



BIDEFORD BUZZ



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

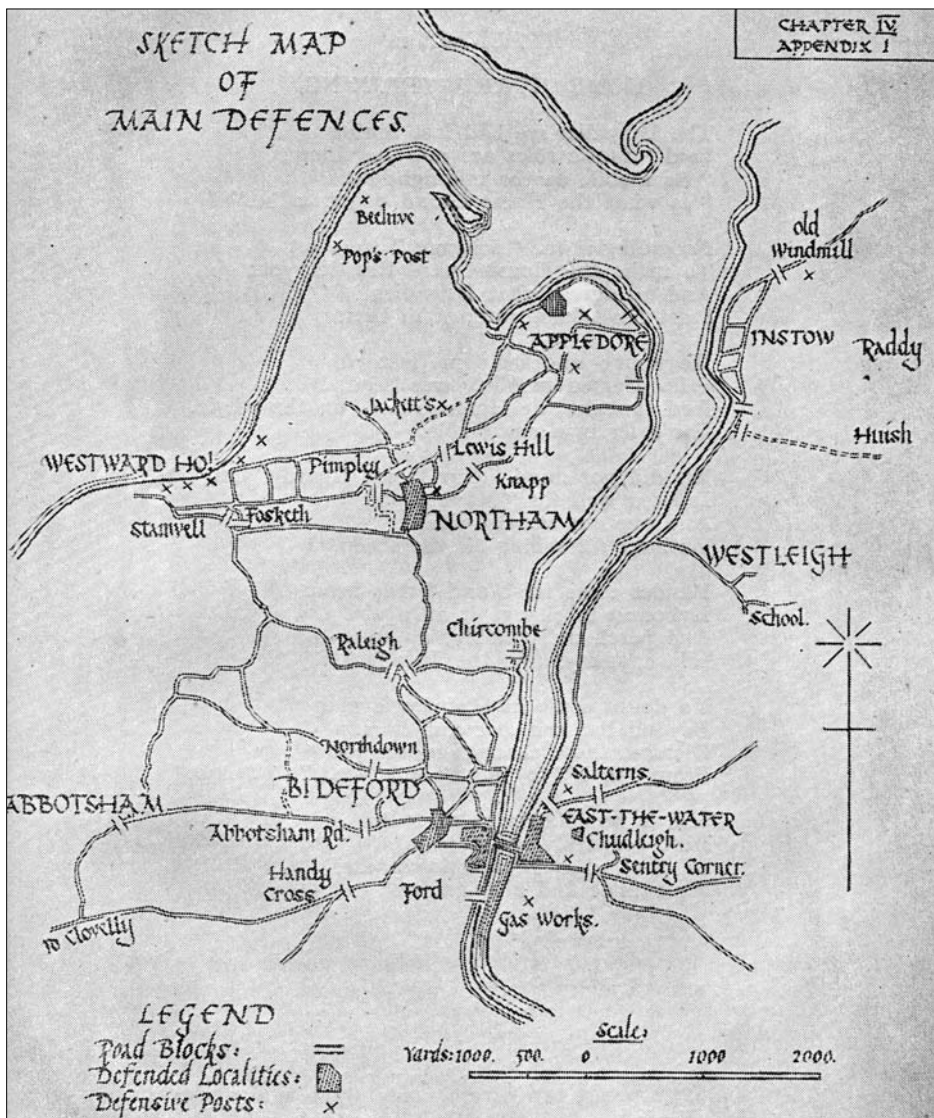


Home Guard's plans for Bideford during World War 2

- from Peter Christie's book -

'Illustrations of Old Bideford'

Read more on page 2, in part 2 of
'Bideford Bridge goes to War' by Peter Christie.



Also Inside ...

A reader sends us her own memories of Bideford's 'lost shops'.

Meanwhile here are a few more to whet your appetite!

Lang's, Upholsterers, Grenville Street

Let's Go Travel, Mill Street

Littlejohns, Photographer, Mill Street

Leno's Fish and Chips Old Town

Laundons High Street

London Central Meat, Mill Street

Luxton, Tobacconist, High Street

Marshall Verren, Grocer, Mill Street

Mace shop Old Town – Now Complete
Computing

MacFisheries, High Street

Mackenzie Dye, Bookseller, Mill Street

Madges Garage, Clovelly Road

Market Inn, Honestone Street

Margarets Ladies Clothes Mill Street

Michells Paint Shop, Meddon Street

Merediths, Ironmongers, High Street

Mounce, Ladies Fashions, High Street

Nicklins, Records, Mill Street

Neville Pullen Chemist, Mill Street

Number 5, Ladies Fashions Bridgeland Street

Northcott, Jeweller, Meddon Street

**CONTACT
BUZZ**

Bideford Buzz is produced by a team of volunteers with practical assistance from Torridge District Council, Torridge Voluntary Services, Bideford Town Council, Bideford Bridge Trust, Bideford Bay Children's Centre, South West Foundation, Devon County Council, The co-operative Community Fund & 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 £15 per box per month. Cheques payable to Bideford Buzz Newsletter Group. All items for inclusion should be sent by the 15th of the month to the Editor, Rose Arno. Email: editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk, Mobile: 07929 976120 or c/o Torridge Voluntary Services, 14 Bridgeland St., EX39 2QE. Visit www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk.



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**The co-operative
Community Fund**



**Devon
County Council**



Bideford Town Council

Bideford Bridge goes to war

Peter Christie continues his history of Bideford in wartime

June 1941 onwards- More notes from Frank Whiting's reports.

