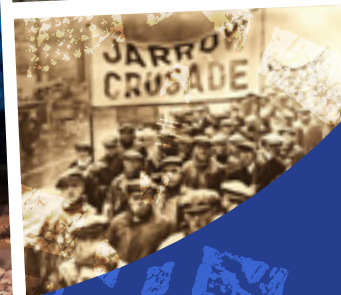


South Tyneside

# Heritage Trail

A pathway from  
the past...into the future

**Your guide to walks and cycle routes around  
South Tyneside's Heritage Trail**



**South Tyneside Council**

# Follow the trail...

South Tyneside Heritage Trail is a walking route designed to help you explore aspects of the Borough's incredibly rich and diverse heritage.

The trail follows a route of roughly 26 miles passing through most of the towns and villages, which make up the Borough. It takes you through a variety of landscapes, from rugged coastline and farmland to reclaimed industrial sites and busy streets where people go about their daily living.

Along the way is a series of interpretation panels which highlight aspects of the area's rich heritage and invite you to "dig a little deeper" to find out more.

Many of the panel locations can be visited relatively easy by car, but for those wishing to walk the trail, it would be advisable to break it up into sections to suit your fitness/ability. It can be split into a number of loops and possible connecting paths are marked in yellow on the map in this leaflet. Detailed maps of smaller circular walks within the Heritage Trail are available.

Much of the route follows established trails like the Coastal Path, Linnet Way and the "Walking Works Wonders" health walks programme developed by South Tyneside Council. Some sections of the path are not suitable for bicycles, but alternative cycle routes can be easily found. Most of the route is accessible to wheelchairs. It may be sensible to carry a local street map in conjunction with this leaflet in order to help pick out the route in greater detail. There are also maps on each of the panels to help you find your way to the next.

The trail touches on a wide range of topics including geology, wildlife, religion, legend, literature, architecture, sport, leisure, commerce, industry, as well as thousands of years of history, so there is something of interest to everyone!

## South Tyneside...

Those unfamiliar with this corner of the North East may not be aware of the wealth and diversity of its heritage.

Some may know a little about the Venerable Bede or have read the novels of Catherine Cookson. For others, the Jarrow Crusade and the area's industrial past might come to mind.

## Its landscape...

One of these strands is the structure of the landscape itself, as this has helped shape much of what has gone on here. The limestone deposits which formed the Cleadon Hills and the stunning cliffs and rock formations along the coastline; the rich veins of coal which, for so many years, provided the backbone of the region's economy; and the River Tyne itself; providing the means for exporting the coal to foreign parts.



## Its people...

Another thread is provided by the extraordinary people who have lived here. From prehistoric times, through the Roman, Anglo Saxon and Viking periods, across the Middle Ages and into the industrial era, people have come from many parts of the world to settle in South Tyneside and they have all made a contribution to its achievements. Life in the region has rarely been easy as its rewards have always had to be hard earned, often in dangerous circumstances. But this has bred a population with lots of pride, remarkable spirit, a strong sense of community and always ready to have fun! If this was all South Tyneside had to offer, it would be remarkable enough, as these things have all made an impact far beyond the North East of England. But delve a little deeper and you will soon discover that there are many more layers to its history and culture which weave together across the centuries to form a rich tapestry which is fascinating and rewarding to explore.

## Always changing...

Continuous change and people's ability to adapt is another strong theme which emerges. Around 200 years ago, South Tyneside was still very rural with just a little industrial development along the riverside. The 19th century witnessed a manufacturing explosion, in which the local population grew tenfold to provide the work force for some of the world's greatest shipyards and engineering works. Today, these too have all but gone and the area has come through the traumas of industrial decline and emerged as a bustling, vibrant place to live and work, with many of the old industrial sites regenerated for modern business or reclaimed for nature. Even the iconic Marsden Rock has had to suffer change.

