

LANCASHIRE RAIL RAMBLERS - WHO ARE WE?

We are a diverse and friendly group of people who enjoy walking in the beautiful countryside of north west England. As our title suggests, we are particularly keen to use public transport to reach our destinations and we have been promoting this idea for over thirty-five years.

We are not a walking club as such, we don't have a membership fee and we are open to all. Our supporters obtain one of the walks programmes or find details of our activities on the internet, catch the relevant train and join us at the station where our walks start. One of our leaders will be there to meet the party. Some of our supporters are regulars, some are occasional and all who turn up are made to feel welcome.

Our activities and walks are co-ordinated by a group of walks leaders who are all members of the Ramblers Association. Our walks vary in length and difficulty to suit all needs and graded as below:

A & B walks :-	Strenuous	walks may be rough, steep, lengthy or against the clock
C walks :-	Moderate	no scrambling - suitable for experienced energetic walkers
D walks :-	Moderately easy	a generally easy walk that may include steep climbs.
E walks :-	Easy	a slower pace than for moderately easy walks with short rest periods
F,G,& H walks :-	Easy stroll	suitable for those not accustomed to walking in the countryside

Should you have any doubts about your capabilities then avoid strenuous grade walks. For all walks you must have strong footwear, warm clothing and rainwear. On most walks stops are made for lunch or tea, so remember to bring your own food and always bring plenty to drink.

If you enjoy walking in interesting places and want to discover more of our region without using your car the Rail Ramblers are the ideal way to do so. For further information visit www.railramblers.wordpress.com or send a sae to Craig Ward, 19 Hollowhead Avenue, Wilpshire, Blackburn BB1 9LD Tel. 01254 240526.

We look forward to seeing you on one of our walks.

Participants on these guided walks are asked to be aware of and accept the following conditions:

Walk leaders will be entitled to refuse permission on a walk if the leader judges the person is not fit or adequately clothed for the walk concerned.

Leaders may vary the walk if the conditions are judged to be unsuitable.

Walkers' safety is their own responsibility.

No liability or claim can be accepted by Rail Ramblers Committee or leaders for any loss damage, accident or personal injury howsoever caused.

DALESRAIL 2022

If you would like to use public transport to get to the Yorkshire Dales, Eden Valley and the North Pennines and have a scenic ride, then why not use the DalesRail service which runs from Blackpool to Carlisle via Preston, Blackburn, the Ribble Valley and Settle to Carlisle Railway.

A full programme of guided walks is organised from the train. DalesRail runs on Sundays during the summer until 13th September. Pick up a brochure from manned stations, Clitheroe Interchange or tourist offices or visit www.dalesrail.com. A complete programme of walks will be available on the train.

TICKET INFORMATION

Because there are so many ticket options available for travel in our region it is best to check the Day Return fare from your starting point to your destination and apply your Railcard discount if you have a Railcard. Northern sometimes offer Advance tickets on some routes on certain trains as these may be available for your journey.

Also it may be worth considering the GM Wayfarer ticket available for travel onwards from Darwen and Chorley to stations within the Wayfarer boundaries (see the GM Wayfarer website). GM Wayfarers cost £15.20 (£10.05 for those who hold a Senior Bus Pass). These tickets can be bought from manned stations, ticket machines and from train conductors.

Also worth considering for longer journeys is the Explorer 55 ticket. It is available to those aged 55 and over and costs £16.50 (no Railcard discounts) and can be used all day Saturday but only on Northern trains.

FUTURE DESTINATIONS - 2023

Hebden Bridge	7 th January
Alderley Edge	14 th January
Ulverston	4 th February
Marple & Goyt Valley	18 th February
Greenfield	4 th March
Kendal	18 th March
Edale	1 st April
Manchester Town & Country	15 th April
Sefton Coast	6 th May
Buxton & Beyond	3 rd June



NOTE RE. TRAIN TIMES:

The train timetables are expected to change in December 2021. Please check our website for any changes.

SATURDAY 3rd December 2022 – Bolton/Horwich

C WALK - 11 miles moderate

Alight and return Horwich Parkway

Horwich Parkway – Bottom o'th Moor – Wilders Wood – Two Lads – Holden's Farm – Dean Smith Reservoir – Winter Hill – Rivington Pike – Harts Horses – Horwich Parkway.

