

PEAK & NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

HELPING WALKERS & PROTECTING FOOTPATHS
SINCE 1894



Sunset on Years Low

Photographed by Trevor E Perry

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

2020

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Annual Report 2020

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Annual Review | 2 |
| Footbridges Report | 5 |
| Officers and Volunteers | 6 |
| Consultations and Orders Report | 8 |
| Courts and Inquiries Report | 10 |
| Financial Report | 13 |
| Accounts | 16 |
| Signpost Report | 18 |
| Faults and Inspection Report | 19 |
| Membership Secretary's Report | 22 |
| Area Officers and Inspectors | 26 |

Registered Charity No. 212219

Front Cover : ***Sunset on Yearns Low***
Photographed by Trevor E Perry

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David Gosling (interim Chair after David Hurrell's death)

The year 2020 was dominated by two events. Firstly, like everyone else, we have had to adapt to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and secondly, we lost our Chairman, David Hurrell, who died on 18th September. However, the Society has had a successful year in many ways, and we have been fortunate that Kathy McLean put herself forward as the Society's new Chair. Kathy has had enormous experience as a senior executive in the health service and will bring a refreshing new approach to the management of the Society in 2021.

David Hurrell suffered a severe stroke just after last Christmas. In the early days of his hospitalisation a number of members of the Society visited him and gave him support, but later he had to endure the severe deprivation of the lockdown, which imposed on him many long weeks without visitors.

David served as Chairman from 2016 until his illness in 2020. He was a voice of calm rationality and he worked hard to fulfil the demands of the role – which included attending every PNFS walk that he could. When the change to the constitution was proposed, he came under fire from those wishing to resist this change, but as David Bratt has said, "He never wavered in holding the line he fundamentally believed in and the Trustees gave him their total support." He will be missed, but his work on behalf of the Society remains appreciated by all those who came into contact with him.

We also lost Reg Boot, who died earlier this year. Reg had been Membership Secretary, was the Area Officer for Stockport and in recent years worked assiduously for the Assessors team. Another stalwart we lost was Brian Summerscales, who is remembered for his cheerful presence at Taylor House, and Bob Proctor, who retired as Footbridges and Path Improvements Officer in 2020 and has sadly passed away.

During the coronavirus lockdown the Society suspended many of its activities. Taylor House was closed; meetings were cancelled or postponed, including the AGM which was eventually held via Zoom in October; and footpath inspections were suspended. From August, Management and Courts and Inquiries Meetings resumed on-line and footpath inspectors were given discretion over whether to continue inspections.

During the year more of the public have been using rights of way than ever before, but this pressure on the network led to some landowners trying to close paths. The Society steered a middle course, recognising the anxieties of those landowners who were at risk from the virus but ensuring that no path was permanently closed.

These were disruptions to the work of the Society, but despite these difficulties much was achieved. First, before the lockdown, the whole of Taylor House was redecorated. This was a major undertaking requiring considerable planning, and the result has been a complete success.

Secondly, a team of people led by David Brown has been scanning the archived documents held at Taylor House. Virtually all parish documents have been digitised, which means the documents are now available online for any Area Officer or Inspector to read without visiting Taylor House. The project will also free up the space currently occupied by the archives. Thank you to David Brown, Paul Easthope, Jeff Coulson, Graham Smith and Geoff Jones' who have been working hard scanning the documents and saving the Society literally thousands of pounds.

Another success has been footpath inspectors' recruitment. We now have over 150 footpath inspectors, and many are in areas where we have been previously under-represented. Unfortunately, the responsiveness of Highway Authorities, already reduced by budget cuts, has been further limited by the pandemic.

But the Society continues in its core work of protecting walkers' rights and fighting cases to keep rights of way open' and we use the legal expertise of the Courts and Inquiries team to ensure Highway Authorities fulfil their duty "To assert and protect the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment of all their highways". The Society is fortunate to have C&I Officers of such high calibre who also have the necessary commitment to protect our valuable heritage of rights of way.

Progress has been made this year towards redesigning the website, using an evolutionary approach which builds on the existing site. A group led by Debby Pickvance is rewriting the text for the new website, and several web-design companies have been approached with a view to appointing one of them to work in partnership with the webmaster (Mel Bale) on the new design.

We are delighted that Nigel Howe has taken up the role of Bridges Officer and Footpath Improvements Officer. Nigel has already overseen the opening of bridges in Blackburn with Darwen, Wharfedale and Kirklees. The Society has informed all Rights of Way teams in our 35 Highway Authorities that we have legacy funds which we are able to allocate for bridges and footpath improvements. Although we are beginning to see this approach bearing fruit, many authorities are surprisingly reluctant to propose projects.

Despite the difficulties of working during the COVID-19 restrictions, the signpost team led by David Morton, and expanded by four new members, has managed to erect 14 signposts and repair many more. There are now 534 signs in our region – our silent ambassadors in the countryside. Our membership has also been rising as people appreciate nature, the countryside and the need to protect our heritage of rights of way. Membership is currently approaching 1300. Mel Bale has been working hard to ensure we maximise membership renewals.

Our finances are in good shape and well-managed by Paul Easthope, but there are two areas of concern: our reserves are larger than is desirable and we are reviewing our investment policy to consider investments consistent with our charitable aims while also ensuring that we do not lose income.

Signpost, our magazine, has gone from strength to strength and is now published quarterly. Shirley Addy has successfully commissioned interesting articles and is doing a great job as editor.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge some retirements. David Bratt our President retired at the postponed AGM. David became Chairman of the Society in 2004 when the Society was struggling to survive. As Chairman he oversaw huge changes to modernise the Society and introduce the 'new way of working' which decentralised the handling of footpath inspections and faults. He started the walks programme, increased the membership, modernised Taylor House and oversaw the erection of 200 signposts and many bridges. By 2008 he was made President of the Society. His support for the Society has never wavered and we will miss him, but we wish him a happy retirement.

Gavin Miller retired as a Trustee and Vice-Chair. Gavin volunteered to become Chair in 2014, bringing stability at a time of crisis and serving as Chair until 2016. Also retiring in 2020 were Harry Scott, who had been Area Officer for Staffordshire for many years, and Alan Hooley who retired as the leader of the Assessors team. They all served the Society well and we thank them for their long service. Despite the challenges of the last year, the Society remains highly active and continues to grow. We are adapting to new technologies and have had a successful year recruiting new members and new inspectors. I am confident that the Society will continue to thrive in 2021.

Kathy McLean

In January 2021 I was privileged to take on the role of Chair of the Peak and Northern Footpaths Society. I want to express my own gratitude for the work David Hurrell did over many years and who, as David Gosling has described, sadly died in 2020. David was totally committed to PNFS and left the society in excellent shape, as you can see from this Annual Report. I want to pay tribute to the Trustees and in particular David Gosling, who took on the role of interim Chair in the latter part of 2020, for maintaining momentum and increasing membership and numbers of Inspectors.

