



BIDEFORD BUZZ



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



Bideford's Christmas Wish

**P FREE PARKING
EVERY SATURDAY**

From 10am Saturday 30th November, 1st, 7th & 14th December in the following car parks: Bridge Street, Pannier Market (Honestone Street), The Pill, The Manor (not 1st December) & The Quay (limited spaces 1st December).

FREE ALL DAY PARKING on 21st DECEMBER IN ALL BIDEFORD CAR PARKS

**FESTIVE MUSIC
ON THE SQUARE
EVERY SATURDAY**

**SATURDAY
30th NOVEMBER**

MARKET & OLD TOWN DICKENSIAN FAYRE

Food, Antiques, Singing Choirs & Curios
JUBILEE SQUARE & PANNIER MARKET

**SUNDAY
1st DECEMBER**

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON: 12pm - 8pm

Santas on the Run / Market / Clowns / Rides
PANNIER MARKET & THE QUAY

**SATURDAY
7th DECEMBER**

DICKENSIAN FAYRE: 9am - 2pm JUBILEE SQUARE

Signing of the Lease Celebrations
PANNIER MARKET

**SATURDAY
14th DECEMBER**

FARMERS FESTIVE MARKET JUBILEE SQUARE

Food, Bands and 'Light up a Life' Service
6pm PANNIER MARKET

**SATURDAY
21st DECEMBER**

FARMERS FESTIVE MARKET

Food and Bands
JUBILEE SQUARE & PANNIER MARKET

**MONDAY
23rd DECEMBER**

OLD TOWN & FARMERS FESTIVE MARKET

Special Mixed Market
JUBILEE SQUARE

**TUESDAY
24th DECEMBER**

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE MARKET

PANNIER MARKET



North Devon Print
DESIGN - DIGITAL - PRINT
www.northdevonprint.co.uk
01237 472277

The co-operative
Community Fund



West Quay
Fundraisers



Bideford Town Council

Events in December and January (see also diary pages)

The Appledore Singers – Charity Christmas Concert 2013

The Appledore Singers will, once again, ring in the season with their annual Charity Christmas Concert, on Sunday 15th December, 2.30pm at Northam Hall. The choir will entertain with a feast of festive music - and there will be favourite carols for audience participation!

Admission is £5 at the door, to include tea and mince pies. For further information contact Pam Beechey on 01237 420652

Seek a Smile thro' Song'

Bideford & District Christian Aid Annual Schools' Carol Concert

7pm on Tuesday, 3rd December at the Methodist Church in High Street.

Children from four local junior schools will be singing; the Appledore Junior Band will be playing, and a young soloist from a local senior school will be singing.

This is always a very enjoyable evening, and we invite you to come and join us in singing traditional carols and hearing talented young people from our community.

Admission is free. A collection will be taken for the work of Christian Aid. For more information, please contact Carol North on 01237 425311.

Northam Lodge Christmas Fayre

Our next fundraising event will be on **Saturday December 7th**, from 12.00 till 3.30pm in Northam Hall, Fore Street, Northam. Do come along and buy gifts, maybe win a raffle prize, meet Father Christmas and have a delicious mince pie or two.

Clovelly Christmas Lights

Come and join us in Clovelly on the **1st of December** for the switch-on of the Christmas Lights. This magical display of colour and light has become a famous local event marking the lead up to Christmas.

The evening starts at 4pm with the Appledore Training Band playing carols down the cobbles. At 5pm there will be a Carol Service with the Woolsey County Primary School choir leading the singing. The lights will then be switched on at 6pm, followed by Fireworks. There will also be a Hog Roast! **All proceeds from this event will go to the RNLI**

New set of oars needed!

With Clovelly Gig Club now training hard for next May's World Gig Championships, they would like to treat their beloved *Leah C* to a much needed new set of oars. To raise funds for this, they are holding a Gig Race styled Quiz Night at the Clovelly Parish Hall, 7:30pm on Dec 6th. They hope to pack the Hall, so booking ASAP strongly recommended. A fun night guaranteed!! Nb. Although quiz is run like a Gig Race, questions are standard(ish) categories..

£7.50, to include Bumper Buffet. Super Raffle.
07902 904 244 clovellyquiz@gmail.com



Lions Club of Bideford -Table Top and Rummage sale

At Northam Scout Hall * 11th January 2014 *10am – 1pm * Entrance 50p

The Lions Club are holding the above sale to raise funds for their Charity Account which is used to help fellow residents and local organisations who need help and assistance.

Mike Green





News from the Burton Art Gallery and Museum

The Gallery this December month is vibrant with colour! Come in out of the cold, feel its warmth. Once inside, you will be amazed at the plethora of talent this part of the South West can amass in one small space. For starters, you will enter a room filled with Quilts, wall-hangings, embroidery and patchwork. **'In Stitches – Bideford & Tarka Quilt Groups'** are proud to present the work they have been beavering over since the last quilt exhibition, three years ago. And although you may think it's solely a woman's craft – you are mistaken, for some of the largest bed-quilts are by men, and beautifully

worked. The skill put into this craft is often taken for granted; but you must appreciate the ideas, the planning, the sheer precision of assembling and sewing together of a multitude of fabric shapes, so that the finished product is a treasure to be handed down or presented as a gift. These textiles have been created to last for many generations, and speak of the people who made them.

The Open Annual Christmas Exhibition fills gallery 2, and when you walk into this room, again you will be stunned by the variety of original artwork: watercolours, oils, pastels, ceramics, textiles, original prints, engravings and sculpture – submitted by artists from all over the South West, but especially North Devon. The exhibition is managed by the Friends of the Burton Gallery, and all exhibits are for sale, so this is your opportunity to purchase an original work of art, either for yourself or to give as a gift to someone special. The artists choose the price of each work, and the Friends take a small percentage of sales for their funds. All money raised by the Friends is put back into the Gallery when needed; in fact, they are currently funding the restoration of paintings in the Burton's permanent collection – some of which were on display last month. Another project is to provide funds for the cabinet for the Bideford Black Collection, which will soon be put in place. On this occasion, a legacy from the late Sheila Hutchinson, artist and calligrapher, has made this possible.

The Friends are holding their **Quiz Night** on 11th December at 6.30. One-Course Supper included, £12. Book a table on 01237 471455.

