

NORTH LANCS BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2006

1. Eve Hall, Chairperson, welcomed members to the meeting. The following new members were also welcomed:- Claire Shaw, Lois Wright, Chloe & Sue Barnes (Bolton le Sands), Sharon Monks (Morecambe), Karen Rayton (Satterthwaite), Jill Jenner (Forton), Lyn & Sue Hodgson (Witherslack), Glynis Bland (Levens), Alison & Gillian Armer (Thurnham), Hazel Senior, Shaun Smith (Heysham), Linda Thompson (Holme), Caroline Sharpe (Lancaster), Janette Callon (Quernmore), Tamara Atkinson (Scales), Carol Thomas (Arnside), Jenny Inman (Natland), Carolyn Cummings (Orton), K. Lakeland (Catforth), Christopher & Katy Threlfall (Weeton), Lisa Taylor (Hesketh Bank), Sue, Bryan & Ryan Greaves (Dalton-in-Furness)
2. Apologies for absence:- Monica Nagy, Jane Houghton, Pat. Hodgkinson, Chris. Evans, Rosemary Worrell, Shirley Robinson, Alma Carruthers, Pauline McCartney, Heather Binkley, Janet Bebbington.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 12th September 2006 were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record
4. Matters arising:- none
5. NLBS website. It was again stressed that Barbara needs help with the website, purely to gather information together and send it to our website manager. Jeanne Smith very kindly volunteered to help.
6. Saddle Microchipping. Barbara Hartley still has one or two available at £6.25 each. Please contact her if you are interested. Barbara assures us it's very easy to do.
7. Thanks to:-
 - i.) Darren & Chris who until now have printed our minutes free of charge. Unfortunately they are unable to continue, so if anybody else can help please let Barbara know.
 - ii.) Jason Lee for organising the recent ride. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, very well-attended, and Jason even provided refreshments for everybody!
 - iii.) Hilary Durie and all the helpers at the Tack Sale, which raised over £600, and also collected lots of tack etc for the Gambia horses & donkeys.
 - iv.) Diane Richmond for organising 2 successful Trec days, one for judges and one for competitors.
8. CVS Computer. NLBS has been successful in obtaining a computer from CVS. Well done Eve & Vicky. Eve then proposed that NLBS purchase a laptop which would have many uses, including to help Jenny our researcher, Vicky with presentations, and our treasurer with the finances. This was approved by members.
9. Treasurer. Liz Davidson wishes to hand over her office to somebody else. Would anybody interested please contact Liz or Eve.
10. Rides. Eve & Vicky are leading rides from Bolton le Sands on Sunday 10th December. For the sedate ride please contact Eve on 01524 824205, for the faster ride contact Vicky on 01524 832526.
11. Speakers. There are some fantastic speakers planned for future meetings. In January 2007 Anita Knagg, Road Safety Officer for BHS will be speaking, followed in March by Vyv Wood-Gee, who rode her fell pony from John O Groats to Lands End. In May we have Anne Hull, who judges and drives heavy horses, then in July, Paul Wardby, horse dentist.
12. Paths for research. Jenny our researcher has met with several members regarding suggestions for routes to be researched. Please let Eve know if you have any other ideas.
13. Radio Lancashire. Eve reported that her involvement in an interview on Radio Lancashire had unfortunately not come to fruition.
14. AONB routes. The AONB has agreed to provide more funding towards the leaflet packs, and the design company has been given the go-ahead.
15. BHS Access Training Day. 1st Dec at Preston. A very useful day if anyone is interested – contact Eve for details.
16. Any other business:-
 - i) The 'Christmas' meal this year will be on Fri 1st Feb 2007 at Scarthwaite Hotel. Details later.
 - ii) A round of applause was proposed for Eve for making NLBS meetings so entertaining (was I supposed to minute it!)

There followed a presentation by Barbara Hartley and Karen Mather regarding treeless saddles. Barbara told us that when she bought her young Fell pony, Bracken, she couldn't find a traditional saddle to fit, as Bracken was so wide and flat. She tried various types, including treeless saddles, and eventually opted for a Treefree Western-style saddle. Barbara is very happy with it so far, it doesn't slip, it's comfy, and Bracken goes well in it. Karen is a Chartered Animal Physiotherapist. Firstly she explained some basic anatomy to demonstrate the importance of properly-fitting saddles, and how they affect the movement and behaviour of the horse. She talked about the differences between treed and treeless saddles, including their relative pressure points on the horse, and explained the pros and cons of each. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions, and everybody found the presentation very informative and interesting.

Date of next meeting **9th January 2007 8pm at Hest Bank Memorial Hall.**
The speaker will be Anita Knagg, BHS Road Safety Officer.

Everyone welcome and please bring a friend.

Additional Information:



GLASSON COUNTRY
SUPPLIES



Would like to give a warm welcome to all N.L.B.S members!

Come and visit our friendly shop situated at Winmarleigh, just outside Garstang, Lancs.

*WE ARE OFFERING ALL NLBS MEMBERS A 5% DISCOUNT WHEN YOU SPEND £50 AND 10% DISCOUNT WHEN YOU SPEND £100 ON CLOTHING, TACK AND FOOTWEAR
(Your subscription receipt for '06 - '07 is your proof of membership - please bring it with you)*

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If you have any problem finding your receipt & wish to make use of this offer then, for a copy, either e-mail me (Batmillhouses@aol.com) or send s.a.e. to B. Hartley, The Cottage, Millhouses, Tatham, Lancaster LA2 8NF

Monthly Rides

Our monthly social rides are very popular & are often the main reason why we attract new members. Also members can be disappointed if they do not get on a ride because it is full. Perhaps it is important for all new members to know how these rides started. When we had about 50 members, we decided it would be nice to ride in each other's areas, simply following a ride which that person would do often. It was very 'low key', good fun & interesting. Now we have almost 300 members, spreading from the East Lancs. area in the south, the Fylde to the west, North Yorks. to the east & north into Cumbria. Those very willing leaders of rides during the past few years are now not enough!

We need more volunteers to guide us around some of these lovely riding areas.

If you volunteer, then *you* choose your date, place & the number of riders *you* feel happy with on your ride. It can be very simple, with perhaps just 5/6 riders (which may be determined by the parking place) or, if there are several of you to help on one ride, then you may be able to include more riders. Occasionally, organizers provide some kind of refreshment, but *this is not necessary*. If you volunteer, then **it is your ride & you decide!**

We do have guidelines to help you with the organization but we do need more people to offer to lead rides. With 300 members it seems possible that more than one ride could be offered each month or even on one date. It is a long way to travel for a ride from East Lancs. into Cumbria & it would be good to have rides on offer reflecting the large area of our membership.

Please think about this seriously.

To have an interesting programme of rides we need volunteer leaders!!!!!!

If you are willing, or would like to speak to one of us about this, then here are the contact numbers:

Lorraine – e-mail: lorrainehind@btinternet.com or home tel. no. 015242 41441

Eve – tel. 01524 824205

Barbara – e-mail: Batmillhouses@aol.com or tel. 015242 21026

Happy Christmas everyone & hope to see you in 2007!