



BIDEFORD BUZZ



March 2010
Edition

www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk

FREE

A local Charity makes a **BIG DIFFERENCE**

Easter is coming, so here's a contemporary local symbol of resurrection and relevance:
The Jigsaw Horticultural Project (known as GROW@Jigsaw) at Victoria Park, Bideford.

See page 2 for full details ...



grassroot
grants

Managed by the Community Development Foundation
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Unit 4 Daddon Court, Clovelly Road Industrial Estate
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Devon
Community
Foundation

Helping local people

BIDEFORD BUZZ

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Local charity makes a big difference - from page 1

Community Projects North Devon launched GROW in February 2009, based at the commercial glasshouses in the Park. These glasshouses, built in 1984 as a municipal growing area, were surplus to Council requirements in 2003, and then gradually decayed and were vandalised. They became a community liability, being frequented by drug users and rough sleepers.



Over the last 12 months, an exciting transformation has unfolded. GROW has secured the site, cleared the adjoining area of Park, and refurbished and glazed the three houses, which are heated, to put them back into horticultural use. Successful crops of tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, and flowers were grown in 2009. The appearance and safety of this corner of the Park is restored.

The Jigsaw charity was established in Barnstaple in 1984 to give marginalised or disadvantaged groups in the community a place to work, train, and develop or regain self-respect and life skills. It provides furniture restoration, upholstery, picture framing, and carpentry, and recycled furniture. The establishment of GROW has enabled the same chances to be offered in the horticultural field. Many clients of the charity had never previously seen or sown a seed, but now can experience the therapeutic value of growing and nurturing plants, as well as the satisfaction of producing vegetables, fruit, and flowers which are of great use to the community.

GROW also operates an allotment in Mill Road, Barnstaple, and in April will be undertaking the clearance and cultivation of a quarter-acre plot at in the Bideford area. This obviously increases the number of people it can assist, and the range and quantity of fruit and vegetables that can be produced for the local community.

An important aim of GROW is to promote healthy eating. As well as growing and selling fresh, local, seasonably-available produce directly from the glasshouse site (go along and treat yourself every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before April, and afterwards every weekday), GROW will be working with Bideford Bay Children's Centre to supply 'Local Produce Bags' from May onwards. Any profits made will go to further the aims of GROW as a local community charity.

Support for GROW has been forthcoming from many sources - Safer North Devon, Bideford Town Council, Ministry of Justice Community Cashback, Bideford Bridge Trust, Devon PCT with North Devon Homes, South West Foundation, the Probation Service, and Torrridge Training Services. The glazing work was undertaken by Devon Glass. GROW is a member of the Allotment Association, and affiliated to the 'Thrive' website and the Community Council of Devon's 'Home Grown- Community Owned' programme.

The supervisor is Ian Smith, who trained as a horticulturalist at Bicton College. He has worked with Jigsaw for three years in setting up and steering the Horticultural Project, and can be contacted on 01271-314624 by anyone who would like to know more, or who would like to volunteer their help. **TA**

A Postcard from Bideford New Zealand - read more on the next page!

We gunned our Mitsubishi north on State Highway 2 towards the infamous Rimataka Range en-route to Bideford New Zealand.



'A Postcard from Bideford New Zealand

Continued from page 2

After an hour we reached the summit and made our way down the windy hair-raising road that opened up the expanse of the Wairapa Plains. Passing through Featherston, Greytown and the area's centre Masterton, we turn off the main highway. The road got narrower, the cars fewer. A sign proclaims "Bideford 19kms" as we approach a farmer and his cows crossing the road. The cows stop nonchalantly to let us past; the farmer gives us a wave and we wind on through the green rolling hills that could be confused for North Devon, were it not scattered with Manuka, Rimu and Totara trees. After a steady climb, the road leads down into a lush valley. No souls to be seen except sheep and the odd hawk circling above. The road follows a small river, notably cleaner and smaller than the Torridge, until we approach a junction. To the right, a short road leads to a small school and a large hall.



We park outside the white, weather - boarded structure with "Bideford Hall" written across the top. A flag pole stands out front and a plaque - as is typical outside any New Zealand country hall - with a list of soldiers who served in the two world wars. I can never look at these monuments without wondering about the families disrupted by these events another world away. Often 4 or 5 brothers from a single family would go off to serve; maybe 1 or 2 would return. Bideford New Zealand sent approximately 20 men to each war and only half a dozen crosses mark the fallen who never came back. I begin to wonder where these people actually lived. Only 2 houses can be seen in the vicinity. We take some photos and look towards the school, where some builders can be seen.

