

LYTHAM ST ANNES RAMBLING CLUB – BOOKING SYSTEM

The current system of booking seats on the coach is causing some difficulties. We now find that too many people are chasing too few seats with the result that we are unable to get everyone on the walk and find it necessary to manage the seats by having a draw each time. It's also difficult for members who find themselves unsure if they will have a seat. The committee, who must now contact each member who is drawn for the reserve list, have to manage the list so that whenever someone cancels, we can reallocate the seats. All this is taking significant time and resource.

To try and ease these problems, the committee is planning to trial a modified booking system. Our key principle is to make sure everyone gets an equal chance to book a walk with us, whilst recognising that it will be disappointing for those who do not get a seat.

In simple terms there are only ever TWO walks open for booking: The NEXT walk and the ONE AFTER. Members can only book for ONE of the open walks at a time.

We have decided that we will no longer put a booking list around the coach on our return.

Instead, booking for the NEXT ramble will only open at 08:00 (8.00 AM) on the MONDAY following the last ramble. Anyone wanting to go on the NEXT ramble must Email or Phone the booking lines to reserve a seat. Emails and Phone calls are routed to the booking@lytham-ramblers.co.uk inbox and are time and date stamped as they arrive. This information will ensure that seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. Bookings sent to committee members will NOT be accepted.

Members who are NOT on the NEXT ramble may pre-book for the one after at this time, i.e. members may only book for one of the two rambles that are open.

Bookings will be confirmed by return Email or Phone. When the seat allocation is full, members will be notified that they are being placed on the RESERVE LIST. As cancellations occur, the seat is re-allocated to the first reserve and so on until all members who wish to go have a seat. In the event we are not able to give all reserves a seat, those members will automatically get a seat on the next walk (this will be a guaranteed seat). This will mean that in extreme cases members will still be able to walk with us at least once per month.

The committee is, as ever, trying to ensure that all our members have a fair chance of attending each ramble whilst avoiding unnecessary and/or burdensome procedures. We shall obviously monitor the revised system and ask for your cooperation and feedback to help manage this change.

You can help this process by booking and cancelling in a timely manner. I'm quite sure members will not try to get around the system by booking before the 8:00 AM watershed.

To give a concrete example, anyone on the Skipton ramble on Sunday 20th January can only book a seat for the Bowness ramble AFTER 8 AM on Monday 21st January. For members who cannot be with us on the Skipton Ramble, you may now pre-book for Bowness.

IMPORTANT! Do not try and book, cancel or amend your booking using Allan's email address, or telephone, as those messages cannot be accessed or acted upon during the next 2 months.