



# Michael's Wood

Natural Burial Ground

## Bulb List

Only native British and traditional, organic, flowering plants are allowed to be planted in Michael's Wood in order to preserve the natural habitat for native plants and insects. The following plants are recommended and should be easily available from good local garden centres:

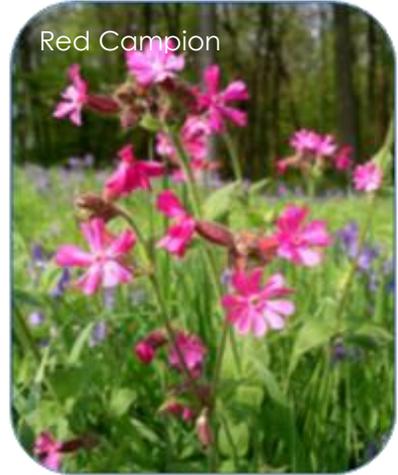
British Bluebell



Cowslip



Red Campion



Foxglove



Lily of the Valley



Wild Daffodil



Autumn Crocus



Snowdrop



Wild Cyclamen



Wood Anemone



**British Bluebell** (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*): Bluebells are perennial bulbous herbs with flowering stems which spend most of the year as bulbs underground and emerge to flower from April onwards. Native bluebells can be distinguished by their sweetly scented flowers, which droop or nod to one side. The bell-shaped flowers can be blue, white or rarely pink.

**Cowslip** (*Primula veris*): Yellow in colour, the bell-shaped flower has five petals with small indents in the top edge of the petals. Cowslip is a perennial plant that flowers from April to May. It is an important species for wildlife, providing nectar for various insects, such as bees, beetles and butterflies.



**English Primrose** (*Primula vulgaris*). The 'prim' in primrose comes from a Latin word meaning 'first', as primroses flower early in the year before many other plants. Most primroses have yellow flowers, but some have pink. The flowers and leaves of primroses are edible, but in the UK it's now illegal to pick wild primroses or to dig them up.

**Wild Cyclamen** (*Cyclamen hederifolium*): Rosy pink flowers from August to September, excellent for naturalising amongst trees. They prefer shade and will quickly spread.

**Red Campion** (*Silene dioica*): Pretty flowering plant that can be found in woodlands. This species is an ancient woodland indicator and can give a clue to the history of a wood. A perennial or biennial, it flowers from May to September. The flowers of red campion are important for various pollinating insects including bees, butterflies and hoverflies.

**Wild Daffodil** (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*): This is the native British daffodil that thrives in woodlands. It is a short plant (15-30cm), which blooms in February and March. The flowers have pale yellow petals with deeper yellow trumpet and a light scent. True wild daffodils can be notoriously shy to flower in the first season after planting – so be patient!

**Wood anemone** (*Anemone nemorosa*): These perennial plants can be found in mature deciduous woodlands and they flower from March to May. The petals are white with a pinkish tinge and are favoured by hoverflies, which are significant in pollinating this species. The presence of this species can indicate ancient woodlands, as it is a slow growing species.

**Snowdrop** (*Galanthus nivalis*): This perennial plant is often the first to flower in January and can continue to flower through to March. The flowers resemble three drops of milk hanging from a stem and account for the generic name of Galanthus, which derives from the Greek for milk and flower. The flowers are very attractive to bees and it is one of their earliest food sources.

**Foxglove** (*Digitalis purpurea*): A biennial or perennial that flowers from June to September displaying pretty pink-purple flowers. The plant can grow up to two metres tall and thrives in woodland edges. Foxgloves are adapted to be pollinated by bees, especially long-tongue bees. The plant's brightly coloured flowers and dark spotted lip attracts the bees and the bee is able to land on the lower lip before climbing up the tube. During this process the bee will dislodge the pollen and then transfer it to another plant.

**Lily of the Valley** (*Convallaria majalis*): A creeping perennial plant that can cover woodland floors, flowering, with its distinctive white bell-shaped flowers, from May to June. Bees collect pollen from this species as the plant's smell and flowers attract them.

**Autumn Crocus** (*Colchicum autumnale*): A perennial plant that blooms with lilac-pink flowers from September to October. It is a good source of nectar and pollen for bees late in the season.