

Hornsea District Walking Club

Report compiled by Bogtrotter

with contributions from Sylvia Caygill, Sue Copeland, Steve Smith, and Arnold Underwood.



The North York Moors have featured in several Club walks recently. On a rather grey 1st September just five club members met near the Mallyan Spout Hotel in Goathland. This shorter walk was led by Arnold Underwood, accompanied by Caroline Gowthorpe, Betty Lusby, Sylvia Caygill, and Joyce Davidson. The group set off up the road towards Hunt House with Two Howes Rigg on their left providing shelter from a cool easterly wind. Near Hunt House they turned down a track towards Wheeldale Beck, from where they continued through Hazel Head Wood into Wheeldale for a drinks stop by the beck. After their break they had a short steep climb up the road until turning right onto a path through the heather, towards Hazel Head. The path passed above the farm to join the farm road past Hollin House Farm down to the Egton Road at Julian Park. A clearing between Carr Wood and Combs Wood provided a sheltered spot for lunch. After lunch with light rain falling they headed down through Combs Wood to the footbridge over West Beck and into Beck Hole. On this cool damp day there was not the usual crowd at the quaint Birch Hall Inn. After an 'up' out of



Beck Hole it was soon 'down' again to the footbridge that crosses over Eller Beck below the NYMR railway bridge. Their timing was wrong to see any trains today, so they continued up again into Goathland. After a visit to the tearoom they walked through the village back to their cars to complete their 7½ mile walk at about 3 o'clock.

On 8th September there were again just five participants on an 8 mile walk from Thornton-le-Dale, led by Sylvia Caygill. The day was mostly cloudy but turned out better than forecast. The group set off up by the road towards Pickering and turned across fields to Howl Dale Wood. After an elevenses break they continued to Low Kingthorpe and battled their way along a path through the middle of a field of beans! After crossing the road they walked down into Dalby Forest on to the 'Wellbeing trail'. They arrived at the World War 2 'Lumberjills' Sculpture. This sculpture, by Ray Lonsdale, is five metres long and three metres high. It is a memorial to the 9,000 women who worked in forestry during World War Two and was unveiled on Remembrance Sunday in 2013. It provided a convenient place for the walkers to take their lunch break. After lunch they headed along a forest track towards Pexton Moor Farm and then through the plantation to Kirkdale Slack. On reaching the hamlet of Ellerburn they looked around the historic St Hilda's Church which dates from the early Norman or Saxon era. From Ellerburn the group followed the footpath alongside Thornton Beck into Thornton-le-Dale, past the much-photographed, picturesque 'Thatched Cottage' on Beck Isle. As usual, they ended their walk with a visit to a tearoom.



For her walk from Hackness on 13th October, Sue Copeland was joined by six other members, Betty Lusby, Sylvia Caygill, Neil Patrick, Alan Tharratt, Steve Smith, and Paul James (the boys outnumbering the girls for a change!). Hackness is a scattered community by the River Derwent in Forge Valley, only a few miles west from the hustle and bustle of Scarborough. After leaving their cars at Hackness village hall the 'Sunday Seven' set off up onto a ridge to the isolated little village of Broxa where they were rewarded with views over Langdale. Next the group continued into Broxa Forest before dropping down into the secluded,



delightfully-named Whisperdales. From in the dale the only way out is of course up - this time up to another small settlement, Silpho. Finally, it was all downhill into Hackness village itself and back to the village hall to complete an enjoyable 9 mile walk on a beautiful autumn day.

It was closer to home for November's short walk from Fotherdale Farm near Thixendale, where parking had been arranged at the Robert Fuller Gallery. Ten club members - Betty Lusby, Sylvia Caygill, Caroline Gowthorpe, Sue Copeland, Margaret Goodson, Christine Mitchell, Bob Cutts, Neil Patrick, and walk leader Arnold Underwood - met up for the 10 o'clock start of this 'undulating' 7 mile walk. The group set off down the road past the trees where Robert Fuller has several owl boxes, to join the Yorkshire Wolds Way. The weather was to remain dull and overcast all day. They reached the Waves & Time Artwork at the junction of Thixen Dale, Worm Dale, and Bradeham Dale and now faced the long climb out of the dale, up to the road at Gill's Farm. It being now about 11 o'clock and having walked about 2 miles, they stopped at the top for a coffee break before continuing down into Brubber Dale. Here they turned off the Wolds Way to walk along the dale to the Fridaythorpe road. Now they faced another long climb up the road to the turning for Paradise Cottages. At the end of the lane by the cottages they came to the top of the dale overlooking Raisthorpe Manor, where the grassy



bank made an ideal spot for their lunch break with a view over the Wolds. After lunch the walkers followed the tractor track down the hillside to the road then along a field path to enter Thixendale village past the cricket pitch, Wold Wire Sculptures, and the Cross Keys pub. From the village it was then about a mile back up to Fotherdale Farm to complete their

7 mile walk at about 2 o'clock. They then visited the Robert Fuller Gallery where the coffee or tea on offer was much appreciated.

SUNDAY WALKS COMING UP :

Dec 1st: Huggate village car park 10am, Short walk on the Wolds (7 miles)

Dec 8th: Stag Inn, Lelley 11am, Short walk followed by Christmas Dinner at the Stag Inn (Dinner must be booked and paid for by 1st Dec)

Dec 15th: Bracey Bridge Lay-by 10am, Medium walk via Kilham & Burton Agnes (9 miles)

For more details, see the Walks Calendar on: www.dalestrails.co.uk/calendar