

**Cornwall Butterfly & Moth Society  
Newsletter**

**September 2015      Issue 01**



**Welcome to our first newsletter for Cornwall Butterfly and Moth Society! (CBMS)**

CBMS was formed as a completely new organisation to embrace a variety of interests and opinions regarding the welfare of both butterflies and moths. A feature of the new group is a willingness to listen to other opinions in a respectful way whilst sharing a common interest in butterflies, moths and other forms of wildlife, fresh air, exercise and good companionship.

**AGM**

Thank you to all members for a very successful AGM attended by 70 people. We now have in excess of 100 members! We had three excellent speakers; Adrian Spalding, Paul Browning and John Chapple with Kathryn Jones. Following the meeting we received confirmation from the Charity Commission to say our application had been approved as a registered charity. The AGM for 2016 will be scheduled for February with confirmation of date.

**Membership Secretary**

Lisa Slaughter has kindly volunteered to be Membership Secretary and will take over as soon as Keith Wilson is able to securely transfer the membership records. It is important to note that only basic information, i.e. name, membership number and email address will be kept and of course whether you have paid! No information will be given to any other person or organisation. In the case of children we will only record the email address of a nominated parent. Only the Secretary and Membership Secretary have access to membership records.

## **Questionnaire**

Thank you to all members who completed the recently issued questionnaire. At present the Trustees are collating the data and will hopefully have information soon.

## **Butterfly Recording**

The Trustees are pleased to announce that Rob Nicholls has agreed to be the Butterfly Recorder for Cornwall Butterfly and Moth Society. We will advise members of the new procedures as soon as they are available. Records of sightings are already being kept and these will be passed on to Rob. This only affects the recording of butterflies. Moth sightings should still be sent to Leon Truscott, County Moth Recorder.

## **Goodbye to two dear friends**

It is with regret that we say goodbye to two popular and local enthusiasts Colin Field and Steve Bassett, who died recently. Many friends of Colin and Steve have generously contributed funds to purchase a memorial bench and plaques in remembrance of them currently sited at Trelusback.



## **Colin Field**

Colin was probably known mainly by those who had been involved in conservation at one of our sites because he was a person who could be relied upon whenever we needed help. He was one of the founder members of CBMS and attended a few of the first breeding group meetings despite ill health. We were fortunate to receive Colin's help at several sites where he worked hard removing invasive scrub whilst always being quietly cheerful and

friendly to others. He hoped his membership will be continued by his daughter Vicky and much treasured granddaughter Seren.

### **Steve Bassett**

Steve was popular among butterfly enthusiasts and was a stalwart supporter of Cornwall's butterflies for many years. He was only 54 years old and leaves a wife, Liz, and two daughters, Natasha & Alexandra.

### **BBQ**



On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August we had in the region of 70 people attended the BBQ including three respected butterfly and moth book authors. We were very lucky with the weather and apart from a little drizzle before everyone arrived it was dry with sunny intervals.

The BBQ was held to raise money for the Motor Neurone Disease Charity and our members/guests were very generous. Over £300 was donated and thanks to our many unpaid volunteers we will be able to send most of that money to the charity. None of the helpers claimed expenses or payment for their services, several people donated food including delicious cakes and none of the money was taken by Cornwall Butterfly and Moth Society (CBMS) who hosted the event.

Thanks to Carol, Janet, Becky and helpers for looking after us and providing excellent food. Carol and Janet have given their services free of charge every year that we have held Open Days at Trelusback and even provided most of the equipment. Their generous help has enabled us to raise substantial amounts of money in previous years for Butterfly Conservation, Cancer Research, Parkinson's disease and this year for Motor Neurone

Disease. Thanks also to all the other members of CBMS who helped including Dave Spencer who kept us in order. My apologies to those I have not mentioned.

The moth night which was held on the previous evening was well attended despite the full moon and clear skies. Traps were provided by Frank Johns, John Foster, Tony and Pat James. Two of our members Steve Ogden and Dave Spencer also ran moth traps at the nearby Stithians Lake to help the South West Lakes Trust with their excellent event which was held on the same day.

## **Field trips**

Our programme of field trips for 2015 has been extremely well attended and we've been very fortunate to have good weather. Please visit our website at [www.cornwallbutterflyandmothsociety.org.uk](http://www.cornwallbutterflyandmothsociety.org.uk) for details of the sightings. This year we have not been able to provide as many field trips as we would like but hope to give a wider choice of events for 2016 and in particular more events on Sundays to cater for those who have to work on Saturdays. Volunteers needed please to act as field trip leaders.

## **Moth Enthusiasts**

We have a large and growing number of moth enthusiasts amongst our membership and will therefore be arranging a greater number of moth trapping events for 2016. If you are able to host a moth trapping event please contact Lee Slaughter. The event can be anywhere in Cornwall as long as someone is prepared to organise it.

## **Photos**



We will try to include photos from members in our newsletters or on our website according to workload and editing by our volunteers. We have no paid staff therefore please do not be offended if your photos are not used.

Photo Sue Netherton, South East Cornwall

## Social event



We would like to invite you and your family to our first **Christmas Party on Sunday, 13 December 2015** for a 3 course all you can eat buffet at the Nepalese Ghurkha Restaurant in St Austell. £12.99 per person for the buffet.

Dinner starts at 6:30pm followed by a "Fun Wildlife Quiz". Prize for the winning team. Maximum of 4 persons in a team. Entry is just £2.

Members are encouraged to bring "ONE" of their best photos from this summer 2015 for the Photography Competition.

There will be a RAFFLE with fantastic prizes.

For bookings and enquiries, please contact Rowena Castillo Nicholls, Telephone No: 01726 884600 or Email Address: [wen\\_castle@yahoo.com](mailto:wen_castle@yahoo.com)



**The Trustees would like to thank you all for your valuable support throughout 2015 and look forward to even greater success during 2016!**

**Cornwall Butterfly and Moth Society**

Charity registered in England (1160409)

**Registered Office:** Trelusback Farm, Penhalvean, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6TQ