

Improving Spithurst Churchyard for Wildlife

The pictures were taken (by SL) in Spithurst Churchyard between April 12th 2019 and January 19th 2020. During this period, a small group of volunteers (led by Helen Proctor) carried out work to improve the wildlife potential of this area. The pictures illustrate some of the plants and animals found there and should help act as a baseline against which future improvements can be judged. Please note that extra pairs of hands are always welcome for the work parties – details of which will be posted in the *Barcombe News*.



April 12th



June 3rd



July 14th



August 24th



October 27th



January 19th



April 12th



April 27th



July 14th



October 27th



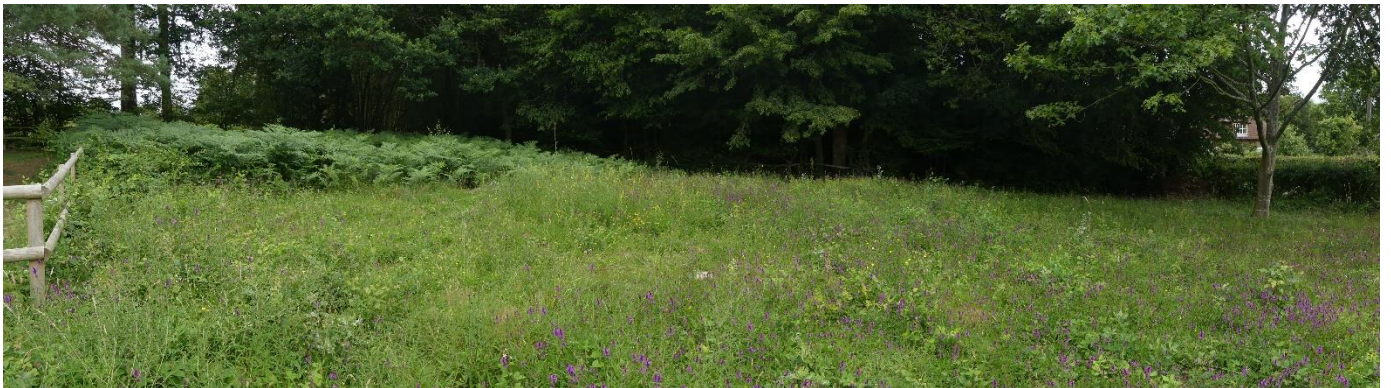
January 19th



April 12th



June 3rd



July 14th



August 24th



July 21st



April 12th – Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)



April 12th – Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*)



April 12th – Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*)



April 12th – Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*)



April 12th – Common Dog Violet (*Viola riviniana*)



April 12th – Ground-Ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*)



April 27th – Cowslip (*Primula veris*)



April 27th – Goldilocks Buttercup (*Ranunculus auricomus*)



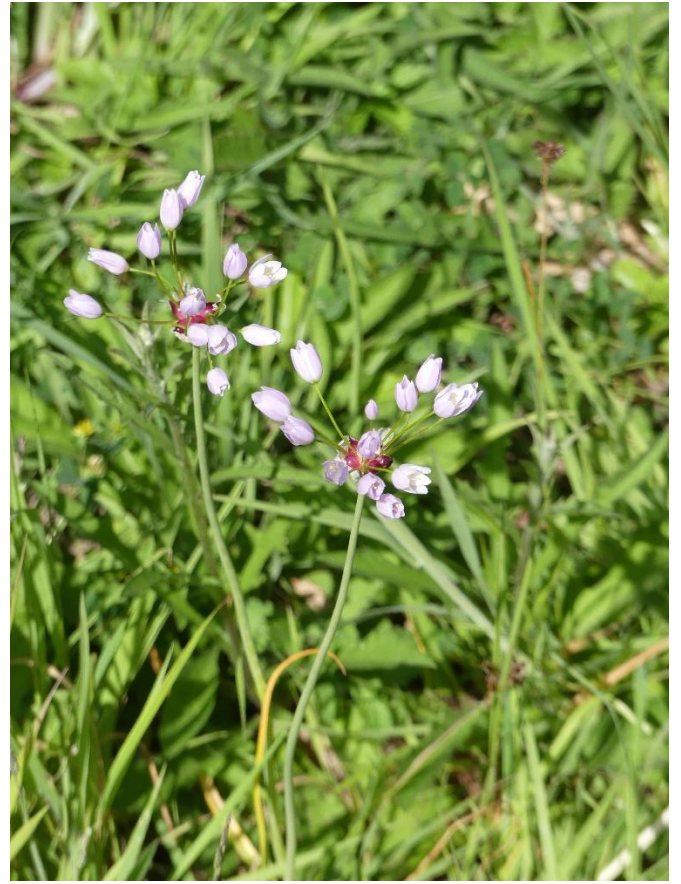
April 27th – Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*)



