

FRIENDS OF EARLHAM CEMETERY



The newsletter for Friends of Earlham Cemetery

Issue 10

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All walks start by the cemetery office and gates at the Earlham Road entrance. Indoor meetings are held in the small room at the Belvedere Centre. The following dates have been arranged:

Sunday 8th July 2018 (2pm) Yellow Rattle and Summer flowers.

Saturday 11th August 2018 (2pm) Big Butterfly Count.

Sunday 23rd September 2018 (2pm) Plant Galls and Leaf Miners.

The header image by © Sandy Lockwood Logo design © Vanna Bartlett. Layout design and editorial by Sandy Lockwood



Looking out over the cemetery on a hot and sticky day you wouldn't think that a few months ago everyone was asking "when will winter be over?". It was a very cold and unpredictable winter with temperatures dropping well below freezing and boiler pipes refusing to work.

As Jeremy mentions in his article on butterflies a cold winter can mean a better summer for butterflies which does seem to

be happening in the cemetery by the number of butterflies spotted so far. Make a note in your diary as Vanna will be leading a guided butterfly walk in August which will coincide with "The Big Butterfly Count"

The good weather has brought out some interesting species of hoverflies and flies discovered on our recent walk lead by Stuart and Thea. Not everyone was an expert but with everybody helping with ID tasks it turned out to be a great day. The good thing about the walks is that you don't have to be very knowledgeable to enjoy them even if the subject matter doesn't interest you. Enthusiasm goes a long way and we will usually have members who can take on the ID tasks to help. There's always lots to see and it's pleasurable meeting and chatting with other members.

On a different topic: due to technical problems with the software I use to create the newsletter in (thank you Adobe!). The newsletter will have to be produced using different software in the near future. This means all the templates and style sheets that make the newsletter nice to look at will need to be changed. Hopefully, the new software will be available in the summer giving me a chance to learn it before the next newsletter is due otherwise I'm sorry to say there may only be one newsletter produced this year, fingers crossed this may not be the case. So please send in your news, views and articles as usual.

Enjoy the Summer

Sandy

Please send all submissions for inclusion in the next newsletter to sj.lockwood@ntlworld. com. Please supply photographs as 300dpi jpegs if possible.

Review of the year 2017 - 2018 - by Jeremy Bartlett

Membership

We now have 32 members.

Membership subscriptions (£5) are due at the AGM – please pay Jane Bouttell, Treasurer, 116 Stafford Street, Norwich, NR2 3BQ as soon as possible.

Walks

- Our themed monthly walks continue to be well attended and continue to attract new people. The best attended walks were in March (23 people), April (23 people) and September (22 people). Our December walk was once more followed by Christmas drinks in the "Fat Cat" on Nelson Street.
- As in 2016, we decided not to have a walk in February, but we held our AGM that month.
- Thanks to everyone who led and co-led walks: lan Senior, Vanna Bartlett, Jeremy Bartlett, James Emerson, Stuart Paston and Thea Nicholls.
- As always, we could do with more walk leaders. You don't need expertise, as long as you turn up and can lead people round.

Visits

- There were no visits by other groups to Earlham Cemetery this year.
- There was no annual coach trip with Friends of the Rosary and Friends of Great Yarmouth Cemeteries.

Wildlife

- The Management Plan for the Cemetery is being followed and TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) spent nine days raking hay. Five days of this were paid for by Norwich City Council. Cutting and raking was done a bit later than ideal (in October; early September is best) but this year the cuttings were all taken away by Norse, after temporary storage in the area to the south of the Jewish Cemetery.
- Ian & Jeremy have had a couple more meetings with Sue Stoner (Norwich City Council) and Helen Baczkowska (Norfolk Wildlife Trust) to discuss implementation of the Plan and other aspects of Cemetery management. Sue has now changed jobs but we hope to work with her successor. Many thanks to Sue for all her help.
- We received £2000 from Tesco "Bags of Help" for hay raking; this has to be spent by October 2018. We also applied for an Aviva Community Award – we were unsuccessful but should receive £100 as a "consolation prize".
- £1200 Tesco "Bags of Help" was spent on four days of raking (TCV charge £300 per day). The remaining £800 plus the Aviva funding will pay towards next year's raking.

 Group members are continuing to discover new records for insects, fungi and plants, not least fungi (lan Senior & James Emerson) and bees (Vanna Bartlett).

Projects

- Last year's trial plot of Yellow Rattle grew very well, flowered and set seed. Grass height was reduced and we saw Common Blue butterflies in the area and Chocolate Mining Bees (Andrena scotica) nested in the plot, where we had scraped off vegetation.
- We sowed a second, twice as big, trial plot of Yellow Rattle seeds in November 2017, in Burial Section 3. (Cost of seed was £8.) This year we will visit both areas to see how well the Yellow Rattle grows – hopefully it will grow and set seed every year and become selfsustaining.
- Jeremy is continuing to research the history of the Cemetery and is contributing this to the group's newsletters.

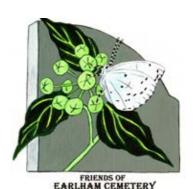
Networking

- We continue to work closely with Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Norwich City Council on the Habitat Management Plan.
- We are developing good relationships with wildlife groups such as Norfolk Fungus Study Group and Great Yarmouth Naturalists' Society, with the Plantation Garden Preservation Trust and with other "Friends" groups, including Friends of the Rosary, Friends of Great Yarmouth Cemeteries and Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.
- Our Facebook page now has 298 "Likes". We continue to receive and answer queries via Facebook and our website.
- Our posters at the main Cemetery gates continue to be very useful and have attracted new attendees for walks and new members.

Jeremy Bartlett,

Secretary.

18th January 2018.



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The Hoverfly Xylota segnis - by Stuart Paston



Hoverfly, Xylota Segnis - Female © AfroBrazilian [CC BY-SA 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0) or GFDL (http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html)], from Wikimedia Commons

The hoverfly *Xylota segnis* has not been bestowed with an English name as far as I am aware but there are no lack of options. *Segnis* in Latin means slow, sluggish, torpid or inactive. Clearly it is not in danger of burnout from over exertion but it is all relative and there must be far lazier flies. At least it escapes the charge of being stupid or slow witted as is the case with another member of the genus which is saddled with the specific name of *tarda*.

