



Horseytalk.net BRIDLEWAYS WATCH

Bridleway Gates.

Is this the answer to our prayers?
A bridleway gate with minimum dangers for horse and rider

It was spotted by John Britt from Maidstone. It's along a stretch of the North Downs Way/ Pilgrims Way just north of Lenham, Kent.

Agreed, it's not perfect. But it solves most of the problems



- It's safe for horse and rider
- It prevents 4X4s and quad bikes from getting on to bridleways
- It will stop most motorbikes. Some riders will, of course, try and lift their bikes over the barrier but it is still a severe warning to them.
- Cattle. Most people feel that it will act as a barrier to most cattle at most times. The exception, of course, being if they are spooked and rushing to escape. But how often does that happen?
- The gate in the photograph is, obviously, a six-foot gate. But if it's possible to make a six-foot gate, it must be possible to make a four-foot gate

As John Britt says, "Clearly it isn't perfect. Then nothing is really likely to be, is it?"

But three questions.

1. Is it better than most of our existing bridleway gates?
2. Is it likely to cause less harm to horse and rider than our existing bridleway gates?
3. How worried should we be that cattle MIGHT escape over it in the UNLIKELY chance that they are spooked and trying to escape?

Tell us what you think. [Email](#) or air your views on the [forum](#)