

Peak and Northern Footpaths Society



ANNUAL REPORT 1988/7

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

Founded in 1894; Manchester Association Founded 1826

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENTS

A. Bennett M.P.
D. T. Berwick

G. S. Cooper
P. Daley

T. Ewart

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

L. G. Meadowcroft (Chairman)

N. H. Edwards (Vice Chairman)

HON. GENERAL SECRETARY

D. Taylor, 15 Parkfield Drive, Tyldesley, Manchester, M29 8NR. 061 790 4383

HON. TREASURER

S. Shaw, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport, SK4 5AH. 061 432 6097

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

T. Whittaker, 51 Queensway, Heald Green, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 3ET. 061 437 1226

CLOSURE & DIVERSIONS SECRETARY

D.W. Lee, 7 Mossway, Alkrington, Middleton, Manchester, M24 1WR. 061 653 4560

SIGNPOST SUPERVISOR

P.S. Hutchinson, 1 Oaklands Avenue, Marple Bridge, Stockport, SK6 5DB

AUDITOR

E. McCormick

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C O M M E N T

How curious it is how the problems of the Society change from time to time? For awhile certain aspects seem to predominate. We now seem to be going through a phase of attempted closures of passages and the reason given is vandalism and other nuisances. Yes these are mainly in the inner towns of our area where these days it is hardly prudent to venture into quiet passages especially after dusk. The Law enforcers seem to be unable to cope with the problem and even if they try to do so the offenders when caught are seemingly let off with perhaps only a caution; hardly a deterrent to others! Is then the answer to close these rights of way to the general public and let them be taken into private hands? I think not.

These problems are not a twenty four hour one. During the rest of the period they are probably useful for the workman off to work or to the bus; the children on their way to school; the housewife and or mother on her way to the local shop; the elderly on a visit to somewhere; and so the list can go on. Why should we capitulate because of the behaviour of a certain element of the public, and I am sure that they are a minority group. Is the next to suffer the public transport? Will this stop because of the behaviour of a certain element of the public? There is another reason in that that like the road planners who spend millions to cure traffic snarl-ups, motorways to move the traffic away only to see it pile up and cause another problem miles down the road. The closure of these passages will not entirely cure the problem but only move it to another part of the town. By not objecting to the closure of these rights of way we are aiding the local council to close their eyes to the situation. I always remember many years ago wanting to clear away local children from in front of my house because of the din they were creating whilst playing soccer in the road outside. Should I have applied to the local council to have the road stopped up to alleviate the nuisance? Yes the local residents will and rightly complain about the problems that take place outside their hereitaments but I am sure that the answer does not lie in the closure of these passages.

Any comment this year would be incomplete without a reference to the Frank Head memorial on South Head. Much has been written and said about Frank and indeed I have commented previously. It was a tremendous privilege to be present at the dedication. This is an area which I frequently pass and I know that when I do so the memories will flood back of a fine and encouraging man.

::NHE::

COVER BADGE

The Cover Design is of the Cloth Badge of the Society. This was the design chosen from a number of interesting suggestions. This attractive motif depicting the aims of the Society's work can be obtained from Mr Robert Fysh at 57 Moss Lane, Timperley. The badge available to members only is priced at £1.00 which includes postage. Do not forget to give your full name and address! A self addressed envelope would be appreciated.

The badge can be easily attached to rucsac, clothes or even hats.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We look back over the past year with some satisfaction on the amount of work that the Society has undertaken, - even if this revolves around a very small number of dedicated voluntary workers and officers, who are carrying a heavy workload. Elsewhere in this report our Treasurer makes the plea for more volunteers and it is to be hoped that this does not fall on deaf ears after last years poor response. We particularly need someone with a flair to look after our publicity and exhibition displays, whilst our Hazel Grove Centre is still short of the two members mentioned in last year's report. Volunteers from the fair sex would be particularly welcomed, the work being both varied and interesting.

Our Monday team of Archive Research workers have been kept especially busy dealing with Closures and Diversions and have handled some 650 items of correspondence from Local Authorities in Cheshire, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and the Peak National Park, in addition to the recording of numerous documents and Definitive Map alterations. We are indebted to this loyal band of members, some of whom perform other duties for the Society.

Your Officers have been looking into the possible use of additional electro-mechanical equipment but there is a limit to which such use can be put for our type of specialised work. One cannot store original documents on electronic tape, to give but one example, thus computer equipment is only of marginal use, and all avenues of effectiveness are being explored, but it must be remembered that all machines need an operator. For the last few years we have had the advantage of our Treasurer's equipment in the compilation of our annual accounts and for which use we are grateful.

As time goes by it is becoming ever more obvious that if we are to carry out efficiently our function of being a Footpaths Society within our current capabilities, then we are to be ever mindful when making policy decision whether in Council or otherwise, that semi-related side issues only tend to deflect our work from its main purpose and waste Officers time and resources when these type of issues can be dealt with by other more suitable organisations.

Throughout the year we have been represented on the North West Federation for Sport & Recreation, The Kinder Advisory Committee and the Derbyshire Countryside Standing Conference, involving some twenty or so attendances. We have also had meetings with the Authorities of Stockport and Barnsley. Due to unexpected circumstances, we were not able to be at the Annual Meeting with the Peak Park.

Through our contact with the Derbyshire Standing Conference, we were able to obtain from the Derbyshire Rural Community Council a supply of carpeting to enable us to completely recover our Archives Research Centre. We wish to express our appreciation to the Community Council for this assistance.

Apart from our normal duties of path preservation, we have exhibited the Society's work at Marple, Chesterfield, Stockport and the Chatsworth National Park Festival, whilst numerous lectures have been given by the Secretary and Chairman respectively to various

organisations.

We have been represented at numerous public inquiries, and the one into the effects of the A6(M) is continuing into 1988. It is here that, amongst others we are fighting to retain the footbridge for the Cown Edge Way, which the Department of Transport have taken out of the scheme. Two successful inquiry results have been announced, and these affect Eldon Hill and Topley Pike quarries.

Not strictly within the period of this report, but of considerable interest is the High Court decision to refuse the use of Amendment Order to remove rights of way from the Definitive Map. The Government has not appealed against this decision.

During October we joined with the Ramblers' Association in establishing a memorial on South Head, near Hayfield to our late President, Dr. Frank Head. The R.A. purchased the remaining half of the summit which was presented to the National Trust whilst the Society was responsible for establishing the memorial and will maintain it with its residual funds. Approximately some 150 persons attended the ceremony, including several of our most senior members. Mrs Joyce Head was amongst the principal speakers.

We would wish to record our appreciation of the practical assistance given by the High Peak Estate of the National Trust in replacing the Edwin Royce Memorial on Lantern Pike after it was vandalised for the second time. Both the R.A. and the Society gave financial assistance. We have also received assistance in other ways from Andrew Bennett, M.P. and also Messrs Robert S. Pemberton Ltd. of Hazel Grove and to whom we are grateful.

::LGM::

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

There are 104 Societies affiliated at 31st December 1987 compared with 106 in 1986. Five new Societies joined during 1987 and seven have not renewed.

ANNUAL MEMBERS

Individual members total 375 including 100 married couples a decrease of 12 from last year. 79 new members including 19 married couples joined in 1987 but 58 including 19 married couples did not renew. The balance is made up of annual members who transferred to 10 year membership during the year.

TEN YEAR MEMBERS

There are now 354 members including 70 married couples an increase of 33.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

The Society has 12 Honorary Life Members and the total membership at 31st December 1987 stands at 741 a net increase of 23.

Donations to the funds of the Society continue to be as Generous as ever and are much appreciated

::Ted Whittaker::

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present for your consideration my report for the year ended 31st December, 1987.

The year 1987 was, without doubt, the busiest I have experienced since I was appointed your General Secretary ten years ago. During the period the pressure on Local Authorities to clear obstructions to rights of way has been maintained but increasingly I get the impression that footpaths fall lower and lower in the priority list of Local Authorities.

I have noted over the year that Councils are relying more and more on M.S.C. and N.A.C.R.O. teams for footpath maintenance work and this, of course, is commendable. They have certainly made vast improvements in some areas but the basic problem of the failure of Councils to clear obstructed paths remains. I find that Highways Sections will, in most cases, attempt to have obstructions removed but when they fail and therefore have to refer the matter to their Legal Section, there the matter rests. Legal Sections generally plead overwork coupled with staff shortages but it is interesting to note that this factor does not seem to inhibit them when it comes to processing Closure and Diversion Orders which continue to descend on us like the plague. As a result of this our resources in officers' time is stretched to the absolute limit. We do the best that we can under difficult circumstances and with a shortage of workers.