The Sluggish Xylota (I'll go with this name for now) is a robust, mainly black insect with a rather elongated parallel sided abdomen which bears a conspicuous orange belt on the second and third segments. The legs are partly pale. It is by some way the most widespread and common of the seven species of Xylota occurring in Britain and it can be found in woodland, along hedgerows and in parks and gardens over a wide area of the country. In the cemetery it can be anticipated to occur wherever there are trees and shrubs in the County Wildlife Site section, often being found on low foliage on which it grazes if honeydew and pollen grains are available; it is rarely seen at flowers, at least outside Scotland, although there have been sightings at buttercups.

Scanning my cemetery records over the recent past, 2014 was a standout year for this species with a number of observations linked to its breeding habits. In the early part of May that year one of a group of grey poplar in the north eastern part of the cemetery was blown over. Within a day or so a maintenance team arrived to cut up the trunk leaving a stump with a sizable cavity at the base where rot had taken hold and quantities of sawdust scattered on the grassland in the close vicinity.

My first observations at the site were on 15 May when two pioneering males were seen perched on a stack of logs of the sawn poplar. By 20 May the logs had been removed and I found three males holding territories on the piles of sawdust near the rotten stump. On 25 May both sexes were present with a female watched as she entered the cavity to lay eggs and on the following day no fewer than seven males were in the area competing for territories on heaps of sawdust, frequently rising to drive off intruders into "their space".

Numbers of males had dwindled to four at the outset of June but two were still recorded on 17th June and one was present on 16 September. During the span of the same flight period observations were made elsewhere. On 25 May two males were noticed on a large heap of mixed decomposing woody and vegetative material in the compound adjoining the Jewish cemetery and on 1 June a male was found on a rotten stump of horse chestnut not far from the grey poplar site. This latter site is regularly used and the species undoubtedly breeds here.

A more recent record of note occurred on 4 June 2017 when a male was discovered on low herbage beside a large heap of decomposing grass cuttings beside a grass pathway near the Commonwealth War Graves lawn in the vicinity of the Dereham Road entrance. It was undoubtedly anticipating the arrival of a female likely to be attracted to the area by the smell of decaying vegetation.



Hoverfly, Xylota segnis - Male © Hectonichus [CC BY-SA 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0) or GFDL (http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html)], from Wikimedia Commons

Taken together these observations highlight how *segnis* can exploit not just rotten wood situations but also the byproducts of maintenance within the cemetery.

The only other *Xylota* that I have recorded in the cemetery is *sylvarum*, a larger insect with a vivid yellow tip to the abdomen. It's behaviour is similar to *segnis* but it is more limited to decaying wood and observations have been infrequent.

Stuart Paston

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A New Species of Butterfly - by Jeremy Bartlett



White-letter hairstreak @ Ian Senior

On Friday 21st July 2017, Ian Senior saw a new species of butterfly for Earlham Cemetery – a white-letter hairstreak. It flew off from a Canadian goldenrod flower and settled on a buddleia flower, where Ian was able to take a photograph.

The white-letter hairstreak (*Satyrium w-album*) is named after the white W-shape on the hind wing. Its caterpillars feed on elm leaves and the butterflies spend much of their time flying around the tops of elm trees, where they feed on honeydew.

Dutch elm disease killed off most of our mature elm trees, including avenues of elms in Earlham Cemetery. However, the white-letter hairstreak has survived because it is able to feed on smaller, suckering elms.

This was the first time the species has been recorded in Earlham Cemetery. The weather was warm and sunny, with a south-westerly wind, which may have carried the butterfly from one of the gardens backing onto the Cemetery. (The biggest elm trees in the Cemetery are to the east of the Crematorium, towards Winter Road – in the wrong direction.)

We searched for the butterfly on our Big Butterfly Count walk the next day (Saturday 22nd July) but there was no sign of it.

If you'd like to see a white-letter hairstreak in Norwich, look at the tops of elm trees next to Zak's car park on Mousehold Heath, on a sunny, calm day from late June to early August. Vanna and I managed to see one on 5th July, after an hour's wait. Binoculars are useful, as well as a supply of patience.

Jeremy Bartlett.

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Leaf Mines in Earlham Cemetery - by James Emerson



Stigmella tityrella © James Emerson

If you have ever looked down at a pile of fallen leaves and noticed some have green patches, then chances are that you have unknowingly seen a leaf containing the larva of a moth. Some autumn species have an ingenious way of continuing to feed as the leaves begin to die. They give off chemicals that prevent the tree reabsorbing the chlorophyll from the leaf, creating a localised green area known as a 'green island'.

tityrella, a distinctive species that creates a mine that zig-zags between two veins. This type of mine, known as a corridor or gallery mine, is only one of several different forms. Others include blotches, tentiform ('tent like') or a gallery that leads to a blotch. It is not only moth larvae that make leaf mines – flies, sawflies and even some beetles can also form mines in their early stages.



Agromyza filipendulae © James Emerson

Whilst on one of the Friends of Earlham Cemetery monthly walks I noticed some fallen beech leaves with these green islands in. Picking one up I recognised it as *Stigmella*

During the autumn and winter I made several visits to the cemetery, most as part of the Friends of Earlham Cemetery walks. Each time I recorded the leaf mines I found,



Phyllonorycter platani © James Emerson

and am currently up to 19 species, which is undoubtedly just the tip of the iceberg. Highlights so far include *Phyllonorycter platani* in London plane leaves, and *Agromyza filipendulae* on creeping cinquefoil.

Most species are host-specific, so if you can identify the plant then you stand a good chance of making an ID, although not all mines can be identified to species as there are some similar species pairs. There are two excellent websites to go to for help – www.ukflymines.co.uk and www.leafmines.co.uk.

James Emerson

War and Peace, Part 2 - by Jeremy Bartlett

World War Two

By the late 1930s it was becoming increasingly clear that another war was looming.

In his 1938 – 39 report, Alan Jewell, the Cemetery Superintendent, reported that he had received several requests for extracts from the Register of Burials to prove that people in Germany were of "Aryan" descent.

During the 1938 Munich crisis, a short covered trench was constructed near the cemetery office at South Lodge and a disused vault was converted into a basic air raid shelter for the cemetery staff. Further work was carried out in June 1939

As in the First World War, many of the staff were called up into the armed forces. This happened from 1940 onwards. In March 1940 the Cemetery Superintendent tried to postpone the call up of V.E. Forster, aged 24, but eventually arranged for him to be replaced by a temporary clerk (B.R. Sutton, aged 45).



H.M. King George VI talks to Civil Defence Volunteers by Norwich Guildhall. From "Assault Upon Norwich" by R. H. Mottram, Norwich Corporation (1942).