The challenges of 2020 have been clear for everyone to see, feel and experience and for Peak and Northern Footpaths Society they have been summarised by David Gosling. The value of outdoor space, the freedom to walk along paths and see, smell and hear nature have never been more valuable. Walking has been important to me since I was eleven years old. I have enjoyed regular trips to the hills, mountains and coastal paths of this country, sometimes in snatched moments interspersed between weeks of work. At times of stress I have found the ability to walk, with wonderful views of nature and distant horizons, a great opportunity to think and reflect. Over the past year local paths, previously ignored, have become well-trodden friends. Spotting birds has been a daily source of interest.

Looking forward, there are some exciting developments for the Society, for example an evolutionary website upgrade and funding for footpath improvements referenced by David Gosling. We hope that in line with the Government timetable for reducing restrictions we should be able to restart a schedule of regular walks. Increasing our appeal to a wide range of people will be a focus for the Trustees, along with carrying on with the placement of our wonderful signposts.

Whilst footpath inspections were suspended for most of the past year, I and all Inspectors are looking forward to being able to resume what is a core activity for PNFS. I know that the work done by our volunteers and everyone who supports the Society makes a massive difference, often quietly and behind the scenes.

Thank you to everyone and I am delighted to be able to serve our membership as Chair.

Footpaths Improvements

The Society would like to use some of its legacy funds to improve the footpath network. Our constitution now allows this to happen. So here is an offer. Pass the word on!

Do you know a path that needs a boardwalk over boggy ground, a path on a steep slope where steps would be an improvement, difficult stiles that could be replaced by gates, a path that is permanently slippery and muddy where installing a hard surface would increase its use?

We all know those kinds of path. Now funds are available to get these problems fixed.

We are keen to support Footpath and Walking Groups, Affiliated Societies, Wildlife Trusts, Rights of Way Teams in Highway or Parks Authorities. If there are projects which would not otherwise be funded, PNFS may be able to finance reasonable solutions.

So, if you know a path that you would like to see improved, talk to your rights of way officer and put together a proposal to the Society. If we judge that it is a good use of the Society's funds, we will be happy to provide the finance.

All good ideas to Jenny Allen at improvements@pnfs.org.uk

Nigel Howe

I have just completed my first 12 months as the Bridges and Improvements Officer for the PNFS, and due to Covid it hasn't been without a few issues. Firstly, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Robert Proctor who has sadly passed away. He was greatly respected by all in the Society and will be sadly missed.

Despite the current situation we did manage to complete a number of projects. They were: Burley in Wharfedale, PNFS contributed £1200 towards the cost of the material and the footbridge was installed by the Bradford Countryside team. Works to improve the approaches to the bridge were carried out by the local walking group the Burley Walkers.

Wards Reservoir footbridge (below) was constructed with and by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. It involved demolishing two existing buttresses, forming new steps and a new walkway approx. 22m long, on top of the Great Gutte at a cost of £13,480. In addition to the new bridge the council also carried out major stabilisation works to the footpath approaching the bridge.

Also, a new footbridge was constructed on Rainow 23 footpath across Harrop Brook replacing an existing rotten footbridge at a cost of £2366. The issues regarding Harrop Brook Bridge (Donkey Bridge) have finally been resolved and a plaque installed.

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions we have been unable to carry out any official presentations/handovers. We have two projects due to be completed hopefully this year, at Holmfirth and at Red Rafter on the Pennine Way.



Officers & Volunteers

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Rhoda Barnett
(Derbyshire)
Martin Hampar
(Greater Manchester except
Stockport and Thameside)
John Harker
(Eastern)
Andrew Leader
(Kirklees)
Udo Pope
(Thameside)

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Shirley Addy
Pete Ash
Steve Brown
Richard Honeywell,
Jeremy Jones
Andy McMulran
Ross Myddelton,
John Shuttleworth
Ted Wolfe.

FOOTBRIDGE ASSESSOR

Robert Proctor *
Nigel Howe

PATH IMPROVEMENTS OFFICER

Robert Proctor *
Nigel Howe

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David C Brown

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Jerzy Matuszewski
Andrew Harter
David C Brown

HONORARY EXAMINER

Liz Hudson

* indicates that the officer was no longer in post at the end of 2020

† indicates that the officer is now a trustee

PEAK AND NORTHERN FOOTPATHS SOCIETY

Taylor House, 23 Turncroft Lane, Offerton, Stockport, SK1 4AB.

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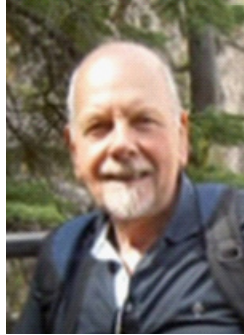
Officers & Volunteers



David Bratt
President



Kathy McLean
Chair



Paul Easthope
Treasurer



Dave Brown
Secretary and
Office Manager



David Gosling
Faults & Inspection
Officer



David Morton
Signpost Officer



Mel Bale
Membership Secretary



Jenny Allen
Trustee & C&IO



John Harker
C & IO



Martin Hampar
C & IO



Rhoda Barnett
C & IO



Terry Norris
C & O Manager

Terry Norris

he modified Definitive Map Modification Order claiming the route from Sandy Pool Farm, Timperley Lane in Leigh to Footpath Leigh 209 has been advertised. It has attracted many objections. These largely comprise 564 identical objections raising the same legally irrelevant arguments e.g. there are plenty of other paths for walkers to use and money is better spent on other projects. There was one letter in support claiming use of the path over several decades. Fortunately the Society's application to the Council is evidenced by many statements by persons who have used the route for many years and are prepared to give evidence at the public inquiry which should take place in due course.

The DMMO claim for a path around the fishing lake at Cellars Clough, Marsden, now known as Colne Valley 283, Marsden, has had a very satisfactory outcome. The planned public inquiry was replaced by reliance on written statements and an unaccompanied site visit by the planning inspector. She has confirmed the order made by Kirklees Council. All the misleading notices and barriers have been removed by the council acting in conjunction with the landowner. A difficult-to-use gap stile has been replaced by a kissing gate and steps. The result has been a high level of use and satisfaction at having a public path brought back into use.

There are a number of other routes which are quite well used but are not recorded on the Kirklees Definitive Map. The Council has provided large scale maps of each of the areas containing the paths. When Covid restrictions ease, I hope to collect completed evidence forms showing the paths have been used for at least 20 years as of right as a public footpath, as required by section 31 of the Highways Act 1980.



Grindsbrook

Brian Hamilton

Due to the resignation of Alan Hooley, we now have Terry Norris as our new Team Leader.

The most significant event affecting the operating of the section this year has been the inability to use Taylor House, due to the pandemic restrictions. We started the year well, with the good attendance of myself, John Grimsey, and Reg Boot on Monday mornings, however since then I have been covering the work from home, as best I can. Shortly after the restrictions came in, we learned the very sad news that Reg had died. A great loss to the Society, and we feel indebted to him for his many years of service, and latterly for stepping in to help in this section.