Diversions

We are often taken to task by members and others when we oppose diversions of rights of way which we consider to be for privacy purposes only. If our stance on these matters requires supporting, and I don't believe that it does, then there is a situation at Needham's Farm, Bredbury & Romiley which illustrates the problems following the diversion of a right of way. When travelling north on footpath Bredbury and Romiley 2 one arrives at grid reference 96829235, at this point is a wired up stile and all the indications are that the path proceeds in a northerly direction towards Needhams Farm. In fact, the path was diverted in the late 1950's to a line which strikes north westerly and then north along an existing trackway where it joins with footpath 84. This year alone I have received four obstruction reports from members with regard to this path, I must then write to them to say that although the path was diverted in the late 1950's it still appears on the Ordnance Survey 2 1/2" map of 1982. I think that one of the points we make when opposing diversions, i.e. that it takes a long time for the definitive and the Ordnance Survey maps to be amended is a very valid one and this particular case highlights that situation.

Walk This Way!

If you live or walk in the area of Ernocroft Farm at grid reference 981910 would you please use as frequently as possible the paths Marple 3 which leaves the Glossop road at 97889098 and proceeds to Ernocroft Lane and also Marple footpath 6 which leaves Ernocroft Lane at 98309100. Over the years there has been continued evidence of the landowner at Ernocroft Farm insisting that there are no rights of way in this area. The Legal Department of Stockport Borough Council tell me that they have written to the owner on a number of occasions informing him of the right of way and requesting that he cease confronting walkers. There is also evidence in the same area of public footpath signposts being taken down and removed from the site. All in all, the landowner is doing everything in his power to prevent walkers from using the paths in that area. Please help the Society and yourselves by walking these paths as often as possible and reporting any intimidation by the owner to myself.

Ploughing

You will be aware of our concern for the ploughing and non-reinstatement of public rights of way as I have written about this in my reports in previous years. We have been particularly anxious to make some progress on this matter in the county of Cheshire and consequently we have been putting through to Cheshire County Council our ploughing reports for a number of paths which have been ploughed and not reinstated year after year. As a result of our pressure the County Legal Department have this year agreed to carry out a survey of those paths which have been repeatedly ploughed with a view, we hope, to finally prosecuting those who continue to break the law. Once again, I appeal to members, please keep me informed of paths which are ploughed and not reinstated, particularly those in the county of Cheshire.

The Ombudsman

This year, once again, we have had cause to refer two complaints against Local Authorities to the Ombudsman. We regret having to do this as it creates a tremendous amount of work preparing and submitting each case but we feel that in these cases, and there are others pending, we are left with no other alternative. The two cases are Marthall Footpath 4 and Standish with Langtree Bridleway 8. In the case of Marthall 4 I first reported an obstruction of this path where it meets Pinfold Lane grid reference 797771 to the Director of Highways and Transportation, Cheshire County Council on 20th July, 1982. The obstruction took the form of a 7 feet high Beech hedge. Correspondence proceeded during 1982 and into 1983 at which time Cheshire County Council decided to take action. The action in fact comprised the erection of a public footpath signpost which pointed directly through the beech hedge but the obstruction was not removed. Correspondence continued until late 1986 when the landowner installed a County Council stile in the hedge some 110 yards further down the lane than the line of path. I immediately wrote to Cheshire County Council and by then incidentally this matter had been passed to the Legal Section, to say that a stile 110 yards off line was not acceptable to this Society. To my surprise and disgust on 28th May, 1987, following further representations from the Society, I received a letter from the County Secretary and Solicitor which said "the landowner is allowing a perfectly reasonable and unrestricted alternative means of access over his field providing very little inconvenience to any member of the public", he continued, "since prosecution of the landlord would be unlikely to be successful, I am not prepared to take action. On the particular facts of this case where there is a reasonable alternative means of access for footpath users, I do not intend to remove the obstruction". The Society's Council were appalled at this decision and it was therefore agreed that the matter should be referred to the Ombudsman. Immediately the dossier on this case was passed to the Chairman of Highways there was a call for a site meeting which I attended in company with other Officers. At this meeting the landowner maintained that by reason of the fact that he had erected a stile albeit 110 yards off line he was not obstructing the path. I informed him and the Council's representatives that the line of reasoning of the landowner was completely and totally unacceptable to the Society and I terminated the meeting with some very caustic comments. At this time the Council had in fact served a notice on the landowner to remove the obstruction but the reaction of the landowner was to make an application for a diversion order which I informed both himself and the Council we would oppose. It was at this stage that we decided that the Ombudsman must be contacted.

With regard to the case Standish bridleway 8 this matter began way back in May 1975 when our affiliated society the Wigan Footpaths Society asked Wigan M.B.C. if the proposed development on Littleton Grove at Standish would affect the line of bridleway 8. As is usual with Wigan M.B.C. there were no replies to this letter and in August of 1975 the Council were informed that the bridleway was being diverted to accommodate the gardens of some newly erected properties. In October 1975 with the bridleway being partially obstructed the Council advertised diversion proposals and the Wigan Society advised that the proposals were unacceptable. In February, 1978 the Wigan Society again advised the Council that residents were obstructing the rights of way and in June of that year the Council promoted a further public paths diversion order and at the same time the Council finally advised the residents by letter not to obstruct the line of path. The Peak and Northern Society and the Wigan Society objected to the proposed diversion which would have put the bridleway onto estate roads. Wigan M.B.C. acknowledged receipt of this objection and in March of 1979 the Society was advised that there would be a Local Inquiry into the diversion proposals. In May 1979 the Local Inquiry was held and in October of that year the decision letter from the D. of E. recommended that the Order should not be confirmed and the Secretary of State accepted the Inspector's findings. Wigan M.B.C. at that stage found themselves in something of a dilemma. The bridleway was obstructed and the inspector and the Secretary of State refused to accept the diversion. From 1980 until 1984 the Wigan Society continued to apply pressure on Wigan to have the matter resolved and in November of 1985 the Council proposed a second Diversion Order which was acceptable to both Societies. In March 1986 the Order was formally confirmed as unopposed but action was not taken to establish the new bridleway line. In February 1987 this Society asked the Council what action it proposed to implement the Diversion Order and Wigan replied that funding was the problem. It was therefore in April of 1987 that Wigan M.B.C. and the Chairman of Highways and Works were advised that unless there was positive action to resolve the matter the case would be submitted to the Commissioner for Local Administration. It is interesting to note that cases for presentation to the Ombudsman have to be submitted via a local Councillor and the person selected in this case was the Chairman of Highways and Works. The dossier was sent to him on 7th September 1987 but he failed to pass the dossier on to the Ombudsman. In December 1987 I wrote direct to the Ombudsman seeking permission to submit the case directly to him and this was agreed on 3rd December 1987. The matter now rests with the Ombudsman and the result should be interesting.

Conclusion

In closing my report for 1987 can I once again thank all those who have assisted me during the year with special thanks to all the Society's inspectors. Can I draw attention to the areas of the Society which do not have an inspector. I would be more than pleased to discuss the duties of an inspector with any person interested. Please contact me.

DEREK TAYLOR
HON. GENERAL SECRETARY

FOOTPATH REPORT 1987

OBSTRUCTIONS AND CLEARANCES.

This report is a summary of new cases reported to the General Secretary during the year and does not cover the several hundred on-going cases which are also being pursued with local authorities.

COUNTY OF CHESHIRE

Adlington 22 Path ploughed out and set to root crop. G.R. 925802. Cheshire C.C. are dealing.

Adlington 31 This path was previously obstructed by overgrowth but has now been cleared by an M.S.C. team. 93387940.

Ashley 14 Previously obstructed but now clear along its entire length. 79908340 to 78828268.

Ashley 20 Path ploughed and set to Oil Seed Rape. 77798417 to 77778404. Cheshire have been asked to deal with this particular problem as a matter of urgency.

X Betchton 10 Compliments have been received about the generally poor condition of this path between 78175939 and 79525939. The Society's Inspector is checking.

Betchton 12 Also said to be in poor condition between 79555915 and 81415912. Inspector is checking this also.

Bosley 10 / Sutton 33 Allegations of obstruction by person on this continuation path. Party was challenged at Upton Fold Farm by a lady and a youth who appeared to be saying that there was no right of way between 93006754 and 93366785. The County Council has been asked to investigate.

