



AT RISK Red admiral

Counting on you to save butterflies

BY NADA FARHOUD
Environment editor

NATURE lovers have been urged to count butterflies to help preserve species for generations to come.

The charity, Butterfly Conservation, declared an emergency last year after numbers dropped.

The decline comes as butterflies struggle due to habitat degradation, climate breakdown and the use of pesticides.

Worryingly, numbers are down 80% since the 1970s.

CONSERVATION

When butterflies find it hard to survive, so do birds, bees and entire ecosystems.

To help preserve them, people are being asked to spend 15 minutes counting the butterflies they see in their garden or local park.

Dr Richard Fox, from Butterfly Conservation, urged people to "turn curiosity into conservation".

Log sightings before August 10 on the Big Butterfly Count app or at bigbutterflycount.org

Missed

As part of the Mirror's Missed campaign, we will publish the name and photo of a missing person every day



Linda Millard

Age at disappearance

48

Last seen
Bristol

Missing since
1996

PLEASE CALL OR
TEXT US ON 116 000

missing
people



Scan the QR code to see
missing people in your area

CORRUPT

A young Derek Ridgewell



Last victims of racist cop have their convictions quashed after 50 YEARS

"The conviction caused my dad absolute misery. I'm angry Ridgewell's not alive for this"

ERRROL CAMPBELL JR ON HIS FATHER FINALLY BEING CLEARED

BY TOM PETTIFOR Crime Editor

TWO men wrongfully convicted in the 1970s after claims by a corrupt and racist detective have finally been cleared by the Court of Appeal.

Ronald De Souza, who was part of the group dubbed the Stockwell Six, was just 17 when he was arrested by the now notorious DS Derek Ridgewell in 1972.

The pals were accused of trying to rob Ridgewell on a South London Tube train and were jailed despite saying police lied, were violent and made threats.

Ex-British Rail worker Errol Campbell, who died in 2004 and was part of the Windrush generation, also had his convictions for theft and conspiracy to steal from a South London goods depot overturned posthumously yesterday.

Mr De Souza was detained for six months following a case investigated by British Transport Police, of which disgraced Ridgewell was a member.

In his ruling, Lord Justice Holroyde said Mr De Souza, who did not attend court, "bore the burden of his wrongful conviction throughout his adult life".

He added: "We regret this court cannot put right all that he has suffered over more than half a century; however, we can and do allow his appeal and



BLAST Errol Campbell Jr & Matt Foot yesterday. Below, Errol Campbell

Stockwell Six member and ex-rail worker both framed

quash his convictions." The convictions of Stockwell Six co-accused Paul Green, Courtney Harriot, Cleveland Davidson and Texo Johnson were quashed in 2021.

Everett Mullins was acquitted because

his reading ability was not good enough for him to have understood his signed statement, which was written for him by Ridgewell.

Mr Campbell was found guilty in 1977

and sentenced to 18 months in jail. The convictions of his co-defendants Saliah Mehmet and Basil Peterkin were both quashed in January last year.

In a statement read out by solicitor Matt Foot, Errol Campbell Jr said: "My dad always said he was innocent, and today, that's finally been confirmed."

"The conviction caused absolute misery to my dad and our family. I'm angry Ridgewell is not alive for this day."

In a separate case yesterday, Lord Justice Holroyde said it was with "regret" the court could not undo Mr Campbell's suffering. His son had submitted an application to the Criminal Cases Review Commission last year.

DS Ridgewell, DC Douglas Ellis and DC Alan Keeling, admitted in 1980 to stealing from the same Bricklayers Arms Goods Depot. Mailbags worth £364,000 were stolen.

Ridgewell died in jail before finishing his seven-year sentence.

A total of 13 people whose cases involved Ridgewell have now had their convictions overturned.

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