

HEBBLE TRAIL CYCLEWAY



...a gently graded route opening sustainable access into the valley and on to Halifax for cyclists and walkers **Newsletter Winter 2004/05**



Work on developing of the Hebble Trail route to provide an alternative way of accessing Halifax town centre and the railway station through an area already noted for its scenic beauty and industrial heritage, is now complete.

Enhancements will ensure the project will provide a sustainable route, suitable for cycling, walking and wheelchair use, and create a linear park from Salterhebble to Phoebe Lane ideal for local schools as an educational resource for local history, environmental and ecological study topics.

From Salterhebble, the existing canal corridor will be utilised to provide a continuation of the route onwards to Elland and Sowerby Bridge town centres.

sustrans
routes for people



British Waterways



*...for commuting to work
or for utility trips*

**Visit www.calderdale.gov.uk
for a printable map.
For links to other cycling
information in the region
visit
www.cycletransport.west-yorks.co.uk and
www.sustrans.org.uk**



HEBBLE TRAIL CYCLEWAY

Approximate scale:-

Kilometres 0

1.5

Miles 0






1

KEY

-  Hebble Trail Cycleway routes
-  Possible route currently being investigated & developed
-  Tourist Information Centre
-  Cycle shop
-  Sheffield stands
-  Railway station (secure cycle parking with 9 lockers)
-  Halifax Town Centre 20mph zone



Points of interest on completed route sections

-  Canal Basin - improvement access to underpass (programmed)
-  Original Lock - partially exposed
-  Butterfly Meadow - ecological importance
-  Parking area for disabled permit holders
-  Shaw Lodge Mill complex

Cycling Code of Conduct

Please follow this code so that all users may enjoy the route in safety:

On all routes....

Please be courteous and always cycle with respect for others, and acknowledge those who give way to you.



Always carry a bell on your cycle and use it appropriately - **DO NOT SURPRISE PEOPLE**

Don't expect to cycle at high speeds

On shared use paths....

Experience shows that such paths can benefit everyone and they can be comfortably and safely shared with other user groups.





Always try to:-

-  give pedestrians plenty of room. Be prepared to slow down if the path is busy.
-  remember some people are visually impaired or hard of hearing - do not assume everyone can see or hear you.

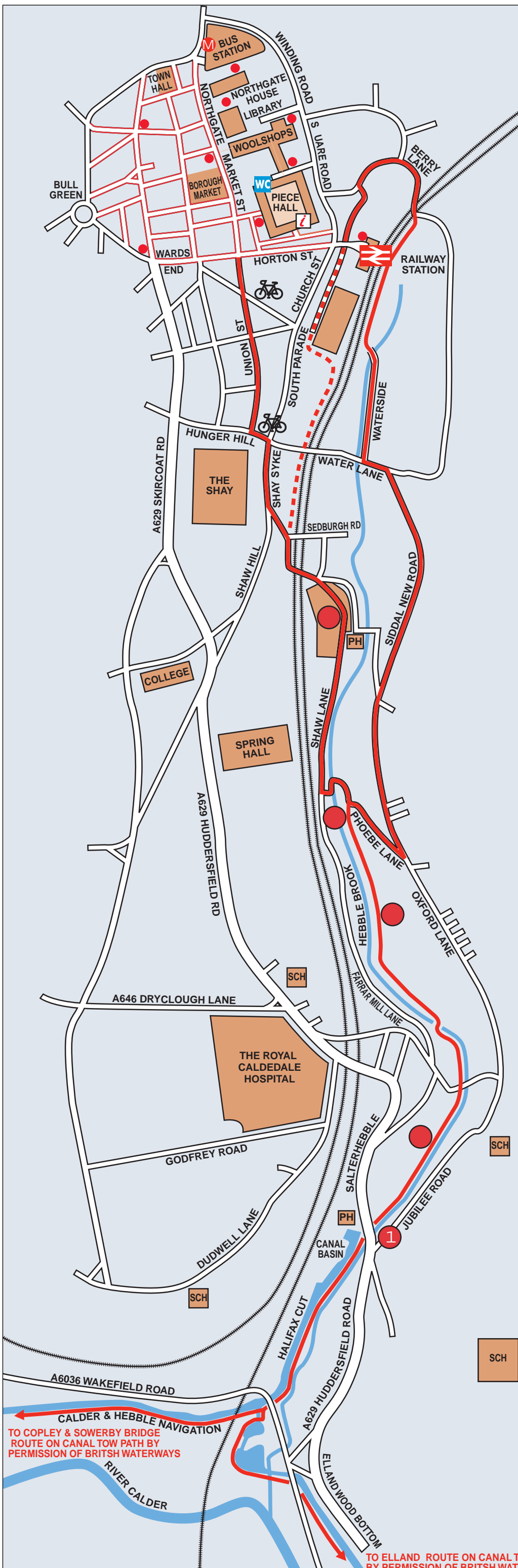
On canal towing paths....