Bradwall 7 Four new stiles and a new footbridge have now been erected along this path, which is now clear. In the area 763637.

Brereton 9 The gate has been locked and barbed wired at 79986478. The signpost has been removed.

Brereton 10 A similar situation to F.P. 9 above G.R. 79456491. All signposts in the area have been recently removed and we are advised that the land is up for sale. Cheshire C.C. have been asked to investigate.

Brereton 20 Farmer advises that this is not a right of way. 76286590 to 76856572. Cheshire C.C. have advised the farmer that the path is public. Please use this path to establish the right of passage.

Brereton 22 Allegations of obstruction by person at Hoem Farm. Path is obstructed by barbed wire at 308633. The path is also ploughed and not re-instated. Cheshire are dealing.

Chelford 7 / Siddington 10 A substantial new footbridge has now been erected at the junction of these paths 8307320.

Chorley 6 The mounds of rubbish which previously obstructed this path have now been removed. 83287745 to 8341748.

Cranage 3 & 15 A considerable number of stiles now erected on these paths which are now clear. 761688 to 757678.

Disley 29 A Bull, previously tethered on this path has now been removed following a visit from the County Highways Officers. 97608404.

Gawsworth 10 New ladder stile and step stile erected. Path now clear although some signposting would be an advantage. 88906961 to 88946776.

Gawsworth 29 Gateway obstructed by 3 feet deep slurry - not a natural obstruction. G.R. 882717, reported to Cheshire C.C.

Gawsworth 33 & 34 / Sutton 41 Allegations that this continuation path has been waymarked, but not on the definitive line. 92006883 to 92566880. Cheshire C.C. have been asked to check if the path is on its correct line.

Hassall 4 Ladder stile demolished in a road traffic accident at the south end. There is barbed wire at 772573 and a fence obstructs the way at 771574. A signpost is also required at the south end. Reported to Cheshire.

High Legh 2 Construction work is taking place where this path leaves the A50 at 70498353. The signpost has been removed and the line of path is obstructed. Cheshire C.C. are investigating.

Kettleshulme 8 Gap stile in stone wall has been wired up at 996802. Signposts are required at each end. Countryside & Recreation Division have been informed.

Kettleshulme 14 Bridge, previously obstructed is now clear. A private dispute between two landowners has now been resolved. No problems now on this path.

Lyme Handley 2 A un-hinged, heavy wooden gate caused an obstruction at G.R. 95178372. This gate has now been re-hung. Path is now clear.

Lyme Handley 5 The metal gate previously padlocked and overlaid with corrugated iron, has now been freed from both its encumbrances. 96208392.

Lyme Handley 11 Allegations that this path has been illegally diverted at Green Farm 952823 are being investigated by the County Council.

Lymm 18 A stile has now been erected over the barbed wire fence and a signpost has been erected on Whitebarrow Road. Path clear. 67618773 to 68218784.

Marton 5 An unofficial diversion has been set up around Daisy Bank Farm. G.R. 82856825. Cheshire C.C. have been notified.

Mere 3 Path ploughed out and not restored in the area 734827. No access over Rostherne Brook. Cheshire have been advised and have acknowledged.

Millington 10 / Little Bollington 1 Path from "The Nag" at Bowden to Spode Green is now clear throughout. 74038259 to 73498563. First reported as obstructed in May 1982.

Mobberley 6 Path ploughed out and set to crop in the area 776807.

Mobberley 46 No " through " step on the stile at 81637980 and a signpost is required at 81667975.

Mobberley 49 Allegations that this path is obstructed by barbed wire at 81781018 are being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Mobberley 57 Obstructed by barbed wire and an open mesh fence at 808810. The path runs from 80958095 to 80408131. Inspector is checking.

Nether Alderley 4 There has been sufficient improvements made on this path to enable a clearance certificate to be issued. Previously obstructed at 83587690 and 83607697.

Nether Alderley 25 Both the wooden and electrified fences which obstructed this path have now been removed. Fencing posts, not yet wired, could prove a problem for the future. 83507601 to 83497591.

Nether Peover 14 / Allostock 15 The bridge which should link this continuation path at G.R. 73147300 is missing and, according to local people has been for some time. Cheshire have been asked to provide a new bridge.

Newbold Astbury 27 Two wood step stiles now erected. Path clear 86605840.

Poynton-with-Worth 12 & 13 Paths now clear of obstruction but there is some suggestion of an unofficial diversion round the southern end of New House Farm.

Prestbury 11 Obstructed by a substantial barbed wire fence, recently erected adjacent to the footbridge at 90657802. Reported to the Bollin Valley Officer.

Rainow 9 The definitive line of this path is obstructed by the walls and barbed wire of a field 97957875. Countryside & Recreation Division are dealing.

Rainow 19 & 21 All obstructions now removed, Path clear 96257728 to 97017915.

Rainow 28 Obstructed at two points by an electrified fence of long standing. 94607794 to the Pott Shrigley boundary at 94787848. Cheshire C.C. are investigating.

✓ Rainow 40 Some confusion with regard to ~~the~~ true line of this path close to Ingersby Hall 947774. Inspector is checking to see if the path is obstructed.

Rainow 49 Allegations of obstruction by person at Hough Hole Farm. 944764. East Cheshire R.A. have asked Cheshire C.C. to advise the occupier of the route of the R. of W.

Rixton-with-Glazebrook 6 Gate on this path, previously padlocked, now clear. Stile is just about acceptable. Signposts still required. 69069177.

Sandbach7 / Bradwall 5 Five obstructions on this continuation path between 760615 and 756620. All reported to Cheshire C.C.

Sutton 18 Allegations that this path does not follow the definitive line are being investigated. 93776990 to 93987053.

Sutton 34 Path said to have been diverted off a surfaced drive, across a steeply sloping bank to the south of Fox Bank Farm. 93706968 to 93806971. C. & R. Dept have been asked to comment.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Wilmslow 127 & 128 Previously obstructed by a barbed wire fence, now clear. 87328314.

COUNTY OF DERBYSHIRE

Baslow & Bubnell 1 Field ploughed out and not re-instated. 244726. Reported to the County Council.

Calver 6 Landowner attempts to dissuade people from using this useful short cut and has now blocked a stile with a large boulder. A signpost is required where the path leaves the road at 240745. This same path has been ploughed out and not reinstated between 24257400 and 24307375. Reported to ~~XX~~ Derbyshire Dales D.C.

Chapel-en-le-Frith 25 Line of path east of new buildings is impassible. The ground is some 9" deep in mud. 036786. Reported to County Council.

Chapel-en-le-Frith 52 Stone squeeze stile has been obstructed with wooden planks and large boulders. 03957905.

Chapel-en-Le-Frith 103 The Peak Park Ranger Service have now provided a stile on this path which is now clear. 08068149.

Chapel-en-le-Frith 83 & 84 At the junction of these paths the stile is in disrepair, wooden steps have been removed and the space filled in with stones from the wall. 068814. Derbyshire C.C. have been informed.

Chapel-en-le-Frith 146 Gates on this path are now open and a step has been provided on the stile at the west side of the farm. 02758077.

Charlesworth 5 Previously obstructed at five points. Four new stiles have been erected and the path is now clear. This path needs to be used more frequently. 01919319 to 01409348.

Charlesworth 25 Where this path leaves Monks Road at 02309195 the gate is nailed up, although access is allowed on the Drive at Sitch Farm. The correct line needs to be opened up and Derbyshire C.C. have been invited to do this.

Charlesworth 29 At Grid Ref. 01889136 the stile is broken down and at 01959140 the stile is totally obstructed by a sheep wire fence.

Charlesworth 31 Renewed reports that this path is obstructed at several points. 02909043 to 03389127. Inspector is checking.

Charlesworth 87 Allegations that the Ordnance Survey have had to move the Trig Point at 02169202 to pacify the landowner who maintains that walkers were breaking down the fence to enjoy the view. Allegations found to be incorrect, trig point is not on the line of path.

Chelmorton 15 Obstructed by a stone wall without a stile at 101699. Reported to Derbyshire Dales D.C.

Chelmorton 32 New stile is required at 11057135, the present one is dangerous.

Chisworth 25 Stiles required on this path. Derbyshire C.C. are dealing and the Society is maintaining a watching brief.

Hayfield 21 This path would appear to have been unofficially diverted in the area 023892. Derbyshire C.C. have acknowledged our complaint and concede that they are aware of the situation.

Hayfield 27 & 28 Two locked gates previously obstructed these paths the padlocks have now been removed and the paths are clear.

