

The Rutherglen Library - Overtoun Park Biodiversity Trail!



11 October- 12 November 2021

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (**COP 26**) in Glasgow on 31 October – 12 November 2021.

Biodiversity can be understood as Biological Variety in species of plants, animals, fungi (mushrooms), microbes and cells living together in a region. An **ecosystem** is a collection of living components (species) and nonliving components (climate and chemicals) that are connected.

You will need a pencil or pen to write your answers. Please refer to the Trail map overleaf to plan your route. You may wish to do the whole trail in one walk, or complete it in separate walks. Hand entries in to Rutherglen Library by **12 Nov**. All entries will be entered into a **Prize Draw** for **10 winners' prizes** of:

Bee Hotels, Nature Books, RSPB Bird Toys, Nature Wallcharts!

The Trail...



1. Exit Rutherglen Library, turn left and walk along Main Street. Can you count how many trees there are on the Library side of Main Street between the library and the junction at Boots corner?

Write the number here: _____

Can you name what type of tree they are? _____

Trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release oxygen, providing for a cleaner, healthier climate. By sustaining and planting trees, we can help clean the air and fight climate change!

Woodburn Park

2. Walk up **Stonelaw Road**, past the Bowling Green until you come to Woodburn Park. This park full of trees used to be part of the estate run by Woodburn House. From 1957- 2013 it was used as a horticultural college run by Langside College. In winter lots of Rutherglen kids enjoy sledding down the steep banks here.

Use your map to find two matching trees, the 2nd and 3rd trees on the right of the main path. Both are of the same evergreen species and full of berries. Notice that one has prickly shaped leaves while the other has mainly smooth leaves. A new study suggests leaf variations on a single tree are the combined result of animals browsing on them and the tree's response to protect itself.

Name this festive winter tree: _____

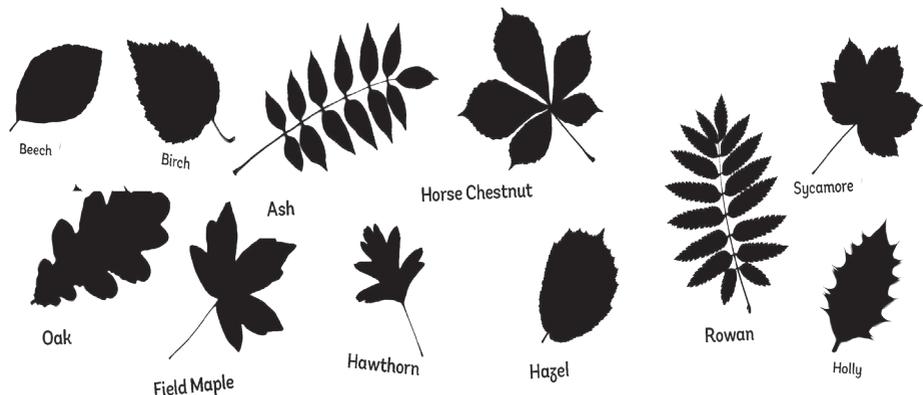
3. Follow the main path through the park, use your map to find the last large tree to the right of the gate tree. Which one of these majestic trees is it? (circle)

A. Beech B. Oak C. Rowan

Stonelaw Woods

4. Exit Woodburn park at the Buchanan Drive gate and turn right. Carefully cross Stonelaw Road and walk up the hill to the left to find Stonelaw Woods. This park used to be part of the much bigger estate of Stonelaw Towers, owned by General John Spens from 1793. He ran Stonelaw Coal Mine and also planted a Biodiverse range of different tree species. Use the **Tree identifier** below and name three species of tree here in Stonelaw Woods today:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____



Consulting your map exit Stonelaw Woods and walk back down Stonelaw Road, turning left along **Rodger Drive** until you get to the **Overtoun Park Gates**.

Overtoun Park

5. From the Rodger Drive Park gates walk in a straight line down the main path until you almost reach the other Park gate at Overtoun Drive. Turn left and Locate the Biodiversity Area run by **GROW73**.

These plants are here to encourage types of minibeast, bugs and wild flowers.

Bees are vital to pollinate vegetables and crops to grow the food we eat.

How many Bee hotels can you count here?



grow73.org



Grow73 is a Rutherglen based organisation who have created a Community garden, Biodiversity Area and run events in and around Overtoun Park to help people support sustainable living and Biodiversity. They are working on The Bee Line Project to grow a Biodiverse green corridor in areas across Rutherglen. Please see the excellent grow73.org website for much more information on their work.

6. Bird Species are vital for plants to thrive and birds carry these plant seeds over a wide area. Name three types of bird you can spot today in Overtoun Park?

1. ----- 2. ----- 3. -----

Keep your eyes peeled for more Nature & Environment Events at Rutherglen Library during November!

Please write your name & contact details, hand this entry form back into Rutherglen Library by **12 November 2021**. Winners will be notified by **Friday 19 November**.

Name:

Email/ telephone:



1

Library



Main Street

Stonelaw Road

Johnstone Drive

5

Overtoun Park

6

Rodger Drive

2

Stonelaw Road

Woodburn Park

3

4

Stonelaw Woods

Trail Map