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## Notes and Views, Issue 6 - January to April 2016

Vince Massimo and Peter Eeles

**Abstract:** This edition of Notes and Views provides a summary of interesting items posted on UK Butterflies and other media between 1st January and 30th April 2016.

### Early Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*) Sightings

08 January 2016 ([Source](#))

A couple of early sightings of Speckled Wood were made.

- 4th January: A Speckled Wood was found at Berkhamstead by Ian Gamble. Reported on the Herts and Middlesex BC branch website [here](#).
- 8th January: Another Speckled Wood was seen at Geevor Mine, Cornwall by Becky Symonds. Reported on Twitter via Richard Fox [here](#).



**Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria*) male (Library Pic)**

Photo © Iain Leach

### Early Small White (*Pieris rapae*) Sighting

09 January 2016 ([Source](#))

A freshly emerged Small White was seen outside a building in Lancashire on 9th January by Andrew King. Reported on Twitter by Andrew Cooper [here](#).



**Small White (*Pieris rapae*) male (Library Pic)**

Photo © Vince Massimo

### Early Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*) Sightings

15 January 2016 ([Source](#))

A number of Painted Lady sightings were recorded, from the south coast of England to Cumbria and Northern Ireland. While many may have been new arrivals to our shores, a few may have overwintered successfully, given this distribution.

- 2nd January: A Painted Lady was photographed at Roughmore, Taunton, Somerset by Nigel Cottle. Reported on Twitter [here](#).
- 2nd January: Another Painted Lady was photographed at Berry Head, Devon by Grahame Madge. Reported on Twitter [here](#).
- 6th January: Another Painted Lady was sighted by Neil Hulme in his garden in Worthing, West Sussex on 6th January. Reported in Neil's UK Butterflies personal diary [here](#).
- 6th January: Another Painted Lady was seen at Siddick Pond, Workington, Cumbria by Raegan Mckay. Reported on Twitter [here](#).
- 7th January: A Painted Lady was seen at Murlough NNR, Northern Ireland, by Stephen Craig. Reported on Twitter [here](#).
- 8th January: Yet another Painted Lady was photographed at Treliwick Gardens near Truro, Cornwall. Reported on the UK Butterflies sightings forum (via John Chapple) [here](#).
- 13th January: A further sighting of a Painted Lady was made in Polegate, East Sussex by Peter Farrant. Reported on the Sussex BC branch website [here](#).
- 15th January: Another Painted Lady was seen on the seafront at Lancing, West Sussex by Dan Norris on 15th January. Reported on the

Sussex BC branch website [here](#).



**Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*) (Library Pic)**  
Photo © Iain Leach

### **Early Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*) Sighting**

22 January 2016 ([Source](#))

A Holly Blue was photographed in Newport, Shropshire by John Reade on 22nd January. Reported on Twitter [here](#).

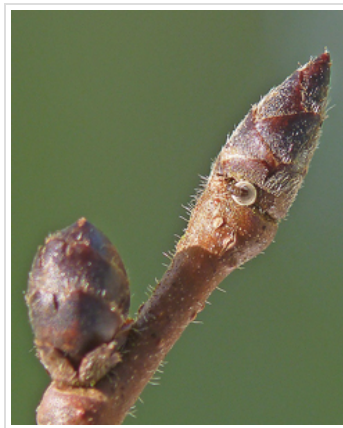


**Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*) male (Library Pic)**  
Photo © Neil Freeman

### **White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrion w-album*) Larva**

29 February 2016 ([Source](#))

Pauline Richards recorded a sequence of a White-letter Hairstreak larva emerging from its egg in her [personal diary](#).



**White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrion w-album*) Larva Emerging from Egg**  
Photo © Pauline Richards

### **First Wall (*Lasiommata megera*) Sighting**

22 March 2016 ([Source](#))

Following a very mild and wet winter, March has been fairly quiet so far, and the most unusual sighting was of a very early Wall seen at Combwich, Somerset on 22nd March. Reported on twitter by Roger Musgrove [here](#).



**Wall (*Lasiommata megera*) male (Library Pic)**  
Photo © Vince Massimo

### **Ants Interacting with a Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*) Larva**

08 April 2016 ([Source](#))

Pauline Richards recorded a fascinating series of images of ants plastering soil on a Common Blue larva at Noar Hill on 8th April in her [personal diary](#).



**Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*) Larva**  
Photo © Pauline Richards