

Walks

for all **seasons**



South Tyneside Council



FERRY

PEDESTRIAN/CYCLE TUNNEL

TYNE TUNNEL

Bede's World

St Paul's Church

M JARROW

M HEBBURN

M BEDE

Primrose Local Nature Reserve

BROCKLEY WHINS

M FELLGATE

BOLDON COLLIERY

Colliery Wood

Sta Bu

WEST BOLDON



M SOUTH SHIELDS

M CHICHESTER

M TYNE DOCK

TEMPLE PARK

Newton Garths

Tilesheds Nature Reserve

EAST BOLDON

M BOLDON

CLEADON

WHITBURN

The Leas

MARSDEN

Marsden Old Quarry

Marsden Lime Kilns

Cleadon Water Pumping Station

Cleadon Windmill and Field

Marsden Rock and Bay

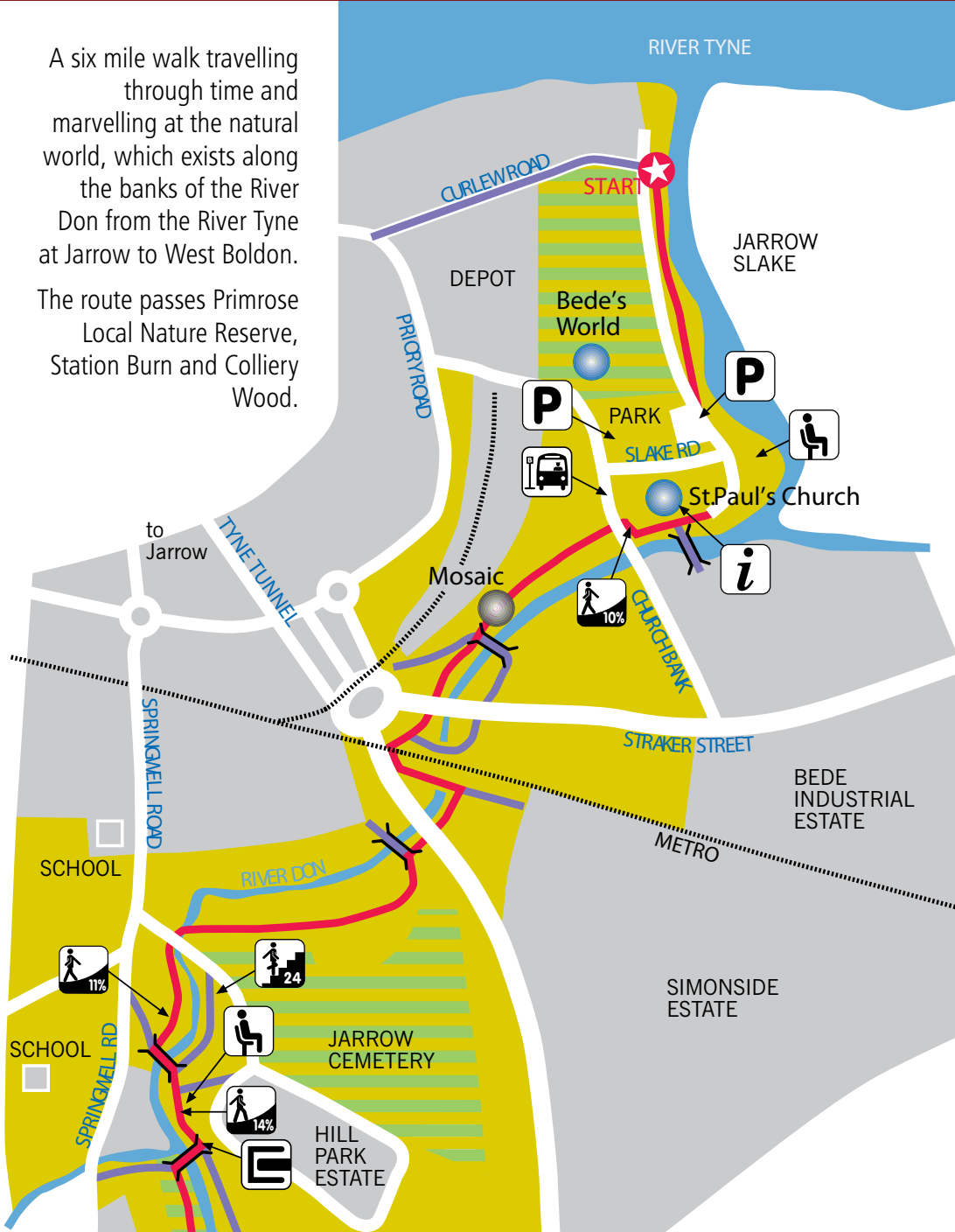
Souter Lighthouse

River Don walk

SECTION 1 – JARROW SLAKE to Primrose

A six mile walk travelling through time and marvelling at the natural world, which exists along the banks of the River Don from the River Tyne at Jarrow to West Boldon.

The route passes Primrose Local Nature Reserve, Station Burn and Colliery Wood.





★ Getting to the start

There is a regular bus service between South Shields and Jarrow that stops on Church Bank near St. Paul's Church, only a short walk from the start. The nearest metro station is Bede, about 15 minutes walk from the start.

For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

The walk starts at the point where the River Don enters the River Tyne. From here there are interesting views as you follow the stone path running parallel with the River Don until you reach Slake Road at the rear of St. Paul's Church. Follow the road around the back of the Church to the listed Jarrow Bridge, then take the path adjacent to the river and take the right fork until you reach Church Bank. Cross the road and continue along the wide path until you reach a mosaic that has been incorporated into the tarmac. From here take the path adjacent to the river and go under the dual carriageway and across to the point where the Metro bridge crosses the A19. Pass beneath the Metro then immediately turn left and then right along the path that goes under the A19. On reaching the other side of the A19 turn left just before the footbridge, then follow the path, with Jarrow Cemetery on your left, until you reach Cemetery Road. This is the highest point on the river to be affected by tides. Cross the road, go over the river and then turn left along the tarmac path running parallel to the river until you reach a T-junction near a footbridge.

Turn left over the bridge and continue along this path, with the river on your right, until you reach the next footbridge.

