

Ilam Park-Thorpe Cloud

Distance: 10.2 miles

Ascent: 1700ft

Squad: Janet (Leader), Lesley, Mike A, Clare, Jo, Dave

Six of us in two cars set off at 8:15 sharp from the pavilion. No traffic problems en route, the weather was a bit rainy but had cleared up by the time we arrived at Ilam Park. We were all suited and booted for 10am after a quick comfort stop at the cafe facilities. From Ilam park we set off and made a steady ascent to the top of Thorpe Cloud, it was a bit windy so after a quick photo we descended down the way we came and stopped for a coffee break in a sheltered spot where we had lovely views towards Ashbourne. We carried on through the sleepy village of Thorpe and after a wrong turn through a narrow gap in between two stones where Lesley cut her leg, sorry Lesley, we turned onto the Limestone Way, which took us over Coldwall Bridge spanning the river Dove and up to Blore. Here we left the Limestone Way and after about half a mile on the road we turned off and skirted Hazelton Clump, an undulating path to Musden Low where lunch was taken with more lovely views. From here we headed to Calton Green and at a crossroads turned right down the lane and off onto a path that took us down through Musden Woods which opened out at Rushley. We then followed the river Manifold back to Ilam Park. We all made it back to the Dysart about 5pm for rehydration. Thanks for your company.

Janet