

SHORT WALKS GROUP

APRIL. Eighteen members set off from Sizergh car park on the walk originally planned for the previous month. This time the weather was kind and we cheerfully set off for Brigsteer Woods. The wild flowers were just starting to bloom and some walkers were sure they could hear a bittern booming. After passing through Park End Farm, we stopped for a well earned break at the top of the field. We then passed through a lovely garden, walked along the quiet road to cross over the Brigsteer Road and along a track to Barrowfields. After a steep climb up to Scout Scar when some members threatened to report me, we were rewarded with amazing views over the valley. Our walk down passed Helsington Church and back to the car park. We all had a good day. Thanks to all who joined me. Jen Hewitt

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MAY. A select group of 10 members met at Eaves Wood car park. The weather was perfect, sunny but not too hot and a pleasant breeze. However the walk didn't start too proficiently- I turned right out of the car park instead of left! However I quickly realised my mistake and we were soon back on the right track. An easy walk through Gait Barrows Reserve and round Hawes Water and on to Yealand Hall Allotment where we stopped for our coffee break amongst the trees. We saw a family of moorhens and various other birds but unfortunately no booming bitterns. We left Liz in one of the hides to see if she could spot any otters. On to Trowbarrow Quarry for our lunch and then back to the cars. Everyone enjoyed the walk, no steep or slippery paths and through three nature reserves. Many thanks to Liz Armitage for leading the walk

JUNE. In June a group of 9 walkers met at Quakers Stang for a five and half mile circular walk around and through Leighton Moss. Most exceptionally the weather had to be considered for the heat aspect rather than wet. It was decided to proceed on the basis that the walk was fairly level and there was considerable shade from trees along the route. The walk commenced in an easterly direction to Yealand Conyers via Moss House Farm taking it slowly in consideration of the tremendous heat. We had a coffee break in the shelter of the trees just after passing a Lime Kiln. From Yealand Conyers we walked in a westerly direction through the causeway at Leighton Moss. We had a short break at the café and garden and then continued along the road towards Hazelwood Farm but before reaching the farm headed south through Fleagarth Wood to return to Quakers Stang. Quite a few of us then returned to the café at Leighton Moss for lunch.

Jan Tomlinson