

LEVEN WALKING CLUB REPORT



Words by Bogtrotter



Hornsea District Walking Club, incorporating Leven Walking Club

November 2021 saw the 25th Anniversary of the HDWC's first Annual General Meeting in 1996. Back then the Club was known as the Hornsea Walking & Countryside Club. The name was changed after several years to the Hornsea District Walking Club to reflect the fact that the membership came from a wide area around Hornsea. By comparison, Leven Walking Club had its origins back around 1980!

Sunday Walks

Sunday HDWC walks are divided into short (6-8 miles) , medium (8-10 miles) and long (more than 10miles). Here are just a few of the walks done in the past three months.

On 22nd August, nine walkers met up in the lay-by just off the A64 near the village of West Knapton for a 9 mile walk led by Joyce Davidson. The sun was shining as the walkers headed towards Rillington. The route passed through the Scampston Estate, where Neil booked the walkers in for afternoon tea after the walk at the Walled Garden Tearoom. A drinks stop was made outside Rillington on the way to Thorpe Bassett. Farm tracks and country lanes led to the long, one street village of Winteringham. The terrain had been pretty flat to that point, but after Winteringham Church the walkers faced the steep climb on the Yorkshire Wolds.



Lunch stop by the pond on Knapton Brow (DH)

The path heads straight up through the trees - generally known as the ski jump - to emerge at a rustic gate at the top near the Enclosure Rites Artwork, with its pond and the carved Guardian Warriors. This is one of several 'artworks' on the Yorkshire Wolds Way and is situated on Knapton Brow overlooking the Vale of Pickering. With a few benches and the view, this made a convenient place for a lunch stop in the warm, hazy sunshine. From there it was all downhill through Knapton Plantation and across the A64. Then through The Park in front of Knapton Hall back to the cars.

The walk on Sunday 26th September was planned to coincide with the Autumn Steam Gala on the North York Moors Railway. The weather forecast was good albeit misty to begin with. After crossing the railway near Goathland Summit, the walkers, led by David Holtby, headed along the edge of the moor over 'access land' to the railway bridge at Moorgates.



Visiting GWR 2999 'Lady of Legend' passes Moorgates, NYMR (AU)

Then it was on towards Goathland, for a coffee stop in the Church graveyard. They turned south, passing the Mallyan Spout Hotel, to cross the moor past the cairns on Simon Howe into Cropton Forest at Wardle Green. After a mile along forest tracks the walkers emerged onto Goathland Moor. By now the mist had cleared leaving a warm sunny day so they took their lunch stop on Northdale Scar, watching steam trains heading through the dale below. After lunch they continued along the edge of the moor then down across the railway to Fen Bog near Eller Beck Bridge to complete nearly 10miles. Continuing the steam train theme most stopped off on their way home for tea and cake at the 'Steam and Moorland' Garden Centre near Pickering. It had been a great day with the weather turning out sunny and warm after a grey and murky start.

Sunday 10th Oct was another fine autumn day for this 8 mile walk on the Wolds led by Arnold Underwood. Six members gathered at the A166 Cot Nab lay-by on Garrowby Wold, the highest point on the Yorkshire Wolds at 800ft above sea level. Here there is a memorial to the crew of Halifax bomber which crashed in 1944 in bad weather. Also named on the memorial is the driver of a milk lorry who had the misfortune to be passing along the road at time. The route took the walkers along field sides then down into Wayrham Dale to a coffee stop near the Waves and Time Artwork at the head of Thixendale. Then followed a steady climb up Worm Dale onto Painsthorpe Wold with a lunch stop overlooking Painssthorpe Dale. Downhill now to the hamlet of Painssthorpe to take a left turn along a permissive path provided by Lord Halifax's Estate of nearby Garrowby Hall. This path provided a convenient link to the access land of South Wold Dale.



On Megdale Brow overlooking South Wold Dale (AU)

From the pond in the bottom of the dale there was a steady climb on an overgrown track onto Megdale Brow. At the top there were great views north-west towards the Vale of York, just making out Kilburn White Horse near Sutton Bank, 25 miles away! It was now level going for last mile or so across Garrowby Wold back to the cars at Cot Nab. On the way home, some stopped off for cups of tea at Seaways Cafe at Fridaythorpe, which was very busy with bikers on a fine day.

Finally on Sunday 7th Nov, the 'short' 7 mile walk from Kirby Grindalythe led by Sue Copeland, surprisingly attracted only nine walkers. I think family commitments, illness, and injury kept the numbers down. The walkers set off alongside the Gypsy Race, the chalk stream that flows through the Great Wold Valley to Bridlington. St Andrew's Church was open for visitors, so venturing into the dark interior, spotlights came on automatically illuminating

the amazing mural on the west wall, comprised of coloured mosaic glass. From the church they climbed onto Mowthorpe Wold then along the sunny side of Mowthorpe Plantation before turning downhill to take a coffee break by a pond. From near Duggleby a path alongside the Gypsy Race led towards Low Mowthorpe Farm. There the walkers turned to join a track heading up Stonepit Hill.



Kirby Grindalythe Church from Stonepit Hill (AU)

Some trees near the top provided shelter from the chilly wind for a lunch break, with views across the valley. From on top of the Wolds, the only way now was down by way of field paths and farm tracks past Toby's Bench into Kirby Grindalythe, to complete the 7 miles just after two o'clock.

Walks coming up:

The traditional New Year's Day short walk will be in Beverley, followed by soup, chips & sandwiches (at £10 pp) at the Rose & Crown, Beverley.

Sunday 9th Jan: Kilnsea - a 7½ mile walk via Easington.

Sunday 16th Jane: Skipsea - a 9 mile walk via Ulrome & Fraisthorpe

Sunday 23rd Jane: Goodmanham - an 8½ mile walk via Londesborough



For Walks Programme, updates & photo blogs please visit:
Dales Trails website: www.dalestrails.co.uk

STAY ELERT, STAY SAFE

Best wishes for Christmas & the New Year