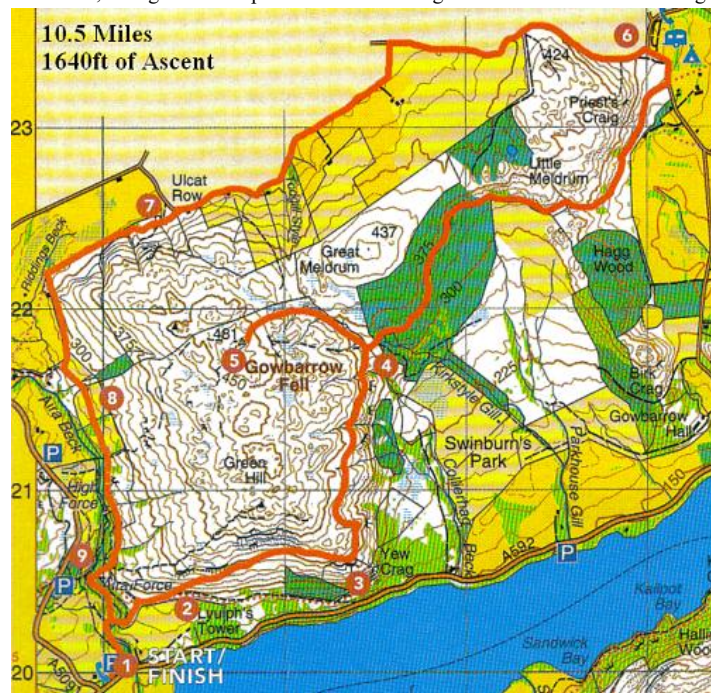


Gowbarrow [25th March] - 1) Start at the junction of the A592 road alongside Ullswater and the A5091 for Dockray. There is immediate access to a car park, tearoom and toilets. A path goes through a stone gateway to leave the car park, and mapboards show the paths around Aira Force. Go through two gates and enter a woodland, then go down steps to reach a footbridge over Aira Beck. Climb straight uphill, following a fence, turning



right to begin traversing the fellside.
 2) When a fork in the path is reached, keep left and follow a stone-paved path uphill across the fellside, enjoying widening views across Ullswater. A small step-stile on the right allows you to reach a cairn on Yew Crag, where there is an excellent view along the length of the lake.
 3) Continue along the path, which turns a corner and roughly contours across the steep fellside. The path is quite rocky in places and crosses a stream. Later, another stream is crossed using a footbridge.
 4) Beyond this there is a path climbing to the left that can be used to reach the summit of Gowbarrow Fell, and of course you can treat this as an optional extra if you prefer. There is a trig point at 1 579ft in an area of knobbly heather moorland pitted with hidden boggy hollows. Enjoy fine views along the High Street and Helvellyn ranges, also taking in Skiddaw and Blencathra, before the eye is led round to the distant North Pennines seen as a grey wall far across the Vale of Eden.
 5) Backtrack downhill to the lower path and continue along it to enter a forest. The path contours across the forested slope, then runs alongside a fence to reach a wall. Cross a step-stile over the fence and follow the path onwards, down a slope of gorse bushes, looking ahead to spot a house and a church. Pass to the left of the house, walking gently up a clear path to reach a kissing gate and a road. Turn left up the road for a short while.
 6) Turn left at a road junction and climb steeply uphill to cross a gap between Gowbarrow Fell and Little Mell Fell. Follow the road downhill to another junction and turn left as signposted for Ulcat Row. The road climbs gently, then runs downhill, then climbs again through Ulcat Row. Note the Old Chapel along the way. A gate on the left, leading to Home Farm, is signposted for Dockray and Aira Force.
 7) Follow a good track straight ahead, with a rugged fellside rising to the left and low-lying fields on the right. Swing left round the fellside, then bear in mind that a right turn could be used to reach Dockray and the Royal Hotel, if a break for food and drink appeals. However, keep left to follow a path through fields, passing through gates, to continue straight towards the end of the day's walk.
 8) The path leads through wooded patches and there is access to Aira Beck and its little waterfalls. Later, take a clear path down to the right to view the main plunge of Aira Force from a stone bridge. Simply follow the crowds down through a deep and damp ravine to a lower viewpoint. Mosses, ferns and liverworts thrive on the damp rock walls, though most visitors only have eyes for the waterfall.
 9) Continue along well-worn paths through the wooded glen, which features a variety of fine trees. Meander as much as you like along this final stretch to return to the car park where you started your walk. You can make use of the tearoom before leaving if refreshments are required.

civicwalker@cuillin.plus.com - to eMail the club.



