routes around roots map+guide Udston and Glenlee Woods

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The Friends of Udston and Glenlee Woods are a community action group who make the woods a great place for people and wildlife. They hold regular events and meetings, and are always keen to welcome new people. The Friends have improved the woods by planting native trees and wildflowers; they also carry out regular litter picks and have installed signage. The woods have been much improved over the years and are now used by local schools and groups for all sorts of activities.



To find out more about the history and wildlife of Udston and Glenlee, as well as the latest events and news, visit <u>www.udstonandglenleewoods.co.uk</u>

To find this leaflet online, search for "Routes around Roots" at <u>www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk</u>. There are six different routes available to help you enjoy some of the many walks around South Lanarkshire. If you would like paper copies of maps or any more information about the outdoors please contact South Lanarkshire Council's Countryside and Greenspace on 01698 426 213 or email <u>CAG@southlanarkshire.gov.uk</u>

Udston and Glenlee Woods

The woods were originally part of the estate of Glenlee House which stood at the grassy clearing in Glenlee Woods. The house was built in the mid 1800s and had various residents (including famous local boxer Walter McGowan who used it as a training camp) until it became a Tuberculosis Hospital in the 1930s. The house was destroyed in the 1970s. Some of the old conifer trees on the site such as red cedars and cypresses would have been planted as ornamental trees in the estate.

Now the woodlands are an important wildlife haven in the midst of an urban landscape. Udston and Glenlee are one of a few such woods around the Hamilton area, where old pieces of woodland along the banks of small streams have survived development. They are now great places for wild animals and plants, as well as for people to enjoy. Walking through the woods you can see a number of different tree types including beech, birch, ash, willow, rowan, hazel and Scots pine. These trees are used for feeding and nesting by a number of birds including jackdaws, great tits, sparrowhawks and great spotted woodpeckers. Look out for circular holes in tree trunks which could be woodpecker nesting holes.

On the woodland floor there are lots of different plants throughout the year. Bluebell and wild garlic flower in spring, with herb Robert, water avens and raspberry in bloom as summer comes, and ferns are evident for most of the year. Badgers and foxes forage and hunt in the woods, and grey squirrels run through

the tree canopies. Look out for butterflies in the open, sunny parts of the wood such as the peacock with large eye-spots on its wings and the comma, with its characteristic jagged edged wings.





Start: Jock Stein Leisure Centre



Distance:

1 mile





Difficulty: easy

From the Leisure Centre cross Hillhouse Road and enter the woods via the signed entrance.



Peacock Butterflies



Follow the path down into the woods, coming out at Udston Road. Cross the road and re-enter the woods through the gate. Follow the signposted path around the woods returning to the Udston Road entrance.

Cross the road and return along the same path to the Jock Stein Centre.

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water for recreation, education and for going from place to place providing they act responsibly. These access rights and responsibilities are explained in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The key things are:

When you're in the outdoors:

- take personal responsibility for your own actions and act safely
- respect people's privacy and peace of mind
- help land managers and others to work safely and effectively
- care for your environment and take your litter home
- keep your dog under proper control
- take extra care if you're organising an event or running a business.

If you're managing the outdoors:

- respect access rights
- act reasonably when asking people to avoid land management operations
- work with your local authority and other bodies to help integrate access and land management
- respect rights of way and customary access.

Visit outdooraccess-scotland.com or contact your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO

CODE outdooraccess-scotland.com

thanks

We would like to thank the following volunteer groups for their help and support with this project;

- Interprise of Langland Moss
- The Friends of Morgan Glen
- The Friends of Udston and Glenlee Woods
- The Community Wardens of Udston and Glenlee area
- The Friends of Backmuir Woods
- Andy of the Douglas Water and Rigside website <u>http://rigsidedw.50webs.com/homepage.htm</u>

We would like to thank the following people for their photographic contributions;

John Hawell
Alan Bannister



