



## Jaguar Lount Wood

This unique 72 hectare woodland was created between 2001 and 2004 with sponsorship from Jaguar Cars. It is the largest area of walnut planted in Britain. Eventually the beautifully marked timber from these trees will provide high quality veneers for cars and furniture. Some areas of conifer have also been planted to provide timber and to increase habitat diversity. These trees provide shelter and food for wintering birds. On foot or bicycle, access to the wood is from the B587. Horse riders enter the wood via the waymarked horse route which starts from the Ferrers Centre. Elsewhere, a mixture of native trees has been

At the heart of the woodland is a 19th century brick barn. Once home to livestock and hay, it now provides secure roosts and nesting sites for bats and barn owls. The thousands of daffodils in the Marie Curie Field of Hope provide one of the area's most beautiful sights in spring. The 3km cycle path crossing the wood links it with Jaguar Lount Wood to the south.



Ornamental maples have also been planted. In autumn these will be ablaze with richly coloured leaves. On the site's southern edge lies a small mature woodland, called Dog Kennel Wood, which in spring is carpeted with flowers like bluebells and wood sorrel. Elsewhere, much of the land is being restored to parkland which traditionally surrounded the historic Staunton Harold Hall. In time, statuesque oaks, chestnuts and cherries will spread their branches. Elsewhere, stands of native oak, ash and birch will attract a wide range of wildlife.

## Bignall's Wood

Bignall's Wood is the newest of the three woods. It was planted in early 2005, and is named after the family that used to farm the land. On the western side of Bignall's Wood lies the Alliance & Leicester Maple Wood. Here, Norway maples and sycamores are growing, which in time will produce timber for furniture and building. The Alliance and Leicester have funded the development of much of the site and chose maples as the wood is used extensively in their offices. Elsewhere, stands of native oak, ash and birch will attract a wide range of wildlife.



The creation of this young 34 hectare woodland was supported by a personal donation from the publisher Felix Dennis, reflecting his interest in trees and woodlands. It is named after a long-standing work colleague of Mr. Dennis, Alistair Ramsay. Once scarred by the open cast coal mining of Dog Lount Mine, it is now a peaceful place for families to enjoy. A network of grass paths leads among the young native oak, ash, field maple and hornbeam. Birds such as great tits, robins and chiffchaffs have already made their homes here. Magnificent oaks and horse chestnuts date from the medieval parkland that existed before the mine. Their pink and white flowers scent the air in spring and mulberry and crab apple, and fruited trees such as and glades of birch and fruited trees such as mulberry and crab apple. Visitors seeking a longer walk can follow the path from the meadows along the disused railway line to Jaguar Lount Wood. A series of ancient hay meadows abounding with grasses and wildflowers like spotted orchid and betony lie at the heart of the site. Once common throughout Britain, more than 95 per cent of this habitat has been destroyed by intensive agriculture. Because of their rarity

## Alistair's Wood

The Forestry Commission maintains a centuries-old haymaking tradition: We mow the field in August after the plants have flowered and set seed. Ponies are then allowed to graze, which keeps vigorous plants in check and encourages wildflowers to thrive. The southernmost part of Alistair's Wood has been planted with nut avenues and glades of birch and fruited trees such as mulberry and crab apple. Visitors seeking a longer walk can follow the path from the meadows along the disused railway line to Jaguar Lount Wood. A series of ancient hay meadows abounding with grasses and wildflowers like spotted orchid and betony lie at the heart of the site. Once common throughout Britain, more than 95 per cent of this habitat has been destroyed by intensive agriculture. Because of their rarity

## Welcome to Alistair's, Bignall's and Jaguar Lount Woods

These woods are a partnership between the Forestry Commission and a number of partners and sponsors, with the aim of creating community woodlands that can be enjoyed by all.

A network of cycle routes, bridle and footpaths give access to the woods. Car parking is available at the Ferrers Centre where many routes start. Refreshments and toilets are available here, plus craft shops and a garden centre.

**Woodland Trust Tree For All** Tree For All is the Woodland Trust's campaign to transform landscapes and engage children with nature. Our aims include the involving a million children in planting 12 million trees nationally over the next five years. To help meet this ambitious target a field in Bignall's Wood has been dedicated to Tree For All. For more information and to find out how you can get involved visit [www.treeforall.org.uk](http://www.treeforall.org.uk)

### Marie Curie Cancer Care Fields of Hope

A Field of Hope is a green space planted with daffodils. Each daffodil can be sponsored in

memory of a loved one, raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care. 10,000 bulbs were planted under the trees at the entrance to Bignall's Wood in October 2004 and the hope is to increase this number year on year. For more information and to get involved, visit [www.mariecurie.org.uk/fieldsofhope](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/fieldsofhope)

### Adopt a Tree and Plant a Tree

Original gift ideas that enable you to play an active role in the creation of The National Forest. This is your opportunity to help us create new woodland and habitats for threatened plants and animals. Dedicated areas of Bignall's Wood and Jaguar Lount Wood have been planted by individuals, families and community groups as part of the Adopt a Tree and Plant a Tree schemes. For more information visit [www.nationalforest.org](http://www.nationalforest.org)

## Locations and information Enjoy your visit



### Location

Off the B587, north-east of Ashby de la Zouch. Parking is available courtesy of Staunton Harold Estates at The Ferrers Centre.

### National Cycle routes

Route 52 runs to the east through Coalville.

### Forestry Commission England

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The National Forest is England's most ambitious environmental project. In the very heart of England, across parts of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire, more than 200 square miles of town and countryside are being transformed by this 'Forest in the making', blending ancient woodland with new planting, to create a new Forest for the nation. For more information, visit the website: [www.visitnationalforest.co.uk](http://www.visitnationalforest.co.uk) or call 01283 551 211.



Forestry Commission  
England



Forestry Commission  
England

West Midlands

## Alistair's, Bignall's & Jaguar Lount Woods

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[www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)



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## Project Partners

