

## Review of 2016 non-avian records in the Folkestone and Hythe area



### Moths

#### Migrant micro moths

Although 2016 did not produce the same quality of rarities as last year, there were three records of ***Cydia amplana*** (Vagrant Piercer) in August, at Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> (Ade Jupp), at Cheriton on the 26<sup>th</sup> (Brian Harper) and at Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> (Paul Howe), whilst a ***Loxostege sticticalis*** (Diamond-spot Pearl) was trapped at Seabrook on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August.



*Cydia amplana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Loxostege sticticalis* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

It was also another excellent year for some of the more regular immigrant micro moths, the annual and monthly totals of which shown in figure 1.

2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2016	2015	2014
<i>P. xylostella</i>					230	14051	300	57	106	24	11	4	14783	263	1716
<i>O. nubilalis</i>							15						15	11	3
<i>U. ferrugalis</i>	1					2	12	70	97	23	17	9	231	98	296
<i>P. vitrealis</i>								2	11	5			18	58	38
<i>N. noctuella</i>						16	5	80	441	69	3		614	287	4
<i>E. limbata</i>						2	17	3	1				23	41	49
Total	1				230	14071	349	212	656	121	31	13	15684	758	2106

Figure 1: Regular migrant micro moths in the Folkestone and Hythe area in 2016

One of the most significant events of the year was the unprecedented influx of *Plutella xylostella* (Diamond-back Moth) with numbers far exceeding those recorded previously. The first of the year was trapped at Hythe on the 15<sup>th</sup> May with nine at Seabrook on the 30<sup>th</sup> May, then a total of 220 the next day (41 at Seabrook and 179 at Hythe) providing the first sign that something significant was happening.

The first part of June saw quite exceptional numbers trapped at Hythe and Seabrook with the nightly totals shown in figure 2:

June	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>
Hythe	520	605	1265	840	410	425	1420	265	58	68	226	116	30	25
Seabrook	64	168	124	578	126	428	1947	243	12	53	184	54	14	21
Total	584	773	1389	1418	536	853	3367	508	70	121	410	170	44	46

Figure 2: Nightly totals of *Plutella xylostella* at Hythe and Seabrook in the early part of June 2016

Many more were found by day, with 150 at Hythe and at least 150 disturbed from the lawn at The Fountain (Seabrook) on the 1<sup>st</sup>, many thousands at Seabrook on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 200 at Fisherman's Beach on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 75 at Capel-le-Ferne on the 4<sup>th</sup>, with smaller numbers elsewhere.

This invasion was recorded on a broad front across much of the country and, given the small areas that were surveyed and the density of insects within them, the likely total of *Plutella xylostella* that were in the area in early June was probably into the millions.

Numbers dwindled fairly quickly in the second half of June and records from the remainder of the year were modest, with little evidence of a second generation, even though several pairs were seen mating.



*Plutella xylostella* at Cheriton (Brian Harper)



*Plutella xylostellas* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

It was also a record year for *Nomophila noctuella* (Rush Veneer). After the first at Hythe on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, ones and twos were noted at Hythe and Seabrook on several dates, before numbers began to increase in August. There was an early peak of 17 (8 at Hythe and 9 at Seabrook) on the 13<sup>th</sup> August but the next double-figure counts were not until September, when there were ten on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 12 on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 31 in the traps (8 at Seabrook and 23 at Hythe) on the 18<sup>th</sup>, when 142 were found by day at Abbotscliffe, and a peak of 42 in the traps (6 at Seabrook and 36 at Hythe) the following night. Good numbers remained until the end of September but decreased fairly quickly in October, with the last on the 14<sup>th</sup> November.



*Nomophila noctuella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Udea ferrugalis* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



There was a very early record of *Udea ferrugalis* (Rusty-dot Pearl) at Hythe on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, but this was not a complete surprise following the late records in 2015. The next record did not occur until the 24<sup>th</sup> June, with mostly singles in July and the first half of August, with a decent arrival from mid-month, including ten at Hythe on the 18<sup>th</sup> August, ten (4 at Seabrook and 6 at Hythe) on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, ten (1 at Seabrook, 2 at Nickolls Quarry and 7 at Hythe) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 14 (4 at Seabrook and 10 at Hythe) on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 11 (including 10 at Hythe) the next night and 12 (1 at Seabrook, 3 at Abbotscliffe and 8 at Hythe) on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Smaller numbers were noted into November and December, with the last on the 17<sup>th</sup> December.

There were a total of 15 *Ostrinia nubilalis* (European Corn-borer) recorded between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July, with 3 at Hythe and 12 at Seabrook (including 3 there on the 16<sup>th</sup>), whilst the total of 18 *Palpita vitrealis* (Olive-tree Pearl) was notable, despite being rather modest compared to last year's record total. The first *Palpita vitrealis* were two at Hythe on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, followed by one at Cheriton on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, one at Seabrook on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, a further 8 at Hythe in September (including 3 on the 27<sup>th</sup>) and another at Seabrook on the 29<sup>th</sup>. In October there were singles at Hythe on four dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> and one at Seabrook on the 10<sup>th</sup>.



*Palpita vitrealis* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

The total of *Evergestis limbata* (Dark Bordered Pearl) was only half that of the previous two years but it would still appear to be locally established. Records occurred between the 23<sup>rd</sup> June and the 6<sup>th</sup> September, with a peak of 3 (1 at Hythe and 2 at Seabrook) on the 24<sup>th</sup> July.

#### *Migrant macro moths*

There was no repeat of the plethora of rare moths which appeared in 2015 and the clear highlight was the first area record and sixth British record of **Banded Pine Carpet** at Seabrook on the 13<sup>th</sup> September (Ade Jupp). This is a recent addition to the national list, with the first four recorded in 2014 (two in Kent, one in West Sussex and one on the Isle of Wight), and the other in 2015 (in East Sussex). The 2014 records were all first generation moths, with the Seabrook sighting and the 2015 example being the only second generation insects.

A **Dusky Hook-tip** at Hythe on the 18<sup>th</sup> August (Ian Roberts) was the 16<sup>th</sup> area record (all but one has been trapped in the last five years) and this otherwise rare immigrant may now be locally established.



Banded Pine Carpet at Seabrook (Ade Jupp)



Dusky Hook-tip at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

**Red-necked Footman** was recorded for the third year in a row, but there was just a single record, at Hythe on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June (with presumably the same re-trapped there on the 24<sup>th</sup>), and this did not mark the start of another influx.

There was however a substantial influx of **Convolvulus Hawk-moths**, with up to 33 recorded between the 3<sup>rd</sup> September and the 10<sup>th</sup> October, with one at Sandgate (on the 13<sup>th</sup> September), up to 11 at Seabrook and up to 21 at Hythe, but there may be some duplication from re-trapping.



Convolvulus Hawk-moths at Hythe (Ian Roberts, left) and Seabrook (Paul Howe, right)

The other more regular migrants were recorded in reasonable numbers but most failed to reach the excellent totals of last year, as shown in figure 3:

2016	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	2016	2015	2014
Convolvulus H-m.									26	7			33	2	2
Hummingbird H-m.							1	1	4	2			8	15	11
The Vestal								2	4				6	70	1
The Gem						1		1	1	2			5	9	6
Four-spot. Footman							1		5	1			7	7	7
Silver Y	1		1	1	12	116	157	187	157	27		6	665	750	373
Bordered Straw						1	1		1				3	63	0
Sc. Bordered Straw									5	5			10	39	5
Tree-lichen Beauty							4	2					6	5	12
Sm. Mottled Willow									4				4	42	0
Clancy's Rustic									3	3			6	19	1
The Delicate									4	4			8	8	3
White-speck									2	1	1	1	5	0	0
Pearly Underwing									7	4			11	39	16
Dark Sword-grass	3				1		4	5	10	14	8		45	77	84
Total	4	0	1	1	13	118	168	198	233	70	9	7	822	1145	521

Figure 3: Regular migrant macro moths in the Folkestone and Hythe area in 2016

The first **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** was at Hythe on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, with one at Seabrook on the 25<sup>th</sup> August, two at Folkestone and singles at Lympne and Seabrook in September, and singles at Hythe and Seabrook in October.

