

Healthworks

the community health charity



THE RISE HISTORICAL TRAIL

In partnership with Healthworks

Who are Healthworks?

We are a charity based in Newcastle working with local communities across the North East to improve their health, wellbeing and life outcomes.

Healthworks believes that everyone, regardless of the challenges they face- low income, unemployment or poor housing, should have the same opportunity to live in good health.

Our aim is to support people facing these issues, across the northeast to maintain and improve their health, wellbeing and life outcomes.

For more information about Healthworks, visit our webpage:
<https://www.healthworksnewcastle.org.uk/>

We hope you enjoy The Rise Historical Trail and learn something new about your local area!

Participants are responsible for assessing their own risk and safety of themselves and family members. Healthworks takes no responsibility for any accidents or liability while following this trail.

Healthworks are adhering to all Covid 19 guidelines and are staying Covid secure. All participants should also comply to current guidelines surrounding Covid 19.

This trail will take you just over an hour to complete.

The starting point for this historical trail is the Chester Pike carpark (NE15 6BS), at the bottom of the small stairs.



To begin the trail, walk downhill towards Whitehouse Road (NE15 6BG) (the road at the bottom)

Safely cross the road and take a left, looking out for a footpath sign further up on the right. This is the footpath for Hadrians Way.

Hadrians Way is an official National Trail that runs for a total of 84 miles, from Wallsend on the East coast of England, to Bowness-on-Solway on the West coast. For the majority of its length, it remains close to the remains of Hadrian's wall, which was the defensive wall built by the Romans on the northern border of the roman empire.



Continuing along the trail, you will see the old Armament factory in the distance. Take the path to the right to continue the trail.

Being constructed in 1899, it was the second factory to be built in the area by William Armstrong, the first being built in Elswick in 1847. By 1905, the factory was producing 5,000 fuses and primers every single day, and employed 1200 men and boys, and 500 women workers.

The factories were built to support the WW1 war effort.

1914, Armstrong and his workers were presented with imperial services badges to thank them for their national service.



Continue walking until you reach a small cut on the right-hand side of the path, that leads to a cobbled ramp.

Head up the cobbled ramp, then take a left at the top to follow the trail along Whitfield Road (NE15 6AP). Please take care and watch your footing when on the cobbles.

Due to the building of the previously mentioned factories, Benwell and the surrounding areas suddenly found themselves in a housing crisis. To supplement the demand for houses quickly, 400 prefabricated homes were constructed in 1916 just up from the factory, these were called Muniton Cottages. These cottages continued to house families and workers until 1930 when the council bought them in order to use the land for newer and more efficient council housing.



Continue walking along Whitfield road (NE15 6AP). On your left, you will spot Scotswood bridge.

The original Scotswood bridge or “Chain Bridge” was built in 1831 to link Newcastle and Blaydon.

It was designed by John Green and it was the first bridge over the river Tyne to be opened during Tyneside’s industrial era. The original bridge was replaced in 1967 and is what we still use today!



As you keep walking along the road, in the near distance you will see the statue representing the Montague pit disaster.

In 1925, 38 men and boys lost their lives when working in the Montague View pit when it was flooded. The flood happened early in the morning on March 30th in the site which is now under the A1 Western Bypass and the B&Q store. The flood occurred due to two men drilling and placing charges, this destroyed the thin gap which separated the pit and the Brockwell seam, letting methane gas and millions of gallons of water in the pit. It took numerous months to fully empty the pit and some loved ones were not recovered until 1926.



At the end of the road, take a right to walk along Denton Road (NE15 6AE). Then take a right onto Armstrong Road. You will pass the old site of Denton Road infant and junior school.



You will then reach St Margaret's church (NE15 6AR) and War Memorial.

St Margaret's church has been the local C of E church in Scotswood since 1915. It is home to a WW1 War memorial which was unveiled in 1921 by the Lord Mayor of Newcastle at that time - Councillor TW Rowe.

The memorial commemorates 79 local servicemen who died during the First World War. The memorial originally stood at the junction of Denton Road and Fowberry Road, but it was moved to stand beside the church following the redevelopment of the original site.



Continue along Armstrong road towards the Rise housing development. You will pass the old Scotswood library building on your right

Continuing along the road, you will also pass the site of the old swimming baths and Grainger park boys club

The baths were originally built in the 1960's and were hugely popular with the local community, particularly in the summer. The baths were also used by many women to do their washing using scrubbing boards and carbolic soap. Muhammad Ali famously visited the baths in 1977.

The Grainger park club was established in 1928, since then it has become a pillar of the community in the west end of Newcastle. In the early 2000's the club moved to the playing fields near Scotswood social club in a brand new building. At the present time, the club hosts 11 football teams for those aged six and up - as well as 2 senior teams.



Keep following the road, then you will see one of the last remaining buildings - the Dr Russels house (NE15 6HE), which has now been converted into flats.

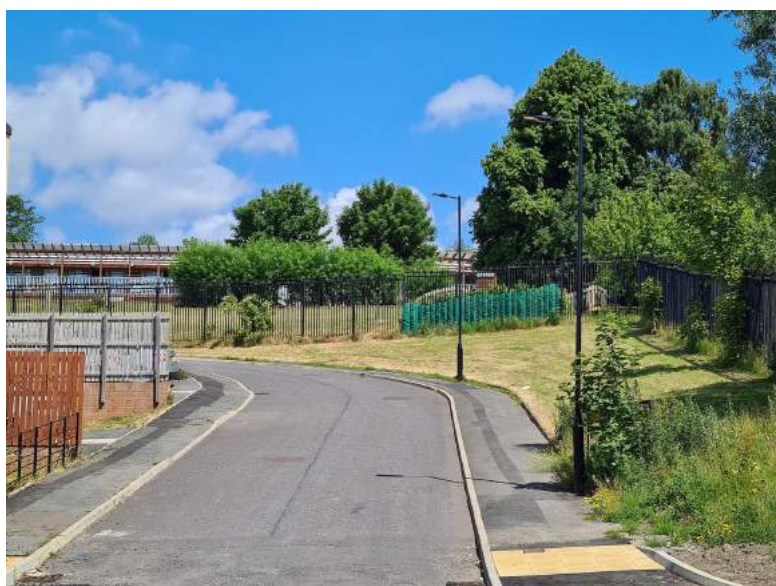
This was the former home of Newcastle councillor Theresa Russel and the house of the former lord mayor of Newcastle. It was almost demolished in 2013 after it was left a derelict eyesore for many years.



Staying on Armstrong road, you will also see on your left, the old community shopping areas which used to be home to the famous Bobby Shafto Pub.



If you continue to walk until the rise housing development is on both our right and left, you will see BridgeWater school, which was originally called Delaval Road School

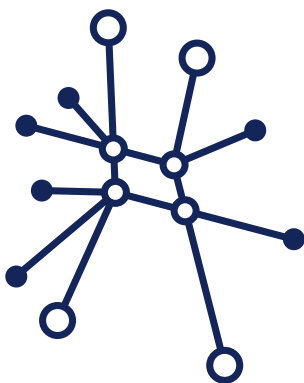


Finally, if you continue a little way further, then take a right onto Chester Pike (NE15 6BS) and follow the road around, we will return back to the start point, which is now the end point of our history trail.



We hope you enjoyed your journey along
The Rise Historical Trail and learnt
something new about your local area. Keep
an eye out for more historical trails in the
future!

Remember to visit our website at
<https://www.healthworksnewcastle.org.uk/>
for more information and services.



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