

## **UERSA WALKING GROUP**

**October – December 2013**

**Dates:**            **Friday, 4 October**            **Thursday, 24 October (choice of three lengths!)**  
                  **Friday, 8 Nov**                    **Monday, 25 Nov (short)**            **Thursday, 5 December**



***What is it and where? (Answer at end)***

***The incredible summer has made it occasionally hot for walking but that hasn't deterred the clientele. (Rain of course is a different matter.) The summer saunter at Newquay was a great success both from a walking and a social point of view with 18 participating.***

***The new programme includes the now traditional (and famous) Cake Walk of Patrick and Sue and of course the annual lunch walk; this will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> November at the Ruffwell Inn, (Thorverton Turn) so put it in your diaries.***

***Do you realise that 2012 had NO annual lunch walk due to flooding at the Swan's Nest but 2013 will have had two!***

***First newsletter with larger print – do you prefer it? All comments welcome!***

***Do join us on one of the walks.***

***Trevor***

***September 2013***

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## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

- 10.30 am Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> October                    Bampton                    7 miles***  
***PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED***

Start in Bampton car park. (GR 955222 – this is on the western side of town, on the left near the church).

Route: Exe Valley Way to Coldharbour Farm. Then Blight's Farm to Ashtown Farm and into Morebath. Morebath to Chiltern Cross on B3190 then footpath back to Bampton.

7 miles, mostly footpaths.

***Tom***

This is a beautiful walk that Tom did 18 months ago but only three joined him. On this occasion I will request those planning to walk to respond to me when I send out the reminder. This will allow me to arrange car sharing and gauge the response; if there are fewer than six planning to go then the walk will be cancelled.

***Trevor***

- **Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October**      **Topsham – Exmouth Cake Walk**      **7 miles, 5 miles  
or 3.5 miles**  
**PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

The walk follows the Exe Estuary Trail and will start from Topsham station at 11.40. Those walking the full distance will link up with those arriving at Exton and Lympstone Village.

- Option A: 11.18 train, St. David's to Topsham (11.35)  
Walk to Merrion Avenue 7 miles
- Option B: 12.18 train, St. David's to Exton (12.38 – request stop)  
Walk to Merrion Avenue 5 miles
- Option C: 12.50 train, St. David's to Lympstone Village (13.11)  
Walk to Merrion Avenue 3.5 miles

The idea is to eat our packed lunches somewhere between Lympstone and Exmouth and to finish the walk with tea and cakes at 6 Merrion Avenue, Exmouth (EX8 2HX).

***Note that the walk does not go past Exmouth station.***

We hope to make use of the new stretch of path between Topsham and the River Clyst, if the bridge is ready in time. If the path is not open the walking distance between Topsham and Exton will be increased by a quarter of a mile.

Merrion Avenue is a five minute walk from the number 57 bus stop on Salterton Road (Elwyn Road stop) for the return journey to Exeter.

Sue and Patrick

- **10.30 am Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November**      **Ilington**      **6 miles**  
**PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

Meet at 10.30 at the Carpenter's Arms, Ilington (OS Explorer 110 / Landranger 191, 785761 Postcode TQ13 9RG).

Directions: take the A38 to Drum Bridges. Take third exit marked Liverton and Ilington, on to the old A38. Then right turn to Old Liverton. After 2.5 miles take left turn labelled Ilington and Carpenter's Arms. Park in street. Pub toilets available from 10.00.

Enjoy this varied walk on footpaths and bridleways through fields and woodland in the foothills of Dartmoor to Ramshorn Down, with time for a drink at the pub afterwards.

David and Lorna

- **10.00 am Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November**      **Annual Lunch, Thorverton**      **4 miles**

We will meet in the car park of the Ruffwell Inn at 10.00 am and then fill a sufficient number of cars to drive into Thorverton as parking is limited.

The 55 Exeter – Tiverton bus leaves the bus station at 9.30, passes The Imperial and arrives at the Ruffwell at 9.47

The walk will be a gentle stroll in the area around Thorverton along paths and roads. We will then drive back to the Ruffwell for lunch. There will be a carvery or you may choose from the menu; details will be available when I send out the reminder.

Trevor

- **10.30 am Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December**      **Woodbury Common**      **6 miles**  
**PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

Start: Four Firs Car Park Map OS115 Grid Reference 032 865

Route:      Four Firs      Squabmoor Reservoir      Dalditch Farm  
              Fryingpans      Thorn Tree Plantation

Mike and Suzanne

## ***RECENT WALKS 2013***

### ***Wimbleball Reservoir, 18th July***



On the hottest day of the year so far four brave / foolish people signed up for Roger's "Foreign Legion training walk"! He was surprised anyone turned up at all on such a hot day!!

