



BIDEFORD BUZZ



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

For details of how to contact us, see back page



... see page 2

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

WIN A MEAT VOUCHER
TO SPEND AT
MILL STREET BUTCHERS

What's inside ...

- ★ Regular Features
plus
- ★ Bideford Witches
- ★ 2 pages of letters
from you !
- ★ Store Project



Westward Ho! in Winter

© Dennis Davis



Managed by the Community Development Foundation
Funded by the Office of the Third Sector

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Bideford, North Devon EX39 3HN
Telephone: 01237 472277



Devon
County Council

Devon
Community
Foundation

Helping local people

Family History- Parish Registers

Jarrow, Durham. John Luckey and his wife, being burnt almost to ashes, bur. 8 May, 1872. Not so lucky after all. !!

Eight strangers, viz. 5 men, 2 women & a child, cast away in a ship called ye Marie grace. Bur. 21 Jan. 1595.

Margaret Herisone, of Thorston, being with child to her uncles prentice, bur. 10 Apr. 1643. Naughty Margaret, then, had been up to no good with her uncles unnamed apprentice.

Heselden, Durham. Ralph Startforth, bestab'd with a knife by his brother Richard. Bur. 17 feb. 1615. (Deliberate or accidental fratricide ?)

To finish with an entry in the latest census of 1911,

Tommy Tabby, aged 6, mouse catcher. The head of household took the meaning of all in household a little too far !!!

More next month.



Next meeting of the Bideford Group of the Devon Family History Society will be on **Sat 20th November** at the Burton Art museum, 2pm – 4pm. The speaker will be Tim Wormleighton, chief archivist at the North Devon Record Office and he will be talking about shipping and the records available. All are welcome and it is free to attend. Any questions then please ring me **Len Collum** 01237 472883

'Christmas won't be Christmas' - A quiz for Christmas

Have a go at this short quiz - all answers relate to Christmas / Bideford, and complete the tie breaker for a chance to win a meat voucher for **£ 20** to spend at Mill Street Butchers (Thanks to Danny Byrne for donating this generous prize) The winner will be announced in December's Buzz.

- 1) 'Christmas won't be Christmas....' Which book is this the opening line of?
- 2) Which seasonal animals normally visit Bideford at this time of year?
- 3) Who sponsors Santa on his musical ride around Bideford each December ?
- 4) Which ship usually lights up the port?
- 5) 'Light up a life' – which 2 local charities does this support ?
- 6) What is the festive nickname of Bideford's Football team?
- 7) Which Bideford butcher's shop is named after the street in which it is situated?
- 8) **And the tie breaker- Complete in no more than 30 words**



'Christmas won't be Christmas without my Bideford Buzz because.....'

.....

Send your entries by email, post, or fax to Bideford Buzz (address on back page) by **18th November 2010**. Results will be announced in December / January Buzz. **Remember the reindeer will be arriving in Bideford on Saturday 4th December, to co-incide with late night shopping, Christmas lights switch on, and Bideford Library's Christmas story time. More details in December's Buzz**



Northam Lodge Christmas Gifts Fayre



**Local Photographic Prints,
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Saturday 27th November

12pm til 4pm

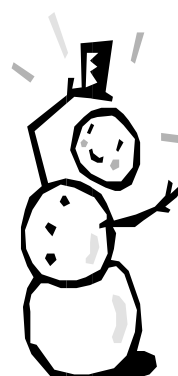
at Rose Hill Day Centre



£1 entry

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FREMINGTON HOMES
home from home

FREMINGTON HOMES

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We currently have room availability in our Catherines Court lodges in Yelland and our Warren Lodge in Braunton. Call 01271 889152 for more details.

We also have a new lodge opening shortly in Yelland, call 01271 889152 for further details or if you would like to reserve a room.



Good Age Page



Does anyone else remember?

Bideford children were given DUKW rides celebrating D-Day to Westward Ho! including a trip through the surf?

American army camps at Newton Road and on the left of the hill up to Westleigh?

A railway wagon rocket launcher on the track near North Gate opposite cemetery?

Duplicate buses and buses reversing to turn at Westward Ho! near putting green?

A military train running daily to and from Torrington. It consisted of five units with a locomotive at the centre and carried armour and guns? As a 9 year old in 1943 I regularly saw the military train from where I lived at the top of Torridge Mount ; in those days Sunnyside was wide enough only for pedestrians, and the land now built on consisted of very productive allotments.

Air raid shelters in playground at East-the-Water school in Torrington Street with Morrison shelters in classrooms. We children were allocated "billets" during air raid warnings?

Tony Sanders (Any comments on the piece would be welcomed by me.)

From last month

Mr DL Barnes remembers the massive large circular static water tank in the garden by the Pine Coffin statue. 'When emptied for demolition, it contained hundreds of coins; we all became rich and had money for sweets . We used to play in the brick built air shelter, but when they demolished it everything went over the wall into the river- not very nice!'



The fire station (opposite Bethel chapel) built a massive concrete slab at the bottom of the slipway (known as Donkey Slip way) ; this was to allow access to pump for water at low tide.

Miss Brain recalls a clock attached to the sea wall (near where the Hockings van is now) giving the times of high water. 'What a pity is isn't still there as a guide for anyone using the beach'.

