

Celebrating 20 Years
1990-2010



Countryside Mobility (South West)

Project Update 1: February 2010

*Supporting people with
disabilities to help themselves*

'Countryside Mobility' is a Big Lottery funded project (through Natural England's 'Access to Nature' grant scheme) which aims to improve access to the countryside for people with disabilities living in and visiting the South West region.

The project is being run by Living Options Devon (www.livingoptions.org), a user-led organisation that exists to ensure people with physical and/or sensory disabilities and Deaf people with sign language can make an active and equal contribution in society.

Over the next two years we will be working with a range of partner organisations to place Trampler all-terrain mobility scooters (www.trampler.co.uk) and accessible Wheelyboats (www.wheelyboats.org) at 30 countryside and coastal sites including country parks, woodlands and lakes across the South West. The equipment will be available to hire for a small fee for anyone becoming a Countryside Mobility member.



This will provide disabled people with a real outdoor experience, and will allow them to access new areas of the countryside with independence, whether alone or with friends and family. The exact locations are still being agreed but the first equipment will be available for hire this summer...watch this space for more details!!

February Highlights...

February has been a busy first month! The Project Team, James Maben (Project Manager) and Fern Busuttill (Project Assistant), started work and have begun the task of planning the delivery of the project over the next two years. Highlights of the past months work include:



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- First Project Board meeting held
- Graphic designer appointed to produce 'Countryside Mobility' logo and branding guide
- Access auditing started for 'Phase 1' sites
- 20 Tramper buggies ordered
- Partnership agreements drawn up with host sites
- Temporary project web page set up
(www.livingoptions.org/division.php?division=countryside_mobility)

Coming Next Month...

- First Project Steering group meeting
- Work on new Countryside Mobility website starting
- New Countryside Mobility logo unveiled!
- More details about the Countryside Mobility membership scheme
- News about 'Mobile Trampers' that will be available for organisations and groups to use later this year

This is the first of a regular monthly update that is intended to keep stakeholders informed as the project develops. The update will cover highlights from the last month and also look ahead to upcoming events & activities.

If you would like more information about any aspects of the project then please contact James Maben or Fern Busutil on 01392 456522 or fern.busutil@livingoptions.org or james.maben@livingoptions.org

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