Hartington-Nether-Quarter 33 Allegations that this path has been ploughed out and set to crop. 17205866 to 17845864. Inspector is checking.

Hartington Town Quarter 31 Allegations that there is no stile in the wall adjacent to the Youth Hostel are being investigated. 13276032 to 13386040.

Hartington Upper Quarter 29 Lack of stiles in two walls are alleged, this is being checked by the Society's Inspector. 05856805 to 05356842.

Hartington Upper Quarter 43 Allegations that this path is obstructed by "a grass track enclosed by a pair of wire fences" at 04626889. Situation is being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Hartington Upper Quarter 88 / Buxton 37 This is a continuation path which starts in Buxton at 03857235 and goes through into Hartington at 03427223. There is said to be an unofficial diversion at the Buxton end and there are a number of stiles missing at the other end. The allegations are being checked.

Hope Woodlands 11 Tree felling has taken place and logs and large branches are said to obstruct the way. The Society's Inspector is checking the path. 16388820 to 16328810.

King Sterndale 11 Path ploughed out and set to Barley in the area 09467118. Derbyshire C.C. suggest that we tell them earlier, which is rather silly as we can only tell them when one of our members happens to be walking in the area. We have told them that we can see no logic in their request.

New Mills 55 New bridge constructed and steps made to make the ^{descent} ~~descent~~ to the stream more acceptable. 00828725. ✓

New Mills 161 The landowner has constructed a new stile immediately on the north side of the gateway and the footpath signpost has been moved accordingly 022846. ✓

Nether Haddon 6 & 11 Signpost now in position and there are no problems in passing through the Car Park annex at Haddon Hall. 23346618.

Taddington 24 The broken down step stile has now been replaced by a substantial 5 bar wood gate. Path now clear. 50297224 to 50407133.

Tideswell 24 & 25 Barbed wire which was in a dangerous position, has now been removed. Path clear. 13107935.

Whaley Bridge 56 Path reported as obstructed in March, 1987 but type of obstruction not specified. Inspector reports path clear. 00338053.

Whaley Bridge 58 Misleading signs removed and path now open on its correct line. Adjacent to "The Chimes" at Taxal.

Whaley Bridge 97 A previously securely fastened gate can now be opened with little trouble.

Wheston 1 Some confusion as to the correct point at which this path leaves the road at 12657660. The District Council have been asked to advise. Leaves

COUNTY OF GREATER MANCHESTER

Ashton-under-Lyne 53 This path has been the subject of an ongoing temporary diversion order which we found unacceptable. The Order has now been lifted and the path is clear.

Ashton-under-Lyne 64 Path being excavated out of existence by quarry workings. Section of path affected is from Luzley Road to 96560130. Tameside M.B. are dealing and advise that a diversion order is proposed.

Blackrod 40 Path ploughed out between 60851065 and 60771085. A party attempting to use this path suffered threats and abuse from a person at Pennington Farm, who would not give his name. Reported to Bolton M.B.

Bolton 332 A temporary diversion order affected this path to allow building renovation work to proceed. There was a suggestion that the temporary diversion might become permanent but the Society has opposed. The line of path is now clear. 672077 to 673183.

Bolton 373 This path is now clear of obstruction and a signpost has been erected. 703064 to 703059.

Bradshaw North 7 Trees planted on line of path and obstructed by new fencing at 738140 and 736141. Bolton M.B. have been informed.

Bradshaw North 8 A new fence has been erected where this path crosses the access road to Jumbles Reservoir. The path is thus obstructed at 73951403. Reported to Bolton M.B.

Bredbury & Romiley 11 Path obstructed by a high chain link fence at 95319100. The possibility that this path has been unofficially diverted is being checked with Stockport M.B.

Bredbury & Romiley 37 New stile erected in barbed wire fence, path now clear. 94049170.

Crompton 30 Shooting is taking place over the above path at 94801023. The Local Authority have been asked if they are satisfied that all safety precautions are being taken to protect the public using the path.

Crompton 42 Rubbish on path line, saplings planted on line, signposts are required. 96270855. This path is being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Crompton 54, 55 & 59 At the junction of these paths the steps are blocked by stones and obstructed by undergrowth. 94071015. Oldham M.B. have been informed.

Hazel Grove & Bramhall 75 Two broken and dangerous ladder stiles on the railway boundary fence. 93658560. Stockport M.B. have been asked to raise with British Rail.

Hazel Grove & Bramhall 200 A railway signal operating cable at knee height obstructs this path at 94408490. Stockport M.B. and B.R. are dealing.

Heywood 5 Obstructed by a wooden fence at 84501352. Rochdale M.B. have been informed.

Heywood 13 Path is badly waterlogged and eroded. 85011410 to 85031400. Rochdale M.B. have been asked to carry out improvements.

Heywood 18 A barbed wire fence obstructs the way at 83501395. Rochdale have been made aware.

Heywood 20 A securely fastened gate which must be climbed obstructs the way at 83501422 and there is a barbed wire obstruction at 93501424. All reported to Rochdale M.B.

Heywood 22 Obstructed by barbed wire at the junction with Ashworth Road 83151502. Reported to Local Authority.

Heywood 31 Obstructed by a drystone wall at 83481457.

Heywood 48 This bridleway is obstructed by a secured gate at 83101325, there is a side gate for pedestrians.

Heywood 49 Path obstructed by barbed wire at 83051310. Reported to Rochdale M.B.

Heywood 89 Allegations that this path is not on its correct line have been discounted by Rochdale M.B. who have supplied a copy of the diversion order.

Heywood 162 Obstructed by a stone wall at the junction with Ashworth Road 83151502.

Irlam 2, 4 & 5 Path is ploughed out and not reinstated between 69229380 and 69059380. A bridge or stepping stones are required at 69059380. F.P. 4 is ploughed out between 68509455 and 68129533. There is a dangerous bridge at 68129533. All reported to Salford City Council.

Irlam 9 At Great Woollen Hall there is an unacceptable notice "No access Trespassers will be prosecuted". Salford City Council have been invited to deal with this.

Littleborough 30 Obstructed by a drystone wall at 92561784 and the section adjacent to 92731812 is a bog. Rochdale M.B. have been advised.

Littleborough 47 Path is wired across at 93201803.

X Littleborough 49 Allegations that this path is obstructed at 93351815 are being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Littleborough 51 Path is wired across at 93271809.

Littleborough 85 A broke stile requires replacing at 92461669.

Littleborough 177 Allegations that this path is in a very poor condition in and around the area 93751745 are being investigated by the Society's Inspector.

Littleborough 188 Barbed wire at 94081725 and a broken stile at 94101727 constitute the obstructions on this path.

X Littleborough 262 The stile at 92281506 is in a dangerous condition and requires replacing.

Littleborough 275, 275a, 278 & 279 Wooden pallets obstruct the gateway on 275 at 94901946. There is a broken stile on 275a at 94901994 and another broken stile on 278 at 94971933. The owner of Light Hazzles Farm disputes the right of way on 279.

Littleborough 296a This path, possibly illegally diverted. 95651815 to 95581830. Rochdale are checking if there has been a diversion order.

Littleborough 300 Line of path disputed by landowner who has obstructed the legal line. 956180 to 957182.

Littleborough 303 Obstructed by a sheep wire fence at 95581802.

Littleborough 318 Signs "beware of bulls" are in ^{evidence} ~~evidence~~ on this path but of the Bulls there is no sign !!

Littleborough 319 A sheep wire fence topped with barbed wire obstructs the way at 95321772.

Littleborough 337 A barbed wire fence where this path should leave the access road to Lightowls Farm obstructs the way at 94801718.

Littleborough 343 The gate on this path is securely fastened and the adjacent stile is festooned with barbed wire. 94991742 to 94991747.

Littleborough 357 Obstructed by a barbed wire fence. 95331730 to 95201739.

Littleborough 372 Obstructed by a wall at 95441714.

Little borough 392 & 385 On 392 an outbuilding obstructs the line at 94541598 and there is fencing at 94551600. On 385 the same outbuilding obstructs the line and there is further fencing at 94541600.

Littleborough 405 Obstructed by a fence at 94941660.

Littleborough 407 Signpost erected, path now clear.

Littleborough 460 Misleading notice at 94251446 "Private Road to Caravan Park and Farm only - No through Road". Bridleway sign required..

Littleborough 475 & 476 Obstructed at the junction of 476 & 477 by a gate which will not open G.R. 94651560. A similar situation applies at 94691555.

