

CTRF Meeting Agenda April 2024

Attendees

Dave Chapman, Dave Sharp, Ian Knowles, Michael Rawsthorne, Rod Gate, David Griffiths, Gary Evans, Graham Parker, Dex Rose, Richard Brierley, John Price, Mark Fitzsimmons, Klair Flint, Eddie Flint, Simon O'Connor, Richard Harrison, Tony Marsden, Fraser Hogg, Robert Rollings, Andy Whitehouse, James McKenna, Tim Moore, Steve Pighills, Mark Gill, Rudy Rengers.

Apologies

Ian Hemmingway, Steve Stout, Mick Waplinton, Andrew Broomby.

Matters Arising

Klair handed out the TRF merchandise that had been ordered including t-shirts, polos, hoodies, and hats. Quality is very good, and the exercise raised £400 for club funds. If anyone would like to order anything message Klair who will compile another order.

RoW South Lakes (Steve Pighills)

No ROW issues to report.

RoW North Lakes (Steve Stout)

No ROW issues to report.

RoW Craven (Graham Parker)

There are further lanes being added to the application by The BHS (British Horse Society) to downgrade several lanes in the Dales to Bridleways. You will have seen forms sent out by Steve Stout requesting that we record usage as a matter of urgency to build a case to retain access. Central TRF are aware.

Gatescarth (Andrew Whitehouse)

Gatescarth Pass Permit Day (Sat 6th April 2024)

A big thank you to the volunteer marshals: Mark Gill, Derek Rose, Eddie & Klair Flint, Ben Parry (briefly!), Graham Parker.

All of the above were sporting the new high-vis vests mentioned at the last meeting.

There were 18 permit holders split amongst three groups. Group 2 (High Peak & Potteries TRF) arrived first and before the marshals got there (i.e. before 9am). Two of their group rode back to Sadgill around 9:15am to report they couldn't unlock the gate.

Continued.

Cumbria & Craven Trail Riders fellowship



We checked they were using the correct combination number (they were) so we assumed the locks had not been reset. So we gave them last month's number (Mark Gill had it noted down) and off they went to try again but returned a short time later to say the number still didn't work. Now I was worried as it appeared that LDNPA had either given us the wrong number or whoever resets the locks didn't do it correctly. Either way, there were going to be a lot of disappointed riders and 4x4 drivers! Fortunately, this didn't turn out to be the case...

The Group 2 riders went off to ride some other lanes. Mark Gill chose not to ride the pass and headed to Mardale Head carpark via the road. Eddie, Klair and Derek, followed shortly after by Ben Parry, then set off from Sadgill to the locked gate to check it out. Ben returned shortly after to report that Eddie had managed to unlock the gate with no problem. At this point, Ben had to head home as his bike had developed a suspension fault. Myself and Graham then rode up the pass, meeting Eddie, Klair and Derek who were having fun on the first set of switchbacks. Myself and Graham continued on to Mardale Head carpark without any problems – wayward locked gates or otherwise! We met Peter Apps *et al* from GLASS at the carpark and just in time to see the first group of 4x4s head up the pass (there were 14 4x4 rather than 12 due to LDNPA inadvertently double-booking permits). Eddie, Klair and Derek successfully negotiated the pass and arrived at Mardale Head carpark a short time after myself and Graham. A while later, Group 1 and Group 3 (NY TRF) arrived from Sadgill later than expected (their planned ETA at Sadgill was 10am) and didn't report any issues with locks.

Eddie, Klair and Derek chose not to go back over the pass, as did Mark, all preferring to ride home on tarmac. Myself and Graham headed back over the pass shortly before 1pm and at the same time as some 4x4s and Group 3 (NY TRF) trail riders. I assumed that Group 2 trail riders would not be attempting the pass North-South due to the issues they had in the morning with the lock, but I now understand they did traverse the pass N-S later in the afternoon and after the TRF marshals had left for the day. On discussing the matter with Pete Apps via email this morning, Pete advised that Group 2 turned up at Mardale, chatted with him for a short while to confirm the gate locks were ok, then headed over the pass ahead of the GLASS marshals in their 4x4s. Pete confirmed to me that the Group 2 riders had passed through the gates and locked them again as they headed towards Sadgill. So all was well, or so we thought...

I have since received an email from LDNPA advising me that the gate at the Mardale end of the pass was found on Monday morning to be unlocked with the chain and lock left on the ground. So it would appear that a person or persons unknown went over the pass after the TRF and GLASS marshals had gone, and left the gate unlocked. Seems a bit weird but at least the trail riders and marshals are off the hook as Pete Apps confirmed that they had locked the gates.

Cumbria & Craven Trail Riders fellowship



Hopefully this screw up will not happen again, although I may in future need to get to Sadgill earlier than 9am but I shouldn't have to as the pass is technically not open until 9:30am. I will discuss this with LDNPA to see if they can ask permit holders not to traverse the pass before 9:30am by which time the marshals will be there. The problem is that I have no way of contacting the permit holders before the day...and they have no way of contacting me.

Nevertheless, a good day was had by all, especially Klair as she was super excited at having successfully ridden over the pass!

Gatescarth Pass donation cards.

250 have been printed by GLASS and we started handing them out to riders on Saturday – but I refrained from offering them to the Group 2 riders as I didn't think the cards would be particularly well-received given the guys couldn't ride the pass, in the morning least!

Next Permit Day is Sunday 5th May 2024.

Ride Out Report & Upcoming Events (Klair Flint)

Klair reported that the group ride in The Dales on 30th March was attended by 22 riders who were split into three groups. Good weather contributed to a grand day. Klair thanked the run leaders and tecs.

The next group ride will be on 28th April in the North Lakes meeting at 10am in Braithwaite.

Neil and Bert Crayston from Triple-D (Kendal KTM and GasGas dealer) will be doing a brief presentation and a q&a at our next meeting on May 14th. Bert is a KTM team hard enduro rider and may well have his bike with him for us to look at.

Whilst at Triple-D we discussed a training/coaching event for us run by Ady Smith at Holmscales near J36. Part of the package would be the availability of the current range of KTM enduro bikes for folk to try. Rudy will arrange this with Neil at Triple-D but we can discuss it and frame the detail as part of the presentation/q&a.

Steve Pighills reported that Westmorland Motor Club were running ride outs in the Lakes on Monday 15th April from Coppermines in Coniston and that TRF members were invited to act as marshalls and ambassadors for the event. Please contact Steve Direct to register interest. *(NOTE – apologies that these mins were not be sent out in time for this)*

There will be an Isle of Man Trip on 10th-12th May. Details and booking via our website:

<https://cumbriatrf.co.uk/event/2024-iom-fun-and-shenanigans/>

There will be a Wales Trip 13th-16th September. Details and booking via our website:

<https://cumbriatrf.co.uk/event/wales-radnor-revivals-2024/>

There is a remote area first aid course running on 20th/21st April. Details and booking via our website: <https://cumbriatrf.co.uk/event/958/> (THIS WEEKEND - PLACES AVAILABLE)

Cumbria & Craven Trail Riders fellowship



Equine Events (Richard Harrison)
Nothing to report.

Treasurers report (Mark Gill)
Still in transition from Ian to Mark

Social events (Rod France)

There is a scuba try dive on 15th April (Tonight) Details and booking via our website:
<https://cumbriatrf.co.uk/event/scuba-diving/>

AOB

TRF Group Officers Meeting – 22 April at 7:30pm

This is a virtual meeting (MS Teams) which is, I believe, held quarterly. It will be my first as CTRF Chairman so if anyone would like me to mention anything, please let me know.

Illegal trail riding in The Lakes and surrounding area

A video of illegal riding in the Lakes on YouTube has been brought to our attention. Although the bikes did not have number plates it was possible to identify them. They have been reported to Police. Members are asked that if any such activity is seen online or in person that they gather evidence and pass it to committee members or report it directly.

18 new members of CTRF FB group this month...

Dan Ewen, Phillip Johnson, Steven Newstead, Sean McAlindon, Michael Wood, Tom Kennedy, Gee Jay, Eugenio Ciucani, Derek Porter, Darren Gregson, Teresa Robinson, Tog Harley, Sam Purvis, Eddie Porter, Gillian Ridell, Ian Johnstone, Olly Henderson.

Total new members so far in 2024: 25

Website members area password.

sadgill

Voluntary donations

Bank Account Number 60848794 Branch Sort Code 20 45 28, Account title: Cumbria TRF

Next meeting

Gilpin Bridge Inn, Tuesday May 14th