



BIDEFORD BUZZ



A free community newsletter for Bideford, Northam, Appledore, Westward Ho!, Lundy and villages west as far as Hartland

Dear Reader ...

Times are hard as we're sure you know and Bideford Buzz is struggling for survival. So we are asking for your help ...

If you are a charity or local group who regularly gets a diary item or article consider sending us a small donation or better still pay for a box ad. Perhaps you would also like to consider an annual contribution towards the diary page.

We will continue to pursue grant funding from various bodies but any donation large or small will help us to continue to provide you with a local, unbiased, totally non-profit making newsletter for all the community of Bideford and District. If you would like to contribute in some way, or place an advertisement please contact me, Rose Arno via Bideford Library, New Road, Bideford EX39 2HR. Tel 01237 476075, email editor@Bidefordbuzz.org.uk.

VISIT OUR STALL AT THE NORTHAM SWAPS EVENT ON 26TH MARCH

Northam Community Swaps are hosting a Charity Table Top Sale on Saturday March 26th at Northam Community Centre from 10am to 12pm. Many local charities will be selling items to raise funds, including Appledore RNLI, Guide Dogs, Bideford Town Band, North Devon Animal Ambulance, Friends of St Margaret's School, Hartland Wildlife Rescue, Harbour Bideford, The Donkey Sanctuary, Cruse Bereavement Care and Seize the Moment.

Bideford Buzz will be selling photos from its archives and shipping news memorabilia.

So come and give these good causes your support.

For further information telephone 01237 423292, email northamswaps@fsmail.net or visit www.northamcommunityswaps.co.uk.



See page 2 for our article on Hares...

As Mad as a March Hare ?

© Tony Bates



North Devon Print

Digital Printing and More ...
Unit 4 Daddon Court, Clovelly Road Industrial Estate
Bideford, North Devon EX39 3HN
Telephone: 01237 472277



Devon Community Foundation
Helping local people

Hare today - gone tomorrow?

When did you last see a hare? Towards the end of the Victorian era their boxing antics were a familiar sight to many a countryside walker, but the national hare population has plummeted by at least 80% during the past century. The latest reliable population estimate following a national survey by the University of Bristol in 1998 was 730,000. Putting that figure into perspective - the wild rabbit population is estimated at 40 million.



The reasons for the decline are not entirely clear, but changed farming practices and patterns of land use have certainly been major factors. Here in the west country hares are particularly scarce and the switch from haymaking to silage production on dairy farms has been bad news. Many baby hares, or leverets, are killed by silage cutting machinery as they wait in grass fields for their mothers to return at dusk to give them their single daily feed. Cut just once a year, traditional hay meadows also provided hares with a range of food plants maturing over a long period, but 95% of hay meadows have been lost since World War II.

Hares are at least twice the size of a rabbit and the females are on average 10% larger than the males. Hares are reddish brown in colour whereas rabbits are normally grey. Having much longer legs, hares run with a well developed stride whereas rabbits scamper along.

Hares always run with their tails down, displaying the black top, but rabbits run with their tails up, showing the white underside. A hare's ears are much longer than a rabbit's and are black tipped. Rabbits never venture far from cover, so if a long eared animal is seen near the centre of a field it will almost certainly be a hare.

Adult hares are supreme athletes and can run at 45mph - 50% faster than their main predator - the fox. Hares can be extremely courageous in defence of their young - there is a case on record of a mother fighting off a crow and a buzzard at the same time. Hares are also excellent swimmers, especially in search of one of their favourite plants the sea pea *Lathyrus maritima* - up to a mile has been recorded.

Hares are extremely popular animals with the public and many have written to us to express the thrill of seeing one. Hares are also popular with farmers, which is fortunate, since their fate depends very much on farming. Many Environmental Stewardship options are beneficial to hares. For example, if cereal stubbles are left overwinter and not sown to a new crop this provides hares with forage in sprouting spilled grain and also fresh weed growth.

And those boxing antics? Not a contest between rival males as previously thought, but more likely a female nearing ovulation but not quite ready to accept the male and boxing off his over-amorous advances.

Rodney Hale - Chairman, Hare Preservation Trust

An Ode to Public Libraries

I grew up with a library practically opposite my house; being a bookworm was unavoidable. As an avid little reader, the librarians let me have eight books out instead of the usual four. I did Book Track, and proudly received my golden badge for reading one hundred books. (I still have it somewhere). It was inevitable that I'd end up working at a library, and at seventeen, I did just that. It was pretty much my dream job: surrounded by as many books as I could get my hands on.

My love of libraries followed me to university at UEA in Norwich, where you could get lost in the aisles of obscure tomes in the campus library, or work on your essay by the desks overlooking the lake. Best of all was the gargantuan Millennium Library in the city centre, an impressive glass structure which was always full of activity. Clusters of teenagers in black browsed the Manga and graphic novels. The computer spaces were always busy, you could bring a coffee in and do some studying, borrow from the endless collection of DVDs and CDs, or do as I did, and find yourself blissfully lost down the winding shelves of fiction.

Call me sad, but libraries have been an integral part of my life, as a child, as a bookworm, as a teenager with my first job, and as a student. It saddens me to think these institutions are facing massive cuts, even closure, all over the country. Working in the library services has shown me the multitude of reasons why people come in: using the computers, going to Storytime with their children, up-to-date newspapers, DVDs and CDs, local information, to study, for the space to think, and of course, getting their teeth into a big stack of crime novels or the latest bestsellers. As understated as they can be, take away our libraries and you take away an integral part of society. For one person that might mean they can no longer get their favourite large print books, for another it might mean they can't access the internet, or have a place to take their children. I cannot imagine living in a library-less world!

