

Ride2stride 2017

**A week of walks, talks and music along the
Settle to Carlisle railway line**



Lunch in Oxenber Woods on a sunny Bank Holiday Monday 2017

Ride2stride was named by the Daily Telegraph as No 2 in its Top Ten Walking Festivals in Britain 2017

“This week-long event combines rambling with railway. All walks begin and end at stations along the spectacular Settle-Carlisle line; start times tie in with the arrival of trains from Leeds or Carlisle.”

Ride2stride – the Movie!

This year film makers David Halsall and Bridget Izod brought their cameras to Ride2stride and their short video is available on YouTube.

Please share it and embed it on your own websites <https://youtu.be/q-fmkiVKUFg>

Tuesday April 27th saw the start of Ride2stride 2017. A large crowd gathered on Settle station, to hear Ian MacPherson from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority open the 6th Festival, before setting off on a walk.

By the end of the day a total of 195 people had taken part – the busiest opening day yet.

People travelled to Ride2stride, either daily from Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria or from further afield, staying locally, many of them in Settle. The map below shows some of the places people told us they came from.



Overseas visitors came from the USA, New Zealand and Denmark.

Walkers were asked who had travelled by train and the majority had, with 75% of people telling us they had travelled on the line at some point during the festival. The large numbers staying in Settle this year were already there for walks from Settle station but used the train when walks started further up the line. On the day of the strike most walkers travelled to Garsdale by car.



Ride2stride was Country Walking magazine's Top Pick!

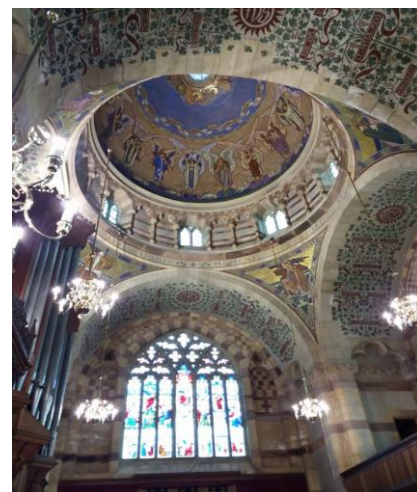
Walks

"On the train heading home after the first day, had a good walk, met up with old and new friends, had a nice meal and listened to some excellent live music, all that and another 6 days yet to enjoy"

This year there were 31 walks on the programme. As usual there was a mix of the very strenuous – High Cup Nick, Wild Boar Fell, the Three Peaks, Snaizholme; lots of moderate 6 to 10 mile walks and some very popular tours round Giggleswick School Chapel, Settle Watertower & Signal Box and Appleby Castle & Town Trail.



A strenuous walk from Dent to Ribbleshead via Snaizholme. Picture by John Wood



Giggleswick Chapel

The Jericho Shanty Town Experience was a great success with the following email showing how much people enjoy these themed events.

“Congratulations!! An excellent event on Thursday – helped by great weather. The volunteers were brilliant and having the presence of the guy who worked on the viaduct and the lady who grew up on Blea Moor was wonderful. As a retired museum educator, with an interest in reminiscence , my wife was full of praise for the mix of presentation approaches. I was impressed by the relaxed, efficient team work between the volunteers. When it works you hardly notice it happening but it takes a lot of effort to get it right.”

Just some of the highlights of 2017:



Red Squirrel at Snaizholme. Picture by John Wood



Play with me Mum. Picture by Bridget Izod



Steam on Ribblehead Viaduct. Picture by Bridget Izod

Talks

There were 2 talks this year. The ever popular Dr David Johnson of Ingleborough Archaeology Group talked about “How the coming of the railway changed the Dale” and Chris Grogan gave an illustrated presentation called “90 Glorious Miles” about the creation of the long distance path A Dales High Way. Both talks had associated walks, a combination which people always enjoy.

Music

For many the singers and musicians are a highlight of the festival. Music in the pubs each evening encourages walkers to stay and eat and drink and Ride2stride is now firmly established not just as a walking festival but also on the folk music calendar.