● St. Paul's Church

This church has been used as a place of worship for over 1300 years. Inside you can view the foundations of a large Saxon church of the monastery founded in AD681 by Benedict Biscop. There are also fine examples of Saxon stone carvings created by the monks to celebrate the glory of God. In the chancel, look at the three round-headed windows – the monks made the glass here during the 7th century. The Church, which has a well stocked shop, is open to visitors during daylight hours, except during church services.

● Bede's World

The extraordinary life of the Venerable Bede created a rich legacy that is created today at Bede's World. Bede lived and worked here 1300 years ago. Bede's World includes a museum housing a major exhibition that transports visitors through the makings of Bede's Northumbria. There is a restaurant in the old Jarrow Hall, next to the recreated Anglo Saxon Farm with many rare breeds of animals and full-size early Northumbrian timber hall.

For further information on opening times telephone (0191) 489 2106 or visit www.bedesworld.co.uk



Cross the bridge and follow the path alongside the river and Primrose Nature Reserve. On reaching the pond area you will discover a seating area and good views of the wildfowl on the water. Continuing upstream, the route leads past two more footbridges to Roman Road near the Robin Hood pub.

Cross Roman Road, go under Leam Lane and at the other side take the tarmac path running adjacent to the river. When you reach Hedworth Lane turn right and, at the top of the hill, cross the road and take the path along Thorntree Walk. Cross the road and take the footpath opposite, which runs parallel to the railway, until you reach the side of the A19. Turn left and follow the path until you reach the footbridge.

Take the footbridge across the A19 and then turn right taking the path that runs adjacent to the A19. Pass under the railway bridge and turn immediately left up the steps. Follow the stone path running adjacent to the railway until you reach Station Road. Cross the road and go through the metal kissing gate into Station Burn Local Nature Reserve, then follow the footpath along the river. Go past the first footbridge and, at the next bridge, cross the river and turn immediately right up the slope along the grass path. Go



over the boardwalk and cross back over the river below the disused railway viaduct. Turn immediately left adjacent to the river and go through the metal kissing gate. Continue along the path until you reach four more kissing gates.

● Primrose Local Nature Reserve

Created by the Council in 1990, this five hectare reserve boasts ponds, reedbeds and grasslands, with flowers such as yellow iris and meadowsweet – all linked by the River Don. The reserve is home to the threatened water vole and also water birds such as moorhen, reed bunting and kingfisher.



BROCKLEY WHINS
STATION

M

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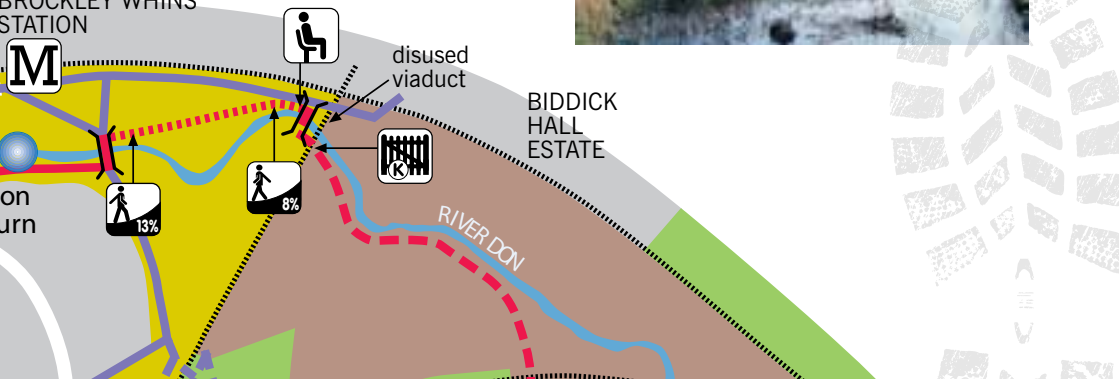
13%

8%

disused
viaduct

BIDDICK
HALL
ESTATE

RIVER DON



River Don walk

SECTION 3 – STATION BURN TO NEWCASTLE ROAD





Go through the kissing gates and underneath the old mineral line before reach Colliery Wood. Follow the stone path down the side of the tree plantation and cross the bridge near to the playing fields, then follow the stone path to New Road opposite the school. Turn left along the pavement for about 350 metres until you reach the river on your right. Follow the tarmac path that runs adjacent to the river, going past four bridges, until you reach North Road where you need to turn left up the road to St. Nicholas's Church.



● Getting from the finish

There are regular bus services from North Road to Jarrow via Boldon Colliery. The nearest railway/metro station is Brockley Whins, which you passed early on the walk.

Contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

● Station Burn and Colliery Wood

The River Don runs through an attractive and secluded little valley known as Station Burn Local Nature Reserve. Rich in wildlife, this is one of the best places in the north east to see the tracks and signs of the rare and threatened water vole. There are wildflower rich meadows and ponds with amphibians and dragonflies. Nearby Colliery Wood was created by South Tyneside Council in 2000 by the planting of over 50,000 trees and shrubs on the reclaimed former Boldon Colliery site.

Linnet Way

SECTION 1 – BROCKLEY WHINS TO TILESHEDES



A five mile walk through lovely countryside from Brockley Whins metro station to the Coast at Marsden. The route passes through Station Burn, Newton Garths, Tilesheds and Marsden Old Quarry. The walk links the River Don to the Coastal Walk to create a long cross-borough walk from Jarrow to South Shields with a total distance of 12.5 miles.

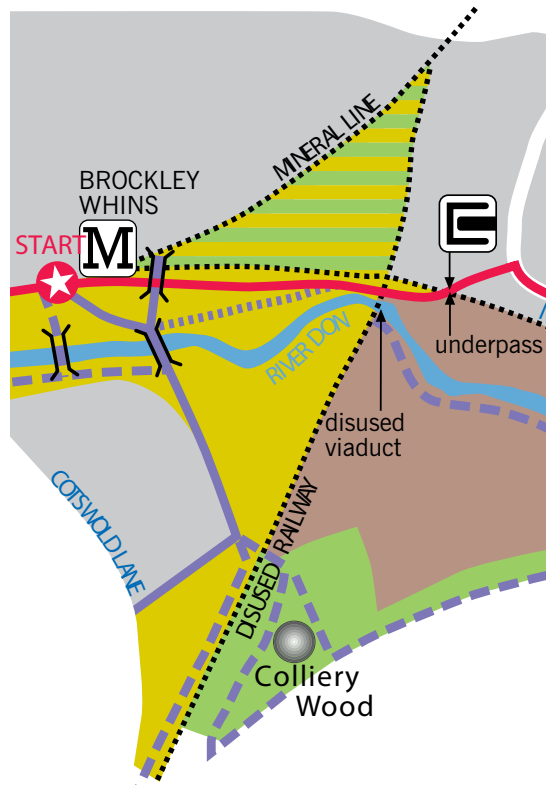
The route is named after a small bird – the Linnet – a finch which breeds in gorse bushes and hedgerows along the Linnet Way. Look for flocks of these bonny little birds, with their dancing flight and twittering song.