There were single **Vestals** at Cheriton and Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> August, with a further four at the latter site in September, whilst **Gems** were taken at Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> August, Hythe on the 13<sup>th</sup> September and Seabrook again on the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> October. A **Four-spotted Footman** was trapped at Heane Wood on the 29<sup>th</sup> July with singles at Seabrook on six dates between the 13<sup>th</sup> September and the 3<sup>rd</sup> October.





Hummingbird Hawk-moths at Seabrook (Paul Howe, left) and Lymgne (Philip Sharp, right)

Just three **Bordered Straws** were recorded, singles at Hythe on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> September, but there were ten **Scarce Bordered Straws**, singles at Hythe on three dates between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September, six at Seabrook between the 29<sup>th</sup> September and the 12<sup>th</sup> October (including 2 on the 7<sup>th</sup> October) and a further single at Hythe on the 21<sup>st</sup> October.

All records of **Tree-lichen Beauty** came from Seabrook, where there were six trapped between the 25<sup>th</sup> July and the 5<sup>th</sup> August, including 2 on the latter date, whilst all four **Small Mottled Willow** were at Hythe, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> September, though these are likely to contain some duplication, particularly with the latter species. Single **Clancy's Rustics** were at both Hythe and Seabrook on the 28<sup>th</sup> September with up to a further four recorded until the 31<sup>st</sup> October, whilst a total of 8 **Delicates** were trapped between the 22<sup>nd</sup> September and the 14<sup>th</sup> October, 3 at Seabrook and 5 at Hythe. There were records of **White-speck** from Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> November and 10<sup>th</sup> December, and Hythe on the 24<sup>th</sup> October.



Clancy's Rustic at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



White-speck at Seabrook (Paul Howe)





The Gem at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



The Vestal at Cheriton (Brian Harper)



Bordered Straw at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Scarce Bordered Straw at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Tree-lichen Beauty at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Small Mottled Willow at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Up to 11 Pearly Underwings, all singles, were trapped between the 4<sup>th</sup> September and the 24<sup>th</sup> October, with one at Seabrook and up to ten at Hythe. There were three particularly early records of Dark Sword-grass, singles at Seabrook on three nights between the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> January. These were followed by an isolated record at Seabrook on the 31<sup>st</sup> May and regular sightings from the 21<sup>st</sup> July, with ones and twos on many nights until the 29<sup>th</sup> November. There were totals of 18 at Seabrook and 23 at Hythe, with singles at Nickolls Quarry, Cowtye Wood, Cheriton and Folkestone.

There were notably early Silver Ys at Hythe on the 14<sup>th</sup> January, 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 21<sup>st</sup> April, with regular records there and at other sites from the 6<sup>th</sup> May until the end of October. Counts included 31 (10 at Seabrook and 21 at Hythe) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 20 (including 19 at Hythe) on the 11<sup>th</sup> August and 34 (7 at Seabrook and 27 at Hythe) on the 8<sup>th</sup> September. Although there were no records in November, six were noted in December, including two (singles at Hythe and Seabrook) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the last was at Hythe on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Resident micro moths*

A single *Bohemannia quadrimaculella* (Four-spot Pigmy) was at Seabrook on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August and *Psychoides filicivora* (Fern Smut) were recorded from Hythe in May and Seabrook in June, whilst a *Bucculatrix nigricomella* (Daisy Bent-wing) was at Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Records of note amongst the *Gracillariidae* included a *Caloptilia betulicola* (Red Birch Slender) at Seabrook on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, a *Caloptilia rufipennella* (Small Red Slender) at Hythe on the 24<sup>th</sup> July, a *Caloptilia alchimiella* (Yellow-triangle Slender) at Seabrook on the 25<sup>th</sup> August, *Caloptilia robustella* (New Oak Slender) at Cowtye Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> August and Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, *Caloptilia falconipennella* (Scarce Alder Slender) at Seabrook on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August and *Aspilapteryx tringipennella* (Ribwort Slender) at Abbotscliffe on the 30<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> May.



*Aspilapteryx tringipennella* at Abbotscliffe  
(Ian Roberts)



*Caloptilia robustella* at Cowtye Wood  
(Ian Roberts)

*Choreutis pariana* (Apple Leaf Skeletonizer) was recorded from Cheriton on the 31<sup>st</sup> August and Cowtye Wood on the 24<sup>th</sup> October whilst a single *Tinagma ocherostomella* (Bugloss Spear-wing) was trapped at Seabrook on the 17<sup>th</sup> May. Notable among the *Argyresthia* were *A. trifasciata* (Triple-barred Argent) at Seabrook in May and August, *A. brockeella* (Gold-ribbon Argent) at Seabrook and Heane Wood in July, *A. goedartella* (Golden Argent) at Heane Wood, Hythe and Seabrook in July/August, *A. spinosella* (Blackthorn Argent) at Nickolls Quarry in May and Hythe and Seabrook in June, and singles of *A. pruniella* (Cherry Fruit Moth) and *A. albistria* (Purple Argent) in July.

*Yponomeuta plumbella* (Black-tipped Ermine) was recorded at Hythe and Seabrook in July and an *Yponomeuta cagnagella* (Spindle Ermine) was at the latter site on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August. The *Ypsolophidae* were represented by singles of *Ypsolopha dentella* (Honeysuckle Moth) and *Ypsolopha scabrella* (Wainscot Smudge) at Folks' Wood on the 16<sup>th</sup> August, *Ypsolopha sylvella* (Wood Smudge) at Hythe on the 17<sup>th</sup> September and *Ypsolopha parenthesella* (White-shouldered Smudge) at Seabrook on the 28<sup>th</sup> August.



*Argyresthia albistria* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Ypsolopha dentella* at Folks' Wood (Brian Harper)



*Ypsolopha scabrella* at Folks' Wood (Ian Roberts)



*Ypsolopha sylvella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

A *Plutella porrectella* (Grey-streaked Smudge) was taken at Seabrook on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, with an *Orthotelia sparganella* (Reed Smudge) there on the 15<sup>th</sup> August and an *Acrolepia autumnitella* (Bittersweet Smudge) at Hythe on the 16<sup>th</sup> November. A single *Epermenia aequidentellus* (Carrot Lance-wing) was recorded at Seabrook on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June.



*Orthotelia sparganella* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Epermenia aequidentellus* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



***Coleophora galbulipennella*** (Kent Case-bearer) was again recorded at Hythe, with a total of up to 14 there in July, and others trapped at Seabrook on three nights in July and at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July, suggesting that its range extends beyond the known site of Hythe Ranges – the food-plant Nottingham Catchfly (*Silene nutans*) is well distributed along the cliffs. *Coleophora lixella* (Downland Case-bearer) was noted at Cheriton Hill on the 1<sup>st</sup> August, *Elachista rufocinerea* (Red-brindled Dwarf) were taken at Hythe and Seabrook in July with an *Elachista freyerella* (Broken-barred Dwarf) at the latter site on the 30<sup>th</sup> August.



*Elachista rufocinerea* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Coleophora galbulipennella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

A ***Bisigna procerella*** (Kent Tubic) was trapped at Seabrook on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, whilst there were *Batia lambdella* (Greater Tawny Tubic) at Hythe and Seabrook in July/August and a total of up to 15 *Metalampra italica* (Italian Tubic) were noted at Hythe and Seabrook between June and September.



*Metalampra italica* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Bisigna procerella* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

There were single *Alabonia geoffrella* (Common Tubic) at Hythe Ranges and Capel-le-Ferne in late May. Noteworthy amongst the *Depressariidae* were singles of *Agonopterix alstromeriana* (Brown-spot Flat-body) at Seabrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> April, *Agonopterix ocellana* (Red-letter Flat-body) at Nickolls Quarry on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September and *Agonopterix liturosa* (Large Purple Flat-body) at Folkestone Warren on the 14<sup>th</sup> July.



