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## SHORT COMMUNICATION

***Gonocerus acuteangulatus* (Goeze) (Hemiptera: Coreidae) new to Kent.**—On 15 April 2003, I knocked a specimen of *Gonocerus acuteangulatus* from a Lawson's cypress tree in Horniman Gardens, Surrey, TQ349732. It landed, briefly, in a spider's web, from which I took it into my hand. The day was warm and sunny and the bug was very active. After a few seconds it flew off across the grass, over a fence and disappeared into the adjoining gardens of Forest Hill. Although once restricted to the box trees of Box Hill, this bug has spread dramatically throughout Surrey during the last 10 years, expanding its choice of foodplants to include hawthorn and yew (R. Hawkins, personal communication). I was not too surprised, therefore, to find it on the cypress. This alien garden tree has become host to several heteropteran bug species of late, including the lygaeid ground bug, *Orsillus depressus* Dallas, the juniper shieldbug, *Cyphostethus tristriatus* (Fab.), and the juniper leaf-bug, *Dichroscytus gustavi* (Jos.) (Jones, R. A., 2000. *Entomologist's. Rec. J. Var.* 112: 133–134). However, it is more likely that *Gonocerus* was overwintering on the cypress, rather than feeding on it. The vice-county boundary between Surrey (VC17) and West Kent (VC16) runs right through Horniman Gardens, following the ridge of the hill. So I felt a certain thrill as I watched *Gonocerus* fly away, because I realized that its flight took it out of Surrey and a few metres into Kent . . . a new record for the county? In fact, I later discovered that this was not the first time that the bug had been found in Kent. Roger Hawkins tells me that, on 6 September 2002, he was recording shieldbugs for the forthcoming Surrey Wildlife Trust atlas right on the very edge of the county, but had to walk there from the railway station at Edenbridge in Kent. The bushes of hawthorn and rose beside the station looked like a suitable habitat for this bug, but it took at least half-an-hour of systematic beating before a single adult *Gonocerus* was found, on hawthorn by a field to the west of the station (TQ437475) He was 1.5 kilometres inside West Kent at the time.—RICHARD A. JONES, 135 Friern Road, East Dulwich, London SE22 0AZ (bugmanjones@hotmail.com)



Jones, Richard. 2003. "Gonocerus acuteangulatus (Goeze) (Hemiptera: Coreidae) new to Kent." *British journal of entomology and natural history* 16(2), 102–102.

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