

7-9 Mile Walking Group by Phil Clarke

The January walk was 8 miles around the local countryside and town centre of Richmond showing some of the attractions that make this North Yorkshire town so popular. A dozen of us met at the old Richmond racecourse Hurgill road car park where we encountered typical January weather conditions – mist, cold and finally rain. The walk took us down towards the footbridge over the River Swale and up a steep muddy hill to Hudswell and Billy Bank woods towards the town centre.

In town we started our Easby loop along the less popular path next to the football ground for views of the waterfall and then to the old station. Beyond the trees we spotted kayakers paddling down and through the rapid flowing waters of the waterfall. Crazy, brave, adventurous who knows!!! But an amazing sight. Our lunch stop was supposed to be exploring the Abbey, but rain changed this plan, and we managed to eat outside undercover at the new outdoor café set up recently on the loop. The loop caused some excitement with a lost glove found by a panting dog and his running owner and friendly banter about the little Drummer boy tunnel legend.

The walk took us past the Batts and better closer views of the waterfall then UP into town. On the final part of the walk, we went past the sign on a house wall reminding everybody about 1927 Solar Eclipse. Finally, up again, remember it is Richmond, to the car park. The rain was now most annoying so Mocha café at Aske Hall was a must.



Thanks to Judith Coleman for the picture.

Our next walk on 18 February will be a 7.5 mile circular taking in Auckland Park and Escomb church. On 18 March we hope to do a 7 mile walk from Hury reservoir to Goldsborough. Please contact nickygrace729@gmail.com if you would like to come along.