We are introduced to the owner Jan Hayman, a friendly, fit-looking builder in shorts and t-shirt with a solid tan and sweat on his brow - it must be about 25 degrees. He shows us into the old school building- closed 5 years ago. Inside it has been converted into a lovely open plan kitchen and living room. The original wood panelling on the walls survives, but Jan assures us it took "three years living in a rat infested garage" to fix it up like this. There is an area dedicated to local history and also several books about Bideford UK. Jan tells us enthusiastically of his visit there several years ago (he stayed at Tantons Hotel). His plans for the school are to create Backpacker accommodation and hopes tourists from Bideford UK might make up some of his clientele. It sure is a tranquil spot and there are trout in the river. We all agree that the name and river are the only real similarities. Jan tells us the school was moved from its original site beside the church in the 1950s because of the frequent flooding of the Tauera River. It is hard to imagine looking at the small trickle that a NZ postal worker was swept to her death only 2 years before. We had missed the church, so Jan gives us directions to it, about 3kms back the way we came.

Excitement builds as we cross a ford (yes a ford!) and wind up the steep shingle path to the church. A solitary one - room structure with a 360 degree view of farmland, forest and a vineyard (Almost everywhere you go in New Zealand there is a vineyard - by no means a bad thing! It must come in handy for Communion too). We find the ancient key inside the drawer by the entrance along with a visitors' book dating back to 1972. Inside the sun streams through the windows like the holy spirit and the pristine pit-sawn totara cladding of the walls and ceiling shine like it was constructed yesterday, not 135 years ago. You can hear the wooden structure creaking in the warm north-westerly wind. We examine the visitors' book and note that several Bideford UK residents have visited in the past : "very different from our church" one comment reads. Legend has it that the area, once known as Upper Tauera, was renamed by the Reverend CH Gossett in 1880 who immigrated here in 1875, from Bideford UK. Perhaps his inspiration came from the ford at the bottom of the hill? There are also some photos of the centenary celebrations in the mid-1970s. We marvel at the beauty and peaceful nature of this place. Not a single soul do we see.

Later we head south. More people, bigger roads, even towns. We stop for a frozen boysenberry ice cream. It sure has been a great December day. I bet it is cold in Bideford UK right now. This other Bideford may not be the thriving metropolis of its namesake - but what it lacks in population and history it makes up for in serenity and rural charm.

Brett Moodie & Lindsey Allen.

PS If you are interested in visiting Bideford New Zealand contact: Jan Hayman 12 Mangapurupuru Rd (School) Bideford Wairapa New Zealand (+64 6) 3724870

THE GREEN PAGE

Initiated by the Bideford Quakers
but open to contributions from anyone.

“....it’s a plot to scare us all.”

“...climate change is a myth.”

“.....it’s just a natural cycle.”

“....you can’t believe what the scientists say.”

There is no doubt that everyone has heard comments similar to those above whenever the question of climate change is mentioned.

If you are one of the people that agree with statements like these then consider the whole thing from a completely different angle. What about the simple fact that you can **SAVE MONEY?**

Here’s a few ideas to get you started .:

- Just changing to low energy light bulbs can cut down your electricity bills.
- Switch off the lights as soon as you don’t need them.
- Take up walking instead of using the car for short journeys.
- Use the bus and reduce petrol consumption
- Arrange car-sharing among family and friends.
- Use more clothing indoors instead of turning the heating up.
- Switch off computers, microwaves etc. instead of leaving them on stand-by.
- If you are on a water meter, keep a container handy when running the tap to get hot water and use the cold water to flush the loo, water the plants etc.



This is just a start. There must be a whole lot more money-saving ideas out there! The Buzz is ready and willing to publish them on the Green Page – so get them coming in!

In response to the article on our last Green Page, Chris Smith sent an email. Here are some of the points he made :

Global warning is a reality, but it is unclear to what extent it is man-made.

Britain should make as many nuclear power plants as possible as they provide electricity at a price consumers can afford.

The government should make it compulsory for all products to carry a label giving their country of origin; we could then avoid buying from countries that are the highest polluters.

Holiday flights could be limited to one per person per year (but Chris thinks politicians wouldn’t support it).

AND WE’RE SHOWING A FILM!

The latest film on issues around Climate Change and what we can do to protect future generations is called ‘The Age of Stupid’. Bideford Quakers have arranged a showing of the film on FRIDAY, 12TH MARCH at BIDEFORD BAPTIST CHURCH in MILL STREET at 7.30 p.m. Entry is free. Donations will be invited to cover the cost of the film. There will be refreshments at the end of the film and an opportunity for discussion. Come and put your point of view!

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And 7-8.30pm

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Ann 01805 603171

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Burton Art Gallery

Ceramics Extravaganza

Craft Showcase: Tim Andrews

14th March - 21st April

With a career spanning the past 30 years, Andrews has gained an International reputation for his distinctive smoke-fired and raku ceramics.

Torrige Ramblers -One small step

At 2 p.m. on the 16th June 1985, lead by Frank Young and Keith Hughes, the Torrige Ramblers took their first strides into what has become 25 years of walking.

An APPEAL.

On Sunday 27th June 2010 at 2 pm, we will repeat our very first walk.

We are inviting all our 'old' rambling members to join us either by walking with us; or if unable to walk, to join us after the walk for a garden party 'bring and share' tea at Weare Giffard.

ANYONE who has ever walked with us is most welcome: we would like to make contact with all, so please do ring me - Keith Hughes- re-introduce yourselves, leave me a telephone no. or address and we will send you an invitation.

