

The Friends of Gorse Hall are a group of residents and interested people who want to help preserve Gorse Hall for recreational, historical and educational use by children and adults to visit and enjoy.

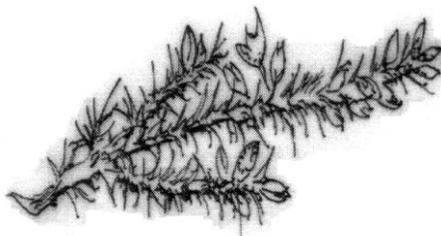
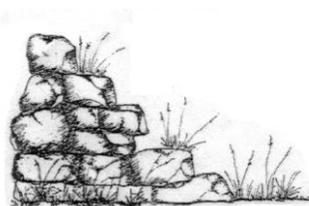
By becoming a member, you will be helping to obtain government funding to help Gorse Hall for future generations.

The history of Gorse Hall includes John Leech, a local mill owner who built Gorse Hall and was also the grandfather of Beatrix Potter. The animal and sculptures on the nature trail commemorate this historic link.

The FRIENDS OF GORSE HALL
....Kindly supported by....



A MILLENNIUM PROJECT
SUPPORTED BY FUNDS
FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY



FRIENDS OF GORSE HALL

NATURE TRAIL LEAFLET

This short but enjoyable walk around Gorse Hall is enhanced by a number of small animal sculptures inspired by the fact that Beatrix Potter visited her Grandparents John and Jane Leech who lived at Gorse Hall when she was a small child.

The Friends of Gorse Hall aim to promote the use of Gorse Hall as an area for Leisure, Recreation and Community Events for the benefit of Stalybridge and Dukinfield.

Aiming to celebrate and helping local communities breathe new life into under used land and open spaces, in the Gorse Hall area.

Millennium Viewpoint

The compass points situated on the outer ring of the viewpoint, these have been carved out of the stone mullions from Old Gorse Hall.

The viewpoint.

The viewpoint offers evocative views over Stalybridge. Gaze across the valley and it conjures up memories of old Stalybridge, Mills, foundries and workshops straddle a canal as the sounds drift up as a brass band ascending Cocker Hill to Old Saint Georges.

Look again and you will see the millennium of the latest century, shopping and residential developments, and to the right the new housing filling the valley: cheek and jowl with the Tudor, Staley Hall

The sculptures have been created by Dave Cudworth who worked with the children from Broadbent Fold school to create the design as part of the Groundwork Trust, Changing Places.

The Nature Trail Begins at the main Entrance to Gorse hall which is next to the Methodist Church High Street or the car park on Quarry Rise.

1st stop Walking up the main coach road on Your right half way up you will find the RABBIT found in most areas of open Countryside.

2nd stop Continuing up the drive bear right at the junction 120metres and here is the SQUIREL-grey being the most common in our woodlands.

3rd stop 25 metres on your left you will next see the PICNIC BASKET. The wildlife hoping you will leave some crumbs for them. **Don't forget to take your litter home with you. Plastic bags can kill the wildlife we are trying To protect.**

4th stop Continue along the path to a bend bearing left take a diagonal left for 40 metres on your left within the retaining wall of the bowling green you will find the MOUSE. Field mouse or Long tailed they eat seeds or plant food.

5th stop Follow the main path keeping the bowling green to your left 50 metres bear left taking the path through the gorse, 200 metres more and on your left before the pond. FROGSPAWN. To the pond what pond life can you see?

6th stop Head downhill from the pond to the trees and path by the hedge by the old gate posts of Gorse Hall gardens you will the HEDGEHOG.

They eat worms and caterpillars and have prickly spines to protect them.



7th stop Take the path to the right, follow this path to the top of the hill, ahead of you is the Millennium viewpoint a place to rest and view the scenery,

8th stop On leaving take the path descending the hill looking to the town of Stalybridge in front of you. Stop at the gap in the hedge and here is the LADYBIRD they eat aphids and usually have seven spots.

9th stop Going ahead slightly left down the steps and under the large tree you will find the SNAIL. Birds eat snails. You find them under leaves and rotting trees.

This is the end of the Nature Trail ahead of you is the coach road which will return you to your starting point.

For more information on the Gorse Hall area-meetings are, the 1st Wednesday each month in the Wharf Tavern, Stalybridge, phone Alan Pickles 07790006345.

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