

Thursday, 24th March “A walk from Broadhembury and a glide back” with Jane Kewley

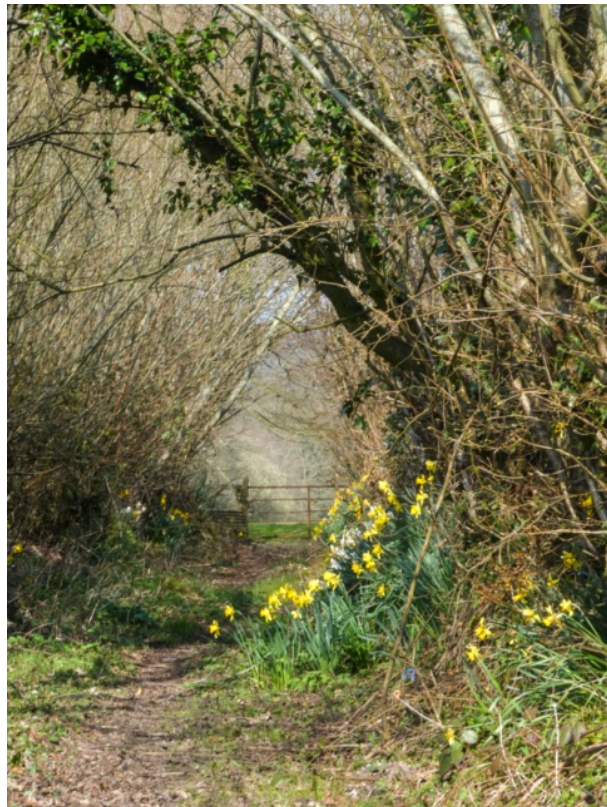
The promise of a fine sunny day enticed seventeen keen walkers to join Jane on her walk, which started in the very picturesque village of Broadhembury with its numerous thatched and cob cottages. We first walked to the village of Kerswell, through fields of sheep and quiet lanes. Then up to the hamlet of Orwell, mentioned in the Domesday book in 1086 as a settlement in the hundred of Silverton. There were 8 villagers, 6 small holders and 1 slave and the tenant-in-chief was Alfred of Spain. The annual value when acquired was one pound ten shillings.



Some more climbing brought us to Saint Hill where we stopped for refreshments in the grounds of the Baptist church, a very pleasant spot with fine views of the surrounding countryside. Then a final push to the start of the woods and Rhododendron Wood, a flat walk which took us to the perimeter of the Devon and Somerset gliding club airfield. Once we reached the road we started our descent and after a grand total of twelve stiles, some of which were the highest I have ever encountered, we caught sight of St Andrew's church back in Broadhembury with its 30 metre high tower.



It was lovely to see all the Devon banks bursting with spring flowers of primroses, lesser celandine and daffodils, to see the birds flying around busy building their nests and the lambs frolicking in the fields.



Several of us stopped for a late lunch in the Drewe Arms next to the church. Thank you, Jane, for an interesting walk in an unfamiliar area.

Heather Fereday

