BUTTERFLIES

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The Latin name for this butterfly is Anthocharis cardamines.

This is a small to medium-sized butterfly, which has a wingspan of 4-5cm. The male differs from the female by having an orange patch on the top of each forewing. The female lacks the orange, but both sexes have attractive marbled green and white underwings.

The eggs of the orange-tip are laid singly close to the flowers of lady's smock and garlic mustard. When the eggs are hatched they produce long, thin, smooth caterpillars that eventually turn green. The caterpillars feed from May till August on cruciferous plants.

This butterfly is a wanderer, rather than a migrant, and can colonise areas away from where it emerged.