

SEPT 29 TO OCTOBER 1, 2006

IMBA AGM at Kielder Forest

The 2006 IMBA AGM is to be jointly organised with the Forestry Commission over three days, to include talks, workshops and rides. The itinerary is as follows:

Friday, 29 September

Managing trails for mtb'ers: a one-day conference for land managers, which members are welcome to attend.

Saturday, 30 September

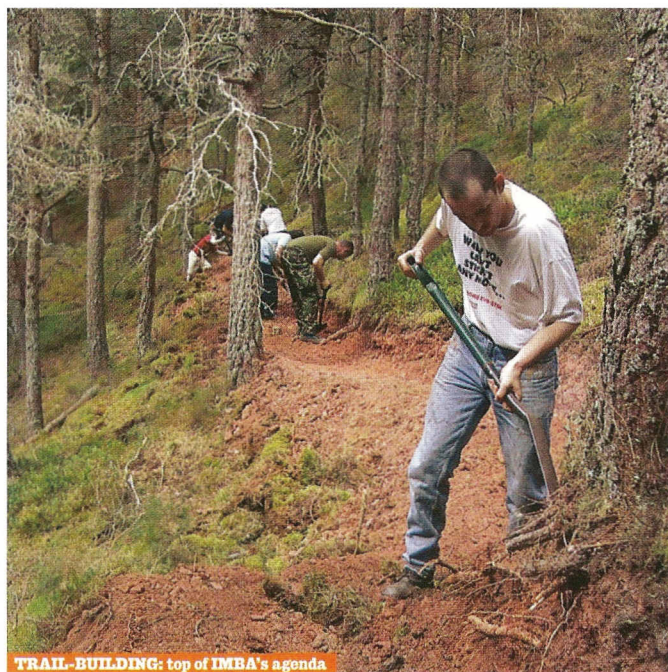
Day: trail-building workshop led by IMBA-UK vice president Dafydd Davis

Evening: AGM and open meeting

Sunday, 1 October

Forest and moorland rides.

It looks set to be a great weekend — so mark it in your diaries.



TRAIL-BUILDING: top of IMBA's agenda

DARTMOOR BIKE BUS

Heading west this summer?

IMBA has learned that some robust linear Sunday routes have been made more feasible on Dartmoor following the launch of the Dartmoor Freewheeler bike and bus service, which runs to 22nd October. The service is free (yes really) and uses a minibus plus 12-bike trailer. Booking is advisable via the Tourist Centre on 01822 890414.

The monthly rota is:

1st (& 5th) Sunday	Saltrum-Princetown
2nd Sunday	Newton Abbot-Moretonhampstead
3rd Sunday	Plymouth-Okehampton
4th Sunday	Buckfastleigh-Postbridge

Full details, including suggested routes at:

www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/index/visiting/v1-enjoyingdartmoor/v1-cycling.htm

BIKE SHORTS

SCOTTISH FORESTRY STRATEGY

Scottish riders wishing to influence the way in which the Forestry Commission in Scotland will manage their trails in the future may care to comment on the draft strategy to be found at: www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-6ntcy2.

Comments and suggestions to mtbscotlandstudy@forestry.gsi.gov.uk by July 21.

Thanks to IMBA Scottish member Gary Fairley for this item.

NEW IMBA MAN IN THE SOUTH-WEST

Chris Reville has now taken on the regional coordinator role in the SW. Chris has been active in working with the Forestry Commission to assist in the development of the SW Forest Mtb Feasibility study.

More details are on the contact page at IMBA-UK.com

TRAIL-BUILDING IN 7STANES

Trail-builders at 7stanes are looking to drum up numbers for a trail-building day on July 22.

Details are: Saturday, July 22, Dalbeattie. Meet at the Richorn trailhead at 10am. We'll provide gloves, but you must bring your own steel toe-capped footwear. Contact Andy or Julie for more details on 01387 272440.



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

2006 Mtb Review

IMBA was asked recently by the Byways and Bridleways Trust to write an article for its newsletter reviewing the progress of mountain biking over the last two decades, and indulging in a little crystal ball gazing.

This article has since been published, and can be found at www.IMBA-UK.com in the 'Research and Reports' section.

US 'trail impacts and solutions' study available

A new study 'Assessing and Understanding Trail Degradation: Results from Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area' by Dr Jeffrey L. Marion of Virginia Tech University has just been published.

The research was conducted on 78 miles of shared-use and single-use trails at BSFNRA, located in Kentucky and Tennessee, to assist the park with their Road Trails Management Plan.

Dr Marion's research quantifies the trail impacts of different user groups and offers guidance on sustainable trail design, construction and management. The study also provides state-of-the-art trail assessment and monitoring procedures.

The study can be found at the US IMBA website: www.imba.com/resources/science/marion_nps_report_intro.html.



SINGLETRACK: WHAT'S the impact?