

## 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:

<b>A &amp; B walks :-</b>	<b>Strenuous</b>	walks may be rough, steep, lengthy or against the clock
<b>C walks :-</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	no scrambling - suitable for experienced energetic walkers
<b>D walks :-</b>	<b>Moderately easy</b>	a generally easy walk that may include steep climbs.
<b>E walks :-</b>	<b>Easy</b>	a slower pace than for moderately easy walks with short rest periods
<b>F,G,&amp; H walks :-</b>	<b>Easy stroll</b>	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 of 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](http://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.

## FUTURE DESTINATIONS - 2024

Forest of Bowland	31 <sup>st</sup> August
Rochdale	28 September
Windemere	12 <sup>th</sup> October
Hathersage	26 <sup>th</sup> October
Silverdale/Arnsdale	9 <sup>th</sup> November
Hadfield	23 <sup>rd</sup> November
West Pennine Moors 2025	14 <sup>th</sup> December
Hebden Bridge	4 <sup>th</sup> January



## NOTE RE. TRAIN TIMES:

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



## SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Liverpool

### An Urban Safari through some of the city's green spaces.

E WALK – 8.5 miles easy

Alight Aigburth return Liverpool Central or Lime Street.

Aigburth Station – Otterspool Promenade – Otterspool Park – Sefton Park – Trans Pennine Trail – Calderstones Park – Allerton Golf Course – Allerton Towers – Allerton Cemetery – Camp Hill – Woolton Woods – Woolton Park – Black Wood – Childwell Woods – Bus to Liverpool City Centre.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 275 - Liverpool

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will meet at Preston Station to catch the 0910 train to Ormskirk and from there change to Merseyrail to Aigburth arriving 1037. Our journey will also call at Liverpool Central at 1028 for those travelling to Liverpool from other directions. Connections to Preston from Blackpool North at 0823, Kirkham 0838, Burnley Central 0806, Accrington 0824, Blackburn 0836, Bamber Bridge 0851, Chorley 0820 & 0841, Leyland 0851, Wigan N.W. 0921 (to Lime Street). Please note: The train from Burnley Central, Accrington & Blackburn forms the 0910 to Ormskirk so stay on the train at Preston.

Return from Liverpool Central to Preston via Ormskirk at 1501, 1601, 1701 and from Lime Street to Preston at 1439, 1539, 1612(Trans Pennine Express), 1639, 1700, 1739.

Ticket information: From stations other than Preston it is probably cheaper to book a Day Return to Aigburth, but from Preston it may be cheaper to buy Advance Singles to/from Ormskirk and a Merseyrail Day Saver from Ormskirk (£5.95). Explorer ticket/ fare options on the National Rail website from all starting points.

## SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – St. Bees/Whitehaven

D WALK - 8 miles moderate

Alight St. Bees return Whitehaven

St Bees – South Head – St. Bees Head – North Head – Quarry Bungalows – The Beacon - Whitehaven

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 303 – Whitehaven & Workington

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will meet at Preston Station to catch the 0842 train to Barrow where we change for St. Bees arriving 1134. Connections to Preston from Burnley central 0706, Accrington 0724, Blackburn 0736, Bamber Bridge 0751, Bolton 0805 (to Barrow), Chorley 0826 (to Barrow), Leyland 0836 (to Barrow), Wigan N.W. 0808 (Northern Train change Preston), Leyland 0826 (change Preston).

Return from Whitehaven at 1621, 1736.

Ticket information: You should buy an Explorer 55 ticket if aged 55 years or over at £17.50 for use on Northern Trains only. This is by far the cheapest option. Please note that the 1621 from Whitehaven requires a 29 minute wait at Lancaster for a Northern train to Preston. The 1736 is a through Northern train to Preston from Barrow.

## SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Forest of Bowland

### Community Rail Ramble

B WALK 10.5 miles moderately strenuous

Alight and return Clitheroe.

