

HINCASTER TRAILWAY

The Hincaster Branch line used to form part of the Furness Railway in South Cumbria and the rails were removed in 1966.

However, old railway lines can have a new lease of life and lend themselves particularly well to safe traffic free routes for use on foot, cycle or horseback and also suitable for mobility scooters and wheel chairs.

The Hincaster Trailway Group is a community based support group, which hopes to see the old branch line developed into a local resource and maintained in perpetuity.

The new Trailway will offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy the rich diversity of plants, insects and bird life and, by encouraging safe public access, this route will benefit the whole community.

How can I help? You can join the Hincaster Trailway Group and receive regular updates on progress. Membership is free and you will have the opportunity to take part in our calendar of events and help with the development of the route.

For more details contact the Secretary

Bridget Pickthall T 015395 61243 or visit www.hincastertrailway.co.uk

Remember The Hincaster Trailway Code

- * Plan your route and dress for the British weather and possibly muddy conditions.
- * Leave gates as you find them. All bridle gates should be closed.
- * Please keep dogs under control at all times.
- * Protect animals and plants and take your litter home.
- * Take care crossing roads and walking along verges.
- * Respect other people.

For more detailed walks around the area refer to Ordinance Survey Explorer Map OL7



THE STORTH TRAIL



2¹/2 Mile stroll around Storth and Sandside

Storth and Sandside lie within the Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - known for it's amazing wildlife, stunning scenery and interesting history. Storth is an old Norse name for a wooded place. The walk starts from Sandside promenade, opposite **Arnbarrow House.**



Before the railway was built there was only a rough track along the waterfront at Sandside. The railway company agreed to make a road from Arnside towards Milnthorpe. The 1st part was constructed in 1859 from Arnside to St John's Cross, the 2nd part from Sandy Bank (Storth Road End) in 1867. The remaining part was not built until 1880, when an agreement was reached with the owner of Arnbarrow, on whose land it lay.

Walk along the pavement towards Arnside and cross the road carefully to the houses at the bottom of Green Lane at St John's Cross, walk up the lane towards Storth Square, crossing a bridge over the old Hincaster to Arnside railway line.



Across from the **War Memorial** you will see the village shop and post office, the original post office was the house next to it on the right. This angle of land formed by Storth Road and Green Lane, once known as Storth Meadow, was a farm, with barns and stables. Turn right up Storth Road, past the old Church of All Saints on the left, and the old primary school on the right opened in 1875, next to which was the site of School Tarn Well, where houses now stand. Shaw Lane on the left was once called Old Cockle Loan. Crozier Cottage was one of a number of "jerries" where you could buy ale.

The Methodist Church on the right, intended to be a Quaker Chapel, was conducted as an undenominational church until 1935, when it was purchased by the Ulverston Methodists.



Turn left at Four Lane Ends crossroads onto Cockshott Lane, where wild hops grow along the hedge. Over the hill, turn left onto Throughs Lane which runs along a geological fault. There was a well at the end of the lane on the right, described as having many steps down to it and being 16 feet deep from the road. Turn right here to go past Bouskill Cottage and Fell End Cottage on your left. Follow the footpath to the left signposted to Sandside Back Lane (past where Kellet Cottage once stood and Kell Well) then onto Quarry Lane. Take a short detour to the right past the old Walter Berry's Warehouse, now offices, to the information board. Here there was a lime kiln, a weighbridge and an office for the quarry. There were railway lines branching into the quarry for shunts to be loaded with stone to be taken to Scotland to help make sugar from beet. Coal was brought here, first by ship from Whitehaven for use in factories in Kendal, then by rail to the three coal yards at Sandside.



Retrace your steps towards Storth and take the footpath on the right, then left in to Sandside Railway Cutting. A ferryboat used to run across the bay from the **Ship Inn** on your right. In September 1905, disaster struck when the boat carrying ten passengers was swamped in rough seas and six lives were lost.



Carry on along the old railway under two bridges. Then turn right onto the road and to the bottom of Green Lane at **St John's Cross**, to complete the circuit. Here coffins were brought by boat from Witherslack to be buried at St John's Church, Beetham. The house on the right was once an Inn, where the Inkeeper charged anchorage and was once caught with a stash of contraband hidden in the rock behind his house. The old inn sign at Arnbarrow bore the following inscription -

"Pay me down me ankerage or else I'll tell you plain' you'll never cast your anker down in Bummeshire Bay again"

