Blaydon to Ryton Walking Trail

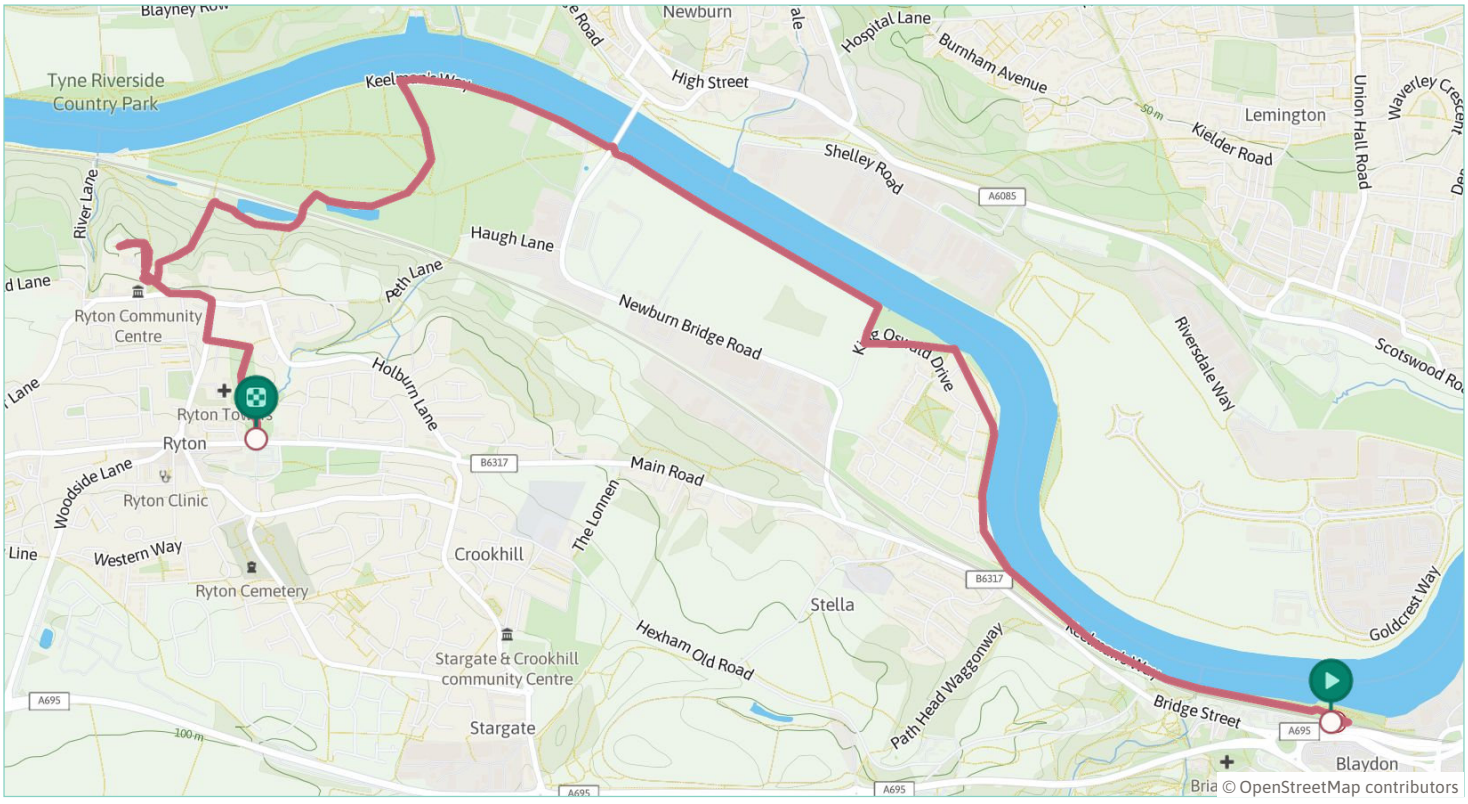
A linear walk along the Tyne from Blaydon Station, celebrating the historic Blaydon Races, to Holycross Church in Ryton. Pub en route!

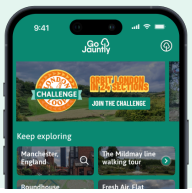
Distance 5 kilometres / 3.1 miles
Duration 1 hour

Wildlife | Water feature | Refreshments | Public transport | Dog friendly | Child friendly

Use the QR code or link below to view this walk on our website or app.

