

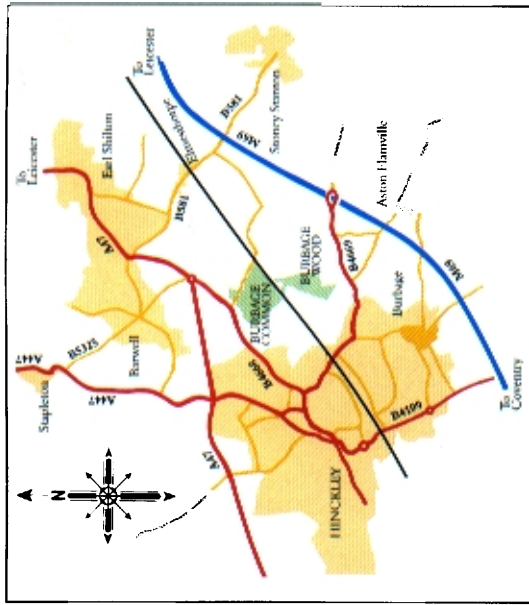
Burbage Common and Woods consist of 80 hectares (200 acres) of woodland, scrub and grassland and is the home of a wide variety of plants and animals. It provides excellent opportunities for a number of recreational activities including walking, horse riding and nature study.

Burbage Common once belonged to the manorial estate and was the poorer pasture on which the commoners grazed their livestock. The Common, along with the other grassland areas, is now managed as a hay meadow.

The woodlands are probably some of the only remaining fragments of Hinckley Forest, which dates back to medieval times, and they are still managed by the traditional method of coppicing with standards.



Coppicing involves felling trees and allowing shoots to regrow from the stumps. Traditionally, a different area of woodland was coppiced each winter to provide timber for fences, tools and furniture. This also allows more light to reach the woodland floor, which encourages wildflowers to flourish. Here, there are 14 areas in each wood which are cut in sequence. Approximately half of each wood is managed in this way, the rest having minimal management.



The Countryside Management Service

The Countryside Management Service is based at the Visitor Centre which is situated at the B4668 entrance to Burbage Common and Woods.

The staff organise guided walks and talks and occasionally conservation tasks. They are always pleased to help schools, other groups and individuals and welcome enquiries.

The Visitor Centre houses a display interpreting the site and a souvenir shop. Volunteers assist in running the Centre to which visitors are admitted free of charge.

For further information about Burbage Common and Woods please contact:

The Countryside Management Officer
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
Council Offices, Argents Mead
Hinckley LE10 1BZ
Telephone 01455 633712
Fax 01455 634906

Public transport

The nearest railway station is in Hinckley.
For information on bus services contact the Busline on 0116 251 1411



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council



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Explore Burbage Common & Woods

