

Countryside

Recreation

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*Exchanging and Spreading Information to develop best Policy
and Practice in Countryside Recreation*



I N S I D E

- The Bodmin and Bowland Initiatives
- Rural White Paper
- News Releases
- Jobs and the Natural Heritage
- Peak Park Health Walks Programme
- Training Events

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Countryside Recreation Network

CRN is a network which:

- is UK wide
- gives easy access to information on countryside and related recreation matters
- reaches organisations and individuals in the public, private and voluntary sectors
- networks thousands of interested people

The Network helps the work of agencies and individuals in three areas:

Research:

to encourage co-operation between members in identifying and promoting the need for research related to countryside recreation, to encourage joint ventures in undertaking research, and to disseminate information about members' recreation programmes.

Liaison:

to promote information exchange relating to countryside recreation, and to foster general debate about relevant trends and issues.

Good Practice:

to spread information to develop best practice through training and professional development in provision for and management of countryside recreation.

Chair: John Thomson,
Scottish Natural Heritage

Vice-chair: Eileen Mackay, Environment
Agency

Countryside Recreation is free and is published four times a year. We welcome articles and letters from all readers. The copy date for the next issue is 1 July.

Visit CRN on the Internet!

See our home page at
<http://sosig.ac.uk/crn/>

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Editors: Joanna Hughes & Kevin Bishop

Editorial

These are stirring times in the field of countryside recreation. Both north and south of the Border the Government has committed itself to legislate for improved access. Money from the National Lottery is helping to fund a wide variety of new recreational facilities. Tourism continues its inexorable progress to becoming the world's largest industry - if it is not already there. The traditional sources of rural income, and particularly of public financial support for the rural economy, appear dangerously precarious. Rural communities, in consequence, are looking increasingly to leisure-related activities for at least part of their economic salvation.

Such dynamic and uncertain times present great opportunities for everyone with a professional responsibility in the realm of countryside recreation. Between us we can play a major role in fashioning a new and valued role for the countryside in the society of the 21st century. We can help to resolve some of the conflicts that are inherent in the even more diverse demands that are being placed upon it.

We face this challenge at a time when the political and institutional context too, is changing: devolution to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the creation of the new Countryside Agency in England. As I see it, this reinforces the need for a mechanism like CRN to help us to keep in touch and to ensure that the best ideas and practice find their way rapidly from one part of the British Isles to the rest. The task we all face, as busy people, is making sure that, with the help of our secretariat, this happens as effectively and efficiently as possible. Let us tackle it with enthusiasm and commitment.

John Thomson, Chairman

As John Thomson notes in his editorial, it is all change in the countryside. This theme of change has also impacted upon CRN. I have replaced Ed Blamey as the Network Manager and we have a new management group. John Thomson (Director of Strategy and Operations West, Scottish Natural Heritage) was elected as the new Chairman; Eileen McKeever (Head of Recreation and Navigation, Environment Agency) was confirmed as the new Vice-Chair and Jo Burgon (Advisor on Coast and Countryside, National Trust) has replaced Sally Hart as Budgets Officer. CRN is also extending its spatial coverage: Coillte Teorante - the Irish Forestry Board - has joined the Network and we hope to welcome further bodies from the Republic of Ireland in the near future.

Regular readers of the 'Countryside Recreation' will have noticed another change - we have redesigned the journal with the aim of making it *the* professional journal for contemporary debate and exchange of information on all matters relating to countryside recreation. In future, each edition will carry a series of articles relating to a particular theme; but will also include additional articles not relating to the theme. We have also included a revised 'News Section'.

For these changes to be successful we need your help. If you are involved with a practical project or policy development that you think others would benefit from hearing about, do not delay, put pen to paper and write a short article. The Summer Edition of Countryside Recreation will be on the theme of Transport and the deadline for the submission of material is 9th July.

We, at the CRN office, look forward to hearing from you and would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard Broadhurst and John Mackay for their sterling work as the previous Chair and Vice-Chair respectively and wish Sally Hart well as she takes early retirement from Sport England

Jo Hughes, Network Manager

Rural Development - The Bodmin and Bowland Initiatives

David Whelon and Roy Dart, FRCA



Photo: Courtesy of John McKay, Lancashire County Council

Introduction

On 1 March this year, Elliot Morley, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods (MAFF) Countryside Minister, formally launched two rural development initiatives. These aim to bind together rural economic development with measures to conserve the countryside in a much more integrated way than has been attempted before.

These initiatives, which were developed with the enthusiastic support of local partners and with the assistance of the Farming and Rural Conservation Agency (FRCA) on MAFF's behalf, are effectively new experiments operating in two areas: the Forest of Bowland in Lancashire and Bodmin Moor in Cornwall. Project teams run by local partnerships and led by the

respective county councils will work with the active support of a wide range of farming, rural community and environmental organisations.

Aims of the Initiatives

There are three main aims:

- To test at a regional level what sort of measures are required to integrate rural economic activity with positive environmental management. Both elements have been taken up by farmers and other rural businesses when offered as individual grant aid packages. The aim is to see whether linking economic development and environmental enhancement directly will be equally successful and whether it brings greater benefits overall.

- To test the effectiveness of a single application process for this integrated scheme. The process requires applicants to consider their business in holistic terms. This will provide information on the benefits of this approach and how easy and costly it will be to administer.
- To test the effectiveness of the delivery mechanism. The experiment is to be implemented by local partnerships rather than a single national body. Monitoring of the experiment will determine how successful this approach proves to be in terms of scheme delivery and achievement of objectives.

These aims will be met through management agreements with farmers. Funding will come from various sources including contributions from the applicants. A European initiative, Objective 5b, which is designed to regenerate rural areas will provide European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) funding to be matched by funds from MAFF. Total Objective 5b funding for the two projects will be approximately £4,834,900 broken down as follows:

Bodmin	Bowland
EAGGF: £650,000	EAGGF: £666,797
Public: £550,050	Public: £129,000
Private: £961,500	Private: £689,757
MAFF: £650,000	MAFF: £537,796

Funds will also be available from environmental measures through the Countryside Stewardship Scheme, for which £0.5 million has been set aside for each year of the experiment. In all cases applicant should ideally demonstrate both economic development and environmental enhancement to receive financial assistance for their proposals.

The Need for Initiatives

The uplands of England are of great scenic beauty, cherished by the millions of visitors each year. They are a highly valued recreational resource, hold a wealth of historic interest and support a very wide range of important wildlife habitats. They are also a working environment with farming the dominant economic

activity. However, their communities are becoming increasingly reliant on other economic activities such as tourism. The economic well-being of the uplands and the conservation of their environmental values are inextricably linked.

A number of factors have been combined to threaten this delicate balance between conservation and economic well-being in recent years and the Upland Initiatives seek to restore it. In particular the intensification of farming in some areas has caused environmental problems whilst, at the other extreme, the cessation of traditional management has led to a decline in the conservation value of some feature such as stone walls and other wildlife habitats.

A key requirement of those seeking assistance through these initiatives is that they will be required to undertake full business and environmental audits. Any management agreement must meet the exact needs of the business and its landscape, wildlife and historic features.



Photo: Courtesy of Bodmin Moor Project, Cornwall County Council

The Bowland Initiative

The area encompassed within the Forest of Bowland initiative is the moorland of the Bowland Fells, adjacent farmland to the south and west and the valley of the River Lune. In environmental terms the area lies largely within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and supports a wide range of wildlife habitats including moorland, flower rich meadows, wet pastures, hedgerows and walls. There is significant archaeological interest including features associated with industrial activity such as old lime kilns.

Already a number of initiatives have been instigated in Bowland. These include:

- **Economic Development.** The potential to market a Bowland brand of beef and lamb is being explored as well as the possibilities for organic milk and cheese. The scope for farm and activity holidays which harness the environmental resources of the area is immense. New services for farming and other rural businesses are also proposed including mobile dipping with facilities made available through machinery and skills rings.
- **Farm Woodlands.** Many small woodlands in the area urgently need management to improve their environmental value. The experiment will help generate markets for the produce.
- **Training.** The experiment can help fund training for farmers and others in new marketing and IT techniques.
- **Community Development.** Aid can be made available to establish financial services for rural businesses and community health services for those in remote areas.

The Bodmin Project

The Bodmin initiative area covers the whole of Bodmin Moor and some surrounding farmland. The core of the area is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and its moorlands, marshes and meadows support a number of rare plants and animals including the Golden Plover and the Marsh Fritillary butterfly. Bodmin Moor has extensive evidence of man's past activities and the conservation of its archaeological sites is a key objective of the experiment.

One of the key outputs of the initiative will be the production of an integrated strategy for the development of tourism and management of recreation on Bodmin Moor. Individual projects which are already being progressed include:

- **Assistance for the marketing of agricultural products.** In order to assist farmers to meet the challenge of marketing livestock a Farmers Club is to be established focused on Hallworthy Market. Significant enhancements in service provisions are being made including the installation of an electronic tag reader which has the potential to provide farmers with improved livestock management information and help ease the recording of information required for animal traceability.
- **Farm Tourism.** The conservation of environmental features on the farm, and their active interpretation, are likely to be the key to developing this.
- **Common Land.** A significant amount of Bodmin Moor is common land, much of it of very significant environmental potential. A key objective of the experiment is to conclude agreements which include the positive management of common land.
- **Countryside Stewardship.** Due to the very special nature of Bodmin Moor, a special set of environmental options tailored to the needs of the area have been created under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.

The Future

The experiment will be monitored by independent consultants and the results fed into government thinking on the future direction of rural support mechanisms. Speaking at the launch of the experiment, the Countryside Minister Elliot Morley gave a clear lead on the importance which the government places on this experiment:

"We need to build viable rural economies if the countryside is to be a sustainable environment in which people live and work. This experiment was initiated by MAFF and its partners to develop a new approach to the way in which businesses in the countryside work with the environment.

What is happening at Bowland and Bodmin is

indicative of a major sea change in the agricultural and rural environment. The Common Agricultural Policy is undergoing major reform and the results of these experiments will be fed into that process.

*Our aim is to move away from heavily dependant price support mechanisms, with the funds released being channelled back into economic and environmental initiatives which benefit both business and the countryside together. The Uplands Experiment will take us closer to that.”
(MAFF News Release, 1 March)*

With an already high level of interest in both areas and with the enthusiasm and commitment of the two partnerships this radical experiment has clearly got off to a flying start.

Project Management teams have been set up in both areas. Each of these teams has a dedicated Countryside Stewardship Project Officer employed by FRCA. For further information and an application pack contact:

Bowland CSS Project Officers - John Welbank or Alex Lowe.

Tel: 01200 426433

Bodmin CSS Project Officers - Richard Walton or Mike Lizzard. Tel: 01208 79822

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Jobs and the Natural Heritage in Scotland

Arthur Keller, Scottish Natural Heritage



Photo: Courtesy of Ross & Cromarty Footpath Trust

The natural heritage - the land, its landscape and wildlife - provides the basis for much of the human economy: soils for agriculture and forestry, fisheries, minerals and fresh water. And yet, efforts to conserve the natural environment have conventionally been characterised as providing a constraint on development. In fact, these activities make an important contribution to local economies, not only through the direct employment of people managing the natural heritage, but, more significantly, by providing the main attraction for tourism, one of Scotland's biggest industries. Last year SNH published a booklet describing these economic impacts entitled *Jobs and the Natural Heritage*. This article describes the main findings of that work

Employment in natural heritage related activities

There are about 8,000 people directly employed in natural heritage related activities in Scotland (6,700 full time equivalents - 'ftes'). This compares favourably with other countryside sectors in Scotland (figure 1). Of these fte jobs, 62% are in the public sector, 20% in the private sector and 18% in the voluntary sector. A large proportion of these jobs are involved in environmental management, research and surveying. However, about a quarter are engaged in environmental interpretation, education, and wildlife tourism.

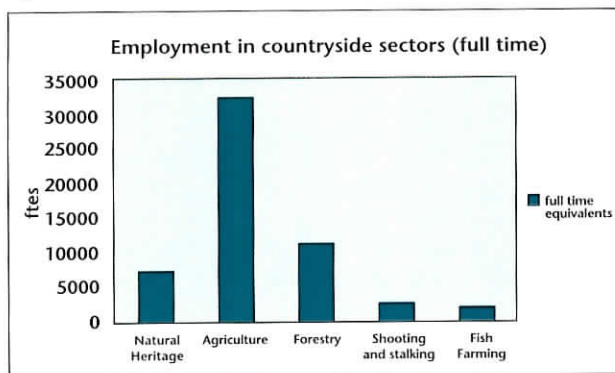
A high proportion of these jobs are located in rural areas. Although rural areas contain just 11% of the total number of jobs in the whole of Scotland, over 40% of

the jobs related to the natural heritage are based in rural areas. This represents about 2% of all jobs in rural Scotland. Moreover, jobs in the natural heritage are not only spread throughout rural Scotland, but they are particularly important in remote areas where there may be few other employment opportunities. 22% of the natural heritage related jobs in the Highlands and Islands were in areas designated as 'economically fragile'; these contain just 13% of the total employment in the Highlands and Islands.

Tourism and recreation and the natural heritage

Although jobs directly related to the natural heritage provide an important source of employment in rural areas, the impact of natural heritage related tourism and recreation is even more significant. In a 1991 Scottish Tourist Board (STB) survey "Tourism in Scotland", 82% of visitors to Scotland said that one of their main reasons for visiting Scotland was to enjoy the scenery. The majority of visitors to Scotland, not just

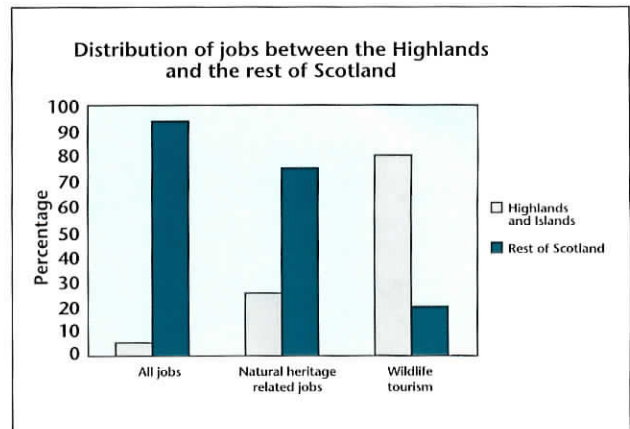
Figure 1



active participants in wildlife watching or hill walking, appreciate the natural heritage. It follows that many of the economic benefits of tourism in Scotland can be attributed to the quality of the natural heritage. In 1997 the total holiday tourism expenditure contributed £1.7b to the Scottish economy. Overall, the industry supports about 8% of the Scottish workforce.

Moreover, those tourists who do take an active interest in the natural heritage, by hill walking or wildlife watching, spend their holidays in the remoter parts of the country, thereby supporting the tourist industry in these areas (figure 2).

Figure 2



Crabree *et al.* (1992) studied patterns of expenditure by the 3.4m visitors who went to 149 nature reserves in Scotland, with a further detailed study of those in Highland Perthshire, Wester Ross and Orkney. From this data, they calculated that this expenditure income (using the appropriate and consequent employment multiplier) supported between 2 and 5% of all local employment. Moreover they extrapolated from this, that expenditure by visitors to wildlife sites throughout Scotland is about £30m; such spending by visitors to Scotland supports 1,200 jobs in the country. Direct employment in managing the sites amounted to only 300 jobs. These are largely funded by the conservation organisations managing the sites, and to a lesser extent through expenditure by visitors while on the sites. Most of the jobs created by visitor spending were in facilities nearby, but not part of the site, although the main reason for these visitors going to the locality was to visit the nature reserve. The ratio of employment created by visitor spending nature reserves to that in site reserve management is 4:1.

