

RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION PRESTON GROUP

September 2009

2009 AGM

This will be held on Saturday 21st November 2009 at Broughton & District Concert Hall. It will be in our usual format of walk, hot-pot, AGM and speaker.

There will be a circular walk starting at 10:00 am and toilet facilities will be available. The number 40/41 bus leaves the Preston bus station every 30 mins on the hour & half hour. The Hall is on the Broughton to Longridge road some 100 meters from the Broughton traffic lights. There is also ample parking areas.

Lunch of Hot Pot followed by apple pie and cream from Hotpot Supper Company will be served at 1.30pm, for which we ask donations for. Cups of tea and coffee will also be available. Help with serving will be appreciated.

This will be followed by the AGM when officers of the group will report on the past years work. The election of officers and committee for the coming year will take place, volunteers to serve on the committee are needed.

Andrew Manzie will be stepping down in his roles of Secretary, Walk coordinator, Newsletter editor and Press & publicity. People to replace him are needed. See the job descriptions at the end of the newsletter.

There will be an opportunity for anyone to ask questions and suggestions are always welcome to improve our work.

At 2.45pm approximately John Shaw will give a presentation on 'on foot in the western Highlands'. A 400 mile journey on foot from Cape Wrath in the far Northwest of Scotland to Oban in Argyll.

To help with the numbers for catering will those who intend to be present for lunch please complete the slip in this newsletter, ring Andy Manzie on 01772 736467 or e-mail info@prestonra.co.uk by **13th November 2009**.

Annual General Meeting Hot Pot Lunch

I Shall require lunch at 1.30pm at the Preston R.A Group AGM on Saturday, 21th November 2008 at the Broughton & District Concert Hall. Donations are asked for to cover the costs.

Name or Names [Please print clearly]

1. _____ 2. _____
Are you willing to help out in the kitchen **YES / NO**

Please post to Mr A Manzie, 3 Ruthin Court, Dunbar Road, Ingol, Preston, PR2 3YE. Else telephone on 01772 736467 or e-mail info@prestonra.co.uk with names before 13th November 2009.

Visit the web site for all the latest news at <http://www.prestonra.co.uk>

Walks Programme

Enclosed is the walks programme from September 2009 to January 2010. This is the last programme that Andrew Manzie will be putting together. So a replacement coordinator is required. So talk to Andy Manzie on 01772 736467 if you are interested or want more information.

As you can see we are struggling at the moment to fill all the programme slots. This is becoming a regular thing now and help is required from our members to help support our walk programme. More information can be got from Andrew Manzie.

Footpath Claims

Is there a footpath near you, which is regularly used by the public, but which is not on the map as a definitive route? (i.e.- is not in green or red dot/dashes on your maps and not on the definitive map and statement.)

Footpaths could be used for 20 years or more before a land-owner makes them difficult to use by putting up notices "private right of way" or "by permission only" or locking a gate.

Some paths are well used and need to be protected from development. An example, for a future claim, could be the footpath alongside the new "Millennium Ribble Link" from the canal to the River Ribble.

There is a process by which these footpaths can be made official. This is done by putting in a **footpath claim** or a **map modification order** to the surveying authority (LCC in our area).

A claim can be based on evidence on the route being attributed with public rights in the past. The surveying authority has to keep the definitive map and statement under continuous review and so we (you) need to be alert to situations that could cause a footpath to fall into disuse, disrepair and even blocked and disappear.

PTO

The process of making a claim can be quite lengthy because information has to be sent to the local authority, to all land-owners, if they can be found, and all this information goes to the surveying authority.

You may know of a footpath that falls into any of the above categories. If so please help us to maintain the network by getting in touch. You may be asked for **evidence of use** for the purpose of a claim.

Call the footpath secretary on :-Preston 493098.

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.

TRESPASS Trespass

Located at 3/4 Cheapside, they are offering 10% discount on any of their stock. On production of your RA membership card

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

25 - 27 September **Coniston Walking Festival**

Featuring a lively programme of evening entertainment, daytime activities for all the family & historical adventures, it's a walking festival with a difference. More information on www.conistonwalkingfestival.org/ or Tel 015394 41533

25 Sept - 4 Oct **Richmond Walking Festival, North Yorkshire**. Explore this Georgian town complete with river, castle, large cobbled market place, surrounded by the hills of Swaledale and miles of dry stone walls. See <http://www.booksandboots.org/> for more, or tel 01748 824 243

2 - 4 October: **Moffat Walking Festival**. Weekend walking in the hills surrounding this popular town. Guided walks, walking challenges and evening entertainment. Tel 01683 220227 or go to www.visitmoffat.co.uk

10 October: **Wainwright Memorial Lecture**.

The seventh Wainwright Memorial Lecture given on Saturday 10th October 2009 at 6.00pm at RHEGED by Ian Tyler a mining historian and author, is curator of the Keswick Mining Museum, and a leading authority on the subject. Tickets: £12, Society Members: £8 call 01768 868 000 to book your tickets or visit www.wainwright.org.uk.



