

Key points of interest

A) Barnes Park

The land for Barnes Park was bought in 1904 by the Borough of Sunderland for £8,500. Work commenced on the site in 1907 and it was officially opened on 6 August 1909.

The Park and its extension (opened in 1950s) follow the length of the Barnes Burn.

B) Bandstand

When the park opened in 1909 the original bandstand was a timber structure but it was later replaced with the current bandstand. In 2009 as part of the parks restoration, the bandstand was fully restored utilising original blueprints.

C) Cannon

The cannon has been a popular attraction in the park since its installation in 1909. The cannon's original plaque stated that it had been "dredged from the River Wear near the spot where the Scottish Army of General Leslie crossed in February 1644."

D) Grindon Sandhill

The source of Barnes Burn lies at the foot of Grindon Sandhill. This pleasant open grassland in the heart of a built up area is an important home to birds such as Skylark and Meadow Pipit.

At the summit of the hill, looking east, the skyline above Barnes Park is dominated by High Barnes House, Ettrick Grove, a residential care home founded by the Little Sisters of the Poor in 1900.

To the west of Grindon Sandhill is Hastings Hill. This hill formed part of a Bronze Age burial site, which was excavated in 1911 by C. T. Trenchmann. The finds are kept at Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens.

Facilities & Accessibility:

Toilets: Barnes Park

Catering: Coach House Café, Barnes Park

Parking: Barnes Park, off Barnes Park Road

Accessibility: suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs

Heritage Trails West Area

Walk

Barnes Park to Grindon Sandhill

Walk Distance & Time:

4.4 miles or 7.1km

1 hour 15 mins (approx)

Start and Finish Point:

Barnes Park main car park
(off Barnes Park Road)

For more information on activities
in Barnes Park please visit
www.sunderland.gov.uk

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Heritage Trails West Area

Walk 3

Barnes Park to Grindon Sandhill

Walk Directions

At the car park turn right onto the main path, passing the children's play area on the right.

Take the first right after the play area around the lake. Follow this path up the bankside passing the bandstand on the left. At the top of the bank, overlooking the bandstand is the cannon.

Continue on the path towards the road (Etrick Grove), using the path that passes immediately next to the bowling green on the right.

Cross the road into Barnes Park extension immediately opposite and follow the tarmac path down the bank and turn right.

Follow this path all the way along the length of the park.

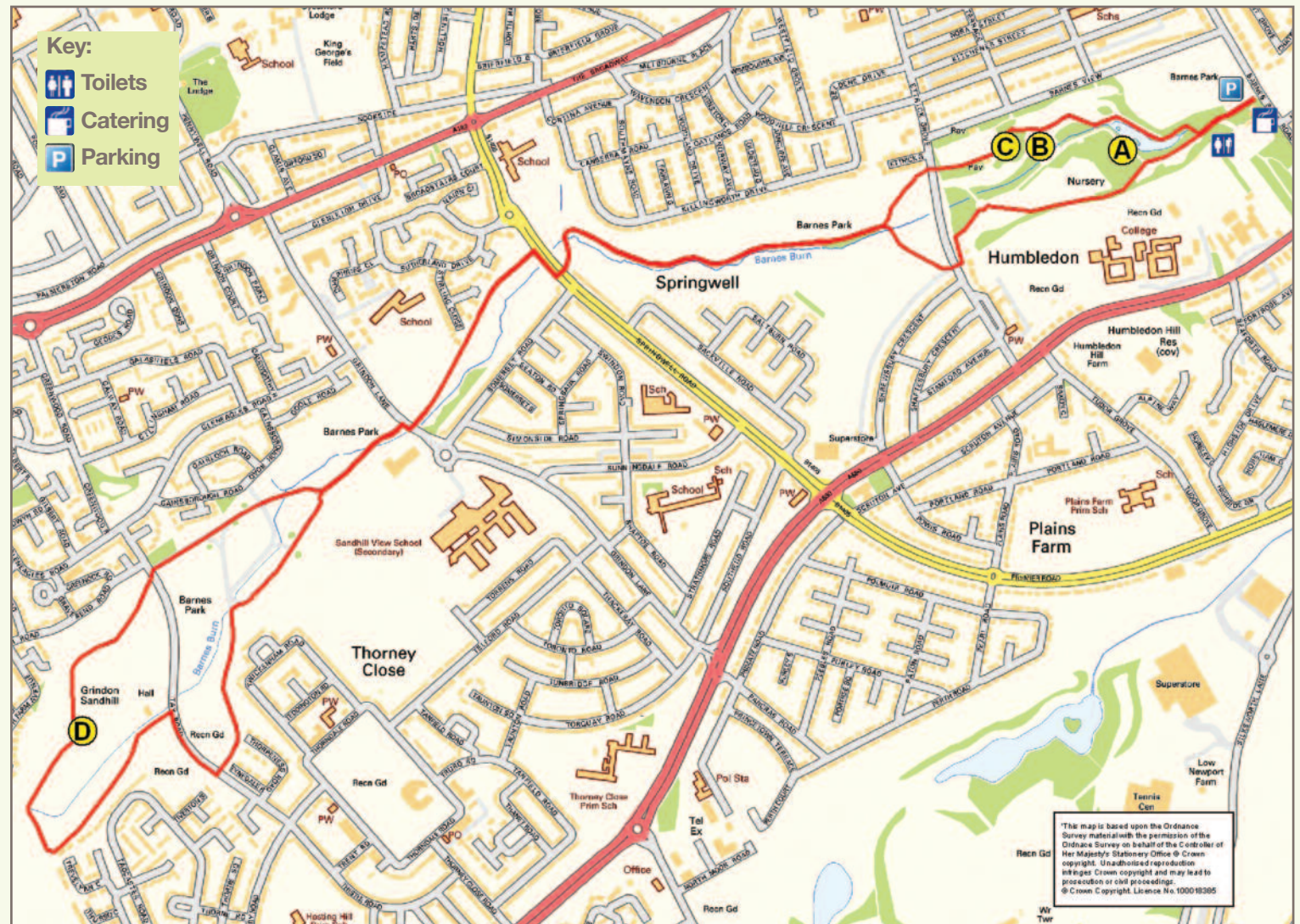
Cross the road at the traffic lights, turn right and enter the park on the left. Continue along the tarmac path until reaching the road (Grindon Lane).

Cross the road into the park area (entrance on the right).

Follow the path and take the second right. Stay on this path along the length of the park, heading towards Grindon Sandhill in the distance.

Cross the road and take the path up the hillside (Grindon Sandhill) and down the other side.

At the bottom turn left, then left again, following the tarmac path along the edge of the houses. Pass Grindon Sandhill on the left and football pitches on the right. Continue to the road (Grindon Lane) passing a building on the left.



Cross the road turning right and head to the top of the bank. Enter the park on the left and follow the path around the football pitches.

Keep to the right and follow this path back, re-joining the original route.

Instead of taking the left path back up to Etrick Grove, take the path to the right, up the bank. Cross the road and take the steps immediately opposite down into the park.

Follow the central lower path back to the car park.