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# Northumberland Wildlife Trust

*People taking action for wildlife*



## **Briarwood Banks**

### *Access/entrances:*

Several public footpaths cross the reserve, although there are three main entry points. From Plankey Mill (OL43 796622) a wide footbridge crosses the River Allen and enters the reserve. Access to the bridge involves 7 steps on the east and a descent of 12 steps on the west. Entering the reserve, a steep climb leads to a second, narrower footbridge over the Briarwood Burn.

The northern entrance to the reserve can be accessed by following a wide, well-surfaced riverside path from the National Trust car park (pay & display) at Allen Banks. After a swing bridge over the River Allen is passed, the path can become muddy, uneven and steep in places with a variable width.

Finally, a footpath enters the reserve from the south via Kingswood Farm (OL43 790611). On leaving the farm the right of way is not well defined, and crosses often-boggy meadows.

### *Terrain:*

The grassland at the northern end of the reserve is flat and easily negotiated via a grass path - however, it is not easy to access this area. The remainder of the reserve offers a challenging terrain with steep slopes and very narrow paths.

### *Paths:*

Several paths cross the reserve – all are narrow, often muddy and can be difficult to negotiate.

### *Facilities:*

The National Trust car park at Allen Banks has toilets and a picnic area.



Garden House, St Nicholas Park, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3XT

**Chief Executive** Mike Pratt **Patrons** Bill Oddie, Chris Packham, Conrad Dickinson, James Joicey  
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