

A3 Hindhead major improvement works Newsletter 8

A3 Hindhead on Track

WELCOME to issue 8, of the Hindhead News which has the latest news on how we are progressing and what we will be doing over the next few months.

Work started on site on 8 January 2007.

Since work started, we have had to cope with gale force winds, snow and torrential rain. We have placed 2000 wooden pegs to mark the site boundaries in advance of site clearance, and erected nearly 6 miles of temporary protective fencing. The majority of this work was in dense hilly woodland, making the whole process slow and difficult.

If you have been travelling along the A3 north of Hindhead crossroads, you will have seen the clearance of trees near Boundless road and the erection of security fencing around the new site compound. To the south of Hindhead we have removed trees in the Hammer Lane area and made progress clearing trees for access into Tyndall's Wood.

Key activities for the rest of the year are:

April - July 2007. We will establish the main site compound and construct the Boundless to Thursley link road. At the same time we will construct an access to the site of the north entrance of the tunnel. During this time the utility companies will be diverting Electricity, Telephone, Gas and Water supplies along the construction route.

June - October 2007. We will construct the



Aerial shot of Punch Bowl bend

Boundless Road cutting and excavate ground to form the northern entrances to the tunnel.

July - December 2007. Construction of the Greensand Way and Hindhead Hill underpasses.

July 2007 – December 2008. Construction of the Canadian Memorial at Bramshott.

Securing a brighter future for a thriving Hindhead area

The National Trust and other key environmental bodies are working with the local Councils to explain and support the work on the A3 Hindhead tunnel project. They are collaborating on this work through the partnership – 'Hindhead Together'.

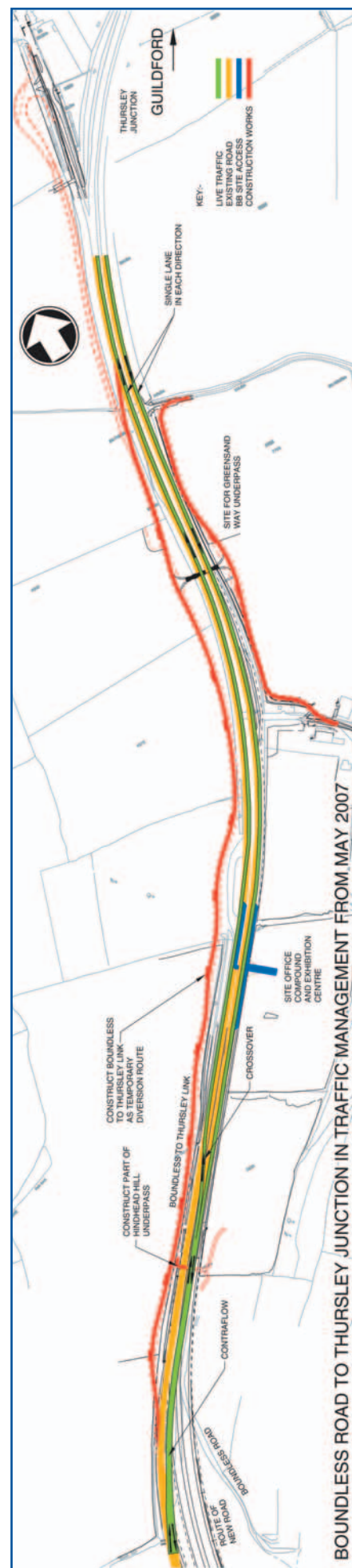
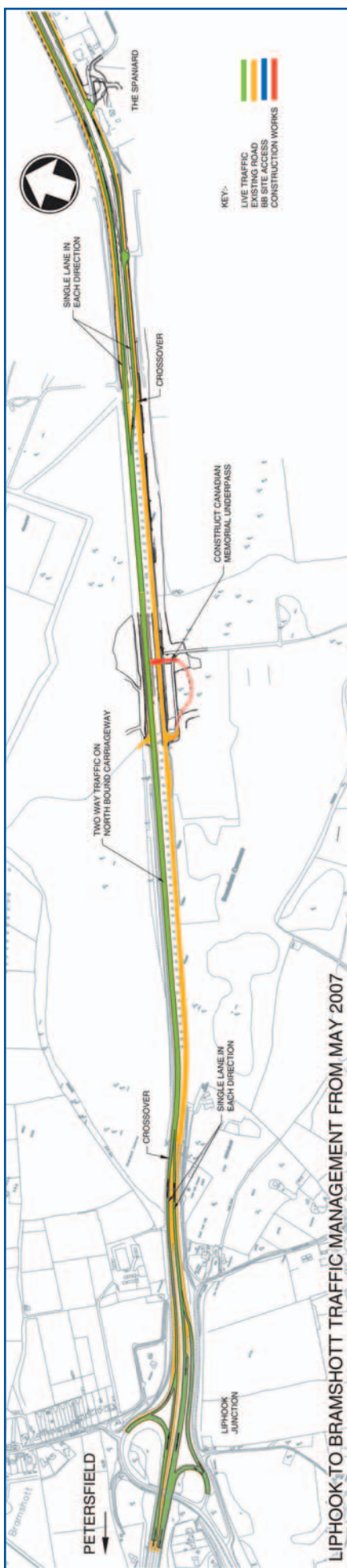
The partners see this project as a major opportunity to reunite one of the most dramatic and inspirational landscapes in the South East for nature conservation, recreation and tourism purposes, as well as freeing Hindhead from traffic congestion. They are working to optimise the community, economic, ecological and landscape benefits.

