Take a walk on the Nature Trail

Point 1

Point 1. Start by the Mansion sign and map. Walk through the hedge to the left of the Mansion House and take the path to the left. See if you can spot the evergreen Holm Oak and also the English Oak. On this path, just past the gardens, there is a gnarled Black Mulberry Tree and large stone squirrel statue.

A little further on you will discover a fallen Turkey Oak which was at least 230 years old when it fell in 2002.

Study the trees near here, and their leaves and buds. Can you notice the difference between the Oaks?

Continue up toward the woodland past more mature Oaks, a Tulip Tree and a variety of specimen conifer plantings.

A patch of Gorse is on your right just before you enter the ancient woodland. An information sign here indicates some things you might see in the Woodland. Listen out for the screech of the bright green feathered Ring Necked Parakeets, which are a common feature in the park.

The path eventually reaches a T- junction with a signpost, map and bench. You have now entered Summerhouse Hill Wood.

Summerhouse Hill Wood is dominated by Oak and has existed here continuously since at least 1600.

The woodland contains many plants which are more or less restricted to these ‘ancient woodlands’ such as Bluebell which forms a spectacular Spring display.

Point 2

To the right there is a Wild Service Tree about 10 metres into the woodland. You may notice recent woodland management in the woodland where Holly, Sycamore and Rhododendron have been removed to allow more light to reach the ground flora.

Point 3 and 4

Follow the path right, look for Point 3 and keep straight ahead.

Look at the tree trunks for woodpecker holes; you may hear woodpeckers drumming or calling, they drum more in the spring to mark their territory. Turn left at Point 4. In this short section, before you reach Point 5, on your right you will see a variety of ferns, the most common being the bracken fern. In May and June the drooping waxy white flowers of the lily Solomon’s Seal can sometimes be seen. The roots of Solomon’s Seal were used medically to heal bruises.

The tree canopy along this path is predominantly Sweet Chestnut, a species introduced to Britain by the Romans. The tree not only provides edible nuts but it is ideal for fencing as the wood has natural preservatives and is easily split into posts & chestnut paling. Squirrel drays can occasionally be found in the trees near here.

They look like a large untidy nest of twigs; if it is winter time see if you can spot any in the tree canopy.

Great Spotted Woodpecker

Great Spotted Woodpecker

The park contains many thousands of creatures and species了一会 effortless, and in the right season the park also contains many species of flowers, perhaps the most common being the Bright Green Feathered Ring Necked Parakeet.

Point 4: Community School and Education

The park also has many groups, including the Friends of Beckenham Place Park, organised regular events, guided walks and volunteer workdays. They run the Visitor Centre in the grounds of the Mansion that contains information and displays on the history and wildlife of the park.

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