

TRICOUNI NEWS SPRING 2021 RELATING TO THE AUTUMN MEET OF 2020



Those attending were :- Vicky, Chris, Milo and Scarlett Lincoln, David and Joyce Clode, Peter Leigh, Julian Leigh, Nigel and Scarlett Leigh, Helen and Roy Cross, Malcolm and Patsy Barton, Ed, Caroline, Florrie and Sandy Mains, Jason and Jacqui Baggaley, Sacha Baggaley

FRIDAY OCTOBER 22ND

Weather: Light rain, windy, low cloud lifting later and becoming dry from 2:30

For Scarlett Leigh the day started at 3:15 a.m. when an excited 8 year old young lady was rudely awakened to quickly get dressed in her climbing clothes, drink some of Dad's coffee (Nigel) and spend the next hour chattering about what she was going to do until at 4:30 they picked up grand-dad Peter and Uncle Julian from his house at Bishops Stortford. The options for the day were discussed over breakfast at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal and in typical Leigh fashion the hard option to climb Crinkle Crag in Langdale, via The Band was chosen. About half way up to Three Tarns, Julian and Nigel decided to race on ahead of Peter and Scarlett in order to include Bowfell before catching them up on Crinkle Crag. Lunch was taken before reaching the summit but shortly after, Peter's tired knees were unable to adjust to a slip on wet rock and he had a

nasty fall, bruising his ribs and whacking his head on a rock resulting in a nasty graze. With dried blood running 3 inches down his cheek he looked a bit like Frankenstein's monster.



The rock was certainly treacherous and everyone took a tumble at times. Descending the last Crinkle, Nigel and Scarlett were faced by a sheer drop of at least 6 feet. Nigel decided to jump down onto scree but Scarlett after some difficult traversing to get into the right position, launched herself into the air trusting Daddy to catch her. The descent down to Red Tarn was slow but the paved path beyond down into Langdale was absolutely treacherous being paved with rounded stones set at a 45 degree slope with a river running down it. Even with an extremely cautious descent, everyone had a slip and with the slow pace, daylight was starting to fade so Julian was sent on ahead to bring the car up to Stool End Farm to save the last mile walk. After several falls and an attempt to descend on her bottom Scarlett found that the best way to come down was to hold onto the back of Nigel's rucksack, a bit like a steam engine with a tender behind, perhaps an apt description. Even with Julian's high speed driving they were unable to get to Seatoller in time for 7:00 pm dinner but at least they were only 5 minutes late. A route described on the internet as being 7 miles with 2850 feet of ascent (864m) (plus the ascent of Bowfell) of a moderate/hard grade 6hours 20 minutes had taken 7.5 hours and according to Nigel's GPS had been 11 miles.



Chris & Vicky Lincoln with Scarlett and Milo arrived around lunchtime and walked around Buttermere with Milo walking through every puddle and waterfall that he could find. Vicky was most upset to find that the Fish inn has been renamed.



Roy and Helen Cross arrived about 3 pm and while Helen walked from the Catbells car park along the road to Grange and did some drawing, Roy climbed Catbells and doubled back to pick up the car and drive to Grange to pick up Helen.



Joyce and David were the only members staying at Seatoller house and decided to walk to Keswick. It was raining heavily so they caught the bus to Grange and decided to stop for coffee. It was still raining when they set off but soon stopped and it was dry for the rest of the walk. They caught the bus back from Keswick.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 23RD

Weather: Torrential rain for most of the morning brightening later.

Malcolm and Patsy Barton, Ed, Caroline, Florrie and Sandy walked from Seatoller through a very wet and muddy Johnny's Wood as far as the chain traverse but thought better of crossing the slab, so stopped for lunch before beating a retreat with a very wet and muddy little girl.

The Lincolns and the Leighs caught the bus into Keswick, partly because Julian needed to buy new boots. While he and Peter went shopping the others set off to walk around the lake to Grange. Unfortunately Julian's map reading resulted in him and Peter walking up the Newlands Valley towards Catbells so they didn't catch up until Grange. However, the day worked out well with it drying up and with some lovely Autumn tints around the Lake. After refreshments, Julian, Nigel and Vicky walked back to Seatoller over the high level route while the others caught the bus.



