

## Fell Walking Report

A group of eight walkers gathered at the Durham Dales Centre in Stanhope, all were keen and ready for a Weardale Adventure.

Bob outlined the route ,which to my mind seemed to include the word UP several times It also sounded quite a varied walk ,UP the burns , UP and across moors ,UP to a trig point.

Off we went walking and talking , Up Stanhope Burn through woodland to reach an area that once was heavily mined for various minerals such as lead ,iron ,fluorspar and limestone .

Onto part of the Waskerley Way walking the gentle Weatherhill incline which was once the route taken by wagons transporting raw materials to Consett. A buzzard and a Red Kite were observed.

Ascent to Fell Haven onto Collier Law trig point at 1700 feet. And a scenic lunch stop.

Across to Fatherly Hill before DOWN to Shittlehope Burn over a bridge through Ashes Quarry a huge former limestone quarry, DOWN to Durham Dales Centre ,to DOWN a welcome beverage. An added bonus ,the weather stayed dry and the sun even made a short appearance.

Bob led us well, and willingly gave information regarding the local area regarding mineral extraction etc. I for one felt educated. An interesting 9.5 mile walk in many ways not only Bob sharing his knowledge but also the various topics of conversation ,not least the correct pronunciation of local place names and SCONE.

Report by Pete Harding.

