# Walking & Cycling **The Nickey Line**

the green route from Hemel Hempstead via Redbourn to Harpenden

The 7 mile (12 km) branch line linked the Midland Railway at Harpenden to Boxmoor near Hemel Hempstead. Passenger services ended in 1947 but a section of the line carried freight until 1979. Much of the track bed still remained intact when it was bought by Dacorum and St Albans councils in the early 1980's and opened for walking and cycling.

The route forms a pleasant green corridor with a rural aspect along much of its length -providing attractive countryside or woodland walks as well as generally traffic-free access to school and work. Although there are steep embankments or cuttings and several bridges have been removed there is level access for cyclists and wheelchairs along most of the route (steps are shown on the map).

The Nickey Line forms part of Route 57 of the Sustrans National Cycle Network which continues through Harpenden to Wheathampstead and Welwyn Garden City. From Harpenden, Route 6 goes south to St Albans & Watford, and north to Luton & Milton Keynes.

Enjoy the route for a leisurely walk or ride, or to appreciate wildlife. Additionally, a number of circular routes may be enjoyed incorporating public footpaths that cross the Line (contact Friends of the Nickey Line for more information).





#### Information

Dacorum Borough Council: www.dacorum.gov.uk Redbourn Parish Council: www.redbourn.org.uk Harpenden Town Council: www.harpenden.gov.uk St Albans City & District Council: www.stalbans.gov.uk Countryside Management Services: www.hertsdirect.org/cms Sustrans: www.sustrans.org.uk Friends of the Nickey Line: www.nickeyline.org St Albans Cycle Campaign: www.stacc.org.uk Ver Valley Society: www.riverver.co.uk Redbournbury Mill: www.redbournmill.co.uk

### History

NCN 6

Books available on The Nickey Line: The Harpenden to Hemel Hempstead Railway - The Nickey Line by Sue & Geoff Woodward, 1996, The Oakwood Press

Branch Line to Hemel Hempstead - The Nickey Line by Sue & Geoff Woodward, 2006, Middleton Press

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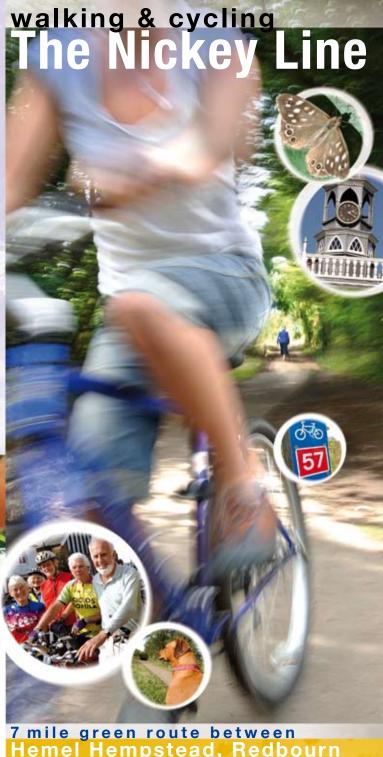
Hertfordshire County Council: www.hertsdirect.org/libsleisure & click on 'Enjoying the Countryside'

Further free maps & leaflets in this series: The Great North Way, The Ayot Greenway, The Alban Way, The Cole Green Way, The Ebury Way, available from Libraries, Tourist Information or Councils listed above.



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