

Catton Park



Sculpture Trail

1. The Green Man is said to be an ancient tree spirit often appearing in many different cultures throughout the world, represented by a face covered in leaves unfurling from the centre.

Catton Park's Green Man is a guardian of the woods and friend to all creatures, our Green Man even lets hedgehogs nestle down in his beard of leaves to hibernate in during the cold winter months.

2. Squirrels are incredibly agile. Their big bushy tails help them to balance whilst leaping from tree to tree

Their front teeth never stop growing during their lifetime, which is important if your gnawing on tough nut shells all day long!

3. Listen, see if you can you may hear the woodpeckers drumming on the larger parkland trees. Their extra long tongues can reach deep into the bark of tree trunks to retrieve tasty grubs and beetles hiding within.

4 & 11. These are stealthy hunters, they perch high in the trees then silently swoop down from the canopy to snatch a vole or mouse from the wildflower meadow.

5. You can usually spot a buzzard or two circling the skies above Catton Park, riding the thermal pockets in the air, easily recognised as the ends of their large wings are splayed out like fingers.

Church St Entrance

Oak Lane Entrance

6. Badgers have very distinctive black and white markings over their face and back, they are nocturnal creatures who sleep during the day, only to emerge at dusk from their underground lairs called setts, which can spread out for many meters.

They have strong claws which make them fantastic diggers. These help them to root around in the ground looking for earthworms and insects to eat. They also forage for nuts, berries and seeds to nibble on.

7. Toads, unlike frogs, tend to walk instead of hop. They are usually around 8-12 cm long, our toad carving is much bigger! They like to hibernate throughout the winter in small dark places like under logs.

8. Hares have long upright ears with black tips very useful for listening out for danger. They are very fast runners and lucky for this hare they are very good at hiding! In spring hares can be seen boxing standing on their strong hind legs to fight during mating season.

Female hares are called does and males are called bucks, their babies are called leverets.

9 & 12. With Red fur and a white tipped tail the fox is a born scavenger. They have vertical pupils like cats helping them to see at night. Large ears mean they have excellent hearing, perhaps our fox is listening out for her next meal? However, foxes don't just eat small mammals, they also feed on fruit and berries!

10. Humphry Repton was a landscape garden designer in the late Georgian period, as you can see from his long black tailcoat and smart cravat! Catton Park was his first commission, which he began working on in 1788.

Here you can see him drafting out ideas in his sketchbook. Famously putting his observations and plans for each of his clients into a red bound book, uniquely these books contained before and after drawings that illustrated to his clients the final results once his designs had been realised.

Please be respectful of our carvings and do not climb over them.