

MID LANCASHIRE AREA

NEWS – Late 2018



****Members Day & AGM** **Promotional Event** **Area Web** **Footpath Issues****

Notice of Area Members Day & AGM

This will be held on Sat 26th January at the Broughton and District Club (sometimes called the Tennis Club), Whittingham Lane (B5269), Broughton, Preston, PR3 5DA – Grid Ref: SD526352.

The Club does have a CAMRA bar.

In due course, details will be found on the web and a reminder email will be sent near the date.

Morning Walk:

A member from Preston Group will lead a 5 or 6 miles walk from the Village Hall, meeting at 9:50 for a 10:00 start.

Morning Workshop:

Bought an OS Map recently? Learn how to use its digital code in the OS Maps App for phones and OS Web Site on computers. 9.30 -12.30.

Please let us know if you wish to attend this workshop. Via: home page form on web site

www.lancashire-ramblers.org.uk or email to midlancsareamembers@gmail.com

Lunch:

A basic buffet will be available at 1pm, donation appreciated. Or bring your own lunch.

AGM:

This will start at 13:45

1. Apologies for Absence – please enter details on board circulating.
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM.
3. Matters arising.
4. Annual Report & Statement of Accounts
5. Election of Honorary Officers:
6. Appointment of Honorary Auditor
7. Consideration of Motions of which notice has been given in writing:
8. Approval of Motion for Submission to General Council.
9. Any Other Business

The post AGM talk will be given by a representative of Ramblers Holidays.

The event will end no later than 16:00.

Copies of the Area's Annual Report will be available from David Kelly (Tel: 01772 312027) from the 10th Jan. Copies of the report will be available at the AGM and beforehand on the Area Web.

Promotional Event.

On the 3rd & 4th of November Preston's Cotswold shop will be hosting an event aimed at raising the profile of Ramblers in Lancashire (and hopefully attracting new members). Drop in to give support or better still offer to staff the stall for a short, say 2 hours, period and possible become the owner of an event T shirt. Enquiries to Brian Dearnaley Tel: 01772 691421.

Area Web Update (now on secure <https://lancashire-ramblers.org.uk>)

There have been lots of changes. Please visit again to have a look. Use "What's New" link to see the changes.

** For mobile phone, bookmark www.lancashire-ramblers.org.uk/next for friendly access to the next walks.

Footpath Issues

Regular readers of these notes may remember that I have written previously about Little Hoole Footpath Number 24 – to the west of Walmer Bridge. I now find myself writing some more notes about the same footpath. First a brief history of the footpath –

In the 1960s when the definitive map (a record of all the public footpaths) was being drawn up the flood defence embankment at the end of Tarra Carr Gutter did not exist. Users coming north from Station Rd picked a spot in order to cross the stream. It maybe that with users probably choosing a different location to make the crossing depending on the state of the tide and/or recent rainfall could be the cause of the present problems with the path, for users may have picked different locations depending on the conditions.

The predecessors of the Environment Agency in the 80s built a flood defence barrier at the end of Tarra Carr Gutter. A footpath including a kissing gate and stiles was provided on the embankment, but was not dedicated as a public footpath. Shortly afterwards the South Ribble Group agreed with Lancs County Council (LCC) that Little Hoole 24 should be diverted onto the Embankment for this was a more sensible route. For reasons that are unclear the legal diversion of the footpath never happened. The failure to divert a footpath is difficult to make a formal complaint about.

Locals then took to using the path on the embankment and the southern section of Little Hoole 24. The northern part of Little Hoole 24 then became unused.

Then in 2012 the stiles on the footpath started to go rotten, probably because they were all provided at the same time, so they all went rotten together. What seemed peculiar was that the stile on embankment which is not on the right of way got repaired, whilst those on the right of way went unrepaired.

We unfortunately live in a period of austerity when repairs seem to take a long time. Last summer it was decided to arrange a walk with County Councillors which would include this footpath, but only one Councillor turned up.

The correspondence about this footpath with LCC continued. LCC in their wisdom or maybe the lack of it have decided that Little Hoole 24 is now classed as a cul-de-sac path because a dash on the definitive map is missing at its northern end, therefore it is not appropriate to divert it, or to repair the stiles on the footpath. This means a claim needs to be made for the path from grid ref 45762505 at the northern end of the embankment to grid ref 45862477 where it meets Little Hoole 24. If you have used this path regularly then please ring David Kelly Tel: 01772 312027 to discuss the situation and then probably to arrange to complete a form stating how often you have used the path on the embankment, for we now need evidence that the path on the embankment is being used.