Roy & Helen Cross, David & Joyce Clode caught the bus to Buttermere and walked around the back of the lake to Gatesgarth where they lunched. Roy then walked back to Seatoller via the summit of Fleetwith Pike while the others completed the circumnavigation of the lake. Despite having met virtually no one all day they got to a bit where the path goes through a tunnel, only to find it full of about 30 people which made social distancing very awkward. On returning to Seatoller Roy went to visit the "Four Fraternals" which apparently are ancient Yew trees between Seatoller and Sour Milk Gill.





Jason, Jacqui and Sacha Baggaley climbed to Styhead then over the top to Angle Tarn before dropping down into Langstrath where they had difficulty crossing the stream which had become a torrent requiring Jason to stand in the middle in order to protect the ladies while they crossed. Consequently it was a very wet Jason that returned to Seatoller.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 24TH

Weather: Torrential rain and hail delayed the usual annual photograph but it dried up with only a few showers which were unpleasant in strong winds.

After a children's snowball fight made from the hail, the various families went their own ways.



The Leigh's drove to Mungrisdale where they climbed Bowscale Fell via Bannerdale before descending via Raven Crag.



Joyce and David walked to Grange with Helen and Roy. Roy climbed Castle Crag and Helen stopped to do some drawing. They all met up in Grange for coffee and chips. Joyce and David caught the bus back whilst Helen and Roy walked back.



Vicky, Chris, Milo and Scarlett set off towards Grange soon to be joined by Jason, Jacqui and Sacha. It was very wet but they did see a few rainbows. They enjoyed the company but parted at the foot of Castle Crag. Milo climbed his first mountain under his own steam. There were lovely views from the top and then Roy appeared!





They descended some time after Roy. Milo's descent being controlled by a spare dog lead around the waist. They continued onto the tea room at Grange for cake and ice-cream where they saw Helen. Chris, Milo and Scarlett caught the bus back to Seatoller and Vicky continued along the Allerdale Ramble and up to Stockley bridge and back down the valley to take in the Four Fraternels on the way on Roy's recommendation - they were well worth seeing.



MONDAY OCTOBER 25TH

Weather :- rain coming in stair rods and very windy - not the best!

Vicky, Chris, Milo and Scarlett did the Honister mine tour and enjoyed it very much. Tip about slate is that Honister slate is the strongest and most resilient. They then went to Whinlatter but not sure why!





OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Caroline and Ed on the birth of their son Sandy (Alexander Edward Hanson Barton Mains) - born in early July and in attendance of his first Tricouni meet in October.

Sad news in the passing of Sandi Ling in December 2020, wife of the late Richard Ling and mother of Vicky Lincoln and Bob Ling. I have very fond memories of Sandi in her kindness towards me as a new Tricouni member when I (Kate) knew no-one in the club and very little about walking on the flat or otherwise!

Bob has kindly written this piece for the newsletter :-

Sandi sadly passed away on Thurs 10th Dec after a long battle with dementia. She had been a fixture of the Tricouni club since the 70s, having been a very keen ski mountaineer in the 60s, spending an indecent amount of the time in the Alps with the Eagle Ski Club and taking on some serious expeditions. Both Sandi and Richard spent a lot of time in the mountains in their youth - the only thing that scaled back the adventures seems to have been children (sound familiar?)



Sandi was at home and at peace in the mountains, whether it be the Alps or the Lakes. Between her and Richard they took Vicky and Bob (along with the rest to the intrepid Tricouni gang) on some very adventurous hikes in the 80s/90s. Sometimes this involved some pretty heavy snow conditions and Sandi liked to carry her trusty vintage ice axe (the long wooden handled kind you often see on the wall of a Lakeland pub). Sandi was also a big fan of the mountain top cheese sandwich, even serving them as Xmas lunch to the children on top of Hellvelyn.



The dementia had been setting in for a number of years, but the adventurous spirit not lost. One year she managed to get to Borrowdale from Emsworth on public transport armed with £30, a toothbrush and a spare pair of underwear. We never did work out how she did it and it remains unclear if she sweet talked the ticket inspector...

At some point when we get together, we will head up to Lingmell to spread some ashes and have a soggy cheese sandwich in her memory.



A special thank you to Peter, Vicky, Bob and Joyce for providing the copy for this newsletter and to everyone who sent photographs 😊

