

PIDEFORD BUI



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



Our Garden

See page 2 for the story of a year at Half Penny Acre

Photo © Michael and Penny Harper





'MORE THAN A VALENTINE'

Fifty years have drifted by But fate delivered a binding tie When our eyes first engaged Every feeling in my body raised

My own Venus carved from nature Wishing to marry sooner than later Two hearts are one, one heart is two You love me I love you

Sexual love follows nature's course While spiritual love we both endorsed Simple love is simple truth Anything less serves no use

I cherished you then I cherish you now And adored you when we made our vow I never wavered I was true *Never doubting my trust in you*

Time and love are intertwined I am yours, you are mine Not for us a broken heart We will never be apart

Leonard

Inspired by being fifty years together



More Valentine's Day poems inside ...



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Devon Community

Helping local people

Our Garden 2011 (see front page)

This year has seen many firsts in the garden. There has been an increase in the grass snake population and a corresponding decrease in the frog numbers. The largest snake was in excess of 3 feet and was swimming across the pond at the bottom of the garden. Nearby is a compost heap which provides a home for the female snakes when they are laying their eggs, discovered when trying to dig the compost. The grass snakes appear to live in harmony with slow worms (legless lizards) as we have seen them together under the same lino covering.

The pond area is very secluded. As you enter and are quiet you may be delighted at what you see. In midsummer a flash of blue arose from the pond and darted away over the hedge into the field beyond. It was a kingfisher.

Also In June an unusual form of opium poppy (papaver somniferum) was found on the compost heap. It had ragged red petals which looked very attractive. The reference books provided no clue to this sub species. Its seeds have been collected and we hope to produce some more of these poppies in 2012.

Last year we moved some top soil near the beech trees and whilst working there at the end of this summer found six puff balls growing at the bottom of the soil slope. This reminded me of my childhood in Yorkshire where they were the size of footballs which we used to kick and watch the spores float away in big clouds. These dark brown fungi puff balls were approximately 100mm in diameter. They can grow very much larger before they release their spores.

The same sunny day a 7 inch long stick insect, dull green body and brownish legs, was found attached to the outside of one of the white Georgian windows in the front porch. This stick insect was fascinating to watch as it trembled on its legs. Its body had 3 long sections which could turn round at 90 degrees to each other to form a U shape. It was moved to the top of the small white curb wall, which retains the grass lawn, where it hung on and continued to tremble.

One day in late September there was a commotion in the very large pine tree behind the back of the greenhouse. Upon investigation it proved to be five Jackdaws surrounding a grey squirrel. Each was on the end of a branch, preventing the squirrel from escaping down that branch. Each time the squirrel moved to a new branch a Jackdaw flew to the end. This went on for a few minutes when the squirrel appeared to have had enough and ran back down the trunk of the tree to freedom.

Up near the out houses we have seen a few more toads than usual. The owls in the wood alongside the house are hooting as the evenings close in.

Throughout the summer and early autumn the fruits of the garden especially the damsons and wild strawberries have been in abundance.

We look forward to more surprises in the garden in 2012 Michael and Kathleen Harper Half Penny Acre



Cherubeer Gardens Open for Charity

Three gardens at Cherubeer, Dolton , 8 miles south east of Torrington, EX19 8PP, open for The National Garden Scheme, on **Sunday 5th February and Thursday 16th February** from 2 till 5 pm.150 different named forms of snowdrop and a National Collection of Hardy Cyclamen. Entry: £4 for the three gardens. Hot soup and home-made teas available. Plants for sale, including named snowdrops and cyclamen. Tel: Jo and Tom Hynes, 01805 804265. For further info visit www.ngs.org.uk



Local Builder and Decorator

One Hundred years ago

Health- As a result of the death of a 2 year old girl from Diphtheria in the Monkleigh area the medical officer visited the address, The following details were noted – the wages of the father were 12 shillings a week and the family consisted of nine children all under the age of thirteen . The premises consisted of one downstairs room and two upstairs. The back door would not open and the house was dirty and dilapidated.

Bideford Park

The Victoria Park has proved to be a valuable asset to Bideford and the question of providing railings and gates is now under consideration. An anonymous donor has agreed to pay the cost of the entrance gates- £100.

Pawley's Charity was distributed this month in Bideford. This is an annual occurrence and also bears the unattractive name of 'the Death Sermon'. William Pawley by his will dated 1728 gave £1 1 shilling yearly for the Rector of Bideford to preach a sermon on every St Paul's Day on the subject of mortality. A similar sum was also to be used for bread to be distributed by the Church Wardens to the poor who may be at the service.

Mike Davy (from Bideford Archives)

Travelling Valentine

I have been
a travelling
wife
In fact I've
travelled a
lot in my
life,
Hong Kong
Singapore,
Malaya
too
Just to be
there with you
Kathleen Harper



Ladies who Lunch

From February 14th Blazeys of Bideford will be starting our 'Ladies Who Lunch Club' which will then run every 2nd Tuesday of the month between 12 and 2pm and all ladies who buy lunch from our "Deliciously Devon' menu will enjoy a 20% discount on their bill. Come along and enjoy a fabulous lunch and a natter with your friends in our lovely coffee shop. What other excuse do you need to become a lady who lunches!

Gentleman's Breakfast Club

On 7th February Blazeys of Mill St Bideford will be starting their 'Gentleman's Breakfast Club'. The Club will be an opportunity for local gentlemen to come along and meet up for a chat and to socialise with friends old and new over a tasty freshly cooked breakfast and the most delicious coffee around. The Club will run from 8.30am to 11am on the first Tuesday of every month and as an added benefit all gentlemen will receive a 20% discount

Bideford Camera Club

We are relocating to the Pollyfield Community Centre, East-the-Water, for Tuesday evening meetings at 7.15pm until **24th April 2012**, while our usual meeting room at the Youth and Community Centre on the Strand

The Appledore Singers –

The Appledore Singers are holding a special 'taster' evening on **Monday 19th March, 7.30** – 9pm in the comfortable surroundings of The Pier House (Merley Road, Westward Ho!)For further details contact our Secretary, Jenny Cawsey, on 01237 424982, or our Musical Director, Pam Beechey, on 01769 560034. website: theappledoresingers.co.uk

Tarka Morris Men are looking for new members. Come along and give it a try from 8pm every Tuesday at the Bideford Amateur Athletic Club. No previous experience necessary (we'll teach you) but enthusiasm and a good sense of humour essential! Details 01237 476632.

