

SHORT WALKS GROUP

May 10th

On a cold but dry bright and clear Monday morning thirteen members met at St. Oswalds Church Burneside to complete a six and half mile circular walk to Potters Tarn. The walk commenced on part of the Dales Way footpath around the James Cropper PLC complex and passing Burneside Hall (partially hidden by trees) to join a riverside path for a short distance before taking field paths with a slight incline to join the bridleway near Braben House where we found shelter from the cool breeze for a coffee stop. We enjoyed a pleasant level bridleway with plenty of spring blossom to enjoy before the steep climb to Ghyl Pool and on to Potters Tarn to contemplate the extensive views over Kendal and the Lakeland fells. The dam wall provided some shelter from the cool wind for a lunch stop where we heard the call of a cuckoo. We commenced our descent by a wide grassy path to join a track to Side House and later to join the road for a short distance and thereafter a riverside path at Beckmickle Ings with bluebells in profusion. At Hagg Foot we rejoined the river path passing by Cowan Head private housing complex, formerly a mill owned by James Cropper PLC, and at Bowston (another former mill site of James Cropper PLC), where we rejoined the Dales Way by the river Kent to return to Burneside.

Thanks to Chris Dawson

June

June's walk surprisingly had to be cancelled as although the day was fine the previous days had been very wet and left the footpaths in Dent flooded. We will hopefully do the walk next year when the wild flower meadows are at their best.

July

On a glorious summer's day, fifteen hikers gathered at Sandscale Park and set off on a walk that differed from our usual routes. Accessing the beach via protected coastal lowlands we followed the shoreline and sandhills for a couple of miles. The views of the Duddon Valley, Haverigg, Millom and Askam were spectacular. Clear blue waters and seashell hunting brought to mind holidays abroad. Later we settled among the sandhills for lunch, satisfying our hunger and thirst. We reassembled and turned inland heading back via the Redhut carpark and followed the country lanes towards the main road. After 5 miles we returned safely to base hot but, thanks to Lisa and Viv, none the worse for wear.

Jan Tomlinson