Keith Hughes 01 237 475168



Doors Open 7pm Film starts at 7.30pm
Bideford Cinema has moved to Kingsley School, Edgehill Theatre, Northdown Rd

12th and 13th March An Education (12a)
26th and 27th March Twilight- New Moon (12a)

Coming soon Nowhere Boy
www.bidefordfilmsociety.org.uk

Return of the Single Mum, March 2010

When I so cruelly left you dear readers, in around May of last year, I had already come quite a long way since being that terrified, dribbling idiot who had been abandoned by her husband and left with a six month old son and no money. I had set up a small cleaning business and managed to survive the first Christmas, the first birthday of my boy and my sixth 'wedding anniversary' without throwing myself into the lower half of a bottle of Morrinov.

This then, is by way of a small update, just in case anybody out there is interested. The bullet points are as follows: I am divorced from him (cue the sound of champagne corks popping.) He did not bother involving himself in the process and still owes me a few grand in costs which he has failed to pay. As for child maintenance, forget it; he is beyond the jurisdiction of the CSA in his foreign land. But I rarely feel angry about either of these injustices.

What else? Well, my lovely son has turned 2 and can walk, shout and has discovered 'clotit' (can you guess? Answer below.) The cleaning business has gone from strength to strength and my neighbour and I now have a waiting list. I have had the loft properly insulated. A Lakeland Terrier puppy has joined my (small) menagerie and she is a poppet. I voted for that gorgeous Italian chef in I'm A Celebrity. A new sofa has just been delivered – big enough to sleep the entire cast of Eastenders (it's far too big and looks stupid but I love it.) The car passed its MOT.

So you see, not much has changed really. I have got older and a bit greyer, my hands are a little more chapped, I broke my ipod and have lost my mobile a couple of times. And yet so much HAS changed too. I am no longer in mourning for my marriage. I sleep soundly and eat well. I am enjoying every spare moment with my son and we are even going on our first holiday together soon. Life was not meant to turn out like this – the relentless slog of cleaning and cooking and being so utterly single with no family to lean on. But like many lone parents, I am only doing what has to be done: I am just getting on with the business of living and raising my child as best I can.

Ps 'Clotit' is chocolate. Where would we LPs be without it??



Jokes by Jasmine Fey (aged 6)

What's white and minty?

A polo bear

Where does a snake go when it's ill?

Hisspital

What do you get if you cross a snowman and a shark?

Frostbites

And finally

There were three men in an aeroplane, an Englishman, a Scot and a Frenchman

The captain said the plane is going to crash and everyone has to get off

The Englishman floated down on his big moustache

The Scotsman used his kilt as a parachute

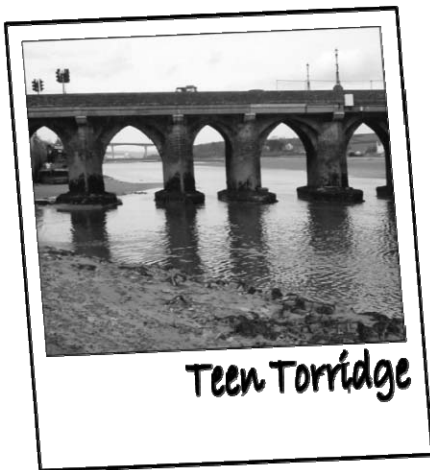
The Frenchman used his French bread stick as a helicopter!

More next month.

Fun Run

On Saturday 15th May, Victoria Park in Bideford will be buzzing as the second Junior Fun Run takes place and your child can be a part of it! With seven races in total this year there is something to suit all ages.

Registration forms are available from Wings, Lower Meddon Street in Bideford or from Ian Roome at Little Bridge House, by calling 01237 472000 or please email Milly Peart at milly@wingscharity.com



Money Money Money

Given the tough economic times recently, it's not just us students that are looking to make- or save- a quick buck. But it's not just a very recent thing. Some hardcore spendthrifts have been at it for years- and people like self proclaimed 'Money Saving Expert' Martin Lewis have been helping them feed their addiction to saving every last penny. His website - www.moneysavingexpert.com - lists hundreds of tips from mortgage management to cheap ways of feeding your dog. So here are just a few to give you a flavour.

And talking of flavour...

... Lewis argues that it's difficult to tell the difference in taste between food products with a 'Basics' or 'Value' label and those with a 'The Best' or famous brand name label on them. Often, he says, we 'taste with our eyes', and psychologically believe something is better because the packaging is fancier. If you don't believe him, he recommends a blind taste test. And apparently, downshifting could lower your food bill by 45%.

Haggling's not just for European market stalls...

... it can be done with your broadband or satellite TV provider as well. Many companies have a 'retention department', which actively works to keep customers on their books. When my Mum called her mobile phone company to cancel her account, she was offered almost a third off her tariff, to try and tempt her to stay. If you've got the nerve, Lewis says that even just ringing up and asking for a better deal can yield results.

Shop around...

