

Horsepower

The Peak Horsepower newsletter

- Training in historical rights of way research
- Update on the wish list of bridleway improvements
- Fifty-one green lanes saved.

Next open meeting for members

Weds 20 April
7.30
La Farge Sports and Social Club
Hope

Black Harry working party

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the call for volunteers for the Black Harry repair working party on 19/20 March. We will be helping Peak Park Volunteers fill in the big ruts at either end of Taylor Lane, the bridleway running diagonally from the top of Coomb Dale up to

Longstone Edge. The ruts have been caused by illegal off-roading.

A quad bike will dump fine limestone chips at either end. We will be raking them into the ruts.

Bring lunch and a flask both days. No need to bring any equipment but it will

be a good idea to wear stout gloves.

Please bring along any friends and family who would like to help.

Meet Derwent Water Arms car park Calver, 10.00 Sat 19 March and Sun 20 March.

PI let us know if you plan to come.

Contact: p.stubbs@btinternet.com

Peak Park

PHP met Jim Dixon, Chief Exec of the Peak Park (PDNPA) in February to explain face-to-face exactly why and how off-roading is making routes in the Park so dangerous for riders.

Our main aim was to stress the need for more vigorous action as off-roading is driving many riders off lanes in the Park.

PDNPA has the

power to power to make Traffic Regulation Orders closing lanes to motor vehicles. We think they should use them.

Advice

We have been asked by PDNPA if we will advise on access issues for riders. So far we have advised on the Black Harry project, access to the Tissington and Monsal trails, and the soon to be reopened Monsal trail tunnels.

Green lanes alliance...

continues to lobby vigorously on off-roading. Recent meetings have been held with the Peak Park, DCC and Patrick McLoughlin, MP.

Review

PHP has responded to the government review of the way national parks are governed.

A57 Lady Bower

Speed restriction for Ladybower Bridge. Peak Park to discuss with Highways

A625 Hope Valley

Speed restrictions Bamford to Hathersage. Peak Park to discuss with Highways

B6521

Unsafe egress near Stoke Hall. We need to speak to DCC Highways

Black Harry Lane

Repairs in hand

Blacka Moor

Link 2 bridleways by what is currently a footpath: Vicky Turner/ Charlotte Bright

Blue John/ Mam Nick

Avoid busy bit A6187; link to Mam Tor/ Rushup bridleways: Vicky Turner/ Charlotte Bright

Blue John to Winnats

New link to avoid busy sections A6187/ Winnats narrows: Vicky Turner/Charlotte Bright

Bradwell Edge

Improve route. Map modification put forward to locate the bridleway along the easiest route

Bretton to Highlow

We understand this is to have the restricted byway status

Castleton 1

Research lost route to Speedwell Cavern/ create link from Speedwell to old main road: Vicky Turner

Castleton 2

Open Earl's Way to riders Vicky Turner

Update on the wish list

Here is the list of the bridleway improvements PHP members and supporters have suggested so far. The list tells you which committee member is leading on which idea for improvement. It also notes any recent any progress or new information.

Crackendale (Hassop bookshop to Bakewell)

Useful work recently done but new problems with gate.

Hathersage/Bamford

Safe routes across A6185; link to rides on the far side of the valley: Sue Dunk

Hope

Create new/concessionary bridleway: Vicky Turner

Derwent

Grindle Clough/High House – widen gate: Vicky Turner /Charlotte Bright

Eastern Moors

Safeguard and promote access: Patricia Stubbs via EMRA

High Peak/Tissington

Link trails via map modification order based on work done by Chris Duffel: Charlotte Bright

Jacob's Ladder, Stoney Middleton

Repair ruts. Signage to improve safety. Subject to BOAT application: Patricia Stubbs

Longstone Edge

Dangerous road crossing to Bramley Lane: Patricia Stubbs

Mam House to Hollowford Lane

Improve route: Vicky Turner/Charlotte Bright

Mill Lane, Eyam

Repair ruts and gate. In hand courtesy of the farmer. Route subject to BOAT application: Patricia Stubbs

