

Roll: **20210606-9130**

Camera: **Canon EOS 5D Mark III: E53**

Film: **Full frame digital**

**Subject:**

Sense of loss, canals, blossom and waterfowl.

**Notes:**

22nd of May I made my pilgrimage to the crematorium, to do what? I don't know. To be close to Mary? Makes no sense she is with me always. To indulge my sense of grief? Certainly I cry a lot, but then I cry at many memories and many pictures there is no reason I would need to be where her ashes were strewn to cry. I wrote the beginnings of a poem through the tears but I was doomed to lose it as I was doomed to lose her.

I want so much to go back. To be in Birkin Avenue. To be there and to be fully conscious of what was to come to and to revel in every single moment we had together.

Most years I am staggered by the proliferation of May blossom and the total inability of the camera to capture more than a tenth of the glory of the spectacle.

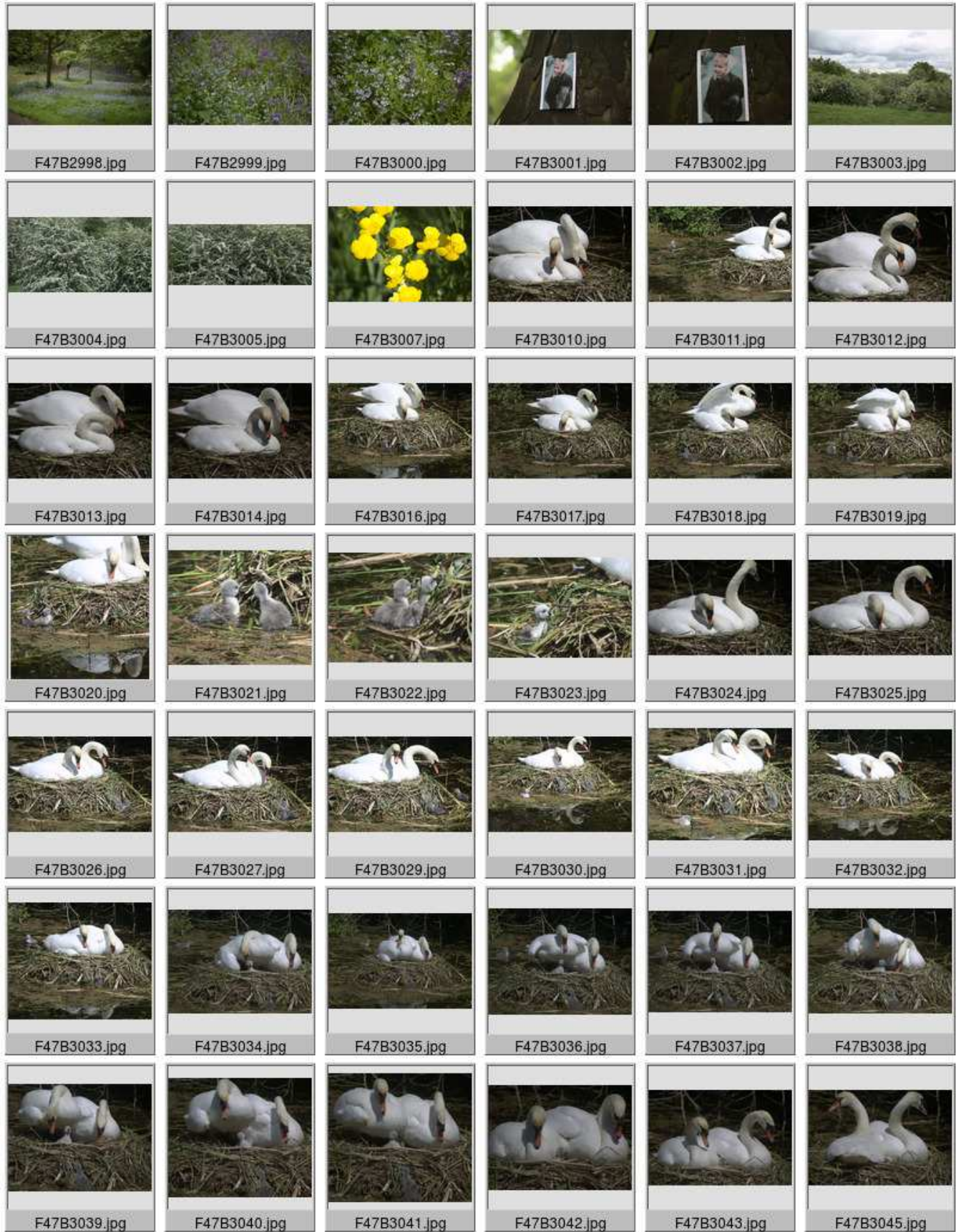
The Rutland Road swans are my favourites of the pairs along the side the Radcliffe Road in Bridgford. They always have their litter late. Their offspring are always few in number and relatively small. A few weeks on when the cygnets are all looking strong and healthy one is inexplicably lost but they display a courage, love and fortitude and threaten nothing. But they let me down badly last year. Only 3 or 4 eggs hatched. The pair seemed to become obsessed by those that didn't and both continued to sit when when they should have known that the remainder were lost. They ignored the ones that had hatched but were too weak to climb unaided back into the nest. The brutes from the Ropsley Crescent section cruised up and down in a glorious procession, crossed the Rutland Road bridge and drove my favoured pair and their cygnets further up the canal and even occupied their nest for a while. Sadly I was witness to an attempt by the Rutland Road swans to return to the nest. When confronted the pen and the chicks turned and headed back up the canal. Dad stayed behind on the path and tried to defy the Ropsley cob on the tow path while his family slowly swam upstream.

