

National Park Access Updates September 2021

Volunteer Training

We have trained ten volunteers in the use of strimmers/brushcutters. This will enable us to more efficiently clear public rights of way, giving better and easier public access to nature.

The 2021 New Forest Walking & Cycling Festival

Planning for the 2021 New Forest Walking and Cycling Festival is underway. So far we have over forty guided walks and cycle rides in the schedule and aim to have over eighty. The festival dates are from the 16th of October to the 7th of November, a three-week period either side of half-term.

The festival is sponsored by Hoburne-Bashley and concentrates on teaching people about the special qualities of the National Park and how help keep it that way for future generations.

England Coast Path

We are waiting to hear from Natural England that the Calshot to Gosport section of the ECP has been determined. Once determined we can start work to add new gates, signposts and interpretation boards.

The New Forest Access Forum

Current Access Forum activity has included:

- Trudi Lloyd-Williams held meetings with representatives from NPA, Bird Aware Solent and the Freshwater Habitats Trust about furthering Access To Water work.
- Peter Armstrong met with NPA staff (Fiona Wynne and Adam Vasey) to discuss funding options for improving public access in the National Park.
- Various members attended a mapping session with Jim Mitchell to look at the progress of the New Forest LCWIP (local cycling and walking infrastructure plan).
- Various members attended the PEDALL workshop where we met PEDALL staff, who gave an outline of the Inclusive cycling charity in addition to getting out on the various types of bikes.

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