Monsal Trail 1

Open tunnels for horse riders. In progress via Peak Park. PHP has advised on wording for tunnel signage

Monsal Trail 2

Open up access by Thornbridge Manor: Wendy Neilson

More long circular rides and loops:

Wendy Neilson

National Trust

Seek to improve access at various sites: Charlotte Bright/Vicky Turner

Riley Graves woods

Damaged section now closed to motor vehicles. Repairs needed to ruts. Horse hops needed: Patricia Stubbs

Robins land Lane to Squires Lane

Create route: Vicky Turner and Charlotte Bright

Taylor Lane

BOAT application failed. Some repairs/improvements as part of Black Harry project: Patricia Stubbs

TROs

Lobbying for TROs banning vehicles from green lanes where a danger to riders

Training in ROW research 16 April

You will have had an email about a Green Lanes Alliance free training session on using historic maps and other documents to research rights of way. If anyone didn't spot this and is interested, then please contact p.stubbs@btinternet.com.

The focus will be on using historical documents to refute claims to classify

green lanes as byways open to all traffic (the dreaded BOATs). But it should also be useful to anyone who wants to get into researching 'lost' bridleways.

Mill Lane

There is some news on Mill Lane, the green lane linking Eyam with Stoney Middleton

The farmer who owns the land along the lane is carrying out repairs at his own cost. The gate at the Eyam end (damaged

by 4x4s pushing it open rather than drivers getting out to open it) is now fixed. The farmer is also dealing with the worst of the off-roader ruts.

In an effort to stop off-roaders from making new rows of parallel ruts he is also planning to narrow the most vulnerable part of the lane with fencing.

Many thanks to the farmer for tackling these problems. Meanwhile Mill Lane remains the subject of a BOAT application. It used to be a long grassy gallop.

Speed limits

The vehicle users' voluntary code of practice suggests a speed limit of 20 mph for motor bikes on green lanes. PHP will be reviewing this, along with the rest of the code of practice, and giving our advice to the Peak Park. But don't hold your breath....

Fifty-one BOAT applications rejected

Overleaf is a list of recently failed BOAT applications in Derbyshire.

The Green Lanes alliance will be pressing for permanent, hard-to-vandalise signage on these lanes, making it clear that they are closed to vehicles. Meanwhile, the Peak Park has agreed to write to the 4x4 and

motor bike groups asking them to make sure that none of these 51 lanes appears in off-roading maps and user guides.

Many more Peak District BOAT claims are in the pipeline awaiting decision.

To report illegal use of these or other lanes and bridleways, please call the police, report the incident and ask for an incident number.

Call Derbyshire police on 0345 123 333

Please also complain to the Peak Park (01629 816200).

Fifty-one claims by off-roaders to have green lanes designated as byways open to all traffic (BOATs) have recently failed.

Failed BOAT claims

Below are the newly failed BOAT claims. (Ref numbers are as in DCC's Definitive Map and Statement of rights of way.) If you see 4x4s, motor bikes or quad bikes using these lanes, please complain to the police and ask for an incident number. See p.3 for tele. number.