## To meet the future...

1300 years ago, Bede propelled South Tyneside to the very forefront of western culture and his legacy is still felt around the world today. 100 to 150 years ago the banks of the River Tyne again became globally renowned as a centre of excellence and innovation. Those days may have gone – the shipyards and mines have fallen silent – but the area's greatest asset still remains. It is the people of South Tyneside who have made it great in the past and who will continue to make it great in the future.

## Enjoy your day out...

Much of the Heritage Trail is paved and most of it is relatively flat, but we would still recommend the wearing of stout comfortable footwear for anyone wishing to follow it. There may be one or two location where you will have to negotiate steps or inclines and it is possible that some sections might get wet or muddy after rain.

Parts of the trail run beside busy roads so please take care and watch for traffic. There are cycle lanes available on most of these sections. Some of the things to look out for en route are highlighted on the map.



# Hebburn Stroll

3.4 miles / 5.5km approximately  
1 and a half hours



**The Hebburn Stroll is a circular walk of around 3 miles on a fairly even level.**

The walk starts from **Hebburn Metro Station**. From the top of the bridge, walk away from Hebburn town centre and head towards the river, walk until you reach the roundabout on **Prince Consort Road**. Turn right on to **Lyon Street**, walk for a few minutes and take the first left in to **Ellison Street**. This will lead you down to the river, passing the old **St Andrews Church and Steeple** on your left and to **Heritage Trail Panel Number 17**.

Continue down Ellison Street, on your right you will pass the former Hawthorn Leslie Shipyard site, until you reach the riverside. Follow the footpath to the right up to the river, where you will come out next to the **Sea Cadets Headquarters**. Walk on through the small industrial estate and you will come out at the bottom of the **Prince Consort Road**, turn right and follow this road down to the **marina** and riverside jetty. Continue along the marina until you reach **Heritage Trail Panel Number 16**.

From the panel take the stepped path that leads you slightly up hill and turn right on the tarmac pathway in the middle of the bank. Follow this path along the river bank until the path intersection, turn left and walk uphill, cross the stile and across the Metro Line, (Care must be taken when crossing) this will bring you out on to **South Drive**. Walk straight up towards the

main road in front of you, **Victoria Road**.

Turn left on to **Victoria Road** walk down to the pedestrian island and cross. Continue down Victoria Road and you will come to the main gates of **Hebburn Cemetery** on your right, strolling through there you will find among others, the graves of the HMS Kelly crew, and a monument to her Commander, Lord Louis Mountbatten.

Leave the Cemetery by the **south gate** (at the back left corner) and cross the road into **Carr Ellison Park**. Walking through the park you pass the cenotaph and you can see **Ellison Hall** to your left.

Continue through the park until you reach **Heritage Trail Panel 15**. After the panel continue along the path until it forks, bear left towards the main park gates. Before leaving the park there is a **war memorial** to the brave men who died in the Boer War from 1896 to 1902, with a cannon at the base of it.

Leave the park and head down **Park Road** and you will once again come to **Victoria Road**. Turn left, walk up to the **crossroads**, turn and right across with care at the pedestrian crossing onto **Station Road**, towards **Hebburn town centre**. Continue along Station Road passing **Fountain Park**, and towards **Hebburn Metro Station**.

You have now completed the Hebburn Stroll. We hope you have enjoyed it and will walk it many times.



## Highlights

The name Hebburn is thought to derive from the Anglo Saxon for "high place beside the water".

- The foundation stone for **St Andrew's Church** was laid on 18th June 1870. It was opened in 1873 by Andrew Leslie for his workforce, mainly Irish and Scottish descent. The steeple housed 6 bells, is 190ft high and cost £10,000 to build.
- The **HMS Kelly** was built at the **Hawthorn Leslie Yard** in 1939, just before the outbreak of the war. The Kelly was badly damaged by torpedoes off the coast of Norway and was towed back to the Tyne for repairs. On the 23rd of May 1940 she was sunk while assisting the evacuation of Crete, with the loss of 130 men. The ship and her crew are still remembered with pride by the people of Hebburn.

