **Scarce Bordered Straws** at Hythe on the 16th October (two), Saltwood on the 27th October and Hythe on the 31st October.



Tree-lichen Beauties at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

The total of 373 Silver Y was considerably lower than last year, though still a slight improvement on 2012. The main arrivals appeared to be in late July, when 12 were trapped on the 27th and a peak of 19 (11 at Hythe, 8 at Saltwood) on the 28th, and late August/early September, including 12 on the 27th and 29th August, 15 on the 28th August and 13 on the 4th September. There was quite a good run into November, with the last at Saltwood on the 28th.

Good numbers of Angle Shades were noted from late August and may have included immigrants, with counts of 18 on the 4th September, 24 on the 5th September and 18 on the 20th September.

The colony of **Four-spotted** remained at Hythe Roughts but only small numbers were noted.



Four-spotted at Hythe Roughts (Nigel Jarman)

White-banded Carpet was again recorded at Seabrook (on the 26th July), suggesting that is resident in the area and two **Mocha** were found in Lympe Park Wood in May.

There was an exceptional series of records of **Sussex Emerald** in July. Up to 21 were trapped at Hythe between the 3rd and the 23rd, including a peak of four there on the 21st, whilst up to five (all singles) were taken at Saltwood between the 5th and the 18th.

Regular trapping at Hythe extends back to 2003 but this species has not been recorded there in this time, however a move of the trapping location from Lynton Road to St. Hilda's Road from the end of May 2014 may be a factor. The present site is in close proximity to Hythe Ranges, where it is possible that an overlooked population may exist. However the records at Saltwood, where regular recording has taken place since autumn 2010, perhaps suggest a different origin. It will be interesting to see what 2015 brings.

The capture of up to six **Pigmy Footman** of the form *pallifrons* (known only from Dungeness) between the 28th June and the 21st July at Hythe also alludes to an undiscovered colony nearby.

A single Rest Harrow was taken at light at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August, whilst Dew Moths were noted in small numbers at Abbotscliffe, Capel-le-Ferne and Samphire Hoe between the 30th April and the 18th May, with a peak of four at Abbotscliffe on the 14th May, and a Straw Belle was disturbed from long grass at the latter site on the 18th September, whilst Cream-spot Tigers were noted at both Abbotscliffe and Samphire Hoe in May.

A **Pale-lemon Sallow** at Saltwood was the third record at this site in the last four years, following singles in 2011 and 2012.

Amongst the more regular resident macros there were numerous records of note. These included singles of Ghost Moth at Seabrook on the 21st June, Folkestone Warren on the 5th July and Saltwood on the 20th July, and of Leopard Moth at Hythe on the 3rd July and Saltwood on the 5th and the 29th July.

Up to four December Moths were trapped at Saltwood in late November. An Oak Eggar larva was found at Samphire Hoe on the 6th May, whilst an adult female trapped at Hythe on the 17th July attracted a male the following day, and two females were present there on the 22nd July. Scalloped Hook-tip was noted at Saltwood on five dates between the 20th July and the 5th August.

A Poplar Lutestring was at Saltwood on the 23rd June, with single Satin Lutestring at Seabrook on the 19th May and the 21st June, and at Saltwood on the 16th July, whilst the only Common Lutestring of the year was trapped at Saltwood on the 25th.



Sussex Emeralds at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Sussex Emerald at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Pigmy Footman f. *pallifrons* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Rest Harrow at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)



Dew Moth at Abbotscliffe (Ian Roberts)

Single Grass Emeralds were at Saltwood on the 4th July and Hythe on the 20th July, whilst a Large Emerald was at Hythe on the 14th with singles at Saltwood on four dates in July. A Clay Triple-lines was at Seabrook on the 7th August with another at Saltwood on the 13th August, and there was a Lesser Cream Wave at the latter site on the 21st July.



Scalloped Hook-tip at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Grass Emerald at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

Two Chalk Carpets were trapped at Capel-le-Ferne on the 7th September and single Galium Carpets were at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August and at Capel-le-Ferne on the 7th September.

