

**EXMOOR SOCIETY GUIDED WALKS 2021**

**Saturday 24th April 2021, 11.00am – 1.30pm |The Lost Village of Clicket, nr. Luxborough**

150 years ago five families lived in a remote Somerset valley then, in the space of two years, they vanished. This beautiful stream-side walk takes us to the lost village of Clicket, past the quarries and the mill where its inhabitants made their living, to tell the story of life in one of the Exmoor’s most remote villages. We will walk through magnificent beech woods, past Croydon House, Exmoor’s finest Jacobean house, and then back through the woods to Luxborough.

3mls/2.5hrs. Dogs welcome

Meet 11am Nurcott Farm, Luxborough TA23 0SU – SS 96848 38689

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Friday 7th May 2021, 10am – 2.00pm | Ashley Combe Landscape Restoration in Culbone Wood**

This walk will follow the South West Coast Path from Ashley Combe to Culbone Church and back, looking at the work to restore some of the surviving features of the Ada Lovelace era designed landscape. We will also discover some of the earlier history and management of these fascinating coastal woodlands. The grounds of Ashley Combe are private so we will not be accessing this area but we will be able to get a good impression from the SW Coast Path and land the ENPA owns.

3mls/4hrs. Dogs on leads

Meet 10.00am Worthy Combe Toll Gate car park (£2 fee) TA24 8PG

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Friday 14th May 2021, 11am – 1.30pm | Molland Church and Moor**

Hugh Harrison, an internationally known expert in the conservation of historic structural and decorative woodwork, who lives locally, will provide a short insight into the medieval church of St Mary, Molland, following which there will be a 2 hour, circular walk to Molland Moor (optional). Hugh will also be speaking about his work on Wednesday 12th May during Simonsbath Festival.

Meet 11am at St Mary’s Church, Molland EX36 3NG. Parking at the church / in village hall car park.

Lunch can be booked at the London Inn, next to the church, Covid restrictions permitting.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL for the talk and walk, using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Saturday 22nd May 2021, 11.00am – 1.30pm |The Lost Village of Clicket, nr. Luxborough** (repeat)

150 years ago five families lived in a remote Somerset valley then, in the space of two years, they vanished. This beautiful stream-side walk takes us to the lost village of Clicket, past the quarries and the mill where its inhabitants made their living, to tell the story of life in one of the Exmoor’s most remote villages. We will walk through magnificent beech woods, past Croydon House, Exmoor’s finest Jacobean house, and then back through the woods to Luxborough.

3mls/2.5hrs. Dogs welcome

Meet 11am Nurcott Farm, Luxborough TA23 0SU – SS 96848 38689

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 26th May 2021, 10am – 1.00pm | Porlock's Coastal Wildlife - May**

A spectacular circling walk starting in the picturesque village of Bossington, via the dramatic cliffs at Hurlstone Point, continuing around the sweeping shingle ridge and across the ever-changing saltmarsh. The walk will provide many opportunities to discover coastal and marine wildlife, historic landscape features and the dynamic morphology of this nationally important coastline.

3mls/3hrs. No dogs.

Meet 10.00am at the National Trust car park in Bossington village TA24 8H

Refreshments available at Kitnor’s Tearoom, Bossington, subject to Covid restrictions.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Thursday 27th May 2021, 10.30am – 12.30pm | Crofts and Castles - Exploring John Knight’s forgotten buildings**

Exmoor’s moorland landscape is not associated with buildings, but in 1819 John Knight began erecting little ‘Scottish’ crofts across his Exmoor estate. Join Rob Wilson-North and Tom Thurlow for this exploration, which is linked to a Simonsbath Festival event the evening before (26th May). It begins with a tour of the recently conserved White Rock Cottage in Simonsbath and then ventures out through Ashcombe Gardens to consider the landscape John Knight was set on creating and to discover the traces of another ‘croft’ in a remote moorland valley.

4mls/4hrs. Dogs on leads.

Meet 11am at Ashcombe Car Park, Simonsbath TA24 7SH. Bring a packed lunch.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Saturday 5th June 2021, 11.30am – 3.30pm | Knights and knights on Exmoor**

Starting near Alderman’s Barrow, on this walk we will find evidence of knights from the Bronze, Mesolithic, Medieval, Victorian and 20th Century ages. At Larkbarrow we will hear about the Knights who tried to reclaim the moor and we will find evidence of World War Two’s impact on Exmoor. We will have a picnic lunch at Three Coombes foot, which is a good place to see red deer.

5mls/3hrs + lunch stop. Dogs on leads. Bring your picnic.

Meet 11.30am Alderman’s Barrow **CATTLE GRID** SS 835 422 (TA24 7NL approx.)

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Thursday 10th June 2021, 10.30am – 1pm | Ley Hill Medieval Settlement**

A walk with a knowledgeable leader to the deserted medieval settlement on Ley Hill, excavated during archaeological evaluation work for the National Trust. There are the remains of a hamlet of seven buildings, surviving as low stony banks, though no documented history survives. The buildings are grouped along a former route from Exford to Porlock, and are associated with a field system nearby. There are some steep climbs.

This walk links to the talk in Simonsbath Festival on ‘Landscape Archaeology on Exmoor’ on Wednesday 9th, 7.30pm.

3mls/2.5mls. No dogs.

Meet 10.30am Horner Village National Trust car park (fee payable for non-NT members) TA24 8HY.

