

## CHURCHYARD SURVEY FORM

### SECTION 1

**Church name:** St Mary

**Parish:** Gissing

**District:** South Norfolk

**Address:** Lower Street, Gissing, Norfolk, IP22 5UJ

**Grid reference:** TM096804

**Weather Conditions:** Sunny/cloud, breezy

**Date of Survey:** 03/05/2016 and 23/07/2016

**Name of Surveyors:** Roger and Jenny Jones

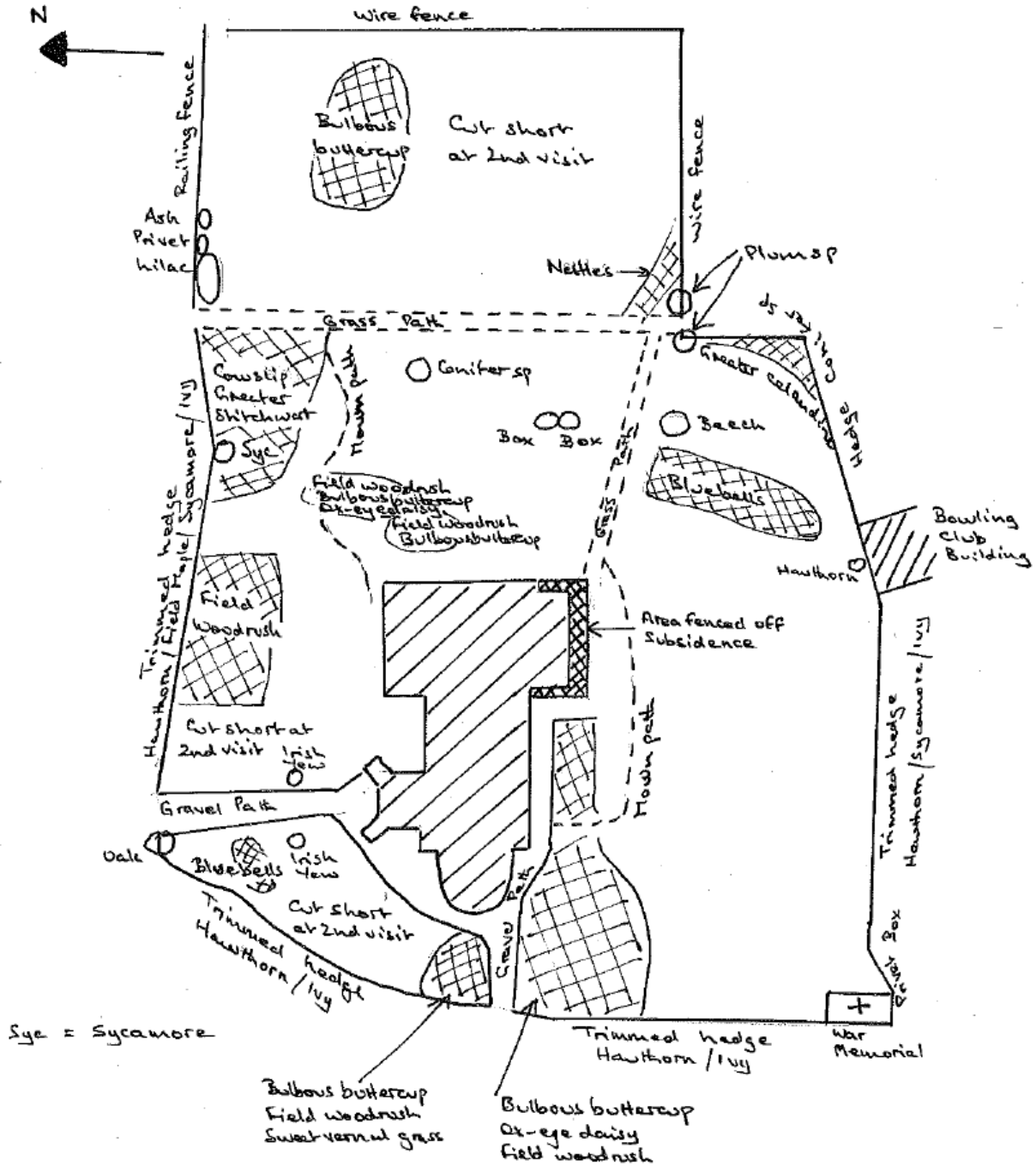


Gissing churchyard, Gissing, Roger Jones, May 2016

**Map of churchyard**

Please include a copy of your annotated habitat maps for your site here, these can be added in after all the surveys have been completed.

