



Horse Around E Bulletin No 5

April 2019

Hello Everyone,

An imminent date for your diary is Tuesday 7 May, at the Waterside Meadery for our AGM. Yes, a change of venue and hopefully quieter! Car parking is where you always go opposite Jubilee Pool and then walk over. We have an upstairs room especially booked. Our star for the night is Joe Ivey from Rosevean Veterinary Practice so should prove to be an interesting evening. We hope you will come along and continue to support us and the vital work we are trying to do.

As you know, our core focus is working on getting bridleway routes legally secured on to the definitive map in time for the 2026 deadline. In parallel with this work, the committee continues to battle to get our existing routes cleared to an acceptable rideable standard and signed posted from where they leave the public road.

The Modification Order applications for bridleways continue to roll into Cornwall Council at a steady rate and making the CC staff feel inundated! (Good!) As we reported in the last Bulletin the British Horse Society target is to submit 400 in a year! That is quite a lot especially as CC is currently only renowned to process around half a dozen a year at best! There are quite a few horse riders, walkers and cyclists volunteers out there who are now contributing to this vital work. We have a nice little keen team beavering away. However, we need more.

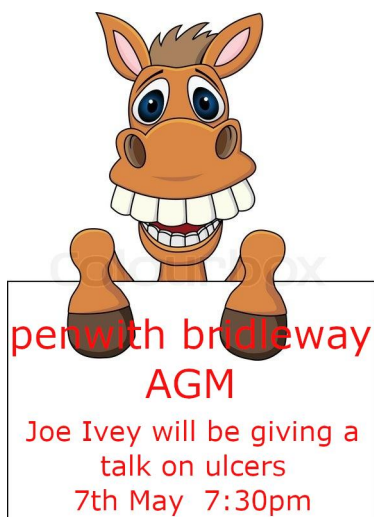
We have recently resumed our regular meetings with Cornwall Council after some years of absence. We have met with Mike Beckett, Interim Head of Service, Natural Environment and he says he wants to help us with our particular concerns and issues that need addressing. We are still awaiting to get feedback on some issues from Don Martin who is the relatively new team leader in charge of Rights of Way maintenance. We do need to keep them on their toes so please do continue to report problems to them..

Also remember, we are always keen to receive your concerns and ideas.

Winter has had its final fling and we can look forward to some warm and pleasant riding weather. We have got off lightly compared to recent years.

Happy and enjoyable riding and I will see you all at the AGM.

Margaret



This year we have a new venue at the Waterside Meadery by the harbour a short distance from our old venue. It should be much less noisy. It will start at the usual time 7:30pm, but PLEASE BE PROMPT.

We are fortunate to have Joe Ivey of Rosevean Vets as Speaker, It should be a great and informative evening. Please be There!.

Waterside Meadery, Wharf Road, Penzance, TR18 4AB

Horse Hike Update

We do plan to run the occasional horse hikes through out the year. Much will depend on demand so please do come and enjoy a ride in a different location and with different company.

Remember how nice it is to ride somewhere different instead of your usual old hack. Have a bright new adventure and give Debbie a ring.

The first will be NEXT SUNDAY, 5 May 11am at Rosudgeon. Please do contact Debbie on 07954444436. There are some lovely bridleways in that area. Please do support this ride.

Remember, someone how nice it is to ride somewhere different instead of your usual old hack.

Have a bright new adventure and give Debbie a ring.

Supporting Our Bridleways Group

A big thank you to those of you who have already joined or renewed your support for us through to 2020 via PayPal.

We will separately be reminding you if your support has not been renewed yet. It is so easy to show your support and help our cause via PayPal.

www.bhsaccesscornwall.org.uk/westpenwithbridleways/JoinOnline.htm

Project 2026 Update

We are pleased to let you know that our software for the "Definitive Map Modification Order Factory" is now properly up and running with confidence and we are starting to use it in earnest!

It is being used all over the country by similar groups to ourselves to claim those vital riding routes and important links to secure a joined up and legally protected network for the future. (BHS members may have read about Project Jigsaw which is a lightweight version of what is happening.)

We are very pleased to say that Cornwall Council has accepted that the format and content of the applications that our 'factory' software produces is ideal and will make things more efficient for the Council as well as ourselves.

Please see <https://www.bhsaccess.org.uk/dobbin/Project2026.php?id=southwest/2026Cornwall>
(Yes the password is "2026")

The application routes already submitted are shown in red. Those in progress in magenta.

We now have around 50 applications ready to send to Cornwall Council.

