From Mary Atkinson **MOTHS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN DECEMBER 2019**

It's always worth looking out for hibernating moths in the depths of winter. I think I have mentioned before that the handsome Herald Moth will readily sleep out the winter in outbuildings and log piles.

A species high on my 'wish list' is the Bloxworth Snout. I have never been lucky enough to see one, but it's said to be found in the part-underground old military dug-outs at Prawle Point. A few years ago, torch in hand, we had a look but only found several hibernating Peacock butterflies and a Herald Moth.
I have recently been told of 11 hibernating in a friend's shed down West and another in a shed in Looe.
First seen in Dorset in the late eighteen hundreds, this relative of our frequently seen Common Snout, is on the Red Data Book list. It has two generations, the second of which is the hibernator. Its larvae feed on Wall Pellitory.

From Jen in Middlewood: Very few moths around here at present except for my late autumn regular. Seen inside the cottage in early December for several years, it is the 'Many Plume Moth' the preferred name for what we used to call the 20 Plume Moth. Alucita hexadactyla refers to its six 'plumes' on each wing which must total 24 plumes... Subdued colours but fresh specimens are prettily marked. It feeds on honeysuckle but can be found all year so perhaps the adult moths seek shelter for the mid-winter season. It is classed as a micro moth