A Water Carpet was caught at Seabrook on the 17th March with another at Saltwood on the 28th April, whilst singles of The Phoenix were at Saltwood on the 16th and 20th July, and Dark Marbled Carpets were trapped there on the 7th July, and the 4th and 5th September.

A Blue-bordered Carpet was taken at Saltwood on the 24th June and there were up to four Scallop Shells there in June, with another there on the 17th July and one at Seabrook on the 21st June.



Galium Carpet at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)



Cream-spot Tiger at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Chalk Carpet at Capel-le-Ferne (Ian Roberts)

A Rivulet was at Seabrook on the 19th May and a Barred Rivulet was trapped at Saltwood on the 18th July, whilst Grass Rivulets were at the latter site on the 21st May and the 19th July. Singles of Sandy Carpet were at Saltwood on the 20th May, Hythe on the 20th June and Saltwood on the 13th and 16th July.



Water Carpet at Seabrook (Ade Jupp)



Sandy Carpet at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Notable amongst the pugs were up to three Maple Pug at Saltwood in late July/early August, a Plain Pug at Hythe on the 23rd July, an Ochreous Pug at Saltwood on the 25th May, up to three Ash/Angle-barred Pugs at Saltwood in late May, up to four Oak-tree Pugs there between the 22nd April and the 12th June, and a Juniper Pug on the 8th August.

Singles of Lesser Treble-bar were at Hythe on the 10th July and Saltwood on the 16th July, whilst Dingy Shells were at Saltwood on the 28th June and the 4th July. There was a Waved Carpet at Saltwood on the 16th June, with another at Hythe on the 20th July, and a Seraphim was taken at Saltwood on the 15th May. Single Large Thorns were trapped at Hythe on the 31st August and Saltwood on the 25th September, with a Purple Thorn at Saltwood on the 14th April and a Lunar Thorn at Hythe on the 25th July – the latter quite possibly an immigrant (second generation individuals like this one that appear away from normal habitat at south-east coast localities are thought to be of continental origin).

Single Scalloped Hazels were at Saltwood on the 9th and 19th May and three Orange Moths were trapped at Folkestone Warren on the 5th July.



Seraphim at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Scalloped Hazel at Saltwood (Paul Howe)

A Scarce Umber was at Saltwood on the 27th November, with a Dotted Border there on the 9th March and Mottled Umbers on the 11th and 28th November. There were single Bordered Whites at Seabrook on the 28th May and Saltwood on the 1st July, whilst White-pinion Spotted were trapped at Seabrook on the 18th May, and Hythe on the 19th May and the 8th June.

Barred Reds were recorded from Saltwood on the 6th June and Hythe on the 10th July, with individuals of the form *prasinaria* at Saltwood on the 1st and 2nd September. A Yellow Belle was trapped at Hythe on the 14th May. Single Pine Hawk-moths were at Saltwood on the 23rd and 25th July, whilst a Puss Moth was recorded there on the 27th May, with another at Hythe on the 15th June, and a Lobster Moth was at Saltwood on the 10th July.



prasinaria Barred Red at Saltwood (Paul Howe)



Puss Moth at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

A Four-dotted Footman was at Hythe on the 23rd June, whilst Hoary Footman were recorded at Saltwood on three dates in late June/early July, Hythe on the 7th September and Seabrook on the 18th September. Kent Black Arches were at Folkestone Warren on the 5th July (2) and at Saltwood on the 6th to 8th July.

A single Coast Dart was at Saltwood on the 13th August, with it or another there on the 16th August, and Light Feathered Rustics were at Hythe on the 28th April and Saltwood on the 29th May. A Purple Clay was trapped at Saltwood on the 23rd June and two Dotted Clays were at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August.

Single Green Arches were at Seabrook on the 31st May and 21st June, with two at Saltwood on the 26th June and one there on the 5th July, and a Grey Arches was at Hythe on the 18th June. A single Broom Moth was at Saltwood on the 13th June, with it or another there on the 17th June.



