

The White Rose Forest



Honley Woods Circular Walk

The White Rose Forest is a partnership made up of the five local authorities of West Yorkshire and other key public and voluntary organisations. Its aim is to improve and care for the environment of West Yorkshire for the benefit of its people, economy and wildlife.

This picture booklet aims to awaken an interest in this attractive woodland and to help people discover its secrets.

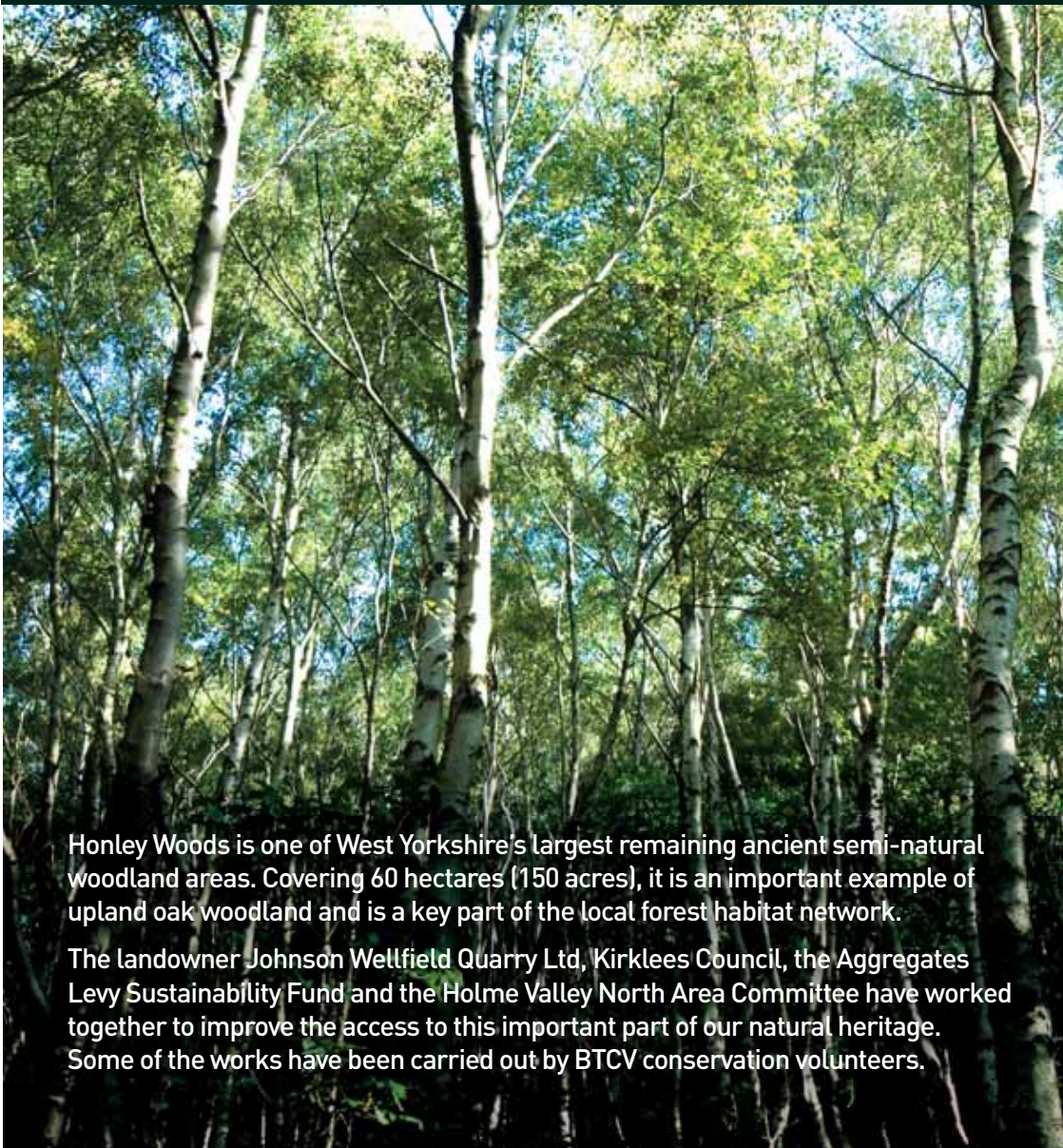


For information about the White Rose Forest partnership please ring 01484 234079



Honley Woods

Quarrying in the Woods

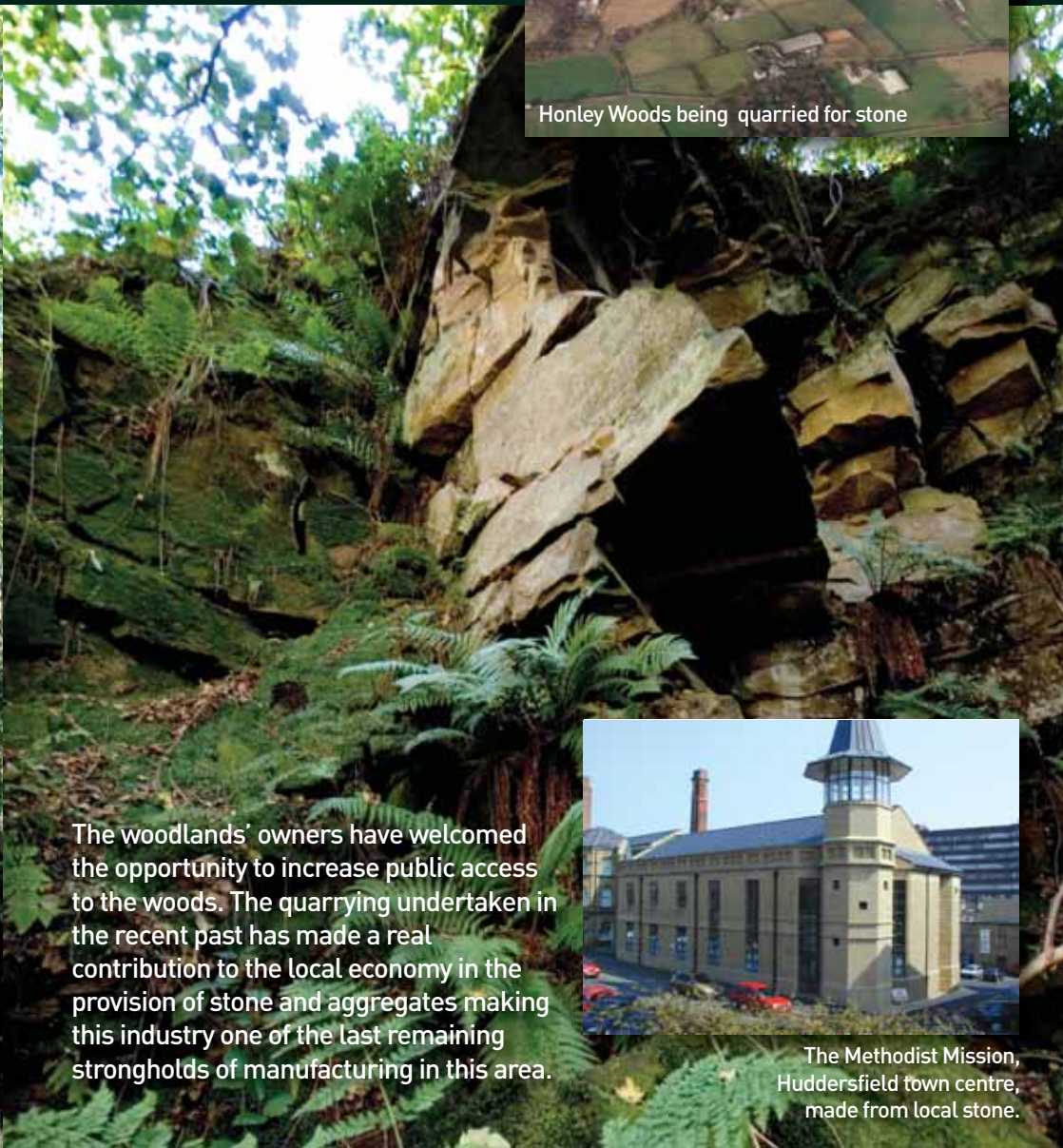