Talitha Black

CEREMONY OF BIDEFORD MANOR COURT: 19 MARCH 2011

BIDEFORD residents are being called on to use an ancient right to make suggestions for town improvements. Opportunity is being made for members of the public to take an active involvement in the centuries-old Manor Court Ceremony. Currently held on a Saturday in March, the ceremony was originally held to allow townspeople to bring issues before the Lords of the Manor for consideration. Nowadays, their ideas or "presentments" as they are known are put to the Town Council, which has an obligation to consider them.

Now the Town Council is opening the way for public attendance and is also calling for ideas and projects that would make Bideford a better place for the community and tourists to be put forward. Any member of the public residing in the Parish of Bideford who wishes to submit a 'presentment', should do so by Tuesday 8 March 2011. The envelope should be marked for the attention of the Manor Steward.

Presentments submitted to the Town Council are considered by a chosen jury of 12 respected town residents and the most feasible are presented to the court.

Actions regarding presentments of the previous year are also reported.

Anyone wishing to take part in the occasion is invited to complete the application form and return it to the Town Clerk. If there are too many applicants a draw will be made by the Mayor to fill the available places. Those chosen will be able to take a guest and will also be invited to the Civic Reception following the Ceremony. Bideford Manor Court

Bideford residents who wish to be considered for an invitation to attend the Manor Court Ceremony, must complete this coupon, and return it to: **The Town Clerk, Town Hall, Bideford EX39 2HS by 8 March 2011.**

In the event of demand exceeding seating provision, the Mayor will conduct a ballot.

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone No

Signature

Guest's Name:

The Manor Court Ceremony will be held within Bideford Town Hall on Saturday 19th March 2011, and will be followed by a reception at Tantons Hotel.

All applicants must reside in the Parish of Bideford and appear in the Register of Electors.

The applicant will be entitled to bring a guest with him/her, who must be aged 18 or over.



Scene and Heard

Again, lots of new titles coming into the Library, new releases and re-issues of old favourites. Come along and see what we've got for you. CDs for only 50p for a week's loan, and DVDs from £1. Perfect for that night in.....

Peter Andre – Accelerate (CD)

A mix of pop/catchy tunes and some slower love songs on this album. A superb collection which showcase Peter's versatility.

Ray Davis – See My Friends (CD)

A "duets" album featuring collaborations with Bon Jovi, Bruce Springsteen and Mumford and Sons, to mention a few. Great listening to all those classic Kinks songs given a new perspective. Ray Davis is surely among the best song writers of his generation.

Mr Nice – starring Rhys Ifans (DVD)

A comedy.drama. The true story of a man who stumbled into a lucrative career as one of Europe's biggest drug dealers. Ifans is good. His comic timing at its best.

The Girl Who Played With Fire (DVD)

The second instalment of Steig Larsson's best selling trilogy, centred around cruelty towards women. A tightly wound thriller that is almost as good as the first. Brilliant performances from Michael Nyquist and Noome Rapapce.

MP

Advance Notice

Pollyfield Centre East the Water
2nd April

Table top sale in aid of Cornwall Hospice Care
tel 472305

Swifts

One of the classic sounds of summer is groups of swifts flying at great speed through our towns and villages. Bideford is lucky enough to have swifts still but for how long? They spend the four summer months breeding here before setting off on their 14,000-mile round trip to spend our winter months in the skies above Africa. Because of the loss of their breeding sites their population has dropped by 40% in the last 15 years (source: Swift Conservation) and it is predicted that they will be extinct within 20 years if replacement nesting sites are not provided.



North Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Biosphere Service (NDABS) have been involved with various projects recently to try to reverse this decline. Talks on swift conservation were given by Mark Smyth from Northern Ireland who has been studying swifts for many years. One talk was for members of the public and a second talk was to Torridge and North Devon planners to see what could be done through the planning process.

A swift box workshop was run last year when a 9 volunteers learnt all about how to make a swift box, where to put it up and how to increase the chances of attracting swifts. 6 boxes were made during the workshop at Bideford Station and, at the end of it, two of them were put up on a house in East the Water. This site is adjacent to a location where swifts had bred in the past but following roof repairs their access had been blocked up.

Swift boxes can work very well on new buildings and there have been great successes on a variety of new buildings from Swiss Cottage Sports Centre in London to Stevenage Maternity Unit.

It is very important that more is known about where swifts breed and RSPB have been collating this information. NDABS would be pleased to receive details of where parties of screaming swifts have been seen/heard or details of where swifts breed and they will pass these details on to RSPB. For further information about what to do to help swifts please contact me at NDABS on Bideford 423655

Tom Hynes

News from the Burton Art Gallery

March may well come in like a lion, as it has many times before – and I'm afraid you won't be calmed by the exhibition on show in the Burton Gallery this month! Sir Howard Hodgkin's prints and paintings are simple, direct, dramatic and loud – with large scale gestures, bright evocative colours. Be prepared to be blown away by 'modern art', by Sir Howard, who is a Turner Prize Winner, and had a major retrospective at Tate Britain. He is one of Britain's most eminent and acclaimed living artists, and has a reputation for his skill as a printmaker and one of the finest colourists in contemporary art. This is the first time his exhibition has come to the South West, and is a prestigious event for the Burton Gallery, which has satisfied the very strict conditions required by the artist and his agents. The works in gallery 1 are large, and gallery 2 holds the smaller sketches and prints, and so the whole ground floor exhibition space will be taken up with Sir Howard's vibrant artwork.

Dates are : 27th March until 6th June. This exhibition is being sponsored by the Friends of the Burton Art Gallery & Museum, whose aim in life is to enhance and support the Gallery.

If you wish to join them, you will find an Application form at the Reception desk, or on the Burton Gallery website. Fees (recently increased) are now:
£10 single; £18 couple; £90 for Life membership (£170 for a couple).

