



North Devon Group Walks

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Dec-2021
Apr-2022

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Hello everyone. We are thrilled to be able to produce a Walks Programme for the next five months, which includes 7 great walks for the Winter Walking Festival. And we really hope that the Covid situation doesn't worsen and force us to cancel group walks again. We are keeping in touch with members about any changes – Covid or otherwise - via emails, the group website, Facebook and WhatsApp as these methods are much faster (and cheaper) than by post. Did you know it costs around £60 in stamps alone to post out these programmes? If you think you could receive the walks programme by email and print it out yourself, or you do not receive group emails and would like to, then please contact any of the Committee members with your email address. Thanks. 😊

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to the AGM and/or was involved in organising the day. The walks were well attended and the teas and cakes proved very popular. As you know, we chose a hall rather than a pub-type venue because of Covid, but several people said they enjoyed the more relaxed atmosphere, so maybe we should consider this format in future. What do you think?

As you may already know, I am continuing in the Chair role for the next 12 months, Ruth has taken over as Treasurer, and Mike Kelly is now Footpath Officer for the Torridge area. All the committee members, their roles and contact details are listed below. We are an enthusiastic lot, and we already have some ideas for the future of North Devon Ramblers, but we also want to hear ideas and suggestions from you – what would you like to see in the group? We can't promise to take up all ideas, but we can promise to consider each one carefully.

One of the most successful ideas a couple of years ago was having coffee mornings, and we are delighted that these have re-commenced on the first Thursday of the month, 10.30 at Queen Anne's café in Barnstaple. Next one is 2nd December, and we look forward to seeing you there. More dates for your diaries can be found at the back of the programme.

Kind regards
Clarice Harwood

A MESSAGE FROM OUR WALKS PROGRAMME SECRETARY

What a fantastic response enabling our return to a fixed programme. Sincere thanks you to each of you who has so kindly offered to lead a walk; our group could not function without you .

I think I have said previously that emerging from Covid restrictions wasn't going to be plain sailing and I just want to let you know that to get back in sync with our normal timetable, we will have to start putting the summer programme in place at the beginning of January. (I can hear the collective groan from here!).

So when you are idly sitting in your armchairs over Christmas, replete and rosy cheeked, you might like to let your minds wander and start to think of some lovely walks ideal for our summer programme. What better start could there be for the New Year than receiving an email from me pleading for walks? That's a rhetorical question by the way before you all start sending a reply. 😊

Kind Regards
Gill Gooch



DECEMBER 2021

DAY DATE	MEETING POINT	GRID REF	WALK START	LEAVE FAIRVIEW	DIST. MILES	ROUTE	LEADER(S)	CONTACT DETAILS
Sunday 5th December	Ashcombe car park, Simonsbath	SS 774 394	10.00	9.15	10	Simonsbath-Pickstones-return via Two Moors Way inc. Cow Castle	Peter & David	07964 720155 07870 935234
Wednesday 8th December	Landkey Millennium Green C/P	SS 598 312	10.00	N/A	7.5	Swimbridge-Wrimstone-Hannaford on lanes,paths & tracks with some mud & puddles. Some stiles. Undulating with a few uphill sections but moderate/ leisurely pace. Poss. great views	Clarice	07972 510903
Sunday 12th December	Hunters Inn NT C/P	SS 655 481	10.30	N/A	9	Parracombe-Slattenslade-SWCP incl. Motte & Bailey Castle (Holwell Castle), section of Lynton & Barnstaple railway. Possible views across to Wales. Wet, muddy paths, exposed headlands & stream crossing can make walk quite challenging in bad weather.	Richard & Anne	01271 817056
Wednesday 15th December	NICE & EASY: Wistlandpound Reservoir	SS 639 415	11.00	N/A	2.5	A wander around the reservoir - with mulled wine in your flask (not if you are driving) & a mince pie in your pocket!	Chris & Roger	07779 438371
	START OF WINTER WALKING FESTIVAL							
Sunday 19th December	Barna Barrow	SS 753 497	10.30	N/A	8.5	Walk through Wind Hill (an Iron Age Hill Fort)-down the East Lyn Valley to Watersmeet-Rockford-up to Wilsham. Some hills & over 2000ft of ascent but moderate pace. Scenic views along SWCP.	Janice	07765 091260
Thursday 23rd December	Marine Drive, Woolacombe (near the entrance)	SS 457 433	10.30	N/A	7.5	Exploring the footpaths around Woolacombe & Morteheo. An opportunity to enjoy some spectacular views out of season.	Maggi	01805 628230
Tuesday 28th December	The Weir Bistro (off A39 south of Bude at Helebridge overflow car park.- first car park in area on right as you come in the entrance).	SS 213 036	10.30	N/A	6.5	Farmland & SWCP to Bude. Return along canal towpath back to The Weir. Coffee & lunch stops en route.	Clarice	07972 510903
Thursday 30th December	Large layby on B3233, just east of Instow	SS 480 313	10.30	N/A	4.5	Lane walk above Instow with fab views on a clear day. Coast path & beachfront back to start. Some uphill to start with but at a gentle pace. Coffee break only.	Clarice	07972 510903

