

# Tree Identification Guide



Name:

Group:

# Tree Identification Guide

This guide can be used for the OPAL Tree Health Survey and OPAL Air Survey



## Oak

*Quercus* species



## Horse chestnut

*Aesculus hippocastanum*



## Ash

*Fraxinus excelsior*



## Sycamore

*Acer pseudoplatanus*



## Rowan

*Sorbus aucuparia*



## Maple

*Acer* species



## Elder

*Sambucus nigra*



## Hawthorn

*Crataegus montana*



## Sweet chestnut

*Castanea sativa*



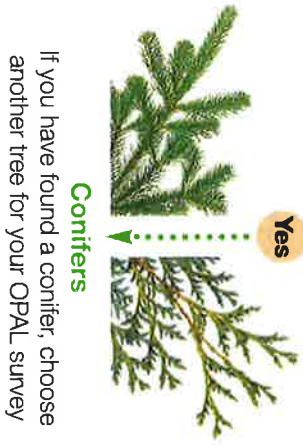
## London Plane

*Platanus x acerifolia*



**Start here**

Does the tree have needles or scale-like leaves?



**Yes**  
If you have found a conifer, choose another tree for your OPAL survey

**Conifers**

Does the tree have simple leaves?



**No**  
a compound leaf - made up of several leaflets

Do all the leaflets grow from the end of the stalk?



**Yes**  
**Horse chestnut**

Does the leaf have two or three pairs of leaflets?



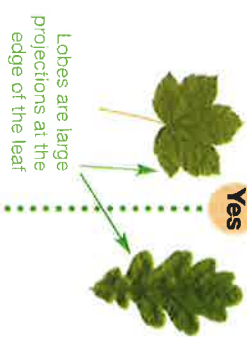
**Yes**  
**Elder**

Check: Elder leaves release a pungent smell when you rub them

Do the leaves have lobes?



**Yes**  
a simple leaf - a single leaf attached to a stalk



**Yes**  
Lobes are large projections at the edge of the leaf

Do the veins spread out from a single point?



**Yes**

veins spread out from a single point at the top of the leaf stalk - a palmate leaf

Does the leaf have a toothed edge?



**Yes**

Teeth are small projections on the edge of the leaf

**Sycamore**

Are the twigs thorny?



**Yes**

**Hawthorn**

**No**  
**Oak**

Do the leaves grow in opposite pairs on the twig?



**No**

veins spread from several places along the leaf stalk - a pinnate leaf

**London Plane**

Do the leaves grow in opposite pairs?



**Yes**

**Maple**

Check: Maple leaves have more rounded lobes, while London Plane and Sycamore have more pointed lobes

**Opposite pairs** - pairs of leaves grow from a single point on the stem



**Ash**

Check: Ash has black buds



**Rowan**

Check: Rowan never has black buds like Ash. Rowan leaflets are deeper toothed than Ash. Look out for red berries on Rowan in autumn

