

Oakley

Ramblers Club



Affiliated to HF Holidays Limited

Jenny Banks led a morning walk on Wednesday 15th September 2021 meeting at 10.30am in the Car Park of Sprats Hatch Lane, Winchfield. The walk followed a scenic, interesting 3.5 mile circular walk along the Basingstoke Canal and through Dogmersfield Park before ending at the Barley Mow pub in Winchfield.



On 24th September 2021 seventeen members travelled to South Yorkshire for a weekend of walking in the famous dales. Our base was the HF Holidays hotel, Newfield Hall, situated close to Malham in South Yorkshire. The Dales and countryside on the doorstep of Newfield Hall are a ramblers' paradise, with easy access to Malham Cove and its deeply indented limestone pavement, Gordale Scar and Pen y Ghent as well as the pretty villages of Grassington and Kettlewell.

Weather was good and allowed amazing views over the Dales.

The programme of guided walks over the two days offered four choices each day, ranging from 6.5 miles up to 13 miles for the longest walk. The first day's walks were all circular from the hotel taking in the historic village of Airton, along the valley to Kirk Malham with its "Cathedral of the Dales and "watery grave", the Aire Valley, Malham Cove and Janet's Foss before returning along part of the Pennine Way beside the River Aire.



Walks on the second day started from the village of Clapham with all walkers transported by coach to Clapham. Whilst the walks were not quite as long as the first day this was balanced out by the greater ascents, ranging from 1050 feet (320m) to 2100 feet (640m). The shortest walk passed through the Ingleborough Estate, with an option of a guided tour of Ingleborough Cave with its impressive stalactites & stalagmites. The other walks offered opportunities to see the limestone gorge of Trow Gill and the huge pot hole of Gaping Gill. Gaping Gill is of awe



inspiring scale dropping 100m and large enough to fit York Minster into.

The weekend was enjoyed by all with the consensus that it was a great place to visit and walk in. The only concern for some was whether or not we could get enough fuel to get back home!

Our current full programme of walks diary is available on www.oakleyramblers.org

Roy Yeoman