

UERSA WALKING GROUP
October - December 2016

Dates:

Thurs, 6 Oct

Thurs, 27 Oct

Tuesday, 15 Nov

Wed 23 November

Monday, 5 December



August: Roger's walk at Tarr Steps – David, ever the gentleman busy cleaning river.
Will the owner of the hand please own up!

Another programme taking us to the end of the year with the Annual Lunch Walk suitably positioned to avoid the pre-Christmas Crush. I do hope that many walkers, past and present, will join us for lunch, this year at the Lamb Inn, Longdown.

The short pre-ramble is definitely an optional extra to the lunch!

My thanks to the many who are happy to lead making constructing the programme much easier.

Finally I would like to thank Patrick and Sue for their wonderful hospitality of the Autumn Cake Walks in previous years. Traditions come to an end but walkers have so many happy memories of these special occasions.

Trevor September 2016

Tel: 01392 – 259740 Mobile

07948740644

preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- **10.30 Thursday, 6th October Tedburn St Mary 7.5 miles**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

This will be a circular 7 1/2 mile route led by Sue and Mike Smith, starting at 10.30 from the Tedburn St. Mary Village Hall Car Park (Grid Reference SX814943, OS Explorer Map 114). When entering the village from Exeter, after passing the garage on the right take the the first turning to the right, signposted Village Hall, for 300 yards to enter the Car Park on the left. We have confirmed with the Village Hall that we can use the Car Park, but they have asked us to park at the far end as there is an event in the Hall in the morning.

The walk is on footpaths, farm tracks and lanes, from Tedburn St. Mary following Frankford Lane, Lillybrook Lane, Posbury Copse, Posbury Chapel, Culver Court, Oldridge, Tomhead Cross, Spicery, Little Fairwood Farm, Lillybrook, and back to Tedburn St. Mary. There are three climbs, including the 1/2 mile gradual climb to Posbury Chapel, where we plan to have an early picnic lunch. Throughout the walk there will be extensive views in all directions. Some of the tracks are bridleways which can be muddy and uneven so walking shoes are recommended and you may find poles useful.

Mike & Suzanne

- **10.30 Thursday, 27th Oct Scorhill, Dartmoor 6 miles approx.**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

We start from Scorhill Farm car park (OL28: 661 877; parking limited, sharing advisable) at 10.30, follow the lane downhill towards Throwleigh and Gidleigh Park and turn right along the track through North and South Parks over the Teign and up towards Kestor rocks, where we lunch. Then across the moor along a grassy track to the Long Stone. From the Long Stone we follow a grassy track in parallel to a stone-row which becomes a double stone-row and back to the clapper bridge and Scorhill. About 4hrs including coffee, photograph and lunch stops. Distance about 6 miles. The trial walk was gorgeous with bright gorse, heather and rowan berries. It should be OK in October conditions too, provided we can see across the moor.

John & Frankie

- **10.30 Tuesday, 15th November Belstone, Dartmoor 8 miles**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

Meet at the car park (OL28, 621 938) on the left as you approach Belstone Village.

Jan

- **10.30 Wednesday, 23rd Nov Annual Lunch Walk, Lamb Inn, Longdown**
(11.45 lunch only) 3-4 miles

I hope as many as possible will join us for the Annual Lunch, this year at the Lamb Inn, Longdown, a family-run pub/restaurant that Ruth & I visit regularly.

The walk beforehand will be about 3 – 4 miles and, if we have not had very wet weather just before the date, it will start from the Lamb Inn. The walk has one steady climb, otherwise mainly contouring.

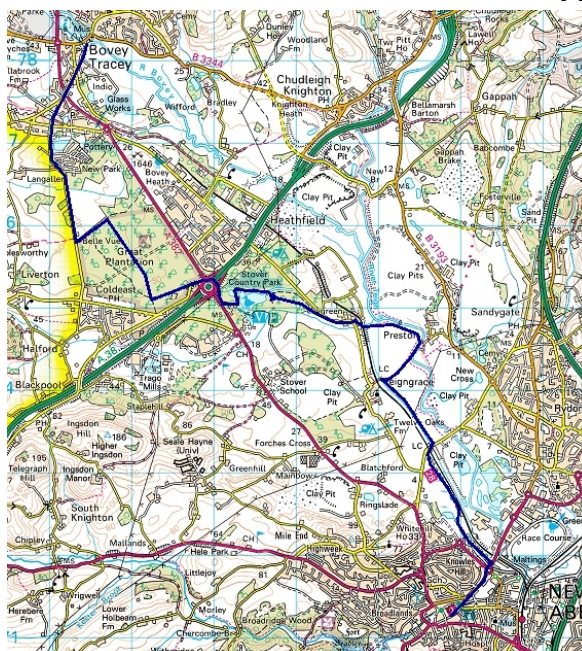
One short section could be wet and muddy so if it seems difficult when I check it I will opt for an easy walk along the river in Exeter, driving to Longdown afterwards.

This is the occasion when walkers past and present are encouraged to meet up with a LUNCH ONLY option very much encouraged if for various reasons you don't fancy the walk.

