



THE NATIONAL  
FOREST

# Hollow Oak Wood

11.7 ha Tender Scheme winner in 1999 near Newtown Unthank.  
Forms a continuous block of woodland with neighbouring Tender  
Schemes and existing woodland at Martinshaw.

## Facilities



Arriva 152  
(Hourly Mo-Sa)

## Nearby sites to visit

- Old Woodlands Farm is immediately adjacent
- Ratby Woodlands
- Grey Lodge Wood
- Martinshaw

## What to look for

The site takes its name from the old oak tree in the centre of the site. The heartwood has decayed to leave a hollow centre. It is thought that the pollarding of this tree, like those at Bradgate Park, was carried out when Lady Jane Grey was beheaded.

The existing woodland, Change Spinney, has been unmanaged for many years. Thinning of the trees has now been carried out to allow more light and to benefit the existing bluebell population and encourage redstarts into the wood. Bat boxes have been installed and some standing dead trees left for woodpeckers and insects.

The existing bridleway running diagonally across the site is part of the old cartway which ran from the mines at Desford to Anstey and known as Change Lane.

The line of a mediaeval park pale can be seen. This was an ancient boundary marked by a ridge on top of which a fence was built.

