

WALKING CLUB REPORT



Words & photos by Bogtrotter

Hornsea District Walking Club (incorporating Leven Walking Club)

After a chilly April the weather has become unsettled - warmer but with a mix of sunshine and showers.

Throughout Spring, walking club members have continued to be out and about in small groups of up to six - the 'Rule of Six' - as permitted by the Covid-19 Lockdown Rules at the time. Once again a search on social media reveals where some Club members have been. A more detailed description of some of the walks has been included, along with photographs.

*Warter, Blanch Farm, Minster Way & Deepdale (13 miles) David, Margaret & Dave

* Leven, Catwick, Catfoss (12miles) - Betty, Jyl, Sylvia, Phil, John & Alan

* Dalby Forest, Bridestones, Adder Stone (10 miles) - David, Margaret, & Steve

* Bishop Wilton, Yapham, Fangfoss (7½ miles) - Caroline & Arnold

* Bethell's Bridge, Brigham, Foston, North Frodingham (9 miles) Betty, Joyce, Carron, Jyl, & others)

*** Watton, Kilnwick, Lund, Cawkeld (9 miles) - Julie, Betty & others :**

Starting from lay-by at Watton this walk followed the picturesque beck towards Kilnwick. Here there is a choice of paths, but we headed south on a bridleway which passes through South Belt Plantation where there was a good show of bluebells in May. From there a mix of country lanes and bridleways led near to Lund and back to Cawkeld and Watton.



Cawkeld Lake by Julie England

*** Hotham Carrs, Wholsea Grange, South Cliffe (9 miles) - Caroline & Arnold :**

From Hotham we headed down Hotham Hill and across the 'flatlands' of Hotham Carrs. This area is quite flat but picturesque with pockets of heathland dotted with gorse, silver birch, and pine trees. We came to the former Market Weighton Canal near Wholsea Grange. The canal opened in 1872 but the top section from here to Market Weighton was abandoned in 1900 and filled in. Navigation of the remainder ended in 1971 and the canal is now just another drainage channel. At Wholsea there are some fishing ponds and near here we saw buzzards and red kites overhead. We continued to the hamlet of South Cliffe and up the short steep hill to come to the edge of Houghton Woods. From here farm tracks took us past Cliffe Dales Farm back into Hotham.



The former Market Weighton Canal, by Arnold Underwood

*** Kilham Westfield to Cottam (6 miles) - Julie & Sue**

A short walk on the Wolds, north of Drifffield. Parking just off the B1249 at Kilham Westfield we headed west along a track, which follows the line of an old Roman Road linking York and Bridlington. This track skirts the edge of Cottam WW2 Airfield at about 480ft above sea level then descends to the Cowlam road. Turning right we walked along the road then took the bridleway on the right leading into Cottam Well Dale. At the top of the dale there are earthworks of the 'lost' medieval village of Cottam and the ruined, but much later brick-built little church. After passing Cottam House we crossed the airfield site, with part of its concrete runway still in situ, to rejoin the track to Kilham Westfield.



The isolated ruin of Cottam Church by Arnold Underwood

With the relaxing of 'Lockdown' rules on 17th May, a limited programme of walks has been planned by Hornsea District Walking Club. These walks will be local Evening Walks, each about 4 - 5 miles, on Wednesdays throughout June and July and two or three Sunday walks each month. Initially there will be a short walk (about 6 - 7 miles) on the first Sunday and a longer walk (8 - 10 miles) on the second and/or third Sundays each month, all limited to 30 participants.

Remember, walking is good for you, physically and mentally.

STAY ELERT, STAY SAFE

For Walks Programme, updates & photo blogs please visit:

Dales Trails website: www.dalestrails.co.uk