Leader: John Howarth

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 287 – West Pennine Moors

D WALK – 9 miles moderate

Alight and return Bolton

Bolton's Back Yard. Bolton Station – Bus to Halliwell – Smithills Country Park – Smithills Hall – Smithills – Victoria Lake – Barow Bridge – Walker Fold Farm – Walker Fold – Burnt Edge – Wilders Moor – Pike Cottage – Rivington Pike – Japanese Gardens – Rivington Hall Barn – Lever Park – The Castle – Rivington Lodge – Bolton Road – Bus to Bolton.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 287 – West Pennine Moors.

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at both Horwich Parkway and Bolton Stations for 1000 to allow for connecting trains to arrive.

Connecting train to Horwich Parkway and Bolton departs Blackpool North at 0859, Preston 0922 & Chorley 0936. This train will arrive at Horwich Parkway at 0943 and Bolton at 0951. Connections from Clitheroe 0825, Blackburn 0848 arrive Bolton 0916 depart Bolton for Horwich Parkway at 0921 and 0950. From other stations please check times on National Rail website. From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

SATURDAY 17th December 2022 – Clitheroe

B WALK – 13.5 miles strenuous

Alight and return Clitheroe

Clitheroe – Twinbrook Farm – Worston – Worsaw End – Longlands Wood – Downham – Clay House – Lane Head – Hecklin Farm – Ravens Holme – Brownlow – Colne Gate – Salt Pie – Windy Harbour Farm – Pendle Side – Pendle Big End – Scout Cairn – Little Mearley Wood – Little Mearley Hall – High Moor – Clitheroe.

Leader: Chris Dibbs

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale

E WALK – 8 miles moderately strenuous

Alight Clitheroe return Whalley.

Clitheroe – Little Moor – Standen Hall – Pendleton – Wymondhouses – Nick of Pendle – The Rough – Wiswell Moor Houses – Wiswell Wireless Station – Sheep Cote Farm – Deer Park Wood – Clerk Hill – Spring Wood (circular tour) – Whalley.

Leader: John Barnes

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale

Ordnance Survey Explorer 287 – West Pennine Moors

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will meet at Clitheroe Station after the arrival of the following trains at 0956.

Connections to Clitheroe from Preston at 0856 (change at Blackburn), Bamber Bridge 0905 (change at Blackburn) Bolton 0900, Accrington 0912 (change at Blackburn). From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

SATURDAY 7th January 2023 – Hebden Bridge

B WALK – 12 miles moderately strenuous

Alight and return Hebden Bridge

Hebden Bridge – Wood Top – Buckley Stone – Kilnshaw Lane – Stoodley Pike Monument – Withens Gate – Mankinholes – London Road – Dam Hey – Pennine Way – Pinnacle Lane – Hebble End – Hebden Bridge.

Leader: Chris Thornley

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

E WALK – 8 miles easy

Alight and return Hebden Bridge

Bus to Heptonstall – Calderdale Way – Eaves Wood – Slack – Popples – Knoll Top – Mount Pleasant – Clough Head Mill – Ox Holes – Low Moor – Widdop Gate – Old Railway – Quarry – Gibson Mill – Foul Hill – New Bridge – Lee Mill Bridge – Hebden Water – Hebden Bridge.

Leader: Janice Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall catch the train departing Blackpool North at 0821, Preston 0845, Blackburn 0903, Accrington 0911, Burnley Manchester Road at 0920. Connection from Bamber Bridge at 0806 (change at Blackburn). Connection from Manchester Victoria at 0921. Return trains to Blackpool North depart Hebden Bridge at 38 past each hour. NB Timetables will change in December so please check our website or National Rail website to confirm timings for this trip.



GUIDED WALKS PROGRAMME July 2022 to January 2023



SATURDAY 2nd July 2022 – Newhey

C WALK – 11 miles moderately strenuous

Alight and return Newhey

Newhey – May Hill – Rough Bank – Spring Mill – Cold Greave – Ben Heys – Lads Grave – Aggin Stone – Lydgate – Tunshill Lane – Carr Farm – Newhey.

