

Cornwall
Butterfly
Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Annual General Meeting 2017

You are warmly welcome to join us in opening
“A box full of lepidoptera delights!”



Featuring Dr Jason Chapman, Associate Professor
at the University of Exeter and Dave Lamacraft,
Plantlife's IPA Lower Plants Champion.

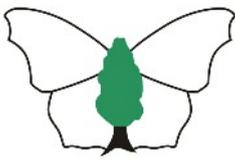
When: Saturday April 22nd from 10am to 4.30pm

Where: St. Erme Community Centre, Trispen, Truro TR4 9BD

The venue is opposite the large Honda garage, just off the main road.

Full directions here <http://www.stermecommunitycentre.co.uk/>





Stalls promoting our own work and that of many of our partner wildlife organisations in Cornwall.

10.00 Sign in. Entry on the door **£7.00** (students **£3.50**) includes pasty, savouries, cakes, tea & coffee.

10.15 The first public showing of our own film 'Cornwall's Butterflies - Back from the Brink'. A beautifully shot production that we commissioned from professional Falmouth film maker Nina Constable. Nina is dedicated to capturing and exploring the world we live in and believes in the power of film and photography to educate and inspire.

10.30 Formal AGM: Our business will include reports from the Chairman, Treasurer, County Butterfly Recorder, County Moth Recorder and Transect Coordinator. Also the election of Branch Committee Members. (Prospective Committee Members should contact the Branch Secretary Kathy Hicks 07870192958 secretary@cornwall-butterfly-conservation.org.uk).

11.30 Comfort break

11.45 Dave Lamacraft is Plantlife's IPA Lower Plants Champion. His talk '**Heavy Metal Lichens and the Wizard Lizard**' will look at the work Plantlife have been doing in Cornwall for lichens and bryophytes and their links to butterflies. Plantlife is the national charity that is speaking up for wild plants and actively campaigns on a number of issues affecting our wild plants and fungi.

12.45 Lunch – Time to enjoy the high quality food, catch up with friends, have a good look at the stalls and display stands **and purchase your raffle tickets!**

13.30 Dr Jason Chapman is Associate Professor at the University of Exeter. His talk will be '**Chasing the high fliers: Radar studies of migration in moths**'. Dr Chapman is a movement ecologist interested in the evolution of animal migration strategies, and the population and community-level effects of these long-range movements. He studies insects and birds to answer these questions and uses novel technologies including biological radars, weather radars, meteorological simulations, tethered flight techniques and genomic approaches to characterise their migration ecology. Since recently moving to Cornwall he's enjoying its excellent moth migration opportunities.

14.30 Break

14:45 Ellie Mayhew and **Harry Drew**, who are both studying Conservation Biology and Ecology at the University of Exeter will talk on "**Gems of the Countryside: Cornwall's Invertebrate Life**". This will look at the many fascinating insects that you may meet on a CBC field trip.

15:15 Sally Foster, Biological Surveyor and long standing CBC volunteer will tell us about '**My love affair with the Silver-studded Blue**'.

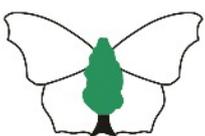
15:45 Fundraising raffle

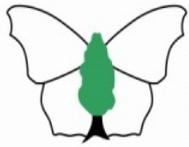
16:15 And finally, by popular demand, talented song writer and singer **Malcolm Pinch** will be performing again with the CBC Volunteer Ensemble!

16.30 A great day ends! St Erme Community Centre bar will be open if you wish to stay longer.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Any questions ask Jo: publicity@cornwall-butterfly-conservation.org.uk





Cornwall Butterfly Conservation

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10.00am Saturday 22nd April 2017

St Erme Community Centre, Castle Field, Trispen, Truro TR4 9BH

AGENDA

1. **Welcome & Introduction Members and Speakers**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Matters arising from the 2016 AGM minutes;** and their approval
4. **Chairman's report. On the table**
5. **Treasurer's report & approval of annual accounts. On the table**
6. **Election of officers:** One third of the Branch in seniority rotation & any members co-opted onto the Committee since the previous AGM shall retire & be eligible for re-election. This will apply to the following Committee members:

Committee members co-opted during the year:

Jim Cooper

Committee members retiring & eligible for re-election:

Philip Hambly (Chairman)
Jo Poland (Publicity Officer & Fundraising Officer)
Tristram Besterman (Committee member)
Carly Riley (Health & Safety Officer)

Committee members retiring & not standing for re-election:

Jim Barker (Branch Contact & Transect Coordinator)
Gordon Thomas (Treasurer)
Kathy Hicks (Secretary)
7. **Reports from County Butterfly Recorder**
8. **Reports from Transect Coordinator**
9. **Any Other Business** [any matters which you would wish your Committee to discuss at a future committee meeting]
10. **Close of AGM**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Cornwall Butterfly Conservation (CBC) held on 12 March 2016

WELCOME

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all members, attendees and speakers. He also welcomed Nina Constable who was filming proceedings and asked anyone not happy to be filmed to advise him. He also welcomed the speakers, Professor Jeremy Thomas and Ben Porter, as well as Malcolm Pinch.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. Apologies had been received from Gordon Thomas. Dick Ashford. Sally Foster. Kelly Uren.

MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on the 12 March 2015 were accepted as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

4. The Chairman made the following points in his report:
 - A vote of thanks was given to volunteers and the Committee for their hard work over the last year.
 - At the point of the AGM, CBC could call on the services of some 140 volunteers who have contributed to working parties, fundraising and the success of CBC.
 - Particular acknowledgement and thanks was given to the members of CBC who had responded to an appeal for funds and raised £1,500 towards conservation work by CBC.
 - There had been a tremendous increases in membership over the last year
 - The CBC website has been revamped and now provides site information sheets
 - The Butterfly Observer magazine had become the best and biggest to date
 - CBC fieldtrips and transects had reached record numbers

- Relationships with conservation organisations had been strengthened (such as Natural England and Cornwall Wildlife Trust) and links with local business had been forged (like Classic Cottages and Tulip)
- CBC had benefitted from continued support from Butterfly Conservation Head Office.
- The upcoming retirement of Chief Executive Martin Warren was announced and a note from Martin about CBC was read out.
- The upcoming retirement of Adrian Spalding was announced. Adrian is to become the President of the British Entomological and Natural History Society. The Chairman thanked Adrian for his long service and contribution to CBC.

Adrian gave a brief, illustrated presentation on his time with CBC and outlined 23 years of progress and change.

TREASURER'S REPORT

5. The meeting received a summary of the Branch's accounts for the 2015 financial year-end, on behalf of the Treasurer. The financial position remained healthy, although the accounts had not been formally signed-off for the preceding 12 months. To the period ending 29th February 2016, CBC had received £5,474.11 income and incurred £4,922.66 expenditure. A sum of £700 was awaiting payment and would be used towards habitat improvement and conservation work.

It was AGREED to approve the accounts.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6. In accordance with Branch rules, one third of the Committee were required to retire, in seniority rotation, together with any Committee members co-opted since the last AGM. All were eligible for re-election.

In the absence of other proposals, it was proposed and seconded that the following officers co-opted in the previous year be confirmed as members of the Committee in their current positions:

Gordon Thomas (Treasurer); Kathy Hicks (Secretary); Kathy Wood (Membership Secretary); and Kelly Uren (Committee Member).

Committee members re-elected were:

Jim Barker (Transect Coordinator); Carly Riley (Health & Safety Officer); and Dick Goodere (Country Recorder).

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Committee Members who would be retiring after the AGM (Adrian Spalding and Jenny Evans).

COUNTY BUTTERFLY RECORDER'S REPORT

7. The County Butterfly Recorder, Dick Goodere, gave a report outlining results from recording during 2015. He noted that the number of records were slightly down from 2014, which was to be expected due to weather conditions. 27 species were recorded, including 10 out of the 20 UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species. He drew attention to the following points:
- Records are compiled, filtered and verified from the transect surveys; Big Butterfly Count; Wider Countryside Scheme; iapp Records; Garden Watch; BTO and Migrant Watch.
 - Small Tortoiseshell records were down by 50% from 2014.
 - Painted Ladies had their best year out of the last 5.
 - Clouded Yellows had their lowest number in 5 years. 2015: 91 Clouded Yellow records (107 butterflies seen), whereas 2014: 759 were counted.
 - Brown Argus remains elusive and possibly under-recorded, although the Penhale records boosted the numbers seen to a staggering 597.
 - Purple Hairstreak abundance was slightly up on 2014
 - Green Hairstreak was down on 2014.
 - Dark Green Fritillary records were up slightly on 2014.
 - Silver-washed Fritillary records were very similar to 2014.
 - Dingy Skipper has diminished over the last 5 years which is against the national trend. It still thrives on Penhale and Perran Sands - 260 out of 277 recorded in 2015 are from that area, may mask the bigger picture of a substantial fall in distribution.
 - The Grizzled Skipper is still doing reasonably well on Penhale and Perran sands, which is its only site in Cornwall - 49 were counted in 2015.
 - Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary continues to fluctuate annually, but although 2015 was comparable to 2014, there has been a downward trend overall.



- Pearl-bordered Fritillary records and numbers were down in 2015, although total numbers are still respectable thanks to the counts from the Marsland reserve. CBC has concentrated efforts and funds on supporting conservation work for this butterfly in the Bodmin area.
- Marsh Fritillary records have benefitted from the concentration of systematic searches on Bodmin Moor by CBC volunteers. 51 records were submitted from a total of 30 sites. This butterfly does not appear to be present in mid-Cornwall (apart from Breney) any longer.
- Silver-studded Blues continue to be a success story and appear to be expanding their range since 2000.
- Wall is of national concern and has fluctuated considerably over the last 5 years. It did well in Cornwall in 2014 but fell by a third in 2015.
- Small Heath is of national concern but records have increased in 2015 to 28 (with 288 butterflies counted, compared with 163 in 2014).
- Grayling is in national decline and numbers in Cornwall have fluctuated. 2015 was similar to 2014, but with an increase in abundance.
- Heath Fritillary has done well in 2015 with 287 at Luckett compared with 163 in 2014.
- White-letter Hairstreak has not been seen again after the excitement of 2014, but there was a credible sighting of a Small-blue near Bude and a sighting of a Long-tailed Blue near Bodmin.

TRANSECT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

8. The Transect Coordinator, Jim Barker, gave a report on transect activity in 2015. All corners of the county had been covered from a total of 26 transects and results had been informative and surprising, highlighting an increase in numbers overall with dominance by the Gatekeeper and Meadow Brown. Total butterflies counted: circa 19,300 with 32 species, with the largest number of butterflies recorded from Upton Towans and the greatest species diversity on the Lizard Peninsula.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. The Chairman thanked volunteers who had helped run the AGM, and in particular Shaun and Jo Poland for their hard work in organising the full day of events.

CLOSE OF MEETING

10. The Chairman closed the Annual General Meeting.