

December 2008

Carmarthenshire Riders

Group AGM Police HQ, Llangunnor Carmarthen 7.30pm 1st April 2008

Directions: Follow signs from Carmarthen for the A40 to Llandeilo. At the roundabout by Currys and PC world follow the signs to Police HQ up the hill past the probation Office on the left. HQ is the next red bricked building on the left with large car park.

Please make an effort to attend the AGM this year as we need you to vote on some important proposals. One of which is the moving of the end of the financial year to 1st January in order to make the accounting easier for the group. Currently the end of the financial year is March 31st. Planning a SHORT AGM this year with a quiz afterwards. More of a social evening. Details to follow in March Newsletter.

Forthcoming Events

Application forms available on the website and forum at <http://carmsriders.ipbfree.com/> / www.carmsriders.co.uk

Membership forms and the ability survey can also be found there.

22 March- Rights of Way Training day 01269843796

29th March- Pembrey Ride (Sport Endurance)

1st April Carms Riders AGM 01269843796

8th April: Pleasure Ride- Llanfynydd 0126984796

Sat 9th May Meidrim 01267231394

Sun 17th May: Pleasure Ride- Crychan Forest 01550750288

June TBC- Ffos Las/Trimsaran Ride

Date TBC: Trec Fun Day, Llansteffan

1st/2nd August – Pembrey Meeting 01269843796

9th August- Llangadog social ride 01550777943

July/August TBC: Snowdon Adventure 01269843796

13th September : Pleasure Ride Elan Valley , Rhayader 01269843796



Opposite: This is a horse stile. Do you like it or not? Not suitable for routes where stock control is not an issue but can assist in managing illegal motorbike access

Snowdon Ride Meeting-21st January 7.30pm

To discuss what is involved and what the costs might be. Showing of the route on a map and proposed stopping places. Please ring to confirm attendance and directions. 01269843796. Black Lion Road Cross Hands.

Cross Hands Link Road

There is a new link road planned for the area of Cross Hands linking Black Lion Road with Llandeilo Road and Cross Hands Road. This is an area of high horse population and anyone who rides this area and Llyn Lech Owain, Woodland Park, Tumble or the area behind County Cycles is advised to contact Karen Burch so that representations can be made for facilities for equestrians in the plans for the new road development. We are collecting user evidence for the waste land behind County Cycles at the Cross Hands round about and it is extremely important that riders who have used this land make contact. We may be submitting a claim for Bridleway status as this route is being proposed as a cycle route and we may be excluded.

Brechfa

On the 28th October representatives from CCC, Gary Carlsen Forestry Commission, Fil Wills and Russell Jones, Bike Brechfa Carl Denham and Ivy, Carmarthenshire Riders, Karen Burch and Sassy Williams, and Ramblers, Geoff Williams attended Brechfa Forest to assess the safety of the cycle crossings with public rights of way. Most comments revolved around notifying the user groups of an impending divergence of routes and slowing down the users at these points. If anyone has had any incidents with cyclists on the cycle trails in Brechfa please contact us.

Next Newsletter – March 09 any adverts/articles to karen.burch@carmsriders.co.uk

Ragwort

We have written to the Trunk Roads Agencies to ask about the procedure they adhere to for the control of Ragwort. Having shown an interest in the issue we plan to inform the agencies of weed growing alongside trunk roads next year and have added the criteria and reporting forms to the website www.carmsriders.co.uk. We will be running a photographic competition next year to encourage reporting and to put a little pressure on DEFRA to take action against the Agencies where the plant is growing near hay fields or fields used for grazing.

Llyn Lech Owain

The tracks are being dusted following the completion of extraction works however the tracks will be easily damaged and riders are asked to be considerate in their use until they have settled. The council is considering a permit scheme for this area because of the damage done to the tracks already completed. The access at Melleys is under threat due to safety issues although Melleys are willing to consider a mirror being placed on their fence. I am attempting to establish a regular meeting with the staff at Llyn Lech Owain to obtain better communication and signage. Anyone interested in being involved in managing local access please contact me. 01269843796.

Website

It is easier to keep the forum up to date with pictures and forms so please look at the forum if you are looking for current info. There is a link to the forum on the website. The website is more static and not updated as regularly. You do not need a password to read the forum but you will do if you want to post messages. We have a very active membership on the forum, many meeting for rides local. Please call in and see whats going on. <http://carmsriders.ipbfree.com>

Training -Sunday 22 March 2009

<http://www.gdt.org.uk/canolfangorseinon.htm>

Canolfan Gorseinon Centre, Millers Drive, Gorseinon SA4 4QN. [Application form attached.](#)

Explaining what proof is required to have a footpath upgraded to a bridleway, making applications to the Council, researching and undertaking changes to the rights of way network and how to register a local route as a bridleway. Free to Group and BHS members. £10 cheque to accompany application but will be returned if you attend. Lunch provided. Come and have an interesting day out with like minded people. Knowledge is good! 01269843796 for details.

Minutes

Minutes of Decision Maker Meetings and other meetings attended by group reps can be obtained on request.

We now have regular 3 monthly meetings with CCC Highways and access departments. We also meet with Forestry Commission and the BHS at least annually. We also have representation on the CCC Walks and Trails meeting and the Local Access Foun. For anyone in the Llansteffan/Llangain area, I will be meeting with the Coastal Path Officer shortly and am looking for riders with local knowledge of the coast in this area who can advise me.

Improved Access Opportunities

As a result of the meetings with Highways Dept, the council are going to improve surface and signage to a number of vehicular routes in the Llanfynydd area. The improvement of these byways/unsurfaced highways will give additional access to riders and, because they are used by more than one user group, the improvements will be more cost effective. The routes concerned are being surveyed for suitability. If you have other routes to be considered for improvement that are sustainable for use by 4x4 vehicles and will provide improved access for riders let us know. There are approximately 150 kms of these vehicular routes, which would more than double routes available to us. By working with the vehicle groups we can improve off road access.

Advertising

We are happy to add classified ads to our newsletter and forum if you would like to sell horsey stuff or advertise a business. Personal adverts must be short and to the point and will be free to members but there will be a £1 charge for business adverts per issue. We are happy to send out leaflets with our newsletter where businesses sponsor group events. Contact us through the web site or on a phone number in this newsletter.

Cycle Track Cross Hands to Llanelli

This route starts by the Cinema in Cross Hands and extends to Woodland Park Tumble and on to Llanelli. This is occupying footpaths and if there is sufficient interest and user evidence we will approach the landowners for permissive access. Contact Karen Burch if you want or have ridden this track, previously a disused railway line.

The Decision makers would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year