

**MURDISHAW
WHO LIVES IN A
HOUSE LIKE
THIS?**

WOODLAND TREASURE TRAIL



THIS TREASURE TRAIL is one of 5 in 5 different woods in Runcorn – Windmill Hill, Railway Plantation, The Gorse, Murdishaw and Haddocks. Each Treasure Trail can be completed on its own or can be done as a series which will lead you to a 6th Treasure Trail in Fountains Wood. Along the way you will discover lots about the woods and the wildlife that lives in them! So turn off the TV, Xbox, Wii, washing machine, vacuum cleaner and go outdoors into the woods.

WOOD 4: MURDISHAW / WHO LIVES IN A HOUSE LIKE THIS?

Our woodlands are home to a rich variety of animals and creatures. But what are their homes actually like? On this trail you will find out!

On this Trail you must find nine 'wooden' doors that have been attached to trees throughout the wood. Look carefully up, down and around—they are not always easy to find! When you find a door you will see a number on it with a letter underneath. The number will relate to an animal in the pictures below. What you need to do is find the description below that best describes where that animal lives. When you have worked it out, write the letter from the tree in the numbered box alongside the description and in the same numbered box in the solution grid to the right. Good luck!

		
		
		

MURDISHAW WOOD

Getting there

From the roundabout at the end of the A533 Expressway follow Murdishaw Avenue to the roundabout. Go straight over and park in the bays near the entrances to either Compass Close or Rose Close. SATNAV WA7 6DL. Bus routes: 14, 110, 200, 66

The Trail Start

Cross the main road carefully and go down the path opposite the telephone box at the end of Rose Close. Go down the wooden steps. You do not need to go down the path halfway down the steps, onto the playing fields or down the steps near the motorway to find the doors.

MURDISHAW WOOD is designated ancient semi-natural woodland containing oak, sycamore, ash with occasional alder. Its under storey is of group plantings of beech, ash, wild cherry, and rowan. Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. The name Murdishaw allegedly comes from mis-pronouncing 'Mottishall' or spokesman's wood, a suitable place for local assemblies.

ABOUT THE WOODLAND TRUST

Trees and forests are crucial to life on our planet. They stabilise the soil, generate oxygen, store carbon, play host to a spectacular variety of wildlife, and provide us with raw materials and shelter. They offer us respite, inspire our imagination, creativity and culture, and refresh our souls. A world without trees and forests would be barren, impoverished and intolerable.

The Woodland Trust is the UK's leading woodland conservation charity dedicated to enable the creation of more native woods and places rich in trees, to protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future and to inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees.

We own more than 1,000 sites covering around 20,000 hectares (50,000 acres) of woodland and countryside, including 71 sites in Cheshire and Merseyside, 46 of which are within urban and on the urban fringe.



WOODLAND TRUST

CLUES

In the woods I will build a nest wherever I can find warmth and shelter, in hedgerows and underground. I sometimes come indoors where I might live behind a hole in your skirting-board!

I can live on both land and in water. I lay my eggs in ponds in the spring.

I live in a nest in a hedge or small tree. You will see me a lot at Christmas on your cards and wrapping paper but I live in the woods all year round.

My house is made of twigs, grass, mud and feathers that I gather from around the woods. I build it in the trees so that it is away from predators. You don't need to knock on the door of my house, but I do!

My house is called a drey which is a nest built in the trees. However I do not fly.

My house is underground and is called a burrow. It has a hole as an entrance and is joined to other burrows by tunnels to make a warren. We make them big enough so that we don't bump our long ears!

I live in the roofs of buildings such as a barn or a church tower or wherever I can find that is dark. I fly at night and I sleep hanging upside down during the day.

I live in the soil where I wriggle around. I try to avoid birds who pull me from the ground!

I live in a maze of underground tunnels called a sett. I sleep in the tunnels during the day and come out at night to dig around for insects with my black and white snout.

THE SOLUTION GRID

Well done! You should now have found all the letters and written them in the relevant numbered squares to the right. This wood's code word will be revealed by reading the even numbered squares at the corner of the grid.

If you find a clue that has been damaged or removed please email wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk or phone and leave a message on 08452 935 822.

If you've missed any of the previous weeks' Trails, don't worry, you can still complete them by downloading them from www.treasuretrails.co.uk/goldenleaf.html.

4	6	8
1	7	3
5	9	2



This Trail has been written & designed by Treasure Trails Ltd. www.treasuretrails.co.uk

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The Woodland Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales (No. 294344) and in Scotland (No. SC038885).
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