April 27th – Bitter-vetch (*Lathyrus linifolius*)



April 27th – Glaucous Sedge (*Carex flacca*)



June 3rd – Rosy Garlic (*Allium roseum*) – introduced species



June 3rd – Common Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*)



June 3rd – Bumblebee on Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)



June 3rd – Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)



June 3rd – Sedge probably Grey Sedge (*Carex divulsa* ssp. *divulsa*)



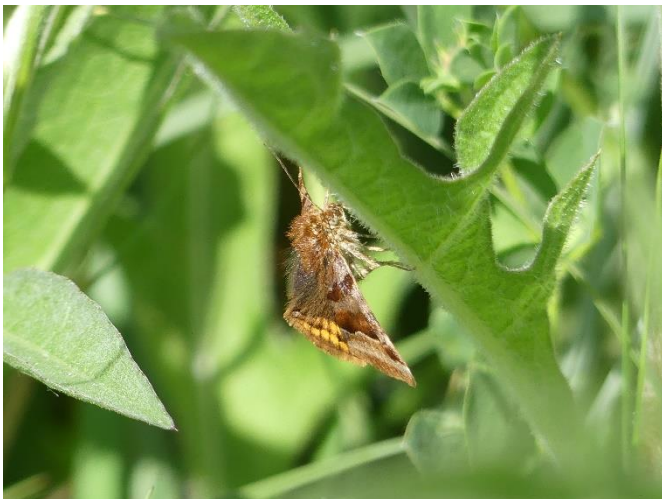
June 3rd – Creeping Cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*)



June 3rd – Common Vetch (*Vicia sativa*)



June 3rd – Beetle probably female Swollen-thigh Beetle (*Oedemera nobilis*)



June 3rd – Burnet Companion moth



June 3rd – Quaking Grass (*Briza media*)



June 3rd – Mother Shipton moth



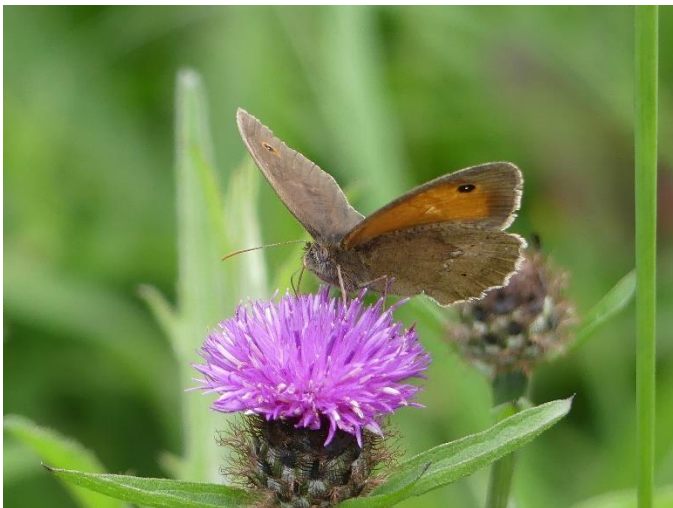
June 3rd – Azure Damselfly (male)



June 9th – Scorpion Fly



June 9th – Parasitic wasp (*Ichneumon (suspiciosus)*)



June 9th – Meadow Brown (male)



June 30th – White-legged Damselfly (female – *lactea*)



June 30th – Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*)



