

## THE MILLENNIUM TRAIL

A very special and exciting adventure for everyone to enjoy

### Can you find?

- 15 sign posts
- A wildlife mural
- A beach
- The Grand Union Canal
- Bird boxes
- The Westley Brook
- Ancient woodland
- An 'elephant' in a tree

### WE ALSO WELCOME YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT:

#### From local schools and nurseries:

Teachers and carers come and enjoy this exciting trail as an introduction to the natural world.

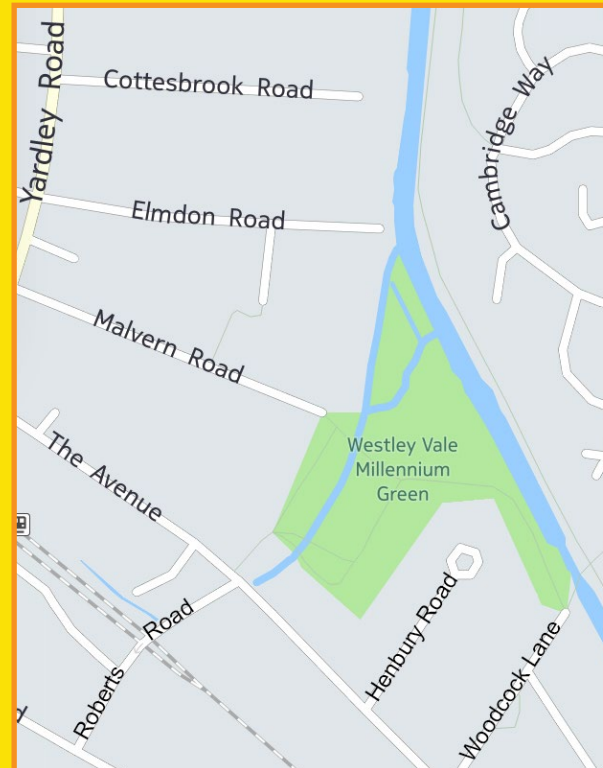
#### From local residents:

Please enjoy walking around and exploring the natural beauty of this conservation area. Help us to care for it and keep it litter free.

#### From volunteers:

As a registered charity without funding, we appreciate help in maintaining this site for use by the local community. Please support our fundraising activities.

## WHERE IS IT?



### Main Entrance

The Avenue  
(opposite Roberts Road)  
Acocks Green, B27 6NG

### Who to Contact?

Secretary - Rosemary Pettigrew  
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<https://acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org/westley-vale-millennium-green/>



## MILLENNIUM GREEN



## THE MILLENNIUM TRAIL

### Did you know we are keeping a SECRET?

This Millennium Green, officially opened in 2000 to provide five acres of 'breathing space' in our urban environment, was transformed from a disused allotment site into an area of natural beauty. It is accessible for the local community to enjoy at all times.

This beautiful site has everything – woodlands, wetlands, grassed recreational area, a wild flower meadow, and a variety of wildlife. It is approached by a gentle vale through which runs the Westley Brook and is partly bordered by the Grand Union Canal. There is also a colourful mural depicting many animals and birds that can be seen on site on your visit throughout the year, whether it be spring, summer, autumn or winter.

Come and explore: follow the numbered trail from 1–15, and discover for yourselves the exciting secrets of our local conservation area.

# THE MILLENNIUM TRAIL

**No. 10:** Woodcock Lane entrance to the site. See the listed Vineries Canal Bridge built in 1794. It is the oldest canal bridge in Birmingham. Banks of English bluebells are found here.

**No. 9:** You are now standing on a substance called Hoggin. This is believed to be the debris excavated from the canal bed during its creation.

**No. 12:** Wildflower meadow. Created by the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust this meadow will be full of wild flowers in the spring.

**No. 8:** Grand Union Canal and beach area. Look out for the local ducks from the 'beach'. You might be lucky enough to spot a kingfisher or heron from this point.

**No. 7:** Old stream bed and the oldest part of the woodland. The original stream used to pass by here and then under the Grand Union Canal.

**No. 6:** Natural old woodland with many species of trees. Home to foxes, squirrels and many birds including the elusive woodpecker.

**No. 13:** Wetlands area. This boggy area floods regularly and is used by water fowl. You can find frog spawn and tadpoles here in the Spring amongst the willow trees.

**No. 14:** A bridge crosses the Westley Brook at this point. Behind you will see the 'Police Steps' leading to Malvern Road which were improved by funding from Proceeds of Crime monies.

**No. 15:** Here you will find many wildflowers including snowdrops, daffodils & primroses. Spot the stacks of dead wood that provide safe housing for the smaller creatures on site.



**No. 11:** The Heights  
The highest viewing point on the site giving a panoramic view over the Green.

**No. 4:** The main Green with seating - used for recreational purposes. Rowan trees circle an area planted with seasonal wildflowers.

**No. 3:** Area of woodland first planted in 2000. Newly planted with woodland plants (wood anemones, wild garlic etc.).

**No. 5:** Crossroads of main pathways with directional sign. Ancient willow tree and small orchard with medlar, plum, cherry and crab-apple trees.

**No. 2:** Westley Brook enters the site at this point having travelled underground through Acocks Green Village. It runs through willow coppices here on its way towards the wetlands.

**No. 1:** Enter the site via ornamental gates designed by pupils from Cottesbrook J & I School in 1999. On the main drive there is a mural showing creatures than may be found on site.

WESTLEY VALE  
MILLENNIUM GREEN