

Connswater Community Greenway

Points of interest

C.S. Lewis Square marks the life and work of one of the city's most celebrated writers. The square has seven mythical Narnia themed art sculptures created by Irish artist Maurice Harron.

The area has also been immortalised in several of Van Morrison's classic songs, as he sings about 'going down to the hollow' in *Brown Eyed Girl*. Van also refers to the tall pylons in *You Know What They're Talking About* and *On Hyndford Street*. Marsh-wiggle Way connects Orangefield Park to Braniel. The unusual name for the pathway was selected by the public. It refers to the fictional frog-like creatures that inhabit the marshes of northern Narnia, in C.S. Lewis' *The Silver Chair*.

Many of the bridges along the greenway have been given names relevant to the area.

Grace Bannister Bridge

The first bridge from Dixon Playing Fields near Grand Parade. Named after the first female Lord Mayor of Belfast.

Shannon Bridge

The second bridge from Dixon Playing Fields at Dunraven Gardens. Named after a local community worker Billy Shannon, a founding member of Bloomfield Community Association.

Hutchinson Bridge

The new bridge linking Linen Garden and Abetta Parade. Named after David Hutchinson, the former principal of Elmgrove School.

James Ellis Bridge

The bridge links the King George V Playing Fields with the east Sydenham bank. Named after the late east Belfast actor, best known for his roles in *Z Cars* and the *Billy Plays*.

5.5 miles, 9 km, linear

Starting at Victoria Park, the nine kilometre route follows the River Connswater along a sandstone coloured walkway. Pass by C.S. Lewis Square at Hollywood Arches. You will pass Connswater Shopping Centre and Flora Street Walkway before emerging at The Hollow. At this point, the River Connswater splits to form the Knock and Loop Rivers. Here, the walkway takes two separate paths along either river.

Starting at the Knock River, you will pass through Orangefield Park, across Grand Parade. Continue through the park, through Clarawood and along Marsh-wiggle Way. The path stretches through wetland habitat finishing near the Braniel area.

If you take the Loop River route, you will walk along Orby Road and across Castlereagh Road to Loop River Park. You will find a fun play area for children to enjoy. Continue along following the river on a sandstone coloured walkway, crossing Montgomery Road. Continue up Cregagh Road to Cregagh Glen.

Once in the glen, follow the path uphill. Enjoy the walk through the picturesque wooded glen, passing the waterfalls. As you near the top, turn left to visit the former US military cemetery memorial. Continue along the edge of the field and go back into the glen. Cross under the Manse Road, along the wooden walkway, and into the grounds of Lisnabreeny House. Continue along the lane, climbing Lisnabreeny Hill. At the top stands a ring of mature trees marking the site of an old fort. Enjoy superb views of Belfast.

