

Bovingdon church yard path and sculptures

In 2014 money was bequeathed from the estate of the late Donald Moore to construct a path around the Churchyard which would increase the number of visitors to the Churchyard so that they could appreciate its peace and tranquillity. The new paths have proved very popular with walkers, families with prams and buggies and wheelchair users.

In recent years, several designated areas of the Churchyard which have the oldest gravestones have been managed for wildlife. These areas have not been cultivated for well over a hundred years and have evolved a wonderful diversity of wild flowers and lichen.

The plan included the installation of three sculptures to draw visitors into the corners of the Churchyard as they walk around and look inside the Church which is kept open during the day. The choice of materials and themes for the sculptures is intended to appeal to visitors on a variety of levels: aesthetic, environmental and spiritual.

The sculptures represent:



A "Mother and Child" in metal as a focal point of the Garden of Remembrance (West end); to remind visitors of new life; and to make a connection with the Christian story and in particular with Christmas.

A carved oak representation of “All things bright and beautiful”, using a fallen limb from a churchyard oak tree, in the NE corner. This includes representations of wildlife found in the churchyard; of animals and symbols associated with Biblical stories; of the cross; and of an empty tomb.



All creatures great and small (front)



I am the resurrection and the life

A stone sculpture suggesting the Resurrection, with the inscription “I am the resurrection and the life” in the SE corner. The sculpture is symbolic and will be interpreted differently by those who see it and reflect upon its meaning.

These sculptures not only fulfil the intentions of the initial legacy. They provide opportunities for visitors to grasp the essence of the Christian message through a visual medium. They also provide opportunities for imaginative teaching, especially to children but also to adults, about the key themes of the gospel:

Christmas: unconditional love and new birth

The glory of creation

Good Friday: cross and sepulchre

Easter: resurrection and new life