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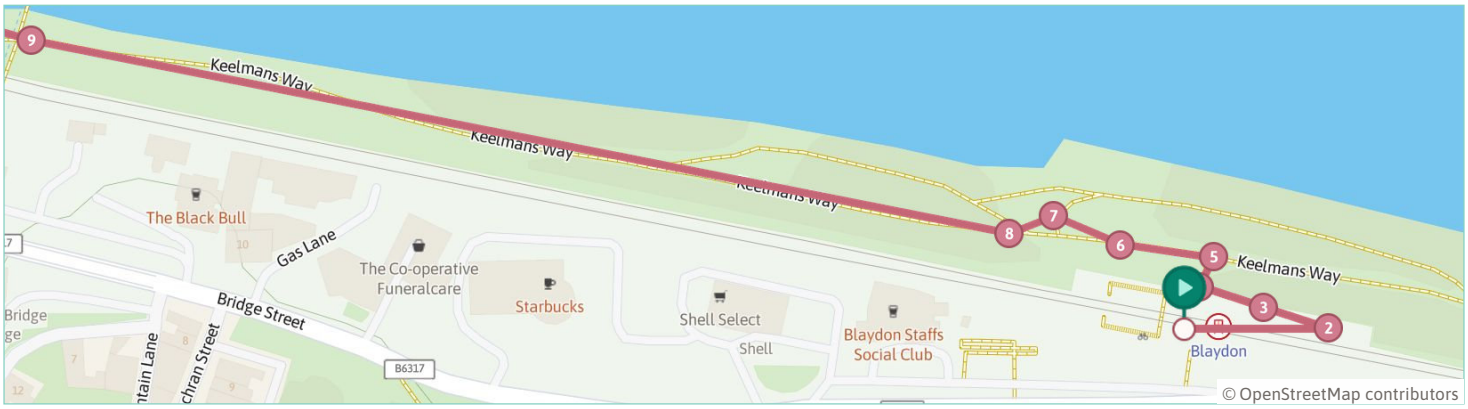


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Step 1: Start this walk at Blaydon train station. If coming from Newcastle, cross over the bridge to platform one.

Step 2: Once on platform one, go to the far end of the platform and look for this mural of the Blaydon Races.

Step 3: Blaydon's most famous export is a song by Geordie, George Ridley. The 1862 "Blaydon Races" immortalised a chaotic Tyneside day out and became Newcastle United's unofficial anthem.

Step 4: Exit the station via this ramp.

Step 5: At the bottom of the ramp, turn left and walk along Keelmans Way.

Step 6: Keelmans Way is a walking and cycling path that traces the south bank of the River Tyne, stretching from Wylam to Gateshead.

Step 7: A little further along the path on the right-hand side is the first view of the Tyne River.

Step 8: Continue along the path which follows the river on the right-hand side.

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Step 9: Cross over at this junction and continue on the main path, which is also part of the National Cycle Network.

Step 10: A little further along, look for this sculpture on the right by Andrew McKeown.

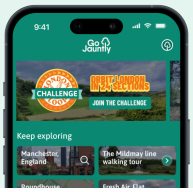
Step 11: A sculpture created to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Blaydon Races song in 2012.

Step 12: The real races were held on a Tyne island from the 1840s. It was a rowdy working-class carnival as much as a sporting event. It was prone to flooding and general mayhem.

Step 13: Continue along Keelman's Way.

Step 14: At this point, the path opens up to a housing estate.

Step 15: Continue along the path, around the front of the houses.



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Step 16: There are small playgrounds on the left along this stretch.

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Step 17: Look out for the Lemington Cone across the river on the right. The only remaining chimney of the original glassworks that were based here.

Step 18: Continue along the path with another small playground on the left.

Step 19: As the housing estate opens onto this green space, there is a seating area on the right, overlooking the Tyne.

Step 20: Just after the seating area, go diagonally across the grass. If muddy, follow the pavement around the outside.

Step 21: At the end, turn right and continue along the pavement.

Step 22: A little further along, turn right along this small path.

Step 23: Head under this huge pylon.

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Step 24: Turn left and continue back along Keelman's Way.

Step 25: Remember, this pathway is shared with Cyclists.

Step 26: Don't you just love a tree tunnel?!

Step 27: Newburn Bridge comes into view ahead.

