

Gomm's Wood

Local Nature Reserve...

explore...

- 1** Enter the wood from Cock Lane Cemetery Car Park (the meeting point for events) and follow the path, enjoy the view across the Micklefield Valley. Watch for Red Kite and Buzzard circling overhead.
- 2** The Butterfly Ride... enjoy a few minutes sitting on the bench during the summer with butterflies flitting amongst flowers and grasses.
- 3** Continue through an area of Hawthorn scrub. Look out for small mixed flocks of finches and tits foraging for insects in the trees and shrubs. You then enter young mixed woodland with Cherry, Beech, Ash & Oak with understorey species including Spindle and Wayfaring Tree.
- 4** The Northern 'Grubbings'.
- 5** The mature Beech woodland has many ancient woodland indicator plants including Wood Barley, Sweet Woodruff, Sanicle and Dog's Mercury.
- 6** Count the steps up to the top and enjoy a rest on the bench!
- 7** Gomm Bank wildflower meadow.
- 8** This Ash & Hazel coppice system was once worked for firewood. Coppicing is a traditional form of management which creates a varied age woodland structure and products such as stakes and poles. Light enters the woodland which benefits wildlife from cowslips to violets. Can you hear birds like Chiffchaff, Blackcap and Wren singing here in the Spring?
- 9** Micklefield Bank.
- 10** As you return to the car park, you walk past the boundary bank with King's Wood. Hornbeam, a tree often associated with boundaries in the Chilterns grow on the bank. Enjoy spring flowers such as Violets, Lesser Celandine and local speciality Coral-root Bittercress growing in the dappled light.



Slow-worm on the woodland floor



Chaffinch on Hawthorn



Sweet Woodruff



Buzzard

Coral-root Bittercress

