

Friday 15th September, "Exmoor, the Quantocks and the Brendon Hills" with Peter Paine

Five go swimming in Somerset !!!

A select group arrived at Monksilver from where our leader, Peter, had arranged a wonderful walk on seldom used tracks and paths taking in glorious views of Exmoor, the Quantocks and the Brendon Hills. First we were led steadily up a long uphill path to glorious views of the Bristol Channel and Wales beyond. The fine weather was just right for the walk but with thunder rolling along in the distance it was touch and go to see if we would stay dry!

Our route took us to the very pleasant Valiant Soldier public house in Roadwater where we were able to enjoy a drink and our picnic lunch under cover. By now we were only too aware that the weather was turning against us but onwards and upwards we went. The thunder rolled in and for an hour we endured monsoon conditions (at one stage taking refuge in Roadwater village shop on our return circuit). It seemed as if we were swimming uphill as we rose once more to splendid views of the Quantocks and when fortunately the conditions improved enormously we had a very pleasant last leg along the Woodford Valley back into Monksilver where we dried off and enjoyed very welcome tea and cake at the Notley Arms.

Ervine Kewley