Clitheroe – Coach to Dunsop Bridge – River Dunsop – Foot Holme – Costy Clough – Whitendale – Dunsop Head – Wisket Hill – Burn End – Burnside Cottage – Laythams – Parrock Head – Pain Hill – Newton – Newton Bridge – River Hodder to Slaidburn – Coach to Clitheroe.

Leader: Nik Grounds

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

E WALK – 8 miles easy

Alight and return Clitheroe

Clitheroe – Coach to Cow Ark – Radholme Laund – Whitewell – Burholme Bridge – Burholme – Lower Thorneyholme – Mosssthaite – Knowlmer Manor – Giddy Bridge – Foulscals – Newton Bridge – River Hodder to Slaidburn – Coach to Clitheroe.

Leader: John Barnes

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

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at Clitheroe Station at 1001 following the arrival of the train from Manchester Victoria and Blackburn. This train departs Manchester Victoria at 0844, Bolton 0904, Blackburn 0935. Connecting train from Preston at 0844, Bamber Bridge 0833, Burnley Manchester Road 0902, and Accrington 0912. Bus to Slaidburn via Dunsop Bridge (fare extra, no concessions).



## GUIDED WALKS PROGRAMME January 2024 to June 2024





## SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Hebden Bridge

### Community Rail Ramble

B WALK – 13 miles strenuous

Alight and return Hebden Bridge.

Hebden Bridge – Hebden Dale – Walshaw – White Hill – High Rakes – Pennine Way –  
Walshaw Dean Reservoir – Clough Foot – Graining Water – Reaps Coppy – Clough Head Hill –  
Colden Water – Heptonstall – Hebden Bridge.

Leader: John Howarth

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

E WALK – 8 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Hebden Bridge.

Hebden Bridge Station – Bus to Cock Hill – Halfpenny Hole Clough – Rams Greave –  
White Hole – Lane Head – Grain Water Bridge – Baby House Hill – Nook – Coppy – Calder/Aire  
Link – Horodiddle – Walshaw – Walshaw Wood – Hardcastle Crags – Gibson Mill – Foul Scout  
Wood – New Bridge – Lee Mill Bridge – Hebden Water – Nutclough – Hebden Bridge.

Leader: Roger Fairclough

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We will travel on the train which leaves Blackpool North at 0819 calling at Kirkham  
0832, Preston 0842, Blackburn 0904, Accrington 0913 & Burnley Manchester Road 0922.  
Connections from Bamber Bridge at 41 minutes past each hour and 12 minutes past each hour  
(change at Todmorden).

Ticket information: Buy a Day Return to Hebden Bridge.

## SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Fylde Coast

### Community Rail Ramble – The Wyre Way

C and E WALK – 12 miles moderate or 6 miles easy

Alight Poulton le Fylde return Blackpool North.

Poulton le Fylde – Skippool – Nestleton – Wyre Estuary Country Park – Wyre Way –  
Fleetwood Farm – Rossall (for a shorter walk of 6 miles the bus or tram may be taken from here to  
Blackpool North) – Rossall Beach – Cleveleys – Norbreck – Blackpool North.

Leader: Roger Fairclough

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 286 – Blackpool & Preston

Ordnance Survey Explorer 296 – Lancaster, Morecambe & Fleetwood.

TRAVEL DETAILS:

WE shall meet at the entrance to Poulton le Fylde Station at 1000. Trains to Poulton  
depart Preston at 0925, 0935, 0938. Connecting trains to Poulton le Fylde from Burnley Manchester  
Road at 0902, Accrington 0911, Blackburn 0919, Clitheroe 0823 (change at Blackburn), Bolton  
0805 (change at Preston), Chorley 0825 (change at Preston), Leyland 0914, Wigan N.W. 0903,  
Lancaster 0858 (change at Preston).

Frequent return trains from Blackpool North to Preston and beyond.

Ticket information: Book a Day Return to Blackpool North.

## SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 - Kendal

C WALK – 11 miles moderately strenuous

Alight Oxenholme return Kendal

Oxenholme – The Helm – Natland – Wilson Place Footbridge – Sizergh Castle –

Holeslack – Helsington Barrows – Cunswick Scar – Kendal Fell – Kendal.

