

TRICOUNI NEWS SPRING 2020

RELATING TO THE AUTUMN MEET OF 2019



Those attending were :- Vicky Lincoln, David and Joyce Clode, Peter Leigh, Nigel Leigh, Malcolm and Patsy Barton, Lynn and Charlie Harrison, Ed and Caroline Mains, Jason and Jacqui Baggaley, Scott Heaney and Roy and Helen Cross

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH 2019

David and Joyce took a look at the weather forecast for heavy rain so decided to visit Sizergh Castle a National Trust property near Kendal. They found it very interesting and the gardens looked good in their Autumn colours.

Roy and Helen and Lynn and Charlie had been staying at Seatoller so decided to walk along the high level route towards Grange then climbed up through the Riggshead Quarries which was a steep but interesting climb, but by then the rain had set in. They explored various mine openings on the way and imagined what life was like for the miners- a world apart from our life of modern luxury. Shortly before reaching the ridge path, Helen and Roy were for striding over the bog, to meet the main path (which they had diverged from, by taking the path by the mines.) At Charlie's suggestion, they turned back and took the drier route along the fence. By the time they reached the summit of High Spy it was

raining hard, so they pressed on to Maiden Moor, eating their sarnies on the hoof. At Hause Gate they headed downhill to the Lake, treating themselves to a coffee break, while they enjoyed fabulous views of the orange and golden trees beside Derwentwater.



By the time they reached the road to Grange the rain had really set in, so Lynn, Charlie and Helen decided to head for the bus stop, enjoying the prospect of Trish's cake and a good cuppa. Roy decided to brave it alone, climbing Castle Crag, then exploring an old mine on the other side of Borrowdale, before returning to Seatoller on the high path.

An interesting walk for all and they felt they had made the best of the day by walking straight from the house and getting two hours of walk in before the rain.

The Red Team, as per photo (!) (not the one below before the rain), comprising Peter, Nigel and Vicky met at The Salutation for breakfast, for a very reasonable £9.95 if you excluded going for a swim in The Spa (perhaps this might have been a better option !) A weather forecast was for heavy rain and snow above 500 m, it was thought likely that they would get wet without the swim anyway.



Nigel and Vicky had a hairy rally car race from Ambleside over the Kirkstone Pass to the Cow Bridge car park just north of Brothers Water because Peter was keen to do the Dovedale Round as it was on his bucket list of things to do while he was physically able.

The route heads directly up through the woods above the car park in a heart-pumping muscle-burning climb until a ladder over a wall leads out onto the open fell, then diagonally up to meet the ridge just below Bleaberry Knott. At this point there are supposedly fine views over Patterdale to the north but the valley was largely filled with mist. They continued on up the ridge over Hartsop above How and Black Crag until the summit of Hart Crag. A wide path heads east to Dove Crag where lunch was taken in the rain and it was here that Nigel and Peter discovered that they had been walking with a Muslim lady. (see photo).



Vicky then set off at such a pace that they were 300m beyond the turn off and heading for Ambleside before Nigel checked his Sat Nav. They retraced their steps and found the path to Little Hart Crag, then followed the ridge down to High Hartsop Dodd. Beyond this the ridge descends at a notoriously steep 60 degree which with wet slippery grass resulted in a spectacular 5 m long skid that left the Muslim lady on her knees praying to Allah. Peter preferred to go a lot slower so Nigel and Vicky had to make regular stops for him to catch up until on reaching the bottom he was pushed into the lead through a field of bulls. They made their way towards Hartsop Hall and found a good track beside Brothers Water which led back to the car park.

With all safely congregated at Seatoller, Charlie and Lynn provided champagne before dinner to celebrate their wedding which was suitably toasted with best wishes for a long and healthy marriage.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26TH 2019

Nigel and Vicky headed off straight after breakfast, following Roy, Helen, Lynn and Charlie's route of Friday until after Maiden Moor where they dropped down the valley to Little Town. They then ascended the ridge from Scope End, passing the old gold mines and via High Crag to the summit of Hindscarth.

They traversed round to Dale Head, descending to Honister then back along the miners track to Seatoller.



Charlie, David and others watched the England v All Blacks rugby world cup semi final on TV. Helen, Roy and Lynn had a trip into Keswick. Then together with Joyce, David and Charlie they set off at midday for Watendlath. They walked along the river to Rosthwaite then climbed up and admired the views over the valley. On the way David slipped over but being well padded didn't hurt himself. The disappointment of the day was that after all that effort the café was closed! Luckily everyone had their sandwiches and by this time the sun had come out and the autumn tints were outstanding, so many photos were taken. They walked along the river, with no mishap, towards High Lodore and came out at High Lodore Farm where the café was open but with a bus coming there was no time to stop. Tea and a lovely cake were enjoyed by all back at Seatoller.



