

Oxhey Woods

Welcome to Oxhey Woods

Oxhey Woods Local Nature Reserve (LNR) offers one hundred hectares of woodland just waiting to be explored.

The LNR has a easy access circular walk of one km, which starts and ends at the car park. The trail has a firm surface and is suitable for young families with buggies, wheelchair users and those less mobile.

Natural sculptures found along the way depict the wildlife and history of the woods, and benches provide opportunities to stop and take in the peace and tranquillity.

For more energetic users the woods contain several longer trails, numerous footpaths to explore and an orienteering course.



Primrose



Oyster Fungus



Speckled Wood Butterfly



Bluebells

How to get to Oxhey Woods LNR



By Road:

There is a car park in the southern part of the woods at the junction of Prestwick Road and Oxhey Drive.

By Bus:

There are regular buses along Prestwick Road, Sandy Lane and Oxhey Drive. Contact Traveline on 0871 2002233 or www.intalink.org.uk

By Rail:

Oxhey Woods are a 15 minute walk from Carpenters Park Station. Turn left out of the station car park and take the next right onto Oxhey Drive. Continue up Oxhey Drive until you reach the woods.

Oxhey Woods LNR is owned and managed by Three Rivers District Council
Tel: 01923 776611 or www.threerivers.gov.uk

The Countryside Management Service works with communities across Hertfordshire to help them care for and enjoy the environment.
Tel: 01462 459 395 or www.hertslink.org/cms



A one hundred hectare woodland with an easy access sculpture trail



Local Nature Reserve

About Oxhey Woods

Oxhey Woods is the largest Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in Three Rivers District. The character of the woods is varied, created by centuries of management for a variety of woodland products. Today Prestwick Road and Oxhey Drive divide the woods into three separate areas.

The woods are an important Wildlife Site, notable for the unusual Wild Service Tree. Sometimes known as the 'Chequers Tree' because of its distinctively patterned bark, the leaves and berries form the LNR logo.

Some parts of the LNR are ancient woodland, having been continuously wooded for at least four hundred years, and possibly up to ten thousand years. Features such as sunken pathways, earth banks and ditches can be seen. In the past these earth works often marked boundaries between different land uses and ownership.



- Key**
- South Oxhey Circular Walk
 - London Outer Orbital Path (LOOP)
 - Long Walk 4km
 - Multi-user Trail 1km
 - Short Walk 3km
 - Stream
 - Pedestrian Entrance
 - Bus Stop
 - Interpretation Panel location
 - Approximately 100m



Wren

In the southern woodland the older trees are widely spaced with spreading branches, indicating that the woods were once more open. Plants such as Heather, Wavy-hair grass and Gorse can be found in sunny heathland glades. In the past grazing by cows and sheep stopped the glades from becoming overgrown. Today they are kept open by periodically cutting down encroaching trees.

Rhododendron was introduced to Britain in the eighteenth century. It thrives on our moist, fertile, woodland soils, though its evergreen leaves cast a deep shade, smothering native woodland flowers. To help prevent damage to the woodland the spread of Rhododendron is controlled.



Red Campion