... and around, and around. It's obvious but many people just don't bother. If one provider is charging less than another, switch. There are plenty of websites out there to help you, you've seen the adverts. And the same applies to things like customer service. If you're fed up, change to another. Make sure the company who you're changing to know why you're changing- it's important they are aware of the competition. Finally: don't buy books. Use your local library- it's free! **Tom Collins**

Promotions & awards for Bideford's inspired young achievers.

Three young people from Bideford, all members of the local Army Cadet unit, have received recognition for their hard work and dedication within the organisation.

As well as receiving promotion to Sergeant 16 year old Connor Southam was presented with the Army Proficiency Training four star certificate, one of the highest training awards. Connor is hoping to join the Royal Engineers and is going forward for selection in the near future.

17 year old Sarah Vanstone was promoted to Corporal; she is hoping to go to Bicton College to undertake Equine Studies with a view to joining the mounted police.

Receiving his first promotion from cadet to Lance Corporal was 15 year old Joe Maund who is planning to go to the North Devon College (Petroc) to study for A levels which he hopes will lead to a career in computer programming.

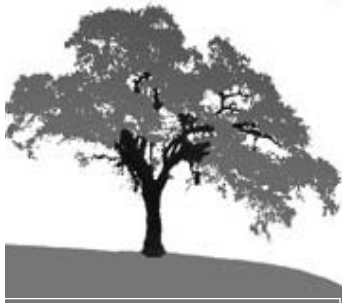
For more information on Army Cadets in Bideford call detachment commander Lt.Peter Hooper on 07974 840 796.

Applying for jobs? Need help?

Bideford Library have teamed up with Adult Education to help job seekers or people new to the internet. If you are aged 20 or over and need help writing out Cvs and using the internet this Wednesday afternoon session is for you. Tel 01237 476075 for details



Good Age Page



Strength in later life

the
Senior Council for Devon
has a guest speaker from your local
Citizens Advice Bureau

Public Meeting – Wednesday 24th March – Bideford Town Hall 2.15pm

We all need advice and support from time to time. The Senior Council aims to point you in the right direction. One place of support is the CAB and this meeting is your chance to find out how best they can help you – before the need is urgent.

Also, we recommend Care Direct on **0845-155-1007** - provided by Devon County Council. The team there are dedicated to finding right solutions for Older People.

Come and join us on 24th - or contact us from home

Further details from Alan Rayner (alanr555@waitrose.com) – 01237 479711.

Neighbourhood Links

TorrAGE has received funding from the Big Lottery for an exciting 5 year project managed by Torrridge Voluntary Services aimed at supporting older people within Torrridge.

Neighbourhood Links is an opportunity for communities to receive support and guidance in providing services to older people at a local level.

The aim is to reduce loneliness and isolation, whilst also improving awareness of older people's needs amongst the wider community.

Volunteers are required NOW for this TorrAGE Neighbourhood Links Project for the initial areas of East-the-Water and Northam.

Many of you already help within your community, and may be able either to provide further help, or to suggest suitable volunteers.

We need these to befriend an elderly neighbour, help out with small tasks around the house (eg to change a light bulb), shopping (especially in the cold weather) or simple gardening.

Linda Bealey has been appointed as the Volunteer Co-ordinator and she is very keen to meet with residents across Torrridge who would like to be involved.

For an informal chat about becoming a Volunteer for this exciting worthwhile project - and find out how it fits with all the good work already being carried out please contact Linda (01805) 625614.



PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER SERVICES

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH BIDEFORD

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

- **PALM SUNDAY, 28 March**, procession with palms leaving Kingsley Statue at **9.30 am** walking to St Mary's for the service at **10 am**.

EASTER EVE, Saturday 3 April at 8 pm, Easter Vigil with the first Eucharist of Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY, 4 April at 10 am Family Communion - joint service with St Mary's at Wings, In St Mary's Church.

EASTER EVENSONG, 4 April at 7 pm. Traditional Evensong with Easter hymns.

EASTER PRAISE, 4 April at 7 pm – an informal service held at The Wings Hall, Lower Meddon Street (behind Tantons).

SERVICE SPECIALS IN MARCH

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S SERVICE aimed for younger children, **Sunday 7 March at 3 pm**, in St Mary's Church, Bideford.

MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE, Sunday 14 March at 10 am in St Mary's Church, Bideford. Enquiries to St Mary's Church Office, 9 Church Walk, Bideford, EX39 2BP; tel 01237 474078.

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Quaker Meetings for worship

are held at 17 Honestone St
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10.30am on Sunday mornings

All are welcome

Enquiries Tel 421549

Wouldcare AGM April 22nd 1 pm

Wooda Surgery, Bideford

All welcome Light refreshments will be available

Possible new afternoon Bridge Club in Bideford

I am looking to start a new Duplicate Bridge Club which would meet one afternoon a week in Bideford. If interested please let me know as I would like to assess the level of local interest.

Please contact Simon on 01237 421079 or e-mail scgfeg@virginmedia.com.