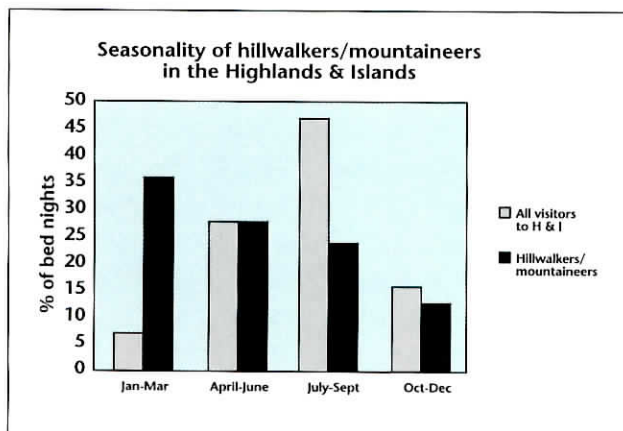
Mountaineering⁽¹⁾ generates £104m and supports 3,950 jobs in the Highlands and Islands, about 2% of the total number of jobs in the area⁽²⁾. In Ross & Cromarty, for example, walkers spend £3-4m in the local economy, supporting about 100 jobs in the district. This is particularly important in Wester Ross, where this level of employment is broadly similar to the number of jobs those in estate management or fish farming. Long distance routes also play a significant part. Walkers on the West Highland Way generates

about £3.5m for the local economy, which supports 126 jobs in the local area and a further 40 jobs in the rest of Scotland.

It should be noted there is less seasonality in these natural heritage related activities than with holiday tourism as a whole (see figure 3). Participants in these activities thus tend to prolong the season in rural areas, enabling tourism to support more full time jobs or prolong seasonal employment.

Nonetheless, a high proportion of jobs in visitor related activities are seasonal. This can be a very important element of family incomes, particularly in crofting areas where there is a tradition of incomes being derived from

Figure 3



a number of sources. In the Minch area, only 8% of the 90 or so wildlife tourism businesses operate throughout the year, although the jobs that all of these businesses provide are very important in terms of securing family incomes in crofting communities.

Underpinning natural heritage-related tourism is the need to provide facilities for visitors, such as footpaths and visitor centres. The requirement for upland path building now supports approximately 11 contracting businesses, which provide employment for about 70 upland path workers in Scotland.

In addition to the significant contribution of tourism, outdoor recreation by day trippers also helps to provide

economic benefits outside the major settlements. Scottish adults going on day trips for a walk in the countryside or at the coast generate expenditure of about £47m. Local authorities alone employ about 350 fte posts to provide for countryside recreation and access.

Overall, a study by Crabtree et al in 1992 found that all annual expenditure attributable to open air recreation in Scotland was £730m, and this supports about 29,000 fte jobs in Scotland.

Conclusion

The natural heritage makes an important contribution to the Scottish economy; not only by providing employment in conservation related activities, but also by providing the basis for one of Scotland's most important industries: tourism. These economic benefits are spread to the remoter parts of the country, where there are limited employment opportunities. Although much employment in tourism is seasonal, active participants in hill walking and wildlife watching do help to spread the business a little more throughout the year.

Communities in Scotland appreciate their natural heritage. They realise that it is one of their major assets, which provides economic opportunities in peripheral areas where there are limited opportunities for development. This helps to ensure that efforts to conserve the natural heritage are supported in the local area. Nonetheless, tensions remain. Little tourism expenditure actually goes to the people who manage the land or water on which the open air recreation depends. There is room to increase the awareness of natural heritage related opportunities amongst land managers in traditional industries such as agriculture, forestry and estate management.

Community development is high on the political agenda, and there is continuing change in the agriculture industry. More specifically, the Government has recently been engaged in consultations on access arrangements and land reform in Scotland. So, rural development will be an important issue for the Scottish Parliament to address when it is elected in May. In this

context, it is important that the significance of the natural heritage is fully understood, both as a cherished part of the Scottish identity, and as an essential element of sustainable development in rural areas.

⁽¹⁾Only including walking above 2,500 feet, technical climbing, ski-mountaineering and high level cross country skiing.

⁽²⁾Participants in such activities will also have an economic effect on the rest of Scotland.

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The New Rural White Paper: What Chance for a Rural Policy?

Jonathan Murdoch, Cardiff University

What is the purpose of a rural white paper? Confronted with the prospect of yet another such document, to be published only four years after one produced by John Major's Conservative Government, this question inevitably springs to mind. There are various answers that can be given. For instance, we might assume that, in part, the rationale for this new document is to allow a Labour government to put its own gloss on rural policy. The Government has no doubt been spurred on in this endeavour by last year's Countryside March and a continuing perception that it is partial to urban sensibilities and neglectful of rural aspirations and needs. In these circumstances, a new rural white paper functions to show that the Government is responsive to the concerns of (rural) voters. However, and perhaps more charitably, a rural white paper also seems to stem from an assumption that national government should have a clearly articulated rural policy in place. In this respect, then, a white paper provides a clear statement of the government's guiding principles for policy in rural England.

The development of a **rural** - as opposed to an **agricultural** - policy lay at the heart of the 1995 White Paper '**Rural England: a nation committed to a living countryside**' (DOE, 1995). This document was seen at the time as perhaps the most important policy statement on the countryside since the Scott Report of 1942. Its importance derived from the fact that it sought to integrate policies across the board under the banner of 'sustainable development'. Thus, it was assumed that rural businesses (including farms) could thrive while the character of the countryside - its landscape, wildlife, agriculture, recreational and natural resource value - could be preserved and maintained. The role of government was seen to consist of promoting competitiveness and enterprise and protecting valued landscapes and natural resources. While the 1995 White Paper tended to imply a rather minimal role for government agencies (for instance, it placed a lot of emphasis on the abilities of rural businesses and communities to 'sustain' themselves) it

did attempt to link the various sectoral policies within an overarching national policy framework and this attempt was generally welcomed by most commentators.

However, far from being the last word, '**Rural England: a nation committed to a living countryside**' was also intended as a catalyst to further debate; it was proposed as an opportunity for diverse and locally responsive approaches towards rural issues to be elaborated, albeit within the guidelines provided by central government. In this respect then, the White Paper did not consist of a rural policy at all; it was, rather, an 'umbrella' under which a whole host of differing approaches, tailored to local circumstances, could be developed and implemented. Thus, while the 1995 White Paper sought to engineer some kind of integration between the differing policies, programmes, activities, practices and so on that shape today's countryside, it also seemed to encourage 'a thousand flowers to bloom' in the rural policy arena.

In retrospect, we can now see that the national framework provided by the 1995 document was not in itself strong enough to ensure any real integration of the various policies and practices that it simultaneously sought to promote. While this lack of integration stems in part from problems of co-ordination amongst government departments, it also derives from the conflicts which are inherent in many contemporary uses of the countryside. The Countryside March is a good illustration of this. Although opposition to a proposed ban on fox hunting acted as the initial spur to the march, its popularity seemed (worryingly for the new Labour Government) to be due to the confluence of a whole host of rural concerns: the plight of farmers, greenfield development, restrictions on country sports, diminishing services and so on. During the March many of these issues were presented as stemming from an urban versus rural rift within modern society. However, it is clear that such a rift also runs through rural society: for instance, farmers may wish to develop green belt

land in order to ease the problems associated with farming and this may set them against residents concerned to preserve the local environment; residents of rural villages may wish to exercise a 'right to roam' in the countryside which can run against the desire of landowners to keep their fields free of walkers; the pursuit of country sports can often antagonise local residents who oppose such activities. All these disputes place conflicting pressures on government and seem to require that government is clear about its vision for rural areas.

The 1995 White Paper failed to provide such a vision and was unable to integrate policies to any significant extent. The Countryside March can be seen, in part, as a testament to that failure as many of the concerns expressed on that occasion were of long standing. Will the Labour Government's new White Paper fare any better? The discussion document that precedes the Paper gives few clues to the eventual shape of the policy but it does say that:

"the Government believes that more could be done to make sure there is an integrated and effective approach for rural areas". (p.3)

It thus appears that Government recognises the need for a robust policy framework. It also recognises a requirement to ensure that government, businesses and communities work closely together in 'partnership'. This seems then to imply a rather proactive role for government in promoting joint working arrangements and in ensuring that policies are co-ordinated. However, in many other respects the discussion document simply echoes the earlier White Paper: business competitiveness is to be enhanced, strong communities are to be supported and sustainable development is to be encouraged. In looking for signs, then, of an overarching vision or a strong rural policy framework little of substance emerges particularly strongly.

Thus, the danger arises that another set of aims and objectives for rural areas (containing plenty of echoes of the previous Government's policy statements) will be elaborated with no clear mechanisms of delivery. The conflicts mentioned above may not then be situated within any clear policy framework and this may provoke

further disquiet in rural areas as people with quite different interests in, and expectations of, the countryside come into conflict with one another. In fact, experience to date seems to imply that where central government finds itself caught up in countryside conflicts it would rather pass on responsibility to someone else. Thus, in the row over greenfield housing developments, John Prescott responded by seeking to decentralise decision making to regional planning authorities, claiming that decisions should be made in ways that reflect local circumstances. While this decentralising impulse is, in many respects, admirable it will do little to strengthen national government policy in rural areas.

So, while there are many worthy aspirations in '**Rural England: a discussion document**' it is difficult to discern any single, integrated policy framework beyond the desire to promote competitiveness, sustainable development and community well-being. Of course, this raises the question of whether there can now be any such thing as a single, integrated rural policy given the diversity of circumstances and experiences existing in the rural areas of England. Yet, if we conclude that no such policy can or should exist then it again places a question mark over the need for another rural white paper for England.

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Copies of 'Rural England: A Discussion Document' can be obtained from:

DETR Free Literature, P.O. Box 236, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS23 7NB

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Peak Park Leisure Walks: an Exercise in Holistic Health Promotion

*Julie Hirst, North Derbyshire Health and Sean Prendergast,
Peak District National Park*



Photo: Courtesy of Peak National Park

The Peak Park Leisure Walks began as a pilot project in 1992. Their aim was to promote health and increase access to the countryside by encouraging disadvantaged groups of people living in the Peak District to take advantage of their local environment through a supported walking programme. In short, by removing barriers, whether actual or potential, a whole new recreational experience, and improved physical and mental well-being could be gained by the people who would benefit most.

The Peak Park Leisure Walks are jointly organised and funded by North Derbyshire Health and the Ranger Service of the Peak District National Park Authority (for a detailed discussion of the initial development of the walks see Hirst, 1997). Twelve walks a year are

organised from a variety of locations within the Peak District National Park. The walks are targeted at specific groups, for example, people on low incomes, women with young children, people with disabilities and older people. Rather than being advertised widely, they are carefully targeted through primary health care, community mental health teams, volunteer bureaux, carers associations and other appropriate agencies.

It should be borne in mind that the users of this service are 'local' people who live within the National Park, yet do not access its recreational opportunities. The rural nature of the area requires the provision of transport; without this, about 90% of the participants would be unable to come. This lack of private transport amongst the participants, which is a reliable indicator of poverty

in the Peak District (PDRDF, 1995), shows that the walks are reaching their target audience. Community mini-buses, which is fully accessible to the disabled, pick up the participants and take them to the start of the walks. Two buses are available to the project, with one based in the north of the park and one in the south; the buses are driven by volunteer drivers.

A packed lunch is provided for participants to ensure that everyone has an adequate meal at midday. A simple thing such as this was recognised as a potential barrier to participation at the outset, yet one which is easily removed with a small amount of funding. As children are very much encouraged to come on the walks there is little demand for a creche, but arrangements are made for children who are too big to carry but too small to walk the distance. The walks are held either during school holidays or at weekends. Transport, food and creche facilities are all free of charge to the participants, and are funded by a £3,000 grant from North Derbyshire Health.

The walks are run throughout the park and are graded to help people choose those most appropriate for their level of ability:

Very easy:	3 miles on the flat
Easy:	4/5 miles on more undulating ground
Moderate:	5/6 miles with more gradients

The walks are particularly popular with older people and people with disabilities (both physical and learning) who may need quite a lot of support to be able to participate in the walks. They are also popular with women with young children and people with mental health problems.

The walks run from early March to late October primarily for safety reasons. Some participants have asked for the walks to continue through the winter months, and these requests were considered, though the decision not to walk through winter remained unchanged. The reality is that many participants cannot afford to buy the clothing and footwear necessary for safe winter walking. Some participants are elderly or disabled and simply cannot walk fast enough to keep

warm; hypothermia is a very real danger in this upland environment and is considered a risk not worth taking. Older people, and people with a visual impairment would also be at considerable risk of slipping and falling in the icy conditions of a typical Peak District winter.

This year (1999) will be the eighth year of running the walking scheme, and during this time very few participants have left the programme. There remains a core group of people who attend as often as possible, and these tend to be the people who need a substantial level of support to go walking. That said, new participants are constantly being encouraged to join; last year eighteen adults and three children joined the walks for the first time. Appropriate targeting and advertising are crucial to this process; a useful and obvious source of new referrals are the social networks of existing participants. To a small but significant extent the walks have prompted people to go out walking more often with their own families and friends, and to change other aspects of health-related behaviour (Denyer, 1997). As the aim of this programme is health gain, rather than simply providing guided walks, this is a good indicator of success.

Evaluation

The Peak Park Leisure Walks are evaluated regularly, and after the final walk of 1998 a postal questionnaire was sent out to the 85 households on the mailing list. Twenty-two questionnaires were returned, a response rate of 24%. In the context of the target group this response rate is considered respectable, although future evaluations will include a more developed methodology. The participants with a visual impairment have help at home to complete the questionnaire, and encouragingly some participants with learning difficulties completed their own.

The most significant finding was that when asked what they most enjoyed about the walks, *socialising* was the factor most often identified. This is consistent with previous evaluations. Fifteen respondents identified social factors, expressed, for example, as 'enjoying the company', 'meeting nice people', 'companionship' or 'making new friends'. This finding is significant as there

is a considerable literature which demonstrates the health promoting influence of strong social networks (Oakley, 1994).

The second most popular factor, mentioned by eight respondents, was 'the countryside' and 'scenery'. This may be indicative of the emerging theory of 'biophilia', which suggests that simply being out in pleasant, open, green space is health promoting (Kellert and Wilson, 1993). This was followed by four respondents each citing 'exercise', 'getting out/getting away from it all', 'the Rangers' and 'the packed lunches'. 'Fresh air' and 'learning about the environment' were each mentioned three times. Specific comments included: 'Doing something on my own' (from someone with a learning disability); 'Walking footpaths I wouldn't be able to go on my own'; and 'The walks are good with friendly people, no cost and excellent ways to forget your worries'.

There were six comments about what respondents disliked about the walks, and one of those was 'rain!' Two respondents disliked the long bus journeys, and two would have preferred longer, more strenuous walks. One respondent wanted his guide dog to have more opportunities to run around off her lead.

Discussion

Whilst it is appreciated that this is a small sample, these results may provide some pointers for the future development and promotion of health-related walking programmes. For although the initial objectives of the pilot project included the promotion of social and psychological health (Hirst, 1997), it was essentially the lack of physical exercise opportunities in the Peak District National Park which prompted their development. There are still no sports centres in the Park, although a swimming pool and gym have recently opened in Bakewell. Yet the whole area itself is very



Photo: Courtesy of Peak National Park

much seen as an exercise opportunity by those who visit the Park from outside its boundary.

The rural nature of the area contributes to a sense of isolation, especially for people living in poverty without personal transport, although lack of social support appears to be prevalent amongst disadvantaged groups in urban areas too (Oakley, 1994). Five times as many respondents spontaneously cited the social rather than the physical benefits of the walks, and so this dimension of their experience should not be undervalued. The social rewards of the Peak Park Leisure Walks appear to be more immediate and more memorable than the physical rewards.

Learning from the Peak Park Leisure Walks experience, future initiatives with similar aims could usefully consider focusing rather more on emphasising the social elements of their programmes, and rather less on promoting the physical activities involved. In practice it is difficult and unproductive to distinguish between the various dimensions of health. It is often stated, especially in the context of communities, that an holistic approach to health is the only sensible way to proceed.

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Peak District Rural Deprivation Forum (1995) *Transport in the Peak District National Park*, PDRDF, Hope Clinic, Hope Valley.

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Baslow Road
Bakewell
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DE45 1AD
Tel: 01629 812525

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Peak District National Park
Aldern House
Baslow Road
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1AE
Tel: 01629 815185

News Releases

NEW AGENCY FOR TOMORROW'S COUNTRYSIDE

The new Countryside Agency (formed in April from a merger of the Countryside Commission and the Rural Development Commission) marked its launch with the publication of :

- *Tomorrow's Countryside - 2020 Vision* - outlining the Agency's vision for the future of the countryside and its role in shaping it; and
- *The State of the Countryside 1999* - reviewing the current state of the English Countryside, bringing together information on rural communities, the rural economy, the landscape and access to countryside.

In its first year of operation the Agency will look at the future of the countryside and produce a strategy, identifying the areas where most effort needs to be focused, and also taking into account the work on the Government's Rural White Paper. The Agency aims to publish the strategy in Spring 2000.

The top priorities outlined for the Agency are to:

- show how to tackle rural disadvantage;
- improve transport in rural areas while taming the impact of traffic growth;
- demonstrate a more sustainable approach to agriculture; and
- increase the amount and quality of access to the countryside.

The Agency starts off with a staff of 380 working around the country and £50 million a year in government grant-in-aid, which includes an extra £5.5 million funding to start new initiatives such as social exclusion, access to the countryside and additional support for AONBs.

Copies of the two publications can be obtained from:

Countryside Agency Postal Sales

P.O. Box 124, Walgrave,

Northampton NN6 9TL

Tel: 01604 781848 Fax: 01604 781027

ACCESS TO OPEN COUNTRY

Changes to access to open country have been proposed throughout Britain. In England and Wales, the Environment Minister Michael Meacher pledged on the

8th March that new laws will be introduced as soon as possible to give walkers a new right to explore the countryside. This new right of access will be coupled with clear responsibilities for walkers to respect the rights of landowners and managers. The changes will include a new general statutory right of access to open countryside and improvements to the rights of way system. A right of access will apply to:

- mountain, moor, heath, down and registered common land. The right may be extended to other types of open country such as some woodland; and
- access on foot for the purpose of open-air recreation.

It will not include any developed land nor to agricultural land other than that used for extensive grazing.

Improvements to the rights of way system will strengthen and develop it, with the aim of enabling it to respond more readily to the:

- changing requirements of recreational use;
- needs of land managers; and
- development of more sustainable transport.

The new laws will be backed up by Lottery funds and local authority grants for farmers for non-statutory access measures. Culture, Media and Sport Secretary of State, Chris Smith, will be asking Lottery distributors to look at how their funding might contribute further. He is also considering what part the New Opportunities Fund might play. Nick Brown, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, will ensure that the targeting of the access elements of agri-environment schemes contributes to the overall access strategy.

New local access forums will bring together all those with an interest, including farmers, landowners and conservationists, to agree how improved access should be managed. Land managers will be able to close access land for short periods, subject to an annual limit,

without prior specific permission. Statutory bodies will also be able to close land in the interests of health and safety, defence, wildlife, heritage or land management. Dogs will be allowed only on leads, with tighter restrictions where necessary.

The Countryside Agency has been asked by the Government to:

- advise on whether the public should be given better access to open land in addition to the categories (mountain, moor, common, down and heath) that the Government are already committed to;
- identify and map the land where the public will have access;
- organise the creation of local forums to advise on the local implementation of improved access to the countryside; and
- advise on ways to ensure that the public, landowners and others are well informed about their rights and responsibilities.

To help take this work forward the Agency will set up a national forum on countryside access with representatives from the main interest groups.

The Countryside Council for Wales has also been given a central responsibility for turning the proposals for a statutory right of access on foot to open countryside into reality. The Government has chosen to adopt several key recommendations which that CCW made in response to last year's consultation paper. These included:

- producing maps showing land to which the statutory right of access will apply;
- restricting rights of access for outdoor recreation to people on foot only;
- keeping dogs on short leads;
- improving arrangements for publicising public access opportunity including that provided voluntarily through schemes like the newly established Tir Gofal agri-environment scheme
- developing national and local access forums to advise on different aspects of the access package.

CCW will be discussing with the Welsh Office, and subsequently the National Assembly, how to take forward the important and substantial task of preparing maps to show where the new right of access will apply and to conclude its advice to Government on the extent of access to other areas of open country such as coastal areas and water sides.

CCW will also have to advise on how the work of the

Wales Access Forum, which has existed for some years in Wales, might be further developed. The Access Forum is expected to provide advice on the implementation of the new statutory right of access including advice on closures and the preparation of a code of practice for walkers and other recreational users.

In Scotland, the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar, reported on the 2nd February on the Government's proposals in relation to access to the countryside in Scotland. The proposals are based on advice submitted to the Government by SNH.

The Government proposes new legislation to give a statutory right of access to land and water, for informal recreation and passage. This is to be exercised responsibly so:

- Clear responsibilities must be set out for users, land managers, and public agencies.
- The right of access should be subject to reasonable land and water management and conservation requirements.
- Obligations should be placed on land managers not to impede or restrict people exercising the new right of responsible access.
- It should be made clear that people engage in open air recreation at their own risk, unless negligent or wilful action by the landowner can be proved.
- New powers and duties for local authorities are proposed to facilitate increased access in their areas, which might include creating local access fora to advise on local access issues and to help resolve any disputes.
- Public bodies should be required to safeguard the new right of access in their operations and forward planning.
- A new Scottish Countryside Access Code should be drawn up as a point of reference for responsible behaviour on land and water.

SNH have been asked to develop the new Access Code so that a draft is available by this Autumn. Additional resources have been made available to SNH to further this, and will be used to map the existing network of

footpaths and to facilitate the creation of new path networks through the Paths For All partnership.

DETR has published five documents on Access in England and Wales:

1. *Access to the Open Countryside in England and Wales - The Government's Framework for Action (free)*;
2. *Access to the Open Countryside in England and Wales: analysis of responses - executive summary (free)*
Access to the Open Countryside in England and Wales: appraisal of options - executive summary (free)
3. *Analysis of Responses on Access to the Open Countryside of England and Wales (full report): price £10 ISBN 1851121 59 5*
4. *Appraisal of options on access to the open countryside of England and Wales (full report): price £45 ISBN 1851121 587*

Free literature can be obtained from:

DETR Free Literature, PO Box 236, WETHERBY, LS23 7NB
Tel: 0870 1226236
Fax: 0870 1226237 and are available on the DETR website:
<http://www.wildlife-countryside.detr.gov.uk/access/index/htm>.

The priced full reports can be obtained from:

DETR Publications Sales Centre, Unit 21 Goldthorpe Industrial Estate, Goldthorpe, ROTHERHAM, S63 9BL
Tel: 01709 891318 Fax: 01709 881673

Enquiries about the framework document should be addressed to:

DETR, Countryside Division 5, Zone 3/E5, Eland House, Bressenden Place, LONDON SW1E 5DU.
Tel: 0171 890 3986 Fax: 0171 890 4591
E-mail: access@detr.gov.uk

NATIONAL PARKS IN SCOTLAND

Also on the 2nd February, the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar announced proposals on the development of National Parks in Scotland. These will be based on the following main points:

- New legislation should be introduced to set up National Parks in Scotland
- Alongside the protection of the natural and cultural heritage, the social and economic development needs of local people should be specified as a main purpose of

National Parks in Scotland.

- A National Park Plan should be prepared as far as possible through consensus, with a zoning system to help reconcile different needs within the National Park area. There should be local involvement in the management of the Parks.
- Loch Lomond and the Trossachs should be Scotland's first National Park. A new National Park authority should be established together with the boundaries of the park through secondary legislation, so that the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park can become operational from April 2001.
- The Government has also concluded that the Cairngorms should also become a National Park which could be up and running by April 2002.

The Government will commence preparation of draft legislation to enable National Parks to be introduced in Scotland at an early date by the Scottish Parliament. SNH have also been asked to consult on the future of National Scenic Areas in Scotland in the light of these developments.

PATHS TO THE FUTURE

On the 11th March, the Countryside Commission recommended to the Government better means of recording, managing and funding England's network of public paths. The Commission's package of proposals is aimed at securing efficient and effective long term management of the Rights of Way network, which includes footpaths, bridleways and byways. The Commission makes recommendations in three areas, which it wants the Government to address as a whole:

- putting in place adequate long term funding arrangements for Rights of Way;
- ensuring that highway authorities carry out their Rights of Way duties effectively;
- improving the legislative framework and administrative processes.

Commission Chairman Richard Simmonds stated "Amongst the ideas we are putting forward are measures:

- to record the historic legacy of Rights of Way once and for all, bringing the legal record up to date and greatly reducing the scope for future disputes about what

paths go where;

- to make it easier for landowners to secure reasonable diversions for valid land management reasons;
- to give greater powers to both highway authorities and the public to get obstructions removed; and
- to provide more effective ways of resolving local disagreements."

The Countryside Commission consulted all the principal organisations involved in the use and management of Rights of Way and found that although there were many diverse views amongst those consulted most organisations agreed with their overall analysis. There was universal agreement about the need for better funding and about ensuring that highway authorities carry out their Rights of Way duties properly and consistently. The Countryside Commission's report "Rights of Way in the 21st Century" (CCP 543) published in October 1998 is available from:

*Countryside Agency Postal Sales, Walgrave,
Northampton, NN6 9TL
Tel: 01604 781 848
Fax: 01604 781027*

TIR GOFAL AGRi-ENVIRONMENT SCHEME

The all Wales Agri-Environment Scheme Tir Gofal was launched by the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Alun Michael MP, on Friday 5 March 1999. Tir Gofal will offer payments to farmers who carry out work, on a whole farm basis, to conserve existing wildlife and habitats, create new habitats, protect landscapes including historic features, and promote new access opportunities for people to enjoy the Welsh countryside. The scheme opened for applications on 1 April 1999, with the first agreements being offered in the Autumn 1999. It is likely that around 600 agreements will be made with farmers in the first year, based on the budget allocated.

Tir Gofal, developed for the Welsh Office by the Countryside Council for Wales will be run by CCW in partnership with the Farming and Rural Conservation Agency (FRCA) and Snowdonia National Park, will build on these agencies' expertise of running Tir

Cymen, ESAs and other agri-environment schemes. Consultation with the farming unions has been central to the development of the scheme as is the support of the Environment Agency, CADW, Forestry Commission and the National Parks.

Further information on the Tir Gofal Scheme is available from:

*CCW Headquarters, Plas Penrhos, Fford Penrhos, Bangor,
Gwynedd LL57 2LQ
Tel: 01248 385500*

BRITISH WATERWAY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

On the 18th February, John Prescott, the government's policy to unlock the potential of Britain's inland waterways and for the future of British Waterways.

has recognised the potential to achieve more. The main elements of the package are:

- increased grant of up to £8 million to help tackle £90 million of urgent safety related repairs;
- public/private partnerships in property, water transfer and for maintenance;
- long term partnerships with the public sector such as local authorities and the new Regional Development Agencies;
- phasing out British Waterways' outstanding debt to the National Loans Fund;
- consultation about partnership with the public through a membership scheme and a parallel charitable trust.

A programme of consultation is to be carried out throughout the year and includes:

- a national forum in London on 5th May 1999;
- regional forums in May and June;
- round up forums in the late Autumn.

A document setting out the BW's thoughts about the membership scheme and the parallel charitable trust will be available from 5th May 1999.

Further details can be obtained from the website, <http://www.waterwaypartners.co.uk>, or by phoning 01923 201115.

A NEW FOCUS FOR ENGLAND'S WOODLANDS

England Forestry Strategy - A New Focus for England's Woodlands was launched on the 15 December. It is based around four key programmes:

- Forestry for rural development
- Forestry for economic regeneration
- Forestry for access, recreation and tourism
- Forestry for the environment and conservation

The Strategy sets out the actions that the Government will be taking over the next five to 10 years.

For further information, or for news releases on any of the four programme areas, contact Willie Cairns 0131 314 6443, or Charlton Clark 0131 314 6507. A copy of the England Forestry Strategy, along with Mr Morley's speech, are available on the Forestry Commission's Internet site (www.forestry.gov.uk).

SHAPING THE FUTURE FOR SCOTLAND'S FORESTS

The Scottish public are being given the opportunity for the first time to influence the future development of Scotland's forests and woodlands in a consultation process launched on 22 March by Forestry Minister Lord Sewel, with a consultation paper, *Forests for Scotland*.

Forests for Scotland intends to encourage widespread discussion and help the new Scottish Parliament to develop a Scottish forestry strategy. To help develop a strategy, it outlines the principal benefits that forestry can bring to Scotland, specifically in three main areas. These are: forestry for people; forestry for the economy; and forestry for the environment.

The paper explains how these benefits can be blended together in multiple-benefit forests to achieve different local and national needs. It then asks whether people agree with the idea of multiple-benefit forests and how important they think the different benefits are. It also asks whether and how Scotland's forests should expand, what principles should guide that development, and what means should be employed to deliver it.

Free copies of the consultation paper can be obtained by calling the Forestry Commission's National Office For Scotland, 0131 314 6240. For further enquiries contact Charlton Clark, Tel 0131 314 6507

WALES WOODLAND STRATEGY TAKES ROOT

Welsh Forestry Minister Jon Owen Jones today announced that the ground was being prepared for a new, strategic approach to forestry in Wales. A working group, chaired by the Forestry Commission, had been formed to steer the preparation of the strategy. The first step to be carried out is the preparation of a draft issues paper, which would form the basis of extensive consultation. The Forestry Commission have been requested by the Welsh Forestry Minister to put start the process and to publish an issues paper for presentation to the National Assembly in the summer. The Working Group that will produce the forestry issues paper will comprise representatives of organisations such as the Welsh Office, Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency, Coed Cymru, Cadw, Welsh Development Agency and the Welsh National Parks. Anyone wishing to raise issues they believe should be taken into account should send them to:

Simon Hewitt, Chief Conservator for Wales, Forestry Commission, Victoria Terrace, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 2DQ e-mail: fc.nat.off.wales@forestry.gov.uk.

COUNTRYSIDE RECREATION STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

A Countryside Recreation Strategy for Northern Ireland is the result of an extensive two year programme facilitated by the Sports Council of Northern Ireland and the Environment and Heritage Service. The programme involved the establishment of a Working Group representing many interest groups and included research, discussions and workshops. The strategy covers 26 activities and outlines an action programme, including the development of management structures. Copies of the report can be obtained from:

The Information Officer, Commonwealth House, 35 Castle Street, Belfast BT1 1GU

Tel: 01232 546528

CODE OF PRACTICE ON CONSERVATION, ACCESS AND RECREATION

The water quality division of the DETR have issued a consultation draft Code of Practice on Conservation, Access and Recreation. This gives guidance to the water and sewerage undertakers and the Environment Agency

on the performance of their environmental and recreational duties under, respectively, the Water Industry Act 1991 and the Environment Act 1995. Comments are invited on the draft and should be submitted by the 4 June 1999 to:

DETR, Water Quality Division, Zone 3/H16, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6DE.

In Wales consultees are asked to copy their responses to:
Welsh Office, Environment 1A, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ.

£125 MILLION GREEN LOTTERY PLAN

Culture Secretary Chris Smith announced on the 11th March that £125 million in lottery money over the next three years would be devoted to a new green spaces initiative. Run by lottery distributor the New Opportunities Fund (NOF), the initiative will allow schools, councils, community groups and other organisations to apply for grants to improve their local environment. Projects eligible for support will include:

- creating new playing fields, parks, and green areas from unused derelict 'brownfield' sites;
- improving or greening an existing public space;
- helping communities acquire, control and develop land which is important to them;
- encouraging access to the countryside;
- conserving or creating areas of particular local interest for their biodiversity;
- creating safe routes to local facilities, to schools, or for leisure;
- creating and maintaining a park, play area or community wildlife garden;
- helping the community manage its waste, for example through waste minimisation or recycling schemes;
- developing awareness through community initiatives on conservation of water or energy; and
- encouraging local businesses to develop and use green technologies.

CAIRNGORM REPORT IDENTIFIES NEW HEIGHTS

A report published by the Footpath Trust identifies the action needed to help protect mountains in the UK from the erosive combination of increasing visitor pressure and the British weather, following on from a conference "Reaching for New Heights" organised in May 1998 by the British Upland Footpath Trust and the Footpath

Trust. The key findings of the report include the need for new techniques, training and research, a partnership approach to working with users, and the importance of on-going maintenance in upland management. The report also outlines the work of the Path Industry Skills Group in developing vocational qualifications in pathwork and management and highlights the need for a common set of guidelines for techniques to be used across the UK to promote best practice.

Copies of the full conference report are available from:
The Footpath Trust, Unit 4, Bridgend Road, Dingwall IV15 9SL

LIGHTING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

In the Autumn/Winter 1998 edition of *Countryside Recreation*, we included an article on "Light Pollution and Planning Guidance", by John Harrison. In reference to this, it has been drawn to our attention that the former Countryside Commission and Department of the Environment produced a guide in 1997, "Lighting in the Countryside: Towards Good Practice". The guide covers all forms of lighting, including lighting for security, sports facilities, commerce, retail, agriculture, mineral extraction; lighting of buildings, villages and residential development; and lighting of rural roads, junctions and services and parking areas. Its key objectives are to identify good practice in the planning and design of lighting in rural areas, and to advise on how it can be achieved using case studies. Copies can be obtained from HMSO.

NOTE

If you would like details of new initiatives, publications, or consultation documents to be included in the next edition of *Countryside Recreation*, please could you send details by 1st July 1999 to: Joanna Hughes, Network Manager.

Countryside Recreation and Training Events

CRN WORKSHOPS FOR 1999

**Just Walking the Dog:
Management of dog walking**
(Losehill Hall)
Date: 2 or 3 June
Cost: £65 Funding Agencies: £60

**Local Distinctiveness -
An Economic Development Tool**
(RASE Arthur Rank Centre)
Date: 13 July
Cost: to be confirmed

Workshops to be run in the autumn:

- Sustainable Transport
- Communities, Volunteers and Partnerships in the Countryside

 Further details will be available in the near future.

June 1999

**7-11 June
Grazing Management for
Nature Conservation**
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)
Cost: £437 Subsidised: £218
Tel: 01766 590324

**10-11 June
50 Years of Post War Access:
Best Value for the Future?**
(IPROW)
Harrogate
Cost: £180 Subsidised: £180
Tel: 07000 728317

**11-17 June
Environmental Ethics: Values and
Decisions in the Environment**
(Birkbeck College)
Blencathra FSC
Cost: £400
Tel: 0171 6316654

**15 June
Sponsorship and How to Get It**
(ILAM Services Events Team)
Slough
Cost: £145 Subsidised: £110
Tel: 01491 874854

**15-16 June
Working Safely in Leisure**
(ILAM Training Ltd)
Suffolk
Cost: £170 Subsidised: £150
Tel: 01291 626 322

**21-25 June
Woodland Conservation
Management**
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)
Cost: £410 Subsidised: £205
Tel: 01766 590324

**21-25 June
Grassland Management
for Nature Conservation**
(Losehill Hall)
Cost: £435
Tel: 01433 620373

**24-25 June
Site Management Planning:
Applied training course for
countryside managers**
(Losehill Hall)
Cost: £499 Subsidised: £249.50
Tel: 01433 620373

**19-20 June or 24-25 June
Grassland Identification,
Ecology and Management**
(Epping Forest FSC)
Cost: £45
Tel: 0181 508 7714

July 1999

**5-8 July
1999 Royal Show
(International Agricultural
Exhibition)**
(The National Agricultural Centre)
Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
Tel: 01203 696969

**6-7 July
Working Safely in Leisure**
(ILAM Training Ltd)
Plymouth
Cost: £170 Subsidised: £150
Tel: 01291 626 322

**8 July
New Parks for Old**
(ILAM Services Events Team)
Newcastle
Cost: £145 Subsidised: £110
Tel: 01491 874854

**14-15 July
Farming Practices
and Rights of Way**
(Preston Montford FSC)
Cost: Contact Centre for details
Tel: 01743 850380

**19-23 July
Masters Level Course in
Environmental Education
Module 1**
(Flatford Mill FSC)
Cost: Contact Centre for Details
Tel: 01206 298283

**29-31 July
Designing and Building
High Quality Paths**
(Ross & Cromarty Footpath Trust)
Torridon
Cost: £400
Tel: 01349 865533

August 1999

**1-8 August
Archaeological Conservation
and Cultural Resource
Management**
(Birkbeck College)
Westonbirt School, Cotswolds
Cost: £340
Tel: 0171 6316654

**14-17 August
Coastal Zone
Planning and Policy**
(Slapton Ley FSC)
Cost: £230
Tel: 01548 580466

**18-20 August
Integrated Local
Coastal Management**
(Slapton Ley FSC)
Cost: £230
Tel: 01548 580466

**23-27 August
Introducing Rights
of Way**
(Losehill Hall)
Cost: £499 Subsidised: £250
Tel: 01433 620373

**30 August - 3 September
Moorland Management**
(The Scottish Field Studies
Association)
Kindrogan Field Centre
Cost: £241
Tel: 01250 881286

September 1999

6-8 September

Surveying and Map Interpretation Skills
(Losehill Hall)

Cost: £445 Subsidised: £222
Tel: 01433 620373

6-10 September

Monitoring for Nature Conservation
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: £430 Subsidised: £215
Tel: 01766 590324

14-15 September

Access for All - Working with Disabled People to Improve Countryside Access
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: Contact centre for details
Tel: 01766 590324

16-18 September

Footpath Assessment and Management
(Ross & Cromarty Footpath Trust)
Torricon

Cost: £400
Tel: 01349 865533

18-24 September
Conservation Law, Organisation and Policy

(Birkbeck College)
LSE Bankside, London
Cost: £400
Tel: 0171 6316654

21-23 September
Environmental Consensus and Conflict Resolution

(Edinburgh Research & Innovation Ltd.)
Edinburgh
Cost: £323.13 Subsidised: £205.63
Tel: 0131 6506439

25 September-1 October
Sustainable Tourism and Heritage Protection

(Birkbeck College)
University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Cost: £420
Tel: 0171 631665

27-29 September

Guided Walks
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: £366 Subsidised: £274.50
Tel: 01766 590324

27-30 September

Woodlands that Work!
Sustainable management of multiple-use woodlands
(Losehill Hall)

Cost: £445 Subsidised: £222
Tel: 01433 620373

28 September

Public Rights of Way - Inclosure Awards

(Rights of Way Law Review)
Wolfson College, Oxford
Cost: £175 Subsidised: £150
Tel: 01249 740273

29 September

An Introduction to Rights of Way Law and Practice 1: Definitive Maps and Public Path Orders
(IPROW)

Dartington
Cost: £97 Subsidised: £49.50
Tel: 0700 728317

October 1999

4-6 October

New Approaches to Interpretation: Taking Interpretation into the New Millennium
(Losehill Hall)

Cost: £405 Subsidised: £202
Tel: 01433 620373

4-6 October

An Introduction to Information Systems and Their Application in Managing the Countryside

(Plas Tan y Bwlch)
Cost: £234 Subsidised: £117
Tel: 01766 590324

7 October

Definitive Map - Interpreting Finance Act Plans and Tithe Maps
(IPROW)

Knuston Hall, Irchester
Cost: £104 Subsidised: £52

14-15 October

Walking: the way to health
(Losehill Hall)

Cost: £260 Subsidised: £130
Tel: 01433 620373

18-22 October

Environmental Interpretation
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: £597.50 Subsidised: £299
Tel: 01766 590324

25-27 October

Broaden your Access Horizons A toolkit to exploit new opportunities for countryside access
(Losehill Hall)

Cost: £405 Subsidised: £202
Tel: 01433 620373

25-29 October

Wildlife Enhancement in Historic Gardens and Parklands
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: £430 Subsidised: £215
Tel: 01766 590324

26-28 October

Footpath Assessment and Management
(Ross & Cromarty Footpath Trust)
Torricon

Cost: £400
Tel: 01349 865533

26-29 October

Management Skills for Countryside, Tourism and Heritage Staff

Part 1 (Part 2 in March 2000)
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)
Cost: £767 Subsidised: £630
Tel: 01766 590324

27 October

An Introduction to Rights of Way Law and Practice 2: Enforcement and Maintenance
(IPROW)

Dartington
Cost: £98 Subsidised: £49

November 1999

8-12 November

Management Planning in the Countryside
(Plas Tan y Bwlch)

Cost: £403 Subsidised: £242
Tel: 01766 590324

8-12 November
Basic Training for
Wardens and Rangers
 (Plas Tan y Bwlch)
 Cost: £377 Subsidised: £245
 Tel: 01766 590324

10-12 November
Community and Environment
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £405 Subsidised: £202
 Tel: 01433 620373

15-19 November
Foundation Ranger Training
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £499 Subsidised: £250
 Tel: 01433 620373

21-24 November
A Practical Approach to Historic
Landscape Characterisation
 (Plas Tan y Bwlch)
 Cost: £373 Subsidised: £186
 Tel: 01766 590324

22-24 November
A Safe and Enjoyable Visit?
An integrated approach to
managing recreation, access
and safety
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £405 Subsidised: £202
 Tel: 01433 620373

22-26 November
Masters Level Course
in Environmental Education:
Module 2
 (Flatford Mill FSC)
 Cost: Contact Centre for Details
 Tel: 01206 298283

24 November
Public Rights of Way -
Maintenance and
Improvement
 (Rights of Way Law Review)
 Wolfson College, Oxford
 Cost: £150 Subsidised: £130
 Tel: 01249 740273

24-26 November
National Parks Staff
Induction Course
 (Plas Tan y Bwlch)
 Cost: £160
 Tel: 01766 590324

29 November
Organising Programmes of
Guided Walks, Rides and Events
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £210 Subsidised: £105
 Tel: 01433 620373

29 November - 2 December
Sustainable Tourism Master Plans
 (Plas Tan y Bwlch)
 Cost: Contact centre for details
 Tel: 01766 590324

December 1999

6-8 December
Education for Sustainability
New Directions in
Environmental Sustainability
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £405 Subsidised: £202
 Tel: 01433 620373

6-9 December
Access and Public Rights of
Way Law and Management
 (Plas Tan y Bwlch)
 Cost: £396 Subsidised: £198
 Tel: 01766 590324

6-10 December
Environmental Task Force
Countryside Management
An Introductory Course for
Field-based ETF/New Deal
Placements
 (Losehill Hall)
 Cost: £499 Subsidised: £290
 Tel: 01433 620373

CRN is keeping advance information of training events, conferences and workshops, in order to act as a clearing house for those who are planning events and wish to avoid clashes. A listing in these pages is free.

For further details please contact Sian Griffiths at CRN.

If your organisation has event details please forward them to CRN: Countryside Recreation Network, Dept. of City & Regional Planning, Cardiff University, PO Box 906, Cardiff CF1 3YN.

Training/Events Organisers

Birkbeck College
 Tel: 0171 631 6654

CEE
 Council for Environmental Education
 Tel: 0118 975 6061

CMA
 Countryside Management
 Association
 Tel: 01565 633 603

Edinburgh Research and
Innovation Ltd.
 Tel: 0131 650 7236

Environmental Trainers Network
 Tel: 0121 358 2155

ETO
 Environmental Training Organisation
 Tel: 01452 840 825

FSC
 Field Studies Council
 Tel: (Head Office) 01743 850 674

IEEM
 Institute of Ecology and
 Environmental Management
 Tel: 011635 37715

ILAM
 Institute of Leisure and Amenity
 Management
 ILAM Services Events Team
 Tel: 01491 874 854
 ILAM Training Ltd Tel: 01291 626 322

IPROW
 Institute of Public Rights of Way
 Tel: 07000 728 317

Losehill Hall
 Tel: 01433 620 373

Plas Tan y Bwlch
 Tel: 01766 590324/590334

Rights of Way Law Review
 Tel: 01249 740 273

Ross & Cromarty Footpath Trust
 Tel: 01349 865 533

SFSA
 Scottish Field Studies Association
 Tel: 01250 881 286

Countryside Recreation Network Publications List

	Price (incl.postage)	Tick
Conference Proceedings		
Making Access for All a Reality	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Today's Thinking for Tomorrow's Countryside (1995)	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communities in their Countryside (1994)	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workshop Proceedings		
Environmental Economics, Sustainable Management and the Countryside (1994)	£6	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Drive in the Country? – Examining the Problems of Recreational Travel (1994)	£7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport in the Countryside (1995)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIS & Access to the Countryside (1995)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing Safe? Managing Visitor Safety in the Countryside (1995)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Brush with the Land – Art in the Countryside I (1995)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Brush with the Land – Art in the Countryside II (1996)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consensus in the Countryside I – Reaching Shared agreement in policy, planning and management (1996)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consensus in the Countryside II (1996)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do Visitor Survey's Count? – Making use of Surveys for Countryside Recreation (1996)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to Water - Sharing Access on Reservoirs and Rivers (1997)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIS & Countryside Management – Theory and Application (1997)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making Ends Meet (1997)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sponsorship (1998)	£8	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRN Research Directory		
<i>An annual directory of the research work carried out by the CRN agencies during the year</i>		
Research Directory 1997	£5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research Directory 1996	£2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research Directory 1995	£2	<input type="checkbox"/>
UK Day Visits Survey 1994 (1996)	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
UK Day Visits Survey 1993 (1995)	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please photocopy this page and send it with a cheque made payable to 'University of Wales Cardiff' at the following address: Countryside Recreation Network, Cardiff University, PO Box 906, Cardiff, CF1 3YN.

