

## N. E Lancashire Ramblers – Coach Ramble to Ripon Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018

After a rendezvous at Skipton for a comfort stop we continue on towards Ripon. It is important for safety reasons that independent walkers leave details of your names and routes, and a mobile telephone number if possible, with the courier on your coach.

**To Visit Fountains Abbey and the Water Gardens.** If anyone wishes to visit Fountains Abbey and the Water Gardens we can arrange for one of the coaches to go to the Abbey and stay there till 4 o'clock when it will return to Ripon. The entry fee is £15 or free to National Trust members. If you wish to do this please let your courier know and we can plan accordingly when we get to Ripon.

### B Walk      Leader Tony Culverhouse      Moderate/easy      9.5 miles

From the coach park we head east out of Ripon to cross the River Skell via easy stepping stones to then follow the river to its confluence with the river Ure. Then head north passing near Little Studley and from the river take farm tracks and tarmac surfaces to eventually cross the golf course to the A6108. We follow the road for a short distance before reaching Spring Hill School where field paths and minor roads take us to Clotherholme Farm track. We then take the bridleway to cross the River Skell which leads us back to Ripon. Level walk with no hills.

### C Walk      Leader Carol Higgins      Moderate      9 miles      Easy

From the coach park we leave the town via the Spa Baths and head out to the village of Studley Roger following roadways, footpaths and bridleways. Passing Plumpton Hall we head down to the Valley of the 7 bridges and follow the course of the River Skell through Studley Royal Deer Park to the lake at Fountains Abbey. After lunch we pass by St Mary's Church and cross the River Skell. Along the road and a short incline brings us to the ancient abbey wall and a pleasant walk along the opposite side of the valley with views of the Banqueting Hall and Abbey before we head across fields and through woods till we reach Whitcliffe Hall Farm where we follow the lane to Hell Wath Cottage. From here the final part of the walk is through the nature reserve and back to the market square. Although there are a couple of inclines on this walk they are very short and it is a very easy to do walk on well defined paths, tracks and lanes.

### D walk      Leader Paul Brown      Fairly easy      7 miles

From the coach park in Ripon town centre we walk down to the bridge over the River Skell to join paths which follow the course of the river to Hell Wath Cottage. We change direction here as we continue to the Studley Royal Estate, where we walk through woodland and the deer park, to eventually reach the lake ( lunch stop here ). We walk along the carriage drive for a while, and after leaving the estate we go on to reach to the very pleasant village of Studley Roger, and then continue to the outskirts of Ripon. We walk through a small park, cross the river by footbridge, then walk back towards Ripon centre. Most of this route is on good tracks and paths, perhaps muddy in places, some road walking. Plenty to see on this walk.

**Pick up time for return journey.** **Returning Home: 6.00pm from the coach park at Ripon** Book today for our next two coach rambles – **Coniston on October 7<sup>th</sup>** and **Garstang on November 4<sup>th</sup>**. After today telephone Kathleen Parker on 01254 396894 (6.00pm and 9.00pm) for the Blackburn coach, or Margaret Boothman on 01282 692901 (6.00pm to 9.00pm) for the Burnley coach.

**Leaders needed** We still need a B leader for Garstang and an A and B leader for Knarsborough. If you are willing to lead at any time just let me know, or want more information give me a ring. Tel No 01254 235049. Thanks to all our leaders and helpers. Sue.

**2019 Planning Meeting.** Please come along to our planning meeting with your thoughts and ideas on Monday 10 September, 7.00pm at Cambridge Street Church, Accrington. We need to plan our destinations and start finding walks leaders, and volunteers to help behind the scene.