

## Fell Walking Group

November's walk was over in Richmond in Swaledale. The walk started at Easby Abbey in reasonable conditions, the talk being about who had the best and correct weather app and when the rain would appear. The consensus was about midday. It arrived just after. The walk started in the car park next to the - easier to spell than say- Premonstratensian (white canons) Abbey and followed the Swale into Richmond. Here in town we walked up some seriously steep roads and paths up on to Richmond Racecourse. The old Georgian racecourse and grandstand were just about visible as the mist closed in, so no magnificent views of the North York Moors today. We headed off to Coalsgarth Gate and on to Willance's Leap on Whitcliffe Scar for our lunch stop before the rain.

**Robert Willance was a successful Richmond merchant and who also had lead smelting and mining property at Clints in Swaledale. He was the first Alderman (the equivalent of Mayor) of Richmond in 1608, but two years earlier he survived a hunting accident on Whitcliffe Scar, just outside Richmond. The site is now known as Willance's Leap in commemoration of the amazing event in 1606.**



After lunch the walk continued towards Richmond crossing Wainwrights Coast to Coast down towards and past Reeth road on the Leyburn – Richmond road. The Swale was crossed by a footbridge below Billy Bank Wood and some us walked along a path extremely close to the river- challenging and back towards and over Richmond Bridge. The walk followed the river towards The Station where shelter from the rain and drink and cakes were most welcome. After our rest the last mile back to the cars was fine. Many thanks to Bob for a great, well planned 10 mile walk.

Thank you to all the walkers for coming this year and especially to the leaders who planned out walks. The highlight for me was again our yearly walk in the Lake District,

Next walk 2020

Castle Bolton Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 9.45 pm