

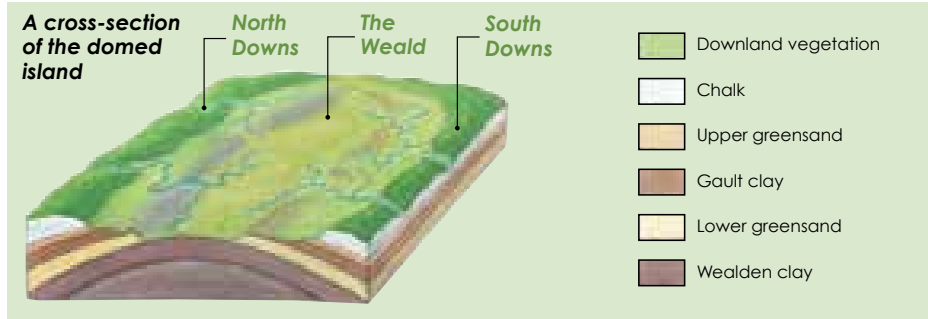


Visit the chalk!

**A GUIDE TO CHALK GRASSLAND
SITES IN SURREY AND
SOUTH LONDON**



Chalk Grassland



Chalk grasslands develop on shallow lime-rich soils overlying chalk rocks. Chalk was formed at the bottom of the Cretaceous sea around 100 million years ago. The remains of marine plants and animals formed the soft white chalk. In the south-east of England this chalk capped a huge dome of rocks. After the sea receded the dome was eroded leaving the North and South Downs, which are the remaining rim of the chalk.



Chalk grassland was originally created mainly by the clearance of trees and scrub 8-9,000 years ago, and kept open by grazing livestock. In southern England, lowland chalk grassland is confined to the North and South Downs, from Kent through to Wiltshire and Dorset, with most remaining areas found on escarpments and dry valley slopes. A variety of sites are found in Surrey and south London.

Why is it important?

Chalk grassland is exceptionally rich in plants and insects. The combination of nutrient-poor soils and the disturbance caused by regular grazing means no single species of plant can dominate and this creates a very diverse habitat – one of the richest in Western Europe. Up to 50 different types of plants and wildflowers can be found in a square metre. Many rare species can only be found on chalk grassland sites. Chalk grassland is also an important landscape feature, and great views can be had from the steep slopes of the North Downs.

If chalk grasslands are not grazed or cut, scrub and woodland invade and shade out the plants and flowers. Agriculture has also intensified and some chalk grasslands have been ploughed to grow crops. Other threats include development for houses and buildings, which can reduce the size of sites and isolate them from each other.

What can you find there?

A mosaic of different vegetation – short grass, long grass, bare ground, scrub edge, different ages of scrub and trees – provides the best conditions to support many different plants and animals. Some of the plants and flowers that can be found here include many orchid species, as well as more common species such as bird's-foot trefoil, wild carrot, salad burnet, cowslip and wild marjoram.

Threats

There has been a sharp decline in the amount of chalk grassland in the last 50 years. One of the biggest threats is lack of grazing.



Chalk Grassland (continued)

Greater yellow-rattle is rare nationally but found abundantly in the local area. Many species of butterfly can also be found, including Britain's smallest butterfly, the small blue, as well as other rarities such as green hairstreak and silver-spotted skipper. Look out for the large Roman snail, introduced to Britain by the Romans for food, which thrives on chalk grassland. Bird species that use chalk grassland include green woodpecker and linnet, and listen out for the high-pitched trill of a skylark overhead.

Management

Chalk grassland sites must be managed to maintain their quality and to stop coarse grasses, scrub and trees from taking over. Grazing by sheep, goats or cattle is the best form of management, and the type of animal used depends on the site. Goats are good at reducing areas of scrub, whereas sheep and cattle are good for maintaining the grass. Sites can also be managed by cutting and removing the















vegetation, but this is not as beneficial to insects as all the vegetation is removed at once rather than gradually by grazing animals. Scrub must also be managed and removed. This can be done using machinery or by hand using tools such as bowsaws and loppers.

How you can help

Chalk grassland sites across Surrey and south London need volunteers to help clear scrub and look after the grazing animals. No previous experience is necessary, just a willingness to get stuck in and work outside in all weathers. Task leaders provide instructions on how to safely use tools and methods for cutting the scrub and trees.

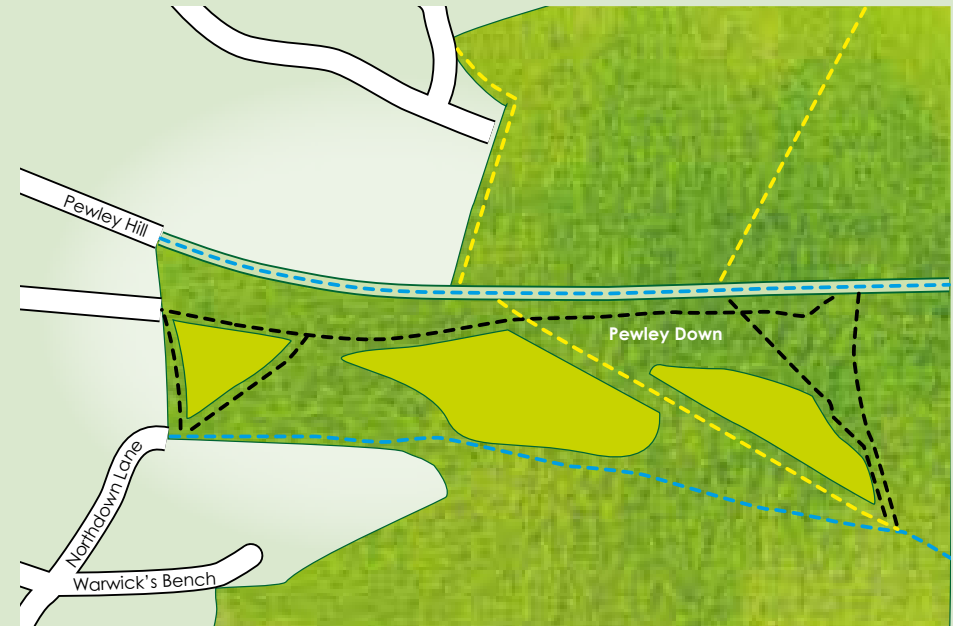
If you would like to get involved with looking after your local area please contact the Downlands Project on 01737 737700 or email: Downlands@surreycc.gov.uk

Key to the maps

	Flat		Unofficial footpath
	Flat top and steep slopes		Public footpath
	Sloping		Public bridleway
	Mown grass paths		Public byway
	Surfaced paths		Railway
	Unsurfaced paths		Grassland & woodland
			Chalk grassland

Public rights of way and site boundaries shown in the booklet are indicative only and do not constitute a legal record. We recommend that you use Ordnance Survey maps when visiting these sites.

Pewley Downs



Grizzled skipper butterfly

Chalk grassland, with areas of scrub, woodland and hedges.

Look out for: The chalk grassland slopes are very diverse with

species such as pyramidal orchid, autumn lady's tresses, man orchid, salad burnet, wild carrot, bird's-foot trefoil, horseshoe and kidney vetch. Nearly a third of all UK butterfly species can be found here including small blue, chalkhill blue, dingy skipper and grizzled skipper. Glow-worms can also be found.

Location: To the east of Guildford, near Charlotteville. Main entrance at end of Pewley Hill (Grid Ref: TQ005490).