Picnic Areas

Horse Routes

Footpaths

Wildlife

Visitor Centre

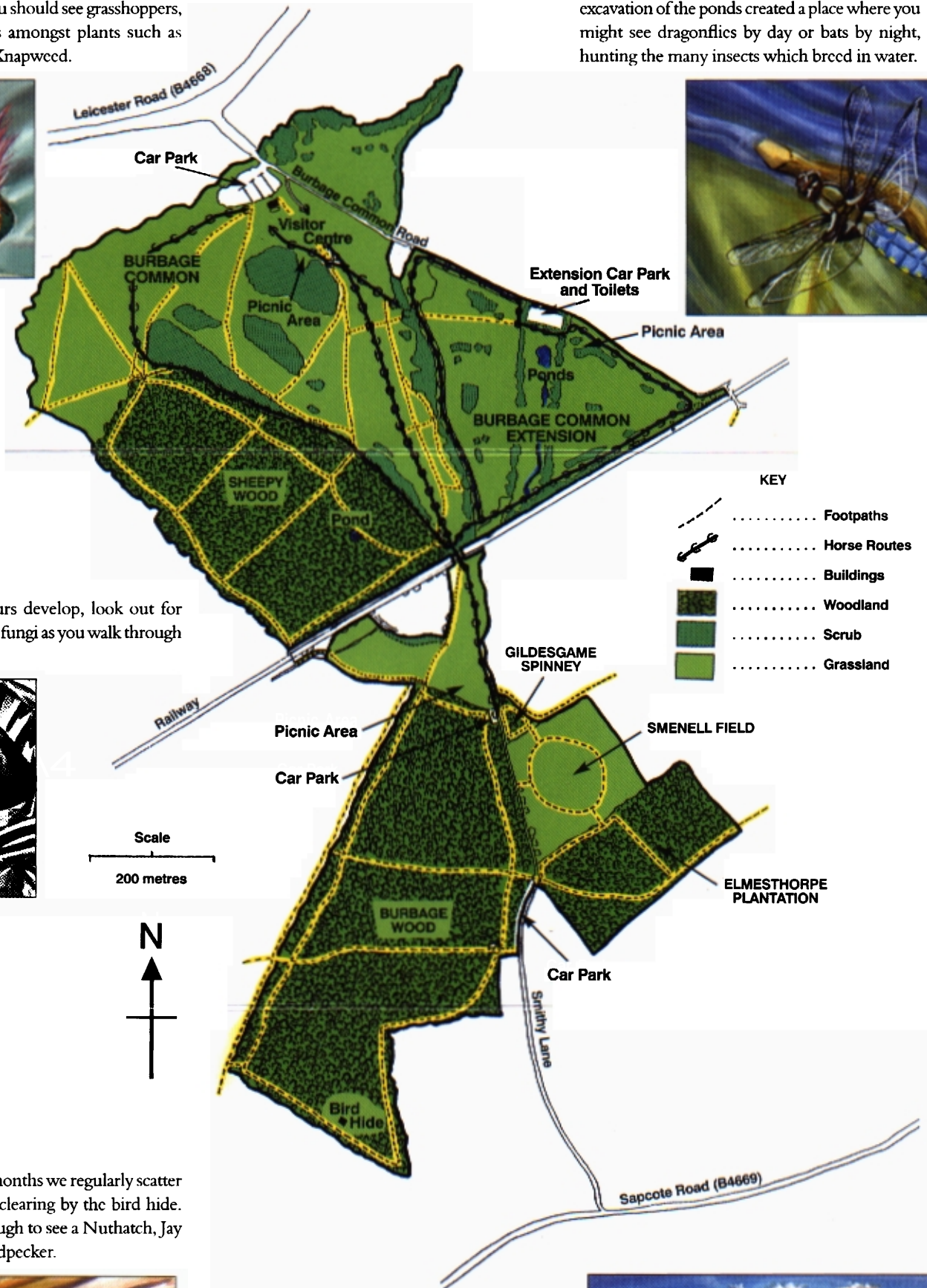
Bird Hide



During the Summer the sea of grass on the Common is the home of many uncommon flowers and insects. You should see grasshoppers, butterflies and moths amongst plants such as Lady's Bedstraw and Knapweed.



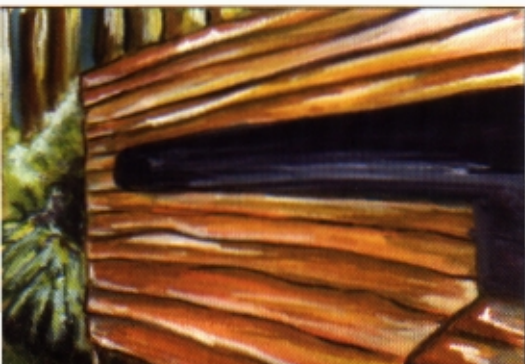
Burbage Common Extension was, until recently, agricultural land with little wildlife interest. The excavation of the ponds created a place where you might see dragonflies by day or bats by night, hunting the many insects which breed in water.



As the Autumn colours develop, look out for mushrooms and other fungi as you walk through the woods.



Through the Winter months we regularly scatter wild bird food in the clearing by the bird hide. You may be lucky enough to see a Nuthatch, Jay or Great Spotted Woodpecker.



In the Spring the woodlands are ablaze with wildflowers. See how many different types of flower you can find.

