



BIDEFORD BUZZ



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

Featured Village Bucks Mills



Above: Captain James of Bucks Mills, © Janet Few.

Below: Bucks Mills Coastline.

Right: Bucks Mills Cliff Path.



Captain James Braund 'King' of Bucks Mills

James Braund was born in Bucks Mills in 1809 and went to sea at the age of eleven. When he was twenty two James married his first cousin, Mary Braund, at Parkham church, where James had been baptised. As well as fishing, James worked as a pilot. This entailed guiding larger vessels in over the notorious Bideford Bar to the safety of Appledore harbour in his small boat, the Grace Darling. James' skill earned him the nickname of 'Guard Jimmy' and several seamen owed their lives to James' prowess.

As James' family grew, he was to have five daughters and six sons, so did his standing in the locality. James built his own home in Bucks Mills, now known as 'King's Cottage'.

James' most famous rescue took place in 1853 when he and his brother rescued not only men from the Clovelly fishing fleet but also the valuable boat and nets. Shortly after the rescue, local postman, Edward Capern, composed the poem 'The Braunds of Bucks', which gave details of James' life saving exploits. This was sold as a broadsheet in order to raise money for the new boat, The New Grace Darling. He was buried with his wife, Mary, at St. Anne's, Bucks Mills and The Bideford Gazette noted his passing. 'Mr James Braund, widely known as the King of Bucks, died at Bucks Mills on February 20th at the advanced age of 88.

The full story of James Braund and his family can be found in the Braund Society publication 'The King of Bucks'. This and the poetry 'The Braunds of Bucks' is available on the Braund Society stand at www.parishchest.com or from The Braund Society 140, Stucley Road, Bideford EX39 3EL.



Janet Few

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**Devon
Community
Foundation**
Helping local people

B is for Bucks Mills

On the coast of North Devon, between its more famous neighbours, Clovelly and Westward Ho!, nestles the little fishing village of Bucks Mills. Known in the nineteenth century as Buckish or Buckish Mills, it is an isolated hamlet with one winding street leading steeply down from the main Bideford-Bude road. The stream, which runs through the centre of the village, powered the mill and divided Bucks Mills between the parishes of Parkham and Woolfardisworthy or 'Woolsery'. In 1862, land was granted, by Lady Elwes, for the construction of St. Anne's Church and Bucks Mills became a parish in its own right.



Only the mill, from which the village takes its name, and one terrace of cottages, is known to date from the eighteenth century. Most of the cottages were built between 1810 and 1835, when more marginal agricultural land was being brought under cultivation, following the blockades during the Napoleonic wars. Terraces, ranging up either side of the steep gorge in which the village lies, were cultivated to supplement the diet of local families. Goats, chickens, pigs and the occasional cow were reared in these difficult conditions. The land provided market garden produce, rather than grain. The mill, that gave Bucks Mills its name, ground flour using corn from further afield, some being brought from Lundy.

The inhabitants also produced lime using culm, a form of anthracite, and limestone. The limestone was imported from Caldy Island and Aberthaw, South Wales and transported in especially built boats, known as Appledore 'Muffies' or 'Stone Hackers'. Skilled sailors were needed to bring these sturdy vessels in, through rough seas, onto the beach at Bucks Mills. The limestone was then put on to the backs of pack ponies and taken to one of three kilns on the foreshore; remains of the kilns can still be seen. The lime was used for mortar, limewash and to enrich the acidic soil.

The rocky coast and lack of a quay or harbour made putting out to sea at Bucks a hazardous occupation, nevertheless many of the villagers were fishermen, often combining this with agricultural work. Their craft were the carvel-constructed Bucks Ledge Boats, a slightly smaller version of the Clovelly 'picarooner' and suitable for hauling up and down the beach at Bucks Mills.

The village is famous as the home of the Braund family and in Victorian times, more than 85% of the population were Braunds, or were related to the family by marriage or descent. The Braund Society (see www.braundsociety.org) still promote their connection with the village, although, sadly, the Braunds no longer reside in Bucks Mills.

Janet Few

SPECIAL SERVICES IN APRIL AT ST MARY'S CHURCH BIDEFORD

MOTHERING SUNDAY

3 April 2011

All are welcome to our special Mothering Sunday service at 10 am on 3 April, when all mums will be given a posy of flowers.

PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER SERVICES

Everyone is most welcome to our Palm Sunday and Easter services which are:

- **PALM SUNDAY, 17 April**, procession with palms leaving Kingsley Statue at **9.30 am** walking to St Mary's for the service at **10 am – and being led by a pony!**
- **EASTER EVE, Saturday 23 April at 8 pm**, Easter Vigil with the first Eucharist of **EASTER SUNDAY, 24 April at 10 am** Family Communion, including an Easter egg hunt for the children.
- **EASTER EVENSONG, 24 April at 7 pm**. Traditional Evensong with Easter hymns.

Enquiries to St Mary's Church Office, 9 Church Walk, Bideford, EX39 2BP; tel 01237 474078.

Free Parking in Torridge

Torridge District Council is now offering free parking in some town car parks on Saturday afternoons and all day Sundays.

Sydney House car park in Torrington, Manor car park in Holsworthy and **The Pill car park in Bideford** are all part of a new scheme to help bring people back into our towns to do their weekend shopping.