Northam Men's Forum

Any gentleman who lives in our part of North Devon would be most welcome to become a member of the Forum; coffee is served between 10.15am and 10.50am. The meeting commences at 11.00am and is over at 12.00noon. We meet weekly every Thursday from early October until early May at the Assembly Hall of the Methodist Church in Cross Street Northam. We are a non-political and non-sectarian organisation. **John Wadey**

Senior Council

Wednesday 24th November Bideford Town Hall 2.10pm

"Integrated Health and Social Care - Two Years On" All welcome.

A friendly lively group with free drink & biscuits!

A new church building for Westward Ho!

Westward Ho! Baptist Church has been part of village life since 1887. Today we're a friendly, mixed and growing congregation of all ages and from all backgrounds. Everyone is welcome whether you are putting down roots or "just looking."

We don't believe that a church has to be boring and out of date - our services are lively, our sermons relevant to daily life and our music is a mix of modern and traditional music. Children and young people are welcome and take an active part in all that we do.

The distinctive stone chapel was built on the corner of Nelson Drive in 1895. We have recently outgrown this building and are currently constructing a new, multi purpose church centre on our own land next to the public car park in the middle of Westward Ho!



Work began in early January - this picture shows the site on the day the digging began. The earth was later moved to East the Water where it was used to build the ramps for the new skateboard park.

Our Builders are J E Stacey & Co. of Holsworthy who successfully tendered for the project in November 2009. Wherever possible we have used local companies, suppliers and labour in the construction as we believe it is vital to support local businesses.

Bad weather has meant that we have lost some time but we are still on target to complete the building by mid December with formal handover in early January. An opening celebration is planned in January with an extended programme of special events aimed at the whole community. As always we will be extending a warm invitation to you, as part of our local community, to come and see what we are doing and hear how we feel we can continue to serve you. Keep a look out for details of these special events or come along to one of our many current activities.

The site now looks very different, with the picture (left) showing progress to 20th September. The building is now a striking addition to Westward Ho! yet as one local resident has commented – "it fits in so well, it looks as if it has been there for ever."

Please join us for our opening celebration – we look forward to meeting you.

Steve Robinson
Minister, Westward Ho! Baptist Church
01237 472252; stvrbsn1@aol.com



BIDEFORD BUZZ WANTED

Volunteers to help with the Bideford Buzz web site - need to be familiar with 'Wordpress'.
Please contact Rose Arno on 01237 476075 / editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk.

Lions send young carers to the zoo!

The Lions Club of Bideford has sponsored a day out at Paignton Zoo for a group of local young carers.

The North Devon children, who are all under ten years of age, help to care for a family member who is ill or disabled.

They are supported by the Carewise project which offers respite trips, drop ins and mentoring. Accompanied by Carewise staff and volunteers the children had a lovely time at the zoo getting up close to the animals, enjoying a ride on the miniature railway and letting off steam in the play areas.

Carewise Project Worker Jim Harvey said "I would like to say a massive thank you on behalf of the children to the Bideford Lions who so very kindly supported Carewise on this venture. It was a great day out and a vital respite opportunity for our younger members."

"Thanks must go also to Torridge Community Transport Association and the two volunteer drivers for getting the group there and back safely and on time, and to the accompanying volunteers who work so hard for Carewise." For more information on Carewise, including volunteering, **01237 479380** or email : enquiries@carewise.org.uk

Treasure Baskets

It's your baby's first birthday, and yet instead of being interested in the latest bright plastic toy your little one seems engrossed in the box or wrapping paper.

It's a story we're all familiar with, and though it can be quite frustrating for adults, it is probably because for babies natural objects feel better to touch, look more interesting and make a more exciting sound when they are moved. We live in a world where plastic toys dominate, but plastic is dull and disappointing for babies, and while each rattle may look different, each one smells, tastes, feels and weighs the same – they are not stimulating. This is why a Treasure Basket provides such a wonderful way for babies to explore textures, shapes, sounds and smells, providing rich mental stimulation and a satisfying experience.

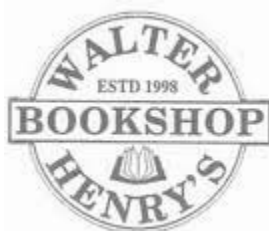


Use a low sided round basket and fill with 'objects' from the real world. These are made from any material but plastic, and come from a variety of sources in nature and around the house. Fill it with 20-30 objects, of different textures and materials. Just search the house and see what you can find, changing the items every now and again to give your baby something new to explore. Obviously, since little ones like to explore things with their mouths, make sure it isn't sharp, a choking hazard, or too small

Any items are good as long as they have a stimulating texture, colour or shape. Toothbrushes, a hair comb, pastry brush, soft spoon, ladle, old pan, wooden spatula, curtain rings, piece of flannel, door stop, coaster, measuring spoon, lemon, ball of wool, nail brush, whisk, dish cloth, pine cones, bark, rocks, seashells, or logs make a good starting point. Give everything a good wash and rinse, and check regularly for broken objects.

Make sure you sit near, not with, your baby. Your little one will look up regularly and check you're there, then go back to exploring, which will play a vital role in developing his or her independence. Your role is to be attentive, responsive and unobtrusive, but not to show your baby how to use an object, as there is no right or wrong way. Let them make their own choices about which objects they are going to pick up and explore. Make playing with the Treasure Basket a special experience, bringing it out only once every day or so when your baby is fed, rested and calm. You will find it fascinating watching your baby learning and concentrating, and what's more – it's free!

