

## Over Peover WI Walk Around Alderley Edge

For our October walk we chose to explore the red sandstone escarpment of Alderley Edge, with views over the Cheshire Plain to the Peak District.

There were 5 WI members and three guests on the 5 mile walk, one being an impeccably behaved black labrador. We met at the National Trust car park on Macclesfield Road next to the Wizard Pub which is unfortunately closed at the present time but the Wizard Tearooms are open 😊.

We set off along the well laid paths encountering a number of dog walkers. We meandered through open pasture and woodland with mature pine and beech trees. It was lovely to catch-up with old friends and to meet new ones;



Alderley Edge is a prehistoric mining site and is the oldest known metal-mining site in England, from as early as 1900 BC mining copper and tin.

The area has an abundance of woodland birds such as redstart, nuthatch, tree creeper and great spotted woodpeckers. Also, many species of butterflies can be found in summer in the hedgerows and fields; Peacocks, Small Tortoiseshells and Painted Lady to name just a few.

We eventually arrived at the escarpment with views towards the Peak District;



Although the weather was quite cloudy we could see Manchester City Centre and John Lewis beyond the flat Cheshire plain.

We made our way back to the car park taking in the highest point on the Edge which was originally a Bronze Age burial mound. It was later used as a fire beacon site which would have been lit as a signal to warn of the imminent invasion.

On arrival at the car park some of the group treated themselves to coffee and cake at the Wizard Tearooms. A fitting way to end such a lovely walk.