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Public transport: Nearest train station: London Road Guildford (1m). Several bus routes run nearby. See www.traveline.info

Size: 8.5ha

Owned by: Guildford Borough Council.

Managed by: Guildford Borough Council and Pewley Downs Conservation Volunteers.

Contact: Guildford Borough Council, Parks and Countryside Services on 01483 444718. Email: countryside@guildford.gov.uk

Newlands Corner & Albury Downs



The Downs command fine views across the Weald to the ridge of the South Downs. In the past the grasslands were grazed but nowadays they are mown once a year after the plants have set seed.

Look out for: In spring and summer the chalk grassland is a spectacular carpet of wild flowers.

Location: Access to the car park from the A25 Shere Road near Merrow Downs (Grid Ref: TQ042492).



Great knapweed



Yellow-wort

Public transport: Nearest train station: Chilworth (2m).
Bus services to Shere and Albury (1m).
See www.traveline.info

Size: 103ha

Owned by: Albury Estate.

Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Contact:
Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440.
Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org
for further information.

Hackhurst, White Down & Denbies Hillside



Large area with diverse mixed woodland on the ridge and chalk grassland can be found on the south facing slopes. Great views across the high weald.

Look out for: Typical chalk grassland plants including squinancywort, salad burnet, bird's-foot trefoil, lady's bedstraw, milkwort, mouse-ear hawkweed, small scabious, cowslip. Bee, fragrant and pyramidal orchids can also be seen, along with rare fly, burnt and man orchids. Roman snails and rufus grasshoppers can also be found. 40 species of butterfly have been recorded, including adonis and chalkhill blue, brown hairstreak, marbled white and silver-spotted skipper. The Dorking to Gomshall Walk goes through this area.

Location: To the north of Abinger Hanger, on the A25. Car park off White Down Lane (Grid Ref: TQ114494) and car parks along Ranmore Road (Grid Refs: TQ126501 and TQ141503).



Marbled white butterfly

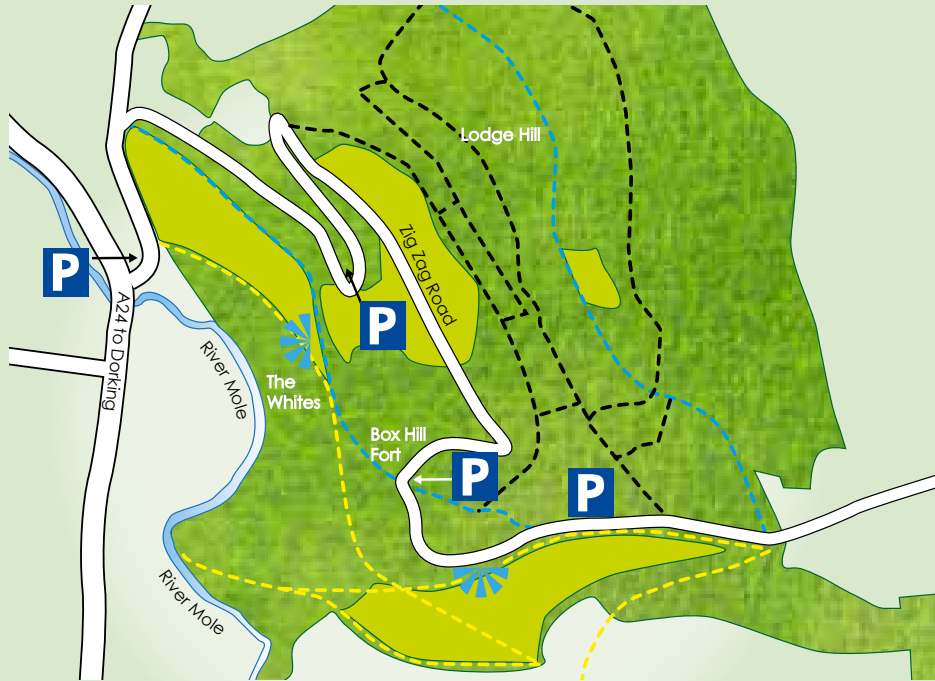
Public transport: Nearest train stations: Dorking West and Gomshall.
Bus services along the A25.
See www.traveline.info

Owned by: Surrey County Council, Wotton Estate (leased to National Trust), and National Trust.

Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust and National Trust.

Contact:
Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440.
Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org
for further information.
National Trust on 01306 887485 or email northdownswest@nationaltrust.org.uk

Box Hill

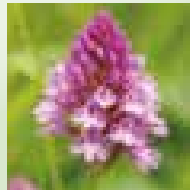


Welcoming around one million people a year for the stunning views, nature conservation, beautiful walks and road cycling. Box Hill is arguably the most well-known site on the North Downs. Large areas of chalk grassland, woodland and chalk cliffs.

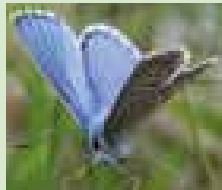
Look out for: Plants including bird's-foot trefoil, squinancywort, clustered bellflower, lady's bedstraw, kidney vetch, harebell, and orchid species such as fragrant and pyramidal. Rare butterflies and moths that can be seen include the straw belle moth, silver-spotted skipper and adonis blue butterflies.

Location: 1 mile north of Dorking. Car parking (pay and display) is available off the Zig Zag Road, which is accessible from the Box Hill Road in the east, and the B2209 London Road in the west.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.



Pyramidal orchid



Adonis blue butterfly

Public transport: Nearest train stations: Box Hill/Westhumble (½m) and Dorking (1m). Bus 516 goes to Box Hill East car park, 465 goes to the foot of Box Hill.

Size: 490ha

Owned by: National Trust.

Managed by: National Trust.

Contact: Andrew Wright on 07770 887682.

Brockham Limeworks



Old chalk quarry. Part of what was the quarry floor has become species rich chalk grassland. The old railway cuttings, spoil heaps and chalk faces have been colonised by many interesting plants and animals. The derelict remains of the lime kilns, now a grade II listed building, still stand and provide a winter roost for many species of bat.

Look out for: Interesting plants can be seen here such as rockrose, viper's bugloss and orchid species. Many butterfly species can also be found. Of particular interest is the silver-spotted skipper, which is found at only a few sites in the south of England.

Location: Access to the site is from Chalkpit Lane, off the A25 Reigate Road between Dorking and Reigate (Grid Ref: TQ198511).

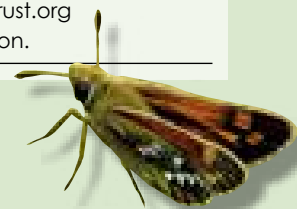
Public transport: Nearest train station: Betchworth (1m). Bus services to Brockham. See www.traveline.info

Size: 45ha

Owned by: Surrey County Council.

