

# **SHORTER WALKS GROUP**

## **February 2025 Report**

### **Whorlton to Barnard Castle**

It was bus passes to the ready as fifteen of us caught the No 70 bus to Whorlton Our route was to walk back from Whorlton along the Teesdale Way to Barnard Castle, a distance of 4 miles. The sun was shining and the snowdrops in flower, a lovely day to be out and about.

As we left Whorlton on the Teesdale way we caught a glimpse of the work in progress on Whorlton bridge. The Teesdale way is quite high above the river as you leave Whorlton tracking the edge of the fields. Here the surface was drier than expected after heavy rain the day before. But when the path dipped down to cross streams it became quite muddy and slippery, care was needed underfoot.

We followed the path across the sheep fields and reached the team building wall stile. The people who built this wall must have had long legs! But with a team effort we all managed to get over it. The path then drops down into Whorlton woods which were much muddier underfoot. This is where the use of sticks or poles makes walking safer.

Just before reaching Egglestone Abbey Bridge we stopped to look at the Lime Kilns. As the woods were so muddy it was decided to take the high route back to Barnard Castle over the upper Demesnes.

Our next walk will be on Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Liz Colley**