

The following items describe recent and current activities by Gloucestershire Public Rights of Way (PRoW) officers on Bridleways, Restricted Byways and BOATs within the MCTTG area. The Mackhouse Woods work was actually carried out on a BOAT by motorcyclists from the Gloucester group of the Trail Riders Fellowship (see photos below).

Stroud South (Sarah Macaulay-Lowe)

- Bushy Grove Bridleway – from near the vets to near Cattle Country – resurfaced through Bushy Grove. Surface scraped and re-laid with recycled stone, over a membrane and then covered with a dust material and rolled in. Used to be hock deep in clay.
- Frocester Farm – negotiating with landowner about new gates
- Haw Park Farm and Leys Farm, Wotton – new bridle gates installed.
- Bridleway in Dursley (opposite Rednock School) – cleared to allow freer access

Stroud North (Jaci Harris)

- Standish hospital bridleway opened up following Modification Order. Horse Stile installed.
- Bridle path through Mackhouse Woods (nr Toadsmoor) cleared to allow freer access.
- Resurfacing of dangerous stretch of bridleway in Saltridge Woods near Cranham

Cotswold North (Phil Cluley)

- A number of surface and access improvements beyond Bourton on the Water
- Windrush Mill now re-opened after a 6 month closure for building work; permissive route across the new bridge, and two difficult gates beyond this improved by landowner.
- Gas pipeline installation between Wormington and Sapperton has finished so all paths re-opened

Cotswold South (Mike Barton)

- Route between North Cerney and Stratton is being improved for riders/cyclists through gate, surface and clearance improvements.
- The stream across bridleway KNE 16 (Northleach with Eastington) has been culverted with a raised and stoned surface, and other improvements (gates, ploughing and planting) are pending.
- Valley Farm has a newly diverted bridleway through the bottom meadows with new gates

Modification Orders (Andrew Houldey)

- The Penn Wood bridleway (Kings Stanley) claim has been subject to an alteration in the order where the path passes the Scout Hut. Will hopefully be finalised in the near future.
- There is a claim for a bridleway (footpath upgrade) between the Ford and Bismore Bridge in Toadsmoor, near Eastcombe and Bisley. Evidence forms are still being collected.

Public Path Orders (Sarah MacDonald)

- Bibury – The Order to divert bridleway KBY 7 was confirmed in September. The purpose of the diversion was to move the bridleway away from property Hale Barn, which has been undergoing development and landscaping and onto an improved route with a 5 metre width and grass surface running next to the ponds.
- Edgeworth – The Order to divert bridleway BED 25 (and footpath BED 24) was confirmed in September. The line of the bridleway previously ran through a pond, a mature hedge line and went dangerously close to the edge of the River Frome. The now officially diverted bridleway follows the track which is the route already used by the public.

Extract from Trail Riders Fellowship press release:

www.trf.org.uk

Spokesman Richard Simpson said: "We are keen that Gloucestershire's historic network of unsurfaced roads should remain open for all to use: whether on legs or wheels. We only carry out this work at times of year when it will have a positive impact on the local ecology."



The overgrown lane before the TRF got to work was a hazard for those on horseback



TRF member Damon Northeast takes a well-earned break as the first party of horse-riders to enjoy the cleared lane passes by