



BIDEFORD BUZZ



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



Also in this month's Buzz

- ✦ **Beavers for Flood Protection?**
- ✦ **A Salt Cod Recipe for Easter**
- ✦ **Lost Bunnies of Bidford**
- ✦ *Plus our regular items ...*

The unveiling, on Saturday 11th March 2017, of the Tarka the Otter sculpture, the work of Rowan Fawdon.

In his speech the Mayor described the life and career of Henry Williamson, author of Tarka the Otter, including his time in the trenches in World War 1. Williamson married Ida Hibbert on 6th May 1925 at the tiny church at Landcross. Later they lived in Georgeham.

Tarka the otter, his fictional

creation was born (and died) at Canal Bridge a little further along the Torridge towards Torrington. The Tarka cake (made by Karen of the *Chocolate Teapot*) was then cut at the *Secret Garden Café*.

There is more on the event in Millie's article on the Youth Page.

Our photo shows the Mayor and Mayoress, local Councillors, Rowan Fawdon and Tonia Quance, who thought up the whole idea of a statue.

CONTACT BUZZ

Bideford Buzz is produced by a team of volunteers with practical assistance from Torrridge District Council, Torrridge Voluntary Services, Bideford Town Council, Bideford Bridge Trust, South West Foundation, Devon County Council & Bideford Freemasons. If you are interested in helping to produce or distribute this newsletter we would be pleased to hear from you. Please note that for advertisements there is a charge from £18 per box per month. Cheques payable to Bideford Buzz Newsletter Group. All items for inclusion should be sent by the 11th of the month to the Editor, Rose Arno. Further information about us can be obtained from the Buzz on 01237 476549. 3,500 copies are printed monthly.

All items for inclusion, advertising and distribution to be addressed to Rose Arno (Editor) c/o Torridge Voluntary Services, 14 Bridgeland Street, EX39 2QE.

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north devon
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Bideford Town Council

Buzz Bits

Jazz Cruise on the MS Oldenburg

Climb aboard our Charity Jazz Cruise on the MS Oldenburg and welcome in the Summer on **Friday 12th May** departing from Bideford Quay at 6.30pm for a two hour sailing around the Taw Torridge estuary, taking in the beautiful scenery North Devon has to offer.

Tickets cost £16 (adult) / £8 (child) and can be purchased directly from our website at www.northamlodge.co.uk.

Charity Powerboat Rib Rides

Hold on tight as Northam Lodge, in conjunction with Skern Lodge, bring you RIB Powerboat Rides from Appledore Quay on **Saturday 21st May 2017**.

These half hour rides leave from 12pm – 5.30pm are fast and fun (you may get wet!). The cost is £15 for adults and £12 for children (aged 7-16). Full boats warrant a discount. Reserve your tickets now at www.northamlodge.co.uk or find us on the day at Appledore Quay opposite the Seagate Hotel. *Both events in aid of Northam Lodge.*



Night Walk 2017

Women across North Devon can now sign up to Nightwalk 2017. The moonlit walk takes place on **Saturday 20th May** and is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Those taking part will be helping to raise £100,000 for North Devon Hospice nurses who provide care during the night. Starting points are at Barnstaple, Instow, Bideford, Torrington and Tamar Lakes (near Holsworthy), and route lengths range from 3 to 11 miles. Buses will be on hand to take Nightwalkers back to their starting point. Visit www.nightwalk.co.uk to sign up today.



Barnstaple Ladies Choir

A concert featuring Harmony 4 with Peggy Spiers performing piano solos. **Saturday 29th April**. Tickets on the door £5, doors open at 6:30pm, concert starts at 7pm. Christchurch, Bear street, Barnstaple. Raffle and refreshments available. Proceeds for Chemo Hero and Cancer Research.

PARKINSON'S^{UK} CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

Spring Fayre : Torridge Branch Parkinson's UK

Weare Giffard Village Hall Saturday 8th April 11:00am to 2:00pm Stalls to include Crafts, Shake a Dice, Books & CDs, Plants, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Raffle, Tombola. Live Music, Refreshments, Silent Auction and much more **Free Entrance. To be opened by Sarah Chesters of Rosemoor.**

Encore

The theatrical singing group, **ENCORE!** will be performing at **St. Mary's Church, Appledore** at 7pm on **Saturday 22nd April** in aid of Parkinson's UK (Torridge Branch).

The Torridge Branch of Parkinson's UK focuses on better care, treatments and quality of life for those affected, offering information, friendship and support to local people with Parkinson's, their families and their carers, as well as organising regular events and social activities.

In their concerts Encore perform a wide range of songs from musical theatre, with solos, duets and four-part harmony ensemble singing. The emphasis is on musical quality and entertainment, bringing a slice of the West End and Broadway to North Devon. **Tickets are £6 on the door, or can be obtained in advance by calling John Wilson on 01271 860918.**

Beaver Away for Bideford Flood Protection.

There are proposals under consideration for raising the level of the Kenwith Reservoir dam to give the necessary added protection from fluvial flooding resulting from anticipated climate change and the amount of new housing development in the catchment area.

In this context, the following quotation from an account of works carried out near Pickering, North Yorkshire, seems rather appealing !

“ In Pickering, rather than building a £20 million concrete flood wall through the centre of town, the community planted 29 hectares of woodland upstream to naturally soak up water, and created hundreds of natural obstructions in the river made of logs, branches and heather to restore its natural flow. The flood risk has now fallen from 25%, to just 4%, and at a fraction of the cost of hard defences”.

This description almost exactly matches the account of work carried out by Beavers in a controlled experimental research project by the Devon Wildlife Trust in the south of Torridge district. Here the storage and slow release of water from sudden rainfall events is proven to significantly reduce peak flows downstream. When you consider the popularity of the wild Beavers on the river Otter, the presence of Bideford Beavers in the Kenwith Valley Nature Reserve could also be a great tourist attraction.

After all, with beavers on the river Otter in east Devon, why shouldn't we have beavers on the most famous otter river of all, the Torridge? They should live happily together as beavers are vegetarian and otters would love the extra fish that beaver pools encourage to breed and thrive.