Honley Woods is one of West Yorkshire's largest remaining ancient semi-natural woodland areas. Covering 60 hectares (150 acres), it is an important example of upland oak woodland and is a key part of the local forest habitat network.

The landowner Johnson Wellfield Quarry Ltd, Kirklees Council, the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund and the Holme Valley North Area Committee have worked together to improve the access to this important part of our natural heritage. Some of the works have been carried out by BTCV conservation volunteers.



Honley Woods being quarried for stone



The woodlands' owners have welcomed the opportunity to increase public access to the woods. The quarrying undertaken in the recent past has made a real contribution to the local economy in the provision of stone and aggregates making this industry one of the last remaining strongholds of manufacturing in this area.



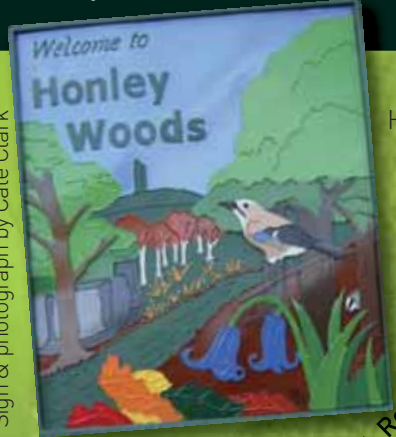
The Methodist Mission, Huddersfield town centre, made from local stone.

This guide gives information for a newly waymarked circular walk and how to find out more about the woodland and its features.



Walking in the Woods

Kirklees Council aims to widen participation and access to the countryside as part of its ambition to make Kirklees a beacon for green living.