★ Getting to the start

The walk starts at Brockley Whins metro station, which lies on the Sunderland to Newcastle line. Regular bus services stop on Cotswold Lane, Boldon Colliery, a short walk from the station. For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

From Brockley Whins metro station, head east along the tarmac path running adjacent to the railway, passing the bus turning circle before reaching a large footbridge. Continue heading east alongside the railway until you reach a disused railway viaduct where the path splits into two. Take the left fork and go through the

small tunnel and continue alongside the railway, then through the underpass to Hopkins Walk. Bear right onto Masefield Drive then turn right and follow the road for approximately 500 metres until you reach Orwell Close, where you need to turn right along the road before following the stone track straight in front. Follow the track onto the Newton Garths site and stay on the main path all the way to Benton Road. Cross the road and walk parallel to the houses heading towards Tilesheds Local Nature Reserve. Here it is possible to use the other path to make a circular walk around the Reserve if you wish. Follow the path to Whiteleas Way bus turning circle.





● Tiledsheds Nature Reserve

The reserve was created in the early 1990s with extensive involvement from the local community. The pond has breeding mute swans, moorhens and coots, whilst the plantations have matured into good habitats for birds such as warblers and thrushes.

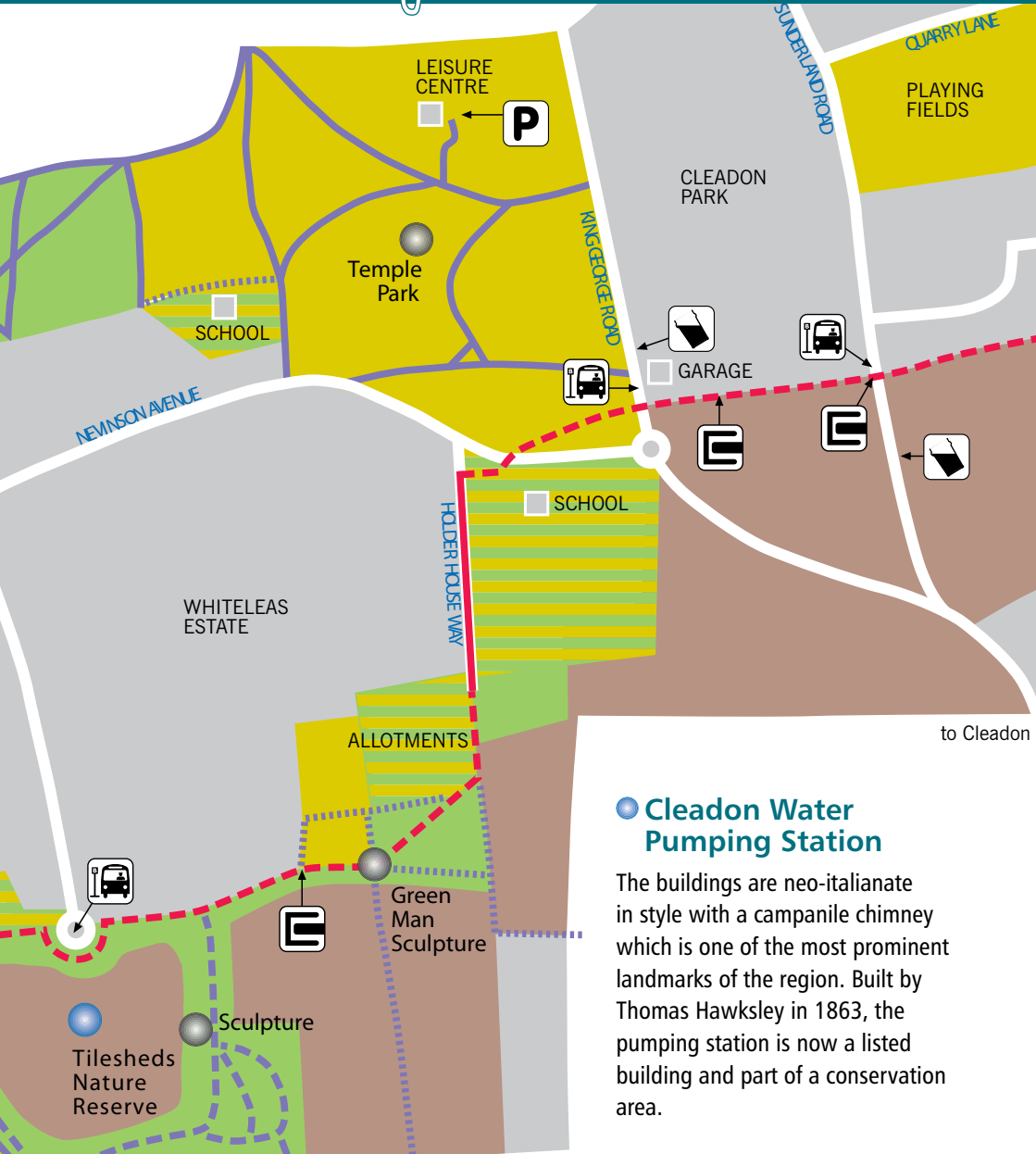
● Newton Garths

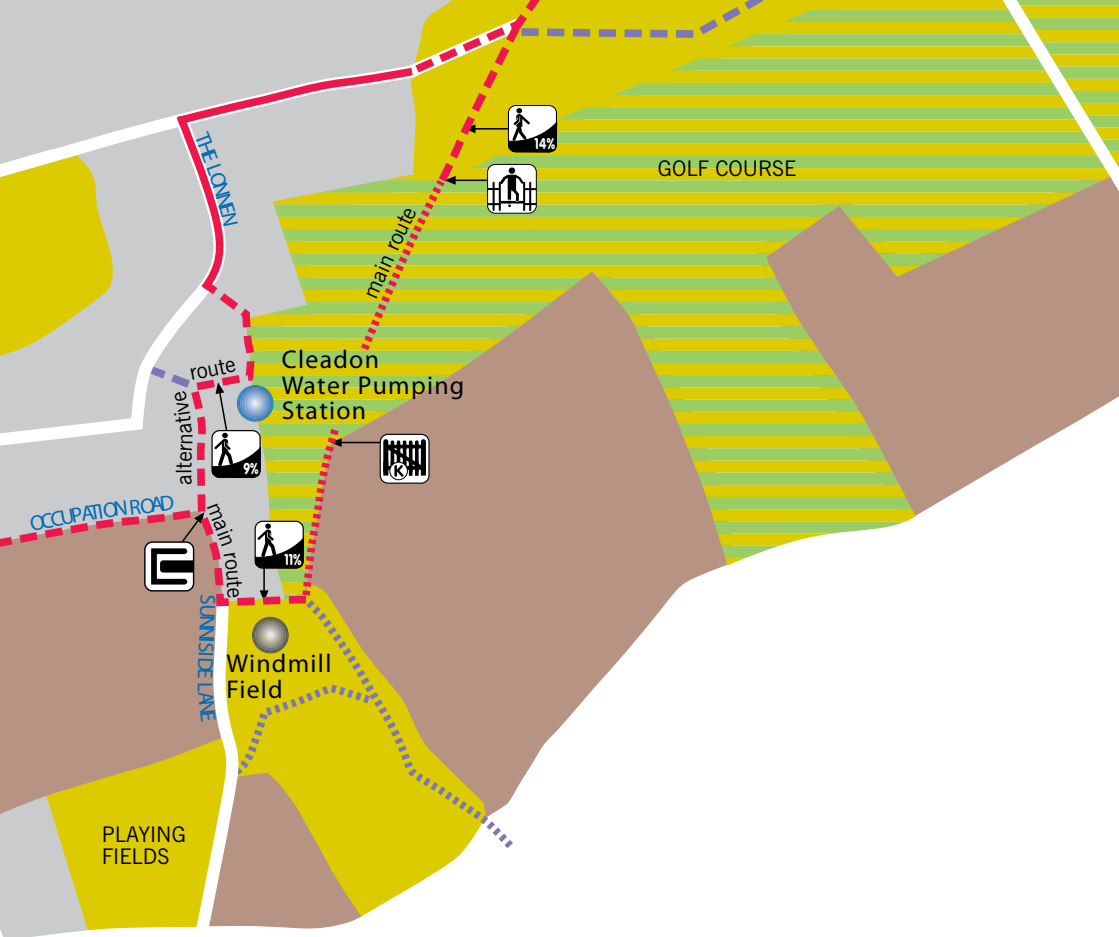
This site was developed to provide a wide range of wildlife habitats ranging from wildflower meadows to mixed woodland and willow and hazel coppices. It also offers panoramic views of the area.



Linnet Way

SECTION 2 – TILESHEDS TO CLEADON WATER TOWER





The main route goes around the bus turning circle (halfway along) and when you reach the end of the houses the path carries straight ahead before forking left between two blocks of woodland. You will pass the “Green Man”, one of a number of sculptures that were installed to mark the area previously known as the Great North Forest. When you reach the far end of the woodland blocks, turn left along the track until you reach Holder House Way.

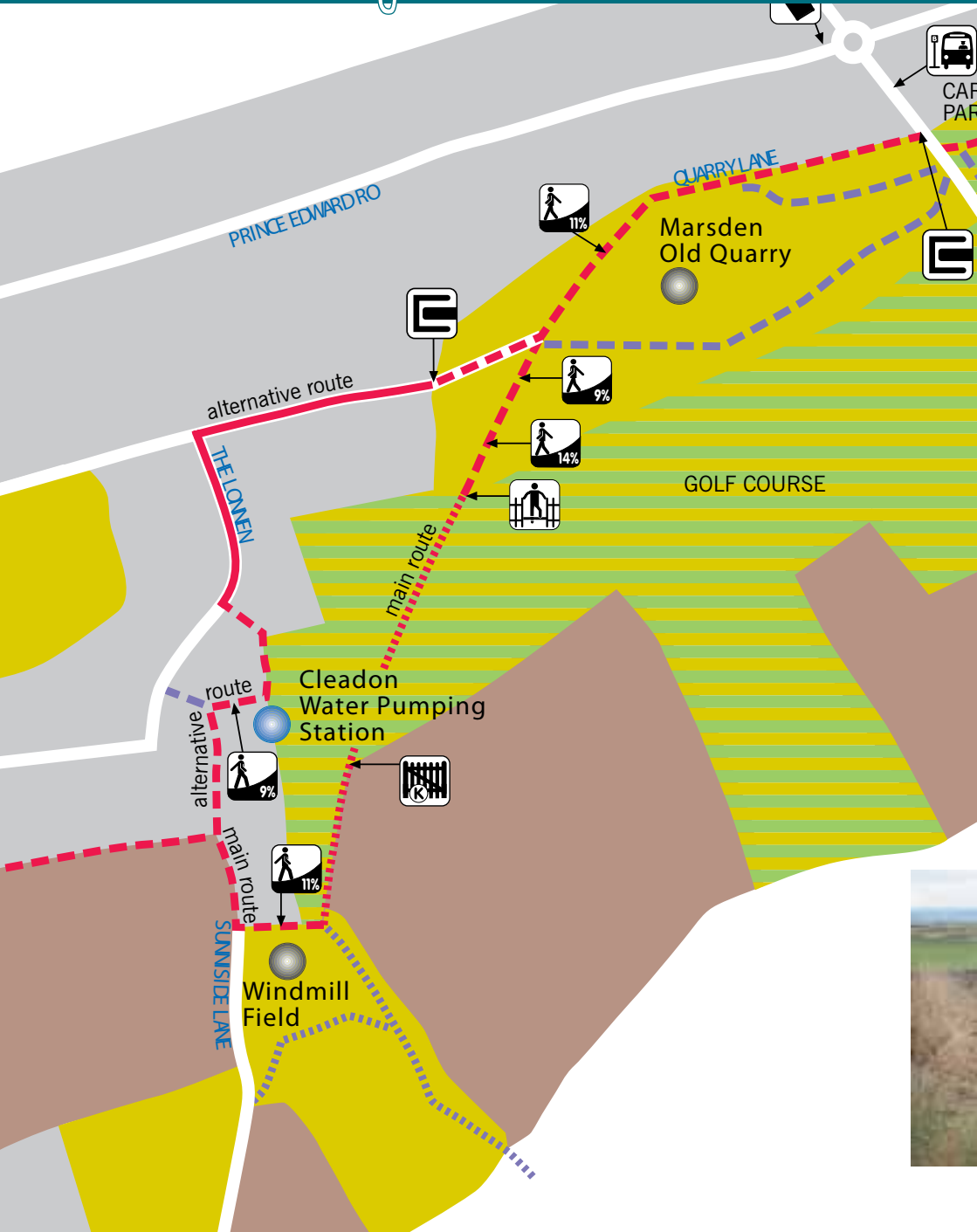
Continue up the road past the school playing fields and turn right along the path before crossing Nevinson Avenue to continue along the path into Temple Park.