Chris Hassall.



Northam Burrows Easter Events

The Great 'Easter' Eggcase Hunt - Tracking down Nature's Eggcases

Tuesday 4th April 2pm-4pm Meet at Westward Ho! Slipway.

Super Swallows - Swallow Nest Making
Thursday 6th of April 2pm-4pm Meet at the Burrows Centre



History Walk - Victorian Westward Ho!
Tuesday 11th April 2pm-4pm. Meet at the Burrows Centre

Easter Rockpool Ramble

Thursday 13th April 2pm-4pm Meet at Westward Ho! Slipway

For all events please wear suitable clothing and footwear. All children must be supervised by an adult. For more information contact Northam Burrows Visitor Centre on 01237479708
northam.burrows@torridge.gov.uk

North Devon School of Country Beekeeping

Have you ever had the slightest interest in beekeeping? Do you want to help the environment AND get honey as a reward? Then the North Devon School of Country Beekeeping may be the place for you. We are running a Beginners' Course for 12 weeks from 2nd April, 2.00-4.00pm each Sunday. The course covers all aspects of keeping bees and is a practice based experience. You will learn mostly through doing which means you will be thoroughly competent to keep bees by the end of the course. We can never guarantee a colony of bees to students, but up till now we have always managed to do so. After the course we provide bee related social activities, and a free 'at home' support service for novice beekeepers who need help. Please contact Tony Wright at wright1939@btinternet.com or John Surman at bestridge@hotmail.com for more details. including directions.

What do you call a cross bee? **A grumble bee.**

Book Buzz

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. Reviewed by Bideford Library Readers' Group.

This book was an amalgamation of five short stories written in the late 1940s/early 50s. Any story about censorship was welcome at the time so one about the organised burning of books would struggle to find a publishing outlet in early 1950s America when the 'Unamerican Activities Committee' was active. At the time the only magazine to dare to print the story, in serial form, was Hugh Heffner's Playboy!

The story is about a world where all books are being destroyed. For someone who clearly loves libraries – the story was written on a library typewriter rented at 20 cents an hour – this would be anathema to the author. It's also a world where walking and chatting to neighbours are virtually banned, where there's a minimum speed limit on the roads and violence is always close to the surface. War is a constant threat. The rulers of society aim to 'cram people full of data, full of facts so they feel they are thinking without actually thinking' creating a world full of instant gratification where real thought and memory are eradicated.

Although much of the book feels doom laden, readers are left with a semblance of hope, for society and for literature, in the final chapter,

Much of the discussion centred around science fiction in general and dystopian novels in particular with obvious parallels being drawn with *Orwell's 1984* and *Huxley's Brave New World*. One member mentioned a recent book, set in modern times, 'The Reader on the 6.27' by Jean-Paul Didierlaurent and Ros Schwartz – about someone who hates their job working in a book pulping factory

Peter Evans Next meeting *Wednesday April 5th at 2pm* when we will be discussing John Le Carre's 'A most wanted man.' **Copies available from Bideford Library**



Bideford Library

April Events

Tuesdays 4th and 11th - 10.00am - 12.00 Easter drop in with Craft Activities for children.

4th Make an Easter Bunny Bag : **11th** Plant a Bean and watch it grow.

Friday 7th Quilting Workshop 4.00 – 6.00pm booking essential ; places limited. **Thursday**

13th Becki Driscoll's Youth Band will be giving a short performance followed by a musical workshop ; *For information on these events please phone Bideford Library on 01237 476075.*

More on the Postman Poet, Edward Capern.

For the past three years I have been working on a novel based on the life of Edward Capern. Those of you who have read my previous books will know that I enjoy carrying out detailed research and this project has been no exception. I found over six hundred national newspaper articles about him and two detailed accounts written by people who accompanied him on his postman's round. His great-great-granddaughter shared letters and family knowledge with me. Close study of the four books of poems gave me a fascinating insight into the countryside between Bideford and Buckland Brewer through which he walked and the people he met. There was also research to be undertaken into the local and national events that affected his life, including a famine in Barnstaple, the coming of the railway to Bideford and the development of the Penny Post. Parts of the novel are told from the point of view of his wife, Jane; she was a milliner in Mill Street so I read books on Victorian millinery to help me understand her life.

The Postman Poet, and the *Poems of Edward Capern* are available to purchase from Walter Henry's Bookshop and other local outlets, or from www.lizshakespeare.co.uk and www.englishfiddle.com for cd of songs by Becki Driscoll and Nick Wyke.

Liz Shakespeare.



Notice is hereby given that Bideford Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 April 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Town Hall, Bideford.

The Mayor of Bideford will submit a report on the Council's activities during 2016/17 and reviews will be given of the work undertaken by the Council's Committees. Grant cheques will be presented to Local Organisations and consideration will be given to any matters raised by Registered Electors who reside within the parish of Bideford.

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 or support volunteer, please contact Samaritans on:

BARNSTAPLE

01271 374343

email sams_nd@yahoo.co.uk

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Information Days 2017 11th March, 8th July,

7th October 10:00am-12:00pm.

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- Support
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For more details or a FREE demonstration
Telephone 01237 428094 or
email helpline@westwardhousing.org.uk

The Appledore Singers



Open Rehearsal

Monday 8th May

7.30 - 9pm

Appledore Baptist Church

Come and sing with us!

- Meet members of the choir
- Chat to our Musical Director
- Join in with the rehearsal
- Have fun!

Contact Pam Beechey 01237 420652

Or see our website: theappledoresingers.co.uk
or our Facebook page.

Buzz Byte

Desktop, Laptop, or Tablet - the choice is yours!



This month, rather than advice, I thought we'd look at some of the abbreviations we use in the industry and what they stand for.

The three main computers that are sold today are the desktop (the large tower unit), a laptop (flip open device with screen and keyboard) or a tablet (often touch screen but can come with additional keyboard). Once you have decided which device best suits your needs you need to look into the specifications to ensure it will meet your requirements.

