

Discover Highbury Trees

9 Weeping Willow

By the Long Pool is a Weeping Willow. It is probably a **hybrid between a Chinese Willow (*Salix babylonica*) and the native White Willow (*Salix alba*)**. The bark of willows contains a substance called salicin which is similar to aspirin.



10 Persian Ironwood (*Parrotia persica*)

Large irregular oval leaves which turn gold and crimson in Autumn. The tree comes from the mountain forest of Iran and is now endangered. Its wood is incredibly hard and has even been used to make nails.

8 Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) Common Oak (*Quercus robur*)

The **Red Oak** has very large leaves with teeth on the lobes that turn bright red in the Autumn. The **Common Oak** leaves are smaller with rounded lobes. **It can support more than 400 different species – more than any other tree in the UK.**



Red Oak



Common Oak

7 Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)

The **Ash** has leaves with small leaflets, black, sooty buds and clusters of winged seeds - eaten by bullfinches and parakeets. Once considered to have magical and healing properties so hopefully this tree will escape the *Ash Dieback* fungus which is killing ash trees throughout Europe.



6 Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra 'italica'*)

This line of trees is in fact a single fallen **Lombardy Poplar** that has sprouted upright branches along its trunk. It has shiny, triangular leaves. Poplar trees are either male or female.



5 Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)

The **Alder** has shiny blunt ended leaves and little female cones. It grows happily in damp poor soils with the help of a symbiotic bacterium which can capture nitrogen from the air and is provided by sugars from the alder. Slow to rot if wet, Alder wood has been used to make boats and even to support parts of Venice.



11 Blue Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica var. glauca*)

Needle leaves in dense whorls and upright barrel-shaped cones. From the mountains of Morocco and Algeria where the forests are now endangered. The wood and leaves give an aromatic resin. Planted in the former pleasure grounds of the Highbury estate in 1878.



13 Fruit Tunnel

A rare example of a fruit tunnel pergola, which formed part of the original Kitchen Garden for Highbury. The wrought iron tunnel supports different varieties of apples and pears, graftings of which are now growing in Highbury Community Orchard.

