BUMs Walk Report.

Classic Kinder Scout from Hayfield 10 miles ascent 2181

(AKA First Contender for the Tony Quinn Boggiest Trot of the Year Award)

Squad

Leader (allegedly) Ali

Back seat drivers Mike and Jim

Dave and Christine

Ann and Neil

Steve and Sarah

Chris W

The forecast had shifted from dire to fabulous to dire again so appropriately equipped with waterproofs, sunglasses and all sorts in between, nine of us met at Bowden Bridge car park and set off (at 9:29am) past the reservoir and up (and up and up!) via William Clough and then onwards to Kinder Downfall. At this point the weather remained dry and there were even some glimpses of sun through a light hazy bit of clag. Everyone was in good spirits and commenting on what a lovely walk.

To be fair, the leader thought that a 'Classic' walk on Kinder ought to include the 'Scout' bit. There was little snow left and the low temperatures would mean the ground was hopefully still frozen; so arriving at Kinder Downfall, the plan was to do an out and back again, lunch back at the Downfall then on to Kinder Low, Edale Rocks and back via Oaken Clough.

Ahahahahahahah!

As we waded, slogged and generally bushwhacked through streams, bogs, peat and moorland, the expressions of enjoyment ceased and it became apparent that no-one (including the leader) was up for returning the same way. Then the clag came in. Oh joy!

A team decision was made to continue 'straight' over the top to Crowden Tower where hopefully the going would be better. It wasn't!

Lunch stop at the rocks at Crowden Tower and then more bog trotting and zigzagging until we finally reached Oaken Clough and the return route.

Most of the group returned to The Dysart for rehydration while the leader headed back to Prairie Schooner. It's a good job there were no pooches on this one, I think we'd have been digging them out of the bog and I wouldn't have fancied bath time after!

Thanks everyone for your good spirits in some challenging terrain and especially to Mike and Jim for navigational support.

Ali