JANUARY 2022

DAY DATE	MEETING POINT	GRID REF	WALK START	LEAVE FAIRVIEW	DIST. MILES	ROUTE	LEADER(S)	CONTACT DETAILS
Sunday 2nd January	Woody Bay lower car park	SS 676 486	10.00	N/A	6.0	SWCP from Woody Bay to Hunters Inn and return on the old carriage road.	Steve	01598 763875
Tuesday 4th January	Sandy Lane C/P Braunton	SS 463 349	10.30	N/A	3.0	Walk through hollowed out Flaggpole Dune – across Burrows on sandy track and paths- short stretch of Saunton Sands beach & back across the Burrows. Undulating, one stile. Coffee break only.	Gill	07531 511496
Thursday 6th January	Watergate Bridge C/P	SS 469 175	10.30	N/A	7.5	Little Torrington, Middle Gribble, Tarka Trail. Mostly lanes, some footpaths & Tarka Trail.	Pauline & Barbara	01769 520421
END OF WINTER WALKING FESTIVAL								
Sunday 9th January	Sandy Lane C/P Braunton	SS 463 349	10.30	N/A	8	Braunton Burrows–SWCP Croyde-Saunton Down. See remains of WWII tank and possible views over Taw & Torridge Estuary. Steep hill out of Croyde to Saunton Down	Richard & Anne	01271 817056
Wednesday 12th January	Landkey Millennium Green C/P	SS 598 312	10.30	N/A	5.5	Climb through fields & paths to top of Codden Hill. Descend into Bishop's Tawton & return via Tarka Trail along the river valley.	Peter & Helen	07453 194985
Sunday 16th January	Hartland Square C/P	SS 259 244	10.30	N/A	7.5	Heading north to Pattard Cross, lane to Blegbury with fantastic views. Coast path to Spekes Mill Mouth, lanes & footpaths back to Hartland.	Maggi	01805 628230
Tuesday 18th January	Hillsford Bridge NT C/P	SS 739 477	11.00	N/A	5	East Lyn's Farms, Lyn Down	Chris & Roger	07779 438371
Saturday 22nd January	Caen Street C/P Braunton	SS 487 366	10.00	9.30	8	Braunton-Nethercote-Georgeham-Braunton	Peter & David	07964 720155 07870 935234
Sunday 30th January	Winsford Village C/P	SS 906 349	10.30	N/A	7.5	Caratacus Stone, The Punchbowl, Bye Hill. Woodland, moorland & fields. A little road walking.	Jan	07972 455331

