

## Fell Walking – January 2020 Report

Fifteen fell walkers which is a record in my time as convenor met next to Castle Bolton for a 10 mile walk up and over the Fells, down to the River Ure and back. Castle Bolton is a really quaint small village but getting up on to part of Bolton Moor was the first challenge. It's always best to get the climb out of the way early on but there were other climbs to come. Castles are usually built on hills so we played a game of naming coastal castles to be different as we could see Castle Bolton in the distance. The footpath back did seem to take us away from our finish. However after a tough half mile up and we were finished. Slightly over 10 miles. Sorry!!

In between these two hills we enjoyed some amazing views on the top of Wensleydale and beyond. After our first stop I put Bob on the spot about a quarry and he gave an interesting quick geology talk about the area. Thanks! The path took us past Greenshaw Hut, a shooting hut, with great views down into Carperby for lunch which was just over half way. The next part of the route was half a mile down to the River Ure at Aysgarth. Here the group discussed about going to the upper falls. One walker wanted to go, then another so in the end eleven visited where they filmed a scene for Hollywood's Robin Hood Prince of Thieves.

We reassembled and walked back to Castle Bolton close by my favourite- the Lower Falls. The route took us past Hollins house to Lower Thoresby down a packhorse track and up as mentioned to our finish.

Part of the route was on the annual July James Herriot 14k trail race. Hope this impresses everybody.

This month's Fell walk is Wednesday 26th February in Upper Swaledale in Muker. Meet in the village (910979) for 9.45 a.m. which is on the road B6270 from Reeth. Free Parking on the left just out of the village by the Swale. 10ish miles valley and fell.

MARCH walk is Wednesday 25th March, over in Keld CUMBRIA NY554144 Swindale and the Eastern Fells. Meet at Bowes village hall 8.40a.m.

This programme might interest all walking groups ---Yorkshire Walks with solo walker Shanaz Gulzar which is on BBC2 on Wednesday's at 7.30 p.m. show 4 walks in Yorkshire especially the programme Leyburn to Castle Bolton – the Shawl. Catch up needed.

Phil Clarke