Welcome to... Keep Hill Wood

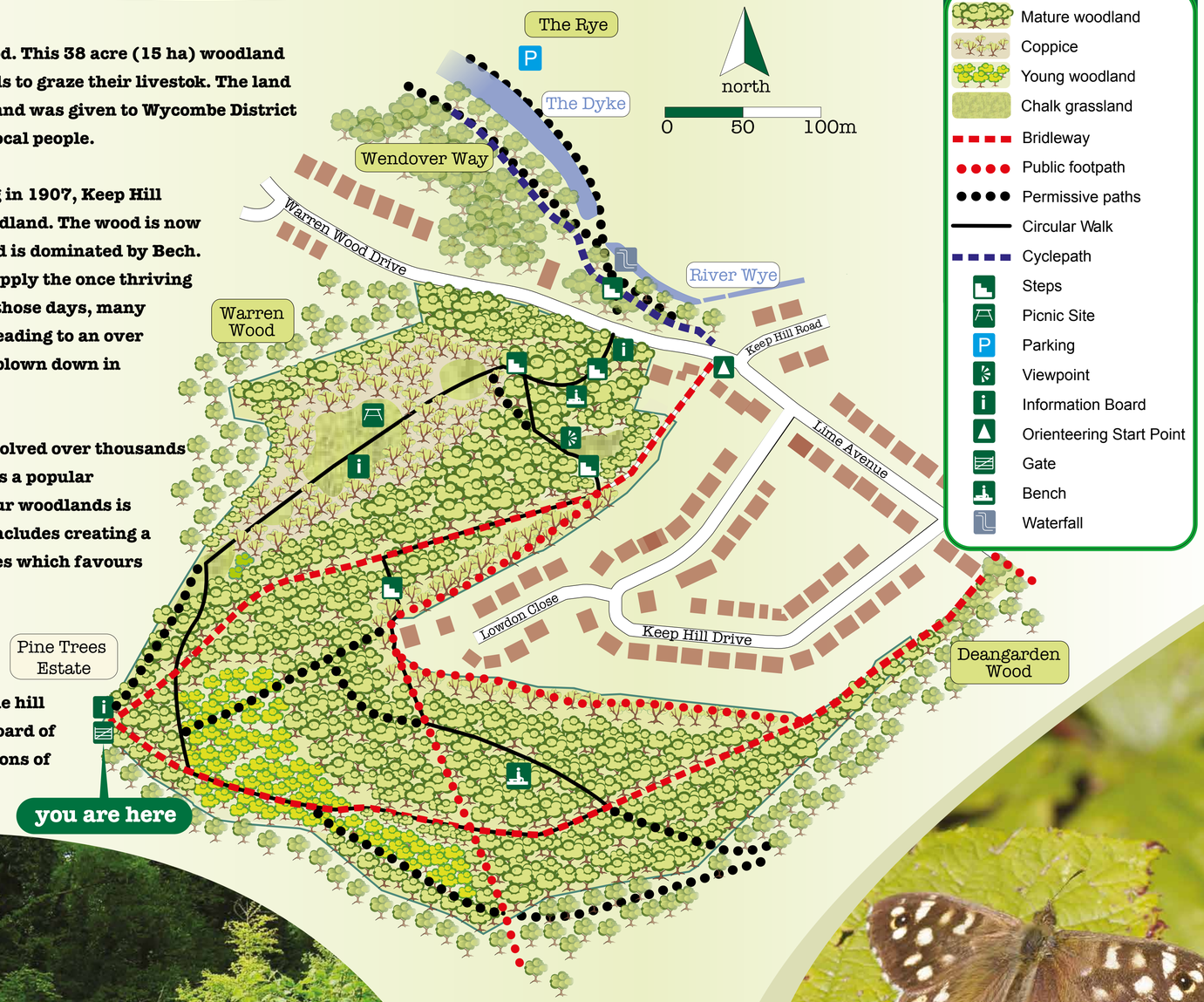
Local Wildlife Site...