FEBRUARY 2022

DAY DATE	MEETING POINT	GRID REF	WALK START	LEAVE FAIRVIEW	DIST. MILES	ROUTE	LEADER(S)	CONTACT DETAILS
Wednesday 2nd February	Croyde Village C/P	SS 444 392	10.30	N/A	7.25	Booking Essential-to join this walk email: bob13south@yahoo.co.uk (inc. your name & phone no.) between Wed 25 January–Sun 30 Jan (max 15 people) Up to Saunton Down–Georgeham –Woolacombe beach-Putsborough-Combas Lane (can be very muddy)- back to Croyde. 4 stiles.	Bob	07989 145560
Sunday 6th February	Duckpool	SS 202 117	10.30	N/A	8.5	Paths,lanes woods,fields,coast path and probably lots of mud! Some great views on a clear day and possibility of a cuppa if Sandymouth NT cafe open. Hilly in places but moderately paced.	Clarice	07972 510903
Tuesday 8th February	Churchfields (Quay) car park Appledore (5 hours)	SS 464 306	10.30	N/A	6.5	Taking lanes, coast path & footpaths, across Northam Burrows to Westward Ho! and return	Gill & Margie	07531 511496 07970 058796
Friday 11th February	Kingsley Statue, Bideford	SS 455 272	10.30	N/A	7	Silford & Pusehill – back through the footpaths of Bideford. Coffee & lunch stop. Some road & lane walking. One long uphill.	Linda & Pam	07977 951887
Saturday 12th February	DEVON AREA AGM – IVYBRIDGE					LOOK OUT FOR FURTHER DETAILS		
Sunday 13th February	Watergate Bridge C/P	SS 469 175	10.30	N/A	8	Tarka Trail, Langtree Week, Little Comfort, Langtree, Frithlestock Stone.	Maggi	01805 628230
Tuesday 15th February	Hunters Inn NT C/P	SS 655 481	11.00	N/A	5.5	Heale, Ladies Mile. One steep climb.	Chris & Roger	07779 438371
Sunday 20th February	Arlington Court NT C/P	SS 612 408	10.30	N/A	10	Loxhore-Wistlandpound Reservoir-Huckham Farm. A walk in pastoral countryside. Steep hill back up to car park.	Richard & Anne	01271 817056
Wednesday 23rd February	Prewley Moor	SX 545 910	10.30	N/A	7.5	Around Meldon Reservoir, up Sourton Tors and hopefully Branscombe's Loaf. Lower route if weather not suitable. Mostly typical Dartmoor paths & tracks, some Granite Way, maybe few tussocks higher up. Hilly but moderately paced. Great views on a clear day.	Clarice	07972 510903
Saturday 26th February	Wrafton Village Hall, Wrafton Road, Braunton (donation to church funds appreciated)	SS 494 356	10.00	N/A	About 9	Please book to join this walk: phone walk leader between Sat 19 Feb – Wed 23 Feb. Devon lanes to Patsford Westcott Barton, Middle Marwood, Braunton, Wrafton. (Duration about 6 hours)	Martin	01271 816178 07935 907954
Sunday 27th February	Woody Bay Lower C/P	SS 676 486	10.30	N/A	8.5	Martinhoe Common, Six Acre Wood, Valley of the Rocks. Woodland & fields. Some road walking.	Jan	07972 455331

MARCH 2022

DAY DATE	MEETING POINT	GRID REF	WALK START	LEAVE FAIRVIEW	DIST. MILES	ROUTE	LEADER(S)	CONTACT DETAILS
Tuesday 1st March	Cattle Market C/P Bideford	SS 455 273	10.30	N/A	8	Bideford - Northam Burrows – Westward Ho!-Abbotsham cliffs back to Bideford	Barbara	01237 476257
Sunday 6th March	Hillsford Bridge NT C/P	SS 739 477	10.30	N/A	9	Lynmouth-Two Moors Way-Countisbury-Watersmeet-back up to the car park. Strenuous	Steve	01805 624341
Wednesday 9th March	Bampton C/P	SS 960 223	10.00	9.00	8	Bampton–Exeter Inn–Bampton–Cold Harbour Farm–Bampton	Peter & David	07964720155 07870935234
Sunday 13th March	White Post	SS 813 318	10.30	N/A	10.5	Visit the wide open spaces of Exmoor inc. Withypool Hill, Parsonage Down & Molland Common with views down to the Barle Valley. Undulating moorland, about 1500ft of ascent-a moderate pace.	Janice	07765 091260
Wednesday 16th March	NICE & EASY: Marine Drive, Woolacombe (near the entrance)	SS 457 433	10.30	N/A	5	Coast path to Putsborough, back along the beach.	Pamela	01271 866661
Sunday 20th March	Rough Tor C/P, Bodmin	SX 138 819	10.30	N/A	9	Rough Tor, Brown Willy, Arthur’s Hall, Louden Hill. Open moorland.	Jan	07972 455331
Wednesday 23rd March	Sampford Courtney Village Hall C/P (permission obtained – small donation to Village Hill funds appreciated)	SS 630 012	10.30	N/A	6.5	Honeychurch, Venn X. Country roads, fields & tracks. Could be muddy.	Pauline & Barbara	01769 520421
Saturday 26th March	WALK LEADERS FUN DAY					LOOK OUT OR FURTHER DETAILS		
Wednesday 30th March	Mortehoe C/P P&D	SS 457 452	10.30	N/A	7.5	Fields & woods reaching coastline. Walking poles recommended as there are some steep ascents and descents.	Margaret	07870 472536

