

# North East England GMS Report

## Second Quarter 2025

In 2025, Quarter 2 of the GMS ran from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July

### Number of GMS participants

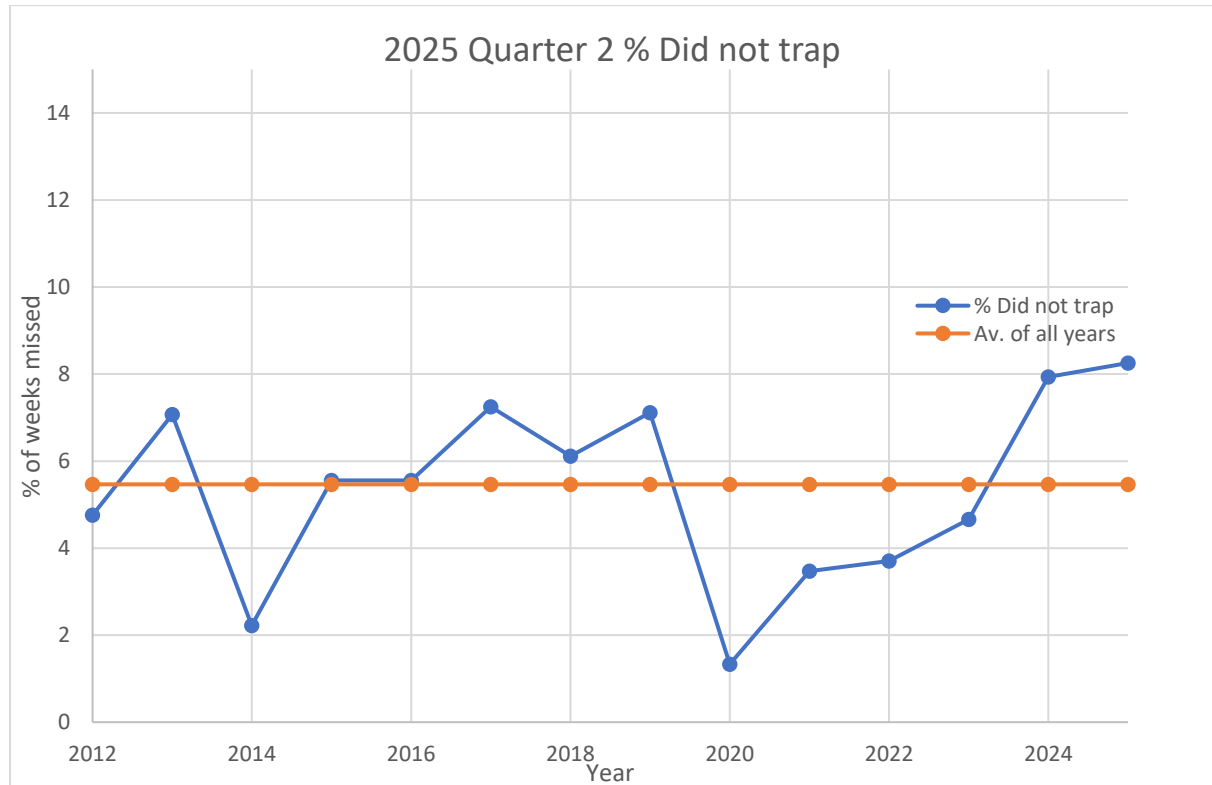
I received valid GMS recording forms from 35 participants in 2025, Quarter 2. Of these 13 were in County Durham (VC 66), 18 were in South Northumberland (VC 67) and 4 were in North Northumberland.