Annual General Meeting - 21 members attended the meeting on 29th November [Graeme Page, Martin Forster, Ian Thomson, Hedley Oliver, Angela Frankland, Brian Wears, Gerry Carr, Margaret Andison, Ken Johnson, Kishor Raichura, Alan Bradbury, Tony Austin, Brenda Cunningham, Jean Walker, Stephen Walker, Josie McGinley, John Bell, Sue Crossman, David Hind, Ian Storey & Rose Envy] with apologies being received from a further 7 [Anne Marie Forster, Ellen Kershaw, Evelyn Brown, Shirley Carr, Jane Brough & Andy McGinley]. Your Club now has £662.32 - a reduction of **£287.11** over the year.

Craster Walk [7th January] - Meet either in the Civic car park @ 9am in order to organise car-sharing OR at the venue @ 10am.

Club Transport – As reported to the AGM, Tony Austin is now the sole MiDAS certified member who attends events on a regular basis and he will be retiring from minibus driving duties in October 2007. Meanwhile if Tony is unable to attend an event the minibus may not be used - more worryingly, if he suffers an injury/illness rendering him unable to drive back from an event, the party will effectively be stranded at the venue. Following the AGM your Committee have obtained a number of quotations from private firms for a 200 mile minibus journey [8am to 10pm] with minibus driver included. Based upon the average occupancy in 2005 [14] the cheapest quotation so far obtained works out at £17 per person; £15 per person if all 16 seats are taken on a regular basis; a cheaper alternative may be to switch to a car-sharing scheme.

Obviously the much preferred option in order to ensure the continued viability of Club trips will be to encourage a number of regular attendees to become MiDAS certified - this involves a short minibus driving competence test and a classroom session covering procedures and regulations. If you are interested in sharing in the minibus driving duties, **please contact Graeme or one of your Committee as a matter of urgency.**

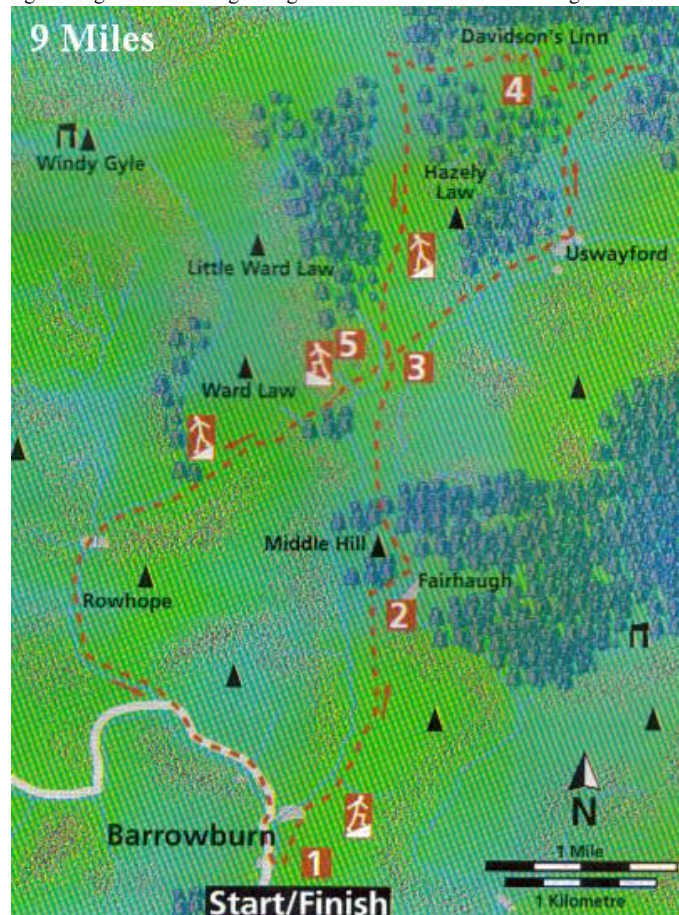
Latest News – Please check out the website for the very latest Club news:
<http://www.geocities.com/civicwalker>

2006 Calendar of Saturday Walks		
21st January - Barrow Burn	20 May – Kentmere	9th September - Newlands
18th February - Robin Hood's Bay	24 June – Coniston	30th September - Ingleborough
25th March – Gowbarrow	15 July – Ambleside	28th October - High Cup Nick
22nd April – Seatoller	12 August – Coledale	25th November - Weardale

Mobile Phones - The Club have **TWO** mobile phones which will be carried at all Club events:
07899870136 & 07899072521

Barrowburn [21st January] - This walk shows nature at its best. It goes by riverbanks, through woods and over sheep country, culminating at a beautiful waterfall in sylvan surroundings. The waterfall cascades into a deep pool surrounded by flowers and ferns.