Littleborough 489 The stile at 94551470 is out of repair, the "throughs" are missing.

Littleborough 498 This path, which runs from 94591437 to 94671424 has been illegally diverted and obstructed.

Littleborough 500 The stile at 94701457 requires repair, the "throughs" are missing.

Littleborough 508 The wooden stile at 94951450 is broken down and requires replacement.

Littleborough 555 The section of this path from 94051395 to 94071412 is out of repair. Fair size trees, bushes and a water channel make this lane unusable.

Littleborough 572a No footbridge across Longden End Brook, 94821365. All problems in Littleborough have been reported on a footpath schedule to Rochdale M.B.

Manchester 132 Problems with inadequate drainage on this extremely well used path have been reported to the City Council.

Marple 31 New stile and signpost erected on Gird Lane 98459007. Path now clear.

Marple 40 A new stile has been built to the rear of " Broadstone " 97719002 and wooden blocks allow the walker to step down the wall into the yard. First reported to the Society in 1983. Now clear.

Marple 45 The stile is obstructed by a bush and a post and wire fence at 97639073.

Marple 92 Previously obstructed at Sportsman Farm. Now clear with signpost erected.

Marple 98 Some problems in establishing the correct line of this path at Chatterton Lane Farm. 99218959. Waymarks required.

Marple 99 A new stile has been erected on the path at 99568925 but a " through " is still required.

Marple 173 Path now clear and footpath sign erected on Turflea Road. 96758610.

Marple 183 This path is restricted in width due to a leaning fence and hedges which badly need cutting. 95878691.

Marple 193 Path now clear of obstructions, signpost erected on Windlehurst Road. 95158640 to 95678603.

Milnrow 27 A sign, " Footpath Closed " has appeared on this path at 95821135. Inspector is investigating further.

Milnrow 31 Tree branches have been dumped across this path at 95881227. It is out of repair between 95881227 and 96041225. Wooden fences and barbed wire at 95901227. A further barbed wire fence at 95951228 and another at 96041225.

Milnrow 38 & 39 On 38 the path has been ploughed out and not restored and a fence blocks the line at 96341134. On 39 a fence blocks the way at 96241139.

Milnrow 98 ^{obstructed} Obstructed by a sheep wire fence topped with barbed wire at 94931227.

Milnrow 162 The gate at 93891304 is fastened up with barbed wire and the path is also obstructed by a garden hedge at 94081308.

Milnrow 180 Padlocked gate across the line of path. Notice displayed " Private Land - Trespassers will be prosecuted ". 93901293 to 93501279.

Milnrow 201 Path impassible due to flooding 93401331 to 93391322.

Milnrow 203 Right of way impassible due to waterlogging in the area of 93311356.

Milnrow 213 All obstructions on this path have now been removed. 92861385 to 93071376.

Milnrow 216 & 197 On 216 the area around 93421387 is badly waterlogged and on 197 the footbridge is missing at 93411376.

Milnrow 229 Gate securely fastened at 93291410.

Milnrow 242 Signposts required in several places and a new stile required at 92951465.

Milnrow 255 Again several signposts required in the area and a new stile at 92501438.

Milnrow 271 Obstructed by a deep drain at 92661416.

Milnrow 281 Piles of rubble tipped across the line obstructs this path at 91971364. Path runs from 91971364 to 91751399.

Milnrow 372 Previously obstructed by a sheep wire fence at 94851196, now clear. All footpath problems in Milnrow have been reported by Footpath Schedule to Rochdale M.B.

Mossley 1 & 2 A barbed wire fence obstructs the way at the junction of these Paths 97150368.

Mossley 163 This path, which adjoins "Hoolybank" in the area 96700327 is extremely narrow and the barbed wire on the fence effectively obstructs the way. Tameside M.B. have been informed.

Orrell 2, 6 & 7 Where footpaths 6 & 7 leave the B5206 there are notices which deter walkers from using the track. On F.P. 2 at 54360703 there is a locked gate with no stile. Reported to Wigan M.B.

Ramsbottom 84 Adjacent residential development has destroyed this path. 79151595 to 79201530. Bury M.B. are dealing.

Rochdale 7 & 12 Bridleway 7 is obstructed by barebd wire at 86241568 and F.P. 12 is obstructed by a barbed wire fence at 85271552 and again by a wooden fence at 86531548.

Rochdale 20 & 23 On 20 there is a broken stile at 86991570 and on 23 the stile at 87001575 requires attention. A wooden fence obstructs the way at 87181575 and again at 87111575.

Rochdale 43 / Wardle 3 The footbridge which should join these two paths is missing. 91381466.

Saddleworth 24 The padlocked gate which previously obstructed this right of way has been unlocked but the padlock could quite easily reappear.

Saddleworth 29 Previously obstructed by barbed wire at 97971968, now clear.

Saddleworth 38 There is a broken stile at 99600905 and another at 99660904. The stile is completely missing at 99550905 next to Castleshaw School, although there is no real evidence of there ever having been one at this point.

Saddleworth 159 Fence across gateway on this bridleway. Access for walkers only. 96130644.

Saddleworth 200 Misleading notice "Private Road" needs to be countered by a public footpath signpost at 97150380.

Saddleworth 203 Lock has been removed from the gate on this path which can be said to be clear. 96650530.

Swinton 51 Path from the Garden Centre on Worsley Road is impassible to normal pedestrians for most of the year due to mud and construction. 6100083.

Tottington 18 Obstructed by barbed wire across the stile at 76421445.

Turton (Bromley Cross) 11 Garden constructed across line of path at its ~~junction~~ junction with F.P. 12. 73371356. Bolton M.B. are said to be aware of the problem but as usual appear to take little action.

Tyldesley 100 Obstructed by farm buildings across the line. Occupier disputes the right of way. 71600205.

Tyldesley 169 Obstructed by a wooden fence where it leaves Henfold Road. A substantial part of this path has been built over but this particular section should still give access to the Brook. 70270115.

Tyldesley 269 Twelve Alsatian dogs roam loose across the line of path at Rawsons ith Nook. 71049860. Reported to Wigan M.B. and local Police.

Tyldesley 247 A new County Council stile has been removed from G.R. 70970006 ~~and~~ and the landowner has made it quite clear that he intends stopping people crossing his land. Reported to Wigan M.B. who seldom take action on complaints.

Urmston 30 Obstructed by a 5' high fence at 778936. This is due to the construction of the Carrington Spur Motorway and the Society is maintaining a watching brief at this stage.

Wardle 2 The path runs from 91781419 to 91521470 and a large section is an impassible bog.

Wardle 25 Barbed wire obstruction removed, path now clear. 92001667 to 91721668.

Wardle 72 Obstructed by a fence at a broken wall. 89951685.

Wardle 110 Blocked by a padlocked gate topped with barbed wire at 89771785.

Wardle 149 Path obstructed by a padlocked gate at 91571704.

Wardle 156 & 157 On 156 a gate is nailed up at Sheriff Hall. 91111751. On 157 there is a broken gate at 91171766. There is no problem of access but motor cyclists can and do now gain access to this path from Wardle.

Wardle 183 & 185 No access across brook at two points. No 183 at 90891881 and on 185 at 90841871.

Wardle 228 Obstructed by a barbed wire fence at 90681980. All problems on Wardle paths have been reported to Rochdale M.B.

Westhoughton 35 Obstructed by a barbed wire fence at 64600690.

Whitefield 6 There has been an unofficial diversion of this path at Brick House Farm. 82880754. Reported to Bury M.B.

Worsley 70 Signpost re-erected in a more appropriate position, path clear. 753004 to 757000.

✓ Worsley 87 Path is becoming overgrown and people are dumping garden refuse on this length of path. Adjacent to 73700080.

Worsley 88 & 89 Residential development is taking place adjacent to and certainly across one of these paths. F.P. 88 72490126 to 72650148. F.P. 89 72680126 to 72680143.

COUNTY OF LANCASHIRE

Adlington 26 Path ploughed out and not reinstated between 59101140 and 58921142, south of Crawshaw Hall. Reported to Chorley B.C.

Bacup 159 Gap stile obstructed by barbed wire at 86372380.

Bacup 279 Obstructed by a new barbed wire fence at Black Bull Farm. G.R. 87652582.

Bacup 293 Gap stile obstructed by barbed wire at 87372600.

Bacup 333 Obstructed by a barbed wire fence at 88532511

Bacup 335 Gap stile obstructed by a sheep wire fence at 88632480.