In 1941 it seemed that the railings around the cemetery might, like many others, be removed and melted down as scrap metal for the war effort¹. The Cemetery Superintendent was also authorised to request private grave owners to give up the railings around their graves. The railings were offered to the Ministry of Supply, but in the end they remained in place. The railings around the cemetery were saved largely because the Burial Acts required cemeteries to be kept fenced in, for the security of the graves.

In the expectation of civilian casualties, mortuaries were set up on St. George's Street, in the pavilion at Waterloo Park, at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and at the Poor Law Institution (Woodlands Hospital) on Bowthorpe Road. The Cemetery Superintendent, Alan Jewell, acted as Mortuary Superintendent for the Norfolk and Norwich

Hospital and Poor Law Institution. Bodies were to be taken to the mortuaries, where any affected by poison gas were to be decontaminated. The Cemetery Superintendent was also tasked with completing Civilian War Deaths forms and keeping a permanent record of all civilian war deaths in Norwich². Fortunately poison gas was never used, so decontamination never had to be carried out.

¹ For more on this subject, see Peter Thorsheim (2015): "Weapons: Recycling in Britain during the Second World War", Cambridge University Press.

² "Deaths due to war operations", Bernard D. Storey, ARP Controller, June 1940. N/HE 9/2 – Civil Defence Memoranda.



H.R.H. The Duke of Kent inspecting Civil Defence Volunteers by Norwich Guildhall. From "Assault Upon Norwich" by R. H. Mottram, Norwich Corporation (1942).

The Baedecker Raids

There were 44 air raids on Norwich between 9 July 1940 and 6 November 1943. With the onset of air raids, one of the rooms at South Lodge was equipped for fire watching and from February 1941 the cemetery gates were left unlocked, but closed, at night to allow access to the cemetery to fight fires or deal with incendiary bombs. In July 1942 the Cemetery Superintendent was asked whether the cemetery's records, held in the office at South Lodge, could be stored safely elsewhere, but no site could be found.

The most serious damage and loss of life from air raids occurred in Norwich's two Baedecker Raids, on the nights of 27 - 28 April and 29 - 30 April 1942³.

The Baedecker Raids were in response to the Royal Air Force's bombing of Lübeck and other historic towns in Germany. When Lübeck was bombed on 28 March 1942 over a thousand people were killed and much of the city, including the most historic part, with its many old wooden buildings, was destroyed or badly damaged in the resulting firestorm⁴.

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On 14 April 1942 Hitler ordered "that the air war against England be given a more aggressive stamp. Accordingly when targets are being selected, preference is to be given to those where attacks are likely to have the greatest possible effect on civilian life. Besides raids on ports and industry, terror attacks of a retaliatory nature (Vergeltungsangriffe) are to be carried out on towns other than London".

The name "Baedecker Raids" (or "Baedecker Blitz") comes from a remark made by a spokesman for the German Foreign Office, Baron Gustav Braun von Stumm, following the first raid on Exeter, on the night of 23 – 24 April: "We shall go out and bomb every building in Britain marked with three stars in the Baedeker Guide"⁵.

Exeter was bombed again the following night, 24-25 April 1942, followed by Bath on 25 - 26 and 26 - 27 April. Norwich was the target on 27 - 28 April, with York attacked on 28-29 April. A second night's raid on Norwich came on 29-30 April and further raids followed in May. The last raids were on Canterbury at the end of May and beginning of June.

- ³ Joan Banger, "Norwich At War", Poppyland Publishing, 1989.
- ⁴ For more information see the Imperial War Museum http://www.iwm.org.uk/history/what-were-the-baedeker-raids and The History Learning websites: http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/world-war-two/world-war-two-in-western-europe/britains-home-front-in-world-war-two/the-baedeker-raids-of-1942/.
- ⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baedeker_Blitz

Overall, 1,637 civilians were killed in the raids and 1,760 were injured, and over 50,000 houses were destroyed. The German bombers that carried out the raids suffered heavy losses⁶.

Extensive Damage

The raids on Norwich caused extensive damage to the city centre and according to the Norwich Bomb Map nine 250kg and 500kg bombs fell on the cemetery, with more in the surrounding streets. On the second night of the raid St. Thomas' Church, on the corner of Earlham Road and Edinburgh Road, was set ablaze.

⁶ http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/world-war-two/world-war-two-in-western-europe/britains-home-front-in-world-war-two/the-baedeker-raids-of-1942/

⁷ Steve Snelling, "Norwich – A Shattered City. The Story of Hitler's Blitz on Norwich and its People 1942", Halsgrove, 2012.

Woodlands Hospital on Bowthorpe Road (the former Norwich Workhouse, now Norwich Community Hospital) was hit by incendiary and high explosive bombs. Ten of the patients, many of whom were elderly and infirm, were killed when a 500kg bomb exploded as they were being evacuated from the building⁷.

Helena Road was especially badly affected, with the western side of the street, backing onto the cemetery, hit by three 500kg bombs. At 10 Helena Road three members of the Wallace family were killed on 27 - 28



St. Thomas' Church, Earlham Road. From "Assault Upon Norwich" by R. H. Mottram, Norwich Corporation (1942).

April: Albert Edward Arthur Henry Wallace (Arthur senior, age 65), his wife Louisa (age 50) and son Arthur (age 29). Arthur Wallace senior, a railway engine driver, brought the 10.07pm train from Melton Constable into Norwich's City Station and arrived home safely shortly before the station was bombed, only to be killed later in the night when his Anderson shelter received a direct hit⁸. Next door neighbours Clare and Nellie Betts (both age 63) at 8 Helena Road were also killed, as was Alice Smith at no. 23.



Bomb damage to Woodlands Hospital. From "Assault Upon Norwich" by R. H. Mottram, Norwich Corporation (1942)..

The night of the second raid claimed the lives of Ernest and Edith Hunt at 32 Helena Road and the Waters family of no. 78. The Waters had a Morrison shelter inside their

house, but their next door neighbours at no. 76 had an Anderson shelter in their back garden. The neighbours went to stay with relatives and let the Waters use their shelter, but it received a direct hit, killing all four of them. They would probably have survived if they had stayed in their own house⁹.

For the rest of the war, much of the western side of Helena Road was occupied by two large bomb craters, though these had been mostly levelled by 1944¹⁰. The houses were rebuilt early in 1948.

⁸ N/TC 57/36 – Air Raid Damage, Norwich. The occupants of 10 and 76 Helena Road are listed as "killed in Anderson shelters".

