

NORTH LANCS BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2008

1. Chair Eve Hall opened the meeting and welcomed new members to NLBS – Janice & Cassie Foster (Huncoat) Jenny Paul, our researcher, from Morecambe and Janette Lyne (Morecambe) has re-joined..
2. Apologies for Absence:- Vicky Lowe our Secretary was at another bridleway-related meeting on NLBS' behalf. Tina Graham, Sharon Cash, Celia Dixon, Pauline McCartney, Pat Hodgkinson, Chris Evans & Lorraine Hind.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 13th November 2007 . These were proposed by Lynne Hodgson and seconded by Karen Rayton.
4. Matters arising other than those on the agenda:- none.
5. 10-year Celebration. Eve thanked everyone who made the event such a success, especially Katarina Pardula who incidentally was our original secretary. The raffle made £160, which was split between NLBS & North West Air Ambulance.
6. 'Think Horse' signs. It has been confirmed that the Highways Agency has been removing these from roads and verges. They can be erected on private land with the owner's permission.
7. Many thanks to Sheena for producing another great newsletter. Please send articles and photos to Sheena for future inclusion.
8. Future Fundraising Events:-
 - i) Whittington Races will be held as usual on Easter Saturday, which this year is 22nd March. Help is needed to man the gates, taking money, directing traffic etc. You're then free to go into the races, and it's a really good day out. This raises several £100's for NLBS, so please volunteer.
 - ii) Our main fundraising event, the Farleton Fell ride, is on 27th April this year, and we need as many people as possible to help out at base, open gates etc etc. Please put this date in your diaries!
9. Monthly Rides:- volunteers are needed to lead these members-only rides, (see additional info.) which give people an opportunity to ride in areas unfamiliar to them in good company. Vicky will lead a ride in February in the Levens area, please phone her on 01524 832526 for details.
10. Any Other Business:- none. Items for sale were mentioned at the meeting, but these are advertised on the website, not in the minutes.

Julie Robinson from the Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre continued the evening by giving a presentation on the work of the TRC. Most of the horses they take are ex-racehorses, many with 'issues', and they often need a great deal of medical attention, reschooling and TLC. The aim is to rehome as many of the horses as possible, some go on to successful careers in other disciplines, others simply need a caring semi-retirement home.

Julie had many amusing anecdotes to entertain us, and appealed for anybody considering adopting one of their horses to get in touch, as there are usually horses available.

Date of next meeting 11th March 2008 7.30pm at Hest Bank Memorial Hall.

Our speaker is Jo Atkinson. Jo is an ordinary member of NLBS , (one of us!!) but who, just a year ago, was given the opportunity of an extraordinary experience. She responded to the challenge and, in so doing, was able to develop her interest in Natural Horsemanship. Come and hear about her experiences!

Everyone welcome and please bring a friend!

Additional Information overleaf.

Message from Cumbria Bridleways Society-

Due to the success of the NLBS Autumn Tack Sale the CBS has decided to hold a Spring Tack Sale on Sunday 16th March 2008 from 11:30 am till 3:00 pm at Endmoor Village Hall. Take this opportunity to have a spring clean out of unused tack and buy new for the summer.

Tables will be £7.00 per table which can be booked in advance by telephoning Jane Armstrong 07919661057. Admission will be £1.00 at the door and light refreshments will be available.

Message from Chris Peat –

The Towneley Trail Riding Group have revamped their web site and asked me to pass it on. Their address is www.towneleytrailriding.co.uk if you want to have a look.

Also available are DVD's of the Loop called Looping the Loop – a good compliment to the book, the Mary Towneley Loop Guide. It features a lot of riders and is full of information. Well worth £12.95.

NLBS Rides for 2008

As yet we do not have a programme of rides for the coming months because:

- a) **we need volunteers** to lead a ride and b) **we need a volunteer** to co-ordinate the rides programme

Lorraine has acted as co-ordinator for several years but would like to be relieved of this task now.

Thank you Lorraine for an excellent job!

So, **no volunteers, no rides!!!!!!**

I am willing to take your offers of rides & pass on to whoever will co-ordinate. Of course, if we get a co-ordinator quickly, then you can contact that person direct but I am unable to give more time to actually drawing up the programme. If you want to know what the job involves, and it is not difficult, then contact Lorraine & she will tell you –

e-mail lorrainehind@btinternet.com or tel. 015242 41441 and my e-mail Batmillhouses@aol.com or 015242 21026

Do your best – **we need help for this!**

Equi-talk -Smithill's Leisure Ride on Saturday 23rd February '08 10:00 am

This is Equi-talk's second visit to Smithill's Country Park which was prompted by you, our members, to host another ride at this location. If you missed out last time then please be one of the first to contact us and avoid disappointment. If you haven't heard of Smithill's before, here's a little taster for you,

"With over 2,000 acres of woodland, farmland and moorland, Smithills is one of Bolton's largest and most impressive parks. With beautiful views that sweep across Bolton's landscape, Smithills Country Park provides a great day out for all. At the heart of Smithills Country Park, you will find the historic Smithills Hall which dates back over 800 years." (Bolton Council Website)

If this isn't enough to tempt you, how about having a quick look at our photos from our last visit!

<http://www.equi-talk.co.uk/smithills Ride.htm>

We had all abilities attend this ride which is on a marked circular route (approx. 7 miles), so you won't get lost! There is secure parking and there's never anyone too far away if you need a helping hand. To pre-book your place please send the attached entry to to us as soon as possible (address is on the form).

We hope to see you there!

Equi-talk Team

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