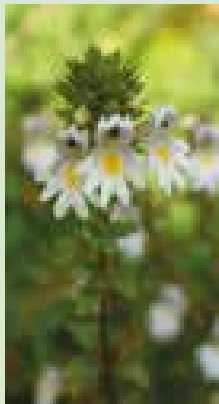
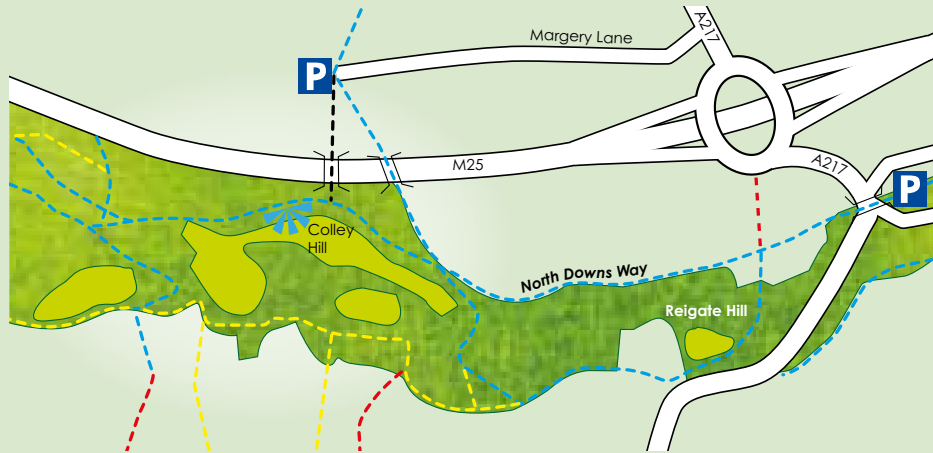
Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Contact: Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440. Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org for further information.



Silver-spotted skipper butterfly

Queen's Park & Colley Hill



Eyebright

Part of one of the largest areas of the North Downs which has been relatively undisturbed by modern farming and development.

Look out for:

Magnificent views across the weald to the South Downs. The Inglis Folly was originally a drinking fountain but now houses

a topograph. Typical chalk grassland species that can be found include bird's-foot trefoil, rough hawkbit, dwarf thistle, autumn gentian, squinancywort, eyebright, yellow-wort, harebell, black knapweed and wild basil.

Location: To the north of Reigate. Parking is available at Wray Lane car park, off the A217 Reigate Hill near the junction with the M25 (Grid Ref: TQ262523) and off Margery Lane (Grid Ref: TQ245527).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Reigate (1m). Bus service from Reigate to Reigate Hill. See www.traveline.info

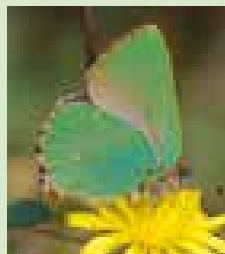
Size: 40ha

Owned by: National Trust and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council.

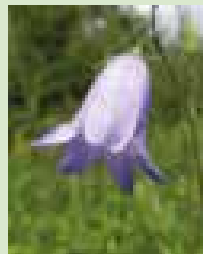
Managed by: National Trust.

Contact:

National Trust on 01342 843225 or email reigate@nationaltrust.org.uk



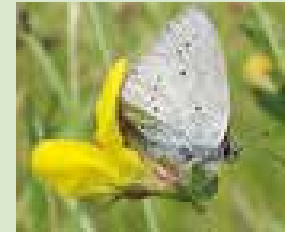
Green hairstreak butterfly



Harebell

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Howell Hill



Small blue butterfly

Mostly flat site with old chalk spoil heaps that were created in the 1960s when the adjoining school playing fields were levelled. The site was left unmanaged for many years and now shows a great deal of variety for such a small area, combining grassland, scrub and woodland. The best chalk grassland is found on the southern part of the site.

Look out for: 260 kinds of flowering plants have been recorded, including large colonies of mouse-eared hawkweed and kidney vetch, as well as bee, common spotted, fragrant, pyramidal and white helleborine orchids and two species of broomrape. 50 different kinds of bird have been seen here. A variety of insects and other invertebrates occur and there are more than 20 different kind of butterfly including green hairstreak and small blue.

Location: Near East Ewell (Grid Ref: TQ238618).

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Public transport: Nearest train station: Ewell East (1m). Bus services to Ewell. See www.traveline.info

Size: 5ha

Owned by: Surrey County Council.

Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Contact:

Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440. Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org for further information.

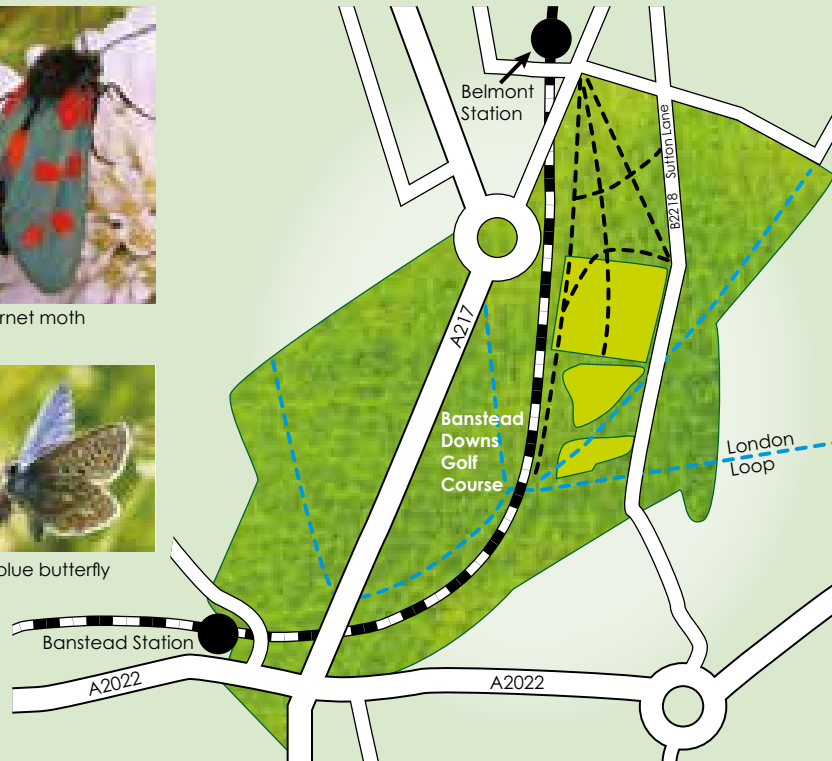
Banstead Downs



Six-spot burnet moth



Common blue butterfly



Banstead Downs is north-facing and therefore has an unusual mix of chalk grassland plants and animals.

Look out for: Plant species including kidney vetch, horseshoe vetch, oxeye daisy, common and chalk milkwort, carline thistle and eyebright, common spotted orchid and pyramidal orchid. 32 species of butterfly have been recorded, amongst the most prominent being common, small, holly and chalkhill blue and marbled white. Also common is the day-flying six-spot burnet moth. Glow-worms can also be found.

Location: Between Banstead and Belmont (Grid Ref: TQ255610).

Public transport: Belmont railway station and bus terminal are nearby.

Size: 174ha

Owned by: Reigate and Banstead Borough Council.

Managed by: Banstead Commons Conservators.

Contact: Reigate and Banstead Borough Council on 01737 276000. Banstead Commons Conservators, email bansteadcommons@aol.com. Also see www.bansteadcommonsconservators.org for further information.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Carshalton Road Pastures & Oaks Park



The main feature of Carshalton Road Pastures is chalk grassland, but there are mature trees, particularly along Grove Lane, and a hedgerow and blackthorn scrub. Oaks Park is a mixture of landscapes, including chalk grassland, formal gardens, woodlands and informal parkland. Section 6 of the London Loop and the Sutton Countryside Walk cross both sites.

Look out for: Plants such as field scabious, cowslips, greater knapweed, wild basil, marjoram, grass vetchling, lady's bedstraw, greater yellow-rattle and salad burnet. Scrub areas provide great habitat for numerous species of bird, including whitethroat, blackcap, chiffchaff and goldfinch.

