**Bloody-nosed beetle (*Timarcha tenebricosa*)**

The bloody-nosed beetle is a large leaf beetle, or chrysomelid. Bloody-nosed beetles can be recognised by their thick antennae and long tarsi – the final segments of the legs. They are named for their tendency to extrude foul-tasting bright orange/red fluid (actually the insect’s haemolymph or blood) from their mouths as a defence mechanism known as reflex bleeding.

**Bloody-nosed beetle larva (*Timarcha tenebricosa*)**

The metallic green larvae of the bloody-nosed beetle are monophagous (feeding only on one type of plant or animal) and feed on bedstraw (*Galium*) species, especially ladies bedstraw (*Galium verum*) or hedge bedstraw (*G. mollugo*)

**Spring squill (*Scilla verna*)**

Spring squill are perennial (living for several years) plants of the Asparagaceae family. The flowers are produced in spring, are scentless and have six blue tepals (petals and sepals which are indistinguishable from each other). Spring squill is found within short turf and maritime heath on exposed cliff tops near the sea.

**King Alfred’s cakes (*Daldinia concentrica*)**

King Alfred’s cakes are an inedible fungus found living on dead and decaying wood of ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*). The fruiting body of the fungus is hard, black and shiny, resembling the burnt cakes for which it is named. The purple/black flesh of the fungus is arranged in concentric circles, with each layer representing a season of reproduction. Many invertebrates live in the fungus, and it plays a vital role in the decomposition and recycling of dead wood.