



ROCHDALE, BURY BRIDLEWAYS ASSOCIATION

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September 2007

Dear all,

Bridleway News

- We have had an update from Lancashire Council about the long saga of "The Drains" Croston Close Road (Bridleway No. 206). **BAD NEWS!!!** The council is now saying they have no money to do the necessary work (£27,000). The council is also stating that they have received no complaints about the condition of this bridleway so if you do ride it we urge you to contact Lancashire Council Rights of Way Department, at the address below:-

Tony Alker,
Principal Rights of Way Officer
Environment Directorate
Guild House
Preston. PR1 8RD

Send a copy to: Graham Harding
Environment Directorate
Guild House
Preston. PR1 8rd

Or email: Paul.Falcone@env.lancscc.gov.uk Tel: 01772 533722
or logon to: www.mario.lancashire.gov.uk and you can log your complaint there too.

- Gwen and Joan met with United Utilities and Councillor Metcalfe to try to get a temporary route through Greenbooth whilst the work on the reservoirs continues. They have agreed to look into this but have stressed that it would have to be for a limited number of users. Therefore, if and when we do get a route, keys will be issued on a loyalty basis, ie. members who attend our meetings will get keys first. We believe that this is the fairest way to issue them.
- Again on Greenbooth, the warden has advised us that some people are continuing to ride within the Greenbooth land even though the paths are officially closed. If you know who this is can you please tell them to stop as they are putting future usage in jeopardy. Remember this route is only a concession and we can lose it at any time.
- The council has received complaints from a resident on Heap Road (in front of Norden Chimney which leads to Durnford Close) about horse droppings on the road and on his driveway. We really do not want to lose this route as the only alternative is to go down the main road. This is only a footpath on the definitive map and so we need to try to get the path upgraded to a bridleway, so we need as many riders as possible to complete an evidence form to prove use of this path which shouldn't be too difficult as most riders in Norden use it regularly. We will have the evidence forms available shortly and will be visiting the livery yards in the area to try and drum up support. In the meantime, please treat the residents with respect and if your horse does poo near someone's house please kick it into the gutter if it is at all practicable.
- Irene met with Julie Simpson, the Rights of Way Officer from Rochdale last week and they spent a very wet morning looking at the bridleway at the Elbut Lane end of Harwood Fields in Birtle. It was under water at the time and Julie has promised to get her construction guys up there to see what they can do to improve it in the next couple of months.



Future Meetings/Events

- **Monday, 29th October 2007** – 8.30 pm at the Pack Horse in Birtle.
- **Monday, 26th November 2007** – 8.30 pm at the Pack Horse in Birtle
- **Saturday, 1st December 2007** – Christmas dinner at the Waggon at Birtle. 7.30 pm for dinner at 8.00 pm. Numbers are limited so please let me know if you want to come. Those who have attended in the past know what a good time we have had and what excellent food they serve. It is an inclusive menu and is £22.50 per head. A £10 deposit is required to secure your place. I also need to know your choice of food by the October meeting latest.

<i>Starters</i>	<i>Main Courses</i>	<i>Desserts</i>
<i>Prawns & Shrimps With Garlic, Chilli & Parsley Butter</i>	<i>Roast Rump of British Beef With Wild Mushrooms & Madeira</i>	<i>Christmas Pudding With Rum Sauce & Christmas Pudding Ice Cream</i>
<i>Cream of Wild Mushroom Soup With Parsley Oil</i>	<i>Scottish Salmon With Caper, Tomato, Olive & Basil Butter</i>	<i>Chocolate & Chestnut Tart with Chocolate Sauce & Chocolate Ice Cream</i>
<i>Potted Ham & Duck Wrapped in Parma Ham with Orange, Cranberry & Mustard Sauce</i>	<i>Braised Norfolk Bronze Turkey Breast With Braised Root Vegetables Sage & Rosemary Cream</i>	<i>Stewed Spiced Red Fruits With Vanilla Mascarpone</i>
<i>Smoked Trout & Oak Roast Salmon Salad With Spinach, Rocket & Celeriac, Salmon Caviar & Lemon Dressing</i>	<i>Roasted Beetroot, Sweet Potato & Shallot Tart Glazed with Goats Cheese & Rocket Salad</i>	<i>Trio of Lancashire Cheeses Blackstick Blue Goosnargh Gold Grandma Singleton's Lancs With Biscuits</i>

- That will be the last meeting of 2007. The next meeting after that will be the Annual General Meeting at the end of January 2008, further details will be confirmed nearer the time.
- We are planning to hold a treasure hunt at the beginning of March. It will be on a Saturday and will start at the Lord Raglan. More details to follow.

UK Horsecatch

We have a new Horsecatch Administrator, her name is Nicola Oldham and she can be contacted on email address Nicola.Oldham@GMP.police.uk. There is to be a National Meeting on Saturday, 3rd November at 10.30 am for coffee (meeting 11 to 3.00 pm) at Derbyshire Police HQ. If anyone wants to attend please contact Erika Green (07970 848416). I have started to receive bulletins from Nicola and I will forward them on to anyone who is interested.

Bridleways BBQ

About 15 people enjoyed the bridleways BBQ which we held at the end of August. The weather was very kind to us (for the first time) which is a miracle when you consider the summer we have had. Thank you to everyone who attended.



BHS Access Meeting

Gwen and I are attending a British Horse Society Access Meeting in Preston on 2nd October. If anyone has any questions or concerns you would like to be raised please let us know as soon as possible.