Leader: John Howarth

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

E WALK – 7.5 miles moderately easy

Alight and Newhey return Littleborough

Four Reservoirs and a Lake. Newhey – Bradley – Newfield Head – Carr Lane – Ogden Reservoir – Rochdale Way – Kitcliffe Reservoir – Piethorn Reservoir – Cold Greave – Turf Hill – Tunstall Lane – Castle Hill – Rakewood – Hollingworth Lake – Weighver's Way – Eales – Littleborough.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at Rochdale Station at 1015. Connections from Blackpool North 0800, Preston 0823, Chorley 0835, Bolton 0851, 0916. Clitheroe 0825, Blackburn 0848. Accrington 0911, Burnley Manchester Road 0919. For other stations please check times on National Rail website.

SATURDAY 6th August 2022 – Glazebrook & Irlam

C WALK – 11.5 miles moderately easy

Alight Glazebrook return Salford or Manchester

Glazebrook Station – Brush Farm – Glazebrook Trail – Great Woolden Hall Farm – M62 – Little Woolden Hall – Moss House Farm – Light Oaks Hall – Glazebrook Trail – Hawk Hurst Farm – Grange Farm – Sewage Works – Aspull Common – Sorrowcrow Farm – Mossley Hall – Pennington Flash Country Park – Leeds and Liverpool Canal Leigh Branch – Leigh – Bus to Salford, Warrington or Manchester.

Leader: Ken Hall

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 276 – Bolton, Wigan & Warrington

E WALK – 8.5 miles easy

Alight Glazebrook return Irlam

Two Trails Tour. Glazebrook Station – Brush Farm – Glazebrook Trail – Great Woolden Farm – M62 – Keepers Cottage – Little Woolden Hall – Moss House Farm – Salford Trail – Moss Side Farm – Little Woolden Moss – Ringing Pits Farm – M62 – Cadishead Moss – Salford Trail – Irlam Station.

Leader: David Pryer

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 276 – Bolton, Wigan & Warrington

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will catch the 1015 train from Manchester Oxford Road to Glazebrook.

Connections to Manchester Oxford Road from Blackpool North at 0827, Kirkham 0842, Preston 0855, Chorley 0903, Bolton 0922 & 0954. Clitheroe 0825 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0848 (change at Bolton). Accrington 0813 (change at Blackburn and Bolton).

Frequent return service from Irlam to Manchester Oxford Road.

For other times please check on National Rail website.



SATURDAY 17th September 2022 – Disley

C WALK – 13 miles moderate

Alight and return Disley

Disley – Ladybrook Valley Interest Trail – Brookside Farm – Middlewood – Middlewood Way – Wood Lanes – Unwinpool – Birchencliff – Moorside Lane – Pott Shrigley – Berristall Hall – Brink Farm – Gritstone Trail – Sponds Hill – Bowstonegate – Lyme Park – Cage Hill – Disley

Leader: Chris Thornley

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL1 – The Peak District Dark Peak Area

E WALK – 8.5 miles moderate

Alight and return Disley

Disley – Cockhead – Bollinhurst Bridge – East Lodge – Cock Knoll – Cornfield Farm – Todd Brook – Kettlethulme – Lower Cliff Farm – Sweet Hill – Bowstonegate – Gritstone Trail – Lyme Park – Cage Hill – Disley.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL1 – The Peak District Dark Peak Area

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at Manchester Piccadilly to catch the 1008 Buxton Train. Connections from Blackpool North 0827, Kirkham 0842, Preston 0847 or 0855, Chorley 0906, Bolton 0907 or 0922. Clitheroe 0825 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0848 (change at Bolton). Accrington 0813 (change at Blackburn and Bolton, Burnley Manchester Road 0732 (change at Manchester Victoria). From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

Return from Disley at 26 minutes past each hour.



SATURDAY 1st October 2022 – Warrington

C WALK – 13 miles moderate

Alight and return Warrington Bank Quay.

Warrington Bank Quay – Transporter Bridge – Moore Nature Reserve – Moore – Bridgewater Canal – Daresbury Firs – Daresbury Lane – Common Side Farm – Goose Lane (Hatton) – Delamere Way – Park Lane – Hillcliffe – Stockton Heath – Latchford – Victoria Park – Merset Way – Bridgefoot – Warrington Bank Quay.

