

Trip Report Friday 26th October 2018

Snowdonia Crimpiau and Creigiau Gleison from Llyn Crafnant

Distance: 7.5 miles

Ascent: 2500 feet

Weather Forecast: windy with rain showers,

Squad: Selina (leader), Mike W (driver), Debbie, Jeff (driver), Dave C, Cate, Mark H, Colin (driver), Bob H, Jim G, Mike H, Steve (driver) and Sarah

The squad met in the pavilion car park at 8.00, the rain was already falling, but hey it was forecast to clear by 9 and turn showery. An uneventful drive, apart from another narrow welsh lane at the end, found us in the car park at Llyn Crafnant. We hastily made use of a brief dry interlude to don our full wet weather gear, just in time for the hail to start to fall.

We walked up along the lane by the reservoir and then began the ascent to the Col in another heavy hail shower, The leaders plan was to gather at the Col and decide wether to proceed with plan A or take the lower plan B route by carrying on over the col and following a route similar to that Lynn had led a couple of years ago. However, certain members of the squad had already made their minds up and were beginning the ascent of Crimpiau.

There were bits of blue sky around and some views to be had so the rest of us followed them up, and after making the summit descended and shortly stopped for a coffee break in the shelter of a wall.

The hail showers continued to come with what seemed like less and less respite in between them, and by the time we approached Creigiau Gleison they were accompanied by strong winds, and became horizontal welsh hail (I shall cease to call them showers at this point.) with some of the squad struggling to keep on their feet.

Everyone was very eager to get off the mountain by this point and some went off piste in their eagerness to descend.

After circumnavigating some bogs on the way down we met up with the “off-pisters” and eventually reached the relative shelter of the forest and stopped for some very welcome lunch. Continuing down through the forest, the sun came out and we all began to dry out before the welsh hail hit us one more time just as we approached the cars.

The usual rehydration was taken in the Dysart where we took turns in front of the fire, compared notes of daring do's, and discussed how much a similar facial exfoliation treatment would have cost in a spa.

Probably not my finest hour as a leader, but a walk not to be forgotten!....and Mark even paid his membership fees so I clearly didn't do enough to put him off.

Footnote. It was a beautiful walk on a summers day when we did it back in September...