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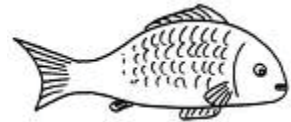
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TENANCIES AND STALLS AVAILABLE

A shop unit will soon be available in
Butcher's Row.

A Market Place Shop has also recently
become vacant.

Pannier Market Stalls in the covered, dry,
bright, and airy Historic Hall are similarly
available.

Bideford Town Council would welcome
applications.

The Rents are competitive and may provide
the ideal opportunities for ideas to blossom
into successful businesses.

Interested parties are requested to contact the
Market Administrator on: 01237 428817 or
E Mail: admin@bideford-tc.gov.uk

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Scene & Heard

Lots of new CDs and DVDs in the Library* this month. Come along and have a look. You'll be amazed what you can hire, for a full week, with prices ranging from £1 - £3 for a DVD, and only £1 for a CD. Here is just a taster.

Alexandra Burke – Overcome (CD)

This lady has talent. She is funny, feisty, charming and above all she can sing. I am confident that, like Leona Lewis from the same show, this is not the last we shall hear from Alexandra.

Bon Jovi – The Circle (CD)

This is probably the best Bon Jovi album for a decade. The more you listen to it the more you realise what a class album this is. There are some differing reviews out there, but give it a chance.

Cheryl Cole – 3 Words (CD)

This album gets better with every listen. Despite being over-popularised thanks to the X Factor, and the following backlash, Cheryl has produced a punchy album, not really totally R & B, but with dancey-pop mixed in, and is no worse for that.

Terminator Salvation (DVD)

With Christian Bale (Batman) taking the role of John Connor, this film delivers hands down, and the camera work and special effects are quite breathtaking. Follows Connor's war against Skynet and the machines, with the aid of a death row prisoner (played by Sam Worthington) who has donated his body to science. Stunning and relentless action which ticks all boxes.

Dorian Gray (DVD)

I feel that this film captures the spirit of Oscar Wilde's intent, and is the best version of the 'Picture of Dorian Gray' that I have ever seen, the black and white version coming a close second. An exceptional, intelligent and interesting film. Colin Firth is excellent as the despotic Lord Henry who initially leads a naïve Dorian astray.

Knowing (DVD)

This is an apocalyptic scenario on a grand scale. Starts in 1959 with a troubled young girl contributing something to a school's time capsule – fast forward 50 years and it all kicks off. Throw in a few aliens, add the end of the world, and some amazing action and special effects, and you have a truly roller-coaster ride of a film. A bit far fetched, but just suspend all belief and enjoy.

***In Bideford library, but for a small fee you can order these from any Devon library of your choice**

Victor Winstone

It was with great sadness that 'Buzz' learned of the death of Victor (HVF Winstone) on Wednesday February 10th. He was a notable Bideford author of national renown, who had just completed his last book 'War without end'. This was the culmination of a lifetime of literary achievements, some of which are listed below :-

***Captain Shakespear: A Portrait* Jonathan Cape (1976)**

***Gertrude Bell: A Biography* Jonathan Cape (1976)**

***The Illicit Adventurer . The Story of Political and Military Intelligence in the Middle East from 1898 to 1926* : Jonathan Cape (1982)**

***Diaries of Parker Pasha* (ed.) Quartet (1982)**

***Howard Carter and the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun* : Constable 1991**

***Woolley of Ur* : Secker and Warburg (1990)**

***Lady Anne Blunt Manchester*: Barzan Publishing (2003)**

Our thoughts are with his family, and particularly Joan, his wife of more than 60 years -they met on VE day....

Winner of the Christmas competition

On the right is the photograph of the winner of the caption competition, Marion Richards with her husband with an original framed photograph of the photo in December's Buzz

'Award winning photographer Graham Hobbs would like to thank everyone who entered the competition but of course there could only be one winner '

www.grahamhobbsphotography.co.uk

The Torridge Male Voice Choir

The TMVC is an amalgamation of the former choirs from Bideford and Hartland, and now comprises voices from the Hartland, Woolsery, Bideford and surrounding areas, with our MD and keyboard player. We sing to support local events, charities and good causes.

Think you can't sing? Well, you can. Singing lifts your spirits, is a great community activity and provides a good social outlet. The Torridge boys meet at 8pm every Tuesday at Woolsery Community Hall Everyone is welcome. Do take a look at our website www.torridgemvc.co.uk or contact Derek (01409 281196) or Andy (01237 440055) if you'd like to know more.



Bideford's LGBT night - the Bideford Big Bender Bash- is a year old this month! To celebrate we will be having an extra special Bash on FRIDAY 5th March in the function room above Laceys Bar in Bridge Street from 8pm till 1am. There will be music, food, a raffle and a quiz as well as optional fancy dress with prizes for the best outfits. Please note the new day and venue.. From March onwards the Bash will be held on the first FRIDAY of every month in the function room above Laceys. If you have any questions then please email us at bidefordbenders@hotmail.co.uk

Need more volunteers? Baffled by CRBs or the New Vetting and Barring Scheme?

