

DalesBus News

August 2017

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A message from Paul Harrison, Chairman of the Friends of DalesBus



I hope you have had chance to get out and about enjoying the hard fought for summer bus services into the Dales.

Bowland Explorer bus 833 is a welcome newcomer to the fold, and for those of you who fancy a ride round, the grand circuit to Malham, Ingleton, Gisburn Forest, back to Ingleton, then Cross of Greet, Clitheroe, Skipton and home is not to be missed – and still available for a few weeks yet. More time is available for you to explore that service if you can use the early train to Bentham to connect with the bus at the station.

One thing that has happened over the last couple of years is that the length of time the summer season operates has become shorter, and another change has been the loss of winter Sunday services to Malham and Nidderdale. The reason for this is basically money, or rather lack of it. But can we do things differently to make the money go further?

My own view is that the summer season needs to be longer and the winter services need more variety. But I don't have any money to pay for this! I can think of one way of extending the summer season at no extra cost, but this could only allow the same number of services to operate: some services could run April to August and others June to October. More variety at winter could be achieved by running the 874 to Buckden fortnightly instead of weekly, and running a bus somewhere else on the other weeks.

Maybe you have views on this, either for or against. Perhaps you have other ideas? What is important is that you make your views known to us at Friends of DalesBus so we can represent your interests in discussions with the Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company and other bus companies. The service pattern for Winter 2017-18 is now set, but there's still chance to influence what happens next summer, although availability of funding is key.

You can [email](mailto:foadb@dalesbus.org) me or write to me at: FoDB, 199 Oakworth Road, Keighley, BD21 1RE.

I'd also like to invite all FoDB members, new and old, to our Annual General Meeting on 28th October at our usual venue of Coopers in Guiseley. I hope to see you there.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Paul

A message from Dales & Bowland CIC Use our great summer network - whilst we have it.

We have just a few more weeks to take DalesBus to those wonderful places in the north and west of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Upper Nidderdale, areas which are not served by DalesBus in the autumn and winter months.

Paul Harrison has highlighted the rare chance we have to experience the spectacular Forest of Bowland from Bentham and Clitheroe stations, but don't forget the equally spectacular Malham Tarn service over the tops from Malham to Settle and then on to Ingleton – a super scenic trip which meets trains at Settle and Cravenlink service 884 at Malham.



Another memorable day out is spectacular Swaledale, using the Northern Dalesman 830 from Middlesbrough, Darlington, or Lancaster, or off the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle train at Ribbleshead.

Fountains Abbey has a direct bus, Fountains Flyer 822 from York and Ripon, with connections at Ripon from service 36 from Harrogate and Leeds, and Nidderdale Rambler 825 links Ripon and Fountains Abbey with Brimham Rocks and Pateley Bridge, with options on alternate weeks either to Scar House and Middlesmoor, or Grassington via Coldstones Cut.

And there is the classic Yorkshire Dalesman 875 to Wensleydale, though walkers wanting to get to Wensleydale earlier can catch the Wensleydale Flyer 856 from either Northallerton or Hawes, with connections from trains at either Garsdale or Ribbleshead stations in the west or Northallerton in the east.

And finally, have you tried the utterly magical journey down Dentdale on Western Dales Bus S2 from Dent Station to Dent village and Sedbergh, and on Sundays on to the amazing Cautley Spout for walks across or around the glorious Howgills?

DalesBus is a very special network, so please make the most of it. The summer network continues every Sunday and Bank Holiday until September 24th. All timetables are on www.dalesbus.org.

if you have a Senior Pass or a Railcard, then a Privilege Dales Rover ticket costing a mere £7 - about the cost of two pints of beer or three coffees - will take you anywhere on the DalesBus network as far as Swaledale, Ingletton or the top end of Nidderdale on Sundays and Bank Holidays.



Look out too for the DalesBus Ramblers programme, offering a wide range of guided walks led by experienced leaders from the buses and trains.

The current summer walks programme is available at www.dalesbusramblers.org.uk or pick up the programme leaflet which runs to the end of September. It is expected the autumn programme starting on Sunday October 1st will be available online and in printed format from mid-September.

Help us keep the winter 24 Nidderdale Bus

Bus service 24 running between Harrogate and Pateley Bridge - once dubbed "The Nidderdale Branch" - has for many years provided a daily lifeline for local communities and walkers and other visitors; a great way of exploring this most beautiful part of the Yorkshire Dales, now Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Sadly, declining passenger numbers in recent years have caused Transdev to cut some lightly used morning and evening weekday journeys, and announce plans to withdraw the winter Sunday service as it is no longer commercially viable.

