

As well as the glorious show of Bluebells, you will see blooms of Wood Anemone, Yellow Archangel, Moschatel, Pink Campion, Dog's Mercury and many clumps of Primroses.



Wood Anemone



Yellow Archangel



Dog's Mercury

Next to the stream on the Fordham end of the wood, is a big colony of **Ramsons (Wild Garlic)** which is now coming into a profusion of white blossom. You will smell the onion aroma even before you get to the plants!

As you leave the wood by the main entrance look back to the east for the tall **Wych Elm** trees, which now have greenish-yellow leaf bracts. These are vital for the survival of the



special **White-Letter Hairstreak Butterfly**, the caterpillars of which feed on elm leaves.

**The Friends of Hillhouse Wood hope you have had a great time.**

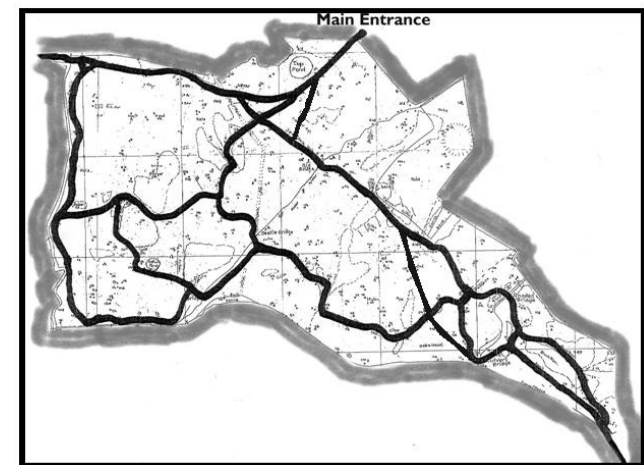
For further information please visit our webpage  
[http://www.westbergholt.net/hillhouse\\_wood.htm](http://www.westbergholt.net/hillhouse_wood.htm)

## The Friends of Hillhouse Wood

in association with



**Welcome to Springtime in Hillhouse Wood**



Here are some sights and sounds to look and listen for as you walk around the wood

As you enter the wood, have a look at the Woodland Trust's excellent illustrated notice board, which will tell you of many of the most interesting natural features of the wood.

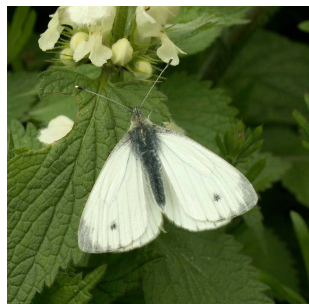
The pond, to the right of the main entrance path, has recently been partially cleared of invasive reed mace and tree growth but still has several interesting plants along its margins.

If you walk to the right of the path and go to the margin of the pond, you will see some of the purple-pink flower spikes of the **Early Purple Orchids**.



Management work in the wood has enabled these spring beauties to flourish in a number of places. Also look for the dainty lilac-pink blooms of **Lady's Smock** (or **Cuckoo Flower**) which is the caterpillar food plant of the **Orange-Tip Butterfly**. If you are lucky, and the sun shines, you may see a male orange-tip, which, as its name indicates, has bright orange tips to its forewings.

You may also see other butterflies including the **Speckled Wood**, **Comma**, **Peacock**, **Small Tortoiseshell** and **Green Veined White**.



Back from winter in Africa are both **Chiffchaffs** (with their double notes) and **Blackcaps**.

As you walk round, listen for the songs of birds.



**Nightingales** are returning as well and you may hear their vibrant notes in the wood. They sing by day as well as at night.



You are likely to hear the songs of **Robins**, **Wrens**, **Dunnocks** (see left), **Great Tits**, **Song Thrushes** and **Blackbirds**.

At this time of year too, you will hear the laughing "yaffle" calls of **Green Woodpeckers** and the drumming on dead branches of **Great Spotted Woodpeckers**.

