



Geology and Ecology on Keston Common

17 October 2026 Start at 11am

A circular walk by the London Geodiversity Partnership and London Natural History Society

**Meet: Westerham Road (Fishponds) Car Park [TQ 4191 6398, [frosted.precautions.trial](#)]
Bus 320 from Bromley South Station (full details will be sent to those booking).**



Caesar's Well – source of Ravensbourne River



Cemented Blackheath pebble beds



Part of Keston Bog

Keston Common is part of a large area of open Common Land, which have become scarce in London, showing how geology and geomorphology have influenced the habitats found in this important area.

The lowland heathland has developed on the acidic and nutrient poor soils of the Blackheath pebble beds. The lower slopes of the Ravensbourne meadows are more clayey soils, with wet neutral grassland. The close spatial association of these habitats reflect the underlying soil conditions.

The area was very important to Charles Darwin and the development of his theory of evolution. (Down House is 3½ km to the south, where he lived between 1842 and 1882.) The varied environments provided the many influences of his ideas. He developed his important work on insectivorous plants at Keston Bog.

Keston Common is a Metropolitan SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation) and an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest).

The Friends of Keston Common are very active in looking after the varied landscapes. They have erected many information boards around the site, which are all available on their website (<https://friendsofkestoncommon.chessck.co.uk/>).

The walk is free but please register with the London Geodiversity Partnership at geotrail@londongeopartnership.org.uk

Further details and a Risk Assessment will be sent nearer the time.