



RED CAMPION - Silene

Silenus, drunken, merry god of the woodlands, in Greek mythology, gave his name to the red campion, which enlivens the edges of woods and hedgerows with its bright flowers of all shades from red, through pink, to pure white. Campions were associated with snakes, the pounded seed being used to treat snake-bites.

RECORD	OF FL	OWERS S	EEN
Flower illustrated	seen	Other flower	seen
Gorse	TAKE		
Spear Thistle		1	
Common Dog Violet			
Lesser Celandine	No.		
Lesser Periwinkle	Polls	1	
Pink Purslane	200		
Hedge Woundwort			
Dog Rose	-		
Wood Anemone	270.13	N	
Foxglove	47.50		
Leopardsbane			35 AN 110
Common Spotted Orchid	2000	broad have be	
Rosebay Willowherb		doclumite	
Red Campion			
Great Bindweed			The state of

Background illustration: GREAT BINDWEED Calystegia sepium

FLOWERS OF CORSTORPHINE HILL

orstorphine Hill is home to some 300 species of flowers and plants. Many are common; some are rare or unusual, such as Moschatel, Climbing Corydalis, Little Balsam and Blue Sow-Thistle. Take care, some are poisonous.

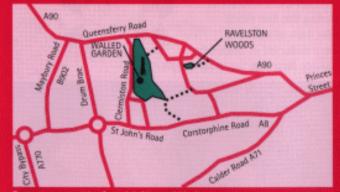
Special to the hill are the drifts of Bluebells on the east slopes in Spring, a feature it shares with its nearby companion, Ravelston Woods.

The Botany Group of the Friends of Corstorphine Hill have been recording, painting and photographing the flowers as they change through the seasons. A selection of this great variety of flowers on the hill are shown and described in this leaflet.

Come and see the flowers for yourself. Record what you see, and let us know if you spot anything interesting or unusual through our website: www.corstorphinehill.org.uk

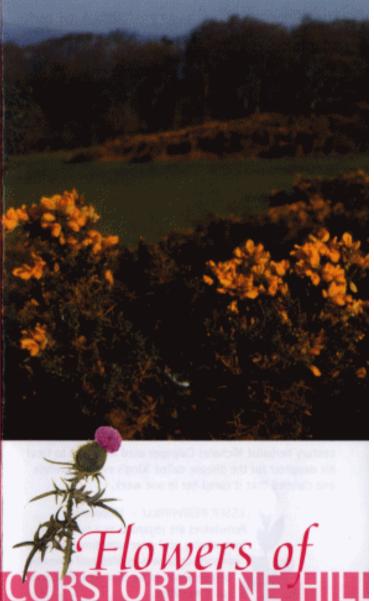
Most of the hill is a Public Park and a Local Nature Reserve, owned and managed by the Recreation Department of the City of Edinburgh Council, assisted by the *Friends*. Please keep to the public areas and respect the Countryside Code. REMEMBER: IT IS AN OFFENCE TO PICK WILD FLOWERS.

The old Walled Garden formerly for Hillwood House is being turned by the *Friends* into a Walled Woodland Walkway. Here the trees, shrubs and plants growing on the hill will be grown and described.



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Friends of Corstorphine Hill



FLOWERS OF CORSTORPHINE HILL

COMMON DOG VIOLET - Viola riviniana
'Blue mice', 'pig violets', and 'shoes and
stockings' are just a few of the folk
names for these unscented
violets. 'Dog' was a derogatory
term, often used for wild flowers which
were thought to be inferior in some way
to their relatives. Hence, dog violet was
seen as being inferior to the scented
sweet violet.

LESSER CELANDINE -

Ranunculus ficaria
Celandine carpets woodland with
a splash of yellow in Spring. The
poet William Wordsworth
admired the celandine and
dedicated one of his poems to
the flower. Celandine was
introduced as a medicinal herb in
the Faroe Islands and the 17th



century herbalist Nicholas Culpeper used the plant to treat his daughter for the disease called 'King's evil' or scrofula and claimed that it cured her in one week.

LESSER PERIWINKLE - Vinca minor
Periwinkles are regarded as a symbol of immortality, and were sometimes worn as garlands or crowns in Medieval times by people about to be executed. Also used as a medicine,

lesser periwinkle was mentioned

by 16th century herbalist William Turner and is thought to have been

introduced into this country from the continent.

PINK PURSLANE Montia sibirica

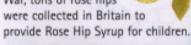


DOG ROSE - Rosa canina

The ancient Greeks called the wild rose 'dog rose' because they believed that the roots cured anyone

bitten by a mad dog. The Romans adopted the name, Rosa canina.

A valuable medicinal plant, the syrup from the fruit is rich in vitamin C. During the 2nd World War, tons of rose hips were collected in Britain





WOOD ANEMONE - Anemone nemorosa

Wood anemones are sometimes called Windflowers, because, according to the Greek writer Pliny, the flowers will not open until the wind blows. Though fragile looking, the flowers are strong and well able to withstand wind. The plant has an unattractive scent and is sometimes called 'smell foxes. A vinegar made from the leaves is said to have similar medicinal qualities to mustard when used as a poultice.



FOXGLOVE - Digitalis purpurea
Foxgloves, sometimes known
as 'fairy bells' in parts of
England and Ireland, grow in
woods, heaths, banks and rocks
and on acid soils. The plant yields the
drug 'Digitalin' for use in the treatment
of heart complaints, acting as a heart
stimulant.

LEOPARDSBANE Doronicum pardalianches