"All aboard" at Baptist Church Centre, Mill Street Sunday, 19th February 2012 a free family event for parents and children (all ages). Spend quality time doing and learning something new together!, from 4.30 to 6.00 pm. (picnic tea provided) Call Michelle on 01237 473195 or visit our website - www.bidefordbaptist.org.uk.

Tintin at Bideford Film Society

Bideford Film Society recently delighted large audiences with "The adventures of Tintin," an animated version of the cartoon book. Tintin is a fearless young reporter on the trail of a big story . As usual he is accompanied by his dog Snowy. Together with cantankerous Captain Haddock and two bumbling detectives ,they outwit and outrun their enemies to discover the final resting place of The Unicorn, a shipwreck which holds the key to a vast fortune.

This adventure story is full of dare-devil stunts and chases which delighted both young and old. Look out for the B.F.S' next 12recently released films which will include "War Horse," "Iron Lady", "Hugo" and remember to avail yourselves of the £12 family ticket.

Bideford Film Society wish you enjoyable viewing during 2012.

Mavis Blow

Family History

Hello Everybody. A belated Happy New Year to you all. How are you progressing with your research? Hopefully successfully. Here is my next task to help you progress. FAMILY ARCHIVES. Look for clues within your family. Official documents such as wills, certificates of birth, marriage and death, even old utility bills, can contain important biographical or geographical data. Don't forget personal memorabilia such as letters, family bibles and even heirlooms, as these can give you an insight into the lives of your ancestors. Family photographs are a wonderfully evocative source of information. It's worth taking copies of photographs to older relatives to see if they can name anyone featured. Always look on the back for a date, name or location. You might even be able to date the photograph from the style of clothes worn.

The next meeting of the Bideford Group of the Devon Family History Society will be on February 18th, 2pm-4pm at the Burton art museum. All are welcome, it is free and I am sure you will enjoy your visit. Our speaker will be local author Liz Shakespeare who will giving us an insight into the research she did for her latest book. So hopefully we will see you.

A reminder that the Friday help desks at the Bideford library are up and running again so contact the library and book your session for further help with your research. Any queries please contact me **Len Collum** 01237 472883 (see also Pam Cantle's article on page 13)

Westward Ho! History Group was started in 2002 when a letter was passed on by John Burnett, who was our MP at the time to the Information shop in the village.

This letter was written by a Mr. John Groves who had visited Westward Ho! and could find no details of the history of the village. Three volunteers at the Information shop were interested in history and decided to form a history group. They obtained a Local Heritage Grant which helped them set up and publish a series of leaflets.



The sale of these leaflets, which have been popular with locals and holiday visitors, have made it possible for the History Group to buy ten bronze plaques to be placed in the new surface of the promenade and on the sites of some of the old historical buildings, so the history of the village will be there for everyone to see.

The exhibition on **Saturday 11th February 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m at the Baptist Church hall, Westward ho!** will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the group and will show most of the photographs in our archives, books, census, directories and artefacts we have been given including a school uniform from the United Services College which dates back to the time Rudyard Kipling attended the college. Some of the bronze plaques will also be on display.

Anne Hulbert

SAMARITANS

Do you have the skills to be a listening volunteer?

Samaritans are recruiting and urgently need people just like you for their branch in Barnstaple,

North Devon

Samaritans offer a confidential emotional support service which is available 24 hours a day. If you are interested in becoming a listening volunteer, please contact Samaritans on:

BARNSTAPLE 01271 374343 Real People – Real Lives - Real Difference Charity No. 261807 Selection Days held regularly throughout the year



Good Age Page



Did you know?

One of the first commercial airlines, on its inaugural flight from Hounslow to Paris on the 25th August 1919, carried one passenger, newspapers, **jars of Devonshire cream**, several brace of grouse and a consignment of leather. (from *Air Travel a social history* by Kenneth Hudson)

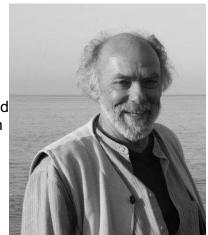
Reminiscence Session – Take a trip down memory lane at Bideford Library Wednesday 8th February 10:30-12 Remember back... and look forward to sharing your memories with others -

Remember back... and look forward to sharing your memories with others - chatting, looking at old items, perhaps creating a book of memories together

Celebrating the life of Graham Kingsley Brown

Graham Kingsley Brown, Artist and Poet, passed away on the 16th December 2011 at the age of 79, from cancer. Beloved and respected by all his family, to whom he was a great moral, loving and creative inspiration, he leaves behind Elizabeth, his wife of 55 years, 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Graham was born in Yorkshire, and met his Scottish wife Elizabeth in Hull when she came to work at the same Customs office. Adventurous and bohemian in spirit, they moved on to Edinburgh, became wardens of a Youth Hostel



in the Borders, and spent another few years in Lincolnshire, before emigrating to South West Cork, Ireland. Here, Graham contributed to the growing arts and crafts movement in the 1960's. The family eventually settled in Bideford in 1971, where Elizabeth and his daughter Judith Christie, local singer-songwriter, and her family still live. A member of the Appledore Crafts Company for a time, Graham has produced a body of artwork and poetry that has, to date, been little exhibited or published. This includes paintings, drawings, collages, woodcarvings, painted objects, poems and prose writings. Graham was also an enthusiastic member of the Renaissance Theatre for some years, acting in several productions, and enjoyed the arts in all its forms.

