Trip Report: North Wales
Date: 24th June 2016
Group: Lynn, (leader), Tony, (navigator with new Satmap), Mike H (co-navigator), Mike and Lesley, Ian and Jess, Mike W, Ann, Sarah and Steve
Route: Llyn Crafnant - one of many lakes
Total Distance: 9.8 miles
Total Ascent: 2496 ft
Weather: Sunny with light showers.

With a nice and civilised start time from the Yew Tree at 8.00 we made our way to the Conwy valley in Snowdonia with the weather not looking too bad. The Brexit events of the day before seemed to be on everyone's mind so it was nice to get out into the hills for the day and away from it all.
We arrived at Llyn Crafnant car-park complete with toilets which is always a good start for the BUMs. There was great excitement when Tony got out his new SatMap and it will be good when he's figured out how to use it. Not a great start when as we left the car-park we ended up in a picnic area and not the lake, I don't think anybody noticed.
We followed the north shore of Llyn Crafnant and all around were marvellous views of the surrounding mountains. The path then started a steep ascent heading towards Capel Curig and when we reached the top the rain stopped and so we stopped for a coffee.
The path now contoured over open terrain with the marvellous Moel Siabod in the background and eventually we came to a crossroad of paths. The path we needed took us eastwards towards Swallow Falls and the Ugly House, however we never saw either. We soon realised that we were slightly off track and this is when the SatMaps came into their own.
We took a path northwards and we did end up at the lovely Llyn Bodgynydd and we took a boggy path (there had to be one somewhere) and onto a nature reserve. We came out to a farm surrounded by tips and mine shafts and Mike H spotted a cuckoo.
Onwards to our final lake Llyn Geirionydd with its monument to Welsh poetry, and a straight forward route following path no 5 brought us back to Crafnant car-park.

Usual re-hydration at the Yew Tree with other non-walkers joining us. Thanks everyone for a good day.

Lynn

Jim