

# NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

## Annual General Meeting – 14 May 2019

- Welcome and New Members:** Eve welcomed everyone to the meeting along with new members Rebecca Sisson, Louise Bond and Jessica West.
- Apologies:** Lesley Owen, Sheena Robertson, Ailsa Gibson, Petra Rowley.
- Minutes of the Last AGM 9 May 2018:** These were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Frances Clisham and seconded by Diane Richmond.
- Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
- Chairperson's and Secretary's Annual Report:**

We had a variety of speakers and events over the year. They included:  
In May, Yvette Pavelyn gave us an insight into Classic Hackers and we also heard from McTimoney practitioner Rachel Hamer.  
In July, Lorna Buckley from North West Equine Vets spoke about her work for the Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust.  
In September we were treated to an insight into Linda Gregory's experience in Driving including taking part in international competitions.  
October was a particularly busy month this year! We collaborated with Cumbria Bridleways Society to organise a ride from the Westmorland County showground in aid of Rosemere Cancer Foundation. Over £1000 was raised in total and an outstanding team effort!  
Also, the Tack sale in October was the usual success raising over £600.  
In November, Melanie Cruickshank gave a talk on her work as an animal communicator, helping dogs and cats as well as horses.  
Vyv Wood-Gee kept us enthralled with tales of her journey all around Britain in January.  
The Christmas Meal was, as usual, very successful.  
A rider confidence seminar, led by Karl Greenwood, took place in February. It was organised by Liz Davison and was very successful and well attended.  
In March, Liz Davison talked entertainingly about her adventures competing in Italy earlier in the year.  
For the next Newsletter, please let Sheena Robertson have any photos, ride reports, horsey holiday ideas, in fact, anything you think might be of interest to members.  
Thank you, Julie for organising all the speakers at our meetings and for organising the Tack Sale tables. Members are asked to let Julie have any ideas for future speakers.

*Bridleway News:*  
In April and May, volunteers from NLBS joined members from Cumbria Bridleways Society to clear an overgrown bridleway near Endmoor.  
We continue to campaign and work (eg by clearing bridleways and repairing gates) to improve bridleways and encourage the provision of new ones and are supporting the work of the Horse Access Campaign (HAC). Members are encouraged to report any issues regarding bridleways so that we can follow them up. Representatives from NLBS and CBS are going to meet with the Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership in order to encourage them to allow horse riders access to the Towpath Trail in future.  
Many of the activities and events mentioned in this report have only been successful because of the willingness of members to get involved and help out. Many thanks to everyone who has helped in any way at all throughout the year! We couldn't do it without you!
- Treasurer's Report:** Copies of the accounts were circulated, NLBS has £4328 in current account and £6787 in the deposit account. Contact Sheila if you would like a copy of the full breakdown.

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7. **Membership Secretary's Report:** There have been 8 new members since May 2018. The membership currently stands at 167 (down from 174 last year), including 14 honorary members. Reminders have been emailed/text to the 14 subscriptions overdue for 2018. Renewals are now due for 2019. Membership forms and requests to pay by standing order can be downloaded from the NLBS website. Copies were also available at the meeting. If your contact details have changed please let us know email: *membership@nlbs.org.uk*

|                   | No. of Members    |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Due May 2018      | 19                |
| Due May 2019      | 27                |
| Due May 2020      | 9                 |
| Standing Orders   | 98                |
| Honorary Members: | <u>14</u>         |
|                   | <u><b>167</b></u> |

8. **Election of Officers**

All current officers are willing to continue in their current roles

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| President                | Lady Killearn (formerly Reay)   |
| Chairperson:             | Eve Hall  |
| Vice Chairperson:        | Julie Sico                      also speakers, Lancaster Guardian, Visit co-ord |
| Treasurer:               | Sheila Kissack  |
| Secretary:               | Frances Clisham   |
| Minutes Secretary:       | Kay Edwards   |
| Agenda Secretary         | Denise Woodcock   |
| Membership Secretary:    | Kate Lennox   |
| e-mail/Facebook:         | Sue Armitage, Tracey Howard, Ailsa Gibson, Graham Bruce                         |
| Newsletter:              | Sheena Robertson  |
| NLBS Brochure:           | Janet Casey   |
| Rides Leaflets           | Ann and Rose Thornton   |
| Official Website co-ord: | Sue Millard   |

