



DOWN'S DIARY

Your guide to watching wildlife

July



Knapweed



Bristol onion



Scabious

July is a wonderful time to be out in the meadow area on the Downs where you can see a wide range of flowers like **knapweed** and **scabious**. The **Bristol onion** is also in flower in the Gorge. The long grasses and diversity of wild flowers provide food and shelter for many insect species.



Six-spot burnet moth



Marbled white

Six-spot burnet moths are one of the day flying moths that can be seen on the Downs. They can fly really fast and look more like beetles in flight than moths. **Marbled white** butterflies can also be seen along with the **meadow browns** and **ringlets**.

The adult **silky wave** moth is quite plain in appearance, but as the English name suggests, has a silky lustre to the wing surface. It inhabits the open grassy area of the Gorge, where there are low bushes. The larvae feed on common rock-rose. The Avon Gorge is the only English site for this rare moth.



Silky wave moth



Juvenile peregrine falcon

This year our resident **peregrine falcons** had two chicks that fledged in the middle of June. You may be lucky enough to spot them practicing their flying skills in the Gorge. The Bristol Ornithological Club are running a peregrine watch weekend on 13th and 14th July, 9am-5pm. Pop along to the **Peregrine Watch Point** to take a look.

Tell us about your wildlife sightings! Contact Mandy Leivers, 0117 9030609, mleivers@bristolzoo.org.uk
www.avongorge.org.uk www.facebook.com/avongorge Written by Denice Stout