The OS is the *Operating System* – usually either Windows or Mac (Apple). The majority of PCs stocked will come with Windows 10.

Now for the guts of the PC! HDD stands for *Hard Disk Drive* which stores the computer programmes and all your data. That goes down and you're in trouble. It is recommended to take regular backups as the data isn't always retrievable. I know, I lost over 2k thousand words of a book I'm writing but now I use *Google Drive* to keep a backup. Pop into any good computer store if you are worried to discuss how you can safeguard against loss of data but remember no protection is 100%!

The CPU, which is the *Central Processing Unit*, runs the programmes stored on the HDD. Each CPU will have a set GH (*Gigahertz*) which denotes the speed of processor, the higher, the faster. One last important factor to running a PC is the size of the memory, the lower the memory the slower the PC will run. Memory is referred to as Ram – *Random access memory*. When looking at specifications of PCs you will also come across some standard features such as *Bluetooth* (BT), HDMI which is a connection for an external monitor or TV and USB (*Universal Serial Bus*) which is the socket to plug in external devices ; you may need to consider how many external devices you need to run at any one time (most computer stores have hubs which increase the number of USB ports.)

Storage can be a tricky one to work out as the sizes jump from a MB (*Megabyte*) to GB (*Gigabyte*) to TB (*Terabyte*) but basically the bigger the size the more you can store ; it does depend on the quality and initial size of the picture / file. For example sandisk suggest that you can store over 45k images that are 4 megapixels or below on 64GB memory card.

Nickie Baglow (Complete Computing)



Sunday 2 April at 6.00pm and Monday 3 April at 7.00pm at Bideford College: **Hidden Figures (12A)** 127 mins

Friday 7 and Saturday 8 April at 7.30pm at Kingsley School: **Moonlight (15)*** 111 mins

Saturday 8 at 5.00pm and Sunday 9 April at 6.00pm at Kingsley School: **The Lego Batman Movie (U)*** 104 mins

Thursday 13 and Monday 17 April at 7.00pm at Kingsley School: **T2 Trainspotting (18)*** 117 mins

Friday 14 and Saturday 15 April at 7.30pm at Kingsley School: **Viceroy's House (12A)** 107 mins

Friday 21 and Saturday 22 April at 7.30pm at Kingsley School: **Logan (15)** 140 mins

To avoid disappointment please always check our website www.bidefordcinema.org.uk or weekly press adverts for up-to-date listings.

Felicity's Sustainable Fish.

There will be visitors from this very fishy Canadian Island visiting on Tuesday 11th April as part of the Newfoundland celebrations. I will be running two free *Demonstration and Tasting sessions* at the Pop up café in Learn Direct (the Arts centre)-next to the post office on the Quay. Please drop in from 10.30-12.30am or 2.00-4.00 pm. We will be cooking salt cod dishes from Europe, Caribbean and South America.

The delicious Mexican dish below will be available for you to try. It is traditionally cooked for family celebrations on Easter Sunday.



Salt Cod -Basque Style -Bacalao a la Vizcaina - 4 servings

Ingredients

450g/1lb dried salt cod or pollack
2 medium onions finely chopped
3 tbsp. olive oil
3 large cloves of garlic
1 slice firm white bread, toasted and chopped
1 sweet red pepper-seeded and chopped
900g/2lbs,peeled,seeded and finely chopped (or 2 tins chopped tomatoes.)
5ml/1tsp. sweet paprika
40ml/2 tbsp. parsley chopped
450g/1lb potatoes,cooked and sliced
123ml/4 fl oz. dry sherry
freshly ground pepper
Green olive, triangles of fried bread or toast and canned pimento for Garnish

Method

1. Soak the cod/pollack in cold water for 24 hrs /overnight (at least 12hrs) changing the fresh cold water frequently. (Check out Hugh Fearnley- Whittingstall cookbook for salting your own pollack or cod if you cannot order it from the fish counters.)
2. Put soaked fish into a saucepan with cold water to cover and one of the chopped onions, bring to the simmer and cook over very low heat for 20 mins. or until the fish is tender. When it is cool enough to handle remove any skin and bones and cut it into 3.5cm/1-2ins pieces.
4. In food processor or blender combine the toast, pepper, tomatoes and paprika and reduce to a puree. Add to the frying pan and cook until the mixture is thick and well blended, about 10 mins. Add the parsley, potatoes, cod and sherry, a little water in which the fish was cooked and ground pepper to taste. Simmer over very low heat just long enough to heat the mixture through, about 5 mins.
5. Serve on a warmed charger (large serving plate). Add bread cut in triangles around the edges and garnish with green olives and pimiento. This looks and taste great!

We will be visiting the Crab festival in Salcombe South Devon on Sunday 30th April ; there are still spaces in my car. So if you fancy a fishy day out please contact Felicity Sylvester-
brilliantfishsw@gmail.com or 07918 779060
www.brilliantfishonline.co.uk

The Devon Newfoundland Story: A unique celebration of historical and & cultural connections 3rd-16th April 2017

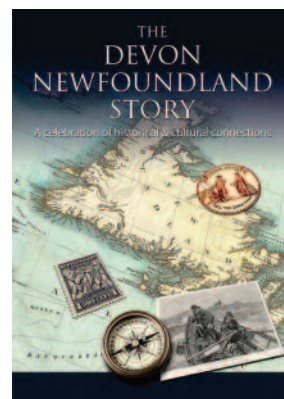
The Devonshire Association and the Devon Family History Society are sponsoring events all over Devon in April to celebrate nearly 500 years of contact between Devon and Newfoundland, which Devon mariner, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, claimed as England's first overseas colony in 1585.

Bideford's contribution to the Devon Newfoundland Story takes place on **Tuesday 11th April**, when, amongst other things, there will be a mayoral procession, two guided tours by Peter Christie to sites related to the theme, informal talks by John Bradbeer about Newfoundland, 'The Way of the Wharves' information display, a Devon Family History help desk and display, a free lunchtime talk with music (about the interaction between Devon and Newfoundland folk music) at the Burton Art Gallery, and a concert in the evening at the Palladium Club - cost £8, featuring the music.

