

# Stamp collecting is for You!



No matter your age or interests in life, here is a hobby for all ages that can either stand in its own right or augment any of your existing leisure activities. It doesn't matter whether you are interested in science or the arts – or even politics. People, places, human achievements, geology and landscape, opera or the Bible. These and much more have been celebrated on stamps. The hobby is ideal for learning about all manner of things. Whilst it can be a relaxing solo hobby that is an excellent distraction for the recently retired or an absorbing and mentally stimulating hobby for young people and old age pensioners alike, the main idea is to share your interest with others or learn of other's interests. Collecting is just great for your health and wellbeing.

**Take a peep and discover some interesting links!**

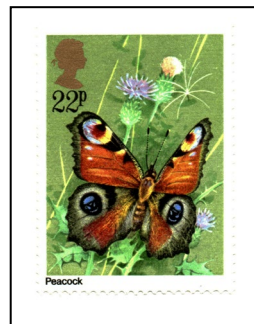
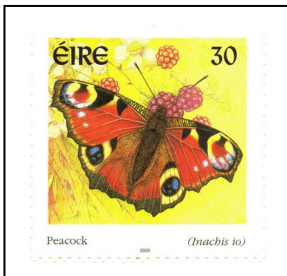
## Butterflies and Moths

## Orange Tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*)



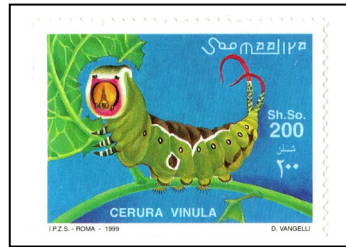
Males are unmistakable with their bright orange wing tips. Females have no orange. Both have rounded wing tips and distinctive mottled green undersides that can be seen through the upper wing. Their distinctive orange eggs can be found on the caterpillars' food plants like cuckoo flower, garlic mustard and honesty. Wingspan is 40-52 mm.

## Peacock (*Inachis io*)



An unmistakable butterfly and a regular garden visitor, feeding on nettles as a caterpillar. Its range has expanded northwards following widespread immigration from the south in the mid 1990s. Often one of the first butterflies to be seen in the spring having over-wintered as an adult. The next generation flies from July to September and is usually seen in much larger numbers. Wingspan 63-75 mm.

## Puss Moth (caterpillar) (*Cerura vinula*)

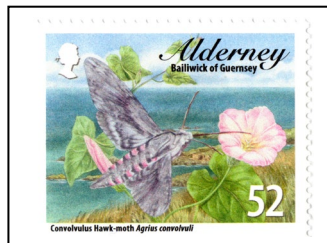


Named after the cat-like furry appearance of the adult moth which has pale grey and white wings.

The striking caterpillar feeds on aspen, poplar and willow. When disturbed it raises its head and waves its twin tails which have whip-like appendages. It is also able to eject an acid spray from glands situated behind the head.

Wingspan is 45-70 mm.

## Convolvulose Hawk-moth (*Agrius convolvuli*)



A large species. This is a migrant in Britain, appearing sometimes in fairly good numbers. It most often occurs in late summer and autumn, usually with influxes of other migrant species when it can be found feeding on garden flowers.

Wingspan over 100 mm

## Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*)



This dainty butterfly is a widespread species found in a range of habitats, including gardens. Its caterpillars feed on common and sheep's sorrel. There are 2 generations per year in May/June and August/September but can be seen in July. Rarely seen in big numbers.

Wingspan is 26-40 mm.

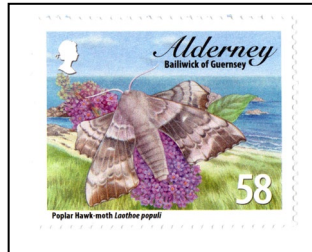
## Green Hairstreak (*Callophrys rubi*)



Despite the bright green appearance of this small butterfly, which always sits with its wings closed, it is often difficult to spot. It prefers warm, sheltered sites near woodland or along the scrubby edges of moorland where its caterpillars feed on blaeberry (bilberry). Adults fly in May and earl June.

Wingspan is 27-34 mm.

## Poplar Hawk-moth (*Laothoe populi*)



Adopts a strange posture when at rest, with hindwings held forward of the grey-brown forewings, and the abdomen curved upwards at the rear. If alarmed, will flash red markings on hindwings. Adults fly from May to July. Bright green caterpillars with diagonal stripes and 'horn' at tail-end feed on poplar, aspen and willow.

