



The Bowland Transit Club

Newsletter No 5

Summer 2008

Despite some indifferent weather (well it is Summer after all) the Bowland Transit Club guided walk programme has been well supported. An average of 10 to 15 people have been enjoying a varied selection of walks in the Forest of Bowland and North Ribblesdale on Wednesdays, some Thursdays and Saturdays.

The first Saturday walk was a delightful mixture of field paths, ancient moorland tracks, bluebell woods and very pleasant riverside paths to complete a circular walk around the outskirts of Settle.

A highlight of the Saturday walks was a two hour impromptu guided tour of Tom Lord's farm at Upper Winskill by the farmer himself! Despite the weather trying its best to spoil this particular outing, Tom gave a fascinating insight into the way he farms the limestone uplands of North Ribblesdale, enlightening those present, amongst many other things, on why the drystone walls on his land were built the way they were and identifying the colourful varieties of wild flowers and grasses filling his meadows at haytime.

During the first section of the Elgar Way, lunch was taken to the accompaniment of his Cockaigne overture as we enjoyed the panoramic vistas of Pendle Hill and Bowland to the south, the Lake District fells and Ingleborough to the west, Smearsett Scar to the north and Pen-y-Ghent to the east; a landscape which provided inspiration for some of Edward Elgar's works.

Our programme enclosed with this newsletter runs until the end of September and includes some walks visiting the often overlooked village churches of Bowland and North Ribblesdale all with tales to tell! So lace up your boots and put on your rucksack to enjoy a variety of interesting walking in the Forest Of Bowland and North Ribblesdale over the next couple of months!

B1 Public meeting at Crow Trees, Tosside that was held on Wednesday 9 July 2008 as part of developing contacts between the service planning bodies and more remote members of the 'customer-base'.

Attendance approaching 50 people on a very wet evening did surprise the visiting Council representatives, further reinforcing the positive information gained already about service usage.

A Survey giving a 'snapshot' of usage was announced, so during parts of August individuals will collect data via a structured questionnaire. This does assume that spare capacity is available on buses for friendly researchers intent on not scaring away any passengers, however far they travel!

The results of this survey will be collated and sent to transport planning bodies in North Yorkshire while looking for fair funding. Lancashire was expressing the needs and willingness to continue the B1, B10 and B11 and the associated interchange concepts.

Support was reported to continue to arrive by letter. To give feedback to North Yorkshire County Council, please write to:

**Integrated Passenger Transport,
County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AH**