



The Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership is led by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and includes a wide variety of charities, local groups, councils and statutory bodies:



Discover a hidden landscape... on your doorstep

Located between Birmingham and Tamworth, in North Warwickshire and South-east Staffordshire, lies the Tame Valley Wetlands – a unique and hidden landscape on the doorstep of over a million people.

The area has a wealth of wildlife and heritage interest, with the River Tame, its floodplain and the canal network at its heart. The Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership works to protect and enhance the area, with the vision of creating a wetland landscape, rich in wildlife and accessible to all. The Partnership is led by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust in partnership with a wide variety of organisations including charities, local groups, councils and statutory bodies.

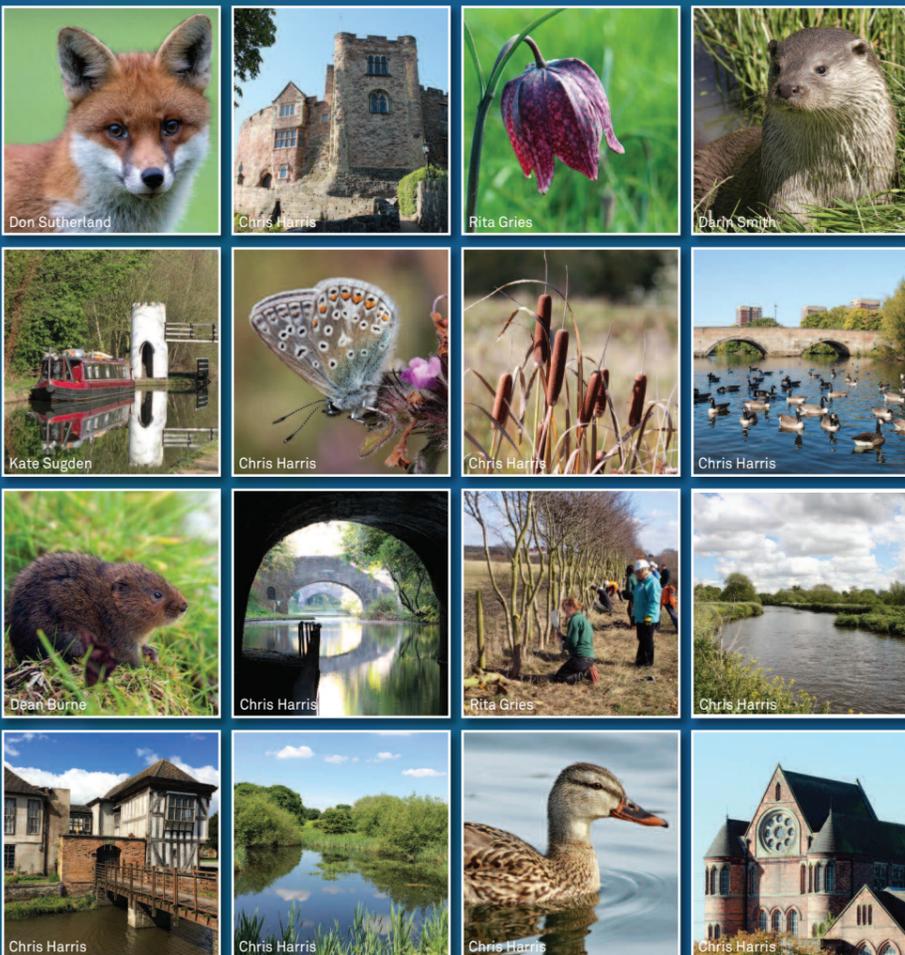
For more information, go to: www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk

Get involved!

Do you share our vision? Would you like to get involved? There are plenty of ways for you to help us, learn new skills and meet new people.

If you'd like to be active and spend time outdoors, you could join our 'TameForce' practical conservation group, or come along to one of our events or activities. Young people can join our youth group, and we also offer bespoke volunteering opportunities for businesses and groups with special needs.

For the full range of volunteering and training opportunities, go to www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk/get-involved



Cover photo: Four-spotted chaser (Chris Harris)

For more information visit:
www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk

- enquiries@tamevalleywetlands.co.uk
- Facebook.com/tamevalleywetlands
- @thetamevalley
- 01675 470917



Discover the Tame Valley Wetlands



Learn, discover, enjoy

Discover the Tame Valley Wetlands

1 BROAD MEADOW LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

What to see & do: This island between the River Tame and the flood relief channel is an ideal habitat for herons, terns, skylarks and lapwings. Look out for the rare Snake's Head Fritillary.

Access: From Oxbridge Way, via the bridge over the weir to the west of the site.

Website: www.tamworth.gov.uk

2 TAMWORTH CASTLE

What to see & do: Explore one of the best preserved Norman motte-and-bailey castles in England.

Access: Visit the website for opening times and directions.

