

With Wye School and Kent Heritage Trees Project



Not related to the citrus plant. The name may derive from an Old English word 'lind', meaning flexible. Grinling Gibbons, a famous 17th century woodcarver, used the soft, light wood to create pieces for Windsor Castle, Hampton Court Palace and St Pauls Cathedral. The flowers make a relaxing tea and the blossom is a favourite of bees.

3. Lime Tree (Tilia cordata)

Modern science is investigating a compound from the husks which has anti-fungal, anti-bacterial and anti-cancer properties. Small mammals enjoy the nuts which are bitter; unlike the common walnut we enjoy (Juglans regia). Walnut burls are rounded knotty growths which form when the tree is attacked by pests. The grain becomes a tight swirl of intricate patterns. These are turned into veneers (highly polished, thinly sliced, pieces of the wood). Veneers are valuable and used in the manufacture of furniture, or the deluxe interiors of some cars.

2. Black Walnut (Juglans nigra)

This small tree feeds wildlife with its abundance of early pollen, nectar and small sour tasting fruit. We can use them to make jelly and wine, and as a source of natural pectin to set jams. Unlike the sour crab apples, recent DNA analysis shows the origins of our domestic sweet apple comes from fruit forests on the slopes of Tien Shan or Celestial Mountains, on the Kazakhstan borders with China. The dominance of the largest, juiciest apples was helped by animals such as the bears found in these regions, which favoured the sweeter apples and dispersed their seeds in their droppings (scats). Later nomads and their horses brought them even further, all along the Silk Road to the Mediterranean, where the Romans then brought them to Britain.

1. Crab Apple (Malus sylvestris)

The small brown fruits can be eaten once 'bletted' (allowed to rot). A popular dessert in medieval times. They are mushy tasting, like a mixture of apple sauce and cinnamon, better used for jellies, jams and wine making. The fruit is nicknamed 'dogs bottom'. Can you guess why?

7. Medlar Tree (Eriobotrya japonica)

Look at a twig, see if you can see a horseshoe shaped scar, complete with nail marks, which has been left by the leaf stalks. Autumn brings a spikey husk containing conkers; historically they were fed to sick horses to cure chest complaints. Peterborough hosts The World Conker Championships every year. Conker is derived from the word conquer, connected to playing the game. If you find some on the ground maybe you could play!

6. Horse Chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum)

Bright red berries provide food for birds and small mammals, but are poisonous to cattle, horses and humans. Britain's smallest bird, the Goldcrest, builds nests in its sheltered, evergreen branches. Yews can live for thousands of years; its branches grow down into the ground, forming new stems, which then grow upwards to cover the old growth. Because of this, many cultures associate yew with everlasting life and why it is found in many sacred places. A Himalayan species is used to make chemotherapy drugs.

5. Yew Tree (Taxus baccata)

The seeds, called 'Mast', are a good food source for wildlife. During medieval times commoners had the right to pannage - the practice of turning out their pigs on to common land, to fatten them up on beech mast, acorns and other nuts. This tradition still takes place in The New Forest. Beech wood is strong, but 'Bodgers' (craftsmen that lived and worked in the woods) could steam and bend the wood to make Windsor chairs.

4. Copper Beech (Fagus sylvatica 'purpurea')

Trees aren't just beautiful they are also very important...



- They clean the air by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen for us to breathe.
- Both living and dead trees provide habitats (homes) and food for many insects, birds and animals, but also for other organisms like fungi, moss, Ivy and Mistletoe.
- They provide fruit and nuts for us too. Farmers around Wye grow delicious apples, pears, cherries, plums, walnuts and hazelnuts. What are your favourites?
- Their roots stop soil erosion and absorb water, which can help reduce flooding.
- They can hide unsightly views, muffle traffic noise, trap dust and provide shelter from the sun and wind.
- Trees create jobs and many products. Can you think of something that comes from trees?
- All over the world trees have inspired many artists, poems, songs, stories, myths and legends.
- Research shows being around trees helps us feel more relaxed.
- Did you know car tyres are still made in part using natural rubber from rubber trees?

