



**Butterfly  
Conservation**

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment



## HERTFORDSHIRE & MIDDLESEX BRANCH

[www.hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk](http://www.hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk)

President: SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH CH FRS



### Programme of online winter presentations

We invite all Butterfly Conservation members and friends to join us for a second series of winter evening online presentations. We will be holding our Members' Day on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 – save the date and lookout for more information nearer the time.

The online presentations in most cases will be on a **Wednesday evening starting at 8 o'clock and will be for approx. 1 – 1 ½ hours**. Please connect to the meetings beforehand to allow for a prompt start – each will be open from 7.45 pm, allowing a short time for informal chat. **There are a few online meetings we are sharing speakers with other branches and their days of the week, start times and booking systems will differ.**

#### ***New to Zoom?***

If you have not used Zoom before, then it needs to be installed on your device prior to the meeting, in order for the meeting link provided below to work. Zoom can be downloaded from <https://zoom.us/support/download>. Although many of you will now be familiar with the Zoom meeting concept, full instructions on how to join the meetings are available on the branch website at:

<https://hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk/JoiningInstructions-WinterPresentations.pdf>

#### ***Can't make the date?***

All our talks will be recorded and posted on the Herts & Middlesex Butterfly Conservation **YouTube channel** within 2-3 days of the event. You can watch last years' talks and other fascinating videos now. You can subscribe to the Channel for free to learn when new videos are posted.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaCAEhxxWklw7iTJA9G5GA>



### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022

#### **'The secret lives of butterflies' – Dr Martin Warren OBE**

We start with a bang! We are delighted that Dr Martin Warren OBE has agreed to be our first speaker of 2022! Martin is one of the world's foremost experts on butterflies and former Chief Executive of Butterfly Conservation. He is the author of numerous scientific papers and recently published **Butterflies: A Natural History**

Zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86800104835>



**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**33 Butterflies Challenge – Anna Guerin**

Join Anna, a butterfly enthusiast and London Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves Officer, as she shares the highs the lows of her personal challenge to try and see a different butterfly species in each of London's 33 boroughs in just one summer.

**Zoom meeting link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87592800181>



**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**

**French butterfly species that may not be familiar to you... - Roger Gibbons, European Butterflies Group**

Roger will continue to enthral us with his amazing knowledge of European butterflies accompanied by his superb collection of photos! In the talk last winter we looked at French species that were similar to British species. In this presentation, we look at species that may not be familiar to Butterfly Conservation members, including more “exotic” species such as Apollo and its cousins, Southern Festoon, Camberwell Beauty, Map butterfly, Plain Tiger, Great Sooty Satyr and many others.

**Zoom meeting link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84593750205>



**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**Big City Butterflies Project update - Steve Bolton and Ele Johnstone**

We are joining Surrey and SW London Branch to hear all about the first year of the Big City Butterflies Project. Big City Butterflies is a recently launched project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which is inspiring Londoners to discover butterflies and moths, and connect them with nature and their local green spaces. Project officers Ele and Steve will take you through the project's progress so far in the capital, focussing on the project's three themes: improving habitats, recording species and inspiring people. **Advance booking through Eventbrite is required with a start time of 8pm (note corrected time).** Eventbrite booking link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-city-butterflies-project-update-registration-224019617707>



**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**One year of butterfly and moth records 2021 – Andrew Wood, Branch Records Collator**

A review of the highlights from last year's butterfly and moth records and recording targets for 2022 in preparation for the 2022 season!

**Zoom meeting link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89369939540>



**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Brilliant Butterflies Project update – Anna Guerin**

We are joining Surrey and SW London Branch again to hear all about the Brilliant Butterflies Project. The Brilliant Butterflies Project has been a pioneering two-year project, supported by players of the People’s Postcode Lottery, teaming London Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation and the Natural History Museum to create new habitats for butterflies and insects across nature reserves, road verges, and parks in South Croydon and Bromley. **Advance booking through Eventbrite is required with a start time of 7pm. Eventbrite booking link:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brilliant-butterflies-registration-224781305937>



**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

**Butterfly behaviour: what we know, what we think we know, and what we don’t know - Roger Gibbons**

In this presentation we look into some of the more puzzling and least-understood aspects of butterfly behaviour, including their evolution, migration, predation and defence mechanisms, distribution patterns, temperature control, relationship with ants, subspecies and aberrations, courtship and mating, “puddling”, and seasonal dimorphism.

**Zoom meeting link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88278874853>

***Date for your diary***

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 - Members’ Day.**

**We don’t yet know if it will be practical to hold a physical meeting or whether it will be better hosted on Zoom. We will decide nearer the time when the Covid situation becomes clearer.**

Details regarding the Members’ Day will be sent out in a separate email/letter nearer the date.

Whatever the format speakers for Members’ Day will be **Steve Bolton** and **Heidi Carruthers** who will be sharing their knowledge of creating wild spaces and conservation management; working with local people in different locations within our branch area.

**Steve Bolton** is Conservation Officer for the Big City Butterflies Project - he has a wealth of conservation knowledge and expertise in habitat management having previously been the project officer for the Brilliant Butterflies Project in south London.

**Heidi Carruthers** is Wilder St Albans Project Officer working for the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, in partnership with St Albans District Council. The project aims to combine individual actions across St Albans District to create positive changes and improve the nature network. Many branch members have been actively involved with this project last year.