

# Millfield



Named Mill Meadow in the 1600s, and originally part of the Ouse Marshes, Millfield has always been an area liable to flooding. This traditional grazed water meadow is now managed by The Parks Trust and is part of the Ouse Valley Park, a riverside recreational amenity.

STONY STRATFORD

## Civil War Re-enactment



A minor skirmish fought through the streets of Stony Stratford in 1644, as celebrated 350 years later by the whole town. The Sealed Knot Society re-enacted a major battle on the Millfield and the eighteen-day festival included a packed programme of events centred on the seventeenth century.

## The Riverside Fair



The Riverside Fair takes place on the Millfield in June. It is organised by Stony Stratford Riverside Parks Club with support from the Parks Trust and Stony Stratford Town Council. Free activities and events for children make this an unmissable family event.

Look out for these landmarks as you follow the Riverside Walks

### Did You Know...

During the severe winter of 1947 the River Great Ouse froze over around Stony Stratford and enabled locals to enjoy ice skating.



**The Millrace**  
This was a channel of the river formerly used for conducting water to the wheel of the mill. The Millrace sometimes referred to as the Mill Head, still exists as a quiet, tree-lined backwater to the main river.



### The Old Mill

There has been a mill on this site since Domesday. In 1600, the Penn Family (some of whom founded the state of Pennsylvania, USA) purchased the land, diverted the river, and established a water mill on a corner of their land. Over the years alterations were made by Swinfen Harris. The Old Mill burnt down in 1985 and the current building is residential.



**Did You Know...**  
Black Poplar (*Populus nigra*) is so scarce that it is now one of the most endangered native trees in Britain.

**Black Poplars**  
In 2005 twelve black poplars were planted along the riverside path by the Milton Keynes Parks Trust and the Riverside Parks Group.

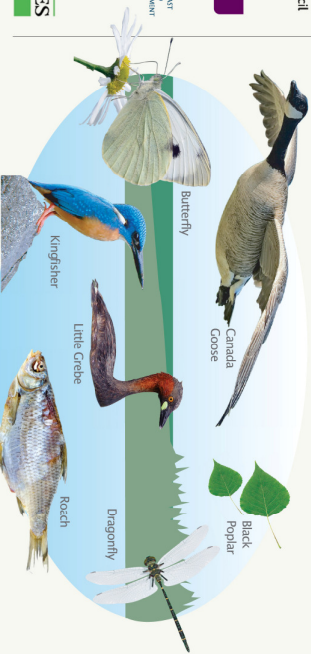
### Millfield Play Area

The Riverside Parks Group helped to establish the children's play area. This was constructed in October 2007 with a grant from the Waste Recycling Environmental Network. Its design was suggested by children from St Mary and St Giles School.



## Flora & Fauna around the River Great Ouse...

Along the river look for swans, moorhens, coots and little grebe. You might also see a Kingfisher and bats. Old trees, hedgerows and meadows provide excellent habitats for a variety of small mammals, butterflies, moths and beetles. Listen for the lesser spotted woodpecker along the Millrace, or keep your eyes on the ground for grass snakes!



**The Parks Trust**  
MILTON KEYNES

**SEEDA**  
SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
Partnership for England's Rural Cities Region

**MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL**

