

### **Wednesday Wanderers: Grassington - March 2012**

Led by Dave Fisher, seven wanderers (Mary, Pat, Ian, Jim, Graham and Roger) assembled at Long Ashes for a superb walk in glorious Spring sunshine. Taking advantage of bits of the Dales Way, local footpaths and ancient packhorse trails, the walk explored some of the moors above Grassington.

This is a remarkable area of odd corners waiting to be discovered: shadowy peaks, scars and ravines. None more so than "Conistone Dib" a dramatic dry valley leading into the hills from the village of Conistone. It is an exciting climb between narrow limestone walls and a short scramble onto the limestone pavement between Kettlewell and Grassington.

We turned off here and followed the Dales way to Grassington. However should we have continued we would have reached Mossdale Cavern, the location of Britain's greatest caving tragedy. It was here in 1967 that Mossdale Beck flooded the cavern below causing the deaths of six young cavers. The memories were particularly poignant for Jim and Dave as they were intimately involved with the tragedy.

In the late afternoon, the walk finished in the welcoming beer garden of the Drovers Arms; a wonderful walk. Our thanks go to Dave for organising and leading it.



**There's nothing like a warm Yorkshire welcome (Dave Fisher)**



**Above Kilnsey and looking over the Upper Warfe valley (Dave Fisher)  
Roger Finn**