The Friends' event for March is an evening with Nick Arnold, who will show his film about Devon: 'A Place to Dream'. Tickets from the Gallery Reception are £5 Wednesday, 23rd March, at 7.30 p.m. Enjoy all the other features at the Gallery – Cafe du Parc, Museum & Ceramic Collection, Craft Gallery and Shop. The Tourist Information Centre staff are also on hand to enhance your visit. Admission Free. Open: Mon-Sat: 10-4; Sunday: 11-4. **Diana Warmington**



Good Age Page



Memorabilia Wanted

If you have any unwanted items from 1930s – 1970s that you would be happy to donate we would be very grateful to receive them. Such things as toys, books, comics, royal memorabilia, kitchen utensils, small items of clothing etc ... anything that could be used to stimulate an uplifting memory for individuals and groups. I can arrange to come and pick anything up, or things can be dropped off at **Taw & Torridge Voluntary Service, 14 Bridgeland St [next to Oxfam], Bideford – T: 01237 459337.**
(Sharon)



Volunteer Garden Service for the over-60s

The Torridge Volunteer Garden Service has been set up to offer basic gardening support to people aged over 60 who have no one to help them maintain their garden, and cannot afford to pay for a commercial gardener. The service is supported by the TorrAGE Neighbourhood Links project, which is funded by the Big Lottery and managed by TTVS. We are currently looking for volunteer gardeners from across Torridge, and are particularly keen to hear from volunteers in the rural parishes. The service aims to have volunteers operating at a very local level to avoid travel expenses and keep costs to a minimum. Service users will be asked for a small donation to help with the maintenance of equipment.

Volunteers will carry out basic gardening tasks, such as lawn-mowing, weeding and pruning. If you are interested in volunteering, or are aged over 60 and need help with your garden, please contact **Anna or Linda on 01805-622666.**

Devon Carers' Link

Joining Devon Carers Link gives you access to a Carer Alert Card to ensure the person you care for gets help if something unexpected happens to you.

To join or find out more call 08456 431 341

Senior Council

2.15pm Bideford Town Hall, Wednesday 23rd March

Talks/discussions re Green issues / Sustainability/Recycling tel.479711

(cartoon © Michael Darling, former artist for Punch)

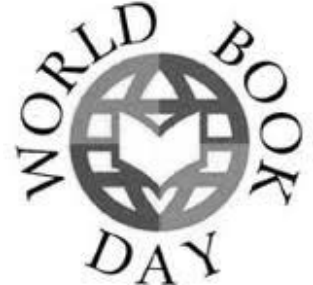


BIDEFORD BAY CHILDREN'S CENTRE PAGE



'Messy Church' – it's in a church and it's messy.

crafts...games...stories...tea and toast! a kids' club at St Mary's Church, Bideford on the first Wednesday of the month – next meeting is 2nd Feb we've been running for a few months now and are having a great time each month but not enough of you know we're here and we need more kids!!!
3.45 – 5.30pm. £1.00p/child or £1.50 p/family for more info please contact **debs** on **07802 685547**



Two World Book Day Events

3rd March 10-10.30am Free Under 5's Storytime at the Burton

For under 5's, parents and carers

Stories, musical instruments and songs based on the exhibition 'Alphabet'. Run by Bideford Library staff and relocated to the Burton for one week only, join us as for this fun family activity. No need to book, just come along.

Join Tanya is forArt from the Sea. 5th March 11am – 12 noon at the Burton

Join Tanya Landman, author of the children's books Flotsam and Jetsam, and see what A, B, C sculptures you can make out of driftwood, and then settle down for a Flotsam and Jetsam story. Aimed at families with children over 6, this event is part of World Book Day and is free for families with over 6's For further information please contact the Burton on 01237471455, Email: burtonartgallery@torridge.gov.uk or download a booking form from our website www.burtonartgallery.gov.uk A Bideford Library event at the Burton, funded by Bideford Library.

And World Book Night

Bideford Library Monday 7th March 6pm-6.30pm Sleepyheads storytime for over 4s

Free Come along for bedtime stories, hot chocolate and fun. Don't forget to bring your dressing gown and your teddy!

Play it Safe: Play Ground Inspection Training

Is your play area up to standard?
Have you considered the legal duties?
Are you confident at undertaking inspections?
Taking on the management of play facilities for the first time?
Conducting regular inspections need not be a chore!

6th of April 2011
Hatherleigh Community Centre
10am - 4pm

For more information contact **Charlotte Weedon (01392 383345)** charlotte2@devonrcc.org.uk or see <http://www.playinspectors.com/RPII-Inspectors>.



A Student's How to Guide - Passing Exams

Exams. Deadlines. Coursework. I sit here tonight, finally on the "other side". Perhaps you may think that sounds a little too dramatic, a little bit star trek and vortexes, having a strange compulsion to make that weird little sign that trekkies do with their hands (no, I don't really get it either).

Trust me. It's not.

Several thousand screaming, crying breakdowns later and after some alternative methods of origami which didn't really help the rainforests, I've safely come to the conclusion it was on par with Dante's inferno. And as much as I'm perfectly happy to rest on my laurels of nothingness now, I know if I do, I'm only going to have to relive the same hellish experience a few months down the line.

It sounds boring and pretentious, but if you want to pass with ease and the same air of arrogance as the "smart kid" (come on, we all know one of *those* types), now is the time to start. If you think about it, it makes logical sense, a little bit of careful revision here and there now, may not seem to have any effect on your life whatsoever, but when June hits you, you'll be overwhelmed by a sense of smug satisfaction as your friends flap around like panicked pigeons.

That said though, you've probably heard 90% of the same regurgitated advice. Now I'm not saying ignore it, there's probably a reason why it's been said before, but what follows could best be described as the alternative guide to revision.

- Chocolate is Good for your Health

Well good for your grades at least. Stop stuffing your face whenever, and start eating your favourite food related substance upon revision times only. Not only will it make the process slightly less painful, your brain will start to associate good food with revision, so you may actually start to look forward to it. A similar technique is meant to work for smells, if you spritz your notes with a new perfume, wear it in the exam, it apparently will help you remember

what you learnt the first time you used it. But don't take my word on it.