Mountain Warehouse Discount Days

Mountain warehouse is located on Fishergate Street, Preston. On Sunday, 4th October 14:00 to 19:30 and also Tue, 6th Oct 17:00-21:00 they offering a special discount day to all Rambler members.

On production of you membership card you will get a 25% reduction on all good purchased during the above times.

Preston Web Site www.prestonra.co.uk

The Website has now been taken over by Peter Swain. It has now been completely overhauled and the old website will be disappearing shortly. It has recently been updated with a footpath reporting form and a message board. There is also a request for any walking related photos. Please feel free to make any comments about the site as it stands and any enhancements you would like to see. Peter can be contacted via the contacts page, selecting webmaster.

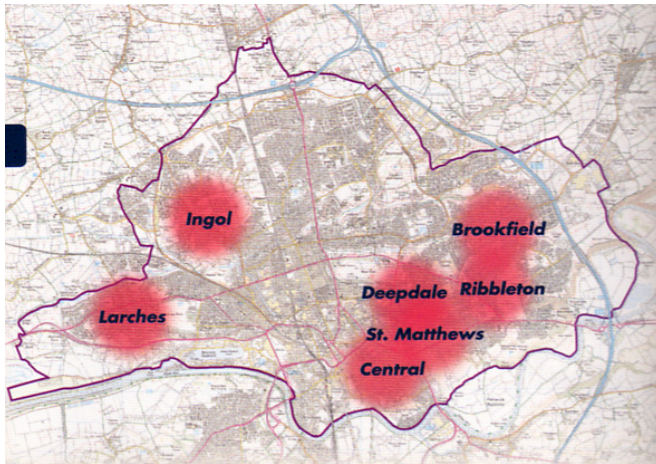
Ribble Coast and Wetlands Walking Festival

24 Oct—1 Nov This Walking Festival brings together a series of guided walks to increase public awareness of the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park (RCWRP) and help you enjoy its special places. More information on www.ribblecoastandwetlands.com. You need the programme as numerous Tel numbers.

19-22 November: **Kendal Mountain Festival**

The festival offers a range of films, art, debates and lectures from and for people passionate about the mountains. See <http://www.mountainfest.co.uk/>. Or Brewery Box office on 01539 725133

21 - 22 November: **Real Ale Ramble**, Llanwrtyd Wells, is held annually in conjunction with the 10 day Mid Wales Beer Festival. The ramble begins from the Town Square and follows any of 3 waymarked routes of 10, 15 or 25 miles with real ales available at the checkpoints! For more info tel 01591 610666 or see www.green-events.co.uk



Preston Guild Wheel

The Guild Wheel project aims to build a 21 mile new linear park with a circular cycle and walking route around Preston to celebrate the 2012 Guild Year. It will improve walking / cycle routes into the city centre and provide safe access, for most residents, into the beautiful surrounding countryside. Further, it will provide links to areas of employment, leisure, education and health.

Out of the total length of the proposed Guild Wheel about half is on existing off road paths and just under 10% on quiet roads.

Together with other planned improvements to facilities in Preston and the development of the existing network of good walking / cycle routes, on the south side of the River Ribble, it is anticipated that the Guild Wheel will lead to a substantial increase in physical activities such as cycling, walking and jogging.

There is no doubt that good, safe all weather paths, away from traffic, encourage far more people, including families and young people, to begin to enjoy cycling, walking and running. This is likely to benefit local sports club involved in these activities. Further these safe facilities, where they are available, are being used by local clubs for competitive and sponsored charity events.

The Guild Wheel is more than just an aspiration, as lengths of the route have already been constructed. Furthermore, Lancashire County Council has included the scheme as a named project in the second Local Transport Plan and currently has engineers and land agents working on route investigation and land ownership issues.

Whilst the scheme will be part funded by LCC, it is unlikely to be completed without additional funding from a Lottery bid or other grant initiatives and LCC will actively pursue these avenues. It is important, therefore, that community backing for the scheme is gained from all quarters in order to support potential future bids.

