

Butterfly & Moth Festival 2022

Our Common Cause: Our Upland Commons

Recording and celebrating the Butterflies and Moths of Upland Commons in the Shropshire Hills

- Wed 30th March** Butterfly Transect training day – an event for prospective butterfly recorders to learn how to establish a Butterfly Monitoring Scheme and to assist with targeted recording (maps available). Meet 11am at Heatham Gate entrance to **Clee Liberty Common** Grid Ref: SO573849.
- Thu 7th April** Butterfly talk ‘An introduction to the Butterflies & Moths of Shropshire’s Commons’ – learn more about Our Upland Commons project and how to become involved. Target maps available. Festival + Photographic Competition Launch event – 7.30pm in **Bishop’s Castle** Town Hall.
- Wed 18th May** Green Hairstreak and Emperor moth survey day Part 1 – a search for two of the most charismatic butterflies and moths of the Shropshire Commons. Meet 11am at The Bog car park, **Stiperstones**.
- Wed 25th May** Green Hairstreak and Emperor moth survey day Part 2 – Meet 11am at Heatham Gate entrance to **Clee Liberty Common** (SO573849).
- Thu 2nd June** Green Hairstreak and Emperor moth survey day Part 3 – Meet 11am outside National Trust Tearoom in Carding Mill Valley, **Long Mynd**.
- Fri 17th June** Join the Bog Squad – wetland search for the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary. Meet 11.00 at The Knolls car park, **Stiperstones**. Wear suitable footwear.
- Sat 18th June** **Long Mynd** Moth morning followed by a butterfly walk if the weather is suitable. Meet 9am Batch Valley car park, hoping for some of the large and spectacular Hawkmoths.
- Fri 1st July** Butterfly ID workshop – learn how to identify and record the butterflies and day-flying moths of the Long Mynd. Importance of local recording (target maps available). Meet 10.30am for classroom session at All Stretton Village Hall followed by afternoon walk in Batch Valley, **Long Mynd**. Bring packed lunch, tea & coffee provided.
- Sat 16th July** Moth morning and Big Butterfly Count. Learn more about moths and how to take part in the Big Butterfly Count. Meet 10am at Rectory Field car park in Church Stretton to go through moth trap followed by 12 noon butterfly walk to Townbrook Valley, **Long Mynd** in search of Grayling.
- Sun 31st July** Introduction to moths. Meet 10am at Burnt House, Clee St Margaret to look at moths caught the previous evening (event courtesy of Polly Bolton, local **Clee Liberty** commoner).

Also planned possibly in August:

Moth morning at **Clee Liberty Common** followed by butterfly walk. Meet 10am to examine moths, butterfly walk at 12 noon. Date and location to be decided.

You are invited to take part in any or as many of these sessions as you like

The 'Our Upland Commons' project is a national partnership project led by the Foundation for Common Land and includes organisations like Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Natural England, National Trust and Shropshire Hills AONB. These and other partners, have contributed financially and in kind, to make this project a reality. Major grants have also been awarded from National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Esmée Fairbairn and Garfield Weston Foundations as well as many smaller grant giving trusts including the Shropshire based Millichope Fund.

We are grateful to the local Community Wildlife Groups and the West Midlands Butterfly Conservation volunteers, for their part in helping to organise, promote and support these Butterfly and Moth sessions and surveys as part of the Our Upland Commons project.

To book onto or ask questions about any of these sessions please contact the Our Upland Commons Butterfly and Moth Co-ordinator Mike Williams via mike2dewberry@hotmail.com



To find out more about the Our Upland Commons (OUC) project please contact Renée Wallace OUC Project Officer - Shropshire Hills via renee@foundationforcommonland.org.uk or 07929 726337 or see our website <https://foundationforcommonland.org.uk/>

