

Get involved

Conservation Volunteering

If you're interested in a practical, hands-on way of conserving parks and countryside sites such as Pope's Meadow, there are a host of voluntary organisations with whom you can get involved with and help make a difference.

More information can be found on our website.

Events

A wide range of events and activities take place at Pope's Meadow throughout the year. These include wildlife talks, countryside walks and educational events for schools, youth groups and children such as pond-dipping and bug hunting.

More information on our website.



Pond dipping

Orienteering

Orienteering is an exciting challenge for children and adults to find points in the landscape using only a map and a compass. It can be enjoyed either as a competitive sport or a leisurely walk around the site. A permanent course has been mapped out in Pope's Meadow in association with Berkshire Volunteers and The Big Lottery Fund.

More information about available courses can be found on our website.

Useful information

Directions

Located between Bracknell and Binfield, the main entrance is off St Marks Road, north of it's junction with B3408 London Road.

Access on foot

There are two pedestrian entrances located off St Marks Road, with two further entrances off Murrell Hill Lane.

The site is also on the local bus route, for more information contact traveline.

Facilities



Contacts

**Bracknell Forest Council
Parks & Countryside Service**

Tel: 01344 354441

Email: rangers@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

**Website: [www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/
parksandcountryside](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parksandcountryside)**

Travelline Tel: 0871 200 22 33

Email: www.traveline.info

Copies of this leaflet may be obtained in large print, Braille, on audio tape or in other languages. To obtain a copy in an alternative format, please telephone 01344 352000.

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Discover ... Pope's Meadow



A countryside park in Binfield,
Bracknell Forest.

Explore ...

Pope's Meadow in Binfield, contains open grassland, ponds and copse which provide a diverse wildlife habitat and a scenic landscape for all to enjoy.



... a history of Pope's Meadow

"To err is human; to forgive, divine."

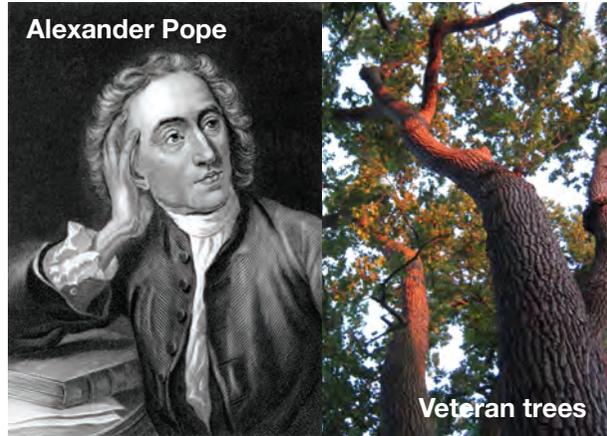
Pope's Meadow is named after Binfield's most famous resident, the 18th century poet and philosopher Alexander Pope (1688-1744).

His formative years were spent at Pope's Manor, known then as Whitehill House, developing his writing skills.

His most famous works written during this time included Windsor Forest (1713) and The Rape of the Loch (1714).

A grove of beech trees called Pope's Wood to the south of the village and the surrounding landscape is where the poet gained a great deal of inspiration.

Pope's ideas helped influence the Picturesque Movement (1780-1830); a move away from the formal, safe landscape to rugged nature and its legacy of visual appreciation. This in turn led to the public parks movement – and its provision of spiritual refreshment to city dwellers. Indeed Pope significantly influenced town and country planning and landscape architecture.



... the wood pasture

One of the star features of this site are the magnificent, veteran oak trees. These were originally planted for timber with the open meadow beneath providing a second crop of hay. Today, the oaks provide a habitat for nesting birds, bats and rare invertebrates. Wild flowers, small mammals and other creatures benefit from the grassland which is managed as a traditional hay meadow.

... the pond habitat

The balancing pond is accessible to all with a footpath and picnic area nearby. The pond helps store excess water in times of heavy rainfall and is flourishing with aquatic plants, amphibians and bird life. It makes a pleasant location for spotting wildlife and enjoying views.



... the copse

Enjoy a stroll along the woodland pathways of this central copse, which is alive with bird song and bluebells in spring and full of colour in autumn. Admire the ash, holly and hazel trees that grow here and try to spot the stag beetle loggers built to encourage this Biodiversity Action Plan species.