And whilst we're on the subject of food, bananas are meant to be the wonder food of revision. Apparently the potassium content really boosts your brain's potential, well it's worth a shot?

- Complete Immersion (AKA Facebook is your Friend)

A friend of mine mentioned a revision tactic the other day called complete immersion. To be honest, as first I thought he was as bonkers as you do me, but when you ponder a little more on the idea, it begins to make sense. The flowery name doesn't give too much away, but the basic gist is to fill up all aspects of your life up with your learning; not just your note books. It's actually surprisingly effective; my first and second year Classics classes both made a Facebook group page where you can share documents and ask questions instantly and coming up to exam time, it was crammed with people unsure of who exactly Octavian was, and there were loads of revision notes people had written up so you could check on your (and their) facts. I also found loading up my MP3 player with podcasts a pretty good one for sleepy morning bus journeys, more goes in than you think, and you get a surprising superiority kick over the people talking about last night's drunken antics and throwing up in a stair well.

Talking to fellow class mates about course content is similarly good for public spaces; even if your knowledge is a bit patchy, they'll be helping you out, and all those innocent bystanders won't know what's hit 'em when you start on your Quantum Physics gabble. Just little things to use up every little bit of wasted time will really help. A few more pages of that book on the bus will do wonders and a friend told me the other day about putting different revision notes on each step of the stairs – I mean what else would you use those minutes for?

- Pretty Colours Mean Pretty Grades. Honest.

Sounds silly but true. We all have times where we have just had enough revision, but fear not, languish in your brain death and use it to order your notes with pretty colours or watch a vaguely related TV programme. Whilst it feels like you're taking time out and relaxing, more will be going in than you think. .

May the force be with you. Or am I getting my star related programmes confused? **Jemma Collins**

Thanks Jemma! Email your stuff for next month's Youth Page: editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk

Thursday 24th March 7pm: Bideford College An evening with Sam Manicom – global explorer on two wheels. Cost of tickets £7 pre-booked; £7.50 on the door. Bookings via Rob Hook 01237 479775, Don Luongo 07969 448734 or Pete Jones> 01271 858734."

You write



Zebras arriving by train?....

I always enjoy your, "Buzz" magazine Re; Ford house - Bideford zoo, my father purchased the house and renovated it in 1959; at the time it included 32 acres of woodland. In around 1964 he rented it to a Mrs Tottenham who created Bideford Zoo, in 1966 my father died and the house was then sold to Mrs Tottenham who carried on the zoo until approximately 1972, then I remember the house was turned into a disco, which didn't last very long and was then left empty prior to its recent renovations.
Tel: 01237451206

Dorothy Leete.

Thanks for photos -see right (others available at Bideford Library) ed



Otters on the river

On Sunday 23rd January at 11.45pm I saw three otters swimming down the river by the Quay who then came ashore and went running down the mudflats near Ethelwynne Brown Close . I have also seen two salmon in the river, very early, and quite big in size. Because of the lights on the Quay I can see as much at night as in daylight

Derek Barnes

Portledge

I just visited your Web page www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk and was pleased to find the wonderful information about Portledge. I am a descendant of the Tristram Coffin family. In 1986 we travelled in England and visited Portledge, where we enjoyed a cup of tea with the hostess I am writing our family history, and would like to include the information found on your Web page.

Mary Ellen Brue

Baldwin Wisconsin

Bideford College Spring Fayre - 2nd April

We are proud to announce an exciting new event in Bideford – the Bideford College Spring Fayre – on **Saturday 2nd April between 12.30 and 4.30.**

There will be loads of stalls including craft stalls and a tombola as well as refreshments in the College canteen, skittles and fairground rides, with activities both inside and outside the college complex. It is a great chance to see inside the new college if you haven't done so already and there will be things for all the family throughout the day. We are hoping to raise lots of money for the school as well as having loads of fun. Please support your local school by coming along.

If you would like more information call Jackie North, Chair of the Friends of Bideford College on 01237 478840 or find out more about the college at www.bideford.devon.sch.uk

Jenny Butland

Bideford Railway Heritage Centre

I was talking to Felton Vowler (Business manager & company secretary of the "Bideford Railway Heritage Centre") who informed me that the last passenger train through Bideford was January 3rd 1983. Passenger trains such as the " Lundy Island Boat Train" were organised by tour organiser Cookham Travel in 1978. In 1982 the Royal Train Sleeping Saloon arrived as a special for Sir William McAlpine. The last freight train from Peters Marland clay works passed through Bideford in 1982. Freight trains ran regularly through Torrington, Bideford, Exeter etc all through the 1970s, passenger specials were running more or less every year through 1970s till 1983; the greatest extent of rail travel was freight carrying ball clay from Peters Marland clay works and milk from Torrington dairies. The tracks were finally torn up in 1985. For more information there is the following event on **Thursday 7th April 2010 "Bideford Railway Station – A history" Bideford Arts Centre, Bideford Quay. 7.30pm £1.00 Admission. Refreshments available**

An illustrated talk on the opening and closure of the railway in Bideford plus its subsequent reopening as a heritage railway museum. **Caleb Jarvis**

Favourite places to eat

Yet again we have just returned from a wonderful short break at Bideford. Over the past few years Bideford has been a haven for us, our short stays and explorations of the surrounding country really recharges the batteries until we can visit again, renew acquaintance with old haunts and discover new ones.

I would like to recommend the **Riversford Hotel**, Limers Lane Bideford as our favourite place to stay, and to eat in the restaurant. The food is amazing, the staff offer courtesy and attention very hard to find these days. I am sure that this hidden gem is well worth a mention in the Bideford Buzz and an inclusion in the proposed articles on 'where to eat'.