*Alabonia geoffrella* at Capel-le-Ferne (Ian Roberts)



*Agonopterix alstromeriana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

*Ethmia terminella* (Five-spot Ermel) were recorded from Hythe again in June/July, with a wanderer at Seabrook on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, whilst an *Ethmia dodecea* (Dotted Ermel) and an *Ethmia bipunctella* (Bordered Ermel) were trapped at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, and there was an excellent series of records of *Ethmia quadrillella* (Comfrey Ermel) at Seabrook, where a total of up to 41 were noted between the 23<sup>rd</sup> July and the 25<sup>th</sup> August.



*Ethmia terminella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Ethmia quadrillella* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

A single *Metzneria lappella* (Burdock Neb) was trapped at Seabrook on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, whilst *Metzneria aestivella* (Carline Neb) were recorded from Samphire Hoe and Folkestone Warren in July. There were singles of *Altenia scriptella* (Horse-shoe Groundling) and *Pexicopia malvella* (Hollyhock Seed Moth) at Seabrook on the 7<sup>th</sup> July and 22<sup>nd</sup> May respectively, whilst a *Caryocolum marmorea* (Beautiful Groundling) was taken at Hythe on the 8<sup>th</sup> August. *Neofriseria peliella* (White-spot Groundling), *Sophronia semicostella* (White-shouldered Sober) and *Anarsia spartiella* (Small Crest) were taken at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and an ***Anarsia lineatella*** (Peach Twig-borer) was at Seabrook on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, whilst *Brachmia blandella* (Gorse Crest) were seen at Hythe, Seabrook and Folkestone Warren in July/August.



*Metzneria aestivella* at Folkestone Warren  
(Rob Lee)



*Sophronia semicostella* at Samphire Hoe  
(Ian Roberts)

A *Mompha raschkiella* (Little Cosmet) was caught at Seabrook on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and *Limnaecia phragmitella* (Bulrush Cosmet) were at Hythe and Nickolls Quarry in July. Notable Tortrix moths included *Phtheochroa inopiana* (Plain Conch) at Samphire Hoe and Folkestone Warren in July, *Phtheochroa rugosana* (Rough-winged Conch) at Seabrook on three dates between the 27<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> July and a *Cochylimorpha alternana* (Kentish Conch) at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.

*Agapeta zoegana* (Knapweed Conch) were recorded at Seabrook, Folkestone Warren and Samphire Hoe in July, with *Aethes tesserana* (Downland Conch) at the latter site also in July and at Peene Quarry in August. *Aethes cnicana* (Thistle Conch) was noted at Seabrook in July/August, with *Aethes rubigana* (Burdock Conch) at Heane Wood and Folkestone Warren in July and *Aethes francillana* (Long-barred Yellow Conch) at Hythe in August.





*Phtheochroa rugosana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Cochylimorpha alternana* at F. Warren (Ian Roberts)



*Agapeta zoegana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Aethes francillana* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

*Eupoecilia angustana* (Marbled Conch) were trapped at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, whilst an *Eupoecilia ambiguella* (Vine Moth) was taken at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, with a *Cochylidia implicitana* (Chamomile Conch) at Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> August and singles of *Cochylis roseana* (Rosy Conch) at Nickolls Quarry and Heane Wood in July, and Peene Quarry in August. *Archips crataegana* (Brown Oak Tortrix) was noted at Lympne Park Wood in June, with *Aleimma loeflingiana* (Yellow Oak Button) and *Tortrix viridana* (Green Oak Tortrix) at Bargrove Wood, Hythe and Seabrook in June/July, *Acleris forsskaleana* (Maple Button) at Seabrook and Cowtye Wood in July/August, *Acleris holmiana* (White-triangle Button) at Folkestone Warren and Seabrook in July and *Acleris laterana* (Dark-triangle Button) at Cowtye Wood and Heane Wood in July/August.



*Acleris holmiana* at Folkestone Warren (Ian Roberts)



*Acleris laterana* at Heane Wood (Ian Roberts)



*Acleris sparsana* (Ashy Button) was recorded at Seabrook in October/November and two *Acleris aspersana* (Ginger Button) were at Cheriton Hill on the 1<sup>st</sup> August, whilst singles of ***Acleris permutana*** (Buff Button) at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and Seabrook on the 14<sup>th</sup> July were of particular note. *Acleris kochiella* (Elm Button) was recorded from Seabrook in July and September.

An *Acleris umbrana* (Dark-streaked Button) was taken in Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and an *Acleris emargana* (Notch Wing Tortrix) was at Cowtye Wood on the 17<sup>th</sup> October. *Celypha cespitana* (Thyme Marble) were recorded from Seabrook in July and Hythe in September whilst singles of *Piniphila bifasciana* (Pine Marble) were at Seabrook on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July.



*Acleris permutana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Acleris kochiella* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Acleris umbrana* at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)



*Acleris emargana* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

*Hedya salicella* (White-backed Marble) was taken at Nickolls Quarry in July, with *Apotomis turbidana* (White-shouldered Marble) at Heane Wood in July and *Apotomis capreana* (Sallow Marble) at Bargrove Wood and Hythe in July.

An *Epinotia bilunana* (Crescent Bell) was trapped at Folks' Wood on the 12<sup>th</sup> June, whilst an *Epinotia nisella* (Grey Poplar Bell) was at Seabrook on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, *Epinotia caprana* (Large Sallow Bell) were at Hythe and Cheriton in September/October and an *Epinotia cruciana* (Willow Tortrix) was noted at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. Both *Epinotia brunnichana* (Large Birch Bell) and *Epinotia solandriana* (Variable Bell) were trapped at Heane Wood in July.





*Ancyliis diminutana* at Folks' Wood (Ian Roberts)



*Ancyliis laetana* at Folks' Wood (Ian Roberts)



*Epinotia cruciana* at Samphire Hoe (Ian Roberts)



*Epinotia brunnichana* at Heane Wood (Ian Roberts)

*Crociosema plebejana* (Southern Bell) were trapped at Seabrook regularly between May and November, with small numbers at Hythe in September/October, whilst *Zeiraphera isertana* (Cock's-head Bell) were at Bargrove Wood in July and Cowtye Wood in August. There were *Epiblema foenella* (White-foot Bell) at Nickolls Quarry and Seabrook in July, *Epiblema costipunctana* (Ragwort Bell) at Hythe in July, *Eucosma campoliliana* (Marbled Bell) at Hythe and Seabrook in July and *Eucosma hohenwartiana* (Bright Bell) and *Eucosma obumbratana* (Two-coloured Bell) at Seabrook in July.

Two *Spilonota laricana* (Larch-bud Moth) were taken at Seabrook on the 11<sup>th</sup> August, whilst singles of *Rhyacionia pinivorana* (Spotted Shoot Moth) and *Enarmonia formosana* (Cherry Bark Tortrix) were at Hythe on the 12<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> July respectively.



*Eucosma campoliliana* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Rhyacionia pinivorana* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

*Cydia microgrammana* (Rest-harrow Piercer) was noted at Samphire Hoe in July, whilst there was a *Pammene fasciana* (Acorn Piercer) at Hythe on the 15<sup>th</sup> July. A *Cydia strobilella* (Spruce Seed Moth) at Hythe on the 8<sup>th</sup> May might have been an immigrant as it was recorded some distance from the nearest food-plant and others were noted on the coasts of Sussex, Hampshire and Dorset at around the same time.





