

## Ranger Report for Ugborough Parish from Ella Briens, May 2025

Firstly from the Ranger team and wider DNPA a huge thank you to the commoners of Dartmoor for their help, support, knowledge, assistance and hard work over the bank holiday weekend with the wildfire on the North Moor together with the Fire Service and local community.

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**Don't forget-** enews, Ranger and National P facebook, twitter, web-site

I have brought this years Enjoy Dartmoor publication - help yourself...

**The Ranger team** has some new team members – Sam LeBailley, Kit Hancock and Luke Engel. Working around this area are Rangers, Ella (Sector Ranger), Ethan (Assistant Ranger), bordered by Luke and Rob.

Our brilliant **Volunteer Wardens** help us out and continue to support Rangers in the Ugborough area like Marcus Bailey (who has recently become a SWLT Ranger based at Burrator), Tim Ferry, Gordon Flower, Nigel Philips, Ian Johnson, Pat Fizzsimmons and Tim Brook, Peter Smeardon and Jo Burgess and Jamie Halton - helping out with a whole variety of tasks such as moorland patrols, signage fabrication and installation, rights of way surveying and repairs, ditch digging, fire pit repairs and litter-picking, Youth Rangers and engagement events and shows. Regular volunteers for the Ranger team make up a significant proportion of the National Park volunteering effort and the current team of over 50 VW's contribute thousands of hours a year.

**Public Rights of Way** are still a priority work area for our team - regarding our bridleways, footpaths and byways - **See CamsWeb –** <https://prow.dartmoor.gov.uk> – where you can report a problem and track issues on Public Rights of way. Our Statutory Responsibilities under DCC are for the surfacing and roadside signage of rights of way. Other infrastructure such as gates and stiles are the responsibility of landowners - but we will work together to make improvements and are always looking to improve and upgrade routes within the resources we have. There are some good time lapse films of Ethan working locally – installing a hand rail and new sign by neighbouring parishes Harford bridge! This year we

already have some stiles to gates projects planned and footbridge replacement in the parish together with works on erosion.

**Rangers work hard to engage with the Public and share Key messages (part of visitor management) such as – Dogs on Leads, No Fires, Take your litter home, Share the Roads and Bridleways, Don't Feed the Ponies, Use a Campsite or Check where you can Camp.** The **Dartmoor Marshalls** are working with us from the end of the month over the Summer to boost numbers out on the ground. Currently we are continuing with our focus on 'dogs on leads' and 'no-fires' (strictly no open fires of any kind and a request not to use BBQ's) over the Summer. This echo's the Police's work with their 'take the lead initiative' and we have also partnered with the National Trust and the Dartmoor Livestock Protection's Karla Mckechnie – giving away leads and dog treats and spreading the word about livestock and ground nesting birds. This work backs up signs on the ground and information on our web page and facebook and the Enjoy Dartmoor magazine – please help yourself to a copy.

We also get involved with many other aspects of National Park like **Youth Rangers** and were out over Easter in nearby Pithill Woods improving footpaths by installing new boardwalks and gates.

We help out the **Headwaters Project** - Angelique, Kerry and Emily

From Kerry - Work on nearby Stall Moor (for Blatchford Estate ) has now been completed. It includes a cascade of substantial timber log dams and stone dams, tested already by the heavy rain last weekend, and the clearance of a moorland ditch to divert water away from the footpath and eventual risk of flooding to property. The work will be monitored to see if adjustments are needed and then phase 2 of the work will address the large volume of water now potentially entering the enclosed land as a result of this project.

From Emily - I have been running the Dartmoor Knowledge Network sessions in Ivybridge aimed at farmers and land owners in those parishes. The aim of these sessions is to bring those working on Dartmoor (in various capacities) round a pub table to share knowledge and explore how we can support one another.

This is the link to book a [Dartmoor Knowledge Network: Support for Dartmoor's Farmers and Landowners Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

Or alternatively they can email interest to [headwatersnfm@dartmoor.gov.uk](mailto:headwatersnfm@dartmoor.gov.uk)

Dartmoor Dynamic Landscape – Peter is talking about this project – it was great to see it in action with the horse-logging in Longtimber woods a few weeks ago.

We assist **Archaeology** and Ethan was out last month on Piles Hill working on the Stone Row.

Message from Max Piper - There are a number of parish boundary stones along the Harford and Ugborough boundary that are recumbent. I would be quite keen, if the landowners are, to stand some of these up. The main ones I can think of are the following:

[Harford/ Ugborough – BS No.30 Recumbent Post | Dartefacts](#)

[Harford/ Ugborough – BS No.54 Recumbent Post | Dartefacts](#)

[Harford/ Ugborough – BS No.78 Recumbent Post | Dartefacts](#)

For information, a link to the **Dartmoor Hill Farm Project** latest newsletter can be found here: [LATEST NEWS | Dartmoor Hill Farm Project](#)

We also assist the **Ecology** team and regularly work to manage area for wildlife like the helping implement the Horns and Dendles management plan with the help of volunteers.

**FIPL – Farming In Protected Landscapes** – It has been extended – see the website for info.

