

DERBYSHIRE DISCOVERY 2010

At Castleton in Derbyshire is where our trek began
Behind our gallant leaders, all kitted spick and span.
“It’s just a short steep climb” they said, “and really quite a breeze”
But when we reached the summit we were all down on our knees.

The view it was spectacular and pleasing on the eye,
But “onwards, chaps and upwards” was our latest leaders’ cry.
“For lunch we’ll go to Edale, ‘cause it isn’t very far!”
“We’re sure you’re right” we all agreed, “if you’re going down by car!”

Fifteen mad fools they followed on, down a steep and rocky track
And then took more than two long hours to fight their way right back.
While four dissenters grinning wide, enjoyed their hilltop patter,
Despite the lack of comfort breaks to dull their cheerful chatter.

“We can’t stop now, we’re nearly there” our jolly leaders cried,
But we not bothered hangers-on were well and truly fried.
But then Mam Tor it beckoned us, high up above and bald -
So onwards, upwards, on our knees, up to the top we crawled.

“It’s all downhill from hereon in”, said someone with a grin,
“If it ain’t so” said one old man, “I’ll punch you on the chin!”
“No need” said he, “I’m tellin’ truth and by those tents down there,
Are the public toilets, lads and lasses, there’ll be no need to share!”

As quickly we descended, full in the flush of youth,
We soon forgot how most of us were now long in the tooth.
The public loos they spurred us on and so we did arrive,
Alas, alack, three minutes late! They’d locked the gates at five!

The Castle Inn, ah yes of course, that’s where we’ll eat tonight
Use their loos, change our clothes and generally look bright.
The meal it was a great success, the fellowship was brill’
“Come next year?” our leaders asked. We all said “Yes we will!”