Showing areas of particular botanical interest, cut and uncut areas, main trees, areas of scrub (bramble etc.) and existing conservation areas.



**1. Does the churchyard have a defined conservation area(s)?**

No. The churchyard has been left uncut for surveying purposes only. Conservation Areas will be defined following this survey.

**2. Is the sward even and fine-textured? Or coarse and tussocky? Or closely mown?**

The churchyard has been left uncut, excluding the areas of tended graves. The front of the churchyard is reasonably fine-textured (west side of church) however the back is coarser (east side of the church). The churchyard slopes west to east which could be one of the reasons for the higher nutrient levels on the east side of the church. The front of the church was closely mown on visiting, except two strips either side of the path running south to north. The grassland is above the path on both sides.

**3. Are the grass cuttings raked off?**

Some cuttings left on short mown areas on visiting.

**4. Are there significant unmanaged or neglected areas?**

None.

**5. What sort of hedge do they have? Does it appear to be managed?**

The hedges are a mix of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and ivy (*Helix hedera*) at the front, and hawthorn, field maple (*Acer campestre*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ivy down one side. The hedges are all well maintained. During the 23/7/2016 visit it was noted that the tops of the hedges had recently been cut. The area occupied by house sparrows had been left uncut.

**6. Are ant hills present in the churchyard?**

No ant hills observed

**7. Any other comments:**

The areas of greatest wildflower diversity are the grassland strips north and south of the gravel path marked on the site sketch, a medium sized area of grassland on the east side of the church and the grassland strip running alongside the northern hedge (front hedge). Species of interest in these areas include bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*), field woodrush (*Luzula campestris*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) and greater stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*). Bulbous buttercup was seen where the new graves are at the western end of the churchyard.

Other species of interest observed in the churchyard include: cowslip (*Primula veris*), primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), cuckoo pint (*Arum maculatum*), hoary plantain (*Plantago media*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), barren strawberry (*Potentilla sterilis*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), common cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and common sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*).

A management statement will be written for this churchyard following the plant survey and given to the Parochial Church Council as a guidance document.

#### Observations

- Mole activity in the churchyard
- House sparrows calling from the front hedge
- No stonework plants observed

23/07/2016 Butterflies seen to include, gatekeeper, Essex skipper, large white, small copper and meadow brown.

A family of house sparrows were observed in the front hedge.

A comment in the church visitor book by the Norfolk Bat Survey said that Serotine bat x 1; common pipistrelle x 2 and Soprano x 1 were recorded roosting in the church prior to repairs.

A gall was found on germander speedwell indicating the presence of *Jaapiella veronicae* midge.

## SECTION 2

## PLANT LIST for Churchyards

Only include one record per species  
See handout 9 for information on DAFOR

Dates of surveys:  
03/05/2016 and 23/07/2016

Name of Churchyard and location: St Mary, Gissing

Name of surveyor/s: Roger and Jenny Jones

Common name	Scientific name	Present	DAFOR Please tick relevant box					Comments / GPS or Grid Reference location
			D	A	F	O	R	
Barren strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	✓				✓		
Bulbous buttercup	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	✓			✓			
Burnet saxifrage	<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>							
Common Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	✓				✓		
Common knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	✓				✓		
Common sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	✓		✓				
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>	✓				✓		
Cuckoo pint/lords and ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	✓				✓		
Dog violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>							
English bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>							
Field scabious	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>							
Germander speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	✓				✓		
Hoary plantain	<i>Plantago media</i>	✓				✓		
Lady's bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>							
Lesser celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>							
Meadow buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	✓					✓	
Meadow saxifrage	<i>Saxifrage granulata</i>							
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	✓		✓				
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>							
Primrose	<i>Primula veris</i>	✓					✓	
Pyramidal orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>							
Sweet violet	<i>Viola odorata</i>							