### Loan traps

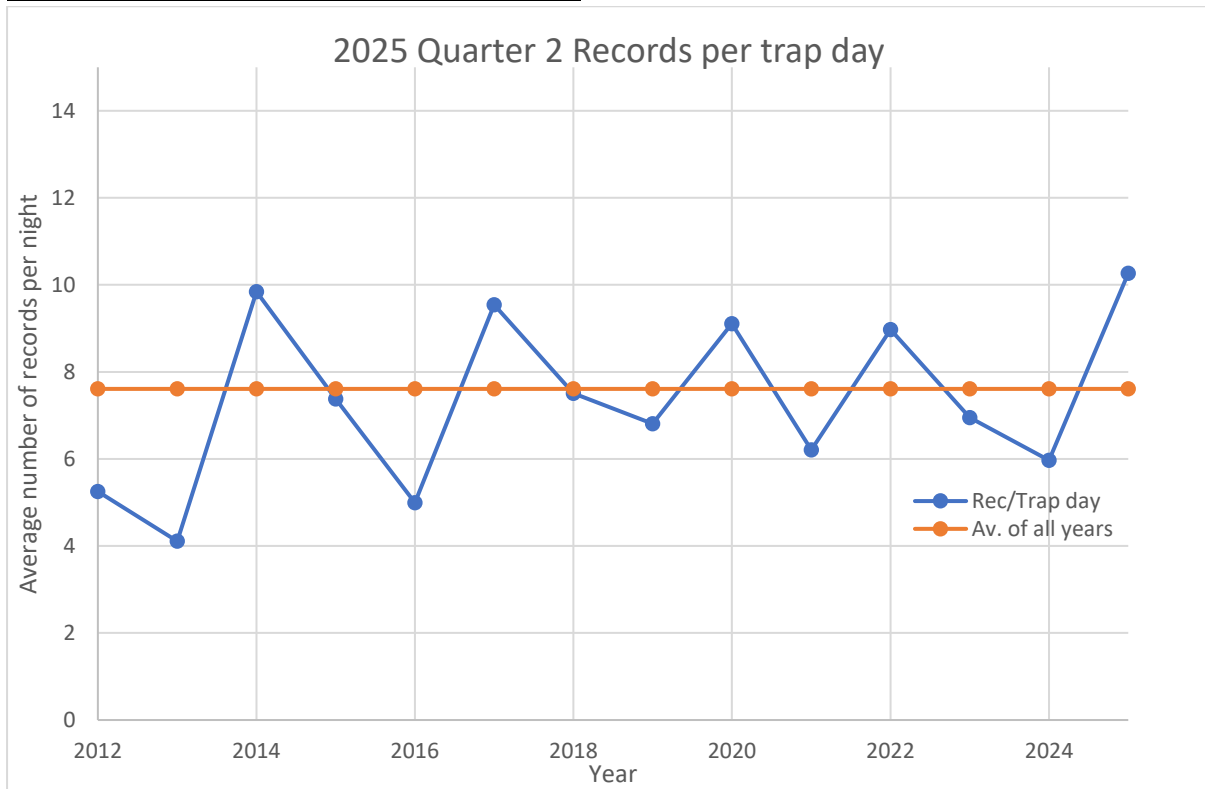
In 2025, I have five traps out on loan to people who wanted to try trapping and recording moths.

### Did not trap

8.3 percent of nights were missed in Quarter 2, compared with an average of 5.5%. This is about the same as in 2024, Quarter 2, when 7.9% of nights were missed.

