

About Errington Wood

Errington Wood is on the northern face of the hillside above the village of New Marske, and is readily accessible from Redcar, Guisborough and Saltburn. It is called after the Errington family, the original landowners, who, in 1773 planted the area with trees as a cash crop.



Within the wood there are over 9 miles of well-maintained paths, the lower one of which is flat with a solid surface. The wood's industrial heritage is not readily visible from the paths. However, those keen on doing so can discover many historical artefacts from the ironstone mining period, 1851 to 1923, the stone quarrying believed to be from the 16th and 17th centuries and as far back as the Bronze Age.

Throughout the wood, within the undergrowth there are remains of areas used for stone quarrying, bell pits, drift entrances, a powder house where explosives were kept, a fan house to ventilate the mine, a cottage, reservoirs and water pumping installations.



Friends of Errington Wood

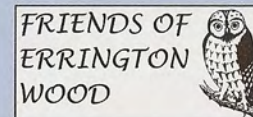
The group was formed as a volunteer body to help with the management of the woodland, in partnership with the owner, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.

Much of our work is directed towards improving the wood's biodiversity.

Anyone wishing to join the group will be made welcome, and can choose how much they want to be involved.

To join us or find out when activities are taking place, please look at the website www.foew.ik.com

This leaflet has been produced by the Friends of Errington Wood in conjunction with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.



Errington Wood

A Visitor's Guide





Bronze Age

Man's involvement with the land on which Errington Wood stands can be traced back to the Bronze Age. On the upper part there are several Bronze Age burial mounds, the best of which is situated at the top of the wood, towards the western end, near to where it meets with Soapwell Wood.

In the early 1900s some excavation work was carried out on these sites and a number of the artefacts are held in Panett Park Museum in Whitby. These burial sites were probably chosen for their prominent position, offering spectacular views over Tees Bay and beyond.



Ironstone Industry

Ironstone was mined here from 1851 until 1923. The mine extended beyond Upleatham village (after which it is called) and was the second largest in the area, but it was believed to have been the largest in the world at one time. When the mine closed, redundant miners planted trees on the remaining spoil mounds, to create the wood as it is today.

Look along the lower path for artefacts and ruins relating to the mines and imagine the railway wagons running along here, moving the stone.







Present Day

The wood is now a local nature reserve and provides a peaceful environment to enjoy its lovely walks, variety of trees, ferns, flowers and wildlife. There is ample car parking and a large picnic area with woodland access.

In the springtime the upper slopes are carpeted with bluebells. This species and other indicator plants suggest that the wood has its origins as ancient woodland.

Look out for the many species of birds and other wildlife. The lucky visitor may spot roe deer grazing.

KEY

- Bridleway 
- Footpath 
- Woodland Tracks 
- Pond 
- Car Park/Picnic Area 

Enjoy the emerging diversity of the trees, as part of the management plan involves the gradual replacement of the conifers with broadleaved trees.

NEW MARSKE

Falklands Walk

If riding is for you, then in addition to the bridleways that run through the wood, there is a permissive bridleway that circumnavigates the field system contained inside the boundaries of Errington, Soapwell and Village Woods. This area was formerly known as Burleigh Moor.

Please be aware that pedestrians also use these bridleways.

Why not take advantage of the many footpaths and enjoy a walk? This can be anything from a short stroll to a complete circular route, visiting the village of Upleatham on the way. Explore some of the smaller tracks. You will never be far from a main forest path. This is one of the few woods where you can do this comfortably.

Errington wood is there to be enjoyed by everyone. All we would ask is that you respect the place by taking your litter home with you, keeping dogs under control, cleaning up after them and by being considerate to anyone else that you might meet there.

APPROXIMATE SCALE
Metres



Grewgrass Lane
Sandy Lane

Pontac Road

Quarry Lane

UPLEATHAM