- **Ellison Hall** was once the site of a Pele Tower. It was incorporated in the house, and became the home of the Carr Ellison Family, (In 1887 part of the building was transformed into an infirmary, which it remained until the 1970's). It has now been split into flats.



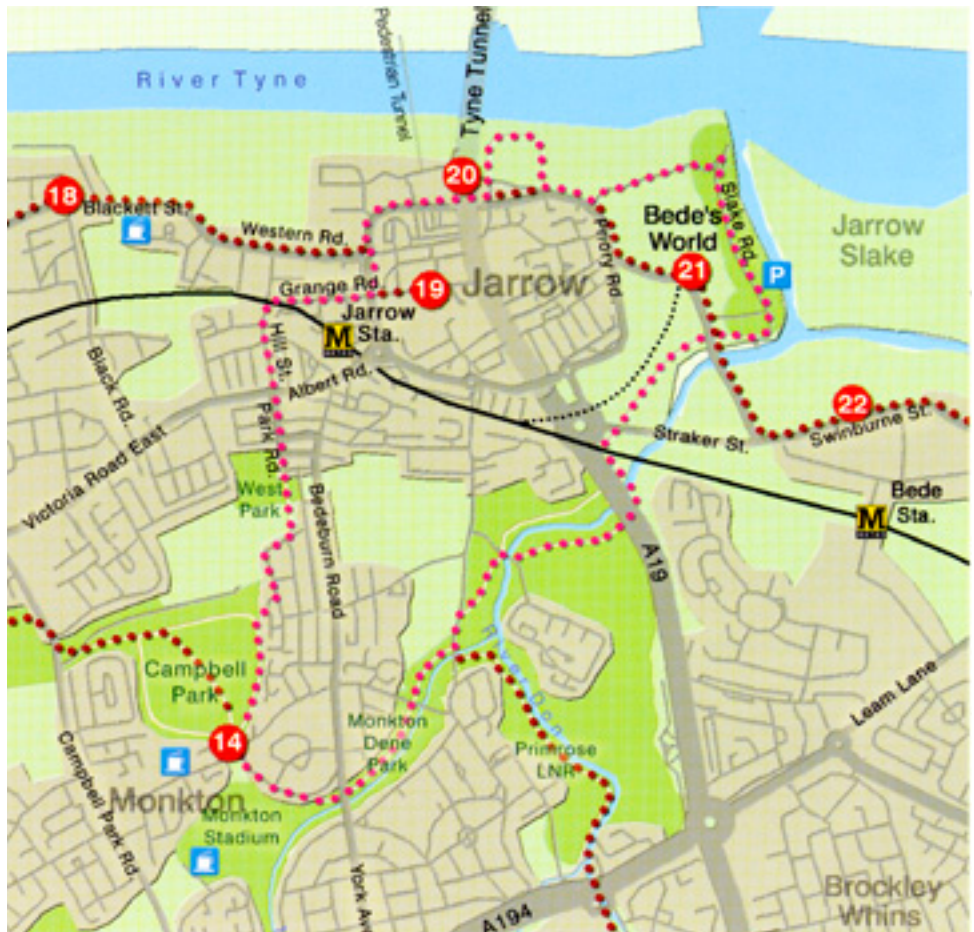
# Jarrow and Monkton March

4.3 miles / 7km approximately 2 hours

## The Jarrow and Monkton March starts from Jarrow Town Hall in Jarrow town centre.

From **Heritage Trail Panel 19** walk right towards **Christ Church** and turn right at the cross roads, stay on the right hand side of the road, on to **Ellison Street**. Walk down Ellison Street, past the **Civic Hall** and the roundabout.