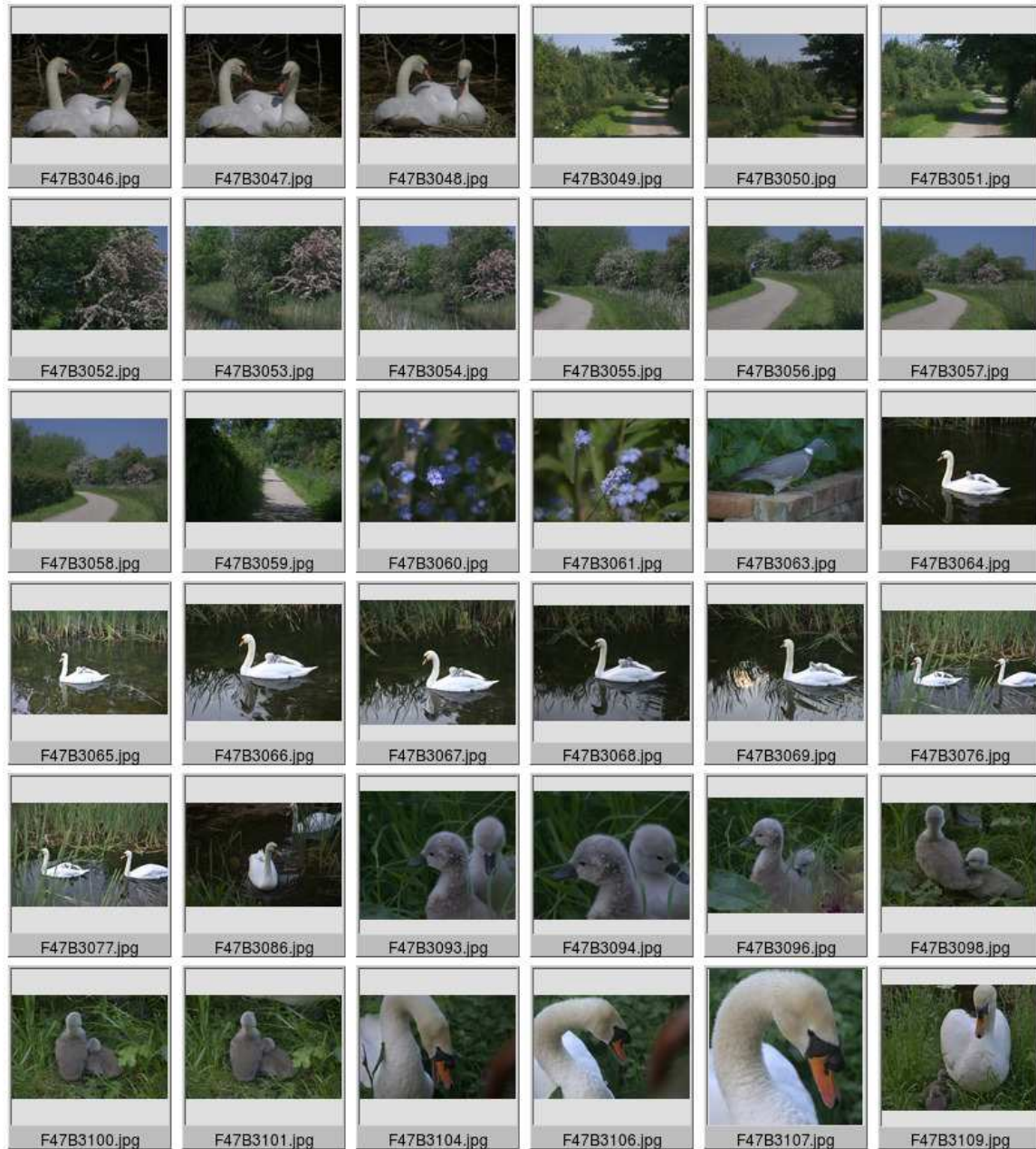
The Ropsley cob violently attacked and repeatedly beat and pecked our hero. He fought valiantly but was forced to retreat. Eventually he ran and tried to escape through the hedge. Ropsley caught him and used his considerably greater size and strength to stamp him to the ground then viciously peck at at his chest and neck. Rutland was done for and seemed about to breath his last when I set about his antagonist with my stick. Now Ropsley retreated and headed down Radcliffe Road back to Ropsley Crescent leaving his family to it. Rutland rejoined his spouse. They upped sticks and with the chicks riding on the cob's back they migrated South. Sadly it was only a month or so later when the couple were to be seen on their own again their sad little brood gone for good.