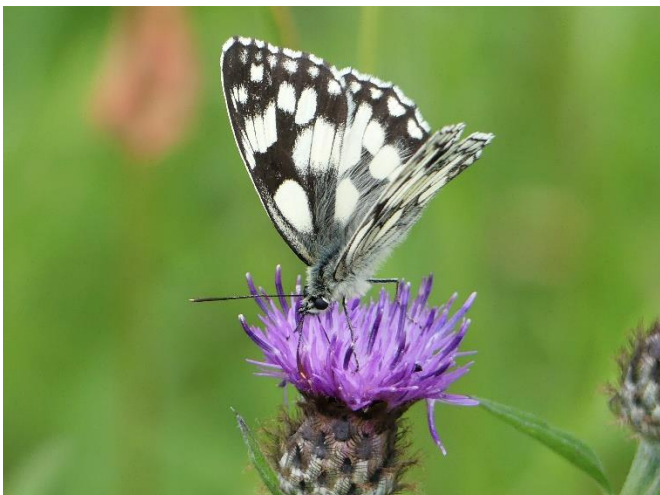
June 30th – Tufted Vetch (*Vicia cracca*)



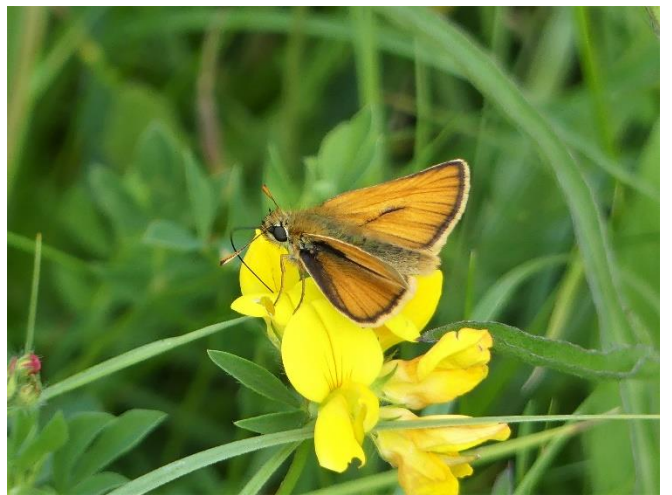
June 30th – Common Birdsfoot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*)



June 30th – Zigzag Clover (*Trifolium medium*)



June 30th – Marbled White butterfly (male)



June 30th – Small Skipper butterfly (male)



June 30th – Demoiselle (female) – probably Banded



June 30th – Longhorn beetle (*Rutpela maculata*)



June 30th – Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*)



June 30th – Silver Y moth



June 30th – White-legged Damselfly (male)



July 14th – Saw-wort (*Serratula tinctoria*)



July 14th – Gatekeeper butterfly (male)



July 14th Common Fleabane (*Pulicaria dysenterica*)



July 14th – Small White butterfly



July 14th – White-legged Damselfly (male)



July 14th – Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)



July 14th – Betony (*Betonica officinalis*)



July 14th – Six-spot Burnet moth



July 14th – Essex Skipper butterfly (male)



July 14th – Large White butterfly



July 14th – Field Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)



July 14th – Peacock butterfly



July 14th – Ringlet butterfly



July 21st – conclusion of moth trap inspection



July 21st – Poplar Hawkmoth



July 21st – Black Arches moth



July 21st – Buff-tip moth



July 21st – Saw-wort (*Serratula tinctoria*)



July 21st – some of the volunteers



July 21st – Wall Brown butterfly



July 21st – Recently-built Swallow's nest in church porch



July 21st – Common Blue butterfly (male)



July 21st – Buzzard



July 21st – Purple Hairstreak (female)



July 21st – Peacock butterfly



July 21st – Brown Argus butterfly



August 24th – Devil's-bit Scabious (*Succisa pratensis*)



August 24th – Fly (*Tachina fera*) on Ragwort



August 24th – Painted Lady butterfly



August 24th – Spotted Flycatcher (adult)



October 27th – Red Admiral butterfly



October 27th – scything off old vegetation for removal to the compost heap (to help reduce soil fertility)

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to all those that have helped with the conservation work in the churchyard. Thanks also to Janet Chubb for carrying out moth trapping, to Helen Proctor and Nick Lear for galvanizing the conservation work on site, and to Helen for not only leading the work parties but also for advising on best practice and for checking the plant identifications shown here.

Simon Linington, January 26th 2020