

## Have you seen a White Admiral (*Limenitis camilla*)?



The White Admiral is a woodland butterfly that is on the wing from June to August. It has a distinctive gliding flight along sunny rides powered by a flick of the wings. Single eggs are laid on Honeysuckle in July and the caterpillars feed on this climbing plant until the autumn when they secure a folded leaf to a stem with silk and lay dormant inside. In the following spring, caterpillars feed until fully grown in June.



Full grown caterpillar



Chrysalis

The bright green chrysalis is perfectly camouflaged and within just 21 days, metamorphosis magically produces a beautiful black and white butterfly and so the cycle repeats. Populations can vary dramatically on a year to year basis and June temperature is particularly influential. The management of woodland requires a program of selective tree felling and glade creation to maintain the mixed shady and sunny habitat that is best for the White Admiral. There is a program to promote suitable woodland habitat with climbing Honeysuckle throughout Bromley's green spaces and any records of sightings of this butterfly are very useful. If you are lucky enough to see this butterfly please e-mail the date, place (postcode or grid reference), number seen with a photo if possible to Bromley Biodiversity Partnership: [bromleybiodiversity@gmail.com](mailto:bromleybiodiversity@gmail.com) Thank you.

Bromley Biodiversity Partnership is a partnership of local groups, organisations and individuals with specific expertise committed to protecting, enhancing and celebrating biodiversity within the London Borough of Bromley.

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