

July 31st 2015 – big butterfly survey

15 min walk from entrance to Millennium Seat plus what seen on return route

Butterfly	Entrance to seat upper path	Return by lower route	Total
Green veined white	2	1	3
Gatekeeper	15	6	21
Large skipper	1	5	6
Large white	4	3	7
Meadow brown	19	11	30
Ringlet	5	3	8
Small skipper	5	1	6
Small tortoiseshell	1	0	1
Small white	7	5	12
Marbled white	4	0	4
Comma	1		1
Total	64	35	99

This survey was about a week later than in 2014 and butterfly numbers are only about half those recorded last year. However marbled whites have done really well this year – widespread in both fields during July. There is still the problem that by the time our knapweed comes out they are almost over!

There were good numbers of peacocks, brimstones and tortoiseshells earlier in the year and red admirals seen occasionally from January onwards.