

# Welcome to The Chigwell Meadow



**Bird Watching**  
Dense, mature hedge rows attract many birds for foraging, nesting and resting.


**Log Piles**  
A pile of logs simulates fallen trees and encourages beetles, wood lice and other insects to thrive as an essential part of the Meadow's ecosystem and also provides a potential hibernation and basking site for newts and reptiles.

**Woodland Trust**  
Over the last 10 years Grange Farm has proudly received and planted new hedges donated by the Woodland Trust.

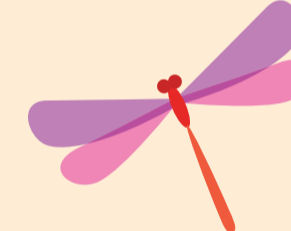


**1 Walnut Trees**  
The Romans introduced the walnut into European countries. They grow rapidly reaching a height of six metres in ten years, when it begins to bear fruit. Uses for walnut trees include food, medicine, shelter, dye and lamp oil and of course beautiful wood for fine furniture making.

**2 Orchard**  
Chigwell Meadow Orchard has been planted with typical English varieties of Apple, Cherry, Plum and Pear trees.




**3 Lombardy Poplar (Populus nigra)**  
Lombardy poplars are broad-leaf, deciduous, fast-growing trees. These trees have been pruned to maintain their size and shape.



**4 Community Garden & Beehives**  
The Community Garden hosts a wide selection of fruits and vegetables and even beehives, looked after by the local community - The gardens are open for pre-arranged community groups.




**5 Wild Flower Meadowland**  
Areas of the Meadow have been managed to ensure the conservation of specific plants and habitats. Look closer and you will see red and white clover, cow vetch, hard heads, creeping cinquefoil, yarrow and musk mallow creating a myriad of colours, shapes and sizes.



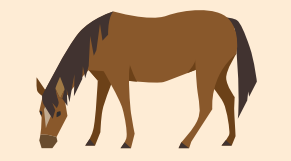
**6 Self-seeded Oaks**  
The oak tree is a quintessential symbol of the English countryside. The trees in front of you are self-seeded from ancestors that have inhabited this area for over a thousand years.

**7 Spring Walk**  
The Blue Bells and other spring flowering plants that line the Spring Walk create a delightful pathway through the Chigwell Meadow.



**8 The Swale**  
A swale is a natural or man-made feature found in low tracts of land, especially ones that are moist or marshy. It is of special scientific interest as its ecological development can be studied from construction to maturity. The reeds within the Swale help to filter the water and they also create valuable habitat for wildlife.


**9 Balancing Pond Habitat**  
The balancing pond creates a habitat for wildlife; birds, mammals, insects, dragonflies, damselflies, amphibians and fish, all array of native plants to flourish including reeds, grasses and marginal plants.












**10 Horse Grazing Field**  
This field is donated by Grange Farm for the Chigwell Riding Trust to graze their horses throughout the year.

**11 Great Crested Newts & Sheep Field**  
Great Crested Newts live part of their life cycle on land but breed in ponds and pools. They rest during the day beneath rocks, logs or other shelter. Since the 1940s, populations of Great Crested Newts have declined in most of Europe due to loss of habitat. The sheep are rotated around the site to help suppress the grasslands and bramble. Well-managed rotational grazing means that you evaluate the nutritional and forage needs of your animals, assess forage quality and quantity, regulate the acreage of access and control which parts of the pasture/range that the animals can access.

**12 Laid Hedge**  
Hedge laying is the process of bending and partially cutting through the stems of a line of shrubs or small trees near ground level and arching the stems without breaking them, so they can grow horizontally and be intertwined.



**Key**

-  Accessible Paths
-  Pond Dipping Platform
-  Made Paths
-  Unmade Paths
-  Woodland Walk
-  Pelican Playground
-  Public Toilets (Daylight Hours)
-  Grange Farm Reception
-  Parking



Entrance to Chigwell School

Grange Farm Lane

NO ACCESS TO PUBLIC

CHIGWELL RIDING TRUST

REVITALISE/JUBILEE LODGE

To Roding Valley Nature Reserve