So the Gallery is a happy place this Christmas, and with the Craft Gallery – also filled with glorious creations – the Cafe du Parc, always a-buzz with chatter, and the Shop offering gifts for adults and some exceptionally interesting toys for children, you can't go wrong. The two exhibitions above end on 22nd December, so there's plenty of time to browse and buy.

Opening hours are: Monday-Saturday, 10-4, and Sunday, 11-4. Admission Free. Donations welcome. For any other information, please go to: www.burtonartgallery.co.uk

With best wishes for a very happy Christmas,
Diana Warmington, Friends of the Burton Art Gallery & Museum.

News from Bideford Library

For Kids.

Storytime with Music & Rhymes.

Every Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-10:00 am (except school holidays)

For children 0-5 with their carers;

Christmas Sleepyheads Story Time

Tuesday 10th December 6.00pm - 6.30pm

Bring your little ones for some snuggly bedtime stories in the library, with hot chocolate and biscuits. Remember to wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite Teddy!

No need to book, just turn up.

Christmas Story Time and Coffee Morning

Thursday 19th December 9:30 – 11am ;

Children's Christmas Crafts Saturday 21st December 10am -12noon. Come along for festive crafts in the library. No need to book, just drop-in. (3 yrs+)

For Adults: Free Friday Every Friday 9:30-5. Free internet access for up to 2 hours. Help with getting online and finding information. Help with job seeking, CV writing and form filling.

Book News



Seafield House from the North.

Seafield was built in around 1885 by Brinsley de Courcy Nixon, a London banker, as a summer residence for holidays with his family. He actually died here when on holiday in 1903. The old photograph shows the private stone staircase down to the beach for family swimming and picnics. The rough Atlantic Ocean has not been kind to the sea edge of the gardens, though remains of the staircase can still be seen from the beach. Like so many other houses here, Seafield was requisitioned by the Army in the war and painted grey. In 1950 the house was sold at auction and advertised a conservatory entrance, dining room, butler's pantry, kitchen with Beeston boiler, scullery, servants' hall, extensive cellars, a maids' sitting room and ten bedrooms. Subsequently the house became a small hotel before falling into disrepair, becoming a rather well-loved romantic ruin of its former self as the sea continues to encroach on its beach-side location. Morley Road itself was constructed specifically to be an access road and drive to Seafield House, although the very old former road to the western end of Westward Ho! is still there as a bridleway at the foot of the Tote.



drawn to visit Devon as a result of reading this book. Other Amazon eBooks in the series are: The Gypsy Hill Murders, Rough Justice in Academia and the Dorich House Mystery

Ideas for Christmas presents

Northam, Westward Ho! and District through time
Julia and Anthony Barnes and Maureen Richards.

This is a book in the same series as that by Peter Christie and Graham Hobbs on Bideford. A history of Northam is indeed long overdue and this one shows the old and the new side by side in a series of photographs.

We reproduce here (with permission from the authors) the page about Seafield House, Westward Ho! Seafield House is always of great interest to Buzz readers and has attracted many comments on our website at www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk.

The whole book however is a delight for anyone interested in the area and its architecture, then and now, and includes many examples of the truly fascinating houses in the area.

***Murder at High Tide* Patrick Thurbin**

Fictional writer Patrick Thurbin has set his latest murder mystery in and around Bideford. This is the latest in the 'Ralph Chalmers Mystery series' available as an Amazon eBook. The author and his wife have enjoyed many holidays in the area and hope that readers, both international and within the UK will be

***The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* Rachel Joyce**

Everyone at Bideford Library Readers' Group enjoyed this book, particularly because of the local references in the early stages of the story.

Harold Fry had the sudden burning need to save a dying friend. He decides to post a letter to his friend but whilst walking to the postbox, he simply carries on from Kingsbridge to Berwick Upon Tweed. He is a pilgrim in yachting shoes and "he understood that in walking to atone for the mistakes he had made, it was also his journey to accept the strangeness of others."

The story is a light easy read and whilst unlikely in places, the reader can override this because the story is so enjoyable. Harold and his wife hold long held grievances and misunderstandings between themselves and also relating to their son David. On his journey Harold has time to reflect on the past and it is only towards the end of the book that the truth is revealed.

Harold does meet some interesting characters along his journey but he remains the central character. The journey appears to be an enlightening one for Harold and indeed his wife whilst they are apart. Readers will find the book uplifting, funny, moving and a very enjoyable read.

Sue Wallace

*Bideford Library Readers' group will next meet on Wednesday December 4th 2pm at Bideford Library. **Discussing 'A Tiny Bit Marvellous' by Dawn French***

Feel Better with a Book.

Every Wednesday 10:30-12:00 am at Bideford Library.

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.

100 YEARS AGO - December 1913 & January 1914.

As Christmas approached the Gazette newspaper was full of adverts by local shops and traders extolling their finest merchandise. On Tuesday 9th December a Prime Christmas Fat Stock show was held when 30 famous fat steers and heifers were sold, together with 50 sheep. By early December butchers had already bought, killed and hung their Christmas meat. Messrs S Dennis trading at 51 Mill Street advertised ox & heifer beef, Exmoor Down Wether Mutton and dairy fed pork.

Farleigh's Stores in the High Street were offering choice Canadian Hams from 7d to 10d per pound. You might remember this store in the picture as Curry's Electrical which is now New Look.



To help wash down the traditional Christmas dinner William C Talbot, trading from 1 High Street, advertised bottles of London Gin at 2 shillings a pint bottle, 10 year old Scotch Whisky at 3s 3d pint and Martell Brandy at 4s 4d per pint bottle.

At 74 High Street Mr Arthur Clements had just transferred the business to his brother Wilfred and to celebrate had clothing bargains for all of the family. On offer were men's overcoats at 13s 11d, men's suits at 15s 11d, tweed trousers at 3s 6d and tweed dress skirts for ladies at 1s 11d.

If you were looking for Christmas presents, J T White who traded further up at 78 High Street, offered gramophones from £3 10 shillings and the records to play on them at 1s 1d. George Boyle, one of the town's longest established traders, had bought 12 bicycles from Birmingham at the once-in-a-lifetime price of £3 19s 6d each.

Internationally, London-born 19 year old Charlie Chaplin, who was touring the USA began his film career with Max Senate Keystone Film Company at the astronomical salary of \$150 per week. Also in America Henry Ford opened his first continuous production line building cars every 2 minutes and 35 seconds. Production workers saw their pay rise from \$2.40 per hour to \$5 in one jump!!

