



Glenside Tree Walk



Meet at Main Faculty Reception.

Short walk looking for the following trees listed below (about an hour).

See also numbered map relating to this list.

Search the library catalogue for the complete list with numbered map.

There is also at the same number a reference book on trees. (362.1109)

There are about 1000 trees within the Glenside Campus walls, according to the list which was compiled back in 2001. About 51 different types of tree are listed, some individual single specimen trees from around the world, and others native trees from all over Europe.

Some families are represented by a single tree – one species of Alder, one single Coast Redwood, one Maidenhair. But there are 5 species of Oak, 6 of Birch, 3 of Cedar, 11 of Ash, 12 of Maple... There are over 180 different types of tree represented.

Some of the original trees are gone and many new ones have replaced them – some naturally and others replaced by the Estates staff. The following list offers a selection of the exotic and the home grown.

1. Native trees outside fence – mainly Ash, Sycamore, Lime



Ash (*Fraxinus* – subject recently to “die-back”. Grey bark, groups of small leaves on stem, seeds - bunches of single “ash keys”.

Sycamore (*Acer*) – maple type leaves, seeds double keys

Lime (*Tilia*) – pointed heart shaped leaves, seeds – long thin leaflike stem with stalks of one to three small “bobbles”. Bolas – extra leaves & branches growing from base of trunk.

2. Amur Cork Tree (*Phellodendron Amurense*)



This tree is native to North East mainland Asia. Pale grey-brown bark with shallow corky ridges. Leaves to 40 cm in opposite pairs, 7-13 untoothed leaflets. Fruit clusters of shiny black berries.

3. Weeping Willow (*Salix Chrysocoma*)



The willow is a tall tree with narrow boat shaped leaves. It produces short female catkins ("pussy willows") attracting pollinating insects. This species, one of 4 at Glenside, is abundant in warm areas. Its leaves, March to December, are pale yellow grey green. In shape it has a broad head of twisting limbs with long straight hanging shoots. (Johnson 2004)

4. Weeping birch

Young's Weeping Silver Birch – *Betula pendula* Youngii (Betulaceae family)

This variety is named after James Young, who was the head gardener of an Edinburgh estate, now part of Heriot Watt University. It's distinctive for its extremely drooping stems which form an umbrella shape dome. Like other weeping varieties, this is actually grafted onto an upright non-weeping trunk – otherwise the tree would be very low to the ground indeed! If you get underneath the dome you can see where the graft was made.



Public domain image from Wikipedia

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Betula_pendula093459.JPG

And here's our one outside the Blackberry Centre:



5. Cherry *Prunus* (Rosaceae family)

If you look at the top of the leaf stem, just before the leaf blade, you will see a pair of red dots. These are nectar glands – a good way of distinguishing cherries from other trees when there's no blossom or fruit. It's thought that the tree provides nectar to attract wasps and ants so that they will then attack any caterpillars eating the tree's leaves. Cherry blossom appears briefly but is very beautiful: in Japanese culture it is a poignant metaphor for the ephemerality of life.



Creative commons image from Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Glandes_Prunus_avium.jpg



Creative commons image from Wikipedia
<http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:SakuraHealed.png>



And here's our one between the car park and the path to the main Reception.

6. Indian Bean Tree (Catalpa Bignoioides)

Indian Bean Tree - *Catalpa bignonioides* (Bignoniaceae family)

Confusingly, this doesn't come from India. The species is native to the southern USA, so 'Indian' is an old reference to "Red Indians". Nor does it produce beans - it's not related to bean plants at all – though it does have long pods that look rather like them. The pods grow to an impressive 50cm and remain on the tree over winter when the leaves have gone. In the spring they split open to release their seeds. If you split open a pod you'll see the seeds come in tufted winged pairs that spin as they fall - perhaps reminiscent of the winged seeds of sycamore. Huge heart-shaped leaves appear quite late, in June, and very showy trumpet-shaped blossoms cover the tree in July. In America the tree is favoured by a moth called the Catalpa Sphinx, which lays its eggs on the underside of its leaves. The resulting caterpillars are huge and ravenous, and can completely defoliate the tree of leaves. This is not appreciated by nurseries or gardeners. However, many trees are deliberately grown so the caterpillars can be harvested – they are known as 'Catalpa Worms' and are renowned by fishermen as bait for huge catfish.



