



# A walk around Roundball Wood





# Introduction

Roundball Wood is a pretty, self-contained area of woodland situated to the south of Honiton within the East Devon Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The wood has been managed by Honiton Town Council since 1998 but dates back to 1840 where it is featured in the Tithe Records. However the magnificent old oak trees are about 200 years old. This means the wood is classed as semi-ancient wet woodland.

Visit:

[www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk](http://www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk)

To see the digital maps and records.











# Nature Trail

Roundball Wood is home to many different animals and plants, most can be spotted and observed from the paths however some of the mammals are nocturnal and very shy.

There are 8 Nature stations to look out for on your walk.

- 1- Dead tree
- 2- Old coppice
- 3- Badger's Beech
- 4- Wood interior
- 5- Roundball Hill
- 6- Badger set
- 7- Mossy Boles
- 8- Fallen Birch

All of these play a vital role in the wood so keep your eyes peeled!



# Wildlife

There are hundreds of species occupying the old wood; here are just some to look out for:



Jenny Wren



Great Spotted Woodpecker



Common Spotted Orchid



Buzzard



Tawny Owl



Bugle



Long Tailed Tit



Lady's smock



Beech



Chiffchaff



Bluebell

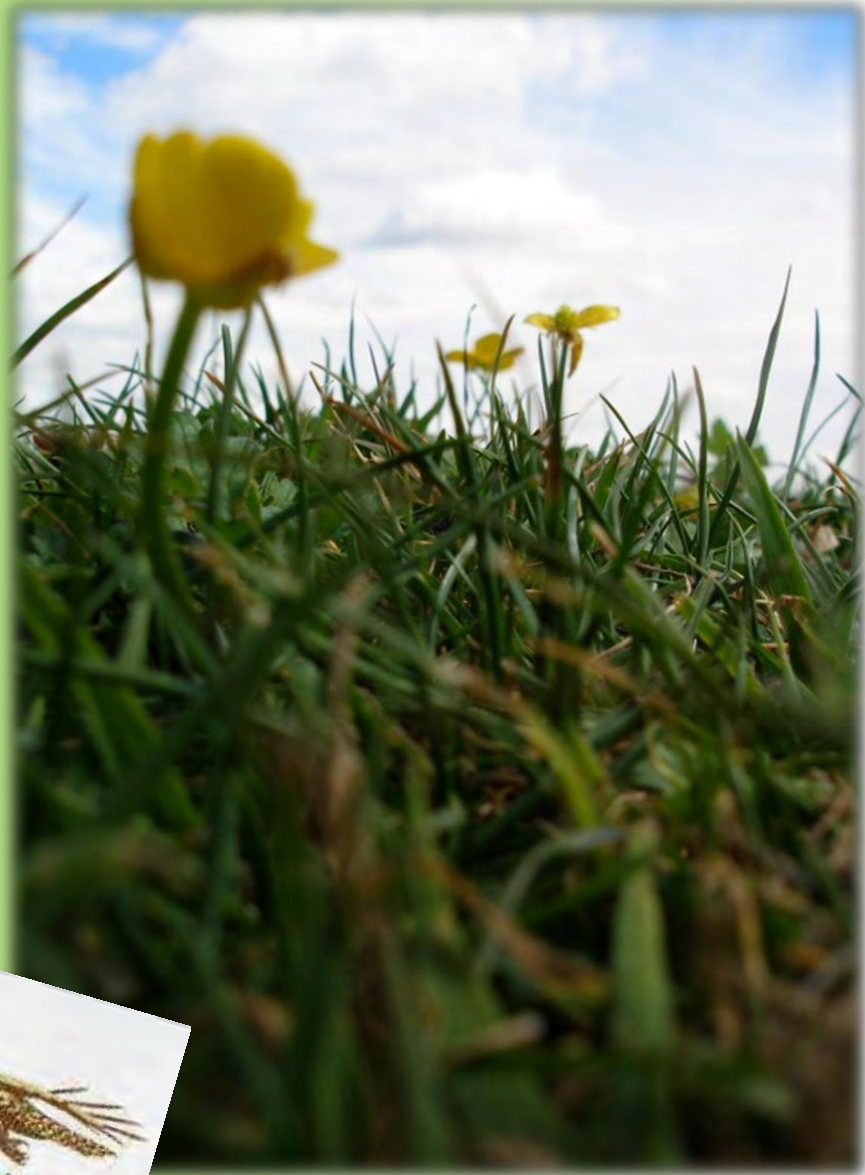


Lady Fern











# Mammals

Often, signs of mammals are the only thing you'll be able to see because most mammals are shy or nocturnal. Things to look out for are:

## -Chewed Hazel nuts

*Eaten by : Wood mice, Dormice, Bank voles and grey squirrels.*

## -Droppings

*Left by: Deer, Badgers and fox.*

## -Footprints

*Left by: anything and everything.*

## -Mole hills

*Left by: Moles obviously.*

## -Nests and burrows

*Made by: Badgers, Rabbits, Birds and sometimes foxes.*

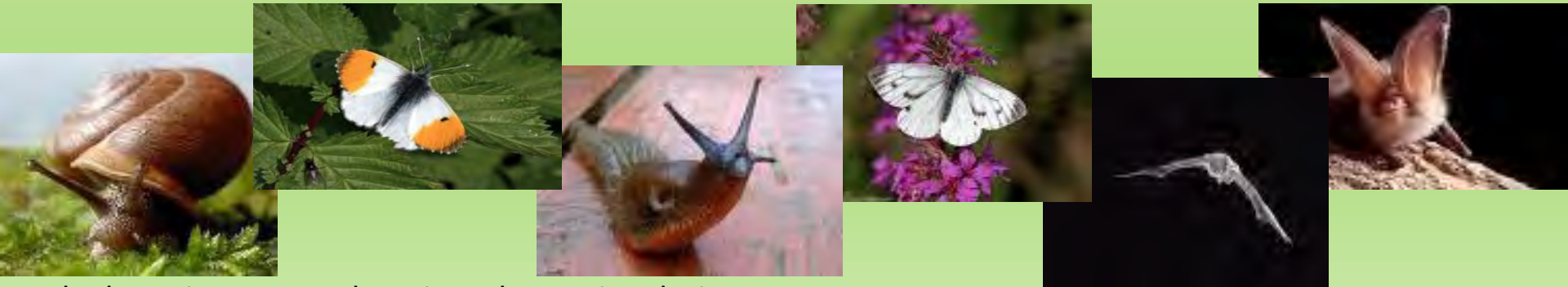
There are also some huge Badger setts in the wood under the large beech tree and along the southern boundary; watch out.





# Bats and Insects

- The most abundant creatures at Roundball Wood are insects.
- There are hundreds of mini-beasts to search too, summer and spring are the best searching times.
- Some of the butterfly species include: Meadow Brown, Green veined white, common blue & small skipper.
- Many moths also patrol the woodland including: large yellow under wing, jersey tiger & six spot burnet.



- The best time to see them is early evening during summer.
- Surveys have shown that at least 4 different species of bat use the Roundball Wood for foraging and possibly roosting. These species are: The Common Pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Brown Long-Eared and the Serotine bat.
- In the UK we have 16 species of bat, all of which occur in Devon.
- They use echolocation to navigate and hunt using ultrasonic calls which are impossible for humans to hear.





Roundball Wood  
is

-Beautiful

-Incredible  
&

-Outstanding

So why  
not  
have a  
look?





# Roundball Hill

As you continue your walk around the wood you come to Badger's Beech.

Further on you're greeted with a path to your left and a kissing gate on the right. The gate leads to Roundball Hill. Please go and have a look at the astounding views.

Climb to the summit of the hill and you discover fantastic views from all angles. You can see right over Honiton and across to the Blackdown Hills AONB.

Roundball Hill is geologically part of the Blackdown Hills plateau. It is not a round dome shaped hill as it's name suggests but it is in fact a long narrow ridge extending north.





The following slides  
contain  
pictures taken from  
Roundball Hill.