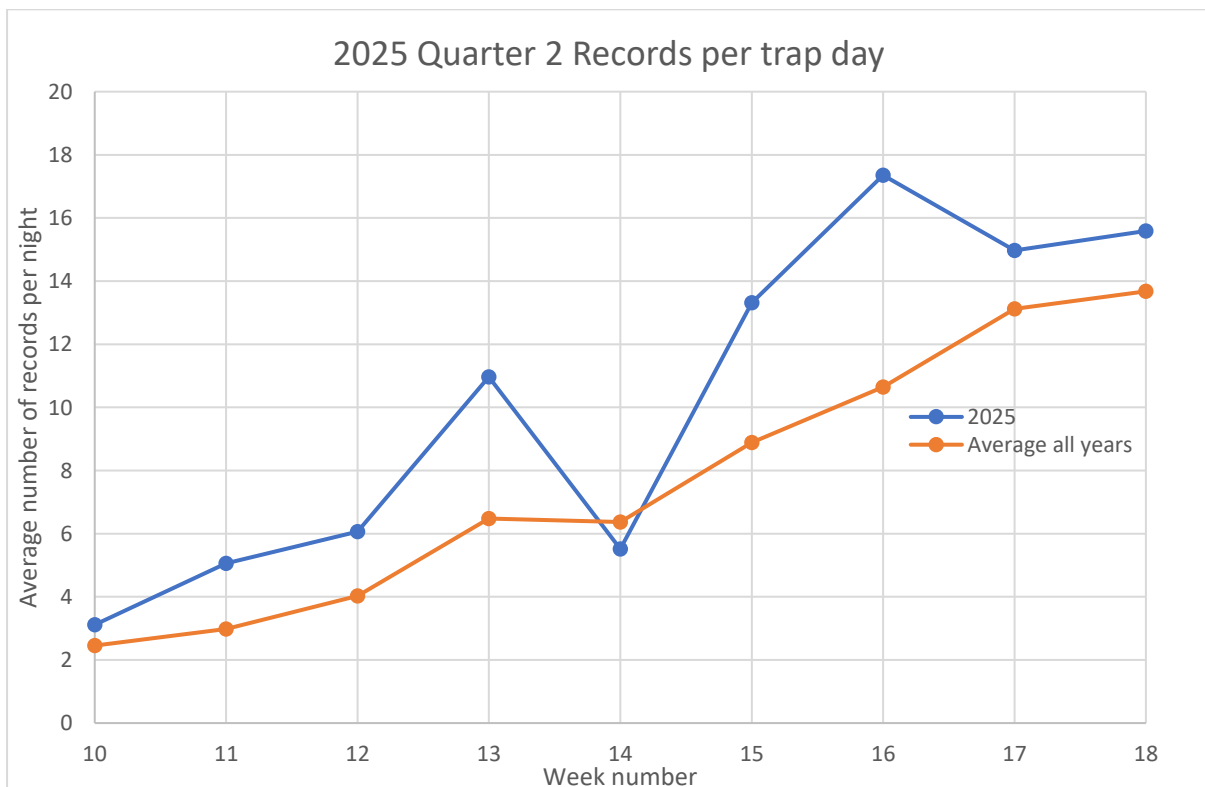


### How do catches compare with earlier years



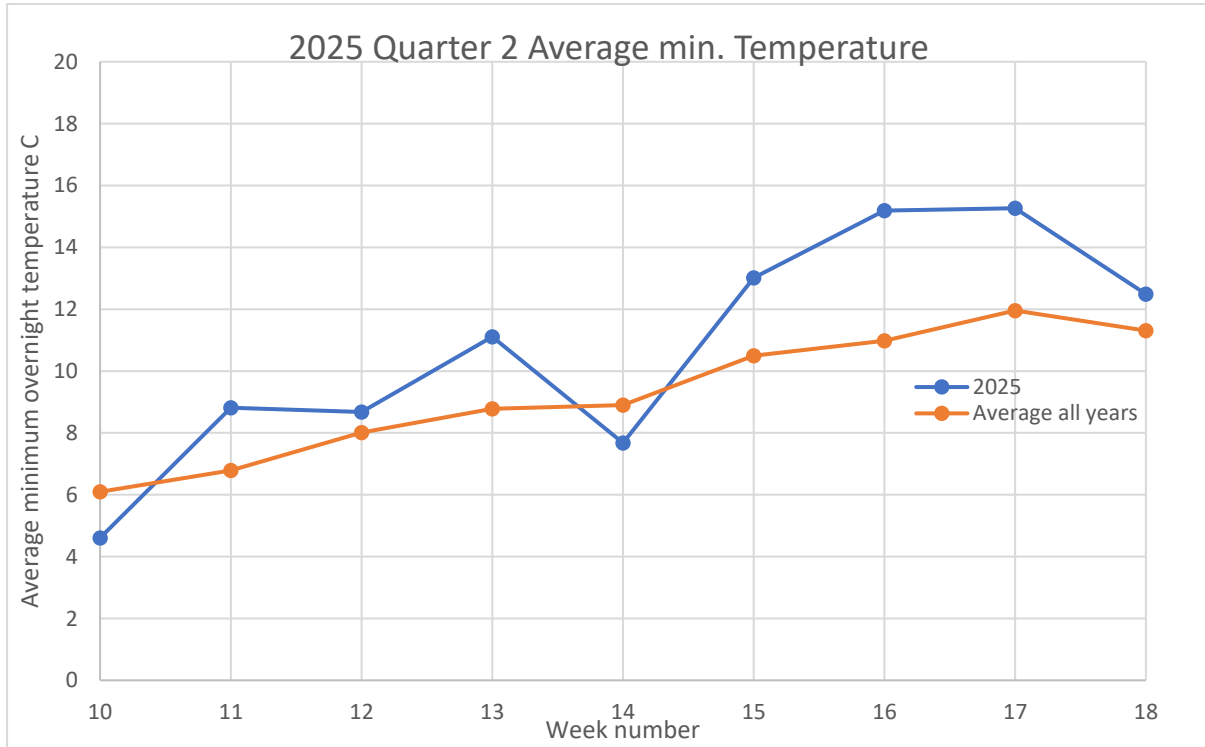
Analysis confirms my subjective impression that it's been a great Quarter 2. With an average of 10.3 records per trap night in 2025, this is the best year since my analysis began in 2012. The previous highest number of records was 9.8 in 2014, and the average for all years from 2012 to 2025 is 7.6.

