



The Night Bees

Guided by star maps
and blind instinct,
sometimes we come back –
the under-hum of dreamtime,
a furring of night's vision,
seeding the future.

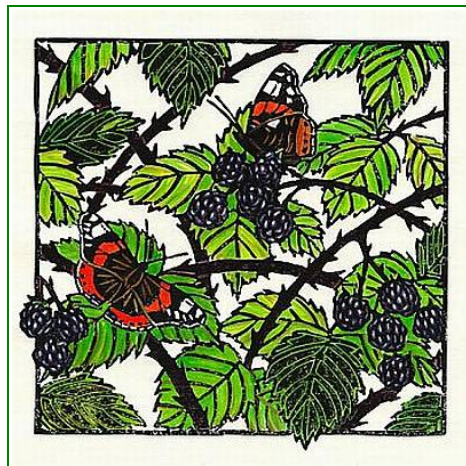
Dot Cobley – Saturday Writer

THE BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

Saturday 19th July - Sunday 10th August

The **BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT** is a nationwide survey aimed at helping assess the health of the environment. The event was launched in 2010 and has rapidly become the biggest survey of butterflies. Over 46,000 people took part in 2013, counting 830,000 individual butterflies and day-flying moths across the UK. Butterflies react very quickly to change in their environment which makes them excellent biodiversity indicators. Butterfly declines are an early warning for other wildlife losses, that's why counting butterflies can be described as taking the pulse of nature.

EVERYONE CAN TAKE PART, from butterfly beginners to experienced recorders. To register and download the identification chart @ www.bigbutterflycount.org or use the FREE smartphone app (Android & iOS) or contact the Norfolk group @ www.norfolk-butterflies.org.uk



Vanna Bartlett – Autumn Admirals



Thousands of people and businesses have helped convince the Government to draw up a

Bee Action Plan We must now make sure the plan is as ambitious as possible. Get it right and reverse the decline of Britain's vital pollinating insects. Experts from many areas are proposing practical ways to help bees, such as:

- In urban and rural areas creating small local habitats is an inspiring way to turn public and business interest into action, especially for bumble and solitary bees and other wild pollinators.
- Every park to include some habitat for pollinators.
- Dedicated habitat for bees on all farms
- A pesticide plan that makes alternatives to toxic chemicals available to all farmers
- Better land use so bee habitat increases with development, not the reverse
- Health checks which invest in proper monitoring to check how bees are doing



Louise Bird - Bumblebees
Collecting Pollen