Torridge's lead member for Parking Services, Councillor Geoff Lee, said, " Parking concessions such as this should encourage locals and visitors into our towns at the weekends. It's a chance to get to know your town – have a browse around the local shops, stay for a coffee, have lunch or take the kids to the park – there's plenty to do in all three of our market towns." Free car parking will start from 12 noon on Saturdays and all day Sundays but there will be a 2 hour limit in the Pill car park in Bideford.

Elizabethan Heritage Day in Bideford -

Saturday July 2nd 2011,
11am -4pm

Bideford 500 presents a family friendly day, to celebrate Bideford's Elizabethan heritage in the town centre. The day includes live music and performance, a town centre procession, costumed living history characters and guided Heritage trail walks.

For more information visit

www.bidefordtown.co.uk/about or email Sadie Green at info@bidefordheritage.co.uk



First Fridays in Bideford, May to October 4pm-7pm Bideford Bay Creatives and the

Chamber of Commerce introduce 'First Friday' events in Bideford town centre In and around Mill St; this is a community-based event and is an opportunity for shops and cafes and galleries to open, for live music, performance, and artists . Fun for all the family. We would like to encourage participation. If you wish to take part as a community group, individual or local business email Bideford Bay Creatives at info@bbcdevon.org

Scene and Heard

Quite a few new children's DVDs have come into the Library recently. Good to amuse the kids on cold, dark evenings, and only £1 per week hire charge.

And for the grown-ups, why not try:-

Beneath Hill 60 (DVD)

A good honest film about the British Empire forces in the First World War, albeit from an Australian perspective. This is a gripping story based on fact and looks very realistic. Rich in detail with plenty of exciting moments. Worth watching.

Brooklyn's Finest (DVD)

The stories of three different and partly corrupt police officers in the New York police force. This film is stylish, gritty and intelligent, but can be a bit slow. However, in reality, most police work is pretty mundane, so all in all, not bad.

The Black Crows – Croweology (CD)

An acoustic album of all their best loved songs. Its interesting that The Black Crows can now be considered 'classic' or even 'veteran' having been around for two decades. And credit where credit's due, instead of churning out a standard "Greatest Hits" album, they've presented acoustic versions of their back catalogue. A veritable treasure trove of delights.

Sheryl Crow – 100 miles from Memphis

Sheryl has drawn on the sounds of Memphis soul for this album to produce her most heartfelt record to date. The songs are catchy, and feature Keith Richards and Justin Timberlake on a couple of tracks. It's good.

MP

Nightwalk

North Devon's biggest fundraising event, is happening again on Saturday 21st May. The night time walk along the Tarka Trail, is open to women 16 years or over. This year, the popular routes of Torrington to Bideford and Torrington to Barnstaple return, so make sure you sign up now to be part of the fun. This sponsored event raises money for North Devon Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support, two very worthwhile charities . You can download an application form now by visiting www.nightwalk.co.uk. or call the Nightwalk team on **01271 347224 or 01271 347204 or email nightwalk@northdevonhospice.org.uk**.

Bideford Black and the Bideford Coalfield

A map of the coal measures of the British Isles shows a thin strip of northern Devon, passing through Bideford, with an outcrop of coal bearing rocks. The existence of this, and the now defunct industry associated with it, may be unknown to newcomers to the area, but the story of this resource is an interesting one because Bideford coal wasn't just ordinary fuel coal.

The rocks underlying Bideford and much of northern Devon are of late Carboniferous age. They were laid down in a cyclically changing mixture of marshy, swampy and marine conditions over a long period around three hundred million years ago. This rock formation, known as 'culm measures', underlies the distinctive 'culm grassland' of Devon.



'Culm' is an interesting word. My dictionary gives two distinct meanings: 1. 'coal mining waste or... anthracite' and 2. 'the hollow jointed stem of a grass or sedge'. More about this later. In the first sense, the word is used to refer both to the rock and to the special coal itself. The seam here that was thick enough to be worth mining extended from Greencliff, through Bideford, to just east of the River Taw.

The industry is remembered as 'Bideford Black' and 'The Paint Mines'. It included workings near the top of High Street and in East-the-Water. It finished in 1969. I was fortunate to move to Bideford just before that; and at East-the-Water I was shown the mouth of a tunnel, leading into which was a length of rail track bearing the special trucks called 'drams'.

Only a few visible traces are now left. They include the names Pitt Lane and Mines Road, and places where iron-rich water seeps out of the old workings such as along the Tarka Trail and the blocked up mineshaft at the back of the car park of the old Ship on Launch pub (now Croft & Co.).

Two types of culm were mined. One was a dense, brittle anthracite that was used for fuel, partly for lime production, but the more interesting one was a substance like stiff black clay known locally as Bideford Black; and this was chiefly used to make black pigments – hence the 'Paint Mines'.

I must pause at this point to recommend the definitive work on this topic – **Bideford black: the history of a unique local industry**, published by Sound Archives North Devon. Current price £3.00.

Bideford Black is probably most famous now for being the source of the black paint used for coating the hulls of sailing ships in the 18th and 19th Centuries. However, all sorts of other products were later made from it, including mascara!