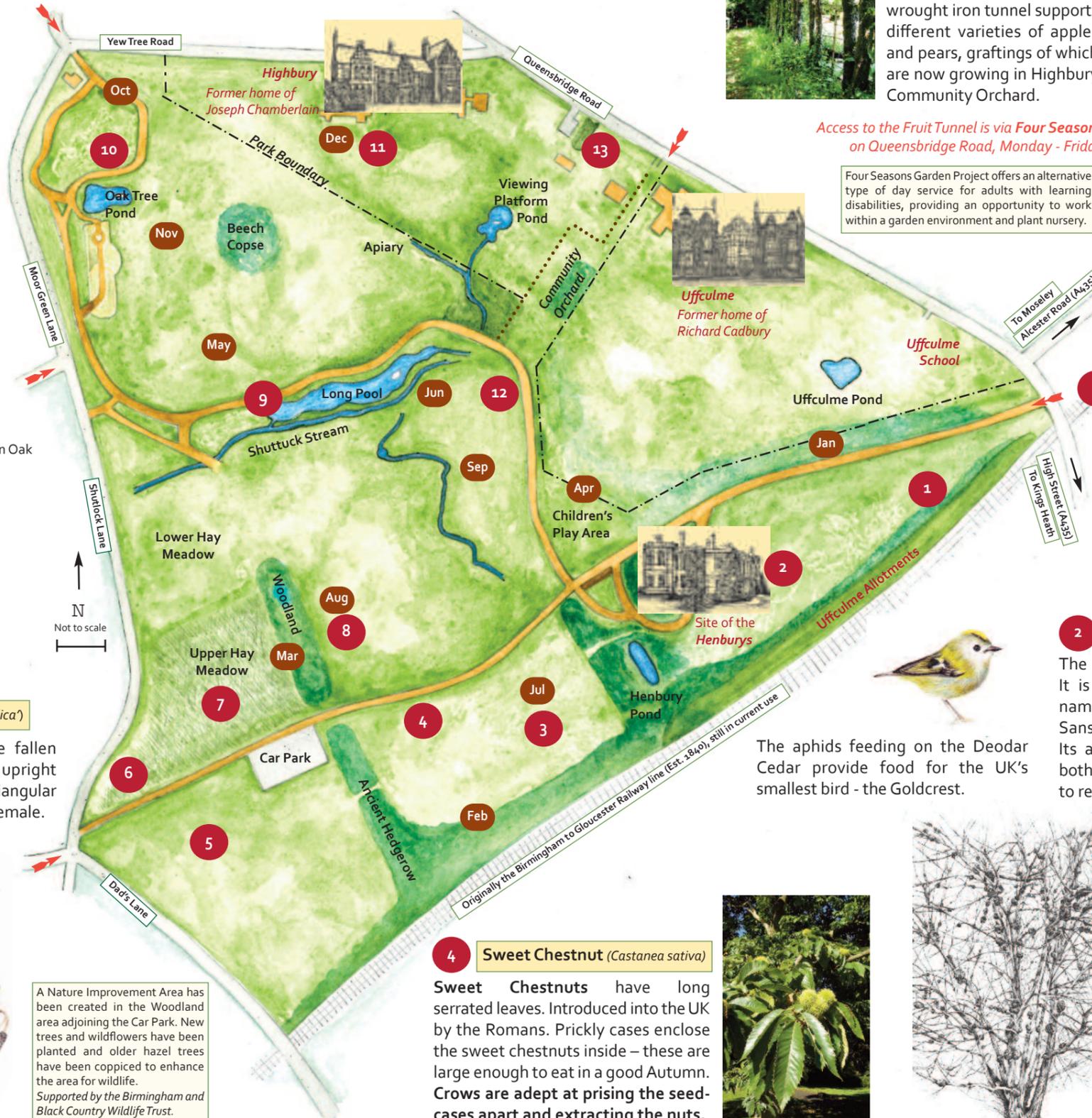


Access to the Fruit Tunnel is via **Four Seasons** on Queensbridge Road, Monday - Friday

Four Seasons Garden Project offers an alternative type of day service for adults with learning disabilities, providing an opportunity to work within a garden environment and plant nursery.

12 Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) and Red Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus x carnea*)

Horse Chestnuts have large sticky buds and 5-7 leaflets on each leaf. Common Horse Chestnut has pinkish-white flowers and large (inedible) conkers. Red Horse Chestnut has red flowers and burrs on the bark.



1 Fern-Leaved Beech (*Fagus sylvatica var. heterophylla 'Asplenifolia'*) Copper Beech (*Fagus sylvatica purpurea*)

Side by side are the **Fern-Leaved Beech** with its dissected green leaves and two **Copper Beeches** with deep purple leaves. All have distinctive pointed buds and smooth grey bark. Early writing was done on Beechwood tablets and in Swedish *bok* means both 'beech tree' and 'book'.



2 Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*)

The **Deodar** has needle-like leaves. It is native to the Himalayas. The name *deodara* comes from the Sanskrit meaning 'tree of the gods'. Its aromatic timber has been used both for its therapeutic properties and to repel insects from stored grain.



The aphids feeding on the Deodar Cedar provide food for the UK's smallest bird - the Goldcrest.



4 Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*)

Sweet Chestnuts have long serrated leaves. Introduced into the UK by the Romans. Prickly cases enclose the sweet chestnuts inside – these are large enough to eat in a good Autumn. **Crows are adept at prising the seed-cases apart and extracting the nuts.**



3 Sallow (*Salix caprea*)

A small tree with oval leaves. Good for wildlife, it supports almost as many creatures as the Common Oak. The lumps on the twigs have been caused by a tiny midge *Rabdophaga salicis*. It induces the tree to make these outgrowths thus providing a safe home for the larva to feed.



HIGHBURY SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

January Lichens Easier to see on bare trees in Winter are patches of grey, green or yellow lichen; a combination of fungus and algae growing as one.	February Hazel Look for the male yellow tassel-like catkins and the female tiny red flowers. Listen for Greater Spotted Woodpeckers drumming.	March Blackthorn In early Spring, the white blossom appear on bare, thorny stems. Look again in the Autumn to see the distinctive blue sloe fruits.	April Balsam Poplar The young leaves and buds exude an aroma of perfume that is wafted on the wind for more than 100 metres!	May Sycamore Now is the time of year to see the bright new leaves of the sycamore and it's dangling clusters of green flowers .	June Aspen On a breezy day, listen out for the trembling leaves of the aspen, as they rustle in the wind.	July Silver Pendent Lime The flowers are an amazing nectar source for bees and hoverflies , which may be seen in their hundreds in late July.	August Oak Oaks can have many galls which do not harm the tree. Look under the leaves and on the acorns to see the variety of forms created.	September Cappadocian Maple One of the first trees within Highbury to display Autumn colour as the foliage turns a bright butter yellow .	October Hybrid Limes The Lime Avenue planted in 1902 formed part of the Chamberlain estate. A stunning display of Autumn Crocus line the path.	November Sweet Gum The autumn leaves of Liquidamber turn red, gold and purple lasting much later in the year than most other trees within Highbury.	December Evergreens A semi-circle of golden yews and hollies planted in 1878 on the Chamberlain estate are a distinctive sight during the Winter months.
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