Kid's Krate Under fives sessions at the Burton Art Gallery .Drop in at our fun sessions every Friday from 1pm to 3pm. Older children welcome in the holidays Any questions **01237 471455**



Book(s) of the Month

The turning of the tide Liz Shakespeare £9.99



1871 Young and vulnerable Selina Burman from Clovelly and her two young children are confined in the harsh environment of Bideford Workhouse. Her prospects improve when she meets Dr Ackland, a popular G.P. committed to social change. He employs her as a servant, despite the doubts of his wife and the Bideford community, for whom any connection with the Workhouse is a source of fear and shame. Selina's work gives satisfaction, but her search for love and security does not conform to the expectations of a middle class Victorian family and threatens to damage both her own future and Dr Ackland's career. This novel draws on newspaper articles, letters and census returns, and powerfully brings to life the factual origins of the story.

Illustrations of Old Bideford 3 £12.75 Peter Christie

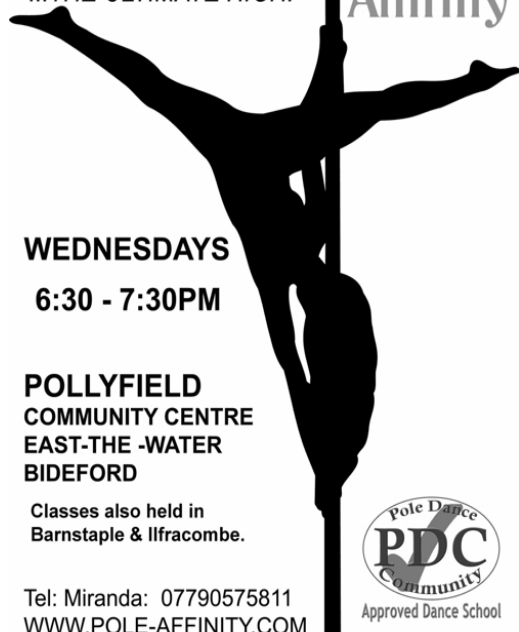
Also the latest volume in Bideford historian Peter Christie's Illustrations of Old Bideford series. Once again this book is a wonderful insight into Bideford's past – well worth a purchase!

Peter Christie and Liz Shakespeare will be joining Walter Henry's Bookshop at The Orchard Hill Hotel on **Tuesday 23rd November at 7pm**, to talk about their books, the history behind the books and to do a signing. Tickets are £5.00 to include tea/coffee & mince pies **01237 4257 27**

Walterhenrysbookshop@yahoo.co.uk

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You write



Last witch to be hanged?

I have just read your October issue about the three famous Bideford Witches who were the last to be found guilty of witchcraft in England.

It's a common misconception that Temperance, Susannah and Mary were the last witches in England to be executed for witchcraft but there is much documented evidence of other women after them.

The last officially recorded Devonian witch, that I can find, was in fact Alice Molland in 1685, three years later. There is not much publicly available about Alice - how old was she, where did she come from, did she have a family, is there a copy of her trial somewhere? - what is certain is that she was tried and convicted of witchcraft and sentenced to hang at the Exeter assizes on 20th March 1684. Her name and the death date of 1685 appear under that of the Bideford witches on a plaque that is displayed at the site of the assizes, which is now a ruin, and this states that these four women were 'the last people in England to be executed for witchcraft and hanged at Heavitree'; in a book written by Montague Summers he says "It is interesting to note that the last witch to be executed in England by legal authority was Alice Molland, who was found guilty of consuming with her spells Joan Snow, Wilmot Snow, and Agnes Furze, and sentenced by Sir Cresswell Levins at the Exeter Assizes in March, 1685". There is little evidence to support what happened to Alice after her trial and sources have stated anything from being hung to burnt at the stake and on a time line that spans from 1684 – 1686 and as far away as Newcastle upon Tyne, and some say she escaped execution altogether!

Although there are many names on the witchcraft register after that of Alice, few were in England. Old Widow Coneman or Coman was executed in Coggeshall in 1699 and Elinor Shaw & Mary Phillips were executed in Northamptonshire on 17th March 1705. I am unsure of the place but 'in 1716, Mrs Hicks and her daughter, nine years old, were hanged for selling their souls to the devil, and raising a storm by pulling off their stockings and making a lather of soap'. Two alarming cases of the public turning prosecutor are those of Alice Russell who was killed by a mob in Great Paxton on 20th May 1808 and a similar case at Sible Hedingham on 3rd August 1865 that resulted in the death of a vulnerable man known as Dummy.

Mary Bateman, the Yorkshire witch, was executed on Monday 20th March 1809, some 127 years later. Whilst touching on the subject can anybody recall the rumour that there were three bodies found chained together in the Old Town cemetery when work was being carried out in 1998-1999 to convert it into the play ground that stands on the site today?

Nickie Joy (See also page 14 where there is an item from the Record Office about this)

Bideford Railway

Sorry to appear 'picky' but the line to Torrington could not have been built until 1873 as the Rolle Canal operated until that year and the railway was largely built on the disused canal bed.

