

WALK REPORT 18 FEBRUARY 2025 THE SIDMOUTH RING

Western half – Sidmouth to Sidbury

On a dry but cold and breezy morning, 16 people set off from the Triangle and walked up The Goyle to the Bickwell Valley, admiring some of the impressive early C20 houses built by R W Sampson. We then came across a rather large puddle which almost overtopped our boots.



The people wearing wellies were rather smug at this point. Some even had to take a detour, and then got lost for a short while, but we met up below the old railway bridge in Ice House Lane. We had a quick coffee break in the play and exercise ground before a fairly stiff climb up Core Hill Lane to the woodlands of Core Hill. We managed to avoid further boggiess by keeping on the lane up to Fire Beacon Hill, and not following the official route to the West. Soon we were on the East Devon Way, with a lovely lunch stop at White Cross, and a spectacular view across the valley to Ottery St Mary. However it was a little misty to pick out much far detail, but the sun tried to come out and we were in good shelter from the easterly wind. After lunch we headed down hill and into the ancient village of Sidbury, just in time to hop on the No. 9 bus back to Sidmouth. An excellent walk enjoyed by all, many thanks to Iain for leading the walk.