The next few months are taken up with surveying and costing the damage to the Bideford Laundry buildings (which had earlier been a collar factory) off Northam Road that had accidentally burnt down in April 1941. In November, however, there is a war related entry that is rather puzzling. It reads, 'I surveyed the damage to the Trustees property due to enemy action on Oct 28th last.' No properties in Bideford experienced any bomb damage during hostilities but all is explained in the entry for January 1942 when the Warden noted 'In connection with the bomb damage off the Clovelly Road, the crater is filled in and they are now putting the top covering of soil over it' plus 'The cow shed is nearing completion.' Clearly the Nazi pilot in this case hadn't been very accurate! This brush with enemy bombers, however, probably led to the entry in April 1942 that 'the tapestry be removed from over the fireplace.' This refers to a piece of tapestry assumed to be of seventeenth century date that has long been in the possession of the Trust and was clearly deemed valuable enough to be put in a place of safety.

As the war progressed, so more and more men were conscripted into the forces – which caused a problem for the Warden. Applying to the local Labour Exchange in May 1942 for a man to help clear undergrowth from the Laundry site he had to report that no-one had been available – a small annoyance perhaps but clearly one that annoyed Whiting. A slightly more dramatic occurrence came three months later when 'An Army Lorry' ran into No.41 Mill Street destroying the plate glass window and the sun blind in the process.' The Bridge Steward we read 'is in touch with the Army Authorities re damages.' *Final chapter next month*

1948 Olympics give a boost to Northam Lodge

A 1948 Olympics vest and other memorabilia raised £450 in a recent sale. They belonged to Geoffrey Tudor, whose son Eddie spent some of his happiest years at Northam Lodge until his sudden death last year. A fund started in Eddie's memory has already contributed just over £14,000 towards a major improvement scheme at the charity's Rose Hill site. Geoff. Tudor was a cross-country runner who captained the Oxford University team in 1947. At very short notice he was selected ('hi-jacked' is his own expression!) to run in the 3,000m Olympic steeplechase.



Heritage Lottery Fund project for Westward Ho! - Your stories wanted !

The Happy Cafe run by Seize the Moment Ltd is one of the successful projects selected by (HLF) to collect the stories and memories of people who love Westward Ho! The project "Why we love our Park" is centred on the public park, putting green and tennis pavilion on Golf Links Road. We want to speak to as many people as we can who are willing to share their stories, memories, family photos or anything which can help to provide a picture of why Westward Ho! is such a fantastic place. The project to collect material will run until September 2013. We urge ANYONE who loves Westward Ho! to please get in touch. Anyone who is elderly or cannot get to the cafe in person is invited to request a home visit, or a phone call or to receive communication about the project in a format which they can use. There will be a final exhibition of recordings/film and photos at the Kingsley Hall in November 2013. We plan to stage a celebration event to raise money for the roof fund. The local contact for 'All Our Stories' is **Jane Elliott 07773 679559** jane@seize-the-moment.net www.wearenortham.com

Wealth Dream Shattered.

When Captain Geoffrey Newbold, formerly of the Royal Marines and Commander Frank Worsley R.N.R. formerly Captain of **The Quest**, Shackleton's Polar Ship, last set sail in the **George Cochran** from Appledore last summer with three Appledore men, Messrs Jewell, May and Fisher among the crew for Georgian bay with prospects of a fortune to be gained by fishing in the Canadian waters, they failed to take into account the draft of their ship as compared with the depth of harbours on the bay. After an adventurous trip across the Atlantic the party found that they could not get their ship out of the Parry Sound harbour, and thus their golden dreams were blown away. The expedition cost the three involved many thousands of dollars. Newbold was stranded in Toronto, while the other members of the party departed for England.

Bideford Gazette 22nd January 1924.

*Thanks to **Mike Davy and Bideford Archives** for this and for the reader (anonymous) who brought it to our attention.(ed)*

Also

One Hundred years ago

Parkham

The school was closed and the Church concert postponed on account of the epidemic of measles.

Hartland

The first twenty five loads of stone for building the new United Methodist Church were hauled from Thorn Quarry on Monday. The horses and carts were provided gratis by Mr T Heard of East Tithen and Mr W Heard of Moor.

South Pole Disaster

Terrible news reached London that although Captain Scott, the well known Devonian explorer had reached the South Pole on January 18th last year the party was overwhelmed by a blizzard on the return journey. Captain Scott and the entire (land) party perished.

The Nimrod in which Lt Shackleton made his famous trip in search of the South Pole, is still laid up outside the Richmond Dry Dock . She is fitted for both steam and sailing. Many have come to look at her since the news of Capt.Scott's disaster. *

Photo "Nimrod" departing for the South Pole, 1907.



Family History

Hello to you all and a very happy new year to you. No doubt many of you got those books, cds, records etc to help with your research in your stocking. However I shall continue to give you research tips each month. Parish Registers may be deposited at a number of different places - such as county, Diocesan or local record offices or at a library. You can find full addresses of these and contact details at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/> Many repositories have placed their catalogues online and you can check these on their website before making a visit. There are the Bishops' Transcripts. These are copies of every parish register entry made by the incumbent during the year and sent to his Bishop each Easter. They are invaluable where the parish register has not survived or is illegible and are usually deposited at the Diocesan record office.

*The next meeting of the Bideford Group of the Devon Family History Society will be on Sat 16th February at the Burton Art Museum, Bideford, 2pm-4pm. Our speaker will be Marie Helvin with her story of **Harry Pennell and the Scott Expedition 1910-1912**. Meetings are free and open to everybody. Any queries then please contact me **Len Collum at 01237 472883**.

More about those lost shops of Bideford

I was born in Bideford and went to school at Geneva and then Edgehill. When I married, 65 years ago, we lived in South Wales and have probably been back to Bideford at least 150 times since. Seeing the list of old shops in Bideford brought back lots of memories.

My sister, Muriel, worked at **Braunds** Shoe shop in Mill Street. Mrs (Miss?) Short was manageress for a while.

We bought our school uniforms - navy blouses, gym slips and blazers – at **Boyle's** outfitters.

I can remember seeing Shakespeare being performed at a small theatre on the Pill when I was still at school.

