

Blue Bells of Scotland

Blue Bells of Scotland is a traditional Scottish folk song.

As with most folk songs, it exists in multiple versions. In the version printed in 1803 in the Scots Musical Museum, the words are:

O where and O where does your highland laddie dwell; O where and O where does your highland laddie dwell; He dwells in merry Scotland where the blue bells sweetly smell, And all in my heart I love my laddie well'

A broadside ballad version from slightly later in the 19th century makes references to George III and the Napoleonic wars:

Oh, where, and oh, where is my highland laddie gone, Oh, where, and oh, where is my highland laddie gone, He's gone to fight the French, for King George upon the throne, And it's oh in my heart I wish him safe at home



Common Bluebell



Harebell

The common bluebell covers many north-western European woods with dense carpets; these are commonly referred to as "bluebell woods". The presence of large numbers of bluebells is often used as an indicator species to identify ancient woodland, particularly in the East of England and Lincolnshire.

The Harebell (Campanula rotundifolia) is a short to medium, slender, hairless, rhizomatous perennial in the bellflower family Campanulaceae. In Scotland, it is often known as the Bluebell, whereas elsewhere in Britain, "bluebell" refers to Hyacinthoides non-scripta.