Harry Scott, who resigned as Area Officer for Staffordshire last year has agreed to be Agent to inspect diversions and extinguishments in areas of Staffordshire not covered by other inspectors. This will be a great help, as this is a large area. The introduction of computer based filing, in 2019 was fortuitous as it has enable the working of the Society from home. I would like to thank Mel Bale, David Brown, and David Gosling for their work in making this possible. I would also like to thank the Society's Inspectors for the good work and prompt reports they give us, and the Courts and Inquiries Officers for their support.

We have been involved in 4 Objections during the year. One has been resolved by modifications to the application, which were acceptable. The other three are still ongoing.

The statistics for the year are listed below, (previous year's figures in brackets)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Public Space Protection Orders | 8 (6) |
| Confirmed Orders | 29 (85) |
| Consultations | 170 (143) |
| Objections | 4 (2) |
| Orders | 195 (167) |
| Others | 279 (155) |



Tameside FP 4

Rhoda Barnett (Derbyshire)

This has been a difficult year, with local authorities and the Society's officers and Inspectors struggling to maintain activities to protect the public's use of rights of way, particularly in the face of the much greater use of public paths for exercise and simply to get out of the house.

This did not seem to affect the number of consultations I received about planning applications which might affect public rights of way – 168 compared to 162 in 2019, and again I was able to ensure that potential adverse effects were avoided. The number of preliminary consultations from the county council about the making of modification orders to correct the definitive map and statement was also similar to last year, presumably because once evidence has been provided to the council, the initial investigations at least are a paper exercise. The council even managed to make 8 such orders, although I did not attend any public inquiries, since the use of this method to determine orders was greatly curtailed.

The Society itself continued to prepare and make applications to the county council for modification orders, 26 in total, as part of the Lost Ways project, in spite of the closing of archives and the inability to post notices on site. I assisted with all of these, as well as making an application for an order in Staffordshire, since we unfortunately no longer have a Courts and Inquiries Officer for that county.

The number of consultations about public path orders (diversions and extinguishments) decreased this year to 9, mainly due to the curtailment of site visits by the councils' officers. Again I was able to secure improvements to several proposals to ensure that walkers' interests were not prejudiced. Unfortunately diversion orders which are needed in the public's interest to provide unobstructed paths, such as across the Middle Peak Quarry at Wirksworth and the former brickworks site in Ripley, were not progressed because the county council continues to give priority to diversions in landowners' interests, a policy which I have been unable to change.

I continued to give our Inspectors and officers advice, and to try to secure the removal of obstructions on paths and the repair of path surfaces. I worked with the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance to try to ensure that the enjoyment of walkers' use of rights of way was not affected by vehicular use, and with the Peak Park rights of way officer to assess diversion proposals. I was also involved with the training of the Society's Inspectors, assessing proposals for the expenditure of the Society's funds on improvements to public paths, and the continued revision of the Society's policies for many areas of its work.

Martin Hampar (Greater Manchester except Stockport and Tameside)

As in previous years, my work on behalf of the Society during the year has been divided between attention to issues in my home borough of Trafford, Greater Manchester and a number of more general activities, mainly in Manchester and Salford, and also in other parts of Greater Manchester.

The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that a number of activities have been slower to progress during the year than I would have liked.

During the year I completed an application to Trafford Council to have the previously well used Brooks Drive in Hale Barns recorded as a public right of way after residents blocked part of the route between Hale Road and Roaring Gate Lane.

I have continued to support the Society's inspectors in Oldham regarding the clearance of obstructed footpaths. I have also continued working with the Ramblers Footpaths Officer in Salford in connection with both the obstruction of footpaths and proposed changes to the network.

I have commented on Orders proposing changes to the rights of way network in several Greater Manchester districts, and on specific planning applications that may affect public rights of way, in Trafford, Manchester and Salford.

I have continued to monitor and respond to the development of both the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and the plans for HS2 for the possible effects on public rights of way and other public access in Greater Manchester.

Andy Leader (Kirklees)

The pandemic slowed work down this year and there is some catching up to do. On behalf of PNFS I objected to the diversion of Spenborough Footpath 110 early in 2020. The local authority, Kirklees, who were the applicant conceded on all points and have agreed to put in place a much wider new footpath which will not now be enclosed between fences. A new order reflecting this will now be advertised. After successfully defeating a section 257 application to divert Holmfirth Footpath 60 at Wolfstones a further application has been made under section 247 of the same act. The proposal is just as poor for walkers and PNFS have objected. The matter will go to a public inquiry.

As a result of a letter before action and subsequent negotiations for new hard-wood footbridges were installed on The Kirklees Way near Hepworth at a cost of £44,000. Kirklees Council met these costs in full. I've continued working on the removal of obstructions from other paths and securing remedial works to out-of-repair paths in the Holme Valley, using both letters before action and notices when appropriate.

I've continued to comment on planning applications which affect public rights of way in Kirklees, a total of 32 in the past year.

Udo Pope (Tameside)

During the past year I have principally been supporting Paul Easthope (Treasurer and footpath inspector for the Tameside parishes of Longdendale and Mossley) in attempting to prod Tameside MBC to take action to remove obstructions on public rights of way and, in particular, to clear vegetation. This has involved threatening enforcement action (by way of issuing the relevant statutory notices) and chasing progress with Tameside MBC where they have promised action as a result.

In particular, following Tameside's failure over several months to remove the two obstructions (namely stock fencing) on FP 98 in Longdendale, in February 2021 I issued notices under section 130A of the Highways Act 1980 in respect of those two obstructions. This had the desired effect insofar as stiles were installed in March to enable walkers once again to use that footpath. Threatened action in respect of an obstruction and unlawful excavation of the surface of FP 169 in Mossley has also been successful, as a temporary alternative route has now been provided to avoid the excavated area pending a permanent diversion order being made.

The overgrown state of a considerable number of footpaths in Mossley has been a particular concern. Following an inadequate response by Tameside to a formal letter that threatened to serve notices under section 56 of the Highways Act in respect of ten of such paths, information regarding Tameside's budget and procedures for dealing with public rights of way faults was requested under the Freedom of Information Act. This proved worthwhile as the response to the request was notably more positive than the initial response and accordingly it is hoped that action will now be taken by Tameside to clear most if not all of the paths early in the next financial year.

Jenny Allen (Cheshire, Warrington, Lancashire, Barnsley)

There was no activity for most of the year due to the pandemic and nothing arose that required my attention.

Direct Debits Subscriptions.

CAF (Charity Aid Foundation Bank) collect our direct debits. Please note you no longer see on your statements and online bank details any mention of PNFS. Instead you see "Charity Donation" followed by a ref number either: FRS.....(6 numbers), 10.. or 11..or 12..(seven numbers) Collection dates are 1st and 15th of the month.

Please think about changing to paying your subscriptions and donations by direct debit and, if you are a tax payer signing up for Gift Aid. Forms available at

<http://www.peakandnorthern.org.uk>

Direct debits now account for nearly 70% of our paid membership subscription income (£10,032) and £3,404 of donations this year. Our new PayPal account has also been successful with £1,621 of subscription/donations payments made from June to December.

