

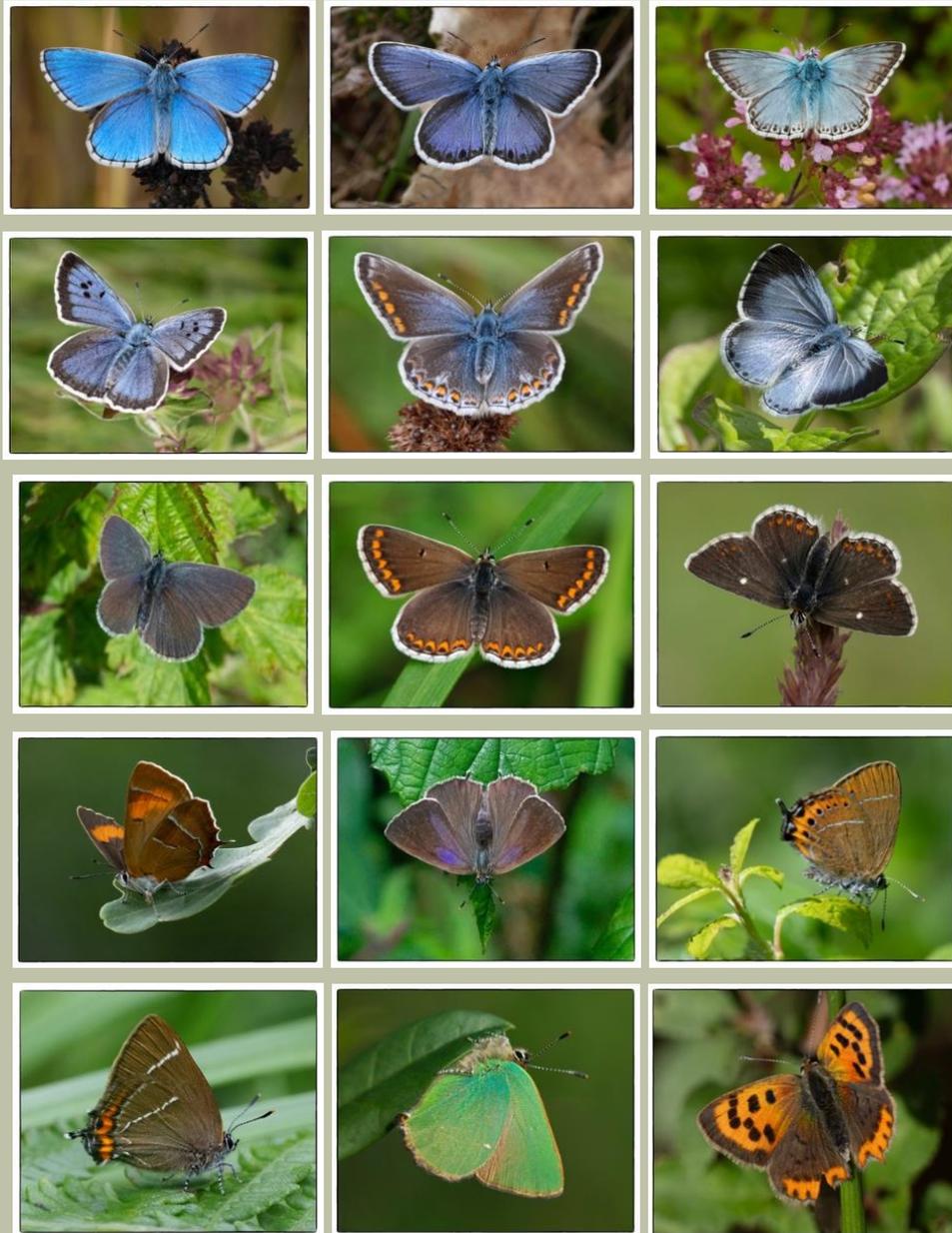
# LEPIDOPTERA

## UK Butterflies

Butterflies were far more abundant in my childhood than they are today. In order to see our rarest species one has to visit a Nature Reserve. Ranging in size from the smallest pocket of land to much larger areas stretching across county borders. These designated areas are protecting some of our most important habitats and their flora and fauna from the impact of developers, pollution and pesticides.

The gradual decline in the UK's butterflies has hastened since the nineteen seventies, meaning that several species have become dependent on this protection for which thankfully there is a greater understanding. Something the charity Butterfly Conservation is devoted to. Without their expertise and the support they receive along with the work of thousands of volunteers and that of other conservation groups several species would be much closer to extinction in the UK. Two species suffered this fate in the 1970s, the Large Blue and Chequered Skipper. After painstaking work the Large Blue has been successfully reintroduced and there is hope that the Chequered Skipper can once again become re-established in England. Even though most of our resident species do well on the continent it would be a great tragedy to permanently lose any of our butterfly and moth fauna.

In his book *The Last Butterflies* Nick Haddad refers to these beautiful creatures as 'ambassadors for nature'. Emphasizing in his conclusion that disturbances both natural and human-caused are necessary for the ecosystems that support butterfly populations to thrive.



