

Canal Walking Group

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Leeds Liverpool Canal – New Springs to Cowling Bridge



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The leg from Wigan (New Springs) to Chorley (Cowling Bridge) was postponed from February because of Storm Doris. Most of the group will complete it on March 23rd, but four will not be available that day so walked it today.

We took two cars to Cowling Bridge, left one there and drove back to New Springs and left the other car there. We walked 7.75 miles to Cowling Bridge, had a drink in The Spinners, and drove back to New Springs. We had a lovely walk with dull but dry weather and no

wind. A bit muddy at the beginning, but mostly sound underfoot. It was a level section with no locks and very scenic. Plenty of interesting canal boats to see, particularly at Adlington's White Bear Marina and some beautiful houses making the most of their canal bank locations.

The rest of us completed the walk on 23rd March. We took a number of cars and left half at Cowling Bridge and then drove back to New Springs in the remaining cars to start the walk.

Initially the tow path was extremely muddy but improved as we got further along. We were fortunate with the weather, it was a pleasant spring day. After a few miles, having passed Wigan Golf Course and enjoying very pleasant scenery we reached the White Bear Marina, where there is a small coffee shop. Here we enjoyed coffee and cake, while observing plenty of canal boats. There were also a number of cyclists and other walkers enjoying a good day.

We continued along the towpath, the scenery was very pleasant, plenty of canal boats and some very nice houses, later we reached Frederick's Ice Cream Shop, near Chorley. They had many different flavours of ice cream and most of us enjoyed a cone as we continued our walk!

Eventually we reached Cowling Bridge and as the other members had done, had a drink in the Spinners Arms before sorting out the transport home.

Leg 4 completed, still a long way to go but very enjoyable.