Accounting Basis

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

Income

Receipts were up: to £76,002. This was mainly due to legacies being up by £9,192 to £30,000.

- Members’ subscriptions were up again by £1061 to £14,482. This is the highest in recent years. Affiliations were down appreciably to £1637, compared to to an average year.
- General donations were up by £1,036 to £8,684
- Gift aid was up appreciably by £1,114 to £5,210.
- Signpost/footbridge donations were up £815 to £5,354.
- Dividends and interest were slightly down by £663 to £10,569. This was due to new investment portfolio broker fees. Previously the portfolio was managed on a pro bono basis.

Taking out legacy income, overall income was slightly higher by £2,767 at £46,002. This was excellent news. Many thanks to our loyal and new members who are very generous with their donations. This helps keep our membership rates extremely low.

Expenditure

Overall expenditure was appreciably higher by £19,543 to £64,510. This was nearly all due to a large increase in footbridge expenditure and a smaller increase in signpost expenditure.

- Taylor House costs were up £1,470 to £7497, mainly due to decorating the office
- Signpost costs up £1,715 to £7,775
- Footbridge costs up by £24,582 to £29,528.
- Travel costs were down £1,824 to £3,937, due to the office being closed for most of the year.
- Printing costs were £573 lower at £5,892. It now costs over £1.50 to print and post a newsletter, so please consider taking them online
- Postage/phone/stationery costs much higher, up by £902 to £3,891, due to four magazines and the Annual Report; also for post redirection by David Brown from TH to the Officers during the office closure. Legal notices postage, AGM notification letters, all added to the increase. We also signed up for fibre broadband at the beginning of the year.
- Computer costs at £3,117 were slightly higher.
- Insurance was slightly lower at £1,303 due to a more competitive renewal quote.
- Subscriptions/donations/training costs were slightly higher at £425.
- There was no Public Rights of Way improvement expenditure this year.
- Legal/professional/secretarial costs £1,384 lower at £999

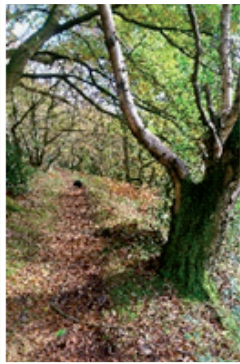
The net surplus was £11,492.

Assets

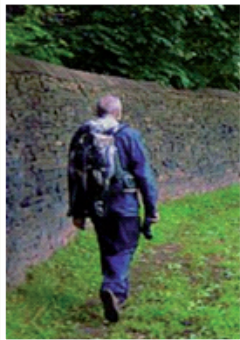
The balance sheet is virtually unchanged at £476,458.

Our investments were down in value to £167,583, this being a 6.6% decline. The value fell appreciably in March due to the Covid 19 pandemic. However, they recovered during the rest of the year. The dividend returned was 4.77% net of the new broker charges. Liquid assets were up £11,492 to £248,222.

PNFS - Our work in numbers



| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Paths inspected since 2018 | 14,948 |
| Paths inspected in 2020 | 8265 |
| Paths improved | 2553 |
| Total faults reported | 7500 |
| % faults cleared | 35% |



| | |
|--|------|
| Number of inspectors: <i>(increase 62% since 2014)</i> | 153 |
| New inspectors in 2020: 37 | 37 |
| Number of Path Checkers: 48 | 48 |
| Women Inspectors: females - 2014 | 7.5% |
| females - 2020 | 19% |



| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Signposts: total: | 534 |
| New signposts in 2020: | 14 |
| First signpost (at Carr Meadow): | 1905 |
| Latest number on a signpost: | S614 |



| | |
|--|---------|
| Bridges funded in total: | 47 |
| Bridges funded in 2020: | 3 |
| Biggest project: Belmont 'Blue Lagoon' Walkway | 22 mtrs |
| On top of the Great Gutte <i>at a cost of</i> | £13,480 |

OUR HISTORY

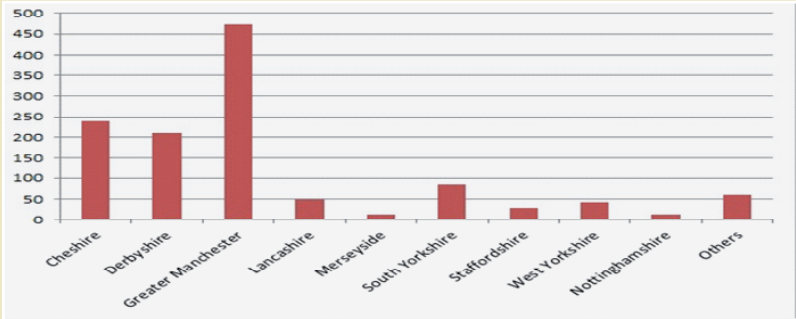
- 1894 Founded as Peak District and Northern Counties Footpath Preservation Society
- 1897 First path saved: Snake Path
- 1929 First court case
- 1968 Renamed PNFS
- 1981 Became statutory consultee



G HB Ward (1876 -1957)
A pioneer of the access movement

OUR MEMBERSHIP

- 1284 members in 2020 - up by 12% from 2019
- 86 affiliate groups



OUR REGION

- 35 Highway Authorities
- 6276 sq miles in area
- 1468 Parishes or local districts
- 65 Un-parished areas
- 646 Parishes with inspectors in 2020 (46% of total) up from 330 in 2014
- 56 884 Paths in PNFS region





Peak & Northern Footpaths Society

No 212219

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total funds | Last year |
|--|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| A1 Receipts | | | | |
| Subscriptions | 14,482 | | 14,482 | 13,422 |
| Affiliations | 1,637 | | 1,637 | 2,115 |
| Legacies, bequests | 30,000 | | 30,000 | 20,808 |
| Donations general | 8,685 | | 8,685 | 7,647 |
| Donations signposts & footbridges | | 5,354 | 5,354 | 4,539 |
| Gift Aid tax | 5,210 | | 5,210 | 4,097 |
| Interest/Dividends | 10,570 | | 10,570 | 11,232 |
| Miscellaneous | 64 | | 64 | 183 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 70,648 | 5,354 | 76,002 | 64,043 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales | | | | |
| Government stock redemption | | | 0 | 19,000 |
| | | | 0 | 0 |
| Sub total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19,000 |
| Total receipts | 70,648 | 5,354 | 76,002 | 83,043 |
| A3 Payments | | | | |
| Taylor House running costs | 7,497 | | 7,497 | 6,027 |
| Signpost & Footbridges | 31,949 | 5,354 | 37,303 | 11,060 |
| Travel & Subsistence | 3,937 | | 3,937 | 5,761 |
| Printing, Copying, newsletter | 5,892 | | 5,892 | 6,465 |
| Postage Telephone Stationary | 3,891 | | 3,891 | 2,989 |
| Computer, Software & maintenance | 3,117 | | 3,117 | 2,870 |
| Functions / Fundraising costs | 55 | | 55 | 1,020 |
| Insurance | 1,303 | | 1,303 | 1,424 |
| Subscriptions, Donations, Training | 425 | | 425 | 244 |
| Improvements, Commemorative | 0 | | 0 | 4,512 |
| Legal Professional & Secretarial | 999 | | 999 | 2,383 |
| Sundries | 91 | | 91 | 212 |
| Sub total | 59,156 | 5,354 | 64,510 | 44,967 |
| P & L SURPLUS | | | 11,492 | 19,076 |