You can find a small outcrop of culm on the shore at Greencliff. (I recommend taking care and a hard hat.) Along that bit of coast you can also pick up fragments of the fossil plants associated with it. I found that the commonest of these are casts of the stems (trunks) of extinct giant horse-tails called Calamites. They are divided into segments by nodes, between which are vertical striations. They look a bit like very thick bamboos. So, I was intrigued to find, in the above-mentioned book, the suggestion that culm was named from the plant fossils associated with it, thus showing the link between the two meanings of 'culm'.

John Martin

One hundred years ago from the Bideford Gazette

Eastmans ltd of 12 Mill St and 12 Honestone st - Fresh supplies of prime Canterbury new Season's lamb
Fore quarters 6d per lb; Hind quarters 7d per lb

Salt Cod fish for Good Friday

Splendid quality 6d per lb; Tea Fish 3d per lb; Farleighs Store

Are you thinking of purchasing a smart comfortable pair of shoes for Easter?

Select from extensive stock of J Sanguine & Son, Grenville St Bideford Latest styles from 4s.11d

The Budget – to be introduced provides for the payment of £300 a year to Members of Parliament



Good Age Page



Mr Garnsey has sent us this interesting list of the first ten original Bideford phone numbers
Bideford One -Telephone kiosk behind the Pannier Market (still there but now 470001)
Bideford Two -Holman and Ham (chemist corner of High St)
Bideford Three -Western Counties (Now site of Wooda Medical Centre)
Bideford Four - Private number
Bideford Five -Royal Hotel
Bideford Six -Dawes Grocer (now Barclays bank)
Bideford Seven- Stanhope Surgery, Northam Rd (now private house)
Bideford Eight -Trapnells (now Mark's accountants, High St)
Bideford Nine -Stephens Brain ironmongers (next door to Clinton Cards High St)
Bideford Ten -Wickham and Co Ltd wine merchants (now corner of Grenville St)

Bideford Hospital Carnival Committee's effort

In the presence of a large gathering assembled outside Messrs. Heard Bros.' Motor Showrooms, the Broad Quay, Bideford, on Saturday evening, the Mayor presented the Morris Cowley motor car offered by the Bideford Hospital Carnival Committee, to Mr. Percy Reed, of Appledore, who was the purchaser of the lucky ticket, G123, which entitled him to purchase the car for one shilling. Excellent arrangements were made by Messrs. Heard Brothers, the outside of the Showrooms being brilliantly lit by the aid of two electric arc-lamps reflecting light from the white painted building. The Chairman of the Committee (Mr. E. J. Day) announced the order of proceedings and thanked all who had assisted the Committee in so successfully carrying through the work involved.

The Mayor (Mr Frederick Lee), in congratulating Mr. Reed upon his good luck, said he understood it was the first car that had been offered to benefit the Bideford Hospital, and their thanks were due to all concerned for the careful and business-like way in which the task of dealing with a sale of over 10,000 tickets had been discharged. That was the third presentation, in which local residents had been successful, that he had been asked to make in his year of office. When the present new hospital was built funds that may have been available for investment to swell the endowment fund were required to meet the cost of the new building. It was now desirable to increase the endowment fund to relieve the Committee from the recurring anxiety of an over-drawn account, and he suggested that the Carnival Committee might see their way to recommend that a portion of the sum they had raised may be added to the Endowment Funds.

Mr Reed, amidst applause, then purchased the car for one shilling, and on the motion of Mr Charles E. V. Carpenter, seconded by Mr F. G. Summerton, the Mayor was heartily thanked for his help. (Taken from the Bideford Gazette of Tuesday, 14th October 1930.)

Cynthia Snowden (nee Reed)

Take a trip down memory lane

Come along and have fun sharing your memories

from 10am to 12pm, on 14th, 21st, 28th April 2011 at Northam hall, Northam

To book a place for any of these sessions please call Sharon or Sue at Taw and Torridge Caring 01237 459337 or email TTC@torridgecvcs.org.uk *Places are limited so booking is essential*

These sessions are for anyone over the age of 60 & cost just £1.00 per session - free refreshments are provided for all [if you have memory problems or care for someone with memory problems the sessions are free]

Sneezing and wheezing? Summer must be on its way...

We are all looking forward to a warm, hot summer, but there are some children who dread the thought of picnics, sports days and even playing in their own garden. That's because they suffer from hayfever.

Hayfever is an allergy to pollen which causes sneezing, coughing and a runny or stuffy nose. Other symptoms include watery, itchy eyes, wheezing and a burning sensation in the throat.

The most common causes of hayfever is pollen. If your child's hayfever is worse in the spring, they're probably allergic to tree pollen (particularly that of the elm, hazel, elder and birch.) If, on the other hand, they suffer more in summer, then it's likely they're allergic to grass pollen.

Allergies often run in families. If either parent has hayfever, their child has a higher chance of getting it too.

You can reduce your child's symptoms by washing his or her face, hands and hair at bath time. Symptoms are often worse in the early morning and the evening, so keep your child inside during these times and when you mow the lawn. Keep windows, doors and car sunroofs closed when there's a high pollen count.

Talk to your doctor to establish that your child is definitely suffering from hayfever and discuss treatments and preventative measures. There are a range of treatments available for hayfever, but they're not all suitable for children, so check with your doctor or pharmacist before purchasing over-the-counter medication.