Creative commons image from Wikipedia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Catalpa_bignonioides_inflorescence.jpg



Creative commons image from Wikipedia

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Catalpa_bignonioides1.jpg

Atlas Cedar – *Cedrus atlantica* (Pinaceae family)

This species has often planted ornamentally for its beautiful rosettes of blueish needles and its graceful strong branches. Its native habitat is high in the Atlas Mountains which lie between the Mediterranean sea and the Sahara desert. You will be able to see sturdy barrel-shaped cones sitting upright amongst the branches. If there are any within reach you can see they are slightly hollowed at the top (this distinguishes the tree from the similar Cedar of Lebanon). When these (female) cones ripen the seed-containing scales fall off individually, eventually leaving a spike. The male cones (which contain pollen) look more like catkins.



Creative commons image from Kew on Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/kewonflickr/5163555063/sizes/z/in/photostream/>

8. Maidenhair (*Ginkgo biloba*)



This single species (Ginkgoaceae) survives from the Mesozoic era and was brought from temple gardens in Chekiang province in China in 1758. (Johnson 2006)

9. English Oak (*Quercus Robur*)

This is one of the 5 species of Oak here at Glenside. The leaves and general shape differ but they all have acorns in cups.



10. Silver Birch (*Betula Pendula*)

Just inside the main gate. Long upright shape, white/silver bark, drooping ends. Small pointed leaves, catkins.



11. Black Mulberry (*Morus Nigra*)

Black Mulberry – *Morus nigra* (Moraceae family).

There are two well-known mulberry species: white mulberry and black mulberry. It's the leaves of the white mulberry that are the favoured food of silkworms. Legend has it that many black mulberries were planted in this country in the 17th century by mistake, by people hoping to start a silk industry (this may or may not be true). There's certainly a benefit to planting black mulberry: It produces edible fruits which look rather like dark raspberries. You can eat them raw or cooked, and handling them will definitely stain your fingers! You may remember the nursery song 'Here we go round the mulberry bush' (this dates to the mid 19th century). There is a spooky and sad legend connected with this very tree (as remembered by a long-serving retired member of staff) – that long ago a patient at the hospital (as Glenside then was) had a baby, which died, and she buried it under the tree, and that her ghost can now and then be seen visiting the tree. Perhaps you know more details...



Creative commons photo by Fotero, on Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fotero/2499592927/>



12. Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*)

Holm Oak – *Quercus ilex* (Fagaceae family)

Holm oak was introduced into Britain in the 16th century. It is native to southern Europe, where its acorns are a favourite food of pigs being raised for Serrano and Iberico ham. Although it is closely related to our English Oak, it is evergreen and does not lose its leaves over winter. The leaves are tough and shiny, so the species is resistant to pollution and can also tolerate salt spray by the sea. The leaves have a felty underside, and are often spiky (*ilex* is also in the Latin name for holly). Particularly during the spring you may see discoloured meandering or oval marks on them. These are caused by leaf miners – the tiny caterpillars that live inside eating the internal tissues until they're ready to emerge as a moth.



13. Austrian Pine (*Pinus Nigra*)



This variety of the Black Pine is native to “S. Austria, Northern Italy and the Balkans. Trunk often long but seldom vertical. Branches descend. Cones conic to 8cm. Leaves 8-14 cm. A rough, dark Pine.”



