

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting – 12 May 2015

1. **Welcome and New Members:** Eve welcomed all members.
2. **Minutes of the Last AGM 13 May 2014:** These were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Frances Clisham and seconded by Julie Trafford
3. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Chairperson's and Secretary's Annual Report:**

Another busy and successful year!
We had a variety of speakers and events over the year. They included:
An entertaining talk by William Reddaway about his long distance "Ride around England" in July
An informative presentation by David Goode, Public Rights of Way Officer for Lancashire County Council in September.
Representatives from Westgate Laboratories gave a very useful talk on how to devise a worming programme based on worm counts
An excellent presentation by Jo Birkbeck on how she has helped horses in many different situations. Jo has since been asked to talk at a BHS Conference!
Tack sale in October raised £608. A special mention of thanks to Hilary Durie who has organised the tack sale for a number of years, but has now decided, unfortunately for us, to relinquish this task. Her help has been much appreciated over the years.
Christmas Meal was very successful,
In January, Fell pony breeder and well known judge, Peter Bousted gave an informative talk on Conformation
The year was rounded off with an informative talk by John Cunningham, Field Officer for World Horse Welfare.
Members have been out collecting money at the Races and helping at the Annual ride. Both successful events thanks to your help – we couldn't do it without you!

Thank you Julie for organising all the speakers at our meetings. Members are asked to let Julie have any ideas for future speakers.

The Society now has a collection of books which members may borrow. Many thanks to Anna Twiname for looking after this.

We presented a cheque for £1000 (money raised by you all!!) towards the BHS Access Fighting Fund to Mark Weston, Director of Access, Safety and Welfare from the BHS. Mark is going to report back to the Society on how the funds have been used.

Following the talk by David Goode, and with the 2026 deadline for ensuring that bridleways are correctly recorded on the definitive map, the Society has asked Ailsa Gibson to look into local bridleway routes user evidence and apply for modification orders. Ailsa and Liz Davison have been busy beavering away at a route in Bolton-le-Sands and are putting in a modification order when all the data has been collected. Denise Woodcock is busy checking out routes in Silverdale and Arnside and Yealand. Four members cleared an overgrown bridleway in the woods at Bolton-le-Sands. A training day about researching bridleways is being organised in our area soon (please let Julie Sico know if you are interested)

The Society has contributed £50 towards the cost of a defibrillator at Hest Bank Memorial Hall where we hold our meetings.

We made a donation of £1000 towards the work which needs to be done at Slape Lane, Holme to improve the surface.

This year, we have continued to improve bridleway gates and latches eg A bridleway gate on Scout Hill has been improved.

We are members of the Cumbria Horsecatch scheme.

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Many thanks to Julie Trafford who circulates our information via email and who has established and maintained our Facebook page, Kay Edwards for taking the minutes of meetings, Janet Casey for updating the Group's leaflet for new members and Sheena Robertson, Newsletter editor. Please let Sheena have your photos, ride reports, horsey holiday ideas, in fact anything you think might be of interest to members.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped in any way at all throughout the year!

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Sheila Kissack circulated copies of the accounts, NLBS has £3523 in current account and £6713 in the deposit account.
6. **Membership Secretary's Report:** : There have been 14 new members since May 2014. After removing 17 members whose subs have been overdue from May 2013 the membership currently stands at 210 individuals including 13 Honorary members. There are 17 subs outstanding for 2013 and renewals are now due for 2015

Copies of membership forms and requests to pay by standing order are available on the website
Copies were also available at the meeting.

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| Overdue subs | 40 |
| Due May 2015: | 45 |
| Due May 2016: | 11 |
| Due May2017 | 1 |
| Standing Orders | 100 |
| Honorary Members: | <u>13</u> |
| | <u>210</u> |

7. Election of Officers

All current officers are willing to continue in their current roles

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| President | Lady Reay | |
| Chairperson: | Eve Hall | |
| Vice Chairperson: | Julie Sico | also speakers, Lancaster Guardian, Visit co-ord |
| Treasurer: | Sheila Kissak | |
| Secretary: | Frances Clisham | |
| Minutes Secretary: | Kay Edwards | |
| Agenda Secretary | Denise Woodcock | |
| Membership Secretary: | Kate Lennox | |
| e-mail/Facebook: | Julie Trafford | |
| Newsletter: | Sheena Robinson | |
| NLBS Brochure: | Janet Casey | |
| Rides Leaflets | Ann and Rose Thornton | |
| Lending books: | Anna Twiname | |
| Official Website co-ord: | Sue Millard | |

8. Any Other Business: None

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Minutes of the general meeting held on 12 May 2015

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed all members
2. **Apologies:** Ailsa Gibson, Sheena Robertson, Kay Edwards
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Anne Rigby and seconded by Lesley Owen
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Thank you, Races and Ride:** We received a donation of £500 from the Vale of Lune Hunt for our help on race day. Thank you to everyone who came along to help. The ride was a brilliant success with many positive comments. 47 riders took part. Riders particularly appreciated help with gates and supervised road crossings. Special thanks to Chris Bell and Sue Clowes. Next year, it is hoped to arrange a ride in the Dolphinholme area. Members were asked to follow up any contacts regarding a possible venue and route.
6. **Racehorse Rehabilitation Centre open day on 27th June.** Displays have been arranged by Eve about NLBS to feature at this event.
7. **Ordnance Survey Maps:** Frances Clisham is to contact the Ordnance Survey about the renewal of our subscription. She will report back at the next meeting.
8. **BHS training day, claiming bridleways and other routes. June 27th at the Memorial Hall (10 am until 5 pm)** As many members as possible are asked to join in with this. It is possible to register for this on the BHS website (a link has been circulated). Members were asked to ensure that they had informed Julie Sico if they wish to attend this event. horseyjulie@yahoo.co.uk
9. **Any other business:**
 - (i) Ailsa has produced an excellent pack of evidence on the Thwaite Brow Woods/Mount Pleasant bridleway. This has been passed to David Goode who will review it for us. His initial response is that this is very promising. Thank you to Ailsa for all the work involved in this.
 - (ii) Thefts have occurred at Oxenholme recently and a horse trailer was stolen from Galgate. Members are reminded to be vigilant
 - (iii) Some work has been carried out on gates in the Farleton area. Checks are needed to ensure that everything that needed to be carried out has been completed.
 - (iv) The screen for the Hall will hopefully be in place by June 27th!
 - (v) Julie has arranged a visit on Wednesday 17th June to Black Horse Friesians at Cartmel. Please contact Julie if you wish to take part in this.

Brian Crawley gave a very interesting talk about Coppicing and Snigging. Members particularly enjoyed the slides showing their Highland pony working in the woodlands!

Next meeting: Tuesday, 14 July 2015

Sue White will be talking about Horse Boots. Members were asked, if they have used boots, to come and share their experiences.

Hest Bank Memorial Hall, LA2 6JB

Please come along and bring a friend