

St. Mary's Mildenhall: Churchyard Nature Trail



Photograph courtesy of Philip Fuller.

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JACKDAWS: Jackdaws are highly intelligent, easily learning new skills and mastering garden bird feeders. It has been reported that a tame jackdaw was once trained by some thieves to steal money from cash machines in Italy!

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IVY: Ivy can often be seen climbing up trees, walls or fences and can form thick bushes. Yellow-green flowers seen in the Autumn provide food for insects such as Hornets and Honey Bees.

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HOLLY: Holly provides shelter for nesting birds within its dense leaves. The red berries provide food for birds and small mammals during the winter and its leaves feed caterpillars and deer in Spring & Summer.

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BEECH TREE: In 2018, a Beech Tree in Leeds was voted the UK Tree of the Year. A Beech Tree has a lifespan of 150 to 400 years and can grow to a height of around 50m tall.

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YEW TREE: Yew Trees are one of the longest-lived native species in Europe and can grow to a height of around 20m tall. Yew Trees are commonly found in Churchyards, like here at St. Marys,

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BEES: Bees have smelly feet! A study at the University of Bristol indicated that Bumblebees have the ability to tell the difference between the smell of their own footprints and that of a relative or a stranger

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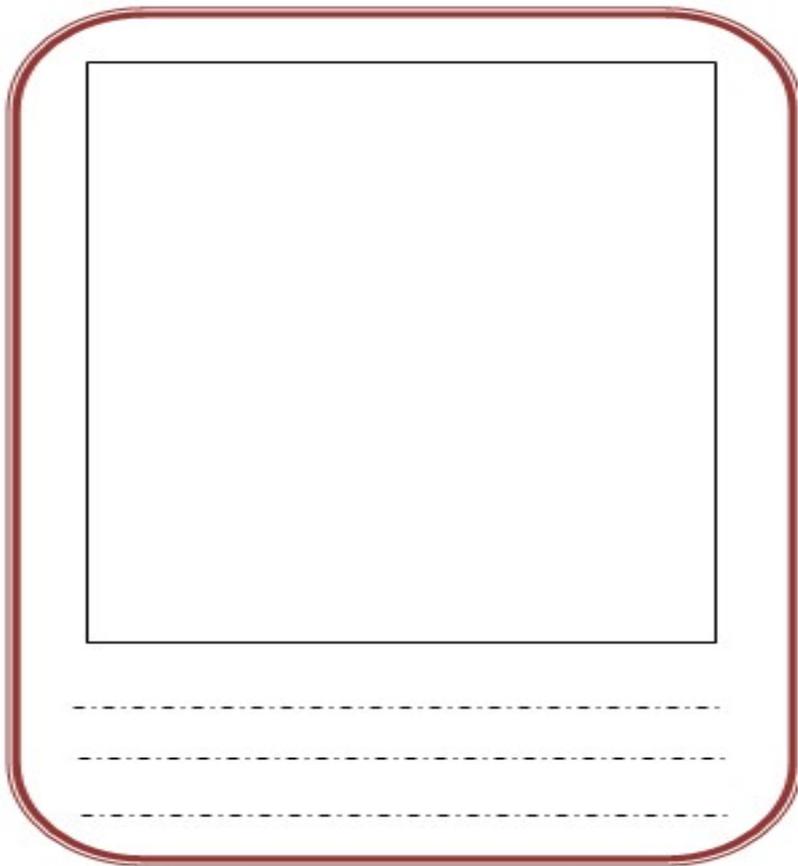


DAISY: Daisies make up almost 10% of the flowering plants on Earth. They are actually two flowers in one. The white outer petals count as one and the inner cluster of petals forming the "eye" is technically another flower.

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DANDELION: Every part of the Dandelion flower is useful; roots, flowers and leaves. The Dandelion can be used as a dye for colouring clothes, can be eaten and used in medicine



Draw a picture of your favourite natural thing in the Churchyard and describe why you like

W R E N T H R U S H
 B S W I F T O I B N
 O W G P I N B L R I
 J O P J A C I L E B
 A R S I W R N G N S
 C R P D D N O S H P
 K A R I E G O W L A
 D P U O G E E T C R
 A S T H B E K O J R
 W E N N R R O I N O



ROBIN

SWIFT

OWL



JACKDAW

SPARROW

WREN



PIGEON

THRUSH

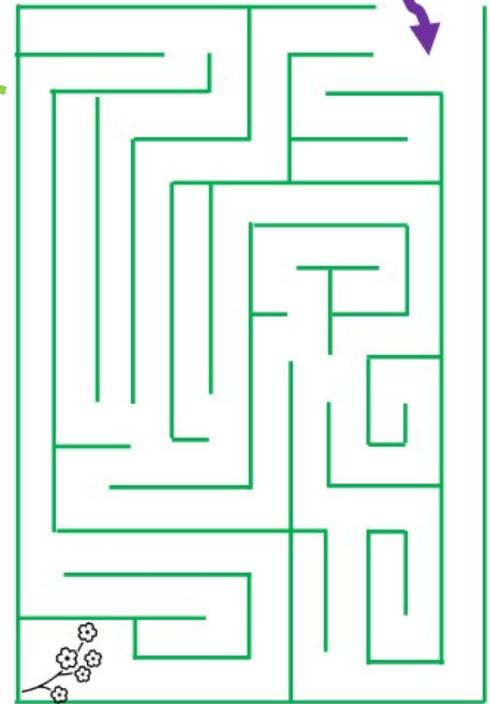
In the UK, there are about 60 species of butterflies, about 20 of these can be seen in gardens.

St. Mary's Mildenhall is a Grade I Listed parish church. It is one of the biggest churches in Suffolk, approximately 60 m in length by 20 m wide, and has 40 m high tower at the western end of the church. A church has been present on this site for almost 1,000 years but what is there today dates back to the early 13th century, with the tower addition completed in the 1460s.

Our environment is an important focus those attending St. Mary's and regularly features in our worship. In the Churchyard we have installed bat boxes, we manage when the grass is mowed, have set aside an area planted with wildflowers to attract bees and butterflies and have installed water butts to harvest rainwater.

During the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 2021 Sparrows, Blue Tits, Blackbirds, Robins and Starlings are amongst the top 10 species identified in UK gardens.

Help the butterfly reach the wildflowers



Match the footprints to the animals that created them