

COUNTRYSIDE MOBILITY



Project Update 8: March 2011

Spring has finally sprung here in the South West after a particularly cold and grey winter. It was very difficult dragging ourselves out of the warm office but access auditing and visits to lots of potential new Trampler sites kept us busy throughout the winter months. Only a couple of trips had to be re-arranged because of the snow!

We are now into 'Year 2' of our Natural England/Big Lottery funding and all signs at this stage suggest that we should just about reach all of the targets we set out to achieve which is good news. In fact, due to the increasing number of countryside sites that are now hoping to work with us, we might need to apply much earlier than expected for funding to buy more Trampers to keep up with demand! Fingers crossed that everything continues to go according to plan!

The Steering Group, which helps keep us heading in the right direction, has now met five times and has helped us to overcome some of the health and safety challenges we have encountered so far. Later this year the group will begin to explore a number of potential future funding ideas that might allow us to develop and expand the scheme when our current funding comes to an end.



Haddon Hill, Exmoor National Park

We have also been busy planning some Trampler events for 2011 to enable people to explore places where unfortunately Trampers can't be permanently based. We recently audited some potential routes with Exmoor National Park Authority Rangers for two events on Exmoor this year. We are also currently exploring the potential of Trampers being available for use at a number of country/ agricultural shows this summer...watch this space for more details!

Our seventh Trampler site has recently opened (read on for more details) and our first Wheelyboat is being officially launched on the 1st April. 2011 will be our first fully 'operational' year with Trampers available to hire at a wide range of countryside locations across the region.

We hope that this combination of new sites and events, including our launch event/open day in May, will help more people find out about us and use Trampers and Wheelyboats.

Please help us spread the word by forwarding this newsletter to anyone who might be interested in finding out more about the scheme!

New Site - Royal Horticultural Society Rosemoor Gardens

RHS Rosemoor started hiring Trampers on the 19th March.

Situated near Torrington, North Devon, Rosemoor offers 65 acres of enchanting gardens, woodland walks, water features and open spaces as well as a shop, restaurant and tea room. Two Trampers are now available to hire and almost all of the gardens can be visited using the Trampers. **Phone 01805 624067 for bookings.**



New Site - The Granite Way, Okehampton



Devon Cycle Hire will have a Tramper for hire on the Granite Way from Saturday 9th April.

Based at Sourton Down, Okehampton, a Tramper can be hired to explore most of this purpose built cycle trail that runs through Dartmoor National Park. The trail boasts a wide variety of sights and interests including spectacular views from Meldon Viaduct and Lake Viaduct.

Phone 01837 861141 for bookings (from April).

New Site - Crickley Hill Country Park, Gloucestershire

Gloucester County Council will start hiring their Tramper at Crickley Hill from Thursday 14th April.

Crickley Hill sits on the edge of the Cotswold escarpment, 6 miles east of Gloucester, overlooking the Vale of Gloucester. There are extensive views over Gloucester and the Severn Vale across to the Malvern Hills. The park has a number of circular trails suitable for use with the Tramper.

Phone 01452 863170 for bookings (from April).



New Site - Grand Western Canal, Tiverton



Abbotshood Cycle Hire, in partnership with Devon County Council will have a Tramper available for hire from Tuesday 19th April.

The Grand Western Canal Country Park meanders through beautiful mid-Devon countryside and quiet villages near Tiverton. The Tramper can be hired for use along most of the towpath to explore the canal .

Phone 01884 820728 for bookings (from April).

Read on for more new sites...

New Site - Mount Edgcumbe Country Park, near Plymouth



Plymouth City Council will have a Trampler for hire at Mouth Edgcumbe from 22nd May.

Mount Edgcumbe House is the former home of the Earls of Mount Edgcumbe. A Trampler will be available for hire to explore parts of the Grade I Cornish Gardens and some of the 865 acres of Country Park on the Rame Peninsula, South East Cornwall .

Phone 01752 822236 for bookings (from May).

New Site - Seale Hayne, Newton Abbot

The Dame Hannah Rogers Trust will have 2 Trampers for hire from the 1st June at Seale Hayne.

Seale Hayne is a former agricultural college with extensive grounds to explore. There is also a fantastic cafe, art gallery and studios, farm animals and lots more to see and do.

Visit www.hannahssealehayne.com for more details.

Phone 01626 325800 for bookings (from June).



More sites coming soon...

Over the past few months we have been visiting and auditing lots of new Trampler sites and hope to have Trampers for hire later in the summer at the following locations:



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| • Castle Drogo | Dartmoor, |
| • Batsford Arboretum | Cotswolds |
| • Saltram Estate | Plymouth |
| • Cotehele Estate | Gunnislake |
| • Penrose Estate | Porthleven |
| • Tamar Trails | Gunnislake |
| • Ashton Court | Bristol |

We also hope to have Wheelyboats at the following locations sometime soon:

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| • Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre | Exeter |
| • Maunsell Lock Canal Centre | Bridgwater and Taunton Canal |
| • Wareham Boat Hire | Wareham |

The CMSW website now also lists locations of Wheelyboats that are already available to hire in the South West (these boats have not been funded by CMSW).

The [CMSW website](http://www.countrysidemobility.org) has up-to-date details about participating sites and information on how to become a CMSW member and book a Trampler or Wheelyboat.

COUNTRYSIDE MOBILITY OPEN DAY



Wednesday 11th May, 2:00pm - 5:00pm
Roadford Lake, Okehampton

Come along and help us celebrate the launch of the Countryside Mobility scheme!

Try a Tramper all-terrain mobility scooter and join the scheme for FREE!
 (Booking and photo ID required - please contact us for more details)

Enjoy a FREE trip on the lake in a wheelchair accessible Wheelyboat!

FREE Cream teas and FREE PRIZE DRAW with great prizes!

An IPod Touch

Donated by



Family ticket to a River Cottage Open Day

Donated by



Family ticket to an Exeter City football game

Donated by



A nights B&B in Plymouth

Donated by



Spring Tramper Trips and Events...

Some other dates for your diary...

Friday 1st April:	Tramper Event - Launch of CMSW Wheelyboat at Tamar Lake, Bude (Trampers available for use)
Wednesday 20th April:	Tramper Event - Haddon Hill Big Adventure Day, Exmoor
Saturday 4th June:	Plymouth Disability Day , Plymouth Hoe, Devon
9th and 10th June:	South West Disability Show , Westpoint, Exeter

If you would like to work with us to help make your outdoor events or guided walks accessible then contact us for more details!

Countryside Mobility is a Big Lottery funded project (through Natural England's 'Access to Nature' grant scheme) aiming to improve access to the countryside for people with limited mobility living in and visiting the South West. If you would like more information about the project then please visit our website or contact us on:

Tel: 01392 456522, or Email: info@countrysidemobility.org



LOTTERY FUNDED