Bacup 364 Obstructed at the junction with Todmorden Old Road 87772405. The main field gate is fastened with barbed wire and the adjacent wicket gate is nailed shut. Rossendale B.C. say there is no problem !!

Bacup 391 Path obstructed by barbed wire at 89062408.

Bacup 393 & 394 F.P. 393 is obstructed by a secured gate and 394 by a barbed wire fence at 88722325. All Bacup footpath problems have been referred to Rossendale B.C. who profess to have an interest in tourism but who fail totally to have any regard for the definitive footpath network.

Brindle 9 A new sturdy footbridge has been erected on this path at 60492265. Path clear.

Chapelton 27 Wire has been removed and a latched gate substituted, path now clear. 727165 to 725160.

Chapelton 31 Stile now provided which is adequate for the job. 72431546.

Darwen 64 Path area has been cleaned up and all obstructions removed 68212149 to 68252148.

Darwen 165 Obstructed by barbed wire at 72151990. Reported to Blackburn B.C.

Haslingden 327 A member turned back by a person on a tractor whilst attempting to use this path 77921980 to 77751999. Rossendale B.C. have been invited to take action but usually ignore such requests.

Pleasington 6 & 10 Both these paths would appear to have been unofficially diverted in the area of Close Farm 636279. Blackburn B.C. have been asked to comment but as usual they have not replied.

Ramsbottom 125 Obstructed by two strands of barbed wire at 79301900.

Turton (Edgworth) 43 This path, previously had drainage problems. These have now been resolved by an M.S.C. team. Now clear.

Turton (Edgworth) 64 Sufficient work has been carried out on this path for the inspector to submit a clearance report but the path needs to be watched in the future. 72341989 to 72452020.

Turton (Edgworth) 67 New stiles erected, path now clear 723205 to 737198.

Turton (Edgworth) 120 Ditches cut and stiles erected. Path now clear. 751169 to 757165.

Turton (Edgworth) 137 No access where a wall and fence meet at 74601555. Reported to Blackburn B.C.

Turton (Edgworth) 150 Stile now has a " through " step and the loose wire has been removed. Path clear. 74091575 to 74451582.

Tockholes 16 Obstructed by barbed wire at West Bradley Farm. 64562361.

Whitworth 14 Obstructed at " Knowsley " by barbed wire. G.R. 90142061.

Whitworth 17 At G.R. 90342063 a stone wall obstructs the way and at 90322114 the gate is securely fastened, with a large stone at the base.

Yate & Pickup 56 Drainage channel and deep hole immediately adjacent to the stile at 71952340. These are hidden by weeds and rubbish and therefore constitute a danger.

Yate & Pickup 62 Obstructed by two strands of barbed wire at 71912280. At Sharrock Fold, there is no access, the gate is wired and the wall is dangerous. 73102315.

COUNTY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

Alstonefield O.1683 Obstructed by a stout bar, overstrung by a single run of barbed wire at 10735920. Reported to The County Council.

Alstonefield O.1684 New stile erected and barbed wire removed. Path clear. 12635640 to 13105585.

Alstonefield 18 & 63 Allegations that this path is blocked by a " barbed stile " at 116591 are being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Biddulph 86 Path runs from 89626005 to 89706000 and is blocked where it leaves the road and also where it meets footpath 90.

Biddulph 91 Stiles missing and obstruction by undergrowth. 89986018 to 90256018.

Butterton 6 / Warslow & Elkstones 13 This continuation path is obstructed in that there is no facility to cross Warslow Brook at 075576.

Butterton 22 Allegations that this path is overgrown at 053567, requires a new stile at 053566 and is unofficially diverted round the farmyard at the Butterton Moor end, 052567. Inspector is investigating.

Cheadle 29 A first class timber footbridge has been erected, thanks to the Cheadle Community Project Team. 99214469.

Cheddleton 38 Development is taking place adjacent to the line of path which is obstructed as a result. Inspector is to report back.

Fawfieldhead 32 Path obstructed by barbed wire north of barn, 09676138 to 09776129.

Fawfieldhead 42 The occupants of Marsh House allege that the path takes a different line than that shown on the 24" O.S. map. 09226208 to 09376171. Staffordshire C.C. have been asked to advise on the correct line.

Grindon 12 Stone step stile which was part of a wall at 08735423 has now collapsed and is dangerous.

Heathylee 37 Path is obstructed by an excessive amount of water and fluid manure. The gate across the path is badly damaged and held together with binder twine and barbed wire. The adjoining squeeze is blocked.

Hollinsclough 20 Stiles built up at two points in the area 066659. Inspector is checking.

Hollinsclough 25 Allegations that two walls are difficult to cross are being checked by the Society's Inspector. 063662 and 06256615.

Horton 11 Some concern regarding the correct line of this path in the area of Blake Meadows 942566. Inspector is checking.

Leekfrith 40 Obstructed by two strands of barbed wire across the stile at the southern end of this path. 01256102.

Longnor 10 Some doubt as to where this path leaves the road at Edgetop. The wall has collapsed into the field. Signposting and a stile are required 098646.

Longsdon 9 Obstructed at Dunwood Farm, 94655530. Inspector is providing further details.

Onecote 10 This is a R.U.P.P., completely obstructed for riders and vehicles and in places for walkers. 04905486 to 06225399.

Quarnford 0.1835 & 0.1828a On 1835 there is no stile at 02086862, on 1828a a wall obstructs the way at 01576827 whilst at 01036807 there is a wire mesh fence topped with barbed wire.

Quarnford 0.1842 The bridge is missing which should span the Dane at 00586775. It is possible that a Wildboarclough path on the other bank is also affected. Inspector is checking.

Quarnford 4 A wood and barbed wire obstruction at 00826715 prevents the use of this path.

Rushton 19 Path will shortly be obstructed by new house foundations. 933623. The Society's concern has been expressed to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

Sheen 37 Obstructed at several points, all have been reported to the local authority. 10626243 to 1123 6172.

Sheen 38 Allegations that this path is obstructed by a wall at the roadside. 10506221 to 11086178. Inspector is checking.

Sheen 39 Obstructed by wire and the footbridge is missing, 10066283 to 10556230.

Warslow & Elkstones 20 Obstructed by a mass of fencing and barbed wire where it leaves the road at 05676031. A signpost is also required at this location.

Warslow & Elkstones 21 Allegations that this path is obstructed by barbed wire at 955588 are being checked by the Society's Inspector.

Warslow & Elkstones 23 A general allegation that the path is " obstructed " at 054583 but no further details are to hand. Inspector is investigating.

Warslow & Elkstones 46 Footbridge missing at 075578 and a signpost is required at 069586. Further details are awaited.

Waterhouses 4 & 20 F.P. 4 is obstructed by overgrowth at 08505111, by a wall at 08585106, by a rusty non-opening gate at 09055084, by a barbed wire fence at 09135084, by dangerous barbed wire at 09305080 and by barbed wire at 09325078. On F.P. 20 there is a need for a bridge or stepping stones at 09385151. There is a barbed wire obstruction at 09215166 and further barbed wire at the sqeeze 09075170.

Waterhouses 7 Some considerable amount of work has been carried out by the Peak Park Footpath Team which has resulted in the clearance of this path 09485101 to 10105055.

Waterhouses 13 Obstructed by a built up wall at 08255131, by barbed wire at 08395121 and by further barbed wire at 08485113.

Waterhouses 14 Barbed wire removed from stile at 08055116. Path now clear.

Waterhouses 36 Wood step stile erected in the barbed wire fence 09405155 to 10145150. A signpost is still required at the latter reference. All obstructed paths reported to Staffordshire County Council whi are very slow to take action.

COUNTY OF WEST YORKSHIRE

Blackshaw 5 A broken gate,fastened up fence obstruct the line of path at 95332894.

Halifax 8 The stile at 96263167 is blocked with stones.

Halifax 143 New Bridleway sign erected to counter the Private Road sign which is somewhat dilapidated.

Hebden Royd 14 Pat obstructed - no stile, wire fence. Half the hillside has been dug out for a new underground reservoir and dumped on the path. 99632749 to 00032740.

Hebden Royd 17 & 18 On 17 a stile is missing and has been replaced by barbed wire at 99962683. On 18 the path is badly overgrown and a new stile is required. 00152714 to 00062663.

Hebden Royd 21 Obstructed by a fence at 00492736. The path runs from that grid x ref. to 00542745.

Hebden Royd 74 Path is completely out of repair. This was originally a Cart Road to Higher Cragg. 99622463 to 00822459.

