

Churchyard wildlife



Meadow saxifrage

Saxifraga granulata

Flowers: April to June.

Delicate, white, five petalled flowers and long stalked, kidney shaped leaves.



Pignut

Conopodium majus

Flowers: May to June.

Flowers white in an umbel shape. Stem leaves delicate, fine and deeply cut.



Burnet-saxifrage

Pimpinella saxifraga

Flowers: July to September.

Flowers white in loose umbel. Opposite basal leaves, with oval toothed leaves.



Lady's bedstraw

Galium verum

Flowers: July to August.

Small, narrow leaves that appear in whorls on its angular stems, with dense clusters of yellow flowers.



Oxeye daisy

Leucanthemum vulgare

Flowers: May to September.

Long-stalked slightly hairy spoon-shaped toothed leaves. The plant is between 20cm and 70cm tall.



Cowslip

Primula veris

Flowers: April to May.

Green, crinkly texture, tongue-like leaves low to the ground.



Primrose

Primula vulgaris

Flowers: March to June.

Rosette of wrinkled spoon-shaped leaves, 8 to 15cm long, unstalked, narrowing gradually to base.



Germander speedwell

Veronica chamaedrys

Flowers: March to July.

Upright spikes of bright blue flowers with four petals and a white middle.



Bulbous buttercup

Ranunculus bulbosus

Flowers: April to June.

Distinguished from the other buttercups by its grooved flower stalk and sepals that point down across the stem.



Barren strawberry

Potentilla sterilis

Flowers: February to May.

Three separate leaves with top tooth of leaf shorter than those on either side.



Picture credits: David North, Hanz Zwitzer, Wildstock, Peter O'Connor, Willie Angus, Udo Schmidt

Saving **Norfolk's Wildlife** for the Future

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Maiden's hair spleenwort

Asplenium trichomanes
Easy to recognise with its long fronds made up of short, round leaflets paired from the black stem.



Black spleenwort

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum
Evergreen fern, with light green leaves. The stems have two groove markings from above.



Chicken-of-the-woods

Laetiporus sulphureus
An orange or sulphur-yellow coloured bracket fungus, usually found growing on beech, oak, chestnut and yew trees.



Chanterelle

Cantharellus cibarius
Easily identified by the rich egg-yolk yellow colouration and the deep, yellow, blunt-edged wrinkles that run from the cap down the stem and they smell faintly of apricots.



Scarlet waxcap

Hygrocybe coccinea
Bright red in colour with distinguished well-spaced, thick waxy gills. Nearly always found on grasslands or grassy woodland glades.



Beefsteak fungus

Fistulina hepatica
A bracket fungus aptly named after its likeness to a piece of prime beef. Can be found on dead oaks or sweet chestnut trees.



Crustose lichen

Caloplaca flavescens
One of the commonest and most conspicuous lichens in churchyards. Grows on limestone headstones and on mortar and limestone on church walls. Prefers the sunnier aspects.



Crustose lichen

Opegrapha calcarea
A lichen often found on the north walls of churches especially on the softer mortars occasionally also on headstones.



Crustose lichen

Haematomma ochroleucon var porphyrium
Found on sandstone headstones and north walls of churches. When present can often cover large areas of a headstone.



Foliose lichen

Collema auriculatum
One of the 'jelly lichens', prefers limestone and tends to occur on table tombs and on the lower drip courses, likes a certain amount of moisture.



Picture credits: Garth Inman, Les Fisher, Peter Lambley, Tony Leech, Elizabeth Dack

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