For further details re the above, get a copy of the Programme of Events from the Tourist Information Office at the Burton Art Gallery for exact times, locations and how to book a place, as well as information about all the other events taking place throughout Devon in April, including an exhibition with talks at Appledore Maritime Museum re 'North Devon Ships in Newfoundland.'

Chris Trigger

More information from the Devonshire Association Registrar
Tel. 01392 860456.



Easter and beyond

Do you want to own a boat in 2017?

Your chance to own and race your own boat will occur in June and July of this year. The Rotary Club of Bideford will be organising a **cardboard boat regatta** on Sunday, July 2nd with the cardboard for the boat being supplied free by one of the event's sponsors and other 'constructing' materials being supplied at cost price by another sponsor.

So, all you have to do is enter for one or more race, build your own boat and get racing! Details are on the website waterfest.bidefordrotary.co.ukand further information will appear in next month's 'Buzz'. Put the date on your calendar! Start planning your boat – or boats!

A medal for every competitor! Wow!

Bideford Victoria Park Bowling Club Open Day

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2017 from 2pm - 5pm.

All ages welcome to try our sport for free, all equipment supplied, tuition from our friendly members, and with free tea and coffee, it's a fun afternoon.

All we ask is flat shoes (trainers are fine), if it's wet, come down and have a cuppa and a chat! There is no obligation!" See you there!

Bradworthy Arts Festival - Saturday

April 29th, Sunday April 30th & Monday May 1st

from 10am to 4pm in several venues in and around Bradworthy village.

A huge variety of art forms can be experienced - photography, jewellery, paintings, glass work, ceramics, textiles, spinning, weaving, sculpture work and much, much more. Many of the artists and craftspeople will share their expertise and give visitors a "hands-on" experience.

Visit www.bradworthyartsfestival.co.uk to find out more about venues, artists, programming and the projects. We look forward to welcoming you!

Appledore Singers,

Your local ladies' choir is well into a new season and we are looking for new members – particularly Altos. Come along to our Open rehearsal on Monday 8th May, 7.30-9pm at Appledore Baptist Church and take part in our rehearsal, meet choir members and have some fun!

We also like to help organisations and charities raise money by performing. We travel all over North Devon to perform - and beyond! This season promises to be an exciting one, with trips to many interesting places.

If you'd like to sing with us, why not come along to our Open Rehearsal or contact our Musical Director, Pam Beechey on 01237 420652 or see our website: theappledoresingers.co.uk or our facebook page.

Westward Ho! Gardens Volunteer Gardeners wanted

Do you enjoy the promenade gardens? Would you like to join our small friendly team who meet alternate thursday and friday mornings.? No specialist knowledge is required, just enthusiasm. If you are interested please contact **Pat Swift on 01237 459081**

Correction from last month; *the Devon Display Gymnastics team is in fact the North Devon Display Gymnastics Team.* Thank you Lynne Popham for pointing this out (Ed)



FIND THE LOST BUNNIES OF BIDEFORD!

THE NAUGHTY BUNNIES HAVE ESCAPED FROM VICTORIA PARK AND ARE HEADING FOR THE BEACH! THEY ARE HIDING FROM THE PARK WARDEN IN THE BUSINESSES OF BIDEFORD!

Can you help us find them?
Pick up a FREE entrance form at
The Green Goose, Mill St
First Years and Beyond, Mill St
Bideford Cobblers and Keys, High St
Minxy's Sweets, Butchers Row, Pannier Market

Complete the Trail and collect a Prize!!!
Event runs from the 1st April -18th April 2017

For more info contact Lucy - 07518066623
www.facebook.com/bidefordslostbunnies

Bideford Pannier Market - open Tuesday through to Saturday

Easter is nearly here and many of the stall holders will be decorating their stalls, wearing their Easter bonnets, and joining in with the Bideford Easter Bunny Hunt.

You can now buy a selection of speciality cheeses in the Pannier market – Ken who sells fresh eggs is introducing this new line to his stall; he will also source products for you.

If you are looking for novelty gifts for Easter the Pannier Market complex is the place to shop – have something special and personal made up, or buy a ready made item. There's so much to choose. *Colourful Clock* have a selection of signs and Easter bunnies for you to peruse or why not get them to make you a personal one.

Have you seen the new Pannier Website? : an undertaking by the traders in and around the market ; it will be updated regularly with trader news. If you are a trader and looking for a market please contact Richard Coombes (Deputy Town Clerk) on 01237 428817.



Butchers' Row, Market Place, Grenville Street - Open Monday to Saturday

In Butchers' Row the *Soup kitchen* will be closing ; Mike Dendle will be concentrating on his art and cards in *Triskle Arts* – you could spend an hour at least reading and chuckling at his cards.
Trev/ Jo Hill.

News from the Burton Art Gallery & Museum

April is such a cheerful month, with everything springing to life, colour takes over from the greys of winter, the sun rises higher and gives us some warmth, most welcome.

Colour is an important feature of the art of **Wilhelmina Barns-Graham**, whose etchings, linocuts and lithography are on show at the Gallery this month, continuing until 14th May. Wilhelmina worked with other printmakers, such as Stanley Jones and Kip Gresham, and started the Gaal Press when she was 86 with Carol Robertson and Robert Adam. She died in 2004, but her art lives on in this touring exhibition.

This is also the time of year when the Friends of the Burton Art Gallery hold their Annual General Meeting, and this year we have invited **Nick Arnold**, author of *Horrible Histories*, to be our speaker. He has done a great deal of research into a battle which took place right here in Northam, in 1069. **'The Battle of Northam – 1069 and All That'** will reveal what actually happened all those years ago, when William the Conqueror was King, mottes and baileys (like the one at Barnstaple) were being built, and bloody battles were being fought. The date of the A.G.M. is Saturday, 15th April, the Friends' meeting begins at 10.30 a.m., all are welcome. Contact the Gallery on 01237 471455 if you are not a member, but wish to attend.