Location:

Carshalton Road Pastures: (Grid Ref: TQ277609), off the B278 Carshalton Road.
Oaks Park: (Grid Ref: TQ275613), at the junction of the A2022 Croydon Lane and the B278 Woodmansterne Road.



Green woodpecker



Wild marjoram

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Public transport: Nearest train station: Belmont (1m). Bus services to Croydon Lane. See www.traveline.info

Size: 6.6ha (Carshalton Road Pastures) and 33.5ha (Oaks Park).

Owned by: London Borough of Sutton.

Managed by: London Borough of Sutton.

Contact:

Biodiversity team on 020 8770 5329. Email: biodiversity@sutton.gov.uk Head of Parks on 020 8770 4838. Also see www.sutton.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2501 for further information.

Chipstead Downs & Park Downs



Fly orchid



Cut-leaved germander and ground pine



Chipstead Downs and Park Downs are on the dip slope of the North Downs and are chalk grassland

with areas of scrub. Chipstead Downs is next to Banstead Woods, a large area of ancient woodland.

Look out for: Rare plant species including white mullein, round-headed rampion, bee and fly orchids, greater yellow-rattle. In the area known as Farnes Rough ground pine and cut-leaved germander can be found, which are rare arable plants. There are also many butterflies, including brown argus, grizzled skipper, chalkhill and holly blue.

Location: Chipstead Downs is situated between the B2219 Holly Lane and the B2032 Outwood Lane near Banstead.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Park Downs is to the north of Holly Lane (Grid Ref: TQ267585). Car park in Holly Lane (Grid Ref: TQ272583).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Chipstead (0.3m). Bus service to Outwood Lane. See www.traveline.info

Size: 70ha

Owned by: Reigate & Banstead Borough Council and Surrey County Council.

Managed by: Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, Downlands Project, Woodchip Volunteers and Banstead Commons Conservators (Park Downs).

Contact: Downlands Project on 01737 737700 or Reigate & Banstead Borough Council on 01737 276000.

Roundshaw Downs



The largest area of chalk grassland in the London Borough of Sutton and also a Local Nature Reserve.

Look out for: Chalk grassland plants including upright brome, wild carrot, the scarce greater yellow-rattle, oxeye daisy, lady's bedstraw, greater knapweed and bird's-foot trefoil. The site is alive with butterflies over the spring and summer months, with high numbers of small and Essex skippers, meadow browns, gatekeepers, ringlets and marbled whites flying over the grassland. Birds to look out for include skylark, meadow pipit and kestrel.

Location: West of the A23 (Purley Way) between South Beddington and South Croydon (Grid Ref: TQ308630). Access from Plough Lane, off Foresters Drive (B272).



Public transport: Nearest train station: Waddon (1m). Bus service from Waddon to Purley Way, and services to the Phoenix Centre. See www.traveline.info

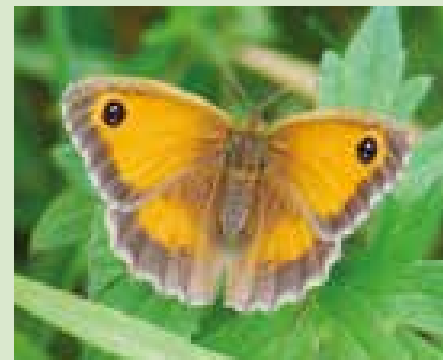
Size: 38ha

Owned by: London Borough of Sutton and London Borough of Croydon.

Managed by: London Borough of Sutton and London Borough of Croydon.

Contact: Biodiversity Team on 020 8770 5329 Email: biodiversity@sutton.gov.uk

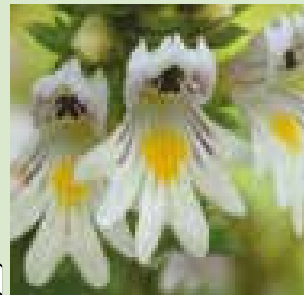
Also see www.sutton.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2501 for further information



Gatekeeper butterfly

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Dollypers Hill



Eyebright



Kidney vetch

Location: Near Kenley (Grid Ref: TQ315584). Access from Old Lodge Lane (north) and Caterham Drive (south).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Kenley (1m). Bus services to Kenley. See www.traveline.info

Size: 11.6ha

Owned by: London Borough of Croydon.

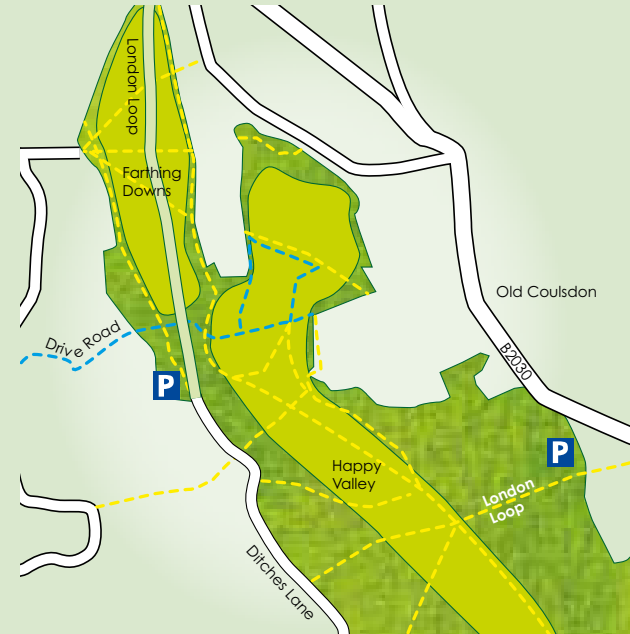
Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Contact: Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440. Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org for further information.

Dollypers Hill is a mixture of different habitats, including ancient woodland, scrub and chalk grassland.

Look out for: A good variety of plants including grass vetchling, eyebright, kidney vetch, bird's-foot trefoil, twayblade, pyramidal, bee and common spotted orchid. Birds that can be seen include sparrowhawk, kestrel, goldcrest, fieldfare and redwing.

Farthing Downs, Happy Valley & New Hill



Man orchid

Downland landscape with archaeological evidence of activity from the late Neolithic to the seventh century. In the seventh century Farthing Downs was used as a burial ground by Anglo-Saxon people. Happy Valley is home to many plants and animals which are now rare in the wider countryside. Section 6 of the London Loop and the Downslands Circular walk cross these sites.

Look out for: The most extensive area of downland in greater London and the largest British colony of greater yellow-rattle. Other plants including dwarf thistle, wild basil, horseshoe vetch and eight species of orchid including the nationally scarce man orchid.

