

The New Reach and the Millennium Green . . .

The New Reach canal (built 1700s) brought wherries from sea to town

- Spring-fed in summer, with rich emergent and marginal wildlife including yellow flag, voles, and the willow emerald damselfly.

The New Reach runs through Millennium Green, 50+ acres of public open space.

- Meadows continuously grazed or cut for decades, with orchids, fritillaries, adder's tongue fern, Norfolk hawk dragonflies, pipistrelle bats, owls, toads, snakes, slow and glow worms.
- Woodlands old, young and new, community orchard, ponds and dykes, hedges and copses, heritage railway, and the New Reach.

. . . The Folly (Bird's Folly)

The gravel pits serving the railways were abandoned here in the 1930s and nature has staged a glorious come-back including woodland, scrub and acid grassland.

- Summer visitors include blackcap, garden warbler and whitethroat.
- Green and great spotted wood-pecker roam grass and woodland.
- Polypody and hart's-tongue fern flourish in the oldest pit.
- Gorse and broom love the acid soil as do small copper and brown argus butterflies, while birdsfoot, parsley piert, tormentil and sheep's sorrel love the grassland.

About the area

Many wildlife features of the Town and surrounding area are associated in some way with the Blyth Valley where you can find kingfishers and grey wagtails, damselflies and dragonflies; otters and water voles patrol the waterways; the flood meadows are rich with lady's smock and ragged robin; barn owls and heron hunt over the marshes; swifts scream over the Town in summer, sand martins feed over open water and breed in the sand pits.

Public Transport etc.

Halesworth is served by hourly trains on the Ipswich - Lowestoft line (2 hourly on Sundays) and buses including First Bus service 99A between Bungay, Halesworth and Southwold (not Sundays). Refer to www.travelineeastanglia.org.uk for more information on transport.

Various places to eat in town, toilets just inside Town Park and at Market Place

Help...?

Your sightings or records are enormously welcome.



Halesworth Millennium Green
thegreen@halesworth.net



For general enquiries about visiting and other walks Halesworth Tourism Group
halesworthtourismgroup@gmail.com

Offers to join the volunteers helping to manage any of these spaces are crucial if they are to continue being such glorious assets to the Town.



Thanks to East Suffolk Partnership for funding this leaflet.

Wild about Halesworth



The Cemetery . . .

Seek out the remnant of herb-rich grass surviving in the northern part (top end), cut late in summer to preserve the variety

- Early displays of cowslip and primrose followed by ox-eye daisy, knapweed, scabious, fairy flax and quaking grass.
- Along Loam Pit Lane the hedge includes 10+ woody species such as spindle, hazel and hornbeam.
- One wall of the cemetery supports good populations of rare species of fern including maidenhair, and black spleenwort.
- Keep your eyes peeled for grass snake, lizard and slow worm.

Lovers' Lane . . .

An ancient pathway running between old hedgerows.

- Fine hornbeams, pollard oak, ash, hazel, field maple and dogwood.
- Dog's mercury, bluebells, and primrose in spring.

... and Holton Churchyard

- Famous for its glow worms.

Holton Pits

Wonderful for warblers and woodpeckers, the Pits' star species is:

- Red-eyed damselfly, especially in the grassland along the east side.

Also small copper, common blue and brown argus butterflies.

