

# PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

HELPING WALKERS & PROTECTING FOOTPATHS  
SINCE 1894



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

2016



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## Annual Report 2016

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Registered Charity No. 212219

**Front Cover :**    *PNFS sign and footbridge at Gigg Brook*  
*Photographed by David Gosling*  
*on a PNFS walk*

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# Chairman's Report

David Hurrell



When I took over as Chairman in April 2016, I had acted as Vice Chairman to Gavin Miller for the previous 18 months. I want to thank Gavin for his work as Chairman in keeping a steady hand on the Society during that time and in showing me how things should be done.

It was a period of learning for me, which has continued over the ensuing months as I continue as Chairman.

I want to say a big 'Thank you' to all the team who have worked so enthusiastically for Peak and Northern Footpaths Society during the past year, particularly my fellow Trustees, the officers of the Society, the Taylor House volunteers and the many of you who really do keep your feet on the ground: the footpath inspectors.

It was with sadness that we recorded the death of Mike Barnes in September 2016 after a short illness. Mike had done much good work with the website. The Society will miss him.

One of the most valuable assets of the Society is its membership. We continue to need to recruit new members, and as part of this drive we had a stand at the Manchester Histories Festival in June 2016.

The festival attracted many visitors, and we were able to recruit a number of new members.

We continue to give presentations to affiliated groups and other interested groups as a means of publicising the Society and its work and a means of recruiting new members. 'Spreading the word' is a phrase we must carry with us whilst out walking.

In recent months your Trustees have been looking at minor changes to the wording in the constitution that covers the objects of the Society in order that we remain within the remit laid down. The Trustees are working with a solicitor who specialises in charity work to ensure that we work within the constitution to achieve our aim of preserving access along public rights of way. After all, the primary aim of the Peak and Northern Footpaths Society is to keep open the many public rights of way that are such an important part of our landscape and which provide the opportunity for healthy exercise.

Work continues on an improved database for recording faults reported by our inspectors and members of the public. It is important that records are kept of such work to identify local authorities who are not meeting their statutory duties to keep rights of way in a good state of repair. This is something that will become increasingly important as local authority budgets continue to be cut. There are always opportunities arising for volunteers within the Society. If you are able to offer help in this way please contact me or one of the other Trustees and we will try and match your skills to the areas that are in most need.

We look forward to another rewarding year.

As was the case in 2015, only one footbridge has been completed and handed over during the year. There are, however, a number of proposed projects in the pipeline and I hope that some of these will come to fruition in the forthcoming year.

An event was organised in September by Neil Collie, my predecessor as Bridge Assessor, at which a cheque for more than £2,500 was handed over to Stockport MBC as a donation towards the cost of a footbridge on Bredbury & Romiley FP6. The donation was made possible thanks to a legacy from a former member, John Pickstone. The event was attended by John's widow Vivienne and by representatives of the Council and the PNFS.

A formal offer of funding has been made to Kirklees MBC for a footbridge over Howroyd Beck near Whitley Lower. The Council has agreed to carry out some work to improve the adjoining footpath and I am awaiting their formal acceptance of the offer.

In March, I went to Stafford to meet members of the County Council's RoW team to discuss two proposed substantial footbridges on the River Hamps in the Staffordshire Moorlands. I have been sent some preliminary sketches and rough costings. The adjoining footpaths are generally in a very good state and need no work. In accordance with our policy, the Society will only fund the cost of the materials for the bridges, with the Council paying the labour costs of the installation. I am again waiting for a response with more detailed costings.

An offer of about £1,200 was made to Barnsley MBC towards a bridge over Tanyard Brook near Upper Denby. Progress had been very slow owing largely to difficulties with the landowners. They had decided at the last minute to ask for a complete change in design from a timber to a stone clapper bridge. The Society agreed to make a donation of the same amount towards the stone bridge. No response to this offer has yet been received.

An approach has been made by Huddersfield Ramblers about possible joint funding of a footbridge. They have proposed a bridge over Stone Wood Dyke near Stockmoor. The next step will be an approach to the Council for their reaction to the proposal.

I am still working with the highway authorities (HAs) on proposals for bridges at Silsden in West Yorkshire and Flockton in Kirklees but progress is very slow.

Previously, the Society's policy has been to make donations to HAs only. We have been approached by the Peak District National Park Authority with a request for funding of the materials for a small boardwalk on the Pennine Way, north of Black Hill. The Trustees agreed to make a donation of about £190, subject to assurances that the project was approved by the HA, which would take full responsibility for future maintenance. I am expecting to get formal acceptance of the offer in the near future. The Trustees have also agreed in principle to make a donation to the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust towards the materials for boardwalks in Chee Dale in the White Peak. Work is ongoing on this proposal.

The feeling I have, after my first full year as Bridge Assessor, is that one reason for slow progress on many projects may be the reduction in rights-of-way staff and cuts in budgets for the highway authorities. It appears that, even with the offer of funding for a bridge, there are insufficient members of staff with the time and resources to carry out the design and costing work.

Paul Easthope

## Accounting Basis

These accounts have been prepared using the “receipts and payments” method, rather than the “accruals” method. This is in accordance with Charity Commission guidance and the Trustees’ decisions made in 2006.

Receipts were down appreciably to £39,009 due to receiving no legacy income this year. Increased expenditure (the Blacka Moor project cost £11,888) resulted in a deficit of £11,381. Without this expenditure a small surplus of £507 would have been achieved.

## Income

Members’ subscriptions were down slightly to £11,850. However, affiliation income was up again to £1,724. Donations increased to £9,145 due to the Pennine Way Association donating £2,618 on their winding up. Gift Aid income was down £537 due to a slight drop in gift-aided signpost donations. Signpost donations were down slightly by £438. Dividend/interest was down slightly by £370 to £7,653 due to our high-interest bank account not crediting our bank statement with this year’s interest of £625 until Jan 2017. Dividend income is up but is counteracted by falling interest rates on our cash accounts.

## Expenditure

Expenditure was up £15,059 to £50,390, due mainly to the Blacka Moor project (see the section on commemorative projects and structures). Taylor House running costs were up by £1,055 due to roof repairs. Travel costs were similar to last year. Signpost/footbridge costs were higher as we financed a £2,000 footbridge this year. Printing and postage costs were down due to more members taking the newsletter online. If you don’t already do this, please consider it. It costs us over £1 to print and post a newsletter. Training costs were up by £951 due to sending our new Court & Inquiry Officer on a PRoW training course. Computer software costs were down £942 as we had very few problems with our computer system this year. Legal, professional and secretarial costs were up by £570, due to two of our Court & Inquiry Officers attending a PRoW seminar.

## Balance sheet

The balance sheet is down by only £1,614. This is quite good considering the £11,381 deficit. The reason for this is the increase of £9,767 in the value of our investments to £141,807. We purchased £10,197 of further investments during the year. This gave us a return of 5.3 % on our investments. Liquid assets now stand at £100,847.

## Direct debit subscriptions

Your DD is taken by the CAF (Charity Aid Foundation) bank. You will not see on your statements and online bank details any mention of Peak and Northern Footpaths Society. Instead you will see “Charity Donation” with FRS followed by a six-figure number or 10..... Collection dates are the 1st or 15th of the month. Please think about changing to paying your subscriptions and donations by direct debit if you haven’t already done so, and consider signing up for Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer. Forms are available at <http://www.peakandnorthern.org.uk>. Direct debits now account for over 60% of our membership subscription income and stand at £7,746, which is up by £700 on last year. 443 payments were taken, accounting for 565 members. We now have a number of affiliates paying by DD. If you are a group affiliated to us, please consider paying in this way.

We also have an increasing income from donations via our website: £824 this year, including a donation for a signpost. This took our total DD and website income to over £10,000 for the first time.

## Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of PNFS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2016, which are set out on form CC16a.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

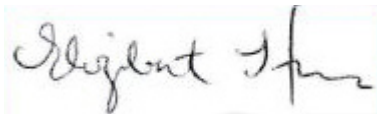
Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: .
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Elizabeth Hudson ACA**

*Bradley Fold, Woodford Lane,  
Newton, Macclesfield, SK10 4LH  
10th February 2017*



Peak & Northern Footpath Society

No 212219

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2016	To	31/12/2016
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Legacies, bequests	-		-	-	33,382
Donations general	9,145			9,145	6,652
Donations signposts		5,072	-	5,072	5,510
Donations footbridges	-		-	-	-
Gift Aid tax	3,555		-	3,555	4,092
Interest/Dividends	7,653		-	7,653	8,028
Subscriptions	11,850		-	11,850	12,210
Affiliations	1,724		-	1,724	1,589
Miscellaneous	10		-	10	44
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>33,937</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,009</b>	<b>71,507</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
Treasury gilt investment redemption	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>33,937</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,009</b>	<b>71,507</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Taylor House running costs	5,832		-	5,832	4,777
Signpost & Footbridges,	3,896	5,072	-	8,968	7,856
Travel & Subsistence	6,068		-	6,068	6,161
Printing, Copying including newsletter	4,354		-	4,354	3,717
Postage Telephone Stationery	2,741		-	2,741	3,709
Computer Software/Maintenance	3,170		-	3,170	4,112
Functions / Fund raising costs	1,138		-	1,138	1,233
Insurance	1,779		-	1,779	1,767
Subscriptions, Donations & Training	1,098		-	1,098	147
Legal Professional & Secretarial	2,199		-	2,199	1,629
Commemorative projects & structures	7,445	5,000	-	12,445	-
Sundries	598		-	598	223
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>40,318</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,390</b>	<b>35,331</b>
<b>P &amp; L Surplus/Deficit</b>				<b>- 11,381</b>	<b>36,176</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
HICL Investment Trust	10,197	-	-	10,197	-
PA Sound System		-	-	-	1,509
Computer Hardware		-	-	-	518
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>10,197</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,197</b>	<b>2,027</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>50,515</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,587</b>	<b>37,358</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>-16,578</b>	<b>-5,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-21,578</b>	<b>34,149</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>117,425</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>122,425</b>	<b>83,045</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>100,847</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,847</b>	<b>117,194</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash bank accounts	100,685		-
	Petty cash	162		-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>100,847</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

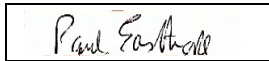

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Government stocks			20,855
	Loan stock			98,040
	Equities			22,910
			-	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>		-	141,805

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Taylor House building		60,153	
	Computer Equipment		13,458	
	Furniture fittings & other equipment		4,351	
	P A Sound System		1,509	-
			-	-
			0	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Paul Easthope	16/02/2017
	D C Brown	16/02/2017

# Consultations and Orders Report

## Alan Hooley

In last year's report I noted that the work of the section had stabilised, speculating that this was because the staff reductions in local authority ROW departments had been completed for the time being. The crucial words were the last four. As you see from the figures at the end of this report, the total number of cases that we dealt with in 2016 (a crude measure) fell by 28% compared with the previous year. No doubt this was as a result of further cuts.

Not only did the numbers fall but the nature and quality of the work changed as well. This trend is indicated by the fact that we lodged only one objection in 2016 – just one. That must be a record low. There will be a number of reasons for that and I do not profess to identify them all, but one reason suggests itself. Local authority ROW departments could be steering clear of controversial issues and pursuing only those cases where the case for change is manifest and time-consuming argument unlikely. We are finding that inspectors are frequently reporting that proposed changes argue the case for themselves and are welcomed, or that they do no more than regularise the position already in place on the ground. Of course, the inspectors add helpful comments on issues such as signage, path width and surfaces, and these are always passed on to the authority, but full-blooded head-on opposition is becoming rarer. Here I must acknowledge the professionalism of the ROW officers, who are skilled at identifying objections and eliminating them before they put pen to paper. At these preliminary stages the Society's inspectors make invaluable contributions in informal discussions before a proposal is formulated. It is plain that when it comes to professionalism and skill our inspectors are a match, and sometimes more than a match, for the ROW officers. All this means that by and large the professional relationship between the Society and the local authority officers is a good one, which is as it should be. What is not as it should be is that there may well be situations on the ground that need urgent remedial action but don't get it because there are insufficient resources to take that action. This does not bode well for the future of the path network.

We have noted that landowners are making more use of section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980. This provision enables a landowner to deposit a map with the local authority, the effect being to negate any intention to dedicate land as a highway. The Society must be notified of such a deposit. The map remains on the file until such time as someone claims a prescriptive right over the land which is the subject of the deposit.

I acknowledge with thanks the work of the assessors and inspectors, including their prompt and useful reports. I particularly thank those willing to undertake inspections outside their own area to fill the gaps where we have no inspector in post.

In 2016 at Taylor House we dealt with the following matters. The figures for 2015 are in brackets:

- Orders 152 (275)
- Consultations 161 (215)
- Public Space Protection Orders 7 (13)
- Others 153 (148)
- Objections 1 (11).

These figures do not include those cases dealt with by the Area Officers.

The year started with a successful appeal against the refusal of Lancashire County Council to add a path in Haslingden to the Definitive Map. The claim for the path was made at the request of John Barnes, the local inspector and long-term resident, who sadly died whilst the appeal was being prepared. The claim was refused on the ground that the land crossed by the path, which was owned by Rossendale Council, was in part licensed for use by a model flying club and partly let for grazing of cattle. These uses were considered incompatible with the use of the route as a public right of way. The effect of our winning the appeal to the Planning Inspectorate is that Lancashire Council must make an order to add the path to the map. Unfortunately there is no time limit for this to be done, so there is likely to be a long delay before the matter is finally resolved.

The Society's claim in respect of the realignment of Silverdale 14 is similarly in a state of limbo. This case is very important as the public continue to be denied a safe route behind a sea wall, which was intended to be part of the Lancashire Coastal path. Walkers are forced to clamber along the eroded beach, which is neither safe nor pleasant. As in the Haslingden case, the Society won an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate following refusal by Lancashire Council to make an order to amend the definitive map. There was a change in political control in 2015. The new council agreed to make an order in accordance with our claim on the basis of a detailed analysis of map and other evidence by their officers. However, the order is opposed by landowners and has to be referred to the Planning Inspectorate to set up a public inquiry. We continue to wait.

In 2015 the Society was approached by a group of residents in Leigh, near Wigan, following closure of a well-used non-definitive path giving access to open countryside. The Society worked with the residents to produce evidence that the path had been used as of right for a period well in excess of 20 years. After more than a year's delay the PROW officer has produced a report in favour of the application. It is now up to Legal Services to make an order modifying the definitive map. It will then be advertised and the landowner can and will object.

At least Wigan only has a handful of outstanding applications. In Kirklees there are 191. Of which 117 are on a priority (sic) list. The Council resolve around six cases every year. Thus the projected time for decisions in some of the priority cases is over 20 years. Two of the Society's applications in Kirklees date back to 2009. In one of these I have asked the Planning Inspectorate to issue a direction ordering the Council to resolve the matter within a specified time. This is usually two years.

This is my final annual report as I am standing down at the AGM. I would like to thank my colleagues on the Courts and Inquiries Committee for their support, assistance and friendship. Also a special word of thanks to Peter Rothwell, who has spent many hours, hopefully with enjoyment, researching around my cases and has given me invaluable advice.

Harry W Scott

As I reported in my 2015 report, Stoke-on-Trent City Council have taken on a new Rights of Way Officer to assist the current Rights of Way Officer. This has come about due to the Lost Ways project surveys we have been carrying out. We have identified 1351 paths that need to go on the definitive map by 2026. From the above surveys carried out by volunteers, the Rights of Way Officer has identified around 700 paths on land owned by Stoke-on-Trent City Council, so these should be easy to put on the definitive map. Unfortunately, there are around 500 paths which will require section 53 claims, some on the 20-year use rule and some on historical evidence. Currently we are deciding how to move forward with the project and make the claims.

Staffordshire County Council will have another 30% cut during 2017/18. This is impacting on the service we receive: from the time you report a footpath problem to resolving the problem can take up to 12 months. However, urgent or safety-related problems are dealt with sooner. While Staffordshire County Council were updating the definitive map, we had to help them with orders they had lost; fortunately the Society archive was able to supply copies of the lost paperwork. My thanks to Alan Hooley and the assessors for their help in finding this paperwork. Staffordshire County Council have been most grateful for our help and assistance.

We received a total of 16 diversion consultations during the year. We are still waiting for the diversion of footpath 5 at Hednesford Town, Cannock Chase, to be resolved. As I reported in 2015, the path was being diverted onto estate roads. Currently we are waiting for Staffordshire County Council's legal department to send the order to the Planning Inspectorate for determination of my objections.

Unfortunately, we lost the public inquiry into the closure of footpath 10 Sheen Parish in the Staffordshire Moorlands. However, we did win the proposed diversion of footpath 7 Sheen Parish. We are also trying to get a diversion to footpath 18 Cheadle Parish in the Staffordshire Moorlands. This footpath has been obstructed by an industrial estate for several years. The public have been using a route around the obstructions through woodland and I am trying to get the path diverted onto this route. Bridleway 0.1517 in High Offley Parish, Stafford Borough, has been diverted and a link to the Shropshire Union canal has been lost. However, we have negotiated a definitive footpath to the canal.

HS2 has taken up considerable time this year, as it affects over 45 footpaths in Staffordshire. I am, however, pleased to say that HS2 Ltd have taken all the paths into consideration. One major problem is that HS2 Ltd will not be consulting user organisations such as our Society, and will only be consulting the Council (as the highway authority) and the Local Access Forum.

We received 118 planning applications during 2016. All were investigated and commented on where a footpath was affected. On the increase are applications for large housing estates, a trend which can only continue over the next few years. Unfortunately, applicants do not always take footpaths into consideration and, if they do, they try to put the paths onto estate roads.

During 2016 Derbyshire County Council cut its number of rights of way officers from 17.6 fulltime equivalents to 11.6. However, many of the Society's Derbyshire Inspectors look after parishes within the Peak District National Park, which has its own rights of way officers, who have been able to resolve many of the faults reported to me by the Inspectors. Outside the National Park, there are fewer inspectors and fewer faults reported, and many of these seem to be the legacy of developments which in previous years were granted planning permission by the district councils, even though rights of way were obstructed as a consequence. I have responded on behalf of the Society to several proposals for diversion orders to resolve these problems, and have been able to get improvements for the benefit of walkers. It was not appropriate in 2016 to serve any legal notices to secure the removal of obstructions, but this might well change in the coming year. I urge all Inspectors to report to me problems which persist and cause real difficulty for walkers, so that I can take strong action to seek their resolution.

In recent years consultation by the district councils on planning applications which potentially affect the use of public rights of way by walkers has been much better. In 2016 I commented on over 130 such applications, and for many of them this has resulted in the councils being aware of the problems which the applications might cause and being able to make developers revise their applications appropriately. I have also had success in securing good, traffic-free routes for walkers through new housing estates, and in ensuring that developers contribute to the maintenance of existing off-site rights of way whose use will greatly increase as a result of the developments.

The County Council has continued to make diversion orders in the interest of landowners, where legally the public's interests must be safeguarded but need not be enhanced. I commented on 9 such proposals, most of which involved detailed discussion with council officers to ensure that the public got the best deal possible. This was sometimes an uphill struggle, but since the Council knows that an expensive public inquiry can result if objections are maintained, it was usual for a satisfactory result to be achieved.

The County Council has a duty to make modification orders to ensure that public rights are correctly recorded on the definitive map. In 2016, it continued a programme to legally clarify the rights over long, historic tracks which were known to be highways but were not shown on the definitive map. Members of the Peak District Green Lanes Association have been very active in collecting evidence in cases where they believed these tracks carried public rights for non-motorised users only, and I have assisted where I could. This has resulted in several routes being found to be bridleways or restricted byways, which cannot be used legally by trail bikers and drivers of 4-wheeled vehicles, thus greatly improving their enjoyment by walkers.

# Courts and Inquiries Report

## John Harker

I resigned as a Courts & Inquiries Officer at the 2016 AGM, but I agreed to go on dealing with cases that remained unresolved.

The 2015 Annual Report mentioned concerns with the closure of a level crossing by Network Rail (NR) in Wharncliffe Woods near Sheffield. Despite pressure being brought to bear, NR has refused to reconsider the closure. Other crossings remain vulnerable all over the Society's area.

In Barnsley, the issue of Tankersley Footpath 34 was substantially resolved when the overgrown section was cleared at Barnsley Council's insistence. This came about because our Society served obstruction and out-of-repair notices: a good example of the use of the legal powers available to us. A package of minor legal diversions of paths across the golf course should resolve some of the health and safety issues which were causing concern.

In Derbyshire, the decline in staffing levels started to impact severely on the Highway Authority's ability to address the issues being reported by our network of inspectors. However, towards the end of 2016, two temporary staff were appointed to start dealing with the backlog. Nevertheless, outstanding unresolved issues remain a source of concern. Hayfield Footpath 24 near Rowarth cannot be followed on its legal line due to development that took place 20 years ago. Shirebrook Footpath 33, which was added to the Definitive Map in 2013, remains completely impassable due to numerous obstructions. A network of footpaths in Denby Parish Amber Valley, on an opencast coal site restored to agriculture, are impassable due to obstructions. Unless we see progress on these cases in the near future, legal action is highly likely to try to force the issue.

In Stockport, before handing over to a new Courts & Inquiries Officer, I attempted to resolve a number of ongoing issues. Marple Footpath 36 near Hollywood End is flooded almost permanently. Drainage from land higher up causes the footpath to act as a sump. Repeated requests to the Highway Authority for action fall on deaf ears, so another legal action is in the offing. The obstructed Marple Footpath 92 at Sportsman's Farm should be resolved by an agreed diversion, but the legal process is stalled because the Authority is unable to process such diversions. This is not the only such case in the borough. Marple Footpath 18 at Pistol Farm, mentioned last year, remains unresolved because it should have been referred to the Planning Inspectorate and has not been so referred.



This has been my first year as a Courts and inquiries Officer of the Society. My work during the year has been divided between attention to issues in my home borough of Trafford, Greater Manchester and a number of more general projects.

The Borough of Trafford covers both urban and rural areas with a range of residential, industrial and agricultural uses. It has a network of some 250 recorded public rights of way ranging from short ginnels to paths across open fields. I have worked with Trafford Ramblers to identify and try to resolve some long-standing footpath obstructions. This is very much work in progress. Initially the approach has been through discussions with landowners and Trafford Council. If any cases cannot be resolved in this way more formal approaches will be considered. As part of this process we have proposed working with the Council to update the Definitive Map and Statement which is increasingly out-of-date, and the Society's files and records have been very valuable in supporting this work.

Carrington Moss is a large area of open, mainly agricultural, land within Trafford that has had many decades of uninterrupted access by the public, but has few recorded public rights of way. The possibility of claiming additional public rights of way was being considered during 2016, but with only limited progress. However, in January 2017 the landowner has tried to restrict public access to only the public rights of way over the whole of the area, creating a local uproar and the opportunity for the Society, working with others, to identify users of the area and claim additional rights of way. Watch this space.

Planning for the high-speed railway HS2 in the Society's area reached the stage of beginning to identify the effect the plans would have on public rights of way. I responded on behalf of the Society to the HS2 consultation on the Working Draft Environmental Impact Assessment for Phase 2a of the project in respect of the section of the line passing through East Cheshire from Madeley to Crewe. The draft proposals would significantly reduce public access across the line of the route, and representations were made to avoid the worst effects of this. The Working Draft Environmental Impact Assessment for Phase 2b, completing the lines to Manchester and to Sheffield and Leeds, is expected to be published in 2018. I will continue to monitor developments.

The Greater Manchester Authority has undertaken a consultation on a new "Greater Manchester Spatial Framework", which will inform the consideration of planning applications from 2018. Although the draft documents referred to the provision of access to open spaces, there were no specific proposals with regard to public rights of way. As such, I responded on behalf of the Society to the effect that planners must be aware of the need to protect and develop public rights of way and other access rights.



# Officers and Volunteers

## **PRESIDENT**

David Bratt  
107 Common Lane  
Culcheth  
Warrington  
Cheshire WA3 4HQ  
01925 762472  
bratty41@hotmail.com

## **CHAIR**

David Hurrell \*  
36 Hillcrest Road  
Deepear  
Sheffield S36 2QL  
0114 288 6474  
david.hurrell@ahemsltd.co.uk

## **VICE CHAIR**

Gavin Miller \*  
gavin-miller@ntlworld.com

## **SECRETARY**

David C Brown \*  
43 Bings Road  
Whaley Bridge  
High Peak  
SK23 7ND  
01663 733236  
dcb.pnfs0@gmail.com

## **TREASURER**

Paul Easthope \*  
4 Glenbrook Hill  
Glossop  
Derbyshire SK13 7BY  
pauljoaneasthope@gmail.com

## **COURTS AND INQUIRIES OFFICERS**

Rhoda Barnett (Derbyshire)  
John Harker (Eastern)  
Terry Norris (Western)  
Harry Scott (Staffs)  
Martin Hampar (Manchester)  
Reg Boot (Stockport)

## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Mel Bale \*  
membership@pnfs.org.uk

## **SIGNPOST OFFICER**

David Morton \*  
21 Grange Avenue  
Cheadle Hulme  
Stockport  
SK8 5EN  
0161 283 7824  
davidcmorton@ntlworld.com

## **OTHER SIGNPOST**

### **PERSONNEL**

Ted Wolfe  
Peter Ash  
Mike Hoare

## **FOOTBRIDGE**

### **ASSESSOR**

Bob Proctor

## **FAULTS & INSPECTION**

### **TEAM**

David Gosling \*  
John Knight  
Andrew Harter  
Hilda Bowler (ret'd)  
Sue Clarke (ret'd)

## **CONSULTATIONS AND ORDERS MANAGER**

Alan Hooley  
29 Buxton Lane  
Marple  
Stockport SK6 7QL  
0161 427 4772

## **ASSESSORS**

Brian Hamilton  
John Grimsey  
Jeff Lomax  
Wally Smith

## **NEWSLETTER & PUBLICITY**

Ian Salvage \*  
iansalvage1@btinternet.com

## **WEBMASTER**

Mel Bale  
webmaster@pnfs.org.uk

## **OFFICE VOLUNTEER**

Jerzy Matuszewski

## **HONORARY EXAMINER**

Liz Hudson

Officers indicated with \* are  
Trustees

## **PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY**

Taylor House, 23 Turncroft Lane, Offerton, Stockport, SK1 4AB. 0161 480 3565  
Email: [mail@peakandnorthern.org.uk](mailto:mail@peakandnorthern.org.uk) website: [www.peakandnorthern.org.uk](http://www.peakandnorthern.org.uk)



**David Bratt**  
President



**Gavin Miller**  
Vice Chair



**Paul Easthope**  
Treasurer



**Dave Brown**  
Secretary



**David Morton**  
Signpost Officer



**David Gosling**  
Footpath Inspection  
Coordinator



**Mel Bale**  
Membership Secretary  
Webmaster



**Ian Salvage**  
Publicity Officer  
Newsletter Editor



**Rhona Barnett**  
C & IO



**Terry Norris**  
C & IO



**Harry Scott**  
C & IO



**Martin Hampar**  
C & IO

## Footpaths Inspections (David Gosling)

The Society's long history of protecting footpaths provides reassuring continuity even when so much else appears to be changing. This has been shown this year when we have lost some key volunteers who have given amazing service over the years and yet we have increased the number of inspectors and have worked on innovations (see below) which provide hope for the future of footpath inspection.

Let me first mention some honourable departures. For many years, Hilda Bowler was the first point of contact for footpath inspectors with the Society. She also received their reports and supervised the faults team, who record footpath faults. Hilda retired in October, and earlier in the year Sue Clarke also retired from the faults team. The Society is deeply indebted to both of them. As a result of these retirements, however, the faults log dropped further and further behind. We have been very fortunate that a new volunteer, John Knight, has taken on the role of clearing the faults backlog and recording faults, but we need still more new volunteers to keep up with the workload.

Robert Fysh and Brian Lawrence were long-standing inspectors whose service to the Society dated back to the 1990s. They both retired this year, as did Malcolm Clarke (Trafford: Urmston), John Adler (Sheffield: Bradfield), Martin Lee and Anna Papageorgiou. We also mourned the loss of Mike Barnes, who had not only been one of our most diligent inspectors in 13 parishes but also the Society's webmaster.

Following the AGM, we will be losing the services of Terry Norris who, as well as being a C&IO, has almost single-handedly inspected Calderdale and Kirklees. He has mentored new inspectors and been tireless in supporting inspectors in Bolton, Cheshire East and West, Oldham, Tameside, Wigan and Lancashire. He will be sorely missed. In fact his retirement means we need to rethink how we assist new inspectors in these areas. I will be contacting some experienced inspectors to ask if they are willing to mentor new inspectors. John Harker has retired as a C&IO but continues as an Area Officer.

The good news is that we appointed 14 new inspectors, bringing the total number to 101. We have welcomed new inspectors in some areas that have not been inspected recently, such as Cheshire West, Lancaster and Brighouse. I have also begun to suggest that new inspectors share some of the larger parishes with existing inspectors who might welcome some help (as at New Mills and Buxton). A training day for new inspectors is now an annual event and a successful session was held on March 5th this year. June Mabon continues to provide the badges for new inspectors.

I would particularly like to thank our most energetic inspectors - Shirley Addy, Bill Parke, John Harker, Keith Feltham and Ken Brockway - who between them have reported 246 faults.

## Lost Ways (David Gosling)

The Society is now actively researching so-called Lost Ways. These are rights of way which existed before 1949 but are not on the definitive map. We have until 1st January 2026 to claim these paths, as after that date they will be extinguished. We will support any inspector or PNFS member who is interested in identifying and researching Lost Ways so that they can be claimed before the cut-off date. Further information will be circulated to all members.

## Database of Footpath Inspections (David Gosling)

A major innovation is being launched in 2017. This is the database of footpath inspections, which has been developed by Roger Fielding and is now ready to be used by Derbyshire inspectors. Other highway authorities (HAs) will be added in due course.

(cont.)

The database will provide an easy-to-access visual record of footpath inspections. Once it is up and running and inspectors have added their data, it will show the condition of paths (PRoWs) in any given parish and the date when each was last inspected. For the first time the Society will have a record of the condition of each path using a simple system of three categories and not simply a list of faults as we have at the present time.

The main advantages of the new database will be as follows:

1. Inspectors enter their own data on the condition of footpaths, add photos and report faults within their own parish(es). (Taylor House will also continue to enter data.)
2. The data will be available for all inspectors and members to see via a new website linked to the main website ([peakandnortherninspections@pnfs.org.uk](mailto:peakandnortherninspections@pnfs.org.uk)).
3. There will be a record of each inspection completed, so that over time a history of the condition of each path will be available.
4. The location of faults (with a grid reference) will show on the map and the path record with a simple click on the map.

A considerable amount of work has been devoted to the development of the new database and I hope it will be used extensively and prove to be a significant advance for the Society.

## PNFS Faults Database (Andrew Harter)

We can now provide faults lists for parishes or highway authorities – sorted by path number, fault age or fault type. Inspectors and officers can have a listing on request.

A lot of this year's work has been directed at "data quality" issues. Under the old system, every inspector uses his/her own report format. This is then manually entered (with the risk of error) into the faults database (FDB). This has led to issues with:

- 50+ OS grid reference formats.
- Grid references entered in the wrong column.
- 10+ date formats.
- Incorrect Highway Authority/Parish (HA-PAR) codes.

This observation is not a criticism of inspectors or Taylor House volunteers – the situation has arisen because we all want to do the job quickly and get on with the next one. However, we can overcome these issues, as explained below.

### Existing data:

- Grid references and dates have been converted to standard formats and moved to the correct columns.
- Incorrect HA-PAR codes are being highlighted and corrected.

### New data:

- Data is validated on entry into the FDB.
- A draft report form is being tested that itself validates data. If it proves successful, reports could be pasted into the FDB so eliminating transcription errors.

### Here are a few key results from the FDB:

- There were a total of 6172 "active" faults in the database at the end of 2016. Over 70% are more than 2 years old. (Some of these may have been cleared, but we have not been told yet. Some cleared reports may be stuck in our backlog.)
- 408 faults were entered into the FDB in 2016. (Because of the backlog the number reported will be significantly higher than the number entered.)
- Derbyshire is the HA with the most faults (2396), and 7 HAs have no reported faults. This is a reflection of where inspectors are active, not the condition of the footpath network.
- Around a third of all fault reports do not include a grid reference.
- Less than 4% of faults have been classed as "dangerous".

# Signpost Officer's Report

## David Morton

In 2016 we added 28 new signposts as shown below. Those without red words are available as memorials to walkers or their clubs. Longridge Fell and Hurst Green are new areas for our signs.

### New in 2016 (28)

21	Edale, after an absence of over a century – <b>distressed post</b>
25	Win Hill after a long absence, – <b>IMO Leslie B. Hewett</b>
504	Whinstone Lee Tor, Derwent – <b>IMO Robert Dobbs ("Beverley Bob")</b>
508	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands – <b>IMO David L. Cohen</b>
509	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands – <b>ILMO John V. Pickstone</b>
510	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands
512	Cracken Edge – <b>50th anniversary of Blackbrook Conservation Society</b>
513	Finlow Hill, Over Alderley – <b>IMO Anita.Armstrong-Lee and Frank Scott</b>
514	Oxenhope
516	Birchin Hat – <b>trip hazard</b>
517/518	Goyt Hall Farm,Bredbury
519	Wooler Knoll – <b>IMO Colin Hardwick</b>
520/1/2	Mosley Hall Farm, Whaley Bridge
524	Manifold Way south of Beeston Tor
525	Back Rowarth
526	Pasturnes House, Belmont
527	Great Hill, Withnell – <b>in collaboration with Blackburn RA</b>
529	Longridge Fell
530/9	Spring Head, Flash, Quarnford
531/2	Wicken Walls,Flash, Quarnford
533/4/5	Hud Lee, Dutton near Hurst Green

### Maintenance

228 on Low Lea Road, Marple Bridge was reported stolen then replaced in October.

The following have been repainted by Pete and Mike :

256 Hambleton Fold Farm, Mellor	38 Navio Roman Fort, Brough
181 at Bowstones	116 and 169 S of Bowstones
127 A675 S of Belmont	303 1.5km N of Belmont Res'r
150 Mudhurst Lane, Hr.Disley	151 nr East Lodge, Lyme Park
211 nr Nether Alderley church	98 Chapel Gate, Rushup Edge
75, 86 and 323 near Moscar.	
174 and 182 at High Peak Special School, formerly The Moorside Hotel	

Many thanks to Mike, Pete, John and Ted as well as inspectors who send me brief reports on signs they see and check. Also particular thanks to FP inspector Shirley Addy for her help re S529 on Longridge Fell.

The cost of a new signpost remains £300. My phone number can be found on page 14.

This is my first annual Membership Report, having taken over the role of Membership Secretary at the 2016 AGM. I'd like to express thanks to my predecessor Bill Buckley, who had not only done a great job for the Society but also made me feel very welcome when I took over from him. Thanks must also go to our Treasurer, Paul Easthope, who has been a great help when dealing with the financial aspects of membership.

I am delighted to be able to report that for the first time since 2013 our total membership figure has increased, albeit modestly. We have lost members for all the usual reasons: relocation, loss of interest, illness and, most sadly of all, death. Happily, these losses have been more than compensated for by new members, including individuals, households and societies. The largest increase in membership came from our recruitment drive at the Manchester Histories Festival in June. The Society is indebted to committee members and others who regularly speak to groups to spread the word about PNFS and often attract new members as a result.

An important aspect of the Society's membership is its affiliated organisations. Here again there was a net increase in 2016. It was particularly sad to lose the historic Sheffield Clarion Ramblers, who had done so much to promote walking in and around the Peak District for well over a century, following their demise during the year. On a happier note, it was great to welcome Sheffield Wildlife Trust to the Society, especially after our two groups had cooperated on a large-scale footpath project on the Trust's Blacka Moor reserve in Sheffield.

The Treasurer has advised that for the sixth year running subscription levels will be frozen. The Trustees are, however, proposing two changes to member's subscriptions. Firstly, they are to recommend that we move to rolling subscriptions, i.e. that membership is due for renewal on the anniversary of joining the Society. In reality many members already renew in this way. Secondly, they are going to suggest having a discounted subscription rate for new members recruited at special events such as talks and shows. It is hoped that this will help the Society to more easily recruit and retain members.

Recruitment and retention are the two key issues for any membership secretary and I intend to carry on working hard on both fronts in the year to come. I would urge members to do all they can to help as well. Firstly, please carry on supporting the Society as you have done in the past by maintaining your membership. Secondly, encourage family and friends to become members. Just think, if each member could recruit just one single new member, then the Society would double its membership!

Finally, please do contact me at [membership@pnfs.org.uk](mailto:membership@pnfs.org.uk) if you have any questions or ideas about membership. I look forward to hearing from you at any time.

## Membership Details

Members	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Annual	823	1021	923	968	994
Ten Year	226	179	147	189	67
Five Year	187	117	48	10	7
Hon. Life	32	28	31	32	33
Total	1268	1345	1149	1067	1101
Affiliates	81	81	77	76	79

Note: The 2016 figures are for 'paid up' members only. In addition there were 82 Individual and Household members and 6 Affiliates who hadn't yet renewed in 2016. All have been sent renewal reminder letters.

## Honorary Members

Vice-Presidents are elected in recognition of outstanding services to the Society and they enjoy all the benefits of honorary membership.

Members of 20 or more years standing who are aged at least 65 are entitled, on application, to honorary life membership.

### **PRESIDENT**

David Bratt

### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Andrew Bennett

Norman Edwards

Gwynneth Littleton

Dereck Seddon

Sir J Johnson

Clarke Rogerson

Gilly Gostick

### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

Mr W S Brown

Mr & Mrs J Burling

Mr B Clark

Mr M H Deakin

Mrs M Frankland

Mr F R M Fysh

Mr B W Gerrard

Mrs M M Haigh

Mrs J Head

Mrs J Hibbert

Mr & Mrs D Hilliker

Mrs S Hulme

Percy & Muriel Hutchinson

Mr & Mrs J C Law

Carol Glenn

Mr T L Norris

Mr & Mrs W Peters

Mr H W Scott

Mrs M D Seal

Mrs B Taylor

Mr & Mrs F Whitehead

Mr P Williams

Mr S Wraith

Mr K D Wykes

Mr A Howcroft

Mr A M Davies

## Affiliated Societies

Abbotsfield Fellwalkers of Flixton  
 Alderley Edge, Wilmslow & District FP Society  
 Altrincham & District Rambling Club  
 Anchor Ramblers  
 Anderton Parish Council  
 Ashton-u-Lyne & District Walking Club  
 Barnsley Mountaineering Club  
 Belper Town Council  
 Blackbrook Conservation Society  
 Blackrod Town Council  
 Bolton CHA Rambling Club  
 Bradford CHA Rambling and Social Club  
 Buxton Rambling Club  
 CHA Manchester Rambling Club  
 CHA Mansfield  
 CHA Nottingham Rambling Club  
 CHA Sheffield Rambling Club  
 Chapel en le Frith Rambling Club  
 Cheshire Tally Ho Hare & Hounds Club  
 Club AZ Walkers  
 Crescent Ramblers Northwich  
 Denby Dale Parish Walking Group  
 Denton Local History Society  
 Derby Nomad Ramblers  
 Derbyshire Pennine Club  
 Disley Footpaths Society  
 Eccles Rambling & Social Club  
 Eyam Village Society  
 Hanliensian Rambling Club  
 Heatons Reddish U3A  
 HF Bolton Group  
 HF Bury Group  
 HF Nottingham Group  
 HF Warrington Rambling Club  
 Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council  
 Hunshelf Parish Council  
 Leek & District FP Preservation & Rambling Group  
 Littleborough Civic Trust  
 Longdendale & Glossopdale FP Preservation Society  
 Macclesfield & District Field Club  
 Macclesfield Rambling Club  
 Manchester & District Retired Teachers Association  
 Manchester Associates Rambling Club  
 Manchester Field Club  
 Manchester Rambling Club  
 Marple District Rambling Club

Merseyside & West Cheshire Area RA  
 Mid Cheshire Footpath Society  
 New Mills and District Ramblers Group  
 New Mills Radical Ramblers  
 North Turton Parish Council  
 Northenden Walkers  
 Oldham Wednesday Walkers  
 Penistone Town Council  
 Pennine Wayfarers Rambling Club  
 Poynton Rambling Club  
 Preston Ramblers  
 R A North & Mid Cheshire Area  
 RA Congleton Group  
 RA Doncaster Group  
 RA East Cheshire  
 RA Greater Manchester & High Peak Area  
 RA Nottinghamshire Area  
 RA Oldham Group  
 RA Sheffield  
 RA South Yorks & NE Derbyshire Area  
 RA Stockport  
 Ramblers Trafford Group  
 Rochdale CHA Rambling Club  
 Rock and Heather Club  
 Romiley Ladies Group  
 Rossendale Ramblers  
 Saddleworth Pedestrians  
 Sale U3A Walking Group  
 Sheffield Co-operative Ramblers  
 Sheffield U3A Walking Group 'A'  
 Sheffield Wildlife Trust  
 Shirland & Higham Parish Council  
 Stockport Field Club  
 Stockport Rambling & Social Club  
 Stockport Walkers  
 Sutton in Ashfield Rambling Club  
 The Good Companions Rambling Club  
 The Rucksack Club  
 The Strollers  
 Trafford Walkers  
 Transport & Health Study Group  
 Warrington Field Club  
 Warrington U3A Walking Group  
 West Lancashire Footpath Group  
 Whaley Bridge Town Council  
 Wirral Footpaths & Open Spaces Preservation Soc.

# Area Officers and Inspectors

## Area Officers

### **Amber Valley BC, Derbyshire Dales DC, Derby CC, South Derbyshire DC**

RKB	Rhoda Barnett	01335 344809	rhodabarnett@w3z.co.uk
-----	---------------	--------------	------------------------

### **Erewash BC**

DAM	Martin Davis	01159 821 478	martin.davis@care4free.net
-----	--------------	---------------	----------------------------

### **Barnsley MBC**

DAV	Chris Davison	01226 296267	t_c_davison@yahoo.co.uk
-----	---------------	--------------	-------------------------

### **Bolsover DC, Chesterfield BC, High Peak BC, North East Derbyshire DC,**

### **Doncaster MBC, Rotherham MBC, Sheffield CC**

HAI	John Harker	07929 051978	trueblade55@yahoo.co.uk
-----	-------------	--------------	-------------------------

### **Warrington UC**

OLE	David O'Leary	07717 083084	david.oleary38@gmail.com
-----	---------------	--------------	--------------------------

### **Staffordshire CC, Stoke-on-Trent UC**

SCO	Harry Scott	01543 274805	harrywscott@btinternet.com
-----	-------------	--------------	----------------------------

## Inspectors

ABL	Will Ablett	01625 585180 / 07977 978620	will@abletts.co.uk
ADD	Harold Addie	0161 998 2349	addie194@btinternet.com
ADS	Shirley Addy	--	smaddy@talktalk.net
ALW	William Allan	01298 25639	b_allan@btinternet.com
AND	Vince Anderson	0797 904 2058	vince.anderson@btinternet.com
APA	Andrew Paton	01524 39633 / 07778 165791	paton1954@gmail.com
ARU	Michael Arundel	01204 591156	m.arundel555@btinternet.com
ATH	Norman Atherton	01257 425991	
BEL	Mel Bale	0114 245 5953	mbpnfs@gmail.com
BLO	Brian Lomas	0161 688 5237	
BOD	Derek Bodey	01298 22081	derekbodey@hotmail.com
BOO	Reg Boot	0161 439 7159	arbee@talktalk.net
BRT	Tony Brackenbury	01663 750752	tonybrackenbury@btopenworld.com
BRA	David Bratt	01925 762472	bratty41@hotmail.com
BRO	Martin Brown	01260 253195	martin.brown@live.com
BUC	Bill Buckley	01457 855639	buckley@fairfield75.plus.com
BUR	Peter Burns	01744 893432	peter@gillburnsett.plus.com
CCO	Caroline Coutts	07982 467505	coutts@fsmail.net
CHA	Peter Chapman	01925 269511	peter.pepperstreet@gmail.com
CHE	Roy Chetham	01254 395021	edwardroychetham@gmail.com
CLB	Barrie Clark	0114 236 0416	barryclark49@gmail.com
CLS	Steve Clarke	0161 612 5900	clarkesa@fsmail.net
COG	Ken Coggin	07414 981477	ken@kencoggin.co.uk
COJ	Jim Cowley	0114 272 7886	jcowley@onetel.com

## Area Officers and Inspectors

DAE	Eric Davies	01782 951941 / 07899 813478	davieseric44@gmail.com
DAM	Martin Davis	01159 821478	martin.davis@care4free.net
DCB	Dave Brown	01663 733236	dcb.pnfs0@gmail.com
DJO	David Oldfield	0114 286 3371 / 07513 018592	djasoldfield@gmail.com
DSM	Duncan Smith	0161 427 8194	d.smith1955@btinternet.com
DTA	David Taylor	07557 995043	david.taylor@blueyonder.co.uk
EAS	Paul Easthope	01457 855015	pauljoaneasthope@gmail.com
FEA	Phil Featherstone	07753 682575	philf55@gmail.com
FEL	Keith Feltham	01246 270047	felthk@btinternet.com
FON	Terry Fones	07753 682575	terryfones@gmail.com
FOR	Dianne Fortescue	07796 954930	anniefortescue@hotmail.com
FOS	Jim Foster	0161 439 5408	jimtgfoster@gmail.com
GAS	John Gascoyne	01928 733779	jlgascoyne@yahoo.com
GER	Brian Gerrard	01942 816377	lostockg@yahoo.com
GLE	John Glentworth	0114 221 8660	Johnglentworth@hotmail.co.uk
GOO	John Goodman	01625 572480	jfb.goodman@btinternet.com
GOS	David Gosling	0161 612 5234	dwg@davidgosling.net
GOU	Peter Goulden	0161 442 6248	p.goulden@yahoo.co.uk
HAB	Brian Hamilton	01625 584253 / 07703 348853	bhamilton747@gmail.com
HAD	Brian Hadfield	0161 483 5443	bjhadfield@gmail.com
HAJ	John Harker	07929 051978 / 01142 397 629	trueblade55@yahoo.co.uk
HEA	David Heath	01925 211350	david.heath165@gmail.com
HEW	David Hewett	01889 563474	david.hewett@outlook.com
HIN	Richard Hinckley	01260 274124	richardhxxx@gmail.com
HIR	Stephen Hird	01709 369363 / 07949 890357	hirdsj7@gmail.com
HOR	Chris Horbury	01924 470531	chrishorbury2000@aol.co.uk
HOW	Jim Howell	07775 602258	jim@bleakhouse.org.uk
HUA	Andrew Hurrell	07770 511859	andrew@ahemsltd.co.uk
HUR	David Hurrell	0114 288 6474	david.hurrell@ahemsltd.co.uk
JAK	John Knight	01625 614857	John.Anthony.Knight@gmail.com
JBR	James Broome	01773 431318	james.broome@hotmail.com
JCO	John Collins	07747 633444 / 0114 236 5105	barneycollins@hotmail.com
JGA	David Gartside	01260 271337	gartside.david@googlemail.com
JEW	John White	01298 25289	john@johnwhite.co.uk
KJB	Ken Brockway	01949 843572	great.english.walk@gmail.com
LYO	Roy Lyon	01663 741776	lyon.roy@googlemail.com
MAK	Ian Mackenzie	01663 742920	i.mackenzie@tiscali.co.uk
MAT	Jerzy Matuszewski	0161 449 8675	jerzymargaret@btinternet.com
MFT	Mike Thomas	01625 428873	mikefthomas42@gmail.com