Light Feathered Rustic at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Grey Arches at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Kent Black Arches at Folkestone Warren
(Ian Roberts)



Green Arches at Seabrook (Ade Jupp)

Two Marbled Coronets were at Hythe on the 23rd June, with single Varied Coronets there on the 24th and 28th June, and at Saltwood on the 28th June and the 2nd July. Singles of Pine Beauty were at Hythe on the 4th and 28th April, and Saltwood on the 24th April, with two there on the 19th May. Up to 11 Toadflax Brocade were noted between the 14th May and 24th August, with up to six at Hythe, four at Saltwood and one at Folkestone Warren, and up to 19 Feathered Brindles were at Hythe between the 13th September and 1st October, with one at Saltwood on the 25th and 26th September.

A Tawny Pinion at Saltwood on the 15th October was a good record and single Pale Pinions were at Hythe on the 16th and 19th March, and Saltwood on the 17th April, with three Grey Shoulder-knots there in March and one on the 1st November. Single Brindled Green were at Hythe on the 25th September and West Hythe the following night and a Dusky-lemon Sallow was at Saltwood on the 14th November.



Toadflax Brocade at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)



Feathered Brindle at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

An Alder Moth was at Hythe on the 17th May, and up to nine were at Saltwood between the 17th May and the 1st June. A Reed Dagger was trapped at Saltwood on the 28th July and a Svensson's Copper Underwing was caught there the following night, whilst single Bird's Wing were at Hythe on the 21st June and 21st July, Saltwood on the 15th July, and Folkestone Warren on the 24th August. Singles of The Olive were at Saltwood on the 19th July, the 2nd August and the 6th August, with one at Hythe on the 21st July. A Dingy Shears was at Saltwood on the 9th June, with another on the 3rd July, and singles of Small Dotted Buff at Saltwood on four dates between the 25th July and the 4th August.

A Brown-veined Wainscot was at Hythe on the 25th July and a Webb's Wainscot was at Saltwood on the 19th July. After one at Folkestone Warren on the 24th August there was a notable influx of Large Wainscot from October to early November, with up to 37 recorded (25 at Hythe and 12 at Saltwood), and a peak of five (3 at Hythe, 2 at Saltwood) on the 27th October. This was a smaller arrival than the 2011 event (when up to 61 were noted) but significantly more than the two 'normal' years of 2013 (six) and 2012 (two).



Brown-veined Wainscot at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Large Wainscot at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

There was just a single Clancy's Rustic recorded – at Hythe on the 1st October. It had appeared that this species was locally established but it seems to be becoming scarce again (there were also only two records last year, compared to 8 in 2012 and 9 in 2011). A single Silky Wainscot at Saltwood on the 11th August was notable and a Marbled White Spot was trapped in Folkestone Warren on the 5th July.

The only Cream-bordered Green Pea recorded were two singles at Hythe on the 15th and 27th July. A Scarce Silver-lines was taken at Saltwood on the 21st June, whilst Green Silver-lines were at Seabrook on the 19th May, Hythe on the 2nd July and Saltwood on the 6th and 18th July. A Gold Spot was trapped at Saltwood on the 1st August, with it or another there on the 3rd August, with Beautiful Golden Y there on the 15th and 18th June, and Plain Golden Y at Folkestone Warren (3) on the 5th July and Hythe on the 20th July. Small Purple-barred were recorded in their usual haunts along the cliffs / downs and in the Warren, with one at light at Saltwood on the 25th July.



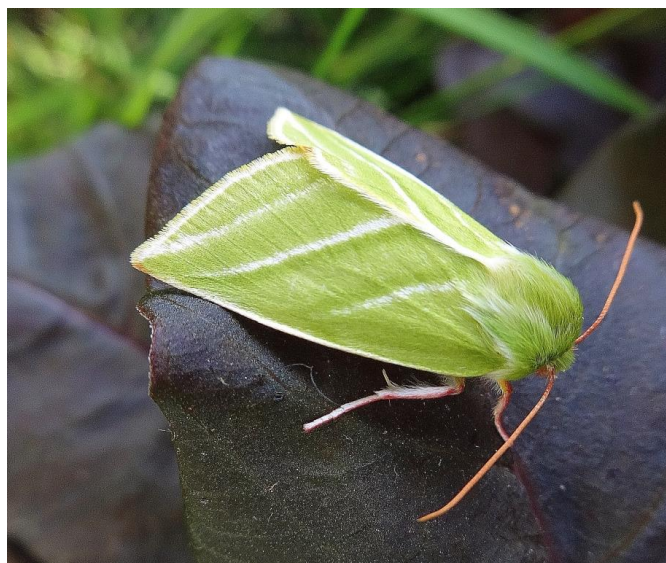
Clancy's Rustic at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Buttoned Snout at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Cream-bordered Green Pea



Green Silver-lines

A Buttoned Snout found inside The Fountain pub, Seabrook on the 27th May was a very unusual record, whilst the only Pinion-streaked Snout was trapped at Saltwood on the 12th August.

