

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

HELPING WALKERS & PROTECTING FOOTPATHS
SINCE 1894



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS
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 Stocks Moor. 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.

Financial Report

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*

2016 Accounts



Peak & Northern Footpath Society No 212219

CC16a

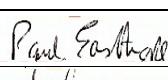
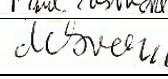
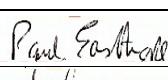
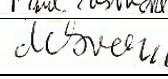
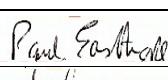
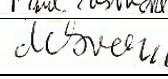
Receipts and payments accounts

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

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

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 £																																								
B1 Cash funds	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Cash bank accounts</td><td>100,685</td></tr> <tr><td>Petty cash</td><td>162</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: right;">Total cash funds</td><td style="background-color: #ADD8E6;">100,847</td></tr> <tr><td>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</td><td>OK</td></tr> </table>	Cash bank accounts	100,685	Petty cash	162		-			Total cash funds	100,847	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	100,685	162	-																												
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B2 Other monetary assets	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Details</td><td>Unrestricted funds to nearest £</td><td>Restricted funds to nearest £</td><td>Endowment funds to nearest £</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-								
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B3 Investment assets	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Details</td><td>Fund to which asset belongs</td><td>Cost (optional)</td><td>Current value (optional)</td></tr> <tr><td>Government stocks</td><td></td><td></td><td>20,855</td></tr> <tr><td>Loan stock</td><td></td><td></td><td>98,040</td></tr> <tr><td>Equities</td><td></td><td></td><td>22,910</td></tr> <tr><td>TOTAL</td><td></td><td>-</td><td>141,805</td></tr> </table>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Government stocks			20,855	Loan stock			98,040	Equities			22,910	TOTAL		-	141,805	20,855	98,040	22,910																				
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B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Details</td><td>Fund to which asset belongs</td><td>Cost (optional)</td><td>Current value (optional)</td></tr> <tr><td>Taylor House building</td><td></td><td>60,153</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Computer Equipment</td><td></td><td>13,458</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Furniture fittings & other equipment</td><td></td><td>4,351</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>P A Sound System</td><td></td><td>1,509</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>0</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Taylor House building		60,153		Computer Equipment		13,458		Furniture fittings & other equipment		4,351		P A Sound System		1,509	-			-	-			0	-			-	-			-	-			-	-	60,153	13,458	4,351
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B5 Liabilities	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Details</td><td>Fund to which liability relates</td><td>Amount due (optional)</td><td>When due (optional)</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)			-				-				-				-				-		-	-	-																
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Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Signature</td><td>Print Name</td><td>Date of approval</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Paul Easthope</td><td>16/02/2017</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>D C Brown</td><td>16/02/2017</td></tr> </table>	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval		Paul Easthope	16/02/2017		D C Brown	16/02/2017	Paul Easthope	16/02/2017																																
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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.

Courts and Inquiries Report

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
Deepcar
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 (retd)
Sue Clarke (retd)

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

Officers and Volunteers



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 & I O



Terry Norris
C & I O



Harry Scott
C & I O



Martin Hampar
C & I O

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).
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 – distressed post
25	Win Hill after a long absence, – IMO Leslie B, Hewett
504	Whinstone Lee Tor, Derwent – IMO Robert Dobbs ("Beverley Bob")
508	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands – IMO David L. Cohen
509	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands – ILMO John V. Pickstone
510	near Win Hill, Hope Woodlands
512	Cracken Edge – 50th anniversary of Blackbrook Conservation Society
513	Finlow Hill, Over Alderley – IMO Anita.Armstrong-Lee and Frank Scott
514	Oxenhope
516	Birchin Hat – trip hazard
517/518	Goyt Hall Farm,Bredbury
519	Wooler Knoll – IMO Colin Hardwick
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 – in collaboration with Blackburn RA
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.

Membership Secretary's Report

Mel Bale

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 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

HAJ 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

mbpnfs@gmail.com

BEL Mel Bale 0114 245 5953

derekbodey@hotmail.com

BLO Brian Lomas 0161 688 5237

arbee@talktalk.net

BOD Derek Bodey 01298 22081

tonybrackenbury@btopenworld.com

BOO Reg Boot 0161 439 7159

bratty41@hotmail.com

BRT Tony Brackenbury 01663 750752

martin.brown@live.com

BRA David Bratt 01925 762472

buckley@fairfield75.plus.com

BRO Martin Brown 01260 253195

peter@gillburnsett.plus.com

BUC Bill Buckley 01457 855639

coutts@fsmail.net

BUR Peter Burns 01744 893432

peter.pepperstreet@gmail.com

CCO Caroline Coutts 07982 467505

edwardroychetham@gmail.com

CHA Peter Chapman 01925 269511

barryclark49@gmail.com

CHE Roy Chetham 01254 395021

clarkesa@fsmail.net

CLB Barrie Clark 0114 236 0416

ken@kencoggins.co.uk

CLS Steve Clarke 0161 612 5900

jcowley@onetel.com

COG Ken Coggins 07414 981477

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	Johngentworth@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	hirds7@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@mymailbox.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	sissons.david@hotmail.com
STE	Ken Stewart	07989 746671	stewartken100@hotmail.com
TAD	David Taylor	0161 439 8656	janeanddavetaylor@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.

BARNSLEY		CHESHIRE EAST		
Hunshelf	HUR	Acton	PLA	Marthall
Langsett	FOR	Agden	RED	Mere
Oxspring	FOR	Alderley Edge	GOU	Millington
Thurgoland	BEL	Ashley	RED	Moreton-cum-Alcumlow
Wortley	BEL	Barthomley	HEA	Mottram St Andrew
		Basford	PLA	Nantwich
BLACKPOOL			MIL	Nether Alderley
Blackpool Town	SEN	Bexton	DSM	Ollerton
		Bollington	JGA	Over Alderley
BOLTON		Bosley	DAE	Peover Inferior
Blackrod	GER	Bunbury	ABL	Peover Superior
Bolton Town	FOS	Chelford	ABL	Pott Shrigley
Bradshaw North	FOS	Chorley	PLA	Poynton With Worth
Bradshaw South	FOS	Chorlton	HIN	Prestbury
Bromley Cross (Non-def only)	ARU	Congleton	HAB	Rainow
Eagley	ARU	Cranage	PLA	Rope
Egerton & Turton	FOS	Crewe (town)	PLA	Rostherne
Horwich	FOS	Crewe Green	TAD	Shavington cum Gresty
Westhoughton	GER	Disley	PLA	Snelson
		Edleston	HAB	Somerford
BURY			HAB	Somerford Booths
Prestwich	AND	Goostrey	PLA	Stapely
		Great Warford	DAE	Sutton
CALDERDALE			GOU	Swettenham
Blackshaw	NOR	Hasslington	PLA	Tabley Inferior
Brighouse	PDA	Haughton	PGA	Tabley Superior
Elland	NOR	Henbury	WHI	Tatton
Erringden	NOR	Henhull	TAD	Toft
Halifax	NOR	High Legh	MIL	Twemlow
Hebden Royd	NOR	Hulme Walfield	PLA	Wardle
Heptonstall	NOR	Kettleshulme	RED	Weston
Northowram	NOR	Knutsford	HAB	Wildboarclough
Ripponden	NOR	Leighton	TAD	Willaston
Shelf	NOR	Little Bollington	MFT	Wincle
Sowerby Bridge	NOR	Little Warford	JAK	Wistaston
Todmorden	NOR	Lyme Handley		Worleston
Wadsworth	NOR	Macclesfield		
		Macclesfield Forest		

Parishes

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER		DERBYSHIRE DALES			
Cuddington	PAR	Abney & Abney Grange	COJ	Highlow	COJ
Davenham	PAR	Aldwark	PAW	Hulland	WES
Delamere	CHA	Ashford in the Water	JCO	Hulland Ward	WES
Frodsham Ashton	GAS	Bakewell	PAW	Kirk Ireton	WES
Duddon	CCO	Ballidon	PAW	Little Hucklow	COJ
Hartford	PAR	Baslow & Bubnell	WOO	Little Longstone	DAM
Helsby	CHA	Beeley	WOO	Litton	NOD
Moulton	PAR	Biggin	GOU/ROB	Matlock	HIR
Oakmere	PAR	Birchover	GOO	Matlock Bath	HIR
Tarvin	CCO	Blackwell	BOD	Middleton & Smerrill	HUA
Weaverham	PAR	Bonsall	HIR	Monyash	NOD
Whitegate and Marton	PAR	Bradwell	COJ	Nether Haddon	GOO
DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY		Bradley	WES	Northwood & Tinkersley	WOO
Aldecar & Langley Mill	HAJ	Brushfield	BOD	Offerton	SIS
Alderwasley	WES	Calver	GLE	Outseats	COJ
Alfreton	HAJ	Carsington	WES	Over Haddon	NOD
Ashley Hay	WES	Chatsworth	WOO	Parwich	PAW
Codnor	HAJ	Chelmorton	TYR	Pilsley	PAW
Crich	ROA	Cromford	HIR	Rowland	DAM
Denby	HAJ	Curbar	BUC	Rowsley	WOO
Heanor & Loscoe	HAJ	Darley Dale	HIR	Sheldon	JCO
Horsley	ROA	Eaton Alsop & Newton Grange	PAW	South Darley	HIR
Horsley Woodhouse	ROA	Edensor	PAW	Stanton In Peak	GOO
Idridgehay & Alton	JBR	Elton	HUA	Stoney Middleton	GOS
Ironville	HAJ	Eyam	GOS	Taddington	BOD
Mapperley	HAJ	Fenny Bentley	PAW	Tansley	HIR
Pentrich	ROA	Flagg	BOD	Thorpe	PAW
Riddings	HAJ	Foolow	GOS	Tideswell	NOD
Ripley Town	HAJ	Froggatt	BUC	Tissington	PAW
Shipley	HAJ	Gratton	HUA	Wardlow	NOD
Shottle & Postern	WES	Great Hucklow	COJ	Wheston	NOD
Smalley	HAJ	Great Longstone	LYO	Winster	GOO
Somercotes	HAJ	Grindleford	HOW	Youlgreave	NOD
South Wingfield	ROA	Grindlow	COJ		
Swanwick	HAJ	Hassop	JCO		
		Harthill	NOD		
		Hartington Middle Quarter	BOD		
		Hartington Nether Quarter	PAW		
		Hartington Town Quarter	PAW		
		Hathersage	HOW		
		Hazlebadge	COJ		

DERBYSHIRE EREWASH

Breaston	KJB	Morton
Dale Abbey	DAM	North Wingfield
Draycott & Church Wilne	KJB	Pilsley
Hopwell	KJB	Shirland & Higham
Ilkeston	PRO	Stretton
Ockbrook	DAM	Sutton-cum-Duckmanton

DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAK

Aston	SIS	Tupton
Bamford	SIS	Unstone
Brough & Shatton	SIS	Walton
Buxton	ALW/JEW	Wessington
Castleton	SIS	Wingerworth

DERBYSHIRE SOUTH

Chapel-en-le-Frith	BRT	Elvaston
Charlesworth	HOW	KIRKLEES
Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside	BRT	Batley
Chisworth	HOW	Dewsbury North
Derwent	BEL	Heckmondwike

Edale	BEL	Mirfield
Glossop	BUC	Spenborough
Green Fairfield	ALW	LANCASHIRE BURNLEY
Hartington Upper Quarter	BOD	Burnley
Hayfield	SAL	Habergham Eaves

Hope	SIS	Hope Woodlands
King Sterndale	ALW	ALW/DSM
New Mills	MAK/DSM	LANCASHIRE CHORLEY
Peak Forest	BRT	Chorley
Thornhill	SIS	LANCASHIRE CITY OF LANCASTER

Tintwistle	EAS	Ellel
Whaley Bridge	DCB	Quernmore
Wormhill	BOD	Scotforth
		Silverdale
		Warton

DERBYSHIRE NE

Ashover	FEL	Yealand Conyers
Barlow	CLB	Yealand Redmayne
Brackenfield	FEL	LANCASHIRE PENDLE
Brampton	WOO	Barley with Wheatley Booth
Calow	FEL	Barrowford

Clay Cross	FEL	Goldshaw Booth
Dronfield	PAW	Higham-with-West Close Booth
Eckington	PAW	Newchurch in Pendle
Grassmoor+Hasland+Winsick	FEL	Old Laund Booth

Heath & Holmewood	FEL	Reedly Hallows
Holmesfield	PAW	Roughlee Booth

LANCASHIRE HYNDBURN

FEL	Accrington	CHE
FEL	Altham	CHE
FEL	Clayton-le-Moors	CHE
FEL	Read	CHE
FEL	Sabden	CHE

LANCASHIRE RIBBLE VALLEY

FEL	Simonstone	CHE
PAW	All other parishes	ADS

LANCASHIRE WYRE

WOO	Nether Wyresdale	APA
FEL	Over Wyresdale	APA

MANCHESTER

DAM	Ringway	ADD
	City	GOU

OLDHAM

HOR	Chadderton	RIL
HOR	Crompton	RIL
HOR	Failsworth	BLO
HOR	Lees	RIL
	Oldham Town	RIL

ROTHERHAM

HE	Royton	RIL
	Saddleworth	RIL
CHE	All parishes	HIR

SHEFFIELD

ADS	Bradfield	DJO
	Ecclesfield	ACW
	Sheffield City	JCO
	Stocksbridge	HUR
	Tankersley	ACW

STAFFORDSHIRE EAST

FEA	Anslow	STE
FEA	Branston	STE
FEA	Hanbury	STE
	Outwoods	STE
	Ramshorn	HEW

CHE	Barley with Wheatley Booth	STE
CHE	Barrowford	STE
CHE	Goldshaw Booth	STE
CHE	Higham-with-West Close Booth	STE
CHE	Newchurch in Pendle	STE

CHE	Old Laund Booth	HEW
CHE	Reedly Hallows	HEW
CHE	Roughlee Booth	HEW

Parishes

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS		TRAFFORD	WIGAN	
Alton	HEW	Altrincham	MHA	Abram
Alstonefield	PAW	Bowdon	MHA	Ashton in Makerfield
Biddulph	WHI	Carrington	MHA	Aspull
Blore with Swinscoe	HEW	Dunham Massey	MHA	Billinge & Winstanley
Checkley	HEW	Hale	MHA	Golborne
Cotton	HEW	Partington	MHA	Ince
Draycott in the Moors	HEW	Sale	MHA	Haigh
Farley	HEW	Stretford	MHA	Hindley
Grindon	WYK	Urmston	WIL/MHA	Orrall
Heaton	HIN	Warburton	MHA	Shevington
Hollinsclough	PAW	WAKEFIELD		Standish with Langtree
Horton	HIN	Cringlestone	COG	Wigan (non-def)
Ilam	PAW	Walton	MOR	Worthington
Leekfrith	JGA	West Bretton	COG	
Longnor	HAD	Woolley	COG	
Oakamoor	HEW	WARRINGTON		
Quarnford	TEM	Appleton	BRA	
Rushton Spencer	HIN	Burtonwood	OLM	
Sheen	PAW	Croft	OLM	
Tittesworth	BAM	Cuerdley	OLM	
Waterhouses	PRO	Culcheth and Glazebury	OLM	
Wetton	WYK	Golborne	OLM	
STOCKPORT		Grappenhall & Thelwall	BRA	
Bredbury and Romiley	TEM	Great Sankey	OLM	
Cheadle & Gatley	BOO	Hatton	OLM	
Hazel Grove & Bramhall	GOS	Lymm	BRA	
Marple	PAP/CLS	Penketh	OLM	
New Mills	CLS	Poulton with Fernhead	OLM	
Stockport Town	CLS	Rixton with Glazebrook	OLM	
TAMESIDE		Stockton Heath	BRA	
Ashton U Lyne	WEX	Stretton	OLM	
Audenshaw	WEX	Walton	OLM	
Denton	WEX	Warrington Town	OLM	
Droylsden	WEX	Woolston	BRA	
Dukinfield	WEX			
Hyde	THO			
Longdendale	THO			
Mossley	THO			
Stalybridge	THO			

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 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 or post to Ian Salvage at Taylor House



Invitation to Members

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 22nd 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<br><i>Julie Gough (Friends of the Peak District)<br/>The Peak District Boundary Walk</i> |
| 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, 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