

**Trip Report: Ingleborough**

**Date:** 12th March 2016

**Group:** Ali And Dave (Leaders), Tony and Lynn, Les and Mike, Jim, Sue, Ann, Ian

**Route:** Clapham round trip via Ingleborough descending to Newby Cote returning on road to Clapham

**Total Distance:** 9.3 miles

**Total Ascent:** 2303 ft

**Time:** 5 hours

**Weather:** Slightly overcast and chilly

Start time from the Yew Tree was a little ambiguous due to a light touch/hands off/arms length leadership approach. Despite this 8 of us managed to meet up at Clapham, one car paying their way to park in the official car park, thus securing the future of the National Park, whilst the other 2 cars cheap skated by parking on the road. You know who you are.

A little mincing in said car park to meet the 'leaders' and we were off following the, now fairly familiar track (again avoiding paying the 70p pp to ramble through privately owned gardens) up towards Gaping Gill - one of the largest pot hole entrances in the country (they say the cavern can easily fit a cathedral inside it. Here the beck water drops 330 ft into this huge chamber...we did relive (more than once) the famous story of Jim slipping in the beck and almost falling to his doom down the Gill....boring boring boring, but Ian hadn't heard it before.

Off after a short coffee stop onto the flanks of Ingleborough and up into the mist onto Little Ingleborough.

At this point some, not all, noticed an absence. One of the leaders was missing. Dave, apparently suffering man flu was puffing, panting and sweating way behind. Ali decided it was time to take the sick boy back and so way bade farewell and continued up into the snow to locate Mr Grant who had somehow managed to forge ahead - not for the first time. Snow was quite deep in drifts but we bravely managed to reach the summit and then appointed a new leader....Tony, in name only as all the men took full control and pointed the way down. This was to be a slightly off piste descent but it all worked out very well, even included a very nice lunch spot next to Swallow Hole shake hole—yes, you heard that here first. It didn't take Ian long to launch into his usual inuendos.

A very easy descent led us down to Newby Cote and then a fifteen minute stroll back into Clapham.

From there it was a smooth drive back to The Yew Tree which was rammed with rugby supporters (and quite a few beer supporters) where we all imbibed a much earned drink bought by Colin to celebrate slightly belatedly his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Cheers, and Happy Birthday from the BUMs.

Lesley (self appointed report writer)