Refreshments available at Horner Tea Rooms, subject to Covid restrictions.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Tuesday 15th June 2021, 10am – 12.30pm | Historic Lynton and the Valley of Rocks**

A fascinating 2.5-hour walk from the Valley of Rocks into Lynton and back, to look from a different angle at how the Victorians influenced what we see today and how they were drawn to this majestic coastline and the splendour of the Valley of Rocks.

2.5 mls/2.5 hours.

Meet 10am Valley of Rocks ENPA car park & picnic area (car park near public toilets). EX35 6JH / SS 7113 4968.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 23rd June 2021, 10am – 1pm | Hope Bourne in Withypool**

A walk around the Withypool area in the footsteps of Exmoor artist and author, Hope Bourne, taking in some of her favourite views from her writings. A moderate walk with some parts rough underfoot and steep in places; possible extension onto Withypool Hill. Followed by optional refreshments in Withypool tea rooms (Covid restrictions permitting) or bring a picnic.

3mls/2.5hrs.

Meet 10.30am Withypool car park TA24 7RA

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 7th July 2021, 10.30am – 12.30pm | Murder and Mystery at Wheal Eliza**

On this short walk along the River Barle, hear the history of the Knight family, mining in this part of Exmoor and the tragic murder and mystery at Wheal Eliza. One or two short climbs but overall an easy walk along the valley. Return to Simonsbath for optional pub lunch or bring a picnic.

2.5hrs/2.5miles. Dogs on leads.

Meet 10.30am, Ashcombe Car Park, Simonsbath TA24 7SH. (SS 775 394)

Refreshments available afterwards at the Exmoor Forest Inn, Simonsbath, subject to Covid restrictions.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Friday 9th July 2021, 1pm – 3pm | Hawcombe Nature Reserve Butterflies**

This walk with ENPA Woodland Officer, Graham McVittie, will look at some of the coppice management work in this National Nature Reserve to help the recovery of the heath fritillary butterfly (aka the Woodman’s Follower), though sight of the butterfly is entirely weather dependent. We will follow a circular route through the woods to see other butterflies, including the silver washed fritillary (hopefully).

3mls/2hrs. Dogs on leads.

Meet Car-park on south of A39, 400m west of cattle grid at top of Porlock Hill. TA24 8LT but do not go down to Bromham Farm.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 14th July 2021, 10am – 1pm | Porlock's Coastal Wildlife - July**

A spectacular circling walk starting in the picturesque village of Bossington, via the dramatic cliffs at Hurlstone Point, continuing around the sweeping shingle ridge and across the ever-changing saltmarsh. The walk will provide many opportunities to discover coastal and marine wildlife, historic landscape features and the dynamic morphology of this nationally important coastline.

3mls/3hrs. No dogs.

Meet 10.00am at the National Trust car park in Bossington village TA24 8H

Refreshments available at Kitnor’s Tearoom, Bossington, subject to Covid restrictions.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Tuesday 3rd August 2021, 10.00am – 12.30pm | Historic Lynton and the Valley of Rocks - August**

A fascinating 2.5-hour walk from the Valley of Rocks into Lynton and back, to look from a different angle at how the Victorians influenced what we see today and how they were drawn to this majestic coastline and the splendour of the Valley of Rocks.

2.5 mls/2.5 hours.

Meet: 10am Valley of Rocks ENPA car park & picnic area (car park near public toilets). EX35 6JH / SS 7113 4968.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Tuesday 10th August 2021, 10am – 1pm |** **North Hill with a Compass**

This walk is designed to demonstrate map and compass navigation on the open moorland of North Hill (please bring a compass if you have one; there will be a few spares on the day). We will also visit some of the remains of the WWII tank training ground, and if there is time we will return on the contour path around Bratton Ball.

4-5mls/3hrs. Dogs on leads.

Meet 10.00am at the old tank training ground car park on North Hill (SS 9547 4746).

Directions: leave Minehead on Moor Rd (becomes Hill Rd), pass the camping club site, then 1/4 mile later turn right on a wide concrete drive (not the gravel track). TA24 5LB will take you on to Hill Road.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 18th August 2021, 2pm – 4.30pm |** **The Natural Capital assets of Molland Moor and Exmoor**

A walk around Molland Moor to consider the topical subject of Natural Capital Assets and how Exmoor contributes to them. What are the benefits from this wild environment to visitors and the wider public? The walk will be over rough moorland going.

3mls/2.5hrs. Dogs on leads.

Meet 2pm at Molland Moor Gate (between Molland and Anstey Commons). SS 835 298 – approx. postcode TA22 9QT.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Wednesday 8th September 2021, 7pm – 9.30pm | The Bats of Horner Wood**
Fifteen of the seventeen known species of bat can be found in Horner Wood. On this evening walk you will learn more about bats from an expert ecologist and take a fascinating evening stroll along the valley bottom, beside the Horner Water. We will watch to see emerging bats as they forage in and around the tree canopy, and with the aid of sophisticated bat detectors, you will also get the chance to hear them as they hunt for flying insects. Bring a torch.
1-1.5 miles. No dogs.
Meet 7pm Horner National Trust car park (Fee for non-NT members) TA24 8HY / SS 898456

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL using the form on the Exmoor Society website page for this walk.

**Participants take part in events at their own risk. BOOKING IS REQUIRED on the Exmoor Society website page for each walk - www.exmoorsociety.com/events/category/events.**

**Our guided walks are free to members and non-members alike but donations are welcomed to cover administration and printing costs.**

**The Exmoor Society | 01398 323335 |** **info@exmoorsociety.com**