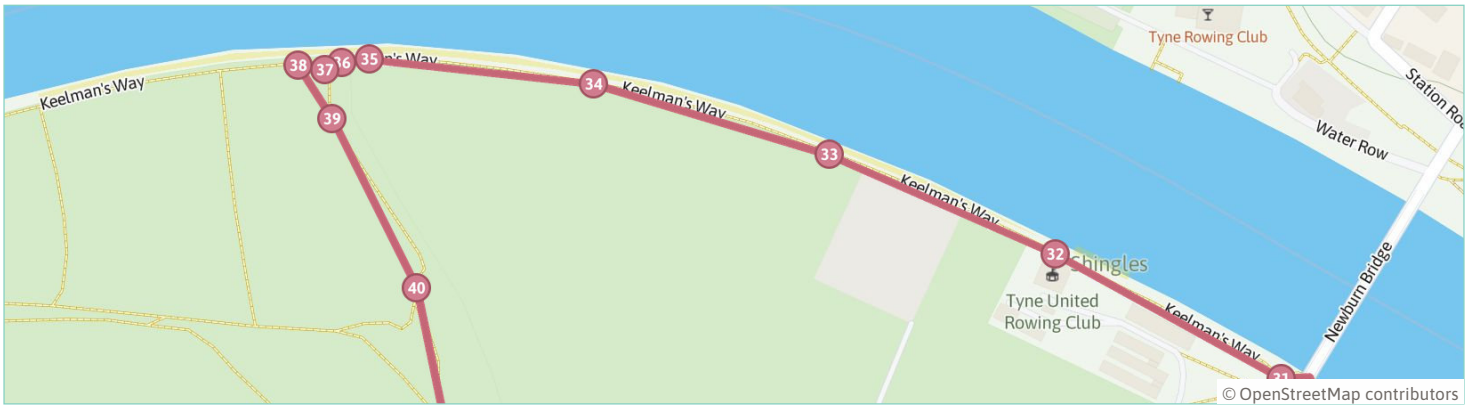
Step 28: Lots of rowing clubs are based along this stretch, with small hints on the walls to a certain football club further down the Tyne.

Step 29: Follow the path that heads under Newburn Bridge.

Step 30: The bridge was built between 1892 and 1893.

Step 31: Once under the bridge, carry on along the path.

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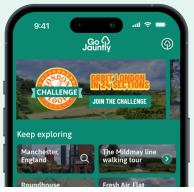


Step 32: You can spot more rowing clubs on the north side of the river.

Step 33: Look out for horses on the left.

Step 34: Further along, there is another sculpture by Andrew McKeown called Oar and Rower. Can you see any rowing teams on the river today?

Step 35: Go through these two gates, making sure to close them once through.



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Step 36: The gates are the entrance to Ryton Willows, a local Nature Reserve.

Step 37: Holy Cross Church spire can be seen through the trees up ahead.

Step 38: We are about to go off-road and along the grass. There is an option to avoid this by continuing ahead. Be sure to turn left at the Shingle Beach and rejoin us at Step 56.

Step 39: Turn left and head into the nature reserve.

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Step 40: Stay on the left-hand path to walk around the outskirts of the reserve.

Step 41: Cut right and head towards this big tree.

Step 42: Follow the blue arrows for the nature trail.

Step 43: At the bottom, start to turn right.

Step 44: The path heads towards the trees. There's a pond up ahead.

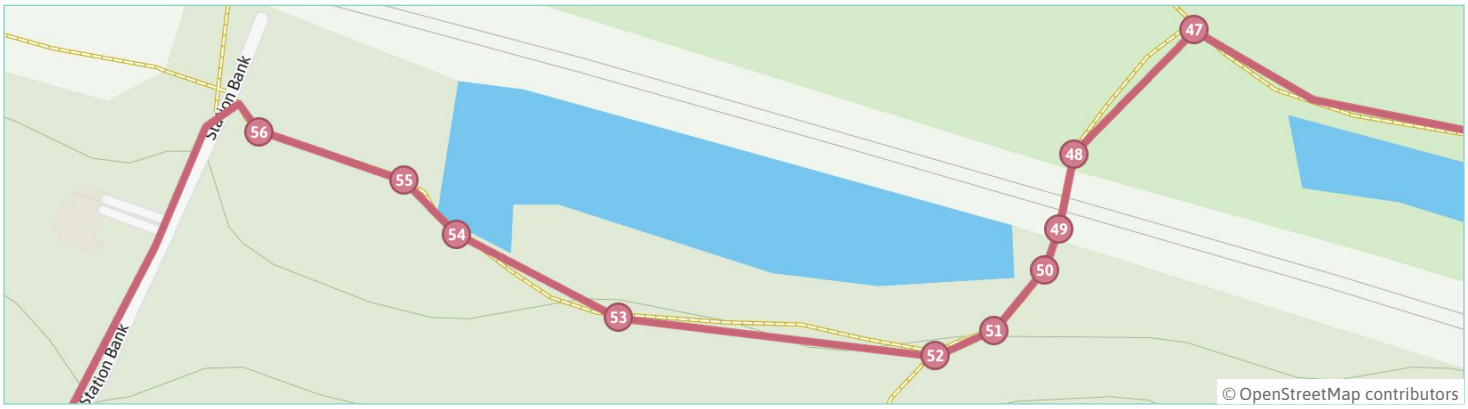
Step 45: The first of these three nature reserve ponds is called Gut Pond.

