

Fell Runners Navigational Course

by
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This course was completed by myself and Mick Thistlethwaite on Saturday 16 February. It was hosted at the Whitehall Outdoor Centre in Buxton by Dave Taylor & 2 colleagues . We both enjoyed a great group training session which consisted of 12 members from various places such as Newcastle, Scotland, Doncaster, Derby and, of course, the 2 Barlickers! The day was a good mix of classroom theory covering basics such as contours, map features, scales, definitions, compass-reading etc. along with a few hours of practical application too. We were taken out into the beautiful Peak District and trained how to locate features, take bearings, make informed decisions on directions, routes, distance and landscape details which will all be invaluable when out on the fells. The day was rounded off nicely with an individual competition which tested all the skills learnt during the day, each student was given a scaled map with 15 locations to visit, we then had preparation time to decide on our route and strategy before heading out at 1 minute intervals for the challenge to begin. I am glad to say we managed to bring home a Barlick Fell Runners 1, 2 in the event which was great fun. Can definitely recommend this type of course if you are looking to improve navigational skill/confidence on the fells.

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