I felt angry not only at the Ropsley Road crew with their five powerful cygnets patrolling the invaded territory but also at my Rutland Road victims who had so foolishly neglected what they had for what they hoped for.

**Dates:**

Dates and times are verified from original exif data.

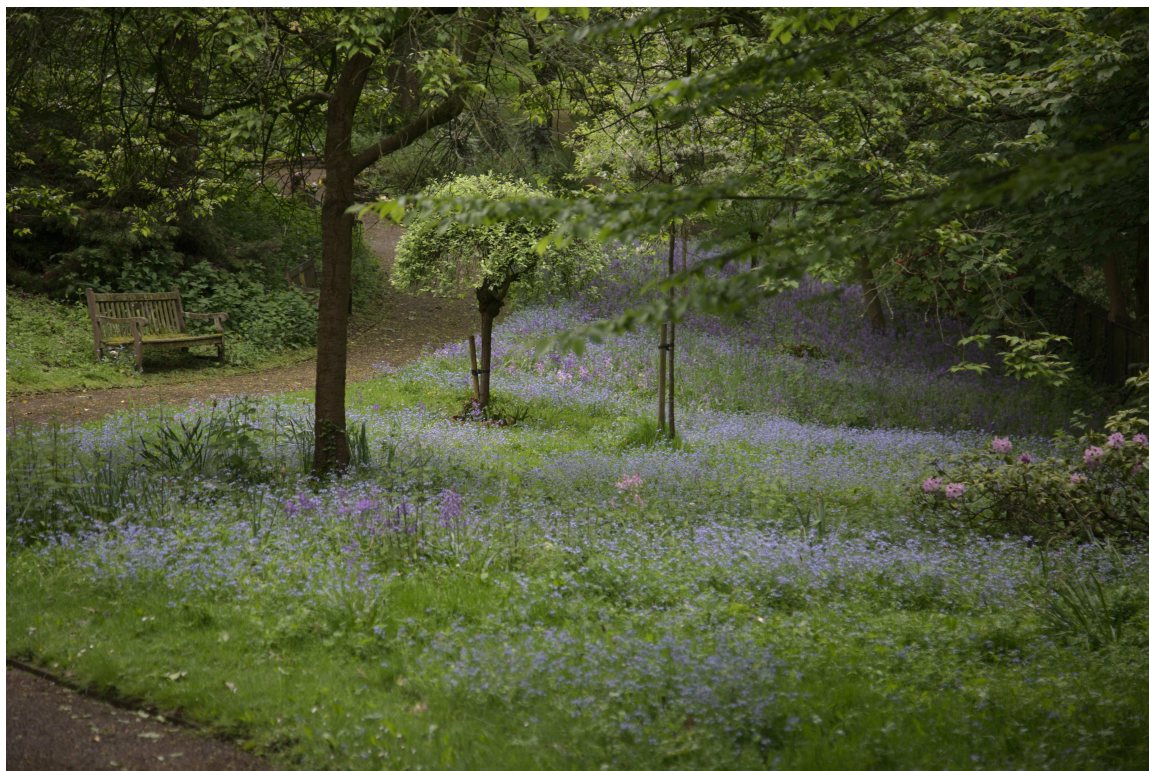




**Frames:**

F47B2998 20210522 13:31:05 Wilford Hill forget-me-not.  
 F47B2999 20210522 13:31:53 Wilford Hill forget-me-not.  
 F47B3000 20210522 13:32:12 Wilford Hill forget-me-not.  
 F47B3001 20210522 13:52:45 In memoriam.  
 F47B3002 20210522 13:52:59 In memoriam.  
 F47B3003 20210523 13:25:22 May Blossom.  
 F47B3004 20210523 13:26:52 May Blossom.  
 F47B3005 20210523 13:27:55 May Blossom.  
 F47B3010 20210531 12:35:50 Joint action.  
 F47B3011 20210531 12:36:07 Being ignored.  
 F47B3012 20210531 12:36:26 Joint action.  
 F47B3014 20210531 12:36:31 Joint action.  
 F47B3016 20210531 12:36:36 Being ignored.  
 F47B3017 20210531 12:36:44 Being ignored.  
 F47B3018 20210531 12:36:47 Being ignored.  
 F47B3019 20210531 12:36:50 Being ignored.

F47B3020 20210531 12:36:56 Being ignored.  
F47B3021 20210531 12:36:58 Being ignored.  
F47B3022 20210531 12:37:07 Being ignored.  
F47B3023 20210531 12:37:39 Being ignored.  
F47B3025 20210531 12:38:06 Being ignored.  
F47B3026 20210531 12:38:55 Being ignored.  
F47B3027 20210531 12:39:02 Being ignored.  
F47B3029 20210531 12:39:10 Being ignored.  
F47B3030 20210531 12:39:56 Being ignored.  
F47B3031 20210531 12:40:00 Being ignored.  
F47B3032 20210531 12:40:13 Being ignored.  
F47B3033 20210531 12:42:05 Being ignored.  
F47B3034 20210531 12:42:16 Being ignored.  
F47B3035 20210531 12:42:18 Being ignored.  
F47B3036 20210531 12:42:37 Being ignored.  
F47B3037 20210531 12:42:37 Being ignored.  
F47B3038 20210531 12:42:39 Being ignored.  
F47B3039 20210531 12:42:47 Being ignored.  
F47B3040 20210531 12:42:48 Being ignored.  
F47B3041 20210531 12:42:50 Being ignored.  
F47B3042 20210531 12:43:39 Being ignored.  
F47B3043 20210531 12:43:59 Being ignored.  
F47B3045 20210531 12:50:08 Being ignored.  
F47B3046 20210531 12:50:25 Being ignored.  