Can you spot any of these along the way? Some will depend on the season.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fungus on a tree | <input type="checkbox"/> Blossom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moss | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree seed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nest | <input type="checkbox"/> Mole hill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildflower | <input type="checkbox"/> Lichen on a twig |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree buds | <input type="checkbox"/> Dead leaf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Puddle | <input type="checkbox"/> Dandelion clock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snail shell | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal hole |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobweb | <input type="checkbox"/> Berry on a tree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal/bird droppings | <input type="checkbox"/> Mini beast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shiny bark | <input type="checkbox"/> Did you hear a bird sing? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feather | |

This leaflet was produced as a legacy of the Kent Heritage Trees Project, a five year project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund celebrating Kent's tree heritage. A significant achievement of the project was the recording of over 10,000 heritage trees - trees that are old, wide, rare or have a story to tell. Visit tcv.org.uk/kentheritagetrees to view the tree finds and map.

This is one of a series of leaflets created by volunteers to encourage people of all ages to explore the outdoors, learn about nature and heritage trees and enjoy the Kentish countryside.

The Kent Heritage Trees Project was developed and run by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), a charity that works with thousands of people across the UK, helping them to discover, improve and enjoy their local green spaces and by doing so create happier and healthier communities.

www.explorekent.org

Find out more about the continuing work of TCV and how you can become involved, visit www.tcv.org.uk

Kent Heritage Trees Project is managed by

The Conservation Volunteers
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LOTTERY FUNDED

To follow the trail on your phone, scan this QR code

TCV The Community Volunteering Charity

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DID YOU KNOW... trees can communicate with each other? Studies have shown that trees in a forest are connected underground by a network of fungi. Through this, they share nutrients and release chemicals to warn each other of pest attacks!

Seed pods covered in bristles



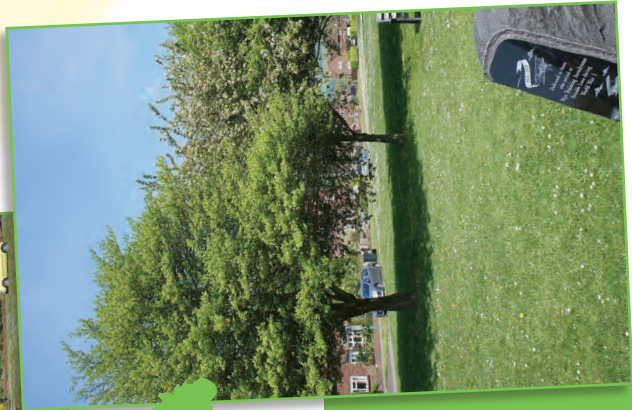
Rounded fruit 1cm across



Smooth round husk with an edible nut



Small rounded apples which are green changing to yellow with a flush of red About 4cm across



1. The trail begins at the WW1 (1914-1918) memorial stone for the Bramble Lane Aerodrome, which was established by the Royal Flying Corps for training pilots.

5. Behind this tree is the grave of William Godseef, who fought in the Peninsular War (1809-1814).



Welcome to our lovely village in the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This trail was created with help from students of Wye School. It includes the trees and facts they chose to be the most interesting. Start the trail at Tree 1 all the way through to 11. Each tree has a photo to help with exact location. The gentle walk should take about 1 hour. We hope you enjoy your time on the trail and discover something new along the way.

Visitor guides available from tourist info point: Ticketyboo 141 Bridge St. Tel 01233 812671
For up to date local events, walks and services: wyebusiness.org.uk
For any further interest in Wye's past: wyehistoricalsociety.org.uk

DID YOU KNOW...
some moths and butterflies feed on tree nectar, sap and pollen? They lay their eggs on the trunk, branches or leaves. When the caterpillars hatch they love to eat the leaves and blossom.



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