SMA Road Surface

I have written to Rochdale Council about the use of SMA tarmac on stretches of Ashworth Road and School Lane on the steep hills. This surface is extremely slippery. My horse skated down a couple of weeks ago. If you have experienced any difficulties in this area please report them to the council Environmental Management Department. Their e-mail address is environmental.management@rochdale.gov.uk and their address is Green Lane, Heywood, OL10 2DY. Unless they are aware of a problem they can't do anything to fix it. This will also be raised at the Rights of Way meeting next week.

Defra Guidance Note: Horses and Foot & Mouth Disease

Defra have issued the following guidance note for people owning, keeping or working with horses kept for recreational purposes in England during an outbreak of foot and mouth disease. It explains what restrictions apply and the precautions you should take to minimise the risk of spreading the disease. This is an abbreviated copy and if you want to read the full note log on to www.defra.gov.uk.

Advice to persons keeping, riding or looking after horses varies, depending on where the horse is kept:

- **Protection Zones** are declared in the vicinity (a radius of at least three kilometers) of an infected premises – usually a farm where diseased livestock have been found.
- **Surveillance Zones** are declared in the vicinity (a radius of at least 10 kilometres, but out outside the Protection Zone) of an infected premises.
- Outside of any Protection Zones and Surveillance Zone, some activities are also prohibited in a **Restricted Zone**. During an outbreak of foot and mouth disease, the whole of Great Britain is likely to be declared a Restricted Zone. However, this guidance note only gives advice about the position in England.

This advice is aimed at people with horses kept outside a Protection or Surveillance Zone. There are few restrictions affecting people with horses outside these zones. However, the following do apply:

- You **must not** organize or take part in hunting a drag or other trail.
- You **must not** ride into a Protection Zone, even on a road.
- You **must not** transport your horse into a Protection Zone, even to see a vet
- You may transport your horse through a Protection Zone, but you **must** do so only without breaking your journey.

If you need to take your horse to see a vet whose premises are located in a Protection Zone, please contact your vet. He/she will be able to discuss alternative arrangements with you.

Veterinary advice is that the risk of transmission of disease arising from horse riders using rights of way and open land outside Protection Zones is negligible, and does not justify the closure of paths. However, path users, whether on foot, horseback or on cycle should take sensible precautions to minimize any residual risk and to maintain confidence. These precautions should be taken when using unfenced roads across grazing land (eg. common land):

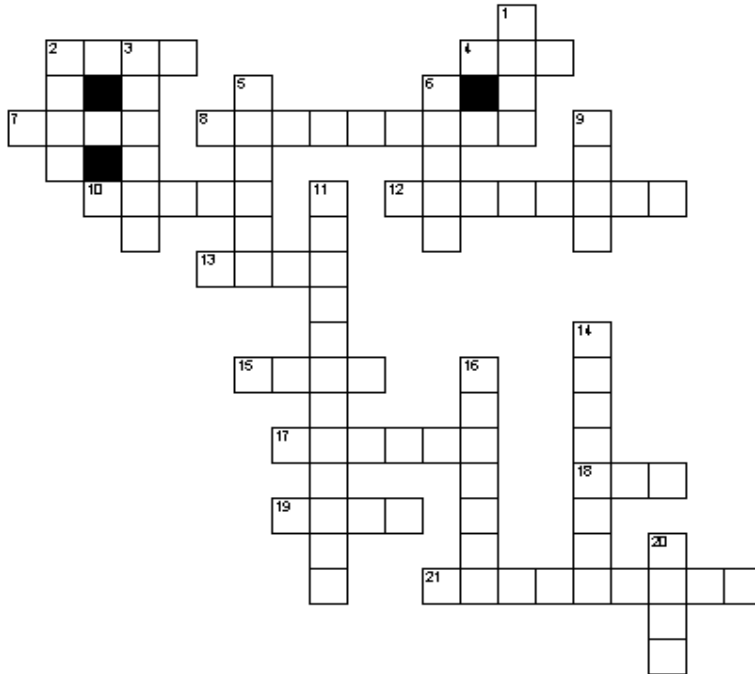
- Avoid straying from paths onto adjoining land.
- Avoiding riding among or through livestock – ride around if possible
- Never touch or handle livestock.
- Avoid taking dogs where there may be livestock (cattle in particular are curious and may approach a dog).



- Try to avoid riding through manure and slurry.
- Take any waste, including food, home (however, horse droppings cannot harbour foot and mouth disease, and does not pose a risk).
- Try to use any disinfectant pads which the land manager provides.

Now on a Lighter Note

A horsey crossword to entertain you during your coffee break. The first correct entry received will win a bottle of wine. Send your completed crossword to me at the address above.



Across

2. A newborn horse of any sex
4. The mother of a foal
7. Technically means a male horse under the age of four but is often used for any young horse
8. When a sire from one breed is bred with a dam from another breed
10. A healthy horse that has no breathing or lameness problems.
12. A one year old horse.
13. The long straps attached to the bit used by the rider to control the horse.
15. A female horse.
17. A simple piece of headgear for leading and tying up.
18. The part of the bridle that goes in the horse's mouth to give the rider more control
19. The father of a foal.
21. A female horse used for breeding

Down

1. The unit used to measure horses, from the ground to the withers.
2. Rubbery V-shaped structure in the center of the sole, under the hoof.
3. How a horse moves
5. The combination of straps that fit around a horse's head and are used to control it for riding
6. A horse that is untrained or inexperienced.
9. Any forward movement of the horse such as walking or galloping.
11. The shape of a horse, or the way it is put together.
14. Bred from horses of the same breed (full blood).
16. A specialist in equine hoof care.
20. All the items of saddlery used for riding.