The lime kiln in Graham Hobbs' very fine photo is the Hallsannery Kiln which is across the Torridge from the Tarka trail, viewed from the Iron Bridge. The impressive structure houses twin kilns, one behind each of the two main arches facing the river. The smaller, centre arch is only a few feet deep and appears to be mainly decorative like the 'battlements' along the top giving the impression of a medieval castle. Each kiln pot, shaped like a giant pudding basin had a heart at its base accessed from an arched alcove at the end of the block and one of the arches in the front face. It may be that the centre arch once gave additional access to the hearths but has been closed off for safety reasons; the presence of a pair of railway lines leading from the waterside into this arch may support that theory. Barry Hughes, author of 'Rolle Canal and the North Devon Limestone trade', may be able to enlighten us.

Chris Hassall

'The Book of Bideford' by Peter Christie says 'In 1872 the company extended the line to Torrington'. **(Ed)**

You write



Safeguarding New Rd (from September's Buzz)

New Rd Bideford between the bottom of Lower Meddon St and the bottom of Torridge Hill had been in danger of collapsing. An ominous bulge had been appearing in the river wall which supported the road and the traffic.

As a result 6000 tons of rubble from the Beam Quarries was dumped into the river to form a buttress for the road. There was a need for widening the road on account of traffic and in the interest of the safety of the pedestrians.

The former carriageway of 17 feet was widened to 30 feet. On the river side a 12 feet promenade was built to replace a single footpath. The work costing £25.000 was carried out by Devon County Council

Mike Davy (from Bideford Gazette 1933)

Help Needed

Once again I find myself asking you to assist me in my endless search for my family's history in Bideford and environs. I recently went to St Nectan's in Hartland, a beautiful church indeed, and found many of my ancestors, some even recorded within the church itself !. I know quite a lot about my grandfather. I haven't any information about the rest of his family ; his name was Ronald Mountjoy 1896-1937 and I believe he had two or possibly more brothers and maybe a sister. The two I know of were Mark and Albert, who attended the military style funeral given to him by the 6th Battalion Devons TA.

If there are any descendants who, like me, love history and would like to correspond and catch up on all things relating to our family I would love to hear from them via email and perhaps meet one day.

The family home I believe was in Clifton St, East the Water, which if my recall is good, was very steep when I had to push my butcher's bike up it delivering meat from Patts' Butchers in Mill Street!!!.

Hopefully you will be able to wave that magic wand once again Rose

Mike Sheppard (mi2540@aol.com)

Zebras arriving by train?

I am looking for a little information about Bideford Zoo and Forde House.

In a Buzz article on the lost Pubs of Bideford, Dennis Barnes recalls elephants and giraffes arriving by train for Bideford Zoo. As the Zoo was only open between May 1966 and Oct 1970, I am surprised to learn that Bideford Station was still able to receive livestock.

Do you have any other snippets about Bideford Zoo?

I also once heard of a smugglers' tunnel that was said to run from Forde House to Abbotsham Cliffs. It seems unlikely, but any info would be appreciated. **(name and address supplied)**

We have a folder of photos relating to the Zoo at Bideford Library (Ed)

Singers wanted

For exciting new choir in North Devon 'Vocal Accord'. Auditions Monday 1st- Sunday November 7th Contact **Simon or Becky on 01271 326454**

And a general plea from the poor editor! re electronic contributions.

Unfortunately, Zur, uz bein peasants and all, uz caint reed yore ritin. Praps yu cud respell yore attachiforement (attachifored).

wiv best tuggin of forelock, **Wat Tyler(aka)**

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Ann 01805 603171/Dot 01237 471526

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Jennie
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jennie@nimblelimbs.com
www.nimblelimbs.com

BIDEFORD FILM SOCIETY

a different film every weekend right up to Christmas
FILMS SHOWING IN NOVEMBER

Tamara Drewe (15)

Fri 5/Sat 6 November - Kingsley School

Eat Pray Love (PG)

Fri 12/Sat 13 November - Bideford College

Made in Dagenham (15)

Fri 19/Sat 20 November - Bideford College

Shutter Island (15)

Fri 26/Sat 27 November - Kingsley School

Ticket Prices: General £4.50 Cencensions
£4.00 Members £3.50

DOORS OPEN 7.00pm FILM START 7.30pm

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part I
coming to Bideford College 6/7/8 January

see weekly press for more information
or visit www.bidefordfilmsociety.co.uk

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Christmas Craft Fair
Kingsley School

(Sports Hall)

Northdown Road

21st November 2010

10am til 4pm Entrance £1

Scene and Heard

These are just a few of the new titles we have in your local library. Firstly a couple of comedy DVDs to cheer you as the winter nights draw in.



Macgruber (DVD)

Nothing highbrow here, just a funny spoof film with a style of humour reminiscent of Hot Shots and Airplane. It doesn't take itself seriously and won't expect you to either. This film is awash with expletives, so if you have an aversion to that kind of humour, it's best to give it a miss.

The brothers Bloom (DVD) Deception is an art and nothing is as it seems! Bloom and Stephen are two notorious and enigmatic con-men who lure a naïve heiress on a journey. With explosives expert Big Bang providing a back drop of flames and flying bullets, and Stephen's elaborate web of deceit pulling tighter, Bloom's feelings for the victim begin to grow.....

Kylie – Aphrodite (CD)

This is Kylie back to her disco best. It is well produced, but not as catchy as her previous albums. One you need to listen to. The lyrics are a lot deeper than previously, but it's very danceable to, particularly when hoovering!