Step 46: Continue to the end of the pond.

Step 47: Look for the small raised wooden path on the left and take it.

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Step 48: Go through this gate and under the railway line.

Step 49: On the other side is the second pond called Curling Pond.

Step 50: Walk on this raised wooden path on the left that goes around the pond.

Step 51: Continue up the steps.

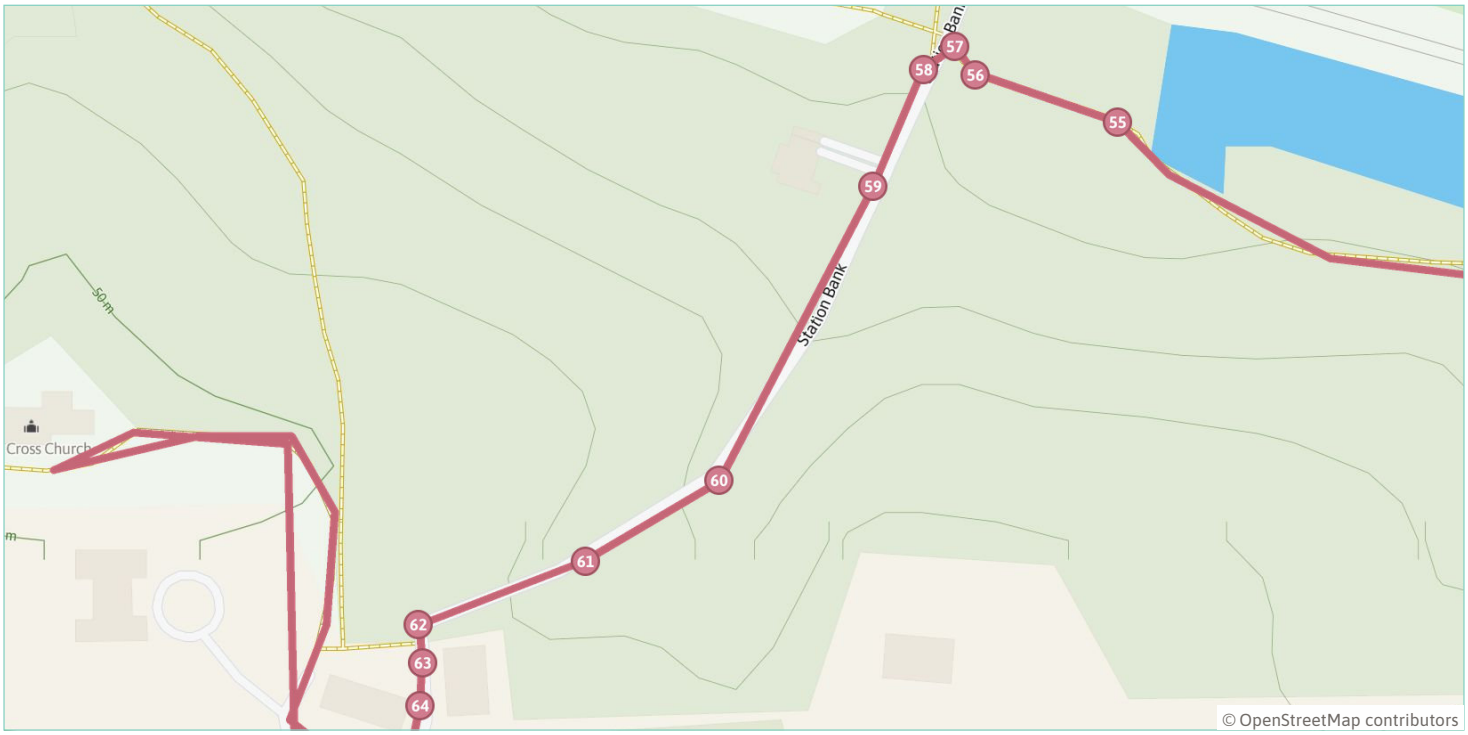
Step 52: At this fork, take the path on the right.