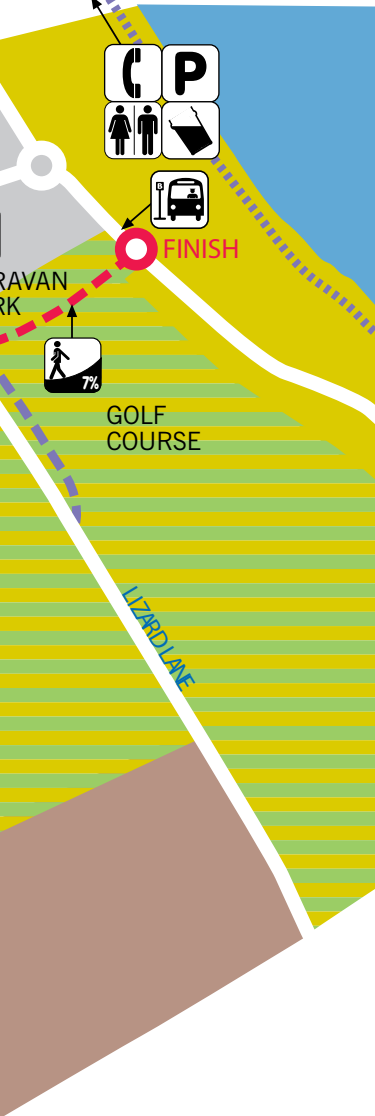
When you reach King George Road, cross it and follow the track opposite known as Occupation Road. Cross over Sunderland Road and continue up the track towards Cleadon Water Tower. When you reach the tower there are two alternative routes, as explained in section 3.



Linnet Way

SECTION 3 – CLEADON WATER TOWER TO THE COAST





To follow the main route for walkers

Turn right along the track until you reach the southern end of the Water Tower. Then turn left and continue straight ahead with the stone wall on your right until you reach a kissing gate, which gives you access to the golf course. Cross the course following the markers and cross the stone stile on the far side into Marsden Old Quarry Local Nature Reserve. Ignore the path on your right and continue straight ahead down the slope until you reach the track known as Quarry Lane. Turn right and follow this until you reach Lizard Lane. Cross the road and go down the path on the southern side of the caravan park and the golf course until you reach the Coast Road.

To follow the alternative route (a mainly on-road option)

Turn left at the Water Tower along the track and then turn right where the track forks. Go up the track with the stone wall on your right, then at the top of the track turn left and follow down to the road. Continue down the road until you reach The Lonnen. Turn right, walking along the pavement until you reach Quarry Lane where you need to turn right and continue to the bus turning circle next to the White Horse pub. From the pub, follow the track known as Quarry Lane through Marsden Old Quarry Local Nature Reserve until you reach Lizard Lane. You have now rejoined the main route.

