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DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL CYCLEWAY SCHEME WINS NATIONAL GREEN APPLE AWARD

The Exe Estuary Trail's **River Clyst Bridge** scheme has beaten some very prestigious and large projects across the UK to become National Green Champion during the International Green Apple Awards for Environmental Best Practice and Sustainable Development 2014.

The bridge scheme was the brainchild of our Engineering Design Group who commissioned contractor Dyer and Butler to design and build the final structure that linked Exmouth to Topsham. Dyer & Butler submitted the project for the Green Apple Award and along with Clive Ryall, Senior Engineer in our Bridges Group attended the Award Ceremony in early November that was held on the Terrace Pavilion of the House of Commons. The team thought the scheme would be in with a chance of a commendation but winning the National Title was beyond their expectations with so much competition.

The Project in context - The Exe Estuary is a Special Protection Area (SPA), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and has Important Bird Area (IBA) and Ramsar designations. Due to the exceptionally environmentally sensitive nature of the area, site activities were strictly controlled with construction only being allowed between March and September. As a result the scheme was built over a two year period with completion in November 2013

From Bowling Green Road in Topsham, the Trail runs through the RSPB Goosemoor Nature Reserve on 225 metres of boardwalk and elevated ramp, then passes over a new 114 metre span bridge to join the previously constructed sections of the Exe Estuary Trail to Exton and beyond.

The scheme has been carefully designed by Devon County Council to ensure users of the trail posed no disturbance to birds in the reserve and on the River Clyst. For example the bridge uses hardwood panels to shield the nature reserve from trail users, while offering spectacular, uninterrupted views looking downstream towards the Exe Estuary.

Several innovative engineering techniques were employed during construction due to the challenging nature of the site. The bridge was fabricated in six sections by Britons Fabricators at Hucknall in Derbyshire. These sections were delivered to the Exeter Ship Canal Basin, spliced together into three spans and lifted onto pontoons before being towed down the Canal into the estuary and along the River Clyst to be floated into position.

The spans, weighing some 33 tonnes each excluding the weight of timber, were lifted into position using a specially-designed hydraulic lifter. The bridge is supported on piers which are designed to resist impacts from barges and boats that use the river, which is navigable at high water. The pier foundation includes 16 mini piles taken down to depths of 24 metres into the underlying sandstone. The timber boardwalk has four galleries offering views into the RSPB Goosemoor Reserve through specially cut view ports.

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Kevin Dentith

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HOMEMADE GIFT IDEAS

There is nothing better to show someone that you care than by making them a homemade gift. Recycle Devon has some lovely ideas below which are all inexpensive and easy to do at home.

<http://www.recycledevon.org/content/homemade-gift-ideas>

DAWRC INNOVATION FUND

The Devon Authorities Waste Reduction and Recycling Committee is delighted to launch the Innovation Fund for the second year.

The Innovation Fund is being launched on 1st December 2014. The application form will be available to download on this page.

<http://www.recycledevon.org/content/innovation-fund>

THANK YOU AWARDS 2014

Your last chance to nominate your recycling hero here.

Here's your chance to give them the recognition they deserve.

The Recycle Devon Thank You Awards were launched 2 years ago to celebrate and recognise all those unsung heroes, individuals and groups who have helped to make Devon one of the top recycling counties in the country. Do you know someone who goes that extra mile to reuse or recycle? Entering is easy, simply choose from one of the categories below and complete the short form. To be able to nominate you must be a Devon resident and remember you can nominate in more than one category. All shortlisted nominees will be invited to attend an awards ceremony in January 2015 at County Hall in Exeter. Closing date for entries is 28th November 2014. [View last year's winners here >](#)

<http://www.recycledevon.org/content/who-are-your-local-recycling-heros>



Weekly Bulletins

Highways and Traffic Management:

<http://staff.devon.gov.uk/highways-trafficmanagement/eechighwaymanagement/highwaymgmtbulletins.htm>

Planning and Transportation:

<http://staff.devon.gov.uk/eeec/planconomytransportation/ptbulletins.htm>

MONTHLY MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Hyperlink to the monthly Management Team Decisions and Action Logs.

<http://staff.devon.gov.uk/eeec/eecwasteengineeringandtransport/eecwasteinfo.htm>