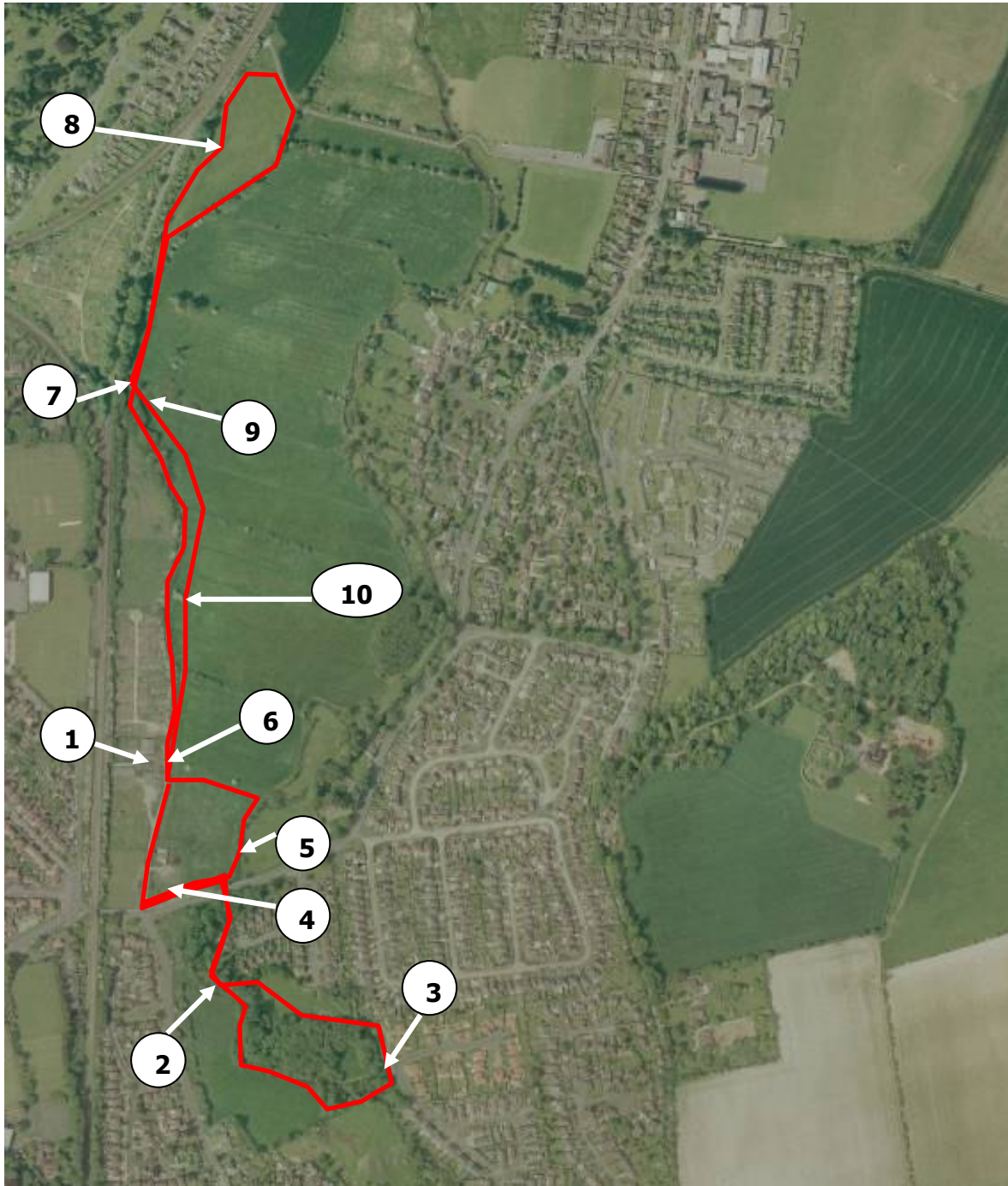


Nature Of Art In Wessex - Laverstock Downs & Meadows Trail

Start point: River Bourne Community Farm, Cow Lane Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 2SR



Nature Of Art In Wessex is an innovative three year project using art to help more people explore the nature on their doorstep. Funding to work with 6 communities until 2012 has been awarded by Natural England as part of its Access to Nature programme funded from the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme.

Artist Charlotte Moreton has worked with community groups to create this art trail from willow, wood and metal!
Groups included St Andrew's School, Laverstock; Bemerton Heath Community Centre; Sarum Resource Centre; Greentrees School, Bishopdown; Old Sarum Community Room and visitors to the Nature Of Art Activity Day.

Salisbury
International
Arts
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Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



LOTTERY FUNDED



To do the whole trail from points 1 – 10, allow 1.5 Hours at gentle walking pace.

To do the Trail section 1-6 allow 40 minutes at gentle walking pace.

To do the Trail section 1-6 missing out points 2 & 3, 15 mins at gentle walking pace.

TRAIL POINT 1: Start at the River Bourne Community Farm Shop. See if you can spot any willow flowers in the farm yard. Walk down Cow Lane to the Farm entrance. As you pass the chickens can you see an intruder? Turn left and walk up to the bridge over the River Bourne. Cross the road carefully and take the path along the river into Whitebridge Spinney.

TRAIL POINT 2: Keep following the river. You will get to a board walk. A little way along the board walk you can have a rest on a giant Caterpillar Bench!



TRAIL POINT 3: At the end of the Board Walk turn left and follow the path along the woodland edge look out for the deer and butterflies made from natural materials.

Go past the Play Park and back to the river. Follow the river back to Whitebridge and the River Bourne Community Farm entrance.



TRAIL POINT 4: At Cow Lane turn right through the gap in the riven sweet chestnut post and rail fencing. Follow the laid hedge down to the river. Take care not to touch the Bull's electric fence!

TRAIL POINT 5: Follow the river to the dipping platform and have a look at the information board featuring an original painting by Richard Tratt. Take in the views of the Watermeadows and the Wiltshire Horn Sheep as you follow the path back towards the farm shop.

TRAIL POINT 6: When you reach Cow Lane through a double farm gate turn right and follow the Lane through mature native hedges. Listen out for warblers and other songbirds in the hedges.

TRAIL POINT 7: Just before Cow Lane goes under the railway turn right through a kissing gate on to the Watermeadows. Take in the views of the meadows, old pollarded willows and Cockey Down in the distance. The farm's cattle and sheep will be grazing the Down this summer. Turn left and follow the railway hedge bank to a raised field sheltered by mature trees and hedges.

TRAIL POINT 8: Follow the edges of the field looking out for butterflies, bees and other insects. This is a real hotspot for the insects that help pollinate our apple and pear trees.

TRAIL POINT 9: Re-trace your steps along the railway hedge bank then pass through a farm gate and follow the track between the cattle and sheep paddocks and the hedgerow. Can you spot some deer by the 'lightning tree'?

TRAIL POINT 10: This stretch of hedgerow is a favourite spot for bats on summer evenings. Look out for swallows feeding on the meadows amongst the cattle and sheep. See if you can spot the sheepdog looking after our flock. The track will take you back to Cow Lane and the Farm Shop where you can enjoy some refreshments as the swallows busy themselves feeding their young in the big barn.

We have been working with residents of **Partridge Way, Old Sarum** to create fence panels featuring animals and flowers for community food beds which Wiltshire Wildlife Trust are making. See the first stages in the **Old Sarum Community Room, SP4 6PX** from 29 May – 4 June 2011



Pupils at **Greentrees School, Bishopdown, SP1 3GZ** have made a number of willow animals with Charlotte Moreton as part of this project. See if you can find them in their school grounds.