With a few precautions, you can ensure that your child enjoys the summer as much as possible.

Juliet Moulton www.bidefordbaychildrenscentre.org.uk



"All Aboard". Free fun event for parents and children (including tea), at Bideford Baptist Church Centre, Mill Street **4.30-6.00pm.Sunday 17th April**. Contact Lee & Michelle : 01237 473195 -- it's great!! www.bidefordbaptist.org.uk

Kids' Krate at the Burton Art Gallery – activities for the very young takes place every **Friday from 1-3 p.m at the Burton Art gallery**.

Just a £1 donation – worth it when you see what fun they have. The children have also made a logo to go on their 'Bags of Brilliance', a rucksack full of goodies for junior children exploring the Gallery.

Take your mother to Market!

Hartland Farmers' Market starts its sixth season on Mothering Sunday, April 3rd, and there will be free tea and home made biscuits for all North Devon mothers. Market organiser, Rod Landman, said, "We all love our mums, and here's a good way to show it. Just turn up at the Renowned Farmers' Café and we'll have a free home made biscuit for you, made with our love, and a cup of fair trade tea. You don't need to prove you're a mum - we'll trust you!"

The market continues to expand, and will once again be bigger and brighter than ever, with all the old favourites and three new traders, making 20 stalls in total. You will be able to buy local fresh meat, including venison, organic vegetables, honey, fish and olives; hand made ice cream, chocolate and cheeses; cakes, preserves, and fair trade produce, and plants from two local nurseries.

The Café will again be open for business, selling its best full English breakfasts. There will be vegetarian options, and lighter bites for smaller appetites.

The markets run on the first Sunday of the month from April - October, 10am – 1pm, in Hartland Parish Hall. The markets are run on a non-profit basis and benefit a range of local charities.

For more details contact **Rod Landman on 441 786.**



How Not to Waste Your Gap Year

You know the feeling. You left education last June. So many grand plans and experiences to play through for a whole year, but now it's April the following year. And you've done absolutely nothing. Not a sausage.

But the good news is, believe it or not, it's not too late to make something of this year. If all you've been doing is enjoying the freedom of no set time to rise, then I'm sure you can afford to take five minutes out of your busy schedule and read the ideas below.

Get a Job

It's a sad fact of life but if you want to do something exciting this year then you're going to need more than those few pennies still floating around in your underwear drawer. Get yourself out there, write a CV and present yourself. If anything it's a fabulous excuse to put on some posh clothes once in a while. Don't discount anything too quickly, working in a fast food restaurant may not be the most glamorous of occupations, but if it gives you the cash to go gallivanting out on the town, it's well worth the effort. A lot of bigger companies have started advertising online, so keep your eyes open, you never know when something may come up. Even if you can't seem to get a job, don't despair. If you have any particular creative talent, there's a huge online market for selling such things and many research companies will offer cash just for your opinions. Sure you might not be Richard Branson tomorrow, but when the cheques come through the door you'll hardly complain.

Volunteer

Don't discount unpaid work, yet because you won't be raking it in. Working for charities can be exceptionally rewarding and will look great on your CV. You could even arrange some work experience, what is it you want to do? Go and try it out. Not only does it show initiative and experience to future employers, you have the chance to work out if a career really is for you, before it's too late.

Travel

It's cliché and everyone does it, but if you work hard enough for a few months solid, what's to stop you booking a plane flight for a week or two? With friends or alone, it's a great way to broaden your horizons and experience something completely new.

And finally think education. If you're going back to uni or college next year, now is the time to crack that reading list, or even just read around the subject. It may seem boring, but just think of that beautiful smug feeling when you rock up in September, the only person who has a monkeys what is going on . .

Jem Collins

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

Henry's Maya Adventure at the Plough.

Media graduate Henry Heartley from Bideford ran an exhibition at the Plough centre during January inviting the public to share in an adventure which took him across several Southern and Central American countries including Belize, El Salvador and Guatemala.

For more photos and information on Henry's work search www.peopleofthecorn.eu

For details on forthcoming events at the Plough search www.theploughartscentre.org.uk

You write

Northam Lodge

Yeoldon House Hotel will be having a Garden Open Day on Saturday May 7th in aid of **Northam Lodge**. This will run from 10.30 – 3.00 and a variety of refreshments will be available together with a Tombola Stall with some lovely prizes. Please come along and support your local charity and have a wander through some of the most beautiful gardens in Northam. We look forward to seeing you.

Hartland Craft Fayre and Bucks Mills Art Society

On behalf of the above mentioned societies I would like to thank you for your past listings in your Events page- as small societies this is of immense value regarding visitors. Congratulations on your milestone- the Buzz is a great service to the community.

Many thanks

Jeanne Clarke

Harry Juniper

Can I through your pages promote a man living and working in Bideford, approaching 80 years young and still living at the top of his craft. I am referring to Harry Juniper of Bideford Pottery. What an asset to North Devon and indeed the West Country or the UK.

Harry produces work of the highest craft and style that must rank with anything made anywhere; don't take my word for it, go and see for yourselves the sheer beauty and quality of a master craftsman.

In an age of celebrities with very little talent, who can be honoured by the country, I am left with a question – why can't a man who has devoted his working life since 1948 to producing works of art receive the same accolade?