We lived in 14 Honestone Street for a while. My father was caretaker of the Methodist Church nearby. One day, during the war I believe, but it must have been pre-rationing, I was sent to **Beer's Grocers** in Market Place for eggs. They were placed in a paper bag for me to carry home, but it was raining, the bag got wet and broke and the eggs all ended up on the floor – scrambled! My mother was not pleased.

Opposite our house was a little shop which I think was called **Kivells**. We caught up on any news via the radio.

We had to take the accumulators (sort of battery) to be regularly charged for the radio to the **Radio Shop** in Bridgeland Street.

I remember a tale about Charlie Brough of **Brough's Outfitters**. Charlie was an officer in the Home Guard and was therefore allowed a revolver with live ammunition. The tale was that it was fired accidentally and unfortunately hit someone in the foot! Whether this was true or not I don't know but it was certainly a topic of discussion at the time.

Chopes used to have a float in the carnival each year. I remember one made out of white handkerchiefs, in the shape of a swan. They also used it in the water carnival and seeing that swan floating down the Torridge is a sight I'll never forget.

My Aunt, Olive Cole, worked at Chopes for a while and after she retired Mr Chope (Roger?) visited her at home every Christmas bringing her a card and a bottle of advocaat as a present.

I spent the first two years of my working life at **I. Baker and sons**, builders and coal merchants based at the bottom of Torridge Hill and at East the Water. A Mr Bennett was the manager then. The owner of **Burrows** shoe Shop in Allhalland Street used to allow us into the back of the shop to watch the two brothers at work repairing the

shoes.

My brother, Jack Youngs, worked at **Fulford's** (seed merchant? Farm supplier?) at East the Water before the war. He returned to the firm after being demobbed but after a few years moved to **North Devon Farmers** on the Torrington Road.

When I got married we had our wedding reception in **Friendships** in Market Place. My Aunt had worked there in the 1920s.

We used to go into the **Co-op** in High Street just to watch the gammon being sliced! (obviously before the time of television if this was what we would do after school!)

My eldest brother Bert, did his apprenticeship at **Stephens and Brain**, Ironmongers, in High Street. If he made a mistake or spoke out of turn he received a beating for his troubles. Does this happen to apprentices today?

My youngest brother, Reginald Youngs, worked at Bideford Building Society (somewhere near the bottom of High Street but I can't remember exactly where) during the war years. Poor eyesight had prevented him from joining up although he was in the Home Guard. Years later, I can remember my aunt, Olive Cole, storming into the Building Society and threatening that if they didn't give her nephew a mortgage she would 'withdraw all her money and put it into another Building Society'!

Betty Evans (formerly Youngs)

(More memories from Betty next month.)

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And what of now?

Well here we are in February already and lots of Spring type things coming our way...hip hip hooray. All I ask is that, as far as possible, we support our local independent traders when it comes to making purchases for events such as Pancake Day (12th February), and Valentine's Day (February 14th). I, for one, will be perusing our lovely selection of shops where I know I will be able to find an interesting, different and charming selection of gifts and delicacies to make each celebration unique. As I walk around Bideford, on an almost daily basis, I marvel at how lucky we are to have such a diverse range of independent shops. It has been very interesting to read the list of Bideford's lost shops and as sad as it is to remember those that have gone, we must not forget that we still have a marvellous selection both in the town and in the Pannier Market so let's do our bit to keep it that way and at least give our independents a first chance before looking elsewhere. I am positive that I won't be disappointed. **BoB**



Good Age Page



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Bideford Library Events.

McMillan Benefits Advice

Drop in session for anyone seeking benefits advice for people affected by cancer.

Thursday 14th Feb 10:00 to 12:00 am

Meditation and Relaxation Group

Guided meditation and relaxation group for adults with Nicola MacDonald

Wednesday 20th Feb 2:15 to 3:00 pm

Craniosacral Therapy

A drop-in session with therapist Kath MacDonald from the Wellbeing Centre - this therapy, is very beneficial for a wide range of conditions including back pain, migraine, problems associated with falls and other injuries, as well as stress related conditions.

Thursday 21st Feb 10-12

Reminiscence Session – Take a trip down memory lane at Bideford Library

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

For anyone aged 60+

Wednesday 13th Feb 2:00 to 3:30 pm

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Tuesdays Great Torrington School Gym, (Hatchmoor Rd entrance) 8-9pm
Wednesdays High Bickington Community Hall 7.30-8.30pm

*** From £4 per class ***

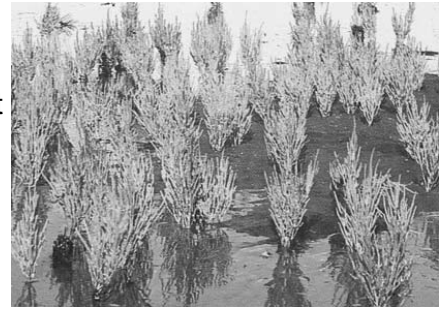
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Floods and Salt Marshes

All sorts of habitats have been affected by the floods this winter, and in many places it's the human habitation in low lying areas that has been the most spectacularly damaged.

Then, when you see the thick red-brown colouration of the flood waters raging down the Torridge and the Yeo, you realise how many thousands of tons of good agricultural soil are being washed away from the farm land upstream, and this must have a bad effect on the productivity of the land in the long term. If anyone had the time to take aerial photographs of the estuary at the peak of the floods they would have shown the coloured river water fanning out into Bideford Bay on the falling tide, and all that suspended soil will have sunk down to the sea bed carrying nutrients, and fertilisers, with it to contribute to further algal blooms in the hot summer we confidently anticipate for next year.



One habitat that might be expected to be little affected by floods is that of the salt marshes that line the estuary and the tidal reaches of the rivers further upstream. After all they are routinely flooded by the spring tides twice a month and their special flora depends on this regular inundation with salt water. But while they are quite happy to be flooded, the salt marshes in the upper tidal reaches have suffered from the excessive rains of recent summers because no sooner than they get their regular soaking with salt water than down comes the rain and washes all the salt away again. Thus the special salt marsh plants like the little pink-flowered sea spurrey and the tasty samphire, that are specially adapted to thrive in a saline environment, are being smothered by coarse meadow grasses that could not survive under normal salt marsh conditions.

