

North Dorset Trailway News – May 2013

Grand Opening



The Trailway route between Blandford Forum and Stourpaine will be opened on Sunday 19th May at 10:30 am

BE THERE!

Giles Nicholson, Dorset County Council's range and project leader, writes as follows:

The new section of the Trailway is over three miles long which, added to the existing section, provides a traffic-free route of nine miles linking the towns and villages all the way from Blandford to Sturminster Newton. This is the culmination of much hard work from dedicated volunteers, NDDC, DCC, Sustrans, the Trailway Network Charity and the generous participation of many landowners.

To celebrate this historic event, a fun run, cycle /horse ride and guided walk has been organised. The fun run starts at 10:30 am, shortly followed by the cycle ride, horse ride and guided walk. All activities start from **Station Road Car Park in Blandford** (except the horse ride which starts from the Milldown School) and all will finish at Stourpaine Recreation ground. The total distance is 3 miles (5km).

Music, a barbecue and other refreshments, as well as Trailway information and events, will be available from midday at Stourpaine Recreation Ground allowing the opportunity to celebrate the Trailway opening properly.

If you need a car park, the nearest suitable one for the opening event is in the Langton Road car park near the Co-op in Blandford, which is free on Sundays. A Nordcat (North Dorset Community Accessible Transport) shuttle bus is available to take people back to Blandford from 2:00 pm.

We are sure it will be a fantastic day and hope to see you there, as many of you have been involved in making the Trailway a reality. A strong public attendance is a good way to increase awareness and support for the Trailway and turn other sections of the old railway into Trailway in the future.

Besides the opening of the Trailway, the Three Okefords' Steam Rally is taking place in Shillingstone and is easily accessible from the Trailway on 19th May.

Angus Campbell will open the Trailway in Blandford as recognition for all he has done to promote it while he has been leader of Dorset County Council. We wish him well in his retirement, and pray for good weather on the day and a happy future for the Trailway.

Lesley Gasson

Chair of The Trailway Network – The NDT Supporters' Group