
Wildflower Survey

Langton Matravers Crack Lane Cemetery and Extension.



Introduction

As part of the Churches 'Count on Nature 2021' project, Dr Christopher Spilling and Daryle Pearson carried out a wildflower survey at the Crack Lane Cemetery on 19th May 2021.

St George's Parish Church, Eco churches group will submit data collected into the national event 'Count on Nature Week June 5th - 13th 2021'. Although this event is primarily aimed at Churchyards, it was thought useful to include the Old Cemetery in the High Street and Crack Lane Cemetery into this count.

Therefore the data of this survey will be shared with St George's Church Eco Group, Langton Planet Action, Planet Purbeck and Langton Matravers Parish Council as well as the National Biodiversity Network.

Crack Lane Cemetery and Extension is in a rural location with Nine Barrow Downs to the North and the sea to the East. It borders onto open country side which is owned by the National Trust.

It has been the burial ground for the local parish of Langton Matravers since 1963 And is owned and maintained by Langton Matravers Parish Council. In 1980 a further piece of land was purchased as an extension for the Cemetery but as yet is unused and therefore relatively wild. There is evidence of wild deer and rabbits and sheep sometimes graze on this ground. This area is being explored as a Natural Burial Ground.

Wildlife found on both sites

On this occasion the following wildlife was observed within the Cemetery and Cemetery Extension.

Slow worm (found under a piece corrugated iron)

Oak weevil (feeding on Jack by the hedge)

Flea Beetle (on Dogs Mercury)

Yellow Ants nests

6 spotted ladybird

Nursery Web Spider

Wolf Spider

Infant green Cricket



Oak Weevil



Slow Worm

Wildflowers in main cemetery

Wildflowers were mostly found in the margins of the cemetery. The cemetery is cut regularly but buttercups and daisies were still evident .

Allium Wild garlic	occasional
Ladies Bedstraw	infrequent
Blue Bells - English and some white	occasional
Blue Bells - Spanish	common
Bracken	occasional
Bramble	occasional
Bugle	occasional
Catnip	common
Celandine	frequent
Charlock	rare
Clematis (Old Mans Beard)	common
Cranes Bill	occasional
Cockfoot grass	occasional
Cow parsley	occasional
Cowslip	infrequent
Corn Sow Thistle	rare
Cranesbill	occasional
Creeping Buttercup	frequent
Creeping Cinquefoil	occasional
Daisy.	common
Dandelion	occasional
Dead Nettles	infrequent
Dock	infrequent
Dogs Mercury (sign of ancient woodland)	frequent
Elder	rare
Forget me knot (garden not wild)	occasional
Fleabane	rare
Field Thistle	rare
Foxglove	rare
Fern	occasional
Goose grass	frequent

Goat Thistle	rare
Greater Stitchwort	common
Groundsel	rare
Herb Robert	common
Hogweed	infrequent
Ivy	abundant
Jack by the hedge	occasional
Knapweed	occasional
Lesser Trefoil, suckling clover	rare
Lords and Ladies	frequent
Mallow	rare
Nettles	abundant
Ox-eye Daisy	frequent
Plantain	occasional
Poppy (yellow)	rare
Poppy (Opium)	rare
Potentilla sterilis (Barren strawberry)	rare
Primrose	occasional
Salad Burnet	occasional
Silver weed	rare
Sorrel	occasional
Speedwell	common
Spotted Medic	occasional
Stone crop (sedum)	rare
Wild Iris	occasional
Wild Strawberry	abundant
Wild Violet (near gravestone).	rare
Willow Herb	occasional
Yarrow	occasional

There was also evidence of Heath False Brome or Tor grass (popular with Lulworth Skipper butterflies)and broad leave sedge as well as numerous other Grasses and Sedges.

There were saplings of Ash, Field Maple, Hawthorn, and Oak.

Wildflowers in the cemetery extension.

This area is left uncut and therefore relatively wild and unmanaged .

Blue Bells (English)	frequent
Bracken - Hairy Footed	frequent
Bristly Ox Tongue	occasional
Bugle	abundant
Burdock	occasional
Columbine	rare
Cockfoot grass	occasional
Cowslip	occasional
Creeping Buttercup	occasional
Daffodils	rare
Daisy	occasional
Dandelion	rare
Dogs Mercury	infrequent
Eyebright	infrequent
Fleabane	occasional
Garlic (Few - Flower garlic)	occasional
Hairy Bittercress	rare
Hawks weed	abundant
Juncuns Rush	rare
Knotted Figwort	rare
Ladies Bedstraw	occasional
Ladies Smock (Orange Tip butterflies like to lay eggs on this)	infrequent
Lords and Ladies	occasional
Musk Thistle	rare
Oil seed Rape	rare
Orchid (probably an early purple).	rare (1)
Ox-eyed Daisy	abundant
Plantain	abundant
Primrose	occasional
Ragwort	rare
Silver weed	infrequent
Snowdrops	occasional
Sorrel	infrequent
Speedwell - Common Field	abundant
St Johns Wort	occasional
Teasel	rare
Thistle	occasional
Trefoil - Bird's Foot	occasional

Vetch
Wild Iris
Wild Rose

abundant
abundant
rare

There was evidence of Timothy Grass and 2 types of Carex/ Sedge which were both in abundance.

There was also a female Pussy willow.



One Orchid was found in the Cemetery Extension.

N.B. Common names are used though out this survey.

Daryle Pearson

