



HERTS MOTH GROUP

Newsletter number 17

Winter 2010/2011

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INDOOR MEETING 2011

I have booked the usual venue – **Havers Community Centre, Bishops Stortford** – for this winter’s Herts Moth Group annual indoor meeting. The date is

SATURDAY 9th April 2011 – from 2pm to 6 pm

The date avoids conflicting with various other events and to ensure that Anglian Lepidopterists Supplies are able to be present. People wishing to order equipment, chemicals etc are recommended to do so from ALS in advance and collect at the meeting to save on postage (especially helpful if ordering chemicals or large/bulky/heavy items). You are invited to discuss your needs *without commitment* with Jon Clifton at ALS on 01263-862068. Our guest speaker will be

MARK PARSONS —
on the subject
MOTH CONSERVATION in BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION

In case anyone is confused, Mark works on moths for the national organisation called Butterfly Conservation and will be talking about his organisations significant role in moth conservation activities.

This is our one and only indoor meeting of the year. **Everyone is welcome** – please bring friends and relatives. There is full access for the disabled. Admission is free – there will be the usual voluntary and totally anonymous whip-round on the day to fund the room hire, catering and guest speaker’s travel costs. These will be totalled and then divided by the number of people attending - those who are financially challenged can put in a lesser amount and the filthy rich amongst you can put in more if you wish. Any surplus is applied back into the group (any loss will be borne by me). The indoor meeting is always an **informal** event. Although we do have an invited speaker, nobody really wants to be sat in a formal lecture – so that is not what we provide. The presentation will be short and informal, whilst still being informative, and there will be opportunity to ask questions after the talk during a prolonged tea/coffee break. Our speakers usually stay around for the rest of the afternoon so are available for chatting to.

Please bring exhibits. We welcome specimens (live or dead) or photos at your discretion. Perhaps interesting captures from 2010, or a display of related species for ID purposes, caterpillars you are rearing, leaf-miners, gall-causers, - anything at all to do with moths. We especially welcome photos and specimens for identification. Photo prints or specimens should be laid out for everyone to see and add names to (you may want to prepare an “answer” sheet for people to write on). Digital images for ID are best shown in the informal session after the tea break.

A draft programme for the day and directions on how to find the meeting place follow. There is free on street parking in the general area and there is a pub, a cake/hot pasty shop, a chippie and a Chinese take-away all a minute’s walk from the meeting.

HOW TO GET THERE

By train: London Liverpool Street to Cambridge line. The Stanstead Express also usually stops at Bishops Stortford. To walk from station 20 minutes or get a taxi outside the door (expected fare approximately £5).

By bus: Not advised. Better to get a taxi.

By car: Start from A, B or D depending on where you are coming from and follow the instructions as follows:

- A** **From the west** From the A.10 turn right at the roundabout and go eastwards on the A.120. When you reach the ring road (first roundabout after leaving the A.10) turn right and follow the ring anti-clockwise over 6 roundabouts until you reach the end at roundabout 7. Turn left here towards Bishops Stortford then follow directions given below at **C**.
- B** **From the south** From Harlow northwards on the A.1184. After Sawbridgeworth (double roundabout) the next roundabout is the Bishops Stortford ring road. Go straight on then follow directions below at **C**.
- C** At the third set of lights (second set is a pedestrian crossing) turn left into Thorley Hill then follow directions below at **E**.
- D** **From the M11 motorway** Exit at junction 8 (Bishops Stortford and Birchanger Services). **From the south** go up the slip road to the lights and take the second left (first is the services) on the A120. **From the north** go up the slip to the lights then straight across the gap in the roundabout (middle lane) to the next lights where you bear right back onto the roundabout proper. Pass the slip road back on to the southbound M11 and then get over to the left and take the second exit (the first is the services) – the A120. **From both directions** at the next roundabout (after 100 yards or so) turn left towards the town centre on the A1250. Follow this road all the way to town over a roundabout, pedestrian lights, a mini-roundabout, more pedestrian lights at Hockerill College (on your right) until you reach the “real” lights at the crossroads with the A.1060. Turn left here. Go over the pedestrian lights and at the mini-roundabout turn right over the railway bridge. Follow the road to the end then bear left (petrol station on your right). At the first traffic lights turn right into Thorley Hill and follow directions below at **E**.
- E** Go up the hill, down the dip, up again and at the top bear left (shops on your left) then turn right more or less immediately into Cemetery Road. After 100 yards turn left into Benhooks Avenue then **immediately** right, then **immediately** right again into the Centre. Car parking is free “on street” in the adjacent residential area. Please leave the spaces on the centre forecourt for the guest speaker and those carrying equipment.

DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR INDOOR MEETING

(All times are approximate – we do things *somewhat informally*)

- 1.30 – 2.00: Setting up of tables and chairs etc, laying out of exhibits, boiling the kettle etc
- 1.45 – 2.15: **Assemble.** Free tea/coffee/biscuits (and hopefully some home made cakes!), look at exhibits, chat
- 2.15 – 2.45 **Welcoming remarks.** Update on moth recording in Herts and Middlesex by Colin Plant (County Moth Recorder) and Andrew Wood (Moth Officer for Herts & Essex Butterfly Conservation).
- 2.45 – 3.15** **Mark Parsons - Butterfly Conservation, Dorset**
Informal presentation on the role of Butterfly Conservation, the organisation, in moth conservation, the activity – followed by informal questions and answers/discussion during the tea break.
- 3.15 – 3.45: Free tea/coffee/biscuits/(cakes?) — self-service during informal questions to the speaker
- 3.45 – 5.45: Informal presentations by members and guests. Please bring digital images, PowerPoint presentations etc for projection (USB stick, CD, laptop all acceptable). If bringing old-fashioned photo slides please tell Colin Plant in advance so he can bring a projector. The less material you bring, the more likely you are to get my latest Bulgarian moth holiday snaps again – you have been warned!
- 5.45 – 6.00 Volunteers willing and able to help put away the tables and chairs and return the meeting room to the state in which we found it are sought! We are required to be out by 6 pm or we will incur a further fee.

2010 FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME

The continuing recession and my need to pay the bills means that I still don't have the luxury of committing too many weekends to moth trips. However, a small number of events are being organised by myself and Andrew Wood and we will hopefully have a brief programme by the time of the indoor meeting. If you have an moth event that you would like to open up to fellow members (in either Herts or Middlesex) please let me or Andrew know the details so we can include it.

Paper copies of this notice have been generously printed and distributed for the Group by the

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