Leader: Chris Dibbs

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7 – The English Lakes South Eastern Area

Leader:

E WALK – 8.5 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Kendal.

Kendal Station – Riverside Path via Romney Bridge to Scroggs Wood – Helsington Lathes,  
Warriner’s Wood – Helsington Barrows – Cairn – Hodgson’s Lea – Viewpoint – Cunswick Scar –  
Cunswick Fell – Kendal Fell – Kendal.

Leader: Janice Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7 – The English Lakes South Eastern Area

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at Preston o catch the 0945 (Windermere) train to Kendal. This train  
leaves Bolton at 0857, Chorley 0918. Connecting trains to Preston from Burnley Central 0806,  
Accrington 0828, Blackburn 0836, Bamber Bridge 0-851, Lostock Hall 0854, Wigan N.W. 0903  
Leyland 0914. Return train from Kendal at 1614 direct to Preston, Chorley, Bolton. 1741 change at  
Oxenholme.

Ticket information: Either book a Day Return to Kendal or, if using the 1614 return ain consider an  
Explorer 55 ticket costing £17.5 for use on Northern trains only.



## SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – New Mills

C WALK – 12 miles moderately strenuous

Alight and return New Mills Central

New Mills Central – Mousley Bottom – The Barks – Holly Farm – Rowarth – Wethercots  
– Moor Lodge – Gowhole – The Torrs – New Mills Central.

Leader: John Howarth.

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

D WALK – 9 miles moderate

Alight and return New Mills Central.

New Mills Central Station – The Torrs Walkway – Sett Valley Trail to Thornsett –  
Aspenshaw Hall – Thornsett Fields Farm – Rowarth Village – Long Lee Farm – Lantern Pike –  
Pennine Bridleway – Birch Vale – Gibb Hey – Brownhill Farm – Butterbank Plantation – Beard  
Hall Farm – Goyside Farm – River Goyt to New Mills.

Leader: Chris Thornley

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

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at the entrance to Platform 1 at Manchester Piccadilly to catch the 0948  
(Sheffield) train to New Mills Central. Connecting trains to Manchester Piccadilly from Preston  
0809, Chorley 0821, Bolton 0836 & 0854, Wigan Wallgate 0839 (change at Oxford Road),  
Clitheroe 0722 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0747 & 0818 (change at Bolton), Accrington 0724  
& 0801 (change at Blackburn & Bolton).

Return from New Mills Central at 1450, 1501 1534 1602.

Ticket information: Book a Day Return to New Mills Central or consider using an Explorer 55 at  
£17.50 for use on Northern trains only. Today’s journeys are all by Northern Trains.

## SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 - Frodsham

C WALK – 11 miles moderate

Alight and return Frodsham

Frodsham – Sandstone Trail – Memorial Viewpoint – Foxhill – Helsby Hill – Alderhall  
– Shepherds House – Five Crosses Farm – Bradley – Frodsham Bridge – Frodsham.

Leader: Ken Hall

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest.

E WALK - 8.5 miles moderately easy

Alight Frodsham return Helsby.

Frodsham Station – Church Street – Kingsway – Frodsham Hill Memorial – Sandstone  
Trail – Woodhouse Hill – Snidley Moor Wood – Riley Bank – Organ Lot – Bushells Lane – Birch  
Cottage – Maiden’s Cross – Sandstone Trail – Alvanev Cliff – Commonside – Commons Farm  
– North Cheshire Way – Hill Road North – Helsby Hill – Helsby Station.

Leader: David Pryer

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest.

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall meet at Warrington Bank Quay Station to catch the 1017 train to Frodsham.  
There are alternative ways to reach Warrington Bank Quay fro Lancashire depending upon your  
starting point. Either travel direct via the West Coast Main Line via Preston (0918) & Wigan N.W.  
(0931). Connections to Preston to this train from Blackpool North 0823, Kirkham 0838, Leyland  
0857 (change at Wigan). Connections to Preston from Accrington at 0824, Blackburn 0836,  
Bamber Bridge 0851, Chorley 0826. From Clitheroe, Blackburn & Bolton it is also possible to  
travel to Manchester Victoria and catch the 0906 Chester train to Warrington arriving at 0938.  
Depart Clitheroe 0722, Blackburn 0747.

