

Wandering from Brighouse Part 1.

Saturday January 7th 2023

Distance 18 Miles.

20 Walkers.

Leader Chris Burrell.

Twenty eager LDWA walkers assembled in Brighouse Station car park for a wander around the delights of Brighouse.

Numbers were boosted by our friends from Calderdale, East Lancashire and South Pennine.

The first few 100 yards followed Birds Royd Lane towards the bottom of Woodhouse Lane, then through fields to Bradley Woods Activity Centre. Crossing Huddersfield Road along Toothill Lane, where if it had been a clear day vast views up the Calder Valley can be seen. Our first crossing over the M62 was a noisy one as the traffic travelled under the foot bridge. At the Four Sons Inn the original route had to be changed, as on the reccie a field full of frisky cows held Siege to the stile!!

The second crossing of the M62 brought the group to the rightly named Upper Edge, again if the weather was clear the views are spectacular looking down into Elland and beyond.

Our first stop was taken overlooking the old brick works, but had to be a quick one as the rain was now coming down like stair rods. Crossing the river Calder, the level was rising and flowing fast, but not as bad as in 2015 which was at least another 10 foot higher, running level with the underside of the bridge.



There was a steady climb up into Southowram, where a couple of very hungry and muddy pigs entertained the group eating potatoes thrown in by the farmer.

On nearing Beacon Hill, the sun started to shine making a lovely rainbow, then it was down into Shibden Park for lunch, where the sun was very welcoming drying out soddened coats etc. Once lunch was consumed and heading out of the park, we entered Chelsea Valley my childhood



playground. A couple of extremely muddy sections of the path were treacherous with some members thinking they knew a better route. By now the sun was out and layers were removed as we climbed up into Northowram.

Crossing fields to Coley and then down to the Coley Beck, our first swollen stream crossing had to be negotiated at Dean House Waterfall. Once safely across, and now heading for

Jagger Park Woods better known as Judie Woods our second stream crossing was undertaken.



again, we all managed to get across safely, now we were on the home stretch into Norwood Green, and then down into Bailiff Bridge, for quick refreshments at Burrell's Café.

Climbing to the old Bradford/Brighouse railway line and then down to Clifton Beck, the group encounter their last muddy path before crossing Wellholme Park back into Brighouse.

Garmin's checked and 18 miles was agreed [mind you it felt more like 22 miles with the heavy muddy going underfoot]

I hope you all enjoyed it, and will come back to the metropolis of the North "Brighouse" on the 18th March 2023 to sample more cracking footpaths.

[Click Here for the GPX file of the walk.](#)

Many thanks for supporting the walk, and looking forward to the next one.

Chris Burrell