Thank you for a very interesting newsletter and regards to all involved. I do hope the Library cuts will not affect you all. Many thanks and regards

Ann & Nigel Clymow

May I recommend **Cafe du Parc**, at the rear of the Burton Gallery for coffee, splendid French patisserie, & lunches **Dennis Davis**

The Farmers' Arms , Woolsery.

Recently taken over by a new landlord and landlady, the Sunday Roast is the best I have ever had. It has become so popular that you have to book or it's all gone, as my friend found out this Sunday.

I would recommend it to anyone.

Titch Taylor

Our favourite place to eat locally has to be **Lily's cafe at Atlantic Village**. The food is all local produce, beautifully cooked and presented – there is usually a chance of a smaller meal if required. The service is good – the staff friendly and helpful (especially if you are not so able , as I am myself} We regularly meet friends for coffee and often have a meal from their fab menu. They do a real 'home from home' Sunday lunch

Liz and Cecil Watkins (More next month - keep your suggestions coming in.)

March is the last of the winter months, with the last eleven days comprising the first days of Spring. It can be a month of harsh , cold winds before giving way to the balmy, but rainy days of April. Hence, it 'comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.'

It takes its name of course, from Mars, the Roman god of war, for this was the time when Roman armies would begin their military campaigns at the Winter's end.

The most notable fixed date is St. Patrick's Day (17th). St. Patrick , the patron saint of Ireland, was in all probability Welsh-born. He was captured by pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. He managed to escape, made his way to France, where he became a monk and then a bishop, and was then sent back to Ireland as a missionary, where he ended up supplanting the existing bishop.

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated all over the world – wherever there are people of Irish descent. Oddly enough, it usually falls in the middle of Lent, so the celebrations provided a welcome break from the austerities

The St. Patrick's Day Parade along Fifth Avenue in New York dates back to 1776, and has been known to involve 300,000 marchers and 2 million spectators. A similar parade of floats, bands and live music takes place in Boston just up the road. The celebrations involve drinking beer which has been dyed green (honest!), and in Chicago, the local river has its water dyed green for the day. Even Moscow has had a St. Patrick's Day Parade since 1992.

Spurred on by all these overseas activities, the Irish authorities finally inaugurated its own St. Patrick's Day Festival in Dublin in 1995, which highlights the best of Irish culture, notably singing and dancing, with a firework display and procession.

Chris Trigger

To advertise in Bideford Buzz contact Rose Arno at Bideford Library, New Road, Bideford EX39 2HR. Tel: 01237 476075 or email: editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk
 Please note that payment is required before publication: 1/8 page box = £15; 1/2 page box = £60
 Cheques payable to Bideford Buzz Newsletter Group

Bideford Centre of Light
 18 Hart Street
Divine Service – Sundays 6.30
Clairvoyance- Saturdays 6.30 with visiting
Mediums arranged
Private Readings arranged
Mid-Week Clairvoyance, Circles, Workshops
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Healing Sundays 7.45pm Mondays 2-4 and
 Tuesdays 4.30 -6
 For more information ring 01805 603171 or
 01237 471526

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BIDEFORD FILM SOCIETY

Tickets: General £5.50 Concessions £5.00 Members
 £4.00 NEW Family Ticket (up to 3 children & 2 adults)
 £12.00 DOORS OPEN 7.00pm FILM STARTS 7.30pm
 see weekly press for more information
 or visit www.bidefordfilmsociety.co.uk Unstoppable (12A) at
 Bideford College Fri 4/Sat 5 March
 Black Swan (15) at Kingsley School Fri 11 / Sat 12 March
 Brighton Rock (15)
 at Kingsley School Fri 18 / Sat 19 March
 Never Let Me Go (12A) at Kingsley School Fri 25 / Sat 26
 March The Kids Are All Right (15)
 at Kingsley School Sunday 3 April Tickets: General £5.50
 Concessions £5.00 Members £4.00 NEW Family Ticket
 (up to 3 children & 2 adults) £12.00 DOORS OPEN 7.00pm
 FILM STARTS 7.30pm

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Quaker Meetings for Worship

are held at 17 Honestone St,
 Bideford

(near Pannier market)

10.30am on Sunday mornings

All are welcome

Enquiries tel **01237 421549**

Book News



'The Way Home' by George Pelecanos

As Jenny indicated in last month's review, the books for the Bideford Library Readers' Group are usually an unknown entity. In fact, this is one of the reasons several of the group joined as it is a great opportunity to widen reading experiences. For the entire group, except me, this was their first introduction to this author and the book received a mixed reception. Getting past the descriptive detail of the city and the 'Americanism' was not easy for some while others found it more engaging. Although I prefer Pelecanos' earlier books such as 'Soul Circus' and 'The Turnaround', I still found this an enjoyable read. It features the usual Pelecanos trademarks of Washington D.C. settings, street-talk, violence and characters sinking low before finding redemption.

Revolving around Chris as a tearaway teenager and then as a young man, the tale has a strong father/son element and is set within a family that has never recovered from the infant death of Chris' sister.

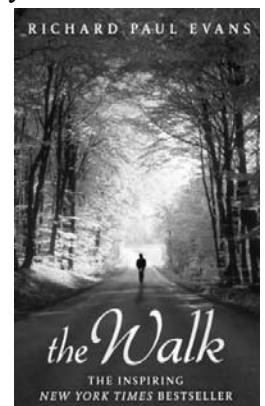
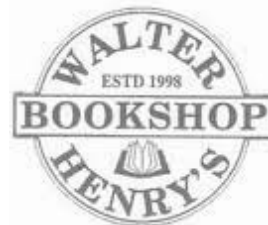
It's a book of two halves. The first half takes place mainly in a young offenders' institution, exploring the relationships between the inmates and their challenges. After their release, Chris and his friend, Ben, find a bag stuffed full with bank notes, hidden beneath the floorboards of a house they are re-carpeting. Do they take it or leave it? The dilemma they are now faced with becomes the pivotal point of the story. From this point onwards it becomes more of a conventional crime novel. Author George Pelecanos is one of a team of script writers for the acclaimed TV series, 'The Wire' and there are times when this feels as much like a film or television script as a novel. As Michael pointed out in the group discussion, the car chase would make a better film scene than an extract in a novel. Even the unanswered questions at the end left me feeling it had been left open for the next episode or a sequel.