Step 53: Continue to follow the pond on the right. There's a few more steps to climb.

Step 54: The path starts to drop back downhill.

Step 55: The path bends around to the left.

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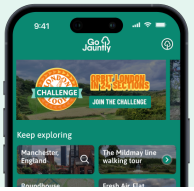


Step 56: At the end of the path, there are these small steps to climb up.

Step 57: The steps lead to a road and a car park.

Step 58: On the opposite side of the road, turn left and start heading up the road.

Step 59: Continue up Station Bank Road on the pavement.



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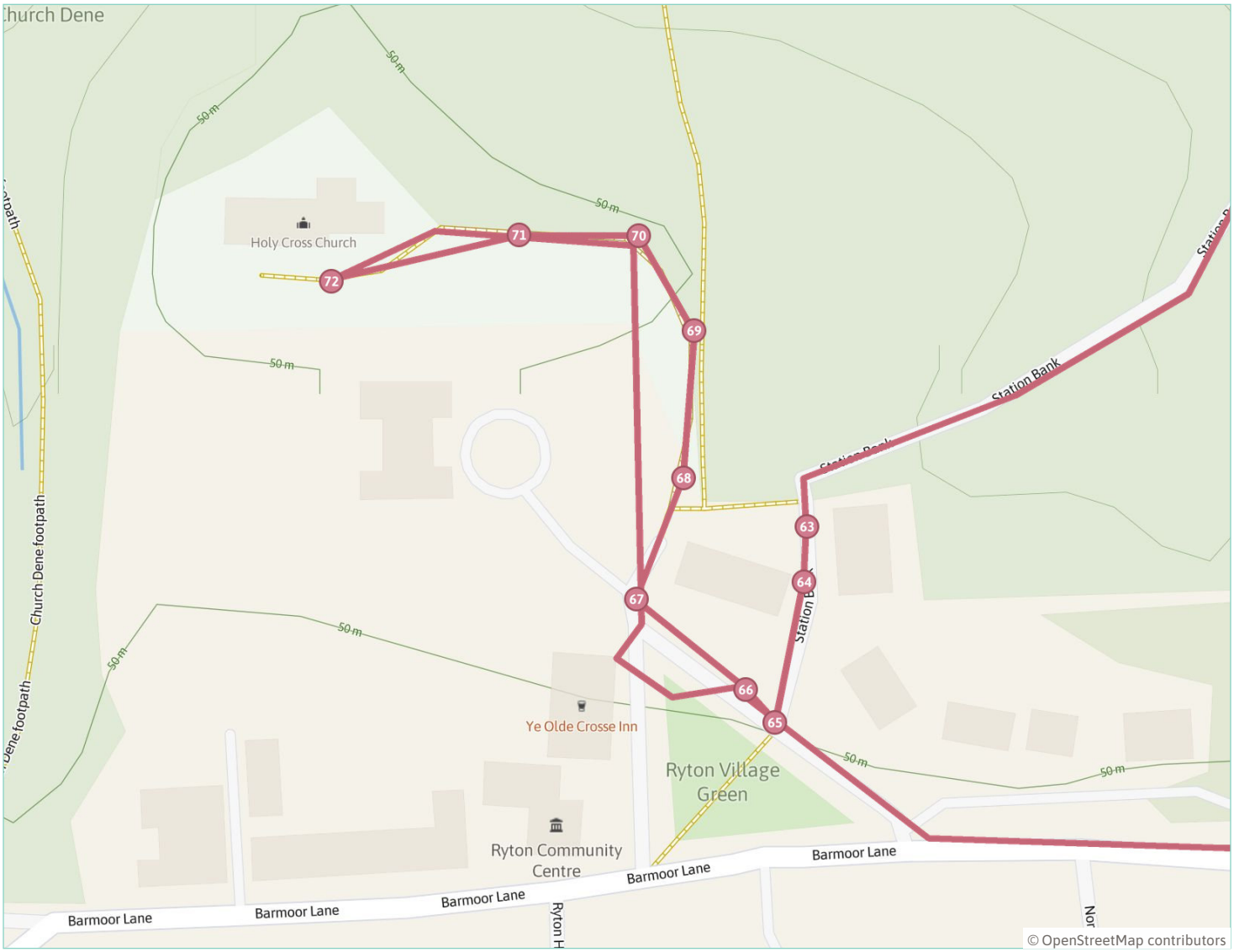
Step 60: As the road bends to the right, it gets very steep.