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| A4 Asset and investment purchases | | | |
| Investment Trusts | | | |
| | | 0 | 30,039 |
| | | 0 | |
| Sub total | 0 | 0 | 30,039 |
| Total payments | 59,156 | 5,354 | 64,510 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 11,492 | 0 | 11,492 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 175,720 | 61,010 | 236,730 |
| Cash funds this year end | 187,212 | 61,010 | 248,222 |

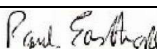
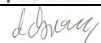
Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | Savings accounts | 179,545 | 61,010 |
| | | | |
| | Current accounts & petty cash | 7,667 | 0 |
| | Total cash funds | 187,212 | 61,010 |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK | OK |

| | Details | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| B3 Investment assets | Government stocks | | |
| | Corporate bonds | | 70,248 |
| | Equities | | 29,323 |
| | Inv.trusts,pref shares,ETF funds | | 68,012 |
| | TOTAL | 0 | 167,583 |

| | Details | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Taylor House building | 60,153 | |
| | Computer Equipment | 13,458 | |
| | Furniture fittings & other | 4,351 | |
| | P A sound system | 1,509 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

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

| Signature | Print name | Date of approval |
|---|------------|------------------|
|  | P Easthope | |
|  | D C Brown | |

David Morton

2020 saw the arrival, spread and persistence of the pandemic across Britain, resulting in worries about its effects on signpost work and the backlog, which dated back to the very wet weather in late 2019. In January I had the news that S600 had been erected by the N.T. at Mad Allen's Hole on the Sandstone Trail at Bickerton. In February I fixed the plate for S605 with difficulty to a very high, plastic post erected by Lancs. CC. In June S606 and 608 were erected. In July, 609, 610 and 611 went up and in August, S594, 598, 601 and 602. S614, our first "Tubular Post Sign" since 1989 appeared in September. Finally in October came 607, 612 and 613. As happened in 2019, we only managed to erect 14 new signposts.

New Signs in 2020

S594 at SD 65371 36406 : Stydd Manor Farm, Ribchester on Dutton FPs 20,23,35
S598 at SD 68448 33648 : Ashes Farm, Copster Green, on Salesbury FPs 1,3,4
S601 at SD 69545 51775 : Pains Hill Farm, Slaidburn on Newton FPs 10, 12 and 13
S602 at SD 69700 52187 : Pains Hill Farm, Slaidburn on Slaidburn FP12, donated by Peter Williams
S605 at SD 46479 73476 : Brown's Houses, Jenny Brown's Point, Silverdale on Silverdale FP14, in memory of Fred Ogden, Signpost Officer (Admin.) 1993-1994 and 2003-2007
S606 at SK 34717 60769 : Ravensnest Tor, Butterley, Ashover on Ashover FPs 133 and 134
S607 at SJ 97989 80846 : Sweet Hill, NW of Handley Fold Farm on Lyme Handley FP25, in memory of Reg Boot 1933-2020
S608 at SK 34717 60769 : Higgins Clough, PF Canal towpath on Disley FPs 45 and 66, sponsored by Disley Footpaths Society
S609 at SK 18571 73316 : E of Castlegate Lane, N of Monsal Head, on Gt. Longstone FPs 30 and 31, in fond memory of Colin Henson 1933-2016, of Halcyon Rambling Club
S610 SK 21114 67296 : Shutts Farm, Bakewell on Bakewell FPs 4 and 7, in memory of Geoff Errington 1949-2012, active and generous member of P.N.F.S.
S611 at SJ 95542 79561 : on N. Side of Bakestonedale Road, Pott Shrigley FP1 and B'way 19, for 80th birthday of footpath inspector John Goodman
S612 at SE 16611 45038 : Burley in Wharfedale on Ilkley FP65, in memory of Margaret J. Starmer 1927-2017, a generous benefactor of P.N.F.S. Bradford's Outdoors Team erected it for us.
S613 at SD 99684 07370 : Long Lane, Dobcross, Oldham on Saddleworth FPs 107 and 109, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Saddleworth Pedestrians Walking Club
S614 at SJ 98051 80903 : Handley Hollow, on Higher Lane at Lyme Handley FP25 – a former CPRE sign

Maintenance

10 signs fell as their posts had rotted, but 7 were reinstated on durable concrete stumps : 80 (Whaley Lane), 119 (Elmerhurst Cott.), 170 (near Owler Bar), 325 (Alsop en le Dale), 330 (Lymm Roundabout), 354 (Weaver Hills), 369 (Higher Hills Cottage, Hayfield), 429 (near Cat and Fiddle), 142 (Shutlingsloe) and 319 (Holcombe Moor) on new posts; S222 (Peak Forest) on a recycled stump.

6 signs were lost : 081 (Pickmere), 118 (West End Clough), 273 (Prestbury), 417 (Taxal Moor Road), 316 (Chew Reservoir), 258 (Jumbles C.P.). But one (371 at Clatter Bridge, Wirral) reappeared, with help from Wirral's PROw, and 273 was replaced by a new Cheshire East fingerpost with our two plaques attached.

Continued opposite

January : Shirley Addy inspected 7 of our signs and 2 of the RA's signs above White Coppice, Chorley.

March-Nov : 180 signs were inspected/cleaned/wedged/repainted.

Sept : kits were issued to the first 4 new members of the Signpost Team.

Oct : S417 was replaced; 319 was repainted and reposted.

Nov : S001 (Carr Meadow) and 005 (which is now re-purposed as 369 at Higher Hills Cottage) was and blasted and powder coated then reinstated. M12 stainless steel shear nuts and coach bolts used on S001; a concrete stump for 005/369.

Replacements for most of the stolen signs are in the pipeline.

My thanks to Shirley, John H. and "the Hon.Ted", plus all the new team members (see list on page 6).

David Gosling

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on our work this year. On the one hand footpath inspections were suspended from April 6th to June 16th, but on the other hand the lockdown has stimulated a huge increase in awareness of the value of the rights of way network. As a result, we have had our most successful year ever for appointing new footpath inspectors. We appointed 42 new inspectors, but five of these, for various reasons, were unable to continue in the role, leaving a record 37 new inspectors.

Recruitment has been active in several areas where paths have not been inspected for many years, for example Cheshire West, Leeds, Lancashire (Rossendale, Chorley, Fylde) and Blackburn-with-Darwen. The total number of inspectors is now (February 2021) 152 and 2 agents (Harry Scott and Shirley Northcott).

The total number of parishes with allocated inspectors is now 662 which is 46% of all the parishes in our region. Five years ago, we covered 446 (30% of the total) parishes.

The Footpath Inspections Database, after three years in operation, provides the Society with a growing evidence base on the state of the rights of way network in our region and the activity of our inspectors. The FID now covers all 35 of our Highway Authorities. In some cases, the PROW data is not as up to date as we would like, and we are attempting to receive more regular updates from these HAs.

Another issue concerns the inconsistencies in reports relating to class D reports. 'D faults' (shown red on the FID map), should be all those, and only those, faults where the path is impassable, or the fault is considered dangerous.

There were 8265 new paths inspected in 2020 (in 2019 there were 6073), with Sep (774), Oct (894) and Nov (1272) being the months with most new inspections. This demonstrates the level of commitment and activity by our volunteers.

The table below shows the HAs (or districts) with the highest number of paths newly inspected

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 676 | Cheshire East | 188 | Sheffield |
| 341 | Kirklees | 171 | Derbyshire - South Derbyshire |
| 331 | Derbyshire - Amber Valley | 152 | Staffordshire |
| 324 | Lancashire - Ribble Valley | 152 | Warrington |
| 309 | Derbyshire - Derbyshire Dales | 148 | Calderdale |
| 288 | Cheshire West | 144 | Derbyshire - North East Derbyshire |
| 206 | Barnsley | 117 | Rochdale |
| 204 | Lancashire - Rossendale | | |

Faults and Inspection

The fact that Kirklees and Rochdale appear in this list in the top 10 is entirely due to the activity of Jane Hodgson who has walked or run nearly all the paths in Colne Valley and Milnrow, She discovered a large number of significant faults in Colne Valley which are now being addressed by Kirklees.

The table below shows the HAs with the most activity since inspectors began recording inspections on the FID over the last three years. The “inspections” ahows the number of paths that have been inspected over thelast three years

| Highway Authority | Total number of PROWs inspected | Total number of PROWs | % of PROWs inspected |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Cheshire East | 1927 | 3415 | 56.43 |
| Derbyshire - Derbyshire Dales | 1807 | 2906 | 62.18 |
| Derbyshire - North East | 1058 | 1268 | 83.44 |
| Derbyshire - High Peak | 1040 | 1614 | 64.44 |
| Sheffield | 1018 | 1449 | 70.26 |
| Derbyshire - Amber Valley | 941 | 1579 | 59.59 |
| Staffordshire | 853 | 7878 | 10.83 |
| Cheshire West | 718 | 2441 | 29.41 |
| Barnsley | 684 | 1436 | 47.63 |
| Lancashire - Ribble Valley | 593 | 1786 | 33.20 |
| Kirklees | 543 | 1863 | 29.15 |
| Stockport | 471 | 658 | 71.58 |
| Tameside | 466 | 870 | 53.56 |



We record inspections in Derbyshire by district, but Derbyshire taken as a whole has 9856 PROWs, of which 5488 have been inspected which is 55.68% of the total.

The cumulative total of inspections undertaken in 2018, 19 and 20 is an astonishing 14,948.

We are interested not only in how many inspections have been recorded but also in what % of faults have been resolved. The table below shows the outcomes in authorities where there were more than 200 inspections recorded.

The majority of PROW staff were not undertaking site visits during the first lockdown and this may account for the relatively poor performance for 2020. The percentage of faults resolved over the three year period is higher, but still not good, especially relating to serious faults (classified as ‘D faults’). We will continue to monitor the response of HAs to our reports and where necessary we will serve notices to achieve an adequate response.

| Highway Authority | Total number of PROWs inspected in 2020 | B faults recorded | D faults recorded | % B faults recorded in 2020 | % D faults recorded in 2020 | % B faults resolved 2018,19,20 | % B faults recorded 2018,19,20 |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cheshire East | 1202 | 222 | 60 | 15.32 | 10.00 | 35.76 | 47.09 |
| Derbyshire - Derbyshire Dales | 691 | 262 | 24 | 13.74 | 20.83 | 34.87 | 35.63 |
| Sheffield | 588 | 156 | 19 | 8.97 | 15.79 | 19.05 | 26.67 |
| Derbyshire - North East Derbyshire | 545 | 138 | 6 | 10.14 | 16.67 | 48.66 | 50.00 |
| Derbyshire - High Peak | 416 | 173 | 17 | 14.45 | 29.41 | 46.17 | 48.39 |
| Cheshire West | 414 | 97 | 4 | 18.56 | 25.00 | 41.50 | 62.50 |
| Derbyshire - Amber Valley | 398 | 207 | 16 | 23.19 | 0.00 | 33.19 | 27.66 |
| Kirklees | 388 | 428 | 57 | 16.12 | 15.79 | 29.31 | 21.21 |
| Lancashire - Ribble Valley | 367 | 169 | 13 | 5.33 | 15.38 | 4.30 | 14.29 |
| Barnsley | 308 | 55 | 9 | 47.27 | 22.22 | 69.88 | 45.83 |
| Derbyshire - South Derbyshire | 276 | 138 | 4 | 27.54 | 50.00 | 42.93 | 66.67 |
| Staffordshire | 266 | 110 | 5 | 1.82 | 0.00 | 28.76 | 20.00 |
| Stockport | 215 | 74 | 15 | 5.41 | 20.00 | 45.25 | 55.26 |

At the beginning of 2020, the Society launched the Path Checkers scheme. This provided an easy way for members of the Society, or indeed any walker, to report faults they found anywhere within our region. By the end of the year 48 had registered as Path Checkers. We also receive reports from walkers who are not Path Checkers. In 2020 206 reports were received, which is a considerable increase over previous years. These are all referred to the appropriate inspector or Area Officer who is asked to investigate the report and respond to the person who has brought the issue to our attention.

During the year we lost the services of David Hurrell, Reg Boot and Bob Proctor (as reported elsewhere in the Annual Report), and the following inspectors resigned or retired: Norman Atherton, David Weston, David Bratt, Dick Foxon, Sid Navid and Phil Pickering.

17 newly appointed inspectors attended a successful training day in February at the Stockport Advocacy Centre. Also 25 attended an Inspectors Meeting in Stockport on March 7th. Unfortunately, the planned meeting in Sheffield had to be cancelled.

During the year, four Inspectors Newsletters were published in January, April, June and October. These are available in the new volunteers area of the website. The excellent progress that has been made in the digitisation of the PNFS past archive of reports and correspondence relating to parishes in the PNFS region means that nearly all documents are now available online (tinyurl.com/PNFS2020). This is an invaluable resource for inspectors.

Finally I would like to thank Linda Smith and John Fisher, who have joined the Inspection Team during 2020. Linda is helping with the liaison with new volunteers and John is looking after the fault reports received from Path Checkers and other walkers. Thanks again to Roger Fielding for his continuing work on the Footpath Inspections Database, and to Mel Bale for providing the data used in this report.

Membership Secretary's Report

Mel Bale

To say that 2020 has been a difficult year for us all is clearly a massive understatement. The pandemic has a significant impact on all our lives. I have written recently in Signpost about how we have all had to learn to live with uncertainty. The vaccination programme offers some light at the end of the tunnel, but what awaits us in 2021 is still far from clear. During the dark days of much of last year it would have been easy to become despondent, but I like many others have found peace and hope in nature and the outdoors. I have never seen so many people on our local paths and bridleways.

I am delighted to be able to report that this increased use and appreciation of the Public Rights of Way network appears to have resulted in a dramatic rise in our membership numbers. Since this time last year our paid-up membership has jumped by 12% from 1146 to 1284! Several other factors have also contributed to this unprecedented increase. Jenny Allen placed a very effective advertisement on the volunteering website Do-it.org, encouraging people to join and become footpath inspectors. I have also made it much easier for people to join by implementing online payments via the website at pnfs.org.uk/membership. Existing members can also renew their membership via this link and pay either by PayPal or credit card.

It would be great to see a similar rise in membership in the year to come, so I ask all members to encourage others to join the society. A Join Us form is included with this Annual Report; please pass it on to someone who you think might like to become a member.

The pandemic has had a detrimental effect on some walking groups, and a few have been unable to renew their affiliation to the Society because of lack of funds. Fortunately these losses have been counterbalanced by an initiative to contact parish councils both to encourage them to affiliate and to tell them about our improvement policy. Several have joined as a result.

Our Taylor House office has been closed for the duration of the pandemic, so it was decided that wherever possible membership correspondence should be sent directly to my home address. I think that this arrangement has worked well and has enabled me to respond more quickly to new and old members alike.

Every year it is inevitable that we will lose members through illness or worse. 2020 has been particularly sad in this respect. As you will read elsewhere, our then sitting chairman David Hurrell never fully recovered from a stroke and died in September. We have also lost other prominent members. Bob Proctor, who had only recently stood down from his position of Bridges Officer, passed away in January of this year. Two former Signpost Officers, Fred Ogden and Percy Hutchinson, have also died recently. We send our condolences to their families and to all our members who have lost loved ones over the last year.

As always the society is keen to increase its members benefits. We have recently emailed our first quarterly e-newsletter, Waymark, to all members for whom we have an email address. Waymark is produced by Shirley Addy, who also edits our Signpost magazine, which goes from strength to strength.

Several new features have been added to the website. These include details of walks designed and submitted by members (pnfs.org.uk/routes) and another featuring the series of Parish Notes which have been published previously in Signpost (pnfs.org.uk/parishnotes).

A small team of people are currently involved in a project to redesign the Society's website. The aims are to make it more visually attractive and to rationalise and improve how information is presented. The hope is that these changes will raise the profile of the Society and broaden its appeal to a wider range of people and thus lead to a further increase in membership. Regular progress reports will be published in Signpost.

Please don't forget that your subscriptions are vital to the work of the society in protecting, promoting and improving the Public Rights of Way network. If you don't already Gift Aid your subscription and are a UK tax payer, please just sign the appropriate section on your next renewal form. By doing so you effectively increase the value of your subscription by 25%. Gift Aid can be claimed retrospectively for 4 years, so if you can Gift Aid please consider doing so.

Membership renewal reminder letters will be sent with the first newsletter of the membership year. I would ask all members to consider paying their subscription by Direct Debit if they do not already do so. Not only does this reduce the need for reminders but it also allows more time to be spent on other work for the society.

I'd like to thank my fellow trustees for all their support and encouragement throughout the year, and in particular Paul Easthope, our treasurer, who yet again has been a great help when dealing with the financial aspects of membership.

Finally, please do contact me at membership@pnfs.org.uk if you have any questions or ideas about membership.

| Members | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Annual | 994 | 1073 | 1079 | 1091 | 1245 |
| Ten year | 67 | 50 | 39 | 18 | 5 |
| Five year | 7 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Hon. life | 33 | 34 | 32 | 35 | 34 |
| Total | 1101 | 1161 | 1152 | 1146 | 1284 |
| Affiliates | 79 | 89 | 85 | 87 | 88 |

Note: The 2020 figures are for 'paid up' members only. In addition there are 43 individual and household members and 8 affiliates who haven't yet renewed in 2020/21. All have recently been sent renewal reminder letters or emails.



Honorary Members

The President and 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
(retired at AGM)

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mr & Mrs A F Bennett
David Bratt
Norman Edwards
Mrs Gwynneth Littleton
Kate Ashbrook
Ian MacMillan

Other Honorary Members

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hilda Bowler | Alan Hooley |
| Mr & Mrs J Burling | Mr A Howcroft |
| Barrie Clark | Percy & Muriel Hutchinson |
| Mr A M Davies | Mr & Mrs J C Law |
| Mrs M Frankland | Pat Money Penny |
| Brian Gerrard | Mr T L Norris |
| Ian Gibbon | Will and Marianne Peters |
| Carol Glenn | Harry Scott |
| Mrs M M Haigh | Mrs M D Seal |
| Philip and Anne Harris | Hilary Summerscales |
| John Harker | Mrs B Taylor |
| Mrs J Head | Mary Whitehead |
| Mrs J Hibbert | Ted Wolfe |
| Mr & Mrs D Hilliker | Mr S Wraith |
| David Hilton | Keith Wykes |

Affiliated Groups

| | |
|--|---|
| Abbotsfield Fellwalkers of Flixton | Melbourne Footpaths Group |
| Alderley Edge, Wilmslow & District FP Society | Merseyside & West Cheshire Area RA |
| Altrincham & District Rambling Club | Mid Cheshire Footpath Society |
| Anchor Ramblers | Mossley Town Council |
| Anderton Parish Council | North Turton Parish Council |
| Ashover Footpath and Bridleway Committee | Northenden Walkers |
| Ashton-u-Lyne & District Walking Club | Oldham Wednesday Walkers |
| Barnsley Mountaineering Club | Over Hulton Neighbourhood Forum |
| Billington and Langho Parish Council | Pennine Wayfarers Rambling Club |
| Blackbrook Conservation Society | Pott Shrigley Parish Council |
| Blackburn Rambling Association | Poynton Rambling Club |
| Blackrod Town Council | RA Congleton Group |
| Bolton CHA Rambling Club | RA Doncaster Group |
| Buxton Rambling Club | RA East Cheshire |
| CHA Bradford Rambling and Social Club | RA Greater Manchester & High Peak Area |
| CHA Manchester Rambling Club | RA New Mills and District Group |
| CHA Mansfield | RA North & Mid Cheshire Area |
| CHA Sheffield Rambling Club and Social Club | RA Nottinghamshire Area |
| Chapel-en-le-Frith Rambling Club | RA Oldham Group |
| Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council | RA Preston Group |
| Cheshire Tally Ho Hare & Hounds Club | RA Sheffield Group |
| Club AZ Walkers | RA South Yorks & NE Derbyshire Area |
| Crescent Ramblers Northwich | RA Stockport Group |
| Dark Peak Bridleways Association | RA Trafford Group |
| Denby Footpaths Group | Red Rope (Manchester) |
| Derby Nomad Ramblers | Rimington and Middop Parish Council |
| Derbyshire Pennine Club | Rochdale CHA Rambling Club |
| Disley Footpaths Society | Rock and Heather Club |
| Dore Village Society | Rossendale Ramblers |
| Eccles Rambling & Social Club | Saddleworth Pedestrians |
| Grindleton Parish Council | Saddleworth Runners |
| Halifax Rambling and Social Club | Sale Walking and Activity Group |
| Hanliensian Rambling Club | Sheffield Co-operative Ramblers |
| Hayfield Parish Council | Shirland & Higham Parish Council |
| Helsby Parish Council | Stockport Field Club |
| HF Bury Group | Stockport Rambling & Social Club |
| HF Nottingham Group | Stockport Walkers |
| HF Warrington Rambling Club | Stockport Walking and Outdoor Group |
| Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council | Sutton in Ashfield Rambling Club |
| Hunshelf Parish Council | Tameside Ramblers |
| Leek & District FP Preservation & Rambling Group | The Irregulars |
| Macclesfield & District Field Club | The Rucksack Club |
| Macclesfield Rambling Club | The Strollers |
| Manchester & District Retired Teachers Association | Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council |
| Manchester and Salford Ramblers Group | Trafford Walkers |
| Manchester Associates Rambling Club | U3A Sale Walking Group |
| Manchester Field Club | Warrington Field Club |
| Manchester Rambling Club | Whaley Bridge Town Council |
| Marple District Rambling Club | Wirral Footpaths & Open Spaces Preservation Soc |

