



Another sunny one as 14 Mileaters plus “Pip” and “Molly” set off from The Elm Tree to explore some unfamiliar territory to the north of Langton Herring, thankfully a slight breeze accompanying us at the outset. Fine views from the lowly Rodden Ridge (and a hare) were enjoyed before battle was joined with a head high maize field – thankfully that well known African tribe helped us locate the faint track through.

A brief skirting of the hamlet of Rodden and then up again above Merry Hill Barn (used for the opening scenes of the more recent version of “Far from the Madding Crowd”), onwards to West Elworth and eventually another climb up to our coffee stop as we joined the Coast Path, with distant views out over the sea.

The heat was now beginning to take effect, and the final pull up into Langton Herring and the sanctuary of The Elm Tree, was tougher than expected, too much for one “Molly” who said no more and summoned a taxi to take her the last ¼ mile.

A welcome lunch and a few revivers soon sorted us all out.

Nick Priddle.