

# Buckden Walkers

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2013

The third of our '888' walks

**Smardale**



Meet at Buck Inn at 9.45 with a view to starting walk at 11.00am

Smardale is situated on the northern edge of dales country, and is expected to become part of the Dales National Park when the currently proposed boundary changes take effect. The area is a hidden valley full of surprises, and being a National Nature Reserve is a haven of wildlife. Overall, a reasonably easy-going walk with a good third being along the track-bed of a disused railway, the circular walk starts and finishes in the village of Ravenstonedale, where the Black Swan and The King's Head offer food and drink of some renown. The walk passes over the impressive Smardalegill Viaduct, whilst the equally impressive Smardale Viaduct carries the Settle-Carlisle railway higher overhead. The Howgills provide a stunning backdrop for much of the time. The Coast-to-Coast long distance footpath from St Bees to Robin's Hood Bay passes through the area and our walk utilises a short section of it.

Directions: Proceed to Hawes, and then take the road to Sedbergh; leave the A684 by turning right at the Moorcock pub and continue on through Outhgill\* towards Kirby Stephen. On entering Nateby make two left turns onto the A685 and continue for 3+ miles before turning left into Ravenstonedale. In the centre of the village, park on the triangular piece of land alongside the school. Postcode CA17 4NG

\*Alternative route - just about a mile after passing through Outhgill, turn left onto a very minor road. On meeting the A683, turn left and in a mile turn right off A683 in front of the Fat Lamb pub and continue on to Ravenstonedale.



Usual terms & conditions – car sharing / picnic lunch / dogs welcome (bring lead)

For further information, contact John Milnes (01756) 761390

*Spread the word – a beautiful circular walk!*