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This is the first of the new Horse Around E-Bulletins

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Horse Around E-Bulletin 1 March 2017

Hello Members both current and previous,

You may have noticed that you have not heard from us for a while. Events over the last year do seem to have swallowed up time. We have been working on behalf of riders over the last year. It's just that we haven't been telling you about it.

Your committee has decided that it is no longer viable to produce a conventional paper Horse Around newsletter. It is too expensive and time consuming so in common with other organisations we are now going to send regular E-Bulletins and also communicate via Facebook so that we can reach more riders with information about what is going on in West Penwith and indeed Cornwall and sometimes more national issues..

So welcome to the first Horse Around E-News Bulletin.

We have not run any Horse Hikes because interest did appear to have waned and Adrian's Eric is now feeling his age. We do plan that Horse Hikes will continue but not with such a full program as we have had previously. We do need members to organise them.

2026 is getting closer. If we do nothing we could lose the historic rights on many of the old lanes we ride, Our Association, together with the British Horse Society, is working towards getting our rights safe guarded over the 2026 deadline. More on that in this bulletin.

Finally our AGM is on Tuesday 4 April at the Yacht Inn as usual. Please do come and learn more about the 2026 issue and also from Linda Holloway of Cornwall Council on the Bridleway Campaign that the Council's enforcement team is conducting to get obstructed bridleways open and usable.

Margaret

Project 2026 Cornwall

Will the routes you ride still be open after 2026?
Unless they all legally recorded as bridleways many may be lost at that date.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 4 April 2016

At the Yacht Inn. Penzance

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Rights of Way that are not recorded on the definitive map by 2026. It established a Discovering Lost Ways (DLW) project that failed dismally and was abandoned by the government because of the enormity of the task.

The 2026 cut of date was specifically asked for by the landowner organisations (CLA, NFU etc) to ensure that all rights of way are correctly recorded by the 2026 date. This date and landowner wishes were retained by the Stakeholder Working Group on Unrecorded Public Rights of Way which produced the "Stepping Forward" report to Natural England in 2010. The cut-of date was retained despite the failure of the DLW project.

It is important to understand that come 2026, all pre-1949 riding routes that are currently not on the definitive map may be lost; UNLESS we make a legal claim by producing historical documentary evidence and submitting a Definitive Map Modification Order Application (DMMO) before 2026 on any unrecorded historic path we ride.

Cornwall Council now accept the value of historic evidence such as Tithe Maps, old Inland Revenue Maps and similar, in proving rights of way exist. It is now timely to start looking at archive documentation to prove that many of the tracks and paths we ride were originally old roads but never properly recorded.

Project 2026 Cornwall, now being launched, is a joint project between the British Horse Society, the Ramblers and Cornwall Council. The Project is lead by the BHS and is a web based project that anyone can help with. The aim is to secure the historic paths for future generations by recording the historic evidence that proves paths are Rights of Way.

Needless to say, our bridleway group will doing this very important work in West Cornwall. The aim will be to collect evidence on each path and submit claims as and when is appropriate.

This year again we are focusing on the main purpose of our association in protecting where we ride.

- We will update you on the newly launched Project 2026 with the BHS, Ramblers and Cornwall Council.
- Cornwall Council Senior Enforcement Officer Linda Holloway will be coming to update you on the progress being made in getting more of Cornwall's bridleways open and usable.
- There will be opportunity for you to raise any particular issues of concern to yourselves.

Opening up of Bridleway at Trezelah

Bridleway 51 Madron is an old hedged lane that has been completely blocked for decades. The bridleway is situated below Castle-an-Dinas.

Under the Ramblers REACT project which organises volunteer days with Cornwall Council, members of WPBA took part in a clearance day on this bridleway. Cornwall Council had liaised with all the landowners in advance. Much was achieved on the first day. It is a lovely long route that crosses a stream and connects to another bridleway on the other side. Another planned working day did not take place as this landowner was not completely happy. However because of this problem the landowner was persuaded that it was his legal duty to clear it. We do thank him for the excellent job he has now done. Our thanks go to Linda Holloway and her Enforcement Team at Cornwall Council for their tenacity in getting this bridleway open. Local residents and riders are now delighted to be able at last to use this lovely old lane.

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help please come to our AGM on Tues 4 April.

obstructed.



Above is a horse trailer sticker that the British Horse Society has produced.

Tehidy Woods Horse Hike - 8 May

A very pleasant and warm day only yielded 4 riders for the Tehidy horse hike. The cliff car park at North Cliff above Portreath didn't fail its reputation for strong wind. However, the normally very sheltered Tehidy Woods was also quite breezy at times.

The park was full of people enjoying such a fine day. I have never seen so many dogs and bikes. The horses behaved extremely well and seemed to find all the environment activity stimulating. On reaching the woodland café, so many people wanted to interact with Bob – who loves being the centre of attention. Eric sampled some bamboo leaves along west park drive, but piebald Bob was stopped before he turned into a Giant Panda!

Pass Wide and Slow - Dead Slow

Debbie Smith who has done sterling work in getting the attention of government ministers with her "PASS WIDE AND SLOW" petition. It certainly galvanized the BHS into action to launch their road safety campaign. You may have seen the BHS stickers on the fuel pumps at Sainsburys'. It was funded for 6 weeks. We do need to keep the pressure on.

Vicky Nankervis has also written a really good article in the Towednack parish magazine highlighting the campaigns and reminding drivers of the importance of driving slow and wide near horses.

Debbie has 96,666 signatures for her petition. We just need the last 3,400 to get the whole thing debated in parliament. If you have not signed then crack on and pass it on. Perhaps you know of friends and relatives in other remote parts that could help get those final numbers that will make it all happen.

Get busy!

Riders Barred at Bowling Green Farm in Carn Brea, Redruth,

There is an unrecorded old lane that runs between the unclassified county roads from Bowling Green Farm and Bosleake.

The route has been used regularly for decades by many riders each day. It is extensively used by Wheal Buller Riding School and has been for the last 30 years.

A new tenant farmer moved in two years ago which I understand is when problems started

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couple of easy going hours – covering 7 miles – and we didn't get lost on the paths back to the car park! (They have now put up a lot more blue arrows!)

Photo taken on west Park Drive



facebook

We are now also on Facebook.
see link below

horses, but walkers can still just get past.

He also has blocked the unclassified county road at Bosleak to all but walkers. Seemingly the county road section has been gated and now the gate stopped with a large boulder from opening wider than to allow a walker through, and there may be another obstruction.

Looking at historic evidence on 25" the whole lane has single parcel number and the Illogan Area book says "Road". It is shown on Bartholomews maps and others as a road all the way through.

This route is critical to the safety of local riders including many youngsters local and from Wheal Buller who rely on this route to get to Carn Brea. The alternative Four Lanes/Pool Road is very busy and dangerous.

The user evidence is overwhelming in both duration and magnitude. Unfortunately though normal delay in processing a Modification Order will be around 15 years. We are therefore hoping that Cornwall Council, in view of the overwhelming evidence, will be able to enforce the removal of the obstruction at early date. it is in their power to do so.

This again shows the vulnerability of the many paths we ride that are not recorded as bridleways - hence Project 2026. .



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