

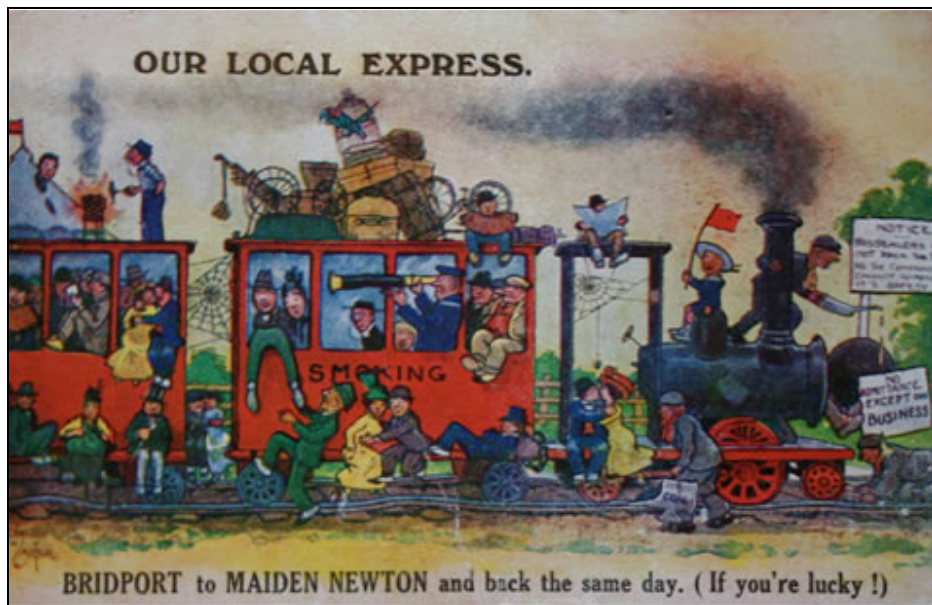
Maiden Newton-Bridport Railway Newsletter

Issue 4

Welcome to Issue 4 of the Railway Newsletter, and sorry it's been so long since the last one! However, the project is ongoing, and negotiations are moving forward with various landowners between Maiden Newton and Bridport.

Summary of Progress so Far

- 1) The Maiden Newton to Chilfrone Lane section has been re-surfaced and widened, and bins for dog mess installed at each end.
- 2) Dorset Wildlife Trust has agreed in principle for the Railway to run over Powerstock Common. Bridleway access to the old railway at Powerstock Common has been resurfaced.
- 3) A £5000 grant has been received from Dorset AONB for path construction – it has been used for the advance purchase of materials.
- 4) Art projects funding has been agreed with Arts Council England, along with the Dorset Design and Heritage Forum's Wide Open Space funding.
- 5) A section of the old railway at Loders has been purchased by Sustrans from Magna Housing.



Above: Thanks to Jean Perkins of London, who sent us this lovely postcard

Did You Know?

... that Symonds & Sampson, still thriving as land agents and surveyors based in Dorchester, acted as agents for the promoters of the Bridport-Maiden Newton line back in the 1850s?

Contributions

Contributions to the Railway project continue to roll in, so thanks to everyone who has given recently, as follows: Maiden Newton at War – £100, CTC West Dorset – £500, CTC Wessex –

£500, the Eaton family – boxes of books, Café 64 – £1000 (from book sales), ‘Picnic on the Path’ donations – £185.52. Also, thanks to everyone who has bought bags of our kindling wood, still available from Café 64, Toller Porcorum Post Office, Alweston Post Office & Stores, and Bishops Caundle Service Station. Café 64 is still selling books on our behalf, so do go along and see what’s available (we recommend the coffee and cake whilst you’re there).

Picnic on the Path

Remember our Picnic on the Path last September? Who could forget the weird and wonderful Feral Choir, plus the Quangle Wangle Choir. Thanks to everyone who came; we hope you enjoyed your picnic, plus the raffle and tea/cakes in Maiden Newton village hall afterwards. In the raffle, Sam Jukes and Jo Norris won 5 bottles of wine between them, so congratulations to them and also to Margaret, who won the delicious cyclist’s lunch. Thanks to Alweston Post Office and Stores and Sustrans/Cono Sur for the prizes.



Left: The Feral Choir giving their all for Picnic on the Path

Thank You Section

Thanks go to all the groups and individuals who have made this project possible, and who continue to bring the Trailway nearer to realisation: the landowners, Sustrans, Dorset County Council, West Dorset District Council, the Parish Councils, Dorset Wildlife Trust, the Countryside Rangers, Maiden Newton Runners, Café 64, Dorset AONB, Arts Council England, Dorset Design and Heritage Forum, and all our individual supporters.

STOP PRESS – Energy Café Returns

The horsedrawn Energy Café, which visited the old railway on Powerstock Common, is to return on 17th April. More details to come, but if you would like to volunteer to help, or to book a lunch, contact Anna Best – me@annabest.info

Any questions/comments: Contact Peter Henshaw
(01935) 389357 peterpodd@yahoo.co.uk