Now we will consider how the number of records per trap night varies by week.



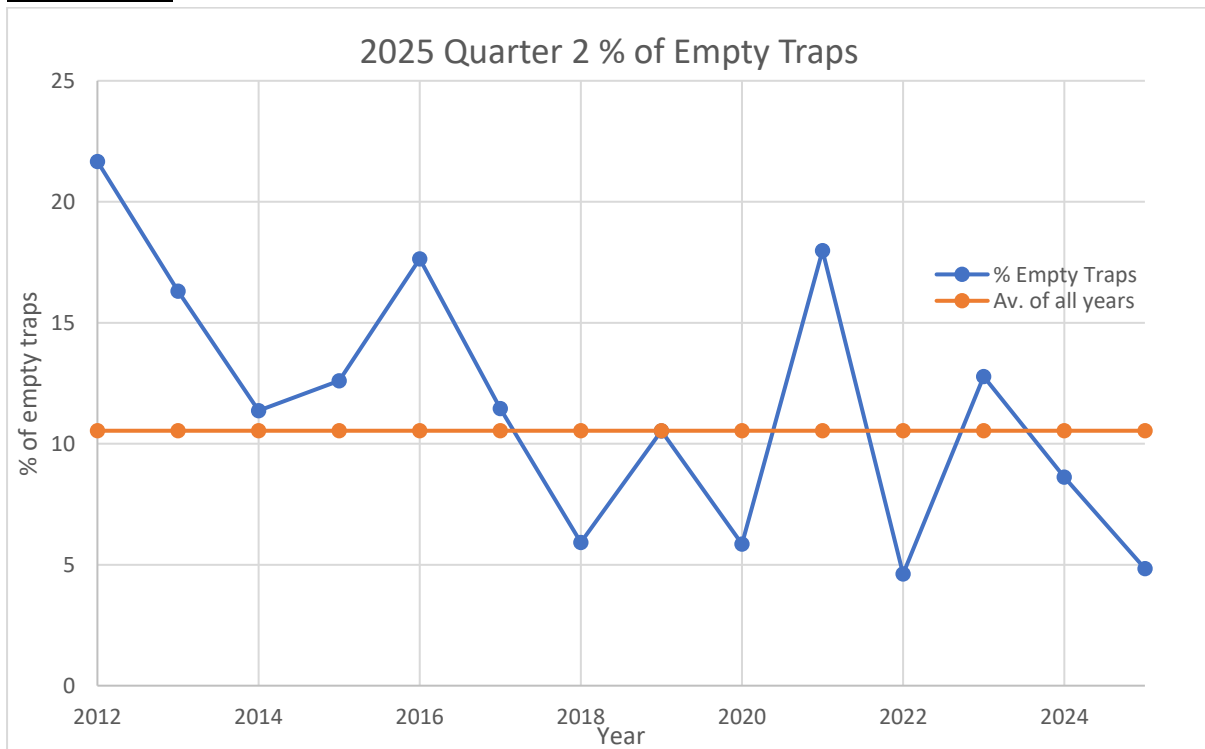
The number of records has been consistently above the average apart from in week 14 (6<sup>th</sup> June), when it was about the average. I have not plotted the data but 2025 had the highest minimum overnight temperatures since I began my analysis in 2012 by 0.75C.

What were the minimum overnight temperatures each week?



Temperatures have typically a degree or two above average, apart from week 10 (9<sup>th</sup> May) and week 14 (6<sup>th</sup> June).





















### Empty Traps



4.8% of traps were empty in 2025, well below the average over all years of 10.5%.

