

# Ham Street Woods spotter guide

## Great spotted woodpecker

Keep an eye out for this black and white bird as you walk around Ham Street woods. The male has a bright red patch on the back of its head. You may hear a drumming noise as it hammers into tree trunks announcing its presence. If you are lucky, you can see the great spotted woodpecker all year round.



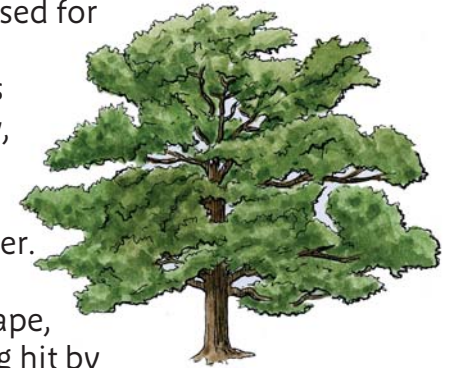
## Wild cherry tree

This tree has beautiful white blossom which appears around April/May. It's a popular tree with birds as they eat the sweet cherries. The timber is used in making furniture and in carving. In the past, this tree's sticky resin was used to help to cure coughs.



## Oak tree

The English oak is often the commonest tree in broadleaved woods. Oak is a hard timber and was particularly used for building ships hundreds of years ago. In mythology, the oak was often associated with the gods of thunder. As it is the tallest tree in the landscape, it is prone to being hit by lightning.



## Wild service tree

Look out for this tree with its white flowers in spring whilst in the autumn its leaves turn a bright burnt orange. Its timber has not traditionally been used much in the past. However, this tree's fruit is very sweet and past uses include making alcohol.



## Fungi



Look but don't touch! This toadstool is beautiful to look at but is poisonous. This is the fly agaric, a lovely red coloured toadstool with white flecks. Look out for this in the autumn.

Look carefully in dead tree stumps and you should see sulphur tuft. Its bright sulphur yellow caps can be seen in clumps mainly in the autumn months.

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## Great tit

Look out for this green and yellow bird with a black head and white cheeks. It is a woodland bird which you can see all year round. You should recognise its song as it calls 'teecha, teecha, teecha'. Look out for it feeding on seeds and nuts in the woodlands at Ham Street. You might also be able to see it in your garden.



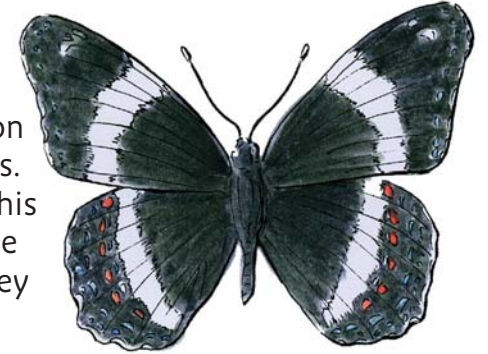
## Hornbeam

The hornbeam has dark green corrugated leaves in the spring which turn a vibrant orange in autumn. Horn means 'hard' and this tree's timber is very difficult to use. However, years ago it was used as fuel for smelting iron as it burns for a long time and gets very hot.



## White admiral butterfly

This is a woodland butterfly with white bands on its black wings. Look out for this butterfly in the summer as they dart about feeding on bramble flowers. It loves honeysuckle plants and it lays its eggs on them.



## Moth

Look carefully and you might spot a variety of moths here at Ham Street. The poplar hawk moth is one of the most common here. Its grey-brown wings help it to disguise itself amongst the trees. If you are very lucky, you might see a merveille du jour, one of our most beautiful moths. It is a stunning green colour.



## Aspen tree



Look throughout Ham Street and you will see beautiful aspen trees. Their leaves are round with jagged edges. When it is windy, look how the leaves ripple. The aspen's latin name is 'tremula' meaning to tremble, which is what these leaves do.