#### Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula' - Weeping Ash

This is a grafted variety of our native Ash grown for its long weeping branches that hang from a contorted stem on a straight trunk below the graft. As with the native Ash, this form is easily identified by its almost black buds in winter.

#### 5 Carpinus betulus - Hornbeam

This native to Southern England has been widely used in the past due to its hard, close-grained timber that makes good firewood and charcoal. It can be recognised by the fruit that consists of a bunch of nutlets often persisting on the tree through the winter.

## 5) Fagus sylvatica purpurea - Copper Beech

A form of our native Beech grown for its dark red/purple leaf. The fruit or 'mast' that can often be seen covering the ground contains three triangular shaped nuts which provide food for a wide variety of wildlife including squirrels, badgers, dormice and various birds.

#### Tilia cordata - Small-Leaved Lime

Native to Europe and Britain. Otherwise known as the Small-leaved Linden. 5000 years ago was the dominant tree in NW European lowland "Wildwood". The leaves are small triangular-ovate in shape. Valuable timber - white or yellow wood. Once seasoned does not warp or change dimensions. Often used for keys and sounding boards on pianos and organs.

## Glyptostrobus pencilis - Chinese Swamp Cypress

This native of South East China is a rare species in cultivation in the British Isles. This example was identified in 2004 as another potential 'Champion Tree' set to outgrow a larger example in Ireland.

#### Betula papyrifera - Paper-Bark Birch

Native to N America. A fairly common street and garden tree, introduced from America in the mid-18th century. Otherwise known as the Canoe Birch, as Native Americans used the waterproof bark to make their canoes. The bark is whiter than the European birches, and peels horizontally. Birches are known for attracting birds and other wildlife and have outstanding yellow autumn colour.

#### 10 Cercis siliquastrum - Judas Tree

A native of Southern Europe and West Asia introduced to the British Isles in the 15th Century. Grown for its clustered pink flowers that appear on the shoots/branches before the leaves in mid may followed by fruit that hang as pea-like pods.

#### Platanus x hispanica - London Plane

A hybrid of the Oriental and American Plane introduced into Britain in the 17th Century. These trees were probably planted when the park was built in 1880. It is much planted in urban areas as it is tolerant of air pollution and poor growing conditions.

#### 12 Metasequoia glyptosroboides - Dawn Redwood

Native to SW China, this species was only recorded in the wild in 1941 and introduced to Britain in 1948. This species is one of the few deciduous (leaves fall in autumn) conifers.

#### 13 Ulmus 'plantijn' - Elm cultivar

One of West Parks 'Champion Trees' which was noted in 2004 as being the largest specimen in Gt. Britain. It seems to be resistant to 'Dutch Elm' disease that killed all the Parks original Elm trees.

#### 4 Arbutus menziesii - Madrona

Native to NW America and introduced to Britain in 1795 by Archibald Menzies in 1813, hence it's name. It has distinctive peeling bark ranging from reddish brown to green, grey and cracked at the base. Bell shaped white flowers appear in late spring followed by orange berries.

#### Quercus robur - Common Oak Quercus petrea - Sessile Oak

These examples of our two native Oaks were planted in 1897 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The difference is in how the acorns are borne – long stalks for Common Oak - on shoot tips for the Sessile Oak.

#### 6 Tsuga heterophylla - Western Hemlock

Native to Western America this tree was first introduced to Britain circa1850. The common name derives from the crushed leaves smelling similar to that of the herbaceous Hemlock much used in ancient medicine.

#### 7 Populus lasiocarpa - Chinese Necklace Poplar

A rare tree introduced from China in 1900 and grown here for its large 10-30cm leaves on 20cm stalks. The two examples here have been grafted, (graft line visible at 2m on the trunk).

#### 8 Salix 'Chermisina' - 'Red Stemmed' or 'Scarlet Willow'

A remarkable form, most conspicuous in winter when the branches are brilliant orange / scarlet. This tree was planted to mark Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee in 2012 in association with the 'Friends of West Park' group. West Park

Wolverhampton



# Follow Trail:

Start: Southgate Lodge Approx Distance: 2km Finish: The Tearooms Approx Time: 1.5hrs

# West Park **Tree Trail**

#### Cedrus libani **Cedar of Lebanon**

This native of Lebanon, Syria and Turkey was first introduced to the British Isles in the 17th Century. It can be identified from the Atlas Cedar and the Deodar Cedar by the general rule: Atlas-Ascending, Lebanon Level, Deodar-Down when applied to the young shoot tips.

#### Prunus serrula tibetica 2 **Tibetan Cherry**

Native to West China and first introduced to the British Isles in the early 20th Century. A surprisingly rarely seen species of Cherry grown for its beautiful and unique glossy red bark and branches.

#### 3 Araucaria araucana - Monkey Puzzle

A native of Chile and Argentina this unusual species was first introduced to the British Isles in the late 18th Century and has been a popular tree in our parks and gardens since.

- Map Key
- 1 Conservatory 7 Flower Beds 2 Lakeside Pavillion Children's Park Boating Lake Bandstand 10 Chelet Tearooms 4 Bridge 5 Villiers Statue 6 Clock Tower 12 Toilets
  - 11 Tennis Courts