## Little Monkwood part of Monkwood nature reserve



Butterflies follow the flush of flowers around the woodland as we coppice and open up the canopy. This work is done on rotation so that different areas are worked on at different times, ensuring diverse structure and ages of habitat throughout the woodland.

White admiral and purple hairstreak butterflies are woodland specialists, relying on plants like honeysuckle and oak to complete their lifecycles. White admirals appear in mid-summer when they nectar on bramble flowers, flashing their copper and white underwings. Purple hairstreaks are smaller and flit around the tops of oaks, appearing like dancing specks of silvery-grey against the deep green leaves.

## **Wood white success**

Wood white butterflies were historically found throughout the woodland but had vanished by 2009. In 2016 10 male and 10 female wood whites from neighbouring counties were introduced to Monkwood in a project led by Butterfly Conservation. More females were introduced the following year and since then their numbers have gone from strength-to-strength.

Wood whites fly in May to late June and again from mid-July to late August.
You might see them nectaring on flowers like herb Robert, greater
stitchwort or bramble. The caterpillars, however, are much fussier and
require greater bird's-foot trefoil or meadow vetchling to feed on.

## Support us

We couldn't work to protect and conserve Worcestershire's fantastic wildlife and wild places without your help. Please support us by becoming a member, volunteering or donating.



Monkwood is jointly managed with Butterfly Conservation. Little Monkwood is co-owned by WWT and BC.

The purchase of land at Green Farm has been made possible by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Severn Waste Services, The Banister Charitable Trust, 3dtotal.com Ltd, The LG Harris Charitable Trust, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and generous donations from Trust members and supporters.







