

## Fell Walking Group

### SUN, SUN, COLD and Magnificent Views.

The first walk of the New Year brought a large group of 12 walkers for a Fell walk loop of Barningham and The Stang. Even though Barningham is very close to all of our homes, it is quite interesting how quickly you are away from civilisation and up on the moors. The route was almost exactly the same as a walk planned a few years ago that made it into a published booklet of walks In and Around Teesdale by some of our own U3A members AND I was told by a fellow walker that it can still be bought today. The walk started at the top end of Barningham and we were quickly up on the Moor. Uphill to start which is always good, we followed the Badger Way Stoop to the trig point of High Tallon at 447m (1466ft). Here we had amazing views of Teesdale, Middlesbrough and Redcar possibly Great Dun Fell because we could see snow and everything in between. It was good fun trying to spot where we all lived. The walk continued downhill (a couple of the group cycled down here in their youth- we were really impressed, it was very steep) along a rather difficult rough track to follow to Black Hill Gate and The Stang. Onwards through the Stang past East Hope back towards our start village. The views were still fantastic some interesting bird activity on a small lake but no binoculars and along Low Lane and a stop an old lime kiln. Back in the lovely village of Barningham for 2p.m. and tea and scones. Big discussion Coghlan's or The Morrill! Which one did we pick??

#### Next walks

February 27<sup>th</sup> Meet at West Auckland green near Post Office at 9.45a.m. 10 miles High Etherley Weardale way Escomb

March 27<sup>th</sup>. Meet on the green in Reeth village at 9.45a.m. 10 miles Reeth Marrick Priory Fremington Edge, River Swale

Phil Clarke