

## **Butterfly Report for Holme Park Quarry LNR Management Committee 2016**

The overall count of 223 for 2016 was very low. Without Ringlets the count was well below average, the lowest since 2003 when the count began. Owing mainly to unsuitable weather there were no records for 10 of the 26 weeks. This will have affected the data, but seven of the missed weeks were in Spring and Autumn outside the flight periods of the more important species.

Of the five UKBAP priority species, the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary(5) again had the best count. This was the lowest since 2009. Again only 2 large fritillaries were recorded. Both were Dark Green, rather than the priority species High Brown (0).

The other priority species also fared badly: Grayling(3), one more than last year; Dingy Skipper(0) and Wall(0).

Most other species were below average. Exceptions were Small Heath (10) and Ringlet (87).

Ten other species recorded in the past, but not this year, were Small Tortoiseshell, Small Skipper, Large Skipper, Painted Lady, Orange-tip, Gatekeeper, Small Copper, Small White, Large White, and Holly Blue.

Only 13 of the 26 species were recorded. This reflects reports from the wider countryside, to late September. Again in October, after the end of the transect recording, many Red Admirals, Small Tortoiseshells, Commas and Peacocks were to be seen in gardens.

Full details are shown on the Weekly Transect Records for 2016 and All Years files attached.

Reg Hesketh  
30<sup>th</sup> November 2016