

Most unusually for this time of year, a transect walk on the 8th brought an increase in numbers to 329 butterflies, including totals of 120 Gatekeepers and 60-odd each of Common Blue and Small White. 8 Painted Ladies were recorded on the 11th, with a Wall Brown on the wall of Restharrow, appropriately enough. This was the signal for the weather to turn utterly dismal and the transect walk on the 18th took place in the only two hour window of suitable weather all week. Under the circumstances the total of 172 was a good deal better than expected. The final two transects of the month also took place amid very unsettled weather, providing totals of 172 (again) on the 19th and 124 on the 31st, the majority of which (60) were Small Heaths, though a decent emergence of Small Coppers was also notable.