

MAMMALS, REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS EARLHAM CEMETERY, NORWICH

Compiled by Jeremy Bartlett

This list of mammals, reptiles and amphibians found in the Cemetery is a work in progress and will be updated as new information comes in.

Please send records of wildlife in Earlham Cemetery to us at friendsofearlhamcemetery@yahoo.co.uk

Last updated: 11th February 2023.



Left: Hedgehog (JB), right: Muntjac (IS).

Species	Comments
Mammals	
<u>Fox, <i>Vulpes vulpes</i></u>	Breeds in Cemetery and seen regularly. Also heard, mainly in the breeding season (winter). Appear to be recovering after a population crash in west Norwich in 2016/ 2017. Records include: 2019: At least two dens in the Cemetery. Early 2019: Heard in the Cemetery (TN). At least one active den in Cemetery in spring 2019 (GW). 18/05/2015: A single adult (IS). 13/06/2012: Two cubs in long grass (JB & VB).
<u>Brown long-eared Bat, <i>Plecotus auritus</i></u>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday.
<u>Daubenton's Bat, <i>Myotis daubentonii</i></u>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday.

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<u>Natterer's Bat, <i>Myotis nattereri</i></u>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday.
<u>Serotine Bat, <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i></u>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday.
<u>Leisler's Bat, <i>Nyctalus leisleri</i></u>	The Norfolk Bat Survey carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday on 4 th June 2019 included the call signature of "Leisler's Bat or Noctule", so there is a possibility that this species also occurs in Earlham Cemetery.
<u>Noctule Bat, <i>Nyctalus noctula</i></u>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday and a large bat, possibly a Noctule, was detected on 10 th August 2019 (DT). 14/07/2018: seen along Cemetery edge by Helena Road (GW) and on 04/10/2018 by St. Thomas' Road (TN). "Not seen for years" (TN 2014). 22/08/2006: seen along Cemetery edge at top of Helena Road (JB & VB). 30/09/1985: 3 - 4 flew over the Cemetery (CR).
Pipistrelles, <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> / <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Seen every year, including over Helena Road back gardens (JB & VB) and by St. Thomas' Road (TN). Recorded by sight only. A bat detector is needed to distinguish <u>Common</u> & <u>Soprano Pipstrelle</u> bats.
Pipistrelle, <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Detected in Cemetery on 10th August 2019 (DT) and on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday. Also detected in July 2015 by Norfolk Bat Survey on St. Thomas' Road.
Soprano Pipistrelle, <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Detected in Cemetery on 4 th June 2019 by Norfolk Bat Survey , carried out by Dr. Vik Loveday. Also detected in July 2015 by Norfolk Bat Survey on St. Thomas' Road.
Nathusius' pipistrelle, <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	Not recorded in Cemetery but occurred very close by in July 2015. Detected by Norfolk Bat Survey on Connaught Road.
Grey Squirrel, <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Very common; breeds in Cemetery. Seen every year. Squirrels have been seen eating crocus flowers (IS) and an EDP article (8th August 2015) suggests they are especially partial to bunches of chrysanthemums and carnations.
Rabbit, <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	22/09/1999, grid ref TG204086 (NBIS). No longer present.
<u>Weasel, <i>Mustela nivalis</i></u>	According to some Cemetery workmen, weasels were present when there were Rabbits in the Cemetery (TN). 16/10/2007 - One seen running across roadway into cover of bramble thicket TG213087 (SP).