Figure 3 shows the number of species recorded in each month of 2014:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Micros	1	1	11	26	80	156	205	131	84	33	14	3	305
Macros	5	4	21	70	159	199	242	183	125	72	32	0	386
Total	6	5	32	96	239	355	447	314	209	105	46	3	691

Figure 3: moth species at Folkestone and Hythe in 2014

The total of 305 species of micro moths marked an increase on the totals recorded in the previous two years (287 in 2013, 252 in 2012), reflecting a good season and perhaps, to some extent, an increasing interest in this group. Macro moths were also recorded in greater diversity, with the total of 386 species exceeding that of the previous two years (370 in 2013, 339 in 2012).

Figure 4 shows the total number of individual moths recorded in each month of 2014:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Micros	1	1	102	470	2298	3370	8634	3753	2060	1297	417	3	22406
Macros	17	8	838	994	2325	9918	13728	7879	8878	1776	135	0	46496
Total	18	9	940	1464	4623	13288	22362	11632	10938	3073	552	3	68902

Figure 4: total moth numbers at Folkestone and Hythe in 2014

Both groups saw a significant increase on the previous year with micro numbers up by 27% and macro numbers by 28%.

As in 2013, the 25th July was the most productive night, with 752 macro moths of 102 species, 500 micro moths of 69 species, and a grand total of 1,766 moths of 171 species recorded.

Butterflies

A **Swallowtail** at Seabrook on the 24th April was the highlight in an otherwise unremarkable year for immigrants. After singles at Samphire Hoe on the 11th, 17th, and 21st April, and the 17th June, it was a reasonable autumn for Clouded Yellows, with up to 16 recorded between the 3rd August and the 15th September, including counts of three at Hythe Ranges on the 24th August and at Samphire Hoe on the 2nd September, but just ten Painted Ladies were noted between the 8th June and the 12th September. A count of 12 Red Admirals at Capel-le-Ferne on the 20th October may have included migrants.



Clouded Yellow at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)

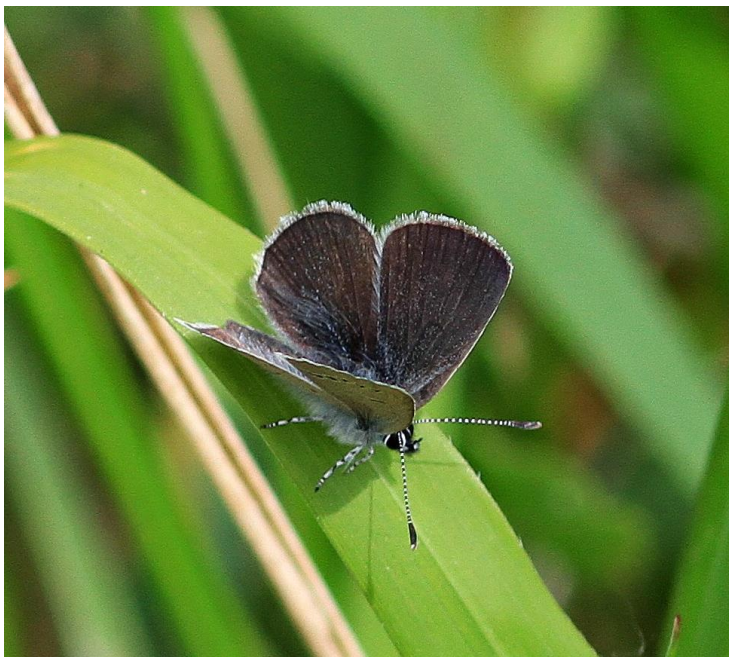


Clouded Yellow at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

A **Dark Green Fritillary** at the eastern end of Abbotscliffe was an excellent local record and a single **Grayling** was seen in Folkestone Warren on the 10th August. It was a very good year for Brimstone, with up to 15 noted between the 9th March and the 18th May, including counts of two at Samphire Hoe on the 9th March, Folkestone Warren on the 16th March and Folkestone Downs on the 18th May.

