

Connecting 2 Wherever You Want 2 Go **The Newsletter of the Rotherham Connect 2 Project** **Issue 3 – Summer 2010**

With summer approaching, we thought local people would be interested to know how our work to enhance access around the Chesterfield Canal is progressing. As you may know, the proposals are broken down into a series of projects:

Core Route – Rother Valley Country Park, Killamarsh, and Halfway Tram Stop Route

Proposed Completion Date – Summer 2011.
Creating a multi-user, traffic-free surfaced route between the Halfway Tramstop, Killamarsh and Rother Valley Country Park.

Work is almost complete on the Derbyshire section, with the ramp that will connect the tram link to the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT pictured) almost finished.

The Rotherham section, which will provide a surfaced route from the Visitor Centre at Rother Valley Country Park to the TPT, is due to be completed this summer. Public Path Creation Orders in Sheffield have been made to create the final section.



Aspirational Route 1 – Wales, Harthill and Cuckoo Way Access for All Hub

Proposed Completion Date Summer 2013. Link local villages of Harthill and Kiveton into the Colliery Park area so that the maximum amount of people can access them all year round.

Work is about to start on surfacing the short section of the muddy Cuckoo Way between Hard Lane and nearby dry land, with proposals to improve disabled access following. With all diversions in place, we are now awaiting funding to be released so that we can provide a surfaced path between Harthill and Kiveton. Special thanks are due to Wales Parish Council, Colin Savage, Graham Moule and his Probation Service assistants for the excellent job being carried out on the Cuckoo Way near Kiveton. This formerly very muddy path is half completed, and works to finish the job are due to start shortly. Thanks to volunteers and local people, this path is being surfaced at minimal cost, freeing up funds to surface other routes near the canal. The picture shows the ongoing works on the Cuckoo Way.



Aspirational Route 2 – The Killamarsh-Todwick Riding Route

Proposed Completion Date Summer 2013 –
Create a safe horse-riding route between Killamarsh and Todwick.

With verbal agreement from the Highways Agency, we are now in a position to start to look at creating new routes around Woodall Service Station at the M1 that will enable us to link stretches of existing bridleway nearby. The central section of this route will then be surfaced and walking access enhanced. Derbyshire County Council are in the process of creating a new bridleway to enable this link to be enjoyed by people in Killamarsh.

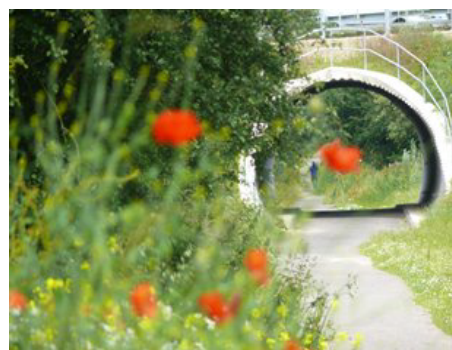


The photo shows members of Harthill Parish Council on part of the proposed route last summer.

Aspirational Route 3 – Bringing Communities Together – the Colliery Way Extension

Proposed Completion Date – Summer 2013. We aim to create a multi-user trail between Thurcroft and Woodsetts, a distance of approximately 8 miles.

The route is now physically built, and we are awaiting road safety works, which will include a new pegasus crossing at Todwick Road, Dinnington, and better road safety for riders at North Anston. The trail will then be launched and promoted. The photo shows the Old Colliery Way, which forms the start of this new trail.



Aspirational Route 4 – The Harthill Reservoir Trails

Proposed Completion Date – Summer 2012. Provide trails around each of the reservoirs at Harthill.

We are in the closing stages of discussions with British Waterways to enable us to press ahead with a proposed diversion of footpath 1 at Harthill, this will if successful create a route in perpetuity at the second reservoir. Once works are complete, we will then discuss opening a trail around the final reservoir, with links into the Killamarsh Trail (Route 2). The picture shows walkers at the Rotherham Walking Festival on the Tom Wakefield Trail at Harthill Reservoir, created thanks to the hard work of Harthill with Woodall Parish Council.



Aspirational Route 5 – The Eastern Strategic Route to Shireoaks Trail

Proposed Completion Date Summer 2012. Providing a link in perpetuity between the Eastern Strategic Route and Shireoaks.

The most challenging of all these proposals, works are almost complete on providing a safe pedestrian route under the A57 at Lindrick Golf Club thanks to the golf club's funded underpass. A second tunnel, constructed for horseriders, is proposed on the line of the nearby bridleway. We've also been working with Nottinghamshire County Council to divert the bridleway which presently crosses the railway line near Brancliffe Grange, we wish to see an equestrian link established into Shireoaks prior to diverting the bridleway in Rotherham.

Find out more about Sustrans and the Big Lottery, and download free walks and rides at the following websites:

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk www.sustrans.org.uk
http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/613/rights_of_way-information_and_advice



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