



# Wildspace!

News from Parndon Wood Nature Reserve

e-news



## Picture of the Month



**Privet Hawk Moth**

Our largest resident hawk-moth, which is distributed in the southern half of Britain, and has distinctive pink and black barring on the body. This one flew into the office through an open window.

It frequents woodland and suburban habitats, and flies in June and July.

The large caterpillar is even more spectacular than the moth, being bright green with lilac and white stripes along the side, and a curved black 'horn' at the rear. It feeds on privet (*Ligustrum*), lilac (*Syringa*) and ash (*Fraxinus*).

Welcome to the First edition of Wildspace E-News, the monthly newsletter that keeps you in touch with all the activities and news from across Harlow's Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites.

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It's an incredibly strong flyer, and will happily fly into windows at 30mph - their brain capacity is incredibly small.



### Privet Hawk Moth Caterpillar

If you have any wildlife pictures from around Harlow you would like to share please email them to:

[glenn.mulleady@harlow.gov.uk](mailto:glenn.mulleady@harlow.gov.uk)

## Bee Orchids

Its that time of year again! Bee Orchids are in flower across Harlow's roadside verges with particularly good populations being recorded in the Pinnacles Industrial Estate (North-West Harlow), including the less common white variety.

The Bee Orchid is named after the lower petal, which resembles a bee. The idea behind this is that another bee will be attracted to this petal and try to mate with it, and at the same time will serve to pollinate the flower and ensure its survival. The reality is that the Bee Orchid largely uses a method of self-pollination rather than relying on insects, but it still makes for a very impressive flower!



### Pink Bee Orchid

If you see Bee Orchids growing in your area please do not hesitate to contact me so we can put them on our ever expanding database.





## Harlow Tree Hunt

This July Harlow will be working with The Woodland Trust on a treetastic project to search out all the magnificent ancient trees that Harlow contains. We all know where there are giant oaks over 300 years old that we used to picnic under as kids but this project will aim at having them recorded and mapped forever.

Over the coming months we shall be arranging workshops on how to identify veteran and ancient trees followed by many guided walks around the town hunting out these valuable trees.

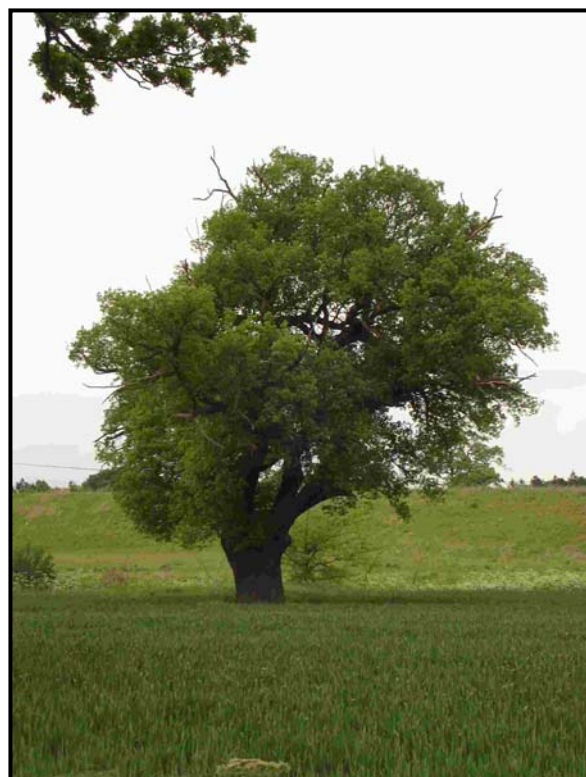
More information will be available shortly through [www.harlow.gov.uk](http://www.harlow.gov.uk) but in the meantime log onto:

- [www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk](http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk) for information about the Woodland Trusts nationwide tree search

If you have a huge veteran tree near you why not take a picture and email it to us and a selection of the best will go in each months newsletter.



**Huge London Plane in the Passmores House garden**



**Magnificent old Oak at Newhall**



## Acorn Group

Parndon Wood continues to host the Acorn Group, which is an activity group for young people aged 12 to 17. The Group meets on the second Saturday of every month. Activities last from 9am to 12noon and are based around learning about the wood and getting involved in practical work to help protect and enhance it.

The next meeting of the Acorn Group is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## Useful Links

[www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk](http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk) to see details of the nationwide search for veteran trees.

[www.uksafari.com](http://www.uksafari.com) information on UK wildlife and identification charts.

[www.woodland-trust.org.uk/britishtrees](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/britishtrees) for information on British tree species and how to identify them.

[www.favouritetrees.com](http://www.favouritetrees.com) for information on The Epping Forest District search for veteran trees

## Contact Us

If you would like to find out more, book a place on any of our events or have ideas and suggestions for our wildlife sites please contact us at:

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve  
Parndon Wood Road  
Harlow, Essex  
CM19 4SF

Telephone: (01279) 430005

Email Biodiversity Officer :  
[glenn.mulleady@harlow.gov.uk](mailto:glenn.mulleady@harlow.gov.uk)

Website: [www.harlow.gov.uk/wildlife](http://www.harlow.gov.uk/wildlife)

## Opening Times

Parndon Wood summer opening hours are as follows from 1<sup>st</sup> April

Saturdays 9.00am – 6.00pm

Sundays 9.00am – 6.00pm

Tuesdays 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Bank Holidays 9.00am – 6.00pm

Other times can be arranged by appointment for community groups and school visits.



## Wildspace! Events Summer 2007

Events in and around Harlow's Wildspaces

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July, Maymeads Marsh LNR Walk**

A leisurely walk along the River Stort taking in the sights and sounds of the summer. Meet 10am at the Moorhen Pub car park off Burnt Mill Lane. The walk should last approximately 2 hours. Call Parndon Wood 01279 430005 for details.

### **Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July, Harlow Tree Hunt Workshop**

In partnership with the Woodland Trust and Epping Forest Countrycare we shall be launching our own Veteran tree search for the Harlow District. Meet at Parndon Wood 7-9pm. Call 01279 430005 for details and booking as spaces limited.

### **Sat 18th August, Harlow Tree Hunt Guided Walk**

An introductory walk around Harlow Woods in search of veteran trees. Meet at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre 10am. Walk should last approximately 2 hours.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August, Harlow Tree Hunt Guided Walk**

A guided walk in search of veteran trees. Site to be confirmed Call 01279 430005 for details. Walk should last approximately 2 hours.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Harlow Town Show**

A day of summer fun in the Town Park with a fairground, food tent, arts and crafts activities and live music from 12 –6. See [www.harlow.gov.uk](http://www.harlow.gov.uk) for further details.

### **Sat 15<sup>th</sup> September Walk in the Woods**

A leisurely walk around Hospital and Ridsen's Woods to discuss past and future management for the woods. Meet at Parndon Wood Conservation Centre 10am. Walk should last approximately 2 hours. Call 01279 430005 for details and booking as spaces limited.

### **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September Harlow Tree Hunt Review**

After a summer of discovering veteran trees lets sit back and look at a selection of the summers finds. Meet at 7pm at Parndon Wood Conseravtion Centre.

Check <http://www.harlow.gov.uk> for event updates