Step 61: There's a small bench on the left, a great place to stop and take a well-deserved rest.

Step 62: Further up the hill, there is this War Memorial on the right.

Step 63: Continue ahead, around the road.

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Step 64: Continue past this beautiful Church Hall on the left.

Step 65: A little further up, it opens up to this village green.

Step 66: Turn right at the green and continue along the pavement.

Step 67: Head towards the church gates.

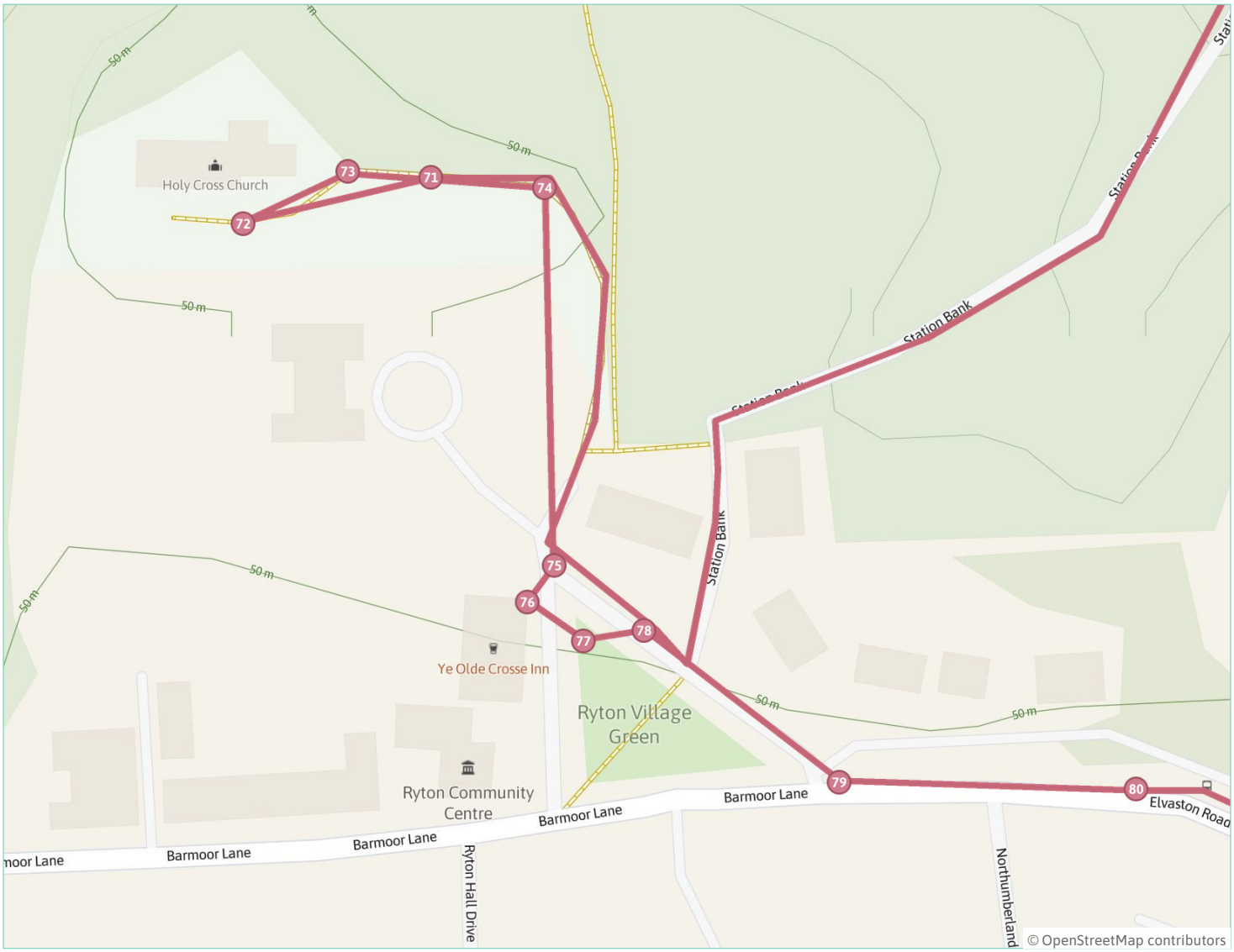
Step 68: Once through the gates, go up the road.

