



**THE RIDGEWAY
NATIONAL TRAIL**

1973-2023 **KEEPING THE RIDGEWAY SPECIAL**

**50th anniversary
overview for
Buckinghamshire LAF**

1st March 2023



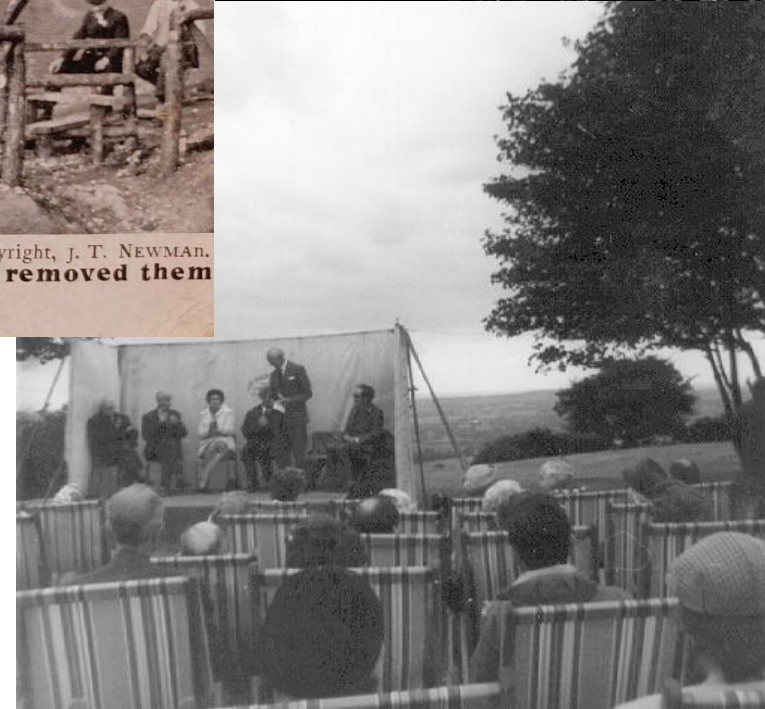
Coombe Hill, Bucks

An important place in the history of countryside access



MAKING HISTORY.
Right of Way Dispute on the Wendover Hills. [Photo Copyright, J. T. NEWMAN.]
The Stiles and those who removed them
June 21st, 1906.

The Ridgeway National Trail was formally opened on Coombe Hill on 29th September 1973. This September's commemorative event will be the highlight of the anniversary. We will look back at what has been achieved so far and pull together ideas and resources to realise the Ridgeway Future 50 vision.



50th anniversary outlook: Inspire to visit – Equip to visit – Caring visitors



**Join Chewbacca, King Alfred,
Mary-Ann Ochota, Churchill, Merlin
and many more to celebrate
The Ridgeway's 50th anniversary!**

Ridgeway Future 50



On the
Trail, [online](#)
and in the
press



Free monthly spotter challenges
Guided runs Art workshops
Bioblitz Mary-Ann Ochota talk
'Top 50' Sunday 7pm short stories
Oxford University day course

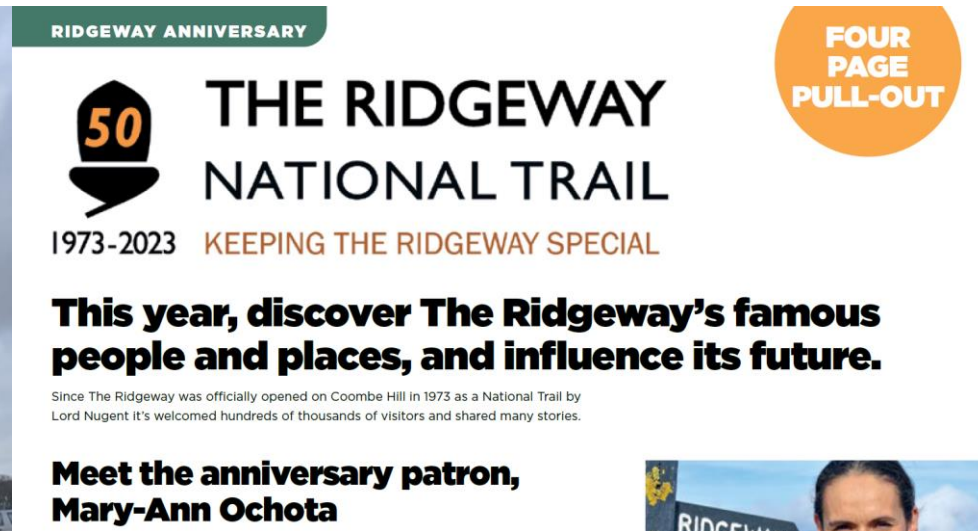
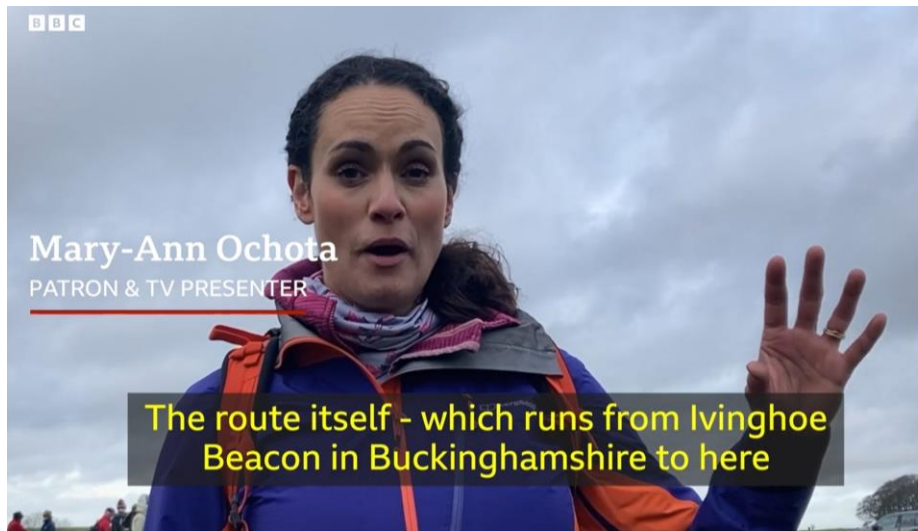
Go to the anniversary webpage for more events and activities

