

Time Trouble At Royal Victoria Country Park



HAMPSHIRE
COUNTRYSIDE
SERVICE

Distance: 0.67 miles

Start: Chapel

This walk is also available as a series of story trails, see our website for the story trail booklet.

Originally a military hospital, Royal Victoria Country Park is now a picturesque and popular country park, with stunning views, enchanting woodland and an abundance of wildlife. The park consists of three areas – woodland, parkland and foreshore – and this mixture of habitat supports a wide range of wildlife including 115 species of birds, 25 species of mammals and 30 species of butterfly. There are also various species of trees and shrubs in the park, many of them non-native species introduced from all over the British Empire during Queen Victoria’s reign.

The Royal Victoria Military Hospital was the British Army’s first purpose built hospital, built by Queen Victoria after being inspired by Florence Nightingale’s success and terrible hospital conditions. It soon became a successful hospital with laboratories, and was the scene of medical learning and scientific breakthroughs. It was extensively used during WWI and WWII. In 1963, however, large sections of the building were damaged in a fire and in 1966 the decision was made to demolish it. By 1980 the site had been bought by Hampshire County Council, and its gates were open to the public.

The land once occupied by the hospital is now covered with trees and grassy fields. Only Netley Chapel remains,

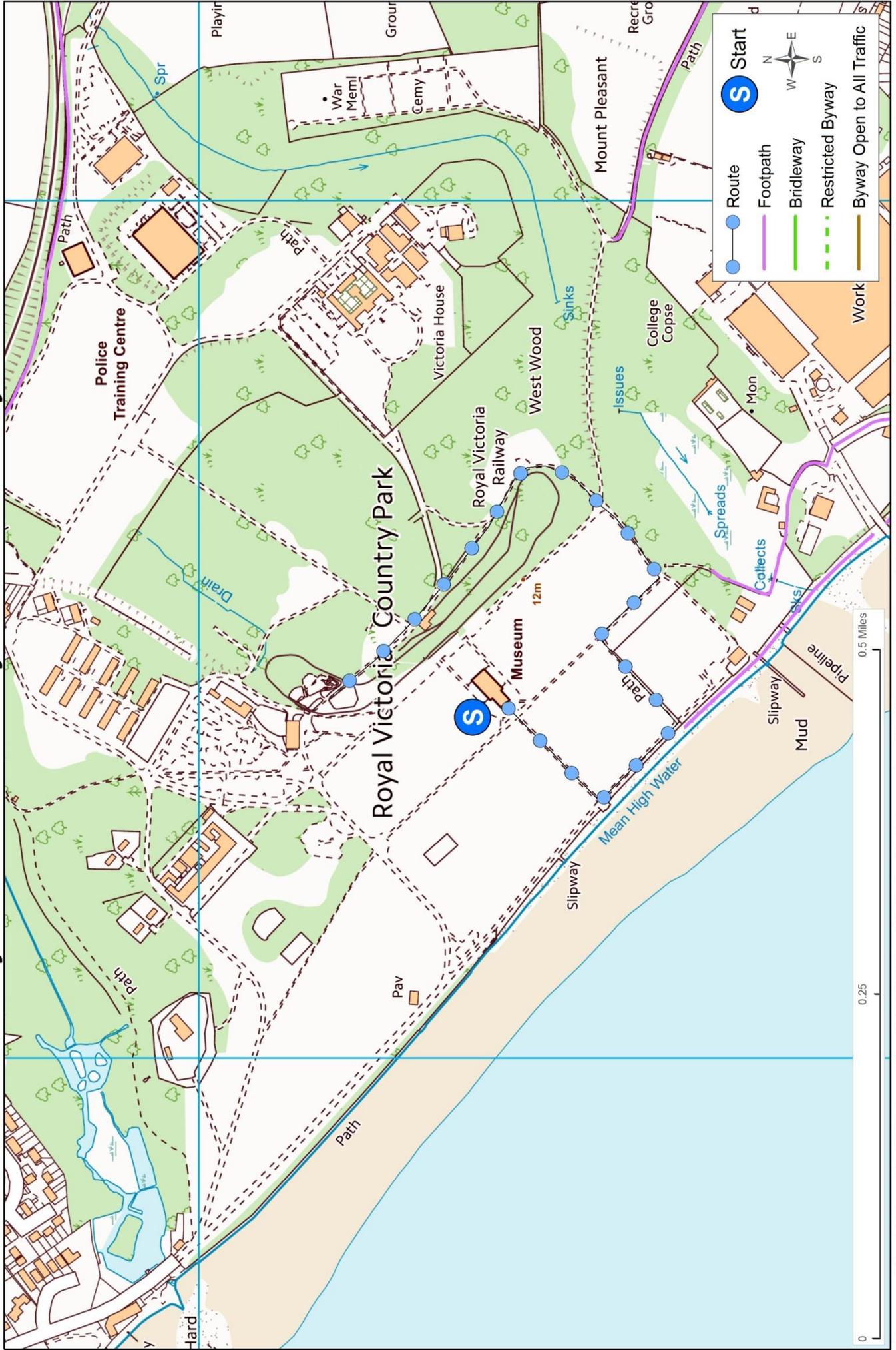
Directions

Start at the front of the Chapel. Go ahead down the path to the shore. Go left and walk along the shore. Go onto the beach if you can. When you get to the Sailing Club, turn left and go along the track between the trees.

At the top, turn right and follow the path. Before the trees it turns left. Carry on along the path, go past the big, white gate, follow the path and bear round to the left.

Carry on into the woods and along the path. Walk along until you come to the play area.

Netley Time Trouble at Royal Victoria Country Park



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