Location: To the south of Coulsdon. Car parks are situated at the southern end of Farthing Downs (Grid Ref: TQ301571)

and off Fox Lane, near the Fox Pub (Grid Ref: TQ317568).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Coulsdon South (0.5m). Bus services to Coulsdon. See www.traveline.info

Size: 196ha

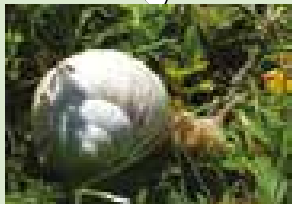
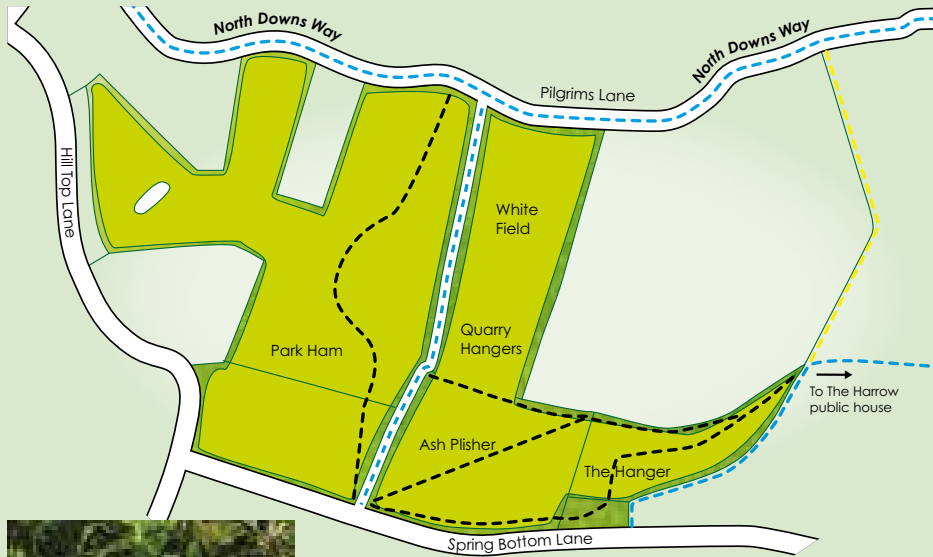
Owned by: City of London Corporation and London Borough of Croydon.

Managed by: City of London Corp. and London Borough of Croydon.

Contact: Croydon Council on 020 8726 6900 or City of London Corporation on 01372 279083. Email city.common@cityoflondon.gov.uk Website: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/citycommons

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Quarry Hangers & Park Ham



Roman snail

This site is a mixture of species rich chalk grassland, scrub and woodland.

Some large areas have recently been cleared of scrub and grassland is starting to re-establish here. The Downland Circular Walk passes this site.

Look out for: Plants including bird's-foot trefoil, horseshoe vetch, wild strawberry, common spotted orchid, wild thyme and yellow-rattle. Butterflies including common blue, dingy skipper and orange tip can be seen. Rufus grasshoppers and Roman snails and mammals such as stoat, weasel and harvest mouse can also be found.

Location: Between Spring Bottom Lane and Hilltop Lane (Grid Ref: TQ315538), near Chaldon. Parking is limited, though footpaths from Chaldon and Caterham lead to this area.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.



Bird's-foot trefoil

Public transport: Nearest train stations: Merstham (2m) and Caterham (2m). Bus service to Chaldon (1m). See www.traveline.info

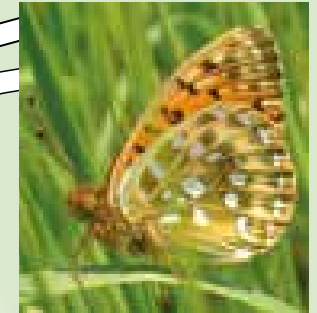
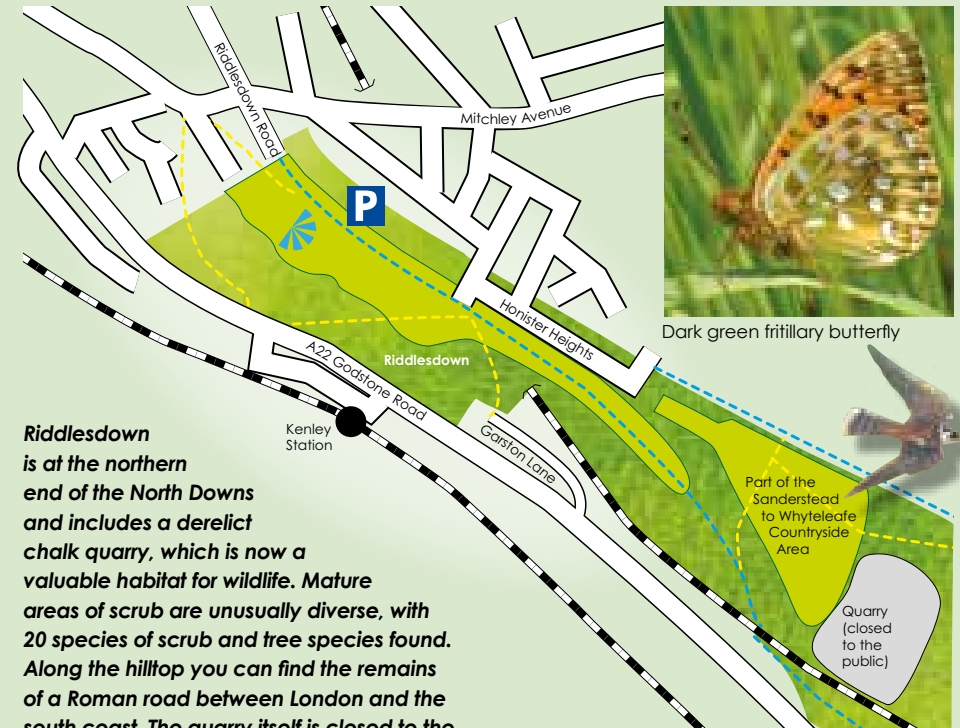
Size: 20ha

Owned by: Surrey County Council and Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Managed by: Downlands Project and Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Contact: Downlands Project on 01737 737700 or Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440.

Riddlesdown



Dark green fritillary butterfly

Riddlesdown is at the northern end of the North Downs and includes a derelict chalk quarry, which is now a valuable habitat for wildlife. Mature areas of scrub are unusually diverse, with 20 species of scrub and tree species found. Along the hilltop you can find the remains of a Roman road between London and the south coast. The quarry itself is closed to the public, but you can attend guided walks organised by the Rangers.

Look out for: In the open grassland areas you may see squinancywort, yellow-rattle, dropwort, autumn gentian, kidney vetch and grass vetchling. Rare plants found here include green-flowered helleborine, greater yellow-rattle, bee orchid and early gentian. One of the few remaining places in Greater London where common juniper can be found. Insects found here include Roesel's bush cricket, eight rare species of beetle and 19 species of butterfly. Yellowhammer, kestrel and sparrowhawk live and nest in the quarry. Peregrines have also been spotted.

Location: To the east of the A22, near Kenley (Grid Ref: TQ328602). Car park along Riddlesdown Road (TQ325604).