Sign & photograph by Cate Clark

Buses to Huddersfield Nos. 324 & 321

Folly Dolly Falls

Meltham Mills

Windy Bank Wood

Hall Heys Wood

Wood Bottom Farm

Meadow & ponds

Slate Pits Wood

Open ground

Open ground

Westfield Farm

OS Grid reference SE11701 11047

Honley Woods

Honley Woods

Honey Head Wood

Circular walk waymarker



Clitheroe Wood

Honley 15 minutes walk P

Bridleways only No cars

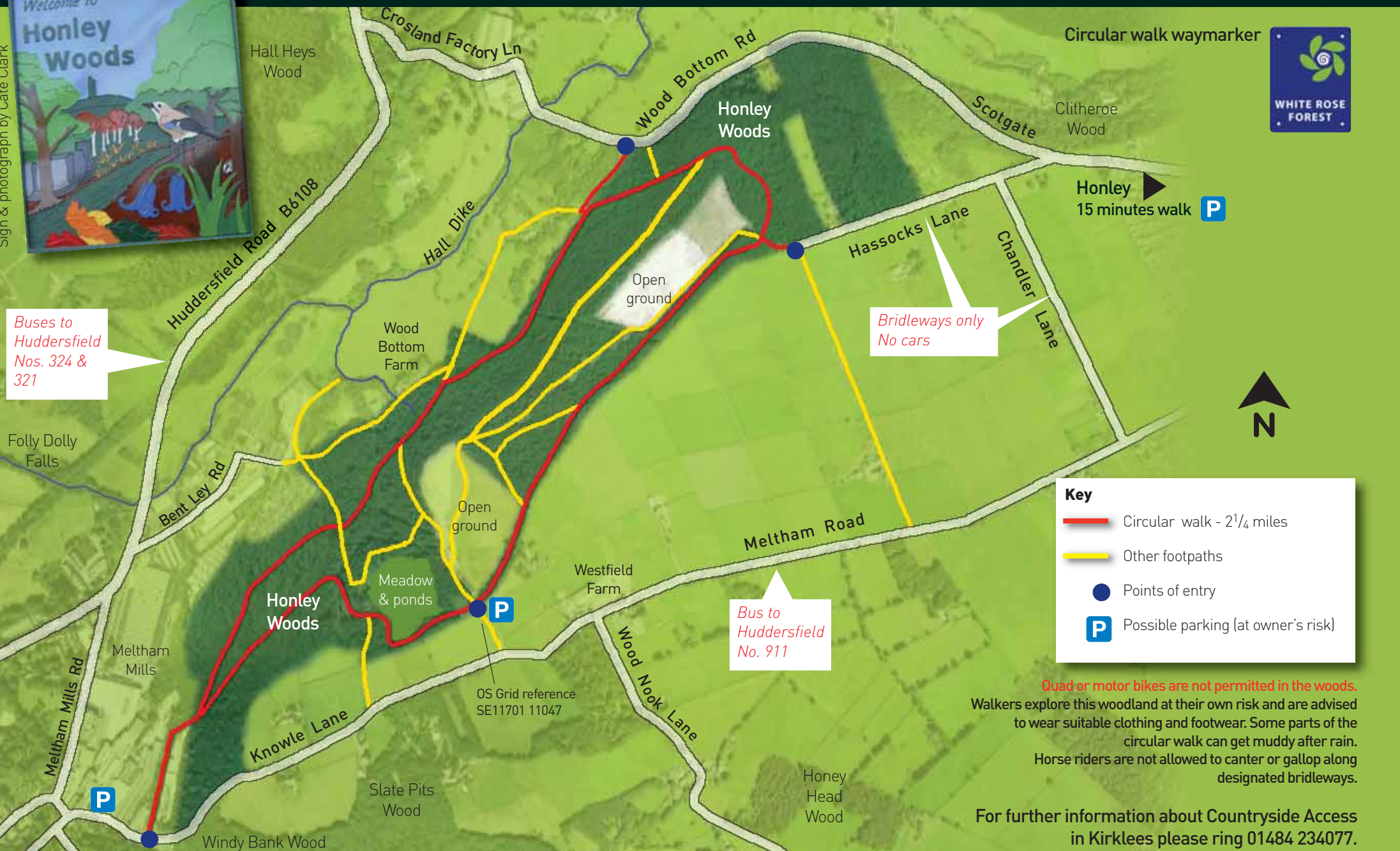


Key

- Circular walk - 2¼ miles
- Other footpaths
- Points of entry
- P** Possible parking (at owner's risk)

Quad or motor bikes are not permitted in the woods. Walkers explore this woodland at their own risk and are advised to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Some parts of the circular walk can get muddy after rain. Horse riders are not allowed to canter or gallop along designated bridleways.

