

Underpasses  
Connecting people  
Connecting places



On the Verge (OTV) initiated the *Underpasses – Connecting People, Connecting Places* project to focus on four of the oldest estates around the central area of Milton Keynes: Conniburrow, Downs Barn, Fishermead and Oldbrook. The *Underpasses* project aims to unite diverse local communities; celebrate Milton Keynes' design; and connect residents with the shared unique urban heritage of the 'New Town'.

This leaflet, the heritage inspired underpasses artwork, the interpretation panels, the publications, the App, and the project as a whole, are a celebration of Milton Keynes' unique design and its heritage. Urban features like the underpasses are essential to Milton Keynes functioning and are important connectors for residents and visitors, enabling people to move freely and safely on foot or cycling under the roads grid system characteristic of Milton Keynes.

Milton Keynes is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year (2017) and OTV are joining the celebration by introducing heritage inspired artwork and interpretation panels in three underpasses, reviving, improving and enhancing them, creating attractive and safe surroundings for local communities. OTV also produced two publications for young audiences to start introducing the younger generation to the history of the design and development of Milton Keynes.

## Children's Activity Trail



Trail answers:

### Fishermead

- A The shape of the street is a crescent
- B Pirate ship, in the playground
- C Places in Cornwall
- D 5
- E Which colours? \_\_\_\_\_

### Oldbrook

- F How many trees? \_\_\_\_\_
- G Stairs
- H How long did it take? \_\_\_\_\_
- I Cricketers
- J Solar panels: they absorb the sun's rays as energy for generating electricity
- K Oldbrook and Fishermead
- L How long to hop? \_\_\_\_\_  
run? \_\_\_\_\_  
walk? \_\_\_\_\_

### Conniburrow

- M It echoes
- N How many steps? \_\_\_\_\_
- O Favourite game/activity? \_\_\_\_\_
- P Wild Flowers
- Q Maple

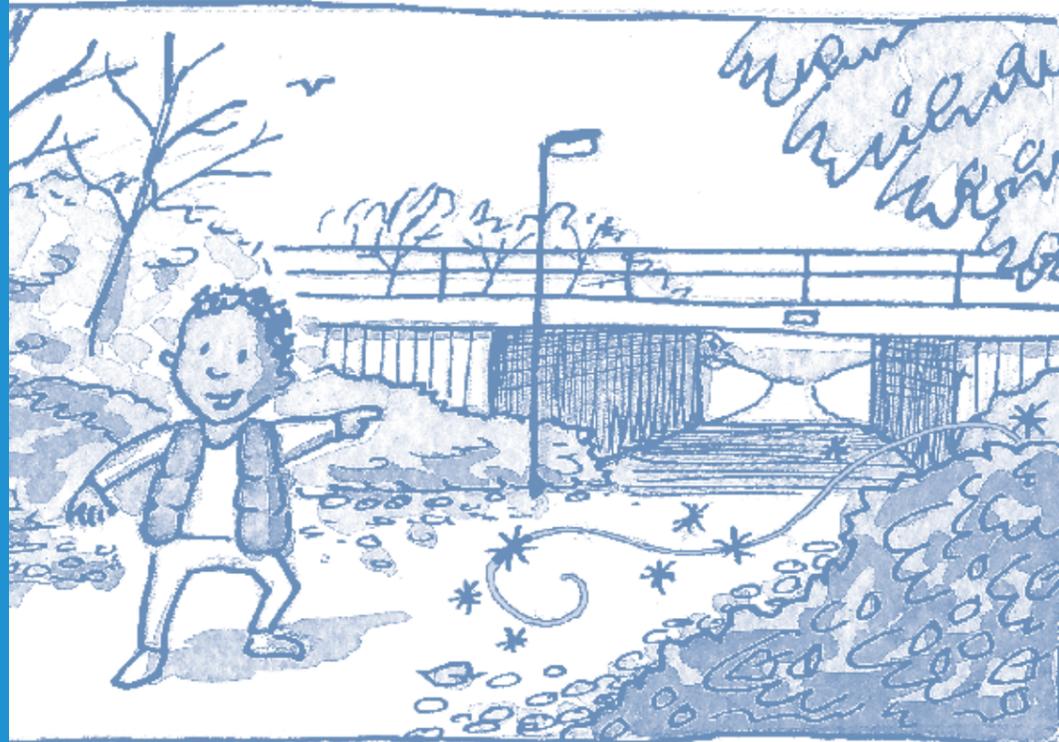
### Downs Barn

- R What colour? \_\_\_\_\_
- S Connections with horses
- T Square windows \_\_\_\_\_  
Rectangle windows \_\_\_\_\_
- U Barn
- V Church
- W Conniburrow and Downs Barn
- X How long to walk? \_\_\_\_\_  
run? \_\_\_\_\_  
skip? \_\_\_\_\_