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Public transport: Nearest train stations: Kenley (1m) and Riddlesdown (1m). Bus services to Hamsey Green and Warmingham. See www.traveline.info

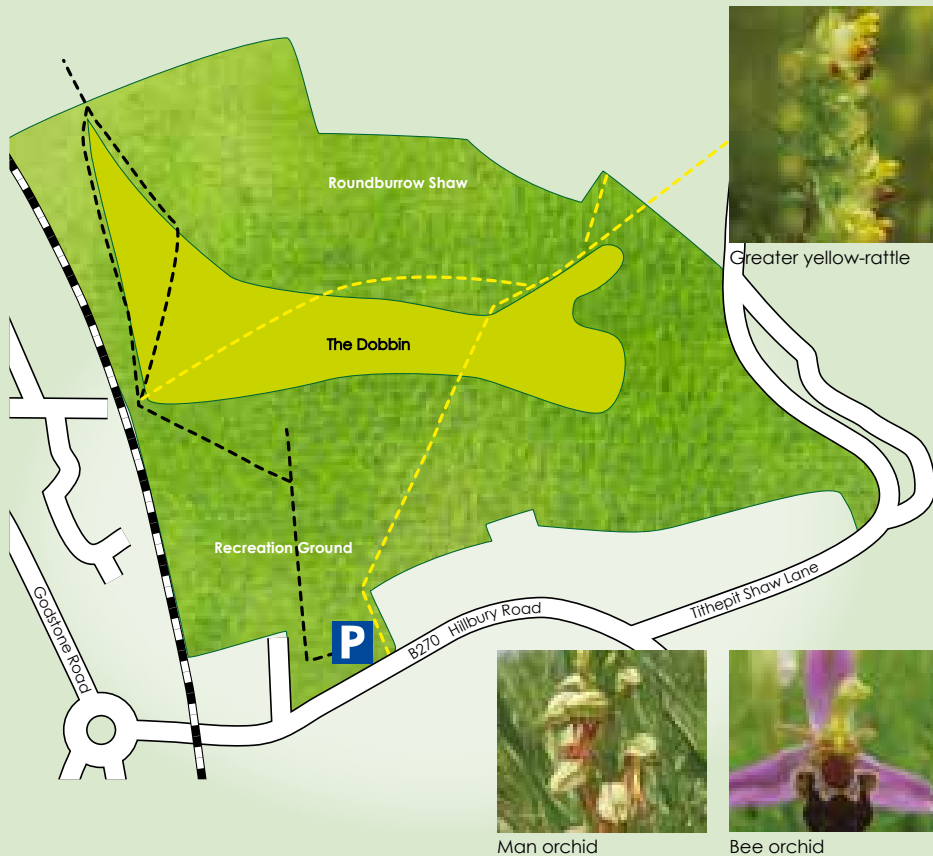
Size: 43ha

Owned by: City of London Corporation and London Borough of Croydon.

Managed by: City of London Corporation and Downlands Project.

Contact: City of London Corporation on 01372 279083. Email: city.common@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Website: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/openspaces
Sanderstead to Whyteleafe Countryside Area Warden on 01883 341140

The Dobbin



Steep chalk grassland slopes with a variety of flowers and butterflies, above a recreation ground.

Look out for: Plants including man orchid, twayblade, bee orchid, common spotted orchid, greater yellow-rattle. Also look out for skylarks and yellowhammers.

Location: Near to Whyteleafe. Car park at Whyteleafe Recreation Ground off the B270 Hillbury Road (Grid Ref: TQ341586).

Public transport: Nearest train stations: Whyteleafe (0.2m) and Upper Warlingham (0.2m). Several bus services to Whyteleafe. See www.traveline.info

Size: 37.8ha

Owned by: Tandridge District Council.

Managed by: Downlands Project.

Contact: Sanderstead to Whyteleafe Countryside Area Warden on 01883 341140.

Manor Park



A small area of chalk grassland surrounded by hay meadows and woodland.

Look out for: Plants including pyramidal, common spotted and bee orchids, twayblade, broad-leaved helleborine, St John's wort, germander speedwell, small scabious and cowslips.

Location: Between Caterham and Whyteleafe. Car park off Burnwood Lane (Grid Ref: TQ344571), near Wapses Lodge roundabout on the A22.

Public transport: Nearest train station: Whyteleafe South (1m). Several bus services to Whyteleafe and Caterham. See www.traveline.info

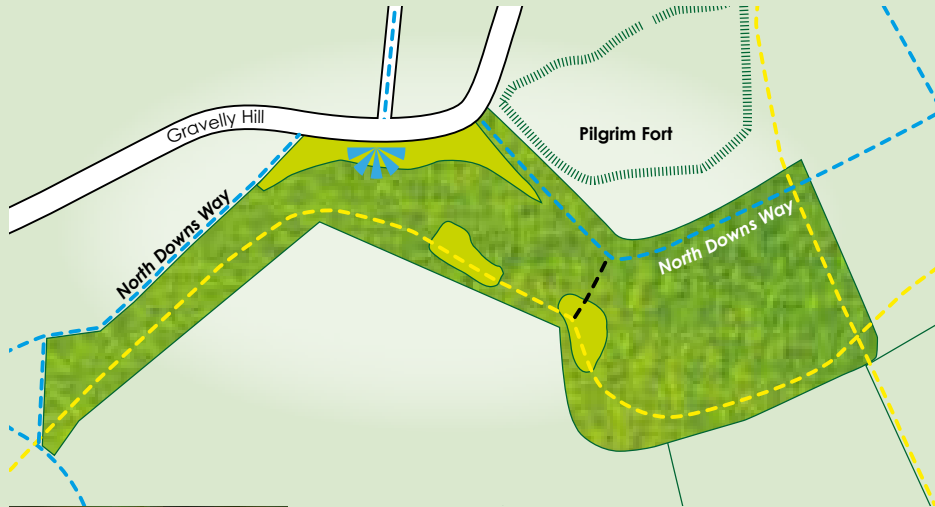
Size: 20ha

Owned by: Tandridge District Council.

Managed by: Downlands Project.

Contact: Downlands Project on 01737 737700. Email: Downlands@surreycc.gov.uk

Caterham Viewpoint



Common spotted orchid

Popular local site with level grassland area on the top, with chalk grassland, scrub and woodland on the steeper slopes. Good views towards the South Downs.

Look out for: Chalk grassland plants including hairy violet, bee and common spotted orchid, oxeye daisy, bird's-foot trefoil, basil and marjoram.

Location: Between Caterham and Godstone (Grid Ref: TQ343534).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Caterham (1.5m). Bus service from Redhill to Oxted stops nearby. See www.traveline.info

Size: 5ha

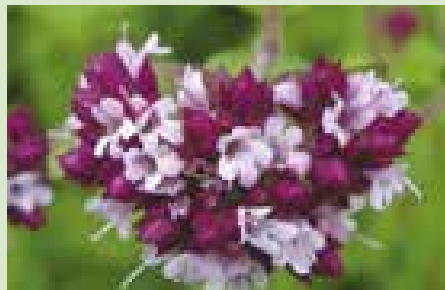
Owned by: Tandridge District Council.

Managed by: Downlands Project.

Contact:

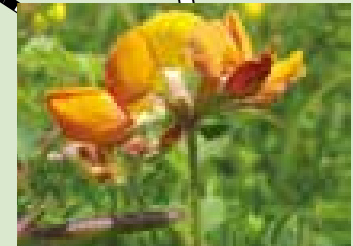
Downlands Project on 01737 737700

Email: Downlands@surreycc.gov.uk



Wild marjoram

Woldingham & Oxted Downs



Birds-foot trefoil

Large areas of chalk downland on the scarp and dip slopes of the highest part of the North Downs in Surrey. The whole site is a mixture of areas of chalk grassland, scrub, and mature and younger woodland.

Look out for: Typical chalk grassland plants such as dwarf thistle, lady's bedstraw, bird's-foot trefoil, fairy flax, milkwort, and rarer species including bee, common spotted and greater butterfly orchid, and early gentian. Rufus and stripe-winged grasshoppers and Roman snails can also be found.

Location: Between Woldingham and the M25. Grid Refs: TQ372540 (Woldingham Downs) and TQ372540 (Oxted Downs). Car park located along Gangers Hill (TQ372542).