Leonard Hill

Northam Twinning Association

is all about friendship – not just between local friends in Westward Ho!, Appledore and Bideford, but across the Channel, in Normandy, and in Germany. The friendships that have been made have endured in many families for over 30 years, and look like continuing for many more. Northam is twinned with Mondeville, a close suburb of Caen, and quite close to the Ouistreham Canal and Port, where the ferries come in from Portsmouth. Our German link is with Buddenstedt, which used to be in East Germany, and our reciprocal visits with our German friends take place every other year, usually in May. Our French friends welcome us for a long weekend in the Autumn, and we host them in the Spring. We both arrange interesting events for each other, and can honestly say, we have a very good time together. Our membership is around 40, and we pair up with singles or couples staying in their homes, enjoying the same pleasures, grumbles, interests, food and fun. Here in Northam we hold regular fund-raising events, which give us an opportunity to socialise throughout the year. This year our French and German friends visit us from 1st to 4th June, and our visit to Mondeville is from 29th September to 3rd October. You don't need to speak French or German - most of us have got by on sign language, pidgin english and laughter for years! We always have room for new members, so come and join us, - just phone Jenny Rickard on 01237 473479, to find out more.

Diana Warmington

The **1935 Silver Jubilee celebrations in Appledore** for King George V. (photo supplied by Cynthia Snowden)

see also her film on

www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLEEr5Prpul



News from the Burton art gallery & museum for April 2011

The Howard Hodgkin Exhibition will be in full swing now, a colourful example of modern art by a living artist. Hodgkin's prints are different from the norm, in that they represent the many techniques he has been experimenting with over the years. There are 44 prints, large and small, in a variety of media. The exhibition continues through May, until 6th June.

In the Craft Gallery you will find OPI – Simple Mechanical Toys (for grown ups – sorry, children....) OPI has used reclaimed materials, each piece of work unique, and it's fun to examine them closely and recognise these odds and ends being used so creatively.

The Museum is a permanent fixture, its focus being mainly about Bideford – its Elizabethan Charter; the story of the Winganditoan Indian brought to Bideford by Sir Richard Grenville; John Strange, who stayed in the town to help the sick while the plague raged around him, only to die of it himself in the end. You will also find bone ships made by Napoleonic Prisoners of War in the early 1800s; the Coin Hoard found at Abbotsham; Edward Capern, the Postman Poet; examples of stiff collars, gloves and saddlery, all part of Bideford's industrial history, the model of the Long Bridge, and much more.

The Ceramic Collection is attracting visitors with its wonderful selection of North Devon and West Country pottery, but also the interactive video screen, where you can make your own pot and decorate it. The Children's Chest is worth a look, too.

Try Contemporary Mosaics on the 9th April (10am to 4pm); or Abstract Art on 14th April, (10am to 4pm). (Phone 01237 471455 to book)

The Friends of the Burton are holding their Annual General Meeting on 16th April, at 10.00, when (after the Business session) the Speaker is Sadie Green, who has visited Bideford's Twin Town, Manteo in North Carolina, and has a lot to tell us about its Bideford ceramic connection.

So much to see at the Burton – Cafe du Parc, Shop, Craft, Museum and Exhibitions.

Admission Free. Open Mon-Sat: 10-4; Sunday: 11-4.

Keep them peeled - call them in

In recent weeks there has been an increase in the number of burglaries and thefts from rural locations with a lot of high value property being taken. Generators and trailers seem to be the current flavour. All metals are currently sought for their recycling/scrap value and with the cost of fuel escalating heating oil or diesel tanks are also targets. Finally, quad bikes and gates etc. have been taken from sheds and garage/outbuildings. In case this is to become an ongoing trend we are asking our local villages and rural communities to keep their eyes peeled for suspicious activity.

So far our corner of Torridge has only been on the edge of this spate but this will only continue if we remain effective. We have had some good calls from the public including one which led to the arrest of three travelling criminals, from outside our area, caught in the act of stealing lead and metals in early March. However, there have been other incidents such as the theft of a ride-on lawn mower near Hartland in January that remains undetected, where a large white van and small blue hatchback were seen.

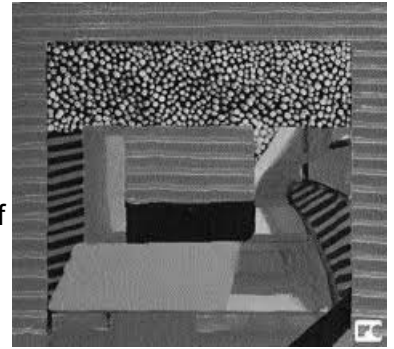
We have Operation GALVIN which seeks to target and tackle the issue of scrap metal thefts working in partnership with Scrap dealers, and Operation LONGBARROW aimed at tackling machinery and quad bike thefts. Key elements of both operations are interaction and help from the local communities to secure property and report suspicious activity.

Your assistance is not only valued, but essential if we are to target our resources effectively and catch up with these offenders. Please ensure your property is marked; house name or number and postcode is most effective for this. Don't leave keys in plant, quads or ride ons' and if possible put away, chain or clamp equipment when not in use. Farm Watch and Neighbourhood Watch are both easy to join and we send out voice messages to all subscribers about suspects seen in your area. Just call us if you want more information about this or check our website at:

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk.

