

# **The Bowland Transit Club**

## **Newsletter No 15**

**May 2010**



### **B1 between Slaidburn and Settle and on up to Horton-in-Ribblesdale**

Difficulties over the renewal of the B1 contract seem to have been settled. Talking to driver John recently confirmed that his contract has been renewed for another year. However the next driver schedule shows him working with a driver called Paul. Richard is seemingly no longer involved. That is sad news for travellers who appreciate Richard's fund of knowledge about the local wildlife.

### **Dales and Bowland CIC**

With most if not all requests for funding having now received replies, the news is not as good as had been hoped. In particular it will not be possible to run the Ingleborough Pony service other than the buses to position the Northern Dalesman (from Ribblesdale to Hawes and Swaledale and back). The positioning run is from Settle market place at 0935 to Ribblesdale via Austwick, Clapham village, Ingleton Community Centre, White Scar Caves, and the Hill Inn at Chapel-le-Dale. It returns at 1800 from Ribblesdale by the reverse of the above route until Austwick from where it proceeds to Giggleswick station, Settle station and Settle market place. This may make linear walks using bus and Morecambe line easier.

However there is to be an extra bus serving Dentdale on summer Saturdays. This will make day trips using train and bus a little easier.

The Malham Tarn Shuttle is also cut back due to changes in funding. It will no longer start from Ilkley and travel along the A65 to Settle. Instead it will start from Skipton and proceed straight to Malham. From there it will shuttle back and forth to Malham Tarn and Settle. The last bus in the day goes on from Malham to Skipton. This part of the service is being run under the National Trust banner and Dales Rover tickets are not valid on it. The periods when this service will run have been reduced to Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays during the school Easter and summer holidays. The main shuttle to Malham is between Ilkley and Malham and is run several times a day by Jacksons as before.

### **Long Preston Wet Grassland Project**

Newsletter 13 referred to the Ribblesdale lake. Others call it Long Preston Deep. The title above is the formal name covering work in this area between Cow Bridge and the point just south of Settle where the railway to Giggleswick crosses the valley. It is a vast area with limited access, and the birds love it. It is particularly important for both

breeding waders and birds over wintering. The area is also full of archaeological interest.

The writer recently attended an interesting lecture to members of the Yorkshire Dales Society. Unfortunately she did not make it to the walk which preceded it - those who did returned full of enthusiasm. The project is supported by 11 organisations and has been going since 2004. This second phase of work is orientated towards more public involvement and education. A newsletter has been published; two local schools are now involved; there have been a few led walks with more planned (see local publicity).

How can you visit? If not part of an organised party you have access to the Ribble Way which is being upgraded in the area. The Pennine Bridleway runs at the edge of the area with aspects of the route south of the national park currently being finalised. There are public footpaths around Wigglesworth which are to be promoted as the Wigglesworth Wader Walk.

The writer checked current timetables and decided that it would be possible to get the B1 north from Slaidburn, alight near Rathmell, pick up the Ribble Way south, proceed to Cow Bridge, walk carefully up the road to Long Preston, stop for a cup of tea or a pint if you wish, catch the 580 back to Settle (it runs hourly) and arrive in time for a return B1.

Readers who have already scanned this year's Festival Bowland events information will probably have spotted that there is an opportunity to go on a led walk in the area on Thursday 3 June. It starts from Long Preston railway station at 14.00. The blurb says:

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Take this unique opportunity to visit an area which is being transformed into a spectacular haven for breeding wading birds and other amazing wildlife. All ages welcome.

Booking Essential:

Contact Pam Bradley on 01524 581 001

or email [pam.bradley@rspb.org.uk](mailto:pam.bradley@rspb.org.uk)

The cost is £4; it is expected to last 2 hours; it is graded moderate.

### **Bowland Transit Club AGM - Friday 7 May 2010**

The AGM will take place at Clitheroe Library starting at 13.30.

Chairman and Walks Coordinator Brian Holden thanks all those who have turned out, sometimes in poor weather, to support the walks, and he extends special thanks to the walk leaders.

Veronica Boulton