Walter Trout – Common Ground (CD)

This is certainly not a man resting on his laurels as he embarks on a record which sees him traversing the entire gamut of Blues. He consolidates his position as one of the premier blues men around with this album. He stills knows how to rock it up though and despite being around for 4-5 decades, Walter Trout is in the finest voice of his career. Fantastic.

Bideford Cinema returns to Bideford College.

With the new build at Bideford College complete and Bideford Film Society in its tenth year, we were delighted when we were able to show the first film in the new cinema.

Twice the size of the old cinema with 340 seats, it is situated in the Devon Hall – an imposing state of the art building where on entering you feel as if you are in a modern shopping mall, minus the shops!

Access is from Moreton Park Road at the Abbotsham Road end and there is currently parking for 50 cars.

By using both Bideford College and Kingsley it is hoped that films can now be shown every weekend. The Film Society, a not for profit organisation, has a loyal skilled team of over 30 volunteers who help in a variety of ways. New volunteers are always welcome, and anyone interested can leave their details at the box office. The cinema will still be offering yearly membership to families/individuals for a reduction on an already low ticket price. To find out about forthcoming films visit

www.bidefordfilmsociety.org.uk or **see our ad in Buzz**

November specials in St Mary's Church, Bideford

Remembrance Sunday is on 14 November, and there will be the traditional service starting at approximately 11.30-11.45 am in St Mary's Church, Bideford following the parade. This is a moving service, remembering those who have fought for their country over the many years, and who are still doing so.

Special Children's Service on Sunday 14 November at 3 pm. This is a fun time aimed for smaller children and their families lasting no more than ¾ hour with craft, story and singing. Everyone is very welcome – we'd love to see you.

The Licensing of our new Priest-in-Charge, the Rev'd Claire Rose-Casemore, will be on **Saturday 20 November at 3 pm** by the Lord Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Rev'd Michael Langrish. Claire will be joining us at Bideford from her current parish near Daventry, and we look forward greatly to her arrival, having been without a rector for over a year. All are welcome to come and join us on this happy occasion.

Bideford Bridge

Bideford Bridge was originally built in 1280. It was made from wood. It had a Chapel at each end.

The stone bridge was built in 1474. It has 24 arches. The arches are all different sizes. They were paid for by local businessmen. The larger arches cost more money. In 1925 the long bridge was widened for cars, lorries and tractors.

In January 1968 Bideford Bridge collapsed.

The westerly pier collapsed; number 22 and number 23 arches. The people used boats and a temporary walkway to cross the river.



Bideford Quay

Bideford Quay was a lively place in the sixteenth century. Bideford grew into a bustling port and a booming town. It started with Queen Elizabeth the 1st.

The river was very important. Ships came in on the river selling and buying goods. This made Bideford a busy town. Adventurers like Sir Richard Grenville went to the New World which we call America. The quay was used for the boats to stop to transfer the fishing, (cod), Irish wool and tobacco. Tobacco was first landed in Europe from Maryland and Virginia on Bideford quay by Sir Richard Grenville in 1585. The tobacco trade made Bideford a rich town and the 3rd largest port in the country.

It was at its busiest between 1680 and 1730. The handsome houses in Bridgeland Street and the Royal Hotel at East the Water were built at this time. The quay has been made bigger three times in 1633, 1692 and 1890. In 1890 on the last occasion it was discovered that the old mooring posts were actually Spanish armada cannons. Two stones along the quay mark where extensions were made in 1663 and 1692.

Carol Short

Bideford Charity funded for another year.

It was good news and another year of operation guaranteed for the Bideford Based charity

The Store Homelessness Project when they received a cheque for nearly £7.000 this week from the Bridge Trust, to cover rent on their premises in Pitt Lane, Bideford. They will now continue to be able to provide free furniture and household goods to needy clients throughout the Torridge area, receiving referrals from many local agencies, such as TDC., NDWA., Cargomm and the Bridge Trust, Currently using just committed volunteers, they deal with around 50 cases per week and are getting busier.

Founded in 2005, Project Manager Joe Buckingham, previously a street worker and administrator for Torridge Poverty Action Group, The Store expanded last year with help from TDC, Grassroots Grants and the Bridge Trust, opening a new 1,000 square foot furniture warehouse.

The Store also recently secured premises in the town, shortly to be opened as a women's sanctuary known as Yvette House, it will provide secure, women only accommodation of a high standard. It will be a place of peace and safety, providing supported living for women escaping domestic violence. This will be followed by two more houses in about a year's time. Other projects include a charity shop, to be opened later this year. The Store also helps to support Bideford teacher, Bill Owen's Pokhara Providence Children's Home in Nepal, which currently houses fifteen rescued street children in excellent accommodation. **If you wish to support any of these projects, please e-mail thestore@yahoo.com or call Valentina Kassam on 07925 654 206 between 11am and 5pm.**

Belinda Bauer, who grew up in Bideford, has won this year's prestigious gold dagger award for the best crime novel, '**Blacklands**' set on Exmoor. Last year we were very fortunate to have Belinda as a guest speaker at Bideford Library. She attended this year's Appledore Book Festival, though only in the schools' section, - a bit of a missed opportunity as many people did not have the chance to hear her speak. Let's hope she's invited back next year. Her new novel is due out in January - order now from your local library !