To mark Graham's life, the family held a Thanksgiving and Celebration event on January 14th at Abbotsham Village Hall, attended by over 70 people. Beautifully led by Reverend Claire Rose-Casemore of St Mary's Church, the audience were treated to a varied programme of memoirs from a friend, songs, poems, readings, and a slide show of Graham's artwork from the family – and home-made cakes.

The family would like to photograph all of Graham's work and have a request that anyone who has, or knows of anyone who has, a piece of his artwork (of any kind) to contact Sophie Brown on 07949 767 229 sophie@goldleafdesigns.co.uk to arrange that. Graham loved much, and was much loved: his spirit lives on in the work he has created, to be enjoyed by all.



BIDEFORD BAY CHILDREN'S CENTRE PAGE



The Children's Centre has just trained a new group of breastfeeding peer supporters. They took part in a six week training programme to give them all the essentials they need to help mothers to breast feed their baby. The aim of the Breast Friends is to support mums through 1:1 peer support and to promote a better understanding of breast feeding as an important element in the healthy development of mother and baby. They offer telephone support and are also available at the Breast Feeding group on Wednesdays in the Children's Centre 1.30 -3.00. Their support is free.

If you are interested in learning more about breast feeding, or would like to become a Breast Friend, please contact Claire at the Children's Centre.



At Bideford Library

Storytime with Music & Rhymes. Every Tuesday and Thursday. 9:30-10:00. Stories, musical instruments and songs. For children 0-5 with their carers.

Sleepyheads' Story Time. Thursday 16th February. 16:00-16:30.

For Children four years and up with their carers Wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite teddy. Have some hot chocolate and a biscuit while you listen to stories. Then it's home to bed!" contact 01237 476075/ bideford.library@devon.gov.uk

Route 39 Engage • Respect • Aspire

A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR NORTH DEVON

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Last chance to sign our online petition and get our community proposal to the next stage with the Department for Education.

WWW.ROUTE39.ORG.UK

From Across the Manche My First Noël

Bonjour, I'm currently on the year abroad of my undergraduate degree in English and French. I'm living in a town on the outskirts of Nantes, working as an English language teaching assistant

At the time of writing, I've been living in France for three and a half months. I don't feel much like a foreigner any more, despite there being times when I sit on the tram with my Anglophone friends and wonder what the locals must think of us as we sit there conversing in our somewhat unnatural, schooled French. Still, that doesn't mean that we don't immerse ourselves in the traditions of our host country – and what better time of the year is there to do that than at Christmas?

Christmas itself is a lesser affair in France; there's no Boxing Day, and the biggest celebration is Réveillon, a large family supper - usually including scallops and foie gras - that actually takes place on Christmas Eve (although that's not a public holiday either). If the New Year falls on a weekend, the French don't get a holiday on the Monday. Decorations and lights inside and outside houses are not as prevalent and the pre-Christmas period is definitely shorter than in England; only the big hypermarkets start putting up their decorations at the end of November, and the few lights that are strung up in the streets don't get switched on until at least a few days into December. Nantes' German style Christmas market (like you'll find in most French cities) opens on Place Royale the last weekend in November, but that's pretty much the only place you will hear festive music. The teachers were still keen, nonetheless, for the pupils to learn about English Christmas traditions cue a brightly coloured PowerPoint presentation that was repeated at least five times and which, given the audience, possibly shouldn't have included the question "What is sherry?". Disgust was shown when I described a mince pie (which, translated literally to French, means 'thin magpie') and enthralment at the concept of the Christmas cracker - the thrill of which I may have exaggerated a little in order to keep them interested ("It EXPLODES!") . At one school, the whole morning was spent making Christmas crackers – without the bit that makes them crack, unfortunately – which each contained a toy, some sweets and, not a bad joke on a bit of paper, but a vocabulary sheet. Merry Christmas, kids. One teacher even managed to find a shop which sold some crackers, so brought some in. One class expressed disappointment, though, when the 'toy' inside the cracker turned out to be the Magic Calculator, a sentiment shared by many English people who find they've been left with this confusing and somewhat boring little activity when more fun things like spinning tops or packs of cards have fallen from the crackers of fellow dinner guests

My last week before Christmas saw the end of year party at the 'Foyer de Jeunes Travailleurs' (a sort of block of flats solely for young workers), which was a surprisingly lively evening with a buffet meal where more and more food gradually appeared and an amount of wine that appeared to contravene the foyer's own no alcohol rule (a somewhat unenforced rule given that this is France and these are young people). There was also a reggae band – a style more popular among French youth than British - that sang in surprisingly well-pronounced English (apart from a song called 'Rest in Peace' which took on a whole new meaning when accidentally pronounced 'Rest in Piss'). I also met with my supervisor to discuss a new venture for me in the new year; instead of one of my mornings at school I will be taking a weekly English 'Atelier de langue' for primary school teachers from around Nantes – helping them to improve their English so they can teach it more credibly at school. This has definitely been a change from teaching bratty ten year olds, though it doesn't mean the classes are any less noisy – sometimes a flow of ideas and well-voiced confusion over the intricacies of the present continuous tense leads to a class noisier than year 6.

Journeys to and from Nantes to North Devon for the Christmas holiday were more difficult than they should have been; storms that battered the west coast of France and a late bus that caused me to miss my train to the port meant that from leaving Nantes and arriving at my destination took about twenty seven hours. Still, it was nice to be back home – where I didn't experience as much culture shock as expected – but now also nice to be back here. **Tom Collins**

This piece was adapted from a post on my blog -http://ayearinnantes.wordpress.com

You Write

Honeybees seeking a new home

I am the Queenbee living with my workers and drones in a hive situated in a lovely orchard but I have a problem.