The first dates for the 32 species of butterfly recorded in 2014 are provided as figure 5:

Small Skipper	21 Jun
Essex Skipper	28 Jul
Large Skipper	20 May
Dingy Skipper	01 Apr
Swallowtail	24 Apr
Clouded Yellow	11 Apr
Brimstone	09 Mar
Large White	08 Apr
Small White	08 Mar
Green-veined White	11 Apr
Orange Tip	05 Apr
Green Hairstreak	09 Apr
Small Copper	03 Jul
Small Blue	17 May
Brown Argus	18 May
Common Blue	05 May
Adonis Blue	13 May
Holly Blue	13 Apr
Red Admiral	16 Mar
Painted Lady	08 Jun
Small Tortoiseshell	02 Jan
Peacock	04 Mar
Comma	05 Mar
Dark Green Fritillary	07 Jul
Speckled Wood	01 Apr
Wall	17 Apr
Gatekeeper	28 Jun
Marbled White	06 Jun
Grayling	10 Aug
Meadow Brown	12 Jun
Small Heath	22 Apr
Ringlet	15 Jun



Small Blue at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Essex Skipper at Princes Parade (Phil Smith)

Figure 5: first dates for butterflies at Folkestone and Hythe in 2014

Small Blues were noted at the usual colonies at Crete Road West and Samphire Hoe, whilst Adonis Blues were present along the downs and cliffs, and at Samphire Hoe.

Dingy Skippers were recorded along Folkestone Downs (up to 34 on the 28th April), at Folkestone Warren (up to ten on the 26th July) and Samphire Hoe (up to ten on the 5th May), whilst Green Hairstreaks were in typical habitat at Folkestone Downs, Abbotscliffe and Samphire Hoe, with singles in gardens in Cheriton (Laurel Close) and Folkestone (East Cliff Gardens).

Good numbers of Wall butterflies were again noted at Abbotscliffe (up to nine on the 21st April) and Samphire Hoe (up to 18 on the 22nd April), with others at Capel-le-Ferne, Folkestone Downs and Warren, Hythe Roughs, in a garden in Cheriton (Laurel Close) and at Shorncliffe Cemetery.



Wall at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



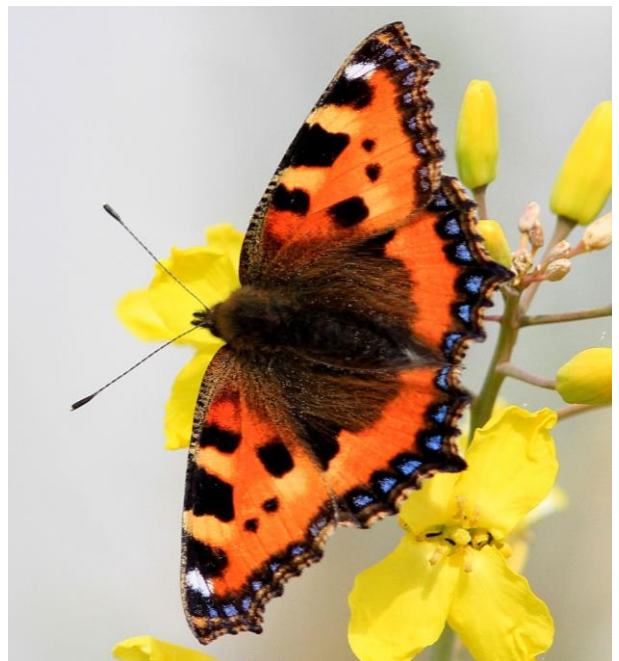
Adonis Blue at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Common Blue at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Peacock at Mill Point (Brian Harper)



Small Tortoiseshell at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)

Other insects

There were few records of dragonflies or damselflies received and the only migrants noted were a male Banded Demoiselle in a garden in Hythe on the 24th July and several Migrant Hawkers at various sites between late July and mid-October.