We ask you all to keep calling us about unsolicited callers, perhaps looking to buy scrap or machinery from the doorstep or suspicious activity near isolated barns, buildings or sheds. So 'Keep them peeled and call it in!'

Thank you, **PC 3569 Dick Rowlands. Rural Neighbourhood Police Officer**



Bideford Centre of Light

18 Hart Street

Divine Service – Sundays 6.30

Clairvoyance- Saturdays 6.30 with visiting
Mediums arranged

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For more information ring 01805 603171 or
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Hours to suit

BIDEFORD FILM SOCIETY

Kingsley School Sunday 3rd April at 4pm 'the
kids are all right'(15)

Sunday 3 April ' at 7.30pm 'The Fighter' (15)

Friday 8th and Saturday 9th April 'True
Grit'(15)

Friday 15th and Saturday 16th April

'The social Network'(12a) 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

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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

'March' by Geraldine Brooks

The book chosen for the Bideford Library Readers' group for March was a spin - off from Louisa May Alcott's classic 'Little Women'. Geraldine Brooks has taken the character of the absent father March who goes to war leaving wife and daughters behind. Brooks' March is an idealist and radical in his notions and joins the army as a chaplain during the American Civil war to aid the Unionist cause. The war tests both his faith in himself and the Union cause. Brooks has based March partly on the letters and journals of Bronson Alcott, Louisa May's father.

The book goes back and forth between Mr March at war in the south and his wife Marmee at home with the girls. This was often a little confusing. It is written in the first person and is primarily told through the letters he writes to his family although he doesn't reveal the true horrors or moral dilemmas to save distress to them.

It is brutal and graphic in parts when dealing with the war and the slaves. March first visited the Southern states as a pedlar where he meets and forms a bond with the young slave girl Grace. March and his wife are involved with the underground railway that helped black people escape from their slavery on the plantations to safety in the North.

As March recovers from a near fatal illness he must reassemble his shattered body and mind. He is filled with guilt and grief at his own survival. Grace nursed him during his illness and he was torn between joining her to continue helping the slaves or returning to his family.

Members felt that although it was interesting historically about the Civil war, the character of March did not grip the reader and he came over as a weak, selfish and self-centred man. However most of our group wanted to finish the book to see how it would end.

Jennifer Butland

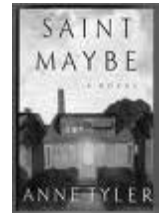
'Saint Maybe' by Anne Tyler

When Anne Tyler was 'Author of the Month' at the library, I eagerly raided the collection for titles I hadn't read before. Among these was **Saint Maybe**, the story of a man trying to live his life in reparation for the damage he caused to his family when he was younger. We follow protagonist Ian Bedloe from the moment his world shatters to seeking answers from the Church of the Second Chance, exploring the idea of atonement in Tyler's understated prose. Her narration is seamless, her language deceptively simple. The characters are living, breathing entities, not just in this novel, but her other works too.

The first Tyler novel I read, **The Amateur Marriage**, had me picturing certain parts like movie scenes, and mistakenly recalling the book as a film, testament to her way with words.

Reading Saint Maybe was like stepping into the Bedloe family home, settling down into an armchair and watching their lives unfold before your eyes.

Talitha Black



Family History

The Devon Family History Society's new weekly help desk at Bideford Library on Wednesday mornings is progressing very well. We have had quite a few beginners in Family History plus others who could not find their way forward with their research to test us, and as yet, all have gone away satisfied. I must impress on you that without a booking it will not be possible to take you.

01237 476075

The next meeting of the Bideford Group of the DFHS will be on Sat. 16th of April, 2.00pm til 4.00pm at the Burton Art Museum. The Speaker will be Al Mitchell from the Torrington 1646 group and he will be describing the now famous battle of Torrington of 1646. The meeting is free to all, but please get there early to secure a seat. Any queries, please ring me **Len Collum, 01237 472883**

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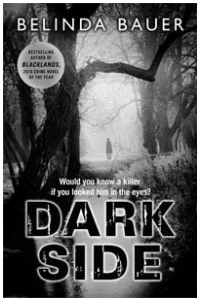
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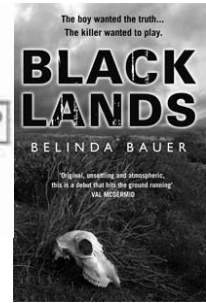
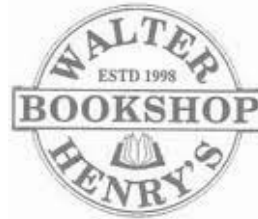
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Walter Henry's Bookshop Event



An evening with Belinda Bauer

Author of the crime novel of the year 2010

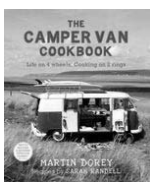
“Blacklands” and her new bestseller “Dark Side”

Would YOU know a killer if you looked him in the eyes?

Shipcott in bleak mid-winter: a close knit community where no stranger goes unnoticed. So when an elderly woman is murdered in her bed, village policeman Jonas Holly is doubly shocked. How could someone have killed and left no trace? Jonas finds himself sidelined as the investigation is snatched away from him by an abrasive senior detective. Is his first murder investigation over before it's begun? But this isn't the end of it for Jonas, because someone in the village is taunting him, blaming him for the tragedy, and watching every move he makes... Belinda will be in store to discuss her books, answering your questions and signing copies of both books.

