



EXETER RAMBLING CLUB

Affiliated to the Ramblers Association and HF Holidays



October 2017

Hello to all our members. We now have 57 of you, including 5 lifetime members. Please continue to promote our club whenever you can and invite any of your friends, family members, colleagues and acquaintances to sample our walks and consider joining us.

Sad News Again

It is another sad loss to hear the news of Janice Baker's passing, after a relatively short illness. She had very much enjoyed exploring our home county of Devon and beyond, over her years with the club, and will be missed. Helen sent a card on behalf of the Club to her family. Her funeral service will be held at Exeter Crematorium on Monday 30th October at 12:30pm.

Autumn Walking Programme

You will find an attached programme for the period November 2017 – to January 2018. We are offering a good selection of Sunday walks of different lengths, together with the monthly Thursday walks with a pub lunch.

Annual Club Outing, 2017

This year's club outing to Wells was enjoyed by all who went on it. The weather was not as perfect as in previous years and fingers were kept firmly crossed all day that the rain would hold off. It worked and, although there were strong and quite cold winds, there were no raindrops. Christabel led a 9-mile walk which afforded splendid views of Glastonbury and beyond. There was a shorter option of 4.5 miles, which was taken by five walkers, and seven people chose just to explore the town and its environs. Committee members work hard to ensure that the annual outing offers something for everyone. If you have any ideas or requests for next year, please do let us know.

Walker's Tale: North Devon Weekend, written by Kathy

Once again for the first weekend in September, Andrew and Lesley had kindly organised a club weekend away in North Devon, based at Morteheo. We were all looking forward to it, especially those who love camping, as the plan was to camp at Damage Barton where Andrew and Lesley had stationed their camper van. There was one person not so keen on camping who managed to book a lovely B&B nearby too. However, there was appalling weather predicted for early Saturday morning and all day Sunday. Unfortunately the forecasters got it right this time, so the camping was cancelled.

Saturday was a most beautiful day and Nigel and I drove up to find Andrew and Lesley first. Then found Janet and Julia R (who had driven up for the day) already sitting in the posh camper van enjoying lunch in style at Croyde Bay N.T. car park. After lunch we did a splendid walk around Baggly Point on the S.W. Coast path. It needed to be fairly short as curry on the beach at Barricane

is extremely popular so we needed to be there promptly by 6pm. Also, we could not miss tea, could we! After dashing back to respective abodes to don warmer clothing we hurried back to meet up with Janet and Julia who were already queuing for the curry! Thank you, both, as it was crowded and rumour had it that they might run out of food! The beach is a beautiful, sheltered cove surrounded by mammoth rocks with the small cook-shed perched on the cliff. There were even a few hearty people swimming - and without wet suits too. I was not expecting much but the curry was actually delicious. Perhaps the joy of sitting on that beautiful beach on a beautiful evening, in such good company also helped it seem so tasty.

Altogether it was a wonderful day and it is sad that others missed out. Janet and Julia drove home and Andrew and Lesley, and Nigel and I went back to our cosy beds. Our B&B room had a view of the sea, supposedly, but in the morning the rain was blowing sideways in the gale and there was no sea to be seen. Once we set off for home, our SatNav (a new toy) was determined we should not go through Braunton but back to Barnstable - so took us via a single track road with grass down the middle. When we hit a ford with a rocky ledge the other side and then a dirt road as well, we decided probably it was preferable to go through Braunton. I did think the SatNav very clever to realise that there is always a traffic jam in Braunton, or perhaps it was just trying to persuade us to take the shortest route...?

So, many thanks to Andrew and Lesley. It was a great time and so unfair that the weather scuppered their well-thought-out plans again! Third time lucky next year maybe?

Would you like to contribute an item of news or advertise an event in a future newsletter? We would like to have any *Walker's Tales*, *Favourite Item in your Rucksack*, pieces for the *Ask Arthur Corner*, or just about anything else of relevance or interest to club members.

Please send suggestions or contributions to Julia H and Janet at julia.rambling@outlook.com