Return Helsby at 1402, 1502, 1602, Frodsham 1406, 1506, 1606.

Ticket information: Book a Day Return to Frodsham. From Clitheroe & Blackburn travelling via  
Manchester Victoria it may be cheaper to buy an Explorer 55 at £17.50 for use on Northern trains  
to Warrington and book a Day Return from Warrington Bank Quay to Frodsham (£7.90) or Helsby  
(£8.30). Please check National Rail for fares.

## SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Manchester Town & Country

C WALK - 11.5 miles moderate

Alight Manchester Piccadilly return Mossley.

Manchester Piccadilly – Medlock Valley Way – Phillips Park – Clayton Vale –

Medlock Vale – Oldham Way – Daisy Nook Country Park – Port Mahon – Broad Carr – Mossley.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 277 – Manchester & Salford.

F WALK – 4 miles easy stroll.

Alight Salford Central return Manchester Oxford Road

**Meandering Manchester.** For Auden’s Way, An Ape and Apple and Abercrombie’s  
Peterloo. For Parrs Banking Hall, The Parson’s Retreat, and the Peverill of the Peak. For Taste  
Alley, Mr. Thomas’ Delights and the intolerant Bishop’s Tomb. We’ll search for Calatras’  
Crossing, The Subterranean Temple and . . . Oh. Yes! That Hidden Gem. Come.

Leader: Stuart Leese

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 277 – Manchester & Salford.

TRAVEL DETAILS:

For the ‘C’ walk we shall meet on the concourse at Manchester Piccadilly at 1000.

Connections to Piccadilly from Blackpool North at 0823, Kirkham 0839, Preston 0851, Leyland  
0857, Wigan Wallgate 0849 (change at Salford Crescent), Chorley 0906, Bolton 0921, Accrington  
0828 (via Todmorden, change Manchester Victoria), Blackburn 0820 (via Todmorden, change  
Manchester Victoria) or 0747 (change at Bolton), Burnley Manchester Road 0839 (change at  
Manchester Victoria). Return from Mossley at 1518, 1618 (change at Stalybridge for Victoria).

For the ‘F’ walk meet at the exit to Salford Central at 1035. Connections from Blackpool  
North ay 0855 (change at Salford Crescent), Kirkham 0908 (change at Salford Crescent), Preston  
0918 (change at Salford Crescent), Leyland 0926 (change at Salford Crescent), Bolton 0949, Wigan  
Wallgate 1007, Accrington 0928 (via Todmorden), Burnley Manchester Road 0939, Clitheroe 0923,  
Blackburn 0948, Bolton 1018. Numerous returns from Oxford Road towards Bolton, Preston etc.

## SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Chester

C WALK – 11 miles moderate

Alight and return Chester

Chester – Baker Way – Shropshire Union Canal – Christleton – Stamford Heath –  
Stamford Bridge – Greysfield – Park Farm – Disused Railway – Chester.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 266 – Wirral & Chester

E WALK – 7.5 miles easy

Alight and return Chester.

Chester Station – Shropshire Union Canal – City Walls to Chester Castle -Dee Bridge  
then by Queens Park and beside the River Dee to Eaton Hall and Aldford – Bus to Chester.

Leader: Peter Walker

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 266-Wirral & Chester

TRAVEL DETAILS:

We shall catch the 0906 Chester train from Manchester Victoria which calls at  
Warrington Bank Quay at 0938. Connecting train to Warrington from Preston at 0901 via the West  
Coast Main Line. For some passengers it may be cheaper and more convenient to travel on Northern  
trains to Manchester Victoria and Chester and return using an Explorer 55 ticket (£17.50) for travel  
on Northern trains only. Otherwise book a day return to Chester.

