



Following Mike Wynne-Powell's showing of pictures of Ringmore and its residents we were asked the reason for our walking gear and obvious interest being shown by these who had gathered to see us on our way. Our interest in Long Distance Walking started with a course on Dartmoor. Stan then joined me in a night time orienteering course using compass bearings and survival techniques should the notorious Dartmoor mists descend, there were no mobile phones. We subsequently walked from Oakhampton to Ivybridge spending one night on the moors. We started at 7am on a lovely sunny morning. By mid morning on Fur Tor the mist rolled in and the rest of the day we had to use compass bearings which we had already marked on the map.

It was suggested that sponsorship for the church rewiring would be a good idea, which is what we did. We collected stamps from the four Letter Boxes, which are shown on the Dartmoor map, to create an interest and show that we had not just spent the weekend at the Two Bridges Hotel!

We thought that as the good people of Ringmore were involved in this walk and the next one, which was also sponsored from the church organ fund, hopefully you would be interested how we got on.

The walk on Dartmoor gave us the urge to go further afield, (especially as Stan had just retired) back packing on the South West Way.

The picture is when we started from Ringmore in 1987 to walk to Poole. The completed walk is from Minehead to Poole on the coastal path.

The South West Way is about 613 miles and it is estimated, using a contour count, that anyone completing the Way will have climbed 91,000 feet. 3 times the height of Everest. We didn't know that when we started!

(Fools rush in - - - -)

We bought a back packing tent which weighed under 4lb and mainly ROHAN clothing which is very light eight, wind proof and dries very quickly. To keep the weight down we put together what we thought we needed then took half of it away.

We had a lovely send off from the shop (it was quite a surprise). Reg Trant walked with us to Toby's Point. The weather was good. We crossed the Avon by ferry. By lunch time we were battling against strong winds and driving rain and sheltered in the lee of Hope Cove Coastguard Station. The fog came down and we lost the path on Bolt Head. Eventually we reached South Sands very wet, mainly because we hadn't put our waterproofs on in time (first lesson!) We decided to have B&B as it was still raining. Our hosts were very kind, lending dry clothes and running a bath. We had a meal in the pub and slept in the last bed for a fortnight.

The next day did we get the bus back to Ringmore?

RINGMORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday March 17th

7.30pm

IN THE W.I HALL

Remarkable women of Devon

An illustrated talk by Dr Todd Gray

All Welcome



Enjoy an

Easter Cream Tea

Easter Sunday &
Monday from 3.15 to
5.30 p.m.

Ringmore
W.I. Hall

A treat for the whole family