⁹ "Norwich In The Blitz", p7. An Evening News special edition. Archant, 2002.

¹⁰ http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?MNF59463-World-War-Two-bomb-craters-on-Helena-Road-Norwich

We lived on Helena Road for a number of years in one of the houses that had been rebuilt. When we moved to the house we were told by the previous owners, who had lived there since the mid 1950s, that a piece of wood lodged high in the branches of a birch tree in the cemetery near the back of our garden, was part of a floorboard from the original house that had been destroyed by bombing. Apparently there had also been a wooden toilet seat in the tree for many years.



Top of Helena Road after bombing, 1942. From "Assault Upon Norwich" by R. H. Mottram, Norwich Corporation (1942).

The bombing of houses in nearby streets resulted in damage to the walls and fences surrounding the cemetery and in 1943 the gaps were repaired using rolls of chestnut fencing. In May 1945 the City Engineer was asked to report on the damage to the cemetery's boundaries and one problem area was the damaged wall at the back of Winter Road, where the general public had made a thoroughfare into the cemetery. War Damage payments were used to cover the cost of rebuilding the wall.

Twenty-six houses were totally destroyed in the two Baedecker Raids on Norwich, 77 more were so badly damaged that they had to be demolished and a further 5598 received varying amounts of damage. Norwich's Air Raid Damage reports list the details of the damage to each house in the city¹¹.

Altogether at least 235 people died in Norwich in the two raids and the "Norwich Blitz Roll of Honour" lists the names of those who died¹². For the Second World War as a whole, some 340 people died as a result of air raids on Norwich and over a thousand people were injured¹³.

In 1949 the Cemetery Superintendent, Alan Jewell, wrote about how the bodies of the victims were identified. "None of the bodies were unidentifiable because if the features were battered or the body incomplete or badly mutilated, the clothes or the contents of the pockets or other belongings settled the question. Those charred removed from burning buildings were the most difficult but metal parts of suspenders or other non-combustible materials helped considerably¹⁴."

 11 N/TC 57/36 – Air Raid Damage, Norwich. In April 1946 the owners of 199 Earlham Road, just west of the cemetery entrance, offered to sell it to Norwich Corporation for £100. The house had been badly damaged in an air raid. The city's Valuation Officer visited but by July the Corporation decided not to buy it.

¹² http://www.edp24.co.uk/norwich_blitz_roll_of_honour_2_5960. Names compiled by Roy Scott of the Norfolk Family History Society.

¹³ Joan Banger, "Norwich At War", Poppyland Publishing, 1989.

¹⁴ NRO ACC 1997/143 – report dated 18 August 1949.



Part of the Norwich Bomb Map, showing Earlham Cemetery and the surrounding streets. Digital copies are available on CD (£10) from Norfolk Record Office.

The Air Raid Victims' Plot

104 bodies of the victims of the two Baedecker raids were buried in two trenches, 296 feet and 100 feet long, in the newest part of the cemetery just west of Farrow Road, on Monday 4, Tuesday 5 and Thursday 7 May 1942. The burials on the Monday afternoon included elderly inmates of Woodlands Hospital who had been killed by bomb blast and falling masonry. Three days of memorial services were held, attended by representatives of the Church of England, the Free Churches and the Salvation Army.

Initially the graves were marked by a row of white wooden crosses, each recording the name, age and date of death. No grave mounds were raised over the bodies and the graves were kept level and planted with seasonal bedding plants by the cemetery gardeners.

Roman Catholics were buried in their own part of the cemetery. Other victims of the raids were buried alongside loved ones in family plots. Some are elsewhere in the cemetery, others are in the Rosary Cemetery or further away, including Haddiscoe churchyard and Great Yarmouth Cemetery.

After the war a more permanent memorial for the air raid victims was designed and laid out.

The idea seems to have come from Alan Jewell: in April 1945 the City Committee minutes say that the "Cemetery Superintendent suggested some kind of memorial in the air raid victims' plot"¹⁵. Jewell was asked to submit his proposals to a special sub-committee consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the City Committee, Councillors White and Henderson.

By July 1945 the City Architect had prepared drawings of the proposed memorial, which would consist of a lawn cemetery surrounded by a low brick wall with coping, on which the victims' names would be recorded. At one end of the plot there would be a stone feature with a general inscription. The estimated cost would be £1,150.

It seems that the Committee weren't particularly thrilled by the design because in September the Parks Superintendent, Captain Arrnold Sandys-Winsch¹⁶, was asked to prepare an alternative scheme. His work was already well known in Norwich and before the War he had designed Norwich's Waterloo, Eaton, Wensum and Heigham Parks, as well as Bluebell Allotments on The Avenues. In November he submitted his design, costed at £931.

In December 1945 the two schemes were compared and the Parks Superintendent's plan was adopted and would be implemented at a cost of £950, subject to funding, in the next financial year, starting on 1st April 1946.

Work on the memorial started in June 1946¹⁷ but took longer than expected and in April 1948 Sandys-Winsch was asked to give a verbal report on why the work wasn't completed. There had been a delay in supplying the metal gates, teak seats and bronze plaques required for the design and the estimate of £950 had been exceeded by £217¹⁸. Steps were taken to speed things up.

The Parks Superintendent would speak to the suppliers of the bronze plaques and an alternative design of teak

seats would be used. Councillor Sutton was a Director of Norwich ironworks Barnes and Pye and arranged for them to make the metal gates for an estimated £36 10s. By September 1948 everything was in place, apart from the plaques with victims' names. These were supplied by Messrs Stancliffe (Darley Dale) Stone Ltd in Derbyshire, at £6 each plus 15s. 6d. for lettering.

In June 1948 the wording for the central memorial was approved:

"THIS GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE IS A MEMORIAL TO THE CIVILIANS OF THIS CITY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES THROUGH ENEMY AIR RAIDS ON NORWICH DURING THE WORLD WAR 1939 – 1945"19.

By May 1949 the plot, now referred to as the "Garden of Remembrance", was complete and a Service of Remembrance was held at 11am on 18 May 1949.

Alan Jewell described the plot as follows:

"A rectangular garden surrounded by a yew hedge, with gates at each end and teak seats outside each entrance. An ornamental pool with fountains is also included... The Garden of Remembrance also contains a stone obelisk with an inscription to the memory of all those killed in air raids on Norwich in the 1939 – 1945 war".

