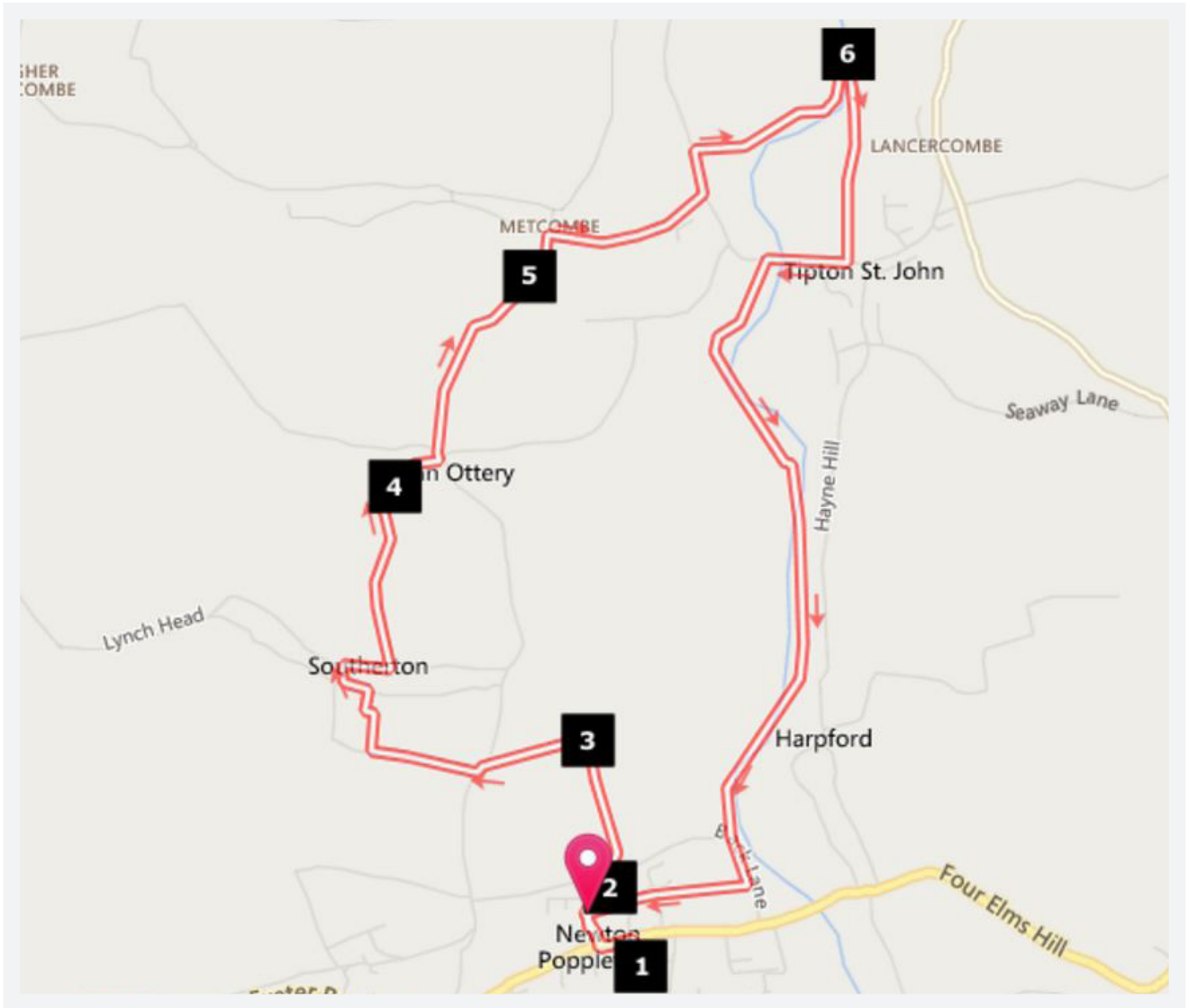
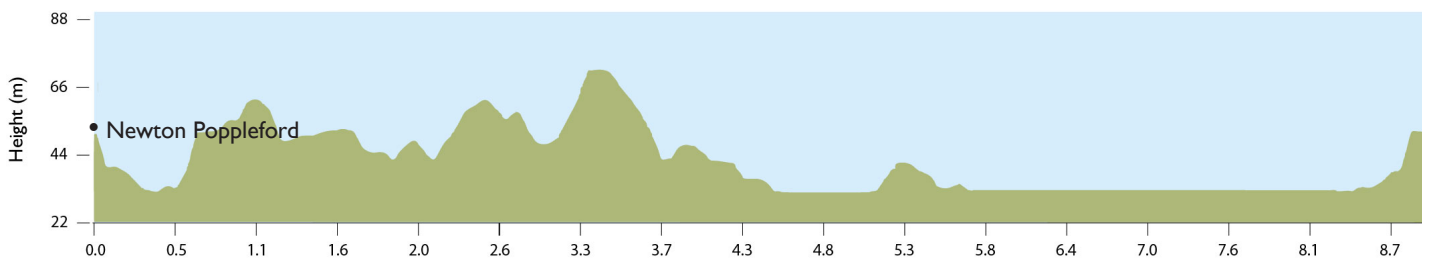


