

Trip Report: Anglezarke Moor

Date: 14th February 2015

Group: Steve (leader) Tony, Lynn, Alan, Mandy, Colin, Amanda, Sarah, Jim, Mike A, Les, Jeff, Mike H, Ian, Caryle, Selina, Lynda, Sarah B

Route: Anglezarke Reservoir, White Coppice and Great Hill

Total Distance: 9 miles

Total Ascent: 1000 ft

Weather: Dry, cool and still but with low cloud

So close to a record turnout!!

But apparently the walk at Stanage Edge around this time last year also attracted a group of 18 BUMs and we only equalled the record with this one. I'm sure this means that Dave and Ali will feel especially guilty for dropping out at the eleventh hour!

Anyway, it was good to welcome three new members in Alan, Mandy and Sarah and then to find that all cars managed to navigate to the meeting point without problems. So we were underway before 10.00 walking initially through woodland and then on paths overlooking Anglezarke Reservoir. The route then followed a level track to the isolated hamlet of White Coppice with its lovely cricket ground that is said to be the most attractive in Lancashire. Here we turned to the east and headed up onto the moors following a clear path and dodging an increasing number of runners, presumably involved in an event. After a stop for coffee we continued to climb gradually towards Great Hill but unfortunately the visibility decreased in the low cloud and from the shelter on the summit I could only point towards Blackpool Tower and assure everyone that it really can be seen on a good day.

South off Great Hill the path was on flagstones for a couple of miles and we adopted the necessary single file to cross this section of boggy moorland before turning west and picking up a more solid track. At this point the cloud lifted a little and some blue sky even put in a brief appearance as we descended for a while and found a good place for lunch at some ruined farm buildings. In recognition of the date, Alan distributed Valentine chocolate bars to the ladies to supplement lunch rations (something that the Leader had failed to think of!). We continued to descend gradually, with hazy views of Rivington Pike to the south, until the track reached the River Yarrow, which runs into Yarrow Reservoir. A short stretch of road walking alongside the reservoir took us back to the car park by early afternoon.

There was a Yew Tree Inn not far from the car park but, as usual, the post-walk gathering was at the YT in Bunbury, where spirits were high

after an enjoyable day out, and with England running in a few tries in their game against Italy.

Steve