

**Trip Report:** The Lake District

**Date:** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**Group:** Jim G (Leader) Colin, Dave Clagman, Dave Mayer (Guest)

**Route:** Bow Fell (902m)-Crinkle Crag (860m)-Great Knott (696m)-Pike O'Blisco (705m)

**Total Distance:** 10 miles

**Total Ascent:** 4229 ft.

**Weather:** Warm, dry, sunny, claggy

This walk was billed as "putting the mountains back into the Bunbury Mountaineers" seemed to have the desired, a very low turnout for this Lakeland Classic. Many excuses given, some more valid than others!

Dave Mayer joined us, for his free walk, as part of his training for the Three Peaks Challenge" with Colin.

An early 7am start saw us avoid any traffic problems on the drive up arriving in Langdale before 9am. The route starts with a long slog up The Band to Three Tarns, Dave C's lack of outings is telling and he finds this a bit of a beast. We reassemble at the col then turn right for the rocky ascent to the summit of Bow Fell. The tops hereabouts are covered in low clag and we have to hang about on the summit as the clag blows in and out offering us tantalising glimpses of Sca fell Pike and the Langdale Valley.

We reverse the route to the Three Tarns and then carry on, following the feint path that leads across the numerous crinkles of Crinkle Crag. Dave C is still struggling a bit and we rename him Dave Clagman as we wait occasionally for him to reappear out of the clag. We eventually find the summit, still in the clag, and make our way to the end of the ridge and the "bad step" this can be avoided on the right but Dave M is having none of that and we make the short awkward down climb. The route follows a rocky ridge until it drops down towards Great Knott, a bit of gratuitous peak bagging that Dave C declines to do.

Dropping down to the col besides Red Tarn, Dave C decides that Pike O'Blisco is a peak too far and heads back to Langdale via the Browney Gill path. The rest of the squad makes the short sharp ascent to the rocky summit of Pike O'Blisco. Peak bagged we set off down the via normale Red Pike Gill, by now all the clag has gone and we descend in blistering heat! The path has been extensively repaired over the last few years and this must be the longest continuous rock staircase in the Lake District. Its descent is very hard on the knees, a route Mike A should avoid.

We return to the car and after eventually locating Dave C we head for home.

The M6 is surprisingly quiet and we make good time back despite some twat nearly totalling us, pulling out into the fast lane without looking, avoiding manoeuvres were required!

Whatsapping ahead we meet many drinking Bum's for an extended rehydration session in the Dysart garden. Two things of note, we met the Quinn's new dog Riley and Colin left the pub before me! What is the world coming to?

Jim G