### Top twenty species

Here is a list of the 2025 top twenty species in Q2 (by number of records), compared to the top twenty for last year, and for all years from 2012 until 2025. The green species are moving up the top 20, the yellow species are non-movers and the red species are moving down compared with 2024 quarter 2.

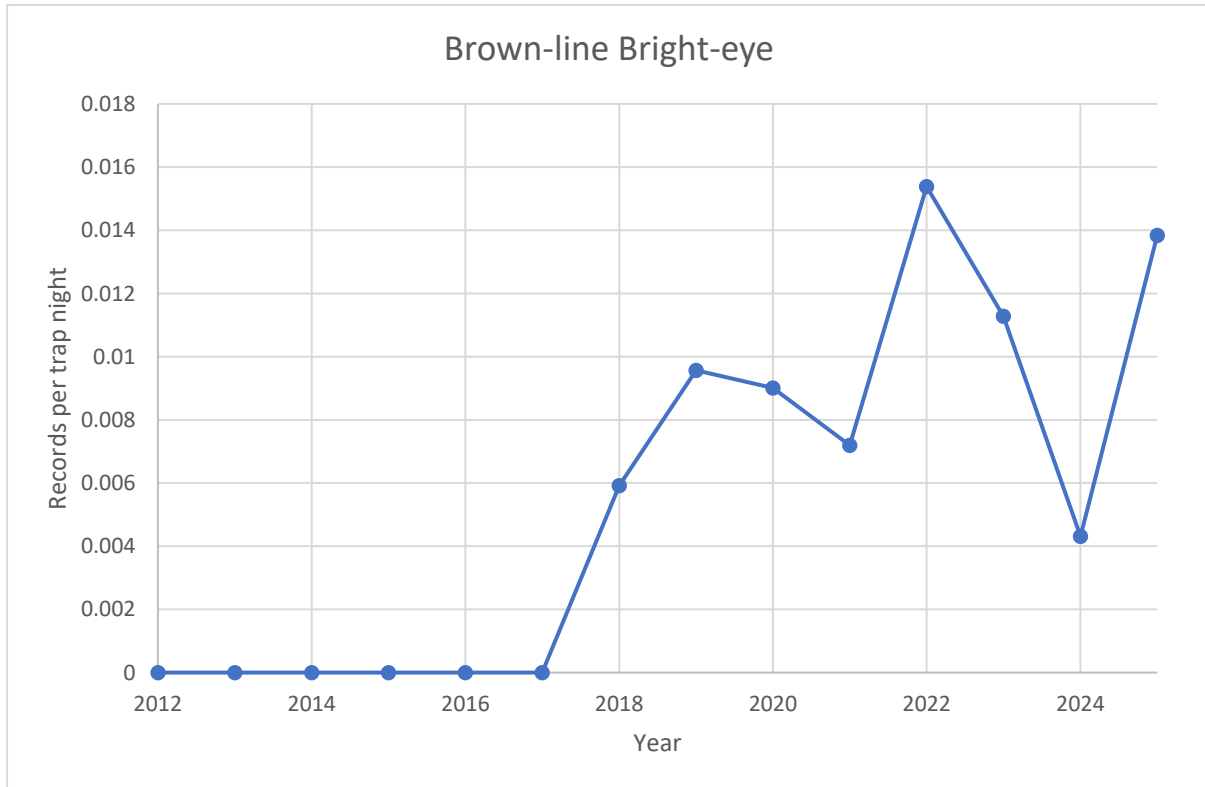
| Species                  | Av. 2012 to 2025 | 2024 | 2025 | Trend   |
|--------------------------|------------------|------|------|---|
| Heart and Dart           | 1                | 1    | 1    |    |
| Large Yellow Underwing   | 3                | 11   | 2    |    |
| Light Brown Apple Moth   | 2                | 4    | 3    |    |
| Buff Ermine              | 4                | 6    | 4    |    |
| Common Pug               | 7                | 2    | 5    |    |
| Bee Moth                 | 9                | 3    | 6    |    |
| Common Marbled Carpet    | 11               | 5    | 7    |   |
| Garden Grass-moth        | 19               | 19   | 8    |  |
| Marbled Minor agg.       | 13               | 20   | 9    |  |
| Dark Arches              | 16               | 24   | 10   |  |
| Garden Carpet            | 5                | 12   | 11   |  |
| Double Square-spot       | 20               | 27   | 12   |  |
| Brimstone Moth           | 6                | 7    | 13   |  |
| Riband Wave              | 33               | 25   | 14   |  |
| Willow Beauty            | 36               | 21   | 15   |  |
| Clouded-bordered Brindle | 14               | 8    | 16   |  |
| Silver-ground Carpet     | 8                | 9    | 17   |  |
| White Ermine             | 10               | 10   | 18   |  |
| Poplar Hawk-moth         | 12               | 16   | 19   |  |
| Shuttle-shaped Dart      | 21               | 33   | 20   |  |

