



The crocuses at Inkpen

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## Crocus fields trace their history back to crusaders

**THESE** images of crocuses at Inkpen, which, legend has it, were originally planted by the 12th century crusaders, were captured this week.

The crocus field in Inkpen off Inkpen playing field was bought by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) in 1985.

Anstace Gladstone, of Kintbury, is a member of BBOWT and was involved in the purchasing of the land.

She said: "I go up there every year to look at the crocuses and this year they are

wonderful.

"The BBOWT have had some Dexter cattle and sheep on the field during the winter which has allowed the crocuses to come through.

"Nobody knows where the crocuses came from but legend has it that they were put there by the 12th century crusaders.

"They have been out for three weeks so people have a couple more weeks to see them. They are best viewed in sunlight when they open up."