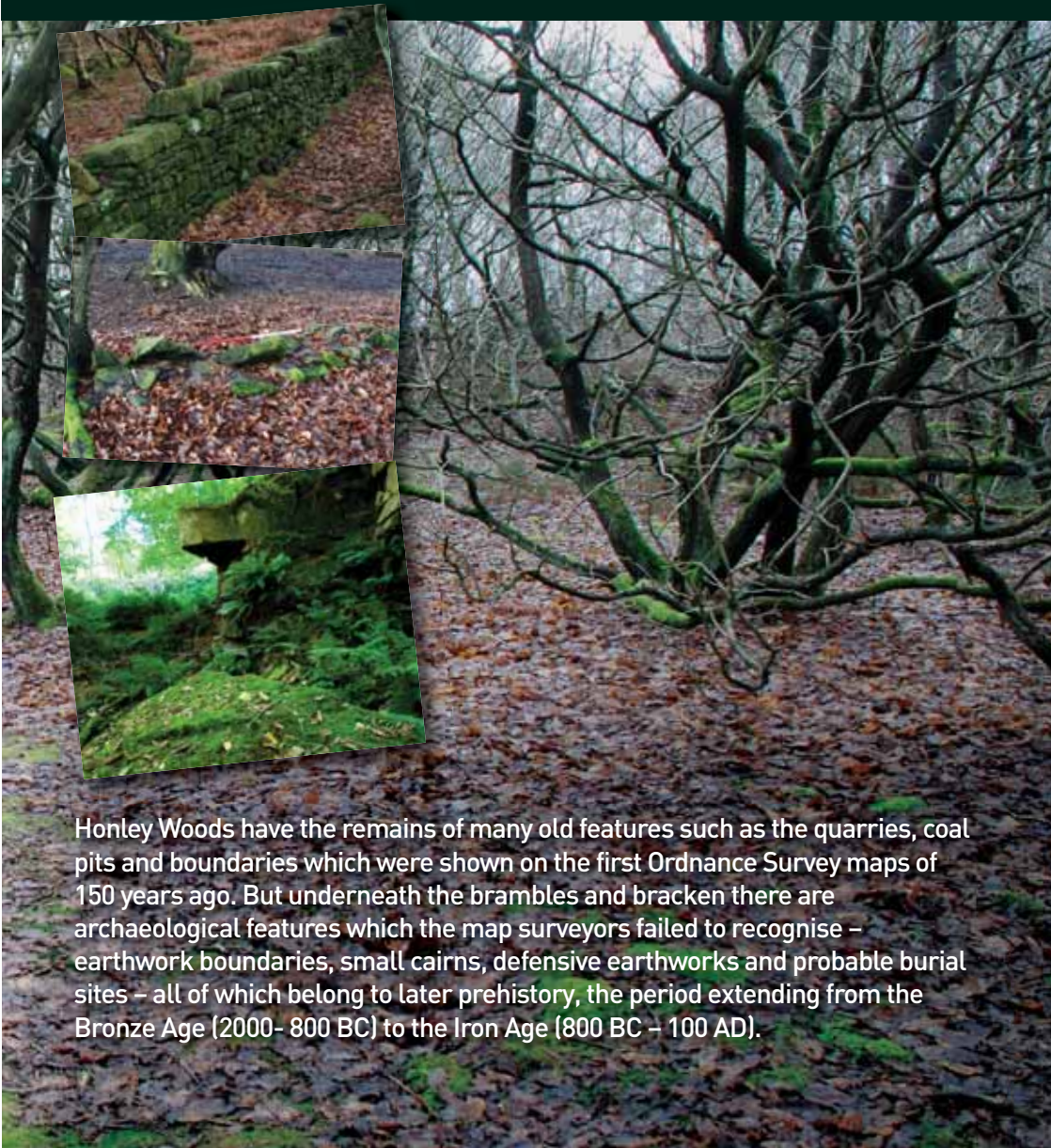
For further information about Countryside Access in Kirklees please ring 01484 234077.



