

Multiple reports from our virtual March 27th Mid week BUMs walk

Leader: Lesley (real leader) and Mike (usurper) Jim and Jean W, Sue L, Selina, Richard and Della, Phillip and Bobby (Canine), Ray and Cathy, Andrea, Ali, Jeff and Debbie,(Ellie and Spot) Steve and Sarah

Local walks: many and varied

Conditions: Beautiful and fairly warm but sombre and happy at the same time.

Dear all,

Thank you for joining in with this idea. I know others may have taken part but the deal was you had to submit a report! If you want to still do that, go on then and I'll add it in, though it must have been undertaken on March 27th to count.

Great photos too and I will get these in a google photo link and send onwards.

So, without further ado, I'll let all the walk leaders speak for themselves.

Jim and Jean Walker

Ok so back home from the USA yesterday following government orders for citizens to return. We are therefore in isolation but got out for a walk of sorts today. Here is Jean, complete with walking stick after hurting her knee, making an ascent of the north face of our patio. We are also following rehydration rules.

Ironically if this walk counts in the stats it will be the first for Jean in about three years.

Sue Lancaster

I walked across the fields from home to the barn conversions just up from Brambly Hedge nursery

and then back home a different route. The weather was glorious , views of the Peckforton Hills beautiful. I only saw a couple of dog walkers from a distance. I had my usual nice mug of tea to rehydrate. No photos as I didn't take my phone!

Selina

Due to the fact that Mike is now working I set off alone from home.

Through the village, around birds lane, down to Bunbury locks, up and across the gallops to Tilstone Bank, down to Jims to admire his immaculate patio. Along the canal to Wharton's lock, along the sandstone trail to Beeston, back to Bunbury and then across the old Gallops and back through the village

9.9 miles...637ft of ascent.....

A beautiful day.

Richard and Della

Ok so it was a BUMS walk!

Format:

8:00am start NOT from the pavilion.

Faffing time just under 10 minutes.

Start point: Our gate

Those Present: Della and Richard (everyone else failed to materialise!)

Maximum height: 240 feet above mean sea level

Height gain: 260ft

Distance: 8.4 miles

Number of stiles negotiated: 37

Percentage off road: 95% estimated

Report:

We went out of our gate, we were holding hands. We went up the road and turned right. We came to a stile, we climbed it. We walked across a field (parts were wet). We climbed more stiles, we walked across more fields. We had stopped holding hands by this time. Our feet were wet. The sun was out. It was cold. We saw some people, we ran a mile. SAW SOME DONKEYS!

Took a group photo at the secretary's house. Walked along the canal towpath to Calveley. Nothing coming on the main road so just walked across, we were devils! Won't do that again in a hurry.

Waited outside Dysart from 12.15pm to 4:55pm before we gave it up as a bad job, what time do they open?????

Hope everyone else enjoyed the walk.

Cathy and Ray

The Bunting crew (Ray, Cathy and Flora) set out with strong heart and mind (well, sort of...) to do a round trip of Bunbury to Haughton to Calverley and back...The route was set at 5.7 miles, so a lovely jolly was expected by all. However after the first couple of miles we encountered ... the COWS... Never have we expected them out to be in full force along with calves and their entire posse...L... A swift meeting was held, exacerbated by several highly strung horses, and we decided to beat a swift retreat to plan B... back though Haughton. We crossed a few styles towards Spurstow Hall, carried Flora over a few dog-unfriendly stiles on the way (one time she was almost strangled) and ended back up in Bunbury 5 miles later. Tea and a Kit Kat later we'd recovered enough to continue with battling the jungle of our garden. Far safer than battling the cows. We felt safer on safari with lions.....Only a couple of photos and the route, sorry... vultures were a bit off-putting...

Ali

Sorry for the belated report. Distance 8k. Ascent - don't know. Set off from no 17 and went to Flixton, trees full of cherry blossom and sun shining. Past cost cutter on Church Road into Urmston then stopped to look at a few gardens before turning off towards Stretford. Bit of cross country bushwacking, across the council estate, under the motorway bridge and a traverse of the Canterbury Road estate before returning home for rehydration.

Ali.

Andrea

Hi Lesley and all.....

Report from Peckforton.

Distance - less than usual

Height - not much

Squad - Me and unwilling dog, Ellie

Location - Not far from



I awoke with excitement - another BUMs walk, and goodness the sun was shining! Leapt from my slumber, frightened husband and dog, also in deep slumber. Bag packed, 8.00am start jumped in the car to get in the mood and sat there for 1.5 hours to make sure I was doing things the right way. Weirdly, 90 mins later I was back in Peckforton! Dog, Ellie, yawned and looked stressed when I instructed her to get out and get walking! Off we went, down the track, round the field, up the hill, through some mud, over several stiles, stopped for coffee and snack, but horror - where was my mat!?! Ellie looked aghast when I said we were marching on and not returning home just yet. More yomping, more stiles, the odd missed turn and study of map, and then we burst through the woods to see the long and winding road home, down the hill, through some more mud and yet another stile, stopped at the farm to buy some cheese and then back home in time for early doors. Phew!

What a great day and goodness Ellie was pleased to get home.

