



Heath Fritillaries in Hockley Wood

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In Hockley Woods on a gorgeous June morning a man with straggly hair and two energetic black dogs explained to me with great enthusiasm the work he and several other volunteers had carried out over the years. Carefully nurturing this coppiced area of woodland in collaboration with the local council and their chain saws. Together creating a seemingly perfect environment rich in Cow wheat, as small as it maybe, in which this rare butterfly is flourishing. Saved thanks to their commitment and the understanding of this rare species requirements.

Chatting he expressed his passion for ponds and nature in general which added something special to the experience. A fascinating conversation like one of those you have on an aeroplane or train only wishing afterwards that you had asked the person their name.

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Heath Fritillaries pairing.

June '22

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