My keeper has to travel nine miles to visit us. This means that she cannot visit us often enough to check that our hive is secure and that we are a happy colony.



We would like to live in or around Bideford which is such a buzzing sort of place. All we need is an accessible, sunny, quiet corner of a field, garden or orchard.

Please consider if you know of a bee friendly site and contact our keeper. (details below) Yours buzzingly,

The Queen

Do contact my keeper on 01237 472565, by email maveathome@talktalk.net or by leaving a message at Bideford library.

Christian Aid

During the third week of May many people throughout the country give to Christian Aid Week through the house-to-house collection. You may have wondered what happens to the money you give and if it really does make any difference to the lives of people in the developing world. In February, the South West Area Christian Aid team, based in Exmouth, is presenting a roadshow in Bideford and Barnstaple which shows just how much difference our giving does make, and their hopes and vision for the future. It is a multi-media presentation packed with information, ideas, music, refreshments and lots of thanks for the money our area raises each year. It is a great opportunity to see the difference and ask any questions you may have.

The date is **Tuesday**, **7th February**, with a presentation and workshop at 2pm at Christ Church. Bear Street, Barnstaple, followed by the multi-media show at 7.30pm at Bideford Baptist Church, Mill Street, Bideford. These events are open to anyone. Admission is free - just turn up to one or both of the venues

Further information from Carol North (01237 425311).

Northam Lodge would like to give a huge thankyou to the Bideford Buzz Team for all their help in advertising their fundraising events during 2011. We had some very successful events and all the money raised goes directly towards making the lives of our clients more comfortable We rely on the Buzz to spread the word and please all look out for our forthcoming fundraisers in 2012 – like the Diamond Jubilee Cruise in June and the Northam Lodge Olympics Summer Fete in July. We look forward to seeing you all again!

Annabel Cope Fundraising and Publicity Assistant

annabelcope@northamlodge.co.uk

Dwombles of Bideford

We are arranging for a gang of volunteers, young and old, to meet up at our shop (Blazey's Mill St) at around 10am on 25 March, to walk around town with trowels and forks to smarten up the footpaths and shop frontages in readiness for the Easter visitors. We are going to be called "The Dwombles" (Devon Wombles) and hopefully we can meet up again to keep on top of it. We have a beautiful little town and should be proud of the diverse range of shops, pubs and restaurants that we have. We just need to add the finishing touches in readiness for the spring and summer holiday makers by tidying up around the town and posting some awareness leaflets through letterboxes. Steve and Angela Blazev

Events at Bideford Library in February Gardening Club

Wednesday 29th February. 19:30 Horticultural discussions plus a useful selection of books at close hand!

Meditation and Relaxation Group

Wednesday 15th February. 14:15-15:00 Guided meditation and relaxation group for parents with Nicola MacDonald

CEREMONY OF BIDEFORD MANOR COURT: 17 MARCH 2012

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 2 March 2012. 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.

Notice is hereby given that Bideford Manor Court will be held on Saturday 17 March 2012 at 10.30 in the forenoon within the Town Hall, Bideford. Presentments from registered electors in the parish of Bideford for consideration of the Court are invited by submission in writing, addressed to the Foreman of the Jury, c/o the Manor Steward, Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Bideford to arrive no later than Friday 2 March 2012.

Bideford residents who wish to be considered for an invitation to attend or wish to apply to be a Juror at the Manor Court Ceremony, must complete this coupon, and return it to the **Town Clerk**. The Manor Court Ceremony will be followed by a reception at Royal 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. In the event of demand exceeding seating provision, the Mayor will conduct a ballot. (**H Blackburn Manor Steward**)

Name:
Address:
Postcode:Telephone No
Signature:
As a member of the Audience A Juror
Guest's Name:

Winter Fashion Tips

It's February and it's still cold outside, so you should wear stuff that suits the weather - but don't go with something that is not trendy or unsuitable. One of the most fashionable things to wear this February is a hat that is also mittens, no more losing your gloves this year!. Another hip thing to wear is an 'I love...' hoody they're trendy and look great with a pair of skinny jeans and colourful trainers.



These are the perfect things to wear in 2012.

2012.

Briony Glover (Bideford College)

Free personal development courses for 16-25s

Torridge Training Services is running the Prince's Trust TEAM programme. This is a 12 week course aimed at 16-25 year olds who are not in employment, education or training and seeks to re-engage disaffected youth into the community. It also increases their employability through workshops, team building, work experience and community projects. They are currently recruiting young people to the course. For more information, contact Fraser Marchbank: email fmarchbank@ttsgroup.org.uk or phone 07595487262.

HAPPY CAFÉ

@ the Pavillion

Golf Links Road Westward Ho!

Seize the Moment training café

Open for customers and trainee chefs

Thursdays 11am-3pm

serving meals for Barnstaple Poverty Action Group

Fridays 11am-3pm

HAPPY Fridays

Sundays 12pm-3pm









07773 679559 jane@seize-the-moment.net

SOUNDS INTERESTING 17 High Street, Bideford EX39 2AA

01237 238370

soundsinteresting@onebillinternet.co.uk

"LIFE WITHOUT MUSIC WOULD BE A MISTAKE"

F. Nietzsche

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 ≜ CDs and DVDs in the South West
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ORDERS NOT JUST TAKEN BUT WELCOMED.

Thank you to the many people who have supported us and made us feel so welcomed during our 1st year in Bideford

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Jon McGregor's So Many Ways to Begin, a book chosen by Bideford Readers' Group

Nine members of the reading group were unanimous in their enjoyment of this book.

The story is centred on David and his wife Eleanor, their enduring relationship, despite life's many ups and downs, starting from their chance encounter in Aberdeen, through their early married years in Coventry, Eleanor's profound depression, following a frustrated career opportunity and parenthood.

