

Sites of wildlife interest



Key to all site maps on following pages

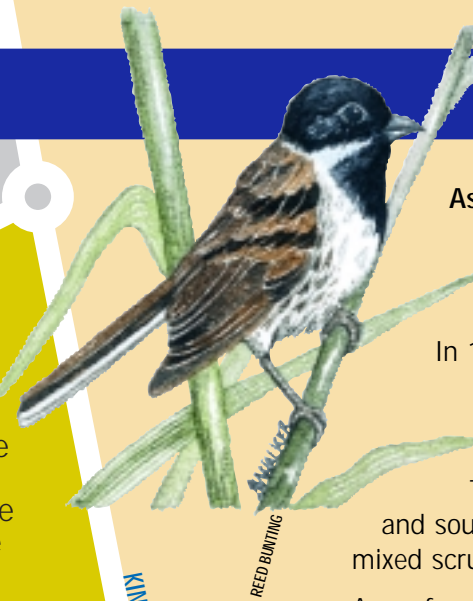
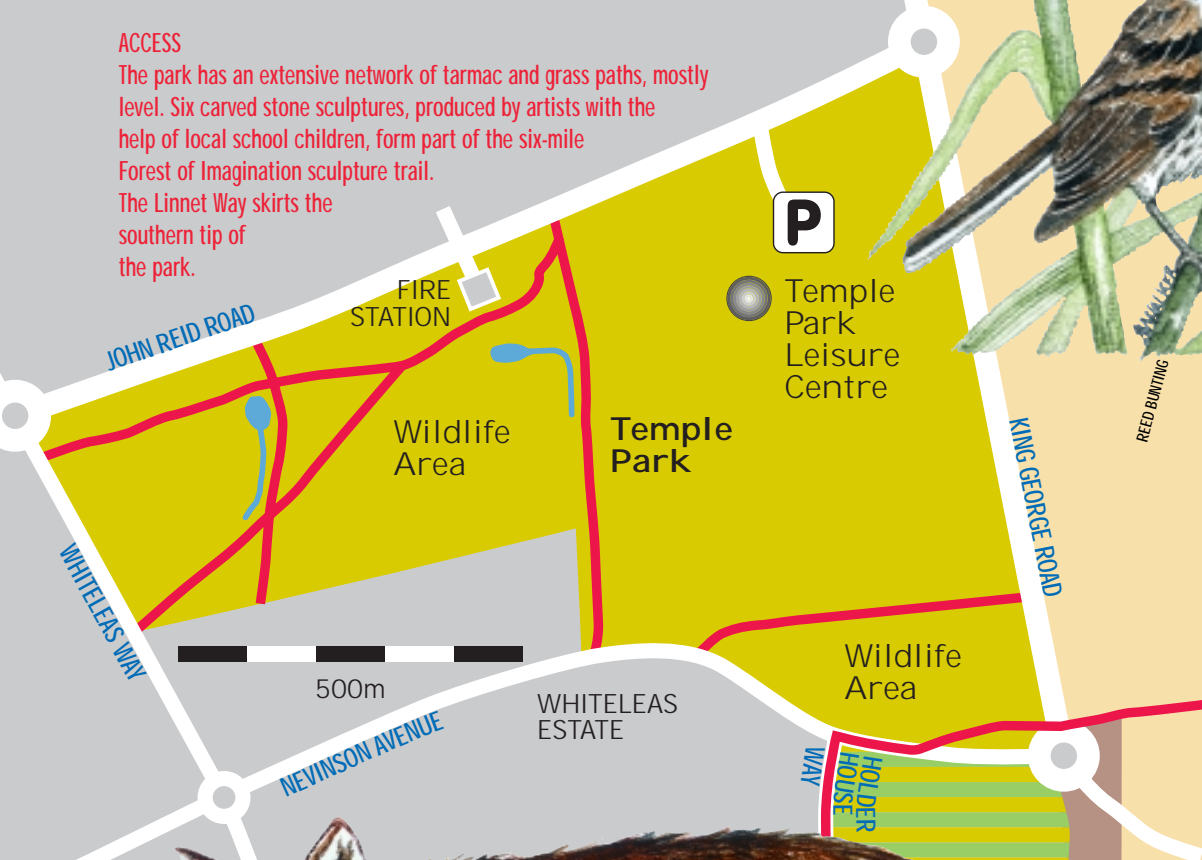
-  Public paths/sculpture
-  Open space
-  Restricted open space
-  Woodland
-  Urban/industrial areas
-  Agricultural areas
-  Beach
-  Rocky shoreline

7 Temple Park

ACCESS

The park has an extensive network of tarmac and grass paths, mostly level. Six carved stone sculptures, produced by artists with the help of local school children, form part of the six-mile Forest of Imagination sculpture trail.

The Linnet Way skirts the southern tip of the park.



As well as a sports centre and playing fields, Temple Park also has large areas of scrub, tree planting and wildflower meadows that are surprisingly natural in character and home to a fascinating variety of wildlife.

In 1961 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners gifted the Park to the people of the Borough, in recognition of the part they had played in winning the 1939-45 war at sea. It is named in memory of a former Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Temple. The main wildlife interest is to be found to the west and south of the site where it becomes much more 'wild', with areas of mixed scrub, tree planting, grasslands and small ponds and ditches.

Away from the paths the grasslands are tall and thick, providing cover for foxes, and smaller mammals such as shrews and field mice, which in turn attract hunting kestrels. Attractive flowers such as meadow cranes-bill, greater knapweed, salad burnet and goat's beard are prominent.

The main pond, though small, is used by myriad life including frog, palmate newt and the spectacular southern hawker dragonfly. The skylark's glorious song can be heard all summer, whilst the wetter areas provide home to the distinctively-marked reed bunting and the sedge warbler - with its continuous, scratchy song.

On a sunny day look out for butterflies such as the tiny and exquisitely patterned small copper and the larger meadow brown.



TRANSPORT

Tyne Dock Metro station is a 15 minute walk away (follow the first part of the Forest of Imagination trail). There is a regular bus service along King George Road/ Nevinson Avenue (nos 3,4,10,10A,11 and 11A).

