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Horse Around E-Bulletin 6 September 2019

Hello Everyone

At last, it has started raining! Although that is a grim prospect, it does enable me to get in front of my computer long enough for us to get out some overdue communication to all our members.

Firstly, we would like to welcome all the new members who have recently joined us. We really do value your support and your committee continues to work hard on your behalf. Back in July, we had talks with Cornwall Council Countryside team bosses to voice your concerns about the lack of maintenance on our bridleways. The current system, is very ad hoc and we are constantly reminded it is due to budget constraints, but we think there needs to be a better way of working. Riders do need to keep the pressure on CC. Please keep complaining to them about blocked bridleways!

Adrian and I have had a busy Summer preparing and submitting DMMOs to claim our riding routes to secure them for posterity. (You may have seen our notices erected whilst out riding.)

I understand that 2 or 3 horse hikes went ahead over the Summer although attendances were quiet, which made for some pleasant rides. Thank you to Beverley Jenkin and Debbie Smith for running those events.

Debbie and Clare are putting together a great little social QUIZ night out on the 8 November at the Waterside Meadery at 7.30 p.m. We hope we can whip up plenty of teams and support for this event. All are welcome and especially non horsey teams. We would like to raise good funds for cutting our bridleways and trackways. All lovers of the great outdoors will benefit so we hope that we will get teams from walkers and ramblers and cyclists. It will be £5.00 per team entry fee and there will be raffle prizes. Contact Claire 07841 337831 or Debbie 07954 444436

Happy Riding
Margaret

Project 2026

We have started this important work to apply for and claim routes that you ride that are currently unprotected in law. Access could well be lost come the 2026 Legal cut off date. Sadly, the great British public are blissfully unaware what could happen as many routes that have been used since time immemorial could be lost if they are not on the 'applied for' and registered by 1st January 2026. Ridden rights on many of the tracks, white lanes and footpaths that you ride are not legally recorded and protected and are not on the definitive map as bridleways. Many footpaths have "unrecorded higher rights" and are historic old lanes. We will be applying for those too. After 2026 we will not be able to claim these routes as bridleways by submitting historic evidence that shows them as old roads. They will be at great risk of being shut off to us by landowners as the gates and padlocks could go up on 1 January 2026. There will be a mass out-cry but it will be too late by then!

The map shows in RED the paths near St Just for which we have recently submitted an application to record it as Restricted Byway. Others with good evidence are shown in purple, The paths we are focusing on initially are those which are clearly old lanes. We have been able to find evidence to show that many of these were certainly old roads, yet many are not recorded on the definitive map or recorded only as footpath.



The Modification Order Factory

Evolving from the Ridden Routes map of Cornwall, a major more recent development has been the development (by Adrian) of a separate site for recording and showing the routes that require researching. The site also allows all discovered research information to be uploaded against a particular path.

This site is also being used nationally by the BHS for 2026 work in other counties across England and Wales. The site now produces a complete application including the evidence and necessary forms all completed all at the

touch of button.

Because we have been able to churn out the applications at such a rate we have now called this the 'Modification Order Factory'

Since May, we have completed and submitted over 60 applications in West Cornwall. There is a strict legal process we have to follow and forms to complete. We have to serve notice directly to landowners where they are known. On routes with no registered owner we have to erect notices at either end to reach any unknown landowners.

After the initial processes Cornwall Council puts the application on to a register. Job done (for us) – the route is protected against extinguishment in 2026 and the historic evidence will one day be processed – be it after 2026 that does not matter as it is on the register before that date.

