

# Maiden Newton-Bridport Trailway Newsletter

## Issue 2

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**Welcome to Issue 2 of the Maiden Newton-Bridport Trailway Newsletter. We've got lots of good news this time, including your chance to win a £2000 handmade bicycle.**

### **Win a £2000 Bike**

Would you like to win an Enigma Ethos road bike worth £2000, or a £500 voucher to spend at your local cycle shop? Or maybe £2000 in cash? If the answer's yes, then enter our Trailway Raffle. All proceeds go direct to the Trailway project, to help fund building the first section of path.

First prize is an Enigma Ethos road bike – lightweight and very fast, it has a British-built frame, Campagnolo 10-speed groupset and hand-built wheels. This bike was made to measure for George Sartin in June 2009, but if it doesn't fit, the winner can choose any bike from the Enigma range, of equivalent value – or they can opt for £2000 in cash.

There are three second prizes – £500 vouchers to be spent in one of the following very well stocked cycle shops: Rock & Road of Yeovil, Dorchester Cycles or Revolutions of Bridport. Third prize is a £200 voucher for TooTyred of Sherborne. Considering the bikes and accessories that these people stock, that's a mouth-watering prospect. And finally, there are three runners-up prizes of £30 vouchers, again from Rock & Road, Dorchester Cycles and Revolutions.

There are three ways to enter:

- Simply buy a ticket or three (they're £2 each) from any of the participating cycle shops, or
- Buy them online at [www.justgiving.com/MaidenNewtonBridport](http://www.justgiving.com/MaidenNewtonBridport), or
- Buy them by post – just send a cheque (with your name and address) payable to 'Maiden Newton to Bridport Trail Way' to Peter Henshaw, 30 Hunts Mead, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6AJ.

Why not buy a book of tickets to sell to family and friends? If all of our supporters did that, it would add up to a huge boost for the Trailway.

Thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the Trailway Raffle: George Sartin, Enigma Bikes ([www.enigmabikes.com](http://www.enigmabikes.com)), Revolutions ([www.revolutionsbikes.co.uk](http://www.revolutionsbikes.co.uk)), Dorchester Cycles ([www.dorchestercycles.co.uk](http://www.dorchestercycles.co.uk)), Rock & Road ([www.rockandroaduk.co.uk](http://www.rockandroaduk.co.uk)) and TooTyred ([www.tootyred.co.uk](http://www.tootyred.co.uk)).

### **George Does LEJOG**

George Sartin (pictured right), one of the Trailway's longest-standing supporters, cycled from Lands End to John O Groats in July, in just 11 days. What's even more impressive is that he's donating the bike he did it on to our Trailway Raffle. Well done George!

### **Trailway Wins AONB Grant**

Fantastic news from the Dorset AONB Partnership. We have been awarded a grant of £5000 from the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund, which is aimed specifically at projects which bring social and economical benefits to local communities in a



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sustainable way. A traffic-free path linking Maiden Newton with Bridport and all the villages in between obviously ticked all the right boxes.

The AONB grant will be used to kick-start our first built section of path, between Toller Porcorum and Powerstock Common.

### **£500 Runners**

More good news on the funding front. Maiden Newton Running Club has generously donated £500 to the Trailway. The runners were sponsored by The Stores of Maiden Newton in their annual NewTen Madness run. This event was originally begun to celebrate the Club's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but it's proved so popular that they've run it (excuse the pun) ever since. Each year, sponsorship proceeds go to a local project or charity, and this year they chose the Trailway.

'We all enjoy getting out and enjoying the countryside,' said Phil England of the running club. 'This path would open up a safe route for everyone, and especially help the villages around here.'

### **Eco Survey Highlights Biodiversity**

This southwest corner of Dorset is a beautiful part of the county, and harbours an amazing diversity of flora and fauna – but we didn't realise quite how much until we commissioned a wildlife study from Dorset Ecological Consultancy.

Bronwen Bruce, who conducted the study, found that the wetlands between Maiden Newton and Toller Porcorum are home to demoiselle dragonflies and possibly great crested newts. There's a diversity of wild flowers in Toller Porcorum, and the old railway runs alongside an SSSI – a Site of Special Scientific Interest – west of the village, which is important for nature conservation on a European scale. Dog's mercury and greater stitchwort are found here, as well as rare butterflies – pearl-bordered and marsh fritillaries – plus signs of badgers, slow worms and common lizards.



Powerstock Common is a piece of butterfly heaven, with a huge variety of species including six-belted clearwing and wood white (the latter a UK Biodiversity priority species, and quite rare). The old railwaymen's hut by the trackside here might look uninhabited, but it's home to Lesser Horseshoe bats, another rare species. Even the old railway bridges are a haven for wildlife.

Bronwen's report includes several recommendations on how we can build the Trailway while minimising disturbance to wildlife, and actually enhance habitats on the way through. We need to tread lightly, and we will.

Any questions/comments: Contact Peter Henshaw  
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