

Trip Report: Morecambe Bay**Date:** 28th May 2011**Group:** Tony, Lynn, Mike, Lesley, Chris, Jim, Caryle, Selina, Richard, Della, Ian, Hugh, Mari, Lynda, Chrissie, Melody, dogs 3**Route:** Hest Bank, Morecambe to Grange-over-Sands**Total Distance:** 9 miles**Total Ascent:** 0 ft**Weather:** Windy, Cloudy with Sunny spells

This was certainly a walk of the unexpected, the traffic jams in Lancaster, the half-hour earlier start, the depth of the River Kent and Richard's sartorial eccentricities.

With what must be a record-breaking turnout, we paid our £8 to a bloke on the Hest Bank shore and set off across the sands of Morecambe Bay. We had sensibly decided to use a local guide, Alan, to take us (and approx 100 others) across the Bay and included in his fee was transportation back from Grange and numerous supporting quad-bikes and tractors.

It was windy and cool for May and probably the last thing we wanted to do was roll our trousers up and wade through the waters of the Bay.

And it was great to see our newest recruit, Melody, showing a bit of the Dunkirk spirit !

We finally caught up the rest of the group, but with the number of folk it now felt a bit like we were on a watery Saturday afternoon shopping trip in Chester.

Hest Bank had now faded away into the distance behind us and although Grange didn't seem to be getting any nearer, the BUMS spirit kept us going as we prepared for the deepest part of the walk, the crossing of the river Kent.

The water reached waist-height and there were a few hairy moments as a few of the group hit a layer of very soft sand and one poor lady panicked a bit and was helped to her feet by Mike and Richard.

We made it through the river unscathed, and it was a drier and firmer path that led us on to our final destination at Grange-over-Sands and to warm and dry coaches back to the cars.

Ian jumped cars on the way back to listen to the Champions League commentary, and it was nice to see his happy smiling face when his team equalized, but I can't help feeling he may have made a Messi of things going home to watch the second half, and not to join us for the customary BUMS dehydration session in the Dysart.

Tony