

# Orchids at Holman's Wood, Harcombe Cross

The verges and woodland at Holman's Wood and around the A38 junction have a beautiful array of wild flowers that grow on lime-rich soil. This is one of the most important sites in Devon for wild orchids, which flower in succession during spring and summer. Members of **Chudleigh Wild** census the orchids and other flowers every year.

We hope you enjoy our orchids, but please tread carefully (and do not pick the flowers!).



**Early Purple Orchid**

The earliest species to flower, in April-May. The stem is red at the top and leaves have dark blotches.



**Common Spotted Orchid**

Like the Early Purple, this has dark spots on the leaves, but flowers later, in June-July. The flowers are pinker and have delicate purple markings.



**Greater Butterfly Orchid**

Flowers mainly in June. The most notable species here, with over 1000 spikes (flower heads) in some years. Some plants grow to 40 cm in height.



**Bee Orchid**

Flowers in June-July. Has only a few flowers that resemble furry insects. Several grow opposite the office at Holman's Wood.