

Bums Trip report

Friday 31st January 2025

Route: Harborough Rocks-High Peak Trail-Roystone-Ballidon

Distance: 8.5 miles

Ascent: 955 ft

Weather: Grey skies with a bit of drizzle late on

Walkers: Jim G (Leader), Mike W (+2 dogs), Gordon (1 dog), Dave C, Colin, Janet, David, Christine

A rare visit to the Derbyshire Dales, first bog free walk in recent months(maybe a new award contender?), flattest walk in living memory, no mountains were climbed in the execution of this walk (again). An uneventful drive from Bunbury sees us ready to set off at 9.30am

The walk starts from the village of Brassington where there is considerable evidence of ancient farming and mining where lead was mined by the Romans.

The walk starts from the old quarry in Wirksworth Dale straight uphill before passing the very noisy Hoben works which is not a quarry but processes hard minerals from all over the world turning them into fine powders.

We across the High Peak Trail to make the short but steep ascent of Harborough Rocks, posing in front of the Trig Point for the obligatory Team photo.

Descending the same way, we turn onto the High Peak Trail and this very straight, flat disused railway track. There are various information boards along the way pointing out old buildings and features old the long defunct railway.

Just pass Daisy Bank we turn west off the High Peak Trail and head down towards Roystone Grange and into the dry Roystone Dale.

We head down the road through this delightful Dale passing an old restored 19th century Pump House. We can hear the sounds of the workings in Ballidon Quarry behind the righthand wall of the Dale. We find a grassy spot on the left-hand bank where lunch is taken.

We exit the Dale and continue down the road avoiding the huge lorries leaving the quarry turning off left onto a green track past Cow Close Farm. We then hit more tarmac heading steadily up Pasture Lane. Where the road bends sharply to the right we head up a small path before dropping down to the village of Brassington and back to the cars.

The journey back to the Dysart was a little slower but we are back well in time for our Friday Afternoon rehydration session where we are joined by various other dehydrated Bums

Jim G