Access Land (<http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk>)

Currently there are no changes in the local access restrictions. Most of Bowland you may not take your dog. But some areas will allow then with leads. Visit the above web site or ring the Bowland visitor center on 01995 640557 for latest restriction news

BowlandPennine MRT www.bowlandpenninemrt.org.uk

Over the last year we have undertaken numerous overnight searches for missing and vulnerable persons across the county of Lancashire. Every incident requires each of us to have a powerful torch to aid the search during the hours of darkness. Sadly an increasing number of our current torches are proving to be less than reliable.

We are hopeful you may be able to help us by raising funds towards replacing them with new long-life models capable of lasting throughout the night (cost of £40 each).

In addition, new technology has come along which greatly improves our own personal safety when we're deployed on these incidents. Each team member is provided with a radio which can now be upgraded with a GPS (Global Positioning System) incorporated into the microphone. This development enables search controllers to see us all-identified on an electronic map displayed on a laptop computer-as a coloured dot moving along as we search. We have already purchased fifteen of these but twenty five are still needed (cost £125 each).

Donations either through their website or send to Fund raising officer, Bowland Pennine MRT, 7 Wymundsley, Astley Village, Chorley PR7 1US

9 October—**John Beatty's Wild Vision**

Takes place at the Albert Halls, Bolton

John's trips have taken him to over 38 different countries and have included seven months spent in Antarctica with the British Antarctic Survey, a winter in Spitzbergen where he surveyed 350 kilometres of untracked arctic mountains and glaciers and a four hundred mile unsupported sled traverse of the Greenland Icecap. As John explains, his work aims to capture "the timeless rhythms of the natural environment, its beauty and simplicity, and man's place within it".

Tickets are £13 / £11 and can be booked either through the website www.alberthalls-bolton.co.uk or Tel 01204 334400

22 October—**Learning to Breathe.**

This lecture takes place at King Georges Hall, Blackburn.

Internationally acclaimed mountaineer and ex-coal miner Andy Cave is at Blackburn with his gripping lecture show **Learning to Breathe.**

Andy Cave is a figurehead for British Mountaineering, with more than 20 years of desperate routes to his name. Aged just 20, he became one of the youngest mountaineers ever to climb the North Face of the Eiger, an achievement made all the more remarkable as just 4 years earlier, Andy was working 3000 feet underground at Grimethorpe Colliery in South Yorkshire.

Tickets are £12.50 and can be booked either through the website www.kinggeorghall.com or Tel 0844 8471664

Secretary

To take the leading role in promoting the charitable work of the Ramblers at Group level. This is done by working with the committee to ensure a clearly defined role for the Area and by identifying priorities and opportunities for the Area where it can best contribute and make a difference to the local walking environment.

Duties

- Arrange Group meetings and the AGM as required by the constitution.
- Act as primary point of contact with central office, receiving regular monthly mailings and with general public/ other organisations.
- Maintain up-to-date records of Group Office Holders and submit to the Area Secretary regularly as necessary.
- Gather together relevant documents from members (eg. previous meetings minutes, reports from Office Holders, bulletins from central office) and circulate to members in time for meetings.
- Monitor the actions agreed at the last meeting to ensure that progress is being made
- Communicate regularly with other Group officers (particularly the Chair) to keep the committee business going well.

Publicity Secretary

To enable the Ramblers to grow by attracting new members and supporters. To enable your Group to flourish and grow by attracting new members.

Duties

To promote your Group and its activities to non-members in and around your Group's patch. This might be done, for instance, by

- Producing publicity material about your Group (e.g. posters, leaflets, displays) and arranging their distribution in suitable local locations
- Keeping the local media informed about your Group's activities through articles, regular features or advertisements.
- Organising publicity stands at local fairs or public places (e.g. market places, popular walking locations)
- Setting up a Group website and keeping this updated regularly with upcoming walks, local campaigning work and information about your Group

Newsletter Editor

To communicate and promote the work of the Ramblers in the Group in print to all the Group membership. By doing this, the aim is to inform members of the concerns facing walkers locally and valuable work of the Group to address them.

Duties

To produce an attractive and accessible Group newsletter on a regular basis (normally 3 times a year) and ensure that it is distributed amongst all the members of the Group

Walks Co-ordinator

To co-ordinate the compilation of a varied programme of Led Walks on behalf of the Group. The programme should contain sufficient variety in order to be attractive and accessible to all types of people at all stages of life.

Duties

- Compile and publish a rolling programme of Group walks, normally 3 times a year
- Maintain a contact list of Walk Leaders and periodically inform the Led Walks Team.
- Encourage walkers to become Walk Leaders
- Ensure that walks are entered onto the Ramblers Walks-finder, so that potential members have a full range of walks to choose from