So, while all the tourist attractions are hoping for a hot, sunny, and above all dry, summer in 2013, their hopes are shared by the wildlife that depends on the salt marshes. A good soaking in salt water every spring tide, and then left to dry out for the intervening weeks, will result in the special salt marsh plants spreading and the invasive coarse grasses dying out, to the benefit of all the salt marsh community.

Nice that the people and the wildlife can share the same desires once in a while !

Chris Hassall (Photo shows Samphire, (Salicornia)

Red Velvet Cake. A cake for Valentine's Day courtesy of Blazeys of Bideford

Easy, super moist, melt-in-your mouth soft with a light chocolaty red velvet taste decadent, delicious and delightful – perfect for valentines.

Ingredients

Cake

250g plain flour, 1 teaspoon of baking soda
1 teaspoon of baking powder, 1 teaspoon of salt, 2 tablespoons of unsweetened cocoa powder, 400g sugar, 240ml vegetable oil, 2 eggs, 240ml buttermilk, 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract, red gel food colouring, 1 teaspoon of white distilled vinegar, 120ml of prepared plain hot coffee. **Cream cheese frosting**

225g full fat cream cheese, softened, 115g butter, softened, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, 500g icing sugar

Method

1. Preheat oven to 325.F, 170C, Gas 3
2. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, baking powder, cocoa powder and salt. Set aside.
3. In a large bowl, combine the sugar and vegetable oil.
4. Mix in the eggs, buttermilk, vanilla and red food coloring (enough to make a pretty red colour) until combined.
5. Stir in the coffee and white vinegar.
6. Combine the wet ingredients with the dry

ingredients a little at time, mixing after each addition, just until combined.

7. Generously grease and flour two round 23cm cake tins
8. Pour the batter evenly into each pan.
9. Bake in the centre of the oven for 30-40 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out clean. Do not over bake as cake will continue to cook as it cools.
10. Let cool on a cooling rack until the tins are warm to the touch.
11. Slide a knife around the inside of the tins to loosen the cake..
12. Remove the cakes from the tins and let them cool.
13. While the cakes cool, make the frosting
14. Put softened cream cheese into large bowl.
15. Pour in milk, butter and vanilla extract.
16. Mix until well combined.
17. Pour in half of the icing sugar.
18. Mix until combined. Add the remaining powdered sugar.
19. Mix until smooth and fluffy. If too stiff add milk a few drops at a time.

Frost the cake with cream cheese frosting when the cakes have cooled completely, sandwiching the cakes together and covering the top.

Bideford Library Readers' Group.

This month's book for discussion was Belinda Bauer's debut novel, '**Blacklands**', for which she won the Crime Writers' Award. The group felt the tale to be a psychological thriller as much as a crime novel. The author has local connections and this is reflected in the descriptions of the Exmoor and Dartmoor settings. She has given talks at both Bideford Library and the Appledore Book Festival, so her work was familiar to some taking part in the discussion.

The book centres on a twelve year old boy who seeks to solve the mystery behind his uncle's disappearance several years before. This leads to a 'cat and mouse' game between the boy and the murderer, a notorious serial killer, who increasingly manipulates the boy's naivety. Most of the group felt it was a book difficult to put down as the author's images of decay and darkness increased the sense of foreboding particularly when the tension escalated towards the end of the book. Nevertheless, despite the need to 'read to the end' it was also felt to be a 'difficult' book because of the disturbing subject matter and suppressed emotions. The style of writing which may appeal to teenagers contrasted with the nature of the story, further emphasising its bleak atmosphere.

One interesting aspect of this month's meeting was that the book stimulated discussion of our personal experiences, including how we behaved as twelve year olds. Is it an age where we feel we can 'take on the world' before we've experienced enough to realise that not everything is possible?

The group also made links with books and/or authors with similar themes, such as Margaret Yorke, Denis Lehane, Fred Vargas, Ruth Rendell and Scandinavian crime writers such as Henning Mankell and Stieg Larsson.

The meeting ended on a much lighter note when we read extracts from another book with some local settings - a children's book called '*Granny*' by Anthony Horowitz. Part of the story is set at a hotel in Bideford (the description of which could have been of one of the existing hotels, a mixture of several or purely fictional) which is eventually blown up by the Granny at the centre of the story! Do any Buzz readers know of other books which are set in and around Bideford?

PE and others (*Next meeting at Bideford Library Wednesday 6th Feb 2:30 pm. Discussing 'Sense of an Ending' by Julian Barnes*)

Also at Bideford Library this month:-

Feel Better with a Book. Come and lift your mood through the joy of reading! The aim of the groups is to enable you to enjoy the pleasure and relaxation of listening to great stories and poems classical and new and sharing responses with others. No pressure and no reading required. The group is led by an experienced facilitator. Every Wednesday 10.30-12.00 at Bideford Library 01237 476075 or anniebrierley@thereader.org.uk

My Valentine Flower

She's like an ageing summer flower
With a never ending bloom
Her fragrance and her presence
Never fails to fill a room
No faded petals or wilted broken stems
Just everlasting sunshine
Like light from precious gems

She's as fragile as a flower
With more blossoms by the years
But don't let this flower fool you
There's been sadness, loss and tears
Surviving many storms, rains and burning sun,
She's standing proud with dignity
And we've grown now as one.