"OTV hope to enable young readers to explore and celebrate Milton Keynes' history and unique system of underpasses as part of its urban heritage, seeing their environment from a new perspective. The project has highlighted features that are important and recognisable to the people of Milton Keynes which have been discovered through the project and are reflected in this children activity leaflet and the MK Heritage Trails leaflet - 'The story of Housing in Milton Keynes. On the Verge hope you enjoy discovering your Milton Keynes heritage!'"

Charlotte Durrance, OTV Heritage Adviser

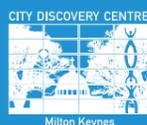
"Pioneered by Myriam Metcalf, the HLF-funded On The Verge *Underpasses – Connecting People, Connecting Places* project will help local people embark on a real journey of discovery of their heritage. Encouraging exploration of their physical and social heritage, the Underpasses project engages local people with artists, heritage and an understanding of what it means to have the proud history of Milton Keynes in their culture." Noël James, Director MKCDC



Project Funders



Project Partners

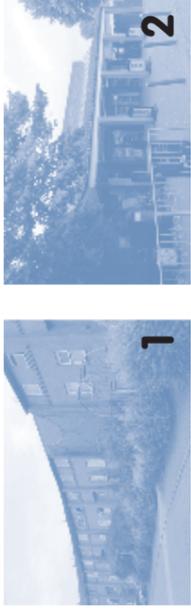


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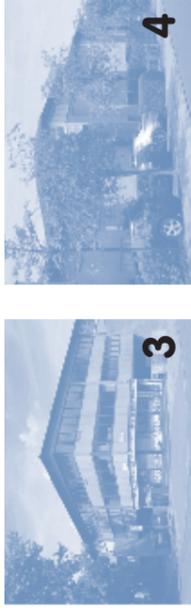