Circular 4

Newton Poppleford & River Otter Circular



Difficulty: Moderate
Walking time: 2 hours 45 minutes
Length: 8.8km / 5.5mi



Distance 8.76 km Ascent 128m Descent 131m

Circular Route 4

Newton Poppleford & River Otter Circular



Difficulty: Moderate

Walking time: 2 hours 45 minutes

Length: 8.8km / 5.5mi

Start location: Newton Poppleford village car park. SY086897.

Map: Explorer 115 Exmouth and Sidmouth

Route Summary: This walk will take you through the hamlet of Southerton and the villages of Venn Ottery and Tipton St John.

Description

[1] **Start from the free public car park in Newton Poppleford behind the church.** Take the footpath from the car park to the main road via the west side of the church and turn left (west) along the High Street. On reaching the Cannon Inn, cross the road and go down a footpath between houses. Cross brook on bridge to path T junction and turn right. Take the first path on the left to a road.

Newton Poppleford's claim to fame is the King Alfred daffodil which was first produced here at the end of the 19th century. The village was well known for its market gardens, some of which survive to this day.

Take care crossing the main road.

[2] **Cross the road onto a path between houses** coming shortly to another road where cross straight over through a metal gate. Proceed uphill through an orchard, towards the top of the hill, by a line of poplar trees, turn left onto the East Devon Way.

[3] **Follow the path over a stile and through a gate to a road.** Cross the road and take the lane opposite (west). After a lone house on the left, turn right onto a path over a stile. On reaching a lane turn left. At a road junction turn right and in a few yards turn right again on lane (east). Just before farm buildings turn left onto a track.

[4] **At T junction turn right past houses and go through a gap in the fence on the left and cross a small green towards Venn Ottery church.**

Take the path to the left of the church that comes out at a road, turn right. At next road junction, turn left (north) up a stony track. At the top of the hill turn right at T, then take the first footpath on the left.

St Gregory's Church is one of the older churches in Devon, with the Saxon church tower dating back to about 1095.

[5] **Follow path downhill, at path junction go ahead to a road where turn right.** Follow through to Tipton Vale and at road junction turn left. At the end of the houses, turn right onto a footpath and arrive at old railway line. Cross field ahead bearing left to arrive on river bank by Tipton Mill.

The old mill at Tipton has been partially restored and the water wheel on the north side of the building can still be seen. A recent addition to the mill leat has been an Archimedes screw which provides electricity for the adjacent feed mill. A little further north of here a fish pass has been installed to allow salmon to bypass the weir and journey upriver to spawn.

[6] **Cross the River Otter on wooden footbridge and turn right (south) along a footpath until it reaches the road in Tipton St. John village.** Turn right and cross the bridge and take a footpath on the left heading south along the river. Follow the river bank ignoring a footbridge on the left and arrive on a lane. Continue along lane to tennis courts where turn right along a path with a brook on the left. At houses keep on grass alongside brook to a road where turn left to a main road. Retrace your outward route back to the car park.

Route developer: James Baldwin

Route checker: Ted Swan