You may have noticed that the planters in front of the Gallery are once again filled with colour and life. This is thanks to Anne, a volunteer at Marwood Gardens, We thank her most sincerely for this.

The Craft Gallery is always full of beautiful works of art by artists. South Molton ceramist, Taz Pollard has her Showcase throughout April until 15th May.

Children are not forgotten. *'Crafty Kids'* for pre-school children meet on Mondays from 10am to 12pm, with paint, paper, sponges and crayons. £1 donation per session. Older children from 7-11 (the *Young Friends*) meet on the last Saturday of each month (except August and December) to have a fun time creating arty things. The Friends founded the Young Friends in 1994, and are happy to continue with funding.

The Gallery opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm, and Sunday, 11am to 4pm. The Cafe du Parc is open at the same time, and is always a popular venue for coffee, lunch and teatime. 01237 429317 - if you wish to book one of their special late opening nights on the first Friday of the month.

Diana Warmington. Friends of the Burton Art Gallery & Museum.



Tarka chance on me

Charles Kingsley is one of our most celebrated exports- we have him to thank for "Westward Ho!" the novel, the town and the railway station. In later years, he has become more eccentric with his traffic cone hats and pigeon armada, but when you make the leap from man to statue, you're bound to take on a few behavioural quirks. Indeed, along with the likes of Sir Richard Pinecoffin by the river, Kingsley's statue outside Victoria park has been a landmark for decades- though to the next generation, it will forever be 'that really hard gym in Pokémon Go.' If you're recognised by a world-wide video game franchise, you know you've made it in the landmark stakes. He is possibly the most famous statue we have. But lo! Another contender has entered the arena.

This month saw a rival monument appear in Bideford- one of Tarka the Otter. So far, Henry Williamson's creation has been honoured with an eponymous trail and a mug shot on every bottle of Tarka spring water sold- a variation on those age old 'have you seen me?' pictures on milk cartons. Indeed, we have seen him sitting majestically astride his own plinth opposite Mr. Chips. Sleek, shiny and beautifully carved, Tarka has found the best possible position by the river, so that visitors can pose beside him with this quintessentially Bidefordian backdrop in view.

The entire project was masterminded by local businesswoman Tonia Quance who said "Well Saturday was a huge relief! Until then we just felt blind terror- is something about to go awry? Are going to have a howling gale and torrential rain? But seriously I am so very pleased that we have been able to realize this project in little over a year and very thankful to have had so much wonderful support from the community. I think everyone is pleased to have something like this in Bideford."

With a budget of just £15,000, a 150% life size bronze statue, slate plaque and commemorative book may have seemed like a big task, but people soon rallied behind the cause. With the support of the town council last year, the project took on a life of its own and the otterly great idea became a reality.

It was quite a day at the unveiling! Like a mummy with eight face lifts, Tarka's real visage had been kept studiously under wraps, so when the moment came, it was a genuine surprise to all- artist Rowan Fawdon has worked miracles with the source material, creating something at first hyper realistic, but also hugely recognisable.

It's as though Tarka himself had crawled from the Torridge to bask in the sun. If it's possible for an otter to have a smug glint in his eye; this one does. People got into the spirit in a wide range of ways. Faces were painted at the Baptist church, and by the time the big moment came a little after 10:50, it looked like an otter family reunion. As Tonia herself says, hopefully this is the start of many more such projects to come!



Open Art Exhibition

Our arts stay-cation doesn't stop there. Local artists have been invited to show their work along Landivisiau Walk every Sunday until 29th October. Thanks to their "no selection" process, it is hoped to attract both professionals and amateurs alike. Did the Burton Art Gallery school's exhibition whet your appetite? Are you a young Damien Hirst without the corpse desecration (or at least access to formaldehyde?)

The council are looking for young artists to add to this scheme- and it could be the perfect place to show off your work! Situated between the river, town and Victoria park, it's bound to get a lot of footfall and a lot of interest in your composition. If you'd like to get involved, Councillor Johnny Langton-Lockton wants to hear from you, and can be contacted at cllr.langton-lockton@torridge.gov.uk.

If you're more of a watcher than a doer, these voyeuristic tendencies can be sated for free- as there is no ticket price for the outdoor exhibition. Rather than being cordoned off for the enjoyment of a paying elite, the walk of fame will be open to all. The works will be available for sale with contact information on site. If this pilot scheme is successful, it will become a recurring feature every year. Just as a robin ushers in the first frosts of winter, when that first painting finds its way to the railings, we'll know that Spring has arrived. **Millie Sutherland O'Gara**



Sharing One Language

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Tel: **01271 373236**

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SHIPPING NOTES



Ship in Port Bideford	Registered flag owners	From	To	Arrived	Sailed	Crew	Cargo
Fehn Caledonia Built 2013 ex Rhine Express 114	Antigua and Barbuda St Johns	Avonmouth	Castellon	07/03/17	10/03/17	Russian Latvian Ukrainian German	2350 tons ball clay.

Shipping at Yelland

No shipping since last report.

Appledore

The next vessel being built for the Irish Navy P64 is to be named **LE George Bernard Shaw**. The keel was laid Monday 27th February ; no launch date given so far.

Bristol Channel Observations

11.2.17 at 11.45 **Karin Schepers** 9400 tons d.w., owners HS Schiffahrts GMBH and Co .KG Germany, outward bound from Avonmouth, having sailed at 07.32. At 17.08 cargo vessel **B. F. Cartagena** 5218 tons.d.w, inward bound for Newport.
12.2.17 at 10.27 vehicle carrier **Autosun** 6670 tons d.w.,owners United European Car Carriers inward bound for Portbury. At 13.10 cargo vessel



Espadon 2300 tons d.w., owners unknown, inward bound for Sharpness . At 14.40 **Grande Europa** 18461 tons d.w., owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound from Portbury.