*Pammene fasciana* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Cydia strobilella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Notable among the Plume moths were a single *Capperia britanniodactyla* (Wood Sage Plume) at Hythe on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, *Marasmarcha lunaedactyla* (Crescent Plume) at Hythe, Seabrook and Samphire Hoe in July, *Merrifieldia baliodactylus* (Dingy White Plume) at Folkestone Warren in July, *Adaina microdactyla* (Hemp Agrimony Plume) at Seabrook, Folkestone Warren and Samphire Hoe in July/August and *Stenoptilia bipunctidactyla* (Twin-spot Plume), *Stenoptilia pterodactyla* (Brown Plume) and *Pterophorus pentadactyla* (White Plume) at Seabrook in August/September.



*Capperia britanniodactyla* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Adaina microdactyla* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

*Chilo phragmitella* (Reed Veneer) were trapped at Seabrook in July and September, whilst a single *Calamotropha paludella* (Bulrush Wainscot) was at Hythe on the 9<sup>th</sup> August. Other noteworthy *Crambinae* included an *Agriphila latistria* (White-streak Grass-veneer) at Hythe on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, *Catoptria pinella* (Pearl Grass-veneer) at Hythe, Seabrook and Folkestone Warren in July, *Pediasia contaminella* (Waste Grass-veneer) at Hythe and Seabrook in July, a *Platytes alpinella* (Hook-tipped Grass Veneer) at Hythe on the 31<sup>st</sup> August and *Platytes cerussella* (Little Grass-veneer) at Hythe in June.



*Catoptria pinella* at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



*Platytes alpinella* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



*Scoparia basistrigalis* (Base-lined Grey) were found at Lympe Park Wood in June, Bargrove Wood in July and Cowtye Wood in August and *Eudonia lineola* (White-line Grey) were trapped at Seabrook and Samphire Hoe in July. An *Evergestis pallidata* (Chequered Pearl) was taken at Cowtye Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> August whilst *Cynaeda dentalis* (Starry Pearl) were recorded from Hythe, Folkestone Warren and Samphire Hoe in July. *Pyrausta nigrata* (Wavy-barred Sable) was found by day at Folkestone Downs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August.

Singles of *Anania verbascalis* (Golden Pearl) at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, *Anania crocealis* (Ochreous Pearl) at Hythe on the 12<sup>th</sup> September and *Udea lutealis* (Pale Straw Pearl) at Creteway Down on the 1<sup>st</sup> August were noteworthy. *Mecyna asinalis* (Coastal Pearl) was recorded from Folkestone Warren and Samphire Hoe in July, whilst *Dolicharthria punctalis* (Long-legged China-mark) was noted at Hythe and Folkestone Warren.



*Cynaeda dentalis* at Folkestone Warren (Rob Lee)



*Anania crocealis* at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

The only *Aglossa pinguinalis* (Large Tabby) was at Hythe on the 8th July, whilst *Galleria mellonella* (Wax Moth) were recorded at Seabrook in July and Hythe in August and single *Achroia grisella* (Lesser Wax Moth) were at Hythe in July and Seabrook in August. An *Anerastia lotella* (Sandhill Knot-horn) was taken at Hythe on the 16<sup>th</sup> July whilst a *Cryptoblabes bistriga* (Double-striped Knot-horn) was recorded at Cowtye Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> August.

Other notable pyralids included a *Pempelia genistella* (Gorse Knot-horn) at on the 24<sup>th</sup> July, singles of *Pempeliella ornatella* (Ornate Knot-horn) and *Moitrelia obductella* (Kent Knot-horn) at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, *Nephopterix angustella* (Spindle Knot-horn) at Hythe, Seabrook and Cheriton in August/September and a *Plodia interpunctella* (Indian Meal Moth) at Hythe on the 20<sup>th</sup> March.



*Pempeliella ornatella* at Folk. Warren (Ian Roberts)



*Moitrelia obductella* at Folk. Warren (Ian Roberts)

### *Resident macro moths*

There were single records of Ghost Moth at Seabrook on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 27<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July, with one found dead in Folkestone on the latter date and another at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. Gold Swift was again recorded at Bargrove Wood, with two trapped there on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, and a Map-winged Swift was taken at Folks' Wood on the 12<sup>th</sup> June. Three Six-belted Clearwings were attracted to a pheromone lure at Hythe Ranges on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July and a pair were found in a garden in Cheriton on the 31<sup>st</sup> July. A Fox Moth larva was found in Folkestone on the 26<sup>th</sup> September.



Ghost Moth at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Gold Swift at Bargrove Wood (Ian Roberts)

Peach Blossom was recorded from Nickolls Quarry, Palmarsh, Heane Wood, Cowtye Wood and Folkestone Warren between June and September, whilst there were single Figure of Eighty at Seabrook in June and Palmarsh in July. Common Lutestrings were trapped at Lympe Park Wood, Bargrove Wood and Seabrook in June/July, with Poplar Lutestrings at Hythe and Nickolls Quarry in July and Satin Lutestrings at Folks' Wood and Bargrove Wood in June/July.

Grass Emeralds were trapped at Seabrook in June and Hythe and Nickolls Quarry in July, whilst two Large Emeralds were at Bargrove Wood on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. A total of up to 22 **Sussex Emeralds** were trapped at Hythe between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July, with a peak of three on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. This represented a reduction on the 47 last year but was very similar to the total for 2014 of 21. A search for larvae was conducted under licence at the site where one was found last year but none were located.



Six-belted Clearwing at Hythe Ranges (Ian Roberts)



Figure of Eighty at Seabrook (Paul Howe)





Poplar Lutestring at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Satin Lutestring at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Large Emerald at Bargrove Wood (Ian Roberts)



Sussex Emerald at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

A **Mocha** was trapped at Cowtys Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> August but none were noted this year at Lympe Park Wood, whilst Clay Triple-lines were seen at Hythe in June and July and Seabrook in August and September. It was a good year for **Sub-angled Wave**, with one trapped at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July, two netted by day in Folkestone Warren on the 12<sup>th</sup> July and ten attracted to light there on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.



The Mocha at Cowtys Wood (Ian Roberts)



Clay Triple-lines at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

There were single Flame Carpets at Seabrook in June, July and August, and at Hythe on the 27<sup>th</sup> July, whilst Large Twin-spot Carpets were trapped at Bargrove Wood on the 8<sup>th</sup> July and Hythe on the 16<sup>th</sup> July. Chalk Carpets were noted in Folkestone Warren and at Folkestone Downs and a Ruddy Carpet was caught at Hythe on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. The only records of Wood Carpet and Galium Carpet were both at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July.





Sub-angled Wave at Folk. Warren (Paul Howe)



Ruddy Carpet at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Shoulder-stripe was trapped at Seabrook on four dates in late March/April and The Streamer was recorded there on five nights in May, whilst there were singles of Purple Bar at Seabrook on the 4<sup>th</sup> June and Hythe on the 27<sup>th</sup> June. The Phoenix was recorded from Lympne Park Wood on the 27<sup>th</sup> June, Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and Seabrook on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and the 5<sup>th</sup> August, whilst a single Spinach was at Seabrook on the 21<sup>st</sup> June and there were Blue-bordered Carpets there on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July. The only Grey Pine Carpet was at Seabrook on the 19<sup>th</sup> May.



Shoulder-stripe at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



The Streamer at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

**White-banded Carpet** was again recorded at Seabrook, for the fourth consecutive year, with singles on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 25<sup>th</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> August, whilst local residency of this species was confirmed when seven were trapped at Heane Wood on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. A single Dark Umber was taken at Hythe on the 26<sup>th</sup> July. The Rivulet was trapped at Seabrook in May and June, with Small Rivulets at Heane Wood on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June and Seabrook on the 25<sup>th</sup> August and there were Sandy Carpets at Seabrook on five dates between the 7<sup>th</sup> May and 9<sup>th</sup> August, with four at Heane Wood on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June. A single Twin-spot Carpet was at Bargrove Wood on the 8<sup>th</sup> July.