This year we were very happy to be welcomed back to the Moorcock Inn in Garsdale.



Ride2stride events are all put on by organisations active in the Yorkshire Dales and Eden Valley and co-ordinated by a small steering group made up of representatives of some of the participating groups. This year Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line (FoSCL), Friends of Dales Rail (FDR), Yorkshire Dales Society (YDS), Ingleborough Archaeology Group (IAG), Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) and Friends of A Dales High Way (FoADHW), all took part. As usual the music was organised by the 3 Peaks Folk Club. Everyone involved is a volunteer. The walk leaders, the speakers, the musicians, the people who distribute the programmes, the steering group - no one gets paid. We do have some costs though. We have a website www.ride2stride.org.uk and we design and print 15,000 programmes. We are very grateful to Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line, Northern Railway, Settle Carlisle Development Company and Castleberg Outdoors for their cash contributions, to Briggs Bros of Cononley for reducing the cost of printing, to Welcome to Yorkshire for giving Ride2stride free membership and to Skyware Press for maintaining the website and designing the programme.

What Next?

Ride2stride will run from Tuesday May 1st to Bank Holiday Monday May 7th 2018

SAVE THE DATE

Watch the website www.ride2stride.org.uk for further information



See you next year!

The Numbers

Tuesday April 25				
Settle Watertower and Signal Box	Easy	FoSCL	50	
Along the Ribble	Moderate	YDS	26	
Settle circular via the Elgar Way	Strenuous	FDR	15	
An Industrial Foray into Ribblesdale	Moderate	IAG	17	
The Splendours of Giggleswick Chapel	Moderate	FoSCL	47	
The coming of the railway changed the Dale	Talk		40	TOTAL:195
Wednesday April 26				
Settle Caves and Waterfalls	Moderate	YDS	18	
Appleby circular via High Cup Nick	Strenuous	FDR	17	
Appleby circular via Great and Little Ormside	Moderate	FDR	35	
Appleby Castle Tour and town trail		FDR/FoSCL	29	TOTAL:99
Thursday April 27				
Jericho Shanty Town Experience	Easy	FoSCL	55	
Kirkby Stephen circular via Stenkrith	Moderate	FoSCL	28	
Kirkby Stephen circular via Ash Fell Edge & Smardale	Strenuous	FDR	16	
Viaducts and Verse	Moderate	YDS	31	
Landscapes of Upper Ribblesdale	Moderate	YDNPA	13	TOTAL:143
Friday April 28 Rail Strike				
The Dale that Died	Moderate	FoSCL	25	
Settle circular via Dry Rigg	Strenuous	FoSCL	15	
Swarth Fell and Wild Boar Fell	Strenuous	FDR	8	
Garsdale circular via Cotter End and Thwaite Bridge	Moderate	FDR	24	
90 Glorious Miles	Talk	FoADHW	29	TOTAL:130
Saturday April 29				
Red Squirrels at Snaizeholme	Strenuous	FoSCL	29	
Horton to Ribblehead via Crummackdale (later train)	Moderate	FoSCL	13	
Horton to Ribblehead via Ingleborough	Strenuous	FDR	8	
Nature, Norsemen and Navvies	Moderate	FoSCL	20	
A Taste of A Dales High Way	Moderate	FDR/FoADHW	26	
Ingleborough – Climb a peak slowly	Moderate	FDR	25	TOTAL:121
Sunday April 30				
Pen-y-ghent – Climb a peak slowly	Moderate	FDR	25	
Ribblehead to Horton via Pen-y-ghent	Strenuous	FDR	6	
Horton-in-Ribblesdale circular	Moderate	FoSCL	27	TOTAL:58
Monday May 1				
Horton to Settle via Pen-y-ghent, Winskill & Catrigg	Strenuous	FDR	16	
Horton to Settle via Norber Erratics	Moderate	FDR	18	
Settle circular via Oxenbar Woods	Moderate	FoSCL	29	
Highway to Ancient Woodland	Easy	YDNPA	30	TOTAL:93
TOTAL ON WALKS & TALKS			839	

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Numbers not collected	733	873	788	779	839