

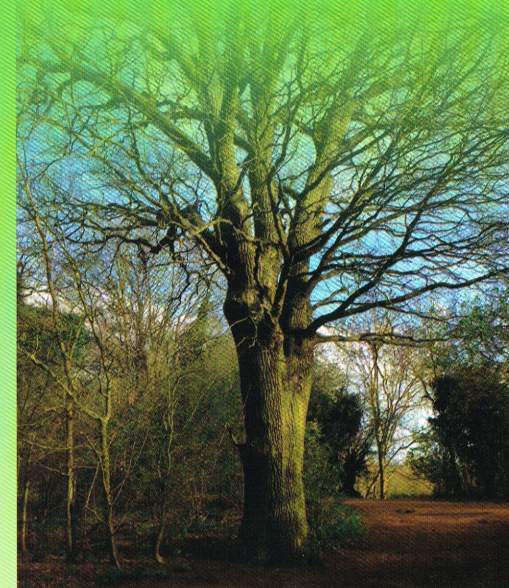
# HOW TO USE THE TREE TRAIL

1. Follow the arrows and walk the Tree Trail, starting from the car park.
2. When you reach a marked tree, use your mobile phone to scan the QR Code beside the tree. This will give you more information about this tree.
3. Watch out for tree roots, rough ground and lumps and bumps!

Friends of West Hunsbury Parks wish to thank the following people and organisations who made this Tree Trail possible;

- The Heritage Lottery Fund, which provides the money for this project. Thanks also to everybody who purchases Lottery Tickets.
- Francesca Service, who devised this Tree Trail.

# HUNSBURY HILLFORT TREE TRAIL



In 2018, the Friends of West Hunsbury Parks organised a special survey of the trees around the Hillfort. This survey was paid for by the “Heritage Lottery Fund” and carried out by Brampton Valley Training. All the significant trees were looked at and given a tag number.

The most interesting trees were chosen for this Tree Trail.

# HUNSBURY HILLFORT

## TREE TRAIL

### 1st Tree on the Tree Trail

This large oak tree is around 200-250 years old. This tree is significant as a marker tree for the ancient Banbury Lane Drovers' Road. One of the oldest roads in Britain - the Drovers' Road was mainly used from the late 15th Century to bring sheep and cattle from Wales to Northampton Market, and onwards to London.



**BIG TREE**

### Tree 671

This oak tree has exposed roots, many of which have now been decimated by erosion, animal damage and various other factors encountered through its life. The roots exposed are now dead but still have a purpose, mainly for stability.

### Tree 627

Green woodpeckers have been spotted around this woodland area, and this tree has been identified as an important tree for them. Green woodpeckers eat ants, lots and lots of ants.

### Tree 666

This impressive late mature oak stands guard at one of the entrances to the Hillfort.

### Tree 651

This field maple is a sapling, which means it is young. In perfect conditions it could live up to 350 years! Although maples are usually associated with Canada, the field maple is native to the UK and most of Europe.

### Tree 648

This is a Wild Cherry Tree. The flowers and leaves will come out early in spring to take advantage of the sunlight before the trees around it close the woodland canopy above. The bark is dark reddish brown with horizontal bands, which can peel off in large strips. These bands are called lenticels. They are breathing holes for the living cells below the bark of the tree.

HUNSBURY HILLFORT

### Tree 628

This large oak has a great amount of ivy growing up its trunk. The ivy is using the tree to help it climb higher and reach better levels of sunlight. Ivy is often accused of strangling trees, but it isn't a parasitic plant, which means it doesn't extract any nutrients from the tree. It has its own root system in the soil, so it feeds and waters itself. Its climbing stem has tiny hairs that help it stick to the surface of the tree as it climbs, so it doesn't have to penetrate the bark.

### Tree 636

This beautiful Ash tree is perfect for demonstrating buttress roots. Take a good look at the base of the tree and see if you can follow the buttress roots as they snake their way outwards.

### Tree 638

A significant number of the trees found around Hunsbury Hillfort are oak trees. English Oaks have been considered sacred by almost every culture that has come across them, especially Celts and Vikings.

### Tree 646

This veteran oak is one of our favourite trees. It has so many interesting features, including a hollow at the base that extends at least 3 meters into the stem; bark has grown over the top of fencing which was wrapped around the trunk.

At each tree you will find a post with a QR Code. Scan the QR Code to find out information about the trees and the creatures that rely on them to survive.

There is a separate children's leaflet available at the Café which provides family activities for children and adults to enjoy as they walk the Tree Trail. This leaflet can also be coloured in!