

The Milestone Society

Newsletter 38

February 2020



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Specific Roles and Responsibilities

Local Representatives	See pages 37-38
Database Manager	Mike Faherty
Web Presence Co-ordination	Jan Scrine
Repository Manager	John Armstrong
Editor – <i>Newsletter</i>	Richard Raynsford
Editor – <i>Milestones & Waymarkers</i>	Vacant
Editorial Panel (in addition to above)	Carol Haines, Mike Hallett, John V Nicholls, David Viner
Heritage & Conservation Agencies Liaison	Jeremy Milln
Milestone and road history heritage	Mervyn Benford, Carol & Alan Haines
Archives	David Viner dv@milestonesociety.co.uk
Highways Liaison Manager	Alan Reade
Theft & Recovery Liaison	Robert Caldicott
Insurance	Mike Buxton
Canals and Waterways Liaison	David Blackburn
Database co-ordinator (canals)	Mike Hallett

ON THE COVER

Terry Moore, John Hall and Tony Dixon stand beside the remains of the original milestone and a replacement replica at Boughton Cross, nr. Cockermouth, Cumbria: CU_CMWO3.

Photo: Terry Moore

Editorial

Firstly, I have to apologise to those members who had to pay a surcharge to receive Newsletter 37, this was due to a mistake at my local Post Office; we delivered the Newsletters on a Friday afternoon and paid the amount calculated for their postage. Unfortunately, some Newsletters were sent out on the Saturday without being franked. We have complained about this to the Post Office but apart from sticking stamps on all envelopes we can only hope that this does not occur again.

I was very pleased to receive notification of the listing of the two guidestones at Middle Chinnock, Somerset which were the subject of an article in the last Newsletter by Peter Banks. The listing of milestones and mileposts is very haphazard throughout the country; whilst this does not ensure that they will survive it does highlight their historic importance and can help campaigns for their preservation.

There have been some changes to personnel since the AGM with Julia Stanbridge taking over from Jan Scrine as Hon. Treasurer although Jan will continue to assist Julia until the end of the financial year - 6th April, 2020. Ken Hawkins has taken over from Brian Barrow as Membership Secretary whilst John Atkinson has agreed to stand for one more year as Hon. Secretary but is looking for someone else to take on the role at the next AGM. His tasks have been reduced by the assistance of Katherine Hawkins as Minutes Secretary and the involvement of Ian Thompson who is dealing with queries (see page 26). It is essential that a new Hon. Secretary is appointed at the next AGM to ensure the continuance of the Society and anyone who thinks they could take on this role please contact John Atkinson.

You will have received a copy of *Milestones & Waymarkers* Volume 11 with Volume 12 due to appear in 2020; the production of these is due to excellent work by Mike Hallett who has collated the submissions provided by John Nicholls. M&W is the more academic publication of the Society and it is important to continue with these volumes. Unfortunately, Mike is unlikely to continue to produce further volumes after No. 12 and we therefore need to find a new editor. If no one comes forward I will try and publish smaller articles in the Newsletter but this will not be a substitute for the Journal. I wish to acknowledge the splendid efforts of John V Nicholls and Mike Hallett in producing these latest volumes of M&W.

I would also like to thank all the contributors to the Newsletter without whom it would be a very small publication. I am particularly grateful to the Proof Readers who are the unsung heroes ensuring that the Newsletter is as correct as possible (any errors are of course my responsibility). Last but not least I thank Gail Milne who is my desk top publisher and has helped me overcome technical problems which are beyond my abilities.

Richard Raynsford

**The Milestone Society AGM and Annual Conference 5th October, 2019
Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire**

The event was organised by our Chairman Rob Westlake at the Village Hall, Milton Malsor. It was an excellent venue and was reasonably well attended. The formal business was held in the morning and resulted in the election of a full committee with John Atkinson agreeing to continue as Hon. Secretary for one year only. In the afternoon we had a presentation by Helen Crabtree on 'The History of the Telephone Kiosk' and by Brian Giggins on 'The Roads to Towcester' which included a number of milestones located close to Milton Malsor.

Richard Raynsford

Obituaries

Sadly we have two obituaries in this Newsletter.

Patrick Taylor:

It is with sadness that we note the death of Patrick Taylor who had been a member of The Milestone Society for almost 17 years. Patrick passed away at the St. Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich on 21 October 2019. He was born and raised in Cornwall and became a Conservation Architect. Many members will be familiar with Patrick's well-illustrated books on tollhouses. He wrote and published nine of these books, including *The Toll-houses of Somerset* written jointly with Janet Dowding and *The Toll-houses of Staffordshire* written jointly with Tim Jenkinson. He also wrote and published other books, including several on timber circles in East Anglia.

Mike Hallett

Rosy Hanns:

Rosy was so full of life and energy. We were talking just a few days ago, making plans for the coming year.

It has been a joy and a privilege to have known Rosy for a short time. Her work on Cornwall's milestones was amazing and will be of great value in the future.

I can only imagine how much her family will miss her, but her memory will remain with me forever.

I first came across Rosy in 2017 when she contacted the Milestone Society about a cast iron milepost she had noticed in the drive of Torr Farm near Liskeard. Investigation showed that this was a rare Liskeard turnpike trust milepost from what is now the main A38 road, lost in the 1970s. Rosy helped to have the milepost re-erected beside the main road. (See Newsletter 36 page 14.)

In 2018, Rosy surveyed the parish boundary stones around the Boconnoc estate for the Cornwall Archaeological Society, then surveyed 26 milestones and

boundary stones around Kit Hill near Callington. When I say surveyed, I mean she would complete a two-page document for each milestone. This would include photographs, a detailed description, its location, listing number, HER number, Milestone Society reference code, condition and risk notes. And she would clear undergrowth and weeds around the milestone too.

In 2019, Rosy joined the Milestone Society and agreed to survey all the milestones in Cornwall, using the same careful, thorough method and completing a two-page report for each milestone. By the autumn of 2019, Rosy had surveyed 656 milestones. Can I say that again? In six months Rosy surveyed six hundred and fifty-six milestones. She would submit each form to me for proof reading to make sure there were no careless mistakes, before sending copies to Mike Faherty to update the Milestone Society database and to Cornwall Council to update their Historic Environment Record (HER).

Rosy persuaded me to let her watch me paint a couple of cast iron mileposts. Of course, she was then keen to try some painting herself, and we persuaded Cornwall Council to put her through a one-day course on safe working beside the highway at Notter Bridge Training just before Christmas 2019.

At the same time, she had started sending information from her milestone survey to update the Geograph record for the Milestone Society.

Rosy was waiting to hear from me that she hadn't missed any milestones in her survey, before she embarked on a survey of Cornwall's county bridge stones in the coming year. In the meantime, she was worried that work was due to start on a new dual carriageway section of A30 between Chiverton and Carland Cross in mid-Cornwall, and there might be unrecorded boundary stones which would be lost in the road construction. She seemed unstoppable.

Rosy Hanns will be sorely missed by all who knew her. Her energy and enthusiasm, her attention to detail, her determination to find even the most timid milestones hidden in the undergrowth, were an inspiration. She will be greatly missed. She is irreplaceable.

Ian Thompson

ENGLAND

Cornwall (*Ian Thompson*)

Historic Post Restored

During a visit to the Enys Estate near Penryn back in May 2015, Society member Phil Pearce noticed a rather dilapidated directional milepost in the corner of the tea room gardens and decided to do some research.

After making contact with the owners, it transpired that this post was probably once sited somewhere on the A39 between Truro and Falmouth, and almost certainly is the only surviving directional signpost bearing the name of Enys - one of Cornwall's oldest country estates. It was proposed by Phil, and agreed with the owners, that the restoration and reinstatement of the signpost would make a good project.

"Enys" is a Celtic/Cornish word meaning "island" or "clearing in the forest". The House and Gardens have a fascinating history, with the family name of Enys dating back to the 13th century. The full story of the Estate can be found at <http://www.enysgardens.org.uk/>. Visitors to the Gardens are most welcome during the Spring and Summer period.

Time passed, during which support for this proposal was received from Perran-ar-worthal Parish Council, and the Operations Manager of Cormac, whose company would be responsible for replacing the sign on or near the highway. Research by the County Archaeologist's Department revealed that there was no record of the sign on their database, or where it was made, but it is almost certain that this post is unique to Enys, having probably been cast in a local foundry of the time, specifically to guide visitors to the Estate - a practice often followed by other historic family estates in Cornwall.

It was the autumn of 2019 when the restored fingerpost, with a new column and finial, was finally erected at the Enys turn beside the busy A39 Truro to Falmouth road. The fingerpost stands at grid reference SW 7719 3760 near Spendthrift Cottage.

The Milestone Society (Cornwall Branch) would like to congratulate those involved in the restoration of this historic milepost, especially the owners, agents and staff of Enys, and the team at Cormac, all of whom played a key role in bringing this project to a successful conclusion. Special thanks must go to Irons Brothers of Wadebridge, whose foundry carried out the renovation of the sign itself to their usual high standard.



Enys tearoom garden 2015
Photos: Ian Thompson

Restored 2019

A39 Falmouth Rd.

Other News from Cornwall

New arms have been made and fitted to the Toy Foundry fingerpost in the centre of Leedstown in a co-operative venture between the parish council, Cormac and the Milestone Society. Special features of the fingerpost are the bolted base fitting, the fully sculpted pointing hands and the arms mounted on a horizontal disc.



Toy foundry fingerpost restored in Leedstown *Photos: Ian Thompson*

Twelve months ago, Susan Boggis adopted twenty-four of her local milestones. Just after Christmas it was time to check they were all well. Susan duly visited each of her milestones, tidied them up and reported back that there were no problems. She did think some of her milestones could do with a fresh coat of paint.

County News

The Truro turnpike trust milestone at SW734444 near Killifreth engine houses (Chacewater 63104) was lying flat on the ground. In November 2019 it was set upright again. Unfortunately, it was turned through ninety degrees, so the inscription 'FROM TRURO 6 MILES' no longer faces the road.



The Truro two-mile stone was leaning at forty-five degrees and has been set upright at SW833477 (St Clement 508978).

The Launceston turnpike trust milestone, 'L 11', at SX175877 (Davidstow 67388) which was leaning backwards so that it almost touched the bank behind it, has been set up straight.

SW734444 A390 near Killifreth engine houses (Chacewater 63104) set upright November 2019 but turned 90 degrees
Photo: Ian Thompson

The Milestone Society thanked the Cormac team for their good work on these three milestones, while reminding them that there were seven other milestones in need of urgent attention, picked up from Rosy Hanns' county wide survey. The Society duly received a detailed progress report from Cormac on the other seven milestones. This is the sort of good working relationship we need to have with the highways teams across the country. It takes time and goodwill on both sides, but it is the way forward.



Harveys of Hayle boundary stone in danger of falling over a cliff *Photo: Ian Thompson*

Linda King contacted the Milestone Society for help to rescue a boundary stone in danger of falling over a cliff. The stone was not beside a road but beside the South West Coast Path, near Hayle. The stone was carved with a capital H which stood for Harvey. Harvey was one of the great engineering pioneers of Cornwall, a relative of Richard Trevithick. Harvey's foundry was once the major employer in

Hayle. Harvey was in continual dispute with his arch rivals, the Cornish Copper Company and set up boundary stones to stop encroachment on his land. Cornwall Council's on-line countryside issues system was used to submit a request for the boundary stone to be rescued and moved inland beside the footpath. Discussion on this matter continues.

A dialogue was established with the Duchy of Cornwall's staff at the large housing development of Nansledan on the outskirts of Newquay to ensure that the diminutive 'NEWQUAY 2' milestone is safeguarded during and after construction.

County News

A very positive letter was received from Highways England, adding four boundary stones to the list of milestones needing safeguarding during the construction of a new dual carriageway section of A30 between Chiverton and Carland Cross in mid-Cornwall.

SW839617 Newquay 2, behind fence of Nansledan housing development
Photo: Ian Thompson



Cumberland and Westmorland (Cumbria) (Terry Moore)

The milestone at Broughton Cross, near Cockermouth, CU_CMWO 3 was originally reported missing in January 2017 which stimulated local interest to have a replica made. With council agreement and funding being sought Terry Moore arranged for a new stone to

be cut in a local sandstone quarry. On completion of the stone in 2019 a local gentleman unearthed the original, or what was left of it, so the replica was positioned alongside it with the help from John Hall and Tony Dixon.



Cumberland cast iron fingerpost
Photos: Terry Moore

15 traditional Cumberland cast iron finger posts were restored in 2019 thanks to the Eden District Highways who funded the project; all were restored by Terry Moore.



Broughton Cross milestone restoration

Devon (*Tim Jenkinson*)

Paignton Milestone

Following on from the report of a new milestone find in South Devon to the Society's facebook page earlier in the year, County Representative Tim Jenkinson (TJ) was able to visit the site on November 7th 2019 to make an assessment of the marker. The stone stands at the rear of a property in Paignton and has been used as a gatepost for many years. Measuring a height of 139 centimetres (cms) and a width and depth of 58 and 16cms respectively, there are a number of destinations engraved on the stone, each marking distances in miles, furlongs and poles. The inscriptions read 'To/ Exeter 30 3 10/Newton 14 3 15/Teignmo Bridge 15 2 2/Torquay 9 6 3/ Totnes 9 = 2/ Dartmo 4 4 8''.

From looking at old Ordnance Survey maps and trying to work out the mileage it is possible that the stone was once intended for somewhere in Higher Brixham itself (SX 9154). That said the mileage to Torquay from that point is difficult to match up. Also, the use of the place name 'Teignmouth Bridge' is very unusual as this is always known as Shaldon Bridge. Strange marks in the furlong column for Totnes have led to the conclusion that the marker might well have been abandoned as a result of flaws in the inscriptions and that it was never at the roadside and instead was acquired from the stonemason and subsequently adopted as a gatepost. The nearest we have to a location match is with an old cast iron mile plate that was once on the internal wall of the Waterman's Arms in Higher Brixham (now closed) showing Torquay as 9¼ miles, Totnes as 10 and Exeter as 31.



Photo: Tim Jenkinson

Newton St Cyres, Langford Road Milestone

At the end of October 2019, the Society was alerted on its Facebook page to a damaged milestone on Langford Road near to the village of Newton St Cyres in Mid Devon. Since then TJ has been in contact with a Mr Phillips who posted the information and has discovered that the marker stands at the 4-mile point from Exeter at approx SX 9003 9780 on an old route out of the city towards the village of Stockleigh Pomeroy. Mr Phillips has been able to reposition the stone which was knocked out of the ground by a Heavy Goods Vehicle, one of several that now apparently use the road on their way to a nearby depot.

Following further investigation, we have discovered that there are no records of the stone in the Society's Database. Although numbers 3, 5 and 6 milestones have been assessed on that route albeit some time ago, the 4-mile marker was not found in the initial searches. Once the weather clears up the intention is to

visit the site and make an assessment so as it can be added. Meanwhile the stone remains in a vulnerable position and although Devon County Council (DCC) have been notified of the problem, there has been no response so far to the request to move the stone a little way back on the verge. Mr Phillips has promised to raise awareness of the plight of the marker at the next Parish Council meeting.

A382 update in South Devon

Work continues apace on the improvements to widen and straighten a three-mile section of the A382 between Drumbridges roundabout and Newton Abbot, built ca. 1826 by the Newton Bushel Turnpike Trust. Lots of ground has been cleared either side of the road near to Forches Cross (SX 843733) with a short new road now constructed leading up into the village of Highweek. The building known as The Little House looks to be vulnerable in the very heart of the developments with excavations now on both sides of the land it occupies. No progress has been made on the section below Stover School leading to Stover Golf Course but there were two quite serious accidents on the bend above the bridge over the Christmas period.



A382 milestone Forches Cross Photo: Tim Jenkinson

None of the current work involves any of the milestones or boundary markers along the route however this will require ongoing monitoring as

things progress throughout 2020. TJ is hoping that DCC remember to contact the Milestone Society when they move into the areas where they will need to protect existing markers or take them into storage. As it stands there are three boundary markers and two known milestones along the route with a possible third yet to be found at the one mile point out of the town. DCC has been provided with details of all the markers involved, including ten figure grid references along with descriptions of their positions at the roadside and these have been added to their initial environmental assessment of the area.

Herefordshire (*Jeremy Daw*)

I noticed this iron milepost on the A480 near to my home in Credenhill, Herefordshire. HF_HFKG04 SO 46027 43406.

It stands near a military base and was slowly being smothered by an encroaching earth bank and at some point in the near future would be lost to view.

As I have a keen interest in local history and am a Hereford city tour guide I decided to do something to restore it.

It was at this time I discovered 'The Milestone Society' and after reading the web site I decided to become a member. I used the information on the Society website to contact the local Highways Department, Historic England, conservation officer and my local

parish council. I asked for, and was granted, permission to clear the debris from the Credenhill milepost and to clean and repaint it using the Milestone Society guidelines and recommendations. It was very labour intensive but the results were well worth it. You can also see the makers mark on the base of it, 'C Hodges and Son, Hereford Foundry', which was once located in Friars Street, Hereford.



Credenhill Parish milestone before restoration



Credenhill Parish milestone after restoration

Photos: Jeremy Daw

Turnpike roads were very important in the development of Hereford city. With the improved communication and transport links Hereford became the 'place to be' as businesses, banks, lawyers and doctors were all to be found there. Many wealthy landowners relocated from the surrounding county and built smart town houses, many of which can still be seen today.

After being rescued from obscurity, this important reminder of the history of Herefordshire once again stands proud on the roadside. I have since cleaned and restored two more local iron mileposts and I have now been 'bitten by the bug'.

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An original toll gate from Acton Green crossroads has been given to the Bromyard and District History Society and is now awaiting restoration.



Photo: Jan Scrine

Leicestershire

Vicky Row, Parish Clerk of Kegworth, Leicestershire kindly sent photographs of a refurbished milepost in the settlement which is near the East Midlands Airport.



Photos: Vicky Row

Another example of local initiative was sent in by Tony Kirby; I like the way the name 'Ashby de la Zouch' has been condensed by omitting the gaps!



Photo: Tony Kirby

Norfolk (Carol Haines)



NO_WF4 before restoration (2003)

Breaking news – on 16 January member Vanessa Stocking-Johnston had a look in at James Beck Auctions in Fakenham and spotted what looked like a cast iron milepost. It had no legend on it but on closer inspection she could see where plates had once been attached. After phone calls to myself and Nigel Ford we were fairly certain this was NO_WF3 from the B1105 at Wighton which was stolen about three years ago. At the time I had informed the police and obtained a crime reference number. The post was withdrawn from sale and at the time of writing we are awaiting further developments from the police and the County Council. Nigel has some pieces of the plaques that were once attached to it which hopefully will fit the marks on the post to prove its identity.



NO_WF4 after restoration (2019)
Photos: Carol Haines

This series of mileposts, originally cast in 1834 for the Wells-Fakenham Turnpike, is gradually undergoing restoration. Many were in very poor condition. Last October Nigel, Tony Langford and Paul Hawkshaw installed NO_WF4 (Walsingham) and NO_WF1a (Wells-Next-the-Sea), the former having been very skilfully restored by Paul.

Somerset (Janet Dowding)

There are several renovation projects currently being undertaken in Somerset. One is to save the surviving Bristol Trust mileposts along the A 38 from East Brent to Churchill Rocks. The Grade II listed cast iron mileposts, made in 1837, will be temporarily removed, repaired and then reinstated. This work will take place over the winter and the reinstallations in the spring. Behind some of the mileposts earlier stones have been found, with "XX" and "Bristol" on one. Also one thought to be missing in our original survey has been located, almost completely covered by vegetation, making it impossible to see.

A second project is a scheme to restore all fifteen fingerposts in Otterford parish, some of which have not been touched for 30-40 years and for which Somerset C.C. now have no money to do so. Otterford Parish Council also would like to restore the four milestones in the parish, spread along the B3170 between Taunton and Honiton. (There are more than four but only four in Otterford parish.) Of the four, two are in place, one has been recovered and is in storage

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with a councillor and the fourth one is missing; they are hoping to recreate this and replace it. This project is proving complex due to the number of parties involved (three parish councils, Somerset C.C., Historic England, and the National Lottery) and is still ongoing at present.

Finally, when we retrieved and returned a fallen fingerpost finial to St. Cuthbert Out Parish (the parish around Wells), we were informed that they have about 30 fingerposts in the parish. These are being assessed as to which need priority treatment for renovation and reinstallation of missing arms. This will be a long job for the parish council to complete.



Fingerpost at Coxley, nr. Wells



Fingerpost, Parbrook, Somerset

Photos: Richard Raynsford

Surrey (Janet Dowding)

The Surrey Group met on Saturday 23 November, 2019 at Send Manor. The morning had been spent photographing and surveying milestones along the A30 between Camberley and Bagshot for the Surrey records. On the journey we also visited the Hampshire village of Thruxton where there is a milestone located on the old A303 road.

There was little to report on Surrey milestones and most of the meeting was taken up with three short presentations; the first was given by Glenda Law on Sussex Bow Bells milestones. She went through the present state of each example stating its location, condition, which ones had gone missing and which ones had been renovated starting with No. 29 TQ 382 392 as No. 28 was no longer in situ. The last Bow Bells milestone is No. 55 at Hailsham TQ 585 099 but there are a couple of a slightly different design extending to No. 59 at Stone Cross



Thruxton milestone

Photo: Richard Raynsford

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TQ 613 049/W. Glenda has produced a booklet on the Bow Bells milestones which is still available from her or from Janet Dowding; the whole sequence can be viewed on the database.

Paul Smith gave a presentation on interesting road signs around Petworth which included Cathanger Lane and Trumps Alley and Shoreham which has two signs including the Sussex coat of arms on them and also a number of changed names such as Middle Street which was formerly Moderlove Street. In Ringmer there is a Potato Lane whilst in Reigate there is a Slipshoe Street which was used by travellers along the Pilgrims Way to visit a chapel. Chart Lane in Reigate is named after “churt”, and is a name frequently found along the outcrop of greensand in Surrey and Kent.

The third presentation was given by Richard Raynsford who illustrated places associated with his childhood in Surrey through postcards and historic photographs. This was followed by pictures of old Surrey milestones copied from slides given by Derek Renn to the Surrey Group; the location of most could be identified but some examples have subsequently been lost.

Since Derek Renn gave the Surrey Group his slides and papers, I have been going through them and have found some interesting things. Amongst these are seven photos of now missing Surrey milestones for which we have not seen photos before. These are: Farnham SU 836 477, Esher/Cobham TQ 117 616, Farnham SU 828 460, Kingswood TQ 243 551, Haslemere SU 873 340, Limpsfield TQ 413 521, Redhill/Reigate TQ 278 488, and Runfold SU 861 475.

The Esher/Cobham one has given rise to the situation of “one location, two milestones”. According to a map entitled “Milestones in the Esher District” attached to an article of the same name which appeared in the July 1973 edition of ‘*Local History News*’, being the News sheet of the Esher District Local History Society, two milestones are shown at TQ 117 616, one on the north side of the Portsmouth Road and one on the south side. The north side one is still there, located in the chain link fence in the garden of “Ocho Rios” but was once in the chain link fence of Fairmile Lodge East, which no longer exists. This milestone is a square



block of stone, having “XIX from the Standard in Cornhill” on its rear side. It has therefore been moved there from elsewhere at some stage, as it does not conform to the shape, design and lettering of others in the Portsmouth Road series.

Missing milestone, Guildford Rd., Runfold HPC 36
Photo: Derek Renn

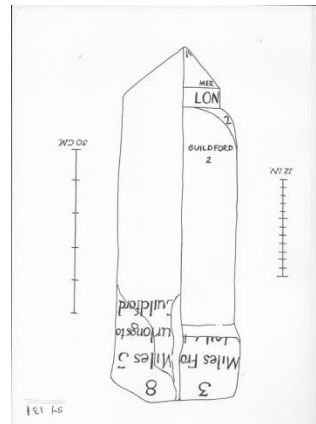
County News

The one that does confirm was on the south side of Portsmouth Road, being triangular in shape and having multi-faces with distances on them i.e. Portsmouth 53, Hyde Park Corner 16, Esher 2, Cobham 1. When this photo was taken, all lettering was fully legible and the stone in very good condition. Sadly this stone is now missing so once again there is now only one milestone at TQ 117 616.

The other interesting photo and drawing shows the milestone at TQ 035 509 at West Clandon. This was rediscovered in 1976, having been buried during WW2 to prevent it giving information to an invader. It was then seen that there was still an 18c inscription on its “other” end, saying “8 miles 3 furlongs to Guildford, and 3 miles from Le(a)therhead. This proved that it had originally been located in what is now Mole Valley District, and was re-erected at the entrance to Temple Court at West Clandon. The 18c end is now buried and the later inscription is now evident – London 28, Leatherhead 9½.



Portsmouth Road milestone *Photo: Derek Renn*



West Clandon milestone

Warwickshire (*Mike Buxton*)

Members will recall that in 2017 the Warwickshire branch of The Milestone Society facilitated the restoration and reinstatement of six nationally unique heritage highway mileposts along the former Stratford-upon-Avon to Long Compton turnpike road (now the A3400). All six mileposts were subsequently given grade II listed status by Historic England, testimony to their national importance.

We consider that the six restored mileposts positively contribute to the road scenes along the A3400 providing unique and distinctive features and are a benefit to the local communities in which they reside. We have had nothing but positive feedback from the results of this project.

'Gaslamp style' milepost, Kenilworth Photo: Mike Buxton



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Shortly after the successful completion of the project and following rumour of its existence told by me by a local Warwickshire MSoc. member, a seventh milepost, identical to the other six and possibly one of the better preserved of them, was discovered in a garden in Kenilworth. The owner has subsequently very kindly donated the milepost to the Milestone Society and it has now been safely removed and placed in a secure store pending restoration and reinstatement along the A3400.

We have chosen a specific site for this seventh milepost in an historically correct position diagonally opposite the former toll-house at the Honington village turn. The site lies within Tredington Parish so its siting here would be the third such nationally unique and distinctive milepost in the Parish.

The intention is to fully restore the milepost to the same standard as achieved for the other six and then install it in the position described above. In order to achieve this, however, funding will be required. We are therefore going to make a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund which funded the other six mileposts.

The bid also includes another project that we're undertaking at the same time: this is the restoration of the three remaining cast-iron mileposts in Alderminster parish. Two are currently in situ (one on the A3400, the other on the A422 Stratford-upon-Avon to Banbury road) whilst the third, which was apparently rescued from a skip by the Shipston and District Local History Society, also now resides in safe storage pending restoration. This third post will then be reinstated in almost the same position as it was prior to its unceremonious skip dumping.



Alderminster Parish
milepost on A3400



Alderminster Parish
milepost on A422



Alderminster Parish
milepost in garage
Photos: Mike Buxton

Warwickshire County Highways are supportive of both projects.

Another exciting piece of news is the creation by Warwickshire member Robert Caldicott, of a new website called Warwickshire Wayside. It can be accessed at

<https://warwickshirewayside.co.uk/> where you'll find lots of milemarker-related information centred primarily on Warwickshire. Have a look at it and let us know what you think! Any further information relating directly or indirectly to Warwickshire that you know about would be gratefully received.

Worcestershire (*Jan Scrine*)

Worcestershire Development Consultation

Worcester, Malvern and Wychavon Councils launched a 'consultation' document in Autumn 2019 about their plans to build 14,000 new homes at Norton, near Pershore and at Rushwick, the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review.

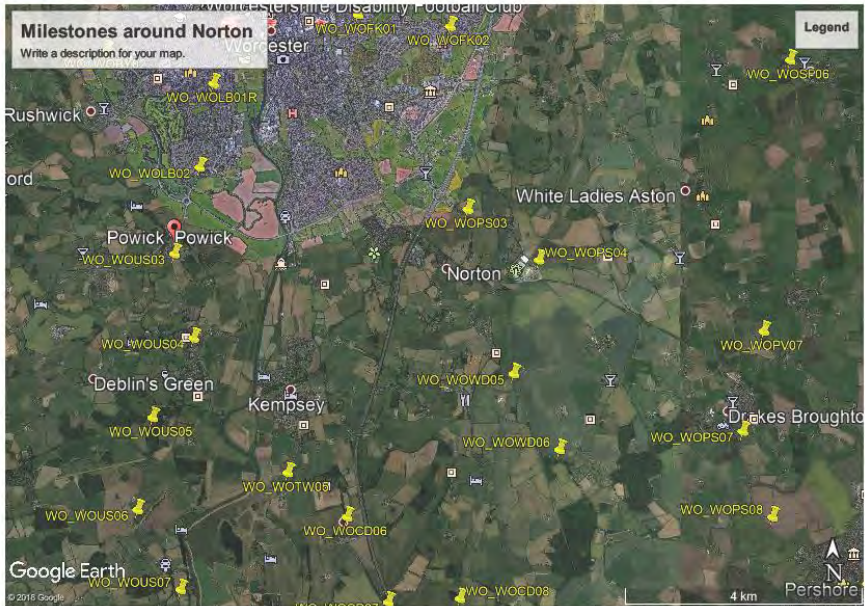
The plan noted:

"The landscape is of a very high quality and the countryside is distinguished by the upland areas of the Cotswolds (including Bredon Hill) and Malvern Hills AONB, as well as the river valleys of the Avon, Severn and Teme. There are **approximately 5,600 listed buildings**, 150 Ancient Monuments, 13 historic parks and gardens, 105 conservation areas and numerous protected trees and woodlands."
"Conservation of heritage assets must reflect a sufficient understanding of their significance, including both their setting and their wider context in the landscape / townscape."

On behalf of The Milestone Society, and in particular the Worcestershire Group, I responded:

Worcestershire has a substantial number of historic milestones, including survivors from the 1700s as well as the unique concrete mileposts designed by Deputy County Roads Surveyor Harold Brooke-Bradley in the 1930s. Many of these milestones are classed as Grade II 'listed buildings' by Historic England.

As the attached screenshot of the Milestone Society's Google Earth mapping demonstrates, the area within the SWDPR hosts many milestones along all the radial roads from the city. These are already at risk from traffic collisions, casual neglect, theft and vandalism. The urban and industrial developments proposed in the SWDPR will require the widening of the roads within the South Worcestershire area and their use by heavy construction traffic. This will put the milestones at even greater risk. Hence a strategy is required from Worcestershire Highways Dept to undertake safeguarding of these wayside heritage assets. Consideration should be given to removing the most vulnerable to safe keeping and then reinstalling them (possibly refurbished) as visible historic reminders - for the new communities as well as visitors - of the slower methods of transport used by our forebears for the purposes of communications, commerce and leisure.



Worcestershire Development Consultation

Yorkshire (Christine Minto)

In September Mike Rayner reported a 'new' milestone, a rare occurrence in Yorkshire. It is the only known survivor from the 10 miles between Middlesbrough and Stokesley. On view on Gypsy Lane in Nunthorpe, it would have been on what is now the A172 Dixon's Bank/Stokesley Road. It was cast by Mattison of Bedale and probably set up at the end of the 19C.

North Yorkshire

A cast iron post north of Easingwold severely damaged by a vehicle has been expertly repaired by Dave Whitlock of Cleveland Corrosion in Staithes. [YN_YOTK17a & YOTK17b] It is to be reset on the A19 when all the official paperwork/health and safety etc. has been agreed but is now stored in Helen Kirk's garage in Easingwold.



Gypsy Lane, Nunthorpe, York YN_MDST04
Photo: Mike Rayner



Easingwold milestone before and after restoration *Photo: Dave Whitlock*

SCOTLAND (Christine Minto)

Aberdeenshire

John Riddell alerted me to two milestones in Aberdeenshire that are on Historic Environment Scotland listings.

One in Stonehaven is set into the wall of a furniture workshop next to the bridge over the Carron Water. I had passed through Stonehaven on one of my tours but missed this one. I had also missed the tollhouse on the approach to the town. Perhaps I was going too fast down the hill. But it shows up well on Streetview. This tollhouse was first occupied by an ancestor of Lord Reith, first Director General of the BBC. In 1806 Alexander Reith moved into the new tollhouse with his 15 children.

The second listed stone is in the grounds of the ruined Gight Castle off the B9005 between Ellon and Fyvie. This stone is inscribed HH/5. A local contact, Chris McBrien, found from old maps that stones were marked at 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 miles from Haddo House, a property now in the care of The National Trust for Scotland. He has found the 2 mile stone opposite the church in Methlick, the 4 mile stone hidden in bracken at the beginning of the track off the B road [AD_HHGC04) and after a long walk along the track, the 5 mile stone.



4 mile stone
Photo: Chris McBrien

North and South Ayrshire

This apology of a replacement for one of the almost 80 original D shaped posts on the island of Arran was seen this year near the Field Study Centre at Lochranza.[AYN_ARR44R]



Field Study Centre, Lochranza
Photo: Christine Minto



On the edge of South Ayrshire this 'direction wall' made of breeze blocks on the B7027 between Barrhill and Newton Stewart points the way to properties on a dead end route.
(AYS_BHNS05)

'Direction wall' B7027
Photo: Christine Minto

Borders & Midlothian

John Riddell has had four stones uplifted and reset along the A702 from Edinburgh to Biggar.

The one in West Linton [BD_EDBG16] has been moved a few yards to a safer location but they have all been set in concrete so will be vulnerable if struck by a vehicle [ML_EDBG10]. The 10 mile stone is just north of Eight Mile Burn!



BD_EDBG16 West Lothian
Photo John Riddell



ML_EDBG10
Photo: John Riddell

Argyll & Bute

Since 2012, this Bonnybridge post [AB_CTCN23] seen on my May 2019 visit to Kintyre has been reset, at the wrong angle to the road, near the new entrance to a large electricity substation. Painted violet, will it ever be white? Later, picnicking just west of Southend, a new find, the 10 mile stone (to Campbeltown) was spotted [AB_CTSE10]. A few days later on Mull, three more of the delightful pinky granite stones were added to two seen in 2005, on the lovely route from Salen and Aros across to Dervaig [AB_MLSADV09]. On my August foray into Argyll & Bute I used the cycle route on the west side of Loch Lomond and found a mileplate in Duck Bay. I only took a side view of it but I know it does show 6 Miles, 5 Furlongs to Luss. This is the only one of many similar plates near Glasgow, in East Dumbartonshire and Stirlingshire that shows furlongs. The next day riding down Loch Awe I just had to record this old RAC village sign [PORTSONACHAN]. I checked the posts on the road from Tarbert round by Kilberry. In 2012 there was a hole where the 4 mile Bonnybridge post should have been but I was told it had been taken up for repainting. 2019, not there! However, the 5, 9 and 11 posts still are [AB_TBKB09]. I also spotted another stone, albeit laid down, hidden in the grass to add to the six others remaining on the 13 miles of A85 between Lochgilphead and Tarbert.

I also explored a stretch of the old main road between Oban and Dalmally which went through the community of Stronmilchan, now B8077. A picture of one stone is in the Ken Diamond collection, but I found two others. Unfortunately, the 23 and 25 stones are spilt, but at least they are still there [AB_ONDL24].



AB_CTCN23 Bonnybridge post
Photos: Christine Minto



AB_CTSE10 Southend



AB_MLSADV09 Dervaig



RAC Village sign

Photos: Christine Minto



AB_TBKB09



AB_ONDL24

Dumfries & Galloway

There are two routes between Newton Stewart and Barrhill in South Ayrshire. Following the B7027 northwards a new find was this unfortunate triangular stone laid amongst the bracken.

Returning along the A714, there are no stones in Ayrshire but there are five of the original eight in the old Wigtownshire. On the B road is the village of Knowe, now only 3 or 4 properties but once big enough to have an AA/Royal Scottish Automobile Club village sign, now preserved in the small but packed-full museum in Newton Stewart (DG_KNOWE).



DG_NSGB04

Photos: Christine Minto



DG_KNOWE

Fife

The A823 between Dunfermline and Rumbling Bridge is the only other route apart from Kilniver to Easdale (NL37 P26) that has the Type 2 posts made by the Bonnybridge Foundry. A recent search by John Riddell only discovered Dunfermline 6 and 7 although 2, 8 and 9 were recorded in situ a few years ago. On all of these the mileage to Rumbling Bridge has been ground off, perhaps a mistake made on the original castings. One anomaly is the 3 mile post, found by Iain Davison, a completely different shape. But it is the same shape as a Water Services post near Rumbling Bridge. However, there is still at least one of the four tollhouses on this 11 mile route, Hillend but now called Roadman's Cottage.

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FF_DFRB06 Type 2 post
Photo: John Riddell



FF_DFRB06
Photo: Iain Davison



Roadman's Cottage (Hillend)
Photo: John Riddell

Highlands

Only short forays were made into Highland region in 2019 but a 'new' stone was found on the A82 over Rannoch Moor north of Tyndrum to Glencoe. This one is almost hidden behind the safety barrier [HI_TYKL24]. Also a post on the Ardnamurchan peninsula reported in 2011 found safe, albeit leaning. This is the only one on this route to indicate Mingary Pier which has an electric car recharging point [HI_SAKL19]! The other posts say Kilchoan and all were made by the Royal Label Factory.



HI_SAKL19
Ardnamurchan
Photos: Christine Minto



HI_TYKL24
Rannoch Moor

West Lothian

So far, only 9 stones have been found in this administrative area. John Riddell discovered this 'anonymous' one on the A70 at East Haugh 11 miles from Edinburgh and 21 from Lanark just where it is marked on the 1893 Edinburghshire 6" OS [WL_EDLK11].



East Haugh, W. Lothian WL_EDLK11
Photo: John Riddell

Other News

Canals (Christine Minto)

Crinan Canal

In August I returned to the Lochgilphead area and rode (three times!) along the towpath of the 8½ mile Crinan Canal between Ardrishaig on Loch Fyne and the sea at Crinan to the west. As with some restored canals, new milestones have been erected together with information boards. And at this time of year the banks were overflowing with wild flowers. The canal was opened in 1801 but the banks were of a poor standard and eventually gave way. In 1812 Thomas Telford came to the rescue with higher, stronger banks and better stonework, locks and bridges. In its heyday over 100 people worked along the canal and many of the cottages, now restored sympathetically, are to be seen along its banks and by the bridges and locks.



Crinan Canal milestone
Photos: Christine Minto



Crinan Canal bridge and cottage

Any Questions? (Ian Thompson)

At the AGM in October 2019 Ian Thompson agreed to be the point of contact for queries about practical work on milestones sent to the Milestone Society's website.

A message sent to 'Restoration Enquiries' on the web page would go to Ian.

Here is a sample of queries received:

October 2019 – Amy Weston was employed by a national company hired by Highways England's Area 9 to look at possible restoration work on milestones in their Area. A consultation document had been drawn up and fifteen milestones had been categorised as either 'Amber' – fair condition and of medium priority or 'Red' – poor condition and of high priority. Maps, photographs, descriptions and proposed actions were given for each milestone. Amy wrote to the Milestone Society as the experts on milestones and asked for its comments.

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Highways England is responsible for primary routes – trunk roads. Their Area 9 covered three counties – Shropshire, Staffordshire and Herefordshire. Before a reply could be sent, it was important to consult the Milestone Society representatives in these counties as well as Society experts in the proposed work involved. There were some ‘Telford’ milestones in the group of fifteen. There were broken cast iron mileposts. There were broken stones. One stone could not be found. The merits of different paints and different methods of weed control needed to be discussed. There were plans to move some milestones! There were proposals to list others. Very many experts within the Society were contacted and Ian pulled together their comments to produce a response for each of the fifteen milestones in the consultation document.

Amy thanked the Society for its input. We wait to see what action is taken, following the consultation.

November 2019 – Geoff Wright joined the Milestone Society after reading an article written by John Armstrong in his local newspaper, the *Southport Champion*. Inspired by the article, Geoff offered to repaint the very fancy milepost near Meols Park in Southport mentioned in the text. However, John had also received a response to his article from Sefton District Council’s conservation officer about restoration work.

The latest image of the Meols Park milepost on Google Earth showed it to be in good condition. Geoff offered to visit the milepost and if necessary, give it a wash with a bucket of water and a scrubbing brush.

November 2019 – Richard Crabtree of Highways England contacted the enquiries desk about a milestone on A66 near Crackenthorpe in Cumbria. There were plans to restore the milestone under the Highways England Environment Improvement scheme. (Was this the same scheme being used in Highways England Area 9?) His colleague had been working on this with the Milestone Society, but had moved on and contact details had gone astray. Richard was put in touch with Terry Moore who knew all about the project.

December 2019 – Jackie Pitt of Oxfordshire County Council wanted to improve the amount of information provided for milestones on their Historic Environment Record (HER). Ian was able to put her in touch with Oxfordshire milestone experts Derek Turner and Alan Rosevear. Alan was able to give her ‘more information than anyone could possibly need’ in a huge spreadsheet, much bigger than the one in the Repository.

January 2020 – Philip Wardle was working his way through the Derbyshire guide stoops in Howard Smith’s book, but there was one he could not find. Searches were initiated with local and national experts. Philip did provide an upgraded guide to the stoops he had found, all with ten figure grid references which was most useful.

January 2020 – There was a response to a piece in the last Newsletter about a ‘private’ milestone in Manchester (Newsletter 37 page 42). A local milestoner had been out looking but had failed to find any survivors apart from the one featured in the last Newsletter. However, they did produce a photograph of an identical milepost half a mile from Prospect House and three and a half miles from Brooklands Station, with the same date, 1863, cast into the top, which used to stand on Brooks Drive. It is no longer there. It is not on the Milestone Society database. It is not on the Ordnance Survey six-inch map, which showed mileposts at one, two and three, but not three and a half miles from Brooklands Station. To add to this mystery, the Ordnance Survey twenty-five inch map of 1909 has a milepost (‘MP’) at SJ79878 85527, labelled ‘Brooklands Station 4 / Ringway Church 1’. On the map, this milepost appears to be a quarter of a mile short of Prospect House. This milepost is not marked on the Ordnance Survey six-inch map. There are more questions than answers to the Brooklands mileposts.

Terminology and toll houses

E-mail correspondence as part of Milestone Society business includes a wide variety of topics, including occasionally seeking guidance on ‘correct’ terminology to use in describing the turnpike system, milestones, toll houses etc. *Ray Worth* from the Worcestershire Group queried the various forms of description for the latter, and *Alan Rosevear* offered some very useful clarification:

Large scale OS maps of the 19th century marked and named the gate e.g. "*Town T.P.*" - that is the Town Turnpike - and this would be irrespective of whether there was a *house* (i.e. accommodation), *hut* (unoccupied) or *sentry box* beside it. It was primarily an indicator of location. The One Inch maps rarely named the turnpike and marked some turnpikes with the simple abbreviations T.P., T.G. or T.B. (Turnpike, Tollgate and Tollbar referring to the physical barrier). There is no apparent pattern to the term chosen.

When the assets of the turnpike trusts were sold, the adverts usually refer to "*Toll house*", as for example "at Tetsworth [in Oxfordshire] - the freehold brick-built and tiled TOLL HOUSE"- etc. This was the more common terminology for the building beside the turnpike gate in Victorian times.

However, most importantly for modern use, the keyword adopted by English Heritage/ Historic England is *Tollhouse* – and this will have been propagated through all HER databases. So things not conforming to this are likely to fall between cracks, whether they are surviving tollhouses or the sites where a building has been recorded beside a gate, and this will include huts etc.

On OS maps some buildings were named "*Old turnpike*" or Old turnpike house, where the gate had been closed or superseded. Private roads and bridges were generally marked as "*toll*". Alan thinks the census probably used both toll and

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turnpike. Toll roads & bridges that persisted or were built in the 20th century in general seem to have been controlled by *toll booths* (working offices, not accommodation).

All that said, *Jan Scrine* offered some Yorkshire perspective, and a reminder of regional variations around the UK: the '*highway*' was known as a '*gate*' in West Yorkshire from the Old English/Norse '*gata*', a way. The toll house was known as the *BarHouse* and toll-keepers were called *Bar Keepers*. Can anybody offer any other regional variations?

David Viner



Arrow Tollhouse

Photos: Jan Scrine



Droitwich Tollhouse



Ombersley Rd., Worcester

How are we preserving our knowledge for the future?

