
Views expressed in this publication are those of the contributors, and not necessarily those of the Ramblers.

Area Annual General Meeting

Lake District Area's 74th Annual General Meeting will be held at 2.30 pm on Saturday 14 January 2012 at Friends Meeting House, Meeting House Lane, Lancaster.

Nominations for officers and representatives of individual members and local affiliated organisations must be submitted to the Area Secretary (Peter Jones: 01539-723705, pcj@talktalk.net) not less than 28 days before the meeting. Motions to be considered at the meeting must also be submitted to the Area Secretary not less than 28 days before the meeting.

Copies of the Area Accounts 2010 – 2011 will be available at the meeting. Alternatively, you can get a copy from the Area Secretary.

After the meeting, the Rt Hon Lord Clark of Windermere, President of Lake District Area, will give a talk on "Forestry & the Ramblers".

How to get there

See the map on page 2.

Arriving by train

Leave the station by the main entrance (at the booking hall). At the top of the station ramp turn left. In a few yards go through the gates on your left and up the steps to the main entrance of the Meeting House.

Arriving by bus

Come out of the bus station next to the travel enquiries office, cross the road on the crossing, and turn left. Walk up Bridge Lane and along China Street at the top of the hill. At Waterstones bookshop, turn right up Meeting House Lane. The Meeting House is on the right about 250 yards from the corner.

Coming by car

From M6 Junction 34, follow the Town Centre and Railway Station signs on the one-way system. Turn left at Waterstones bookshop into Meeting House Lane. The Meeting House is on the right, about 250 yards from the corner.

To use Dallas Road car park, turn left onto Dallas Road just before the Meeting House. To use ParkSafe secure parking, do not turn left at Waterstones but continue straight on and follow the signs.

Morning walk

Lancaster Group will organise a walk on the morning of the Annual General Meeting, starting

from Friends Meeting House at 10:45 am. Walkers should bring a packed lunch. We anticipate a walk of four to six miles with no appreciable ascents or descents, but boots should be worn. The walk will return in time for the meeting. It will be possible to leave a change of shoes, etc. at the Meeting House before the walk.

Area officers

Perhaps the most important purpose of the Area Annual General Meeting is to elect, or re-elect the Area officers. Without the officers we have no Area, and without Area we have no groups.

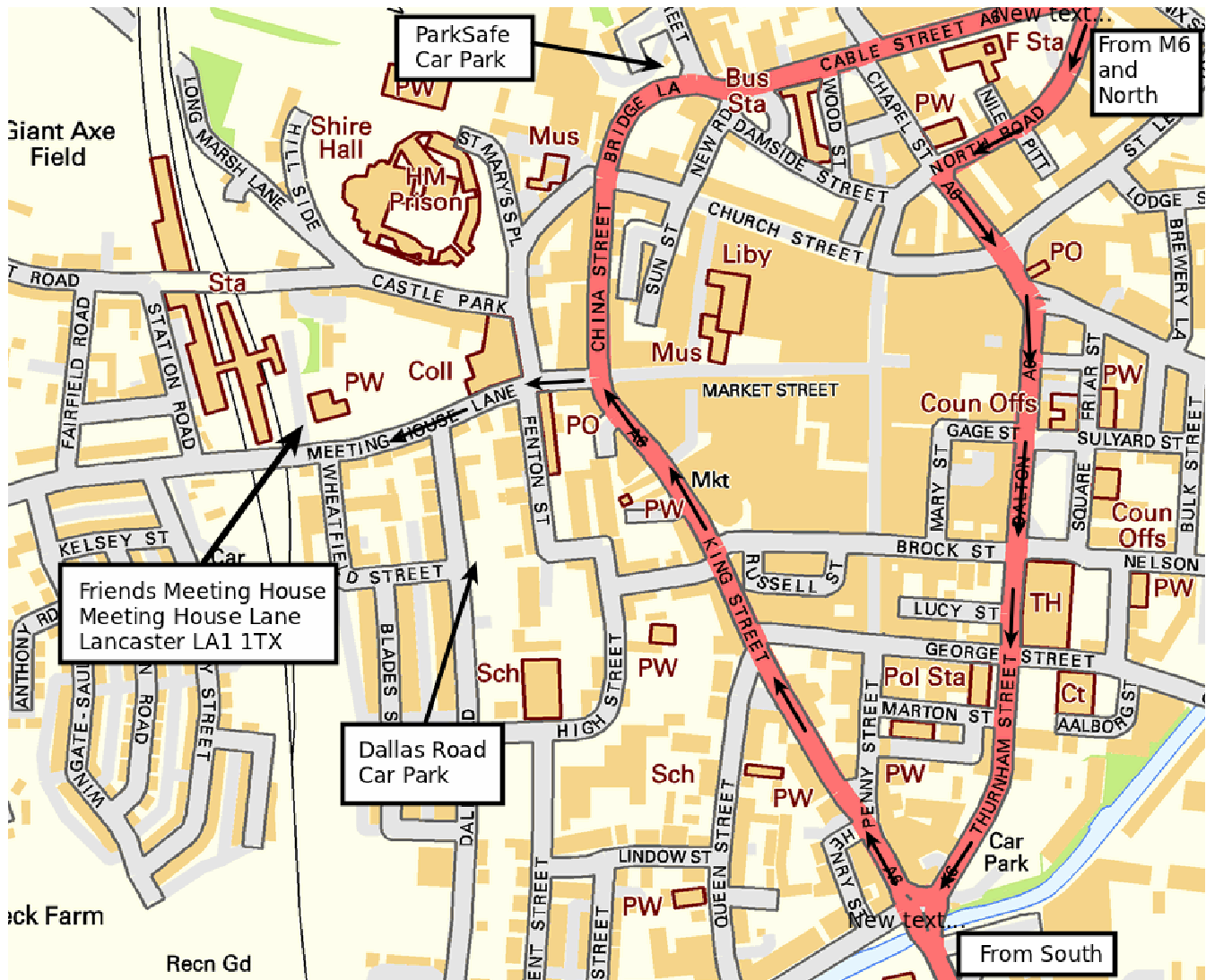
In January, we expect to be able to announce a successor to Stan Simpson as Area Treasurer. However, we have two longstanding vacancies: Countryside Secretary (none since 2004) and Area News Editor (2005). We are also looking for an Assistant Area Footpath Secretary (2009), to enable us to work more effectively with Cumbria County Council and Lake District National Park..

For more information about these posts, contact the Area Secretary.

Lancaster enterprise

Lancaster Group has a thriving publishing enterprise. The group's five walking guidebooks encourage walking in the local countryside, but also make a small surplus because of all the volunteer time put in. The group has been using this money to help with footpath improvements. Recently three stiles have been replaced, two by gates, at Coat Faw in Dentdale at a cost of £290. Also a £900 contribution has been made to a new bridge over Crosdale Beck on the Dales Way just north of Sedbergh (photo below).





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Area Countryside Secretary

A Countryside Secretary is concerned with the Ramblers' objective to preserve the beauty of the countryside, monitoring proposed developments that may have an adverse effect on our environment, and submitting objections where appropriate. In recent years, the most significant threat has come from the succession of applications for wind turbines.

The Area Countryside Secretary coordinates the work of Group Countryside Secretaries, organising education where necessary, and taking the lead in matters that affect more than one group.

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