

**Arched Earthstar *Geastrum fornicatum* (Huds.)
Hook. -Funga, Geastraceae in Martley,
Worcestershire.**

John Bingham

Churchyards are good places to find many fungi species especially earthstars, that seem to have a preference for growing in unusual places. Old hedgerows, under conifer trees and especially old Yew *Taxus baccata* trees are typical locations.

St. Peter's Church at Martley, Worcestershire proved the case on 14th November 2024 when a number of Arched Earthstars *Geastrum fornicatum* were found under an old Yew tree.

Buczacki et.al. (2012) note it as uncommon, and Sterry & Hughes (2009) describe it as a local species in southern England, found growing particularly under ancient Yews. NBN Atlas suggests that it is widespread but uncommon in Worcestershire, showing only six records.



01. Arched Earthstars under old Yew, Martley, Worcestershire
14.11.24. John Bingham.

The grassland also had numerous fine examples of Slimy Waxcap *Gliophorus irrigatus*, as well as some more common waxcap species.



02. Slimy Waxcap in grassland, Martley, Worcestershire. 14.11.24.
John Bingham.

References

Buczacki, S., Shields, C. & Ovenden, D. 2012. *Collins Fungi Guide*. Harper Collins Publishers Ltd., London.
Sterry, P. & Hughes, B. 2009. *Collins Complete Guide to Mushrooms & Toadstools*. Harper Collins Publishers Ltd., London.
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Images

01. Arched Earthstars under old Yew, Martley, Worcestershire

14.11.24. John Bingham.

02. Slimy Waxcap in grassland, Martley, Worcestershire. 14.11.24.

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