

## Striders Walking 2021

### April 2021: GUNTHORPE and HOVERINGHAM

Three groups of 5 enjoyed a beautiful spring day for our walk this month. Fortunately the mud from earlier in the year had dried up allowing us to walk on good surfaces. Two of the groups stopped for their picnic by the river looking across the river towards Ferry Farm at Hoveringham, while the other group continued a little further and stopped for lunch at the top of the hill enjoying magnificent views across the Nottinghamshire countryside.

### May 2021: LOWDHAM

Summer arrived early for our walk this month. 17 of us set off on a walk which circumnavigated Lowdham. Unfortunately as we approached the halfway point, walk leader Brian sustained an injury which prevented him from completing the walk. Luckily his able deputy had been on the walk recce and was able to take over the leadership of the group who completed the walk without further incident.



### **July 2021: GUNTHORPE**

We enjoyed a walk in the Trent Valley on one of the hottest days of the summer. Regular stops were required to take on fluids and we enjoyed our picnic lunch in the shade of a tree on the riverbank.

### **August 2021: LOCAL WOODLANDS**

A smaller group than usual enjoyed a sunny walk through local woodlands which had been chosen to provide some shade during the predicted heatwave which didn't arrive. Despite the lack of views we get on our Derbyshire walks, it was a very pleasant walk which was enjoyed by all.

### **September 2021: DERBYSHIRE EDGES**

Nine of us enjoyed a bright and breezy walk along the Derbyshire Edges. We started at the Longshaw Visitors Centre and walked up onto White Edge before dropping down to Curbar Gap and returning via Curbar and Froggatt Edges.

Points of interest were a red deer stag sporting a full rack with its harem of hinds, a large military plane which flew below us and a stone circle. Although it was windy on White Edge it calmed down in the afternoon and we managed to avoid the rain.





### **October 2021: DERBYSHIRE**

A select group of us enjoyed our last Derbyshire walk of the year. A short scramble took us onto Birchyn Edge and after a short walk we arrived at Nelsons Monument and the 3 ships (can you remember their names Striders?).

After continuing along the edge we dropped down and crossed a boggy section and crossed the road before joining a path that led us to Wellingtons Monument where we had good views across the Chatsworth estate. Dropping down to Baslow, some of the party partook of the sausage rolls at the car park shop while others made use of the other facilities.

After a short walk we ate our packed lunch on the bank of the river Derwent before passing the house and climbing steeply up to the Hunting Lodge where we enjoyed spectacular views in the opposite direction across the Chatsworth Estate. A short ridge walk then took us back to the car park by the Robin Hood Inn.



**The Three Ships**



**Nelson's Column**



**Wellington's Column**

### **November 2021: KNEESALL**

Seventeen of us enjoyed a shorter walk than usual on a crisp winter day with excellent visibility. Starting from Kneesall we crossed arable land, and a limited climb presented us with views of Yorkshire to the North, Derbyshire to the West and Nottinghamshire to the South and East.

After passing the Holocaust Centre we continued through Laxton where Noel shared his knowledge of the Medieval Open Field System that uniquely still operates in the area. We then ate our packed lunch in the shelter of a beautiful avenue of trees before a short climb brought us back to Kneesall.



### **December 2021: LOCAL WALK**

Seven of us gathered in the car park on Ranmoor Road to escape the Christmas preparations and set off towards the Netherfield Lagoons. Our numbers were swelled to eight by a latecomer (who shall remain nameless) at Teal Close. Following field paths to the east of the Lagoons we arrived at Stoke Lock before following the river to the railway bridge and returning via the Lagoons.