Peter Evans

(In March we will feature William Boyd as our author of the month in Bideford Library as the recommended read by Bideford Readers' Group. }

Book of the Month from

Walterhenrysbookshop@yahoo.co.uk



Richard Paul Evans £7.99 paperback

'According to legend, once the sand of Key West is in your shoes, you cannot go back from whence you came. It is true for me. I'm alone on the beach watching the blood-red sun baptized in the Gulf of Mexico. And there is no returning to what I left behind. The air is saturated with the smells of salt water and kelp and the sounds of breaking waves and screeching seagulls. Some part of me wonders if this might be a dream and hopes I'll wake in bed and find that I'm still in Seattle, and McKale is gently running her fingernails up and down my back. She would whisper, "Are you awake, my love?" I would turn to her and say, "You'll never believe what I just dreamed." But it's no dream. I've walked the entire length of the country. And the woman I love is never coming back. The water before me is as blue as windshield wiper fluid. I feel the twilight breeze against my unshaven, sunburned face, and I close my eyes. I've come a long way to get here— nearly 3,500 miles. But, in ways, I've come much further. Journeys cannot always be measured in physical distance.'

This is the first book in The Walk series, a story about the physical and spiritual journey of Alan Christoffersen. What would you do if you lost everything— your job, your home, and the love of your life—all at the same time? When it happens to Seattle ad executive Alan Christoffersen, he's tempted by his darkest thoughts. A bottle of pills in his hand and nothing left to live for; he plans to end his misery. Instead, he decides to take a walk. But not any ordinary walk. Taking with him only the barest of essentials, Al leaves behind all that he's known and heads for the farthest point on his map: Key West, Florida. The people he encounters along the way, and the lessons they share with him, will save his life— and inspire yours.

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Charities news

Charity dance at Woolsery Sport and Community hall Saturday 19th March 2011 9pm-midnight

Live music played by Simon Inch,

Bring and share supper, Tea provided

All proceeds to St Anne's Church Tower repair fund

£4 per person on the door plus **£1** raffle Please make a date in your diary to support this which will be a great evening dancing and enjoying listening to Simon's music with dances to suit all All welcome.

Raffle,bar, and sequence,old time,ballroom dancing

Northam Lodge would like to give a huge thank you to Bideford Buzz and to all the members of the public, the businesses, our Friends and Volunteers and members of staff who helped us fund raise during 2010. We have lots of events lined up and sincerely hope that this support will continue. If you wish to know more about what we do, or what event is next visit www.northamlodge.co.uk

Annabel Cope

Parkinson's UK in North Devon are hosting a **Charity Barn Dance** on **Saturday 12th March 2011** 7.30-11.00 p.m. at Alverdiscott village hall. Tickets from :Anne and Keith Hughes 01237 475168; Jennie Bliss 01271 814159 and Ian Parsons 01 805 601517.



There are many events taking place in the area, including a local Big Breakfast at The **Royal Hotel** in Bideford. Lee Vickery and his team warmly welcome you on Saturday 26th March between 8.00am-12 noon and if you wish to book your Breakfast, please phone 01237 472005. The Full English will be £6.00 so don't miss out on the opportunity to scoff for a great local cause.

Another Big Breakfast is being held at **Abbotsham Village Hall** on Saturday 2nd April between 9am-12 noon. Jacquie Jury and her team will be dishing up a delicious Breakfast ; £5.00 including tea/coffee, raffle draw. If you wish to pre-book your Breakfast, please phone Jacquie on 01237 424066. The money raised through Big Breakfast, which is kindly sponsored by Phillip Dennis Food Services, will help North Devon Hospice care for local people who are suffering from the impact of a life-threatening illness, email **Gerard Fawcitt** atgerardfawcitt@northdevonhospice.org.uk , or www.northdevonhospice.org.uk , or **01271 347224**.

Friday 1st April 1.30-4 St Mary's Church, Bideford 1.30-4pm Russ Parker 'DREAMS – GOD'S NEGLECTED GIFT'

This session will look at a simple and foundational way of working with dreams. Rev Russ Parker has developed a listening process that helps people to understand their dreams and see their application to their everyday lives. This talk should be of interest to anyone wanting to understand their own dreams better, or to help others do so. Russ is the author of a number of books, including 'Healing Dreams', 'Dream Stories' and 'Healing wounded History.'Entry £3.00.

Info from Fiona on 01237 421079

News from the North Devon Record Office

The Record Office has received a couple of interesting and attractive old maps recently. The first relates to Winscott Barton, Peters Marland, which was the property of John Cleveland, lord of the manor of Bideford, at the time the map was produced in the early nineteenth century. The map (ref. B1041) is nicely coloured and was produced by the surveyor John Mallet of Torrington. It includes elevations of the house, which was demolished by the 1860s to make way for the very grand Winscott House which belonged to the Stevens family, now also demolished. A pencil addition shows the diversion of the old road from Torrington made at that time. A most unusual inclusion is a series of depictions of surveying equipment in the map's lower margin.