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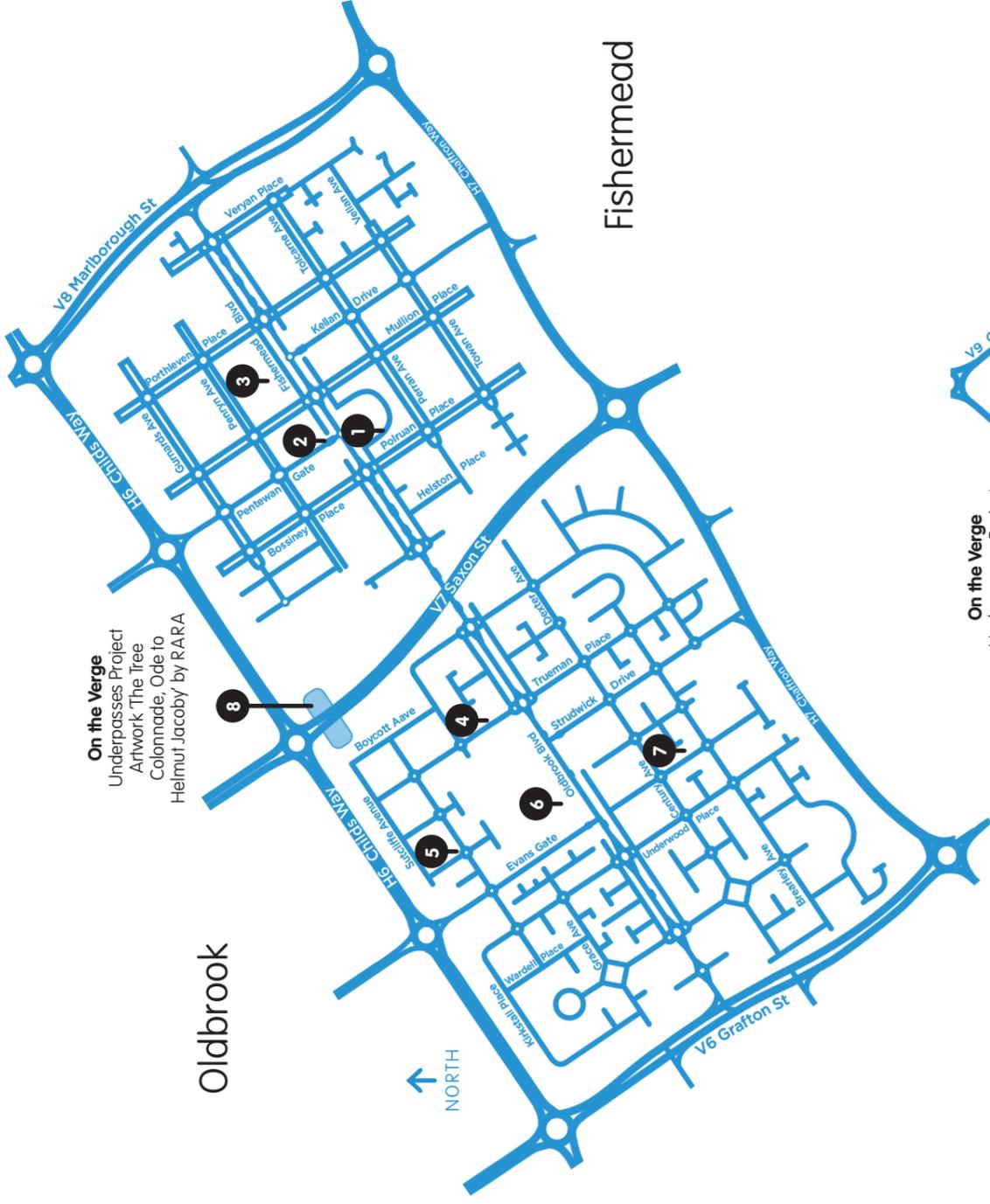
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Oldbrook

Fishermead

**Fishermead**  
A Why is this collection of buildings called the Crescent?  
Can you think of any other crescent shapes? (1)

B What kind of ship can you see near by? (1)

C Can you spot what the roads are named after in Fishermead?

D How many columns are there in front of the local centre? (2)

E What colours can you see around you? (3)

**Oldbrook**

F How many trees are there in this street? Can you collect a leaf from one of them? (4)

G What do you think is behind the red grill in the front of this building? (5)

H Can you run to all of the service buildings in the park? How long does it take you? (6)

I Do you know what the roads in Oldbrook are all named after?

J Can you spot a building with interesting panels on the roof? What are they for? (7)

**Underpass: Fishermead / Oldbrook (8)**

K At the end of Surlcliffe Avenue under Saxon Street is an underpass. Which estates does it connect?

L How long does it take you to walk, run, or hop from one end of the underpass to the other?

M What happens when you make a loud noise with your footsteps?

Answers on the back of the sheet

**Conniburrow**

N How many steps does it take you to walk from one side of the building to the other? \_\_\_\_ Now walk down Mallow Gate. (9)

O Which are your favourite games/activities in the playground?

P Do you know what the streets are named after in Conniburrow?

Q On the way to the underpass in Conniburrow Boulevard you see an avenue of trees, can you name any of them?

**Downs Barn**

R What colour are most of the garage doors on this street? (10)

S Do you know what the streets are named after in Downs Barn?

T Pick a house and count how many square windows and rectangular windows you can see.

U What do you think this building used to be? (11)

V Do you know what this building is? (12)

**Underpass: Conniburrow / Downs Barn (13)**

W At the end of Conniburrow Boulevard under Marlborough Street is an underpass. Which estates does it connect?

X Can you time yourself walking, running, skipping from one end of the underpass to the other? Sing a song and listen to the echoes.