The sixth area record of **Southern Oak Bush-Cricket** was at Hythe on the 17th September and both Great Green and Grey Bush-Crickets were noted at Samphire Hoe.

The third area record of **Western Conifer Seed Bug** was at Seabrook on the 21st October, whilst a female *Phryganea grandis* was attracted to light at Hythe on the 8th June.

Notable amongst the larger beetles were a Great Capricorn Beetle at Hythe on the 23rd June, a Musk Beetle there on the 23rd July and single Lesser Stag Beetles at Saltwood on the 13th June and Samphire Hoe on the 2nd August.



Grey Bush-Cricket at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Lesser Stag Beetle at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Great Capricorn Beetle at Hythe (Brian Harper)



Musk Beetle at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Other beetles of note included a bee beetle species, probably *Trichius rosaceus*, at Samphire Hoe on the 11th June, and a Tawny Cockroach there on the 3rd October, whilst there was an apparent influx of Nut Weevils in late July, with a peak of 18 at Hythe on the 25th, and small numbers were also noted in early September.



Bee beetle sp. at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Tawny Cockroach at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)

Dark-edged Bee-flies were noted at several localities and a Dotted Bee-fly was identified at West Hythe on the 23rd March, whilst Hornets were noted at Saltwood on two dates in August and one in September.



Nut Weevil at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

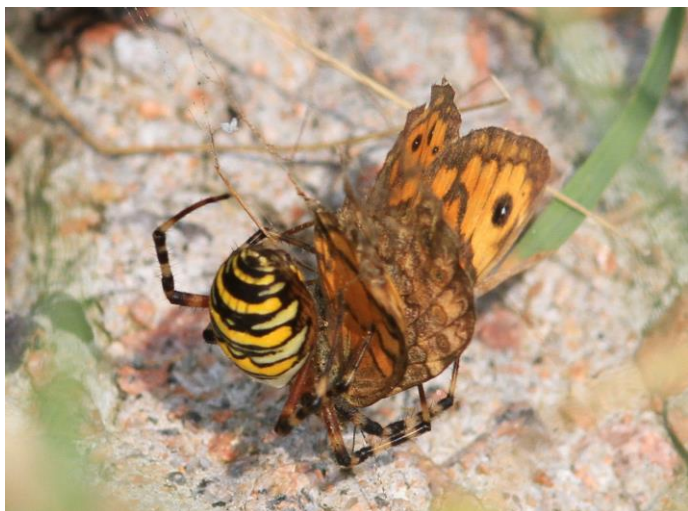


Dotted Bee-fly at West Hythe (Brian Harper)

Other arthropods

Wasp Spiders were seen at their usual haunts along the downs and cliffs and at Samphire Hoe, where one was seen to catch a Wall butterfly.

After stormy weather in early February groups of Goose Barnacles were discovered washed up on the beaches at Samphire Hoe on the 7th and at Seabrook on the 13th.



Wasp Spider and Wall at Samphire Hoe
(Phil Smith)



Goose Barnacles at Seabrook (Ade Jupp)

Amphibians and Reptiles

Only the more regular species such as Adder, Grass Snake, Slow-worm, Common Lizard, Common Toad and Common Frog were noted.

Mammals

Harbour Porpoises were seen regularly offshore, particularly in spring when there were counts of four from Samphire Hoe and five from Folkestone Pier on the 24th March, and a young animal was washed up dead on the beach at Hythe on the 5th March.

There were several reports of seals, though not all were identified to species, however of those that were there were a fairly even proportion beach at Hythe of Common and Grey Seals. On the 31st March a Grey Seal pup was rescued from the beach at Hythe but later died.