Website: www.tamworthcastle.co.uk

3 EGG MEADOW

What to see & do: In spring, look out for the displays of snake's head fritillary and the other wildflowers in the meadow. You can also enjoy the circular cycle route around the outside of the site.

Access: From the Snow Dome car park.

Website: www.tamworth.gov.uk

4 BORROWPIT LAKE

What to see & do: Enjoy a walk around the lake and see Tamworth's famous swans and many other wetland birds.

Access: From the Snow Dome car park.

Website: www.tamworth.gov.uk

5 TAMESIDE LOCAL NATURE RESERVE (LNR)

What to see & do: Take a walk around the reserve and watch lapwings, cormorants and terns on the islands. The reserve is managed by Tameside Wildlife Conservation Group through the 'Wild about Tamworth' project.

Access: From Fazeley Road – no on-site parking available.

Website: www.tamworth.gov.uk

6 DOSTHILL PARK LNR

What to see & do: Take a walk through the park for wonderful view of the river and Dosthill Quarries beyond. The LNR is managed by Dosthill Park Wildlife Group through the 'Wild about Tamworth' project.

Access: From Blackwood Road, 3km to the south of Tamworth town centre, between the A51 (Tamworth Road) and the River Tame.

Website: www.tamworth.gov.uk

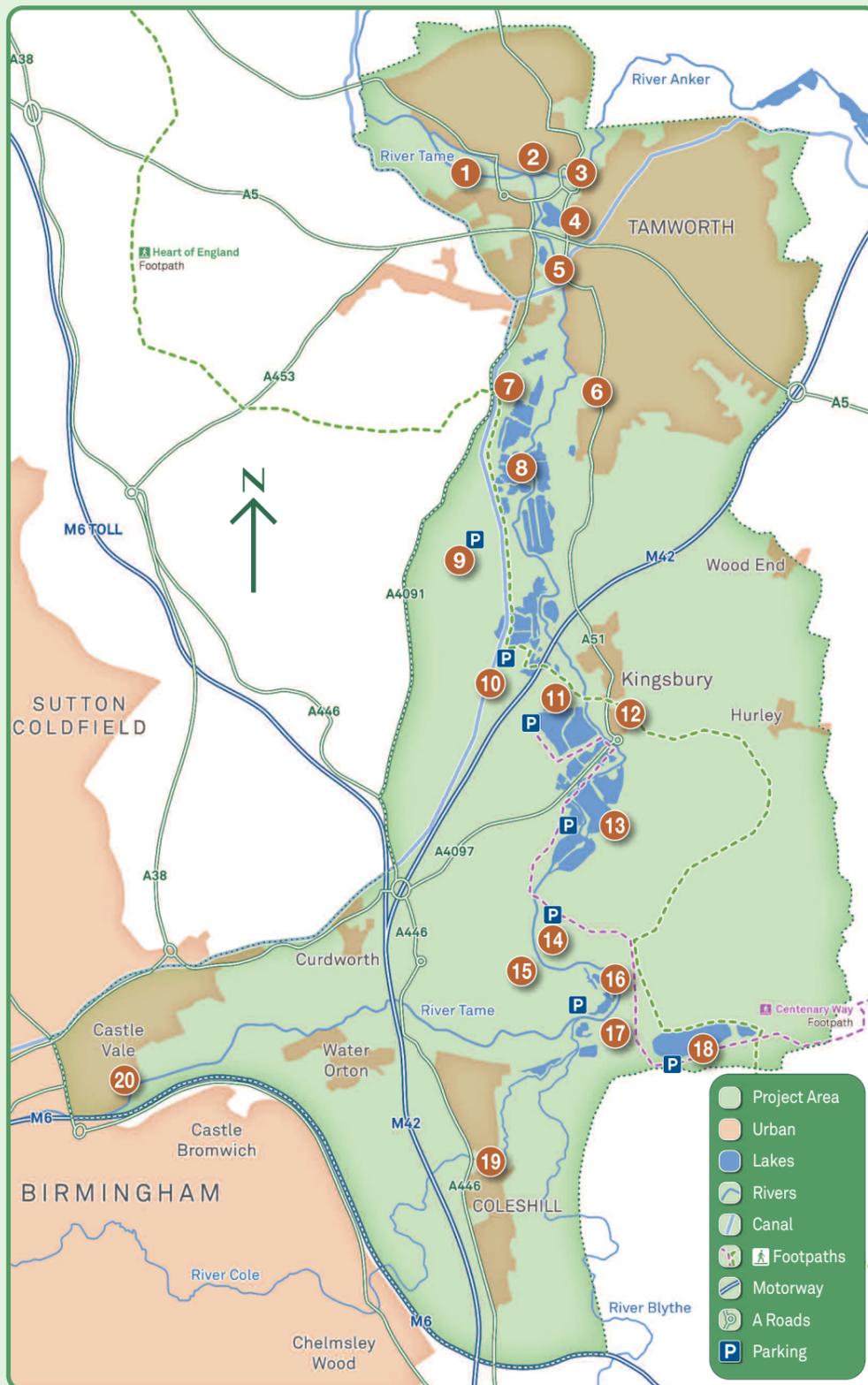
7 DRAYTON TURRET FOOTBRIDGE

What to see & do: This unusual fairytale footbridge crosses the Birmingham and Fazeley canal near Drayton Bassett. It was probably built in the 1830s for Sir Robert Peel, who lived nearby and who later became Prime Minister.

