

## 6th August 2016 – 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	7	4	11
Gatekeeper	11	1	12
Large white	2	7	9
Meadow brown	12	2	14
Ringlet	1	0	1
Small white	7	5	12
Brimstone	1	2	3
Total	41	21	62

I did this survey a week later than last year and two weeks later than in 2014. This partly accounts for the lower numbers and fewer species and is comparable with 2013 when I did the survey on 7<sup>th</sup> August. The survey can be done between 15<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August so in future I will try to do it in the third week of July.

Whites seem to have had a good year – particularly on my cabbages! My impression is that there were fewer ringlets and meadow browns than last year and I would have expected more gatekeepers than I recorded.

At the beginning of July the Marbled whites were very numerous in the second field – I saw around 50 one day. In the first field the numbers were much as usual in a good year.

Peacocks and tortoiseshells were seen earlier in the year but numbers seem to be down in August. I have only seen a few blues.

It is worth noting that the greatest numbers of butterflies were again seen along the small wetland coming down from 'Gores' field.

WJ Aug 2016