Nowadays the yew hedges, gates and stone obelisk are still there. The pool appears on Sandys-Winch's plan as an elliptical feature in the centre of the plot, in front of the obelisk. Mr G E Barnes of 306 Bowthorpe Road donated 2-3 dozen goldfish for the pool, so it must have been built, but there are no traces of it now.

Since that first service of remembrance in 1949, special ceremonies have been held at the plot to mark significant anniversaries of the Baedecker Raids. On the 70th anniversary of the raids in 2012, the service was led by Canon Peter Nokes, vicar of Norwich's St Peter Mancroft Church, and attended by the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Jenny Lay and the Sheriff of Norwich, Chris Higgins²⁰.

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¹⁵ NRO N/TC 6/20.

¹⁶ Born in 1888 in Knutsford, Cheshire. Became Parks Superintendent in 1919 and held the post for 34 years. Died in 1964. http:// friendsofeatonpark.co.uk/captain-sandys-winsch/ and A. P. Anderson, "The Captain and the Norwich Parks". The Norwich Society, 2000.

¹⁷ NRO ACC 1997/143.

¹⁸ NRO N/TC 6/21.

¹⁹ NRO ACC 1997/143.

²⁰ Emma Knights, "Special service at Earlham Cemetery remembers those who lost their lives in the Baedeker Raids." Eastern Daily Press, 28th April 2012: http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/news/special_service_at_earlham_cemetery_remembers_those_who_lost_their_lives_in_the_baedeker_raids_1_1362780.



Garden of Remembrance today.

Second World War Military Graves

The Second World War saw another 184 military burials in the New Military Plot. The British servicemen buried there were from air, land and sea forces, including the Royal Air Force, a variety of British Army regiments and the Royal Navy. Canadian, Australian and Polish forces are represented too.

radar station, just south of Norwich. The plane went into a shallow dive and crashed at about 1.30am in a field at West Green Farm in Poringland²¹.

²¹ Steve Snelling, "Norwich – A Shattered City. The Story of Hitler's Blitz on Norwich and its People 1942", Halsgrove, 2012.



New military plot, March 2018 @Jeremy Bartlett

There are three servicewomen's graves too: Betty Mayes, a Wren serving in the Women's Royal Naval Service, Eva Gill, a Private in the Auxiliary Territorial Service and Betty Taylor, Aircraftwoman 2nd Class in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force.

There are also the graves of six German airmen and two German sailors. Four of the German airmen, Werner Böllert (the pilot), Rudolf Bucksch, Albert Otterbach and Matthias Speuser, were the crew of a Dornier Do 217E-4 bomber that attacked Norwich on 9 May 1942. The plane hit a barrage balloon cable over Lakenham and was shot down by anti-aircraft guns at the Stoke Holy Cross



German bomber aircrew @Jeremy Bartlett

In May 1944 the Imperial War Graves Commission asked for a new area of the cemetery for the exclusive burial of Royal Air Force and Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Air Force personnel. A representative from the Air Ministry visited on Friday 5 May 1944 and the Cemetery Superintendent submitted a plan of the suggested area, Section 42, just at the back of the Isolation Hospital (now Julian Hospital). However, by October the War had turned in the Allies' favour and the Air Ministry decided not to proceed with the plan.

In February 1947 it was agreed in principle to grant Exclusive Rights of Burial for the Second World War military graves, as was done for the First World War graves, at a cost of 20s. per grave. The agreement was ratified in April 1949. The £1 fee that had been charged for the First World War burials for erecting each headstone was waived. In June 1948 the Corporation agreed to the IWGC's suggested fee of 7s. 6d. to maintain each grave.

The period that the Imperial War Graves Commission would grant war graves to servicemen and women came to an end on 31 December 1947.

On Tuesday 22 November 1949 the Imperial War Graves Commission showed a 16mm colour film in Blackfriars Hall in Norwich, illustrating their work in maintaining cemeteries and memorials throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire. The film was first screened in Arnhem and the Norwich screening was the first in the United Kingdom. The Lord Mayor introduced the film and about 200 people came to the screening²².

At the time of the film, the IWGC was having over 1,000 headstones carved every week. 40,000-50,000 had been completed but another 375,000 still needed to be done and the task was expected to take until 1954^{23} .

Several war graves from the First World War had to be replaced as well, as they had been damaged in air raids. The most serious damage was to Private Rushmer's headstone (Section 35), which had been broken in half, and Private Savoury's headstone (Section E), which had been broken into three pieces and the kerbstones and posts had been blown apart²⁴.

Now that the cemetery contained the remains of service personnel killed in the Second World War, the wording on the Cross of Sacrifice was out of date:

"TO THE HONOURED MEMORY OF THOSE SAILORS AND SOLDIERS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1918 AND WHO LIE BURIED IN THIS CEMETERY".

In 1952 Alan Jewell contacted five local ex-servicemen's associations, who asked for the inscription to be erased and for the dates 1914 – 1921 and 1939 – 1947 to be inscribed on two of the monument's panels. In November 1953 the IWGC gave permission for the inscription to be removed, but the dates 1914 – 1918 and 1939 – 1945 were used.

²² N/TC 52/51 – Imperial War Graves Commission correspondence.

²³ N/TC 52/51 – Imperial War Graves Commission correspondence.

²⁴ N/C1/171 – IWGC 1940 – 1956.

After The War

When war ended, cemetery staff who had been enlisted in the armed forces were released from military service: Arthur Ellis on 31 December 1945, Albert Alexander on 7 January 1946, Walter James Henry Carter on 4 March and V.E. Forster in September 1946. But not everyone wanted to come back to the cemetery – P. L. Read decided not to resume his job as a Propagating Gardener when he was released from the forces in early 1946.

Food rationing was introduced in January 1940 for bacon, butter and sugar. By August 1942 it had spread to nearly all foods apart from vegetables and bread. Food shortages continued after the Second World War had ended and even bread and flour were rationed from 21 July 1946²⁵.

In response, early in 1948 the Norwich Corporation decided to grow food crops on three acres of spare land in the cemetery extension west of Farrow Road. A grant of £4 per acre was available for breaking up the land for cultivation and the plan was to grow two acres of oats or barley and one acre of potatoes. The land was cultivated by T. Manning and in October 1948 the Cemetery Superintendent was given permission to sell the potatoes to the Council's Education Department at market value, or to make other arrangements as he saw fit if the sale didn't take place.

In the following year, Messrs H. B. Wilson of Colney Old Farm took over the lease for the land, at £5 per annum. They leased the land at the same annual rate for the next five years but in 1955 they decided not to continue cultivation. The lease was re-advertised, but no one wanted to rent the land.