Continue to follow this road. As the road turns right you will pass a sculpture on your left of a **Viking Longboat**. As you progress onto **Chaytor Street** you will see in front of you a large grey funnel; this is the vent for the **Tyne Tunnel**. As you approach turn left and head towards the **pedestrian tunnel** (well worth exploring before you continue).





Walk down to the tunnel entrance and take the footpath around and down to the river. Follow the path right, passing **Jarrow Riverside** and the statue of Charles Mark Palmer. The path will bring you to a set of gates, go through these back onto **Chaytor Street**. Turning left, walk a short way along the street. Follow the pathway on your left down to the **River Don** and behind Bede's World. Walk along **Slake Road**, past **St Pauls** on your right and continue on past **Jarrow Bridge**; this will bring you out onto **Church Bank**.

Cross over the road and you will find the **River Don Trail**. Follow the trail along under the duel carriageway, and out next to the **Tyne Tunnel road (A19)**. A short way under the **Metro Bridge** there is a path leading off to the left, this will take you down to the **River Don** and under the A19. Carry along the path, passing **Jarrow Cemetery** on your left.

The path will end up at **Cemetery Road**. Cross the road here and turn right over the bridge and up to the main road, **Springwell Road**. Cross this road and turn left. Walk along the road for about 100 metres until you reach **Springwell Park** on your right. Take the small path staying on the top footpath; this will take you past the rose garden and **tennis court**.

The path will bring you out at **Butcher's Bridge Road**, crossing this you enter **Monkton Dene Park**. Follow the top path passing the old park keeper's house on your right. Continue on the path for about 10 minutes; you will come to a busy main road, this is **York Avenue**. Cross here and carry along **Dene Terrace**. This will eventually bring you out at the **Heritage Trail Panel 14**.

Behind the panel you will find a pathway leading down to what was the **old mineral line**. Stay on the main path and on your right



you will see an exit, pass through this and take the left path that enters the cul-de-sac. Pass through and bear right onto the main part of **Ettrick Road**. At the corner, turn left and walk down until you reach **Beaumont Terrace**. Continue down the road until you reach Jarrow's **West Park**.

Go through the park and leave by the main gates on **Park Road**. Head for **Albert Road** crossroads. Cross over; pass the local bicycle shop, Pedal Inn, and head down **Hill Street**. Cross the road at the bottom and pass under the **Metro Bridge**. Bear right and you will reach Grange Road West. Walking along, you will pass **Grange Road Baptist Church, Christ Church** and the old **Ben Lomond** public house. Cross over **Ellison Street** and you will find yourself back near the **Town Hall** and **Heritage**



**Trail Panel 19** and the end of the Jarrow and Monkton March. We hope you enjoyed the walk and found the route enjoyable.

## Highlights

Jarrow Corporation offices used to be situated on the site now occupied by the Town Hall. The Town Hall also served as a county court for a number of years.

- **The Tyne Pedestrian Tunnel** has the longest and oldest wooden escalators in the world; prior to it being built, crossing the Tyne was accomplished by a ferry called the **AB Gowan**.
- In September 1803 **Jarrow Bridge** was a meeting point between Simon Temple and other dignitaries. A foundation stone for a school to educate the children of the workers employed by Mr Temple was laid during the opening celebration of Jarrow's only coal mine – the **Alfred Pit**.
- **Monkton Village** is a conservation area; the earliest mention of it dates back to 1070. The chapel of the Venerable Bede dates back to the early 1800's and was converted to a residential property in the early 1980's. The stained glass window that used to be in the chapel depicted the death of St Bede.
- The extraordinary life of the **Venerable Bede** and the fascinating story of Anglo-Saxon Northumbria are celebrated and brought to life at **Bede's World**.

# Whitburn, Cleadon and Marsden Walk

7.1 miles / 11.5km approximately 3 hours

## The Whitburn, Cleadon and Marsden walk begins from Souter Lighthouse.

Head down to the coastal path towards the sea and turn right towards the village of **Whitburn**. Follow this path for about 30 minutes passing various **rock stacks**.