14. Lime (*Tilia europea*)



The common lime is a hybrid of the Broad and Small leaved Limes, which are both native species. “Between the 17th and mid- 20th centuries it has been the most planted Lime. The liberal sprouts made propagation cheap and it submits cheerfully to annual lopping”. (Johnson, 2004)

15. Yew (*Taxus Baccata*)

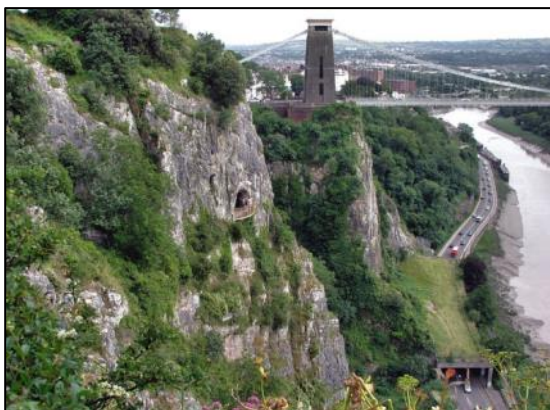


The Yew here near the student centre is a male tree – only the female tree has red poisonous berries. One of the world's longest living trees, over 2,000 years old in some English, Welsh & Northern French churchyards. Only conifer which has no cones. Used to make longbows.



16. Whitebeam (*Sorbus Aria*)**Common Whitebeam – *Sorbus aria* (Rosaceae family)**

This native species, from the family Rosaceae, related to the Rowan, is an extensively hybridised group, of which there are endemic species, such as the Bristol Whitebeam, found only in the Avon gorge and around Bath. It prefers alkaline soils, though will grow on acid ones too. The Anglo Saxon name comes from its colour as the underside of its lobed leaves are covered in fine white hairs, which is particularly striking in windy weather; and Beam from Baum (German word for tree). In May and June it produces flowers which are pollinated by insects and in the autumn it has bunches of bright red or orange berries, a good food source for birds. The fruit is edible to humans once it is rotted a bit, and in the north known as the Chess Apple. It was used as a boundary tree traditionally, probably because of its whiteness. The wood is yellow when wet then paler as it dries. It is fine grained and is used traditionally in wood turning, for tool handles, furniture, wheels and cogs (before iron).



Public domain image of Avon Gorge, from Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Avon_gorge_and_cave_arp.jpg



17. False Acacias (*Robinia Pseudoacacia*)**False Acacia – *Robinia pseudoacacia* (Fabaceae family)**

Also known as the Black Locust, the False Acacia is widely planted and naturalised in the UK from 1636, but originates from the USA. It is a major honey plant in the USA and in France where it produces a valuable monofloral honey, though its 10 day flowering period makes crops unreliable. Its name the Black Locust, is believed to be because it was what John the Baptist fed from in the wilderness, though its origin makes this unlikely. It was more likely the closely related Carob tree. Its toxicity might also have put him off. Like many leguminous plants, the tree can fix nitrogen at its roots, and so can grow on a variety of poor soils. It is quick growing and grows back even stronger when coppiced. The leaf consists of pairs of leaflets which fold together in wet weather. The wood is extremely hard, resistant to rot and durable, making it prized for furniture, flooring, paneling, fence posts and small watercraft. Whilst the wood is toxic, the pea like pods and seeds can be eaten if boiled to destroy the toxin.



Creative commons image from Wikipedia

http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Robinia_Pseudoacacia_flower.JPG



18. Japanese Flowering Cherry (*Prunus Serrulata*)



There is a row of these outside G block – looking absolutely glorious in full blossom in the springtime!

19. Walnut (*Juglans Regia*)

Walnut – *Juglans regia* (Juglandaceae family)

You might be familiar with an unshelled walnut's strong brown globular case, but if you've never seen a walnut tree you may not realise this grows inside a green outer husk. The leaves have three or four pairs of leaflets, with a longer single leaflet at the end. The Roman author Pliny noticed that other plants won't thrive under a walnut tree – in common with many other plants, walnuts release a chemical (in this case juglone) that inhibits competitors. This is called allelopathy. Walnut produces beautifully patterned wood and is prized for furniture making.



