

Trip Report: The mighty Peckforton Mountains

Date: 5th December 2015

Group: Jim G (Leader), Mike A, Lesley, Mike H, Ian, Lynn, Tony, Sarah, Sue & Bob

Route: Peckforton Mountains Ramble

Total Distance: 10.6 miles

Total Ascent: 1583 ft

Time: 4.5 hours

Storm Desmond thwarted our plans for a Mountain day out in Snowdonia, so it was off to the Peckforton Mountains for a local walk, we did stay dry despite Desmond but he did blow a bit. A very leisurely start at 10am from the Yew Tree car park, just what the Friday night binge drinkers were praying for. This was a random ramble with no fixed route, the Bums rambling at will, well Tony was (as usual) the only target was to get Bob back to the Nags by 3pm to watch the Mancs on dodgy TV, I bet he wished he had stayed out longer!

We set off up the tarmac, with a slight diversion for Ian to collect his dogs, don't quite see how he forgot them in the first place. Then across the fields, surprisingly not too muddy, around Peckforton Moss and back onto the tarmac at Stonehouse Farm. A stroll down Stone House Lane before a traverse across Bulkeley Hill, stopping briefly for a coffee break (some gannet's consumed their lunch here!) and over to Copper Mine Lane. A short pull sees us summit at the mighty trig point of Raw Head (227m) lots of milling about here and mutterings about a recently installed stone bench. We then reverse the route back to Copper Mine Lane and then power up to the top of Bulkeley Hill, stopping for lunch, the gannetts are now looking sorry for themselves and resort to scounging food!

Ever conscious of the 3pm kick off, we wander our way along the Sandstone Trail before cutting back over on the path near Stanner's Nab and down past Peckforton Castle and out through the magnificent Sandstone Gatehouse. We cut round by Peckforton Mere, avoiding the bog trot, Tony nearly breaks down at this point, before heading back to Peckforton Hall Lane and so to the Yew Tree. Bob dashes off to the Nags to watch another thrilling 0-0 draw by the Mancs (yawn).

Into the Yew Tree for the usual rehydration therapy, but what no Colin I here you ask? Sadly he went to Old Trafford to see the same boring shit goalless draw as Bob, he just paid a lot more for the privilege.

Jim