Great Britain secured a contract with China to build an 800-mile railway line across central and southern China using English workers. This was a most welcome contract because at home there were several strikes and riots from a restless workforce. Employment was difficult and soup kitchens were opening to feed the out of work. Those unfortunate enough to find themselves unable to feed and house their families ended up in the dreaded workhouse. In the Meddon Street establishment Mr A G Duncan J.P., Chairman of the Bideford Poor Law Guardians, gave 100 inmates a dinner consisting of boiled rounds of beef and vegetables, plum pudding and coffee. Male inmates were given a pack of tobacco or money, ladies tea and sugar and their children sweets and oranges.

The weather during this Christmas period had been dry and reasonably free from frost or gales. In fact farmers were noting how dry their land had been.

All the volunteers at the Bideford Community Archive, Windmill Lane, Northam, wish you a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Tel: 471714.



a rare pre-1864 photo of the Bridge taken from my 'Illustrations of Old Bideford'.

More about the Bridge Trust

As promised, and following on from my introduction to the Bridge Trust I will discuss some of the history of the body. No-one knows when the Trust was set up but it must have been soon after the Bridge was built – so possibly at the end of the thirteenth century. Over the years rich Bidefordians have left property 'to the Bridge' (the last occasion was only two years ago!) to honour their native town and the Trust itself has been an active purchaser of property making it the largest local landlord (apart from Tarka Housing).

We have the Trust's accounts from the end of the seventeenth century and the minutes from 1764. At this date there were some fifteen trustees, most of them being merchants or gentry though some clergymen also served. I have transcribed, typed and indexed the minutes and copies are available in the North Devon Record Office. They detail the two main aspects of the Trust's work – management of property and charitable spending.

The former was, of course, centred on the Bridge itself and the minutes reveal many occasions when quite large sums of money were laid out in repairs whilst on other occasions warnings about possible damage were issued. In 1791, for example, the trustees wrote to a local merchant complaining about his cart that was so highly laden 'as they think will injure the said Bridge'. Weight limits are nothing new.

In 1802 there is a note that 'Some malicious persons have repeatedly thrown down the Copping Stones of the Bridge' and so the trustees hired two men to act as 'watchmen'. They even spent some money on a 'Centry Box' to house them. In 1808 the Trust carried out work on nine arches at a cost of £50 per arch, whilst a year later they discussed installing a drawbridge at the East end of the Bridge. This never occurred but in 1826 they erected oil lamps on the Bridge but these were soon vandalised and in 1835 were replaced with gas lamps after the trustees allowed the new Bideford Gas Company to install gas pipes across the Bridge. The largest spending came when the old medieval structure was widened in 1864 and again in 1925 – to such an extent that it is difficult to picture what the old Bridge looked like.

In addition to this spending on the Bridge the trustees developed Bridgeland Street from the 1690s and extended the Quay up to their new development. They also built the original Bridge Buildings in 1758 which housed the town hall and the Grammar School. In 1761 they even purchased the Fox & Goose pub on the Quay (where Grenville House now stands) and gave it to the town as the Mayor's 'Mansion House' – even if they later took it back!

In the 1880s they provided the town's first custom-built post office in the High Street (now Ladbroke's) and in 1882 spent £4500 on building the new Bridge Buildings. Over the years 1890-1920 the Trust constructed the houses in Victoria Gardens, Marland Terrace and the top of Honestone Street.

In the twentieth century the two world wars interrupted this work but in the 1990s the Trust refurbished the old Post Office, the Bakehouse in Queen Street, Friendship House opposite the Market as well as shops in High Street, Mill Street and Bridgeland Street. A proud record and one which shows how much the built environment in the town has depended on the Trust and its deep pockets. *In the next article I will look at what the Trust has funded in Bideford.*

Peter Christie



Northern Devon Sustainable Energy C.I.C. has launched two projects designed to help people save money on energy, "Switch & Save" and "Conserving Heat". These projects will reach over 200 households and provide free Green Deal Assessments to 42 homes.

Switch & Save will enable people to examine their energy bills and calculate if you could be on the right tariff for the energy you need. There are around 215 tariffs in the energy market today, each designed for a different type of household and a different way of using energy. James Craigie, Director of Northern Devon Sustainable Energy says "there is too much complexity in the options available to consumers and for most people this stops them getting the best deal".

The Switch & Save program, which is supported by DECC's Big Energy Saving Network, helps everyone that wants that little bit of help to navigate through the confusion of utility bills. There are also a surprisingly large number of people that are not receiving the discounts they are entitled to. Conserving Heat initiative enables homes in and around the North Coast AONB to get energy performance surveys at no cost. The aim is to identify energy efficiency measures that can be taken, which can pay for themselves out of the cost savings from household energy bills. The government's Green Deal Initiative means that much of the cost of improving the energy efficiency of your house can be paid by the energy companies. The initiative is open to both owners and tenants, and the burden of keeping warm during winter can be dramatically reduced.

Richard Butler, Chairman of the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund said, "We are delighted to support this project which offers free assessments on heat loss for some properties in the AONB. We hope this will enable the properties identified as poorly insulated to seek support and advice to improve insulation through the government's Green Deal Initiative."

To find out more about these projects and the other things that Northern Devon Sustainable Energy C.I.C. is doing look at our webpage www.NorthernDevonSustainableEnergy.co.uk or our Facebook page, or simply call us on 01237 477 852.

Atlantic Array

Around 1600 people registered as Interested Parties (IPs) to participate in the formal 'examination' of the Project. Three Planning Inspectors have been appointed to oversee this process and to prepare a recommendation for the government (DECC). This kicks off with a meeting in Bristol on 10th December and then will take the next six months considering masses of documents with a few site visits and a very few more physical meetings.

As well as the 1600 individuals, nearly 200 more groups, organisations, local authorities etc registered as IPs. Torridge Council (on 23rd Sept) declined to support the project - as did most local parish councils. Only the IPs are permitted to participate in the Examination but others can have their views made known by requesting any of those IPs to represent them. Please make contact soon - as there are tight time deadlines.

After closure of the examination in June 2014, the various reports will be written and a result is expected by 11th December 2014. Any BUZZ reader wanting to know more should contact me at alanr555@waitrose.com.

Finally, thank you to all those who did register by 16th September. Your efforts have already convinced the Examiners that there are many serious concerns in the community. We await to see how they will be addressed.