Leader: Ken Hall

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 276 – Bolton, Wigan & Warrington

D WALK – 9.5 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Warrington Bank Quay

The wonders of Warrington. Warrington Bank Quay – Transporter Bridge – Mersey Way – Howley – Paddington Meadows Nature Reserve – Woolston New Cut – Woolston Weir – Manchester Ship Canal – Thelwall Ferry – Thelwall – Cheshire Ring Canal Walk – Lymm – Bus to Warrington.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 276 – Bolton, Wigan & Warrington

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will meet at Warrington Bank Quay Station at 0950. Connections from Blackpool North 0827 (change at Preston), Kirkham 0842 (change at Preston), Preston 0917, Chorley 0834 (change at Preston). Clitheroe 0725 (change at Manchester Victoria to the Chester train), Accrington 0813 (change at Preston), Burnley Manchester Road 0732 (change at Manchester Victoria to the Chester train), Blackburn 0821 (change at Preston). Check times on National Rail website.

Return from Warrington Bank Quay to Preston at 14 min & 27 min past each hour.

Return from Warrington Bank Quay to Manchester Victoria at 1414, 1545, 1645, 1746.

SATURDAY 15th October 2022 – Rufford & Ormskirk

C WALK – 11 miles moderate

Alight Rufford return Burscough

Rufford for the Nature reserves. Rufford – Mere End – Around Mere Sands Wood Reserve – Sandy Way – Tarsclough Moss – Around Martin Mere Reserve – Satloom – West Bank Farm – Leeds & Liverpool Canal – Burscough.

Leader: Roger Fairclough

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 285 – Southport & Chorley

E WALK

Alight and return Ormskirk.

On Board for Ormskirk. For the bells of Burscough Priory and the Gallery of the Buck.

For the Court No.5, The Constable's Door and the Cock Fighting Earl. Let us search for Swan Alley. Our Skem, The Old Ship and, of course, not forgetting Snig Foot. Come.

Leader: Stuart Leese

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 285 – Southport & Chorley

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will catch the 0926 Ormskirk train from Preston. Connections from Blackpool North at 0827 (change at Preston), Kirkham 0842 (change at Preston), Chorley 0834 (change at Preston). Clitheroe 0825 (change at Blackburn and Preston), Blackburn 0854 (change at Preston). Accrington 0841 (change at Preston), Burnley Central 0824 (change at Preston).

Return from Ormskirk at 01 minutes past, Rufford 11 minutes past each hour.

From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

SATURDAY 5th November 2022 – Delamere

B WALK – 11 miles moderate

Alight and return Delamere

Delamere – Eddisbury Lodge – Sandstone Trail – Summertrees – Boothsdales – Castle Hill – Dodds Rough – Brines Brow – Delamere.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest

E WALK – 8 miles easy

Alight and return Delamere

Blakemere Moss – Hunger Hill – Pinewood Farm – Kingswood Cottage – Sandstone Trail – Eddisbury Lodge – Pale Heights – Visitor Centre.

Leader: David Pryer

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will catch the 0939 Chester train from Manchester Piccadilly. Connections from Blackpool North 0757, Kirkham 0812, Preston 0823, Chorley 0836, Bolton 0853. Clitheroe 0725 (change at Salford Crescent), Blackburn 0748 (change at Salford Crescent), Accrington 0714 (change at Blackburn and Salford Crescent). From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

Return from Delamere at 18 minutes past each hour.

SATURDAY 19th November 2022 - Lancaster

B WALK – 11 miles strenuous

Alight and return Lancaster

Lancaster – Bus to Brookhouse – Littledale Road – New House Farm – Bellhill Farm – Skelbow Barn – Black Fell – Grit Fell – Jubilee Tower – Lower Moor Head – Yeat House Farm – Sefton's Farm – Barrow Greaves – Lancaster University – Bus to Lancaster.

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale

Leader: Nik Grounds

E WALK – 7.5 miles easy

Alight and return Lancaster

Lancaster Station – RC Cathedral – Williamson Park – Ashton Memorial – Lancaster Moor – Grimeshaw Lane – Halton Bridge – Halton – River Lune to Lune Aqueduct – Riverside Park to St. George's Quay – Lancaster Priory – Lancaster Station.

Leader: Janice Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will meet at Preston Station to catch the 0945 Windermere train to Lancaster. Connections from Blackpool North 0859 (change at Preston), Kirkham 0842 (change at Preston), Bolton 0851, Chorley 0906, Burnley Central 0824 (change at Preston), Blackburn 0854 (change at Preston), Accrington 0841 (change at Preston), Blackburn 0854 (change at Preston), Bamber Bridge 0909 (change at Preston). Clitheroe 0825 (change at Blackburn and Preston). From other stations please check times on National Rail website.

Frequent service & trains from Lancaster to Preston.