

### Quick photo shot



### Taking in the Flora



### Chasing butterflies



The Walkers were looking forward to the Runway 2 trail, a circular walk around part of Manchester Airport and were delighted to welcome back Jill Whyatt, a much missed regular.

That morning, the weather provided ideal walking conditions, sunny and cool. Barbara and Ingrid had kindly recced the route, sending through pictures to whet the appetite, and with 8 of us (6 members plus 2 regular guests) we could walk as a group.

The route very quickly turned from tarmac to track as we passed through lush green fields bursting with wild flowers and hedgerows packed with dog roses. The horticulturists amongst us (**thanks Chrissy and Jill**) were able to point out the highlights; Wild Orchids, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Vetch et al, they even managed to spot a blue butterfly. Hard to believe that this was against the backdrop of the airport, albeit an airport at a standstill with just the odd plane flying in.

Ingrid explained that special barns had been built for Bats and as we came down a steep hill to the Bollin River Tunnel, an impressive construction, we spotted the roosting chambers on the inside of the tunnel roof.

The flat path through the tunnel quickly rose up a steep hill (**it felt like climbing Everest**) to a welcome refreshment spot.

Hydrated, we continued the walk skirting the airport perimeter fence and enjoying the views. To our surprise the path took us right back to where we started. The time had flown by, we caught up on all the news and put the world to rights - all in all an excellent walk.

The next walk is planned for early July, Hilbre Island. Full details available nearer the time as the walk will be dependant on tides and weather. If interested just contact Barbara M: 07973 453823. Details will also be posted to the walking WhatsApp group.