Access: Limited parking next to the footbridge off A4091.

Website: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

Birmingham to Fazeley canal (Chris Harris)



8 RSPB MIDDLETON LAKES

What to see & do: This 160ha reserve was a gravel quarry until 2007. The site contains lakes, pools, reedbeds, meadows and woodland and is a haven for wading and woodland birds, otters, dragonflies and butterflies. There are footpaths, viewpoints and an events programme.

Access: Open to members of the public. Visit the website for more details.

Website: www.rspb.org.uk/reserves

9 MIDDLETON HALL

What to see & do: A Grade II listed building, parts of which date from the 16th Century. Features formal gardens, nature trails, police museum, courtyard shops and café.

Access: From A4091.

Website: www.middleton-hall.co.uk

10 BIRMINGHAM AND FAZELEY CANAL

What to see & do: The canal provides an enjoyable walking, cycling or boating route between Tamworth and Birmingham. It provides a home for creatures such as the water vole.

Access: Towpaths open to the public – visit the website for more details.

Website: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

11 KINGSBURY WATER PARK

What to see & do: Lying at the heart of the Tame Valley Wetlands, this 250ha country park features lakes, pools, streams, marshes, woodland, meadows and the River Tame. With way-marked trails, bike hire, bird hides, café and a visitor / education centre.

Access: Visitor centre and main car park (pay on entry) on Bodymoor Heath Lane, Bodymoor Heath, B76 0DY.

Website: www.warwickshire.gov.uk

12 KINGSBURY MEADOW LNR

What to see & do: Follow the boardwalk along the banks of the Hurley Brook through this traditional floodplain meadow.

Access: Main entrance on Coventry Road (A51).

Website: www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

13 LEA MARSTON LAKES

What to see & do: These former settling lagoons are of regional significance for winter wildfowl populations. There is a bird hide and walks around the lakes.

Access: The car park entrance is on Coton Road.

Website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

14 WHITACRE HEATH NATURE RESERVE (SSSI)

What to see & do: This former gravel quarry features woodland, wet grassland, pools and bird hides. Follow the waymarked footpaths.

Access: Open to Trust members only. Car parking on the Birmingham Road, 0.5km south-east of Lea Marston.

Website: www.wkwt.org.uk

15 HAMS HALL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE

What to see & do: Offices for Tame Valley Wetlands Project team, in the former walled garden of Hams Hall.

Access: From Canton Lane, Hams Hall Distribution Park.

Website: www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk

16 LADYWALK NATURE RESERVE

What to see & do: A range of pools, wet grassland and woodland create an attractive habitat for a wide variety of birds – over 200 species have been recorded, including Bittern.

Access: Open to members of West Midland Bird Club and permit holders only. Parking off Faraday Avenue, Hams Hall Distribution Park.

Website: www.westmidlandbirdclub.com

17 WHITACRE WATERWORKS

What to see & do: The magnificent Gothic pumping station at Whitacre Heath was built in the 1860s to supply water to Birmingham.

Access: No public access but views from Hams Hall to Whitacre Heath footpath.

Website: www.stwater.co.uk

18 SHUSTOKE RESERVOIR

What to see & do: Built in the 1880s to supply water to Birmingham. There are a variety of walks including a circular walk around the reservoir. There are opportunities for bird watching, fishing and sailing, and in the spring the reservoir banks are covered by wildflowers.

Access: Main car park can be accessed from the B4114, Coleshill - Nuneaton Road.

Website: www.stwater.co.uk

19 COLE END PARK LNR

What to see & do: This former mill site sits beside the River Cole. There are surfaced paths and a tree trail with leaf rubbing posts.

Access: Lichfield Road, Coleshill.

Website: www.northwarks.gov.uk

20 CASTLE VALE CONSERVATION AREA

What to see & do: A green oasis on the edge of Birmingham featuring wildflower meadows, hedgerows and woodland.

Access: Farnborough Road, Castle Vale.

HEART OF ENGLAND WAY FOOTPATH

The Heart of England Way is a 100 mile trail running from Cannock Chase to Bourton-on-the-Water in the Cotswolds.

Website: www.heartofenglandway.org

CENTENARY WAY FOOTPATH

This 100 mile path starts at Kingsbury Water Park and winds its way down to Upper Quinton on the Gloucestershire border.

Website: www.warwickshire.gov.uk

For more information about where to go and what to see in the Tame Valley Wetlands, visit: www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk

