

# WHAT CAN BE DONE ?

## Lois shows us the steps at Cranham



This bridleway leads down from the lovely Saltridge Woods, passes Brook Farm and continues to the edge of Cranham (and the award-winning Black Horse pub!) but hardly any riders risked using it, because this section is very steep and narrow, and had become especially difficult, due to some trappy, exposed tree roots which presented serious trip hazards to horses (and to walkers) – my wellingtons are deep in mud behind two of those roots.

GCC Public Rights of Way Officer Jaci Harris agreed the need to improve the surface over this section, and negotiated permission from Natural England and the National Trust for this work to be done.

With materials provided by Jaci, a party from the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens Service led by Ray Crabb carried out the work: installing three well-spaced shallow steps to cover the exposed tree roots; cutting back over-hanging branches; and repairing the adjacent fence, the wires of which had broken in several places, leaving snaggy trailing ends.

Mention must also be made of the kindness of the adjacent landowners, Mr. & Mrs. Turnham, who assisted the Wardens by allowing them to store the materials needed for the job on their land, accommodated the Wardens with car parking, and helped them with the actual work.

What an improvement! Many thanks to Jaci, Ray, Mr. & Mrs. Turnham, and everyone involved!



The British Horse Society gives advice on putting in steps for horse in section 7 of their leaflet **Standards and Dimensions**

[http://www.bhs.org.uk/About\\_us/Free\\_Leaflets/Rights\\_of\\_Way.aspx](http://www.bhs.org.uk/About_us/Free_Leaflets/Rights_of_Way.aspx)

It isn't always possible to fit in the recommended sizes exactly, so each project should be assessed for the safest possible results in the circumstances.