Alan Rayner

Bideford Sustainability Group's monthly informal get-together at the Blacksmith's Arms on the first Tuesday of the month (3rd December, 7th January etc.) All welcome. Contact mail@bidefordsustain.org, 07783 384 982 to find out more about BSG.



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

Chairperson wanted for Torridge Charity

The Torridge Branch of the national Parkinson's UK charity provides support and information for those affected by Parkinson's (including family and carers) within the Torridge area (i.e. an area roughly bounded by Bideford/Hartland/Holsworthy/Great Torrington). It is seeking a new chairperson, due to the retirement of the current post holder.

The Torridge Branch provides:
 Monthly Coffee Mornings, with speakers
 Weekly Keep Fit classes led by an NHS Physiotherapist
 Monthly newsletter
 Quarterly Carers' Meeting
 Trips and Visits
 Home visits (via TorrAGE)
 A small grants facility
 Friendship and a listening ear
 Information

There is an active and effective Committee which meets every 6 weeks or so, and administers the requirements of the Branch as well as implementing the policy and rules from the national charity.

The Branch has an increasing presence in the community, so the post is an active one, as a member of a busy team. You will have the opportunity to get involved in publicising Branch activities and events, encouraging contributions to our Newsletter, planning and executing fund-raising activities, and ensuring that all Committee Members are involved in discussion and decision making, taking into account the differing strengths and skills of volunteers, and the requirements of our local rural area.

You will need good people skills, and be naturally empathetic. You will also need to have Microsoft Office experience to do it effectively. Much of the internal communication is by email. The voluntary post may suit someone moving from paid work into retirement, looking to help ease that transition whilst "giving something back" to the community.

If you are interested, or would like to know more about the role, please contact Julie Jones, Branch Secretary on 01237 478128.

Reminiscence cafe at Northam Hall We are open every third Friday of the month, between 10am -12pm at Northam Hall.

Please come and join us. You will be welcomed by a friendly smile and refreshments. Please give Sophie a call if you would like to know more or need transport on 01237 459337

Bus Pass Heaven -Try this site to find your way around the country by bus.
<http://www.busspassheaven.co.uk/index.php/rides/78-sw-england/168-devonbus>

Homelink Ad (Quarter page)



Devon Homelink

Emergency alarm system: are you or someone you know worried about being able to contact help in an emergency?

What is Devon Homelink: A small alarm unit fits to your telephone and works with a pendant that can be worn about the house or garden. The wearer is able to summon help at the press of a button.

No upfront fees or installation charge just a great value weekly rental. Call us on 0800 083 7553 to find out more and arrange your free home demonstration.

In association with North Devon Homes Ltd.

News from Bideford Music Club

Violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen and pianist Tom Poster are no strangers to Devon and they are returning to perform to Bideford Music Club for their Christmas concert.

Tamsin has relatives living in Devon and has performed here frequently, most recently with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Barnstaple. An exceptionally gifted young violinist she studied at the Royal College of Music where she won all available awards including – twice – the concerto competition and was their String Player of the Year in 2005. Numerous competition successes include winning the 2005 Royal Overseas League String Prize and the 2007 J&A Beare Bach competition.

She is currently associate artist with Orchestra of the Swan and performs as a soloist with others including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra of St. John's, London Concert Orchestra, London Chamber Orchestra and the Brighton Philharmonic. She has played at the Cadogan, Queen Elizabeth and Barbican halls in London, Symphony Hall Birmingham, Bridgewater Hall Manchester, the Liszt Academy Hall, Budapest and in venues across the UK and the Continent.

This season will see performances at the Wigmore Hall and Cadogan Hall in London, as well as concerto and chamber music concerts in Italy, France and Sweden and a busy recording schedule. Tamsin plays the 1721 ex-Fenyves Stradivarius violin.

Tom Poster is a great supporter of the Two Moors Festival and is internationally recognised as a pianist of outstanding artistry and versatility, equally in demand as soloist and chamber musician across an unusually extensive repertoire. He has been described as "a marvel, [who] can play anything in any style" (The Herald). He studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he held a Post-graduate Fellowship and at King's College, Cambridge where he gained a Double First in Music.

He won first prize at the Scottish International Piano Competition 2007, the Ensemble Prize at the Honens International Piano Competition 2009 and the keyboard sections of the Royal Overseas League and BBC Young Musician of the Year Competitions in 2000.

Since his London concerto debut aged 13, Tom has a repertoire of over 30 major works and has appeared with many leading orchestras worldwide. He features regularly on BBC Radio 3 and has played at the BBC Proms in 2008, 2009 and 2011. He enjoys duo partnerships with Alison Balsom, Guy Johnston, Jennifer Pike and others, has given lectures on Beethoven and Schumann for BBC Scotland and lecture-recitals for The Two Moors Festival. He is pianist with the Aronowitz Ensemble and has played piano quintets with many other quartets.

Tamsin and Tom will play sonatas by Mozart, Debussy and Beethoven.

The concert is on Wednesday 4th December at 7.30 pm. at Bideford Methodist Hall, High Street. Tickets are £12.50 (students free) and are available at the door.

Northam Choral Society

I have recently become the chairman of Northam Choral Society and thought it would be a good thing if I brought our society to the attention of Buzz readers.

We have been in existence for 150 years and are the local amateur choir which performs the classical choral repertoire. We have two concerts in Bideford each year; in the winter and the spring, and rehearse regularly in the hall of Northam Methodist Church. Our conductor is Michael James, and the long term accompanist is local music teacher, Gillian Allin. Many of our concerts are accompanied by the Hartland Chamber Orchestra. We have about 50 members and all of us thoroughly enjoy the experience of music-making.

For this next concert we are commemorating the centenary of the birth of the British composer, Benjamin Britten by singing his well-known Ceremony of Carols, which is settings of Christmas poetry from a wide range of times. This piece of music is accompanied by the harp, and we are fortunate to have the international harpist, Ruth Faber, with us. She will also play some solo pieces. In addition, we shall present a programme of carols, some very familiar and others fresh and new.

We invite readers to come along to this concert, which is in St Mary's Parish Church, Bideford on Friday December 6th at 7.30pm. There will be mulled wine and mince pies served during the interval. Tickets £6 on the door.

Paul Smith

SAMARITANS

Samaritans is a confidential emotional support service.