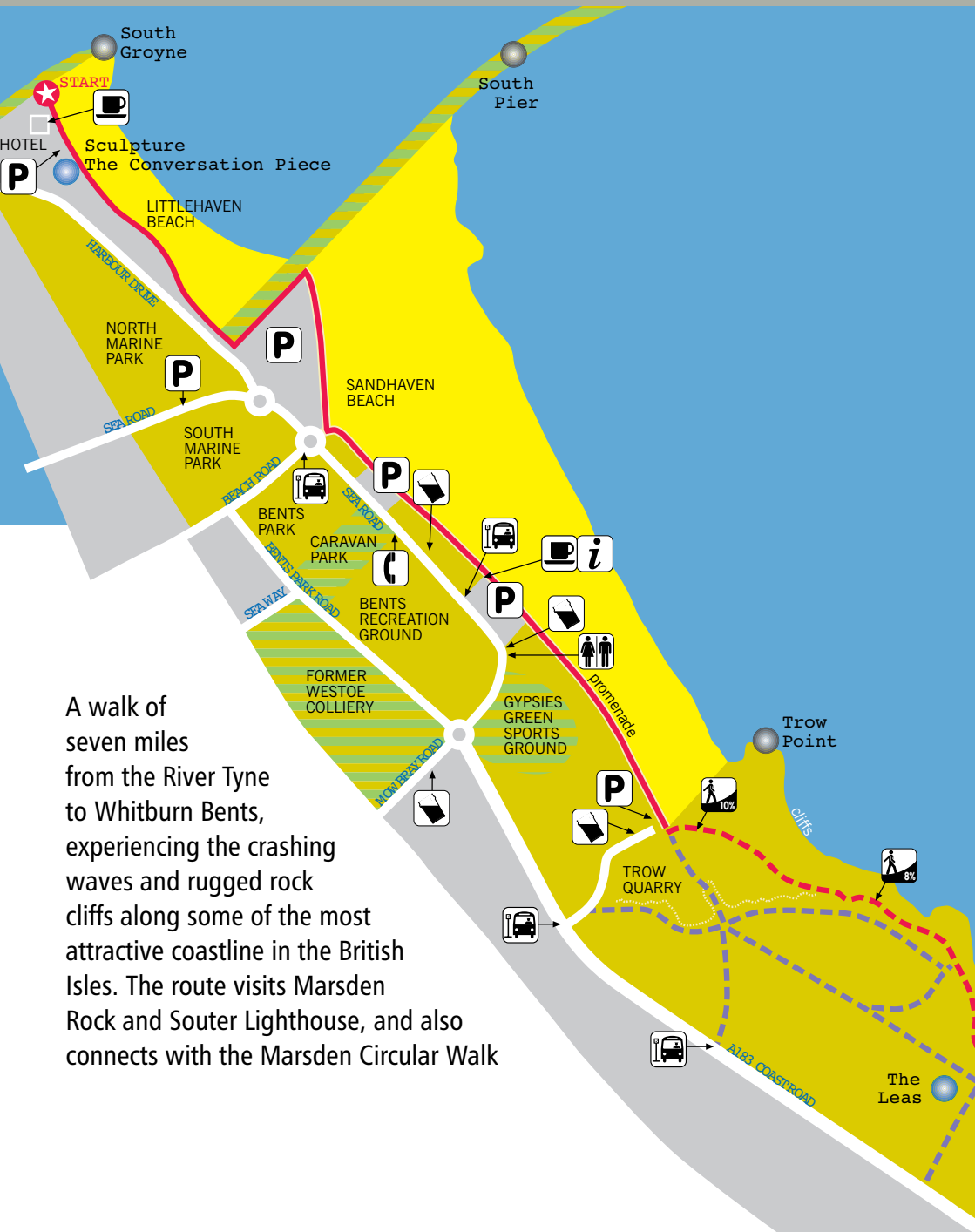
Getting from the finish

The bus stops at the end of this walk run regularly to either South Shields or Sunderland. For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.



Coastal Walk

SECTION 1 – SOUTH GROYNE TO FRENCHMAN'S BAY



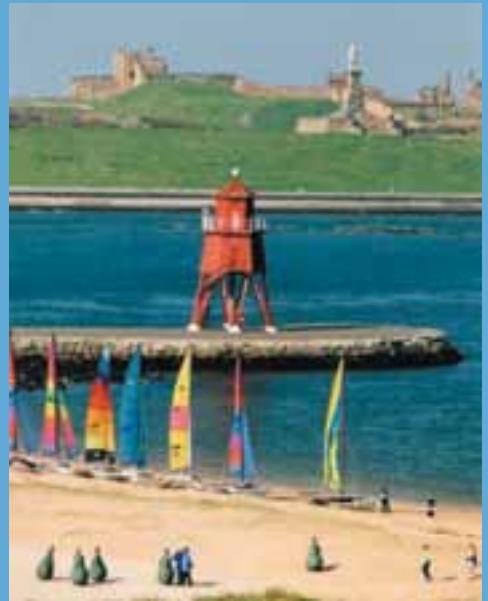
A walk of seven miles from the River Tyne to Whitburn Bents, experiencing the crashing waves and rugged rock cliffs along some of the most attractive coastline in the British Isles. The route visits Marsden Rock and Souter Lighthouse, and also connects with the Marsden Circular Walk



★ Getting to the Start

A bus between South Shields and Sunderland provides a regular service to the coast and Sandhaven Beach. If you are travelling by Metro the nearest Metro station is South Shields. For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

From the South Groyne walk along Littlehaven Beach to the start of the pier where you need to turn left for approximately 200 metres before turning right along the promenade. Continue along the promenade past the fairground and the amphitheatre until you reach the far end of the bay at Trow Point. Take the track on your left signed "Coastal Footpath". Follow the path next to the cliffs over The Leas area past the former Trow Quarry and Frenchman's Bay



● The Conversation Piece

The "Conversation Piece" is made up of 22 life-size human-like bronze figures, which weigh a quarter of a ton each. They were created by the late Spanish artist Juan Munoz who was one of the most respected artists of his generation. Installed in 1999 the work offers a spectacular view over the sea.

● The Leas

The Leas is 300 acres of grassy open space, given to the National Trust by South Tyneside Council in 1987, which backs onto the coastline. The area is managed sympathetically for nature conservation by the National Trust, who leave large areas uncut for much of the summer to allow ground-nesting birds to nurture their young and also to allow wildflowers to set seed. The glacial drift that covers the underlying limestone was deposited over this area following the retreat of the last Ice Age some 18,000 – 11,000 years ago.

FRENCHMAN'S
BAY

Coastal Walk

SECTION 2 – FRENCHMAN'S BAY TO SOUTER



● Marsden Bay and Rock

The coast here has spectacular cliffs, cave and arches, and one of England's most important sea bird colonies with thousands of pairs of kittiwakes, fulmars, gulls and cormorants. The rocks, formed almost 250 million years ago, are Permian Magnesian Limestone and are of great interest to geologists world-wide. The limestones were originally formed as muds on the floor and flanks of a shallow tropical sea that stretched from Greenland to Eastern Poland, at a time when Britain lay deep within a great continent only just north of the equator.

● Marsden Lime Kilns

Opposite the disused car park at Souther Point, to the north of the Souther Lighthouse, you will see the Marsden Lime Kilns. Built in the 1870's, the limestone from Marsden Quarries was burnt in these kilns before being transported by train (known as the Marsden Rattler) to South Shields. The kilns ceased production in 1960.



● Souther Lighthouse

High above the cliffs stands Souther Lighthouse, which was built in 1871 and was the first lighthouse specifically constructed to use an electric light.

The National Trust opens the lighthouse to the public. An exhibition, video and guided tours are on offer, and there is a souvenir shop and tea-room.

For further information on opening times telephone (0191) 529 3161 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/souther-lighthouse-and-the-leas/



A183 COAST ROAD

HARTON DOWNHILL

MARDEN

When you reach the northern end of Marsden Sands you have two options: either follow the Coastal Footpath along the top of the cliffs to Marsden rock or to go down the slope onto the beach and back up the steps near the Grotto pub. If you choose to do the latter, please check the tide times before going to the beach and note that there are over 100 steps to be climbed.

