

# TREES OF MABLEY GREEN

Trees are important because they encourage wildlife. Insects, such as ladybirds, greenfly and butterflies, feed on leaves of trees and the plants which grow under them. Birds roost and shelter in trees and bushes, and some birds nest in trees. Birds eat the insects which eat the leaves of trees and plants.



Trees help to reduce the noise and air pollution generated by traffic. Their leaves absorb carbon dioxide and create oxygen, reducing the smell and dangers to health from the traffic.

Trees create shade and so give people somewhere shady to sit when it is hot.

Trees, and the birds, butterflies and ladybirds they support, and the flowers growing under them, make walks more interesting. They bring changes, with new leaves in spring, seeds and fruits, and autumn colours.



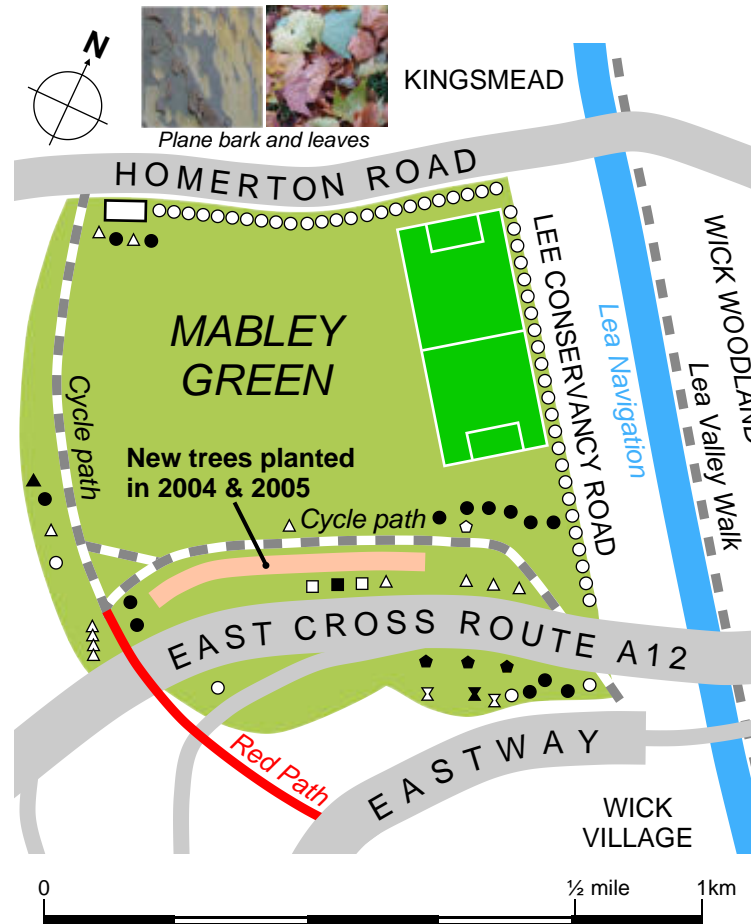
Above: Ash trees by Lee Conservancy Road.

Below: Ash and plane trees between houses on Eastway and the A12 motorway.



**Mabley Green** is split into two parts by the A12 motorway. There is a large area of grass, where football and other games are played, and there are trees round the edges of the grassed area.

A new pedestrian- and cycle-path links Homerton Road with Red Path and Eastway (over the motorway) and with Lee Conservancy Road; and (under the motorway) with Wick Village.



**Flowers** Round the edge of Mabley Green, where the grass is longer, there are many flowers, including mallow, cranesbill, clover, daisies, dandelion, shepherd's purse, chickweed, plantain, hedge mustard and black horehound.

**Birds** On the open grassland, look for woodpigeon, gulls, thrush, magpie and wagtail.



Plane trees along Homerton Road and Lee Conservancy Road.

## KEY TO THE TREES ON THE MAP

- **Plane** Most of the trees on Mabley Green are plane trees. There are about 50 plane trees along Homerton Road and Lee Conservancy Road. Most of these were planted before 1900 and are over 100 years old. Their trunks often look patchy. The trees get rid of pollution by shedding patches of their bark. The new bark is a lighter colour than the old bark. They have large pointed leaves. Their seeds look like bobbles or Christmas tree decorations.
- **Ash** There are about 12 ash trees on Mabley Green. They have lots of dark green leaves along their stalks. There is a large ash tree close to Herbert Butler Estate and three between Eastway and the motorway. The leaves of some of the ash trees turn a dark red colour in autumn.
- △ **Sycamore** Five pointed leaves. Patchy bark.
- ▲ **Willow** Large tree with thin, pointed leaves.
- **Whitebeam** Leaves have crinkly edges and are white underneath.
- **Norway Maple** Leaves with five points.
- ◇ **Alder** Round shiny leaves, cones and catkins.
- ◆ **Poplar** Triangle-shaped leaves.
- ⊗ **Cherry** Shiny bark.
- ⊗ **Elm** Toothed leaf, one side of base is longer than other.

This leaflet was prepared by Anne Woollett & Mike Trier. Photos © Anne Woollett.

For information about Hackney Marshes and copies of this leaflet, see

[www.hackneyenvironment.org.uk](http://www.hackneyenvironment.org.uk)

Based on Collins mapping - [www.collinsmaps.com](http://www.collinsmaps.com)