New map and leaflet

THE RIDGEWAY NATIONAL TRAIL



Media coverage and level of awareness



Since January....

- Guardian Travel section – paper and online
- Countryfile podcast
- BBC Radio Wiltshire – on air, social media, webpages
- Swindon 105.5 FM
- BBC Three Counties Radio
- Cycling UK magazine
- Chiltern Society magazine – 4 page pull-out
- South East Ramblers magazine
- Three new packages with holiday companies

Hoping for future coverage with Countryfile TV; National Trust social media.

Keeping The Ridgeway special Ridgeway Future 50

Be a caring, friendly visitor

Everyone plays their part in looking after The Ridgeway and making it a friendly place. Report problems to the Ridgeway Officer and share your favourite photos and stories on social media. Ensure you are a considerate visitor by knowing the **Countryside Code** and adhering to Trail signage.

Walking, cycling and horse riding are carbon-free activities. Visitors can further reduce their environmental impact by travelling to the Trail without their car and choosing locally-sourced

and sustainable products and services. Our website provides further details about sustainable choices including public transport and cycle hire (including electric bicycles).

Dog walkers – please keep your dog under control to reduce distress to livestock, ground-nesting birds and other visitors. Use bins to dispose of dog waste responsibly.

Cyclists – slow down around walkers and horse riders and, if approaching from behind, call out ‘hello’ in advance.

New visitor leaflet explains how to be a caring visitor

Inviting ideas from all parts of society about what they would like to see along The Ridgeway in 50 years

The Friends of the Ridgeway

Registered Charity No.
1107926

1. **Donation** 2. Your details 3. Payment

...service has been designed for donors using funds from a personal account . Any donations identified as coming from a

on

Friends of the Ridgeway
dedicated [donation page](#)
on CAF website

How often would you like to donate?

Just one donation

I'd like to give regularly

How much would you like to donate?

£ 10.00

£ 30.00

£ 50.00

Custom

The Ridgeway National Trail 50th anniversary

It is 50 years since The Ridgeway opened as a National Trail and this makes 2023 an opportune time for Friends of the Ridgeway to raise funds to maintain and improve the National Trail. Everyone is invited to celebrate the 50th anniversary by taking part in events and activities and by caring for the Trail. One way to care for The Ridgeway is to make a donation, however large or small.

[Find out more](#) about this charity or campaign

Invitation to Buckinghamshire LAF to get involved

Can you suggest VIPs to invite to the September event at Coombe Hill?
Please use your influence to attract VIPs to this event as Buckinghamshire has a key role to play at this location.

Do you know someone who would be very engaging and can interpret the view from Coombe Hill at our September event?

What groups in Buckinghamshire could help us draw new audiences to The Ridgeway? We want to retain our existing visitors but also attract new visitors.

What does your LAF want to see along The Ridgeway in 50 years time?
What should stay the same and what needs to change to cater for society?
What role should Buckinghamshire stakeholders play over the next 50 years?

Keep in touch



Anniversary webpage

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway_anniversary2023/

Ridgeway Project Officer - Sarah Wright

sarah.wright@oxfordshire.gov.uk

07825 314791

To report a problem on The Ridgeway, tell the National Trail Team and/or the local highway authority -

ridgeway@oxfordshire.gov.uk

01865 810248

If urgent, call 07825 314791

If you see a crime in progress on The Ridgeway, call 999. Otherwise, call 101.

For visitor info and other enquiries:

ridgeway@oxfordshire.gov.uk

01865 810248

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway

<https://www.facebook.com/RidgewayNationalTrail>

<https://twitter.com/TheRidgeway1972>

https://www.instagram.com/ridgeway_national_trail/

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/theridgeway/albums>