White-banded Carpet at Heane Wood (Ian Roberts)



Sandy Carpet at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



The highlight amongst the pugs was the first area records of **Channel Islands Pug** (though these have since been pre-dated by one which has been retrospectively identified at Saltwood on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013). Up to 20 were trapped at Seabrook between the 4<sup>th</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> October, with a peak of four on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, whilst two were taken at Hythe on the 16<sup>th</sup> August. It will be interesting to see if 2017 brings further records of this species which has been spreading along the south coast – the food-plant Tamarisk (*Tamarix gallica*) is well established locally in coastal areas.

Also of note were Tawny Speckled Pugs at Hythe on the 11<sup>th</sup> August and Seabrook on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, a Bordered Pug at Seabrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> August, a Shaded Pug at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July, a Plain Pug at Hythe on the 30<sup>th</sup> July, Oak-tree Pugs at Seabrook on the 6<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June and singles of Larch Pug and Dwarf Pug there on the 27<sup>th</sup> July and 9<sup>th</sup> May respectively.



Channel Islands Pug at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Oak-tree Pug at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

A Dingy Shell was trapped at Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, with a Small White Wave there on the 11<sup>th</sup> May. Small Yellow Waves were taken at Folks' Wood on the 12<sup>th</sup> June and Hythe on the 5<sup>th</sup> July.

A **Barred Tooth-striped** at Seabrook on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April was an excellent record and considered to be a primary immigrant, whilst a Latticed Heath was trapped at Hythe for the third year running (on the 20<sup>th</sup> July), and is also likely to have been an immigrant. A Tawny-barred Angle was recorded at Cheriton on the 29<sup>th</sup> August and single **White Spot** were at Hythe on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May.



Small Yellow Wave at Folks' Wood (Ian Roberts)



Barred Tooth-striped at Seabrook (Ade Jupp)

Singles of Lilac Beauty were caught at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and Seabrook on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, with a Large Thorn at Hythe on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and there three Lunar Thorns at Seabrook in August. Orange Moths were again present in good numbers at Folkestone Warren, with a peak of eight on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, and Scarce Umber was again recorded at Hythe in November, and at Seabrook in December.





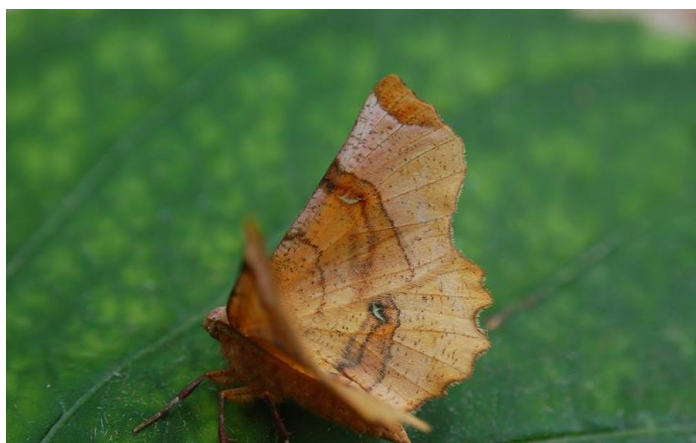
Latticed Heath at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



White Spot at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Lilac Beauty at Samphire Hoe (Ian Roberts)



Lunar Thorn at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

Barred Red was recorded at Seabrook in July and September, and Hythe in September. Straw Belles were found by day in Folkestone Warren and along the Folkestone Downs, whilst Yellow Belles were recorded from Hythe Ranges, Hythe, Seabrook and Samphire Hoe.



Bordered White at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Straw Belle at Folk. Warren (Alfie Gay)

At least two Puss Moths were recorded at Seabrook in May and a Lobster Moth was trapped at Hythe on the 7<sup>th</sup> July. Coxcomb Prominent was taken at Hythe in June and August, and at Cowtye Wood in August, whilst Maple Prominents were at Seabrook in July and August.



A Lunar Marbled Brown was trapped at Seabrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> May and Chocolate-tips were noted at Seabrook in May and August, and Nickolls Quarry in July. A Dark Tussock was taken at Seabrook on the 1<sup>st</sup> July and a Round-winged Muslin was caught at Cheriton on the 27<sup>th</sup> July.



Lobster Moth at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Chocolate-tip at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Dark Tussock at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



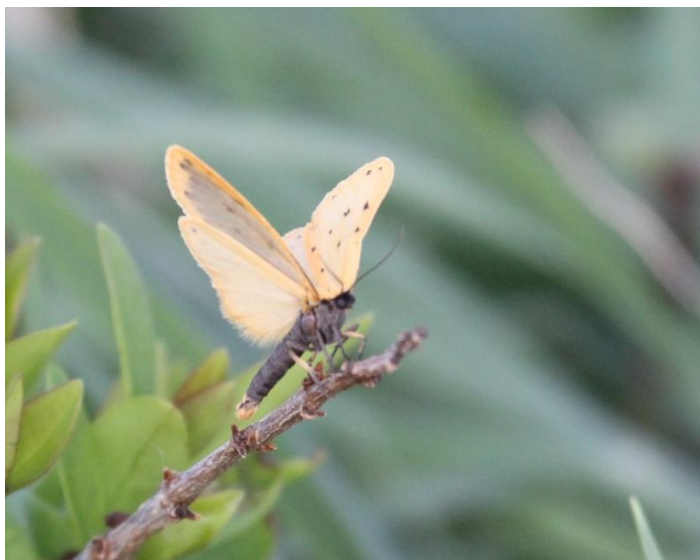
Round-winged Muslin at Cheriton (Brian Harper)

Dew Moths were noted along the cliffs between Capel-le-Ferne and Samphire Hoe from the 23<sup>rd</sup> April to the 11<sup>th</sup> June, with an excellent peak of 208 along a 2.5km stretch of cliff-top at Abbotscliffe on the 15<sup>th</sup> May. A **Dotted Footman** was trapped at Seabrook on the 29<sup>th</sup> July – this inhabitant of fenland areas is more or less restricted in Britain to the Norfolk Broads and so was likely to have been an immigrant. Orange Footman was recorded from Heane Wood, Hythe and Seabrook in May/June, whilst Hoary Footman was taken at Nickolls Quarry, Seabrook and Samphire Hoe in July/August. Up to seven **Pigmy Footman** were trapped at Hythe in July, with another at Seabrook on the 20<sup>th</sup> July, and Buff Footman were recorded from Heane Wood in July and Seabrook in August. Cream-spot Tigers were again noted at Samphire Hoe as were Clouded Buff at Crete Road West.

Jersey Tiger is now well established as a resident species with up to 84 recorded and a peak of 11 at Hythe on the 18<sup>th</sup> August. Kent Black Arches were recorded from Nickolls Quarry, Seabrook, Folkestone Warren and Samphire Hoe in July and Langmaid's Yellow Underwings were identified at Seabrook on 3 dates in July/August.



Single Dotted Clay were trapped at Folkestone Warren in July and at Hythe in August and up to six Green Arches were recorded at Seabrook in June/July, whilst Grey Arches were at Hythe on the 27<sup>th</sup> June and Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.



Dew Moth at Abbotscliffe (Ian Roberts)



Dotted Footman at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Pigmy Footman at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Cream-spot Tiger larva at Samphire Hoe (Paul Holt)



Clouded Buff at Crete Road West (Ian Roberts)



Green Arches at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



A Broom Moth was trapped at Seabrook on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. Three Small Ranunculus were recorded at Hythe in July, with another on the 13<sup>th</sup> August, whilst single Antler Moths were at Seabrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August, with a Hedge Rustic at Hythe on the 1<sup>st</sup> September.



Broom Moth at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Antler Moth at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

Single Powdered Quakers were trapped at Seabrook on the 19<sup>th</sup> April and 13<sup>th</sup> May, and at Hythe on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, whilst Twin-spotted Quakers were at the former site on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Southern Wainscots were noted at Seabrook on the 26<sup>th</sup> July and at Hythe the following night, and there were Obscure Wainscots at Seabrook on two dates in June and on the 11<sup>th</sup> July.