13.2.17 at 13.02 Autosun 6670 tons d.w., owners United European Car Carriers, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 08.18. At 13.02 vehicle carrier **Grande Napoli** 14565 tons d.w. , owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound for Portbury.

15.2.17 at 09.53 cargo vessel **Triple S** 5192 tons.d.w., owners unknown inward bound for Sharpness

16.2.17 at 10.55 cargo vessel **Callisto** 25981 tons d.w, owners unknown, inward bound for Newport. At

16.29 **Shetland Trader** 2386 tons d.w.,owners Faversham Ships Ltd UK outward bound from Birdport, having sailed at 09.03. At 16.35 cargo vessel **Wilson Halmstad** 4487 tons d.w., owners Wilson A/S Norway, outward bound from Swansea, having sailed at 07.44.

19.2.17 at 14.58 bulk carrier **Aastun** owners Jans Martin Torkelsen Norway, outward bound from Port Talbot, having sailed at 11.33.

25.2.17 at 09.45 vehicle carrier **Frontier Ace** 17693 tons d.w, owners Mitsui OSK Lines Japan, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 03.47.

28.2.17 at 11.07 vehicle carrier **Tortugas** 14512 tons d.w., owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway and Sweden, outward bound from Portbury at 06.44.

4.3.17 at 14.04 vehicle carrier **Apollon Highway** 20321 tons d.w, owners Kawasaki Kisen K.K. Japan, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 09.08. At 18.00 vehicle carrier **Dover Highway** 18720 tons d.w, owners Kawasaki Kisen KK Japan, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 13.18.

10.3.17 at 12.52 vehicle carrier **Tongale** 22585 tons d.w.,owners Wallenius Wihelmsen Norway and Sweden outward bound from Portbury having sailed at 08.10.

Regards *Norman*

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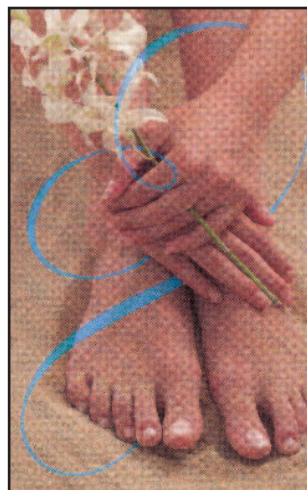


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BIDEFORD COMMUNITY ARCHIVE

100 years ago – April 1917

On behalf of Miss Penhale, auctioneers Smyth-Richards, Stapleton and Fox are selling two lots of property:

1. 'Thornbury and Higher Thorne', a farm of 140 acres with stone and slate buildings and a thatched cottage.
2. Two arable fields at Horestone Cross, comprising 19 acres.

Miss Penhale is also selling all her livestock and machinery, including 35 good quality growing bullocks, 160 sheep and lambs, a handsome cart mare (5 years old) and 4 fat pigs.

Is Miss Penhale having to give up due to the shortage of labour and horses? The case of a widow with 4 sons at the front, who has land and seed potatoes, but no-one to plant them, has prompted Northam UDC to release employees to help with food production, at the discretion of the surveyor.

New prices for 'eating' potatoes have been announced by the Food Controller- retailers can now charge 1³/₄d per pound. Some farmers and market traders have been heavily fined for selling seed potatoes at "prices beyond the maximum" which police consider a very serious offence. The Master of the Torrington Board of Guardians says the present stock of 'eating potatoes' will not last more than 5 weeks.



After the cold spring, the Board of Agriculture advises bee-keepers to use a feeding syrup made up of special coloured candy, unfit for human consumption but fit for bees. The spring mixture should be 1 lb of candy to ¾ pint of hot water, with a less concentrated mixture to be used in the autumn if needed.

Despite the cold spring, salmon fishing by rod and line has opened well, with several fish over 20 lbs being caught. The water of the Torridge is in good condition and fish are plentiful.

Poultry keeping is becoming popular, with several adverts for birds and eggs. The well-known breeds like Rhode Island Reds and Leghorns are joined by less familiar names – LaBresse, Langshans, Wyandottes, Plymouth Rock, Silver Campines and Sicilian Buttercups.

Heard Brothers arranged two successful tractor ploughing demonstrations, one in Percy Squires' 5 acre field at Bowood and a second in Mr Pennington's field at Ashridge. Over 100 people attended in spite of the short notice. Following the demonstrations, Norman Heard writes that he has instructions from the Board of Agriculture to engage additional men to operate their equipment in a large area to the west of Bideford. Usual rates of pay will apply.

These and many more items of local interest are available to read at the Bideford Community Archive at the Council Offices, Windmill Lane, Northam. Tel: 01237 471714. Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Photos from Bideford Blues Archives kindly provided by Mike Gilmore.

1981, rowing Senior fours team.

L-R : Kevin Drew, David Butler, Nigel Cann Simon Davis.

1991, Senior fours at Paignton regatta – Golden Gate trophy.

L-R : Colin Pennington, Ian Mulholland, David Gander, Nigel Cann, Neil Pennington.



April Diary

Saturday 1st

9am-1pm Hearty Breakfast at Alwington Village Hall. 451508

7pm Film Club at Littleham Village Hall. 471928

10 -1. Coffee morning at Nature's Nutrition, Mill St.

Sunday 2nd

11am. Welly Wanging at Bradworthy Play Area. 01409 241313.

bradworthyarts@btinternet.com

1-5pm Wedding Fair at Clovelly Court

Monday 3rd

10am-12pm Appledore Community Art Group at Appledore Community Hall.

6.30pm Yoga & Meditation classes at Chubb/Churchill Community Lounge.

7pm Tai Chi at Bideford High Street Methodist Church Hall. 472532

7pm Appledore Band – training and senior band at St Mary's Hall, 07770787147

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Baptist Church. 420652

8.30pm N D Jazz Club at the Beaver, Appledore – Flying Machine

Tuesday 4th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

10.30am Walking for Health. 421528

11.45am-12.45pm Tai Chi at Northam Community Hall

2pm Bideford WI, New Sea Cadet Bldg

2-3.30pm Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Hall.