Negotiations with British Waterways are well advanced which will allow controlled cycle access on permitted sections as signed.

Remember:-

-  always take care, ride at gentle pace in single file and watch out for mooring spikes.
-  be prepared to stop and dismount if the path is busy with pedestrians or anglers.
-  do not cycle along the path in the dark.
-  you are responsible for your own and others safety. Permission to cycle is conditional on compliance with the Waterways Cycling Code of Conduct.

Please report any defects or maintenance requirements to:
Calderdale Highways Hotline
01422 393000 or
engineering@calderdale.gov.uk



TO COPLEY & SOWERBY BRIDGE
ROUTE ON CANAL TOW PATH BY
PERMISSION OF BRITISH WATERWAYS

TO ELLAND ROUTE ON CANAL TOW PATH
BY PERMISSION OF BRITISH WATERWAYS

The Hebble Trail.... a 'potted history'

The route follows the Hebble Brook and the route of the old Halifax Branch Canal in the Hebble valley, once thriving with industry and part of an expanding Halifax and its growing ascendancy in the textile market. Opened in 1828, the canal allowed boats to travel from the Calder & Hebble Navigation, along the Halifax Cut to Salterhebble canal basin and onwards into Halifax, climbing 30 metres over the 2km through fourteen locks. From the late nineteenth century canal trade began to dwindle and the canal was finally closed in 1942. Much of the infrastructure has now vanished though remnants of locks and bridges can still be seen from the new path constructed on the section rich in heritage between Salterhebble canal basin and Phoebe Lane.



Also rich in vegetation, there is a wide variety of plant species providing a 'meadow' habitat for many species of butterfly. Since 1989 and the introduction of the footpath, the area has suffered from a period of decline due to neglect and frequent fly-tipping. Although extensive efforts were made during the recent works to minimise the ecological impact on the site, some ground disturbance was required to provide the new route. It is intended that a management strategy will be developed by the Council in association with local schools and community groups. From Phoebe Lane towards Halifax, the route follows Shaw Lane, a smooth self-paved road through a great example of the industrial

heritage in the Shaw Lodge Mill complex, still intact and working, with an inner square and clock tower, and a remarkable 75 metre high chimney (c.1850).



... an update of the route development

A gently graded route, providing sustainable access along the valley for cyclists and walkers, has now been constructed from the Salterhebble canal basin to Phoebe Lane.



... for exercise and a healthy travel option

In partnership with British Waterways, work on the Calder & Hebble Navigation canal corridor from Copley and Elland to Calder & Hebble junction and on the Halifax Cut section to the canal basin, has improved the surface of the towing paths and provided more available width for all users. The Council is currently in negotiations with British Waterways to improve the access from the towing path to and through the underpass at Salterhebble.

Over the next few weeks a direct access routes will be sign posted along roads from Phoebe Lane and Shaw Lane to Halifax town and the railway station.

... funding

Part funded through the Local Transport Plan capital programme the route will provide a safe sustainable transport route for commuting, utility and leisure trips by cycle or on foot away from the busy A629 Huddersfield Road.

Support funding from the New Opportunities Fund (SEED) grant, available for local schemes with community involvement will enable artwork, information signs and interpretation boards, focusing on the trail and the surrounding environment, to be located on the route.



... scope of the scheme and its beneficiaries

The Hebble Trail valley is recognised as an important resource for Halifax. Over the years it has been problematic and sufficient funds have not been available to fully integrate and develop this unique wildlife and heritage corridor into a linear park. These proposals will link Halifax with the National Cycle Network Route 66 at Calder & Hebble.

... access for walkers, cyclists and wheelchairs provides a safe environment

It will assist local cyclists commute to work, provide a safe environment for cycling, walking, wheelchair users and people with restricted mobility, offer a facility for educational purposes, and provide better access for the local community to rediscover the area.

for further information:

TransportationTeam@calderdale.gov.uk
or david.procter@calderdale.gov.uk