

Round Wood

Local Wildlife Site...

In the mid eighteenth century Round Wood was part of 'Great Penny Knowles', a much larger network of woodland which was part of the West Wycombe Estate. Over the next hundred years the area has gradually been reduced and the modern name adopted in the mid-nineteenth century.

Use this leaflet to guide you around the wood and discover a wealth of local wildlife

Green Woodpecker



Marbled White



Pyramidal Orchid



enjoy...

The woodland that is left is on a steep slope and the circular walk does have a steep climb and descent but the bottom path near the amenity grassland is easily accessible and doesn't involve any climbs. This path leads you on to the area of chalk grassland and scrub, where during the winter months you can find flocks of tits and finches foraging for food and in the summer butterflies can be found nectaring on the wild flowers.

★ This leaflet is printed on Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) accredited paper.

Below the woodland is an area of amenity grassland with several benches, a ball wall and a play area. Look out for the Green Woodpecker as it searches for ants in the grassland. This is an ideal area for this bird having an area of deciduous woodland to nest in and the large open area to go in search of it's favourite food. Several areas of the grassland were planted with a mixture of native trees in the early nineties, extending the area of woodland at the western end and several areas of copse were planted. You may also notice one notable non native species towards the western end of the site where an Indian Bean tree (*Catalpa bignonioides*) has been planted in the past. The tree is a native of North America and characterised by its large rounded leaves during the summer and long cylindrical seed pods that are up to 20cm that can stay on the tree into the winter months.

wildlife... Look out for the King Alfred's Cakes fungus which forms very hard black lumps on dead and dying Ash. As spring approaches look out for the Speckled Wood butterfly wherever light gets through the canopy and the Holly Blue and Brimstone butterfly in the more open, western end of the site. Common Frogs only need water to breed and can be found hiding in the damper places on the site, look for them under logs and in the thicker patches of grass. Suckering Wych Elm can be found throughout the wood, a tree that has been decimated by Dutch Elm disease, a fungus that is carried by the Elm Bark Beetle. On the chalk grassland look out for the Wayfaring Tree a primitive tree that doesn't have true bud cases but has buds encased by leaves and Wild Thyme and Marjoram can be found in the more open grassland areas.

cover images:
Tawny Owl
Holly Blue Butterfly