I'm proud to be the earth
From where this flower grows
To nourish all the beauty
And help nature let it show
let this flower bloom to lighten up my way
To guide me through the darkness
So we stay close together, every precious day.
Leonard

Dedicated to my wife Jenny who gives me the reason for living



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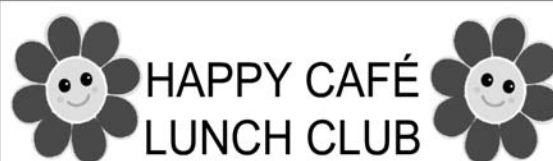
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*"The only escapes from the miseries
of life are music and cats"*

(Albert Schweitzer)

**This month we celebrate our 2nd
anniversary in Bideford. We love being
here and would like to thank you all for
your support and the many positive
comments that we have received.
Remember, if we haven't got it or can't
source it for you, then it probably isn't
out there!**

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Community training café for new chefs.

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Café usual opening times:

Thursdays and Fridays

10.30am until 2.30pm

Take away also available, please ask



PETROC



www.seize-the-moment.net

Relate is back

The good news is that, thanks to The Bideford Bridge Trust, Relate can operate from Bideford once again.

For further details about Relate North Devon contact **01392 275681** or visit our website www.relateexeteranddistrict.co.uk

Bideford Sustainability Group

'Making Eco-Living Fun!' Bideford Town Hall, 7.30pm, Wednesday 13th February

Forget making sacrifices to save the planet - Mukti Mitchell has pioneered low carbon living techniques that improve your quality of life!

In this talk with slides he will describe his trip around Britain in a revolutionary 15 foot boat with no engine, the very best low carbon living tips and why they make you happier, and give you a taste from his company on how to insulate your period property.

Mukti Mitchell is director of the award-winning CosyHome Company, insulating period properties. He is the author of five highly regarded on-line carbon calculators. He has been leading a low carbon lifestyle for 15 years, sailed around Britain in a zero-emission microyacht, and writes and speaks on low carbon living.

Seeing Green

Have you improved your home to become more environmentally friendly? Are you prepared to share your knowledge and experience?

If so you could become part of our exciting Green Doors project by opening your doors and showing the benefits and drawbacks of your home improvements. Bideford Sustainability Group, a local community group, is inviting you to show how you've made the jump towards becoming more sustainable. We are particularly looking for people who have installed heat pumps, solar thermal, internal or external wall insulation, heat recovery, floor insulation, composting toilets, rainwater or grey water harvesting or any other improvement that reduces the need for electricity from the grid.

If you would like to find out more or be involved in any other way then please email JamesCraigieBSG@gmail.com or call Philip on 01237 471 852 for more details and to discuss how you might get involved.

BSG Green Drinks

BSG's first informal get-together this year will be at the Blacksmith's Arms on Tuesday 5th February. Drop in any time from 7.30-9.30pm

Total Immersion

I caught up with Philippe Guégan, from Paris, who was part of an immersion programme which took place in North Devon in early December.

He was visiting Devon on a cultural and language holiday organised by Hopkins Institute, Paris and took part in many varied activities. Mr Miah of the Prince of India Restaurant in Bideford showed him how to make Chicken Tikka and Bhuna which he enjoyed and said that the French are increasingly trying cuisines from around the world. On another day, he had a surfing lesson at the North Devon Surf School where he had lots of fun, despite the cold.

Other interesting activities were a visit to Appledore Shipyard and the Crown Court in Exeter. Philippe enjoyed it all and wished he had been able to stay longer. He particularly appreciated Polly Thompson's hospitality at Dora's Guest House in Appledore.

Mary Jane Brown

(Photos of the activities can be seen at www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk (ed))

FLAG

The FLAG small business grants are designed to help businesses with new projects linked to and with a benefit for the fisheries sector and/or the priority fishing communities of Appledore, Clovelly, Bideford and Ilfracombe. For more information see the **Business Grant Scheme document at:** <http://goo.gl/ewQ62>

Bideford Methodist Church

Bideford Methodist Church, in the High Street, will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of its opening in July this year. We hope to arrange a small exhibition to illustrate many of the events that have happened there since then. The church was built by Bible Christian Methodists because their chapel in Silver Street was not large enough for them. The Silver Street building became a glove factory, then a billiard hall and has now been demolished to make way for Pannier Mews.

I write this hoping that some readers may be able to recall their association with Bideford Methodist Church. We would appreciate being able to borrow any photographs especially of the construction of the building or of the actual opening ceremony.

If you feel that you could help us please phone me on 01237 473094

Jim Wood

BIDEFORD FILM SOCIETY

Doors open at 7.00pm, films start at 7.30pm

News from Bideford Film Society

I have read *Private Peaceful* many times and it is a truly beautiful book. However I never thought it would translate this well to the screen.

The story is told with a flash-back structure which is interesting and effective at the same time. The story is of a young teenager named Thomas "Tommo" Peaceful, who tells the story from the past to the present day events of his experiences living in the village of Iddesleigh during World War I with his mother, and his two older brothers. The eldest brother, Big Joe, has learning difficulties and is always looked out for by his younger brothers Tommo and Charlie.

The beginning part of the story explains Tommo's life before the war, the tale of his love for Molly, a girl he met at a fair and grew to love - and Charlie Peaceful, his older brother. Charlie had always protected and looked out for his younger brother. Sadly for Tommo, Charlie and Molly became closer as they grew older and Tommo begins to feel left out. Later on, it is revealed that Molly and Charlie were secretly seeing each other, and that Molly had become pregnant with Charlie's child, much to the shock of both brothers. Tommo became increasingly upset as Molly and Charlie married a short time later in the village church.

Soon after, Tommo and Charlie went off to France to fight in World War I. The rest of the film shows us the brothers' experiences of the war: these include the bellowing and hated Sergeant Hanley, and Charlie's continued protection of Tommo.

Trouble loomed when Charlie disobeyed a direct order from Hanley and stayed with Tommo when he was injured in No-man's-land. As a result Charlie was accused of cowardice and given a death sentence. The film counts down to dawn which was when Charlie would be executed. *Private Peaceful* emphasizes the devastatingly unfair treatment soldiers were given and the unjust ending many brave soldiers had to face. It is also a story about the friendship between the two brothers and the undying bond of trust between soldiers in the trenches. It is a moving film and well worth seeing.