The other map (ref. B1044) relates to a property called Kelly's Higher Withecott, near Stibb Cross in the parish of Langtree, and was produced by the surveyor Nicholas Cuming in 1845. While not quite in the same league as the Winscott Barton map, it is another attractively drawn and coloured example of nineteenth century cartography. Both maps can be viewed at the North Devon Record Office in Barnstaple Library. If you would like further information on the North Devon Record Office, please visit our website at www.devon.gov.uk/record_office. The North Devon Record Office is part of the Devon county archives service provided by Devon County Council. **Please visit www.foda.org.uk for the latest news on the likely effects of the Council's budget setting proposals on the service.**

Tim Wormleighton Chief Archivist

One Hundred years ago from the Bideford Gazette

The "Andrew Dole" – The commemoration dinner was held at New Inn hotel when a company of about seventeen enjoyed a most excellent repast . The Andrew Dole Charity dates back to 1622 when a John Andrew left a field by Lovers Lane Abbotsham Road , the rent of which has to be distributed to the poor of Bideford. Eighteen Trustees being appointed to administer the fund . The terms of the trust provide that the Trustee shall dine together once a year, the sum restricted for this purpose being four pence per each Trustee, and the meal to consist of salt fish and beer. In the time of James 1st this sum would represent about five shillings.

Old Age Pensions

The first week of 1911 will be memorable as marking the date of the extension of Old Age Pensions by the removal of the bar of pauper relief. There were last week 199 persons over 70 years of age in the Bideford Union receiving out-relief, and of these 196 are now taking up the Old Age Pension instead.

Bacon Cheaper

Choice smoked streaky bacon 9d ; smoked 8d; Farleigh's Stores Bideford

Mike Davy

Family History

The new Devon Family History Help Desk now operating at Bideford Library is becoming very popular with beginners and those who are stuck with their research. It operates every Wednesday morning from 9.45 - 1200. You must book, sessions are 45 minutes long and free. The library number is 01237 476075. I know you will not be disappointed.

The next meeting of the Bideford Branch of the DFHS will be on **Sat. 19th March** at the Burton Art Gallery and Museum, from **2.00- 4.00pm**. (free) The speaker will be Chris Braund on the Braunds of Bucks Mills. Please come along. Any queries please ring me **Len Collum on 01237 472883**



THE SHIPPING NEWS



Ship	Registered flag owners	From	To	Date arrived	Date sailed	Crew	Cargo loaded
Rorichmoor Built 2006	St John's Antigua & Barbuda Germany	Avonmouth	Castellon	15/01/11	20/01/11	Russian	2660 ball clay
Ditzum Built 2005	Gibraltar British German	Bremerhaven	Rosyth	20/01/11	22/01/11	Russian	Parts for aircraft carriers
Vasily Shukshin Built 2005	Valetta Malta Russian	Rotterdam	Loviisa	01/02/11	04/02/11	Russian	2930 tons brick and ball clay

Arco Dart 22.1.11

Oldenburg has been performing various cargo runs prior to resuming service in March.

Bristol Channel Observations

16.1.2011 at 08.30 hrs vehicle carrier **Equuleus Leader** 20141 tons d.w owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha of Japan, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 04.40 hrs.

18.1.2011 at 08.12 hrs vehicle carrier **Maple Ace 2** 15361 tons dw, Mitsui OSK Lines Japan owners, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 0400 hrs; at 08.23 hrs cargo vessel **Merit** 3071 tons d.w. owners Fahrrofer Schiffahrts GMBH & Co KG Germany, outward bound from Newport.

19.1.2011 at 14.45 hrs cargo vessel **Eems Solar** 2600 tons d.w, owners Rederij C.Kornet & Zonen BV Netherlands, inward bound for Briton Ferry.

20.1.2011 at 13.47 hrs container vessel **Rachel Borchard** 11376 tons d.w owners Stina AG Germany, inward bound for Cardiff

22.1.11 at 16.25 hrs cargo vessel **Emuna** 4500 tons d.w, owners Wagenborg Shipping BV Netherlands, inward bound for Birdport (Newport).

24.1.2011 at 11.38 hrs cargo vessel **Eems** Transporter 2900 tons d.w, owners Rederij. C. Kornet & Zonen BV Netherlands, inward bound for Newport.

27.1.2011 at 17.20 hrs cargo vessel **Danio** 1805 tons d.w owners Reederei Frank Dahl Germany, inward bound for Newport.

29.1.2011 at 14.25 hrs vehicle carrier **Talia** 21021 tons d.w, owners Talia Maritime Pireaus, in the colours of Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway and Sweden, inward bound for Portbury.

14.2.2011 at 11.50 hrs Cargo Vessel **Ann Maria** 8720 tons d.w, owners Baum & Co GMBH & Co KG Germany, inward bound for Sharpness; at 14.37 hrs vehicle carrier **Maple Ace 2** 15361 tons d.w owners Mitsui OSK Lines Japan, inward bound for Portbury; at 15.03 hrs cargo vessel **Ditzum** 4525 tons d.w Briese Schiffahrts GMBH & Co KG Germany, inward bound for Newport. at 15.40 hrs cargo vessel **Monika Muller** 3723 tons d.w, owners Otto A Muller Schiffahrt GMBH Germany, inward bound for Sharpness; at 15.50 hrs cargo vessel **Aspen** 3037 tons d.w owners Nyki Shipping BV Netherlands, inward bound for Portbury.