The Devon Association of CVS are offering time and expertise on a range of volunteering issues to small (income under £40k) community and voluntary groups in your Parish. You may want to find out more about the Vetting and Barring Scheme or help with recruiting more volunteers – if so, we can help! You will also be able to access regular updates on volunteering issues and have the opportunity to link in to local networks if you want to. Interested? Contact Jenny Fish, County Co-ordinator by email, jennyf@torridgecvs.org.uk or telephone **01237 471136** and a local worker from Torridge CVS (TTVS) will arrange to come and see you.

Funding : The fundamentals

6pm – 9pm Wednesday 17th March 2010

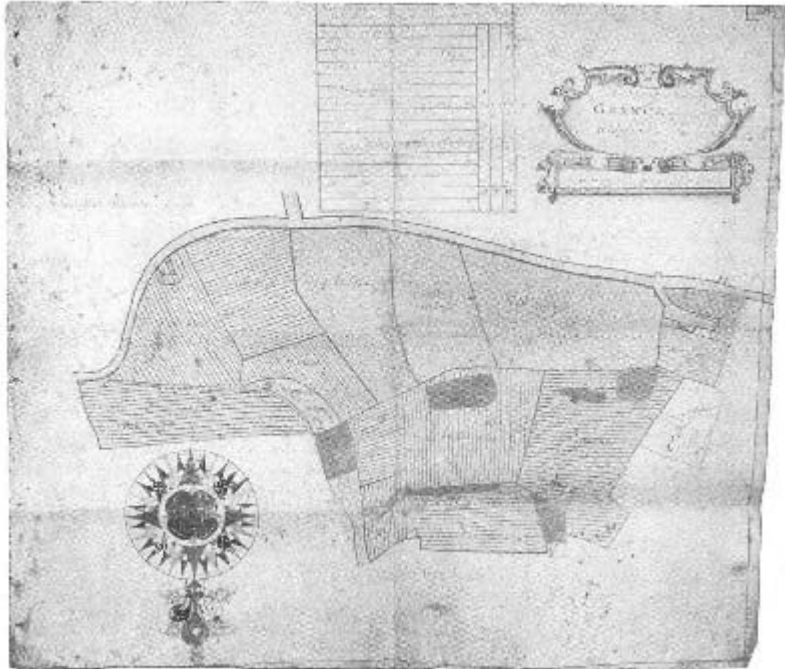
Pollyfields Centre, Bideford "An evening session on the key steps to developing a more successful funding base for your organisation" funded by **Devon Community Foundation**. For more details and to reserve a place **01392 383443** Fax: **01392 382062** email: gail@devonrcc.org.uk

You write

North Devon Record Office

This is the time of year for our annual stockcheck of archive collections so we have been busy recently making sure that everything in our strong room is where it should be. During this period, usually the first two weeks in February, the Record Office remains open but we do not produce any original documents. It is a good opportunity to get down to some essential backroom tasks that would be difficult or impossible to undertake under normal circumstances. This year we hired a professional photographer to take digital images of a selection of our more attractive estate maps, some of which date back to the eighteenth century. As these maps vary in size from A5 to many square metres, the digital images will provide a quick means of access without having to produce the original item on each occasion.

The oldest of the maps we photographed was a small, delicately coloured plan of a property called **Grange** in East the Water (ref. 2379A/Z38/12). It is undated and unsigned but all the evidence suggests that it was produced around 1700 by the eminent cartographer Joel Gascoyne. We know that Gascoyne was employed by the Grenville family of Stowe, Kilkhampton to produce a 33 - map atlas of their properties a few years earlier, and Grange was also owned by the Grenvilles. This map may have been part of a projected atlas of the family properties in Devon, for it is given the number 28 in the top right hand corner and there are binding marks on its left hand margin.



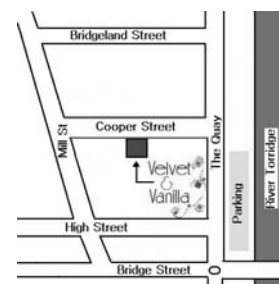
If you would like further information on the North Devon Record Office, please visit our website at www.devon.gov.uk/record_office. The North Devon Record Office is part of the Devon county archives service provided by Devon County Council. **Tim Wormleighton**

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Family History

Hello Everybody, welcome to the Family History section.

This month I shall be giving you a few facts about tracing your British Army Ancestors. The British Army was established as a permanent institution in 1660. Searching for military ancestors prior to this date is therefore difficult

The records of men who served in the British Army are not kept in one large sequence. The filing method and therefore the searching method, varies depending on the man's rank and the period he was in the army. Officers' and Other Ranks' records prior to 1922 are held in separate sequences at The National Archives (TNA) in Kew, London. It's necessary therefore to know whether you are researching an Officer or Other Rank before you begin. The Army Lists published annually from 1740 list all officers in the British Army.



