

# Pamber Forest Nature Reserve

## Quarterly Newsletter



Hampshire &  
Isle of Wight  
Wildlife Trust

## October 2020

With no volunteer work parties the late summer/autumn has been very quiet until their resumption on 4th September. It has been a challenge getting the volunteers going again as procedures and guidance has changed rapidly more than once so that we are currently only able to run work parties with reduced numbers, but this is better than nothing; so work has restarted just in time for the coppicing season.

In contrast survey and monitoring have largely been unaffected and so progress has been at full swing. The moth traps have been set up on site on frequent occasions with varying results. The most significant records have been of Dark Crimson Underwing; an RDB species previously confined to the New Forest. This appears to be breeding on the reserve now with 3 recorded this summer, on 11th and 31st July and 14th September.

Other nationally scarce species recorded for the first time were Sallow Clearwing and Lunar Hornet Moth



*Dark Crimson Underwing*

both to pheromone lures in July, a White-line Snout on 13th July and a Webb's Wainscot on 7th August, a wanderer from its usual reedbed haunts.

On the butterfly transect the year was very average with 3800 recorded. Meadow Brown had a record year with over 1000 for the first time, but others had a poor year, included in this were White Admiral, Silver-washed Fritillary and Speckled Wood. A single Grayling was

recorded, only the second ever recorded on the transect. On 20th August an Oak Eggar was spotted while conducting the transect, a very rare sighting for this site.

2 Honey Buzzards were seen on 2nd August but were not seen again despite much searching. It was a good year for Spotted Flycatchers with at least 7 pairs holding territory and two of these producing fledged young.

The third week in August saw the first rain since mid-March and the response of the fungi was quick to follow with a superb display in mid-September with numerous boletes, russulas and parasols; this was followed in late



*Fly Agaric*

September by the appearance of the Fly Agaric under the birch trees

**Graham Dennis**

Basingstoke Area Reserves Officer

07770891126 [Graham.Dennis@hiwwt.org.uk](mailto:Graham.Dennis@hiwwt.org.uk)



Basingstoke  
and Deane