1) On leaving the car park, turn left (check out the excellent descriptive information board provided by the national park). Continue to a narrow footbridge spanning the beautiful River Coquet. Cross the bridge and proceed along the field edge past a stand of Scots Pines. At a wire fence, cross a stile to walk parallel to a stone wall to your left. The building ahead is the national park bunkhouse, once the old Windyhaugh School. At a stile to the left, cross and turn right to a gate. Pass through the gate and follow a track contouring the side of Kyloe Shin. Now take a break at the



top to recover your breath, and admire the view that stretches from the riverbank below as far as the border ridge.

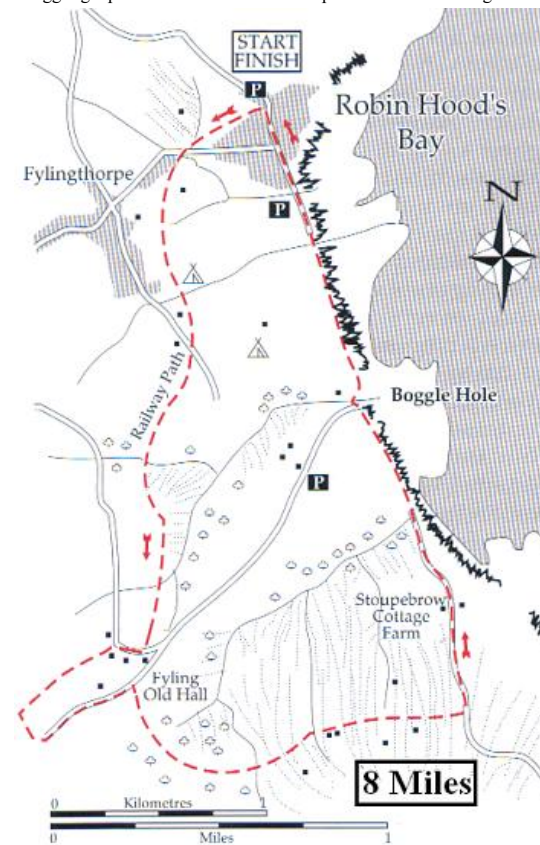
2) Walk on to a gate that leads into a conifer plantation. Cross the stile to the side of the gate, and then follow a descending path to the banks of the Usway Burn. Across the burn stands the now empty cottage of Fairhaugh, situated in a fairytale position adjacent to a footbridge. Where the track turns right, turn left towards the bridge before climbing a path that rises through trees to a gate, leading on to an open hillside. Pass through the gate and, after another 70m, reach a marker post. Bear half-right at this point, around the hill. The Usway Burn flows below to your right. On reaching a farm gate, pass through on to a track leading to an unmetalled farm road and a four-finger signpost.

3) Turn right as directed towards Uswayford Farm. Pass a large barn to the right, then a farm building and kennels. At this point, turn left to leave the road and follow a grassy path to a footbridge spanning the burn. Cross and climb a slope, then use a stile to cross a fence to your left. The path takes you along the side of Hen Hill, before dropping to the floor of the valley and fording a small stream. Once over, climb the rise ahead crossing a wire fence using the stile. Continue climbing through a young plantation until you reach a broad track. Turn left on to this. This is Salters Road, once a well-known trading and smuggling route. Whisky made at a still at Davidson's Linn travelled across the border tax-free via this route. On emerging into a clearing, the path bends right and descends to a signpost. Turn left and down the slope to reach Davidson's Linn. This idyllic spot provides a fine place to take a break.

4) To return, climb the short rise ahead through trees to cross a forest road, then go through more trees to a wire fence. Cross a stile and go over rough grass to a signpost and a broad track. Turn left at this signpost marked Clennell Street (an old drove road) and follow the track, descending steeply to a four-finger signpost.

5) Turn right to Trows and Rowhope. After about 2km cross the ford and pass the farmhouse at Trows. Further down the valley, pass the farm buildings of Rowhope. Keep to this road which emerges on the Coquet Valley access road. Turn left on to this road to return to your starting point, with the Coquet for company on your right.