**Alternate pairs** - each leaf grows from a different place on the stem

**No**




LOTTERY FUNDED

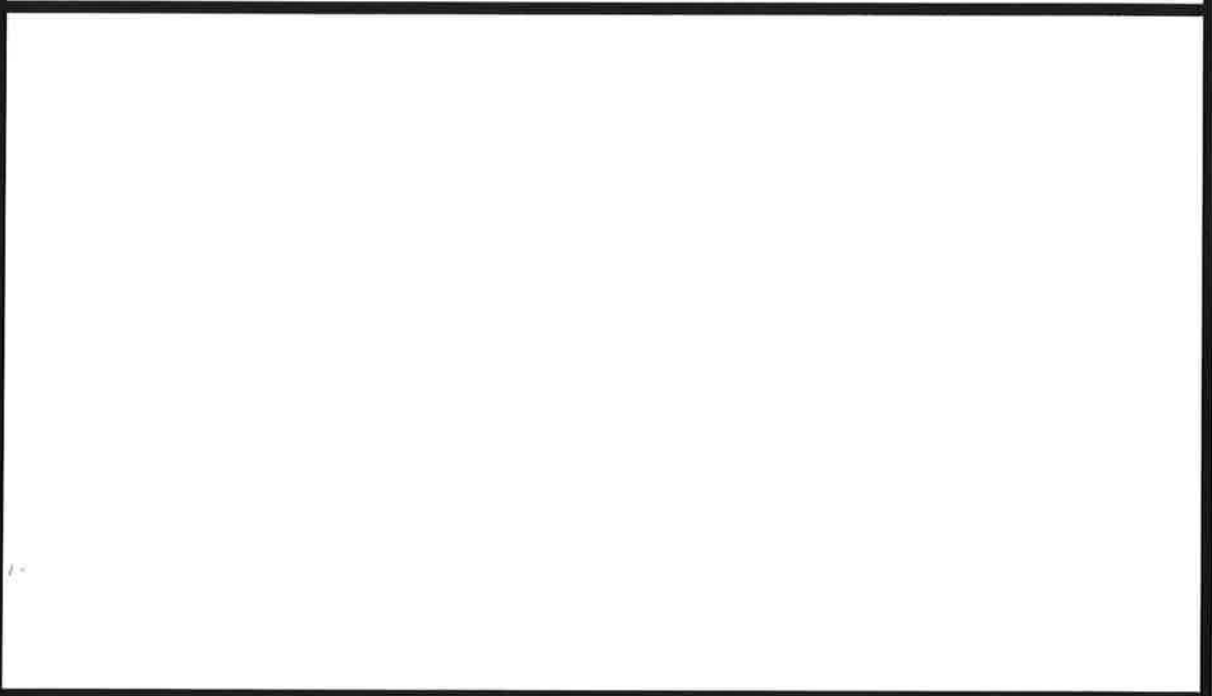
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**Now draw the leaves and identify what type of tree it originates from**