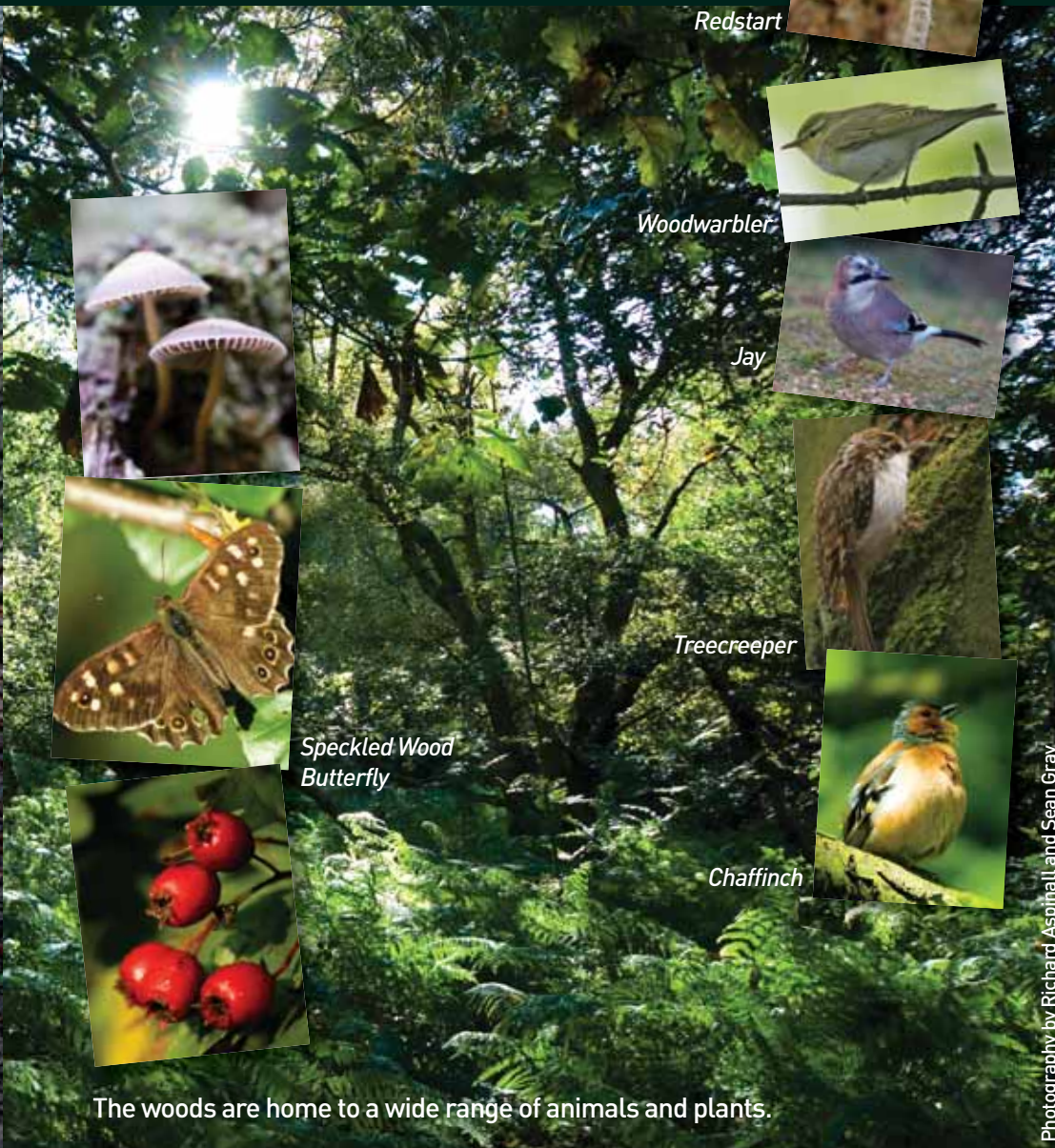
Honley Woods - history and archaeology

If you would like to find out more about the woods' archaeology please contact the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service on 01924 306801.

The woods, animals and plants



Honley Woods have the remains of many old features such as the quarries, coal pits and boundaries which were shown on the first Ordnance Survey maps of 150 years ago. But underneath the brambles and bracken there are archaeological features which the map surveyors failed to recognise – earthwork boundaries, small cairns, defensive earthworks and probable burial sites – all of which belong to later prehistory, the period extending from the Bronze Age (2000- 800 BC) to the Iron Age (800 BC – 100 AD).



Redstart



Woodwarbler



Jay



Treecreeper



Speckled Wood Butterfly



Chaffinch



The woods are home to a wide range of animals and plants.

If you would like further information about Honley Woods please ring Kirklees Countryside Unit on 01484 234076.

Photography by Richard Aspinall and Sean Gray