Discover... **Keep Hill Wood. This 38 acre (15 ha) woodland was once open Common land used by locals to graze their livestok. The land was then owned by the Carington Estate and was given to Wycombe District Council to be managed for the benefit of local people.**

Enjoy... **Since the last grazing in 1907, Keep Hill has under gone natural succession to woodland. The wood is now host to a good selection of native trees and is dominated by Bech. Beech trees were planted in the past to supply the once thriving local chair and furniture industry. Since those days, many woodlands suffered under management leading to an over mature structure that are prone to being blown down in strong winds.**

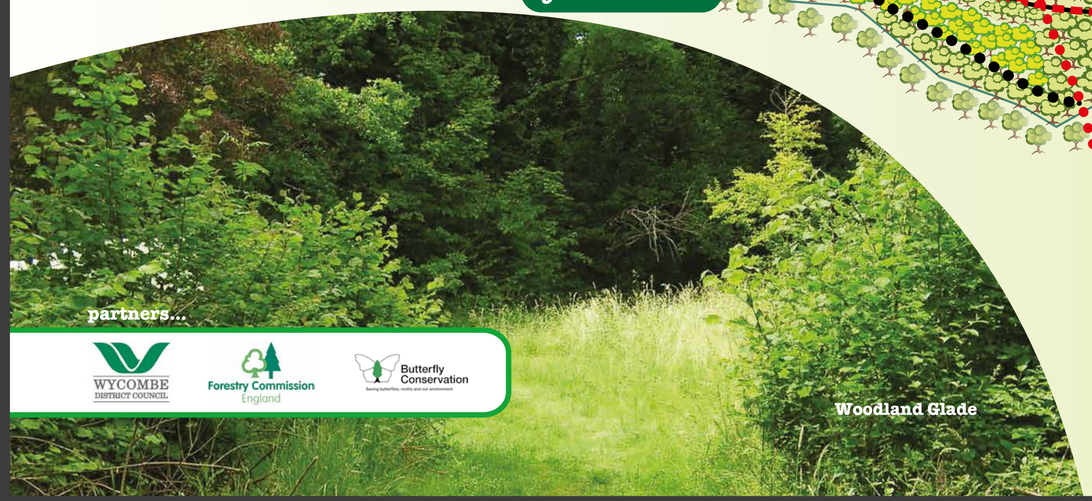
The diversity of woodland wildlife has evolved over thousands of years of harvesting and replanting. It is a popular misconception that non intervention in our woodlands is good for wildlife. The management now includes creating a varied age structure, open glades and rides which favours the greatest variety of flora and fauna.

Keep Hill is thought to have been the site of an Iron Age hill fort. There are a series of banks and ditches around the side of the hill that lend weight to this theory. A small hoard of Iron Age coins were found while excavations of chalk were being undertaken.



Key

- Mature woodland
- Coppice
- Young woodland
- Chalk grassland
- Bridleway
- Public footpath
- Permissive paths
- Circular Walk
- Cyclepath
- Steps
- Picnic Site
- Parking
- Viewpoint
- Information Board
- Orienteering Start Point
- Gate
- Bench
- Waterfall



Woodland Glade

partners...

WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Forestry Commission England

Butterfly Conservation



Speckled Wood butterfly



Look out for....

Brimstone
Gonepteryx rhamni

The sulphur yellow of the male Brimstone is welcome site in the early spring sunshine. The female is a pale greenish-white. It appears after hibernating in March or sometimes even earlier It is more prevalent along woodland rides in the autumn when it likes to feed on purple blooms such as Thistles and Knapweeds. Crab Spiders lurk under blooms waiting to ensnare unsuspecting invertebrates.



Common Earth Star
Geastrum triplex

This infrequent fungi gets it scientific name from the three parts that make up its fruiting body. As the fruiting body matures, spores develop in the central part, later being released from a small aperture in its centre. One rain drop landing on it is enough to release a cloud of spores!

Stag Beetle
Lucanus cervus

Britain's largest beetle spends most of its life as a large grub eating its way through partially submerged rotting wood. This is just one of many invertebrates that benefit from wood being left in woodland to rot. Only the male has the large mandibles that are sometimes referred to as antlers. They use these to battle with other males, sometimes being able to turn an opponent on its back.



Keep Hill Wood
Managed by
Chiltern Rangers
on behalf of WDC to ensure its biodiversity is enhanced for the benefit of wildlife and the local community.

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Take only photos and memories, leave only footprints, kill only time.

Represents Frame