

THE PEAK DISTRICT AND
NORTHERN COUNTIES
FOOTPATHS PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

1894 — 1957

**Annual
REPORT
for 1957**



THE PEAK DISTRICT & NORTHERN COUNTIES FOOTPATHS PRESERVATION SOCIETY — 1957

President: F. S. H. Head, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Vice-Presidents:

Rt. Hon. The Lord Chorley F. Howard
P. Daley A. J. Moon, B.A.(Cantab.)

COUNCIL,

Elected Members:

Chairman: T. Boulger.

Vice-Chairman: E. E. Ambler.

L. L. Ardern	Miss M. Fletcher	K. Mayall
Dr. A. J. Bateman	G. R. Estill	A. Milner
A. Bates	A. W. Hewitt	E. E. Stubbs
D. T. Berwick	J. H. Holness	A. Smith
J. E. Broom	J. E. Massey	R. T. Watson
J. W. Butterworth	L. G. Meadowcroft	H. E. Wild

Delegates from Affiliated Clubs and Societies:

F. Arrundale	J. Harper	L. Nathan, F.R.E.S.
R. Aubry	J. Harrison	J. Ogden
E. Bailey	H. Harrison	J. R. Owen
J. G. Baker	J. F. Hibebret	J. Pye
J. D. Bettencourt, A.R.P.S.	A. Hodkinson	H. Sandler
Miss D. Blakeman	W. Howarth	J. Shevelan
R. Bridge	W. B. Howie	Miss L. Smith
E. P. Campbell	E. Huddy	N. Smith
R. Cartin	F. Hughes	Miss M. Stott
H. W. Cavill	R. Ingle	L. Stubbs
F. J. Crangle	L. Jones	C. Taylor
Miss F. Daly	Miss M. G. Jones	H. F. Taylor
Miss E. Davies	R. J. Kahla	Mrs. W. Taylor
W. Eastwood	T. H. Lancashire	W. Taylor
A. Fairhurst	A. Lapper	P. B. Walker
G. Fernley	D. J. Lee	H. Walton
J. L. Fleming	W. Marcroft	G. H. B. Ward,
R. S. Frew	H. Meadowcroft	F.R.G.S.
H. Gilliatt	Miss M. Mellor	Miss J. Ward-Oldham
F. Goff	Miss N. Mellor	J. Willeson
L. Griffiths	S. N. Miller	J. W. Wood
	H. Mills	T. S. Wood

Signpost Supervisor:

F. Higgins

Survey Secretary:

N. Redford

Hon. Auditor:

J. E. Broom

Registrar:

Miss M. Lake

Secretary:

H. King, 7, Midgley Crescent, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs

Honorary Treasurer:

G. S. Cooper, 13, Duffield Road, Salford, 6.

Inspectors of Footpaths:

N. Redford (Chief), A. J. Bateman, T. Ewart, G. R. Estill,
J. H. Holness, H. Jones, A. E. Nash (Sub), H. Stott.

Librarian: L. L. Ardern

Membership Secretary:

Miss B. Rowland, 14, Woodleigh Street, Blackley, Manchester, 9.

REPORT

For the year ending 31st December, 1957

IT is becoming increasingly evident that one of the main reasons given for asking for the closing of footpaths under Section 43 of the National Parks Act, 1949, is that the paths are not required as they are not being used. In many counties where the Provisional and Definite Maps have been published, this reason has been given at public enquiries and the Minister has confirmed the Closure Orders. One case occurred in our area at Cranage during the year.

It is therefore important that all paths should be used regularly, and representations made against obstructed paths. To this end, the Society is arranging walks over paths that we are in danger of losing, and it is hoped that it will be supported, particularly by representatives from clubs who are prepared to lead club rambles over the paths.

There is no agreement between the County Councils as to their liability for the repairing of footpaths under the 1949 Act. We are very pleased, however, that Derbyshire County Council has accepted the principle that the Highways Authority is responsible for the repair of stepping devices of stiles and already they have repaired some stiles. The Clerk has agreed to take up with the offenders the question of obstruction if, after a reasonable time, the Rural Districts have not succeeded. We appreciate Derbyshire County Council's policy in this respect.

If there is no general agreement about the liability, there is agreement about the repairing of footbridges. Again Cheshire and Derbyshire County Councils and other Highway Authorities have built substantial bridges to replace broken bridges and they have repaired others. We applaud them for this work and hope it will continue during the current year, despite the tighter financial situation.

On the financial side, we welcome the fact that this year several local authorities have made donations to the Society. We have increased our membership and the number of affiliated bodies.

SECRETARY

At last year's Annual Meeting, Mr. H. King succeeded Mr. A. Smith as the Society's Secretary. We should like to place on record our thanks to Mr. Smith for the services rendered by him to the Society.

DEDICATION OF P. M. OLIVER MEMORIAL FOOTBRIDGE

As a memorial to our late President, we have reconstructed the footbridge that was washed away in Cheedale in 1954, and it will be formally dedicated at a ceremony on April 26th, 1958. To enable members to attend, we are arranging transport by private coaches, and a tea to follow the ceremony. Details are enclosed with this Report.

THE LATE Mr. G. H. B. WARD, F.R.C.S.

The Society lost a firm friend, and a most generous supporter, when Mr. G. H. B. Ward, of Sheffield, passed away in October last. In the course of a notable career as a champion of walkers' rights in the Sheffield district, he founded the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' Club, the Hallamshire Footpaths Preservation Society, and the Sheffield Ramblers' Association, besides helping in the work of other open-air societies, including our own.

In the early years of the century he collaborated with members of the Manchester Rambling Club in the fight to free Doctor's Gate, and he has been a member of our Society ever since those days. Up to the time of his death he remained an Hon. Footpaths Inspector, and retained an interest in our work. To many older members his passing marks the end of an epoch. Our President attended the funeral at Sheffield Crematorium, together with Messrs. Ambler, Daley and Wild.

THE HALLAMSHIRE FOOTPATH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

With the death of its Secretary, Mr. Mercer, and its Chairman, Mr. Ward, the Hallamshire Footpaths Preservation Society at its Annual Meeting asked us to look after footpath matters in its area and members have agreed to hand over to us its funds, maps and records. The Sheffield Area of the Ramblers' Association have agreed to provide two inspectors for the footpaths in that area.

We hope that members of the Hallamshire Society will support us by becoming members of this Society.

FOOTPATH SURVEY

The main activity during the year in connection with the Footpath Survey has been the collecting of evidence to substantiate our claims to paths omitted from the Draft Maps. Hearings will be held during 1958 in Derbyshire and Cheshire, so it is imperative that members should assist us at once by giving statements or helping to collect them.

In Cheshire, all the draft maps have been published, but owing to pressure of other work at the Surveyor's Department no hearings have yet been held, but hearings into our claims for paths omitted from the Bucklow Draft Map should be held early in 1958. We are pressing on with the task of collecting evidence. It has been agreed that the hearings in connection with our claims should be held on Saturdays or in the evenings, which is much appreciated.

In Staffordshire, the County Council has now considered the representations against the Draft Map, and has published a Modified Map so that counter-claims can be made before the Provisional Map is published.

As a result of our representations, 122 paths have been added to the Leek Rural District Draft Map and 15 paths to the Cheadle Rural District Draft Map. No doubt there will be counter-claims against some of these additions, and their inclusion on the Provisional Map will be challenged at Quarter Sessions. Staffordshire County Council has asked us to collect evidence to support its case for inclusion.

The Modified Maps and Schedules are being carefully studied. No important paths have been deleted, but the question of appeals to the Minister, against the County Council's decision not to include certain paths originally claimed, is being carefully considered.

In Derbyshire, the County Council has informed us that it is prepared to hold hearings concerning our representations as soon as we are ready to present our case. It is hoped the first series will be held in April. They are to be held on Saturdays and during the evenings.

It is a matter of great urgency that we obtain statements to support our claims. The Secretary has lists of

paths in the Chapel-en-le-Frith and Bakewell Rural Districts for which evidence is required and members are asked to send for copies.

In Lancashire, the Society has been represented at many hearings held during the year, and many of the determinations have been in our favour. The two most noteworthy were the County Council's decision that the whole of the Towpath of the Rochdale Canal should be shown as a public footpath, and the important paths that the Heywood and Middleton Waterboard conceded to be public in the Hailstorm Hill and Knowl Hill area, all of which will now be on the Provisional Maps, and no doubt the Definitive Maps. The Water Board recognised the public right of access to the Urban Common land on these moors. The County Council, as a result of our representations, added paths to the Draft Map in the Ashworth Valley, but the landowner indicated that many paths in the area would be challenged at the Provisional Map stage.

SIGNPOSTS

The Society is very much indebted to Mr. Frank Higgins for the work he has carried out during the year as Signpost Supervisor. The best way to show your appreciation of this work is by making a donation to the Signpost Account. You will see that during the year £38 15s. 0d. was spent on maintaining our signposts and a balance of only £3 15s. 0d. was carried forward to 1958, so it is imperative that donations should be plentiful if this important branch of the Society's activities is not to be impaired.

Club Secretaries and delegates are reminded of the appeal they received asking affiliated bodies to make an annual donation to the Signpost Account.

The Society welcomes the dedication of signposts as memorials, or to commemorate events, by clubs or individuals.

Mr. Higgins has repainted and/or refixed the following posts and plates during the year:—

- No. 4. On Hayfield-Edale Road below Tunstead Farm.
8. At Tunstead Milton.
10. Near Snake Inn.
13. At Hope Cross near Crookstone Barn.
15. Near Snake Inn.
25. On Win Hill Ridge—Hope.

26. Between Bamford and Hathersage.
30. On Kinder Road, Hayfield.
34. At Grindleford Bridge.
35. At Castleton.
36. At Hope.
43. Near Maynard Arms, Grindleford.
56. On Snake Road, near Birch Clough Bridge.
58. At Doctor's Gate, on Snake Road.
68. Near Woodruffe Arms, Hope.
78. On Sir William Road, Eyam.
84. At Aston Lane, Hope.
92. On Castleton Road, near Marsh Farm, Hope.
93. Between Hope Village and Lose Hill Farm.
107. Near ford, at Alport, Ashopton.
111. At Alport, Ashopton.
112. Near Grindslow House, Edale.
116. South of Bowstonegate Farm.
120. At Gun Farm, near Rowarth. (Braille Plate fixed.)

FINGERPOSTS

The following have been repainted:—

- No. 4. At Birch Vale Quarry, Hayfield.
27. At Alport ford, Ashopton.
28. At Alport ford, Ashopton.

and a new post and new metal plate erected at
No. 2. above Tunstead Farm, Hayfield.

FOOTBRIDGES

- P. M. Oliver Memorial Footbridge in Cheedale. New bridge erected.
- Col. Crook Memorial Footbridge in Cheedale. Repairs to the base carried out.
- Heron Memorial Footbridge at Alport re-inforced.

NEW SIGNPOSTS

During the year, Mrs. Robinson asked the Society to arrange for the erection of two signposts as a memorial to her father, the late Mr. E. P. Burrell, at the following points:—

1. On the carriage road at the extremity of the Westend arm of Howden reservoir. To mark the commencement of the Westend-Alport footpath. (Hope Woodlands 4.)

2. At Hope, at the beginning of the steps leading up to the level crossing on the Twitchill footpath. (Hope 21.)

The Manchester Area of the Ramblers' Association asked the Society to erect a post in the Dovedale area, near Ilam village, as a memorial to their late Publicity and Membership Secretary, Mr. J. T. Robinson.

These three posts will be dedicated during the Spring of 1958.

The Society is grateful for the work Derbyshire County Council is doing in connection with the signposting of footpaths. For two consecutive years, £2,000 have been budgetted for this work. In 1956, 345 posts were ordered and erected, and a similar number was ordered during 1957, but delivery is not expected until the Spring of 1958.

The posts are being erected within the Peak District National Park at points decided after consultation with amenity bodies including the Society.

FOOTPATHS INSPECTORS

As a result of the appointment of Mr. Hubert King as Secretary to the Society, a re-arrangement of Footpath Inspectors' areas became necessary. Mr. John H. Holness agreed to take over Mr. King's area, and Mr. H. Stott was appointed inspector for the portion of Lancashire previously looked after by Mr. Holness.

The Sheffield Area of the Ramblers' Association has undertaken to provide two inspectors to cover the area previously looked after by the Hallamshire Footpaths Society.

The areas now covered by the inspectors are shown below:—

Dr. A. J. Bateman, 9, East Meade, Manchester 21, has charge of the area lying west of the Macclesfield Canal to a line from Lymm to Sandbach (the east boundary of the Runcorn and Northwich R.D.C.s) and from Mr. Estill's area in the north running south to the end of the Society's area.

Mr. G. R. Estill, 23, Ambleside Road, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester, has charge of Lymm, Sale, Altrincham, Bowden, Partington, Carrington, Warburton, and Dunham Massey parishes.

Mr. T. Ewart, 148, Beresford Road, Manchester 13, has charge of Derbyshire and Cheshire south of the Romiley-Hathersage railway line and east of the Macclesfield Canal.

Mr. J. H. Holness, 6, Dale View, Haughton Green, Denton, Manchester, has charge of North Derbyshire (Chapel R.D.C.), Tintwistle, Longdendale, Saddleworth, and adjoining areas north of the Romiley-Hathersage railway line.

Mr. H. Jones, 9, Nixon Road, Daubhill, Bolton, has charge of an undefined area commencing south of Bolton and going northwards.

Mr. A. E. Nash, 130, Northwich Road, Weaverham, near Northwich, has charge of our area from a line from Lymm to Sandbach (the east boundary of the Runcorn and Northwich R.D.C.s) running westward to the end of our area, and going southwards from Warrington.

Mr. H. Stott, 2, Dunsters Avenue, Brandlesholme Road, Bury, has charge of Lancashire north and west of the River Tame to Mr. Jones' area at present undefined, commencing south of Bolton.

If you come across an obstruction, a stile or footbridge in need of attention, or a ploughed path, please inform the Inspector or the Secretary.

SPECIAL ROAD THROUGH CHESHIRE

The Special Road from Newcastle-under-Lyme to Warrington will sever twelve Cheshire footpaths. The Society is in communication with the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation about the proposed route. It is hoped that suitable diversions, tunnels, or bridges will be provided in each case.

PROPOSED LAMALOAD RESERVOIR, NEAR RAINOW

When proposals for a reservoir at Lamaload, in the Dean Valley, near Rainow, were first reported in the Press, we obtained an assurance from Macclesfield Corporation that they would consult us before closing or diverting any footpaths. We were, therefore, greatly surprised to learn later that a public inquiry into the proposals had been held without notice being given to our Secretary. We asked the Minister of Health to withhold approval of the Order permitting the construction

of the reservoir until the Corporation had satisfied us, but the Order was sanctioned none the less. However, Macclesfield Corporation has assured Cheshire County Council that no path will be closed until agreed diversions have been made. We are in correspondence with the Corporation regarding this matter.

PROPOSED RESERVOIR ON GREENFIELD AND CHEW BROOKS

The Bill which is to be presented in Parliament this session has been published. One section authorises the dedication of the two new paths, agreed to by the Waterboard and the Society, to replace submerged paths. One path goes up the Ashway Gap Valley, and the other just above the water-line into Chew Valley. The Board has promised a right of way across the new dam, after the Bill has been passed.

The Secretary is still corresponding with the Board with a view to getting more concessions.

MANIFOLD VALLEY LIGHT RAILWAY TRACK FOOTPATH

The Society protested to the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, Staffordshire County Council and the Peak Park Planning Board against the proposal to open another one and a half miles of this footpath to motorists.

The Minister has said that he appreciates our opposition to the proposal, and will consider the holding of a public inquiry before agreeing to the scheme. In the meantime, Staffordshire County Council are reconsidering their proposals.

MOTOR CYCLING ON FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Since the passing of the Road Traffic Act, 1956, the Society has paid particular attention to this problem. During the Spring we were corresponding about two trials which were held over footpaths and bridleways in the Urban Districts of Milnrow and Crompton. A bridleway in Saddleworth was also a part of the original route, but we were very pleased to learn that Saddleworth Council had passed a resolution laying down the principle that trials would not be permitted over footpaths and bridleways in their area. The other authorities agreed to the trials, but stipulated that all paths and bridle-

ways were to be restored to their original state after the trials, and they asked us to provide observers to report any damage to the surface of paths.

We protested to the Derbyshire County Council and the Peak Park Planning Board about the motor cycle trials held over certain paths in the Jammers Clough area in October.

As a result of action by Mr. Holness, more motor cyclists were fined for riding along paths in the Reddish and Bredbury area.

Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act, 1956, has now come into force, and Highway Authorities can make orders to restrict certain classes of traffic on specified roads including "green lanes." The Secretary has discussed this matter with a representative of Derbyshire County Council, who stated that the Peak Park Planning Board is to make a survey of moorland tracks to which an order under this Section of the Act might be made.

PENNINE WAY

The Manchester Corporation has now removed the obstructions on the section of the Pennine Way from the Quiet Shepherd to Highstones, Tintwistle. White stakes have been placed by Manchester Corporation along the line of the path and notices have been erected indicating the Pennine Way.

PUBLIC RAMBLES AND OUTINGS

During the Spring the Secretary led two rambles over the paths in Charlesworth that had been obstructed or disputed. It was felt that these walks had not only offered us an opportunity to introduce paths that are little used to other ramblers but also brought the Society useful publicity.

Further rambles are being arranged this year, and members are asked to support them. Affiliated bodies are asked to send representatives, so that they in turn may lead walks over the paths, which we are in great danger of losing. Details of the rambles are enclosed with this report.

The coach trip around the Peak National Park was a great success.

ANIMALS ON PATHS

All the Counties in the areas covered by the Society

have bye-laws regulating the keeping of bulls in fields where there are public rights of way. Though the bye-laws apply only to bulls it is felt that if a farmer knowingly puts a vicious animal into a field traversed by a public path, and a member of the public was injured, he would be liable for damages in a civil action.

Members are asked to report all cases of dangerous animals found in fields crossed by public rights of way to the Secretary or appropriate Inspector.

We were again successful this year in having bulls removed, and reported cases of aggressive dogs to the police.

Bull in field at Nether Haddon. As a result of a complaint from the Society a bull was removed from one of the Haddon Fields where there is a path.

Unfriendly Dog at Cobster Farm, New Mills. Mr. Holness investigated a complaint about a dog at this farm.

Aggressive Dog at Heskin Old Hall, Chorley. Mr. Jones complained about this animal. The matter was reported to the police who interviewed the owner.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

During the year, Miss Beatrice Rowland, 1, Woodleigh Street, Blackley, Manchester 9, agreed to become the Society's Membership Secretary. She has since written to many individuals and clubs asking them to join or affiliate to the Society. The increase in membership of individuals and affiliated bodies is due in no small way to her efforts.

LIBRARIAN

During the year, Mr. Ardern has re-organised and continued to catalogue the Society's Library, which is kept in the Manchester Central Library, Special Collections Section. He has listed the maps available, and copies of the list have been sent out to members. A number of copies are still available for new members on application to the Secretary.

Many additions have been made to the collection during the past twelve months, including the remainder of the late Mr. H. Robinson's collection, which consists of many guide books and books of general interest to walkers and lovers of the countryside. The Forestry Commission has sent us several of its National Forest Park Guides.

It is disappointing that more use is not made of this facility.

The Special Collections Section of the Central Library is open as follows:—

Mondays to Fridays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

REGISTRAR

The work done behind the scenes by Miss M. Lake, the Registrar, is much appreciated by the Society.

DIVERSION AND CLOSURE OF FOOTPATHS

To date, few orders have been made in our area for the closure and diversion of paths under the National Parks Act, 1949, though they may increase when the Footpath Survey reaches a more advanced stage.

However, our inspectors have been busy investigating orders made under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, as a result of various types of development. They have included:—

Altringham Urban District. Diversion of section of footpath from Golf Road to Levers Walk for industrial development.

Partington-Bucklow Rural District. Diversion of section of Wood Lane and footpath from Lock Lane, as a result of urban development.

Northwich Rural District. Closure of path in Weaverham because of new school playing fields.

Cheadle and Catley Urban District. Diversion of path from Finney Lane to Wilmslow Road, for urban development. Footpath from Pymgate Lane to Railway Bridge diverted for housing.

Bowden Urban District. Path at Devisdale diverted for agricultural purposes.

Northwich Urban District. Diversion of section of footpath between Hartford Road and Shurlach Road, the result of urban development.

Turton Urban District. Diversion of path because of quarrying.

Worsley Urban District. Closure and diversion of paths in the Buckley Lane-Spar Lane area because of industrial development.

Abram Urban District. Footpath from Beckinshaw Lane. Closed because of a new housing estate.

Crangate. The Society objected against the proposed closing of a path at Hollins Farm under the 1949 Act. A Public Inquiry was held, but the Minister confirmed the Closure Order on the ground that the path was not required for public use.

Stockport. A path at Pollitt Farm, Brinnington, was diverted because a school was built. We asked Stockport Corporation to provide a bridge where the new path crosses the stream, and we are hoping that they will do so.

Eyam-Bakewell Rural District. Section of footpath diverted as a result of quarrying. At the suggestion of the Society, Mrs. Haythornthwaite agreed to the new path crossing her land.

Kettleshulme. Macclesfield Rural District. Path diverted for agricultural development.

Bredbury and Romiley Urban District Council. Because of agricultural development, an order was made to divert a path between Beacon Houses and Radcliffe Fold, Werneth Low, but as the path was omitted from the Draft Map the Minister refused to confirm the order. The Urban District Council, with the assistance of the Society, was able to obtain declarations proving the path to be a public right of way under the Rights of Way Act, 1932, and the Minister has now confirmed the Order.

Bramhall. Hazel Grove Urban District Council. The Society objected against the closure of a section of a path between Moss Lane and Roundway. The developer agreed to amend his application so as to retain this section of the path. Consequently people still have an outlet to Moss Lane.

Oldham. Some paths were closed in the Abbey Hills area so that new playing fields could be constructed.

Buxton. A section of path from Fern Lodge to Harpur Hill was closed for the provisions of playing fields. An alternative path is still available.

Mossley. A footpath at Micklehurst diverted because of urban development.

Cheadle Rural District Council. The Society reported that a path in the Parish of Foxt had been submerged after a stream had been dammed by a culvert. Cheadle

R.D.C. declined to make a diversion order, but Staffordshire County Council asked the Minister for power to exercise the Rural District Council's function to divert the path on to higher land. The Minister agreed, and an order is now being made.

FOOTBRIDGES

We are grateful for the work that various Highway Authorities have done in connection with footbridges.

Monks Bridge in Lathkill Dale. At our request, Derbyshire County Council has repaired this bridge.

Footpath from Coach and Horses to Alders Farm, Fenny Bentley. Derbyshire C.C. has repaired a bridge on this path after a complaint from the Society.

Footbridge over Bollinhurst Brook near Elmerhurst Cottages. Cheshire County Council has repaired this bridge.

Footbridge over Shelf Brook. Derbyshire C.C. is repairing this bridge.

Footbridge near Doctors Gate Culvert. This bridge is also being repaired by Derbyshire C.C.

Footbridge at Early Bank, Stalybridge-Dukinfield boundary. The Minister of Transport has written to Stalybridge and Dukinfield Borough Councils about the repairing of this bridge. The Society is still pressing for action to be taken.

Footbridges on Footpath, Ilam to Okeover. At our request the Staffordshire County Council repaired a footbridge and erected a small log bridge with handrail on this path.

Footbridge over the Irwell at Nuttall, Ramsbottom. The Ramsbottom Urban District Council, because of the cost, felt that the renewal of this bridge was not justified. They suggested and the Society agreed that a new path should be dedicated along the river to a point where another bridge already exists. They are now negotiating with the land owner.

Footbridge on the Crowden-Chew Valley Path. At the request of the Society, the Cheshire County Council has built a substantial replacement for a bridge on the path leading up to Laddow Rocks.

Footbridge in Riddleworth Woods, Belmont. Turton

Urban District Council has renewed a bridge at this point.

Footbridge near Parkside Farm, Tabley. Cheshire County Council has built a good concrete bridge here.

Footbridge on path traversing Marple Dale. Marple Urban Council have replaced the wooden sleepers with a concrete slab.

Footbridge on path, Nether Haddon to Bakewell (Lathkill Dale). A footbridge crossing Wigger Dale brook has been renewed by Derbyshire County Council.

FOOTPATHS IN STAFFORDSHIRE

Path from Ilam to Okeover Bridge. Staffordshire County Council has repaired this path between Big Peg Woods and the Coldwall Bridge and also attended to the bridges on the path.

We asked that a step-over device be provided in a hurdle near Fishpond Wood. Staffordshire County Council considered that as there had not been a stile before, the owner could not be compelled to erect one, and they did not accept that the Council were responsible for providing one. However, the Secretary discussed this as a test case with Staffordshire County Council, and the Clerk has agreed to ask the Highways Committee, as a special consideration, to authorise the erection of the stile by the County Council.

Lane S.W. of Hillend Farm, Hollinsclough. After a civil action the Leek Rural District Council issued notice for the removal of a gate and stile from the lane. The farmer has removed a stone barrier from across the lane.

FOOTPATHS IN CHESHIRE

Spanns Farm, off Chester Road, Little Budworth. Obstructions were removed and a stile was repaired.

Back Lane to Castlemill, Ringway. We requested the removal of a misleading notice on this footpath.

Bucklow Rural District. We are in correspondence with the Clerk of the Bucklow Rural District Council about many footpaths. We are hoping that they will deal with the matters reported as quickly as possible and every effort is being made to this end.

Macclesfield Rural District Council. Taxal Church to Kettleshulme. After Mr. Ewart had reported a stile

on this path to be in need of repair it was put in order.

Many footpaths in this area are in need of attention and at our request Macclesfield Rural District Council is taking action to have the obstructions removed, and where necessary the stiles repaired.

The paths about which we are in correspondence are:—

Saltersford Hall to Ewrin Lane, Rainow.

Ewrin Lane to Rainow at Commonbarn Farm.

Lane Ends Farm to Setter Dog, Rainow.

Macclesfield Road to Ankers Knoll Lane, Macclesfield Forest.

Saltersford Hall to Thurstitch, Rainow.

Redsmoor Farm to Thurstitch, Rainow.

Disley, via Elmerhurst Cottages, to Higher Poynton.

Hanging Gate past Oakenclough Youth Hostel, Sutton.

Lower Ballgreave Farm to Hooley Lane, Macclesfield Forest.

Buxton—Macclesfield Road to Lower Ballgreave Farm, Macclesfield Forest.

Hooley Hey Lane via Eaves Farm and Redmoor Farm and on to Hooley Hey Lane, Rainow.

Mill Lane to Princes Wood, Poynton.

At Dissop Head Farm, Lyme Handley.

West of Dissop Head Farm, Lyme Handley.

Near Green Farm, Lyme Handley.

At Plattwood Farm, Lyme Park.

Marple Urban District. After complaints from the Society, Marple U.D.C. attended to the following footpaths:—

Cobden Edge Farm to Black Lane.

Longhurst Lane to the Knowle.

Gun Farm following walls and on to Charlesworth.

Flooded path near Middlewood. The Society has suggested a footbridge would remedy the complain on this path.

FOOTPATHS IN DERBYSHIRE

Bakewell Rural District Council. Footpath alongside River Derwent between Shatton and Leadmill Bridge. This path has been made safe after river erosion, and offending signposts have been removed. We are now pressing for the stiles to be repaired.

Footpath Shatton Bridge to Bamford. We reported that this path was in need of attention, and the local surveyor is taking action.

Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council. Wibbersley Farm to Batham Gate, Wormhill. Obstructions on the stiles have been removed.

Black Hillgate to Overton Farm, Hartington. A stile has been repaired on this path.

Stakeside Path via Stake Clough and Deep Clough to Coyt Road. We reported Lord Derby's keeper for turning people off this path and wrongly stating that it was not a public right of way.

At the request of the Society, the District Surveyor has told farmers to repair stiles and remove obstructions from the following paths:—

Barmoor to Peak Forest.

Barmoor to Pedlicote Farm.

Earl Sterndale to Hurdlow Town.

Hope to Brough.

At Lose Hill Farm.

King Sterndale to Staden.

Chapel-Castleton Road to Perry Gate.

Peak Forest to Sparrowpit Road.

Blackhill to Town End, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Eaves Farm to Lower Eaves Farm.

Whaley Bridge. We have asked for a stile to be repaired on the path by the River Goyt.

Charlesworth. Through the Society's persistence some paths in this area are free from obstruction, but many are still obstructed. The Secretary discussed this matter recently with the Assistant Clerk to the Derbyshire County Council, who promised to take up the matter.

Ashbourne Rural District

Footpath from Vincent House to Crowdecote. The Clerk to Ashbourne Rural District Council was unable to make progress in having this path freed from obstruction. The matter was reported to the Clerk of Derbyshire County Council, who has written to the offenders.

Footpath, Gag Lane to Ashbourne-Buxton Road, Newton Grange. The local surveyor is repairing a stile on this path.

The following paths have been reported to the Clerk

of the Ashbourne Rural District Council as being obstructed or having stiles in need of repair. He recently reported that they were nearly all in order, but Mr. Ewart has not yet had an opportunity to check them.

Wintercroft Lane to Spend Lane, Thorpe.

Alsop-en-le-Dale to Dam Lane, Eaton, and Parwich.

Alsop Lime Works to Parwich via Eaton Dale.

North of Coffin Well to Bent Lane, Tissington.

Standlow Farm, Gag Lane to Ashbourne-Buxton Road.

Bostern Grange Farm to Gag Lane.

Ashbourne Urban District. We have been in correspondence about a path leading to Dovedale which has been diverted. At our suggestion, the Council agreed to erect signposts "To Dovedale" along the line of the new path.

New Mills Urban District

Springbank Farm to Ringstones Farm, Rowarth. This path has been freed from obstructions.

Children's Inn to Briergrrove, Rowarth. Obstructions have been removed from this path.

FOOTPATHS IN LANCASHIRE

Footpath at Heskin Old Hall, Chorley. Obstructions removed.

Burnt House Farm, Tottington. Barbed wire removed from path.

Throstle Nest Farm to Buckow Brook, Coppull. Hawthorn bushes which were over-growing the path were pruned by Chorley Rural District Council.

Footpaths in Heywood. Many paths are in need of attention in the Cheesden Brook area. Mr. Stott is making a survey of them, then Heywood Corporation will be urged to put them in order.

Mr. Jones has collected statements and evidence for paths in Lancashire outside our area which have been very useful to other organisations.

FOOTPATHS IN WEST RIDING, YORKSHIRE

Footpaths in Lydgate, Saddleworth. After representations, obstructions were removed from the paths leading from Grasscroft to Lydgate Church.

PLOUCED-UP FOOTPATHS

Footpath at Heskin Old Hall, Chorley. We reported to the Lancashire County Council that this path had been ploughed.

Woolstencroft Farm, Bollington, near Altrincham. After we reported to the Cheshire County Council that this path had been ploughed, it was restored.

Footpath from Smithy Lane to Warrington Road, Cuddington. Cheshire County Council took action after we reported the ploughing of this path.

Footpath from Nether Haddon to Bakewell. After complaints by the Society, Derbyshire County Council took action and when later it was inspected, it was found to be well-defined.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Membership

The increase in subscription rates which officially came into operation at the commencement of the year, together with an increase in membership, both ordinary and affiliated bodies, has helped to produce a slightly higher income.

The figures of 560 members and 65 societies is, however, very far short of the target of 1,000 which we set ourselves some time ago, in spite of the valiant efforts of collectors, officers and the Membership Secretary.

Members are once more appealed to for their full support in reaching this goal and are further asked to endeavour to introduce new members and make sure that renewals of membership are made as early in 1958 as possible.

Finance

The year under review is remarkable in that a surplus has been produced instead of the all too common deficit on the Income and Expenditure Account in spite of generally increased costs. This is due in no small measure to the generous contributions made by twenty-five local authorities in the form of grants to the Society.

As was forecast in the previous Report, the year has seen an increase in expenditure in the day-to-day running of the Society's activities which have again widened in scope, as is evident by the appointment of two further Footpaths Inspectors.

From a perusal of the main body of the Report it will be appreciated that the year to come will again call heavily upon our financial resources and this fact is causing the Council some anxiety when the balances to be carried forward on the Survey and Signposts accounts are considered. The affiliated bodies have responded magnificently to the appeal made to them for funds for the Signpost Account but the Survey Account received very little and if the work covered by these accounts is to continue during the coming year an extraordinary response will have to be made by all.

P. M. Oliver Memorial Fund

Since closing the accounts for 1957 the Society has been called upon to cover the cost of the erection of the Memorial Footbridge in Chee Dale, in consequence of which this fund now shows a deficit of £97 14s. 5d.

Members who have not yet contributed to this fund are urged to do so now to enable the deficit to be liquidated as soon as possible.

Membership and Affiliation

The Council wishes to thank Members, Affiliated Clubs and Societies for their generous support and trusts this will be renewed to enable the work of the Society to proceed with increased vigour.

The terms of membership are simple, involving nothing more than the payment of a minimum annual subscription of 5s. for individuals, 2s. 6d. if under 18 years of age, 7s. 6d. for husband and wife, and 10s. 6d. for clubs and societies.

Subscriptions, which are now due, and donations, may be sent to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. G. S. Cooper, 13, Duffield Road, Salford 6, Lancs. Tel.: PENDleton 2360.

AFFILIATED RAMBLING CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Accrington Naturalists' and Antiquarians' Society.
Attrincham and District Natural History Society.
Ashton-under-Lyne & District C.H.A. & H.F. Rambling Club.
Barnsley C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Barnsley Mountaineering Club.
Bolton C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Bowdon C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Bowdon Warlocks.
Boy Scouts' Association, S.E. Lancs. County Scout Council.
Bramhall Ratepayers' Association.
Bury and District C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Camping Club of G.B. & I., North West Region.
Central Rambling Club.
Cheadle Hulme W.E.A. Out-of-Doors Group.
C.E. Holiday Homes.
Comradeship of the Christian Endeavour Holiday Homes, Manchester Section.
Comradeship of the Christian Endeavour Holiday Homes, Stockport Section.
Co-operative Holidays Association.
Council for the Preservation of Rural England, Congleton District Committee.
Crescent Ramblers.
Derbyshire C.H.A. & H.F. Rambling Club.
Derbyshire Footpaths Preservation Society.
Eastwood Rambling Club.
Eccles C.H.A. Social and Rambling Club.
Friendship Holidays Association (Manchester) Rambling Club.
Glossop and District Rambling Club.
Halcyon Rambling Club.
Hallamshire Footpaths Preservation Society.
High Lane Residents' Association.
Holiday Friendship, Ltd.
Holiday Fellowship, Manchester Group.
Holiday Fellowship, Oldham Group.
Holiday Fellowship, Rochdale Group.
Holiday Fellowship, Stockport Groupd.
Macclesfield and District Field Club.
Manchester A.E.I. Rambling Club.
Manchester Amateur Photographic Society.
Manchester Associates Rambling Club.
Manchester C.H.A. (Section A) Rambling Club.
Manchester C.H.A. (Section C) Rambling Club.
Manchester C.H.A. (Section D) Rambling Club.
Manchester C.H.A. Social Club.
Manchester and District Rambling Club for the Blind.
Manchester Fellowship (Ramblers' Section).
Mancheser Field Naturalists' and Archaeologists' Society.
Manchester Pedestrian Club.
Manchester Public Libraries Staff Association.
Manchester Rambling Club.
Manchester and Stockport Catholic Rambling Club.
Manchester Y.M.C.A. Rambling Club.
Marple Residents' Association.
Moorland Ramblers' Club.

North-Western Naturalists' Union.
Northwich and District Joint Anglers' Association.
Oldham and District C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Oldham Photographic Society.
Omega Rambling Club.
Ramblers' Association.
Ramblers' Association, Liverpool District and North Wales Area.
Ramblers' Association, Manchester Area.
Ramblers' Association, Sheffield and District Area.
Rochdale Field Naturalists' Society.
Rucksack Club.
Sheffield Clarion Ramblers.
Sheffield C.H.A. (Section A) Rambling Club.
Sheffield C.H.A. Rambling and Social Club.
Sheffield Rambling Club.
Stockport C.H.A. Rambling and Social Club.
Stockport Corporation Transport Social and Athletic Society
(Rambling Society).
Stockport Field Club.
Stockport Seconians Association Rambling Club.
Stockport W.E.A. Rambling Club.
Stoke-on-Trent C.H.A. Rambling Club.
Stoke-on-Trent H.F. Rambling Club.
Sutton-in-Ashfield and District Rambling Club.
207 Rambling Club.
United Field Naturalists' Society.
Wayfarers' Rambling Club.
Wesley Guild Holidays.
Woodford Residents' Association.
Workers' Travel Association, Ltd.
Y.H.A., Burnage and Levenshulme Group.
Y.H.A., Manchester and Salford Sub-Regional Group.
Y.H.A. North Midlands Regional Group.
Y.H.A., Prestwich Area Group.
Y.H.A. Sheffield Sub-Regional Group.

The Peak District and Northern Counties Footpaths Preservation Society
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956		£ s. d.		By INCOME—		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.
	To EXPENDITURE—								
38 10 4	Annual Report: Printing less Adevtrising	34	17	4	Subscriptions:				
9 19 9	Distribution	8	11	7	1 17 6	Paid in advance as per 1956 Statement			
					71	7 0	65 Societies	63	18 6
20 15 0	Hire of Rooms	15	15	0					
48 11 5	Printing and Stationery	59	15	7	145	19 5	Paid in Advance as per 1956 Statement	158	9 6
5 2 0	Insurance Premiums	5	5	0	71	7 0	Received for 1957: 500 Members	63	18 6
	Subscriptions to Commons, Open Spaces						65 Societies		
2 9 0	and Footpaths Preservation Society	2	2	0					
	Affiliations to four Branches of the				4	5 6	Donations	23	2 0
2 2 0	C.P.R.E.	2	2	0	0	18 0	Grants from 25 Local Authorities	115	1 5
							Sundries	8	14 0
	Advertising	5	5	0					
	Sundry Expenses	1	9	10					
4 0 0	Cost of Annual General Meeting	14	2	8					
80 0 0	Honorariums: Secretary	30	0	0	36	3 10	Bank Interest on Deposits at the		
45 0 0	Six Footpaths Inspectors	75	0	0	23	7 0	Manchester & Salford Savings Bank	37	15 8
12 10 0	Signpost Inspector	12	10	0			Interest on P. M. Oliver Trust Fund	17	14 0
5 5 0	Treasurer	5	5	0					
		122	15	0					
	Travelling Expenses:								
10 6 1	Secretary	20	10	0					
24 9 8	Six Footpaths Inspectors	22	7	6					
	Signpost Inspector								
0 16 9	Other Officials	3	10	6					
42 3 1	Postages and Telephones	53	14	1					
0 8 4	Cheque Books (4)	0	16	8					
2 0 6	Bank Charges	8	16	6					
	Subscriptions paid in advance for 1958:								
	Five Members	1	10	0					
3 10 0	Maps and Plans	10	4	5					
22 16 6	Signpost Expenses Accrued								
95 11 6	Compensation Paid to Secretary	3	3	0					
425 19 6	Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure	391	13	1					
	carried to Expense Account	28	12	0					
£425 19 6		£420	5	1					
1956		£425	19	6					
		£420	5	1					

DEFENCE FUND AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956 £ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,000 0 0 Balance brought forward from 1956	1,000 11 0	1,028 11 0 Balance carried forward to 1958
28 11 0 Add Donations received during year	315 9 6	315 9 6
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
£1,028 11 0	£1,344 0 6	£1,344 0 6

SIGNPOST ACCOUNT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956		1956		1956	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
60	0 0	Balance brought forward from 1956	5	9 9
19	17	1	Add Surplus on A.G.M. Lecture	89 8 10
15	1	6	Add Donations received during year	5 9 9
£94 18 7		£42 9 6		£94 18 7	
Signpost Maintenance and Erection		Balance carried forward to 1958		£14 7	
				£14 11	

SURVEY ACCOUNT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956	£ s. d.	1956	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
55 0 0	Balance brought forward from 1956	92 0 10	Survey Expenditure	51 11 9
79 5 6	Add Donations received during year	42 4 8	Balance carried forward to 1958	0 17 9
£134 5 6		£132 8 11	£134 5 6	£132 8 11

EXPENSE ACCOUNT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956 £ s. d.	1956 £ s. d.	1956 £ s. d.
155 1 9 Balance brought forward from 1956	15 0 6	142 1 8 Deficit from Income and Expenditure Account ...
— Surplus carried from Income and Expenditure Acc.	28 12 0	13 0 6 Balance carried forward to 1958
£155 1 9	£41 12 6	£155 1 9

P. M. OLIVER MEMORIAL FUND AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

Donations received	£ s. d.	Expenditure	£ s. d.
	58 8 6	Balance carried forward	88 15 7
	£58 8 6		£88 8 6

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

1956	£ s. d.	1956	£ s. d.	Balance Standing to Credit of:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
25 7 4 Cash	317 7 9	1,028 11 0	Defence Fund	1,344 0 6		
9 7 0 Petty Cash	4 19 2	5 9 9	Signpost Account	8 14 11		
4 1 8 Bank	74 18 0	42 4 8	Survey Account	0 17 9		
Deposits at Manchester & Salford		18 0 6	Expense Account	41 12 6		
1,109 15 11 Savings Bank	1,111 7 9		P. M. Oliver Memorial Fund	38 15 7		
	1,508 7 8					
1,148 11 11 Less Accrued	79 6 5					
	1,429 1 3					
£1,039 5 11		£1,429 1 3				
		£1,039 5 11				
					£1,429 1 3	