Pass the **bird observatory** and **sentry post** and carry on down the Coastal Footpath. The Coastal Footpath follows the cliffs past former **Whitburn Firing Ranges** and on to Whitburn Bents car park.

Head towards the main road and cross over the road to **Cornthwaite Park**. Follow the path past the pond and play area, and on to **Heritage Trail Panel 8**, then head up the path to **Church Lane**.

Turn left onto **Front Street** and a short way along on the right is **Sandy Chare**. Walk up to **Cleadon Lane**: turn right onto **North Guards**, and then left onto **Wellands Lane**. Head up the lane for about 5 minutes until you reach **Well House Farm** on your left. Once there head into the farm and over the stile and follow the path/fence along to the next stile on the right, cross this and follow the path up onto **Cleadon Hills** to **Heritage Trail Panel 9** at **Cleadon Windmill**.

Head down from **Cleadon Hill**, follow the top path along the wall and through the kissing gate, walking past two distinctive sculptures on your right. Follow this path to **South Shields Golf Course**, enter through the green gate and follow the yellow way markers across the

greens. Crossing the stile take the footpath on your left down onto **Quarry Lane**, the site of the **Marsden White Horse**, until you reach **Lizard Lane**. Cross over onto the footpath and continue down round the caravan park. Take care crossing the busy **Coast Road to Marsden Grotto**. Follow the Coastal Footpath back to **Souter Lighthouse** and past **Heritage Trail Panel 7**.

You have now completed the walk; we hope you enjoy the walk and will come again.

## Highlights

- **Souter Lighthouse** was built in 1871 and was the first lighthouse designed to be powered by AC current. The light was a carbon arch rather than a bulb. The keepers were paid 2p an hour more when it was foggy because of the noise of the foghorn.
- **Whitburn Parish Church** contains inscribed medieval grave covers and a lidless stone coffin that rests beside the church porch. The effigy of Michael Mathew from Cleadon, who died in 1689, gives visitors a chance to see the type of dress worn by people in the late 17th century.
- **Old Marsden Village**, situated on the cliffs near Souter Point Lighthouse, existed up until 1968 when it was demolished. The houses were built for pitmen from the local Whitburn Colliery. The village bragged it had the smallest railway station in Britain. The tracks carried coal trains and Marsden's own train was known as the **Marsden Rattler**.



# South Shields and Westoe Walk

4.9 miles / 8km approximately 2 hours 15 minutes

## The South Shields and Westoe Walk starts at the Conversation Piece car park at Littlehaven Beach.

Cross over the road and enter **North Marine Park**. At the left gate next to the base of the steps turn left and follow the **red line** until you reach **Pier Parade**, to your right you will see the **Tyne lifeboat**, and slightly further to your right you will see the **Heritage Trail Panel 3**.

From the **Tyne lifeboat** cross **Sea Road** at the **zebra crossing** and enter **South Marine Park** by the small gate on your left. Continue following the **red line** around the **lake** and leave the park by the double gate at the junction of **Sea Road** and **Beach Road**. Cross Sea Road towards the fairground and on to the **Promenade** and turn right along the **sea front**, passing the **Amphitheatre** and **Heritage Trail Panel 4**. Continue down the coast past the **lifeguard station** until you reach the pub and the rocky outcrop known as **Trow Rocks**, near **Heritage Trail Panel 5**.

From the pub's car park bear right and head up **Waters Edge bank** until you reach the **Coast Road**. Cross the road and turn left. Walk up to the corner of **Broadway**, turn right and follow the path into **Bamburgh Avenue**. Turn right and about 100yards down the road you come to a path leading into the **allotments**, turn left between **house numbers 212 and 244**. Continue on this path until you reach the t-junction at a set of green gates. Turn right and continue on to **Horsley Hill Road**, cross

the road and pass between the bungalows and past **Phoenix House**. Continue on down to **Catherine Cookson Court**; bear right and then left into **Westoe Village**.