Wingspan 65-90 mm.

## Elephant Hawk-moth (*Deilephila elpenor*)



The adults are attractively coloured with pink and green markings. They fly from May to July, visiting flowers such as honeysuckle (*Lonicera*) for nectar. The larvae feed mainly on rosebay willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*) as well as other plants including bedstraw (*Galium*).

Wingspan is 45-60 mm.

## Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)



This species is unable to over-winter in any part of the UK and recolonises each year from mainland Europe, sometimes in spectacular numbers - as in 2019 known as a “Painted Lady year”. They can often be seen congregating in areas with thistles which serve as both a foodplant for the caterpillars and as a nectar source for adults. The peak of immigration usually occurs in June and adults can be seen until October or November.



Wingspan is 58-74 mm.

## Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*)



This species has been moving north in recent years and may soon arrive in Glasgow. Check its silvery-blue underwings for identification. Females have black wing tips. Of the blue butterflies, it is the one most likely to be seen in gardens, parks and woodland. It is not dependent on flower-rich grasslands. It has 2 generations per year with adults flying in April/May and in July/August. In early spring caterpillars feed on Holly, while in summer Ivy is the main foodplant. Wingspan is 26-34 mm.

## Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*)



A widespread butterfly found in a variety of grassy habitats, almost anywhere its caterpillar's foodplant – bird's-foot trefoil – occurs. The brightly coloured males are very conspicuous, while the females are generally blueish brown with distinctive orange spots. In Scotland it usually has just one generation a year, the adults flying between June and September.

Wingspan is 29-36 mm.



## Comma (*Polygonia c-album*)



A very distinctive butterfly that has rapidly spread North in recent years. The caterpillars feed on Elm, Nettles and Hop. The adults may be seen in spring, with summer generation flying from July to October.

Wingspan is 55-60 mm.

## Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*)



A familiar and distinctive “garden” butterfly that migrates to the UK every year from S. Europe and N Africa. It can breed in Scotland but rarely survives our winters. Arrives in late May until August with adults seen until November in good years. Caterpillars feed on Nettles and adults often seen on Buddlia.

Wingspan is 67-72 mm.



## Six-spot Burnet Moth ( *Zygaena fillipendula* )



This is a common and brilliantly coloured moth. The bright red and black colours of the adults mean “birds beware” because the moth is packed with chemical defences in the form of cyanide!! The caterpillars are also poisonous and they derive their chemical defences from their foodplant – birds-foot trefoil. Adults fly from late June to August in sunny, grassy areas.

Wingspan is 25-40 mm.

## Emperor Moth ( *Saturnia pavonia* )



Males with bright orange hindwings fly during the day, whilst the greyer females are active at night. Caterpillars are green with black hoops and yellow spots. Found in moorland and heathland with caterpillars feeding on moorland plants such as Heather (Calluna).

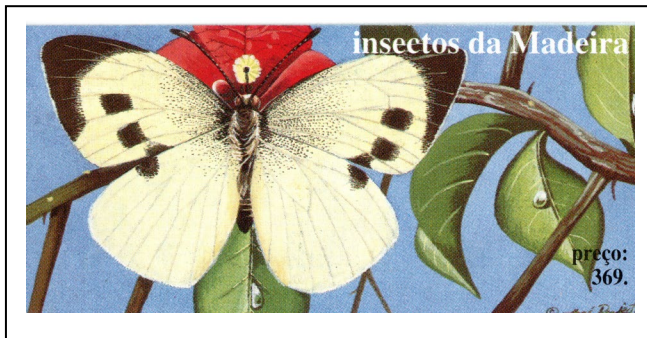
Wingspan is 40-60 cm.

## Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*)



A common butterfly to be found in almost any habitat. Found in gardens feeding on nettles as a caterpillar. It over-winters as an adult and is one of the first butterflies to emerge in spring. In autumn adults are regularly found in houses, sheds and outbuildings seeking hibernation sites. Wingspan is 45-62 mm.

## Large White or Cabbage White (*Pieris brassicae*)



Our largest white butterfly and a strong flyer. The caterpillar feeds on brassicas such as cabbage, broccoli and nasturtiums, and is therefore disliked by gardeners. Distinguishable from the Small White by larger size, darker black wing tips extending further down the wing edge, and bolder spots.

Wingspan is 58-63 mm.