David, a museum curator, cleverly tells his story though a collection of personal artefacts, accumulated from childhood. Following the death of his father David discovers, rather late in life, that he was adopted as a baby. This information affects David deeply and his relationship with his adoptive mother. He begins a lifelong on/off search for his real mother, a quest that ultimately takes him to Mary Friel in Donegal, but not to the reunion he had for so long imagined. So Many Ways to Begin led to much interesting discussion. We all had interpreted the many strands of the story in different ways leaving us with lots of unanswered questions. Who was his mother? Why did his adoptive mother keep it secret? Why did he never ask who his Real father was? What role did Aunt Julia play? In conclusion we agreed that life is never black and white but full of unforeseen catalysts which can bring about unexpected results.

David Fairclough

If you want to find out more about the Readers' group or if anyone has a 'Top Five Reads', why not send them to the Bideford Buzz or to evansandevans2@aol.com

Editor's Pick for 2011 - all borrowed from my local library.

Brick Lane by Monica Ali; Woman in white by Wilkie Collins; Isla and May by Margaret Forster A kind man by Susan Hill; The Hypnotist by lars Kepler; Other side of the story by Marian Keyes

Come and hear author Laurence Shelley recount tales from walking the length of Britain. For anyone interested in books, hiking, or the chance encounters that life can bring

'Off-the-Wall Walking' won a national self-publishing award, and he recently published 'On Chance Road: A thumb print of Britain'.' Both books available from Walter Henry's BookshopTel: 01237 425727. Bideford Library Wednesday 1st February at 2.30pm Tickets £2.5 01237 476075 (booking advised)



recipe for Pancake Day powder, salt and sugar. of Blazeys Mill St.

Makes 8 pancakes

INGREDIENTS

190 g plain flour 3.5 tspbaking powder 0.5 tsp salt 1 tbsp caster sugar 295 ml milk 1 tsp vanilla extract 1 egg 45 g butter - melted

A nice old fashioned In a large bowl sift together the flour, baking

21st February courtesy Make a well in the centre and pour in the milk, vanilla, egg and melted butter.

Mix until smooth.

Heat a thin layer of oil in a frying pan over a medium heat, when hot pour or ladle in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan and fry until lightly browned on the underside before flipping over and frying the other side. Stack the cooked pancakes on a warm plate whilst you make the remaining pancakes.

Serve hot either rolled up or folded with the filling of your choice.

From week commencing 13 February Blazeys will be selling homemade toffee cinnamon sauce which will go perfectly with these delicious pancakes.

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
Psychic Suppers and much more!
Healing Sundays 7.45pm Mondays 2-4 and
Tuesdays 4.30-6

For more information ring **01805 603171 or 01237 471526**

Second Glance

Dress Agency at Merry Harriers. (We are at the rear of the restaurant) just off the A39 at Bucks Cross

Every Wednesday Thursday and Saturdays 10am- 4pm

Looking forward to the Spring weddings. We have wedding outfits,hats,prom dresses,cruise wear and a large range of day wear.

Contact Maureen 01237 431451 Lesleyann 01237 431757 maureenfarley@ymail.com



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NEW CLASS IN TORRINGTON!

Mondays Pollyfields Community Ctr, East-the-Water, Bideford. 6.15-7.15pm Tuesdays Great Torrington School Gym, (Hatchmoor Rd entrance) 8-9pm

* Only £4 per class *

No sign up fees, just come along and join the party! Zumba is for anybody 16 -80 and it's the best. Email: zumbafitnessdevon@gmail.com www.zumbafitnessdevon.co.uk Friday 3 and Saturday 4 February at Bideford College -Hugo (U):Friday 10 February at Bideford College - My Week with Marilyn (15):Thursday 16 and Saturday 18 February at Kingsley School - Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (12A):Friday 17 February at The Burton - Puss In Boots (U) (Doors open 6.45pm to allow for a brief tour of the museum before the film)

Friday 24 and Saturday 25 February at Kingsley School -The Iron Lady (12A);

Doors open at 7.00pm, film starts at 7.30pm.

Tickets: General £5.50 Concessions £5.00 Members £4.00

Family (up to 3 children & 2 adults) £12.00

To avoid disappointment please check local press for confirmation of above programme or or visit our web site www.bidefordfilmsociety.co.uk

Glamour and Glitz

Bideford Buzz will be holding a preowned/pre-loved clothes evening courtesy of Blazeys Mill St. 22nd March at 7.30pm For details- (sellers and buyers) please contact Rose on 01237 476549.

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

Family History Finished

Oh no it isn't, do I hear you say? No one can finish their family history but it is true. We have called halt and

committed all to 8 golden archive discs now delivered to the next generation in Canada, USA and New Forest this summer. There is an introduction, a paginated index and pages of lavishly illustrated details, of the history of all our family members back to 8 great grandparents. There are no details of our childrenspinster aunt who had total recall, when visiting or grandchildren as they can do that part themselves. Our own details are in CV form giving our homes, our schools, education, marriages, children and grandchildren, and our achievements and interests, and a few illustrations. As my brother is a distinguished geologist, mountaineer, Badminton player and coach it took two afternoons of notes to get it all down! So I definitely decided a CV was enough. The thrust of our history is the interesting lives of our parents from 1909, their parents and their grandparents. I have included all our uncles and aunts and the interesting great uncles and aunts we know about. This alone gets us back to the early 1800's.

I had professional help with the final layout in PDF form and burning the discs. The text was held in Word files for several years and finally laid out with illustrations scanned in, mainly photographs, one or two line drawings and some covers of books written by family members. All the old photographs were trimmed to remove the mounts in order to save space with the facility on Word for editing inserted pictures. However Word is 'fugitive' and copy can slip from page to page so do use PDF form for final copy.

