

SHEEPWASH CAR PARK

WEDNESDAY 13TH JULY 2022

Under blue skies and a cooling breeze, 19 of us left Sheepwash car park setting off towards Carsington village. After a steep climb behind the village, we stopped to catch our breath and turned to see lovely views of Carsington Water below us. Continuing on past the wind turbines at Carsington Pastures we eventually met Manystones Lane. Scrambling over the stone stile and safely crossing the road we headed east on the High Peak Trail for a couple of hundred yards and then turned north towards Griffie Grange, stopping for a coffee break at the 'T' junction. Towards the end of our break, we became aware of a large tracked vehicle slowly trundling up the trail towards us, looking almost like something that would have been at home in an episode of Dr Who! It was clear that we would walk more quickly than the vehicle (sorry, no idea what it was so don't know what to call it!), so we packed up sharpish and made our way south-east.

After fighting our way down a track through nettles, thistles and other greenery we emerged into open fields and followed the pathway down to Arm Lees Farm. Crossing the road, we had another few yards of 'jungle' to fight through before heading up through the fields to Moor Farm.

Turning left we walked towards Middleton Moor turning right at the way marker. As always, wonderful views from the Moor as we continued on to Middleton Top where we enjoyed our lunch in the shade under trees and umbrellas.

Reluctantly moving on we followed the High Peak Trail south-east before heading south-west through fields reaching the road towards the east end of Hopton village. We continued west along the (partly shaded) road towards Carsington village before turning left and heading back down towards our cars in the car park. Some among us taking advantage of the ice cream van which was very conveniently waiting for us!!

Apologies to all those wearing shorts who may have been 'nettled' and scratched today – I also have a few 'war wounds' which are beginning to tingle as I write this!

Lyn B