



Bengo Trails 10: Bengo's front gardens and wildlife corridors

This trail was created in the spring of 2026 to mark the first anniversary of the Facebook Group [Bengo's front gardens and wildlife corridors](#), which celebrates our gardens, nature, and biodiversity. The trail incorporates the gardens surrounding a church and an arts centre, naturalised areas, and the [Bengo Community Garden](#). Along the way, it passes some of Bengo's lovely front gardens. It was produced by the [Love Bengo Community Group](#).

Starts: [Holy Trinity Church](#), New Road, SG14 3JJ

Ends: The [White Lion](#), 59 Bengo Street, SG14 3ET

Distance: 1.5m/2.4km

Conditions: Pavements and footpaths. Downhill path and long uphill flight of stone steps.



Go through the church gate on New Road and turn right. In spring the grass is carpeted with primroses and daffodils.

Follow the path to the exit gate. Look back to see the tree-lined path leading to the church.



Turn left onto Bengo Street, over the pedestrian crossing, past the gardens in front of the Victorian cottages. Continue south until Bengo Street merges into Port Hill. On the opposite side are naturalised areas in the grounds of [Duncombe School](#). Continue to the bottom of Port Hill, then follow the Port Hill access road, to the right of Port Hill.



After the first row of front gardens to your right, there's a pocket of naturalised planting. On the day the photograph on the right was taken, a small bunch of Mother's Day flowers, with a note from the [Hertford Baptist Church](#), was resting in the tree.



Turn right into Port Vale and cross to Beane River View. The Nourish café garden is to the left. On the right is [Courtyard Arts](#) centre, behind which is their lovely little garden. This community arts centre has two galleries and a shop and was established as a charity in 1995. Its garden merges art and nature.



Return past the entrance to Courtyard Arts and turn left onto Port Vale, past [Mill Mead](#) school, with its kerbside brick planter, and cross to the opposite side, continuing past the front gardens on both sides of Port Vale.



Continue past [The Millstream](#) pub, with its seasonal hanging baskets. Just before the last house on the left of Port Vale is the little 'Port Vale Wildlife Garden'. It's not publicly accessible but has [Local Green Space](#) designation through the [Bengeo Neighbourhood Area Plan](#), giving it additional protection from development.



At the junction of Port Vale and Beane Road is the former railway embankment, which continues along Beane Road. This naturalised area has [Local Green Space](#) designation through the Neighbourhood Plan, as part of the designation of nearby Millmead Park.



Cross over Nelson Street onto Molewood Road. On the opposite side is the [Beane Marsh Nature Reserve](#) - a peaceful floodplain grassland, protected in 2020 thanks to a local community campaign and donations, led by [Save Beane Marshes](#). The reserve takes its name from the River Beane — one of only 240 chalk streams in the world.



Continue on Molewood Road, over Wellington Street, until you reach the Molewood steps on the right, signposted Public Footpath 74. There are more than 60 steps to the top! Walk to the top of the steps. Little Mole Wood is to the left of the steps and there are naturalised areas on both sides of the steps.



At the top, turn right onto Church Road. Cross to the opposite side of Church Road, and walk to the end, past more of Bengoe's front gardens. Turn left into Duncombe Road, cross to the other side and, passing more front gardens, cross over Tower Street. The [Bengoe Community Garden](#) is on the corner of Tower Street and Duncombe Road.



Working with East Herts District Council and [Mudlarks](#), volunteers help care for the garden and raise funds for its maintenance. Activities are promoted through the garden's [Facebook](#) page.

The community garden and the Facebook Group [Bengoe's front gardens and wildlife corridors](#) help meet an objective of the [Bengoe Neighbourhood Area Plan](#) to 'maintain, protect and increase natural habitats and local biodiversity'.

To complete this trail, walk up Tower Street and turn right onto Bengoe Street to the White Lion, on the right. Holy Trinity Church, the starting point for the trail, is opposite.

Route map: Bengoe Trails 10 - Bengoe's front gardens and wildlife corridors

Map produced using openstreetmap.org

