

Spotter's Guide for Bourne Valley

Plants and Flowers (Spring)

Artists Nicola Burrell and Lisa Temple-Cox have been working on a commission inspired by the history and ecology of Bourne Mill and the wider Bourne Valley area. While we are currently unable to deliver our public workshops, we're still creating community activities like this one *



O Dandelion

Very common and considered a weed – but the whole plant has been used for food or medicine.



O Bluebell

A common and beautiful British spring flower, sometimes hybridised as Spanish bluebell.



O Cow Parsley

Abundant in Bourne Valley. Also known as Queen Anne's Lace.



O Buttercup

There are many different types of buttercups, but all have these shining golden flowers.



O Herb Robert

Tiny pink flowers peeking above fern-like leaves, it's actually a member of the geranium family



O Garlic Mustard

Also known as Jack-by-the-Hedge, it's easy to tell by the garlicky smell!



O Fern

There are many different types of fern, but the most abundant in these woods is bracken.



O Woody Nightshade

A climbing plant with pretty purple flowers, but like other nightshades it is poisonous.



O Cuckoo Pint

Also known as Lords and Ladies, it favours shady spots. It can cause allergic reactions – please don't touch!



O Marsh Cinquefoil

One of many species of cinquefoil, but the only one with magenta flowers instead of yellow. Quite rare in Essex!



O Brooklime

Found on the edges of brooks, hence it's name, it has tiny bright blue flowers and thick glossy leaves.



O Horsetail

Looking like a little fir tree, it is called a 'living fossil' – it has remained unchanged for millions of years.

* For other activities and information about the project see our facebook page Bourne Narratives, visit https://essexcdp.com/event/bourne-narratives/, or email bournenarratives@gmail.com

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