

On the 17 May 1997 I collected similar samples of dead birch with *H. multiforme* from Bear Wood, west of Wokingham, Berkshire. Again, no evidence of larval activity was seen, but on 24 June a female *N. wolffiella* emerged. A total of four individuals emerged by 12 July 1997.

That this uninspiring fungus is a suitable pabulum for moths of this family is supported by a rearing of one *N. clematella* (Fabr.) from the Warburg material and several examples of *N. cloacella* (Haw.) from the material collected at Bear Wood. Perhaps other species frequent this material (e.g. *N. granella*).— I. SIMS, 2 The Delph, Lower Earley, Reading, Berkshire.

The recurrence of *Emus hirtus* (L.) (Col.: Staphylinidae) on the Isle of Sheppey

Some readers will doubtless have seen the recent report in the national press (*Sunday Telegraph*, 9 November 1997) of a specimen of this spectacular rarity at Elmley in the south-west of the Isle of Sheppey, said to be the first in Kent since 1951 – though in fact the late Dr A.M. Masee had heard odd reports of singletons farther east in Kent (probably unpublished) up to about 1956. The beetle was found in the act of entering a public lavatory (!) and later released; the date, about the beginning of November, making the occurrence particularly remarkable. This early-summer insect has been found very occasionally with us in autumn, but never (as far as we know) as late in the year as this: it was not especially warm at the time.

The Elmley district would appear to be a new part of Sheppey for the species, the chief area in the past being the Harty Marshes in the south-east of the island. (See Allen, 1962, *Ent. Rec.* **74**: 219-221.) The present record prompts the questions: is *Emus* again breeding on Sheppey? and if so, has it been there continuously, despite the lack of records for so long? Clearly, a single specimen found in “unnatural” conditions cannot furnish proof, but at least it is highly suggestive.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

New species of Lepidoptera for the Isle of Wight during 1997

On 5 October Tony Redfern caught an example of the Pale-lemon Sallow *Xanthia ocellaris* (Borkh.) at his actinic light trap at Wootton. This species occurs regularly in small numbers in the East Anglian and Thames Valley populations although this is the most westerly record in southern Britain.

During January, Brian Warne passed me a Tortricoid moth which he had taken at Binstead which was initially identified as *Acleris boscana* (Fabr.). This specimen was later exhibited at the British Entomological and Natural History Society's annual exhibition in South Kensington in October when it was identified by a group of Scottish entomologists as *Acleris logiana* (Clerck.). This is only the second record for England; the first was that of a larva found at Botley Wood, Hampshire in a folded leaf of *Betula* on 31 October 1991 by Dr John Langmaid. A female moth emerged sometime in the late autumn, and was found dead and desiccated on 8 March 1992. This species was believed to be confined to the Highlands of Scotland.



Allen, Anthony Adrian. 1998. "The recurrence of *Emus hirtus* (L.) (Col.: Staphylinidae) on the Isle of Sheppey." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 110, 144–144.

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