

Peckfield Mining Disaster Walk

Following Lizzie Musson's interesting presentation on the Peckfield Disaster at our April Zoom meeting a small group joined Lizzie on 4 May for a walk around the relevant locations in Micklefield. We were restricted to six people to meet the Covid regulations in place at that time.

We met outside Churchville House Community Centre, all prepared for a potential rain storm but luckily the rain did not start until we were finishing our walk!

The walk was a little under two miles, mainly on pavements and we crossed the railway line to visit the site of the Peckfield pit, now a disused field, past the site of the original Micklefield pit and the pit wheel memorial, to the small coal truck filled with flowers near the railway bridge which is a memorial to the disaster.

We then walked down the Great North Road to St Mary's church where we viewed another memorial. We visited only a few days after the 125th anniversary of the disaster which happened on 30 April 1896 and flowers, wreaths and crosses were beautifully displayed around the memorial. Lizzie had attended the memorial service a few days earlier which she described as very moving.

Our thanks for to Lizzie for leading this walk and for her offer to lead a further walk in the coming weeks so that everyone can have the opportunity to join in. We expect the next walk to take place on Wednesday 14 July.