The service is available 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

**LOCAL BRANCH:
BARNSTAPLE**

01271 37 43 43

NATIONAL HELPLINE No.
08457 90 90 90

Real People – Real Lives - Real Difference

Charity No. 261807

**We are
a local
family
owned**



**Domiciliary/ Homecare business,
managed by experienced nurses.
We provide supported care within
your home to help maintain your
independence.**

Services we provide

Personal care \ Respite care/Night sitting \ Life limiting/Palliative care \ After hospital care Assistance with medication \ Enabling and companionship \ Meal preparation \ housekeeping/laundry

**Unit 1 Trading Centre, Honestone street,
Bideford, EX39 2DJ**

Tel: 01237 424005

Email: info@mytime2care.co.uk

SOUNDS INTERESTING CDs and DVDs

**17 High Street, Bideford EX39 2AA
01237 238370**

soundsinteresting@onebillinternet.co.uk

"Downloads are ok but nothing compares with the joy of giving or receiving or indeed owning a real album. You also get the added bonus of sleeve notes!"

**We now have a second shop in
Bideford at 49 Mill Street where
you will find a range of
T shirts, hoodies, mugs and other
licensed merchandise.**

**INDEPENDENT, LOCAL &
PROUD OF IT.**

**Our head office is right in in Bideford,
not in Luxembourg !**

Motorcycle
MOT's
£29.65

**DEVON
WHEELS
2WORK
MOTORCYCLES**

For all your
Motorcycling needs
Sales, Service and Repair
Collection & Delivery service available

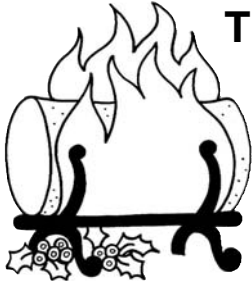
We continue to loan scooters and motorcycles to help get people to employment and education at a subsidised rate.



Halwill Junction

Tel: 01409 220357

www.devonwheels2work.co.uk



The Yuletide Logs'

There's an old Chinese saying, "He who loses his temper burns all the logs he took the summer to chop". And I was reminded of it when I delivered some fire logs once to a needy customer on Christmas Eve some years back.

I must have been in my mid thirties; I was working as a fireman and living in a little village bounding the edge of a river that ran through the flat fenland countryside of Cambridgeshire. In the village there lived and worked a family that built sheds and almost anything else wooden, they also owned a piece of low lying riverside land at the far end of which stood the remains of a couple of old Elm trees. These ancient Elms had succumbed to the Dutch Elm disease but had the potential to be turned into logs and then money.

It was a simple agreement; the owner would supply a chainsaw and axe, and I would supply the labour and my old gardening trailer; we would then share any proceeds. Mostly I could drive my old car and trailer along a track to be close to the trees but after heavy rain you'd need a tractor or tracked vehicle to journey the quarter mile or so from road to tree.

Such a day it had been just before one Christmas Eve, and the 'guvner' informed me that we had an order for a trailer load from a man in the next village for 'Yuletide logs' to warm his cosy family Christmas. Nothing daunted, always willing to help, I set off with car and trailer, leaving them on hard standing by the field gate near the road, and I carried the chainsaw and fuel along that soaked, puddle filled, slippery mudded track. Look, the word track is too generous, it was simply a poor field edge too awkward to cultivate that had been deeply rutted by the odd tractor. I set to, that cold wet winter's day, and cut large lumps of wood and branches to a size that I could only just about carry on my shoulders. I carried those heavy timbers one by one, back and forth, and back and forth along that 'track', slipping, straining, and giving it all for this man's Christmas logs. Eventually the trailer was full. Mud and all, I set off for the village yard where the owner had his business. Once there I lifted the timbers from the trailer and cut them into fire log size pieces before splitting with the axe to reveal the beautiful dark swirls of knotted Elm. Not easy work this knotted wood as by now all the easy bits had been sold off ... but a family man in the next village is looking forward to this treasured bounty to brighten his family's Christmas Day. Logs lifted yet once more and reloaded, I set off to find the address, after a short search I found the house and approached the door. 'Bing, Bong' the bell went, 'your logs are here', I said, by now it being mid afternoon of the 'Eve'. "Good, I've been waiting, you can put them in the garage," the unsmiling man said pointing to the garage door at the top of the drive.

I reversed the trailer closer to the garage and began unloading those precious spiritual Christmas Yuletide logs, the centuries old fruits of mother earth and human toil. 'Thud, thud, clonk, clonk' they went as I hurriedly transferred them from trailer to garage floor For, I too, had some hopes of a tolerable, if not happy, Christmas Eve.

'Clonk, clonk, clonk' went the logs into plastic bags as the nearly new owner frenziedly tried to keep up with me. For the life of me I could not understand what he was doing, had he asked I would have gladly put them in the bags for him, but no, he was totally engrossed feverishly clonk, clonk, clonking the logs into his big plastic bags. Most odd, he was seemingly devoid of the Christmas cheer that those hard won logs were supposed to have brought him. Isn't that why he wanted them?

Then the penny dropped; there was a small clue in what he said next; "Not many here for a trailer load is there? I expected more than this." He'd been counting the logs all along. "Not sure they're worth fifteen quid". Was he after a discount? He wasn't going to get one from me I can tell you; I would gladly have laboured a little longer and taken them all back to the yard for a more deserving customer. I think he must have sensed my disappointment at his displeasure that cold, wet Christmas Eve. "Humph, oh well, it's too inconvenient to get them elsewhere at this late hour, here's your money, but I won't have any more from you" so saying handing over £15 exactly, of which for my efforts half was to be mine. So with nearly a day's seriously hard labour behind me and with my body's life no doubt shortened by about a week, I took his money.

"Thank you" said I, "and a Merry Christmas".

As I drove away I thought, "not much Christmas spirit there old boy, not much at all, not even a smile ... he'd have smiled all right if he'd carried those logs for miles through the mud." Poor old logs, I wonder how he put them on the fire, did he pick them up with gratitude in his heart for the tree's great sacrifice, was there a silent prayer of reciprocal warmth as he placed them on the burning embers? It is one Christmas Eve I'll not forget; not so much for the labour, the day or the fetching of the logs but the handing them over to endure abject slavery and an arboreal purgatory to boot. *That day the man from the next village had forever burned more than simply firewood.*

Can you guess the author of this story? To win a free copy of his collection of short stories of which this is one, send us the name of the author to the address on front page, email, text or post. We have five copies to give away by 15th Jan 2014. Clue - Tai Chi



Bideford Film Society

Friday 13 and Saturday 14 December at Kingsley School - Captain Phillips (12A)
Friday 20 and Saturday 21 December at Kingsley School - Thor: The Dark World (12A)

Friday 27 and Saturday 28 December at Kingsley School - Philomena (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

North Devon and Torridge Directory

A new, easy-to-use guide of public and community services is available from selected outlets across North Devon and Torridge.