Phillip Ellis

Buenos Dias Todo

I thought I would send my walk report from a not so sunny Spain. We do have tight restrictions regarding walking ie only with a dog and only one person with said dog so Bobby and I set off from our lovely whitewashed mountain village at 7.30am wearing shorts but requiring a fleece. We headed down the hill out of the pueblo (village) then immediately back up the short steep hill passing la Fuente (village fountain, watering hole). Destination, Serena the next village heading further into the hills. It wasn't long before we had to contend with the herd of goats driven by Ramon and his trusty dogs walking towards us, no problem there so carried in for another 20 minutes and came face to face with an Ibex (look it up) walking on the road towards us which is very unusual as they are incredibly shy animals. Luckily enough it was

a female as the males are rather daunting close up.

On we walked until reaching Serena where Bobby took refreshment at la Fuente.

There is no circular route so we promptly headed back the same way without incident. We were only passed by two vehicles to give you an idea of how remote Serena is.

The steep ascent back to my house always leaves me slightly breathless but always feels it's worth the effort.

Distance only 6km.

Location, Bedar, province of Almeria, Espana.

Hasta luego mis amigos

Jeff and Debbie

Hi, trip report as requested, sorry for lateness, and it's not a patch on Andrea's!

Participants - Myself, Debbie, plus Ellie and Spot

Route - Beeston to Peckforton Castle Lodge, over Peckforton Hill to join Sandstone Trail, north past Beeston Castle to Wharton's Lock, left along the canal to the aqueduct over Eddisbury Way, then South along Eddisbury Way to the Peckforton Hills near the Pheasant, over the hill again and back towards Beeston

Distance - 11 miles, 950 feet ascent.

An early start to avoid too many people on the Sandstone Trail was rewarded with lovely early morning light, but a downside was a temperature of -2 degrees at the start. Soon warmed up though. The canal was quiet and tranquil, many birds were singing and getting on with spring

things - lapwings displaying over the cornfields to the north, a pair of great spotted woodpeckers flying past, grey wagtails at Wharton's Lock, blackcaps and chiff chaffs singing, also a Cetti's warbler at bridge 111. Unfortunately the canal had not miraculously become crystal clear with dolphins as reported in Venice but was scenic none the less. Turning south at the aqueduct we passed under the railway and then headed towards Squarehouse Farm, where some animal management was required to get through a stile as a couple of black lambs and a ewe seemed, unwisely, keen to make Spot's acquaintance, and pose for photos. Our walk was again interrupted at the end of Wood Lane near Pennsylvania Wood where 3 calves and a cow again approached Spot, obviously his magnetic personality. The cow did not seem intent on aggressive defence of its calves so we made an exit and climbed back up towards the Peckforton Hills skirting round the Pheasant with much regret. Scenery was great and it was a very enjoyable walk,

Cate Gregory

Hi

Great to have you back Jim!

I took this challenge very seriously !!!!

A Stroll Around the Fields and Footpaths of Calveley; March 27th 2020

Distance 7mls

Height 200ft

Time 2hrs 10mins

We set off from home with the sun on our backs admiring the hazy Derbyshire hills in the distance.

Our route took us past cows recently turned out to graze who seemed to look at the grass bemused, sheep, lambs and beef cattle all enjoying the sunshine. The bird song seemed so loud as we stood watching a pair of lapwings over the fields.

We joined the canal near Barbridge and sat watching the ducks in the late afternoon sun...we have all the time in the world!!!

A short meander down the lane brought us full circle and past a fabulous display of celendine. Splendid!

Steve and Sarah

Please see below for a few details of the walk undertaken today by the Utkinton branch of the BUMS.

But before that I would just like to thank the walk leader for the suggested method of obtaining some exercise in the absence of the scheduled BUMS outing. Sarah & I have enjoyed the excuse to explore some paths that are within reach of home but not previously visited. And, as I'm sure you all discovered, the weather and conditions underfoot were just about perfect.

I hope that this screen shot from the "Map My Walk" app, together with a couple of photos from the day, satisfies the verification requirements! Rehydration is likely to be in progress for much of the evening here but won't be quite the same without a bunch of BUMS to chat with. I look forward to seeing what others have been up to.

Mike and Les

11.7 miles

Our walk had a leisurely start following a virtual yoga session during which Mike managed to almost knock down our ceiling lights.

I thought I was leading this one but it soon became clear that my husband had taken back control and so we headed for the softest, squelchiest, horrid mud he could find inside the boundary of Bunbury. I knew I shouldn't have relinquished control.

Muddied up already we headed out towards Beeston Moss only to find our way barred by a new lake. Through quick improvisation we made a new route up towards Peckforton Castle gates and along the road towards the village then following the diagonal path to the haunted bridge and on to the top of Bulkeley Hill for lunch--yes we took sandwiches as normal. Didn't everyone?

We then made our way over the fields and onto the beautiful Willow Hill and onwards to the Pheasant. That was a tough call passing its closed doors. It looked quite forlorn. Down the Sandstone trail across towards the outdoor centre at Beeston and back passing Jeff's to home via the Co Op for wine and cheese.

It was a beautiful day, peaceful and scenic and we must be very pleased we live in such a lovely place.