



RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION PRESTON GROUP

May 2008 Newsletter

Walks Programme

Enclosed is the walks programme from June to September 2008.

There is now unfortunately a big issue over leaders for the short Sunday walks. In the past we have one person leading all 4 walks in each programme. Due to non availability there is no leader for the July walk. If we do not get leaders, then more holes will be appearing on the programme. It not something we want to do as these are the type of walks that new members start off on. So talk to Andy Manzie on 01772 736467 if you are willing to help.

Access Areas

Due to a recent fire most of the Forest of Bowland access area has been closed for fire protection. They have put a blanket order out that covers it till October. It is not expected to be closed that long. It will depend on when they get some rain on the fells. The areas still open are Parlick, Wolf Fell, Fairsnape Fell, Tarnbrook and Clougha Pike. The West Pennine moors do not have these restriction expect for one area to the South east of Darwin - Hoddleston Moss. If you intend to walk in these areas in the near future please check either www.openaccess.gov.uk or Lancashire Countryside Service on 01772 534709

Access mapping

One of the big issues since the new access areas were opened. Is getting information on where the access points and new gates have been installed. If you go to the area, there are small maps on the access entrances showing the immediate areas access points and gates. There has been maps at information points covering larger areas. But the scales are so large it is not easy to translate on to a normal map.

LCC have finally put all this information onto their mapping system Mario. Although you have to play around a little to get the information you want. This on line system allows you to display for any given area information on footpaths, schools, re-cycle centre, historic maps, speed cameras etc.

To get to the information go to [//mario.lancashire.gov.uk/](http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/)

- click on 'open viewer' icon.
- Select an area you wish to view by clicking on the map and holding, then drag out to form a box.
- Release button and new map will be drawn.
- On the top tool bar 'select a scale' find 1:25000 and select. On the top tool bar 'select a map category' find countryside and select.
- Click on check boxes 'Access land' and 'Access points'
- Use the icon in the top right of the map to move around
- Access points and gates are marked with a plus sign

2008 AGM advanced notice

This will take place on Saturday 22nd November 2008 at Grimsargh Village Hall. With the usual format of walk, hotpot, AGM and speaker. Full details will appear in the September Newsletter.

Get Walking Day



This was held on the 30th May as part of the funding we received from the national lottery. Although this was held in the larger cities the website contains a lot of good information on getting out walking. So if you know someone who needs to get a little more exercise this may be just the site for them.

www.getwalking.org.uk

The Marine Bill and its Coastal Access Duty

The Draft Marine Bill was finally published on Thursday 3rd April. Part 9 of the Bill is all about coastal access. This long-awaited legislation sets out, albeit currently in draft form, just how the government intends to meet its manifesto commitment to improve access to the English coast. Part 9 will place a new duty, "the Coastal Access Duty", on the Secretary of State, compelling him/her to meet two objectives:

1. The establishment of a long distance walking route around the whole of the English coast.
2. The designation of CRoW access land in a "margin" next to the route

More information is held at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/cl/accessopen/faq.htm>

Review of National Trails

Natural England is planning to undertake a "fundamental review" of the National Trail network, with the aim to make the network more integrated with national routes and rights of way. Natural England are currently deciding whether to:

- Pursue extensions to the network by concentrating on trail creation
- Make greater efforts to link national trails to the surrounding ROW network
- Seek to raise standards across the network
- Or simply to ensure that current standards are maintained.

Natural England wish to involve partners in their review of the Trail network and keep everyone informed of the progress.

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

Following a recent evaluation of the safety aspects of rescues in or near swift moving water in streams and rivers, we have ascertained that the use of long established mountaineering techniques and equipment is now no longer considered appropriate. As a result we have drawn up a list of items which satisfy regulators consider as a minimum standard for such rescues. These include dry suits, buoyancy aids, water rescue kit bags etc. This totals some £6200

As a charity, we receive no guaranteed income from any source and are presently unable to fund this equipment from our own resources. If you are able to help us we would be eternally grateful. Donations can be either sent to Paul Durham, 7 Wymundsley, Astley Village, Chorley PR7 1US or donate online www.bowlandpenninemrt.org.uk

Cotswold Outdoor

This shop is located in Fishergate opposite Waterstones. They are offering Ramblers members a **15%** discount with the production of their membership card and quoting reference number **R2201** and Mid Lancs area.

Grimsargh Field Day

We are again will be having a stall at the Grimsargh field day on Saturday 28rd June starting at 1pm. If anyone is available for that afternoon and is willing to help out at the stall, please contact Andy Manzie 01772 736467

On the day there will fun run, fun fair, flowers, owls, parade and many more. So if you are looking for a family afternoon out, then come along.

Introduction to Map Reading (2-3 October 08)

Come and join this two day course which has been designed to provide you with basic navigation skills. Over the two days, there will be informal classroom instruction and the opportunity to get out into the local area to practice your map reading and compass skills. During the sessions you will discuss what scale and type of map is good for walking a learn about the features of a map such as how to identify footpaths and boundaries and read grid references. You will also look at how to use a compass and how to apply Naismith's rule to help you plan your walks.

Lancashire College, Southport Road, Chorley Tel 01257 516327. Reference - hscjp000sa cost £100

Walking Events (More on www.ramblers.org.uk/info/events/diary.html)

Isle of Man Walking Festival 22-27 June

Welcome to the Isle of Man Its stunning and varied landscape comprises austere moorland, lush valleys and wooded glens plus sandy beaches and rugged cliffs.

Discover all these delights with our specially designed Summer Walking Festival programme. Walks can be found throughout the Island, and are timed to coincide with our public transport including out unique Victorian era steam and electric railways.

The Isle of Man's unique and varied culture is as evident today as it was thousands of years ago. Our walks will take you on a journey to uncover this amazing history throughout the week whilst you will also have plenty of opportunities to sample some of the Island's arts, folklore and cuisine along the way.

Further details see www.visitisleofman.com/Activities/Walkingfestival/ or phone 01624 644644

Bowland Festival 1 - 8 June 2008

(www.forestofbowland.com/)

Discover the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty at the Bowland Festival. Experts who live and work in the area will show you why Bowland - with its magnificent wildlife and landscape - really is an outstanding place to visit. You might catch a glimpse of the rare hen harrier on a moorland safari, or discover the area's heritage with a local historian. The varied events will allow you to discover the area's exceptional birds and wildlife, explore its heritage and landscape and give you the opportunity to find out more about conservation in the area. For a programme and details of how to book, please phone 01200 420301, or visit local tourist information points.

Pendle Walking Festival. 30 August—7 September

Over 30 free guided countryside walks over a long weekend, this festival is a chance to experience some of the most stunning scenery in Lancashire. All walks are free and range from 1 mile to 10 miles, so there's something to suit walkers of all abilities. There are many walks which take in the area's fascinating past, including the Walking With Witches Walk. There's a lot of lovely walks so why not come and join us! More details on www.pendlelife.co.uk/ and use the search to find the walking festival .A free programme (available in July 2008) listing all the walks is available by calling 01282 661685 or by emailing: tourism@pendle.gov.uk