# Enjoying our nature reserves

To enjoy your visit please...

Respect wildlife. Keep dogs under strict control. Bring your binoculars and wear suitable clothing for watching wildlife. Take your litter away with you.

Keep to the footpaths.



## **Protecting Gobions Wood**

Less than 8% of Hertfordshire is woodland - due to clearance for industry, agriculture and development. This vital habitat is looked after by Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, but coppicing trees and restoring hedgerows and ponds all take time and money.

## How you can help us

We need your support to continue to protect local wildlife.

Why not:

- Join as a member the majority of our income comes from our membership. We need you!
- Volunteer work parties take place in winter months; please contact us if you would like to help.
- **Fundraise** get your workplace or school involved and have fun raising money at the same time.

#### Visit our website to find out more www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk

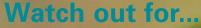
Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust Grebe House, St Michael's Street, St Albans, AL3 4SN 01727 858901 • info@hmwt.org Registered in England: 816710 Registered Charity: 239863



uced by Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Site map by Consort Design. Location map base tion Maps Ltd PU10002016/(0800) 731 4094. Photos by Ben Andrever grasshopper, Emma Bradshav child in bluebell wood Tim Hill won none, Robert Johnson/haturegl.com: brown hawker dragonfly. Andrew Masor: bluebells; Philip Precey. marbled white; Jitka Unverdobe Aytoria.com: wood anemone (front cover). Design by Wildsat (wildsat1@mtword.com). ref. 080



# Gobions Wood Nature Reserve



Wood anemones and bluebells Towering giant sequoia trees Fungi in autumn

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

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#### Welcome to Gobions Wood Nature Reserve

Explore Gobions Wood and discover what makes this reserve so special.

Gobions Wood is a fascinating reserve, with an unusual history as part of a landscaped "Pleasure Garden". The reserve is primarily ancient woodland but includes ponds, hedges and grassland areas.

Highlights include stunning carpets of bluebells and wood anemones in spring and a wealth of fungi in autumn, with over 550 species being found here. The surrounding grasslands are full of wildflowers and invertebrates in the summer months.



#### Getting around

Size: 30.6ha (90.4 acres). Trails: Two waymarked trails around the wood Bluebell Trail: 1 mile. No steps or bridges. Woodland Trail: 1.5 miles. Surfaces: Unsurfaced path, uneven in places. Muddy in winter. **Ponds** are great habitats for amphibians and invertebrates. Keep an eye out for frogs and toads in spring, and dragonflies such as broad bodied chasers and brown hawkers in summer.

**Discover** which wildlife to look out for in the wood, whatever the season.

Visit the two **giant sequoia trees**, standing like sentries on either side of the path.

Moffats Lane

Open Space

The **canal** is one of the most visible remaining features of the old landscaped garden. Wood anemones put on a beautiful display here in spring.



**5** Spectacular **carpets of bluebells** cover this area in spring. The twisty shapes of hornbeam trees are visible all year round.

**Learn** more about the history of the wood as a famous landscaped garden and get a great view of the folly arch.

B The **meadow** teems with the sound of crickets and grasshoppers in summer. It's also a great place to spot butterflies, including marbled whites, meadow browns and skippers.

- Bluebrida

Scrub is a

habitat for birds.

It provides them

with a safe place

of insects and

berries to eat.

to nest and plenty

really important



Keep an eye out for the **towering elm trees** with very straight trunks and deeply grooved bark. These are unusual as most mature elms were wiped out by Dutch elm disease in the 1970s.



500 metre