6.30pm Bideford Band Beginners' Group at Band Room. 475653

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearse at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30pm Bideford Sustainability Group at Blacksmiths Arms

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club meet at Chubb/Churchill hall 421391

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 5th

9.30am-2.30pm Free Social Club for ages 19+ at Happy Café, W Ho!

10am-12pm Bideford Healing Group at Sea Cadets Bldg in Victoria Park.

10.30am Parkinson's UK coffee morning at Ethelwynne Brown Close. 478128

10.30am-12pm 'Feel Better with a Book' at Bideford Library 476075

10.30am Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Quay Meeting Rm, 5 Danver Court, Clovelly Rd Ind Estate. 07817976053

1.30-3.30pm Knit & Natter Group at Holy Trinity hall, Westward Ho! 475720

2pm Bideford Library Readers' Group. 476075

4-6pm Sew Together at Northam Library

7.30pm Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room

7.30pm Bideford Phoenix Morris meet at Bideford Baptist Church. 473798

8pm Torridge Male Voice Choir meets at Woolserly Village Hall. 441601

Thursday 6th

10am-12pm See Hear on Wheels bus at Hartland Pavilion

10-11 & 11-12 Tai Chi, Marlborough Ct.

10.15am Northam Men's Forum meet at Northam Methodist Hall. 459757

10.30am Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528

2-4pm Free family 'Super Swallows'. Meet at Northam Burrows centre. 479708

2-4pm See Hear on Wheels (SHoW) bus at Pill Car Park. 01271 373236

2-3pm Seated Exercise for over 60s at W Ho! Baptist Hall. 01805 622666

6.45pm Westward Ho! Bridge Club at Trinity Church Hall 470990

7pm Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.

7.30pm Appledore Men's Group at Appledore Library Meeting Rm. 425427

7.30pm Scottish Country Dancing at Westleigh Village Hall. 473801

8pm Bideford Folk Club at Joiners Arms

Friday 7th

2-4pm Sew Together at Westward Ho! Baptist Church 01805 622666

2.30-4.30pm Torridge Table Tennis Club at Bideford Youth Centre

7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, W Ho! 01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club at Northam Hall

Saturday 8th

Find Easter chicks at Clovelly (until 17th)

10am-12.30pm Big Breakfast at St Mary's Hall, Appledore for ND Hospice

10am-12pm Coffee, Cakes & Crafts at Bradworthy Hall for Cats Protection.

7.30pm Barn Dance with Polkaworks at Northam Hall. Bring & share supper.

8.30pm Lions Club, *Soul Intention* at Pier House Westward Ho! Tel 475246

Sunday 9th

7.30pm Hartland Town Band Spring Concert Hartland Parish Hall 441434

Monday 10th

10am-12pm Appledore Community Art Group at Appledore Community Hall.

2.30pm Monday Club meet at Bideford Methodist Church

6.30pm Yoga & Meditation classes at Chubb/Churchill Community Lounge.

7pm Tai Chi at Bideford High Street Methodist Church Hall. 472532

7pm Appledore Band – training band followed by senior band at St Mary's Hall, 07770787147

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Baptist Church. 420652

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club at Kingsley Hall, W. Ho! 472101

Tuesday 11th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

11 - 4. Food and craft market at St Mary's Church Hall, Appledore

10am-12pm Macular Society Support Group at Burton Gallery 441466

10.30am Walking for Health. 421528

11am Devonshire Association 'Devon Newfoundland Story' – various events throughout the day.

11.45am-12.45pm Tai Chi at Northam Community Hall.

2pm Bideford WI, New Sea Cadet Bldg

2-3.30pm Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Hall.

2-4pm Free family 'Victorian Westward Ho!'. Meet at Burrows centre. 479708

6.30pm Bideford Band Beginners' Group at Band Room. 475653

7-9pm Torridge Tuesdays Women's Club at Ethelwynne Brown Close 1

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearse at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30pm Bideford Sustainability Group at Blacksmiths Arms

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club meet at Chubb/Churchill hall 421391

7.30pm Lions Club meet at Royal Hotel. Visiting Lions welcome

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 12th

9.30am-2.30pm Free Social Club for ages 19+ at Happy Café, W Ho!

10am-12pm Bideford Healing Group at Sea Cadets Bldg in Victoria Park.

10.15am Probus Club at Royal Hotel

10.30am-12pm 'Feel Better with a Book' at Bideford Library 476075

10.30am Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528

2pm Tea with Friends at St Mary's Ch.

2-3.30pm 'Bideford Friends' at Burton Art Gallery. 01805 622666

2-4pm See Hear on Wheels bus at Tesco ETW.

4-6pm Sew Together at Northam Library

7.30pm Bideford Phoenix Morris meet at Bideford Baptist Church. 473798

7.30pm Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room

8pm Torridge Male Voice Choir meets at Woolserly Village Hall. 441601

Thursday 13th

10-11 & 11-12 Tai Chi, Marlborough Ct.

