



## West Penwith Bridleways Association

Affiliated to the British Horse Society

### Newsletter Number 1 Summer 2001

#### WE'RE OFFICIAL!

After much delay owing to F&M etc we are at last officially formed and are the 110<sup>th</sup> such association to become an affiliated group member of the BHS.

We already have a number of projects in hand and already have seen some results.

The Ride UK project which was the catalyst for starting our association is also now starting to make progress. Our group and particularly Adrian Bigg our Secretary are at the cutting edge of this project. Adrian has drawn up many of the guidelines, project overview and information documents and costing/feasibility spreadsheets that are being adopted Countywide to ensure good continuity on the paperwork side.

Our draft route for the Kernow Horse Trail is complete save for the last section to Lands End which we are still working on and which some of you are involved in helping us to achieve. If you are a new member or have not heard about Ride UK before, we enclose information.

In tandem with the hard work we are determined to enjoy ourselves and are organising leisure rides to take place once a fortnight. The venues will be spread over West Penwith. So come out and enjoy yourselves.

Paula

#### FUNDRAISING

We took a stall along to the Riding for the Disabled Country Fair at Hayle in June. This was quite successful. Thank you to everyone who donated tack, riding clothes, horse books and other horsey items to sell, especially Ross at Mulfra Trekking Centre who had a real clearout and gave us a very generous bag full! We sold £26 worth on the day and donated £10 for our stall space to the RDA.

The next stall will be at a HEC show in August. Please donate unwanted tack etc etc, as it helps to get a crowd around the stall! We are very happy to sell larger/more expensive items on commission

#### ON THE GROUND

We are conscious of the fact that we seem to be getting very swamped in paperwork already! Bureaucracy eh! Anyway, some tools and equipment for clearance work have been acquired and we hope to set about our first clearance project soon. A date and venue for this will be set at our next meeting, subject to agreement with landowners and notifying our insurers etc.

#### NEW MEMBERS WANTED!

Please, please spread the word and encourage your riding friends and neighbours to join us and come along to meetings, rides and get involved. Its interesting, good fun and a great way for "pleasure riders" to feel they are taking part in something useful for themselves and the local riding community. We aim to be a very friendly group, definitely non confrontational, and whenever possible achieving and progressing access for horses by working with councils, land owners, farmers and other organisations, rather than battling against them. The more members we have the stronger our voice. **Spare membership forms enclosed – please copy if necessary**

#### ARE YOU ON E-MAIL?????

If you are, please go to your computer and send an e-mail to Adrian, [trevessa-farm@supanet.com](mailto:trevessa-farm@supanet.com) and Paula, [timhichens@btconnect.com](mailto:timhichens@btconnect.com)

This will mean you can receive newsletters and other information quicker and more often and it also saves on the postage and printing costs. So if you are online – please send us your e-mail address now! We are also planning a WEB site in due course!

#### OUR NEXT OPEN MEETING

This will be held at Trythall School Newmill. The date is set for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.15pm. Please come along and bring a new member too. We have a lot to get through so will not be having a speaker this time, but we do have people queuing up wanting to speak for us from the Autumn.

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**BRIDLEWAY NEWS and EVENTS DIARY**

#### West Penwith Bridleways Association

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Secretary: Adrian Bigg Trevessa Farm, Trevega, Zennor TR26 3BL Tel: 01736 795098 [trevessa-farm@supanet.com](mailto:trevessa-farm@supanet.com)

## BRIDLEWAY NEWS

We are continuing the process of mapping the routes that are ridden in West Penwith and of course noting where problems have arisen.

We cannot achieve everything overnight but we are building a database of problems both on designated bridleways and on other paths and tracks used by horses.

We hope in due course to have maps available for each area.

If you do have an access problem please report it either to the Secretary, Adrian Bigg or to the local area paths officer for your area. Paths Officers who are already identified are listed at the end of this item.

We have had a meeting with the National Trust at local level to discuss provision of new permissive routes on other land. A thank you is being sent to NT for the work they have carried out so far to clear bridleway overgrown due to the foot and mouth closures.

Trencrom Horse Path overgrown for the last four years – trimmed out by the National Trust. Ongoing discussions to improve signing and extend permissive use and to improve access to Carn.Galver. Watch Croft Bridleway has also been trimmed out fully by the National Trust.

A written report has been submitted for the BHS Divisional Officer to take to the National Trust Estates Office at Cirencester for the review of the Equine Access Policy document.

We also have other projects and ideas in hand at an early stage to try an improve access.

The bridleway from Mill Downs to Embla Vean was washed out by the winter rains. This has now been reinstated, the surface repaired and new drainage leats provided.

We understand that the modification order to provide a bridleway down from Castle an Dinas past Chysauster has been approved and issued but not yet open to riders until the ground works have been completed – more to follow on this.

With regard to the Upgrade of Footpath from Mulfra over the hill. We understand that a report is being compiled at the moment which will be considered by a panel in September. A decision should be made at that time.

## EVENTS DIARY

We had a very successful first group ride on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Setting out from The Engine Inn, Nancledra, we rode to Trencrom, (and battled through the then undergrowth!) having picnic lunch in the car park. Then from there almost entirely on bridleway and tracks to Cucurrian Valley, Ludgvan. Up through the valley to Nancledra and back via Embla. About 12 miles over a very leisurely 4 hours including a lunch stop.

**The next Leisure Ride has been rescheduled for Saturday August 4th**, starting from the Gurnards Head Hotel. 12 noon to ride away. Please park carefully taking up minimum space, skip up droppings etc. Sorry but ride is only open to fully paid up members of WPBA due to insurance reasons. Please phone Paula 01736 794105 if you are intending to come along. The leisure ride will take approx 3-4 hours and will include some roadwork, some open moors and some special concessions on land not normally open to horses. Approximately 12 – 15 miles. Bring a picnic as we will stop half way. (lead rope and headcollar may also be useful)

*As a general guide, these rides are minimally organised! You should be able to manage your mount in difficult conditions, busy farmyards, in traffic and in excited company and also be content to ride at a steady pace, enjoying the views and exploring somewhere new. Each individual is responsible to arrange their own personal accident and injury insurance, in addition to insurance for their horse. The group only provides third party liability.*

*It is most important that where possible you let the organiser know if you are likely to be going on a ride. Knowledge of expected numbers will be very important especially on the first few rides that we do.*

### Ride Schedule

**4 August 2001**

**GURNARDS HEAD**

Organiser: Paula Hichen 01736 795098

**18 August 2001**

**ST. JUST DISTRICT**

Organiser: Helen Lewis Tel: 01736 788897

**1 September 2001**

**LAMORNA**

Organiser to be arranged. Tel: Adrian 795098

**15 September**

**ST. LEVEN PARISH** Organiser to

be arranged. Tel: Adrian 795098

**Please note that we have had to adjust the schedule slightly from the original draft.**

### Parish Paths Officers

St. Just /Sennen Helen Lewis

Tel: 788897 /Amanda Nicholson

Tel: 871876

Towednack/St Ives

Adrian Bigg

Tel: 795098

Zennor

Paula Hichens

Tel: 794105

Madron Stephanie Bateman

Tel: 364767

Paul, Ludgvan, St Leven, St Buryan, Marazion, Peranuthnoe, St Hilary - Volunteers Wanted