Hebden Royd 105 Previously obstructed at a stile 01452369. Now clear.

Heptonstall 15 This bridleway is obstructed by a padlocked gate at 96413169.

Heptonstall 24 Previously obstructed by a sheep fence topped with barbed wire. Now clear. 96282973.

Heptonstall 29 Obstructed by a stone wall at 95902914.

Ripponden 14 The path is obstructed by metal rails and a 4' high wall at 03132093. The footbridge is missing at 03232088.

Slaithwaite 102 & 103 Allegations of " obstruction by person " in this area. Inspector is to investigate.

Sowerby Bridge 79 Path overgrown, a wall blocks the way and a gap stile has been filled in with large stones. 07322310 to 07372308.

Sowerby Bridge 127 Footbridge missing at 02702179. The gateway at 02832181 has been built up. There is a barbed wire fence at 02822181 and a wooden fence and a dilapidated building complete the obstructions at 20802180.

Todmorden 11 Bad drainage makes the path unusable between 96022616 and 95962595.

Todmorden 20 Out of repair between 93472555 and 93522571. A sheep fence and barbed wire at 93422551. Path is also overgrown between 93122547 and 93132549.

Todmorden 31 Obstructed by a fence at 95702538 and there is no bridge across Great House Clough although abutments remain. 95532524 to 95862574.

Todmorden 37 A Bridleway, the section between 95782482 and 95872495 is impassible for horses.

Todmorden 48 A barbed wire fence obstructs the way and the path is out of repair. 91932665 to 92062694.

Todmorden 50 Stones block the gap stile and there is a barbed wire fence at 91362694.

Todmorden 51 Obstructed by barbed wire at 91532724.

Todmorden 64 The Gateway / Stile is blocked by barbed wire. 91732709 to 91842667.

Todmorden 80 Gate securely fastened at 92082480 has now been cleared and path re-opened for public use.

Todmorden 82 Gate previously fastened up with barbed wire has now been cleared. Path available. 92122507.

Todmorden 82 A broken stile obstructs the way at 92602585.

Todmorden 89 Obstructed by a wooden fence at 94553237.

Todmorden 90 Stones block the gap stile and there is barbed wire at several points. 93532570 to 92792616.

Todmorden 91 Obstructed by a wooden fence at 92732613.

Todmorden 96 & 98 On 96 the path is strewn with rubble and obstructed by a wire fence at 89272370. On 98 the gateway at 90132410 is fastened.

Todmorden 100 A wall has been built across the track at 90282410.

Todmorden 107 The gate at 93032419 is padlocked.

Todmorden 120 Obstructed by a wooden fence and a wire fence at 92402173.

Todmorden 122 There is a dangerous wooden fence on this path at 92982138.

Todmorden 125 Track destroyed by a stream of water at 93072203.

Todmorden 145 & 150 On 145 dropped trees have been left across the path at 94332082. On 150 a fence obstructs the way at 94372079 and barbed wire at the ~~xxx~~ wall stile completes the obstructions at 94772052.

Todmorden 198 New field drains have been installed in the area 94202112. This has turned the path into a quagmire. All Todmorden paths have been reported by footpath schedule to Calderdale M.B.C.

Wadsworth 10 Obstructed by a wooden fence at 94553227.

Wadsworth 24 Obstructed by wire across top of wall stile at 00003310.

Wadsworth 30 The stile at 99313007 is in poor condition and requires replacing.

Wadsworth 37 This bridleway requires attention at three points. At 99322963 a fence obstructs the way. There is a further fence at 99322969 and it is impassible due to very deep mud around 99162985.

Wadsworth 61 Path completely out of repair due to flooding 00702782 to 01122863. All Wadsworth paths reported to Calderdale M.B.C.

<u>INCOME</u>	
1986	1987
Subscriptions:	
324.50...ORDINARY.....	342.50
272.50...JOINT.....	293.50
344.90...TFR FROM 10 YR SUSP....	405.70
2.00...JUNIOR.....	7.00
494.00...AFFILIATIONS.....	520.00
=====	=====
1437.90	1568.70
452.21...DONATIONS.....	604.07
Investment Income:	
334.66...INCOME PAID NET.....	540.79
137.58...TAX RECOVERABLE*.....	222.47
=====	=====
	763.26
3172.57...INCOME PAID GROSS.....	3018.86
6.89...PROFIT ON ANNUAL DINNER.....	7.10
66.40...SALES.....	32.87
=====	=====
5608.21...Total Ordinary Income	6002.94
1000.00...GMC GRANT	0.00
0.00...Investment revaluation.....	460.80
=====	=====
6608.21	6463.74
=====	=====

* Tax recoverable / Inland Revenue: This figure does not include a tax credit on a Royal Bank of Scotland plc dividend for £16.10, as the dividend counterfoil, which is required to obtain the tax refund, has gone missing - our Bank have advised us that they are trying to obtain a duplicate counterfoil, and if appropriate, a credit will appear in next years accounts- the amount is approximately six pounds.

Note- income and expenditure are recorded on a cash basis. There were no significant accruals, and the Society had no capital commitments known to the treasurer at the year end.

<u>EXPENSES</u>	
1986	1987
239.38...ANNUAL REPORT.....	335.80
306.64...STATIONERY etc.....	272.22
53.85...MAPS.....	33.20
669.77...POST + TELEPHONE.....	599.54
General Secretary:	
100.00...HONORARIUM.....	100.00
112.50...EXPENSES OF OFFICE.....	112.50
364.00...TRAVELLING EXPENSES.....	397.36
Room Rents:	
80.70...MEETINGS.....	84.00
262.66...ARCHIVE STORAGE.....	323.83
10.00...SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS.....	40.00
15.20...PUBLICITY.....	52.70
71.67...ARCHIVE RUNNING EXPENSES.....	34.70
66.50...ROYAL BANK NOMINEE CHARGES.....	36.75
2.00...LOSS ON AGM TEAS.....	0.44
3.95...RUCKSACK BADGES.....	0.00
9.00...PURCHASE OF WAYMARKERS.....	0.00
0.00...OFFICE FURNITURE.....	25.00
0.00...CONFERENCE FEES.....	18.00
=====	=====
2341.27...Total Ordinary Expenses.....	2466.04
227.64...Investment Revaluation.....	0.00
4039.30...Surplus Income for Year.....	3997.70
=====	=====
6608.30	6463.74
=====	=====

THE FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY:

	b/fwd:	INCOME:	EXPENSES	carried forward
GENERAL FUND.....	28,200.66...	6463.74...	2466.04...	32,198.36
DEFENCE FUND.....	2,888.25...	45.50...	80.50...	2,853.25
E ROYCE MEMORIAL.....	79.66...	0.00...	25.00...	54.66
H WILD MEMORIAL.....	250.00...	0.00...	0.00...	250.00
DR F HEAD MEMORIAL.....	7.00...	275.00...	150.00...	132.00
SIGNPOST FUND.....	400.20...	332.40...	128.04...	604.56
SURVEY FUND.....	381.53...	6.00...	0.00...	387.53
TOTALS	32,207.30	7122.64	2849.58	36,480.36

BALANCE SHEET

1986

1987

ASSETS

28,204.74...	INVESTMENTS.....	29,760.54
74.63...	BANK DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.....	927.19
4,051.37...	BANK PREMIUM ACCOUNT.....	3,799.71
1,799.52...	NAT SAV BANK INV A/C.....	3,872.35
137.58...	INLAND REVENUE*.....	222.47
76.01...	BANK CURRENT ACCOUNT.....	86.95
20.00...	ARCHIVE CENTRE CASH FLOAT.....	20.00
=====		=====
34,343.85		38,689.21
=====		=====

LIABILITIES

32,207.30...	FUNDS AS ABOVE.....	36,480.36
2,136.55...	10 YEAR SUSPENSE FUND.....	2,208.85
=====		=====
34,343.85		38,689.21
=====		=====

INVESTMENTS:

1986

1987

Equities:

9,656.43...	Cost of Purchase.....	10,754.43
9,538.45...	Market Value 31st December...	11,094.25

Government Stocks:

19,998.38...	Cost of Purchase.....	19,998.38
21,405.17...	Market Value 31st December...	22,274.59
18,666.29...	Maturity Value.....	18,666.29

Equities are shown in the Balance Sheet at Market Value as at 31st December, and Stocks are shown at Maturity

Equity investment is in:

ICI, MIDLAND BANK, ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, TATE & LYLE, SCOTTISH AND NEWCASTLE, and TRAFALGAR HOUSE.