By then the need to grow extra food had lessened, with the abolition of food rationing in 5 July 1954²⁶, and a new use for the land was soon found.

By February 1957 the vacant land was being prepared for growing turf for covering graves and from 1961 all of the Cemetery's requirements for turf were being supplied from the Farrow Road extension.

²⁵Guardian Century: "Bread rationing from July 21st": http://www.theguardian.com/century/1940-1949/Story/0,,105118,00.html

²⁶Wikipedia: Rationing in the United Kingdom https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rationing_in_the_United_Kingdom

Jeremy Bartlett

Butterflies in Earlham Cemetery - by Jeremy Bartlett

As I write, in early March, the snow has only just melted and we are recovering from several days of subzero temperatures. However, before the snow, I saw my first butterfly of the year, a fleeting glimpse of a red admiral in a sunny part of our back garden, on 15th February 2018.

As well as the snow and cold at the end of February, we have had quite a few frosts this winter, many more than in recent winters. Recent research suggests that cold winters are better for butterflies than warm ones https://butterfly-conservation.org/3114-18222/cold-comfort.html, so perhaps 2018 will be a good year? By



Red admiral on Sallow flowers.

the time you read this, many species of butterfly will be out and about for the year. Numbers are highest between late March or April and late September, with a few butterflies remaining on the wing into October if the autumn is warm.

Twenty-five species of butterfly have been recorded in Earlham Cemetery and in an average year you're likely to see up to 23 of them.

The first butterflies seen in the year are usually the species that hibernate as adults: Comma, peacock, small tortoiseshell and brimstone. As winters have become milder, these have been joined by the red admiral, at least in the southern half of England. They are likely to be flying or sunning themselves in a sheltered part of the Cemetery.

In the autumn, these butterflies will seek out a cool, sheltered and dry

spot to hibernate. Sitting with wings closed, they are well camouflaged.

Small tortoiseshells and peacocks sometimes come into houses in late summer, to look for a place to hibernate. They may hibernate for a while but when the central heating is fully on, they may wake up prematurely. They need to be moved to a sheltered place outside, such as a shed or wood store, to spend the rest of the winter. (See https://butterfly-conservation.org/48-3219/heating-and-hibernation.html).

The whites and orange tip overwinter in the pupal stage (the chrysalis), and the adult butterflies are next to emerge in spring.

Later spring and summer species overwinter as larvae or eggs. The Cemetery's two hairstreaks (purple and white-letter) overwinter as eggs but the majority of UK species spend the winter as larvae (caterpillars), including skippers, the gatekeeper, meadow brown, fritillaries, the common blue, brown argus and small copper.

The speckled wood is a bit of an oddity, being able to overwinter either as a larva or pupa. speckled wood butterflies that have overwintered as pupae can be seen from as early as late March or April.

Migrants such as the painted pady and clouded yellow can't survive our winters and arrive here across the sea from late spring onwards. They will fly south at the end of the summer or perish in winter's cold and damp.

Meet the Butterflies (in rough order of appearance)

Comma, Polygonia c-album

The comma has very distinctive jagged wings. It often basks on grave stones in Earlham Cemetery and in autumn they will feed on Ivy flowers before hibernating.

Comma caterpillars feed on nettle, elm or hops. There are two broods of

adults in a year. The spring butterflies are paler and more golden coloured and are known as form *Hutchinsoni*.

The butterfly's name comes from the white comma-shaped mark on the underside of the hind wings.



Comma on grave stone.



Underwing with 'comma'.

Brimstone, Gonepteryx rhamni

The sight of a male brimstone is one of the highlights of early spring, as it flies through the Cemetery on bright yellow wings. Females are a paler light green but their wing shape is the same. Males are more likely to be seen and range far and wide in search of females. Later in the summer, both sexes can be seen feeding on flowers. The caterpillars feed on buckthorn and alder buckthorn, neither of which occurs in Earlham Cemetery. Adults live for up to ten months, emerging in July or August and, after hibernation, continuing on the wing until May or even early June.

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Male brimstone on lesser knapweed flowers.

Peacock, Inachis io

The peacock is another welcome herald of spring and can often be found in Earlham Cemetery, in a sunny glade, nectaring on primrose flowers. Although the wings are brightly coloured, the undersides are well camouflaged and when the butterfly closes its wings it can be hard to find.





Peacock on primrose flowers

Peacock butterflies often hibernate in our store of firewood and one time I picked up a piece of firewood without noticing the peacock butterfly sitting on it. Suddenly it rubbed its wings

together to make a hissing noise and flashed its wings at me. It was quite a shock, even though I knew that peacocks do that. The combination of the noise and sudden flash of eye spots must be very intimidating for mice and other predators.

The peacock is another long-lived adult butterfly, emerging in July and, after hibernation, on the wing until May. The caterpillars feed gregariously on nettles.

Small Tortoiseshell, Aglais urticae



Small tortoishell

Formerly a very common butterfly but for a number of years the Small tortoisehell was in decline in southern Britain. In Earlham Cemetery the butterfly was seen every year until 2005 but records were very sporadic from then until 2013, when numbers increased again. The decline may be linked to the spread of the parasitic fly Sturmia bella that has recently colonised the south of England. Perhaps the balance between numbers of the parasite and the butterfly have stabilised, leading to a recovery in Small tortoiseshell numbers.

Small tortoiseshells that emerge from August to October go into hibernation almost immediately then emerge in spring and lay eggs, which become a second brood of butterflies that emerge in June and July. Like the peacock, small tortoisehell caterpillars feed on nettles.

Red Admiral, Vanessa atalanta

The red admiral is a migrant from southern Europe. It is mostly seen from March to November and is usually common throughout England. The butterfly has a very powerful flight



Red admiral on Ivy flowers

Most red admirals fly over to Britain in spring and early summer, but nowadays small numbers are able to hibernate here, something that has only occurred in the last twenty years or so.

Like the peacock and small tortoiseshell, the female red admiral lays her eggs on nettle leaves. (Sometimes pellitory-of-the-wall or hops can be used instead.)

Ivy flowers are very attractive to butterflies and are a good place to look for red admirals.



Red admiral on grave stone (showing underside of wings).

Speckled Wood, Pararge aegeria

The speckled wood is usually the next butterfly on the wing in Earlham Cemetery, seen from late March or April onwards. It is also one of the last species on the wing each year, flying into late October or, in a warm autumn, mid November. As mentioned above, it is able to overwinter either as a larva or pupa, and there are usually three broods of speckled woods in a year, so it can be seen most months.