APRIL 2022

DAY DATE	MEETING POINT	GRID REF	WALK START	LEAVE FAIRVIEW	DIST. MILES	ROUTE	LEADER(S)	CONTACT DETAILS
Sunday 3rd April	Dry Bridge, Exmoor	SS 759 452	10.30	N/A	9	Shilstone Hill-Barna Barrow-Brendon. Plenty of moorland & coastal views weather permitting. Exmoor Hills. Can be wet & muddy.	Richard & Anne	01271 817056
Saturday 9th April	CHALLENGING WALK: Barnstaple Bus Station: Filers Travel bus 310: Stand K. OR <i>Parracombe Village Hall</i> <i>(permission obtained – voluntary collection for parking for Hall funds)</i>	SS 561 330 SS 673 448	8.50 10.00	N/A	13	Walk starts at Parracombe Village Hall at 10:00. Climb to Parracombe Common (high & exposed) - Chapman Barrows and Longstone before descending via the Saddle Stone to Thornworthy, return to Parracombe via Woolhanger & Martinhoe Common. Ground marshy with tussock grass. Appropriate footwear and clothing essential. <u>GOOD LEVEL OF FITNESS ESSENTIAL</u>	Steve	01598 763875
Wednesday 13th April	Exford main car park	SS 855 383	10.30	N/A	6	Climb over Road Hill & Room Hill with extensive views over Exe Valley. Descend to cross river at Nethercote. Return along banks of the Exe.	Peter & Helen	07453 194985
Easter Sunday 17th April	In the parking area beside the road outside Hawkridge Village Hall, 50 yds west of Hawkridge Church	SS 860 306	10.00	N/A	11	An Exmoor walk with stream, woodland, field & heathland. Little habitation other than ponies and sheep! From Hawkridge follow River Barle to Marsh Bridge – Highercombe Farm - Tarr Steps - Hawkridge. 2-3 good climbs. One stile at end. Exmoor views all day weather permitting.	Andrew	01237 429246
Thursday 21st April	Arlington Court NT C/P	SS 612 408	10.30	N/A	5	Beccott Down Cottage, into park, return via the lake. In search of bluebells.	Pamela	01271 866661
Saturday 23rd April	Barnstaple Bus Station: Bus 310: Stand K (to Goodleigh Cross) – leader will join the bus at Bear St Cemetery	SS 561 330	11.20	N/A	7	A LINEAR WALK from Goodleigh Cross to Combe Cross & and farm, Westacott, Ackland Barton, Landkey, Tarka Trail to Bishops Tawton to Rock Park, Barnstaple.	John	01271 523158
Sunday 24th April	Georgeham C/P	SS 465 398	10.30	N/A	10	Saunton Court, Baggy Point, Pickwell Manor. Fields, coastal paths, some road walking.	Jan	07972 455331
Wednesday 27th April	Brownsham NT C/P	SS 286 260	10.30	N/A	6.25	Woodland tracks, fields, lanes & coastpath. Steady ascents & descents.	Margaret	07870 472536

MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER MATTERS

We will continue to send you an e-mail when a new programme or a group newsletter has been posted. Please let us know if you change your email address.