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<u>Wood Mouse, <i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i></u>	<p>Occur regularly and are often killed by cats. Autumn 2014 – One killed by cat, St. Thomas' Road (TN). 06/03/2006 and 22/01/2005 – Both killed by cats; seen in alleyway between no. 14 and 16 Helena Road and presumably from Cemetery (JB & VB). In mid 2000s a student set small mammal traps in the Cemetery and only caught Wood Mice (TN).</p>
Brown Rat, <i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Rats occur in the gardens surrounding the Cemetery and TN has seen cats emerging from the Cemetery with rats as their prey.
<u>Roe Deer, <i>Capreolus capreolus</i></u>	Seen in last three years, with a pair seen on 18/04/2014 and one on 22/10/2016 (VK) and a single one in the evening of 10/08/2019 (SM).
<u>Muntjac, <i>Muntiacus reevesi</i></u>	<p>Increasing. Present in small numbers and seen regularly, usually in ones and twos.</p> <p>Seen regularly from 2018 onwards. Cause damage to bluebell leaves in late winter / early spring.</p> <p>A dead Muntjac was seen by the Earlham Road entrance to the Cemetery in July 2015. In summer 2022 Muntjac were seen in gardens adjoining the Cemetery as food became scarce in the drought.</p> <p>Other sightings include September 2014 (two adults, VB), November 2014 (two adults, IS), 3rd January 2015 (JB, IS), spring 2016 (CP), 25th March 2017 (VB), 2nd January 2018 (JB), 23rd February 2018 (a male, calling, SL).</p>
<u>Mole, <i>Talpa europaea</i></u>	<p>A mole catcher was employed during the early years of the Cemetery (BBM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20th February 1857: "Ordered that moles on Cemetery ground be destroyed by Mr. Dye at the charge by him of 7s/6d per annum". • 16th February 1883: Mole catcher employed for £1 per year. • 1894: On 15th June allotment holders (on 40 acre extension to Cemetery purchased in 1892, west of Section K) asked for a mole catcher to destroy moles on their allotments. 20th July 1894: Mr. Fitzpatrick, Cemetery mole catcher, will be paid 20 shillings per annum to do this. <p>Moles are no longer present in the Cemetery.</p>
<u>Hedgehog, <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of signs of Hedgehog activity during the first half of 2019, with Hedgehog droppings in several different parts of Earlham Cemetery. But also several dead Hedgehogs were found in late spring and early summer, near the back of the Julian Hospital and

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	<p>Jewish Cemetery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead Hedgehog seen in September 2018 while raking (section4). • One seen on our monthly walk, 19th November 2017, in area of Cemetery west of Farrow Road (JB, VB, IS). • Seen in gardens on Earlham Road and St. Thomas' Road, backing onto the Cemetery, in 2018 (ML, TN). • One seen in late March 2017 and in 2015 in a garden on Earlham Road, backing onto the Cemetery (ML). • One seen regularly in the evening heading into the area of Cemetery west of Farrow Road by Gypsy Lane, July 2016 (MH). • Seen in the middle of the afternoon on 27th September 2015, a single individual. Didn't look very healthy - some eye damage and not that plump (IS). • Seen by St. Thomas' Road, July 2014 (TN). • Several records from 1992 to 1998 in garden of 12 Helena Road. Hedgehogs came into the garden from the Cemetery. Last records were 2 on 19/05/1998 and 1 on 09/08/1998 (JB & VB).
Reptiles	
<u>Slow Worm, <i>Anguis fragilis</i></u>	<p>Two records.</p> <p>September 1964 (J. Buckley) – see https://records.nbnatlas.org/occurrences/be3ea5af-da5b-4928-94ff-454b44c9576e</p> <p>03/08/2001 (JB & VB) – On pavement of Helena Road, moving rapidly towards Dereham Road. Transferred to back garden of 12 Helena Road. Probably came from the Cemetery, the nearest green space.</p>
<u>Common Lizard, <i>Zootoca vivipara</i></u>	<p>One old record.</p> <p>18th May 1967 (J. Buckley) – see https://records.nbnatlas.org/occurrences/b9859935-0a59-4877-a1fb-58b70c7549b8</p>
Amphibians	
<u>Common Frog, <i>Rana temporaria</i></u>	<p>Breed in pond in Memorial Garden (PH). Seen in the Cemetery at the back of Helena Road. Breeding in garden ponds at 12 and 14 Helena Road until at least 2013 (JB & VB). Have bred in garden ponds on St. Thomas' Road since at least 1992 (TN 2014). Frogs also breed in garden ponds on Earlham Road (ML 2017).</p>

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<u>Smooth Newt, <i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i></u>	May breed in pond in Memorial Garden (PH). Currently breeding in garden pond on St. Thomas' Road (TN). In pond at 12 Helena Road until at least 2013, where they arrived around 1999 (JB & VB).
<u>Common Toad, <i>Bufo bufo</i></u>	Singletons recorded in garden at 12 Helena Road in early 1990s (JB & VB) but not seen more recently.

Recorders:

JB = Jeremy Bartlett

VB = Vanna Bartlett

CP = Carole Ponniah

CR = Craig Robson

DT = David Thomas

IS = Ian Senior

TN = Thea Nicholls

VK = Valerie Knights

ML = Michael Launchbury

PH = Paul Holley

SP = Stuart Paston

SL = Sandy Lockwood

SM = Susan Moore

MH = Mike Hoyland

GW = Gary White

VL = Vik Loveday

NBIS = Record from Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service database. (Thanks to Elizabeth Oddy for supplying this data.)

BBM = Norwich Burial Board Minute Books, Norfolk Record Office.

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