The New Earswick tree trail is a walk through this garden village. You will be able to see mature native species and some unusual varieties of trees planted by the Joseph Rowntree Village Trust over a hundred years ago.

NE can be reached by bus 1, 13, 14, & 20 and get off at the stop outside Folk Hall where the walk begins and ends. FH also has car park. The distance is one and half miles. The route is wheelchair accessible.

Walk north from Folk Hall along Hawthorn Terrace just a few metres. In the front garden of Hall Cottages is a Maidenhair tree and a Tulip tree.

Next door in the front garden of Westfield House there is an interesting collection of evergreen trees.
The trail continues along the main road towards the junction with Lime Tree Ave. Magnificent views across the playing field of a mature Oak and Lime trees.

Cross the main road with care using the crossing and proceed towards Chestnut Grove which is clearly signposted to the right of the shops. Bear left across the car park into Chestnut Grove, (Houses 21 - 112.) Several houses have interesting ornamental shrubs and fruit trees (separate leaflet). There are red and white flowering Hawthorn, Horse-chestnut trees, Acacia, Mountain Ash, Copper Beech and Lawson Cypress.

Continue to the end of the housing and turn right along the the road to join the footpath which crosses the open meadow towards the river. On your right is a groups of young trees at the northern end of the Willow Bank grassed area. Planted by TREEMENDOUS YORK as part of a nationwide project. The tree whips were planted for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in 2012 (https://www.sei.org/featured/lord-mayor-plant-jubilee-royal-oak-new-earswick/). They include a Royal Oak grown from one of the Queen’s estates.

Follow the Willow Bank footpath south. Large Willows, Copper beech, Sycamore, Hawthorn, Alder, Wild rose, Rowan, Poplar, Oak and London Plane can all be seen. Take the footpath along the river bank towards Station Ave which although tree
lined is one of the few roads in New Earswick which does not carry the name of a tree. Unfortunately on this river bank several Weeping willows have been cut down. Let's hope new plantings can be made to compensate for this loss. The Willow trunks were left for play and have increased biodiversity in the rotting process.

At the corner of Sleepers Path and Station Ave is NEST (New Earswick Community Garden) It has some good trees including Cypress, Pine, Ash, Elder, Hawthorn, Damson, Crack Willow, Hazel and Turkey Oak. There are also a wide variety of fruit trees (see Fruit Tree trail leaflet). The Garden is open every Wednesday morning and some Sunday afternoon www.newearswickgarden.org.uk

Follow the footpath keeping the river on your left and walk past the back of the garages. This area is managed by CAN. Cafornature@gmail.com Walking under the Link road bridge you will encounter flowers, mixed hedges, birds and bats boxes and wildlife benefiting from the riverside location and mature tree cover. All are managed by a volunteer team which work on Tuesday and Saturday from 10.00 until 12 noon. Notable are the grand specimens of Poplar, Sycamore, Copper Beech, Silver birch and a Willow, one that features an unusual 'hole' in its trunk. Also lookout for the Acacia, Red American Oak near
the fence and length of 'dead hedge', a decaying trunk for Tree creeper/ woodpeckers plus a tree nursery of smaller saplings grown from seeds. All this to encourage a love of nature.

The Tree trail turns back towards Folk Hall near the white Lock Cottage which is the HQ for CAN. Exit can be made by small wood and wire gate to cross the main road at the roundabout sign. Then with extreme care turn right back toward the village centre. On your left behind a high metal fence is the Nature Reserve (NR).

The site of the NR is the clay pit and former brick works (1902). It supplied bricks and roof tiles for NE. Public access is limited to open days. Contact Chris Adams nenaturereserve@outlook.com

Inside the Reserve are further interesting species of trees and may well be featured in a future TREEMENDOUS TREE Trail leaflet.

Between the NR fence and the main road is a wide verge called Jon’s Walk and Julies Wood. This again may be the subject of another TREEMENDOUS Tree Trail in the future. Under the mature tree canopy are bushes where there is something different in every season of the year. From blue bell time until winter when food from Hazel, Elder, Snowberry, Crab Apple, Blackberry, Hawthorne, Sloe, Walnut and Holly can be harvested.

Jon’s walk /Julies wood path leads into the disused railway line footpath. Turn right towards the main road and then left back along the main road footpath. Stay on the left hand path until opposite the sign to Poplar Grove (on the right of the main road). Turn left through an avenue of trees which were once the carriage way to the Garth farmhouse and now forms a mixed tree lined public footpath leading to the Garth and White Rose Grove Green.

Growing near the Garth and on the green are some of the best specimen trees in the whole village. Beech, Sycamore, English oak, Silver Birch and Indian Horse chestnut
But best of all is the “Catalpa” Indian Bean tree which is alongside the street name sign White Rose Grove. One of first trees planted by Vic Atkins in his 50 plus years of service to the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust. Now given extra metal supports it is at its best in July.

You can return to your starting point of Folk Hall by turning left back onto Hawthorne Terrace.

This first Tree Trail for New Earswick has been made possible through the work of volunteers from the Local History group and many individual talented photographers, wild life enthusiasts who enjoy walking and learning about the village trees and biodiversity.

Hopefully you will during your walk have been able to appreciate the beautiful backdrop that the trees provide to the village. Trees also are improving the health and well-being of residents by cleaning the air of carbon dioxide and pollutants.

Treemendous York look forward to continuing its association with the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust which began in 2012 and we hope will see us planting more trees in the area. “We care about trees” and look forward to sharing our knowledge and skills with the community in all parts of the city.