

Langdale Fell Runners meet.
28th, 29th January 2012

Once again a large crowd gathered at Langdale on the Friday evening for this increasingly popular meet, with the attendees including some non-runners who had come to see Leo Pollard being awarded his honorary membership of the club, which was to take place on the Saturday evening.

The runners assembled at nine in the morning and the planned route was to go over the Langdale Pikes, Rossett Pike, Bowfell, Esk Pike and Allen Crag and then return for liquid refreshment at the Old Dungeon Ghyll. Fortunately the weather was good and there was a decent amount of snow on the fells; the prospect of a wintery day on the fells was particularly appealing to those of us that don't get out so often these days.

We split into two groups, due to several runners being keener to set off than others. Steady progress was made up Stickle Ghyll. Jakes Rake was avoided due to it looking a bit icy; "you'll be fine up there" Dave Makin told a couple of walkers and then he ran off in the opposite direction.

The Saturday morning arrivals - Tony and Kath Shanley, Jo Lee and James Lurati plus dogs - caught us up by the time we were on Harisson Stickle and the larger group continued with the fitter members breaking tracks through the rather deep snow. The not so fit amongst us (me included) were very grateful for this. During a brief butty stop on Rossett Pike we were caught up by Oz Kershaw. Oz had left the hut early in the morning to go for a run with another friend but he had been stood up. We were pleased to see him as he then led the way up Bowfell, albeit not by the most conventional route. We all made it to the top, well all except for the small group who thought they would get ahead by skipping the summit. They were soon caught up! Besides losing a dog or two, the rest of the day was relatively uneventful and everyone eventually made it back to the pub for a well earned pint. We even had the same number of dogs that we set off with.

The evening meal of soup followed by Wigan pie, mushy peas and baked spud was almost ready by the time we got back to the hut and there weren't many pies left at the end. Leo was then awarded his honorary membership by the club Chairman; this being both a very joyful and sentimental occasion. The rest of the evening was spent finishing the barrel and any other alcohol that could be found.

Thanks must go to Dave Makin for organising this meet once again and for ensuring that everyone had a great time. Special thanks go to Janet Makin and those that helped her prepare the evening meal. We look forward to next year's meet.

Chris Lloyd