Public transport: Nearest train station: Woldingham (2m). Bus services to Woldingham. See www.traveline.info

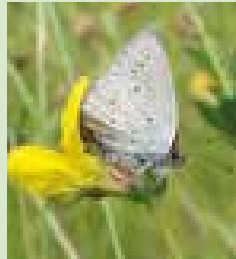
Owned by: National Trust and Woodland Trust.

Managed by: National Trust, Woodland Trust and Downlands Project.

Contact: National Trust on 01342 843225 or Downlands Project on 01737 737700.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Hutchinson's Bank & Chapel Bank

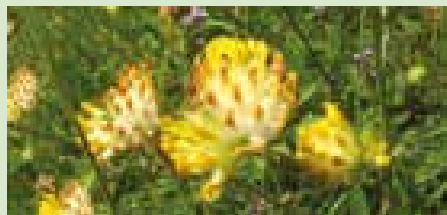


Small blue butterfly

Nature reserves that cover an extensive area of a dry chalk valley in south Croydon. The steep grassland slopes of Hutchinson's Bank host a great diversity of species. Chapel Bank is an area of ancient woodland, scrub and chalk grassland.

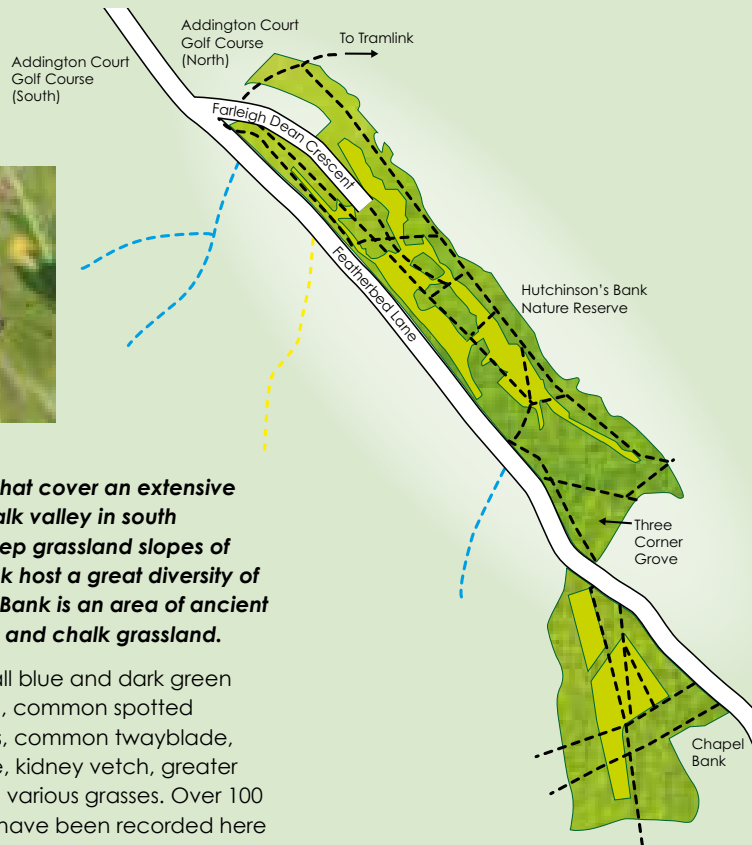
Look out for: Small blue and dark green fritillary butterflies, common spotted and man orchids, common twayblade, white helleborine, kidney vetch, greater yellow-rattle and various grasses. Over 100 species of moth have been recorded here and, in a good year, 28 species of butterfly can be seen.

Location: Near New Addington (Grid Ref: TQ383614). Access from Featherbed Lane, Farleigh Dean Crescent and North Downs Road.



Kidney vetch

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.



Public transport: Trams from Croydon to New Addington (0.2m).

Size: 30ha

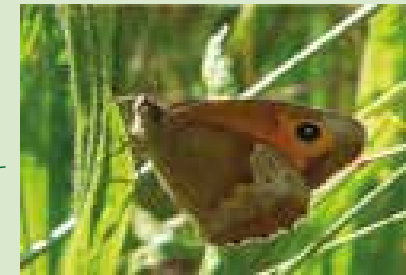
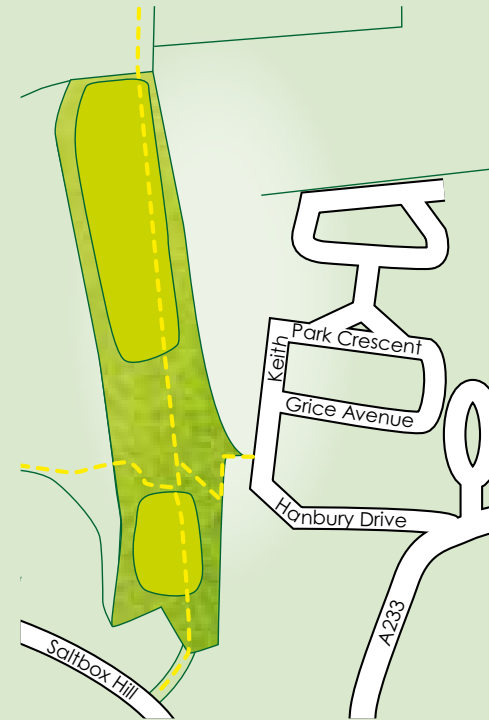
Owned by: London Borough of Croydon.

Managed by: London Wildlife Trust and Downlands Project.

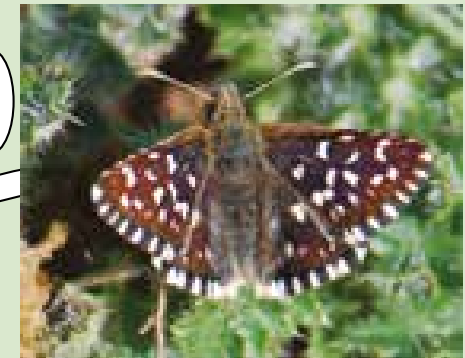
Contact:

London Wildlife Trust on 020 7261 0447.
Also see www.wildlondon.org.uk for further information.
Downlands Project on 01737 737700
Email: Downlands@surreycc.gov.uk

Saltbox Hill



Meadow brown butterfly



Grizzled skipper butterfly

A mile away from Charles Darwin's home at Down House, this local habitat gave the great naturalist inspiration, as well as being a much-loved picnicking spot in the 19th century.

Look out for: Many rare species of wildflower and grasses have been recorded on the site including pyramidal orchids, wild basil and quaking grass. Sunny west-facing slopes provide ideal conditions for over 20 species of butterfly to breed, including chalkhill blue, grizzled skipper and dark green fritillary.

Location: (Grid Ref: TQ407609.) There are entrances on Hanbury Drive (off Westerham Road) and Saltbox Hill, near Biggin Hill Airport.

Public transport:

Bus services to Biggin Hill (1.5m).

Size: 7.7ha

Owned by: London Wildlife Trust.

