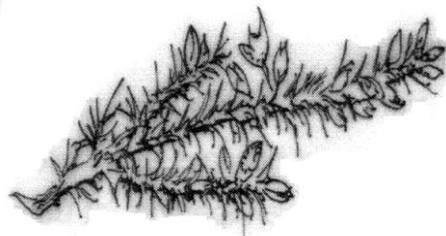


The Friends of Gorse Hall are a group of residents and interested people who want to help preserve Gorse Hall for recreational, historical and educational use by children and adults, to visit and enjoy.

By becoming a supporter, you will be helping to obtain 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....



FRIENDS OF GORSE HALL

(Using the past to promote the future)

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.

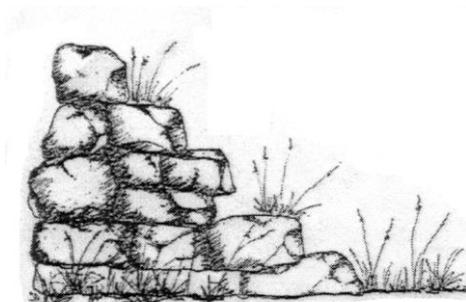
Aiming to celebrate and helping local communities breathe new life into under used land and open spaces, in the Gorse Hall area.

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 straddling a canal and river 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 Street.

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 for 120metres past Gorse Hall foundations and here is the **SQUIRREL**-grey being the most common in our woodlands.

3rd stop 25 metres on your left you will see the **PICNIC BASKET**. The wildlife are 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 turning left to a Fenced seat. In the wall you will see the **MOUSE**. Field mouse or long tailed they eat seeds or plant food.

5th stop Across the Bowling Green you find the **FOX**. Now found in town centers at night.

6th stop Follow the path keeping left for 50Mtrs. At the entrance to the orchard you find the **BADGER**. A number are often seen on the site in the evenings.

7th stop Carry on along the path another 40 Mtrs turn right towards the pond, on your right you find a clump of **FROGSPAWN**. You can see frogspawn in the pond in the spring.

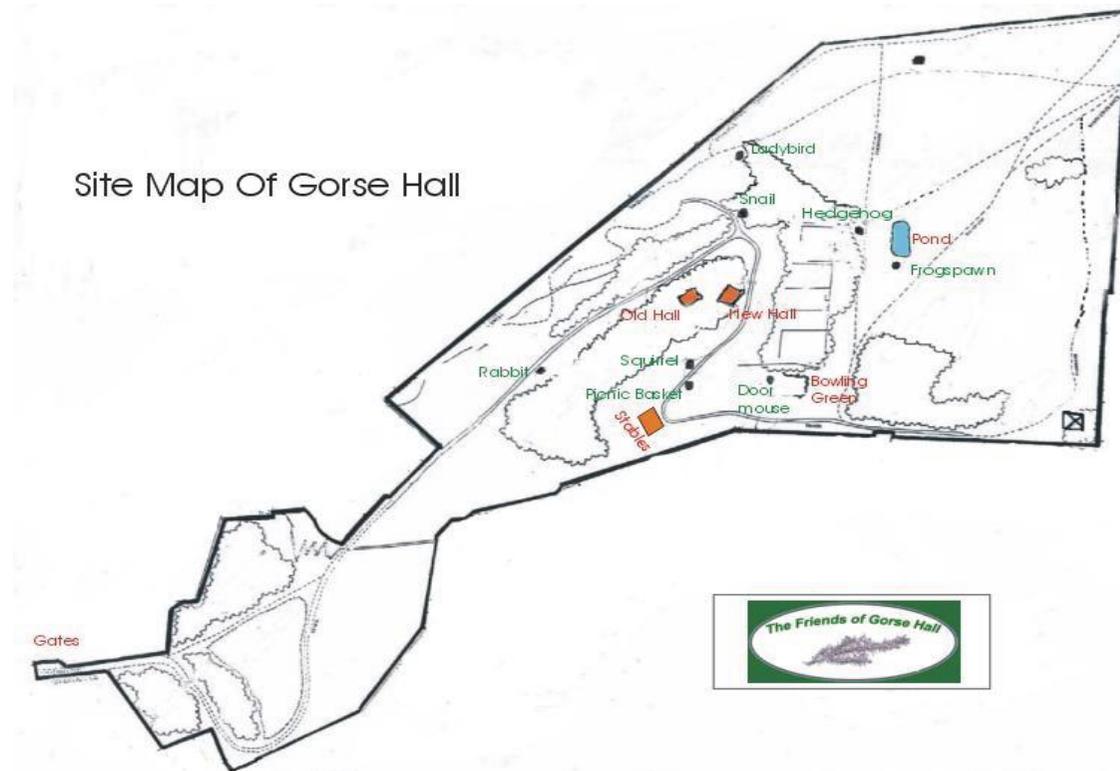
8th stop Head back downhill from the pond to the trees and path by the hedge by the old gate posts of Gorse Hall gardens you see the **HEDGEHOG**. They eat worms and caterpillars and have prickly spines to protect them.

9th stop Take the path to the top of the hill, here you have panoramic views over Lancashire and Cheshire.

10th stop On leaving take the path to the right of the seat descending the hill looking to the town of Stalybridge in front of you. Stop through the gap in the hedge and here is the **LADYBIRD** they eat aphids and usually have seven spots.

11th 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.



meetings are, the **1st Wednesday** each month at the **Wharf Tavern, Stalybridge,**
Phone, Alan Pickles 07790006345.
Christine Clough 01616660639