



Bluebell

Jervis Lum is a wooded valley on the eastern side of Norfolk Heritage Park and is one of the best areas in the park in which to look for wildlife. 'The Lum' as it is known locally, is classified as ancient woodland. This is woodland which has been in existence for more than 400 years which makes it older than the park itself. Ancient woodlands are one of the richest habitats we have and support an amazing array of animals and plants.

Some plants only grow in ancient woodlands and these are known as 'ancient woodland indicator species'. This means that even where we do not know for certain the age of a woodland, the presence of certain plants tells us that it is an ancient one. Jervis Lum has many of these species which include wood anemone, yellow archangel, wood sorrel, bluebell and wood melick. All of these plants come into flower in **spring** so the best months to see them are April and May.



Wood Anemone

In the **summer**, the woodland in the Lum provides a sheltered area which is good for butterflies. The most common of these is the speckled wood and pairs of these can often be seen performing their aerial 'dance'. Other species regularly seen include brimstone, comma and small tortoiseshell. Pick a warm sunny day and go and see which ones you can spot.



Comma



Autumn brings out all the amazing leaf colours from the many different trees to be found in the Lum. These include oak, beech, sweet chestnut, wych elm and hawthorn, each offering their own variations of orange and yellow. This is also a good time of the year to hunt for fungi and the woodland supports a great variety of these. Some of them such as velvet shank have the classic toadstool shape. Others such as ear fungus which grows on decaying wood do not really look like fungi at all! The fruiting body of honey fungus looks like a toadstool, however you may also see the bootlace-like threads which are the main part of the fungus.



Ear fungus

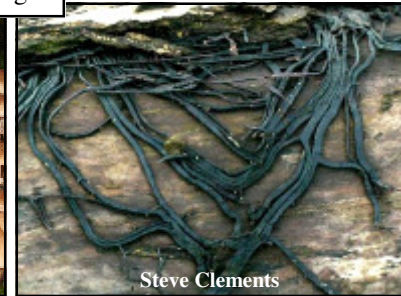
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Velvet shank



Honey fungus



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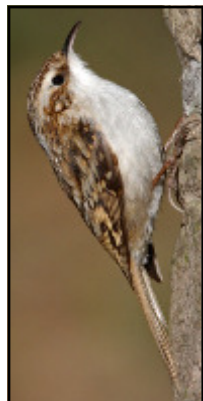
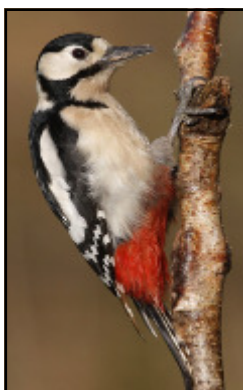
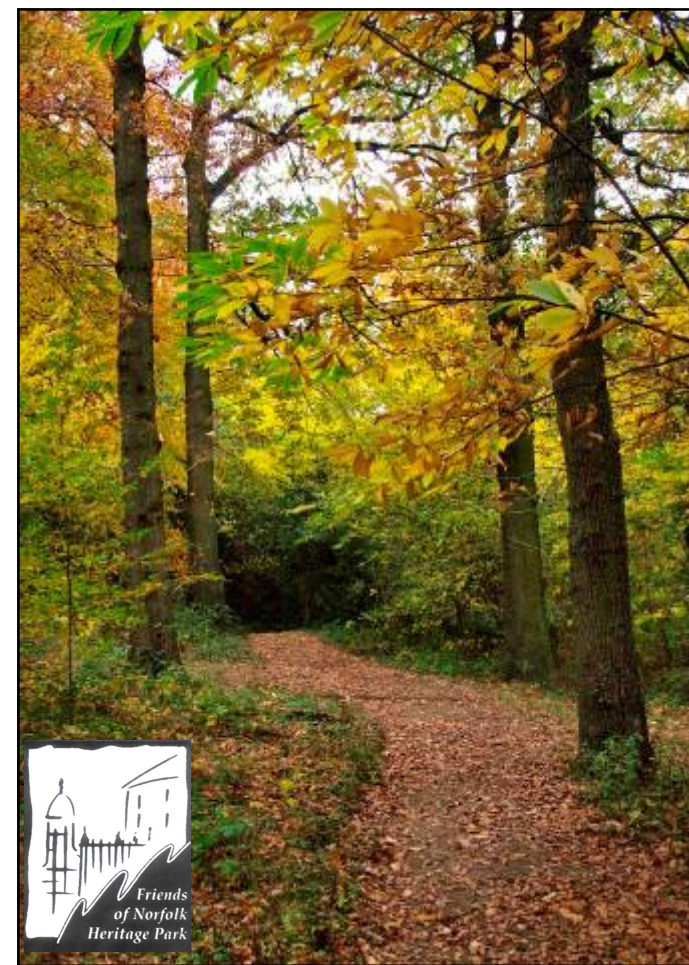
When the trees are bare in winter it is a good time to go looking for birds, as without leaves on the trees the birds can be easier to see. Year round residents include robin, wren and great spotted woodpecker. At other times of the year you might see a grey wagtail bobbing up and

down on the banks of the stream or hear the chattering laughter of a green woodpecker. If you are lucky you might catch a glimpse of a tree creeper or nuthatch - both species like to crawl up and down the trunk of trees. At dusk, listen out for the twit-twoo of the tawny owls calling to each other.



Flora and Fauna in Jervis Lum

- Norfolk Heritage Park



Bird photos by Paul Hobson



Clockwise from top left: grey wagtail, great spotted woodpecker, nuthatch, tree creeper

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For more information about the Friends of Norfolk Heritage Park, to join or attend a meeting please telephone reception at the Centre in the Park and leave your details.