Southern Wainscot at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Obscure Wainscot at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

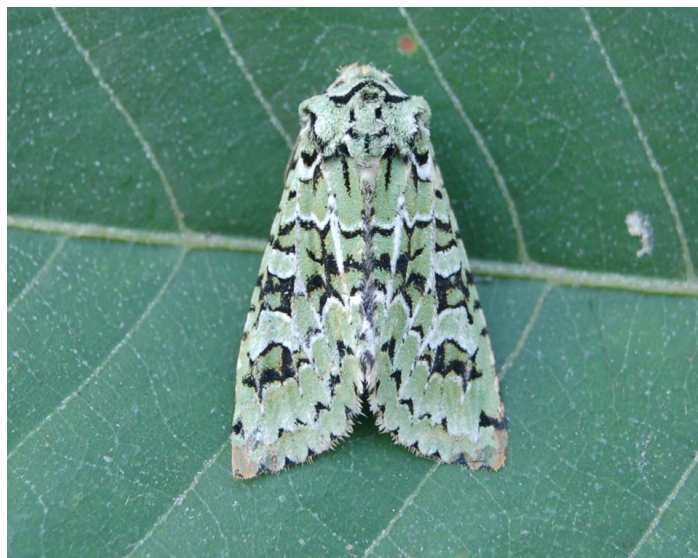
The Shark was noted at Hythe and Samphire Hoe in June/July, with The Mullein at Hythe and Seabrook in April/May and two Toadflax Brocades were trapped at Hythe in June with another two in August. A Minor Shoulder-knot was taken at Bargrove Wood on the 8<sup>th</sup> July and a Sprawler was caught Seabrook on the 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Tawny Pinion were recorded at Hythe and Seabrook in March/April with Pale Pinion at both sites in April, whilst there were Grey Shoulder-knot at Seabrook in March and October. Up to nine Merveille du Jour were recorded at Seabrook between the 19<sup>th</sup> October and the 5<sup>th</sup> November, with another at Cowtye Wood on the 24<sup>th</sup> October.





Sprawler at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Merveille du Jour at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

Single Brindled Green were at Hythe on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September with up to four Brown-spot Pinion at Seabrook in late September/October. The Suspected were trapped at Seabrook on the 7<sup>th</sup> July and Heane Wood on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. An Orange Sallow was taken at Hythe on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September, with Pink-barred Sallow at Seabrook on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October, and Hythe on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, and a Dusky-lemon Sallow at Seabrook on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November.



Pink-barred Sallow at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Dusky-lemon Sallow at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

Alder Moths were trapped at Heane Wood and Seabrook in June, whilst Reed Daggers were recorded at Palmarsh and Seabrook in August and single Bird's Wing were at Seabrook on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> July. Small Angle Shades were noted at Heane Wood, Hythe, Seabrook and Folkestone Warren in June/July and Lesser Spotted Pinions were at Seabrook on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August. A Reddish Light Arches and a Dusky Brocade were trapped at Samphire Hoe on the 11<sup>th</sup> July, whilst Clouded-bordered Brindles were at Seabrook on the 7<sup>th</sup> June and Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.



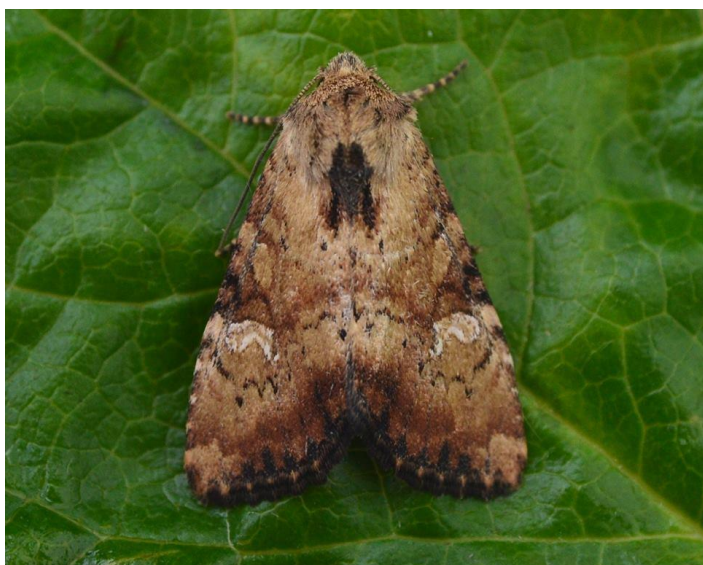


Alder Moth at Heane Wood (Ian Roberts)

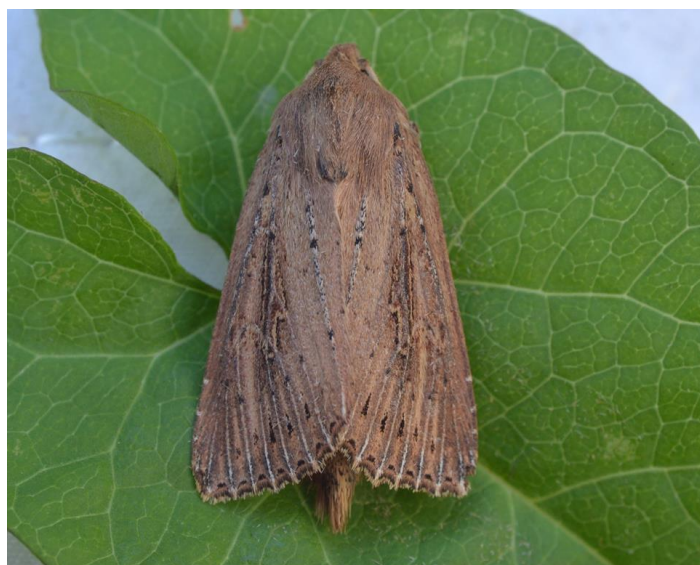


Bird's Wing at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

Slender Brindles were trapped at Seabrook and Folkestone Warren in July and a Double Lobed was caught at Hythe on the 21<sup>st</sup> July, as were a Small Wainscot on the 29<sup>th</sup> July and a Saltern Ear on the 17<sup>th</sup> August. Bulrush Wainscot was recorded at Seabrook on two nights in August, with singles at Hythe in August and September, whilst Twin-spotted Wainscot was trapped on three nights at both sites in August.



Slender Brindle at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Bulrush Wainscot at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

A Brown-veined Wainscot was taken at Seabrook on the 24<sup>th</sup> August and there Webb's Wainscots there on three dates between the 31<sup>st</sup> July and 5<sup>th</sup> September.

It was another good autumn for Large Wainscot with a total of up to 39 (16 at Hythe and 23 at Seabrook) trapped between the 12<sup>th</sup> September and 15<sup>th</sup> November. Fen Wainscots were at Nickolls Quarry, Hythe and Seabrook in July, with Small Rufous at Hythe and Seabrook in July/August.





Twin-spotted Wainscot at Hythe (Ian Roberts)



Brown-veined Wainscot at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

A **Small Yellow Underwing** found by day at Folkestone Downs on the 15<sup>th</sup> June was an excellent record, as was a **Silver Hook** trapped at Seabrook on the night of the 14<sup>th</sup> June, whilst Marbled White Spots were at Folks' Wood and Folkestone Warren in June/July, with a Green Silver-lines at the former site on the 12<sup>th</sup> June.



Small Y. Underwing at Folk. Downs (James Hunter)



Silver Hook at Seabrook (Paul Howe)

A Gold Spot was trapped at Seabrook on the 4<sup>th</sup> August, with up to three at Hythe later in the month, whilst single Plain Golden Y were at Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and Seabrook on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Red Underwings were recorded from Hythe, Princes Parade and Seabrook in August/September.

A **Four-spotted** attracted to light at Hythe on the 14<sup>th</sup> June was probably an immigrant and there were no records again from Hythe Roughs, whilst a Blackneck was taken at Seabrook on the 17<sup>th</sup> July.



