The **Old Lady Moth** is found throughout the UK. It loves damp buildings. Unusually for moths, it is not readily attracted to light bulbs. It likes its sugar, though, and the caterpillars love blackberries!

On the mezzanine up in **Warden Park Garage**, you will find our 1902 Dan Albone 'Ivel' Lady's Safety Bicycle. Our exhibit was owned by Dorothy Shuttleworth, who road it throughout her life. She would even ride it regularly well into her eighties – certainly not your typical old lady!

Found it!

Gardeners don't like seeing the caterpillars of the **Swift Moth**. They live at the bottom of plants, feeding on plant roots and at the base of plant stems which can kill them.

In **Hangar 5** there is another incredible racing plane - the Comper Swift. Named after the bird, not the moth (can you see the logo on the side?), Richard Shuttleworth flew his 18,000km to India just to compete in a race!

Found it!

The **Arctic Woolly Bear Moth** is best known for its slow rate of development, as its full caterpillar life cycle may extend up to 15 years! It is also unusual in that it undergoes a form of hibernation called '*diapause*' - In this dormant state, it can withstand temperatures as low as −70°C !

In **Hangar 6** you will find our oldest Moth – in fact, at 97 years old, it is the oldest flying Moth aeroplane in the world! The DH60 Moth was the first in a successful series of de Havilland Moth aircraft – including the DH61 Giant Moth; DH75 Hawk Moth; DH80 Puss Moth; DH81 Swallow Moth; DH82 Tiger Moth; DH83 Fox Moth; DH85 Leopard Moth and DH87 Hornet Moth.

Found it!

The Collection at Shuttleworth
Old Warden Aerodrome, Beds, SG18 9EP
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The Collection

Marvellous Moths trail

Sir Geoffrey de Havilland was one of the greatest aeroplane designers this country has ever known. His career spanned the golden age of aviation, from building his first aeroplane with his brother in 1909 (the same year as our Bleriot XI), right the way through to the 1964 Blue Streak Satellite Delivery System (a space rocket!). Sir Geoffrey was also a keen lepidopterist – that means someone who is fascinated by moths and butterflies – so much so, that he even named a whole series of his aeroplane designs after them. Join us on our trail to find out more about these fascinating creatures.

Moths, like Butterflies, have a larval stage where, as caterpillars, they eat & eat to build up lots of energy. Then, they weave a silk cocoon to protect them while they pupate and undertake the miraculous transformation into their adult form. Read about the larvae below for clues as to which exhibit they are linked to. Then see if you can spot the adult moth, before it flies away to mate and lay eggs that will hatch into more larvae …

The Silver Y Moth is a migratory moth – It lives in Asia and North Africa, flying North in the Summer to the UK – quite a journey for something with only a 3cm wingspan!

If you look in the **Trophy cabinet** as you leave the shop to enter the hangars, you will see a beautiful silver model of a de Havilland DH60 Moth aeroplane. It was made to commemorate the short life of the incredible Mia Carberry, who also owned and flew our DH51 'Miss Kenya'

Found it!

The tiny Case Bearing Clothes Moth's larvae can wreak havoc with clothes. They eat keratin (such as wool, hair and feathers), some turning the same colour as the cloth!

In **Hangar 1** you can see a display of World War 1 pilot's clothing. These precious and rare articles were, unfortunately, damaged by Clothes Moths many years ago, before they were donated. We are preserving them as best we can and hope you will never see a real Clothes Moth here!

Found it!

The Tiger Moth can be found throughout the British Isles, but in recent years numbers of this this striking species have declined alarmingly. The small but fantastically hairy caterpillar feeds on Dandelions and spins a silk cocoon using its own hairs as protection!

In **Hangar 2**, you can see a very popular aeroplane – the de Havilland Tiger Moth. Over a period of 30 years, the air forces of 39 countries used 8,868 Tiger Moths to train their pilots! It is still a very popular aeroplane with private pilots – over two hundred and fifty are still flying today.

Found it!

The humble Mouse Moth is just as shy as its namesake. It frequently seeks out sugar and will scuttle away mouse-like rather than take flight – hence the name!

In **Hangar 3**, you will find a dainty little car called a Fiat Topolino - which is Italian for *Little Mouse*. One of Dorothy Shuttleworth's favourite cars, she used it during WWII as it was very economical and petrol was rationed.

Found it!

The Silk Moth was first domesticated in China over 5,000 years ago, when it was discovered that by soaking the cocoon of the pupae, the silk could be unravelled into one long thread. This could then be spun into an incredibly strong yarn that could be woven into the finest cloth.

In the **Carriage Room** there is a Rickshaw that it is believed the Shuttleworth's brought back from their many travels overseas – possibly by Richard when he competed in the Viceroy Challenge Cup Air Race in India in 1936. This is a type of transport common in countries along the Silk Route – the overland route used when Chinese silk was exported to Europe.

Found it!

The incredible Comet Moth can have a wingspan of 20cm, and 15cm long tails, making it one of the world's largest silk moths. It is native to the rainforests of Madagascar, where it is endangered due to deforestation and habitat loss – though it is being bred successfully in captivity.

In **Hangar 4** is a giant of the aviation world. An aeroplane that won prestigious races and held a number of world records. It was also designed by Geoffrey de Havilland, the same man who designed the Tiger Moth, but he didn't name it after a moth. Instead both the aeroplane and the moth are aptly named after celestial comets that streak through the sky.

Found it!