**Trending species.**

Quite a few species have emerged a week or two early in 2025, possibly due to a warmer than usual spring.

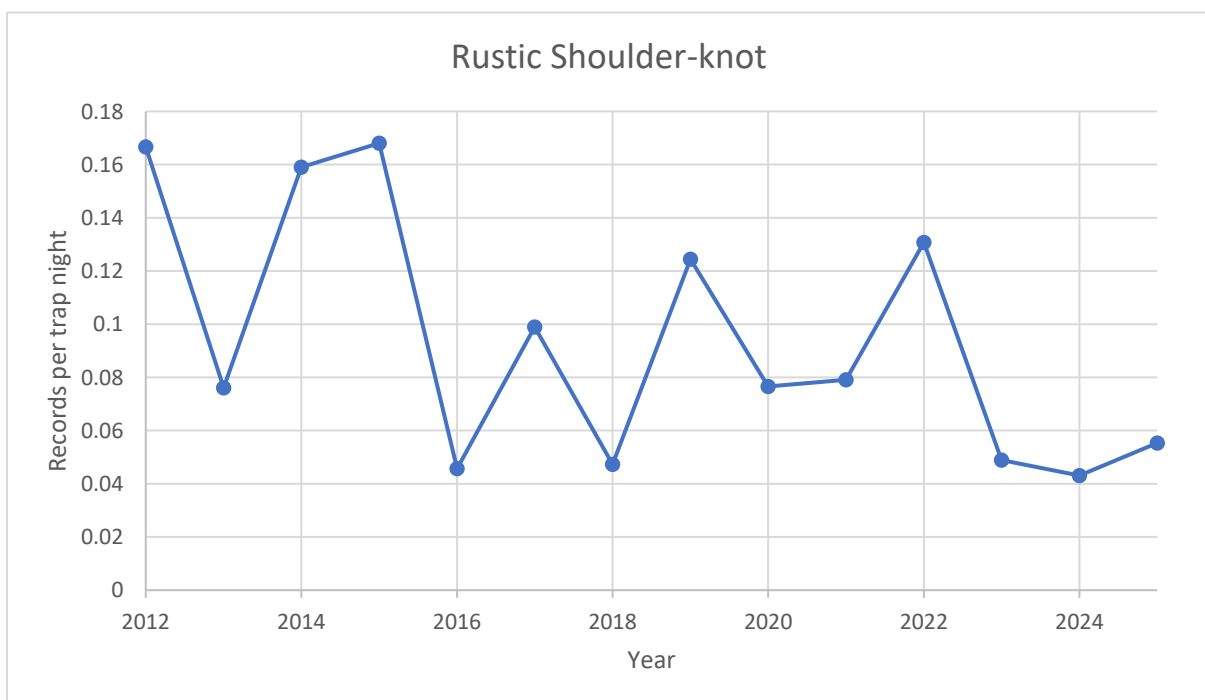
**Brown-line Bright Eye**

Brown-line Bright Eye appears to be increasing.



**Rustic Shoulder-knot**

Rustic Shoulder-knot appears to be decreasing.



### Species identified in previous reports as trending

Scalloped Hazel, Shoulder Stripe and Silver Ground Carpet continue to show a downward trend. On the other hand, Garden Carpet and Gothic seem to be flattening out.

Pale Tussock, Common Pug and Common Footman still seem to be increasing but True Lover's Knot has flattened out and Red Chestnut peaked in 2020 and is now decreasing.

### Outstanding Records

We have two records for Coronet this quarter, the first such North East records for the species in the GMS database. Dave recorded one in Kenton on 20<sup>th</sup> June and Martin recorded one in Darlington on 13<sup>th</sup> June`



Coronet (Image courtesy of Dave Stebbings)