Amy Seaman

"Bideford Film Society thanks Amy for her thoughtful review. Amy regularly reviews our films and we are delighted to have the opinions of a young cinema goer. After an excellent series of films during the Autumn we now have other good films in our Spring programme. These will include "The Hobbit", "Life of Pi", "Quartet" and "Les Miserables". Look below and in local papers for days and timings."

Mavis Blow

BIDEFORD FILM SOCIETY

Doors open at 7.00pm, films start at 7.30pm

Friday 1 and Saturday 2 February at Kingsley School - *Great Expectations* (12A)

Friday 8 and Saturday 9 February at Kingsley School - *Life of Pi* (PG) -

Saturday 16 February at Bideford College - *The Master* (15)

Friday 22 and Saturday 23 February at Kingsley School - *Quartet* (12A)

Friday 1 and Saturday 2 March at Bideford College - *Les Miserables* (12A) -

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

Tickets: General £5.50 Concessions £5.00 Members £4.00 Family (up to 3 children & 2 adults) £12.00

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

Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy

Bideford Buzz is holding a coffee morning on **Friday February 8th from 10am – 12pm** at 'Glenwood', Northdown Rd in aid of funds, by kind permission of Sheila and Dougie Bushby

Entrance fee **£2 includes coffee and cake**. Raffle and Bring and Buy. **All profits in aid of Buzz.**



THE SHIPPING NEWS



Ship	Registered Flag Owners	From	To	Arrived	Sailed	Crew	Cargo loaded
Konstantin Paustovski Built 1997	St Petersburg Russian Russian	Silloth	Wismar	24/11/12	29/11/12	Russian	2300 tons timber
Casablanca Built 1997 ex Saar Casablanca 97	St Johns Antigua and Barbuda	Ostend	Castellon	10/01/13	12/01/13	Russian Polish Ukrainian	2750 tons ball clay
Russa Built 1980 Ex Baltiyskiy 110	St Petersburg Russia Russian	Belfast	Wismar	13/01/13	09/01/13	Russian	2112 tons timber
Rig* Built 1989 Ex Boniero 05 Lady Anna 00 Amrum 95 Port Sado 93	Valletta Malta Latvia	Cork	Wismar	06/01/13	09/01/13	Russian	2743 tons timber

*Loading at the Power Station Jetty Yelland (this is the first vessel to load at this jetty since the **Meridan 11** sailed in 1988 with scrap from the Power Station)

Arco Dart 30.11.12 1.12.12 (Other visits may have been made however not seen)

Oldenburg has completed her sailing programme with passengers. Had sailed to Sharpness where she was drydocked, returned to Bideford on **11.12.2012**; will do cargo runs only until March.

At the time of going to press in our last issue the Appledore Drydock yard was expecting the trawler **Monkleigh** which was being prepared at Milford Haven. She eventually arrived in tow on the 16th November but could not enter the drydock until work on the three trawlers already there were completed. She was finally docked on the **10th January**. On a visit to the drydock on the **11.12.2012** the **Bryher** had been completed. The **Annaleisse** was very close to completion and work on the **Silver Harvester** was in progress. Understand from a report in the Journal that South West Metals have now taken over from FDT Marine in breaking up the vessels.

The **Southern Beaver** still alongside the Oil Jetty at Yelland is waiting to be towed away.

Bristol Channel Observations

17.11.2012 At 15.25 hrs vehicle carrier **Oberon** 24600 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen of Norway and Sweden, inward bound for Portbury.

18.11.2012 at 08.47 hrs vehicle carrier **Coral Leader** 12164 tons d.w, owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha of Japan, inward bound for Portbury.

21.11.2012 at 08.25 hrs container ship **Heluan** 16960 tons d.w, owners Ernst Komrowski Reederei KG Germany, inward bound for Portbury.

26.11.2012 at 12.40 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Scandinavia** 18441 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy inward bound for Portbury.

27.11.2012 at 13.25 vehicle carrier **Viking Chance** 10834 tons d.w, owners Onslow Shipping Singapore, outward bound from Portbury having sailed at 09.13 hrs

28.11.2012 at 12.40 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Roma** 14900 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy inward bound for Portbury.

3.12.2012. at 10.12 hrs vehicle carrier **Noble Ace** 18946 tons d.w, owners Ben Nevis Shipping Co London in the colours of Mitsui OSK lines of Japan, inward bound for Portbury. At 12.57 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Ellade** 18440 tons d.w., owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound for Portbury.

4.12.2012 at 13.03 hrs vehicle carrier **Faust** 30383 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway and Sweden outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 07.30 hrs.

8.12.2012 at 15.50 hrs cargo vessel **Flinterlinge** 3300 tons d.w. owners Flinter Groep of Holland, inward bound for Avonmouth. The vessel's next voyage was due to load at Bideford for Wismar; however the ship had trouble with her lifeboat mechanism and the voyage had to be cancelled.

10.12.2012 at 08.45 hrs vehicle carrier **Tugela** 28837 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway & Sweden, having sailed from Portbury at 04.11 hrs

7.1.2013 at 16.05 hrs vehicle carrier **Grande Sicilia** 14900 tons d.w, owners ACL Shipmanagement Sweden in colours Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound for Portbury.

13.1.13 at 13.18 hrs cargo vessel **Amber Halo** 45292 tons d.w, owners Emily Marine SA Greece.

*I would like to thank the ladies of the Bideford W.I for their kind reception of my shipping talk. **Norman***

Celebrating Kathleen Ferrier's 2012 centenary

Mezzo-soprano Victoria Simmonds has sung in many of the great opera houses in the UK and Europe and with many great orchestras. With her accompanist Anna Tilbrook she will be bringing her self-devised homage to Kathleen Ferrier, whose centenary was celebrated in 2012, to Bideford Music club for its February concert which is entitled "With much love, the music and letters of Kathleen Ferrier". This concert will be held on **Wednesday 6th February at 7.30 pm at Bideford Methodist Hall**. Tickets are at the door £12 (students free). For more information please telephone **01237 423112**.

