

Saturday 24th February, “Two Rivers Way” with Mike Paddison

On this very cold but sunny day a group of keen walkers caught a bus from Exeter heading to Stoke Canon. On previous trips there had been concern over flood water in the nearby flood plains necessitating a change of route but on this occasion we were in luck. The only thing preventing us from racing ahead towards the River Exe was the level crossing that closed its gates just as we approached. So we took the time to admire the impressive thatched roof on a nearby medieval cottage while the train approached and departed.



The weather was glorious, not a cloud in the sky as we headed across the fields towards the River Exe.



Crossing the bridge we walked through the villages of Bramford Speke and Upton Pyne passing the field with alpacas in it. Our coffee break took place in the shelter of a large open barn.



After coffee we approached a notoriously muddy field that has a brook running across it, but it was dry, so we quickly headed towards the railway line and the River Creedy. It was then a gentle amble along the banks of the river on our way to the famous Beer Engine pub at Newton St Cyres. Boots were cleaned using the water tap outside and then we all headed inside for lunch. They always serve good food and drink here and we weren't disappointed.

Sometime later we headed home on the bus feeling well satisfied, and there still wasn't a cloud in the sky.

Many thanks to Mike Paddison for leading such an interesting walk.

Stella French