

SHORT WALKS GROUP

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October

The walk this month took place on the fourth Monday as no-one was available to lead it on the usual day. We were lucky with the weather as the forecast was for showers but we managed to stay dry. The group met at Tarn Hows car park and walked downhill through fields with good views towards the lake. Coffee was taken on conveniently placed benches overlooking Coniston Water. A few weeks later we drove along by the lake and those same benches were underwater! From there it was uphill through the grounds of Monk Coniston, along muddy wooded tracks following the stream arriving back overlooking Tarn Hows. A five star lunch stop with wonderful views over the tarn and to the fells beyond. From there it was a circuit of the Tarn and back to the cars.

November

Christine Bold very kindly stepped in at the last minute to lead a walk starting at Allithwaite. We walked along quiet lanes past Boarbank Nursing home with great views towards Humphrey Head and the coast. Reaching Cark we followed the track towards Cartmel turning right before reaching the racecourse and walking along Green Lane, A short stroll and we were back at our starting point in Allithwaite.

December

Three intrepid walkers climbed up Hampsfell on a sunny day but with a light covering of snow. The views were magnificent. The rest of us met at Grange Fell Golf Club for a fun afternoon of map reading with tea and mince pies to enhance the Christmas spirit.

January

With weeks of rain on and off and the ground like a mud bath we decided to do a road walk on quiet lanes around Witherslack. A good group of walkers met at the Derby Arms and strolled along the old main road, turning left up towards Millside. From there we followed the road to Beck Head negotiating various small floods before reaching the pool where the stream emanates from the rocks, a fascinating spot. After a short coffee stop we retraced our steps and detoured along the back of the cottages to see the old mill wheel before returning to the cars along country lanes. Sadly the pub was closed so it was home for refreshments.

February

Dianne Cameron very kindly lead the walk and took a large group of 27 walkers around Cartmel starting from the racecourse and headed west towards Holker. They crossed 7 acres field, on past the storm ravaged woods to the bottom of Holker Bank. Here they turned right up to the woods and had a short coffee break before joining the road and following the track

through Walton Hall Farm , mentioned in the Domesday Book. Along to the ford, round Dolly Woods and back to the car park. Afterwards most of the group enjoyed a good lunch at The Pheasant, Allithwaite and were joined by others who couldn't manage the walk.

Jan Tomlinson