

UERSA WALKING GROUP
April – June 2016

Dates:

Fri, 8 April
Tues, 24 May

Thurs, 28 April
Mon, 6 June

Wed, 11 May
Tues/Wed 21/22 June



Otterton, 24th February **First photo of 2016**
(No camera on January 13th and the following
TWO walks were cancelled!)

After losing two walks in a row due to extreme weather conditions, recent walks have been welcome and well supported. The new programme has the ones you missed through cancellation and even more.

Do join us.

Trevor March 2016

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- 10.30am Fri, 8th April Sandford 7 miles**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

Meet 10.30, Sandford Parish Hall car park. (Mystery Tour?)

Christine

• **10.30am Thurs, 28th April**

Feniton

8 miles

PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

Start : Old Feniton Village Car Park (Grid Ref. SY 108993).

Suggested directions from Exeter :- Take the A30 for approximately 8 miles from Sowton to leave at Patteson's Cross where Feniton is indicated, but in order to avoid a narrow lane between New Feniton and Old Feniton turn right at the T-junction after exiting from the A30, pass under the A30 and turn left on to the old A30 road for a mile, passing a pub and car dealer on the left then turn left on a minor road to Feniton for 3/4 mile to the car park on the left, at the entrance to the village.

Terrain : Lanes and footpaths, with a steady climb of 320 feet from Curscombe Cross to Penscombe. Some of the paths could be muddy so waterproof footwear is recommended and sticks could be useful on some of the stonier paths.

Route : Old Feniton Village ~ Sowton ~ Buckerell ~ Jenirens Farm ~ Curscombe Farm ~ Curscombe Cross ~ Higher Curscombe Farm ~ Penscombe ~ Lower Cheriton – Curscombe Cross ~ Old Feniton Village. We plan to look inside the Church of St. Mary and St. Giles at Buckerell, full details of which can be seen at

<https://buckerellparishcouncil.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/buckerell-church-buckerell-booklet.pdf> .

We do not pass any shops or pubs so please bring a picnic lunch.

Mike and Suzanne

• **10.30am Wed, 11th May**

Kings Nympton

John B will lead a circular walk from the station at Kings Nympton.

Details to be circulated later.

John B

• **10.40am Tues, 24th May**

Barnstaple - Instow

7 miles

(Short option 3.5 miles) PUB LUNCH OR SANDWICHES

We will catch the train to Barnstaple (9.21 from Central, 9.27 from St Davids, 9.38 from Crediton) arriving at 10.38.

We will take the (flat) Tarka Trail to Instow *and there is a short option (3.5 miles) to Fremington Quay where there is a café and a convenient bus back to the railway station.*

The walk will continue to Instow and end with lunch there at a pub for those who wish. I plan to return by bus (every 15 minutes) in time for the 15.43 train from Barnstaple to Exeter. (The next is at 17.13 reaching Exeter at 18.38.)

For those preferring to eat a sandwich there are frequent return buses to Barnstaple station.

Tom

- **10.30am Mon, 6th June** **The Quantocks** **7 miles**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

Meet at Lydeard Hill car park (OS181 : 181339) for a walk in this very attractive area (which, thanks to Roger, we visit regularly).

Roger F

- **Tues 21st / Wed 22nd June** **Ilfracombe mini-break**

This year it is centred on Ilfracombe with two walks.

Day 1 Combe Martin to Ilfracombe 6 miles

Day 2 Woolacombe to Ilfracombe 7 miles

Although the distances are not overlong, the terrain is challenging with ascents of over 1500ft on each day and the SW Coast Path guide describes the level as moderate but strenuous in parts. We won't be hurrying but both walks will be demanding.

Please contact me if you are interested in participating and, as always, accommodation is difficult to find in June and an early decision and booking is advisable.

Trevor

RECENT WALKS 2016

Copplestone, 13th January

After the heavy rains of late December and early January, 22 arrived by various routes at Copplestone Station for Frankie's walk – the first of the new year. She had promised us a walk back in time and so it proved as we gradually climbed along quiet Devon lanes onto the higher ground north of the village.

It was a beautiful morning, still with bright sunshine and the panoramic view looking south across to Dartmoor was spectacular with a line of tors on the horizon.

The area around New Buildings (probably a couple of hundred years old) is sparsely populated and the gentle walk did, as Frankie promised, show us Devon very much as it was 300 years ago.

Thanks Frankie

Trevor

Feniton, 26th January

Cancelled

Barnstaple – Instow, 8th February

Cancelled

Otterton, 24th February

After a period of heavy rain and winds requiring the unprecedented cancellation of two walks in a row, we were lucky yet again to walk on a beautiful still, sunny day. Sixteen arrived at Otterton and Edward led us down to the Otter towards the sea crossing over to the eastern side at White Bridge. We joined the coast path and followed it to the look-out spot just west of Ladram Bay where we paused for lunch, still in warm sunshine.

Next we headed inland along tracks that were pretty muddy (previously it had been fairly firm) finally joining country lanes that led us back into Otterton.

Thank you very much, Edward, for a most enjoyable walk.

Trevor

Wellington, 7th March



As we approached the turn-off to Wellington on the M5 we passed through heavy rain but by the time we arrived at the meeting point – the Sports Centre car park on the edge of the town – the rain had disappeared and the day looked much more promising. Seventeen gathered there and David led out (with Tina keeping stragglers in order) along the Westford Stream through undulating farmland to Pinkmoor and then up to Holywell Lake. This proved to be a village, named because of the underground lake below it!

Then, after a snack break, we returned along the route of the Great Western Canal, intended to provide a traffic link between Taunton and Tiverton – never completed because the railway bought out the project and axed it.

We arrived back after a walk mainly in sunshine and no rain.

Thanks again to David and Tina,

Trevor

Parke, Bovey Tracey, 15th March



Seventeen gathered in the car park at the Dartmoor NT headquarters on yet another stunning day.

We headed out along the river towards Lustleigh and it was gentle easy walking in idyllic conditions. Eventually we took a left and started to climb gently upwards onto the edge of Dartmoor leaving the frequent dog walkers to the lower ground. A snack break fortified us and then it was onwards and upwards into Yarner Wood where the really stiff climb began. Eventually we reached the top of the wood and then started the descent on the other side pausing for lunch in warm sunshine. Reaching the bottom of the wood we headed back along the tracks of the Templer Way, finally entering the Parke Estate .

Thanks Jan for a very enjoyable extended (9 miles by David's reckoning!) walk.

Trevor