Two Rivers Wind Ensemble

The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble has recently celebrated its twelfth anniversary. It started as an evening class for adults wishing to learn a wind (woodwind or brass) instrument and has grown from six students to the current ensemble of approximately 30 members. We play a variety of musical styles ranging from popular music, such as arrangements of Beatles songs through to film music, marches, and light classical music to name a few. We rehearse every Wednesday evening at the Bideford Band room in Victoria Park from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Our members come from throughout North Devon and consist of all age groups. We have a lot of fun and have several social events each year as well as up to a dozen concerts.

We always welcome new members, so if anyone is interested in joining us, or would like more information, please contact Mike Hawkins on **01769 572039**.

CEREMONY OF BIDEFORD MANOR COURT: 16 MARCH 2013

BIDEFORD residents are being called on to use an ancient right to make suggestions for town improvements.

Opportunity is being made for members of the public to take an active involvement in the centuries-old Manor Court Ceremony. Currently held on a Saturday in March, the ceremony was originally held to allow townspeople to bring issues before the Lords of the Manor for consideration. Nowadays, their ideas or "presentments" as they are known are put to the Town Council, which has an obligation to consider them.

Now the Town Council is opening the way for public attendance and is also calling for ideas and projects that would make Bideford a better place for the community and tourists to be put forward. Any member of the public residing in the Parish of Bideford who wishes to submit a 'presentment', should do so by **Friday 1 March 2013**. The envelope should be marked for the attention of the Manor Steward. Presentments submitted to the Town Council are considered by a chosen jury of 12 respected town residents and the most feasible are presented to the court.

Actions regarding presentments of the previous year are also reported.

Anyone wishing to take part in the occasion is invited to complete the application form and return it to the Town Clerk. If there are too many applicants a draw will be made by the Mayor to fill the available places. Those chosen will be able to take a guest and will also be invited to the Civic Reception following the Ceremony.

Bideford residents who wish to be considered for an invitation to attend or wish to apply to be a Juror at the Manor Court Ceremony, must complete this coupon, and return it to: All applicants **must** reside in the Parish of Bideford and appear in the Register of Electors. The applicant will be entitled to bring a guest with him/her, who must be aged 18 or over. The Manor Court Ceremony will be held within Bideford Town Hall and will be followed by a reception at Royal Hotel. In the event of demand exceeding seating provision, the Mayor will conduct a ballot.

The Town Clerk, Town Hall, Bideford EX39 2HS by
1 March 2013.

Name:

Address:

.....

Postcode: Telephone No

Signature:

As a member of the Audience ☐ or as a Juror ☐

.....

Guest's Name:



Buzz Word -

Our letters page- please send us your Buzzes!! Write to editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk or to the address on front page.

David Morris

A lovely Malus Red Sentinal tree has been planted in Victoria Park as a lasting memorial to a hugely liked and respected member of a Bideford family. When David Morris retired he presented himself to Pam Webster in Victoria Park as a new walk leader for the Walking for Health group. Enthusiastically turning out every week on Wednesdays he then also started various walks on Tuesdays. In fact he was so committed to these walks that against family advice he turned out in thick snow saying "well someone might want their walk".

When he died suddenly this year the people he had lead on walks for all these years decided they wanted to remember him and what better place than the Park. The tree stands beside a seat that David's son Richard remembers sharing many times with his grandmother when she lived in the family house in Park Lane. David was described by the walking groups as a gentleman, thoughtful, caring and sociable, giving lifts to walks where he could help and being considerate to all walkers, in fact a really nice bloke. If you would like to join one of the Torridge Walk & Talk groups on any of their walks, from a mile amble to a four mile walk that is followed by a happy tea/coffee stop with plenty of chatter contact Pam on 01237451171 or Steve on 01237421528

E Fowler

Alf Elphick

This missive will come to you entirely out of the blue, and it concerns an article about Alf (Bideford Buzz December 2010 by Michael Darling)

Alf and I were big mates as fellow Cpls at RAF Llandow - 53 OTU with Spitfires training young pilots to fly them. For a very short space of time we spent lots of our spare time together, and also shared the same Cpls 'bunk' of one of the huts.

Time came when a 'memo' from Air Ministry came through calling for volunteers to become "Flight Engineers". If you were of the 'engine' trade and were accepted, you'd go straight onto a Flt/Eng course and within a month or so you'd be off! We both said 'yes', snag was I was Airframes - not Engines. This meant that I would have been required to do a Flt Mech Engines course first, and then the Flt/Eng one, a delay of around 6 to 9 months!

Whilst waiting, I heard a rumour that my third stripe to Sgt was in the pipe line, so I un-volunteered the Flt/Eng course!(it wasn't true, but a little while after on posting overseas I did get promoted to Sgt) Meanwhile 'Alf' pressed on and you have his history. Now the years have rolled on, I stayed in the RAF and finally made W/O too, finishing up here in Lancs.

After I retired, I went to many Halton Apprentice Triennial Reunions and I got the bee in my bonnet to try and find whether Alf was still alive.

I tried numerous sources, including the RAFA, and other similar organisations and drew blanks, even asked several of his 'entry' who knew him – nothing!! At reunions, I invariably looked on his 38th Entry list to no avail! I'm 91 now and guess Alf must be about 90.

Further rummages produced your little paper through which I scrolled and hey presto! this article including a wedding photo with Alf and his bride.

So now I come to the bit where I ask you, "if 'you'd be so kind, as to somehow get us in touch with each other, in the vain hope that he is still above ground, as I am (just)"?.

