

NORTH LANCS BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th September 2009

1. **Welcome** Eve Hall, Chairperson, opened the meeting and particularly welcomed new members Richard Stephenson (Lancaster), Sandra Parker (Morecambe), Theresa Ambler (Bolton-le-Sands), Linda and Anna Coutts (Cartmel) and Jane Hallam, (Silverdale). Member Cecilia Dixon has recently undergone a double hip replacement and best wishes were sent to her from all members.

2. **Apologies** Sharon Cash, Sheila Kissack, Sheila Carter, Sarah Webster, Linda and Steve Hobson and Alison Mallet.

3. **Minutes of last meeting** Proposed by Jeanne Smith, seconded by Andrea Awde

4. Matters arising

- i) Item 8 Coastal Riding. We are still awaiting the BHS maps.
- ii) Item 11 The visit to Hutton to see the Mounted Police training has been confirmed as 10am on Wed 23 Sept. The visit will last 1-1.5 hours and questions should be submitted in advance.
- iii) A reminder about the Penny Farm Open Day 12 Sept, (World Horse Welfare). This will be a day full of many activities.

5. Members' Successes Just a chance to blow our own trumpets!

Sheila Kissack was very successful at the National Connemara Breed Show in Warwickshire with her homebred mare Tara. She came 2nd In-hand, 1st in Novice Ridden Mare, Reserve Champion in the Novice Section and won Best British Bred Mare.

Liz Davidson and Hannah Garnett came 2nd in the Level 2 Pairs at the British Trec Championships in Scotland. Helen Wain won the 'Best Condition' cup with her horse Willow, and the 'Bowland Babes' won the Top Team award.

Many thanks to member Diane Richmond for starting up Trec in this area and organising so many events. Have a go!

6. **Forest Access** The BHS is organising a campaign against the plan to provide free forest access for walkers and cyclists, but in which horseriders will have to buy a permit. Postcards were available at the meeting to fill in and send off, or visit BHS website.

7. **Whittington Ride** Unfortunately this had to be cancelled due to the wet ground. Our next fundraising ride will be held next April in the Warton area.

8. **Tack Sale** Help is needed on Sunday 18 October to provide refreshments, set up tables etc. A list was circulated at the meeting, also posters were distributed for displaying.

9. **Monthly Led Rides** Barbara mentioned that she often receives notes thanking NLBS for the rides we organise, obviously much enjoyed.

On 27 September Eve will lead a 'sedate' ride on the foreshore at Hest Bank starting 11am. Everybody welcome but please phone her first.

10. **Forthcoming Events** These were displayed on the noticeboard at the meeting

11. **Speakers** At future meetings there will be talks on homeopathy, euthanasia, pasture management etc.

12. **Posting Minutes Secretary** Barbara had put out an appeal for a new volunteer for this post, as Gina Prill is retiring. Thanks to Gina for all her hard work. Wonderfully, 3 people have volunteered.

13. **Raffle** A popular part of the meeting as usual.

14. **Any other Business**

i) There is a proposal for provision of 2 wind turbines near the University. NLBS has replied that we have no objections.

ii) The Millennium Path is overgrown in places and Eve suggested that members might like to help out by cutting it back one Sunday.

iii) Small bales of hay are available again on Melling Green £2 per bale.

iv) There is a problem on the Lancaster/Morecambe Cycletrack near the Trimpell, where horseriders are allegedly galloping dangerously, leaving poo etc. This has led to complaints from other users and is very frustrating when we are trying to obtain permission to ride there.

v) Bridget's proposed Hincaster Trail is coming along nicely, but volunteers are needed to pledge their time in working on the project. This will then be match-funded.

vi) Helen Wain's Horseowner's Certificate course starts on 22 September at Over Kellet Village Hall, for anyone interested. Contact no. in viii

vii) A farmer in Yorkshire is attempting to prevent access on his land. NLBS members voted to donate £200 to fight against it, proposed by Sue Clowes, seconded by Barbara Hartley.

viii) Anna Twiname has a lovely Clydesdale X gelding for loan as companion only, a real gent. 015395 67699 : Helen Wain has a 15.3 for sale, no details sorry. Tel. 01524 736606, or [07910 252888](tel:07910252888)

Unfortunately the speaker for the evening was unable to attend. Instead the **DVD of the Morecambe Cross-Bay Ride** was shown. The first part of the DVD showed the riders preparing themselves and their horses for the ride, which took some time as they had to wait for the tide to go right out. Then they were off, following the famous Cedric Robinson. Most of the 20-mile round trip took place at a sedate walk and trot, until they reached the crossing of the River Kent, when many riders had a very exhilarating canter. All the horses looked absolutely shattered at the end.

The ride was filmed by the Financial Times and the Westmorland Gazette, who both printed interesting articles as a result.

The DVD, with its very fitting musical accompaniment, is a lovely record of this event. The ride takes place once a year, sometimes twice, and the DVD will have certainly encouraged many members to have a go!

Date of next meeting 7.30pm Tuesday 10 November 2009 at Hest Bank Memorial Hall.

Please come along and bring a friend.

Member Lorraine Hind will give a presentation with photos. about bridleways in the area.

Additional information:

Missing horse - Tommy, 15hh liver chestnut with thick grey mane & tail and white belly. Four chestnut spots on his blaze and currently lame in trot. Presumed stolen in Sept. in Shropshire. Any info. to 07807244107 or 01630638363 (I have a photo. if anyone thinks they may have seen Tommy).

From Yvette - Fun day at Newton Rigg 28th October. £45 with your own horse and £55 with school horse. Two riding sessions, learn Alexander technique plus practical tips.

Autumn Colours Ride. Guided ride around the beautiful scenery of Hawkshead and towards Langdales. The colours are always at their best the first week in November. Ride on 1st November either from Tilberthwaite or Wray Castle. Around 5 hours, lunch on request. £20ppn for non members with a 10% discount for Society Members. Free parking , lunch available at £5ppn. Limited number. Accomodation also available at cost.

For info. on either or to book contact yvette@classic-hackers.co.uk or tel 015394 45124.

Our new mailing secretary is Carley Colquhoun of Milnthorpe. Thank you to Carley for volunteering so readily and please bear with us if there are any hitches, which I don't think there will be!

Subs. – still around 80 members have not renewed their subs.. Come on!! It is only £5 for one or for a family. I'll be at the Tack Sale to collect or please post to B. Hartley, The Cottage, Millhouses, Tatham, Lancaster LA2 8NF

If these minutes have been posted to you, look back at your address label on the envelope and, if there are three stars at the top of the label, then your subs. are due. If you have paid and I am mistaken then please let me know. E-mailers will receive a reminder in the next few weeks via e-mail. Thanks, Barbara