

Results from Butterfly Junction Big Butterfly Count 2017



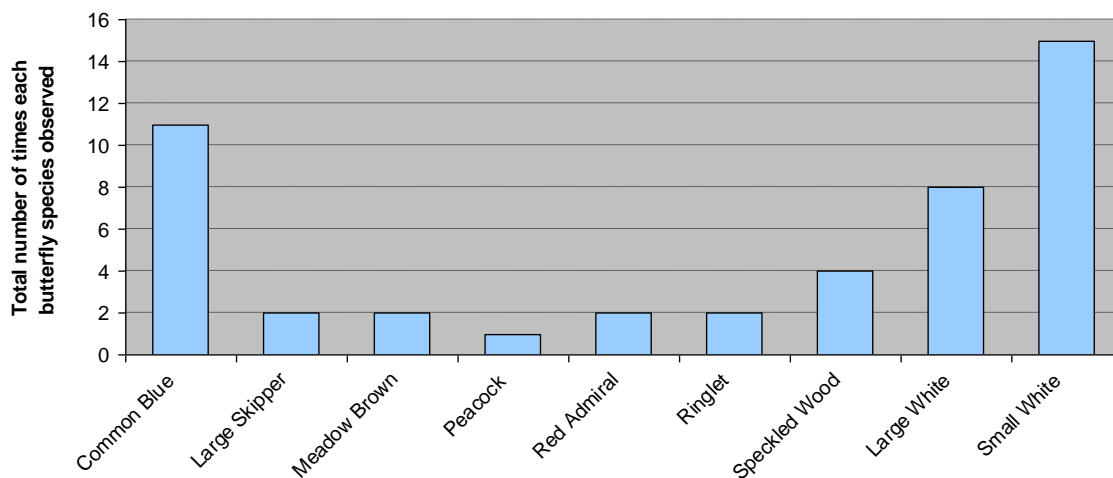
Last year, between 14th July and 6th August, FRANC carried out a survey of the butterfly population at Butterfly Junction, as part of the annual nationwide Big Butterfly Count organised by *Butterfly Conservation*.

The results of the survey have been analysed and are listed in the table below, where the table columns list the date and start time of each survey period, the

initials of the observer and the numbers of each butterfly species that were seen over a 15-minute period. The table rows contain the results for the dates and times at which each 15-minute survey was conducted. In all a total of sixteen visits were made to Butterfly Junction to record butterfly sightings by those who took part in the survey.

A simple summation of the numbers observed of each particular species could be misleading, as it is possible that the same individual butterfly could be seen by different observers on different days (or, in some instances, even on the same day!). Consequently, the bar chart below simply records the total number of times that each butterfly species was observed during the 47 observations that were made:

Date	Start Time	Initials of Observer	Number of butterfly species observed during 15-minute period after start time									
			Common Blue	Large Skipper	Meadow Brown	Peacock	Red Admiral	Ringlet	Speckled Wood	Large White	Small White	
14/07/2017	13:15	JC / RC		1	1						1	
17/07/2017	13:05	JC / RC	2							2	1	
18/07/2017	10:35	JC	1		1		1					1
19/07/2017	13:05	RC	None seen today (grey and overcast)									
20/07/2017	10:35	JC	2	1			1		1	2		
24/07/2017	13:25	RC	2							2	1	
25/07/2017	10:20	JC	2			1		1	1	1		
25/07/2017	14:45	DH	2			1					2	
27/07/2017	14:15	JC	2								2	
31/07/2017	15:00	DH						1	1	3		
01/08/2017	11:00	RS	1								4	
01/08/2017	16:45	JC	1					1	1	2		
04/08/2017	13:15	RC									1	
04/08/2017	15:05	DH	1					1		3		
05/08/2017	10:40	JC	2							3	3	
05/08/2017	13:15	PF		2						6	2	



A total of 9 different butterfly species were seen, the most frequent being Large or Small Whites and Common Blues. Speckled Wood, Meadow Brown, Large Skipper, Red Admiral and Ringlet were observed during two or more visits, but the Peacock species was seen only once.

The number of site visits last year (16) was over twice the number achieved during the previous year (7). However, there were apparently no sightings of Comma, Marbled White or Holly Blue butterflies last year.

Thanks are due to the five observers – Jane and Richard Clutterbuck, Pat Fung, Derek Hughes and Rachel Sellers – who took part in the 2017 survey.