

# Butterfly List

(Roger Hewitt and Ian Cross)

## Affpuddle & Turnerspudde Parish

Updated: December 2017

NB – the order in which they are listed is the traditional way they are arranged, starting with those that evolved earliest.

Butterfly List	Comments
<b>Small Skipper</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Essex Skipper</b>	Scarcer than Small Skipper but may be under-recorded.
<b>Large Skipper</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Grizzled Skipper</b>	<p>Mainly seen on ride edges in Moreton Plantation where flailing of coarse growth produces local flushes of Wild Strawberry, the main caterpillar foodplant. Not usually seen in the villages themselves, though one was seen at the Dairy Ring, Briantspudde, in 2011. Scarce and declining.</p> <div data-bbox="687 1079 1315 1541" data-label="Image"></div> <div data-bbox="1326 1196 1522 1312" data-label="Caption"><p>Photo: Ian Cross</p></div>
<b>Dingy Skipper</b>	Very scarce. Infrequent sightings on the flowery edges of heathland tracks but not usually seen in the villages themselves.
<b>Clouded Yellow</b>	A regular migrant visitor seen in most years. The field below the quarry at Kite Hill was a hotspot when it had a crop of Lucerne.
<b>Brimstone</b>	Regularly seen. Mainly breeds on Alder Buckthorn in the parish. However, it uses Purging Buckthorn where this was introduced to a Briantspudde garden and may use this as a caterpillar foodplant where the chalk outcrops in the north of the parish.
<b>Large White</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Small White</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Green-veined White</b>	Regularly seen.

<b>Orange Tip</b>	Regularly seen. Caterpillars regularly found on Hedge Garlic and Ladies Smock.
<b>Green Hairstreak</b>	Local on the heaths in areas where there is mature gorse. Doesn't tend to visit gardens.
<b>Purple Hairstreak</b>	Very local. Culpepper's Dish is a good site but probably under-recorded due to its habit of keeping to the treetops.
<b>Small Copper</b>	Regularly seen. Visits village gardens but most frequent on heathland rides.
<b>Common Blue</b>	Frequently recorded. Can breed in village gardens if Bird's-foot Trefoil is grown in wild areas. For example a small colony was established in a Briantspuddle garden for many years and caterpillars were often found. However, has declined recently.
<b>Silver-studded Blue</b>	Strictly confined to areas of damp heathland where it can be locally frequent. Highly unlikely in the villages as it is a very sedentary butterfly and rarely wanders.
<p><b>Adonis Blue</b></p> <p><i>The only one not actually spotted in the parish – but may be the next one to be recorded.</i></p> <p><i>Keep a look out!</i></p>	<p>A colony at Weatherby Castle, only a few hundred metres outside the parish, where it was recorded as recently as 2011 and probably still exists. Wanderers could potentially reach flowery areas on the northern fringes of the parish though none have been recorded yet.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto;"> <p>Photo: Ian Cross</p> </div>
<b>Brown Argus</b>	Usually very local. It was recorded regularly in a village garden when Common Rockrose, its caterpillar foodplant, was established but usually doesn't breed in gardens.
<b>Holly Blue</b>	Widespread and frequent, a regular visitor to most village gardens.
<b>White Admiral</b>	After a gap of many years has reappeared recently. Still rather scarce. The reasons for its long absence and recent recolonisation are unclear. Its caterpillar feeds on Honeysuckle, which is suppressed by high deer populations. Perhaps recent deer culling is having an effect and is allowing Honeysuckle to flourish again.
<b>Red Admiral</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Painted Lady</b>	Regularly seen, though only occasionally as frequent as the Red Admiral.
<b>Small Tortoiseshell</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Peacock</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Comma</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Silver-washed Fritillary</b>	Regular visitor. The <b>only</b> fritillary butterfly likely to be seen in village gardens or, indeed, the parish in general.

<b>Dark Green Fritillary</b>	A female near the quarry below Kite Hill in 2010. Despite her fresh condition, almost certainly a visitor from a breeding area outside the parish. A sharply-declining butterfly in inland Dorset, it would be interesting to establish where the nearest breeding colony is as most colonies are on the coast these days.
<b>Speckled Wood</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Wall</b>	Infrequently seen. Declining rapidly at inland sites, this butterfly is giving great cause for concern and is on the Red List where it is classified as "Near Threatened".
<b>Marbled White</b>	Occasionally seen. Small colonies breed on grassy heathland rides and road verges in the parish and strays from these occasionally reach gardens.
<b>Grayling</b>	Good populations on the heathlands. A very scarce, stray visitor to village gardens where it doesn't breed.
<b>Gatekeeper</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Meadow Brown</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Ringlet</b>	Regularly seen.
<b>Small Heath</b>	Regularly seen along heathland rides. A scarce visitor to the village as it breeds on fine grasses and therefore rarely breeds in gardens.