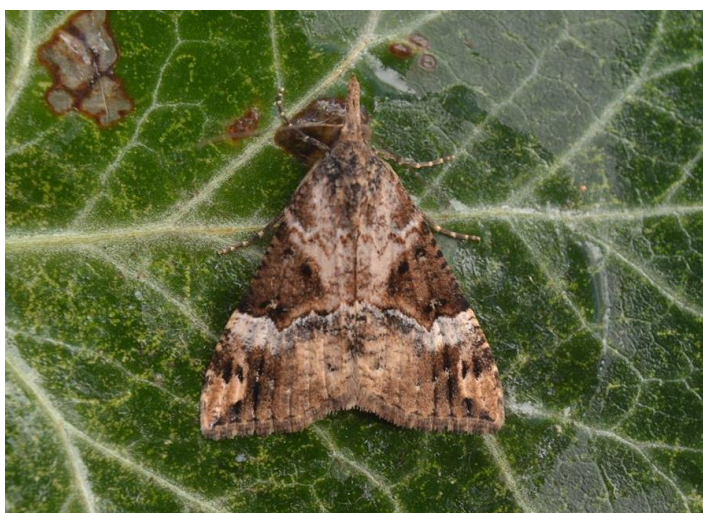


Gold Spot at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



The Four-spotted at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Bloxworth Snout continues to increase and spread with up to 49 recorded at Hythe (between April and December), 6 at Seabrook and singles at Cheriton and Folkestone, and Pinion-streaked Snouts were recorded from Nickolls Quarry, Hythe and Seabrook. Plumed Fan-foot is also increasing, with up to 26 at Hythe and 5 at Seabrook in July/August. **Olive Crescent** was recorded for the second successive year, with one at Cowtye Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> August, and so does appear to be locally resident.



Bloxworth Snout at Seabrook (Paul Howe)



Olive Crescent at Cowtye Wood (Ian Roberts)

Figure 4 shows the number of species recorded in each month of 2016:

2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Micros	5	4	7	19	56	120	210	150	86	24	10	9	323
Macros	8	8	20	31	106	181	243	188	131	63	28	12	397
Total	13	12	27	50	162	301	453	338	217	87	38	21	720

Figure 4: Moth species at Folkestone and Hythe in 2016

The 323 micro moth and 397 macro moth species were lower than the very good totals of 2015 (335 micros, 418 macros) but still higher than both of the preceding two years (305 micros and 386 macros in 2014 and 286 micros and 371 macros in 2013).



## Butterflies

It was an unremarkable year for immigrant butterflies, as demonstrated by figure 5. A total of 13 Clouded Yellows were noted, with three singles at Samphire Hoe in April, singles at Seabrook in May and June then a further eight at various localities between mid-August and the end of October, including three at Samphire Hoe on the 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Red Admirals were noted between the 6<sup>th</sup> May and the 14<sup>th</sup> December, with counts included at least five flying east at Seabrook in one hour on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, three at Hythe on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, seven at Abbotscliffe on the 18<sup>th</sup> September and three at Mill Point on the 21<sup>st</sup> October. Also of note was one attracted to an mercury vapour light overnight at Seabrook on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

There was a small arrival of Painted Ladies in June, including at least two at Samphire Hoe on the 4<sup>th</sup>, three in off the sea at Seabrook the next day, “good numbers” at Mill Point on the 6<sup>th</sup> and two at Beachborough Lakes on the 7<sup>th</sup>. A smaller but more protracted arrival occurred between the 12<sup>th</sup> August and the 10<sup>th</sup> October, with seven records being well scattered in terms of both timing and location.



Clouded Yellow at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Painted Lady at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)

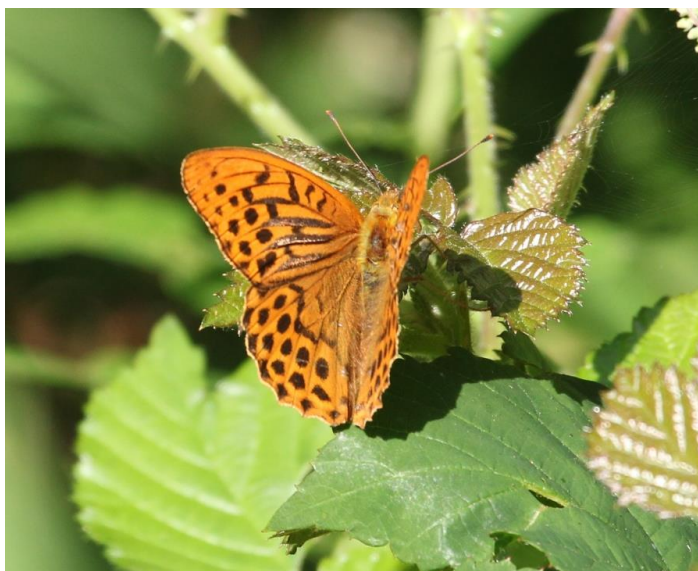
The totals for the year of the regular immigrant butterflies are shown in figure 5:

2016	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2016	2015	2014
Clouded Yellow	3	1	1		3	3	2			13	12	20
Red Admiral		14	2	3	4	10	12	4	1	50	35	58
Painted Lady			15+	1	2	4	1			23+	61	11
Total	3	15	18+	4	9	17	15	4	1	86+	108	89

Figure 5: Regular migrant butterflies in the Folkestone and Hythe area in 2016



Silver-spotted Skipper at Folk. Downs (Mark Varley)



Silver-washed Fritillary at Folk's Wood (Ian Roberts)



There was a reasonable showing of the scarcer resident species. A single **Silver-spotted Skipper** was seen at Folkestone Downs on the 15<sup>th</sup> August, both **Silver-washed Fritillary** and **White Admiral** were recorded again from Folk's Wood, with at least two of each present in June/July, two **White-letter Hairstreaks** were seen along the canal west of Hythe on the 15<sup>th</sup> July and **Chalk Hill Blues** were found at Cheriton Hill and Wingate Hill on the 1<sup>st</sup> August.



White Admiral at Folk's Wood (Ian Roberts)



White-letter Hairstreak at Hythe (Ian Roberts)

Small Blues were again present at Samphire Hoe in May and Brimstones were recorded from West Hythe on the 25<sup>th</sup> March (2) and Seabrook on the 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Adonis Blue, Dingy Skipper, Green Hairstreak and Wall butterflies were noted at their usual haunts at Samphire Hoe, along the cliffs between Round Down and Capel-le-Ferne, in Folkestone Warren, and along Folkestone Downs.



Small Blue at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Brimstone at West Hythe (Nick Hollands)

A total of 33 species were recorded in 2016, the same as in the previous year. The first dates for these, compared to 2015, are provided as figure 6. A positive difference indicates that a species emerged earlier than the previous year, whereas a negative difference indicates a later emergence.



	2016	2015	Difference
Dingy Skipper	19 Apr	21 Apr	-2
Essex Skipper	-	07 Jul	-
Small Skipper	28 Jun	25 Jun	+3
Silver-spotted Skipper	15 Aug	-	-
Large Skipper	27 May	05 Jun	-9
Orange Tip	02 May	13 Apr	19
Large White	12 Apr	13 Apr	-1
Small White	15 Mar	17 Mar	-2
Green-veined White	28 Apr	07 Apr	+21
Clouded Yellow	11 Apr	28 Apr	-17
Brimstone	25 Mar	17 Mar	+8
Wall	28 Apr	24 Apr	+4
Speckled Wood	08 Apr	10 Apr	-2
Small Heath	07 May	13 May	-6
Ringlet	04 Jul	29 Jun	+5
Meadow Brown	26 May	20 Jun	-25
Gatekeeper	08 Jun	07 Jul	-29
Marbled White	03 Jul	25 Jun	+8
Silver-washed Fritillary	20 Jul	11 Jul	+9
White Admiral	03 Jul	11 Jul	-8
Red Admiral	08 May	04 Mar	+65
Painted Lady	04 Jun	02 Apr	+63
Peacock	13 Mar	01 Jan	+71
Small Tortoiseshell	11 Mar	27 Feb	+12
Large Tortoiseshell	-	28 Jun	-
Comma	25 Jan	17 Mar	-51
Small Copper	11 Apr	27 Apr	-16
Green Hairstreak	28 Apr	04 May	-6
White-letter Hairstreak	15 Jul	03 Jul	+12
Small Blue	17 May	25 May	-8
Holly Blue	18 Apr	09 Apr	+9
Brown Argus	17 Aug	-	-
Common Blue	06 May	13 May	-7
Adonis Blue	17 May	08 May	+9
Chalk Hill Blue	01 Aug	11 Sep	-41