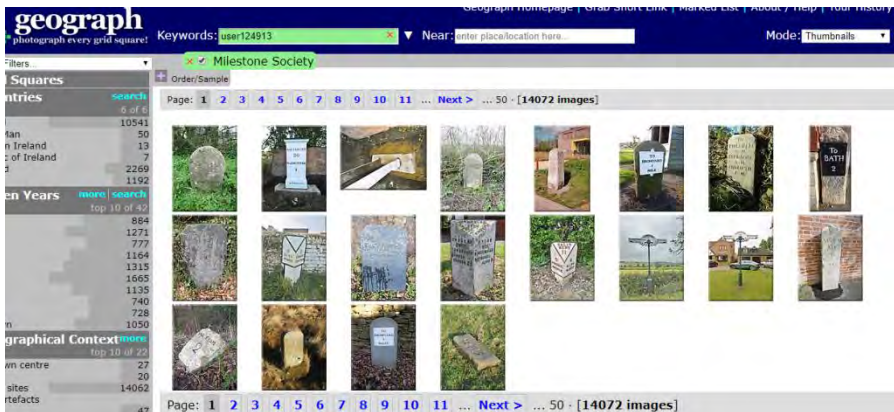
Our easy-search new website (www.milestonesociety.co.uk) is up and running, although there are still a few broken links to be tracked down. And over the past twelve months, we've been working hard to ensure that our fantastic databases and images are loaded onto as many other platforms as possible, to help safeguard their future.

Our Repository which shows images of our waymarkers displayed on Google Earth mapping was closed to new entries in November 2018 because of the complexity of maintaining its software. However, our new website developer Kate Tolley has found a way to preserve its longevity by upgrading its software to Wordpress! So it will remain accessible to you in future, although the content will not be updated.

New entries will find a home on Geograph as well as in our master Excel spreadsheets. Our presence of over 22,000 images is now available on www.geograph.org.uk, although our 'home page' needs a bit of tidying – put 'milestone' into the Search box and see for yourself. We are very lucky that John Turner, an experienced 'Geographer' is now guardian of our presence on the site – please send your updates to him at geograph@milestonesociety.co.uk or upload them direct yourself.

Other News

The 20 years old 'Images of England' website by English Heritage is due for retirement next year and some of the image links in our Repository are to that, so John Armstrong has been in discussion with them about preserving these in the future.



A separate activity by Historic England (formerly part of English Heritage) is 'Enrich the List', asking the public to add to the records of Listed buildings, including milestones of course. And over 2000 milestones are listed! We've been asked to contribute and Val Best has agreed to take on this long winded chore, adding links to our images one at a time.

Ordnance Survey has uploaded our Repository to its 'Points of Interest' section, another opportunity for the public to learn about milestones. Alan Reade promoted a series of advertisements in the '*Great Outdoors*' magazine to the same end last Spring.

But what about the HERs, the Historic Environment Records, consulted by the professionals working in our field?! Back in 2014, Alan Rosevear worked with ADS, the York University department which manages the Heritage Gateway software, to upload all that we had logged at that time. We've added a great deal of material since – so we are now working with them again to bring the HERs up to date.

Then there are our activities recorded in video on YouTube – just enter 'Milestone Society' to view the playlist.

And if you aren't a fan of Facebook, ask a younger person to show you the Milestone Society's Group on there – 600+ members and rising daily, as people enjoy sharing their discoveries with others. These include fingerposts, boundary markers and crosses which are then collated by Mike Rayner.

But without the tireless input of John Armstrong and Mike Faherty, none of these national platforms with their specific formatting requirements would have been accessible to us. Our grateful thanks are due to them as they wind down their

Other News

involvement - as well as to Alan Rosevear who started the whole database project 20 years ago!

Jan Scrine

Milestone, Old Marlborough Road, Wiltshire

Salisbury Museum has the local newspaper's (*The Salisbury Journal*) archive of negatives from 1953. A group of volunteers have been scanning them now for several years and have completed from 1953 to 1981, a total so far of 65,800. These images record the history of Salisbury and its surrounds. Three images of interest to the Milestone Society have recently been discovered. They date from April 1981, before the Milestone Society was formed. The museum doesn't have the archive of the newspapers so the only information we have so far is "Milestone planted on Old Marlborough Road - Bulford". The new milestone says "To Salisbury XII Miles To Marlborough XV". Did the army accidentally run over the old one with one of their tanks? What is the story behind these three images? - an interesting piece of research for a milestone enthusiast.

Alan Clarke



Replacement milestone



Old Bulford Road



Original milestone

Mike Faherty informs me that the milestone is MLSA15R and has the date 1980 on the back, and he assumes that the original was knocked over by a heavy MOD vehicle.

Defaced Milestones

In response to Ian Thompson's enquiry regarding the defacing of a guidestone in County Monmouth (NL37p45) I can confirm that the directions shown are correct and once stated TO LANDOGO 1½ / TO TINTERN 2½. The marker stands in woodland between Trelleck and Llandogo. This is one of two milestones on the hillside lane branching from the A466 at Llandogo Village Green. The lower stone is likewise defaced but bore the inscription BIGSWEAR 3 / TRELLECK 1 ½ and has the initials O.S. inscribed on the same face. Both display the bench-mark arrow

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According to Act 5 Geo IV cap 29 the milestones were erected on the lane leading “from the village of Trelleck to the said intended Bridge”. All the routes in the 1824 Act “shall be called the Abbey Tintern and Bigswear Roads”, and in addition to the usual legal provisions, the Trustees specifically sought approval for a new bridge across the tidal river Wye “near to a Place called Pilston Farm”. This location occurs at the bottom of a steep lane on the eastern side of the valley which drops down from the settlement of Mork in neighbouring Gloucestershire. The crossing, called Bigswear Bridge, has at its western end a tollhouse, now boarded up and empty, which was the northerly tollbar on the new road (A466) paralleling the river Wye.

This highway replaced a tortuous ‘highland’ road (B4293) between Monmouth and St.Arvals. At the junction of these two routes stands a former tollhouse, now a private residence, which was the southerly tollbar created within the Act. Curiously, the Act, of eighteen pages, has no separate reference for the erection of milestones, but Clause 17 concerning the construction of roads briefly states that “pulling up or damaging any Mile Stone” will be subject to a £5 fine. Further evidence, that the Act covered several hilly side lanes in the two counties of Monmouth and Gloucester, is given in Schedule A which, together with other roads, records property and ownership on the “Trelleck and Whitebrook Branches”.

Along the main A466, the direct route which follows the Wye valley into Chepstow, several markers survive each indicating 16 miles between the two towns. One example outside the Wye Valley Hotel in Tintern records ‘Monmouth 10 Miles’.

Michael Knight



Defaced Trellech milestones



Tintern milestone

Photos: Michael Knight

Bislich. Germany

A large limestone block about one metre cube was discovered beside a dyke in the village of Bislich on the right bank of the river Rhine about 30 miles inside the German border from Holland. Inscribed on all sides are characters explaining its use and location. This stone has since been discovered to be one of a series, each ten kilometres apart, paralleling a former course of the meandering river from the zero point at Basel, Switzerland, to its North Sea discharge at Rotterdam. A metal plaque at the stone's base, here translated, indicates that the project to measure the route was underway before the Unification of Germany in 1871. Some States and Duchies had yet to be incorporated. Interestingly, the Continental mean sea level during this period was located at Amsterdam (A.P.= Amsterdamer Pegel); in Britain the m.s.l. was at Liverpool. The length of the Rhine from Basel to Rotterdam was then 824.450 kilometres of navigation. Stone No.65 (LXV) is located 650.000 kilometres downstream of the Old Basel Bridge and 36.703 kilometres short of the Dutch border.

Michael Knight

Roman Milestones Revisited

I can offer additional comments to Ian Thompson's discussion on Roman 'Waymarkers' (M & W Vol. 11) by giving details of a 'pillar' now standing in Peterborough Museum. This may add to the academic furore raised by Lionel Scott in the same Journal. This necessarily seeks answers as to where in our Society's remit we place pre- and post- Turnpike era wayside 'pillars'. The Peterborough specimen was found somewhere in the parish of Chesterton, through which the line of the former Ermine Street passes. Chesterton, originally in the County of Huntingdon, is located just south of the meandering river Nene and is now absorbed within greater Peterborough. The parish also retains evidence of a Roman Town called DVROBRIVAE [TL1296]. This site now lies within a mile or so of the expansive East of England Showground, just off the modern A1 trunk road. On page 24 Ian correctly dates the South Wales PYLE stone (SS 827822) to 269-271 AD which concurs with the Chesterton stone. There is little difference in the inscriptions when compared, albeit that the mason on the latter gives a fuller and more glowing dedication to his erstwhile 'emperor' (sic) in Rome.

Pyle: IMP M C PIAVONIO VICTORINA AUG (refer p.24 for translation)

Chesterton IMP CAES MARCO PIAONIO VICTORINO P F AUG PMTR (the Museum plaque adds P [pius] F [felix] PM [priest] TR [tribune])

However there is neither mileage numbers nor destination, though it is curious to see that the inscriptions on the Leicester Museum specimen (p. 30) and those on the Peterborough stone are both highlighted in red.

Other News

Incidentally, the archaeological remains listed in the O.S. "Roman Britain" map, 4th edition 1994 do include 'Milestones', and noted is the Roman mile equal to 1480 metres (Ian's 1620 and Lionel's 1618.5 yards).

Contributions from other Society members could add fuel to this interesting and commendable combustion of research and hypothesis

This site should not be confused with a town of the same name, which is Rochester in Kent.

Michael Knight



Peterborough Museum Photos: Michael Knight

Reading backwards

Now that more and more of the Society's publications are also available on-line on our website <https://www.milestonesociety.co.uk/publications/> you might think there is less demand for back copies in the traditional print format. Not so, as interest remains in back stock of our *Newsletter* (37 issues up to the end of 2019) and our Journal *Milestones & Waymarkers*, in eleven volumes since 2004, a rich resource extending over nearly twenty years. Perhaps you are missing a copy or two from your own run on the bookshelf, or want to build up afresh? And why not?

The Society offers most of its publications as back copies, subject only to a modest charge per copy for non-members and (new for 2020) *free-of-charge* to existing members on proof of membership number. All sales are subject to actual p&p costs at the time of order. For an information sheet on the range currently available, contact David Viner by email on dv@milestonesociety.co.uk, or by post to 8 Tower Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1EF.

Book Review

Milestones of the Union Canal by Jim Lonie

Having ridden along the whole of the Union Canal except through the tunnel I can appreciate this excellent 76 page illustrated booklet showing the milestones along the 31½ miles between Edinburgh and the Forth Clyde Canal near Falkirk. The canal was opened in 1882, follows the contours but the 690yd tunnel was excavated so that the owner of Callendar House wouldn't have the sight of the industrial cargoes bringing down the tone of his land! This now leads towards a new three-quarter mile section to the top of the Falkirk Wheel. As well as pictures of the milestones there are three stones which mark the boundary between each of the four stages completed with the canal being started at the Edinburgh end. The square plan, shallow pyramidal topped stones set front edge to the canal were placed at half mile intervals. When the restoration of the canal began in the 1960s only about a third of the original stones remained, but missing stones have been replaced with the mileage on each face inscribed in a similar elegant style. Two of the old stones are at the small museum run by the Linlithgow Union Canal Society; however two of the new stones have gone missing since 2010. The booklet doesn't mention the excellent, rideable, well-used towpath with three long aqueducts high over the rivers Avon, Almond and Leith. However, the front and back cover shows one of these all of which I chose to walk over! There are elegant bridges, some interesting cast iron information plaques at Ratho and also wooden sculptures. There are many access points, so when visiting the area it is easy to reach the canal and enjoy the milestones, views, flora and fauna and of course the antics of the boaters and canoeists. My next visit must include the 5 foot towpath through the now LED lighted tunnel which has the 30-mile stone. Would that have been easy to see with the original oil lamps?

The booklet is available from Jim Lonie or at the Canal Museum. Contact Jim at jimlonie@gmail.com

Christine Minto



Union Canal milestones EUC24 and EUC31 *Photos: Christine Minto*

Looking Ahead

The Milestone Society's AGM and Annual Conference will be held on Saturday 3rd October 2020 - twenty years since the inaugural 'Study Day' set up at the Black Country Museum by Terry Keegan and a few like minded enthusiasts...

The venue is Frenchay Village Hall, Bristol and the speakers will be Andrew Langdon on Cornish Wayside Crosses, Tim Jenkinson on Dartmoor Boundary Stones and Richard Raynsford on the development of historic routes in England.



Tremore Cross, Lanivet

Further details will be included in the Summer edition of the Newsletter but to whet your appetite Andrew Landon has sent pictures of Tremore Cross, Lanivet and Predannack Cross, Mullion.



Predannack Cross, Mullion *Photos: Andrew Langdon*

And Finally

I visited the Isle of Man in 2019, forty years after my first visit. It hadn't changed much but I was disappointed to find that the iconic cast iron mileposts with the Isle of Man symbol on them were poorly maintained much, like other countries in the UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



Ballaugh, Isle of Man
Photo: Richard Raynsford

County Contacts

The following is an up-dated list of county contacts. Please contact the appropriate person if you have any local enquiries. For other information or if you would consider becoming the contact for any of the vacant counties, please contact one of the Society's Officers.

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Buckinghamshire	Peter Gulland	01844 291154	
Cambridgeshire	Mike W Hallett		mwh@milestonesociety.co.uk
Cornwall	Ian Thompson		i.thompson029@btinternet.com
Cumberland	Terry Moore	01228 675314	terrymoore@live.com
Derbyshire	Paul Gibbons	01773 832864	tram99@thersr.org
Devon	Tim Jenkinson	01626 824808	jatpjenk@outlook.com
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Looking Ahead

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER FOR July 2020

Contributions for inclusions in the July *Newsletter* should reach the editor Richard Raynsford by 30th June, 2020. Contributions are accepted on the understanding that the editor reserves the right to modify submitted material to achieve a suitable length or style consistent with the overall size, aims and content of the publication. Submission of articles in electronic form using Microsoft Word (*.doc, *.docx or *.rtf) or Open Document Format (*.odt) and pictures in high definition JPEG or PNG format (*.jpg or *.png) is particularly convenient but paper copy is also acceptable. Please note that due to postage costs, material submitted is not normally returned unless specifically requested.

E-mail the editor at newsletter@milestonesociety.co.uk or call Richard Raynsford on 01749 890418 for further information and address details

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Wanted !!

Hon Sec for the Society

The Hon Sec is part of the public face of the Society, the first point of contact for general enquiries. It is an important function but you'll have plenty of support: we have a capable Minutes Secretary and a Restoration guru in place already. If you can use email and can fill in forms, you can do the job – please help us to keep going!!

Duties include arranging and attending two committee meetings (currently held in Coventry) and the AGM each year and serving as our Registered Office.

To find out more or express an interest, please contact
John Atkinson, honsec@milestonesociety.co.uk
or our Chair, Rob Westlake, rww@milestonesociety.co.uk

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To
Salisbury
XII Miles

To
Marlboro
XV