Step 69: Continue as it bends around to the left.

Step 70: Look for this stone, which commemorates the Stargate Explosion mining disasters of 1826.

Step 71: Continue left towards the church.

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Step 72: Holycross Church with its spectacular spire. Thomas Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury 1758–68 was once the Rector.

Step 73: Return down the path.

Step 74: Follow the path back towards the gates.

Step 75: Walk back towards the village green.

Step 76: On the right of the green is this community-owned pub called Ye Olde Cross. A perfect place to visit on this walk.

Step 77: After enjoying some well-earned refreshments, head through the green en route to catch a bus back to Blaydon.

Step 78: Cross over the road and turn right.

Step 79: At the top of the hill, turn left and walk along Barmoor Lane.

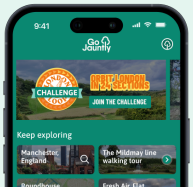
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Step 80: Further along on the opposite side of the road is this lovely coffee shop called Elvaston.

Step 81: On the left is the first bus stop, with buses that go back to Blaydon Station. This is an irregular bus and more options are ahead.

Step 82: Cross over Elvaston Road after the bus stop.

Step 83: Turn right and continue up Whitewell Lane.



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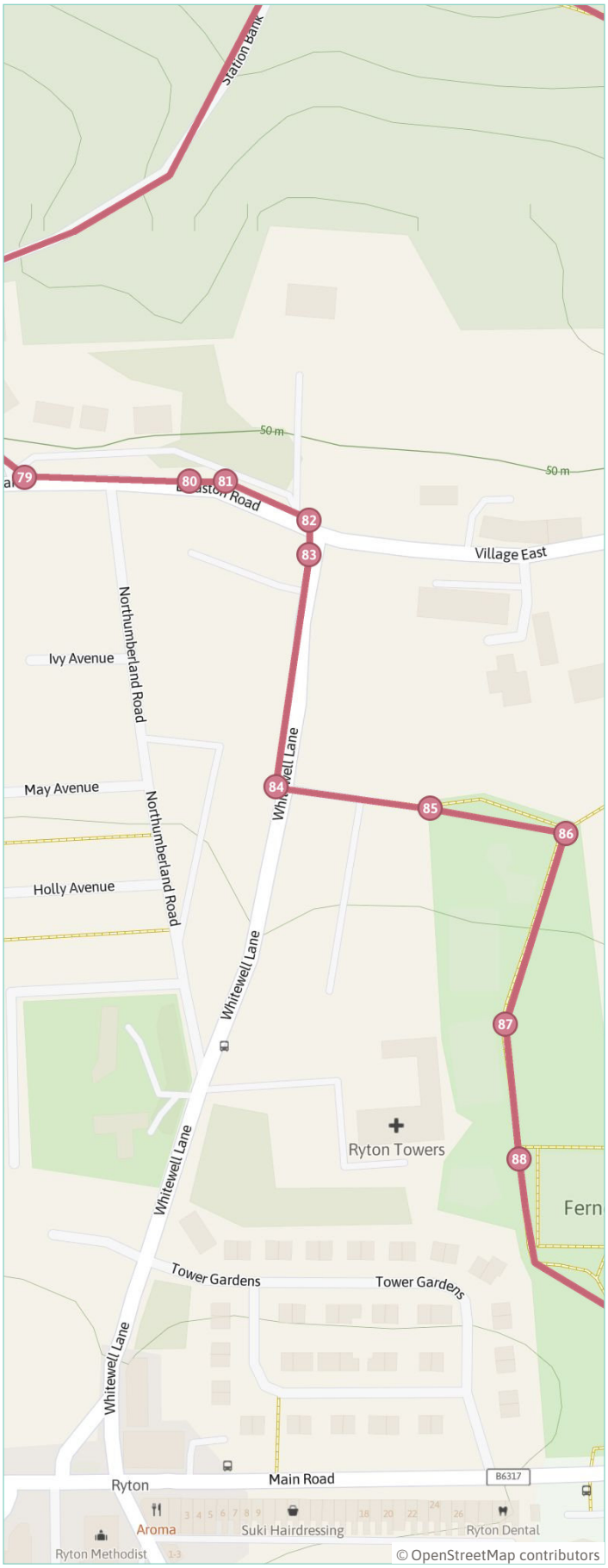
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Step 84: A little further up the road, turn right and go down this small side road.

