



Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**Butterfly
Conservation**

**HERTFORDSHIRE &
MIDDLESEX BRANCH**

You are invited to the Branch Members' Day on Saturday 6th April 2024 at Orton Hall, Greenwood Park Community Centre, Tippendell Lane, Chiswell Green, St Albans, AL2 3HW

What3words for the entrance drive to the carpark off Tippendell Lane is:

<https://w3w.co/nights.single.dull>

Programme

10:30 Doors open (coffee, tea and biscuits will be available)

10:45 Welcome from Branch Chair Malcolm Hull followed by a brief review of Branch activities in 2023 including a review of last financial year's accounts and **Election of Branch committee members.**

The Officers' reports for the meeting (i.e. a full list of Branch achievements in 2023 and Branch accounts for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023) have been made available on the Branch website [here](#).

[[https://hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk/Annual Review for 2024 Members' Day.pdf](https://hertsmiddx-butterflies.org.uk/Annual%20Review%20for%202024%20Members'%20Day.pdf)]

11:30 Meet the new Chair of Trustees - my background and thoughts about Butterfly Conservation - Martin Spray

Martin would like to hear members' views on Butterfly Conservation and welcomes the opportunity to talk to you during the day

Martin was elected Chair of the Trustees in November 2023. Now retired, Martin's career included 14 years in public organisations, followed by 32 years in the nature conservation sector.

12:00 Greenwood Chalk Bank – Malcolm Hull with Mandy Floyd

The story behind the making of the chalk bank

12:30 Lunch Break – a selection of sandwiches will be provided (we apologise but we can't cater for all dietary needs) followed by an optional walk to see the Chalk Bank (weather permitting). There will be an opportunity to buy raffle tickets and visit the Branch sales stand during the break.

14:00 British and Irish Butterfly Rarities - Peter Eeles

The theme of Peter's talk with our changing butterfly fauna - specifically, extinctions (such as the Black-veined White and Large Copper), rare migrants (such as the Camberwell Beauty and Long-tailed Blue) or introductions (such as the Geranium Bronze). There are 59 butterfly species that are considered resident or regular migrants to Britain and Ireland, yet there are another 63 species in the official checklist whose story deserves to be told.

Peter has always been interested in nature and butterflies in particular - fostered by a childhood spent in rural Gloucestershire. In 2002 he created the UK Butterflies website and is currently in his second stint as Chair of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch of BC. He was presented with the Marsh Award for the Promotion of Lepidoptera Conservation in 2016 and has authored two butterfly-related books - Life Cycles of British and Irish Butterflies (2019) and British and Irish Butterfly Rarities (2023). He retired from a 35-year

career in IT in 2022 and now works part-time as an independent ecologist and website developer.

15:00 Marvellous Moths and the Brilliant Brown Hairstreak – Liz Goodyear

A review of the new Herts and Middlesex Moth Group website; recording day-flying moths and a progress update on the amazing Brown Hairstreak expansion into Hertfordshire.

15:30 Tea Break and Raffle Draw

16:00 Members' Photos – a chance for members to show off their best photos (see below)

16:45 Closing Remarks

We have access to the hall from 10.00 so if you can help us set up the room please arrive a few minutes early. Help with washing up during the day and clearing up at the end of the day would also be appreciated.



Please do not attend if you have had a positive COVID-19 test within 7 days prior to the meeting or if you have any COVID symptoms – thank you.



Our sales stand will be present and, although the Branch is unable to process contactless payments, BACs payments will be accepted for larger Branch purchases (details will be available on the day).

Peter will be bringing copies of both his books - the books will be at the discounted rates of: Life Cycles - £30; Rarities - £25 or both for £50 (However, Peter does have a contactless machine so can accept cash or card payments.)



The Branch photo competition is having a break this year but there will be an opportunity for members to show off some of their best photos following the afternoon tea break. Photos may be of butterflies or moths, no more than 10 images per member and taken during 2023. They should be in jpg format, preferably no larger than 1 Mb each in size and to be sent no later than 31st March to [Andrew Wood](mailto:zoothorn@ntlworld.com), [email: zoothorn@ntlworld.com] who can also be contacted if further details are needed.



Details of how to get to Members' Day are on the next page.

HOW TO GET TO THE MEMBERS' DAY

By Rail:

Nearest stations – Abbey Line (Watford Junction – St Albans Abbey) How Wood or Park Street, less than 5 minutes by car, or an approx. 20 minute walk - see Abbey Line for timetable

www.abbeyline.org.uk.

By Bus:

652 St Albans – Watford stops outside the centre – see Intalink for timetable www.intalink.org.uk.

By Car:

The entrance to Greenwood Park and the Centre is located off Tippendell Lane close to the A405, approximately 1.5 miles from M25, J21A and 2 miles from M1 J6. At the Tippendell Lane roundabout on the A405 follow the signs to Greenwood Park. There is plenty of free car parking when you reach the centre.



Meeting Venue in Greenwood Park Community Centre

Site entrance on Tippendell Lane