

The Bowland Transit Club

Newsletter No 20

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BOWLAND TRANSIT CLUB

The Dreaded Cuts !!

Whilst a scan of the Lancashire County Council website does not appear to show any threats to the buses used regularly by the BT Club there is a note saying that the Garstang Super8 service will go. I'm not sure about the feasibility of using it via a trip on the B12.

One point worth noting is the proposed reduction in information. This will impact leaflets and bus stops and the service which tells people about their next bus.

Likely to have more impact in the long term on BT Club members are the drastic reductions in funding I'm told are scheduled for the Forest of Bowland AONB. I was told about them by someone who runs a tourism business on the Lancashire / North Yorkshire border and who therefore takes a close interest in what is happening in both counties. Having not as yet found chapter and verse on a website I have no details.

The Hodder Valley at its best

In Transit

finally we reached the top of the ridge
the valley spreads out below us
in relief

there's the bridge at Dunsop
and the road winding through
in miniature

above us, three buzzards
circle the royal hunting lodge
timelessly

soon we'll troop back to the world
it's the best view of the day
by far

Jenny Palmer

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.

Being rather short of news, I have included these extracts from the AONB website, hoping that they will be of interest.

European Charter Award



The Forest of Bowland AONB is delighted to announce that it has been re-awarded the European Charter for sustainable tourism in protected areas, for the period 2010-2015.

This means that the area is recognised internationally as an excellent example of sustainable tourism - tourism that takes account of the needs of the environment; local residents; local businesses; and visitors.

The Charter award will be officially presented in March 2011 at the AONB's sustainable tourism forum.

The AONB Unit staff would like to thank all the tourism businesses, agencies and partners in Bowland that helped them to win this prestigious award, for the second time!

February

The first hopeful signs of spring begin to show in the plant world.

Look out for the first celandines and snowdrops peeping their way through lifeless woodland floors and on road side verges.

Also look out for:

- Frogs during their breeding season when adults lay frogspawn in ponds between February and March
- Badgers and their 'spring cleaning' as the males get to work getting rid of the old bedding and replacing it by newly collected materials. Below the ground the females are beginning to give birth to litters of one to five cubs which will emerge in the darkness in April and May
- Good weather towards the end of the month can tempt Lapwings back onto their farmland breeding territories.

Veronica Boulton