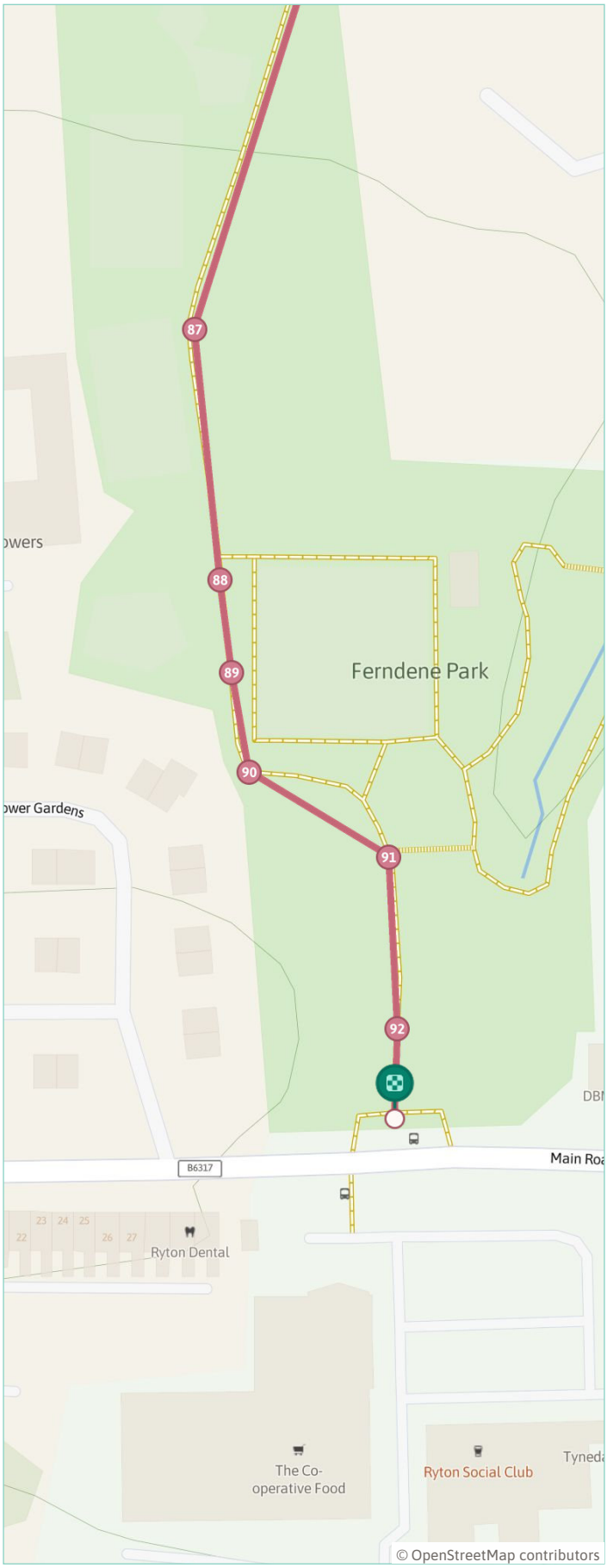
Step 85: At the end of the road, go into the lovely Ferndene Park. It has new trees planted on the right and a playground behind.

Step 86: Further along the bottom path, turn right and head up the central path.

Step 87: You'll pass a tennis courts and a bowling green as you go.



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Step 88: Continue past another playground on the left for smaller children.

Step 89: Continue slightly uphill and enjoy all of the beautiful planting in spring and summer.

Step 90: Follow the path as it winds left and then right.

Step 91: Keep going to the end, the second bus stop is up ahead.

Step 92: Go through these park gates and look for the bus stop. This is where the walk ends.

Step 93: There are frequent buses back to Blaydon Station and into central Newcastle from this stop. We hope you enjoyed this jaunt!

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