

Walk the Netherexe Parishes Churches: Part 1 Newton St Cyres to Huxham

The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter

1. Leave Newton St Cyres church car park and bear right into Church Lane. Walk downhill to the end of the lane, turn left, and walk towards the A377 road to Crediton, passing the Parish Hall on your right-hand side [RHS]. Cross the A377 using the Pelican Crossing, look to your left and walk directly into the walled passage that leads into "Court Orchard" retirement bungalows. Bear left, walking diagonally across the estate until reaching the road for Sweetham and the "Beer Engine" pub. Turn right and walk past the new school [RHS] and on to the bridge over the river Creedy.
2. At the bridge there is a footpath sign to your right, go down the steps and walk along the river Creedy for approximately 1 mile until you reach a gate with a bridge to your RHS. Turn left and follow the footpath, crossing the Exeter-Barnstaple train line [Tarka Line] continue on the path until you emerge on to the road in Langford village.
3. Turn left, walk down the road until you see Langford House [tall white imposing house] on your RHS and there is a public footpath sign at the side of Langford House into Bidwell Lane. Follow the lane, passing through the first five-bar gate, walk to the end of the lane and you will see a galvanised kissing gate to your RHS with a public footpath sign. Go through the gate and then walk diagonally [to your right] across the field; you will see Our Lady's Church in the distance. As you draw level with Glebelands Farmhouse look for a small gate on your left [after you have passed the farm buildings] into a path that leads into Upton Pyne churchyard.
4. Leave Upton Pyne churchyard by the main lychgate, turn left and walk downhill through the village until you see a public footpath sign on your RHS signed. Walk down this path, ignoring the first footpath sign to your left and carry straight on over a small railway sleeper bridge. Follow the path along the next couple of fields and you will see a wood in the distance. Keep walking down the edge of the field [hedgerow on your RHS] until you see a small gate and wooden bridge on your RHS. Go through this and continue to follow the path across a couple of uncultivated fields [there are some bridges and raised walkways you can use if it is wet] and follow the path through to Brampford Speke.
5. As you emerge on to the road at Brampford Speke, turn left and you will see St Peter's Church in the distance on your right. Walk along the road, and just before the Agricultural Inn [refreshments available], turn right into Church Drive for St Peter's Church.
6. Walk through the churchyard of St Peter's, round to the left of the main door, and head towards the back of the church. You will see a small gate leading into a walled path shaded by trees. Follow this path until you emerge via a lychgate onto the road behind Brampford Speke school. Turn right and head steeply downhill [there will be a tall wall on your left-hand side (LHS)] until you reach the wooden bridge over the river Exe.
7. Cross the bridge, turn right and follow the path until you reach the old railway line [dismantled] and walk along this until you reach the level crossing in Stoke Canon [approximately 0.75 mile]. Cross the level crossing and bearing left walk towards the main A396 Exeter-Tiverton Road until you reach the post office, opposite the Stoke Canon Inn [refreshments available in post office & pub]. Turn left and then cross the A396 using the Pelican crossing and continue in the direction of Tiverton and St Mary Magdalene church will appear on your RHS.
8. Leave the churchyard via the lychgate, turn right and take the first right down the lane signed to Huxham & Poltimore. Walk down this lane for approximately 0.5 mile until you reach Barton Cross House and turn right at the sign for "Huxham Barns Industrial units". The churchyard wall will appear on RHS after 1-200 yards, follow this around to the right to arrive at St Mary the Virgin Church, Huxham.