

JETTY FIELD GUIDE

1. Wood Pile. As this wood rots down it should make a home for all sorts of insects and protection for small mammals to make nests and shelters for the winter.

Woodland Paths. There are some paths cleared to make the way easy to ramble through the wilder part of the garden. There are many different trees, flowers and shrubs.

2. Bog Garden. This is a damper patch than usual and supports water-loving plants. It should also encourage small animals that prefer soggy, squelchy, smelly dens. Best not to walk on the surface and get muddy.

3. Waterfall. Maybe, if it has been raining. Even without rain the local Jurassic limestone rocks look good.

4. Compost Heap. To recycle waste.

5. Bird boxes. Different shapes for blackbirds, tits, owls and a sparrow high rise. Some bat boxes as well over the site.

6. Woodpeckers fly to this old stump.

7. A fallen trunk. To provide soft wood to encourage bugs and beetles.

8. Wild bluebells and primroses.

9. Wild flowers. The meadow is managed to encourage the development of flowers among the grass. Hay is cropped and sheep graze at other times. Native seeds are sown to re-establish the plants recorded in Duncan Gallie's botanical survey of the 1950s. Pig nut can still be found to link the sward with mediaeval farming and clearance.

10. Ditches. Water draining from the higher land and from drainage in the High Street runs on either side of the field to give a special habitat for insects and moist-loving plants.

11. Willow Tree. There is not much of the old willow that remains. It was one of the several individual trees in the meadow. Others still remain.

12. This is one of them. There is an owl box in its branches.

13. Ridge and Furrow. When the Saxons settled the land after Roman times the village lands were divided into five or so massive fields and farmers had strips of land in each of the big fields. Over the centuries, as they ploughed the strips, the soil was turned over into the centre of the strip, and the ridges so made can still be seen in Jetty Field.

14. Enclosure Hedges. In the 18th century each farmer's land was amalgamated into

smaller fields and quickset hedges planted. These hedges run over the older strips.

15. Avenue of Lime Trees. Early in the 20th century the owner of Eastfield House set this avenue of trees from his home to the wharf on the canal which had been constructed 100 years earlier. The canal-side is reached through the bottom gate.

16. Hedge. Late in the 20th century this new hedge was established by The Conservation Group. Just below it there is a deep furrow which can still be seen in spite of efforts to fill it in over the years. This may well be the point at which the mediaeval farmers swung their ploughs round at the top of their strips where they reached the gardens of the village houses.

17. Jurassic Way. The long distance path crosses this land at the centre of our village.

Allotments. No mediaeval farmer guarded his strip more fiercely than do the men and women who till their half perch here.

Wildlife Area. Dedicated to the memory of Duncan and Marjorie Gallie. Duncan was head-teacher in the village in the 1950s; his botanical survey, collected with the help of the pupils of Braunston school, is deposited in the Natural History Museum. His family have initiated and financed an Annual Prize for the children of the village.