From Marsden Rock follow the grass coastal path towards Souter Lighthouse past the Lime Kilns. When you reach the disused Souter Point car park access road, turn left towards the old car park and follow the path heading south by the side of the lighthouse. Go past Souter Lighthouse and continue along the Coastal Footpath down past the former Whitburn Rifle Ranges.



Coastal Walk

SECTION 3 – SOUTER TO WHITBURN

Continue straight down the coast following the path, where Jackie's Beach is on the left. After leaving the rifle range area, continue along the Coastal Footpath at the rear of Whitburn Village (an area known as Whitburn Bents) until you reach the South Bents car park.

If you wish to continue to Sunderland Pier, you can walk on the sand all the way if the tide is low enough. If the tide is too high, take the coast pavement/promenade all the way to the pier instead.

📍 Getting from the finish

There are a number of bus services between South Shields and Sunderland via Whitburn. If you are travelling by Metro the nearest Metro station is Seaburn, one mile from the pier. For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.





RITCHIE ROAD

LIZARD LANE



SCHOOL

A83 MILL LANE

WHITBURN COLLIERY

cliffs

Whitburn Point Nature Reserve

rocky shore

JACKIE'S BEACH

Souter Point

Windmill



RIFLE RANGE

main route

cliffs



suitable for wheelchair

CEMETERY

main route

WHITBURN

NORTH GUARDS



SCHOOL



rocky shore

FRONT STREET



GARTH LANE

CRICKET GROUND

PARK

cliffs

rocky shore



FINISH



to Sunderland

WHITBURN SANDS

A stylized map showing a route in Marsden. The route is marked with a red dashed line. It starts at a grey circle labeled 'Old Man's Garden'. The route goes east, then south, crossing a road labeled 'and bridge' with a pedestrian bridge icon. It then turns west, passing a 23% gradient icon, and then turns south again, passing another pedestrian bridge icon. The map shows a coastline on the left and a road on the right.

Old Man's
Garden

and bridge



Marsden Circular Walk

SECTION 1 – SOUTH BENTS TO CLEADON HILLS

Stretch your legs and your imagination with this spectacular seven mile walk over Cleadon Hills and along the sea cliffs. The route passes Windmill Field, Marsden Old Quarry and Souter Lighthouse.

★ Getting to the start

There are a number of bus services between South Shields and Sunderland via Whitburn. If you are travelling by Metro the nearest Metro station is Seaburn, one mile from the start. For more information contact Travel Line on 0871 200 2233.

This walk starts from South Bents car park. Cross the road and take the public footpath that runs parallel to the park up to Whitburn Village. The path brings you out on Church Lane, with its 13th century parish church,

which is worth a visit if open. The lane emerges onto Front Street. Cross the road and turn left before turning right up Sandy Chare. At the top of Sandy Chare on the left is the village pond, which originally was a coach wash, and behind that is the former schoolhouse.

Bear right on to North Guards and then turn left up Wellands Lane. Continue up Wellands Lane until you pass the housing estate, and then take the public footpath on the left leading to Well House Farm. Follow the track through the farm and turn right along the waymarked path that leads up to Cleadon Hills. From here on a clear day, you can see south to the Cleveland Hills and coastline near Whitby.



WINDMILL

CARAVAN PARK

RIFLE RANGE

WELL-HOUSE FARM

WELLANDS LANE

LIZARD LANE

MILL LANE

CEMETERY

WHITBURN

PLAYING FIELDS

NORTH GUARDS

SCHOOL

SCHOOL

POND

FRONT STREET

A183 EAST STREET

CHURCH

CRICKET GROUND

CHURCH LANE

rocky shore

CORNTHWAITE PARK

Coastal walk
cliffs

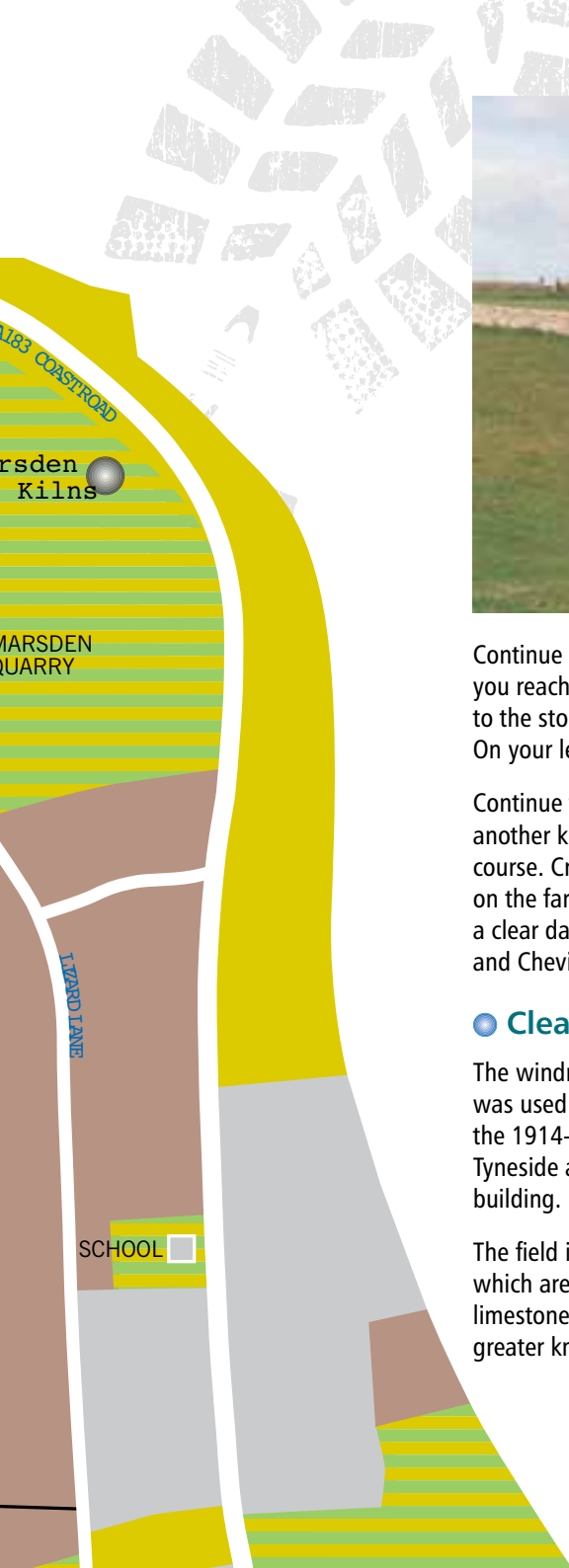
SOUTH BENTS

P i

START

WHITBURN SANDS





Continue along the path past “Old Man’s Garden” until you reach Cleadon Windmill, then follow the path next to the stone wall up to and through the kissing gate. On your left is Cleadon Water Pumping Station.