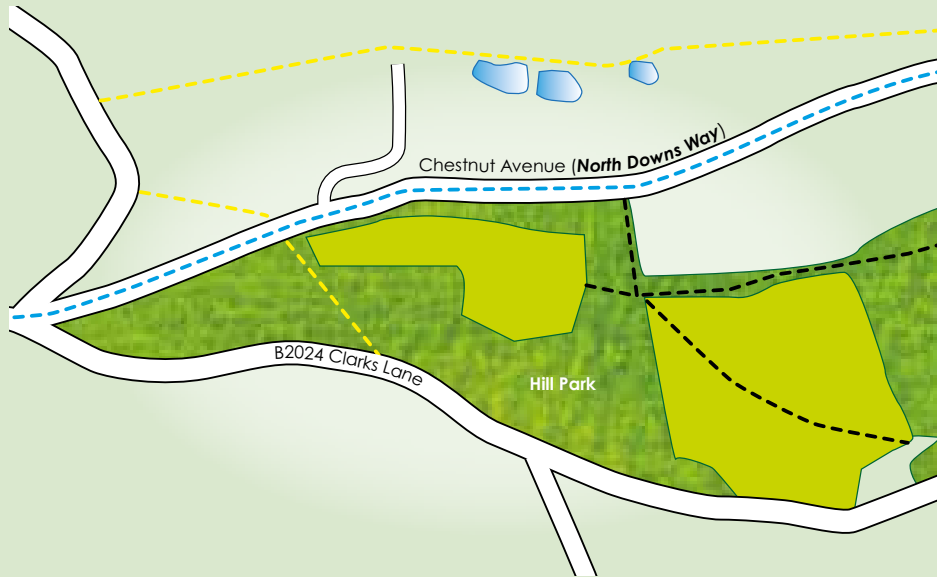
Managed by: London Wildlife Trust and Downlands Project.

Contact:

London Wildlife Trust on 020 7261 0447.
Also see www.wildlondon.org.uk for further information.

This site has benefited from funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through the Old Surrey Downs Project.

Hill Park, Tatsfield



South facing chalk grassland with woodland on the North Downs ridge.

Look out for: Greater yellow-rattle and various orchid species.

Location: Near Tatsfield village (Grid Ref: TQ423560). Parking available in Chestnut Avenue, off the B2024 Clarks Lane.

Public transport: Bus services to Tatsfield (1m). See www.traveline.info

Size: 24ha

Owned by: Surrey County Council.

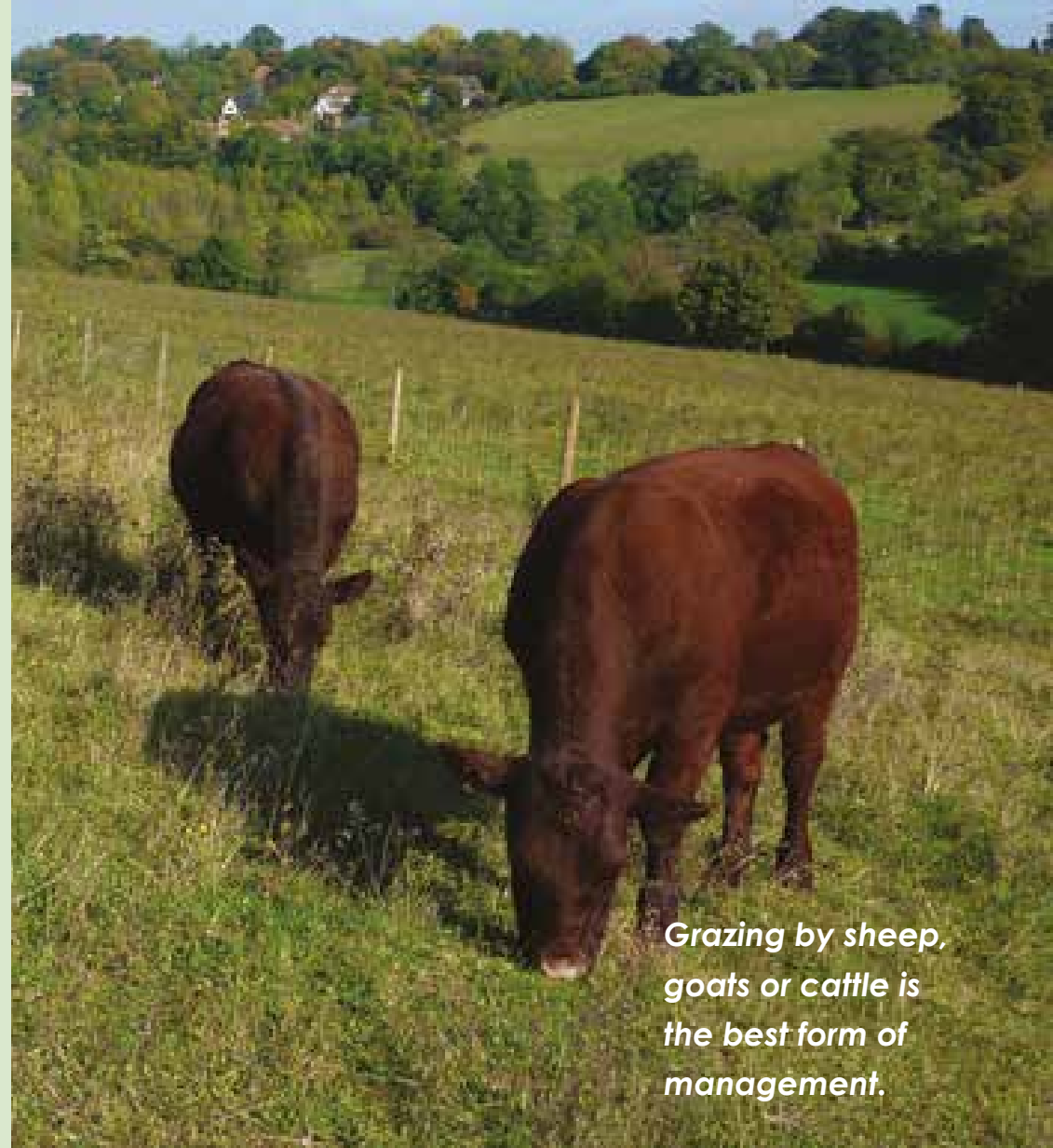
Managed by: Surrey Wildlife Trust and Downslands Project.

Contact:
Surrey Wildlife Trust on 01483 795440.
Also see www.surreywildlifetrust.org for further information.



Greater yellow-rattle

Up to 50 different types of plants and wildflowers can be found in a square metre of chalk grassland.



Grazing by sheep, goats or cattle is the best form of management.



This booklet was produced as part of the Old Surrey Downs (OSD) Project. The OSD Project aims to restore local chalk grasslands and has two main strands:

- **Improvements on site including cutting back scrub, installing fencing enclosures and water supplies, improving access for the public and conservation grazing using sheep, cattle, ponies and goats.**
- **Raising interest and awareness about local chalk grassland sites amongst the local community to improve understanding and to protect this special habitat.**

The OSD Project has been working on 25 sites across Surrey and South London, and is a limited life project based with the Downlands Countryside Management Project.

The Old Surrey Downs Project is supported by:

- The Downlands Project (partners: Surrey County Council, Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, The London Borough of Croydon, The London Borough of Sutton, Tandridge District Council and The City of London)
- Guildford Borough Council
- Surrey Wildlife Trust
- London Wildlife Trust
- The National Trust
- Natural England

For information, telephone: 01737 733933
email: Info.oldsurreydowns@surreycc.gov.uk
or visit: www.oldsurreydowns.org.uk

Graphic design by Foster de Krester
Printed by Impress Print Services Ltd, 60K run, February 2012
© Crown Copyright Licence No. 100019613, Surrey County Council 2012