Robin Hood's Bay [18th February] - With its moorland views, stretches of disused railway track and secret smuggler haunts, this richly varied walk offers something for everyone. Heading south from Robin Hood's Bay on a section of the Whitby to Scarborough trackbed, the route explores tracts of rolling, high-level countryside on the edge of Fylingdales Moor. The coastal views become ever more spectacular as the walk makes for the Cleveland Way, following the cliff path to Boggle Hole and on to Bay Town. The upper part of Robin Hood's Bay, comprising hotels, guest houses and holiday flats, has fallen victim to intensive development over the years; the true village, at the foot of the hill and known on this stretch of the coast as Bay Town, began as a fishing community way back in the 1500s. Consisting of a network of narrow streets, alleyways and picture-postcard buildings, Bay Town was once one of the most prosperous fishing villages in the area, with more than 130 fishermen living here. Cod, lobster, herring and crab were all caught from shallow fishing boats known as 'cobles'. The introduction of high taxes in the 18th century made smuggling a profitable and common occupation in coastal villages and Bay Town was no exception. Rum, brandy, tobacco, tea and silk were brought to these shores from Holland and France.



Gangs of smugglers used a network of underground passages and secret tunnels to bring the booty ashore. According to legend, Robin Hood visited this stretch of coast, helping to repel Danish invaders. From the car park, keep to the left of the former station building and follow a lane (signposted: Railway Path). Bear right at the road and when it swings right, turn left and continue on the next section of the disused trackbed. Robin Hood's Bay can be seen over to the left. Pass some silos and a campsite at Middlewood Farm and keep going between trees and margins of foliage. Go straight on at the next road, pass under a stone railway bridge and look for glimpses of the North Sea through trees and gateways and between hedges. Turn right on reaching the next road, follow it to the right and then bear left to join a bridleway leading to Swallow Head Farm. Pass through a gate and look back for a magnificent view of Robin Hood's Bay, with a vast, unrelieved seascape stretching to the horizon. Go through another gate, veer left at the fork and follow the bridleway between gorse bushes. The track curves to the right, then left by a right of way sign and a hawthorn tree. Make for a gate, cross a stile and follow the track. Pass a gateway on the right and when the track bends right, turn left and follow the footpath down the field, keeping the boundary close by on the right. Skirt several fields and when a house comes into view up ahead, veer to the left of it and exit from the field through the gate. Turn left, pass Colcroft Farm and follow the country lane between hedgerows and trees. Just beyond a solitary cottage and a footpath, the walk rejoins the disused railway track. Take the path on the left, immediately before the bridge, and follow it down through the trees. Turn right and follow the old trackbed, pleasantly shaded here by trees. On the right are glimpses of open moorland. Pass under the next bridge, the former line running high above peaceful hollows and wooded denes. Beyond the next bridge, the path provides views over a variety of scenery, including glimpses of Robin Hood's Bay. Pass Browse Farm on the right; the farm track crosses the railway at this point and some of the original sleepers can still be seen today. Cut between gorse bushes, and now the path curves imperceptibly to the right, climbing gently towards the next bridge. Once under it, bear left to the road. Turn right and follow the lane down to Stoupebank Cottage Farm, absorbing en route one of the grandest and most memorable views of Robin Hood's Bay. On reaching Stoupe Bank Farm, join the Cleveland Way and follow the path through the undergrowth. Cross Stoupe Beck via the footbridge. A small, sheltered beach can be seen just a few yards away on the right. At low tide, it is possible to return to Robin Hood's Bay along the shore. To avoid the beach, climb back to the cliff top via a stepped path and pass a National Trust sign for Boggle Hole. Take the steps down to this sheltered ravine, famous for its superbly situated youth hostel, once a corn mill and a refuge for shipwrecked sailors, overlooking the bay. Cross the footbridge over Mill Beck and return to the clifftop. Many signs urge walkers not to stray from the path on this next stretch as this is private land. The houses of Robin Hood's Bay, consisting of the old quarter down by the sea and the more modern development above it, can be clearly seen ahead now. Pass through a kissing gate and then follow a stretch of boardwalk. Descend steps under the trees and walk into the centre of Bay Town. The Bay Hotel includes the Coast to Coast Bar, named after the 190-mile/305km long-distance path which officially terminates here. Badges and certificates are available for those who complete the route. Walk away from the sea and follow the street lined with shops and cafes. Climb steeply out of Bay Town and pass an old naval mine used during the Second World War in the defence of this coast and as a defensive weapon in enemy waters. Cross the roundabout, pass the Victoria Hotel and return to the upper car park.