The pub doesn't require pre-ordering but I will ask with the reminder for a response about whether you plan to lunch. The standard menu is available on www.lambinnlongdown.co.uk but in addition there are about a dozen starter and main 'specials' also shown.

Trevor

- **10.30 Monday, 5th Dec** **Bovey Tracey (Templer Way)** **7 miles**
PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED



The route starts from Bovey Tracey and is a 7.75 mile flat walk to Newton Abbot along the Templer Way. It's a mix of road and footpath, woodland and fields. It's obviously a linear walk, the idea being to catch the 39 bus to Bovey Tracey or travel by car to the carpark by the river at the bottom of the town and then catch the 39 bus back to Bovey Tracey from Newton Abbot market. The part of the route that follows the canal is very interesting with some of the lock gates still showing but in a state of disrepair. I did see a spot on a local news program about a possible restoration project but I don't know if there has been any progress. There is always the option of people joining at Stover Country Park if they want a shorter walk. (Details will be sent with the reminder.) The 39 bus leaves Exeter Bus Station at 9:30am and arrives in Bovey at 10:15am. The return bus from Newton Abbot runs hourly until 3:45pm.

Pete

RECENT WALKS 2016

Circular walk from Princeton, 6th July



Another stunning Dartmoor walk – thanks, Pete

Blackborough/Kentisbeare Circular Walk, 21st July



Fifteen of us safely and accurately followed Sara's instructions to reach the car park at Knowles Wood. The walk was set in a part of Devon that we haven't visited often and the views were stunning.

We started along the ridge to Blackborough Common and the village. Dropping down off the hill we walked through quiet countryside to the fishponds near Kentisbeare where we had a leisurely lunch. Eventually terminated by light rain which soon passed once we were walking. The return was again an easy walk along paths, roads and tracks with a gentle climb back onto the ridge and journey's end.

Many thanks, Sara (and Jan) for devising such an enjoyable walk.

Trevor

Tarr Steps, 4th August

You have to agree with Roger, the Barle is possibly the prettiest river in the region! Six of us joined him and Roseanne for the beautiful walk from Tarr Steps to Withypool and back. First came the climb from the river high up onto the Two Moors Way which gave us lovely views across the soft landscapes of Exmoor. Bypassing Withypool Hill, we descended into Withypool itself where the banks of the Barle made a perfect picnic spot for lunch. With the excitement about Roseanne's escaped polythene bag over (see photo on front page!), we had a welcome coffee at the nearby café (and cover from a very brief passing shower) before taking the route back along the banks of the river. With the surrounding woods and meadows at their greenest, a good dowsing of rain some two days earlier and some pretty butterflies to spot, the Barle was looking at its best. Very few other walkers out, with the only crowds being at Tarr Steps. Roger suggested the walk was 6-7 miles (Pete hadn't brought his Garmin GPS) but the Pathfinder Guide lists it at around 8 miles in length. Thank you, Roger and Roseanne, for giving us a splendid day out.

David

Lustleigh, 15th August



Six of us met at Lustleigh on a beautiful summer day. We left the village through the children's area noting the granite throne for the May Queen on top of a huge rock listing the Queens since 1968.

We climbed slowly through the woods reaching the ridge near the Logfan Stone and then contoured along the ridge to Hunter's Tor where we paused for a break. Then it was down to cross the cleave at Foxworthy Bridge and up to Manaton where we had a leisurely lunch on the green. Much of the route was in shade which was great on such a warm day.

We returned to Lustleigh via Wate – again sheltered from the sun.

Thanks very much Edward for a very enjoyable walk.

Trevor

Warren Inn, 6th September



Seventeen gathered near the Warren Inn on Dartmoor for Judy's walk, including three new members. It was a dullish looking day with low cloud in parts so all were suitably dressed apart from a mad pair in shorts.

We started with a tour of the old tin mines where Judy gave us a brief history lesson surprising us with how tin mining continued on the moor until the 1920's.

Then we continued down the valley before looping back on the other side and climbing steadily to Challacombe Down and on to Headland Warren. Here we crossed the road and climbed to Grimpound for a leisurely lunch in brighter weather.

Finally we climbed to Hockney Tor and then followed the Two Moors Way back to the Warren.

Thanks to Judy for a most enjoyable walk.

Trevor

Exeter Green Circle, 19th September





Ten of us joined Davis and Tina for the walk along the Western half of the Circle walk starting from St David's Station.

We started along the flood prevention channel where, nearby, the Environmental Agency is gearing up to complete the northern end of Exeter's flood prevention enhancement and then climbed up to Barley Valley Park where we paused at the high point for a coffee break and an opportunity to enjoy the panoramic view of the City.

Some got nostalgic as we passed the former Crossmead Hall, now unrecognisable having been developed as apartments and, as we reached Dunsford Hill, David pointed out Little John's Cross tucked away by the local store.

The rural path took us along the ridge above Cowick and then down to the valley alongside the A30. Reaching the fields of the Newbury Stables we discovered the 'WOW' circus was about to put up its Big Top.

Lunch was taken at the War Memorial in Alphington and, as we rose to leave, the rain that had been sporadic became steady and so we hurried on to Salmon Pool Lane and County Hall.

Thanks to David and Tina for a very enjoyable city tour.

Trevor