Harbour Porpoise at Hythe (Kate Beaumont)

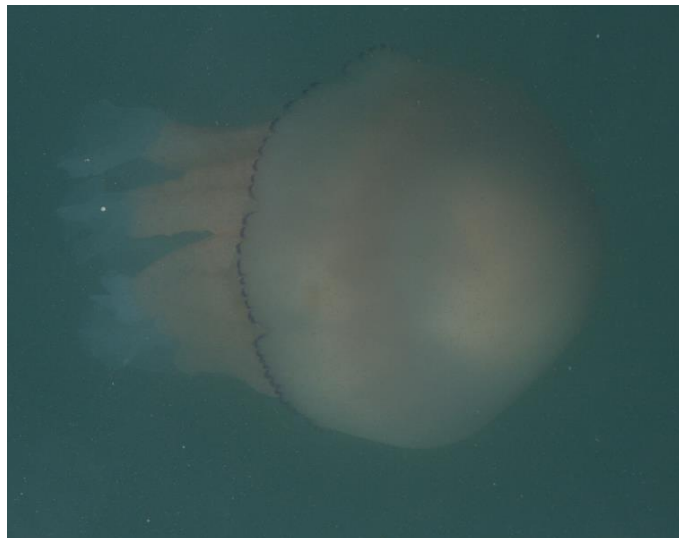


Grey Seal at Hythe (Lyn Griffiths)

On land there were regular sightings of Brown Hare at the Willop Basin, with a peak count of three there on the 13th November, and Mink were noted at Brockhill Country Park, Nickolls Quarry and along the canal at Hythe. A number of the more common mammals such as Badger, Hedgehog and Fox were also noted, as well as the abundant Brown Rat, Grey Squirrel and Rabbit.

Other fauna

A Barrel Jellyfish was seen off Folkestone Pier on the 5th May and several Compass Jellyfish were seen off Hythe in late August.



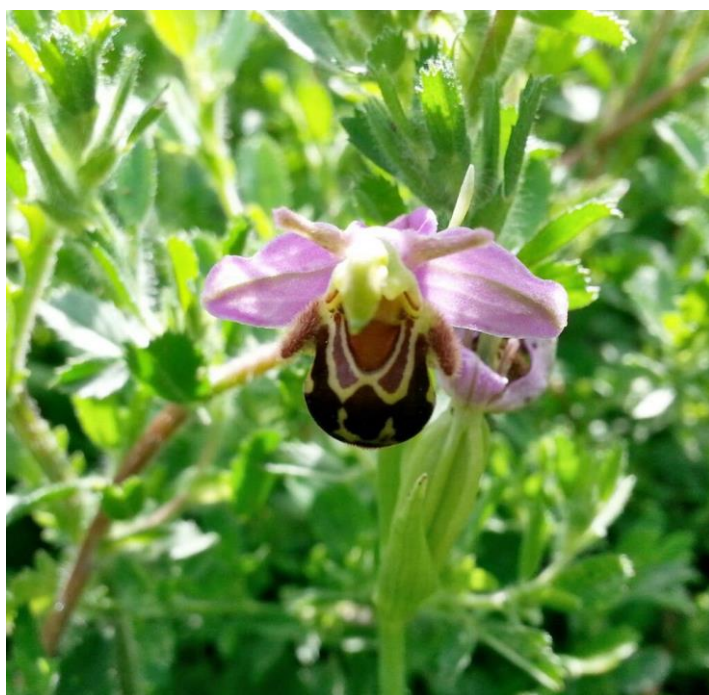
Barrel Jellyfish at Folkestone Pier (Brian Harper)

Flora

After a poor year in 2013, Early Spider Orchids appeared to have recovered at Samphire Hoe, where over 10,300 were counted in May. A Bee Orchid found there in June was only the second site record, and a colony of around 30 were discovered along Princes Parade, whilst one on the roundabout at Park Farm, Folkestone was notable for its unusual location. A Man Orchid at Folkestone Downs was also of note, as was a Pyramidal Orchid of the white form there, whilst records of the normal form were widespread, including one at Princes Parade.



Early Spider Orchid at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Bee Orchid at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Man Orchid at Folkestone Downs (Paul Holt)



Pyramidal Orchid at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)

At Samphire Hoe four new species for the site were recorded: Common Calamint, Common Cudweed, Coral Fungus and Wall Bedstraw.



Common Calamint at Samphire Hoe (Paul Howe)



Coral Fungus at Samphire Hoe (Paul Howe)