

Wednesday April 20th 2016 - C2C with Chris and Mike

THE DEVON COAST TO COAST

Stage 3 Ivybridge to Holne



Third outing for my pebble picked up at Wembury.

Eight of us set off from Newton Poppleford at 8.30 to meet up at Holne where an eight seater taxi took us back to Ivybridge where we had finished Stage 2.

A bit tricky finding the route out of Ivybridge but we were soon on our way knowing we had a long uphill climb. The wind blew for most of the walk and we were very glad of our modern windproof jackets. Chris set off in his polo shirt and shorts but before too long out came his fleece and ski mitts though we had the 'pleasure' of his knobbly knees throughout the walk!



Finally at midday Chris gave in to our pleas 'Is it Coffee time yet' and after a quick refuel off we set again onwards and upwards.

There was a short discussion as to whether we should climb to the ridge or take a longer more sheltered walk. We carried on to the ridge and were rewarded with soaring skylarks, nearly gale force winds and fantastic views across Dartmoor and beyond.

We looked down at Piles Copse – one of the last 3 ancient woodlands on Dartmoor

At 2 o'clock we stopped for lunch on a sheltered grassy bank having covered 6.5 miles

The next part of the walk was along a stony track, one shouldn't say any

part of the moor is monotonous but this came close! I think we were all glad when the path finished and we struck out over the grass, successfully crossing some patches of bogs and streams

We made our way down through Scoriton village and stopped for tea at Chalk Ford – a really pretty area with a lovely stream running through it

A really interesting day – many thanks to Chris (and Graham) for so skilfully guiding us.

Sue Newman

27th April 2016