The 'Hindhead Together' group includes the National Trust, the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership, Natural England, the Highways Agency, the South East England Development Agency, Surrey County Council, Waverley Borough Council and Haslemere Town Council.

This A3 scheme will have a major influence on the vitality of the Hindhead community and the surrounding countryside. Over 400 hectares of open access heathland will be freed from the impact of the present A3. The area will become easily accessible again for all users, including walkers, horse-riders, cyclists and people with disabilities.

Some of the benefits being pursued by the Hindhead Together partnership include: restoring an internationally important heathland landscape recognised as a Special Protection Area for birds; exploring new opportunities for access and tourism; developing the economic role of Hindhead; protecting the ecology of the wider Hindhead Commons; enhancing the centre of Hindhead in the short and long term; assisting the National Trust with the problems of conflicting recreational users and linking habitats to help wildlife adapt to climate change.

You can contact the Hindhead Together group by email at: comments@hindheadtogether.org.uk or by writing to:
The Hindhead Together Partnership,
 c/o The Witley Centre, Witley,
 Godalming, Surrey GU8 5QA.
 Website:
www.hindheadtogether.org.uk



Keeping you informed

Ian Whyte, who works for Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering, is the Community Relations Manager and is ready to answer any questions you may have. His details are as follows:

Email: ian.whyte@bbcel.co.uk

Tel: 01428 601050

Address:

Community Relations Manager

A3 Hindhead project team
Suite 5 Headley House,
Headley Road,
Grayshott,
Surrey GU26 6TU

You can also get in touch with the Highways Agency:

Email: paul.arnold@highways.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.highways.gov.uk

Tel: 01306 878475

Address:

Highways Agency

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Room 2C
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Public Exhibition

Over 2500 people attended our start of works exhibition at Grayshott Village Hall on 19th and 20th of January. We had more people per hour than many other start of works exhibitions have in a day! Thank you for the many kind compliments on the content of the exhibition and the professionalism of the staff.

Viewing progress

We will have an exhibition centre in the site compound to show progress and items of interest. We will also provide a viewing platform close to the northern tunnel entrance, with access from Footpath 95. This will allow you to see construction work in progress.

For real time traffic information:

08700 660 115

www.highways.gov.uk/trafficinfo

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

(Calls from BT landlines to 0870 numbers will cost no more than 8p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

For general Highways Agency information:

08457 50 40 30

email: ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

(Calls from BT landlines to 0845 numbers will cost no more than 3p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

Safe driving at roadworks

Remember that tiredness can kill. Take regular breaks from driving.



During 2005, five workers were killed and 12 seriously injured in the course of their work on Highways Agency roads. This was the worst year since 1999.

For the safety of all road users and roadworkers, drivers approaching roadworks are advised to:

- Keep within the speed limit – it is there for your safety
- Get into the correct lane in good time – don't keep switching
- Concentrate on the road ahead, not the roadworks
- Be alert for works' traffic leaving or entering roadworks
- Keep a safe distance – there could be queues in front
- Observe all signs – they are there to help you