

# TELL US YOUR STORY

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## CRAWTER'S BROOK PEOPLE'S PARK

### Creating the Lost Woodland Gallery

#### About Crawter's Brook People's Park

Crawter's Brook is a 7.5 acre site in the middle of the Business District. Neglected over many years, it had become overgrown and impassable in places and at one time in danger of being sold for a car park. In 2014, The Manor Royal BID turned it into a park area and was officially opened by HRH the Duke of Gloucester, who planted a tree and maintained the Royal connection to the area.

It is the last undeveloped land parcel in Manor Royal. When you pass through it you can still see many of the original landscape features that recall the area's former agricultural landscape. Today the site serves to alleviate flooding and provides a haven for wildlife and open space for people. The River Mole runs through it and, if you are quiet, you may see a deer.



Studies have revealed an ancient buried bridge. It is made of flat planks, posts and brushwood. It is at least 200 years old and might be from the Middle Ages, or earlier. Who might have made it and what was it used for?

#### Something old and new



In the south wood area are old posts where fences used to be blocking the path. Further up, if you look carefully, there is a path with a series of lampposts. No longer in use, workers would walk from their factory on Gatwick Road, along the path, through the wood to another building on Newton Road.

Today, L3 Harris is nearby. They make flight simulators and train airline pilots from around the world. Prince Charles, now King Charles, officially opened the building.

The ambulance service also has a building close to Crawter's Brook, from where they handle emergency calls from here and despatch ambulances. People from different businesses volunteer here from time to time.

Find out more at [www.manorroyal.org/mystory](http://www.manorroyal.org/mystory)

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