Madebrook Pools and Stirchley Dingle were declared as a Local Nature Reserve in 2013. The site was created when the original Mad Brook was dammed. Further improvements to the site have been carried out by Telford Nature Conservation Project, Lord Silkin School, (now known as the Lakeside Academy) and the Ba'hai Faith in the 1980s and 1990s. More recent work was carried out on the brook and weirs by Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Severn Trent Water.

Though only about five hectares in size, this location has a rich mix of habitats - including ponds, brook, woodlands, grassland, marsh, and hedgerows that provide homes for a wide variety of wildlife. Some of the highlights found here include wildflowers such as the Snake's Head Fritillary and Common Spotted Orchid, migrant birds such as the Reed Warbler, and the occasional Kingfisher.

Observant walkers (bring binoculars if you have them) may be lucky enough to encounter a host of other birds, insects, amphibians, and fish during a stroll around this special location. See our Top Ten species list for reference – though this is just a taster!

Enjoy your walking!

Code of conduct:

Please do not drop litter – use litter bins where provided.

To avoid disturbing wildlife please keep to designated paths where possible.

Do not pick wildflowers.

Contact details/further information: www.tgsp.org.uk

The Telford Access to Nature Partnership received funding from the Access to Nature Programme, between 2009-13, which is run by Natural England and is part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme launched in November 2005 to help communities enjoy and improve their local environments.





Written by Alec Connah and Andrew Cutts. Photographs by Alec Connah Designed by MA Creative Ltd • www.macreative.co.uk

Madebrook Pools & Stirchley Dingle Local Nature Reserve

Walks around the countryside on your doorstep



Welcome to Madebrook Pools and Stirchley Dingle Local Nature Reserve, a haven for wildlife and walkers only minutes from the centre of Stirchley. This leaflet will tell you a little more about the locality and shows you the main footpaths you can use for further exploration and where they start and finish. You may see a lot of the reserve in a thirtyminute walk, but the more time you spend exploring the more you are likely to see.

You can use this guide at any time of year, though the best months for wildflowers, birds, butterflies and pond life are April

to September. Do not forget that the footpaths leading to, from, and around this site are also part of a much wider network of routes – so from here it is quite easy to get to and from Telford Town Park, Holmer Lake, and to many other parts of the *'countryside on your doorstep'*.

Madebrook Pools & Stirchley Dingle 'Top Ten' species list: 1. Snakes Head Fritillary (Wildflower) 2. Reed Warbler (Migrant bird) 3. Common Spotted Orchid (Wildflower) 4. Pendunculate Oak (Tree) 5. Common Reed (Grass) 6. Mute Swan (Bird) 7. Daubenton's bat (Mammal) 8. Palmate Newt (Amphibian) 9. Kingfisher (Bird) 10. Great Spotted Woodpecker (Bird)

