

Fellwalking Report by Annie Clouston

This month's walk, led by Lynda Bares, found us out in the Howgills on a blustery day with a sky that threatened rain from purple-black clouds. It did rain, half-heartedly but nevertheless wetly, after lunch. It was agreed that though a bit of a drive the Howgills is a destination that is highly worthwhile, rarely crowded (we saw only two other walkers), and magnificently bleak, with moody skies and wide vistas.

Seven of us set off from Sunbiggin Tarn (where there was some discussion about its attractions as a destination for open water swimmers) to head over to the spectacular limestone pavement. The unfairly named Lousy Brow was to the west as we carefully manoeuvred between, and up and over, great slabs and clints and grikes to Little Asby Common and the eponymous village. From there we clambered down the steep slopes of the Potts Valley and followed the beck until we made a short sharp ascent under Hazzier Scar up on to Crosby Garrett Fell turning west to return to Sunbiggin Tarn. Ten miles in all and most enjoyable. Many thanks to Lynda for steering us safely across the wild and beautiful terrain.

Our well-deserved treat was to be had in the Church Gallery in Kirkby Stephen where coffee and good cake was greatly appreciated.

