

N. E Lancashire Ramblers – Coach Ramble to Otley Sunday 3rd February 2019

After a rendezvous at Skipton for a comfort stop we continue on towards Otley. 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.

A Walk Leader Anthony Fleetwood 11 miles Moderate

We start today's walk from the Fewston Reservoir car park on the Six Dales Trail heading for Swinsty Moor Plantation. Next it's on to the village of Timble on the Harrogate Link. From here we go up to Askwith Moor. This is our highest point. It's all downhill from here by way of Weston Moor, Higher Carr Farm and the village of Clifton. Then back on the Six Dales Trail to Otley.

B Walk Leader Frank Mason 9 miles Moderate

Alight at Fewston reservoir car park on the A59 near Blubberhouses. Follow the footpath along Fewston reservoir on the south bank. Continue to Swinsty reservoir then take a path down the embankment past Bride Cross Farm to Folly Hall. On to Mill House Farm, Dobpark Bridge, Middle Farm and Bride Cross House. Continue on a track walking over Farnley Moor to Crag Farm and Haddock Stones Plantation. Then field paths to Newall Carr Road and lane to Clifton and then more field paths to Newall. Follow the road down in to Otley. Good views of the Washburn Valley.

C Walk Leader Graham Wigglesworth 7.5 miles Moderate/Easy

Leave Otley by the Pool road out of town we turn down East Busk Lane to Brick House Farm. Following a wooded path to join the old railway line from Otley to Arthington. We walk a short distance of the line to a path leading to Pool Bank through fields and tracks. Then going through Pool to cross the Wharfe to take a path through fields to Leathley Hall. (a view of Pannal Viaduct is worth a look). A track leads to Leathley where we can admire the old almshouses before dropping down to the Wharfe for a pleasant walk by the river back to Otley. As we near Otley we enter Wharf Meadow Park and continue along the river before crossing the Wharfe for a short walk back into the town.

D Walk Leader Michael Counter 5.5 miles Moderate

From Otley we will take one coach to the Chevin Forest Park Quarry Car Park on the top of Chevin and follow the Dales Way link path along Surprise View. Our route first travels along the Geology Trail and then onto the Heritage Sculpture Trail. After Quarry Farm the path drops down to Pool Bank and then across field paths to join the disused rail track and onto Otley. The route starts at the top of the ridge with great views and works its way down onto field paths. The forest tracks are in good condition while the field paths are extremely muddy.

Suggestions from Michael for those wanting a flat walk from Otley. After leaving the coach park make your way down to the old bridge across the River Wharfe. Turn right and follow good paths through Wharfe Meadows Park and along the river banking. Return by retracing your steps.

Pick up time for return journey. Returning Home: 5.00pm from the coach park. Book today for our next two coach rambles **Frodsham on 3rd March and Appleby on 7th April.** After today telephone Kathleen Parker on 01254 396894 (6.00pm to 9.00pm) for the Blackburn coach, or Margaret Boothman on 01282 692901 (6.00pm to 9.00pm) for the Burnley coach.

Leaders for 2019 Offers please for C leader at Frodsham on 3rd March, A,B, and C for Appleby on 7th April and A,B, and D for Castleton on 5th May. Plus many more throughout the year.