Each person in the history has full details at the start of their birth/baptism, parents, siblings, marriages and death. Then on to the story of their life. We have an all-family history not a single name so there was a lot to cover but I had the inestimable advantage of having parents with unmarried siblings so all the paperwork that survives and photographs ended up with my parents and finally myself. I sorted each family into boxes and it was the technique of laying the contents out of each in turn on a table which helped me to realise the connections of their lives local charities. For further details go to and further enquiries to make. There is no family tree. I have told the young to make this from all

the material provided.

At the end of the furthest back generation I have included clues for further research.

I advise all young persons reading this article to take an exercise book and talk to all their oldest relatives as soon as they can. It was the page on a schoolbook cover that was the invaluable starting point for my Plymouth ancestors. I had kept it since a half term at my grandfather Bennett's aged 17. Long conversations with my Hartland, Clovelly and Barnstaple were never recorded and that is where memory has had to suffice. I have gone for interesting stories such as the Kingslev connection in Clovelly, the 3 boy buglers who all returned from WWI and became senior officers; my New Zealand emigrant cousins and Bill Stone who lived to be 108 (you saw him at the Cenotaph).

Many are hilarious stuff of family legend. Aunt Kate who stormed off to a Marie Stopes clinic after the birth of twins in the 1890's. My mother at Whimple school who thought the Schools Inspector was the window cleaner while mayhem reigned in her class acting the three bears under their desks in the 30's.

I have also listed for the young in each section those items such as a music stool, clock, clothes, Baron portrait, and Clovelly tea service in our home, which connects them to past family members.

I hope this inspires readers who have been mining the rich seams of family data to bite the bullet and set it down. The relief is a real tonic! **Pam Cantle**

Instow

Northam Community Swaps are holding a Book and Jigsaw Sale.

All books, including fiction, non-fiction, paperback and hardback, new and pre-owned will be at the give-away price of just 25p. Jigsaws will be from 50p.

So get along to Northam Hall on Saturday February 18th between 2pm and 4pm to grab yourself a bargain.

There will also be a raffle with prizes of six first edition books signed by their authors. Refreshments, cakes and preserves will be available. All monies raised will be donated to www.northamcommunityswaps.co.uk.

News from the Burton art gallery & museum

The New Year heralds a glimpse behind the scenes at the Burton Gallery; out of store come some of the Permanent Collection, and the Exhibitions and Collections Manager, Warren Collum, has selected Landscapes as the theme for this show, which continues until February 24th



It includes work by Sir George Clausen, R.A., 1862-1944, who was an English painter with Danish parentage. He visited Holland and Paris, and his paintings, created in his studio, are in the impressionist style, using his open-air studies. Another artist represented is E.Aubrey Hunt, 1856-1922, who was born in Massachusetts, U.S.A. He travelled in France and in North Africa, and his work is lively and colourful. Hubert Coop, a co-founder of the Gallery with Thomas Burton, has already been feted with his own show, but some of his landscapes can be seen again. Paintings by 20th century artists include some of Sheila Hutchinson's 'Torridge Source to Sea' collection, which records in watercolour all its bridges from Hartland beginnings to the Estuary. Mary Stella Edwards and Judith Ackland spent many years living in the Cabin at Bucks Mills, and their watercolours of the land and seascape around them always give much pleasure. A rare opportunity to see how the Permanent Collection has grown since the Gallery's early days in 1951. As always, admission is free (donations welcome), and you have access to the Museum on the first floor, and the Craft Gallery with many exceptional works of art on sale; the Cafe du Parc serves excellent lunches, cakes and coffee (and tea); If you wish to join the Friends of the Burton Gallery, just request a leaflet at Reception, or go on line to www.burtonartgallery.co.uk Diana Warmington.

Secretary, Friends of the Burton Art Gallery & Museum.

Wind turbines - is there a greener solution?

This was the title of an interactive talk given by Councillor Adam Symons to the BSG (Bideford's own sustainability group!) early this month.

Some 30 odd members of the local community gathered in Bideford Town Hall on 10th January, in the hope of getting THE ANSWER - not to 'Life, the Universe and Everything' as the Hitchhiker's Guide has it, but at least to the vexed and much-debated question of whether a 300 to 400 strong wind turbine 'farm' off the coast of Bideford is the best and only answer to our present energy needs.

The audience was asked to itemise the advantages and disadvantages of wind turbines. Amongst the positives were low CO2 emissions, a decreasing cost (after initial outlay) and the unlimited nature of the resource. They saw the disadvantages as the initial cost, unreliability (the need for backup), the necessity for dismantling after 25 years, the visual impact, the noise for those living close by and the disruption to wildlife.

Adam gave us an overview of present energy consumption across the world, country by country; he drew attention to the massive escalation in demand since the 1980s. He pointed out that all forms of energy, whether renewable or non-renewable, have environmental impact, they all emit CO2, even if only in their manufacture and they all cost money.

No perfect solution then; clearly, it's a matter of compromise, finding ways of generating energy which have the least impact on our habitat so that, hopefully, our species, we human beings, will survive the ravages we ourselves are inflicting on our environment.

What became very clear in the following discussion, at least, I think, to most of those present, is that the greatest need is for mankind to reduce its demand for energy. We in the West have become profligate in our use of what we have come to see as an infinite resource. In turn, we have provided an unfortunate role model for developing countries.

What is needed is what Adam called a 'paradigm change' or, in more everyday language, a profound change in life style. Instead of treating the planet and all life upon it as an infinite resource, the call is to recognise that we're part of the whole, that, in order to thrive, we need to find ways of living in harmony with our environment, taking from it only what can be replenished and renewed.

How to achieve such a change was the question we were left with. I think it's called 'food for thought'!

If you would like to be one of those seeking answers to that question here in Bideford, contact BSG's secretary Jane Williams, email: janeshiptonwilliams@lineone.net or on 01237 422577



THE SHIPPING NEWS



Ship Valentin Pikul Built 1994	Registered Flag/Owners Valletta Malta Russian	From Drogheda	To Wismar	Date arrived 23.11.11	Date sailed 25.11,11	Crew Russian	Cargo loaded 2512 tons timber
Abis Bordeaux Built 2011	Harlingen Holland Dutch	Brest	Rosyth	24/11/11	28/11/11	Dutch	19 pieces for aircraft carriers
Celtic Venture * Built 1990 ex Jonanna 98 Radesforde 06	Cardiff British British	Birkenhead	Castellon	09/01/12	12/01/12	Polish	2850 tons 3 grades clay
Flinterbirka * Built 2006	Groningen Netherland Dutch	Belfast	Wismar	12/01/12	13/01/12	Dutch Russian Phillipines	2065 tons timber

There should have been a shipment of timber during December but there was no suitable tonnage available.

*Celtic Venture visit was its first to the port and was the maximum air draft height for passing under the Torridge Bridge.

*The Flinterbirka was the first visit to the port for owners *Flinter Group*; the ship was unable to take any deck cargo due to late arrival and falling tides. A representative of Euroforest on the Quay advises me that this timber is being used in the production of furniture.

Arco Dart 11.12.2011; 10.2.2012; Oldenburg has been to Sharpness for her annual drydocking and returned to Bideford on the 18.12.2011 and has since been on a cargo run to Lundy - stayed overnight and returned the following day.

Bristol Channel Observations.

18.11.2011 at 14.10 hrs vehicle carrier **Autosun** 6670 tons d.w owners UECC Unipessoal Ltd Funchal Maderia, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 09.51 hrs; at 14.54 vehicle carrier **Grande Sicilia** 14900 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 11.48 hrs.

23.11.2011 at 08.50 hrs cargo vessel **Mekanik Formin** 2650 tons d.w owners Joint Stock Northern Shipping Russia, outward bound from Avonmouth, having sailed at 04.28 hrs.

2.12.2011 at 10.40 hrs bulk carrier **Angelic Power** 74764 tons d.w, owners Angelic Dynamis Investmentr Pireaus Greece, inward bound for Portbury.

3.12.2011 at 14.40 hrs container ships **Laura Schulte** 23286 tons d.w owners Thomas Schulte Reederei Germany, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 11.35 hrs.

4.12.2011 at 15.30 hrs the British warship HMS Illustrious which is now a LPH or Landing Platform Helicopter ship seen passing South of Lundy heading south; she had been on exercise with commandos on Braunton Burrows.
5.12.2011 at 12.47 cargo vessel Mekanik Formin 2650 d.w. owners Joint Stock Northern Shipping Co Russia inward bound for Newport

10.12.2011 at 13.20 hrs bulk carrier **Emu Arrow** 51419 tons d.w owners Gearbulk Holdings of Hamilton Bermuda, having sailed from Portbury at 09.31 hrs;at 15.15 hrs cargo vessel **Suurhusen** 2805 tons d.w owners W.Bockstiegel Reederei GMBH & Co KG Germany, outward bound from Sharpness having sailed at 10.11 hrs.

16.12.2011 at 11.10 hrs cargo vessel **Emslake** 5200 tons d.w. owners Grona Damsun GMBH & Co Germany, outward bound from Sharpness.

17.12.2011 at 14.10 hrs cargo vessel **Eems Dollard** 3850 tons d.w., owners Rozema/Slort Netherlands, outward bound from Cardiff.

18.12.2011 at 10.47 cargo vessel **Pinta** 2190 tons d.w owners Interscan SchiffahrtsGMBH Germany inward bound for Newport; at 13.18 hrs project vessel **Abis Bordeaux** 2998 tons d.w, owners Abis Shipping B.V Netherlands inward bound for Avonmouth (Recent visitor to Appledore see above).

20.12.2011 at 13.38 hrs cargo vessel **Aspen** 3037 tons d.w, owners NYKI Shipping BV Netherlands, outward bound from Sharpness.

11.1.2011 at 10.44 hrs vehicle carrier Grande Roma 14483 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy inward bound for Portbury.

P.s. At the time of going to press the writer of the shipping page is awaiting confirmation from Torridge District Council for the vacant position on the Harbour Working Group (voluntary position) - this is due on Monday 23rd and if confirmed will be able to attend first meeting on the 26rd January. (*Norman*)

Shipping news from 100 years ago

The 100 year old ketch, 'Seal' formerly the 'Purveyor'- originally a Government provision boat and latterly in the coal trade for Mr Leonard of Bideford, sailed from Bideford Quay for her 6000 mile voyage to Durban, after which she will engage in the seal hunting trade in the South Indian ocean. The captain expects to reach Durban in about 80 days,

February Diary 2012

Wednesday 1st

Northam Hall.Tel: 475138

Thursday 2ⁿ

10.15am Northam and District Men's Forum Methodist Church Hall, Cross St. Northam. Tel 470553 for details

7pm Crochet course starts at Craftihands, Mill St 472250 to book a place Friday 3rd

Fun, Bideford Amateur Athletic Club ZZ tops at Palladium Club £10 at the club 01237 478860, or

www.ticketweb.co.uk,

Saturday 4th

7.30pm Film 'Jane Eyre' at Littleham. Info on 420372

Palladium club Wendy May's Boom Boom room - 01237 478860,

Sunday 5^t

8.00am Holy Communon 10am Parish Communion 7.00pm Evensong - Services at Art Gallery tel 01709 231309 St Mary's Church

Monday 6th

10 - 12 noon. Lip reading classes Ethelwynne Brown community room HeatherSmith(heatherathoneywells@hotmail Fellowship Club; Bideford Baptist Church .com) or 07923 536 908

6.15pm Zumba dancing at Pollyfield 01271859009

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School Pam Beechey on Palladium Club - Open Mic Jam Night 01769 560034. theappledoresingers.co.uk Tuesday 7th

10am Lavington Church coffee morning and lunches (- 1.15pm)

2pm Bideford Salvation Army Fun and Fellowship Club; Bideford Baptist Church 7.15pm Bideford Camera Club Palladium Club - Open Mic Jam Night 8pm Tarka Morris at Bideford Amateur Athletic Club 476632

Wednesday 8th

10.15am onwards Probus meets at Royal Hotel 01237 423513

7.30pmB ideford Folk Dance Club meets in 8pm Bideford Ceilidh Club. Folk Dancing for Northam Hall.Tel: 475138

Bideford Music Club at Methodist Church Hall Bideford James Sherlock piano423 8pm Phoenix Morris practice at Baptist Church info@bidefordphoenix.co.uk 01237 473798

Thursday 9th

10.15am Northam and District Men's Forum Methodist Church Hall, Cross St. Northam. Tel 470553 for details

7.30pm Eyes Down Bingo at Robins' Nest (Footballl club)

8pm Bideford Folk Club Joiners' Arms Holy Karaoke at Crealoch Arms Littleham Friday 10th

7.30pm Abbotsham WI meet at Abbotsham Village Hall 474711

8pm Bideford Ceilidh Club. Folk Dancing for 6.15pm Zumba dancing at Pollyfield Centre Fun, Bideford Amateur Athletic Club476632 01271859009 Palladium Club Wille & the bandits -478860

Satu rday 11

Palladium Club Wishbones - bluesy/folk/rock Tuesday 21st

10am – 4pm Westward Ho! History Group 10th anniversary exhibition Baptist Church Westward Ho!

7pm - Midnight Friends of Parkham School's Valentine's Ball Allardice Hall, Parkham Lisa 01237 451911 or Sandra 01237 451343 476632

Sunday 12th

8.00am Holy Communon 10am All age

Communion - Services at St Mary's Church 7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets in 9.30 till 2 Breakfast at Littleham £5. Tel.: 473338

Monday 13th

10 - 12 noon. Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown community room HeatherSmith(heatherathoneywells@hotmail Methodist Church Hall, Cross St. Northam. .com) or 07923 536 908

6.15pm Zumba dancing at Pollyfield 01271859009

8pm Bideford Ceilidh Club. Folk Dancing for 7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore School 01769 560034. www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

Hall 01237 459337

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club Robin's Nest Bideford Football club tel 472101(tnote change of venue)

Tuesday14th

10am Lavington Church coffee morning lunches (-1.15pm)

10.30am Macular Disease Society Burton

2pm Epilepsy Action Group North Devon Branch Henry Williamson Room Barnstaple library 07875577428 2pm Bideford Salvation Army Fun and 7.15pm Bideford Camera Club Pollyfield

Centre tel Carol 423242 8pm Tarka Morris at Bideford Amateur

Athletic Club 01237 476632

Wednesday 15th 7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall 01237 429080.

Thursday 16th

10.15am Northam and District Men's Forum Methodist Church Hall, Cross St. Northam. Tel 470553 for details

8pm Bideford Folk Club Joiners' Arms

Art Gallery 'Lundy under water' tel 477701 7.30pm Bucks Cross village hall quiz night 429388 to reserve table.

Fun, Bideford Amateur Athletic Club476632 Saturday 18th

Barn Dance with Mrs Midnight's at Langtree welcome Village Hall. All welcome. Info.01237 476632. Wednesday 29th Palladium Club 478860 78 dj night

Sunday 19th 8.00am Holy Communon 10am Parish Communion 11.30am Children's Church 7pm Taize with choir- Services at St Marv's

Torridge Ramblers' afternoon walk tel 01805 622183

Monday 20th

Church

10 - 12 noon. Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown community room HeatherSmith(heatherathoneywells@hotmail .com) or 07923 536 908

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore School 01769 560034. www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

10am Lavington Church coffee morning and lunches (- 1.15pm)

2pm Bideford Salvation Army Fun and Fellowship Club: Bideford Baptist Church 8pm Tarka Morris at Bideford Amateur Athletic Club New members welcome

Wednesday 22nd

10.15am onwards Probus meets at Royal

Hotel 01237 423513

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

Ash Wednesday service at St Mary's Church Thursday 23rd

10.15am Northam and District Men's Forum Tel 470553 for details

8pm Bideford Folk Club Joiners' Arms Friday 24th 10am-1pm Lundy Art Group St. Mary's

Church Hall Appledore 423884

10.30am landscape painting in oils course 10.30am-12 Memory Cafe Appledore Baptist starts at Craftihands Mill St tel.472250 to book a place

> 7.30pm Quiz Night Instow Village Hall 422710 in aid of North Devon Hospice 8pm Bideford Ceilidh Club. Folk Dancing for Fun, Bideford Amateur Athletic Club476632 Palladium Club Maybe naked - rock covers Saturday 25^{tt}

> Torridge Ramblers' day walk 01805 622183 7pm Meeting for Bible teaching & fellowship at Bethel, the Quay,474466. Appledore

> Palladium Club Peoples Republic of Mercia - rnb pub rock 478860

Sunday 26th

8.00am Holy Communon 10am Parish Communion 7.00pm Prayer and praise -Services at St Mary's Church

Monday 27th

10 - 12 noon. Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown community room HeatherSmith(heatherathoneywells@hotmail .com) or 07923 536 908

6.15pm Zumba dancing at Pollyfield Centre 01271859009

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore School 01769 560034. www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at the Friday 17th Beaver Inn Appledore 01237 421065. 2pm Devonshire Association meets at Burton **Tuesday 28**th

10am Lavington Church coffee morning and lunches (- 1.15pm)

2pm Bideford Salvation Army Fun and Fellowship Club; Bideford Baptist Church 8pm Tarka Morris at Bideford Amateur Athletic Club 476632 New members

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

Bideford Buzz is produced by a team of volunteers with financial and practical assistance from Devon County Council's Library Services, Torridge 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.

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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)