John FC Crabbe (W/O RAF Retd) No 572757 - 36th Entry RAF Halton (AUG 37)

*Sadly Alf Elphick is no longer with us ;he died on the 1st November 2011 aged 88. He was cremated, and his family, together with the AirCrew Association, saw him off at the Riversford Hotel, Bideford. **Mike Darling***

BIDEFORD DYSPHASIA SUPPORT GROUP..... NEEDS A NEW LEADER!

We are a small friendly group who help people whose speech has been affected by Stroke. We meet each Tues morning 10.30- 12.30. We chat. do quizzes, drink tea and laugh a lot!

If you could spare a couple of hours to keep us in order, do give us a buzz! **07713 629774.**

February Diary 2013

Friday 1st

7.45 Modern Sequence Dancing Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club Bideford Amateur Athletic Club. 476632

Saturday 2nd

7.30 pm. Littleham Village Hall. film *Private Peaceful* 420372

Palladium Club *Boom Boom Room*

Sunday 3rd

12.30pm Curry Lunch at Littleham Village Hall in aid of Northam Lodge. 477238

Monday 4th

10am Lip-Reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close.

heatherathoneywells@hotmail.com
Heather Smith 07994390807

3pm Bideford Methodist Church Monday Club

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore School 01769 560034

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

Tuesday 5th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

7.15pm Bideford Camera Club meets Ethelwynne Brown Community Centre, East-The-Water. 423242

www.bidefordcameraclub.co.uk

7.30 pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Church Hall. 429080

Bideford Sustainability Group meets Blacksmiths Arms

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 6th

10.30am Parkinson's UK

Coffee Morning Ethelwynne Brown Close, Common Room 1. 478128.

2.30pm Bideford Library Readers' Group. 476075

7.30 pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets Northam Hall. 423554

7.30pm The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room. 01271 860061

7.30pm Bideford Music Club at Bideford Methodist Church. £12. 473112

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris Baptist Church, Mill Street, 473798 or

n.bennion@btinternet.com

Thursday 7th

10.15am Northam Men's Forum meets Northam Methodist Church Hall. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall. 421956

Friday 8th

10am-12pm Coffee morning in aid of Buzz at Glenwood, Northdown Rd. 476549

7.30pm Abbotsham WI meets at Abbotsham Village Hall. 474711

7.45 Modern Sequence Dancing Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club Bideford Amateur Athletic Club. 476632

Palladium Club *Gang of thieves*

Saturday 9th

8pm Quiz Night at Bideford Angling and Social club Teams of 4, cash prizes.

Palladium Club
Louise Latham -

Sunday 10th

9.30 till 2pm. Breakfast at Littleham Village Hall. 473338

Monday 11th

10am Lip-Reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close

heatherathoneywells@hotmail.com
Heather Smith 07994390807

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore School. 01769 560034

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club Old School Room, rear of Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 472101

Tuesday 12th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches.

10.30am Macular Disease Society meets at Burton Art Gallery

2-4pm Epilepsy Action Group Corner House Café, Boutport St, Barnstaple. 07875577428

7.15pm Bideford Camera Club meets Ethelwynne Brown Community Centre, . 423242 www.bidefordcameraclub.co.uk

7.30 pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Church Hall. 429080

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 13th

10.15am Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel

7.30pm Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room 01271 860061

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets Northam Hall. 423554

Bideford Sustainability Group at Town Hall Quarterly meeting.

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris Baptist Church, Mill Street, 473798

n.bennion@btinternet.com

Thursday 14th

10am McMillan Benefits Advice Bideford Library Drop in session for anyone seeking advice for people affected by cancer.

10.15am Northam Men's Forum meets Methodist Church Hall, Northam. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship. Northam Methodist Church Hall 475985

Friday 15th

2pm Devonshire Association at Burton Art Gallery tel 477701 or 471749

Devon Hall *The Gospel of Matthew* George Dillon. 429525

<http://www.georgedillon.com/theatre>

7.45 Modern Sequence Dancing Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club Bideford Amateur Athletic Club. 476632

Palladium Club *Flamin Ratrods*

Saturday 16th

Palladium Club *Cloudbusting*

Sun 17th

Torridge Ramblers afternoon walk. 01805 622183

Monday 18th

10am Lip-Reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close.

heatherathoneywells@hotmail.com
Heather Smith 07994390807

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse Appledore Primary School 01769 560034

7.30pm Appledore Amateur Radio Club at Appledore Football Social Club. 473251

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

Tuesday 19th

10am - 1pm Lavington Church Coffee and lunches

7.15pm Bideford Camera Club Ethelwynne Brown Community Centre, 423242 www.bidefordcameraclub.co.uk

7.30 pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Methodist Church Hall, Northam. 429080

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 20th

7.30pm The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Town Band Room. 01271 860061

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris Baptist Church, Neil Bennion on 473798 or

n.bennion@btinternet.com

Thursday 21st

10.15am Northam Men's Forum meets Northam Methodist Church Hall. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall. 421956

8pm Bideford Folk Club at 'Next Door' Cooper St

Friday 22nd

10am-12pm Northam Memory cafe at Northam Hall. 459337

7.45 Modern Sequence Dancing Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club Bideford Amateur Athletic Club. 476632

Palladium Club *Ifunk*

Saturday 23rd

Palladium Club *John Otway*

Monday 25th

10am Lip-Reading classes at Ethelwynne Brown Close

heatherathoneywells@hotmail.com
Heather Smith 07994390807

7.30pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 01769 560034

Tuesday 26th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

7.15pm Bideford Camera Club meets Ethelwynne Brown Community Centre, 423242 www.bidefordcameraclub.co.uk

7.30 pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Methodist Church Hall, Northam. 429080

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 27th

10.15 am Bideford Probus at Royal Hotel

12pm -2pm Littleham soup and pudding Booking essential tel 473338

7.30pm The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room. 01271 860061

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets Northam Hall. 423554

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris Baptist Church, 473798

Thursday 28th

10.15 am Northam Men's Forum meets Northam Methodist Church Hall.

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship at Northam Methodist Church Hall. 421956