We are no longer able to change your personal details with Ramblers central office on your behalf and you need to do this yourself, either online or by calling the Membership Services Team on 020 3961 3232 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

Our group is signed up with **Ramblers Worldwide Holidays Walking Partnership Scheme**. This means that if you tell RWH that you are a member of the North Devon Group when you book your holiday our group will benefit by £10, £20 or £30 per holidaymaker with no extra cost to you. This also applies to Adagio Holidays.

RAMBLERS' TIPS

The North Devon Group warmly welcomes new members. Non-members, especially visitors, are welcome to join our walks, which are free. Just turn up!

We do however ask regular walkers to join the Ramblers' after 3 walks with us.

Always have strong footwear and carry waterproof clothing.

Bring a packed lunch for early starts.

Dogs must be kept on a lead whilst walking across farmland and under Complete Control at all times!

The Group will move off at the start time indicated for each walk. You should be ready at least 5 minutes before the start to allow for notices to be read and the address by the walks' leader



**PLEASE CHECK THE BUS TIMES
WITH THE TIMETABLE!**

Not available when going to print with this Walks Programme. Thank-you!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES



Coffee morning – It was great to see lots of people at the November coffee morning. Do come and join us on the first Thursday of the month, 10.30 at Queen Anne's café in Barnstaple. **(Restarting February 2022)**



18 December - 7th January – Winter Walking Festival.

18th January 2022 – Group committee meeting. Suggestions and comments (and visitors) welcome.

26th March 2022 - Walk Leaders Day – With cake! at Fremington Parish Hall. Details to follow.

30th April – 2nd May 2022 A scaled down launch of the Dartmoor Way with a series of walks lead by Devon Rambler groups over the 3 days. North Devon leading a walk on Monday 2nd May.

12th June 2022 (provisional). Group lunch – a very belated Xmas get together. (Xmas pudding optional)

3rd August 2022 - North Devon Show. Can you help with the stall for a couple of hours, chatting to people and sharing your love of walking?

23rd January - Lunch to thank Mike Long for his enormous contribution to N Devon Ramblers. Numbers limited to 40. Please contact Lynne Clement by Friday 14th Jan, at the latest, if you would like to come.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair	Clarice Harwood	07972 510 903	clarice.d@btinternet.com
Secretary	Janice Hurdle	07765 091 260	janicehurdle@hotmail.co.uk
Membership Secretary	Clarice Harwood	07972 510 903	clarice.d@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Ruth Rouxel	07895 547 009	rouxels@cwgsy.net
Footpath Officer (North Devon)	Jon Bennett	01271 375 906	jontybennett@hotmail.com
Footpath Officer (Torrige)	Mike Kelly	07495 048 339	michael.p.kelly@talk21.com
Walks Programme Secretary	Gillian Gooch	01271 379 466	gg.act@btinternet.com
Minute Secretary	Lynne Clement	07757 384 893	lynnecllement@hotmail.com
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IT & Web Editor	Peter Loombe	07453 194 985	ploombe@yahoo.co.uk
WhatsApp Manager	Anne Hunnibell	07592 880 760	

FOOTPATH PROBLEMS!

If you encounter problems with footpaths, broken stiles, obstructions, overgrown access etc then please contact either: **Mike Kelly or Jon Bennett** (see contacts on this page)

Roughly speaking, Mike covers Torridge and Jon North Devon, including Exmoor NP. Please try and provide as much detail as possible such as Grid reference, Footpath No, Parish and even a photo will help! Doing this will make the task of pursuing the complaint with the correct authorities quicker and easier to rectify. If you check out the Devon County Council interactive map at:-

www.devon.gov.uk/prow and click on the 'interactive map' you can find the footpath Number and parish.

If you are a map enthusiast, you will find it fascinating.

MEMBERSHIP

ENQUIRIES

contact Clarice Harwood

or visit

www.ramblers.org.uk/north-devon