However, Nidderdale Chamber of Trade, Nidderdale Plus (a local charity devoted to the support of communities in Nidderdale) and Dales & Bowland CIC have launched a fundraising campaign to save the winter Sunday service, keeping it as part of the wider winter DalesBus network.

The service we plan to operate this winter (starting from October 1st) will offer three return trips, with the first leaving Harrogate at around 1015 to provide easier morning bus connections from services 36, 70 and 747 from West Yorkshire and the last bus returning from Pateley Bridge at around 1625 - hopefully a more popular time, especially in winter.

There are some fabulous walks you can do off the 24 – along the Nidderdale Way, up to Brimham Rocks or Guise Cliff, across to Ripley, as far as Greenhow, Coldstones Cut, Wath, Gouthwaite and beyond.

To keep the Sunday service going all year round for a targeted two-year period, we need to raise around £4,000 to match-fund offers of help from elsewhere. We are already receiving offers of support from local traders and business, but we also need to provide support from individual users.

To raise this money, quickly, together with Nidderdale Plus we have launched a special Just Giving webpage. You can contribute, quickly and easily, by going to: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/nidderdalesundaybuses

So have a credit or debit card available and please go online and help keep this iconic bus service.

You can also donate by cheque, payable to "The Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company", by post to:

D&BCIC, Canal Wharf, Eshton Road, Gargrave,
North Yorkshire, BD23 3PN

The elderly and disabled with an ENCTS pass can use this service without charge. But many older but not-too-badly off FoDB members have told us that rather than see buses cut on Sundays, they would be prepared to pay say a 50% fare – about £4 for return trip between Harrogate and Pateley. So why not "give the difference" for perhaps three trips to help support the service?

The local community in Nidderdale will also be working with us to support and help promote the service in all the villages along the route, offering ideas for easy walks and days out on the bus. We are also looking to our members in Harrogate and in the wider Nidderdale area - perhaps even North Leeds - to also help with distribution of timetable leaflets and information in the area this autumn. This is your local bus service - help us to save it.



DalesBus Ramblers will be offering regular guided walks. We hope that this will increase patronage sufficiently to remove the need for support in future years for the winter 24.

The good news is that from January 2018 Transdev, with the support of North Yorkshire County Council, will be launching an upgrade and marketing project for this service, with smart new bus liveries and branding, on board wi-fi and USB charging facilities.

So, by helping to keep the 24 during the coming autumn and winter, we can ensure its long-term future – a real investment. Please give whatever you can to help our campaign.

Working together with the local community, Friends of DalesBus can prove that we truly believe in affordable, accessible public transport available for local people as well as visitors.

Wharfedale Bus Service Changes

The winter timetable on Sunday Cravenlink service 873/884 between Ilkley and Skipton and on Sunday DalesBus service 874 between Wakefield, Leeds, Ilkley, Grassington and Buckden will be introduced from 1st October 2017.

Pride of the Dales service 74 between Ilkley, Grassington and Hebden now runs on Summer Saturdays only - the last day of operation for Summer 2017 will be on 28th October.

North Yorkshire County Council service 74A between Ilkley, Grassington and Hebden will additionally operate on Fridays from 4th November 2017.

Service 11 (Horton-in-Ribblesdale - Settle - Tosside)

A revised timetable will be introduced by North Yorkshire County Council on service 11 between Horton-in-Ribblesdale, Settle and Tosside from Monday 4th September 2017, following the closure of Horton-in-Ribblesdale School.

Go VAMOOZ to the Dales

This summer DalesBus has partnered with VAMOOZ to provide the Dales Experience Bus from Bradford and Keighley to the Yorkshire Dales, running every Tuesday during the summer school holidays.

Several of the trips completely sold out, but seats are still available to book to:

Malham – 22nd August

Upper Wharfedale and Kilnsey Show – 29th August

[Click here for details](#) and to download the VAMOOZ app - all journeys must be pre-booked on the app.

Publicity Distribution

The DalesBus summer timetable comes to an end on 24th September. Many thanks to all those volunteers who helped with the production and distribution of our summer publicity.

We will shortly be starting to prepare our Winter publicity and once again we are appealing for volunteers willing to assist us with proofreading, distribution of publicity materials, and updating of roadside displays and bus stops. If you would like to support DalesBus and help get the network set up for the winter - particularly if you live in Leeds, Wakefield, and Bradford areas where we are short of volunteers, or have a car – then please get in touch with Jan with your details at janinstallworthy@john-lewis.com. We aim to contact volunteers with further details by the end of August.