All photographs by:  
Hannah Jenkins







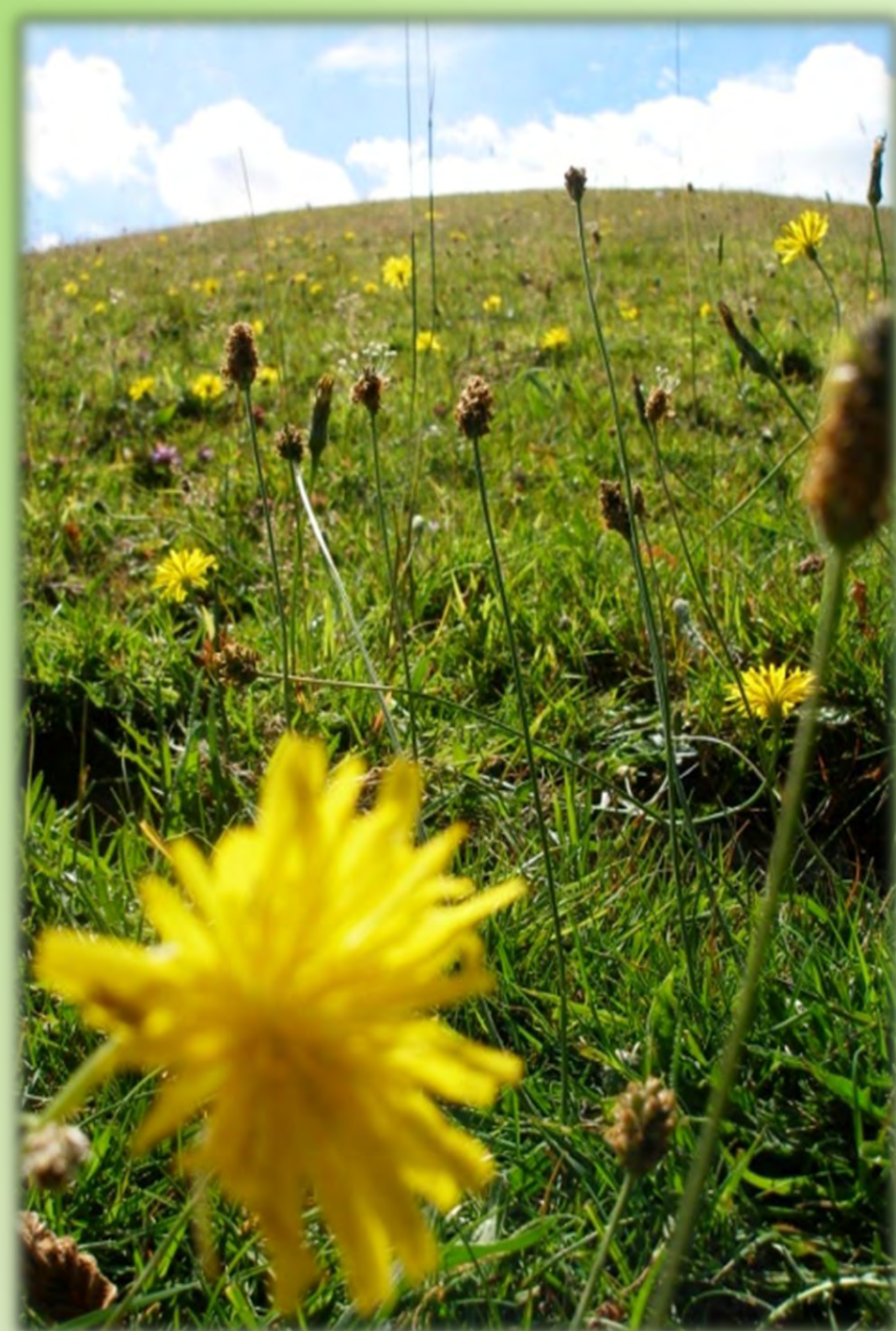


















If you then return to the wood you continue your journey through a maze of Badger houses and then a leafy footpath through a crowd of Ferns. This then leads you past the fallen birch tree and towards the field where you entered.



The following photographs are taken by Hannah Jenkins from around the wood.





















# Why?

Please don't leave litter around.

It's an eyesore, it's a danger to people and animals and it ruins the environment!

You are welcome to take a picnic and walk your dogs as long as you clear up after yourselves and keep dogs on leads.

The wood is not suitable for wheelchairs, buggies or anything similar. Also please keep to the marked paths to avoid injury or damage to the ecosystem and wildlife.

Roundball Wood is a fantastic place so lets keep it that way; together!





# Thank you

With thanks to:

-East Devon Area Of  
Outstanding Natural Beauty  
*For paying for the information boards*

-The Wood Wardens  
*For the upkeep of the wood and paths*

Hannah Jenkins (15) for  
producing this PowerPoint for...  
-Honiton Town Council







HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

PERMISSIVE PATH