Creative commons image from Wikipedia

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Walnut%27s_Home.jpg



20. Alder (*Alnus Cordata*)

The Italian Alder is native to S. Italy, Corsica, NW Albania. There are 30 species of Alder but this seems to be the only one here at Glenside. Alders have buds on small slim stalks, male catkins "exposed colourfully through winter", female catkins ripen into little woody 'cones' ". (Johnson, 2004)



21. Caucasian Wingnut (*Pterocarya fraxinifolia*)



This tree is native to the Caucasus mountain region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, and as far south as N. Iran.

Shape – many stemmed on short lumpy bole. Large long alternate compound foliage. Female flowers catkins up to 50 cm long through summer; strung with green nuts which have two 1cm angled wings.

22. Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus Libani*)

Native to the Lebanon, as far North as the Taurus mountains. Flat plates of foliage. Leaves whorled on spurs.

23. Beech (*Fagus Sylvatica*)



Around the base of this Beech tree the gardeners have left an area unmowed, where a sort of “tree nursery” has been allowed to flourish. See how many different trees you can see shooting up..



24. Monkey Puzzle (*Araucaria Araucana*)

“Araucariaceae is a small ‘living fossil’ family. The Monkey Puzzle found its way to Europe when the Scottish plant hunter Archibald Menzies was given unfamiliar nuts during a banquet in Valparaiso in 1792. He reputedly slipped 5 into his pocket and germinated them on his voyage home.



Whitby Jet is the fossilized wood from species similar to the extant Monkey Puzzle tree ([Araucaria araucana](#)). ^[5] (Wikipedia)

25. Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus Deodara*)



Native to Western Himalayas where it reaches 80 metres. Shape – for comparison with other Cedars..
Deodar – drooping, Atlas - Ascending, Lebanon – level.

26. Rowan (Sorbus Accuparia)



Common Rowan (Mountain Ash) part of the Sorbus family along with whitebeams and Service trees. "Native to Europe, including Britain and Ireland, North Africa and Asia minor. Abundant on light acid soils especially in Highland Scotland. Planted everywhere in streets parks & gardens... leaves typically 15 rectangular leaflets 5cm serrated, flowers big flat creamy white heads, fruit scarlet 1cm berries soon eaten by birds" (Johnson, 2004)

27. Pin Oak (*Quercus Palustris*) & Turkey Oak (*Quercus Cerris*)



Pin Oak leaves more jagged & pointed



Turkey Oak leaves slightly more rounded.

28. Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)



“Growing freely from conkers in the UK and abundantly planted since 1616, confined in the wild to mountains in N. Greece and Albania. Its name probably derives from its association with horse medicine and its planting by smithies.” (Johnson 2004)

Leaves 5, 6 or 7 stalkless jagged double-toothed, flowers showy “candles”, fruit – many conkers in spiky husks.

29. Coast redwood (*Sequoia Sempervirens*)



Native to “a fog-bound coastal strip from Oregon to S of Monterey, California...world’s tallest tree now best Douglas Fir and Eucalypts have been felled for their superior timber..cones 2cm: unimpressive” (Johnson, 2004)

30. London Plane (*Platanus Hispanica*)



“Probably a fertile hybrid of Oriental Plane and the American Buttonwood.. originating in Spain or S. France but long planted abundantly in S. England.

Bark shallowly scaling in greys and creams. Leaves maple-like, fruit 3 cm. balls of hairy seeds, usually in 2-6 per string..” (Johnson 2004)

31. Hawthorn (*Crataegus Monogyna*)



Native to Europe, including Britain and Ireland to Afghanistan. Dominant in most hedgerows, abundant everywhere except on poor sands.



Leaves up to 6cm. cut at least halfway to the midrib by lobes, toothed at the tip. Flowers white bunches, fruit 'haws' with one pip.



Thorns

Johnson, O. Collins tree guide. London, Collins 2006.

Wright, C. Tree Survey of Blackberry Hill Hospital compiled by Chris Wright. Bristol, 2001.

HH 2/07/2014

Tree photos not acknowledged by Chris Elliott

Map produced by Rebecca Chalkley