The Ramblers and Cornwall Footpaths Preservation Society are working very closely with us on this project. Most applications and those by the Ramblers are for Restricted Byways (carriage and riding rights). Many of the routes we need to claim are those old lanes that only have footpath rights, and the Ramblers will not submit applications for such upgrades

We personally have currently prepared 50 in just over 3 weeks (working flat out) for riding routes ready for submission. We will start with the routes that should not be controversial in any way or affect any land owners. Once an application is accepted by CC (for processing) it effectively protects that route from being deleted on 1st January at 2026.

Project 2026 and why you should care?

Many of the routes you ride are not recorded on the definitive map as Bridleways. They can be lost at any time. They may just appear as 'white roads' on the map.

Until 2026 we have a relative short window to claim these routes and get them recorded by proving that these routes were Highways before 1949 (and therefore still are Highways). If we do nothing they will no longer be Highways after 2026 and landowners can just close them off without question.

The aim is to protect and increase our joined up off-road network all over the country. There is the deadline of 2026 so we are working very hard to claim as much as we can before the cut-off date.



'Cycle' Trails Update

Since our last bulletin Adrian has attended a planning meeting with Cornwall Council and Cormac Managers for the trails.

The good news is that horses are being fully considered on all the trails and special provision being made where practicable. We will be having another meeting in about 2 months time when more planning has been done.

The budget is £19M over the next two years. £17M from government funds £2M from Cornwall Council..

New cycle trails

- 1 St Agnes - Truro** (8km)
includes a new cycle bridge over the A30
- 2 Trispen - Idless** (4km)
- 3 St Newlyn East - Carland Cross** (4km)
- 4 Perranporth - Newquay** (14km)

This development is great news. It is just a pity that horses are often not mentioned in the publicity. I think it is because it is pleasing their funding masters who get it in the name of cycling. We are also trying to see if the "cycle" bridge over the A30 at Chiverton can be made equine friendly.

UK's First Guide Horse

A partially sighted woman is allowed to take Digby the miniature horse on the Tyne & Wear Metro system in Newcastle. Digby is just finishing his unique training as the UK's first ever guide horse as he experiences the sounds of trains, stations ticket gates and lifts.



Digby has taken his first ever train journey (Picture: North News & Pictures Ltd northnews.co.uk)

He wears a hi viz jacket, booties to protect his hooves and his "thunderpants" in case of accidents. He is a lovely little horse and causes quite a stir where ever he goes.

Men and Horses

In Scotland the staple diet for people was oats.

In England, the staple diet for horses was oats.

That is why you get good strong caber-tossing men in Scotland and good strong horses in England!

Blood Lines

Recently reported in the Daily Mail. A 42,000 year old foal of an extinct horse that was preserved in the Siberian permafrost has been exhumed. The scientists discovered that the 2 week old horse died from drowning. The mummified body is an amazing find because all the muscle tissues are preserved. The foal was complete and hair in tact with a black mane and tail. Liquid blood samples were taken from the heart vessels. They believe it was a Lemskaya of which the modern descendent is the Yakutian horse. It is planned to clone this animal and re-generate the species.

In Danger of Droning On

You will all be aware of the schenanigans at Heathrow airport, but there is a potential problem for the horse rider. Drones are a menace in non professional hands, and the law is very slow to catch up with regulating them. There have been a few instances with drone flyers who think it funny to spook riders on horses. There has been an incident where a horse bolted due to an idiot. The poor rider had a terrifying experience. Here's a bit of information so that you are aware of the current law and situation.

In Cornwall, there are 40 trained officers who know how to handle such an incident. Please report it to the police if you have a bad experience.

Here are a few facts on the law as it stands:

- The pilot must not recklessly or negligently cause or permit an aircraft to endanger any person or property.
- Drones must not be flown within 50 metres of any person, vehicle or structure - except during take-off and landing.
- Drones must be kept within line of sight at all times by the pilot. –considered to be 500 metres horizontally and 400 feet vertically.

Landowners are concerned about instances of livestock harassment. Victims of such repeated over-flying should log date and time and take pictures. It can be difficult to find the perpetrator as they could be anywhere in a half kilometre radius. Currently, although it's a worrying harassment, you need to convince the police that it constitutes an infringement of privacy. A case of trespass can only be brought if the drone is hovering low above your garden. It is not advisable to shoot down drones as this could lead to a prosecution for criminal damage and your shotgun certificate being revoked.

Atypical Myopathy

Atypical Myopathy is highly associated with the consumption of Sycamore trees seedlings and is a cause for concern. Research has shown that horses eating the sycamore seeds can cause more specifically for restoring vital bridgways signs you difficulty in breathing and muscular problems including the heart muscle. Horses deteriorate quickly within 6 to 12 hours. If you have any concerns, please visit the BHS website for details.

And Finally:

Did you know?

The emperor butterfly needs horse pooh for it to survive?



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Member of WPBA current or previous

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