F47B3047 20210531 12:50:25 Being ignored.  
F47B3048 20210531 12:50:26 Being ignored.  
F47B3049 20210531 12:56:14 Canal path.  
F47B3050 20210531 12:56:19 Canal path.  
F47B3051 20210531 12:56:34 Canal path.  
F47B3052 20210531 13:08:05 Pink Hawthorn.  
F47B3053 20210531 13:08:47 Pink Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3054 20210531 13:09:14 Pink Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3055 20210531 13:10:19 Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3056 20210531 13:11:30 Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3057 20210531 13:13:04 Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3058 20210531 13:13:07 Hawthorn by the canal.  
F47B3059 20210531 13:15:10 Footpath by the canal.  
F47B3060 20210531 13:15:59 Forget-me-not by the canal.  
F47B3061 20210531 13:16:13 Forget-me-not by the canal.  
F47B3063 20210605 08:25:36 Slim Pig.  
F47B3064 20210606 19:48:54 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3065 20210606 19:48:59 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3066 20210606 19:49:02 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3067 20210606 19:49:02 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3068 20210606 19:49:03 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3069 20210606 19:49:06 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3076 20210606 19:50:04 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3077 20210606 19:50:05 Ride a white swan.  
F47B3093 20210606 19:53:26 Presaged of death.  
F47B3094 20210606 19:53:26 Presaged of death.  
F47B3096 20210606 19:53:35 Presaged of death.  
F47B3098 20210606 19:54:02 Midge and Cliff.  
F47B3100 20210606 19:55:19 Midge and Cliff.  
F47B3101 20210606 19:55:19 Midge and Cliff.  
F47B3104 20210606 19:55:31 Irascible cob.  
F47B3106 20210606 19:55:35 Irascible cob.  
F47B3107 20210606 19:55:35 The cob.  
F47B3109 20210606 19:55:56 The favoured ones.



Wilford Hill forget-me-not.



In memoriam.



Being ignored.



Pink Hawthorn by the canal.



Hawthorn by the canal.



Ride a white swan.



Presaged of death.



Irascible cob.





Midge and Cliff.