Figure 6: First dates for butterflies at Folkestone and Hythe in 2016





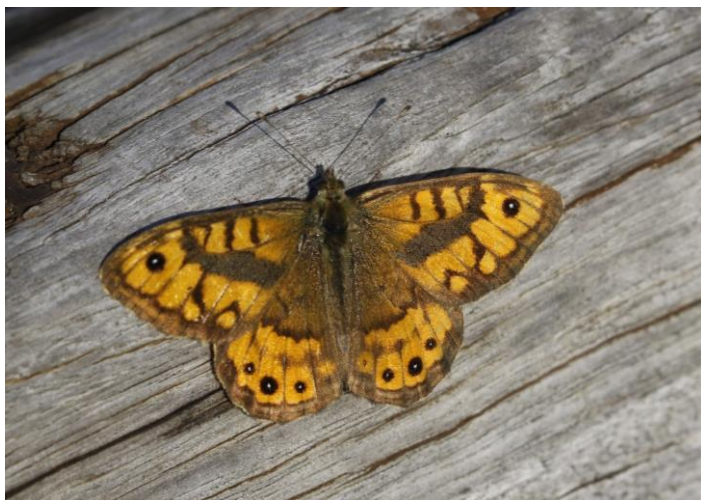
Dingy Skipper at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



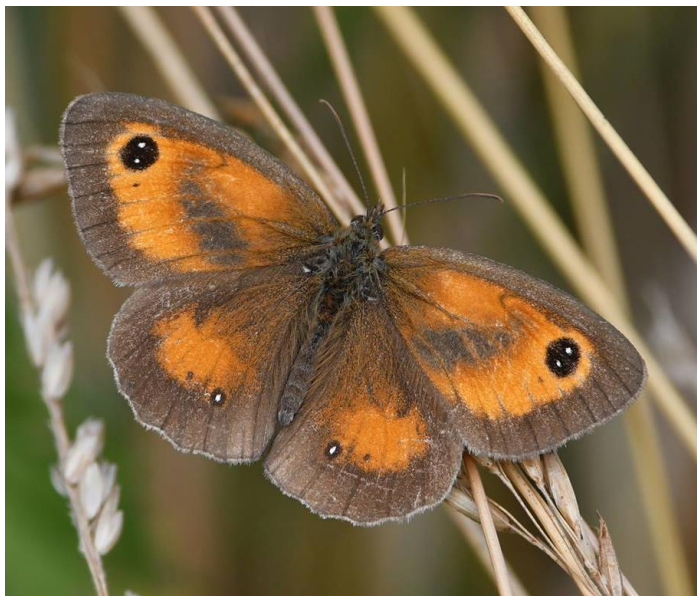
Adonis Blue at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



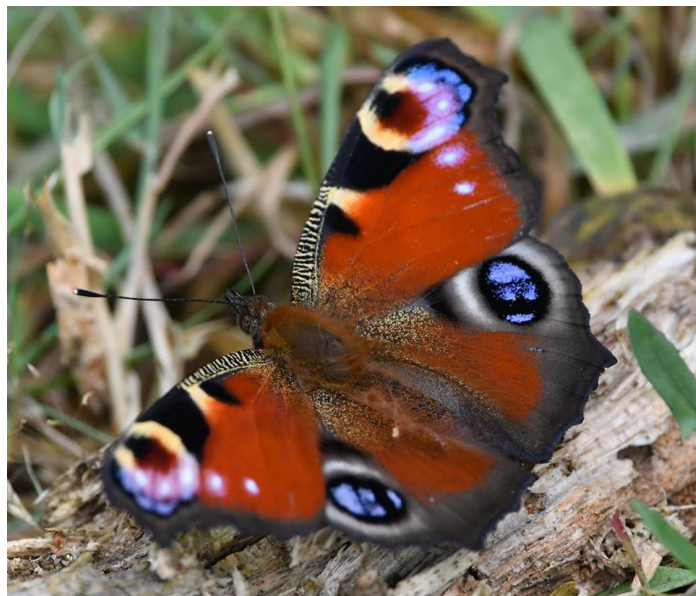
Red Admiral at Nickolls Quarry (Ian Roberts)



Wall at Samphire Hoe (Phil Smith)



Gatekeeper at Princes Parade (Nigel Webster)



Peacock at Princes Parade (Nigel Webster)





Marbled White at Princes Parade (Nigel Webster)

### Other arthropods

Dragonflies and damselflies remain relatively understudied but a record of pair of **Banded Demoiselles** at Beachborough Lakes on the 18<sup>th</sup> July was notable (the site at Fairmead Farm (Westenhanger) was not checked this year).

The fifth area record of **Western Conifer Seed Bug** was at Hythe on the 13<sup>th</sup> September and the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> records of **Southern Oak Bush-cricket** were at the same site between the 15<sup>th</sup> September and the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

The mercury vapour light traps which intend to catch moths invariably attract other insects of interest and these included at Seabrook singles of Black Sexton Beetle in April and Brassica Shieldbug in June, and at Hythe a *Colymbetes fuscus* in February and large numbers of Strawberry Seed Beetle, with a peak of 82 on the 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Also of note were Red and Black Froghoppers at Abbotscliffe and Capel-le-Ferne in May, Rose Chafers at Abbotscliffe and Samphire Hoe in June, a Glow-worm in Folkestone Warren on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, an Eyed Ladybird at Heane Wood on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, a Lesser Stag Beetle at Saltwood on the 30<sup>th</sup> July and up to six Hornets at Cowtye Wood in October.

Wasp Spiders were seen near Stutfall Castle and along the Downs between Folkestone and Samphire Hoe.

Following the first area record of **Rambur's Pied Shieldbug** at Botolph's Bridge last year, four were found on the north bank of the canal at Seabrook on the 5<sup>th</sup> June.





Banded Demoiselle at Beachborough Lakes  
(Steve Tomlinson)



Southern Oak Bush-cricket at Hythe  
(Ian Roberts)



Wasp Spider at Samphire Hoe  
(David Featherbe)



Western Conifer Seed Bug at Hythe  
(Ian Roberts)

## Mammals

A single (Short-beaked) Common Dolphin was seen offshore from Abbotscliffe on the 21<sup>st</sup> March and a pod of seven was noted there on the 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Harbour Porpoises were seen occasionally offshore anywhere between the Willop Outfall and Samphire Hoe, with at least 25 records of 44 animals noted. Peak counts were six off Folkestone Pier on the 13<sup>th</sup> July and Samphire Hoe on the 29<sup>th</sup> October. There were several reports of seals, not all identified to species, but both Common and Grey were recorded.

On land there were regular sightings of Brown Hare in the Donkey Street/Willop Basin area.



Common Dolphin at Abbotscliffe (Ian Roberts)



Harbour Porpoise at Folkestone Pier (Dale Gibson)



## Flora

Orchid counts included 60 Early Spiders at Abbotscliffe and 4,740 at Samphire Hoe in April/May, 11 Man and 134 Late Spiders at Folkestone Downs in May/June and 5 Lizards at Pedlinge in June.



Early Spider Orchid at Samphire Hoe  
(David Featherbe)



Late Spider Orchids at Folkestone Downs  
(Ian Roberts)



Man Orchids at Folk. Downs (Ian Roberts)



Lizard Orchid at Pedlinge (Ian Roberts)