

Trail devised by Alex Ballard and Faith Moulin 2013

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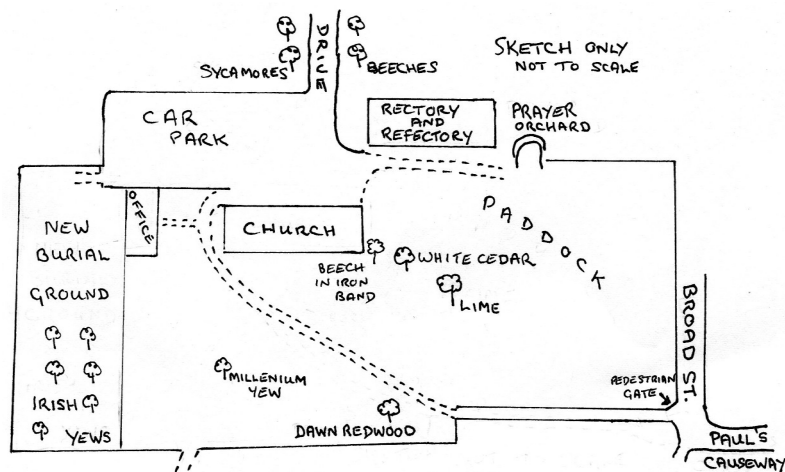
CONGRESBURY TREE TRAIL

This walk has been produced by YACWAG to promote our amazing trees and encourage us to care for them. You can follow the trail using this leaflet alone, following the red dotted line, but if you have access to a copy of the book *TREASURED TREES* of Yatton and Congresbury you will find more information on the pages noted in brackets throughout this text.

The walk is wheelchair-friendly, except for the section along the river and parts of the church paddock and prayer orchard. A detour is marked with a green dashed line. You can see all the trees from the main path. Leave the Churchyard by the green gate to get to Paul's Causeway. To avoid the kissing gate at the entrance to the King George V Playing Field, turn left along The Causeway, and after about 50 metres right through a metal gate onto a path which leads directly to the exit onto Stonewell Drive.

From the public parking next to the Ship and Castle, cross the road and see recently planted **Limes** (p.8) at the entrance to Broad Street.

Then walk along the A370 towards Weston-super-Mare, turning left down St Andrew's Church Drive. A diversion to the right takes you to St Andrew's Primary School and the **Olive Tree** (p.41) situated outside Reception. Then continue along the church drive through an avenue of **Sycamore and Beech** (p.24).



Entering the Churchyard through the black pedestrian gate, you can find the **Millennium Yew** (pp.7,14), the **Dawn Redwood** (p.28) and the **Beech growing inside the iron band** (pp 15, 17). To your right note the **Trimmed Irish Yews** (p.15) in the new burial ground. Inside the church if it is open, you can look for the **Green Man carvings** (p.46) in the centre of the arched ceiling.

Leave the churchyard, enter the paddock between a massive **Lime** (p.9) and an unusual non-native **White Cedar** (*Thuja occidentalis*). You will find the **Prayer Orchard** (p.13) through the stone arch ahead of you. On leaving the orchard, head diagonally left across the paddock by a gate onto Paul's Causeway.

With the Old Inn on your left, pass a lovely **Weeping Willow** in the garden opposite, and go on to the end of the road where the King George V Playing Field gates are directly ahead of you. The **Horse Chestnut** trees (p.27) are here, and diagonally right across the field you can see a lovely **London Plane** (p.19) in the far corner near the cricket nets.

Cross the Playing Field diagonally to the left of the tennis courts, noting the **Red Horse Chestnuts** (p.27) in the play area before leaving by the pedestrian gate onto Stonewell Drive. Turn left, and after about 100 metres take a footpath between the houses 10A and 10 into the Precinct. Walk under the **Hornbeam** (p.32) at the end of this path, and then look back at it from the car park. The **Silver Birches** (p.26) are in front of the shops. There's a chance for a coffee and cake if the bakers is open.

Leave the Precinct, cross at the crossing, and turn left on B3133 back towards the Ship and Castle. In front of the Plough turn right, stopping to observe the unusual silvery **Weeping Pear** (p.7) and the **London Plane** (p.19) at Yeo Court which is just off the main road in Mill Lane.

(To shorten the route, or for wheelchair access, see below *)

The track opposite Yeo Court is Mill Leg; go up this track, and keeping left at every junction, follow the footpath past the Bowls Club, over the Weir, and keeping the river on your left, through fields towards the Millennium Green southern gate. From the field before the gate you can see the **False Acacia** (p.30) decked with Mistletoe, on the river bank to your left. (This tree is actually in the Millennium Green extension by the community orchard) and the shimmering **Black Poplars** (pp.34, 35) ahead of you on the southern boundary of the Green.

Leave the Green again by the Millennium Bridge, noting the old **Oak** (p.22) at the far end. Here you can go down into the field on your left, and look at the **Jubilee Oak**, which has been planted in 2013 as its eventual replacement and the **Millennium Orchard** (p.7,11, and 13) in the far corner of the field. Besides regional varieties of apple, the orchard is home to a **Medlar** (p.18), a **Walnut** (p.44) and, over reaching all the rest a **Conference pear**.

*To shorten the route, or if you are concerned about the mud in wet weather, head carefully back to the Ship and Castle Car Park via the main road. (you need to cross the road again where the pavement runs out by Yeo Court.). At the rear of the car park, a path takes you over the Millennium Bridge onto the Green.