Once through the village bear right onto **Dean Road** past **Heritage Trail Panel 32**, to the zebra crossing outside **Westoe Public House**. Cross over at the **War Memorial** and continue down **Westoe Road** to the **Two Rivers Cycle Track** heading towards the market.

Follow the pathway past **Derby Terrace** down under the road past the **Elephant and Panda** and come out at **St Hilda's Pit Head**. Cross over the road and continue down the path to **Coronation Street**, cross over into **St Hilda's Church** grounds and cross **Keppel Street** into the **Market Place**.

Leave the **Market Place** and head for **Tyne Ferry Landing**: to the left of the landing there is the **Mill Dam** and the **Customs House**. Turn right and follow the riverside path/cycle way to the **Spirit of the Tyne** sculpture. Go on down **Wapping Street/Comical Corner** to **Heritage Trail Panel 29**. Carry on past the **Marine Technical College** come out at **River Drive** and continue on down the road, past **South Shields Sailing Club** and around the corner back to the **Conversation Piece** on **Littlehaven Beach**.

## Highlights

- **The Tyne Lifeboat**. South Tyneside's first lifeboat, "The Original" was built in 1790 after the loss of the crew of the "Adventure" at Herd Sands in 1789.



A premium was offered to anyone who could design a boat that could ride out a storm and save lives. Out of many plans put forward two were chosen: one by the parish clerk **William Wouldhave** and the other by **Henry Greathead**, a boat builder from South Shields. The final design used Greathead's keel and Wouldhave's use of cork for buoyancy. By 1802 the boat had saved over 200 lives in the mouth of the Tyne alone.

- **South Shields Museum and Art Gallery** (Heritage Trail Panel 30) has been remodelled from its roots as the South Shields Literacy, Mechanical and Scientific Institution when it was first built in 1860 into a modern museum celebrating the history, diversity and achievements of South Tyneside.
- **Arbeia Roman Fort** has superb reconstructions of buildings and excavated ruins and is part of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.



**The trail follows a generally clockwise direction but you are of course free to make use of it in any way you like. Enjoy!**

1. **Conversation Piece** – where the Tyne meets the sea
2. **The Lawe** – Arbeia, gateway to the frontier
3. **The Lifeboat** – the first in the world!
4. **The Promenade** – dancing on the sand!
5. **Trow Point** – rocks, grass and wild flowers
6. **Marsden Bay** – a smuggler’s haven!
7. **Souter Lighthouse** and the village that vanished
8. **Whitburn** – through the looking glass
9. **The Cleadon Hills** – the highest point
10. **Cleadon Village** – around the pond
11. **Tilesheds** – wildlife on your doorstep
12. **West Boldon** – the church on the hill
13. **Colliery Wood** – back to nature!
14. **Monkton Village** and **Bede’s Well**
15. **Carr Ellison Park** – the three Hebburns
16. **Hebburn Quay** – a living from the river!
17. **Hawthorn Leslie** and “Little Aberdeen”

18. **Hebburn Colliery** – dangerous work!
19. **Jarrow** – and the Crusade for jobs
20. **Jarrow Riverside** – Palmer Town
21. **Bede's World** – a very special place
22. **Jarrow Slake** – life and death on the slacks
23. **Tyne Dock** – Cookson Country
24. **Rekentyke** – the long streets
25. **Old Holburn** – salt, glass and Readheads
26. **The Mill Dam** – when the boat comes in!
27. **The Ferry Landing** – ferries and tugs
28. **The Market Place** and **St Hilda's**
29. **Comical Corner** – all together, like
30. **South Shields Museum** – find out more!
31. **The Town Hall** – the hall of fame!
32. **Westoe Village** and the **Marine College**





Bede's World



The Jarrow March



Palmers' Shipyard



Arbeia Roman Fort



Boldon Colliery



Stained glass, Bede's World





# 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](http://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.