- Alderwasley Restricted Byway No 22
- Barlow Bridleway 49 (Gateland Lane)
- Barlow Bridleway 64 (Cartledge Lane/Brindwood Gate Lane)
- Barlow Bridleways 48 & 53 (Smeltinghouse Lane)
- Blackwell (in the Peak) Restricted Byway 5
- Brackenfield Public Bridleway No 34
- Bradley Public Footpath No 27
- Bradwell Public Footpath 3
- Brampton Bridleway 39 (Nuttack Lane)
- Brampton Bridleway 43 and Holymoorside and Walton Bridleway 53 (Bagthorpe Lane/Frithhall Lane)
- Castleton Bridleway 40 and Peak Forest Bridleway 55
- Castleton Bridleway 41
- Castleton Footpath 5
- Chapel en le Frith Footpath 13
- Chinley Footpath 45
- Dark Lane (Grid Refs 286554 to 290558) near Cromford
- Eckington Bridleway 147 (Owler Lane) and Dronfield Bridleway 40
- Edale Bridleways 12 & 13: from Edale Rd via Hardenclough Farm and Greenlands to the road SW of Mam Tor)
- Great Longstone Public Bridleway No 26 (Taylor Lane)
- Great Longstone Restricted Byway 22 (part) and Calver Restricted Byway 11 Map refs: 2254/7358 to 2267/7365; 2048/7322 to 2254/7358
- Great Longstone Restricted Byway 22 (part) Map ref: 2048/7322 to 2254/7358
- Green Lane, Pikehall
- Harthill Bridleway 14
- Hartington Public Footpath No.1
- Hayfield Bridleway 71
- Heanor Restricted Byway 76 (Amber Valley)
- Holmesfield Bridleway 51 (Hob Lane)
- Holmesfield Bridleway 55
- Holmesfield Bridleway 56 (Sid Lane)
- Holmesfield Footpath 52
- Holymoorside and Walton Bridleway 55 (Nuttack Lane)
- Hope Bridleway 20
- Hope Public Bridleway No. 32 & Hope Woodlands Public Bridleway No. 5
- Hope Woodlands Bridleway 11
- Hope Woodlands Public Bridleway No. 12
- Hope Woodlands Public Bridleway No. 13
- Hope Woodlands Public Bridleway No. 14
- Little Hucklow Footpath 7
- Matlock Restricted Byway No. 59 (Hearthstone Lane)
- Monyash Public Footpath 23 (Hutmoor Butts)
- Old Lane, Hulland Ward
- Pilsley Footpath 25 and 21 (part) from Seanor Lane to Ault Hucknall Parish Boundary
- Snelston Bridleway 3
- Stoney Middleton Bridleway 13 (Darlton Quarry area)
- Stretton Public Bridleway No. 6
- Taddington Public Footpath Nos. 45 & 46
- Tideswell Public Footpath No. 8
- Water Lane to Wheston Bank, Tideswell
- Winster Restricted Byway 10
- Wirksworth Public Footpath No. 54 (Summer Lane)

Horse hops

Horse hops protect bridleways against illegal 4x4s and motor bikes. They are valued by all legal users – riders, cyclists and walkers alike. But they are pretty scarce in the Park compared with other areas.

It emerged during our meeting with Park Chief Executive Jim Dixon (see page 1) that the Peak Park is broadly opposed to installing horse hops

because it sees them as barring access to the special scooters used by people who are disabled.

But a blanket rejection of horse hops on this basis doesn't make sense. Judiciously used on a case by case basis they are a real benefit.

A ruined bridleway is no use to anyone. And if other Parks and highway

authorities use them, why can't we have more in Derbyshire?

The peak Park says it is currently broadly opposed to use of horse hops as a way of protecting bridleways

Don't forget to join up!

PHP now has around 40 paid up members. A big thank you to everyone who has sent in their membership form and a fiver.

But we need you all to sign up if you possibly can. It is not so much that we need your money – though that does help. The key thing is this: the more members we have, the more we can make the voice of horse riders in the Peak District count.

It is easy to ignore

individual complaints about the state of a bridleway, an unsafe road crossing, or illegal off-roading. It is much harder to ignore a vigorous organisation with a large membership.

But we are not just about lobbying and complaining. We are also trying to develop a good working relationship with the two key organisations which look after bridleways and other routes for horse riders: Derbyshire

County Council and the Peak Park. They are an important source of advice for us and at the end of the day there are many things we can get done only with and through their support.

So help us strengthen our influence with them and pay that £5! Remember, the fiver covers all riding members of your family

If you haven't joined already, look out for the membership form. We will be emailing it to you again shortly .

To contact Peak Horsepower, please email us at:
peakhorsepowersecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Committee Members

Wendy Neilsen (Chair)
 Sue Dunk (Treasurer)
 Sue Mayer (Secretary)
 Charlotte Bright
 Ally Turner
 Vicky Turner
 Patricia Stubbs (Offroading)
 Caroline Camp