Bideford Music Club has moved back to Bideford. Our new venue is at High Street Methodist Church. Parking is available in Honestone car-park. Look forward to seeing you at our next concert on Wednesday **November 3rd at 7.30pm** - Hannah Marcinovicz saxophone, Simon Lane, piano
For more details phone sec. Lindy Johnson on **423112**

Tarka Morris Men and English Country Dancing

Many people will have seen various groups dancing around the local towns and villages during the summer months.

Morris dancing can take many forms, from mixed groups wearing raggy jackets, to all-male groups wearing white outfits.

The latter is often thought of as the only "real" Morris, but in truth it is only one form of an ancient tradition, collected in one part of the country, namely the Cotswolds. Other styles were collected in other parts of the country.

All forms are thought to date back to ancient ceremonies, performed to ensure a good harvest and to celebrate the Summer. The dances were well established by the time of Shakespeare. There are old engravings and stained glass windows to show this.

Tarka Morris Men, who perform in this area, dance in the Cotswold style, and dress in all white, with bells attached to their legs. Sticks or handkerchiefs are used in the dance, perhaps originally to scare away evil spirits.

We only know about this form of Morris because the dances were collected by Cecil Sharp in the early part of the last century. He travelled from village to village, noting the different styles unique to each community.

Not only is it a privilege to be able to ensure the survival of these ancient dances, but it is also good fun. We are now a group of friends who not only dance together, but share a pint, a sing and a laugh after dancing.

If you would like to know more, or join us, come along to the Bideford Amateur Athletic Club (The Blues) on a Tuesday evening at 8pm. You'll be given a warm welcome! Alternatively ring John Blackburn on. 01237 476632 - **also every Friday English Country Dancing** at Bideford Amateur Athletic Club, 8pm. All welcome, any age, no partner needed. Lively, energetic and fun.

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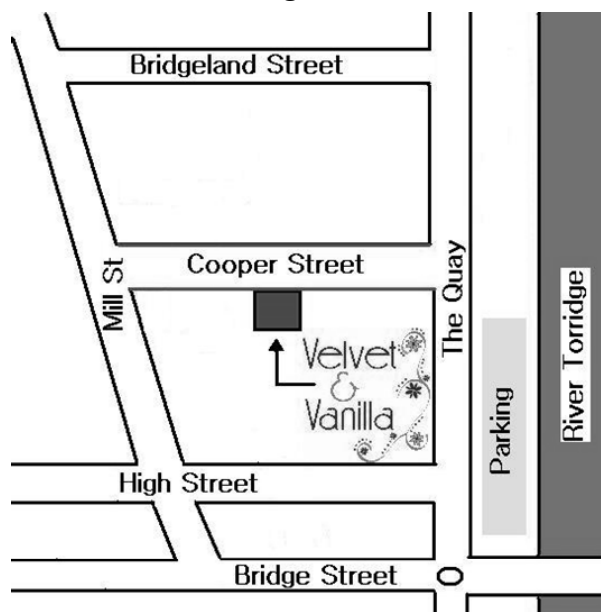
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One hundred years ago from the Bideford Gazette

Through the enterprise of Messrs Caleb Squire and son the Public Hall Bideford is soon to possess a premier Picturedrome. Cinematograph pictures are, at present, all the rage in the country. It will be open on every Thursday, Friday and Saturday with special matinees for children every Saturday afternoon. The prices will be 3d, 6d, and one shilling. Among the entertainment will be the "Violin Maker of Cremona" a dramatic film of true-hearted self sacrifice and 'The Gunshot.' a most pathetic picture which every mother, father and child in Bideford should make an effort to see.

John Underhill Fulford was elected Mayor of Bideford for the ensuing year

On view at JE Gabriel & Son, Monumental Works, East the Water is a handsome marble monument to be erected in memory of the 21 men drowned when SS Thistlemoor was lost in Bideford Bay on December 3rd 1909

Mike Davy

Over a thousand years ago from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle -

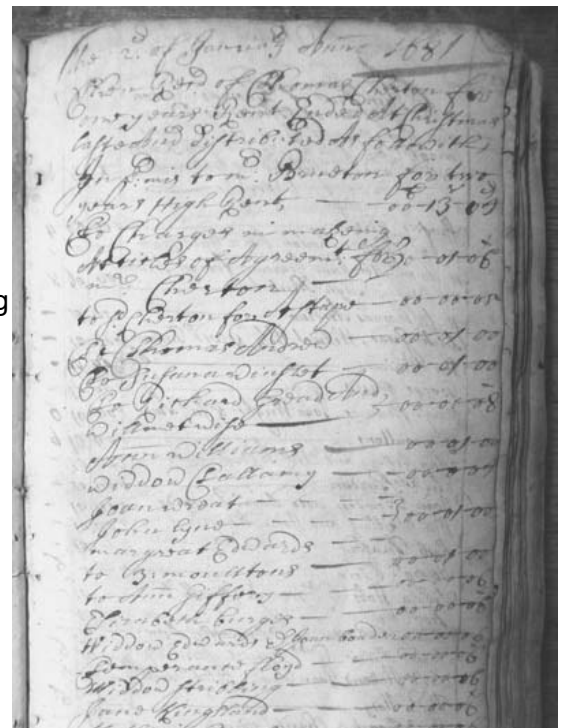
' 878 AD.....And the same winter the brother of Ivar and Healfdene (1) was in the kingdom of the West Saxons in Devon with 23 ships (2).And he was killed there and 840 of his army with him. And there was captured the banner which they called 'Raven'.'