To visit the Factory (for Cornwall) click [Here](#)

To visit the National Site click <https://www.bhsaccess.org.uk/dobbin/P2026home.php>

2026 Carrot

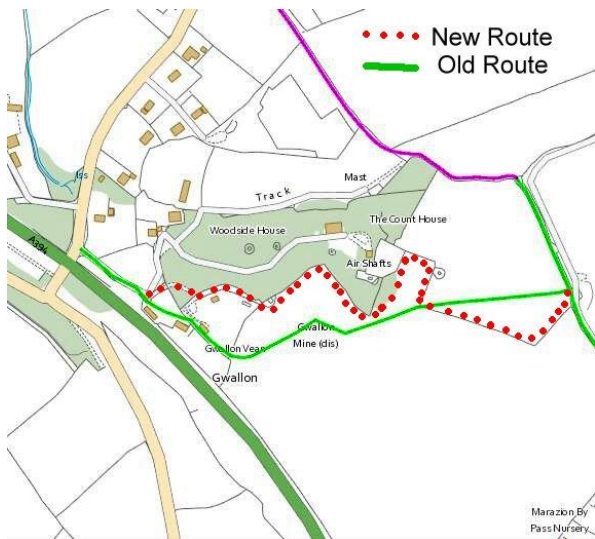
As an incentive to get more people involved, the BHS is offering a cash sum (from its 2026 grant funding) for every DMMO submitted to cover expenses etc.. (We personally are not taking up this offer – as we don't want to bankrupt the BHS!) - Just visit the above links if you want to get involved and help

Bridleway 81 St Hilary -- Gwallon

You may remember that this bridleway that starts near Marazion bypass and the official line, in error, goes through a house and over fields and Cornish hedges. It has never been usable. Starting in 2007 and working with Cornwall Council we succeeded in getting an alternative new route agreed with landowners. The new path was provided and opened and has been in use since. All that was required was for a Diversion Order to be completed to extinguish the old route record the new route as bridleway.

HOWEVER Cornwall Council discovered a 'mineshaft' near the route and would not proceed with the diversion until this issue was resolved. It has now taken more than 10 years to move this forward, and at last a Diversion Order has been recently Made.

We now await the process to



complete to Confirmation subject to there being no valid objections.

St Hilary Bridleways

Debbie and Claire are continuing their campaign to get the bridleways kept clear from side and top growth and thus safe to ride. They have had some success in previous years in getting paths cleared, but vegetation continues to grow and Cornwall Council do not have a system in place to automatically monitor the paths and get action taken when required. Remember it is NOT the parish's duty under the Local Maintenance Partnership to clear top and side growth, it remains the landowners responsibility. We have been discussing this county wide ongoing problem with Cornwall Council Head of Service to find a better way of doing things.

Cornwall Council DMMO Processing

In view of the volume of new DMMO applications we and others are submitting Cornwall Council are taking on more staff, BUT to date they are really struggling to keep up. Despite the directions from the Secretary of State to determine a significant number of orders within 6 months. There is little sign of them determining the Orders as directed.

2019 Annual General Meeting

We had a very successful and well supported AGM evening in May. The new venue of the Waterside Meadery was a great success. We had a nice quiet room to ourselves with adjacent bar. Your committee is unchanged, Adrian, Margaret, Catherine, Amanda, Beverly, Christine, Debbie and Claire. We will welcome any new faces of members who want to help.. WPBA will continue to work for all riders, throughout the year, to improve the bridleway network. Anyone who thinks they would like to help please do contact us.

Joe Ivey, of Rosevean Veterinary Practice gave a very interesting talk and presentation on ulcers in horses. Ulcers and their causes are something that every horse owner should be aware of.

We give an overview view of his presentation at the end of this bulletin.



The BHS has introduced Challenge Awards for the Recreational rider. These awards are designed to appeal to a mass market for personal challenge and achievement. There are a new series of BHS tests split between Horse Management and Rideout. These 'Pathway' Awards, bronze, silver and gold are different from formal BHS exams. They have only recently been launched (Spring 2019). There are now 400 coaches, (taken from the BHS instructor base) trained up to deliver the awards. Rideout may appeal to WPBA members as it encompasses a Ride Leader qualification.

