**Report for 2014 – Bingham Linear Park, Butterfly Transect**

2014 was the seventh year of my butterfly transect down Bingham Linear Park. The notable features of this year were:

* This was the best year yet for Grizzled Skippers – thanks to the efforts of the Grizzled Skipper Project. On a fine day in May a group of us spotted over 10 individuals, flying, mating and egg laying.
* A pair of Marbled Whites were seen over a few weeks in early summer. In 2013 one Marbled White was seen and that was the first one for several decades so it was good to see them return and it will be interesting to see if the numbers increase in 2015.
* There were no significant influxes of any species from the continent so the overall numbers were not anything special (not as many as last year but better than 2011 and 2012). See graph of number of butterflies on each date below.
* The number of species seen was not as high as last year (23 as opposed to 26) but still higher than previous years:

The total numbers of butterflies compared with previous years:

* Species such as Speckled Wood, Orange Tip, Ringlet, Red Admiral, Brimstone and Common Blue continue to be present at similar levels to previous years.
* Other species such as Small Heath, Small Tortoiseshell, Large Skipper may be in decline but variation from year to year make this hard to be certain.
* Good to see Brown Argus is still present albeit in small numbers.

Overall the largest number of individuals seen in 2014 were: Ringlet 310, Small White 283, Meadow Brown 173.

Jenny Craig

Secretary

Friends of Bingham Linear Park

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Pictures of Marbled White by Bill Bacon:



