

Peak and Northern Footpaths Society



**ANNUAL REPORT
1982**

COVER PICTURE: HAROLD WILD MEMORIAL FOOTBRIDGE AT ROWARTH

Specially drawn for the Society by Mrs Peggy Bellhouse

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Abbreviations: FP = Footpath; BW = Bridleway; BY = Byeway open to all traffic but used mainly as FP etc; RUPP = Road used as public path; HA = Highways Act; S = Section; DMO = Definitive Map Order; FB = Footbridge; DOE = Department of Environment; NWWA = NW Water Authority; TCPA = Town & Country Planning Act; SOS = Secretary of State

PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

Founded in 1984; Manchester Association Founded 1826

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Vice Presidents:

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G S Cooper

P Daley
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-

Council:

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A Bennett MP
W Brookfield
Mrs M Cooper

Mrs E Daley JP
A Eaton
Miss R Irlam

Mrs E Johnson
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FOREWORD - MAN WANTED

The title of this year's Foreword may invite a charge of male chauvinism, but being firmly of the opinion that man embraces woman I prefer it to "person wanted", though help from a lady would be equally welcome.

What help is in fact required and indeed required urgently? As I said last year the new Wildlife and Countryside Act throws the whole system of definitive maps into the melting pot and no public path will be safe from "rash assault" now that the new provisions have come into effect. It will no longer be necessary to produce new evidence that could not have been advanced at the time of the original survey in order to get a path removed from the map. Some authorities have already claimed that certain paths were included in the maps in error, despite the fact that under the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act a path shown on the definitive map is legally public irrespective of errors. Remember the famous case of the path under a deep stretch of water which is still open to anyone who can hold his breath long enough!

A spate of applications to have paths removed from the maps is by no means unlikely and we urgently need somebody to cope with the large amount of extra work that will be involved in defending them. Our hard-worked and indefatigable Closure and Diversions Secretary can cope with no more and there is a great danger that paths may be lost by default. There is also a positive side to all this, as the Act also opens up the possibility of applying for individual paths to be added to the map without waiting for the former periodical reviews which have now been abolished.

There is plenty of scope for this activity also, but defence will have to come first. Years ago, when we were faced with the monumental task of coping with the great Footpaths Survey ordained under the 1949 Act, the late Norman Redford emerged from one of our affiliated clubs and did yeoman service for us in organising the work. Is it expecting too much to hope that another Norman Redford will come forward and take on this new challenge?

FRANK HEAD

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1982

It is my pleasure to present for your consideration, my report for the year ended 31 December 1982. You will appreciate I am sure that the matters contained in it constitute only a very small part of the work undertaken during the year and as evidence of this one need only look at the Footpath Report for 1982.

Manchester International Airport

The year opened with news to the effect that extensions to the Manchester Airport runway and in particular the siting of the new Instrument Landing System Enclosure had completely destroyed footpaths 60 and 63 in the parish of Mobberley. The Society had previously agreed a diversion route around all sides of the enclosure but the replacement paths and stiles left much to be desired. It is pleasing to note however that following representations to the Resident Engineer for the contract a considerable amount of remedial work was carried out and the paths were at least made safe for public use. There are still one or two minor points which require attention, together with the waymarking of the paths but these matters are in hand. I would like to pay tribute to the excellent survey work carried out by Harold Brimelow who carefully monitored and plotted the work carried out and highlighted the problems which remained.

Cleared Paths

In more general terms the work of the Society has proceeded apace with the number of obstructed path files growing as each passing week adds more to the total and very few problems appear to be resolved. That is not to say that we have not had some successes! Litton FP 1 is now clear with new stiles erected. This path has been in dispute for some years and it is gratifying to be able to report its clearance (GR's 169752 to 160760). Belmont 28, where a fence round the car park of the Wright's Arms PH obstructed the path, has also now been cleared. A sea of stable manure and refuse which obstructed Hyde 153 (GR's 971931 to 975934) has also been cleared and there are many others.

Membership

One matter which does cause me some concern (and I am sure other Officers will mention it in their reports) is the continuing fall in membership. It is vitally important that we reverse the current adverse trend as a matter of urgency if we are to be able to speak with any sort of authority at Public Inquiries etc. The only good feature in the membership scene at the moment is the increase in the number of affiliated societies. I wonder is it too much to ask each of our members to seek to recruit one more member? What a difference this would make to our total membership. I do hope that each member will consider taking up this challenge of falling membership by making a positive effort to recruit just one more member each (more if possible, of course).

Ploughing

1982 has seen the introduction of the new "ploughing" law, Section 61 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act requires that reinstatement must take place within two weeks, unless exceptional weather conditions prevent it. I feel that if this new legislation is to be of any benefit to us then we have to be prepared to report individual cases to local authorities, but more important, build in a "follow up" system which does not allow the Councils to conveniently forget their responsibility. To do this requires a lot of work and patience and the co-operation of a person who can watch the situation on the ground. I feel it to be important that we have at least one ploughing case lodged with every authority to remind them that we do not intend to let them escape their responsibility. I am quite prepared to apply pressure on the local authorities. Who will adopt a ploughed path and let me have regular reports from the site?

Inspectors

One of the great strengths of our Society is the dedicated people who act as footpaths inspectors. Without them I could not continue to maintain an efficient organisation. During the year we have had many offers of assistance in this field and several new inspectors have been appointed. However we are always on the look-out for more. We need people who are prepared to give as much time as they feel able, to walk paths, to note problems and to report them to me. I will take the necessary action, but it is vitally important that any obstructions, unofficial diversions etc. are noted in our records.

A Plea for Help

By the time you read this report, Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act will have been enacted. One of the immediate consequences of this will be the introduction of DMO's (Definitive Map Orders) whereby any person can apply for paths to be added to or deleted from the Definitive Map. We know that local authorities have been inundated with requests from landowners to have paths deleted and that many authorities have long lists just waiting for the enactment day. We as a Society need to contest every single one of these applications if we are to maintain the footpath network, but we just do not have the manpower to do it. We urgently need a person or persons to act as Definitive Maps Officers. I would be delighted to discuss what is involved with any interested persons. Please give me a ring.

Conclusion

If you sense that my report this year is based on a series of appeals for assistance, then you are quite correct. I happen to feel that if we are to continue our work in the footpath perservation field efficiently, and there is no other way, then we must have more and more people "in the field" keeping a close watch over our paths. We cannot have too many helpers. Please will you make a contribution?

DEREK TAYLOR
GENERAL SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1982

Affiliated Societies

85 Societies were affiliated at 31 December 1982 compared with 78 at the same time the previous year. Three societies did not renew in 1982, but ten new societies joined, a net increase of seven. The affiliation fee has been £2 for many years but has been increased to £4 for 1983.

Annual Members

Members paying the annual fee of £1 (£1.50 for married couples) in 1982 totalled 340 including 89 couples and three juniors at 50p. Although 60 new members joined the Society, 67 did not renew and thus there was a net loss of seven. Most of the members who left the Society joined only in 1981 and it seems a regular trend each year for only one subscription to be paid. The subscription for 1983 has been increased to £1.50 (£2.50 for couples) and this modest increase does not adequately reflect our expenditure in carrying out the Society's vital work in dealing with footpath perservation.

Ten Year Members

There has been a welcome increase of 16 in members paying the £10 fee (£15 for couples) and the number now is 187 including 28 couples. The subscription from 1983 will be £12.50 (£18 for couples) and this gives members a financial saving over ten years even if the subscription remains unchanged.

Total Membership

The Society now has five life members and the current total membership is 532 - a net increase of 12. It is essential to achieve a substantial increase in membership, not only to meet the ever higher expenditure, but to strengthen our hand in conducting negotiations with landowners and local authorities. I appeal to all our members to try to recruit their fellow ramblers in our support. I must record the Society's deep gratitude to those members and affiliated societies who regularly give generous donations in addition to their subscriptions and affiliation fees. These donations are to some extent filling the gap between subscription income and expenditure.

TED WHITTAKER

COMMENTARY

Extinguishment Orders

Volume 5 No, 4 of the RA's "Footpath Worker" includes a useful review of eighteen selected cases of Orders made between 1980 and 1982 under HA 59 s.110 or its successor HA 80 s.118, the criterion for closure, in both cases, being that the path is not needed for public use. Before confirming an unopposed or opposed Order, the council or the SOS, respectively, must take into consideration how much the path is likely to be used by the public, disregarding any temporary circumstances which might limit its use, such as an obstruction. Hence the SOS, in particular, and his inspector have to assess the extent to which an obstructed path might be used, were it not blocked. This is not at all simple and the SOS is not easily persuaded in favour of the public right unless several witnesses give evidence at an inquiry. The message is clear: do not send one person to represent several.

Nine confirmed and nine rejected Orders were selected for review and three of them involved our Society. In two cases the SOS overruled his Inspector's recommendations. At Smallfield, Surrey, the Inspector accepted that a public footpath was needed, that a parallel BW was unsuitable in wet weather, and an estate road not of a similar character. The SOS accepted the facts, but argued that if the BW was repaired it would be used more than the FP, though the evidence suggested that no repair was contemplated or likely. At Clevedon, Avon, however, where an Inspector was persuaded that a path had been included in error in the Definitive Map, and rejected objections from three local societies and 18 individuals, the SOS accepted that the path was necessary and overruled him. In this case good and sufficient evidence prevailed over an unsympathetic Inspector and three local authorities. Ample evidence of likely use, especially by school children, also saved a path at Apperley that had been obstructed for over twenty years.

Of course, the SOS is a many headed monster occupying a number of regional offices and, as usual, the cases reveal considerable differences in attitudes and awareness of the law between various officials and inspectors. Councils, in particular, seem very ready to accept irrelevant reasons for closure, such as vandalism. It is heartening to read however that a lone objector, using written representations, defeated a closure advocated by a property owner, an alleged majority of local residents and the London Borough of Barnet.

Signposting and Waymarking

A joint DOE/Welsh Office circular (DOE 32/81) says "Signposting and waymarking of public rights of way are of considerable benefit to path users, and also to farmers by helping to prevent trespass. It is hoped that authorities will make greater progress in fulfilling the requirements of Section 27 of the 1968 Act, as now amended, and will utilise any assistance offered by voluntary groups for this purpose." We agree.

Harold Wild Memorial Footbridge

The memorial bridge at Rowarth was duly dedicated on May 16 1982 by our President and declared open by Mrs Wild, who cut the tape. Harold Wild's two daughters and his lifelong friend, Donald Berwick also spoke. About fifty members and friends attended this pleasant occasion, which marked the culmination of much excellent staff work by our Chairman and Frank Mason. The co-operation of Danny Blair, the Derbyshire Footpaths Officer was also most valuable. After the ceremony, Mr and Mrs Mason provided refreshments for Mr Wild's relatives and friends at their home in Mellor.

Threat to Ordnance Survey Maps

The threat referred to in our last Report materialised early in 1983 when, shortly before his departure from the DOE, the Minister, Mr Heseltine, announced his intention to introduce a trading fund for the OS. Strong opposition was organised by the Royal Geographical Society and at the time of writing the proposal has just been defeated in the House of Lords.

Heavier Lorries

After much hesitation the Government has approved an increase in lorry weights to 38 tonnes for five-axle lorries instead of the original forty tonne limit proposed, but with no increase from the present 32.5 tonnes for rigid vehicles. Mr Howell, the Minister, pledged that there would be no further increase despite the EEC wish for an ultimate forty tonnes, and he also agreed that there should be more restrictions on access for heavy vehicles. Considerable opposition from Tory MP's was apparently overcome by the promise of more bypasses and strong pressure from the Prime Minister's office. In the event only three Conservatives voted against the Bill but twenty more abstained.

Lose Hill Footpaths

No progress has been made on this matter (last year's Report, p7) and the Society has withdrawn its agreement to a possible readjustment of paths near Fields and Riding House Farms, following the refusal of the landowner to concede a new path up to the Lose Hill Ridge.

Lancashire County Council Bill

Following representations the LCC has now agreed to an 18-month review period for temporary closures, to apply only to paths crossing derelict, neglected or unsightly land. This is acceptable.

Gwynedd Draft Review Map

Early in the year we were informed that Draft Review Maps for the Welsh counties of Clwyd and Gwynedd had been published and that Mr Arthur Roberts who looks after North Wales footpaths for Merseyside RA, could not cope with the work in both counties. The Society therefore agreed to contribute £100 towards a fund to enable a competent unemployed man to do the necessary work.

"Outside our Area"

An Australian solicitor, who was greatly impressed by what he saw on a visit to our district has written for information on public rights of way and signposting. Don Lee has been reminded that Australia is outside our operational area.

Dogs

May we remind any members who take dogs on their walks that it is now an offence, punishable by a fine of up to £200 to allow a dog to be "at large (that is to say not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field of inclosure where there are sheep" (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Schedule 7, S.3 (1) (c) - irrespective of whether the dog is chasing the sheep or not. Some farmers are none too clear about this and may make even wider claims as to where dogs are to be kept on leash under the "new law". On the other hand they do not always appreciate that the Countryside Code's admonition to "keep your dog under control in the countryside" applies as much to them as to anybody else. Unfortunately farmers do not face such severe penalties as the walker whose dog is technically "at large" though doing no harm and they tend to be sympathetically treated by local magistrates. In a recent case, a farmer was cautioned after a woman was very badly bitten by his dog, but subsequently allowed the same animal to bite another walker.

Society's Slide Lecture

This has recently been revised and now contains well over a hundred 35mm colour transparencies illustrating the work of the Society and its members. It is hoped that this will prove to be an additional fund raiser and publicity medium. Applications to the Secretary or Chairman.

Bulls

Since the passing of the Wildlife Act there has been much talk in various quarters of the need to advise the public on how to behave when meeting an allegedly safe beef-breed bull with its mates on a footpath. Nothing has emerged so far and it is becoming more and more obvious that everyone would prefer somebody else to undertake this legally hazardous task. The RA has nervously consulted its Hon Solicitor and received in reply the well-known "word of advice to those about to get married". The Ministry would like the Health and Safety at Work people to oblige and vice versa. Can it be that deep down in their hearts the men of the "Whitehall Branch of the NFU" know as well as we do that every bull is potentially dangerous?

It is not for us to "rush in where angels fear to tread", but we suggest that before entering a field containing a bull on a public path you write to the Chief Inspector (Agriculture), Health and Safety Executive, Regina House, 259 - 269 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1, asking if the bull in question is safe. We understand that they will then send an Inspector to look at it and hand its owner their guidance leaflet which warns that "bulls of some breeds are often thought to be more placid than others, but even these have killed. Every bull, however docile it may appear, must be treated with the greatest respect and handled in the proper manner at all times."

London Gazette Notices

Now that notices of FP closures and diversions are no longer published in the Gazette, the DOE has agreed that all councils making FP Orders in the eight counties of Cheshire, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Staffordshire, South Yorks and West Yorks, must send copy notices to our Society. The only other regional society specifically granted similar rights of notification is the Chiltern Society - well-known for its vigorous defence of footpaths.

F H

ARCHIVES AND RECORDS

Work is proceeding steadily and some 20,000 items have now been classified. We are now operating both morning and afternoon sessions on Mondays and it is hoped to supplement this by the addition of a Thursday session if sufficient volunteers are forthcoming on a regular basis. If you are of inquiring mind and able to interpret grid references - and we will train you if you are not - and can arrange to spare us about three hours of time then we shall be very glad to hear from you, and your map reading ability will certainly improve as a result.

A recent addition to our stock of Definitive Maps is a full set from Greater Manchester County and we are grateful for this co-operation from the Highway Authority. However we are liable to pay for the Ordnance Survey copyright which may result in a sizeable bill.

We are also grateful to South Yorkshire Council for their donation of a set of Definitive Maps.

When the final section of the Wildlife and Countryside Act becomes operative in the near future, the dangers to our footpath networks will increase considerably, as many local authorities appear to be awaiting this event before unleashing a spate of Definitive Maps Orders to delete many paths and thereby remove their legal status. All of these Orders will have to be opposed on your behalf and this is where the Archive Research will be of considerable value in producing rebuttal evidence.

During the year we received the gift of an addressing machine and associated equipment from Mr and Mrs H Brown of the Border Bridleways Society prior to their departure for Northumberland. We record our appreciation of this useful gift.

We also record our thanks to Mrs Betty Maybury for her assistance prior to her departure for Barrow in Furness.

An approach to our bankers, Messers Williams and Glyns, resulted in our obtaining a set of exhibition stands, and work is now underway to mount a suitable display of the Society's work, which will suitably acknowledge the generosity of the donors.

L G M

FRANK MASON

Shortly before going to press we were very saddened to learn of the death on 23/2/83 of Mr Frank Mason who has looked after our signposts for many years. During the 1939 - 1945 war, he served with distinction as a Flight Lieutenant in the RAF, and after marrying and settling down in Mellor became a science teacher at the Willows Secondary School in Marple. In that capacity he was a popular and enthusiastic organiser of holiday expeditions for his pupils as well as local walks and working parties. He was a great influence for good among his pupils.

He first took up FP signposting for the long defunct Marple Residents' Association and before becoming our signpost supervisor had erected many for the RA Lockerby FP Trust. In all he has the erection of more than 80 posts to his credit in the Marple district and further afield. For many people this would have been a frustrating task in view of the widespread vandalism aimed at FP signposts, and not least near his home, but Frank never gave in.

He was also a devoted supporter of the Peak Park Voluntary Wardens Association and took part in a successful patrol on Kinder quite recently, although he had been dogged by ill health for several years. Frank was a man of great courage and determination, who in defiance of physical difficulties contrived to live an active and meaningful life almost to the very end. In countryside circles he was universally popular and will be missed by a wide circle of friends.

FRANK HEAD

COMMON LAW LANE

I was recently on a visit to York, and our party was taken on a conducted tour of the Guildhall, home of the Lord Mayor and meeting place of the City Council. The point of interest to Rights of Way enthusiasts is that under Guildhall is an old right of way called Common Law Lane, that somewhat predates current legislation. When the Guildhall was built, in the 14th Century, the original landing stage on the Ouse on the Roman road to the South Gate to Eboracum, the route of the present Stonegate, ran just here. Our guide told us it was probably the crossing point for the Brigantes earlier still.

So when the Guildhall was built, it was built over the old road, converting it into a tunnel. There's footpath preservation for you! Alas, it was not a right of way for long. The ground level of the neighbouring streets steadily rose, leaving the ancient road behind. Access to it now has to be obtained via a locked gate and a flight of steps. Precisely when this happened is not known. I would guess that its reopening is beyond the powers of even our Closure and Diversion Secretary.

But it is nice to think that here is a right of way still preserved in the flesh, even if the public no longer have access to it.

ANGUS BATEMAN

THE WAY AHEAD

This was the year of the Signpost! Forty-two of our posts received attention from a coat of paint and re-lettering, to a complete overhaul and re-siting. In two cases our cast plates were modified by re-grinding and were able to be used on different sites where plates had disappeared. Two major efforts were those at Chapel Gate, and at the Alport where nearly all the engineering work had to be done out in the open, and in the case of Alport, under severe weather conditions around Alport Castles.

Apart from the above, many inspections have taken place of existing signposts, and also searches for those that are missing.

We are grateful to the relatives and friends of the late Frank Turton and Reg Brocklebank for their donations of Memorial Signposts. Work on a Commemorative Post is also at present under way for another donor.

We record our thanks to the small group of members who have given willingly of their assistance to enable such a large amount of work to be completed during the year. Jack Ogden's solo work - without transport support - is to be specially commended, and Walter Brookfield's assistance with various tools. We shall be pleased to receive information of any of The Society's signs which have not recently been overhauled. Please give Location, Grid Reference and Post Number.

SIGNPOST MAINTENANCE 1982

Number	Grid Reference	Site
116	973809	South of Bowstonegate
30	041868	Kinder Road, Hayfield
2	051884	Carrmeadow, Hayfield
124	099829	Rushup Edge
207	050883	Middle Moor, Hayfield
123	136507	Ilam
56	109911	Snake Road
60	113907	Roman Road, Snake
34	243778	Grindleford
43	249783	"
136A	713862	Agden
137B	712854	"
108	135911	Alport Castles Farm
95	034764	Whitehall, Long Hill
147	016729	Higher Goyt Valley
105	060710	South of Cat & Fiddle
10	109908	Snake Road
14	145864	Edale End
31	128603	Hartington
33	051853	Hayfield-Chinley Old Road
35	154932	Hope Road, Castleton
38	182826	Brough
67	141896	Alport Bridge
68	172836	Hope Village
83	983691	Below Shutlingslow Farm
86	225879	Moscar Cottage Strines
92	163835	Hope-Castleton Road
98	099834	Chapel Gate
106	142896	Alport Bridge
107	137911	Alport Castles
117	245571	Via Gellia
120	002905	Gun Farm, Rowarth
183	991992	Stalybrushes
121	155927	Westend, Derwent
135B	066862	Crag Hall
132	991688	Trentabank
32	964712	Bagshaw
125	079811	

Number	Grid Reference	Site
142	975699	Shutlingslow
144	978697	Shutlingslow, above Farm
149	889696	Gawsworth
159	013893	Rowarth

NEW MEMORIAL POSTS

167	219839	To Frank Turton, Nether Hurst, East of Bamford.
181B	063846	To Reg Brocklebank, South Head, Dimpus Clough.

L G M

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Adlington 26 (Macclesfield BC) A stile is required where the path is obstructed by sheep netting. Local authority advised.

Adlington 47 (Macclesfield BC) The farmer at Higher Doles Farm frequently turns walkers back who attempt to use the path G.R. 926791 to 931794. Macclesfield BC have undertaken to deal with this matter.

Agden 3, 4 & 5 (Cheshire CC) There are major problems of fencing and ploughing in this area which Cheshire have agreed to investigate.

Ashley 6 (Cheshire CC) Path ploughed out at GR 772844 - reported to local authority.

Aston by Budworth 8 (Cheshire CC) This path is obstructed by fencing where it leaves the road at 696792. Cheshire are dealing.

Bollington 40 (Macclesfield BC) The local authority have agreed to provide a signpost where the path leaves Oak Lane, Kerridge.

Bosley 2 & 9 (Cheshire CC) The former has an uprooted signpost adjacent to the wrong access from the road and the latter is obstructed by barbed wire at two points. 926671 & 927672. Reported to County.

Congleton 4 & 4a (Congleton BC) See last year's report under Newbold Astbury 4 & 4a. The path crosses Astbury Golf Course. Joint inspection walk held with Congleton RA prior to inquiry on 6.7.82. At the inquiry the Golf Club capitulated in the face of strong local opposition and the bad publicity they gained. They, in fact, offered an additional path.

Gawsworth 10 (Cheshire CC) The step stile at 889696 is in urgent need of repair and County and P & N signposts stand side by side when one could be more usefully deployed. Council advised.

High Legh 9 & 10 (Cheshire CC) No sign of either of these paths on the ground, both having been ploughed out. G.R's 685825 to 686830 and 685831 to 690842. Two of the many ploughed paths in our area. The Society is now taking a very firm line on ploughing following the introduction of the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

Kettleshulme 20 & 28 (Cheshire CC) Path system in this area is totally confused and the Inspector is carrying out a survey.

Little Bollington 1 & 11 (Cheshire CC) Footpath 1 is obstructed by barbed wire at its junction with the boundary with Millington Parish and FP11 is obstructed by a securely fastened gate at GR 739859. Cheshire CC have been informed and are dealing with the problems.

Macclesfield Forest 8 (Cheshire CC) Access to this path from Hardingley Farm Lane was denied, but following representations by the Society a stile has been provided. Grid Ref 957725.

Macclesfield Forest 9 (Cheshire CC) Building work at Ashtreetop Farm has caused a diversion of this path - 960727 - inquiries continuing.

Marthall 3 (Cheshire CC) Footbridge missing over Marthall Brook at GR 794763. The County Council are investigating.

Marthall 4 (Cheshire CC) Path is obstructed by a beech hedge at GR 797771. The landowner breeds horses and is said to be quite determined to deny this ROW to the public. Cheshire are taking action, but progress is slow.

Marthall 7 & 11 (Cheshire CC) Little evidence of 7 on the ground, barbed wire at GR 784777 and ploughed out to the NW. FP 11 has a barbed wire obstruction at 783779. Cheshire have been informed and are dealing.

Marthall 19 (Cheshire CC) This bridleway is totally obstructed by floodwater north of Peck Mill Farm - 811761 and Cheshire have been asked to investigate.

Mere RUPP2 (Cheshire CC) Here we have an odd situation of a road used as a public path having been ploughed out by the farmer. It would appear that nothing can stop the plough and we have asked Cheshire to take strong action against the farmer concerned.

Millington 7, 10 & 11 (Cheshire CC) All paths obstructed and reported to the Council.

Mobberley 13 (Cheshire CC) The Closure & Diversions Secretary reports that following an 8 year battle we finally won the battle to keep this path open following a public inquiry in 1980, but since that time there have been background moves to keep the path closed improperly and Cheshire applied to the Magistrates Court on the 25.8.82 to have the path closed on the grounds that it was unnecessary. The Magistrates agreed to the closure. The Society feels that the Council's action in taking the case to the Magistrates after having lost at a public inquiry is devious and is a situation which might well be copied by other authorities in the future. The Society to press for an alternative path (by CPC if necessary) alongside Mobberley Brook.

Mobberley 59 & 61 (Cheshire CC) Unsafe stile and missing plank bridge at 803819 and a new post and wire fence erected across the line of 59 at 805823.

Mobberley 77 & 78 (Cheshire CC) No indication on the ground that 77 exists, a singular lack of stiles and signs - 800809 to 800816. On FP 78 a plank bridge is missing and the line of path is obstructed 796816 to 800813. Local authority are investigating.

Newbold Asbury 23 & 24 (Congleton BC) New barbed wire fences have appeared and stiles have been removed in the area of 846613.

Ollerton 5, 6, 8, 13 & 17 (Cheshire CC) All these paths are obstructed in one way or another. A comprehensive report is being prepared for forwarding to the Council.

Pott Shrigley 5 & 24 (Cheshire CC) Again a multitude of obstructions on these paths have been reported to Cheshire.

Poynton with Worth 50 (Macclesfield BC) Path line badly obstructed by overgrowth and in danger of being lost - 944827 to 945825.

Poynton with Worth 78 (Macclesfield BC) A Highways Act 1980, Section 118 closure proposal. This is a remnant of a series of closures/diversions around Fleetbank Farm dealt with some 5 years ago. There is no reason why it cannot remain on its correct line. Hearing fixed for 3/83.

Poynton with Worth 56 (Macclesfield BC) The line of this path is obstructed by fencing and incorporated into gardens forcing walkers to use a works access road GR 921839 to 923839. Reported to local authority.

Rainow 17 (Cheshire CC) Access to a brand new stile in one farmer's fence is blocked by a new fence immediately before it - 974771.

Rainow 19, 21, 25, 93, 96 (Cheshire CC) All paths in this area are badly obstructed and have been reported to the local authority.

Rostherne 7 (Cheshire CC) Path ploughed out - 747832 to 744834.

Rostherne 9 (Cheshire CC) A concession path has been created by the farmer which will no doubt cause the definitive line through the farmyard to fall into disuse. At GR 747855 a newly erected building blocks the path.

Sandbach 18 (Congleton BC) A diversion using TCPA to re-route this important path on to estate roads. A pedestrian alternative over open land exists. We have joined with the Ramblers Association and the Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society in opposing these proposals.

Siddington 2, 5 8, 9 & 11 (Cheshire CC) All these paths require attention, being either blocked, overgrown or having wired stiles. All have been referred to the local authority.

Sutton 18 (Cheshire CC) There are suggestions by the landowner that this path has been officially diverted away from the farm buildings. We doubt it - GR's 937700 to 939707.

Thelwall Ferry The "Ha'Penny" Ferry across the Manchester Ship Canal was threatened with closure by the Ship Canal Company who operate it. As this connects 2 valuable footpaths and provides access within the Mersey Valley it is an extremely important link to ramblers. There was plenty of local opposition as well as ours and the current situation is that the closure threat has receded although fares have been increased from 1p to 10p.

Wilmslow 7 (Macclesfield BC) The farmer has set up a series of diversions and says that it is his land and he will do what he wants with it. The local authority have taken action and there has been some improvement of late but the path is still not on its correct line. 841847.

Wilmslow 128 & 129 (Macclesfield BC) On FP 128, adjacent to Dairy House Farm, the farmer's daughter threatened to throw the Chairman into an adjacent pond. Police informed. GR 876836. FP 129 is obstructed by wire at 872835.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Aston 7 (Derbyshire CC) This path near Brough is an essential short-cut path across fields for people making for Hope Station from the Bradwell direction. The County Council in conjunction with a local landowner want to divert the path around the field boundaries adjacent to roads, which will make a nonsense of its short cut value. Objection lodged, inquiry expected.

Buxton 56 (Derbyshire CC) The Council proposes a most devious diversion for proposed school paying fields (Temple Fields). There is a possibility of negotiating something better.

Charlesworth 48 (Derbyshire CC) A stile was removed and replaced with wire at GR 041972 on the B6105. The Council responded quickly to our complaint and the path was clear in July.

Chapel-en-le-Frith 24 & 42 (Derbyshire CC) A signpost is required at Spire Hollins House - 034789 - or the path will be lost. FP 42 is obstructed by barbed wire and a wall at 049788. County is dealing.

Glossop 87 (Derbyshire CC) A TCPA Order, Section 210 proposes to divert this path on to estate roads but there is a possibility of a path behind gardens running beside a stream. The Society is supporting the local Glossop Footpath Society.

Glossop 102 (Derbyshire CC) A TCPA application for a path already quarried away (Mouslow Quarry). There is a chance of negotiating something much better.

Harthill 13 (West Derbyshire DC) This path is obstructed by barbed wire at the junction with B5056 at Grid Ref 231643.

Hartington-upper-Quarter 133 & 67 (Derbyshire CC) The former obstructed by a sheep netting fence at 995738 and the latter where it crosses the A54 at 010700.

Hayfield 25 & 55 (Derbyshire CC) Obstructions have been reported on both these paths and have been cleared thanks to the prompt attention of the County Council.

New Mills 8, 56 & 112 (Derbyshire CC) FP8, stile demolished and wire mesh fence erected, situation now improved but substantial stepping stones are required across boggy ground. FP 56, no stile at 005878 where the path leaves the Aspenshaw Hall to Mellor Road. FP 112, suggestions that the path has been unofficially diverted to allow building work, 006863 to 008862, being investigated.

Peak Forest 30 & 62 (Derbyshire CC) Six feet high fence obstructs the former at 103792 and the latter is obstructed by piles of old machinery 113793.

Taddington 24 (West Derbyshire DC) Found to be obstructed by barbed wire at 156716 in May but cleared following representations by the Society.

Tideswell 27 (West Derbyshire DC) Obstructed by a wired stile at 128794. Peak Park Authority are dealing.

GREATER MANCHESTER COUNTY

Ancoats - Hadrian Avenue & FP (City of Manchester) A Magistrates Court Application for the stopping up of an obsolete road and path off Every Street. The way used to serve some flats, now demolished, but is still used as a short cut by pedestrians. The Council have agreed to landscape the adjacent land and lay out a new path but will not dedicate it as a right of way. Magistrates confirmed the application.

Audenshaw 3 & 4 (Tameside MB) A TCPA Section 210 application. The Society successfully negotiated diversions for these paths in January. The orders were advertised in April by which time Barratts the builders had moved on site and disturbed the paths. At least one house has been partly built over FP 3. Hearing held October 1982 at which representations were made against Barratts actions and against Tameside MB for not being more vigilant. Result awaited.

Bolton 59, 165, 343, 373 (Bolton MB) All these Bolton paths and several more are obstructed and have been for some time. Bolton MBC appear very reluctant to tackle footpath problems though very recently there has been signs of some improvement.

Bredbury & Romiley 2 & 3 (Stockport MB) FP 2 is obstructed by a locked gate at 969922 and FP 3 by a barbed wire fence at 968919. The local authority have been aware of these problems now for over twelve months but a clearance report is still awaited.

Bredbury & Romiley 87 (Stockport MB) This path is obstructed at two points by security fences, 933926 & 933928. This matter was reported to the local authority in May 1982 but we have not yet had the favour of a reply, or an acknowledgement, despite the sending of a reminder in January.

Cheadle 3 (Stockport MB) Listed in last year's report. Proposals to divert this well used path which runs off Mill Lane towards the old Cheadle Station. In October, the results of the hearing were made known and it is pleasing to report that the application to divert was refused by the DOE on the grounds that additional exposure of pedestrians to traffic on Mill Lane would be unacceptable.

Collyhurst - FB Dalton Street to Rochdale Road (Manchester City Council) This case goes back to 1976 when BR applied for closure of a badly maintained bridge, using local act powers. We stopped that particular application but it has now appeared again, this time using the Highways Act. The alternative route is on a line which is already freely available to the public over grassed landscape. Hearing awaited.

Dunham Massey 16 (Trafford MB) No stile or signpost, path completely ploughed out. GR 743900 to 740897.

Golborne 13 (Wigan MB) This was a TCPA Section 209 case concerning the path known as Sandy Lane, crossing Haydock Park Racecourse. The DOE dismissed the application, which was to close a thirty yard strip as a right of way and replace it by a suffrage path open when racing was not taking place. The DOE said that they would look sympathetically on a fresh application requesting closure for a short length of time during racing. This was an interesting decision which, if it had gone against us, could have been used a precedent for all sorts of challenges to the permanence of rights of ways.

Golborne 31 (Wigan MB) This path is obstructed where it leaves the main road at 609984. A new signpost points through the obstruction. Wigan MB advise that they find it difficult to give footpaths priority over other work within the department.

Hindley 35 (Wigan MB) Badly obstructed by vegetation and no access from the A578, signpost also required - 640026 to 642026.

Horwich 161 (Bolton MB) The DOE have decided to grant a diversion of this path since they feel that the public may feel inhibited from crossing over a garden (once a farm yard). We feel this to be a bad decision.

Hyde 153 (Tameside MB) This path was obstructed by stable refuse and manure some 30 yards in length and 6" deep at 971931. Following representations to the local authority the path was cleared in August.

M66 Motorway The inquiry commenced in July with the DOE producing a "half baked" case with lots of non-definitive paths being ignored and never even investigated. However we have been successful in retaining Denton FP 8 and this will, together with other paths, provide a through walking route between Denton and the Tame Valley.

Prestwich - Freshfields A TCPA Section 209 case which is a proposal to close a short road so that a pub car park can be extended. The road is used mainly by pedestrians seeking a short cut from Rainsough Brew up steps to Castle Hill. There seems no reason why a footpath ROW cannot remain, and negotiations are taking place.

Ringway 1 (Manchester City Council) A TCPA Section 210 application. The path is the last remaining link between Wythenshawe and the Bollin Valley. The Council's proposals (for airport extensions) would entail a partial re-routing along a road for 300 yards. A possibility exists for a new replacement off the road. Negotiations proceeding.

Sale 2a (GMC & Trafford MBC) A TCPA Section 210 order with proposals to close a well-used short path from a traffic roundabout to Sale Water Park "because too many cars stop nearby" and fencing is required under terms of planning consent to stop this. Inquiry awaited.

Warburton 3 (Trafford MB) Obstructed by a new barbed wire fence all round the field - 887712. Trafford MB have been informed and confirm that they are taking action, but progress is slow.

Westhoughton 86 (Bolton MB) Several residual problems following a GMC reclamation scheme at Hart Common - 640056 to 635061.

Worsley 70 (City of Salford) Entrance to this path from the A572 - 753004 to 757000 is through a large gate giving the impression that there is no footpath access. Salford have agreed to provide a sign.

Worsley - Stable Fold (City of Salford) We received very short notice of an appeal by a developer (Turris Construction) against the imposition of a planning condition by the Council that a path should be provided as part of a new development by Worsley Brook. The Society's Closure & Diversions Secretary attended the hearing and supported the Council. The S of S subsequently dismissed the appeal so we get a new path.

Wardle - Hurstead (Rochdale MB) A Magistrates Court application for closure was withdrawn following the Society's intervention, the path, near some Housing Association flats, having been improperly appropriated into the grounds and a locked gate fixed over it. A recent inspection reveals an unlocked gate.

Dunham Massey - Dunham Lane (Trafford MB) As part of a highways scheme indirectly connected with the opening to the public by the National Trust of Dunham Hall, the Council proposed closure of a stretch of road that is useful to pedestrians and in anticipation of a favourable decision from the Magistrates, had already blocked it. We resisted closure to pedestrians and now a stile has been put in the fence.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Church 4, 7, 8 & 9 (Hyndburn BC) The Council proposes extinguishing these paths since a council estate built in 1973/75 now lies across the paths. We are looking at the possibility of negotiating for two extra paths in compensation.

Edenfield 128 & 129 (Rossendale BC) These paths obstructed at three points - 796198, 792197 & 792198. The local authority is dealing.

Forton 17 (Wyre BC) Reported in last year's report. Closure of a level crossing footpath. Result now to hand; the DOE have confirmed the extinguishment of this path, the Inspector being swayed by the so called danger element of a level crossing.

Fulwood - Margery Lane (Central Lancashire New Town) A New Town Act closure of a road which could be left open as a footpath. The local RA are not opposing as they are satisfied by "package deals" elsewhere.

Heysham Harbour - Banks Lane (Lancaster BC) This path was already obstructed by an Atomic Energy Authority Store when application was made on behalf of the CEGB to close it. At the first hearing by Magistrates the application was dismissed as plans were not posted on site. At the subsequent hearing the Magistrates granted the closure. Consideration of a new path was promised when the Power Station is completed by 1990.

Livesey 2, Blackburn (Lancashire CC) This path has been quarried away and not reinstated following a 1968 "temporary" diversion. The proposal is now to make the temporary diversion permanent. We have opposed on amenity grounds, since the original route offered better views and could eventually be reinstated.

Poulton 10/Thornton 12/11 (Lancashire CC) The Council propose a devious diversion around Poulton Golf Course and the diversion has already been laid. They own the course and this case has a history going back before local government re-organisation when a TCPA application was thrown out. We are joining with Mid-Lancs RA in this objection.

Ramsbottom 169, 170 & 186 (Rossendale BC) FP 169 (sometimes referred to as Turn 147) This path is obstructed where it leaves the road at 814179. FP 170 is obstructed by an iron gate with no stile at 815188. FP 186.

Turton (Edgworth) 18, 19, 31 (Blackburn BC) A number of problems in the Longworth Clough area have been reported to the Borough Council.

Upholland 21 (West Lancs DC) In April, the NWWA requested a Highways Act closure of a small length of path blocked for many years. Application dropped after our objection.

Upholland 44 (West Lancs DC) A closure/creation described in last year's report. The Society objected to the proposals which were dismissed by the DOE on a technicality. The same arrangements have now been re-advertised and we are objecting again.

Wycoller County Park (Lancashire CC) The County Council advertised a rationalisation scheme, their first, covering 8 paths at Wycoller. Three are complete closures with no alternatives being offered. Our objection has resulted in the scheme being put on ice.

MERSEYSIDE COUNTY COUNCIL

West Derby Golf Course (Liverpool City Council) The Council propose the closure of a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long path at West Derby Golf Course. It is the only path connecting the Communities of West Derby and Cantrill Farm Estate and is also near to Croxteth Country Park. It's the last semi-rural path in the area and well-used. We have told the Council that we will oppose the proposals. Merseyside RA also object. Discussions are taking place and the Magistrates Court application has been adjourned sine die.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Adult Hucknall 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 & BW 30 (Bolsover DC) All paths reported as being obstructed; information supplied by the Nottinghamshire Footpaths Preservation Society. Investigations proceeding.

Bramley 8 (South Yorks CC) Proposals to extinguish this path which has been built over by a housing extension. There is plenty of local feeling here and one of the points to emerge was that if the closure attempt is successful some locals will ask for further lengths of "back gardens" path to be closed. Unfortunately DOE have confirmed the application.

North & South Anston 14/35 (Rotherham MB) A closure so that landscaped gardens and ornamental lakes can be extended. South Yorks CC are opposing this order and we will do likewise. Hearing fixed for March 1983.

Penistone 17 (Barnsley MB) The Society was asked for assistance by a local member with regard to the proposed diversion of this ancient path at Cat Hill. The inquiry in August was a very noisy affair with the Council being very upset and surprised by the Society's intervention. One strong feature of

the case was that the Council's Solicitor refused to produce all the Council minutes authorising the application and the one minute which was produced said that the matter had to be "referred back" in the event of objections. This was not done and the Society raised this particular issue with the Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC. The DOE subsequently refused to confirm the order, which must have been a relief to the Council official who took it on his own back to defy council minutes, since otherwise the Society would have been forced to take action to prove that Barnsley MB's action was "ultra vires".

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Alstonfield 64 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) Obstructions to this path have been on record for some time. There has been some improvement but there are still some outstanding items - 141553 to 134553.

Biddulph 40 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) There are proposals to divert this path using TCPA. The alternative way is very indirect and uses estate roads. The Society is to oppose.

Chapel & Hill Chorlton 4/Whitmore 8 (Staffordshire CC) British Rail want to do away with a footbridge and propose an alternative over an existing non-definitive path some distance away. Objection lodged.

Fawfieldhead 5, 6 & 70 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) All these paths are obstructed and the footpath network in the area is said to be chaotic - 075616 & 071632. The local authority were informed of the problems in September but as we go to press we have not yet received a reply.

Ilam 8 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) This path is obstructed in two places and there is some talk of a concession path being established on another line. The Society is to maintain a watching brief until the concession path is established and then press for the clearance of the definitive line - 142531 to 139522.

Kingsley 79/Cheadle 56 (Staffordshire CC) The footbridge which should join these two paths over the Churnet has been missing for some years - 031456. Staffordshire CC appear not to want to know.

Leek 8 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) The obstructions to this path continue to cause concern. The Council could prosecute for obstruction but seem to prefer the easy option of doing nothing. We are watching this case very carefully as we may face an application to close the path now that the Wildlife & Countryside Act has come into effect.

Leek 19 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) A TCPA Case. The proposals are to close this path called Pickwood Road which is also a sett paved road leading from Brook Street to Leek Market Place, very well-used by pedestrians. Closure is proposed so that the Co-op can develop a new supermarket. The path could co-exist with the new store and therefore the Society has lodged objection. Negotiations taking place.

Quarnford 23 & 24 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) FP 23 is the subject of "obstruction by person". The lady at Greensitch maintains that there is no right of way - 999661. FP 24 is blocked by barbed wire at "The Wash" - 012662. Staffordshire Moorlands DC have been a great help in this and have written to both landowners advising that the public have a right of passage. They have also sent copies of their letters to the Society. The problems on 23 were first reported in March but as we go to press it would appear that the landowner has taken no notice of the letter, for we are receiving further reports of obstruction.

Sheen 2 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) Another "obstruction by person" case. The farmer disputes the right of way. As in the previous case he has been advised by the Council but chooses to ignore the advice.

Waterhouses 5 (Staffordshire Moorlands DC) This path is obstructed at two points by barbed wire - 111516 & 111517. Reported to local authority.

WEST YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Batley 47/Morley 101/93 (West Yorkshire CC) The Morley "Toxic Tip" case which has involved our local Inspector for many years. Following an inquiry the DOE have refused to divert the main path.

Holmfirth 66 (West Yorkshire CC) A Highways Act diversion proposal. The Yorkshire Water Authority propose diverting a straight path onto an existing "permissive" diversion route. This is in prime walking country near Bilberry Reservoir.

Huddersfield 338 (Kirklees MB) A Highways Act closure proposal of an archway under a railway viaduct apparently at the request of BR. Despite the decrepit nature of the gap it appears well-used. It was the scene of one of the "Yorkshire Ripper" murders and we believe the Council are playing on public repulsion to get support for the closure.

Morley 33 (Leeds City Council) A TCPA application with the path being built over in full knowledge of both the Council and the developers, despite their being outstanding objections. The Society will be represented at the inquiry.

Stanningley - Foundry Lane (West Yorkshire CC) A Section 209 Application made by the Department of Transport for a firm of mill owners, Hainsworths of Spring Valley Mills. They want to block off the old lane by joining two buildings together. The lane leads to an underground footpath and if the lane is closed this will become a dead end. The Society is to lodge formal objection.

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PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY
INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.82

EXPENDITURE:		1982	1981	RECEIPTS:		1982
447	Annual Report	529.93				
	General Secretary:				Subscriptions:	
100	Honorarium	100.00	179	Ordinary	150.00	
150	Expenses	150.00	135	Joint	123.00	
			177	Tfr from Subs Susp	173.85	
			2	Junior	1.50	
421	Post/Phone	435.20	137	Affiliations	179.00	
276	Stationery	233.88	630		627.35	
450	Office Equipment	---	175	Donations	556.38	
	Travelling Expenses:				Investment Income:	
103	C & D Secty	201.03	1491	Taxed Income	1387.41	
70	Footpath Inspectors	69.00	572	Tax Due Back	594.54	
17	Gen Secretary	9.35			1981.95	
34	Others	36.95	216	Untaxed Interest	372.20	
	(Total £316.33)					
215	Publications	235.85	-	Annual Dinner	3.84	
	Room Rents:		-	Profit on Investment	49.44	
7	AGM	7.60	1	Sale of Booklets	-----	
53	Other Meetings	63.00				
217	Archives	228.03				
2	Archive Expenses	42.23				
29	Subs and Donations	25.00				
17	Maps and Plans	23.50				
10	Insurance	-----				
9	Advertising	13.00				
17	Display Costs	61.10				
6	Courses/Conferences	8.00				
-	Bank Charges	1.04				
-	Legal Costs	200.00				
-	W/Off Booklets	141.14				
2649		2814.83				
436	Bal: Excess Income	776.33				
<u>3086</u>		<u>3591.16</u>	<u>3086</u>			<u>3591.16</u>

FUND BALANCES

FUND:	As at 31.12.81	Income	Expenses	As at 31.12.82
General Fund	15569.09	3591.16	2814.83	16345.42
Defence Fund	2020.18	47.00	4.00	2071.18
Survey Account	243.23	46.50	100.00	189.73
Signpost Account	303.66	161.45	229.36	235.75
Edwin Royce Memorial Fund	79.66	---	---	79.66
H Wild Memorial	---	272.20	22.20	250.00
	<u>18223.82</u>	<u>4118.31</u>	<u>3170.39</u>	<u>19171.74</u>

Auditors Certificate:

I have examined the Society's accounts. In my opinion, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet give a true and fair view of the revenue transactions for the year ended 31st December 1982 and of the state of affairs at that date.

Signed: E McCormick
Hon Auditor.

PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.12.82

1981	1982	1981	1982
FUNDS		DEPOSITS & INVESTMENTS	
8224	19171.74	16473	Investment @ Cost 16522.17
		1707	Bank Deposit A/c 1006.20
		-	NSB: Investment A/c 200.00
		17184	19528.37
LIABILITIES		CURRENT ASSETS	
3 Creditors	-----	141	Stock: Booklets -----
19 Advance Subs	-----	572	Tax Refund Due 594.54
871 Subscription Suspense A/c	1056.85	223	Bank Current A/c 105.68
<u>9116</u>	<u>20228.59</u>	<u>19116</u>	<u>20220.59</u>

OTES FORMING PART OF ACCOUNTS:

INVESTMENTS	Cost Price:	Market Price as at 31.12.82:
Local Authority Loans	2000.00	2000.00
Corporation & County Stocks	1450.56	1515.00
British Funds	8388.38	10186.38
PUBLIC CPN DEB STOCK	2792.07	3666.25
ORDINARY SHARES	1891.16	2864.50
	<u>16522.17</u>	<u>20232.13</u>

INVESTMENT INCOME:

An interest payment due 31.12.82 was received late and is not included above. The net payment was £43.75. This will be shown in next year's accounts.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

No amendments have been made in respect of payment of subscriptions outside the relative years, other than £19 subs paid in advance and shown in last year's balance sheet.

In total: 1982 figures include in addition to the £19 mentioned above, £6 in respect of 1981 and £4 in respect of 1983.

1982 subs received after 31.12.82 and not included above: £2 (to date of printing).

Donations include very generous donations from the family of the late H Wild. In addition a Legacy of £100 is included in the Donations figure.

All payments authorised for payment are included in the Expenditure figures. There were no significant outstanding accounts.

OTES NOT FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS:

In general good control over expenditure can be seen. The increased activity by the Society in respect of Signpost & Archive work is not without consequent cost.

With inflation at the year end of about 6% we should have had an excess income of £930 to maintain the value of our reserves. We came quite close to this, but mainly through exceptional income - e.g. a legacy and generous donations in memory of Mr Wild, over and above the funds contributed to the Memorial Bridge Fund.

The increase in subs in 1983 will help, but we will continue to rely on donations by our members in addition to their subscriptions.

With increasing activity to close footpaths we can look forward to increased costs if our work is to keep pace, and our members are invited to ask their friends to join the Society to help in the Battle!

S Shaw, Treasurer

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The Society shall be called "Peak and Northern Footpaths Society".
2. The objects of the Society shall be:
 - (a) The preservation, maintenance and defence of the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment of the public highways, footpaths, bridle-ways, by-ways and other ways, vacant spaces, waste lands and roadside strips, and to right of recreation over commons in the Northern and Midland counties, particularly in the Peak District.
 - (b) The prevention of the abuse of such rights, especially trespass and damage to crops and property, disturbance of game by trespassers and the leaving of litter.
 - (c) The support by influence, petition or otherwise of Bills in Parliament promoting the aforesaid objects or any of them, or others of a like kind or kindred nature.
 - (d) The erection and maintainance of direction posts and footbridges.
 - (e) The purchase or promoting the purchase, of rights of way and rights over open spaces to be dedicated to the use of the public for ever.
 - (f) And all objects conducive to the foregoing, including the combination or co-operation with other societies or persons in the promotion or futherance of the aforesaid objects of any of them.
3. Annual subscription rates payable in advance on the 1st January: Individual Member £1.50; Junior Member (if under 18 years of age) £1; Husband/Wife Membership £2.50, or upwards in each case. 10 years ordinary membership £12.50; husband/wife £18. A minimum annual fee of £4 shall entitle any rambling club, naturalist soc. or other ass. to affiliation and the right to nominate one delegate to the Society's Council, such delegate to be deemed a member of the Society for the purposes of the Society's Constitution and Rules. The Husband/Wife Membership shall entitle each of them to full voting rights. Members of ten or more years' standing who have reached retirement age (women 60 years; men 65 years) shall be entitled on application, to free life membership and will receive a copy of the Annual Report and all relevant literature.
4. The business of the Society not transacted in general meeting shall be in the hands of a Council, elected annually and consisting of the Officers and not less than twelve other Members of the Society, with power to add to their number, together with the delegates of affiliated associations.
5. An annual general meeting of the members of the Society shall be held in March/April every year, and shall receive, consider, and if approved, adopt the report of the Council for the past year, and transact any other business that may arise. No motion shall be considered unless it is submitted to the Secretary in writing before the 31st December, for inclusion in the agenda, or unless two-thirds of those present at the meeting and voting, agree that it should be considered as a matter of urgency.
6. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held without delay whenever the occasion shall arise upon the requisition of five members specifying the reason for the meeting and communicated to the Honorary General Secretary.
7. The Council shall by themselves or by Sub-Committees appointed from their number:
 - (1) Induce - or if necessary, compel - as far as possible all Local Public or Urban Authorities. District and County Councils to perform their duties as conservers of the said public rights.
 - (2) Institute, or defend, assist others in instituting or defending, continue, compromise, abandon, or prosecute to judgment at their discretion and generally give instructions for all legal proceedings.
 - (3) Keep a map, or series of maps, wherein the situation of all footpaths and other public ways shall, so far as possible, be indicated and recorded, and visit, inspect, survey and report on the same from time to time and receive, consider, and investigate complaints of violation of any of the said rights or of the abuse thereof.

8. All Sub-Committees shall, from time to time, report to the Council.
9. The Society shall subscribe and be affiliated to the Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society, and to such other Society or Societies constituted for like objects, as may from time to time be determined in general meeting.
10. All General Meetings, whether Annual or Extraordinary, shall be convened by the Hon Secretary's written notice, posted or delivered to members at their usual or last known addresses, at least seven days before the day of the meeting, and indicating the business for which the meeting is to be convened. Ten members shall form a quorum.
11. These rules may be rescinded, supplemented or altered by resolution passed in General Meeting, but not otherwise, and only if the proposed alterations are included in the Notice of the Meeting.

FORM OF BEQUEST

The following form of bequest is appended for the use of intending benefactors:-

"I bequeath the sum of £ (free of duty) to the PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY (Bankers: Williams and Glyns, Salford Shopping Centre, No. 1212 7691) and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being of the said Society shall be a sufficient discharge for the said sum."

BANKER'S ORDER FORM

To the Manager

..... Bank PLC

..... Branch

(Full postal address of your bank)

My Bank Account No. is

Please pay on..... (Date of first payment)

to Williams and Glyn's Bank PLC, Salford Shopping Centre, (Sorting Code No. 16.28.14, A/c No. 1212 7691) the sum of £ for credit of the Peak and Northern Footpaths Society, and make similar payments on the..... day of each year until this order is cancelled in writing, charging such payments to my account.

NAME (in block letters)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

DATE

NOTE: Please return the banker's Order Form to the Society's Treasurer.