The North Devon and Torridge Directory has been produced by The North Devon Access to Services Project, funded by Devon County Council.

It includes information on a wide range of services, covering everything from community transport and health to education and care services which are available in the area and how to access them for advice and support. A limited number of printed versions of the directory, for people who do not have access to the internet, will be available at local libraries, doctors' surgeries, council offices or CAB. It is also available online at www.northerndevon-services.co.uk and at www.journeydevon.info/

Not-for-profit services in the local community who would like to be included in the online version should contact tim@ndvs.org.uk or jo@ndvs.org.uk

Ideas for New Year.

Lathwells restaurant , Cooper Street, Bideford

A tranquil haven amidst the hustle and bustle of Cooper Street. Our aim is to provide good food using as many local ingredients as possible, and giving first class service, in a cosy and intimate atmosphere.

Every year we try to make **New Year's Eve** at Lathwells that little bit different, and this year is no exception. Those of you familiar with our hot buffet will know how lovely it is to have a table for the night, (we say with pride) lovely loos, and the added advantage of being able to come and go as you please .

This year we are doing a 1970s style Wine and Cheese (anyone remember Abigails Party?) So, we are looking for the long flowing tresses and dresses, the Demis Roussos lookalikes! It'll be fun! **£25 per person** includes a generous platter of cheeses with charcuterie, bread and chutney, a plate of fruit with honeyed creme fraiche, and a half bottle of house wine per person.

For details of our Festive events, or to make a booking please call us on **01237 476447**, email us at restaurant@lathwells.com, visit us at www.lathwells.com or follow us on **Twitter**.

Green Goose 007 night with Gala Dinner & fun Casino, tickets available now from the cafe and restaurant £37.50

Businesses of Bideford

There is a new facebook site Businesses of Bideford (or BoB) where businesses can advertise free of charge. 'A group to allow all businesses of Bideford to come together to share events, offers and promotions..... Hopefully we then won't miss out because we didn't know something was on or available.

Need to find out if something is sold in Bideford? Then ask on here!

Need a recommendation for a great place to eat? Then ask on here !

Need to know who fixes something? Then ask on here!

Don't forget to also check out Bideford Buzz on FB and at www.bidefordbuzz.org.uk.

Young Buzz

Reading leaders.

Recently Bideford College started a new scheme to help some of their Year 7 students who need to develop reading confidence.

Reading Leaders' training took place for 26 Year 12 students at Bideford College in September. This training is provided by Reading Matters, a Sheffield based charity who help young people become confident and enthusiastic readers. They also specialise in equipping adults and young people with the skills needed to offer one-to-one reading support.

The 26 Year 12 volunteers have committed themselves to weekly meetings with their Year 7 partners with the aim of improving reading skills and confidence by the end of this academic year. These students enjoyed a useful day which included an introduction to the scheme and a lot of information about reading skills and questioning techniques.

After Christmas, some students will be ready to go into Bideford College's feeder primary schools to carry on the good work. This will not only benefit those heading for teaching careers, but will improve the confidence and cvs of all the year 12s involved, while at the same time helping the younger students improve their reading.

Sarah Bourke

Queen's Award Winning Westward Ho! Youth Theatre's Christmas Show

Our young members are now rehearsing for our latest show stopper. It will be a variety show with a difference. It is a **musical misadventure** taking us on a lively and amusing trip through some of the best loved musicals. There is drama, and wonderful songs and dazzling dances, which will appeal to all ages. Come and enjoy the classics like "Singing in the Rain" and modern favourites from "Shrek" and "Matilda". Come along and start the Christmas feel good cheer by watching our wonderful young people's joyous Christmas show.

Dates. Dec 6th. at 7pm and Dec 7th and 8th at 2pm. Venue the Kingsley Hall Westward Ho!
Tickets: Adults £4 Children £3 Family £12. Tickets on the door or phone 07718619642.

Burton Art Gallery and Museum

Crafty Kids: Crafty Kids for Under 5's every Monday 10am - 12noon (except Bank Holidays). Always something fun for kids to do. For under fives and families.

Young Friends - last Saturday every month, except December. 10am - 12 noon. £1 donation. Supported by The Friends of the Burton.

Bideford & District Sea Cadets

(Registered Charity No: 300766)

Would like to invite any personnel interested in the following uniformed roles to apply either by post or email to -Mr C de Blocq Van Kuffeler (Chairman)
Belvedere, Stoke, Harland, EX39 6DU Email:

belvedere984@btinternet.com

Whilst military experience is not a pre-requisite any previous involvement with cadet or uniformed groups would be beneficial. The ability to organise, provide leadership and encourage teamwork is essential.

Officer in Charge

This role requires a person who is prepared to manage the adult staff and Cadets (age 10-18 years) : suitable candidates need to be self-motivated and be able to inspire others.

Uniformed Staff

This role requires personnel able to instruct Cadets in a variety of subjects, many of which the candidates may already possess and others in which they will receive training.



**CHRISTMAS AT
ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH BIDEFORD**

- **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE**, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. **Sunday 22 December at 7 pm.**
- **NATIVITY SERVICE, Christmas Eve at 4 pm.**
Especially for families with young children. Children can come dressed up and join in with the Christmas story.
- **MIDNIGHT MASS, Christmas Eve, at 11.30 pm.**
Traditional Eucharist, candlelight, carols and incense.
- **CHRISTMAS MORNING FAMILY COMMUNION WITH CAROLS at 10 am Christmas Day.**

Learn at your own pace in your own home
Easy Computing Tuition

- ▶ Surf the web safely
- ▶ How to purchase online security
- ▶ Download from the Internet and save to file
- ▶ Access free software
- ▶ Listen to BBC iPlayer
- ▶ Communicate with friends and family for free
- ▶ Print and manipulate photographs
- ▶ Send and receive photographs via email or Skype
- ▶ Please call to discuss requirements

Discount for pensioners
01237 471995 / 07973 841930

**Christmas Barn Dance
Pollyfield Centre**

Saturday 14th December at 8pm

ALL WELCOME

'Bursledon Village Band'

Caller John Blackburn
on 01237 476632

Slimming
WORLD

Join a warm
and friendly
group near you
today...