All army records for men who continued serving after 1922, fought in the Second World War, or joined at any time after 1922 are still with the Ministry of Defence, which will release details of service records to the soldier or their next of kin upon receiving a written request. Army records prior to the First World War are mostly arranged by regiment at TNA, so it may be necessary to know which regiment your ancestor was with to find a record of their service, though some have been indexed by surname army wide for certain periods.

The careers of officers can be traced from their initial commission to any promotions and eventual retirement using the annually published Army Lists, which gives details of the regiments each officer served with. This can be used to trace original documentation.

In 1940 around 60% of service records of the 6-7 million men who served as soldiers during the First World War were destroyed during bomb attacks in London. Of the 40% that survive, a large number have now been digitised and can be searched on-line by name at the subscription sites such as Ancestry. If no record of your ancestor can be found using the on-line databases, the entire surviving collection of the First World War soldiers' service and pension records can be searched on microfilm, indexed by surname range, at TNA.

The main series of officers' service records for the First World War period was also destroyed during the bombing in 1940, but over 20,000 supplementary records survived and can be searched by surname on the TNA on-line catalogue.

There may be no evidence of your ancestor joining the army during the 1914-1918 war if their service record was destroyed. The Medal Rolls Index Cards can be searched for brief details including name, service number, regiment, and details of medals awarded.

The next meeting of the Devon Family History Society, Bideford Group will be on Saturday 20th March in the Devon Community Centre directly opposite the Burton Art Gallery from 2-4pm. We are being entertained by Master Jake the Master Surgeon from the 1646 in Torrington. The meetings are open to all and are free. Any queries please contact me, **Len Collum 01237 472883**.

Westward Ho! Potwalloping Festival 2010

This is an annual 3- day community event in celebration of the old "Potwalloping" tradition dating back to the late 1800s. The dates for this year are **Saturday 29th – Monday 31st May**.

Contact Mrs Terry Thorpe, 2010 Chair, on 01237 422492 or email engs@potwalloping.co.uk. For all Arts & Crafts stall enquiries please telephone 01237 423335 email aandc@potwalloping.co.uk and for all outside stalls and commercial tender enquiries, please email stalls@potwalloping.co.uk.



THE SHIPPING NEWS

No shipping movements in and out of Bideford since last issue.

Arco Dart nothing seen

Oldenburg at Bideford Quay awaiting new season sailings to Lundy at the end of March

Bristol Channel Observations

23.1.10 at 16.30 hrs cargo vessel **Wilson Tees** 3695 tons d.w, owners Wilson Shipping AS Norway inward bound for Sharpness.

24.1.10 at 14.30 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Italia**, 12594 tons d.w owners Grimaldi Line of Italy outward bound from Portbury seen from Broad Lane Watertown.

At 16.30 hrs bulk carrier **Devon** 23071 tons d.w, owners Far East Marine Greece inward bound for Newport

29.1.10 at 12.20 hrs vehicle carrier **Asian Breeze** 12562 tons d.w owners Wallenius Line Singapore inward bound for Portbury.

30.1.10 at 08.50 hrs vehicle carrier **Coral Leader** 12164 tons d.w, owners Kujuyukuri Maritima SA Norway in Nippon Yusen Kaisha Japan colours inward bound for Portbury; seen again **31.1.10** at 09.28 hrs, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 06.36 hrs.

At 15.15 hrs cargo vessel **Glen** 4299 tons d.w, owners Bert-Umm Shipping OU Estonia outward bound from Sharpness

At 16.40 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Benelux** 12594 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy inward bound for Portbury.

31.1.10 at 10.50 hrs bulk carrier **Poplar Arrow** 47900 tons d.w, owners Gearbulk Ltd Hamilton Bermuda inward bound for Portbury.

At 13.28 hrs container ship **Petuja** 7200 tons d.w, owners Petuja Germany inward bound for Avonmouth.

At 16.18 hrs vehicle carrier **Aquarius Ace** 14353 tons d.w owners Aurora Car Maritime Transport Japan inward bound for Portbury.

10.2.10 at 17.34 hrs container ship **Sara Borchard** 11431 tons d.w, owners Han-Uwe Meyer Germany, inward bound for Cardiff

11.2.10 at 08.15 hrs chemical tanker **Stolt Avocet** 5749 tons d.w. owners Stolt Avocet BV Holland, outward bound from Cardiff

12.2.10 at 12.39 hrs vehicle carrier **Palma** 10546 tons d.w. owners Kapalaren Shipping Manila inward bound for Portbury

13.2.10 at 08.26 hrs vehicle carrier **Opal Leader** tons 12300 d.w. owners Payton Maritime SA Japan in Nippon Yusen Kaisha Japan colours, inward bound for Portbury.

13.2.10 at 09.40 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Spagne** 12594 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line Italy outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 06.24 hrs.

At 13.47 hrs vehicle carrier **Blue Ridge Highway** 15000 tons d.w owners Prosperity Line Japan, having sailed from Portbury at 08.55 hrs ; this vessel is a brand new, completed in December 2009.