9. **Any Other Business:** None

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### Minutes of general meeting held on 14 May 2019

1. **Welcome and new members:** Eve welcomed everyone to the meeting along with new members Rebecca Sisson, Louise Bond and Jessica West.
2. **Apologies:** Lesley Owen, Sheena Robertson, Ailsa Gibson, Petra Rowley.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting:** were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed: Susan Armitage, seconded Frances Clisham.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB Landscape Trust – Coldwell Project Appeal–** Our speaker from the March meeting asked that a donation be made in lieu of expenses to the above appeal. In addition to this the Society also donated a further £50 to the appeal, members present at the meeting approved this in retrospect. A thank you letter has been received from the Landscape Trust.
6. **Bransby Horses Rescue and Welfare Charity** – just a reminder to continue saving used postage stamps. Bring them along to any meeting and Eve will forward them to the above charity.

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7. **Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership** a meeting with the Partnership Chair has been arranged to see if there is any way forward in our efforts to gain access for horse riders on the towpath.
8. **Bridleway news:**
  - (i) Lots House Farm, Caton – permissive bridleway (BW). The agreement expired on 13 April 2019 and the landowner has decided to remove permission to ride this route. NLBS sent a letter to thank him for allowing riders access over the last 14 years.
  - (ii) Nether Burrow BW 6 and BW 4 – the Group have been in correspondence with David Goode, Public Rights of Way manager at Lancashire County Council (LCC) to see if any further progress can be made to provide suitable gate latches and repairs necessary to the various gates along the route.
9. **Improved Access in Wales** – following a landmark reform of access laws thousands of miles of trails will be opened up for cycling and horse riding across Wales. This needs to be written into legislation so will not take immediate effect. Cycling UK's *Trails for Wales* campaign, along with other outdoor organisations helped make the Welsh Government take notice.
10. **“Is it a footpath or a bridleway?”** another campaign run by Cycling UK. They are looking for photos where a bridleway suddenly becomes a footpath for no apparent reason whether you live in Wales, England or Northern Ireland. These should be emailed to [campaigns@cyclinguuk.org](mailto:campaigns@cyclinguuk.org) and include a precise location eg OS grid reference.  
Further information: <https://www.cyclinguuk.org/news/it-footpath-or-bridleway>
11. **Help needed to find Lancashire's forgotten rights of way** – volunteers are being sought to help find historical rights of way in Lancashire which could be lost if they are not identified before a government-imposed cut-off date of 2026. The evidence comes from maps that have traditionally been held at the National Archives at Kew in Surrey and the British Horse Society (BHS) is working with Lancashire County Council to bring a full set of these maps to the region. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer researcher should e-mail the British Horse Society (BHS) at [access@bhs.org.uk](mailto:access@bhs.org.uk). To date BHS have received 2 replies with one interested in the Lancaster area but there is still a lot of work to be done so more volunteers are needed.
12. **Any other business:**
  - (i) Half the proceeds from the evening's raffle were donated to a fundraising coffee morning for St Johns Hospice to be held on 18 May.
  - (ii) NLBS emails – to ensure you receive our emails please let us know if your contact details have changed - email [secretary@nlbs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nlbs.org.uk) . In future we would like to send a notification of our bi-monthly meeting followed by a reminder and then a final reminder, members present were asked if they thought this was acceptable, no one objected to the proposal.

*Speaker: Claire Dyson gave an illustrated talk about her month long trek around the Lake District with fell pony Pansy and her dog Finn.*

*Facebook: The Horseback Adventurer      Instagram: @the\_horseback\_adventurer*

**Next meeting: Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Hest Bank Memorial Hall, Hest Bank LA2 6JB**

**Please come along and bring a friend**