



Press Release:

Green Tourism Initiative Award 2009

On Thursday 1st October the Chairman and Secretary of the Poole Harbour Trails Community Group were invited to lunch at the Harbour Heights Hotel to join in this year's celebration of the Sibbett Gregory Poole Tourism Awards. After lunch, Bruce Grant-Braham, Chairman of the Poole Tourism Management Board and Neal Butterworth, Editor-in-Chief of the local Evening Echo, presented the annual Poole Tourism awards.

This year there was a new award, the Green Tourism Initiative Award, and Poole Harbour Trails Community Group gained the award on the basis of the new leaflets it has produced of walks around Poole Harbour, taking into account the fact that all the walks start and finish at bus stops.

Leaflets are now available at Poole Tourist Information Centre and other outlets in the Purbeck area. The routes described make use of existing rights of way and access land around Poole Harbour going through both Poole and Purbeck. All leaflets provide detailed descriptions of the routes and how to follow them, together with information about walking and some snippets of history of the area.

The walks in the leaflets are all linear ones of around 7 or 8 miles in length, each starting and ending at a bus stop, two of them starting in Poole. All but one of them meet bus routes on the way and so could be cut to shorter walks for those who prefer walks of 3 or 4 miles.

The Poole Harbour Trails Community Group believes there is still work to be done. Walk leaflet 5 is not in production, yet, due to a 'missing link', dubbed the 'Lytchett Gap', between Sandford and Upton as there is no convenient public right of way between Holton Heath and the shore of Lytchett Bay nor a pedestrian bridge over Lytchett Bay and the alternative is a long way inland. The details of this missing link and the group's work on the route is available on their website, on www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk together with downloadable copies of the leaflets mentioned above and of a number of extra circular walks, also based on bus routes and on Poole Harbour.

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