

BUMs Trip Report

Saturday 13th May 2023

Walkers: Lesley Arrowsmith (leader) Selina and Mike, Chrissie, Cate, Andrea, Heather, Dave Barker, Chris and Carol, Fred and Ann

Venue: Llangollen and heritage walk

Stats: 9.6 miles, 2000 ft of ascent

Weather- Sunny all day with actual heat!

After a leisurely meet up at the pavilion at 9:00 it was urgently pointed out to the leader that she had left Ann and Fred off the squad list. Pulling her leg, no, deadly serious. However, Fred and Ann have an abundance of common sense and as the list had been issued to all Bums they had used it and arrived soon after.

Squad complete we headed off for Llangollen – about 50 minutes away and managed to park up in a central car park....well, that is all except Dave who preferred to find a free car park and run to meet us.

Following a lovely walk I had done a few weeks earlier I advertised this as such, hence Selina bravely turning up for her first walk of the year I believe.

Pressure now on to keep everyone happy whilst making the walk a little more challenging with a mile or two extension, so I advertised 8 miles just to be on the safe side, the earlier walk being less than 7 miles.

(Someone please tell me how to plot a route on OS maps where you can follow curving paths, instead of pinning straight lines and so getting as the crow flies, mileage).

Anyway, back to the walk. The route followed the canal north west in an easy mile or so to The Horseshoe Falls where we stopped for coffee and a chance to de-layer.

Then onwards to Llantysilio Church and then back on ourselves over the hill and round to Valle Crucis Abbey. The camp site here was buzzing with families enjoying the gorgeous sunshine. Crossing the tiny Eglwyseg River we scampered up a steep flight of steps and left over a field or two before gaining the add - on section. This proved to be upward but an easy climb through woods on the Clwydian Way. At Tan Y Fron farm we followed another small path towards the river where we spotted the perfect lunch spot beside the river and in the grounds of a newly restored house. It was a sun trap for sure.

With full stomachs we were off, emerging onto a short section of minor road and then meeting up with the Offa's Dyke path towards Dinas Bran, alongside a lovely section of the Panorama Walk. Everything looks and feels better in the sunshine and I could hear no murmuring that the walk was longer than advertised, but then I kept a good distance in front to ensure I was out of earshot at all times.

So far, so good, and with Castle Dinas Bran towering above us my first wrong move was made but very quickly recalled and we hit the tourist track down wards towards Llangollen.

Permission granted for those requiring an ice cream and then back to the Dysart for much welcome cold drinks all round. I like to think the extra mileage and height gained made all feel fulfilled and virtuous!

A very pleasant walk with great friends and wonderful weather. What's not to like?

Lesley

