

Recovery from the setbacks of early May continued early in the month, although in some cases emergence dates were conspicuously later than last year; mostly around two weeks. Nine new species on the 1st included **Sharp-angled Peacock**, much scarcer this year than last, **Sandy Carpet** and **Lime Hawk-moth**, followed by only the fourth Bay record of **Lead-coloured Pug** on the 2nd (though it is known to be widespread in the area). A **Pine Hawk-moth** was trapped on the 4th and an overnight session on a humid, thundery 5th produced an outstanding catch of 666 moths of 78 species, including firsts for the year in **Cream-bordered Green Pea**, **Snout**, **Riband Wave**, **Tawny Shears**, **Bordered Sallow**, **Reddish Light Arches**, **White-spotted Pug**, **Buff Ermine**, **Restharrow** and **Obscure Wainscot** and a notable total of 43 Small Elephant Hawk-moths, while 70 Diamond-back Moths and 11 Silver-y represented the year's first significant influx of immigrants. New species on the 6th included **Elephant Hawk-moth**, **Shoulder-striped Wainscot** and **Small Waved Umber**, a species that was unrecorded last year, while immigrants included 22 Diamond-backs, 4 Dark Sword-grass and 26 Silver-y, of which there were 18 on the butterfly transect the following day.



Following a catch of over 580 on the 7th, the following night produced an exceptional total for early June of 1,200 moths, including 14 new for the year, the most notable of which were **CYPRESS CARPET**, a species not previously recorded at the Bay (photo, on left, by Ian Hodgson), our fifth record of **Marbled White-spot**, **Yellow-barred Brindle**, a notable moth at the Bay and **Orange Footman**, a species that was unrecorded last year. Other species included **Water Ermine**, **Straw Dot**, **Gold Spot**, **Small Dusty Wave**, **Dusky Brocade**, **Double Square-spot**, a lovely **Burnished Brass**, **Iron Prominent**, **Green Pug** and **V-Pug**.



Although the 9th produced much smaller numbers, **Slender** and **Currant Pugs** and **Yellow Shell** brought the macro total for the year so

far to 170 species and despite torrential rain a **Garden Carpet** was recorded on the 10th. **Common White Wave** and **Ingrailed Clay** followed on the 11th, a **Hummingbird Hawk-moth** was nectaring on valerian in King's Avenue on the 13th, when overnight trapping attracted the first **L-album Wainscot** and **Mottled Beauty**. Although the onset of chilly and strong NE winds quelled activity once again a **Treble Brown-spot** was found in the Whitehouse on the 17th and for the second successive year there was an influx of **Rannoch Loopers**, with one in Waldershare Gully on the 17th and two in the HQ light trap overnight, along with a **Light Arches** and an **Archer's Dart**.

After **Lesser Yellow Underwing** and **Smoky Wainscot** were trapped on the 18th the striking and extremely local micro *Stathmopoda pedella* was found by Francis Solly in the Haven; probably only the second to have been recorded in the county. An **Uncertain** was trapped on a chilly 20th, but the wind eased overnight and the 21st brought the first warm sunshine in nearly two weeks. A walk along the dunes produced an excellent total of 72 **Bright Waves**, 18 Rest Harrows, at least 40 **Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnets** and a few **Six-spot Burnets**, which had clearly just emerged, and a **Ground Lackey** larva near the Point - only the second time this saltmarsh species has been recorded on the south side of the river. A **Clancy's Rustic** and **Southern Wainscot** were recorded overnight on the 21st, **Single-dotted Wave**, **White-line Dart** and **Dingy Footman** were new on the 22nd and a **Grey Pine Carpet** was disturbed from pines on the Estate on the 23rd, while another *Stathmopoda pedella* was discovered nearby. Overnight trapping added **Pale Oak Beauty**, **Buff Arches**, **Common Footman** and **Dwarf Cream Wave** and six new species the following night included a **Ruddy Carpet** – the 9th record of this species at the Bay – a very attractive **Foxglove Pug**, **Magpie**, **Clay**, **Blackneck** and **Matthew's Wainscot**, bringing the total of macro species recorded this year to 203, despite the effects of bad weather in the first half of the month.

A **Forester** was found in the Whitehouse on the 25th, when overnight additions amounted to **Common Rustic** and **Barred Straw**, the nationally scarce **Dotted Fan-foot** - for which Sandwich is one of few localities in the south-east - was added on the 26th and a **RED-NECKED FOOTMAN** was caught on the 27th; the second new species for the recording area this year (photo on the right by Ian Hodgson). After a **Bordered White** in pines adjacent to Prince's on the 28th a **Goat Moth** and a **Pigmy Footman** were trapped overnight in a catch that included 195 Dark Arches and **Ghost Moth**, **Common Emerald** and **Maple**



**Prominent** were added on the 29th, along with the Bay's sixth record of **Plain Pug** - the first since 1995. The final trapping session of the month produced real quality in the shape of the Bay's second ever **SPURGE HAWK-MOTH**, a very scarce immigrant, of which there were only 13 British records between 1990 and 2008 (according to Waring & Townsend's *Field Guide to the Moths of Great Britain and Ireland*). Also recorded were a **Gothic**, which has not been recorded here for several years, and a **Double Lobed**.