14.2.10 at 10.20 seen from Northam the following ships all inward bound between Lundy and Hartland Point

1. cargo ship **A.B. Bilbao** 4212 tons d.w, owners W. Bockstiegel Reederei KG Germany inward bound for Cardiff

2. container ship **Petuja** tons 7200 d.w owners, Petuja Germany inward bound for Portbury

3. cargo ship **Arklow Wind** 13777 tons d.w owners, Arklow Shipping Ireland inward bound for Avonmouth

4. vehicle carrier **Grand Pearl** 18090 tons d.w owners, Dynamic Climber Shipping SA South Korea inward bound for Portbury

5. cargo vessel **Celtic Carrier** 3020 tons d.w. Owners, Willie Shipping Cardiff inward bound for Cardiff

I would like to thank the members of the Suez Canal Zoners Association for their kind reception at the Plough Bickington on 19th January ; they wished to know a little more about the shipping moving up and down the Bristol Channel - trust I did not bore you too much with statistics

Regards **Norman**

March Diary 2010

Tuesday 2nd

7pm Duplicate Bridge at the Durrant Hotel tel 476634

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club, Bideford Youth Centre
Northam Choral Society Northam
Methodist Church Hall 476454

Wednesday 3rd

2pm Bideford Readers' Group Bideford Library tel 476075

Thursday 4th

Burton Art Gallery – Jerwood Drawing prize - **9th April** Events and exhibitions
World Book Day at Bideford Library

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall tel Maggie 421956

Bideford Arts Centre- Railway Heritage -talk

Modern sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho!

Friday 5th

11am Women's World day of prayer at Lavington Church

7.30pm At Methodist Church Buckland Brewer tel 479642

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

Saturday 6th

Torrige Ramblers Day Walk tel 01805 622183 for details

7.30pm Film at Littleham 'Brightstar' tel 420372

Monday 8th

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club AGM at Youth Centre tel 472101

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at Beaver Inn Appledore 421065

Tuesday 9th

10.30am Macular Disease Society meets at the Burton Art Gallery 474128

7.30pm Northam Choral Society Methodist Church Hall Northam 476454
Bideford Camera Club, Bideford Youth Centre

Wednesday 10th

10.15 Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel tel 423513

2pm Bideford Library Group Speaker at 2.30pm -for transport phone 476075

7.30pm Bideford Music Club Holy Trinity Church Westward Ho! Tel 423112

Thursday 11th

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall Maggie 421956

7.30pm Modern sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall, Westward HO!

Friday 12th

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

Saturday 13th

7pm for 7.30pm Appledore Lifeboat quiz at St Mary's Church hall Appledore 470082

7.30pm Katy Carr and the Aviators at Swimbridge Village Hall 01271 830311

Monday 15th

7.30pm Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club meets at Appledore Football club tel 473251

Appledore Singers open evening at Appledore School tel 424982

Tuesday 16th

7pm Duplicate Bridge at the Durrant Hotel tel 476634

7.30pm Northam Choral Society meets at Methodist Church Hall Northam 476454

Bideford Camera Club, Bideford Youth Centre

Wednesday 17th

2.15pm Meditation Group at Bideford Library tel 476075

6-9pm Funding : The fundamentals Pollyfield Centre, Devon Community Foundation

8.30pmNorth Devon Jazz Club at Beaver Inn Appledore 421065

Thursday 18th

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall tel Maggie 421956

7.30pm Modern sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall, Westward HO!

Friday 19th

2pm Devonshire Association at Bideford Youth centre, The Pill tel 477701

7.30pm Quiz at Instow village hall in aid of North Devon Hospice tel 422710

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

Sunday 21st

Torrige Ramblers afternoon walk tel 01805 622183 for details

8.30pm Quiz at Seagate Hotel Appledore

Monday 22nd

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at Beaver Inn Appledore 421065

Tuesday 23rd

7.30pm Northam Choral Society at Methodist Church Hall Northam 476454

Bideford Camera Club, Bideford Youth Centre

REME North Devon Branch at Appledore Social Club. Tel 424946

Wednesday 24th

10.15 Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel 423513

12.30pm onwards One stop drop in at Bideford Library with Adult Education staff job search tel 476075

2.15pm Senior Council at Bideford Town Hall

7.30pm North Devon Humanists at Fremington Parish Hall tel 477851

Thursday 25th

10am Kingsley School Playground Easter egg hunt- (0-3 years)

2.30pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall tel Maggie 421956

7.30pm Modern sequence dancing at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho!

Friday 26th

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

Sat 27th

10am North Devon Ramblers. Tel: 01271 863727 for details

Sunday 28th

Walk for life in aid of North Devon Hospice tel 01271 347224

Monday 29th

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at Beaver Inn Appledore 421065

Friday 2nd April

Good Friday

Sunday 4th

Easter Day

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, Bideford Town Council, Bideford Bridge Trust, Bideford Bay Children's Centre and Devon Community Foundation.

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

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

Any items for inclusion should be sent by the 15th of each month to Rose Arno, Bideford Library, New Road, Bideford EX39 2HR.

Tel. **01237 476075** or email: **editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk**

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