

Joy Hanson's Sponsored walk for two local churches

Pilgrim Joy Hanson is taking to the road again this Saturday 9 September for the annual Devon Historic Churches Ride and Stride event. This time Joy will not be on her trusty bike, having last year raised over £500 for St John's Bridgetown by cycling around all nine churches in the Totnes team with a river crossing by ferry.

With so many local churches dedicated to St Mary mother of Jesus , Joy is making a Marian Pilgrimage on foot to celebrate Mary's Birthday celebrated by Christians worldwide on Friday Sept. 8th. 'I shall be meditating on the remarkable life of this ordinary young Jewish woman chosen by God for an extraordinary job of bearing and raising a boy who grew up to become our Messiah. Starting at St Mary's Buckfast , then I will walk up to the lovely 11C church of St Mary's Rattery, down to new and old St Mary's Dartington , then to Totnes RC St Mary and St George . Of course St Mary's Totnes our old Priory Church is so important , then down for a cup of tea at our St Johns and out to St Mary's Berry Pomeroy if energy allows , about 12 miles! Sketching the statues and icons of Our Lady in each church will help me to write about this unique Mother of God for my next assignment in the course run by the School of Annunciation at Buckfast Abbey '

Joy is raising money by sponsorship for two local churches of her choice and Devon Historic Churches Trust . St Mary's Rattery is fundraising for restoration of their unique Scaffito plasterwork , whilst St John's Bridgetown are forging ahead with their Windows and Modernisation project. Both churches are also applying to the Devon Historic Churches for grants. Donations to St John's can be made directly by Just Giving, enter in St John's Totnes, and other donations welcomed by Joy on joyhansonuk@gmail.com