TICKETS ARE LIMITED AND MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

CALL 01237 425727 9th May 7pm -9pm, tickets £3.00 to include light refreshments.



Walter Henry's Local Event The Camper Van Cookbook -



Life on 4 wheels, cooking on 2 rings. Martin
Dorey.

Following the success of his BBC2 series, Martin will be at Walter Henry's Bookshop on Monday 4th April from 7pm - 9pm.

He will demonstrate one of his recipes, showing that it can be easily done on a regular camping 2 ring stove. This will be followed by a book signing. Tickets are strictly limited and must be purchased in advance of the evening. 01237 425727 £4.00 a ticket, to include a sample of Martin's dish and tea/coffee.

YES! – Thursday 5th May is “YES!” day.

Britain needs a fairer way of electing our leaders.

The referendum in May gives us a unique chance.

The “Yes!” Campaign is leading the public demand for fairer votes.

MPs with a real mandate:

Only around 1 in 3 MPs can claim support from a majority of their voters—a record low.

With AV (Alternative Vote) MPs need to gain the support of at least half of those who voted. Thus, they will be unable to slip in to Parliament with only minority support.

AV strengthens local links - encouraging MPs to reach out to a majority of voters.

No more tactical voting:

Supporters of parties large and small can (with AV) vote sincerely for their preferred candidate - rather than having to guess (like now) who has a realistic chance of winning.

Every AV voter has **ONE** vote – which stays with the first preference as long as she/he has any hope of winning. If your first choice gets too few votes to have any chance then your vote will be transferred to the candidate that **YOU** decide (by marking 1,2,3 etc) is next best. Every vote still counts – for your most favoured candidate still with a chance.

Find out more: Need a Postal Vote?

E-mail: Devonfairervotes@gmail.com You must apply by 14 April

Telephone: 01271 346862 (Devon Fairer Votes) Tel: 01237-428702 (TDC)

but: most importantly-

Vote X for Yes in the referendum (EVERY vote across the UK really will count this time.)

Published by Alan Rayner - of 73 Victoria Gardens, Bideford EX39 2BA

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THE SHIPPING NEWS



| Ship | Registered flag owners | From | To | Date arrived | Date sailed | Crew | Cargo loaded |
|--|------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| Keverne * Built 2006 Ex Japanese Tug Azuma Maru Owners J.P. Knight Chatham Kent | UK | Stavanger | Rosyth | 24/02/11 | 04/03/11 | British | Bow Units |

*This tug arrived with barge **Viking Barge 8** to load 5 bow sections for the aircraft carrier **Queen Elizabeth** due to be completed in 2014. After delivering the barge she went of to Milford Haven to await the loading.

Arco Dart 20.2.11 3.3.11

Oldenburg will have recommenced sailing to Lundy at the time of going to press.

Bristol Channel Observations

28.1.2011 at 08.25 hrs vehicle carrier **Grand Legacy** 17550 tons d.w owners Dynamic Listener Shipping SA Hong Kong inward bound for Portbury.

28.2.2011 at 13.25 hrs vehicle carrier **Planet Ace** 15327 tons d.w, owners Mitsui OSK Lines Japan, inward bound for Portbury.

2.3.2011 at 08.30 hrs vehicle carrier **Traviata** 17179 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway and Sweden inward bound for Portbury; at 12.48 hrs cargo vessel **Sirte Star** 7705 tons d.w, owners Bacchus Chartering Ltd Gibraltar, inward bound for Avonmouth

4.3.2011. at 10.45 hrs vehicle carrier **Mignon** 28127 tons, d.w owners, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway & Sweden, inward bound for Portbury.

5.3.2011 the landing ship dock **RFA Cardigan Bay** 16190 tons Displacement, owners Royal Navy anchored off Westward Ho ! and sailed off to the North West on **6.3.2011**. She returned again on the **9.3.2011** about 07.30 and sailed again 11.30 hrs

9.3.2011 at 08.27 hrs vehicle carrier **Grand Anversa** 12353 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Ital, inward bound for Portbury; at 12.50 hrs cargo vessel **Klaipeda** 3697 tons d.w, owners Aurora Shipping Klaipeda, inward bound for Newport.

11.3.2011 at 16.15 hrs vehicle carrier **Don Pasquale** 28142 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway & Sweden, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 13.10 hrs

13.3.2011 at 08.07 hrs tanker **Kerkyra** 6290 tons d.w, owners Kerkyra Marine SA Pireaus, inward bound for Port Talbot with bunkers for **Berge Arctic**; at 11.45 hrs cargo vessel **Wilson Sky** 4265 tons d.w, owners Weissenkirchen Cyprus, inward bound for Avonmouth.; at 11.55 hrs cargo vessel **Jerome H** 1525 tons d.w owners, Reederei Uwe Helms KG Germany, inward bound for Sharpness; at 16.16 hrs cargo vessel **Karina G** 3813 tons d.w, owners Kaptain Josef Gerdes Schiffahts GMBH & Co KG Germany, inward bound for Briton Ferry

Regards

Norman

XX
40% of all strokes could be prevented through simple lifestyle changes such as healthy eating, regular blood pressure checks, and stopping smoking and cutting your alcohol intake. In the UK, 150,000 people have a stroke in the UK each year. There are over 67,000 deaths due to stroke each year in the UK. The Stroke Helpline provides information on stroke to the general public and is open between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday on 0303 303 3100.

