Walk ‘B’

A series of short walks on the roads and footpaths around the villages of Lindal & Marton

Prepared by Lindal and Marton Residents Association

Lindal and Marton Parish Council
Distance – 2.6 miles approx.

Some of the roads lack pavements, field sections can be muddy, appropriate footwear is recommended.
Walk ‘B’

The walk starts at the Information Point (ex Telephone Box) on the Green, Lindal, proceed towards the crossroads with the A590. The building on the North East corner was a general store until the 1980’s, note there was once an access, converted to a window, to the upper floor at the rear of the building to facilitate storage of bulky commodities. On the opposite side of the road was the police station which was demolished to allow the main road to be widened. At the South West corner another shop and the smithy were also lost at the same time. That is the reason why 4 is the number of the first house on London Road.

After crossing the A590 proceed to the end of London Road. Just inside the entrance of the Candle Factory follow the fingerpost in a southerly direction over the stile; the footpath then runs along the hedgerow across four fields. In the bottom of the third field a culvert allows water to drain from Henning Valley into Urswick Tarn via Carters Beck. At the fifth field the path rises steeply to a kissing gate on the Urswick Road. Looking back from the summit of the path, the present day Caravan Park and dwelling mark the site of a power station erected in 1905. The electrical output was used to power pumps in the Diamond, Lowfield and Bercune Pits. The power station was demolished in 1919 and the bricks recycled to build a number of dwellings and also Urswick Memorial Hall.

Following the road westward towards Dalton just past the crossroads stands another reminder of our mining heritage. The stone pillar once supported a cable railway from the Grievson Pit; a similar pillar on the other side of the road was demolished in 1942 as a training exercise for the Home Guard. Work stopped at the Grieveon Pit in 1914. Continue along the road past Hill Farm. Further down there is fingerpost for the footpath that leads to Ulverston Road. Near the main road a mineral way is crossed that once ran from the Eure Pits, the spoil heaps from those pits can be seen on the opposite side of the road, to the Ore Depot at Crosslands. Turn right and walk up the hill to the roundabout. Cross the A590 and follow the path up to the crest of the hill.
The house on the corner was built as the Melton Hotel though it only ever had a beer house licence. Down the hill the terrace of cottages was originally a tithe barn, probably built in the 13th Century, which was converted to dwellings in 1843. The last house in the terrace was also a former beer house known as the Pick and Gad. Returning to the main road the broken ground to the south marks the site of the James No. 1 & 2 Pits which had ceased working by 1901 due to flooding.

Approaching the village a track can be observed from the road into a modern complex of farm buildings. The track was the former bed of a full gauge railway branch line that serviced the pits in Henning valley. It joined up with the mainline between Lindal Station and the Tunnel. Following the line of the track on the south side of the main road the field boundary hedge gives way to a dressed stone wall; this was the loading pier for ore produced by the James No. 1 Pit. In the adjacent field a solitary brick building was used by the miners to hold their explosives, it was known as the dynamite shed.

The terrace of houses that mark the start of the village were built in 1865 and known as Empland cottages on the early maps. At some stage an ‘H’ was added to give the six houses their present name. Further along the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in 1866; it continued as a place of worship until a dwindling congregation forced its closure in 1985 when it was converted to a dwelling.

Remember whilst Rights of Way may be public the land is privately owned. Maintain the goodwill of the landowner don’t leave litter, keep dogs under control and pick up any mess the dogs leave behind.

Countryside Access Team - funded through the Parish Paths Initiative.

Cumbria County Council

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