AUDITORS REPORT:

I have examined the accounts of the Society. In my opinion and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the Income and Expenditure Account, and the Balance Sheet here given provide a true and fair view of the revenue and the transactions for the year ended 31st December 1987, and of the state of affairs as at that date.

SIGNED:

E McCormick

Honorary Auditor

E. McCormick

24 January 1988

TREASURERS REPORT:

Once more we have had a successful financial year, marred perhaps only by a lack of willing workers...

Our membership is quite low if consideration is given to the number of people who walk - and who use the footpaths that we spend so much time trying to keep open - and often succeeding.

The challenge to members - including affiliated societies- is therefore to challenge every walking non-member you find with the work that this Society does, and collect their membership dues- they are not very high- and send the funds together with the persons name and address to our membership secretary.

A volunteer or two would be welcomed for publicity work. If members would like to hear from us more often (probably at the cost of a slightly higher subscription) then we would need a volunteer or two to put together and distribute additional newsletters or magazines.

Please contact the Hon Sec or Chairman if you can help! Other work you may assist with includes footpath inspection, signpost maintenance, archive maintenance, closure and diversion review work,... keeping the footpath network is hard work, and the more hands we have, the lighter the load all round!

Please also remember that the Society is a registered charity, and enjoys freedom from taxation-

If your employer operates a GIVE AS YOU EARN scheme, whereby payments to charity are deducted from your pay, the Society can be a recipient.

Subscriptions for the year 1987 are due on January 1st 1987, and are as follows:

Ordinary £2.00, Husband and Wife £3.00 Junior £1.00 Affiliation £3.00
Ten Year Memberships- Ordinary £17.00 Husband and wife:£24.00

Provided the resolution presented to the 1988 AGM is passed, and is accepted by the charity commissioners, in future years the membership year will be commencing after you have received your annual report, in which we can advise any subscription increases passed at the AGM. So from next year, make sure you read your annual report closely in case we have to advise of increased subs!

Happy rambling!

Stephen Shaw

REPORT OF SIGNPOST SUPERVISOR

Although I had been a member of the signposting team for some years when I became Signpost Supervisor in April I had little knowledge of the records and administration work. Consequently I am particularly indebted to my predecessor - Mr Charles Peers, for his continued help and guidance.

We are still looking into the possibility of improving the method of manufacture of signposts with a view to minimising the amount of maintenance required. Although the signpost arms are still being made from wood, painted green and professionally signwritten; the posts themselves are treated only with green Cuprinol and then mounted onto a concrete footing. Because the wooden post is clear of the ground and preventively treated against rot we believe its life will be considerably prolonged. The next step is to continue our investigations into the possibility of finding a suitable source for routing the lettering on signpost arms or an economic method of doing this ourselves.

Only one case of vandalism was reported to me in 1987! that signpost no.210 in Heyes Lane, Blacksnape - reported by Mrs Kay Wells - had been uprooted and carried a mile or so into nearby Hoddlesden Village and left leaning against the war memorial. The post was subsequently re-erected on to a concrete footing for added security.

Signpost no. 79 at Grains Bar GR.962086 which has been missing for some years has now been replaced with a standard Public Footpath signpost by Oldham MBC.

A new five arm signpost is in course of preparation for donation by the Altrincham & District CHA Rambling Club which will be erected at the convergence of Nether Alderley footpaths numbered 22, 23, 24 and 33 near to St Mary's Church at GR.84097621.

The signpost to be donated by Stockport Field Club to commemorate their 90th anniversary is to be erected on Marple footpath no.78 near to Bottoms Bridge at GR.96558845.

Sites are still being investigated for signposts which are to be donated by the following:-

Manchester CHA Club
Mrs Potter of Whaley Bridge

Mrs Kay Wells our footpath inspector for the Blackburn area has, very generously, donated £150 to the signpost fund, £50 of which is to pay for signpost no.209 which was erected at Whittlestone Head GR.719197, in memory of her grandparents who were from the Darwen area; the remaining £100 for general signpost maintenance.

Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank on behalf of the Society all those who have kindly assisted with signpost work.

(PSH)

SIGNPOST WORK COMPLETED DURING 1987

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type of Work</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>GR</u>
209	New signpost being prepared (at request of NT Warden).	Whittleston Head	719197
210	New signpost	Heyes Lane, Blacksnape	712217
3	Re-erected on new post with concrete footing (considerable help given by NT Warden)	Stoney Ford	072863
173	Repainted and re-erected on concrete footing.	Taxal	006797
210	Re-erected (after vandalism) on concrete footing.	Heyes Lane, Blacksnape	712217
118	Repainted and re-erected on new post with concrete footing.	West End Farm	153928
57	Post only repainted.	Derwent	181885
58	Post only repainted.	Doctors Gate	096929
Work carried out by Mr Jack Ogden in the Lyme Park area.			
119	Plate and post repainted	Elmhurst Cottages	963841
150	Plate and post repainted	S. end Green Lane	981832
151	Plate and post repainted	East Lodge	977830
109	Plate and post repainted	Dissop Head Farm	979820
80	Plate and post repainted	Longside Plantation	995823
154	Plate and post repainted	S. of Keepers Cottage	954805
155	Plate and post repainted	N. of Keepers Cottage	955806

The following is an extract from correspondence received from the Borough of Newcastle under Lyme. "Unfortunately I am unable to supply you with a Grid Reference, but the path will be found on the Ordnance Sheets SJ8446 and SJ8447.

Marple Footpath 187: As the year closes we learn that a private prosecution has been taken out against the owner of the obstructing electrified deer fence. The results will not be known until 1988.

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

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, bridleways, by-ways and other ways, vacant spaces, waste lands and roadside strips and to right of recreation over commons, particularly in the eight Counties of Cheshire, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, South Yorkshire, Staffordshire, West Yorkshire.
 - (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 maintenance 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 furtherance of the aforesaid objects of any of them.
3.
 - (a) Annual subscription rates shall be payable in advance on January 1st each year. Subscription rates shall be those last set by the Annual General Meeting and shall be subject to review by the Annual Meeting, due notice of any alterations having been included in the notice of the meeting.
 - (b) Any amenity society or other body, corporate or unincorporate, having an interest in the work of the Society, and paying to the Society an affiliation subscription, shall have 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.
 - (c) Joint members (two), having paid the appropriate subscriptions, shall each be entitled to full voting rights.
 - (d) Individual members of twenty or more years standing who have reached the age of 60 years may be entitled on application to free life membership and will receive a copy of the Annual Report and all other relevant literature.
4.
 - (a) The business of the Society not conducted in General Meeting shall be conducted by a Council.

(b) The Council will consist of :-

(i) Elected Annually :

- (a) The Officers of the Society.
- (b) Not more than 15 members of the Society.

(ii) Ex-officio :

- (a) Nominated delegates of affiliated societies.
- (b) Footpath Inspectors of the Society.

(c) Council will have the power to add to its number for a period not exceeding one year, any person or persons.

(d) Council may delegate its powers to any committee it may establish or to the Officers of the Society.

(e) Should any Officer resign or cease to act, then Council shall have the power to appoint a successor who shall act until the next Annual General Meeting and will be eligible for re-election at that meeting.

(f) Council may fix the rules under which it conducts business subject to these Constitution and Rules provided always that business may not be conducted by Council unless there are at least 8 members present.

(g) Council shall have the power to invest the funds of the Society as it sees fit and shall have the power to borrow but not to charge the assets of the Society.

5. (a) 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.

(b) The Annual Meeting will appoint each year 11 Officers of the Society to such offices as the meeting considers expedient.

(c) The Annual Meeting shall have the power to confirm the actions of Council and Officers in previous years where it may have been necessary for these to act outside these Constitution and Rules, provided due notice of any such resolution is given in the notice calling the meeting.

Providing that this Clause may not be used to authorise any expenditure which is not authorised by the objects of the Society, specified in para. 2 to para 5(c).

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 :

- (i) Induce - or if necessary compel - as far as is possible all Local, Public or Urban Authorities, District and County Councils to perform their duties as conservers of the said public rights.
 - (ii) 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.
 - (iii) Keep a map, or series of maps, wherein the situation of all footpaths and other public ways shall, so far as is 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 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 address, 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.
 12. Any motion put to an Annual Meeting will be approved by a simple majority of those voting and the Chairman of the meeting may cast an additional vote at his discretion in the event of a tied vote.

As amended by decision of the Annual General Meeting held 26th April, 1984 and 23rd April 1987.