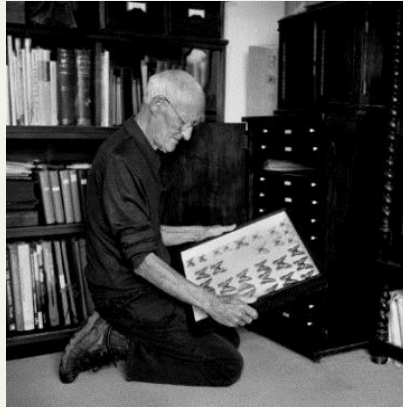


# Butterfly Collection

Phil Grey's butterfly collection, made before the popularity of colour photography and the rise of conservation included all our native species, European butterflies, exotic bird wings and impressive hawk moths. Organised in families with males, females, upper and undersides and numerous aberrations. I saw it first when I was at school in Langton and more recently when photographing his sunburst display of British butterflies.



Phil Grey (Lepidopterist) 2006

Before getting a camera, my hobby was collecting and breeding butterflies and moths, at a time when butterfly collecting was becoming obsolete in the late 1960's; Seeing the first Brimstone or Orange Tip each year is very special as was exploring Wilkswood, seeing White Admirals circling and gliding in its sunny glades and White Letter Hairstreaks resting on the elm leaves below or iridescent Adonis Blues flitting from flower to flower on the sunny slopes at Winspit. And further-a-field, with my brother Pat seeing Glanville Fritillaries on the Isle of Wight and Marsh Fritillaries on Hod Hill.

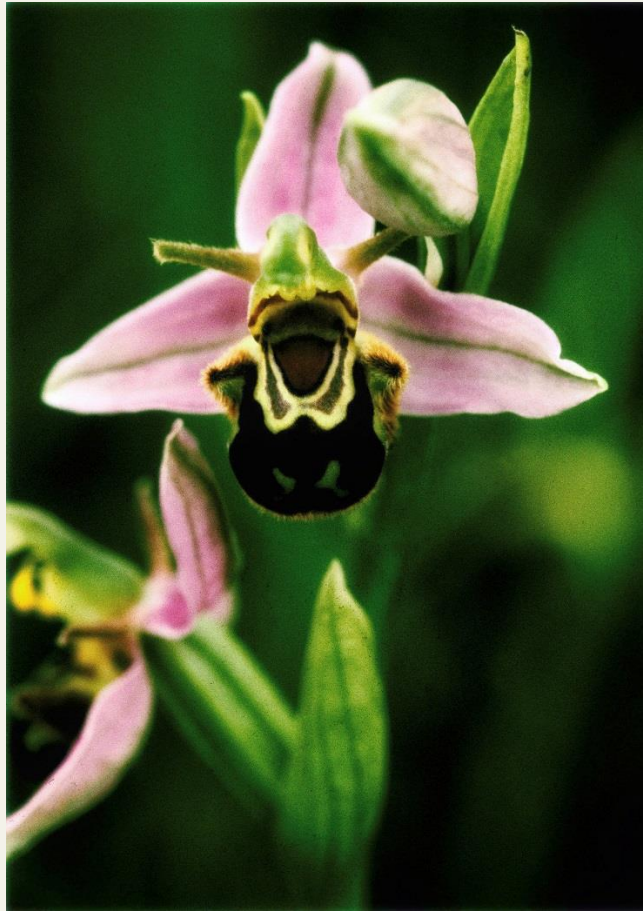
I learnt to take close-ups with my camera supported on a Benbo tripod using macro lenses. Photographing damselflies, dragonflies, sand lizards and adders around the ponds on Arne heath. Waiting for what seemed like a couple of hours, knee-deep in a bog, for a dragonfly (*Libellula depressa*). Discovering that unlike butterflies' dragonflies have a tendency of returning to the same spot. Seeing an orchid is very special - Spider, Bee, Twayblade, Lady Tresses, Helleborines and Marsh Gentians, dad's favourite flower. In the evenings, I cycled to Kingston to show my latest batch of Kodachrome 25/64 transparencies to Barry Candy FRPS for his critique.



**Broad-bodied Chaser** *Libellula depressa* - **Damselfly trapped in Sundew** - **Sand lizard Arne 1978**



Glanville Fritillary, IOW 1974



Bee Orchid, Seacombe 1976

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