



To: Mr W Hulme  
Managing Director  
Rubicon Classic Enterprises Ltd  
193 Stowey Road  
Yatton, Bristol  
BS49 4QU

Contact Ruth Kenrick  
Team Democratic Services Team  
Tel 0117 922 2828  
Fax 0117 922 2146  
email [ruth.kenrick@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.kenrick@bristol.gov.uk)

date 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011

Dear Mr Hulme

### **Restricted access / road closures on the Downs**

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the above.

There is currently no mechanism in place to inform Members of the Downs Committee of the number of times the road access to and around the Downs is restricted or totally closed due to organised events.

However, a report entitled 'Delegated and Upcoming Events Proposed on the Downs' is considered by the Downs Committee as a standard item at every meeting. Following discussion with officers it has been agreed that in future additional information will be included in this report to indicate whether the event will require restricted access/road closures around the Downs.

I confirm that a copy of your letter together with this reply will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting of the Downs Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011, for the information of Members.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Kenrick  
Democratic Services Officer

**RUBICON CLASSIC ENTERPRISES LTD****193 STOWEY ROAD, YATTON, BRISTOL BS49 4QU**

Company No. 06138026

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

227 LODGE CAUSEWAY

FISHPONDS

BRISTOL BS16 3QW

**CORRESPONDANCE ADDRESS**

193 STOWEY ROAD

YATTON

BRISTOL BS49 4QU

**01934 830050**[WARWICK.HULME@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:WARWICK.HULME@BTINTERNET.COM)

Samantha Mahony  
 Democratic Services Officer  
 Democratic Services Team  
 Room 220  
 The Council House  
 College4 Green  
 BRISTOL BS1 5TR  
[Sam.mahony@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.mahony@bristol.gov.uk)

Dear Sam Mahony

I would be grateful if I could have raised at the next Downs Committee the following item.

*"Is the Downs Committee consulted and made aware of and by so doing gives agreement to the number of times the road access to and around the Downs is restricted or totally closed off due to the number of events, primarily sponsored walks/races, being held on the area, denying access for many groups of people and vehicular traffic."*

As operator of the "City Sightseeing" Bristol open top guided bus service, this greatly reduces "Wow" factor of the Tour as the contrast between the City and the open area of the Downs is immense and as such is one of the jewels in the crown. The Downs is greatly appreciated by visitors and locals alike when they take the Tour and we are all disappointed whenever we are unable to take the bus up Fountains Hill, around Circular Road, Downleaze, Rockleaze, Stoke Road and Ladies Mile.

It does seem that is easier for the authorities to close the roads rather than manage the events in safe manner and let the events take place on the grassed area.

Also many of these events are a great showcase of the City's charitable and caring nature and as such we would love to be able to show these off to our passengers.

It also severely reduces the access to the Downs, which I thought was the whole point of the Downs Act, in letting the citizens of Bristol free and uninhibited use of the 441 acres. By closing Circular Road in particular the vehicle access to the viewing point, and ice cream van, means that many groups of people, from families, elderly and to those with mobility problems are denied access.

I attach list of this years closures for your information

Yours sincerely  
Warwick Hulme  
Managing Director

Attached:-  
Tour Leaflet  
Events list

**RED = DOWNS CLOSURE**

EVENTS LIST FOR NON CLOSURE OF DOWNS

MAY	03	Badock Hall Sports day
	11	United Churches Event
	<b>17/8</b>	<b>Race for Life</b>
JUNE	<b>14</b>	<b>Family Bike Ride</b>
	??	Race/walk for breast cancer, City Wide walk
	25	Summer informal??
	29	Parkinson's 110% walk
JULY	05-6	Noddy Fun weekend
	23-7	Christian Evangelism event
AUGUST	15-8	Children's Festival
	30-07/09	Steam Fair
SEPTEMBER	07	Orienteering event
		<b>Run for the Future</b>