## LYCAENIDAE

Adonis Blue - Silver-studded Blue - Chalk Hill Blue

Large Blue - Common Blue - Holly Blue

Small Blue - Brown Argus - Northern Brown Argus

Brown Hairstreak - Purple Hairstreak - Black Hairstreak

White-letter Hairstreak - Green Hairstreak - Small Copper

UK BUTTERFLIES

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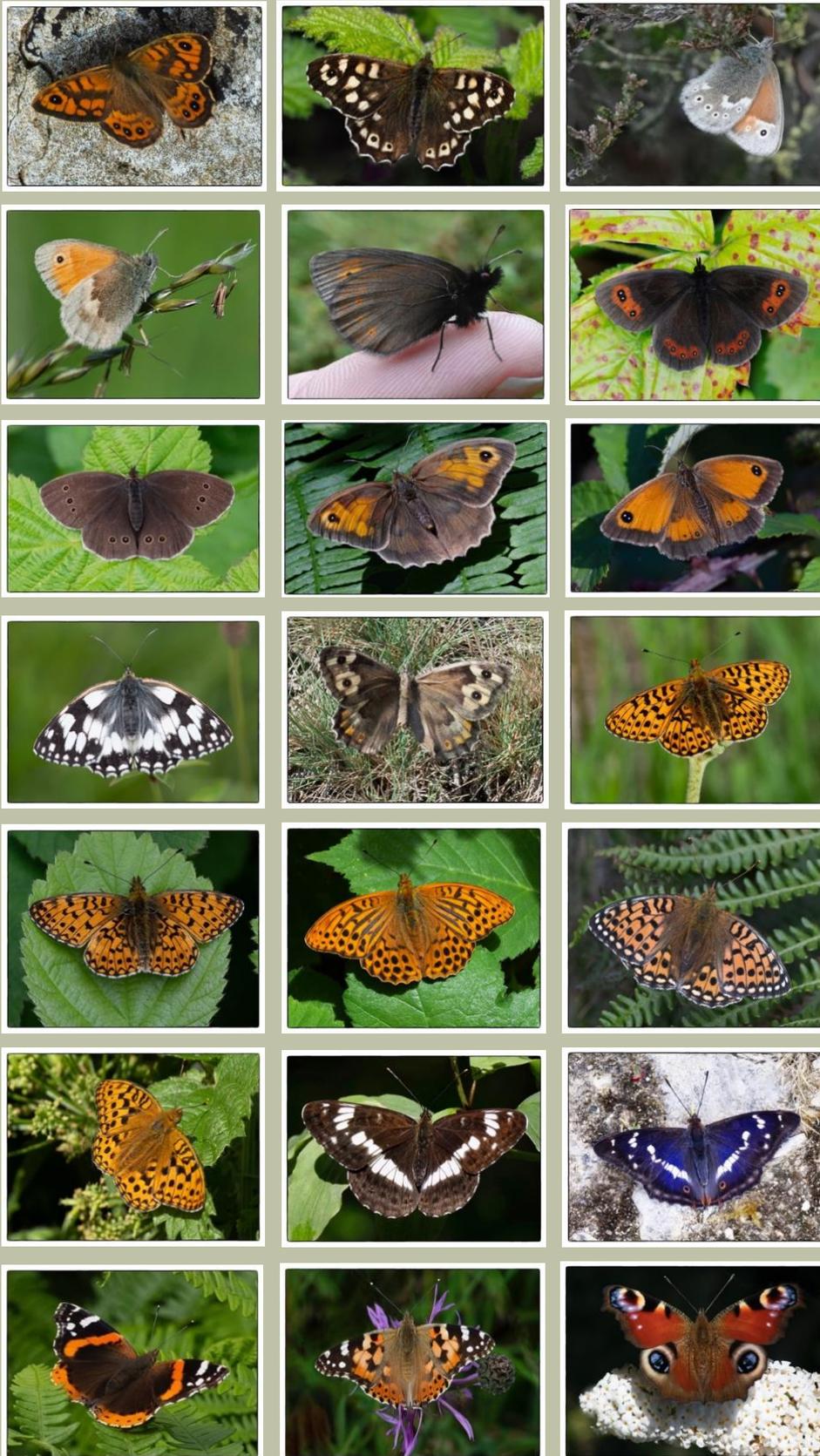
## PIERIDAE

Wood White - Cryptic Wood White - Orange Tip  
Large White - Small White - Green-veined White  
Clouded Yellow – Brimstone



## PAPILIONADAЕ

Swallowtail



**NYMPHALIDAE c'td.**



## **NYMPHALIDAE**

Wall - Speckled Wood - Large Heath

Small Heath - Mountain Ringlet - Scotch Argus

Ringlet - Meadow Brown - Gatekeeper

Marbled White - Grayling - Pearl bordered Fritillary

Small pearl bordered - Silver Washed - Dark Green Fritillaries

High Brown Fritillary - White Admiral - Purple Emperor

Red Admiral - Painted Lady - Peacock



## **RIODINIDAE**

Duke of Burgundy



## HESPERIIDAE

Dinghy Skipper - Grizzled Skipper

Chequered Skipper - Essex Skipper

Small Skipper - Large Skipper