

Then and Now

The Primrose Line between Kingsbridge and South Brent opened in March 1893 and closed following the Beeching report in September 1963

Stations between 1961-1963:

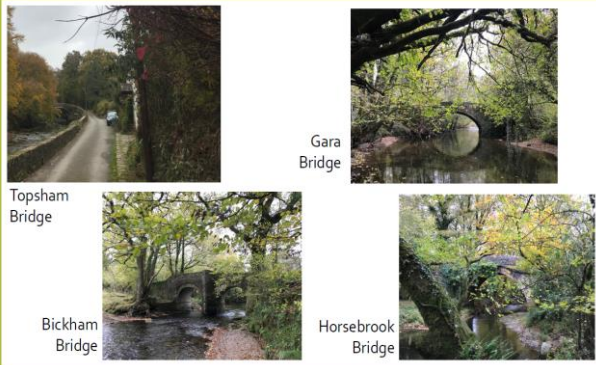


Kingsbridge ⇄ Loddiswell ⇄ Gara Bridge ⇄ Avonwick ⇄ Brent ⇄

Stations from 2006-2009:

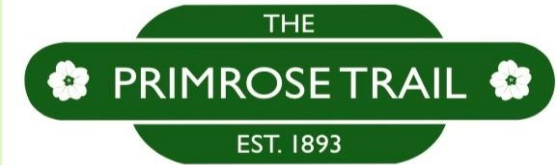
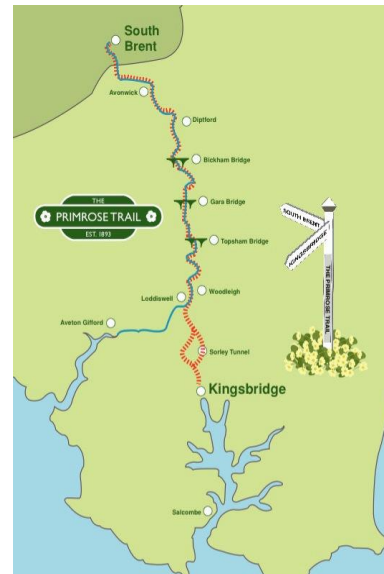


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The Primrose Trail

- 🚶 Safe and accessible
- 🚴 Multi-use - for walkers, cyclists and, where possible, equestrians
- 👨 For all ages and physical abilities and 'family friendly'
- ♿ Providing an accessible non-motorised route from the moor to the sea between Kingsbridge and South Brent and surrounding areas
- 🚶 Following as closely as possible the route of the old Primrose Line
- 🚶 Supporting health and fitness and 'Active Travel'
- ♿ Low environmental impact
- 👨 Involving various diverse groups and organisations
- 👨 Providing opportunities for local businesses and boosting the local economy



Development of
a multi-purpose trail
connecting the moor at
South Brent with the sea
at Kingsbridge

visit us :

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email us:

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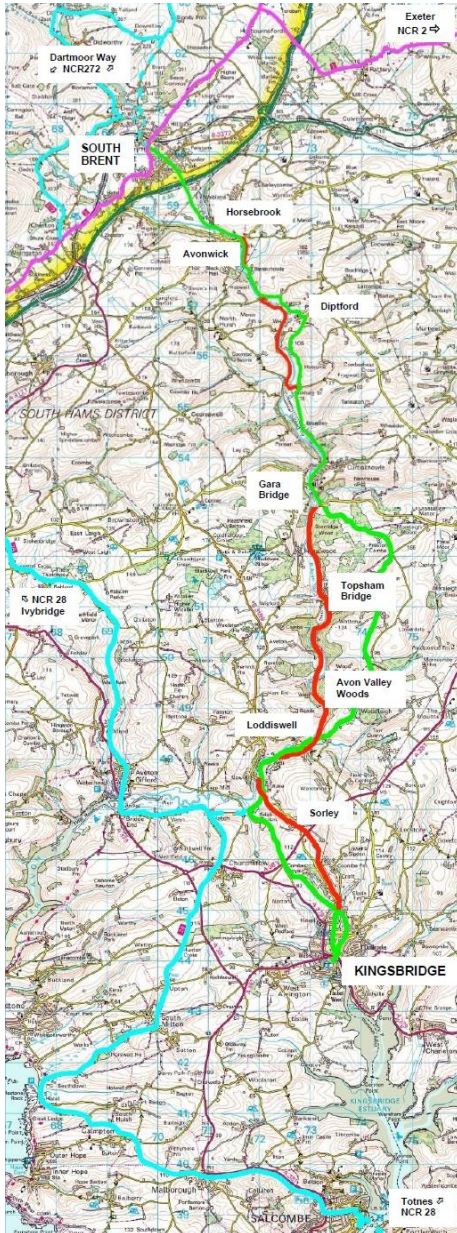
www.primrosetrail.org/

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Map



- currently proposed route
- not currently available

Background

The Primrose Line between Kingsbridge and South Brent opened in March 1893 and closed following the Beeching report in September 1963. The branch line connected the South Devon coast at Kingsbridge with the main line to London at Brent. After the land was sold off in small pieces, the bridges fell into disrepair and the 12½ mile route from coast to moor through the beautiful Devon countryside gradually became less apparent.

In the 1990s the Countryside Commission supported South Hams District Council and Devon County Council in considering the feasibility of an extended walking, and potentially cycling, route, along the old Primrose Line.

That work identified widespread dispersal of ownership of the old track back to previous landowners in the 1960s, and several physical breaks in the old route. In light of this, other cycle and access routes were pursued elsewhere in Devon and no further work took place on assessing suitability of the Primrose Line.

- Over 2017, local interest developed among an enthusiastic group of Kingsbridge (and latterly South Brent) residents who shared a passion for walking, cycling, Devon life and the great outdoors
- A Working Group was established in early 2018
- Informal contact was made with various relevant organisations such as [Ramblers Association](#); [Sustainable South Brent](#); [PL21 Transition Town Initiative](#); [Sustrans](#); [British Horse Society](#).



- Contact has been established with all Parish and Town Councils on the route:
 - South Brent Parish Council
 - North Huish Parish Council
 - Diptford Parish Council
 - Woodleigh Parish Meeting
 - Loddiswell Parish Council
 - Churchstow Parish Council
 - Kingsbridge Town Council
- Landowners along the route were approached from late 2018 to ascertain their thoughts on, and any support for, creating a multi-use trail
- The group is being constituted more formally in order to seek funding for a detailed feasibility study and to progress the project
- There is a developing collaboration with [‘Greenways and Cycleroutes’](#), a charitable community benefits society which has experience of similar projects elsewhere
- The aim will be to create the full moor to sea route in stages by integrating a mixture of existing quiet roads, where necessary creating new purpose built sections, and if needed, making low environmental impact upgrades to existing paths.

National Cycle Network – current local routes