Newly emerged speckled wood

Many species of butterfly have suffered from management changes to our countryside during the last century, when woodlands have become less sunny and grazing has reduced. However, the speckled wood has done well because it is happy in shade as well as sun and its caterpillars can feed on a range of different grasses.

The speckled wood colonised Earlham Cemetery in the mid 1980s during a rapid expansion of range in Norfolk. It is now one of the most numerous butterflies in the cemetery.

Orange-tip, *Anthocharis* cardamines

The orange-tip is one of the next butterflies to appear. It is one of our loveliest butterflies and a sign that spring has truly arrived. The first butterflies emerge in early April and the species can be seen until early June, flitting along the paths and stopping to feed on flowers such as green alkanet (see pictures below).



Female orange-tip on green alkanet flowers.

Like the brimstone, the orange-tip is one of the whites (family *Pieridae*). Its caterpillars feed on garlic mustard and cuckoo flower, both of which occur in Earlham Cemetery.

The eggs are orange and quite easy to find, with practice. The caterpillars are slim green cannibals and although there may be several eggs or small caterpillars on a single foodplant, eventually there is just a single larger caterpillar.



Male Orange-tip .

The butterfly's name comes from the orange tips to the wings, but these are only on the males. Both sexes have mottled green hindwings, which help to camouflage the butterfly when it is resting.

Large White, Pieris brassicae



Female (summer brood) large white on lavender flowers.

There are three more species of white butterfly that can be seen in Earlham Cemetery: the large, small and greenveined white.

The large white is the largest species. It has two broods in a year and numbers are often supplemented by immigrants from the continent. The female's wings have more black markings than the male and the summer brood markings are more prominent than those of the spring brood.

The caterpillars feed on a variety of brassicas, including cultivated cabbages, broccoli, kale and brussels sprouts. They are distasteful to birds and feed out in the open on top of the leaves

Small White, Pieris rapae

The small white looks like a smaller version of the large white. Its caterpillars also feed on brassicas, but are less conspicuous and often hidden between the leaves of the food plant.

There are two broods per year, supplemented by migrations from the continent, but to a lesser extent than the large white.



Male small white on buddleia flowers.



Female small white on michaelmas daisy flowers.

Green-veined White, Pieris napi

The green-veined white is daintier in appearance than the small white, though of a similar size. Its caterpillars feed on brassicas, but unlike the large and small whites, it chooses wild species, such as cuckoo flower and garlic mustard, rather than cultivated plants.



Male green-veined white.

It is a sedentary species with two broods per year.

The male emits a lemon scented pheromone to attract the female and its scent is strong enough to be detectable by the human nose. butterfly expert Jeremy Thomas calls it "lemon-scented love dust".

The hindwings of both the small white and green-veined white have yellow undersides, but the green-veined white has conspicuous veins, whereas the small white's wings are a plain yellow.



Underside of green-veined white, showing the veins.

Holly Blue, Celastrina argiolus

The holly blue is usually the next butterfly to appear. It is a member of the family *Lycaenidae*, the blues, coppers and hairstreaks.

The holly blue has two broods in a year. In spring the female butterfly lays her eggs on the flower buds of holly and in summer ivy flower buds are used. The choice of caterpillar



A mating pair of holly blues.

food plants means that the butterfly is mostly found in woods, shrubby parks, gardens, churchyards and cemeteries. It is often seen in Earlham Cemetery and we have adopted it as our group's logo.



Male holly blue, showing upper surfaces of the wings. Usually only the undersides of the wings are visible

The wasp *Listrodomus nycthemerus* parasitizes the holly blue and numbers of the butterfly vary from year to year depending on how many survive. In some years it is quite scarce.

Common Blue, Polyommatus Icarus

The common blue is Britain's commonest and most widespread blue butterfly. Its caterpillars feed mainly on bird's-foot trefoil, but also other legumes such as black medick. There are two broods a year, the first appearing in May to June and the second from July to September. For many years the common blue was decreasing in Earlham Cemetery, but recently numbers seem to have increased, hopefully because of better management of the grassland.



Male common blue on buttercup flower.

Only the male is bright blue. The females' wings are mainly brown, with just a flush of blue near the bases of the wings.



Common blue on lesser knapweed flower, showing underside of wings.

Brown Argus, Aricia agestis

The brown argus is another "blue" butterfly but its wings lack the blue pigmentation of the common and holly blues.



Brown argus on ragwort flowers.

Market and the second s

It was first recorded in Earlham Cemetery in the mid 1990s when the species also began to colonise a number of other Norwich area sites. Sightings were generally sporadic but in the past few years we have seen it every year, often on Ragwort flowers in late summer.



Brown Argus (underside of wings).

There are two broods in a year (May to June and July to September). Brown argus caterpillars feed on Rock Rose in chalk grassland, but in most of Norfolk the food plants are common stork's-bill or dove's-foot cranesbill. The latter grows in Earlham Cemetery.

Small Copper, Lycaena phlaeas

The small copper is another member of the family *Lycaenidae*, the blues, coppers and hairstreaks. It shares the wing shape of other family members but it is a very brightly coloured and lively insect.



Small copper on ragwort flowers.

It has three broods in a year: April to June, July – August and September – October and the caterpillars feed

on common sorrel and sheep's sorrel. Both plants occur in Earlham Cemetery, the former mainly in longer grass in the older parts of the cemetery and the latter in short, more acidic turf. The latter is a dangerous place to be, as the short grass is cut at regular intervals during the summer months.

As with the brown argus, the adult butterfly is attracted to ragwort flowers in late summer, which is when it is easiest to see.

Purple Hairstreak, Neozephyrus quercus

It is unusual to have a close up view of this butterfly, which usually flies around the tops of Oak trees. It is most easily seen on a sunny afternoon in late July or early August, looking up to the tree top with the sun behind you.



A Purple hairstreak feeding on hemp agrimony at Holkham, north Norfolk.

The butterfly lays its eggs on Oak buds and these hatch into a caterpillar in spring, which bores into the buds and subsequently feeds on the young oak leaves. The caterpillar produces secretions and makes a noise that attract ants and it appears that the ants will carry the caterpillar to their nest, where it pupates. This relationship with ants is shared with other members of the Lycenidae, the most famous being the large blue, which became extinct in Britain when grass became too long to support the species of ant it depended on for its survival.

White-letter Hairstreak, Satyrium w-album

One of last year's exciting finds in Earlham Cemetery was a white-letter hairstreak, seen by Ian Senior at lunchtime on 21st July 2017. The butterfly was feeding on goldenrod and buddleia flowers.



