

A Wander from Northowram

22.10.2022

24 Miles

12 Walkers

Leader Chris Burrell

Starting in Northowram, 12 walkers headed up Shibden Dale, admiring the changing tree foliage in the autumn sunshine, climbing out of the dale just above Catherine Slack, we headed towards Bradshaw. Our morning stop was taken in the bird garden of Mount Zion Methodist Chapel yard. Once refreshments were consumed, we set off again dropping down to Halifax Golf Course and Ogden Reservoir, which was still very low. Climbing Withens New Road we took a right and crossed Ogden Moor to Thornton Moor reservoir. Picking up Thornton Moor Road which soon turns into Black Edge Lane down to the busy Halifax Road

Taking a left here we were soon off the road heading for Doe Park Reservoir where lunch was consumed. Climbing up to Ten Yards Lane a short section of road walking was necessary to avoid over grown paths, but we were soon on Close Head Lane dropping down to Thornton Road, and picking up the disused Great Northern Railway track walking over Thornton Viaduct to Queensbury Station. The line was opened in 1879 and closed to passengers in 1955, the route from Bradford to Thornton was known as the Alpine Route because of it many viaducts and tunnels.

Climbing again up to Old Dolphin and then a gentle stroll through fields to Shelf Hall Lane, to a welcome stop in Shelf Park, where Mrs B had set up our afternoon stop, once refreshments were finished, we were off again first walking through Shelf Wood and then Judy Woods to Norwood Green, picking up The Calderdale Way we negotiated Coley Beck admiring the waterfall as we passed. The final climb of the day was up to Coley crossing Brighouse and Denholme Gate Road for our final mile into Northowram.

The company, weather and conversation was great, thanks to all who turned up, if anyone fancies walking this route, the GPX file is on the LDWA Database.