

The Bowland Transit Club

Newsletter No 23

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BOWLAND TRANSIT CLUB

Changes to B1 and B10 / B11 from 31 October

The Bowland Transit services currently operating with a need to change buses at Slaidburn are scheduled to start running as a through service again at the end of October. Details should be available from Lancashire CC (who will be responsible for the service) before the changeover takes place.

It seems that some people did not receive **BT Club News 21**. Key sections of this are reproduced below.

Improvements to the X80 Sunday and Bank Holiday service

The X80 Sunday and Bank Holiday service between Preston and Skipton now runs 4 times a day each way. What's more it connects with services into the Yorkshire Dales. The first bus leaves Clitheroe at 09.45 and arrives at Skipton bus station at 10.20. Bus 872 to Grassington leaves at 10.30 and bus 883 to Malham leaves at 10.45. (Readers who expect the service between Skipton and Grassington to be numbered 66A may wish to know that the 66A now terminates at Skipton and the shuttle between Skipton and Grassington is provided by Burnley & Pendle bus 872, which starts the day in Burnley and returns there at the end of the day.) The last bus back to Preston leaves Skipton at 16.35 and arrives in Clitheroe at 17.09. Those travelling by 872 need to catch the bus from Grassington at 15.55 whilst those who have ventured to Malham need to catch the 884 at 14.45. (In the case of Malham the bus out is run by York Pullman whilst that back is run by Jackson's of Silsden.) Full details can be found on www.dalesbus.org

Rover tickets to the Dales

Another plus with the above connections is that travellers from Clitheroe can now purchase a Southern Dales Rover at £7-50 to cover the cost of their day out. The enthusiasts can leap off the bus in Grassington and onto the 874 and travel up to Kettlewell or Buckden. They will however have to come back on the lunchtime service (less than an hour at Buckden or just over an hour at Kettlewell) at least as far as Grassington in order to make that last X80.

Travellers to Malham have the option of catching the Malham Tarn Shuttle over to Settle - an interesting run over the top - offering up to 2 hours in Settle.

A third option is to catch the 884 from Skipton to the Strid, Bolton Abbey or Ilkley. In order to catch the last X80 travellers will need to catch the 14.45 back from Ilkley.

Those with ENC passes don't have to worry about the cost as they travel free.

Again full details can be found on the website.

Saturday Dentdale bus

Anyone who used the train and took advantage of the extra bus serving Dentdale on Saturdays last year will be pleased to learn that it has been running again from 07 May. This seemed doomed to be a victim of cuts by Cumbria CC who funded the services early in the day. However a campaign to raise the money to cover the costs was successful thanks to donations from the Friends of the

Settle-Carlisle Line, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Dent Parish Council, Sedbergh Parish Council, Dentedale Show, Dent Music and Beer Festival, and the Dales & Bowland CIC. A bus meets the train that leaves Leeds at 09.00. Travellers can return in mid-afternoon or at 17.30. As the bus runs to Dent, Sedbergh and then Kendal, lots of options are available including walks on the Howgills. Full details on the website www.dalesbus.org

BT Club AGM

This took place at Clitheroe library on 16 May 2011. Key points:

- the officers were re-elected (removing "Temporary" from BH as walks coordinator)
- Alan Holgate and Jenny Palmer were elected to the committee (which rarely needs to meet) to replace Duncan Ward and Richard Michelmores-Brown.

Finance - the club spent £25 less than it received in income during the year. The announcement that Sheila Slater is to stop producing cards and calendars to be sold for the group is not good news. The income from this added £80-00 last year. Thanks are due to Sheila for all the hard work she has put into this.

Brian's knee problem which caused him to stop leading walks for the time being led to some gaps in the programme. However a bit of chivvy of the assembled company did produce volunteers to fill the gaps for a month or two; the possibility of the group not meeting every week was the catalyst for this.

There was discussion about the **improved access to the Yorkshire Dales** this summer.

- it was thought unlikely that anyone without a car could take advantage of the Saturday Dentedale buses.
- Having initially thought that access to Nidderdale was better, this was revised when it became clear that the afternoon return of the 812 missed the 872 needed to catch the last X80. Further investigation shows that keen folk can get to Nidderdale, but they need to return via Burnley.
- BH produced some handy information sheets with the relevant sections of the X80 and DalesBus timetables on them and some suggestions for walks. These were reproduced as BT Club News 22.

Dales & Bowland CIC

For the year 2010-11 the CIC again increased passenger numbers significantly. Taken with the increase achieved the previous year it amounts to a more than doubling of passenger journeys over the two years.

The decision by NYCC to withdraw funding from all tendered services running during evenings and on Sundays led to an increase in the services running under the DalesBus banner. The closest new bus for Bowland residents is the 872 coming through from Burnley to provide the Skipton - Grassington shuttle during the day. The other new bus is the 856 service in Wensleydale. This runs from Northallerton to Hawes, replacing the Northallerton to Bedale service and the 156 and 157 services from Bedale to Hawes.

Dales Integrated Transport Alliance

The news came through early in July that DITA's bid for money from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund had been successful and that it had been awarded £1.1m. For more information about DITA go to www.dalesconnect.net

Veronica Boulton