**Tree Name:**

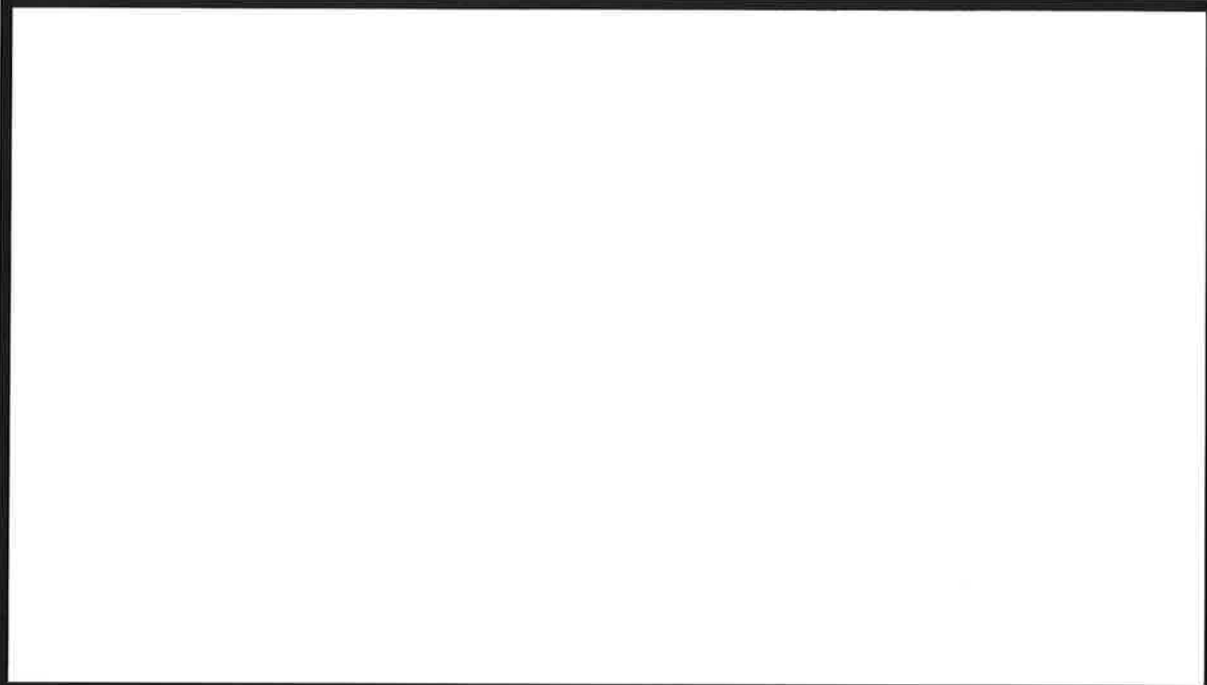


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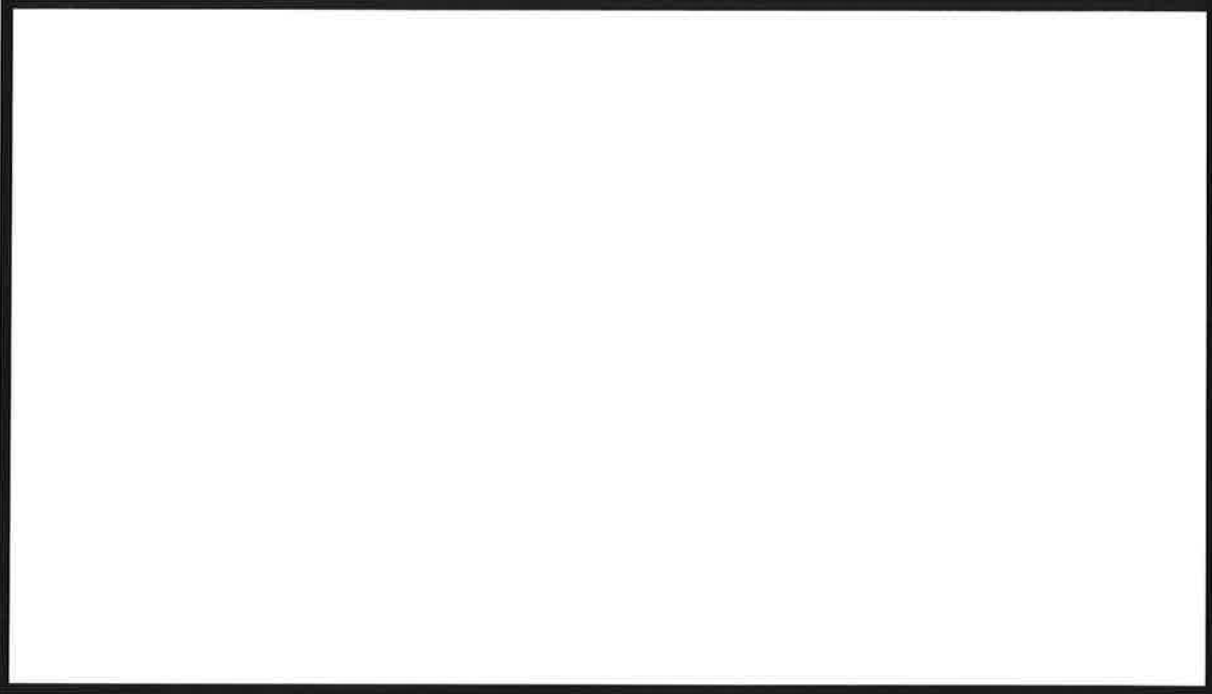