## Area Officers and Inspectors

MHA	Martin Hampar	0161 865 7474	hampar@outlook.com
MIC	Colin Miller	01625 877388	miller@colinrose.plus.com
MIL	Gavin Miller	01565 634510 / 07951 746323	gavin-miller@ntlworld.com
MOR	Jonathan Morley	01924 255893 / 07925 031014	jcmorley@aol.com
NOD	Derek Northin	01629 814847 / 07930 058372	dereknorthin@gmail.com
NOR	Terry Norris	01484 840294	terrynorris46@gmail.com
NOT	Shirley Northcott	01772 741376	shirley@northcottage1.plus.com
OLM	Margaret O'Leary	07811 906404	david.oleary38@gmail.com
PAR	Joe Park	01606 76250	joe888park@sky.com
PAW	Bill Parke	07791 359689	walkerone001@gmail.com
PDA	Peter Davies	01484 723 125	peterdavies567@btinternet.com
PGA	Phil Gadsby	0161 748 5757	philgadsby@outlook.com
PLA	James Platt	01270 569092	jamesplatt2184@yahoo.co.uk
PRO	Robert Proctor	0115 960 5156	higglemenow@yahoo.co.uk
RAY	Ian Ray	0161 486 0326	ian.ray42@btinternet.com
RED	Graham Redford	0161 928 8975	grahamredford@gmail.com
RIL	Martin Riley	01706 848408	martinriley1@yahoo.co.uk
ROA	Ted Roadhouse	01773 828269	tedroadhouse1@mypostoffice.co.uk
ROB	Peter Robson	01335 343283	robsonpeter294@gmail.com
SAL	Ian Salvage	01663 746979	ian.salvage1@btinternet.com
SEN	Graham Sencicle	07974 349538	sencicle@hotmail.com
SIS	David Sissons	0114 268 3975	sissonsdavid@hotmail.com
STE	Ken Stewart	07989 746671	stewartken100@hotmail.com
TAD	David Taylor	0161 439 8656	janeanddavidetaylor@hotmail.com
TEM	Simon Temple	0161 427 6704	simonrtemple@gmail.com
THO	Pat Thomas	01457 867803	Ms.P.Thomas@btinternet.com
TWH	Tony Whiting	0114 240 0428	tony.whiting@tiscali.co.uk
TYN	Paul Tynan	01524 388 83	tynanpaul01@gmail.com
TYR	Kirsty Tyre	07742 429099	kirsty_d_tyre@hotmail.com
WES	David Weston	07951 644274	david.weston10@ntlworld.com
WEX	Andy Wedderburn	07977 615381	andywedd@live.com
WHI	J & F Whitelock	01260 275509	j.whitelock@tesco.net
WIL	Bob Williamson	0161 747 0448	bobd.w@hotmail.com
WOO	Terry Woodhouse	01246 276108	woodhouse939@gmail.com
WYK	Keith Wykes	01625 618164	keithdw@aol.com

This is a list, by Highway Authority, of all the parishes where the Society has an Inspector, with the code for the Inspector. The Inspector's contact details can be obtained by looking up their code in the previous list.

## BARNSELEY

Hunshelf	HUR
Langsett	FOR
Oxspring	FOR
Thurgoland	BEL
Wortley	BEL

## BLACKPOOL

Blackpool Town	SEN
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## BOLTON

Blackrod	GER
Bolton Town	FOS
Bradshaw North	FOS
Bradshaw South	FOS
Bromley Cross (Non-def only)	ARU
Eagley	ARU
Egerton & Turton	FOS
Horwich	FOS
Westhoughton	GER

## BURY

Prestwich	AND
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## CALDERDALE

Blackshaw	NOR
Brighouse	PDA
Elland	NOR
Erringden	NOR
Halifax	NOR
Hebden Royd	NOR
Heptonstall	NOR
Northowram	NOR
Ripponden	NOR
Shelf	NOR
Sowerby Bridge	NOR
Todmorden	NOR
Wadsworth	NOR

## CHESHIRE EAST

Acton
Agden
Alderley Edge
Ashley
Barthomley
Basford
Bexton
Bollington
Bosley
Bunbury
Chelford
Chorley
Chorlton
Congleton
Cranage
Crewe (town)
Crewe Green
Disley
Edleston
Goostrey
Great Warford
Hasslington
Haughton
Henbury
Henhull
High Legh
Hulme Walfield
Kettleshulme
Knutsford
Leighton
Little Bollington
Little Warford
Lyme Handley
Macclesfield
Macclesfield Forest

PLA	Marthall	MFT
RED	Mere	RED
GOU	Millington	RED
RED	Moreton-cum-Alcumlow	HIN
HEA	Mottram St Andrew	RAY
PLA	Nantwich	PLA
MIL	Nether Alderley	GOU
DSM	Ollerton	MFT
JGA	Over Alderley	RAY
DAE	Peover Inferior	MFT
ABL	Peover Superior	MFT
ABL	Pott Shrigley	GOO
PLA	Poynton With Worth	MAT
HIN	Prestbury	FON
HAB	Rainow	TAD
PLA	Rope	PLA
PLA	Rostherne	RED
TAD	Shavington cum Gresty	PLA
PLA	Snelson	MFT
HAB	Somerford	WHI
HAB	Somerford Booths	WHI
PLA	Stapely	PLA
DAE	Sutton	BRO
GOO	Swettenham	HAB
PLA	Tabley Inferior	MIL
PGA	Tabley Superior	MIL
WHI	Tatton	MIL
TAD	Toft	MIL
MIL	Twemlow	HAB
PLA	Wardle	CCO
RED	Weston	PLA
HAB	Wildboarclough	JAK
TAD	Willaston	PLA
MFT	Windle	BOO
JAK	Wistaston	PLA
	Worleston	PLA

## CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER

Cuddington	PAR
Davenham	PAR
Delamere	CHA
Frodsham Ashton	GAS
Duddon	CCO
Hartford	PAR
Helsby	CHA
Moulton	PAR
Oakmere	PAR
Tarvin	CCO
Weaverham	PAR
Whitegate and Marton	PAR

## DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY

Aldecar & Langley Mill	HAI
Alderwasley	WES
Alfreton	HAI
Ashley Hay	WES
Codnor	HAI
Crich	ROA
Denby	HAI
Heanor & Loscoe	HAI
Horsley	ROA
Horsley Woodhouse	ROA
Idridgehay & Alton	JBR
Ironville	HAI
Mapperley	HAI
Pentrich	ROA
Riddings	HAI
Ripley Town	HAI
Shipley	HAI
Shottle & Postern	WES
Smalley	HAI
Somercotes	HAI
South Wingfield	ROA
Swanwick	HAI

## DERBYSHIRE DALES

Abney & Abney Grange	COJ	Highlow	COJ
Aldwark	PAW	Hulland	WES
Ashford in the Water	JCO	Hulland Ward	WES
Bakewell	PAW	Kirk Ireton	WES
Ballidon	PAW	Little Hucklow	COJ
Baslow & Bubnell	WOO	Little Longstone	DAM
Beeley	WOO	Litton	NOD
Biggin	GOU/ROB	Matlock	HIR
Birchover	GOO	Matlock Bath	HIR
Blackwell	BOD	Middleton & Smerrill	HUA
Bonsall	HIR	Monyash	NOD
Bradwell	COJ	Nether Haddon	GOO
Bradley	WES	Northwood & Tinkersley	WOO
Brushfield	BOD	Offerton	SIS
Calver	GLE	Outseats	COJ
Carsington	WES	Over Haddon	NOD
Chatsworth	WOO	Parwich	PAW
Chelmorton	TYR	Pilsley	PAW
Cromford	HIR	Rowland	DAM
Curbar	BUC	Rowsley	WOO
Darley Dale	HIR	Sheldon	JCO
Eaton Alsop & Newton Grange	PAW	South Darley	HIR
Edensor	PAW	Stanton In Peak	GOO
Elton	HUA	Stoney Middleton	GOS
Eyam	GOS	Taddington	BOD
Fenny Bentley	PAW	Tansley	HIR
Flagg	BOD	Thorpe	PAW
Foolow	GOS	Tideswell	NOD
Froggatt	BUC	Tissington	PAW
Gratton	HUA	Wardlow	NOD
Great Hucklow	COJ	Wheston	NOD
Great Longstone	LYO	Winster	GOO
Grindleford	HOW	Youlgreave	NOD
Grindlow	COJ		
Hassop	JCO		
Harthill	NOD		
Hartington Middle Quarter	BOD		
Hartington Nether Quarter	PAW		
Hartington Town Quarter	PAW		
Hathersage	HOW		
Hazlebadge	COJ		

## DERBYSHIRE EREWASH

Breaston	KJB
Dale Abbey	DAM
Draycott & Church Wilne	KJB
Hopwell	KJB
Ilkeston	PRO
Ockbrook	DAM

## DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAK

Aston	SIS
Bamford	SIS
Brough & Shatton	SIS
Buxton	ALW/JEW
Castleton	SIS
Chapel-en-le-Frith	BRT
Charlesworth	HOW
Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside	BRT
Chisworth	HOW
Derwent	BEL
Edale	BEL
Glossop	BUC
Green Fairfield	ALW
Hartington Upper Quarter	BOD
Hayfield	SAL
Hope	SIS
Hope Woodlands	BEL
King Sterndale	ALW
New Mills	MAK/DSM
Peak Forest	BRT
Thornhill	SIS
Tintwistle	EAS
Whaley Bridge	DCB
Wormhill	BOD

## DERBYSHIRE NE

Ashover	FEL
Barlow	CLB
Brackenfield	FEL
Brampton	WOO
Calow	FEL
Clay Cross	FEL
Dronfield	PAW
Eckington	PAW
Grassmoor+Hasland+Winsick	FEL
Heath & Holmewood	FEL
Holmesfield	PAW

Morton	FEL
North Wingfield	FEL
Pilsley	FEL
Shirland & Higham	FEL
Stretton	FEL
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	FEL
Temple Normanton	FEL
Tupton	FEL
Unstone	PAW
Walton	WOO
Wessington	FEL
Wingerworth	FEL

## DERBYSHIRE SOUTH

Elvaston	DAM
<b>KIRKLEES</b>	
Batley	HOR
Dewsbury North	HOR
Heckmondwike	HOR
Mirfield	HOR
Spenborough	HOR

## LANCASHIRE BURNLEY

Burnley	CHE
Habergham Eaves	CHE
Hapton	HE
Ighentill	CHE

## LANCASHIRE CHORLEY

Chorley	ADS
<b>LANCASHIRE CITY OF LANCASTER</b>	
Ellel	TYN
Quernmore	TYN
Scotforth	TYN
Silverdale	MIC
Warton	FEA
Yealand Conyers	FEA
Yealand Redmayne	FEA

## LANCASHIRE PENDLE

Barley with Wheatley Booth	CHE
Barrowford	CHE
Goldshaw Booth	CHE
Higham-with-West Close Booth	CHE
Newchurch in Pendle	CHE
Old Laund Booth	CHE
Reedly Hallows	CHE
Roughlee Booth	CHE

## LANCASHIRE HYNDBURN

Accrington	CHE
Altham	CHE
Clayton-le-Moors	CHE

## LANCASHIRE RIBBLE VALLEY

Read	CHE
Sabden	CHE
Simonstone	CHE
All other parishes	ADS

## LANCASHIRE WYRE

Nether Wyresdale	APA
Over Wyresdale	APA

## MANCHESTER

Ringway	ADD
City	GOU

## OLDHAM

Chadderton	RIL
Crompton	RIL
Failsworth	BLO
Lees	RIL
Oldham Town	RIL
Royton	RIL
Saddleworth	RIL

## ROTHERHAM

All parishes	HIR
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## SHEFFIELD

Bradfield	DJO
Ecclesfield	ACW
Sheffield City	JCO
Stocksbridge	HUR
Tankersley	ACW

## STAFFORDSHIRE EAST

Anslow	STE
Branston	STE
Hanbury	STE
Outwoods	STE
Ramshorn	HEW
Rollston on Dove	STE
Stretton	STE
Tattenhill Blighfield	STE
Tutbury	STE
Wootton	HEW

## STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS

Alton	HEW
Alstonefield	PAW
Biddulph	WHI
Blore with Swinscoe	HEW
Checkley	HEW
Cotton	HEW
Draycott in the Moors	HEW
Farley	HEW
Grindon	WYK
Heaton	HIN
Hollinsclough	PAW
Horton	HIN
Ilam	PAW
Leekfrith	JGA
Longnor	HAD
Oakamoor	HEW
Quarnford	TEM
Rushton Spencer	HIN
Sheen	PAW
Tittesworth	BAM
Waterhouses	PRO
Wetton	WYK

## STOCKPORT

Bredbury and Romiley	TEM
Cheadle & Gatley	BOO
Hazel Grove & Bramhall	GOS
Marple	PAP/CLS
New Mills	CLS
Stockport Town	CLS

## TAMESIDE

Ashton U Lyne	WEX
Audenshaw	WEX
Denton	WEX
Droylsden	WEX
Dukinfield	WEX
Hyde	THO
Longdendale	THO
Mossley	THO
Stalybridge	THO

## TRAFFORD

Altrincham
Bowdon
Carrington
Dunham Massey
Hale
Partington
Sale
Stretford
Urmston
Warburton
<b>WAKEFIELD</b>
Crigglistone
Walton
West Bretton
Woolley

## WARRINGTON

Appleton
Burtonwood
Croft
Cuerdley
Culcheth and Glazebury
Golborne
Grappenhall & Thelwall
Great Sankey
Hatton
Lymm
Penketh
Poulton with Fernhead
Rixton with Glazebrook
Stockton Heath
Stretton
Walton
Warrington Town
Woolston

## WIGAN

MHA	Abram	BUR
MHA	Ashton in Makerfield	BUR
MHA	Aspull	ATH
MHA	Billinge & Winstanley	BUR
MHA	Golborne	DTA
MHA	Ince	BUR
MHA	Haigh	ATH
MHA	Hindley	BUR
WIL/MHA	Orrell	ATH
MHA	Shevington	ATH
	Standish with Langtree	ATH
COG	Wigan (non-def)	BUR
MOR	Worthington	ATH
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COG		
BRA		
OLM		
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Over the last year, the publicity role has been re-started, after a number of years with no specific role or focus. Some of the key initiatives begun or completed over the last year are:

- We have increased the number of Signpost newsletters to three per year, typically covering 16 sides, with a higher graphical content, and with a wider number of contributors. If you have an article that you would like to see published, please email it to [publicity@pnfs.org.uk](mailto:publicity@pnfs.org.uk) or post to Ian Salvage, Taylor House, 23 Turncroft Lane, Offerton, Stockport, SK1 4AB.
- We will be hosting a celebration to mark the Society's 120th anniversary on 27th and 28th May. On 27th, the celebration will take place throughout the day at the Royal Hotel in Hayfield, with speeches, music, poetry, art, memorabilia and other events throughout the day. On 28th, there will be two organised walks, both along the Snake Path, one short and gentle (approx. 3 miles), the other along the full length of the path (approx. 7 miles), with a steep and relatively long climb up William Clough. We hope to see you all there.
- We are starting to consider how to work more closely with affiliated organisations. One way that this will be fulfilled is via the 120th anniversary celebrations, as we have invited all of our affiliates. Other activities will follow as we develop a better understanding of the best way to liaise with affiliates.
- We regularly have stands at exhibitions and frequently present to organisations on PNFS, including walking groups, historical societies and gardening clubs. To better advertise ourselves, we produced new boards and banners to use at these types of event.
- We have written articles for publication in the newsletters of other organisations, for example in 'Strider' (newsletter of the Long Distance Walkers' Association) and 'Waller and Dyker' (newsletter of the Dry Stone Walling Association).
- We have spent time looking at the best publications in which to try and place articles about ourselves. Currently, we are focussing on the 'County Life' magazines and expect to have an article published in May 2017 in the Derbyshire Life magazine.
- We have sought coverage of the Society on radio programmes, so far without success (Clare Balding's 'Ramblings' programme on Radio 4, Joshua Rosenberg's 'Law in Action' programme on Radio 4 and Radio Manchester in general for its involvement in the erection of some signposts 30 years ago).
- We plan to obtain a large re-usable publicity cheque for use at handover ceremonies.

If you have any suggestions for other publicity activities, please email your ideas to: [\*\*publicity@pnfs.org.uk\*\*](mailto:publicity@pnfs.org.uk) or post to Ian Salvage at Taylor House



Invitation to Members

# Annual General Meeting

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

at

Britannia Hotel, Dialstone Lane,  
Offerton, Stockport SK2 6AG

Ample free car parking Is available

Number 383 bus from Stockport and 384 from Marple  
stop near the hotel.

Service 192, 199, 392 & TP buses stop on the nearby A6.

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10:30                      Coffee, tea, biscuits

11:00                      AGM commences

12:30                      Hot buffet lunch

13:30                      Guest speaker  
*Julie Gough (Friends of the Peak District)*  
*The Peak District Boundary Walk*

14:30                      Open forum

15:30                      Meeting closes  
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To reserve your place at the AGM please inform David Brown  
(email: [pnfs.meetings@gmail.com](mailto:pnfs.meetings@gmail.com), phone: 01663 733236 or text: 07732 682 026 )  
no later than 16 April stating if lunch is required.

A donation is invited to help defray the catering costs of £8.50 per meal