Continue following the stone wall until you reach another kissing gate, which gives you access to the golf course. Cross the course and go through the stone stile on the far side into Marsden Old Quarry. From here on a clear day, you can see north to the coast near Blyth and Cheviot Hills.

● Cleadon Windmill and Field

The windmill was built during the early 19th century. It was used for target practice by an artillery unit during the 1914-18 war, was restored by Groundwork South Tyneside and Newcastle in 1992 and is now a listed building.

The field is of national importance for its wildflowers, which are present because of the shallow magnesian limestone soils. Look out for beautiful plants such as greater knapweed, salad burnet and autumn gentian.

Marsden Circular Walk

SECTION 3 – BACK TO THE COAST



Turn right along the wall and follow the path that runs at the top of the old quarry towards the coast until you reach Lizard Lane. Cross the road and take the path between the caravan park and the golf course, which will bring you onto the Coast Road just south of Marsden Rock.

From Marsden Rock follow the grass coastal path towards Souter Lighthouse past the Lime Kilns. When you reach the disused Souter Point car park access road, turn left towards the old car park and follow the path heading south by the side of the lighthouse. Go past Souter Lighthouse and continue along the Coastal Footpath down past the former Whitburn Rifle Ranges.

● Marsden Old Quarry

This site has a fascinating range of habitats including cliffs, woodland and grasslands. The cliff tops support a host of magnesian limestone grassland wildflowers such as wild thyme, common rockrose and blue moorgrass. During the autumn the site is a magnet for migrating birds and birdwatchers.

Be careful not to go too close to the cliff edge – it is very steep!

● Marsden Bay and Rock

The coast here has spectacular cliffs, cave and arches, and one of England's most important sea bird colonies with thousands of pairs of kittiwakes, fulmars, gulls and cormorants. The

rocks, formed almost 250 million years ago, are Permian Magnesian Limestone and are of great interest to geologists world-wide. The limestones were originally formed as muds on the floor and flanks of a shallow tropical sea that stretched from Greenland to Eastern Poland, at a time when Britain lay deep within a great continent only just north of the equator.

● Marsden Lime Kilns

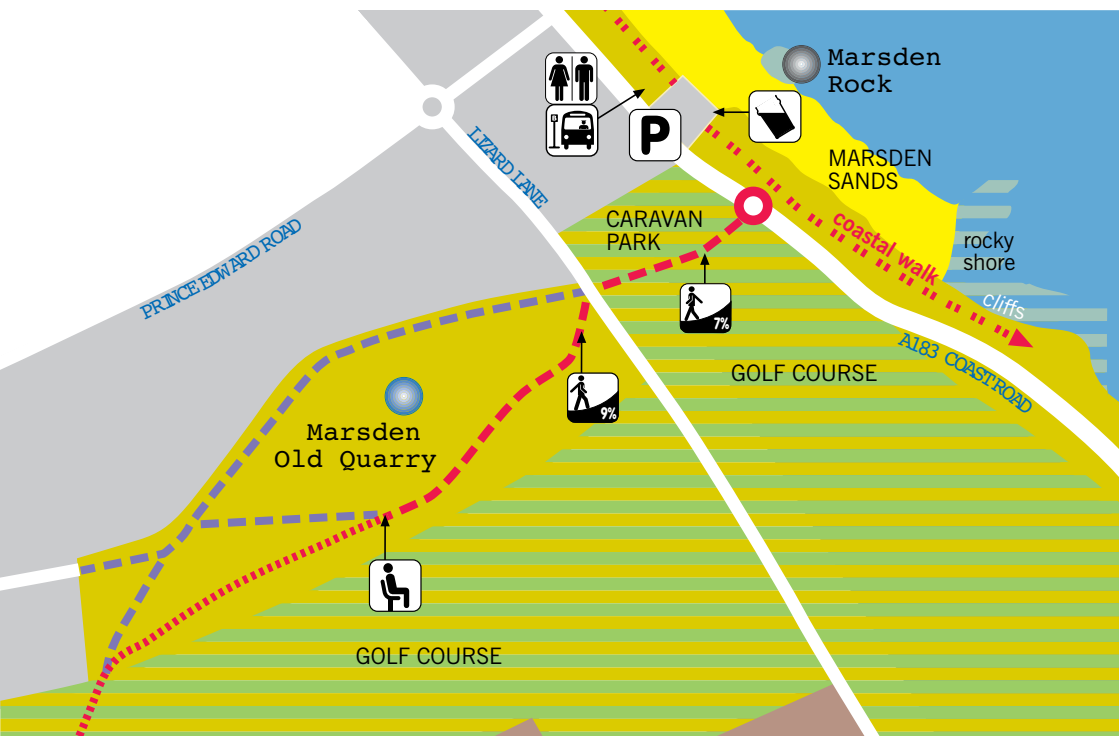
Opposite the disused car park at Souter Point, to the north of the Souter Lighthouse, you will see the Marsden Lime Kilns. Built in the 1870's, the limestone from Marsden Quarries was burnt in these kilns before being transported by train (known as the Marsden Rattler) to South Shields. The kilns ceased production in 1960.

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Marsden Circular Walk

SECTION 4 – SOUTER TO WHITBURN

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● Getting from the finish

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Countryside Code

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs



Contacts for further Information

Countryside Officer/Public Rights of Way Officer

South Tyneside Council
Town Hall and Civic Offices
Westoe Road,
South Shields
NE33 2RL
Telephone: (0191) 427 7000

Additional countryside information

For further information and leaflets please see www.southtyneside.info

Visitor Information Centre South Shields.

Telephone (0191) 424 7788

Public Transport Information – Travel Line

Telephone 0871 200 2233 for all local public transport enquiries.