## Cinnabar Moth (*Tyria jacobaea*)

The adult Cinnabar has similar colours to the unrelated 6-spot Burnet and is also poisonous to birds. The poison is obtained from common ragwort eaten by the caterpillars. The adults fly from mid-May to August in dry, grassy areas.



The caterpillars are also conspicuous, having orange and black stripes. The moth has become much rarer in recent years – but probably not due to a decline in ragwort.

Wingspan is 34-46 mm.

### Where to find butterfly and moths:

**GARSCADDEN WOOD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE:** Access from Great Western Road (A82) and Duntocher Road (A810) to Drumchapel. Park on Drummore Road west of Barkglen Road

**CATHKIN BRAES:** Access off Cathkin Road (B759) or Ardencraig Road, Castlemilk. Park along Ardencraig Road or Cathkin Road.

**HOGGANFIELD PARK LNR:** Access from Cumbernauld Road (A80) or Avenue End Road (B7053). There is a car park at Hogganfield Park, access from Cumbernauld Road.

**LINN PARK LNR:** Access off Carmunnock Road (B766) or Simshill Road. Park at Golf Course car park.

**ROBROYSTON PARK LNR:** Access off Robroyston Road (B765). Park in Quarrywood Road, Barmulloch.

**DARNLEY MILL:** Access off Nitshill Road or Corselet Road from M77 junction 3. No car parking on site – park in Waukglen Road, Southpark Village.

**CALDERGLEN COUNTRY PARK AND LANGLANDS MOSS LNR:** Access from Strathaven Road (A726) East Kilbride G76 0QZ. Accessible on foot from Country Park. For more information call 01355 236 644.

**DRUMPELLIER COUNTRY PARK, COATBRIDGE.** For more information call 01236 780 636

**DALZELL AND BARONS HAUGH, MOTHERWELL.** Close to Fir Park Football Stadium and Motherwell Civic Centre. Limited parking spaces available. For more information call 01698 402 090

**GREENHEAD MOSS, WISHAW** For more information call 91698 402 097 or [www.greenheadmoss.org.uk](http://www.greenheadmoss.org.uk)

**SOUTH HAUGH, HAMILTON.** Access from Sough Haugh car park off Carlisle Road. For more information call 01609 426 213

## What you Need to Know

The Caledonian Philatelic Society meets every Thursday evening, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. from October to March in Room GH 542 in the Graham Hills Building of Strathclyde University. There is pedestrian and disabled access from George Street and pedestrian access at Richmond Street. The latter gives access to the car park for the building – but only from 7.0 p.m. onwards. There is ramped access to the entry points within the car park.

Membership is open. Please come along for a trial evening or two to start with. The annual membership fee is currently £12. Every week, there is a display or other event with an interval half-way through. Attendance is usually about 30 so you will meet many new friends with a great spread of knowledge about different aspects of stamp collecting. For further information, please contact the secretary:

[secretary@caledonianphilatelic.org.uk](mailto:secretary@caledonianphilatelic.org.uk) or use the website :

[www.caledonianphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.caledonianphilatelic.org.uk)

## Other Stamp Clubs in the Glasgow area

**Bearsden:** Every Second Wednesday September to Easter 7:30pm. Westerton Church Hall, Crarea Avenue, Westerton, Glasgow G61 1HY

**Glasgow:** Every Second Tuesday between September and April 1:30pm - 3:30pm. room 10, Partick Burgh Lesser Halls, Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow, G11 5LW

**Glasgow Thematic:** First Monday of each Month between October and April at 7:30pm. Automated Processing Centre, St Rollox Business Park, Turner Road, Springburn, G21 1AA

**Kirkintilloch and District:** Meetings at 7:00pm, Board Room, Lenzie Academy, Myrtle Avenue, Lenzie

**Lanarkshire:** Fridays Twice Monthly September to May, Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club, Motherwell Road, Hamilton, ML3 7BL

**Old Eastwood:** Alternate Mondays October to April at 7:30pm. Netherlee Church Hall, 1 Ormonde Avenue, Glasgow, G44 3QU.

**Paisley:** Wednesdays September to April as per syllabus between 2pm and 4pm, The Ralston Community Centre, Allanton Avenue, Paisley PA1 3BL.

**Please contact clubs directly for information about access for the disabled.**

The author would like to acknowledge the information derived from publications produced by the Butterfly Conservation Scotland: [scotland@butterfly-conservation.org](mailto:scotland@butterfly-conservation.org)