Tuesday 9.30 or 11.30am

Bideford Angling Club, Honestone Street,
Bideford

**Tuesday 3.45pm 5.30pm or
7.30pm**

East the Water School Bideford
Tel Kate 01409 221873, 07974041548

- ◆ Quiet Rural Location
- ◆ Reduced Rates for Cats from the same Household
- ◆ Discount for Long Stay Boarders
- ◆ Collection & Delivery Available
- ◆ Holiday Home for Cats
- ◆ 'Where the Standard of Food, Health, Hygiene and Happiness is Beyond Compare' TEL: 01237 474069



www.bidefordcattery.co.uk Littleham Bideford

Quaker Meetings for Worship

are held at 17 Honestone St, Bideford
(near Pannier market)

10.30am on Sunday mornings
All are welcome

Enquiries tel **01237 421549**

**MARGARET'S MOBILE
HAIRDRESSING**



For a friendly and personal local service.
Available In your own home. Cuts, Perms,
Shampoos & Sets, Blow Dries and Colours.
Reasonable prices. Tel .07583293268

I would like to thank all my clients for their support in 2013 and wish them a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Devon Telecom™

Telephone Solutions

• **Fast Reliable Broadband** •
including BT's new Infinity Network

• **New Line Installations** •

• **Wi-Fi** •

• **Phone & Line Repairs** •

01237 488888
www.devontelecom.co.uk



THE SHIPPING NEWS



Ship	Registered Flag Owners	From	To	Arrived	Sailed	Crew	Cargo loaded
Ulrike G Built 2002 Discharged at Yelland see note 1 below	St Johns Antigua and Barbuda German	Glensanda	Montoir	03/11/13	03/11/13	Russian Ukrainian Somali	4000 tons chippings
Exe Otter Built 1989 ex Aspen 12 Amy 06 At Bideford see note 2 below	St Johns Antigua and Barbuda British	Warrenpoint	Ceuta	05/10/13	18/10/13	Russian Cape Verde island	No cargo
Casablanca Built 1994 ex Saar casablanca97	St Johns Antigua and Barbuda German	Dublin	Castellon	14/10/13	17/10/13	Russian Ukraine	3000 tons ball clay

1. At 100 metres LOA this is the longest vessel ever to discharge or load at Yelland Jetty
2. The old owners were based in Crediton. She kept her original name. Her Russian crew & Cape Verde Islanders were changed. She is now registered in Kingstown St Vincent and Grenadines and the new crew is from the Ukraine. New owners are based in Haifa Israel

On **Sunday 3.11.13** at 16.50 the Irish Naval Vessel **Le Samuel Beckett** was floated out from the building shed at Babcock's yard at Appledore and moored at the fitting out quay. She will undertake sea trials at the end of January 2014. She was about 92 percent completed when she was moved. Work on the second vessel **Le James Joyce** was commenced on the Monday morning.
Oldenburg has gone to Sharpness **12.11.13** for drydocking ; returns to service March/April apart from a few cargo runs during the winter ; **Arco Dart** at Appledore **18.10.13 19.10.13** ; Understand from various sources that the **Southern Beaver** at Yelland is under water at High Water

Bristol Channel Observations

19/10/13 at 07.20 vehicle carrier **Grande Mediterraneo** 18427 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Group Italy, inward bound for Portbury; at 10.34 tanker **Bro Designer** 14846 tons d.w., owners Moller Maersk A/S Denmark, outward bound from Cardiff, having sailed at 05.56 . At 13.00 container vessel **Endeavour** 9162 tons d.w owners J.R. Shipping Netherlands, inward bound for Avonmouth and the tanker **Eships Quest** 8501 tons d.w, owners Athos Shipping Inc Singapore, outward bound from Barry having sailed at 09.02 . At 15.20 hrs cargo vessel **Sky Vita** 4195 tons d.w, owners Alpha Shipping Co Sia Latvia, outward bound from Sharpness, having sailed at 0715.

26/10/13 at 09.10 container vessel **Endeavour** 9612 tons, d.w owners J.R. Shipping Netherlands inward bound for Avonmouth. At 16.25 cargo vessel **Flinterrachel** 5622 tons d.w, owners Flinter Group Netherlands, inward bound for Newport.

29/10/13 at 10.50 vessel for carrying aircraft wings **Ciudad de Cadiz** 3500 tons d.w, owners Anita 2 SNC France, inward bound for Avomouth. At 15.51 vehicle carrier **Planet Ace** 15327 tons d.w owners Mitsui Osk Japan, inward bound for Portbury. At 16.40 bulk carrier **Red Iris** 75730 tons d.w owners Clarence Shipping Inc Monte Carlo Monaco, inward bound for Portbury. Also at the same time the vehicle carrier **Grande Roma** 14950 tons d.w owners Grimaldi Group of Italy outward bound from Portbury

30/10/13 at 08.50 cargo vessel **Wilson Flushing** 4321 tons d.w, owners Wilson Shipping ASA Norway, outward bound from Newport, having sailed at 02.43 . At 13.07 vehicle carrier **Autosun** 6670 tons d.w, owners United European Car Carriers Norway, outward bound from Portbury having sailed at 06.49 . At 14.18 cargo vessel **Aasli** 4319 tons d.w owners, Hans Martin Torkelsen Norway, inward bound for Port Talbot

8/11/13 at 16.25 vehicle carrier **Antares Leader** 18406 tons d.w. owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha Japan inward bound for Portbury.

9/11/13 at 13.17 cargo vessel **Sirocco** 6033tons d.w owners Wagenborg Shipping BV Netherlands, inward bound for Cardiff

11/11/13 at 13.50 vehicle carrier **Grande Detriot** 12430 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, inward bound for Portbury. At 14.35 cargo vessel **Yong Xing** 22307 tons d.w owners Chinese Polish Joint Stock Shipping Co China & Poland inward bound for Newport.

12/11/13 at 16.02 vehicle carrier **Global Spirit** 16493 tons d.w., owners Nissan Motor Car carriers Japan, inward bound for Portbury.

13/11/13 at 0843 cargo vessel **Blue Bay** 3800 tons d.w. owners Tristar Shipping B.V. Netherlands, outward bound from Newport having sailed at 02.45.

