

# Some Bluebell Facts

- *Bluebells can often be seen in their thousands carpeting a woodland floor in springtime.*
- *A few Bluebells lack blue pigment this makes the flower white.*
- *Large numbers of bluebells are often an indicator of an ancient woodland.*
- *Bluebells are pollinated by insect.*
- *The lifecycle of bluebells is completed before the leaves are fully out on the trees above.*
- *English bluebells are under threat from the Spanish bluebell. Spanish bluebells have been introduced to Eastham Country park and are hybridising with the native species and threatening its existence. Please don't plant anything in the woods.*

**It is illegal to uproot or pick wild native bluebells.**

*Photographed, Designed and Produced By: A.K.Smail*

# Bluebell Woods Conservation Area Eastham Country Park



Produced by:  
The Friends of Eastham Country Park



# The Bluebells that you see in Eastham Country Park between April and June each year are mostly Native Bluebells.

Bluebells are well adapted to life in woodlands. In the spring they flower before the surrounding trees come out in full leaf. This means that they complete their life cycle while light levels are high. Bluebells are able to grow quickly in the spring because they have an energy store in the form of a bulb.

Native Bluebells are becoming rare in Britain and need protecting. Walking off the paths in this area at any time of the year will damage growing shoots and compact the soil, damaging the bulbs in the ground and starving the roots of air and water.



When walking in the woods, please keep to the footpaths.  
Please don't pick the bluebells, leave them growing for everyone to enjoy.