

## **PRESS RELEASE: Exmoor Society 2018 Walks Programme announced**

The Exmoor Society has just released details of its 2018 guided walks programme from April until October. The programme provides a wonderful opportunity to walk through the splendour of Exmoor's diverse landscapes including the moorlands, coast, woodland, river valleys and farmland. Starting from different locations across Exmoor and in the company of knowledgeable and welcoming guides, the walks also provide opportunities to increase fitness, wellbeing and to enjoy other peoples' company. The wide variety of interests covered by the walks include:

- nature walks investigating the special lower plant flora (the lichens, mosses, liverworts and ferns) of Exmoor's Atlantic woodlands, the bluebells in Burridge Woods and the visiting cuckoos on Molland Moor.
- accompanying the experts to learn how the ecology and management of woodlands are helping the heath fritillary butterfly and the rare pied flycatcher and how to detect and identify bats as they hunt insects in Horner Woods.
- for history lovers, there is the opportunity to discover John Knight's uncompleted garden landscape at Simonsbath, hear the knights' tales through the ages, explore ancient barrows and other prehistoric sites, learn about mining projects, the tragic murder of little Anna Maria Burgess and Hope Bourne's extraordinary life and love of Exmoor.
- even joining a walk to find out about Exmoor's water improvement project, and how the community came together on the Longstone Landscape Project.

Chairman of the Society, Rachel Thomas said, "In the Society's special 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year the wonderfully diverse programme is only possible through the generosity of walk leaders in sharing their time, expertise and passion for Exmoor. It pays tribute to all those who lead walks in all weathers and in all places."

There is no charge for the walks but a small donation is welcomed from non-members. Some walks end with an optional pub lunch or afternoon tea - welcome post-walk refreshments! For full details visit [www.exmoorsociety.com](http://www.exmoorsociety.com) or 34 High Street, Dulverton. For any queries, contact [info@exmoorsociety.com](mailto:info@exmoorsociety.com) or 01398 323335. The Society looks forward very much to welcoming you along.

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