Some advanced news in both the Gazette & Journal that two cruise ships are due to visit Ilfracombe this year The first vessel is the **Rotterdam** which can carry 1316 passenger and is due on the 29th May, the second vessel is the **Prinsedam** which can carry 793 passengers and is due on July 22nd. Both ships are owned by Holland America Line which is part of the Carnival Group. According to the Harbour Master at Ilfracombe this is a major achievement for the port, but considering it is nearly three years since the **Hanseatic** visited North Devon, the achievement would be getting 10 or 12 every year. **Norman**

March Diary 2011

Tuesday 1st

Palladium Club 'Jam Night' 478860
7.30pm Northam Choral Society at Methodist Church Hall Northam tel 429080
Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 423242

Wednesday 2nd

2pm Bideford Readers' Group at Bideford Library tel 476075

Thursday 3rd

10-10.30am Under 5's Storytime at the Burton run by Bideford Library staff and relocated to the Burton for one week only
2.15 pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956
7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

North Devon Fuchsia Society meets at Springfield Centre Chanters Rd tel 01271 831292

Bideford Railway Heritage Centre talk at Bideford Arts Centre 07854 590503

Friday 4th

7pm for 7.30pm Bideford Film Society 'Unstoppable' film at Bideford College
7.45pm Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01769 540309
Palladium Club Basil's balls up band - 478860

Saturday 5th

11am-12noon Join Tanya Landman at the Burton for a craft session for over 6s for details and to book 471455 Free

7pm for 7.30pm Bideford Film Society 'Unstoppable' film at Bideford College

7.30pm Film at Littleham

'Made in Dagenham'. Tel.: 420372

Palladium Club Wendy May's boom boom room - dj night funk soul ska 478860

Sunday 6th

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate Hotel Appledore

Monday 7th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close tel 07923536908

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

8.30pm. North Devon Jazz Club, Will Collier Septet. The Beaver, Appledore. Tel 421065

Tuesday 8th

10.30am Macular Disease Society meets at Burton Art Gallery Peter Ellis 01409 231309

7.30pm Northam Choral Society at Methodist Church Hall Northam tel 429080
Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 423242

Palladium Club 'Jam Night'

www.palladiumclub.co.uk 478860

Wednesday 9th

10.15 Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423153

10.30am Epilepsy North Devon meet at Barnstaple Library Henry Williamson Room tel 07875577428

2.30pm Bideford Library Group tel 476075 for details/transport

Thursday 10th

11am-1pm Carers' Support Group at Rosehill Northam tel 420137 for details

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

8pm Holy Karaoke at Crealock Arms Littleham

Friday 11th

7.45pm Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01769 540309

Palladium Club Jog on robot - indie rock 478860

Saturday 12th

Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal Bideford Town Centre 01884 703535

Palladium Club Paul Lamb & the kingsnakes 478860

Sunday 13th

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate hotel Appledore

Monday 14th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Palladium Club Brown Close tel 478860

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

Bideford Stamp Club at Bideford Youth Centre tel 472101

Tuesday 15th

Palladium Club 'Jam night' 478860

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club Bideford Youth Centre, Kingsley Road 01237 423242

Wednesday 16th

2.15pm Meditation at Bideford Library 476075 entrance via town hall.

7.30pm Bideford Music Club concert at Methodist Church Hall tel 423112

Thursday 17th

11-1pm Carers' Support Group at Rosehill Northam 420137 for details

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Buckland Brewer Gardening club in village hall

Friday 18th

2pm Bideford Branch of Devonshire Association at Burton Art Gallery tel 477701

7.45pm Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01769 540309

Saturday 19th

8pm Charity dance at Woolsery sport and community hall in aid of St Anne's Church Palladium Club Jackdaws / dolly dagger experience - indie rock 478860

Saturday 19th

Bideford Manor Court
Palladium Club 78 - dj night - old school classic mix 478860

Sunday 20th

Torrige Ramblers' afternoon walk tel 01805 622183 for details

Monday 21st

7pm-9pm Carers Link Support Group meets at Marlborough Court, tel: 01271 372811.

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

Appledore Amateur Radio club AGM at Appledore football social club tel 473251

8.30pm. North Devon Jazz Club, Asaf Sirkis Trio. The Beaver, Appledore. Tel 421065

Tuesday 22nd

7.30pm Northam Choral Society at Methodist Church Hall Northam tel 429080

Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 4232

Palladium Club 'Jam Night' 478860

Wednesday 23rd

Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal Tesco
10.15 Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423153

2.15pm Senior Council Bideford Town Hall, tel.479711

7.30pm North Devon Humanists meet at Fremington Parish Hall (annexe) tel 474225

Thursday 24th

11am-1pm Carers' Support Group at Rosehill Northam 420137 for details

Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal Tesco
01884 703535

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

Friday 25th

10a.m. - 1 p.m.

Lundy Art Group NEW TIME We meet in St. Mary's Church Hall Appledore 423884

Palladium Club gang of thieves - classic rock covers 478860

Saturday 26th

Marie Curie daffodil appeal Atlantic Village
01884 703535

Torrige Ramblers' Day walk 01805 622183 for details

10am-12pm

Northam Community swaps coffee and charity table top sale tel 423292 to reserve a table

7pm Bible teaching & fellowship at Bethel, the Quay, Appledore, info – 474466.22183

Palladium Club amplified - dj night – rock 478860

7.30pm Male Voice Choir Concert given by the Bois Goetre a/r Cylch choir and The Torrige male voice choir. Methodist Church in High Street.

Sunday 27th

9.30 - 2.00. All-day breakfast at Littleham In aid of The Hospice

Tel.: 473338

10.30am North Devon Ramblers. 7 mile walk starting at Hartland Quay Car Park (higher level) 01271 863727

Monday 28th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close tel 07923536908

Wednesday 30th

7.30pm Appledore Singers

concert at Ashreigney Village Hall Tickets £5 Contact 01769 520219.

How to Contact Us

Bideford Buzz is produced by a team of volunteers with financial and practical assistance from Devon County Council's Library Services, Torrige District Council, Bideford Town Council, Bideford Bridge Trust, Bideford Bay Children's Centre and Devon Community Foundation.

If you are interested in helping produce this newsletter, we will be pleased to hear from you.

Please note that for commercial advertisements, there is a charge from £15 per month – cheques payable to Bideford Buzz Newsletter Group.

Any items for inclusion should be sent by the 15th of each month to Rose Arno, Bideford Library, New Road, Bideford EX39 2HR.
Tel. **01237 476075** or email: editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk or visit our website at: www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk (4,000 hits monthly)