

Subject: **Small Tortoiseshell** *Aglais urticae* / **Common Alder** *Alnus glutinosa*

Medium: Acrylic

Size of original: 188 mm x 115 mm

Working Time: 32 hours

Completed:

Comments: **All research drawings and photographs by the illustrator.**
An area of concern was by how far the strength of the background should go, a darker background although enforce the highlighted leaves it would make the image too sombre. Attention was given to the form and texture of the leaves with strong use of *Titanium White* for the highlighted edges.

Notes: **Small Tortoiseshell** *Aglais urticae*:
Common throughout Europe where the black and green spiked caterpillars feed on nettles during May with the butterfly appearing July.*

Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*:
A common deciduous waterside tree about 20 metres in height with an open conical crown and sometimes multi-stemmed trunk. The leaves are rounded it is noted for the long male catkins and female rounded cones. *

* Chinery, Michael: **Collins Gem Guide to Butterflies and Moths**
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More, David: **Collins Gem Guide to Trees**
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1980
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Sutton, David: **Larousse Pocket Guide to Trees in Britain and Europe**
Kingfisher
1990
ISBN 0 7523 00172

Zahradník, Jiří: **A Field Guide in Colour to Insects**
Aventinum Publishing
2000



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