

# SHORTER WALKS GROUP

April 2025 Report

## Bowes and Gilmonby Circular

Thirteen walkers, twelve regular plus one new member, Mary met at Bowes Village Hall car park on a pleasant April afternoon. Our leader for the walk this afternoon was Joan. We set off towards Gilmonby over the Gilmonby bridge and up a short steep hill towards West Plantation. Taking the lane west towards Sleightholme, we passed a “Do Not Follow Your Sat Nav’ sign. Apparently, some people have been known to set off in their vehicles down here seeking the Tan Hill Inn. Although it was a tantalising prospect for us to head to the Inn, none of us fancied walking that far. We’ll leave that to the Fell Walkers.

After passing the plantation which is very distinctive tree planting here on the moor, we continued along the road with fine views in all directions. We stopped for the obligatory photo capturing Bowes Castle in the background. With the castle standing proud it was easy to orientate ourselves on this walk.



We turned north through a gate to follow the Pennine Way down towards the river Greta. Crossing the moorland some of our walkers were delighted to come across a curlew nest containing three eggs. Having carefully avoided it we carried on through a series of tricky gates to reach the bridge over the Greta.

Our walk continued up to a farm track taking us back into the village. We passed Dotheboys Hall, noting the blue plaque and around Bowes Castle back to the car park.

Our next walk will be on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Joan Rutherford and Liz Colley**