



**biodiversity**  
**RECORDING**



# Garden Tiger moth

## (*arctia caja*) and its caterpillar...

The garden tiger moth is quite spectacular with its mottled brown and cream blotches and bright orange hind wings.

The adult can be found in a wide variety of habitats in the summer including as the name suggests, gardens. It lays eggs that grow into the hairy larva or caterpillar that is commonly known as the 'woolly bear' or 'granny greybeard'. The larvae eat a wide variety of common plants like nettles and docks.

The adult normally flies late at night but is attracted to light so why not try some moth trapping to see if they live in your back yard!

To encourage this and other moths and butterflies into your garden, try to leave some wild patches at the base of hedgerows or in a corner – you'll be amazed at the variety of wildlife that will make it their home. For more information on moths and butterflies please visit [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)



## Help your local biodiversity- get recording!

Recording what species you see is an important way you can help your local biodiversity. To find out what you can do for local biodiversity, contact the Biodiversity Officer through your Council or on

[www.biodiversityni.com](http://www.biodiversityni.com)

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