- More information on The Stroke Association can be found at www.stroke.org.uk

April Diary 2011

Friday 1st

Palladium Club 'Blues Doctors'
rock/soul/blues tel 478860
Mother's Day treat at Yarner Trust tel
01288-331692

Saturday 2nd

12 noon Bideford Town Band Jumble
Sale Scout Hall, Market Place
tel 475653

12.30 - 4.30 Spring Fayre at Bideford
College in aid of Friends of Bideford
College. 478840 for details
Pollyfield Centre East the Water
Table top sale in aid of Cornwall
Hospice Care tel 472305
Palladium Club Wendy May's boom
boom room – funk/ska/mod Jazz
Mother's Day treat at Yarner Trust tel
01288-331692

Sunday 3rd

2pm Devon Wildlife Trust event at
Halwill Junction tel 01822 612460
4pm Bideford Film Society at Kingsley
School "the kids are all right"

7.30pm 'The Fighter'

Monday 4th

8.30 p.m. North Devon Jazz Club at
the Beaver Inn Appledore 421065.

Tuesday 5th

Palladium Club Jam Night 478860

Wednesday 6th

10.30am Bideford Baptist Pre-school
annual Easter parade at Baptist Centre
Mill St

2pm Bideford Readers' Group at Bideford
Library tel 476075

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club at
Northam Hall. Tel: 475138

Thursday 7th

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

Friday 8th

7.30pm Bideford Film Society at
Kingsley School 'True Grit'

Palladium Club 'the groundhogs' - 69-72
the classic years tour

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

Palladium Club
478860

Saturday 9th

7.30pm Bideford Film Society at
Kingsley School 'True Grit'

Palladium Club 'Maybe naked' - rock
covers te; 478860

Sunday 10th

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate Hotel Appledore

Monday 11th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne
Brown Close tel 07923536908

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at
Appledore School

www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

8.30 p.m. North Devon Jazz Club at
the Beaver Inn Appledore 421065.

Tuesday 12th

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 13th

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

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club at
Northam Hall. Tel: 475138

Thursday 14th

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

11.30am-2.30pm Hartland Parish Hall-
launch of Hartland Peninsula exhibition tel
441011

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at
Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Friday 15th

7.30pm Bideford Film Society at
Kingsley School 'The social network'

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

Palladium Club 'China shop bull &
offbeat' - ska punky rock

Saturday 16th

10am - 1pm Parkinson's UK Torridge
Branch Spring Fayre and Coffee

Morning in Weare Giffard Village Hall

7.30pm Bideford Film Society at
Kingsley School 'The social network'

Palladium Club 'Dirty frank' - rock
covers

Sunday 17th

Torridge Ramblers afternoon walk tel
01805 625485 for details

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate hotel

Appledore

Monday 18th

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

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at

Appledore School

Tuesday 19th

Palladium Club 'Jam night'

478860

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club

Bideford Youth Centre, Kingsley Road

01237 423242

Wednesday 20th

2.15pm Meditation at Bideford Library

476075 entrance via town hall.

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club at

Northam Hall. Tel: 475138

Thursday 21st

2.15 pm Thursday Fellowship tel

421956

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at

Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Friday 22nd

10am-5pm Hartland Arts & Crafts

Easter Fayre Hartland Parish Hall

7.30pm Easter draw and disco Bideford
Angling Club

7.45pm Sequence dancing at Kingsley

Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01769 540309

Palladium Club John Otway & Wild Willy
Barrett - the 40 odd years tour

Saturday 23rd

9.00am - 6.00pm Food & Craft Fayre at
Atlantic Village

10am-5pm Hartland Arts & Crafts

Easter Fayre Hartland Parish Hall

Palladium Club 'beatsworkin' reggae

night

Easter Sunday 24th

10.30 am - 4.30 pm Food & Craft Fayre
at Atlantic Village

10am-5pm Hartland Arts & Crafts Easter

Fayre Hartland Parish Hall

Monday 25th

Tuesday 26th

7.30pm Northam Choral Society at

Methodist Church Hall Northam tel 429080

Palladium Club 'Jam Night' 478860

Wednesday 27th

10.15 Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel
423153

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club at

Northam Hall. Tel: 475138

Thursday 28th

12.30 - 2.00 pm Eco art on prescription
at Burton Art Gallery

AoP@petroc.ac.uk

2.15 pm Thursday Fellowship tel

471426

Friday 29th

Palladium Club 'Not the Royal Wedding
party' – alternative party night

Saturday 30th

10am- 4pm Bucks Cross Art Group

Annual Exhibition Bucks Cross Village
Hall

Sunday 1st May

10am- 4pm Bucks Cross Art Group

Annual Exhibition Bucks Cross Village
Hall

Palladium Club Peter Bruntnell band -

cool soft rock

Monday 2nd

2pm Open day for new bowlers Victoria

Park Bowling Club

Thursday 5th

1pm Wouldcare AGM Wooda Surgery-
open to all patients

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, Torridge District Council,
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