(1)Gaimar, a twelfth-century writer, names this brother as Ubba (whom tradition associated with Ivar in the killing of St. Edmund); (2) Asser says that he had come from Dyfed, where he had overwintered and massacred many Christians. Aethelweard names Odda, ealdorman of Devon, as the English leader.

North Devon Record Office

Among the collections of documents deposited recently in the North Devon Record Office is a group of three intriguing volumes that contain the painstakingly recorded accounts of the John Andrew Trust dating from the year 1605 right through to 1950 (ref. B1003). This charity was established under the will of a prosperous Bideford merchant who had made his fortune from various interests, including the Newfoundland fishery trade, and one of the more idiosyncratic conditions of his bequest was that the trustees should indulge in a meal of salted cod every year. The trust accounts list the numerous recipients of the 'Andrew Dole', mostly women, including two of the notorious 'Bideford Witches', Susanna Edwards and Temperance Lloyd, who were the last to be executed for that crime in England in the year 1682. For further information on that remarkable story, see Frank Gent's meticulously researched book, *The Trial of the Bideford Witches*, Lazarus Press, 2002. The page reproduced here shows the Andrew Dole distribution for the year 1681 and includes records of payments to Widow Edwards and Temperance Lloyd.

If you would like further information on the North Devon Record Office, please visit our website at www.devon.gov.uk/record_office. The North Devon Record Office is part of the Devon county archives service provided by Devon County Council.



Tim Wormleighton
Principal Archivist



THE SHIPPING NEWS



No vessels at Bideford since last issue

Arco Dart Spotted on AIS on Thursday **23.9.10** returning from Southampton

26.9.10 27.9.10

Oldenburg has ceased her sailing to Lundy from Bideford and Ilfracombe; she no doubt will be off to Sharpness for her annual drydocking.

Kathleen & May at her usual berth for now - but await developments.

Bristol Channel Observations

15.9.10 at 19.00 hrs bulk carrier vessel **Bosphorus Queen** 26842 tons d.w, owners Bosphorus Queen Shipping Ltd, Istanbul, outward bound from Newport.

16.9.10 at 1837 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Ellade** 18885 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line Italy, inward bound for Portbury.

18.9.10 at 10.08 hrs container vessel **Elevation** 6449 tons d.w, owners Elevation Shipping BV Holland, inward bound for Avonmouth.

19.9.10 at 10.23 hrs cargo vessel **Roger** 2171 tons d.w, owners Reederei Erwin Strahlmann, Germany inward bound for Newport; at 15.32 cargo vessel **Vikingdiep** 7750 tons d.,w owners Feederlines B.V. Netherland, inward bound for Newport.

20.9.10 at 09.37 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Napoli** 14900 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound for Portbury ; at 19.12 hrs tanker **Breezy Victoria** 74998 tons d.w, owners Perennial Transport Inc, Tokyo, inward bound for Portbury.

21.9.10 at 07.49 hrs cargo vessel **RMS Lagona** 2668 tons d.w, owners ShipCom Bereederungs GMBH & Co KG, Germany, inward bound for Sharpness; at 0835 hrs vehicle carrier **Baltic Breeze** 12466 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, Norway and Sweden, inward bound for Portbury.

23.9.10 at 12.10 container vessel **Sara Borchard** 11481 tons d.w., owners Buxtehude Schifffahrts, Germany, inward bound for Cardiff; at 10.30 vehicle carrier **Maple Ace 11** 15361 tons d.w., Mitsui OSK line of Japan, having sailed from Portbury at 07.26 hrs

25.9.10 at 14.17 hrs container vessel **Elevation** 6449 tons d.w, owners Elevation Shipping BV, Holland, inward bound for Avonmouth.

27.9.10 at 13.07 hrs cargo vessel **Sisu Capella** 3549 tons d.w, owners Baltic Scandinavia Line A/S, Estonia, inward bound for Newport.

28.9.10 at 13.30 hrs vehicle carrier **Orion Leader** 21526 tons d.w, owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha of Japan inward bound for Portbury; at 14.00 hrs cargo vessel **Arklow Mill** 13975 tons d.w owners Coastal Shipping PLC Arklow, Eire, Arklow Shipping, inward bound for Portbury.

2.10.10 at 08.11 hrs container ship **Elevation** 6449 tons d.w, owners Elevation Shipping BV Holland, inward bound for Avonmouth; at 15.22 hrs tanker **Paxoi** tons 6310 d.w, owners Paxoi Marine SA ,Greece, inward bound for Port Talbot probably with bunkers for the BW Arctic

11.10.10 at 09.00 hrs cargo vessel **Paivi** 3450 tons d.w, owners Interscan Schifffahrts GMBH, Germany, inward bound for Sharpness; at 09.25 hrs cargo vessel **Wilson Hook** 4280 tons d.w owners Osterreichischer Lloyd Seereederei of Austria, inward bound for Newport.

