

## **A Summary of Butterfly Sightings in the London Borough of Bexley 2017 (Issue no. 1)**

On the basis of somewhat Limited Data (Records), we are able to identify 'First Sightings' of Butterflies seen in the London Borough of Bexley during 2017 (to 8 April) as follows:

**Brimstone** ~ first seen on 2 March in the Lamorbey Park area

**Comma** ~ first seen on 9 March in Braeburn Park

**Green Hairstreak** ~ first seen on 6 April beside the Thames Path in the Belvedere area



**Green-Veined White** ~ first seen on 27 March beside Norman Road North

**Holly Blue** ~ first seen on 2 April in the Lamorbey Park area

**Orange-Tip** ~ first seen on 28 March in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area

**Peacock** ~ first seen on 9 March in Braeburn Park, beside the Thames Path in the Erith area and Lesnes Abbey Park/Woods

**Red Admiral** ~ first seen on 20 January in Sidcup High Street

**Small Tortoiseshell** ~ first seen on 24 February in the Grounds at Hall Place

**Small White** ~ first seen on 11 March beside a Public Footpath in the Erith area

**Speckled Wood** ~ first seen on 15 March in Foots Cray Meadows

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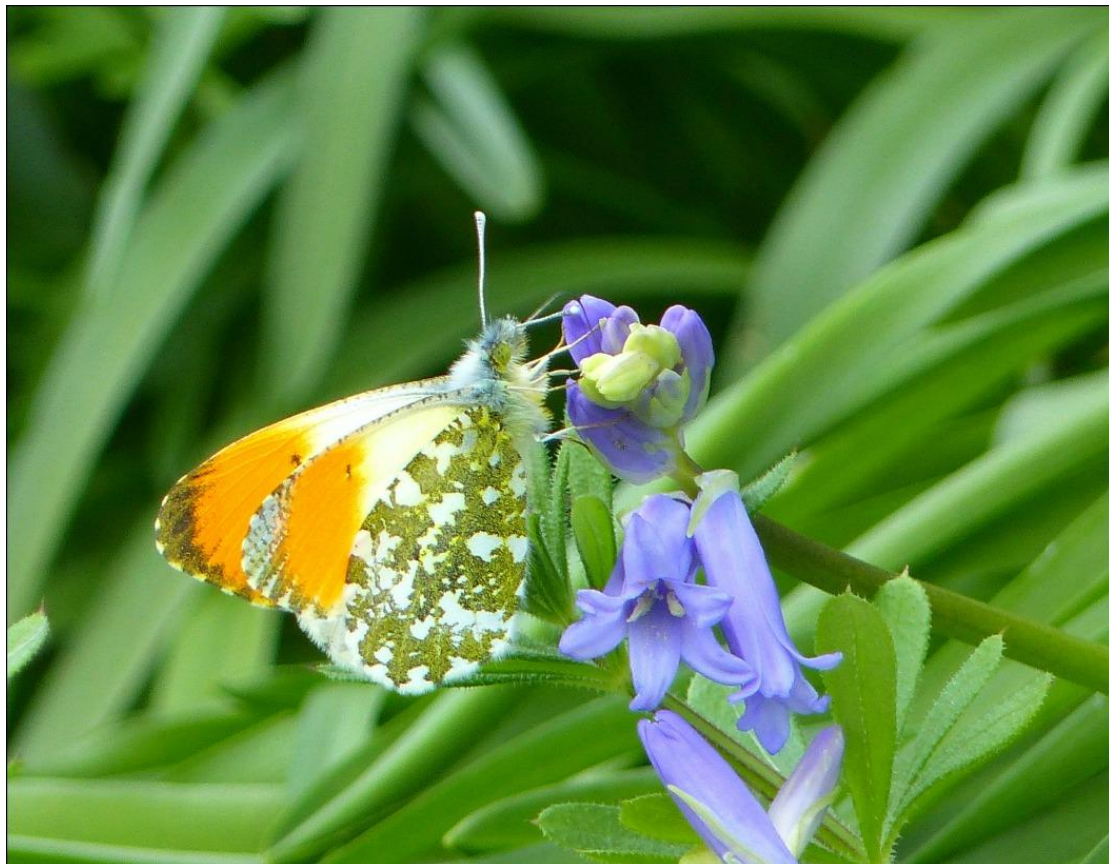
The following Table shows the Highest (Confirmed) Recorded Counts per Species any one Site on any one Day as at 31 March:

**Brimstone:** 9 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March

**Comma:** 10 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March

**Green-Veined White** \*: 5 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March

**Orange-Tip:** 9 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March



**Peacock:** 27 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March

**Red Admiral:** just a single Butterfly in various locations

**Small Tortoiseshell:** 'at least' 8 in the Thames Road Wetlands on 15 March

**Small White** \*: 5 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 28 March

**Speckled Wood:** 3 Butterflies in the Crossness Nature Reserve and Surrounding area on 30 March

\* It must be borne in mind that due to difficulties in differentiating these Butterflies when in flight &c. (by us at least) the figures shown represent minimums and the actual figures will be very much Higher.

The foregoing was compiled from Records [i] received with thanks and submitted to us by John Archer, Jim Butler, Steve Carter, Chris Rose, Ian Stewart and Ralph Todd, [ii] Records extracted from the Bexley Butterfly and Moth Group Facebook' Pages and [iii] our own Records.

Should anyone else wish to submit Records (preferably on a monthly basis) it is possible/probable that we will be able to update the 'First Sightings'. And it will mean that future summaries will offer a more accurate view of butterfly activity.

Mike Robinson  
8 April 2017