Delayed by watching the rugby, Peter, Jason, Jacqui and Scott took the car to Seathwaite, headed up to Stockley Bridge then on up Grains Gill to the top for a late lunch at about 2.00pm. Bearing in mind the need not to be late back for the AGM and while Peter and Jacqui had a leisurely descent via Sty Head, Jason and Scott climbed to Allen Crag then on to Glaramara where Jason won the race to the top; but they all arrived back at Seatoller at the same time and in plenty of time for the AGM.



Patsy had gone down with a migraine that kept her in bed for most of the day (perhaps the best place to be!) When the weather picked up a bit Caroline, Ed, Florrie and Malcolm walked towards Grange. Although Florrie enjoyed splashing in the puddles in the Seatoller car park, she finally got tired and fed up at which point they all trooped back to Seatoller for well deserved tea and cake.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 27TH 2019

Peter, Nigel, Vicky, Jason, Jacqui and Scott drove to Scales and ascended Blencathra. Nigel, Vicky, Jason and Scott ascended Sharp Edge which they found to be remarkably dry, whilst Jacqui looked after Peter going up the ordinary route as he had not yet recovered from Friday's efforts.



A fine day and no rain, so Roy and Helen, Lynn and Charlie decided Latrigg would be a good bet. It was on also the way home for Lynn and Charlie and on the way to Grasmere for Helen and Roy (their next night's stop!). They parked along the road which follows the old railway line, just north of Keswick, along with half of Keswick out on their Sunday rambles. They took the Cumbrian Way path up towards Skiddaw then doubled back on themselves on the path up to Latrigg, walking first over Mallen Dodd.

On Latrigg's summit, they were nearly blown away and Lynn said: "This is where we need one of Peter's sweeties"! The fine views of Derwentwater, Causey and Grisedale Pikes, Skiddaw and Bassenthwaite Lake compensated for the lack of sweets and they had a coffee/chocolate biscuit break downhill out of the wind. Again the autumn colours were beautiful on their descent. They said their goodbyes at the cars where Lynn and Charlie headed off to Nottingham for a Van Morrison concert and Helen and Roy to explore the delights of Grasmere, amongst them the Heaton Cooper watercolours art gallery.

It had been an invigorating morning's walk and not too taxing. Had the brave trio of Peter, Vicky and Nigel, who'd headed up Blencathra via Sharp Edge made it they all wondered?

OTHER NEWS

Fraser Baggaley has been doing very well in the world of skiing and we wish him well for the future. Here is a short piece about what he has been up to in the last year or two.

Fraser had a great time last season based in Vail USA, however for the 2019/ 2020 season he joined an academy based in Austria called Team Evolution. He has been based mainly in Austria, but at the end of each 3- 4 week block comes home for a week of two of rest and catching up with teachers at school, as well as with his friends.

Life in Austria is pretty structured, with most days starting between 0530 and 0630, with activation / stretching before breakfast and heading to the slopes for a morning of training. After lunch they have three hours of study in a local school and then an evening meal, before ski prep ready for the next day. They are in their rooms by 2030 and lights out at 2100. Phones etc have to be handed in at 2030 and are returned after skiing next day. It took a while to settle into the regime, as there is little personal time or space - there are 5 boys in Fraser's room!

Luckily, it seems to be working out. Fraser was selected to the GB Ski team in January to race in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, and managed a 9th in one SL, and an 11th in a GS in the international field.

His next major event was the English Championships in Bormio Italy, where he won the U16 Slalom, and managed a 9th in the GS, as well as being in the winning team night slalom. His performance was good enough to get selected for another GB slot in an international race on France in late March, however we decided to decline the selection so that he could have a better training block before the British Championships in Tignes in April - but we have just heard that has been cancelled! His consolation was being able to compete in the Scottish Championships at Cairngorm which were organised by the Scottish Ski Club with Jason Baggaley as Chief of Championships - pleased to say Fraser won the SL and GS races to take the overall prize as well.

It is hard to know how the season is going to end given the number of races being cancelled, however it has been a great year for Fraser - it is his first year as an U16 and so he is looking forward already to next year, defending his British and Scottish U16 indoor title, as well as English and Scottish SL titles! National 5 school exams next year however will reduce his ability to spend as much time abroad.....



A special thank you to Peter, Helen and Jason for providing the copy for this newsletter and to everyone who sent photographs ☺