Understand that **HMS Albion** was spotted in the bay either 14/15th Sept ;did any reader see her and can confirm the pennant number on her side ? - please phone **01271 861183**

The saga of the dredger **Severn Sands** appears to be coming to an end. At approx 18.15 hrs **7.10.10** the vessel was re floated from her position on the river bank at Ashford with the assistance of the Padstow dredger **Mannin** and she was safely moored at the Old Power Station Jetty to await the contractors to remove the rubbish which had been dumped in her hold.

Thereafter the contractors employed by the MCA from St Austell will dismantle the vessel in situ. Understand that on Friday **8.10.10** somebody has raised legal arguments against this idea. .

Regards **Norman**

November Diary 2010

Monday 1st

10am-9pm NDPA auditions at Devon Hall Bideford College

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club, The Beaver, Appledore. 421065.

Tuesday 2nd

2.30pm Bideford OAP group at Lavington Church (Willet St) tel 478896

Palladium Club 'jam night'

Wednesday 3rd

10.15am Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423153

10.30am British Epilepsy Association Barnstaple Library **01237441146**

2pm Bideford Readers' Group at Bideford Library tel 476075

7.30pm Bideford Music Club at High St Methodist Church tel 423112

Sherry's Singing Club Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01271 268094

Thursday 4th

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

North Devon Fuchsia Society meets at Springfield Centre Bideford tel 01271 831292

Friday 5th

Palladium Club Basil's balls up band'

7pm (film at 7.30pm) Bideford Film Soc at Kingsley School "Tamara Drewe" (15)

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

Saturday 6th

2-4pm Bideford Arts Centre animation course starts for parents and children morgan.quick@devon.gov.uk

7pm (film at 7.30pm) Bideford Film Soc at Kingsley School "Tamara Drewe" (15)
Palladium Club 'Wendy May's Boom Boom Room'

Sunday 7th

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate Hotel Appledore

Monday 8th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close tel 07923536908

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club at Bideford Youth Centre tel 472101

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

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

Tuesday 9th

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

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

Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 423242

Palladium Club 'Jam Night'

Wednesday 10th

10.15am Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423153

2.30pm Bideford Library Group tel 476075 for details/transport

7.30pm Sherry's Singing Club Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01271 268094

Thursday 11th

10-12pm Carers' Support Group at Rosehill Northam 420137 for details

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

7.30pm Buckland Brewer Gardening Club in village hall.

Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Friday 12th

Palladium Club 'Jim Crawford'

7.30pm Musical evening and Ploughman's Littleham Village Hall 472758. Proceeds to Harbour Charity

7.45pm Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Saturday 13th

7.30pm : Film, 'The Ghost Writer' at Littleham, 420372

Palladium Club 'the church of the quivering brethren'

Sunday 14th

2.30-4.30pm

Remembrance Sunday

Northam Hall Cream tea and charity dance in aid of war heroes tel 472464

4.30-6.00pm "All Aboard". Free fun event for parents and children (including tea), at Bideford Baptist Church Lee & Michelle : 01237 473195

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate hotel Appledore

Monday 15th

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close 07923536908

7pm -9pm Carers' Support Group meets at Marlborough Court, Park Lane 01271 372811.

Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club meet at Appledore Football Club tel 473251

7.30pm Appledore Singers practise at Appledore School

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at Beaver Inn Appledore 421065.

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 423242

Tuesday 16th

10.30am North Devon Lupus group coffee and chat Burton Art Gallery Cafe 01803 203318.

Palladium Club 'jam night'

Wednesday 17th

10.15am Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423153

2.15pm Meditation at Bideford Library 476075

7.30pm Sherry's Singing Club Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01271 268094

Thursday 18th

11am Christmas Fayre at Durrant Hotel in aid of Hospice

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship tel 421956

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Buckland Brewer Gardening club in village hall

Friday 19th

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

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

Saturday 20th

Palladium Club "Centrefolds"

Annual Christmas Fair at Littleham Village Hall. Information from Iris on 473338

Bideford Ladies' Circle Charity Quiz Night at Abbotsham Village Hall. 07989 747163

Sunday 21st

Torridge Ramblers afternooon walk 01805 625485 for details

Monday 22nd

10am Lip reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close tel 07923536908

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club, The Beaver, Appledore. 01237 421065. .

Tuesday 23rd

Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre tel 423242 'jam Night'

Wednesday 24th

2.10 pm Senior Council Bideford Town Hall

7.30pm North Devon Humanists' Society' Fremington Parish hall (annex), 474225)

7.30pm Sherry's Singing Club Kingsley Hall Westward Ho! Tel 01271 268094

Thursday 25th

10-12pm Carers' Support Group at Rosehill Northam 420137 for details

10.30am-12pm Coffee morning Springfield Day Centre Chanters Rd All welcome

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship tel 471426

7.30pm Modern Sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!

Friday 26th

Palladium Club 'Nil by mouth'

7.15 for 7.30pm Quiz and raffle Beaver Inn Appledore in aid of The David Rundle Trust (Help for Rwanda) 477470 or 425524

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

Saturday 27th

10am-1pm Lavington Church Christmas Fayre

Palladium Club 'Claude Bourbon'

7pm -10pm Dance workshop Instow Parish Hall : +447899749864 (UK)

How to Contact Us

Bideford Buzz is produced by a team of volunteers with financial and practical assistance from Devon County Council's Library Services, Torridge District Council, 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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Tel. **01237 476075** or email: **editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk**

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