The BHS Approved Centre in Cornwall offering this training is Polmartin Riding, Liskeard.

"Digital Horse" is a new social media platform with a difference. All the profiles belong to horses! It is full of horsey gossip, tips and ideas. You may like to dip into it.

<https://digitalhorseuk.co.uk/>

Did You Know?

There is an All Parliamentary Group of the Horse. They meet 3 times a year. If you have an equine issue that you think should be brought before them then contact your MP. Your MP may not even be aware of this group! Perhaps now is a good time?

Aggravated Trespass – could horse owners be next?

There has been an increase in activists targeting farms including "Project Calf" publishing a map of UK dairy farms in England and Wales and recommending that the public take photos of farming activities. It doesn't take a leap of imagination before we horse riders find ourselves targets for some inane reason.

Sadly, society in recent times has become less tolerant. Activists who disagree with lawful rural and farming practises have been targeting farms and rural businesses. They typically start taking photos and can become abusive whilst trying to engage with people who are lawfully going about their daily tasks. (Note: It is generally accepted that the public can take photos while on a public right of way.)

The offence of Aggravated Trespass (Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994) is committed when a person trespasses on land to intimidate someone engaged in a lawful activity or to disrupt or obstruct a lawful activity on the land.

Should you be a victim, the advice given by the CLA is to ask them to politely leave, and collect any evidence such as number plates. Do not make yourself a target by being abusive – they may be filming you – and keep out of harms way. Although Trespass is usually a civil matter, there are many potential offences committed by activists physically coming on to your property without permission. Eg. Aggravated Trespass, Criminal Damage, Harassment and violent disorder.

Ulcers in Horses

Joe Ivey, of Rosevean Veterinary Practice gave an interesting talk on horses with ulcers. He said that they are seeing an increase in cases. Ulcers are a disease of the domesticated horse. Apparently approximately 90% of race horses have ulcers and surprisingly 11% of leisure horses of varying degrees. Ulcers are stress related, and it is important to maintain a good management routine to keep your horse happy. He recommended never to ride on an empty stomach. Excess acid can splash around and cause soreness and inflammation. Too much acid causes a breakdown of the protective barrier and therefore having some forage in the stomach absorbs and prevents acid splashing.

Other causes are concentrates feeds produce more lactic acid, and transportation and prolonged exercise is why race horses are particularly vulnerable. Lots of exercise and stress causes a lack of blood supply which hinders digestion.

There are two distinct areas in a horse's stomach the top (squamous portion) and the bottom (glandular portion) where gastric acid is released from acid glands at a correct pH level of 4 to 5 to break down the food to help digestion.

There are 2 types of ulcer: Glandular disease – that causes lesions and Squamous disease that is acid reaching the top part of the stomach.

Clinical Signs: Poor coat condition. Grumpy when ridden or when their side is touched, objecting to the girth being done up. Generally dull mood and not wanting to eat.

Diagnosis: A scope is put into the stomach via a nostril. Joe brought along his scope 3.5 metres long!! He often uses the full length! It will show up any ulcers or inflammation and bleeding. A faecal test to establish if there is blood in the poo can be done. However, the result is not conclusive in itself.

The vet will say to starve the horse for 12 to 16 hours in his stable before the vet scopes the horse after sedation. They need an empty stomach to get a result. Whilst within the vet can take biopsies if felt necessary.

Treatment and Management

Suppression of acid in the stomach – buffering with a lining anti-acid agent Improve blood flow. Vets are using many drugs designed for human treatments. Fast overnight and give medication.

Feeding regime – small feed before riding note that corn oil reduces acid. Vets currently pioneering a slow release injection into the muscle once a week A study proved horses were better after 2 weeks. An injectable is more effective than an oral which takes many weeks longer.

Joe said there is no evidence that 'over-the-counter' supplements work. We

need to be cautious as supplements are non-regulated and we could be wasting our money.



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