Answers on the back of the sheet



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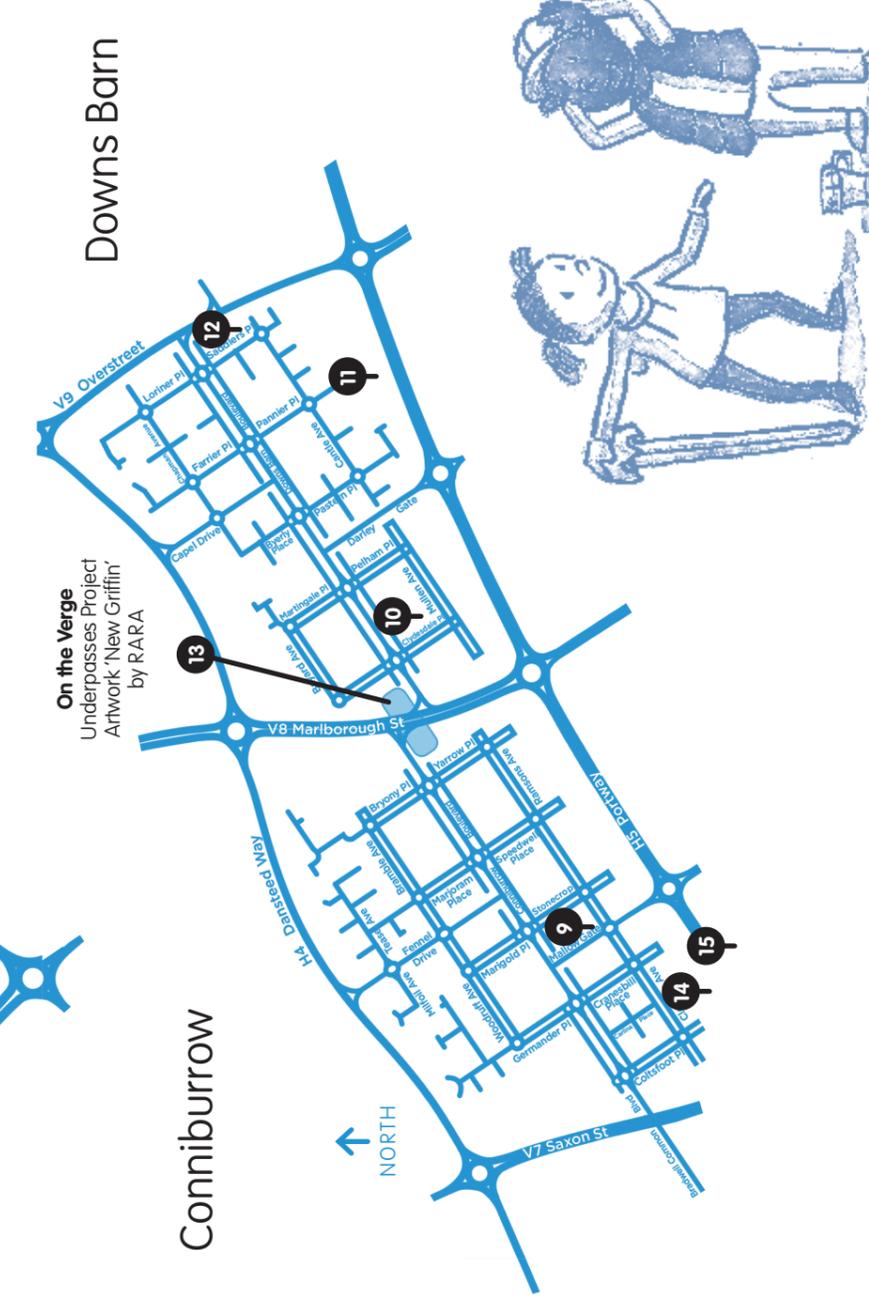
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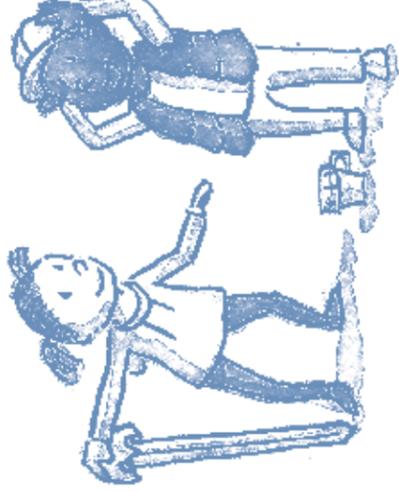
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Downs Barn

On the Verge  
Underpasses Project  
Artwork 'New Griffin'  
by RARA

Conniburrow



13



14



15

CMK Library