



Little Chalfont Nature Park

A hidden gem in the Chilterns

August

What you might see in the park

The Park will be closed for meadow cutting at some point in late August. The exact dates, when known will be advertised by a notice at the entrance and both the website and Facebook. Half the meadow is cut at first, to allow insects to take advantage of the remaining blooms. Where cut the hay will be left a while, to allow seeds to scatter onto the ground for next year. This ensures continuation of this very rare, unimproved grassland. The second half will be cut a few weeks later.

The Meadow



Ant Hills The lumps left in the mown meadow are very old ant hills. The yellow ants protect the eggs of the Common blue butterfly, which despite



its name, is quite rare.

Common blue butterfly

Insects, Moths and Butterflies

Ragwort has had a bad press,



But these yellow and black Cinnabar moth caterpillars, depend on it for their survival.



Cinnabar moth



Hoverflies are good pollinators, as are **Soldier beetles**.



2 different Longhorn beetles

Trees



Hazel – Dormice love to eat Hazel cobs. Look for evidence beneath trees.

We look forward to welcoming humans as well as bugs to enjoy the park.