Area Officers & Inspectors

Because of data protection concerns we are no longer publishing the contact details for Area Officers and Inspectors in this report. Officers can find those details on the private area of our website. Members can contact them by writing or emailing Taylor House

Barnsley

Area Officer

Chris Davison

Inspectors

Mel Bale

Sarah Dewey

Dianne Fortescue

David Oldfield

Barry Tylee

Blackburn with Darwen

Inspectors

Graham Fullarton

Roger Marks

Bolton

Inspectors

Michael Arundel

Jim Foster

Brian Gerrard

Mark Thomas

Bradford

Inspectors

Andrew Harter

Patricia Durdey

Bury

Inspectors

Vince Anderson

David Pollard

Calderdale

Inspectors

Mark Crawford

Peter Davies

Andy Leader

Terry Norris

Cheshire East

Area Officer

Jenny Allen

Inspectors

Will Ablett

John Alexander

David Brown

Martin Brown

Tony Clare

Caroline Coutts

Eric Davies

Sheila Dillon

Clive Evans

John Fisher

Terry Fones

Phil Gadsby

David Gartside

John Goodman

Brian Hamilton

Patrick Knowles

Mark Linnell

Tony Littler

Jerzy Matuszewski

Clare Maxwell

Gavin Miller

Maria Novelly

James Platt

David Powell

Duncan Smith

Ian Tate

David Taylor

John & Felicity Whitelock

Cheshire West

Area Officer

Jenny Allen

Inspectors

Thomas Degg

Anne Dilworth

Chris Fortune

Andy Garland

John Gascoyne

Kevin Gimley

Stephen Grimes

Rebecca Henning-Lee

Jan Howe

Gavin Miller

Myra Morgan

Joe Park

Niall Phillips

Ewan Price

Cathy Rugen

Linda Smith

Keith Stoops

Andy Thorne

Andy Williams

James Wynn-Edwards

Derby City

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Kathy McLean

Barry Thomas

Derbyshire - Amber Valley

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Jim Bosworth

Ken Brockway

Jo Goddard

John Harker

David Moreton

Mike Nelms

Ted Roadhouse

Derbyshire - Bolsover

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspector

Nick Kirk

Derbyshire - Chesterfield

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspector

Bill Parke

Derbyshire - Dales

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Derek Bodey

Bill Buckley

Marie Campbell

John Collins

Jim Cowley

Martin Davis

John Goodman

Ann Haden

Stephen Hird

Jim Howell

Andrew Hurrell

Stewart Keech

Kate Langford

Derek Northin

Bill Parke

Debby Pickvance

David Sissons

David Tibbit

John White

Richard Whiteside

Derbyshire - Erewash

Area Officers

Martin Davis

Inspectors

Ken Brockway

Kathy McLean

Derbyshire - High Peak

Area Officer

Derek Bodey

Inspectors

William Allan

Mel Bale

Tony Brackenbury

David Brown

Bill Buckley

Paul Easthope

David Eaton

Nigel Hackney

Udo Pope

David Sissons

John White

Derbyshire - North East

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspectors

Barry Clarke

Bill Parke

Derbyshire - South

Area Officer

Rhoda Barnett

Inspectors

Martin Davis

Kathy Mclean

Barry Thomas

Doncaster

Area Officer

John Harker

Halton

Inspectors

James Platt

Kirklees

Inspectors

Andy Leader

Jane Hodgson

Terry Norris

David Oldfield

Mark Wall

Knowsley

Inspectors

Kevin Rigby

Lancashire

Agent

Shirley Northcott

Inspectors

Shirley Addy

Danny Allen

Catherine Barlow

Brian Dearnaley

Andy Devanney

Phil Featherstone

Jon Henry

Andrew Paton

Russell Pearce

Sam Smith

Adam Snape

Cheryl Speight

Hugh Stewart

Paul Tynan

Leeds

Inspectors

Andrew Harter

Fran Babirecki

Roger Donaldson

Martin Wright

Liverpool

Inspector

Kevin Rigby

Manchester

Area Officer

Martin Hampar

Oldham

Inspectors

Brian Lomas

Martin Riley

Ken Smith

Area Officers & Inspectors

Rochdale

Inspectors

Jane Hodgson
Ross Myddleton

Rotherham

Area Officers

John Harker

Inspectors

Stephen Hird
David Oldfield

Sheffield

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspectors

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Stockport

Area Officer

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Inspectors

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Phil Featherstone
Simon Temple

Tameside

Inspectors

Paul Easthope
Udo Pope
Andy Wedderburn

Trafford

Area Officer

Martin Hampar

Inspector

Martin Hampar

Wakefield

Area Officer

John Harker

Inspectors

Ken Coggin
Caroline Devonport
Jonathan Morley
Tim Saunders

Warrington

Area Officer

Jan Howe

Inspectors

Jenny Allen
Nigel Howe
Peter Varetto

Wigan

Inspectors

Peter Burns
Geoff Jones
Andrew Newsham
Nick Storer
Dave Taylor
Mark Thomas

Three Shires Head

Photo by John Moss of Buxton Ramblers





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Enquiries from Members most welcome!

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Invitation to Members

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 18th April at 1100

Unfortunately this will have to be held by Zoom
which will be open from 1030

dcb.pnfs0@gmail.com is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PNFS AGM 2021

Time: Apr 17, 2021 10:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87138065409?pwd=UUtsS0hHOEV4SnBESFNeb1BUN1ZkZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 3806 5409

Passcode: 733180



Our first signpost at Carr Meadow