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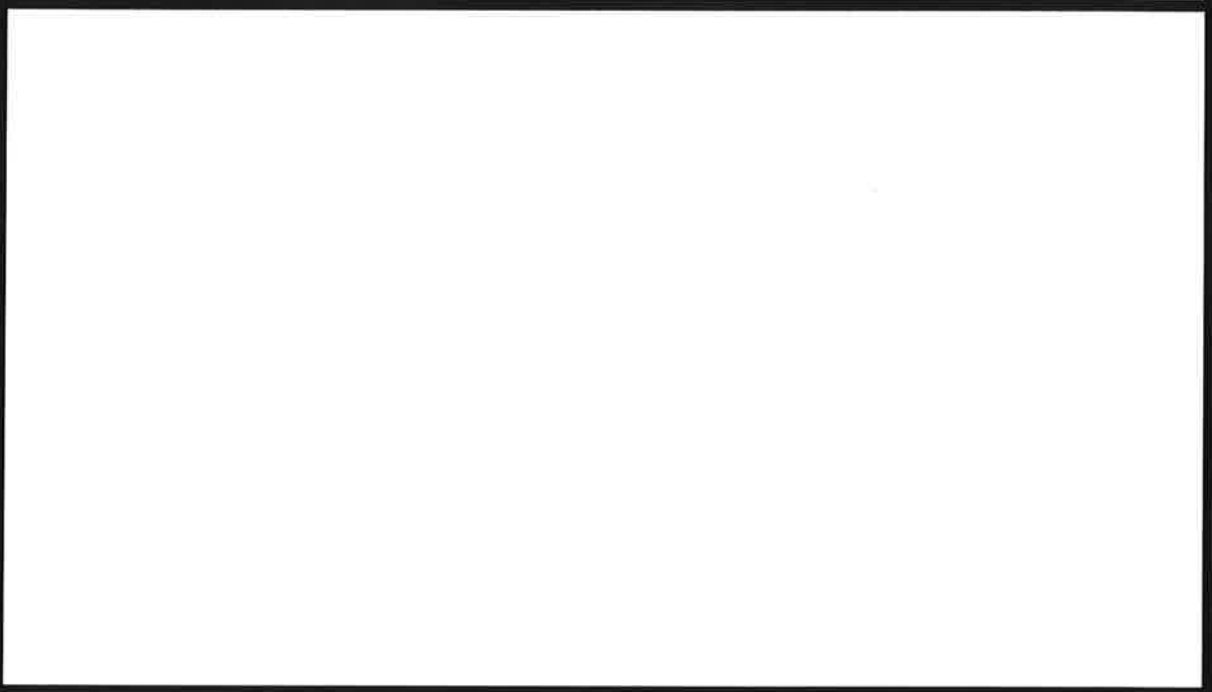


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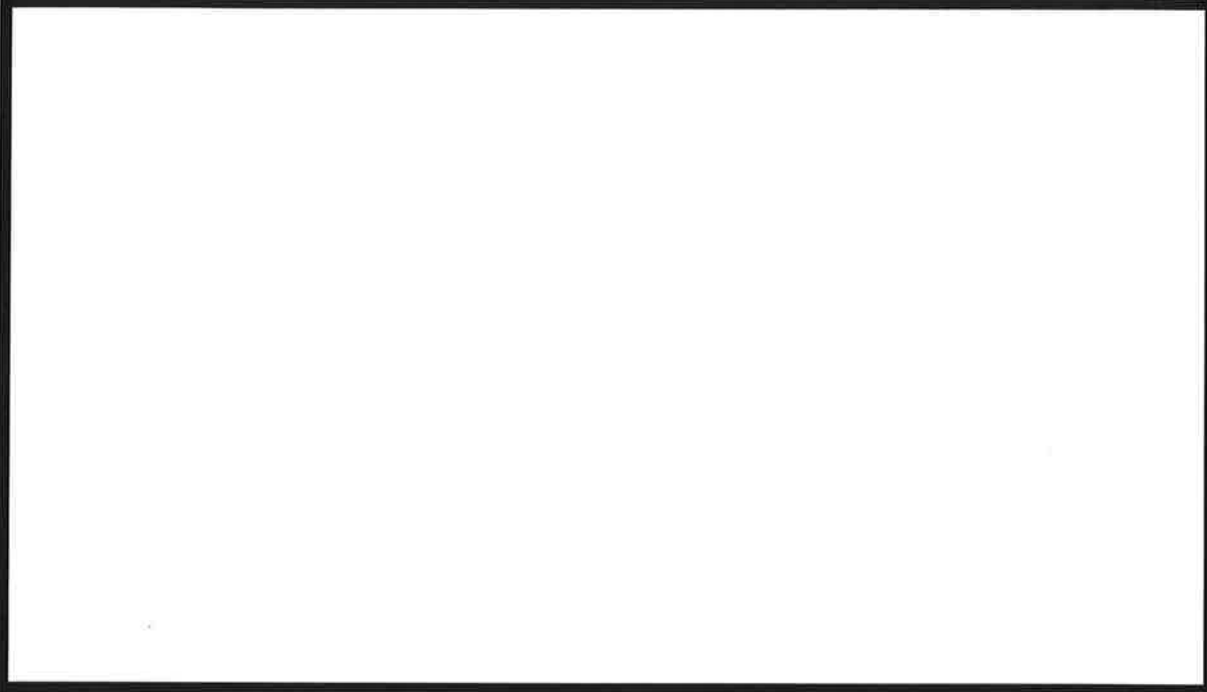
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