American willowherb	<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	✓				✓		
Black horehound	<i>Ballota nigra</i>	✓					✓	
Black medick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	✓				✓		
Bluebell (hybrid)	<i>Hyacinthoides x massartiana</i>	✓				✓		
Bramble	<i>Rubus sp.</i>	✓				✓		
Canadian fleabane	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	✓					✓	
Cleaver	<i>Galium aparine</i>	✓				✓		
Common chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	✓					✓	
Common daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	✓			✓			
Common hop	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	✓					✓	
Common mallow	<i>Malva neglecta</i>	✓					✓	
Common mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	✓					✓	
Common nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	✓			✓			
Common ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	✓					✓	
Cotoneaster sp.		✓					✓	
Cow parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	✓						Abundance not detailed
Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	✓				✓		
Creeping cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	✓				✓		
Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	✓					✓	
Daffodil sp.	<i>Narcissus sp.</i>	✓				✓		
Dandelion	<i>Taraxagum agg</i>	✓					✓	
Dock sp.	<i>Rumex sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	✓				✓		
Feverfew	<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	✓					✓	
Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	✓				✓		
Field horsetail	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	✓					✓	
Garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	✓					✓	
Great mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	✓					✓	
Greater celandine	<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	✓					✓	
Greater stitchwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	✓				✓		
Ground elder	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	✓		LA				
Ground ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	✓					✓	
Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	✓					✓	
Hedge bindweed	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	✓					✓	
Hedge woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	✓					✓	
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	✓				✓		
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	✓			✓			
Ivy-leaved speedwell	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	✓					✓	

Lesser trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	✓					✓	
Liverwort	<i>Marchantiophyta</i>	✓					✓	
Perennial sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	✓						Abundance not detailed
Petty spurge	<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	✓					✓	
Pineapple weed	<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	✓					✓	
Pink oxalis ( <b>pink-sorrel</b> )	<i>Oxalis articulata</i>	✓					✓	
Prickly sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	✓					✓	
Red dead nettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	✓					✓	
Redshank	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	✓					✓	
Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	✓				✓		
Self-heal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	✓					✓	
Shepherd's purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	✓						
Small-flowered cranesbill	<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	✓					✓	
Smooth hawkbeard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	✓				✓		
Smooth sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	✓					✓	
Snowdrop sp.	<i>Galanthies sp.</i>	✓				✓		
Spanish bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	✓				✓		
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	✓					✓	
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	✓					✓	
Violet sp.	<i>Viola sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Wall speedwell	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	✓					✓	
Wetted thistle	<i>Carduus crispus</i>	✓					✓	
White campion	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	✓					✓	
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	✓				✓		
White dead nettle	<i>Lamium album</i>	✓				✓		
Wood avens	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	✓					✓	
Wood forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	✓					✓	
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	✓				✓		
<b>Rush</b>								
Field woodrush	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	✓		✓				
<b>Grasses and sedges</b>								
Cocksfoot	<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	✓				✓		
Common bent	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	✓		✓				
False-oat-grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>							
Grey sedge	<i>Carex divulsa</i>	✓					✓	
Meadow foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	✓				✓		
Small reed sp.		✓					✓	

Sweet vernal grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	✓		LA				
Timothy	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	✓					✓	
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	✓				✓		
<b>Stonework plants</b>								
Black spleenwort	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>							
Hart's tongue fern	<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>							
Maidenhair spleenwort	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>							
Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria officinalis</i>							
Wall rue	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>							
<b>Trees</b>								
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	✓					✓	
Beech sp.	<i>Fagus sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Common box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	✓					✓	
Common lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	✓					✓	
Confier sp.	<i>Pinophyta sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	✓					✓	
Irish yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i> 'fastigiata'	✓					✓	
Oak sp.	<i>Quercus sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Privet sp.	<i>Ligustrum sp.</i>	✓					✓	
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	✓					✓	



### St Mary, Gissing churchyard images



Mixed species hedge (northern boundary) looking towards community centre, Gissing, Emily Nobbs, 25 November 2016



Gissing churchyard, north entrance, Gissing, Roger Jones, 3 May 2016