10.15am Northam Men's Forum meet at Northam Methodist Church. 459757

10.30am Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528

2-3pm Seated Exercise for over 60s at W Ho! Baptist Hall. 01805 622666

2-4pm Free family 'Easter Rockpool Ramble'. Meet at Westward Ho! slipway. 479708

6.45pm Westward Ho! Bridge Club at Trinity Church Hall 470990

7pm Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s

April Diary

at Bucks Cross Village Hall.	at Northam Hall. 423554	7.30pm Bideford Camera Club meet at Chubb/Churchill hall 421391
7pm 'Life Drawing' -Bideford Arts Centre	7.30pm Bideford Phoenix Morris meet at Bideford Baptist Church. 473798	7.30pm Lions Club meet at Royal Hotel. Visiting Lions welcome
7.30pm N Devon British Bike Club at Robin's Nest	7.30pm Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room	7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk
7.30pm Scottish Country Dancing at Westleigh Village Hall. 473801	8pm Torridge Male Voice Choir meets at Woolsery Village Hall. 441601	Palladium Club <i>Jam Night</i>
8pm Bideford Folk Club at Joiners Arms	Friday 14th - Good Friday	Wednesday 26th
Saturday 15th	Thursday 20th	9.30am-2.30pm Free Social Club for ages 19+ at Happy Café, W Ho!
3pm Bideford AFC v Evesham Utd	10.15am Northam Men's Forum meet at Northam Methodist Hall. 459757	10am-12pm Bideford Healing Group at Sea Cadets Bldg in Victoria Park.
Sunday 16th - Easter Sunday	10.30am Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528	10.15am Probuss Club at Royal Hotel
10am-4pm Craft Fair at Instow Parish Hall.	10-11 & 11-12 Tai Chi, Marlborough Ct.	10.30am-12pm 'Feel Better with a Book' at Bideford Library 476075
2pm Torridge Ramblers 451820	11am Bideford Sustainability Group Coffee Morning at Green Goose	10.30am Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528
Monday 17th	12.30-2pm Fish & Chip Club for over 60s at Royal Plaice, Appledore. 471394	2-3.30pm 'Bideford Friends' at Burton Art Gallery. 01805 622666
10am-12pm Appledore Community Art Group at Appledore Community Hall.	2-3pm Seated Exercise for over 60s at W Ho! Baptist Hall. 01805 622666	4-6pm Sew Together at Northam Library
2pm Bideford Ladies Club at Marlborough Court. 421925	6.45pm Westward Ho! Bridge Club at Trinity Church Hall 470990	7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meet at Northam Hall. 423554
6.30pm Yoga & Meditation classes at Chubb/Churchill Community Lounge.	7pm Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.	7.30pm Bideford Phoenix Morris meet at Bideford Baptist Church. 473798
7pm Tai Chi at Bideford High Street Methodist Church Hall. 472532	7.30pm Scottish Country Dancing at Westleigh Village Hall. 473801	7.30pm Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room
7pm Appledore Band – training band followed by senior band at St Mary's Hall 07770787147	8pm Bideford Folk Club at Joiners Arms	8pm Torridge Male Voice Choir meets at Woolsery Village Hall. 441601
7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Baptist Church. 420652	Friday 21st	Thursday 27th
7.30pm Appledore Amateur Radio Club, Appledore Football Social Club 473251	10am-12pm Northam Reminiscence café at Northam Hall. 459337	10am-12pm Coffee Morning at ND Yacht Club, Instow, for N D Hospice 422215
8.30pm NN D Jazz Club at the Beaver, Appledore. Tina May/Craig Milverton Trio	2-4pm Sew Together at Westward Ho! Baptist Church 01805 622666	10.30am Northam Men's Forum AGM at Northam Methodist Hall. 459757
Tuesday 18th	2.30-4.30pm Torridge Table Tennis Club at Bideford Youth Centre	10.30am Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528
10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches	7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, W Ho! 01769 540309	10-11 & 11-12 Tai Chi, Marlborough Ct.
10.30am Walking for Health. 421528	8pm Ceilidh Club at Northam Hall	2-3pm Seated Exercise for over 60s at W Ho! Baptist Hall. 01805 622666
11.45am-12.45pm Tai Chi at Northam Community Hall	Saturday 22nd	6.45pm Westward Ho! Bridge Club at Trinity Church Hall 470990
2-3.30pm Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club at Baptist Church Hall.	10am-4pm 'Families for Children' at Garden Flat, Castle Hill, Filleigh.	7pm Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.
2.30pm Lift Off for Ladies at Baptist Church, Westward Ho! 425471	13pm Bideford AFC v Salisbury	7.30pm N Devon British Bike Club at Robin's Nest
3pm 'Reflections' Grief & Loss Group at St Mary's Church. 475765	7pm 'Encore' concert for Parkinson's at St Mary's Church Appledore. 01271 860918	7.30pm Scottish Country Dancing at Westleigh Village Hall. 473801
6.30pm Bideford Band Beginners Group at Band Room. 475653	Monday 24th	8pm Bideford Folk Club at Joiners Arms
7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearse at Northam Methodist Hall	10am-12pm Appledore Community Art Group at Appledore Community Hall.	Friday 28th
7.30pm Bideford Camera Club meet at Chubb/Churchill hall 421391	6.30pm Yoga & Meditation classes at Chubb/Churchill Community Lounge	10am-12pm Coffee, Craft & Chat at Old School Rm, 17 Atlantic Way, W Ho!
7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk	7pm Appledore Band – training band followed by senior band at St Mary's Hall	10am-1pm Lundy Art Group at Blue Lights Hall, Appledore
Wednesday 19th	7pm Tai Chi at Bideford High Street Methodist Church Hall. 472532	2.30-4.30pm Torridge Table Tennis Club at Bideford Youth Centre 477932
9.30am-2.30pm Free Social Club for ages 19+ at Happy Café, W Ho!	7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Baptist Church. 420652	7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, W Ho! 01769 540309
10am-12pm Bideford Healing Group at Sea Cadets Bldg in Victoria Park.	Tuesday 25th	8pm Ceilidh Club at Northam Hall
10.30am-12pm 'Feel Better with a Book' at Bideford Library	10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches	Saturday 29th
10.30am Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528	10.30am Walking for Health. 421528	10am Torridge Ramblers day walk 01805 625485
11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Quay Meeting Rm, 5 Danver Court, Clovelly Rd Ind Estate. 07817976053	11.45am-12.45pm Tai Chi at Northam Community Hall	10am – 4pm Opening of cabin at Bucks Mills hosted by writers.(until May 1st)
1.30-3.30pm Knit & Natter Group at Holy Trinity hall, Westward Ho! 475720	2-3.30pm Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Hall.	Bideford Gardeners' Club trip to Powderham Castle. 423582
4-6pm Sew Together at Northam Library	2.30pm Lift Off for Ladies at Westward Ho! Baptist Church. 425471	Sunday 30th
7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meet	6.30pm Bideford Band Beginners Group at Band Room. 475653	3pm Appledore Band Spring Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Westward Ho!
	7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearse at Northam Methodist Hall	