White-letter hairstreak on buddleia @lan Senior

This butterfly's caterpillar feeds on elm and there were avenues of elms in Earlham Cemetery before Dutch elm disease struck. Nowadays there are large suckering elms in places, reaching well above head height. The eggs are very distinctive, white in colour and shaped like miniature flying saucers. Vanna and I had a look for them this winter, but without any success.

It is possible that the butterfly flew in from surrounding gardens. Thea and Sandy also saw a white-letter hairstreak in their garden backing onto the Cemetery, a few days later.

This is one to look out for, from July to mid August.

Painted Lady, Vanessa cardui

The painted lady is a close relative of the red admiral, but it is usually first seen later in the year. It is another migrant and a powerful flier. It migrates from North Africa to southern Europe in spring and then further generations of butterflies colonise Britain, in smaller or greater numbers. At the end of the summer large numbers of painted ladies make their way south again, but it is only in recent years that they have been detected doing so, using radar.



Painted lady on sweet rocket flowers

The painted lady is most likely to occur in Earlham Cemetery in a year when there has been a large influx of the butterfly. 1996 and 2009 were particularly good years.

In 1996 we saw them flying on the Isle of Lewis and in late May 2009 we witnessed a long line of butterflies heading north near Castle Acre in Norfolk, following the hedge line.

Painted lady caterpillars feed on thistles and their relatives, such as burdock.



Painted lady on buddleia flowers (showing the underside of the wings)

Large Skipper, Ochlodes faunus

By now summer has arrived, along with three species of skipper butterflies (family *Hesperidae*). They spent the winter as caterpillars, feeding on fresh grass leaves in the spring and pupating for about a month in late spring. The skippers are our most primitive family of butterflies and hold their wings in a characteristic pose, with the fore- and hindwings held at different angles, rather like some moths.



Large skipper on lesser knapweed flower.

The first to appear is the large skipper, which flies from very early June to early August. As its name suggests, it is larger than the other two species. It has pretty markings on the wings, making it quite distinctive.

Small Skipper, *Thymelicus* sylvestris



Small skipper on lesser knapweed flower.

The small skipper is plainer and smaller than the large skipper. It is on the wing from late June to mid or late August.

Essex Skipper, Thymelicus lineola

The Essex skipper is very similar in appearance to the small skipper, so much so that it was only recognised as a distinct species in the 19th Century. It is on the wing from early July to late August and appears to be increasing in abundance in the Norwich area.

The small and Essex skippers can be told apart by looking carefully at the antennae. In the small skipper, the underside of the antennae is orange, while in the Essex skipper it is a glossy black.



Essex skipper on lesser knapweed flowers.

Meadow Brown, Maniola jurtina

The browns (family Nymphalidae, sub-family Satyrinae) are our other butterflies of high summer. The caterpillars feed on grasses and the butterflies spend the winter as caterpillars. The speckled wood, described earlier, is a member of this group of butterflies.

The meadow brown usually appears in early June and flies until early September, by which time many butterflies are looking very much the worst for wear. Like the ringlet, it has a fairly weak, floppy flight, as if the summer heat is a bit much for it.



Meadow brown, upperside of wings - a rather tatty specimen!



Meadow brown on lesser knapweed flower (showing underside of wings).

Ringlet, Aphantopus hyperantus



Ringlet

The ringlet was first seen in Earlham Cemetery in 1996 and has been present every year from 2004. It is now abundant in its flight period, from June to early August, and is increasing its range in the north of the British Isles. It has a floppy flight like the meadow brown and is of a similar size, but it appears darker.



Ringlet – underside of wings.

The name comes from the markings on the underside of the wings. These are even more pronounced in northern specimens.

Gatekeeper, Pyronia tithonus

The gatekeeper is like a smaller, faster, prettier meadow brown. It loves sunny, flowery places and is particularly attracted to plants like bramble, marjoram and ragwort. It flies from July to early September.

Sometimes known as the hedge brown, it is plentiful in Earlham Cemetery.



Gatekeepers.



Gatekeeper on brambles.

Wall, Lasiommata megera

In the 1980s, the wall (or wall brown) was a plentiful butterfly in Norwich. But the last one in Earlham Cemetery was seen in 1995 and the species has declined in southern and central England. In Norfolk it can still be found near the coast.

Like other browns, the caterpillars feed on grasses. However, it is thought that, as the climate has warmed, the wall has started to have a third brood. This survives near the coast, where the climate is milder, but dies off further inland, leading to a decline in the species.

The wall is a very attractive butterfly and it is sad that it is no longer in Norwich. It is definitely worth a trip to the coast to see it – Holkham is a good spot.



Wall, seen at wells-next-the-Sea.



Wall - underside.

Silver-washed Fritillary, *Argynnis* paphia

The final species is our largest species of fritillary, a member of the family *Nymphalidae*.



Silver-washed Fritillary on Bramble flowers, Holt Country Park.

For many years the silver-washed fritillary was absent from Norfolk but in recent years it has recolonised the county.

It is a woodland species, whose caterpillars feed on violets. It flies from late June to August in sunny woodland glades. Holt Country Park and Foxley Wood are two good sites to see it in Norfolk.

In some years silver-washed fritillaries range far and wide, and this is presumably how they recolonised Norfolk. In 2010 an individual was seen in Heigham Park and then on 15th August 2015, on one of our regular walks in the cemetery, Thea Nicholls spotted one and Sandy Lockwood managed to take a photograph of it.



Silver-washed Fritillary on Lesser Knapweed flower. Foxley Wood.

Want to know more?

If you want to learn more about butterflies, I can recommend the UK Butterflies (www.ukbutterflies.co.uk) and Butterfly Conservation (https://butterfly-conservation.org) websites and also the book "The Butterflies of Britain and Ireland" by Jeremy Thomas and Richard Lewington (British Wildlife Publishing 2014). Watkins and Doncaster sell a British butterfly identification chart for £2.85 (+ VAT and postage): https://www.watdon.co.uk/acatalog/E545-Britishbutterfly-wall-chart.html.

Jeremy Bartlett.



Male silver-washed fritillary, August 2015. Photo: Sandy Lockwood

All photos by Jeremy and Vanna Bartlett, except where stated.

This year Vanna will be leading a walk in Earlham Cemetery for the Big Butterfly Count (http://www.bigbutterflycount.org) on Saturday 11th August 2018 (2pm).