This being far more successful than the SAS in that he lost no-one, although one member had to cool down by paddling through the ford at Bury in the wake of a Sainsbury's van!!

Visibility and scenery over Somerset was beautiful and we walked through leafy lanes for the most part with a good picnic spot found in the shade by the river, cooling us down with the sound of running water.

Walk curtailed slightly as the path to the Dam was closed while they do repair work which suited us all!!

Cheers Sara



Five of us had an enjoyable although hot walk with Roger yesterday. Sara is sending a write up and was the official photographer. Thought you might like one of her setting the white balance on her camera. She is doing a course where the instructor does not want her students to use the automatic settings! Keith

### ***Circular walk from Silverton, 24th July***

### ***Silverton's Marilyn***



A select band of 5 (famous?) met at the car park in Silverton on a pleasantly cooler day. The aim was to ascend to the dizzy heights of the nearby MARILYN (the English answer to the Scottish MUNRO) – 150m above the surrounding area.

An attractive footpath led us out of the village and across two large fields with striking views across the countryside to Dartmoor and to Sidmouth. Then we followed the green lane leading to Greenslinch, where we discovered a treasure trove of Peacock feathers, and then on up steadily towards our goal – Criss-Cross – pausing for breath and to admire the view. At the top we were able to see to the North – the Blackdown Hills and the Quantocks. After that we ambled downhill to the start and to the Lamb Inn in the village for a very pleasant lunch.

Trevor

### ***Circular walk from Eggesford, 6th August***



The train to Eggesford gathered a dozen walkers along the way and another five were waiting for us at our destination. John warned us about having anything on tick or was it about having ticks on us and we set off following Frankie up the hill out of the village with John, the good shepherd, at the rear.

The climb brought us to the high ground with views across to Dartmoor and a gradual descent down a beautiful valley but where apparently ticks were lurking. We then climbed to the ridge which led us on to Chawleigh, a beautiful quiet village with a very nice recreation area where we lunched after visiting the church.

After that it was literally downhill all the way to cross the main road and make a short climb to the Garden Centre for tea/coffee and cake.

Thanks John and Frankie for another great walk.

Trevor

### ***Hennock Reservoirs, 20th August***



Twelve arrived at the car park at Trenchford reservoirs after negotiating some very narrow high banked lanes, fortunately meeting no traffic.

Pete led off, downhill, and across two very attractive wooded valleys which involved some steep ascents. It was quite a warm day and pretty tiring. We paused in one valley for a leisurely lunch and then moved on to Hennock, a very pretty well-cared-for village.

The return uphill route took us back to the Tour de Reservoirs (no yellow jersey for me – I certainly wasn't leading) ending at the car park.

Thanks Pete for a very enjoyable walk on the eastern edge of Dartmoor.

Trevor

### ***Stockland, 5th September***



Stockland mast is visible for miles around but Stockland village is quite remote set in a very quiet rural landscape. Nine enjoyed the walk on a very pleasant day. It was very much over farmland with surprisingly little signs of activity and we had a break at a beautiful old bridge over the Yarty. Then we walked along the ridge before dropping down to Heavystock and on to Stockland.

Many thanks, Sara.

Trevor



## *Stoke Canon, 25<sup>th</sup> September*



***Million pound house***



***Bridge over the River Exe***

Eighteen met at Stoke Canon for a leisurely walk across meadows and fields and along lanes to Upton Pyne via Brampford Speke. Did you know there is a million pound house in Brampford Speke?! It featured in Caroline Quentin's TV programme 'House Renovation'. We all admired it when approaching on the walk from Stoke Canon (but you can't see from the camera shot that it is actually semi-detached!!).

It was a fine morning with a slight mist or haze and the essentially flat walk was much enjoyed. We passed through a sweet corn field of excellent quality and a pig field with many sows and a few piglets.

We then took an alternative route back through water meadows to Brampford Speke and then on to the Stoke Canon Inn, now a community run pub where 10 had a very enjoyable lunch.

Everyone enjoyed the variety of the walk so thanks to Ruth for the planning.

Trevor

***Mystery photo*** – Phone box (no door remaining) – taken on 26<sup>th</sup> June  
You'll have to ask David (Oates) where!  
(It was taken on Pete's Scorhill walk.)

Sorry, David, we distorted it hopefully to confuse the readers!