As this is the final shipping report for 2013 I would like to thank all readers who have contacted me and their kind remarks, and to the various organisations who have listened to my talks on shipping.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Norman

More memories of St Peter's Church

I have just caught up with the October issue of the Buzz and was most interested in Margaret Copp's article on St. Peter's Church. A Sharncliffe boy, I was born at the bungalow which stands by the bottom gate of Pollyfield. I was a choirboy at St. Peter's for several years, and was often required to pump the organ when power failed. Mrs. Trigger was the organist at that time, also providing piano lessons at her home in Old Barnstaple Road; unfortunately I was not a successful pupil!

The initiation ceremony when I became a chorister in about 1945 was to be thrown by two older boys

down the steep grassy bank near where the air raid shelter was later built. As far as I know everyone survived and became successful choirboys. I remember the annual outings which consisted either of a train ride to Ilfracombe for a short trip up the coast aboard a Campbell's paddle steamer, or a rail trip to Torrington Common for a picnic where so much fizzy pop was supplied that most of us returned to Bideford with very unpleasant stomach ache!

I attach a photograph of Mrs. Trigger and the choir which was taken in about 1947. Strange for someone who now has an awful memory I still remember all the names which I would be pleased to supply if anyone expresses interest.

From 1939 to 1945 I attended East the Water School in Torrington Street, and remember teachers Miss Bow, Miss Braddick, Miss Huxtable, Miss Smale and Miss Moase. Mrs. Anderton was the head teacher. Only once did I experience the pain of her ebony stick across my hand – and that was for something I hadn't even done!

I hope these notes will bring back a few happy memories of childhood in Bideford to some of my pals of those far away days.

Many years on my daughter Wendy married Cris Mackie at St. Peter's, their children Louise and Ian being christened there a few years later. Oh happy days!

Anthony Sanders



Light Up A Life

A chance this Christmas to remember family and friends who have passed away. I know that many local people have also taken great comfort from *Light Up A Life* over the years and I often think about my patients and their families at this special time.

Honour the memory of your loved ones by coming to one of our Light Up A life services. Alternatively, should you prefer to share the name of your loved one, you can do so online (www.northdevonlightupalife.org.uk) or by calling Gerard on 01271 347224 or Azey on 01271 347231 with your loved ones' names and a credit card donation. In return, my colleagues will send you your own special dedication card with the name of your loved ones, which will also be included in all special Light Up A Life books of remembrance displayed at our services throughout December. All our care is provided to the local people of North Devon entirely free of charge, however it costs £4 million each year to provide this care in our community.

If you can, please make a donation to support your local hospice, because every pound you are able to donate makes a difference to the lives of so many local people whom we serve

Jude Ward Community Nurse Specialist North Devon Hospice

Food Bank

The Northern Devon Foodbank would like to thank its supporters whose big-heartedness has enabled us to provide the equivalent of almost 22,000 meals to local adults and children in crisis. As you enjoy good food and drink with family and friends, and exchange gifts and tidings of peace and goodwill throughout this festive period, please spare a thought for those people, not too far away, who are less fortunate and may not be experiencing the same simple pleasures. Charles Schulz said, "Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone", and later this month the Foodbank will be giving additional Christmassy items to those that need our support. The volunteers at the Northern Devon Foodbank wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

Ginette Berry

On the shelf for five years.

In October 2013, I received an email from my cousin Linda, who lives in Canada, saying, 'I've just brought back a book from the boat and it occurred to me that you would find it an interesting read. It's about a young girl who travels with her parents from Illinois in 1870 to visit family in the Westcountry and in particular your "neck of the woods". I found it very interesting

After much research on the Internet, I eventually located a copy – thanks to the fact that my cousin had given me the ISBN number – and found it fascinating reading, particularly as (a) my sister Enid and I were born and bred in Appledore, (b) Enid lived in Buckland Brewer for many years, and (c) my friend Jen was born and bred, and now lives, in Buckland Brewer.

When Lucy and her parents disembarked in Liverpool in 1870, their first destination in England was Instow, which is 278 miles from Liverpool by AA Route *today*, leave alone by train via Exeter in 1870! I was hooked! During their three months stay in England, Lucy and her parents, without prior warning, visited family and friends in places (and farms) in the West Country – Appledore, Bideford, Northam, Westward Ho! Barnstaple, Buckland Brewer, Alwington, Holsworthy, Halwill, Pyworthy, Plymouth, Launceston, Tredinnick, Fowey, Polperro and others, and finally Halifax in West Yorkshire before embarking from Liverpool on their homeward voyage.

I knew that Enid and Jen would also be interested and, not wanting to part with my own copy, I ordered two used copies from *Amazon* – the only place I could find *Lucy's Diary*.

They duly arrived and were in excellent condition. One was inscribed with a message which read 'Present to Auntie Marg on her visit to -----, 2008. Thanks for everything. My love always, Brenda'. I gave the *clean* copy to Enid, and the *inscribed* copy to Jen. When she saw the inscription Jen froze. She recognised the handwriting as being that of Brenda, the wife of her 2nd cousin, who also lives in Buckland Brewer.

To cut a long story short, after reading the book, Jen phoned 'Auntie Marg' (a distant relative) to tell her about the inscription and was surprised to learn that she knew **nothing** about the book - had never seen it or read it. After further thought Auntie Margaret remembered that, during her stay, Brenda had several books earmarked for charity and concluded that *Lucy's Diary* must have been stacked with them and accidentally given away.

And now the questions:

Why did my cousin in Canada suddenly recommend *Lucy's Diary* after having owned *her* copy since 2008? Why was I sent a used copy (which had mysteriously vanished for five years) which I then gave to Jen who just happened to know the original owner, Brenda? I could understand it if I had bought it in a **local** charity shop – but from **AMAZON**? I have since contacted the suppliers of the two books but they cannot enlighten me in any way.

Cis Snowden (now aged 84).

December Diary

Sunday 1st

12-8pm Bideford's Christmas Wish, reindeer and lights switch on.
1pm Santas on the Run. In aid of Children's Hospice SW. 01271 325270
4pm Christmas Lights switch on at Clovelly. In aid of RNLI.

Monday 2nd

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652
7.45pm Bideford Band Christmas

Concert at Royal Hotel. Tickets £5 in advance. 475653

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at The Beaver, Appledore. Tom Green Septet. 421065

Tuesday 3rd

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches
2-3.30pm Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Church Upper Hall.
7pm Annual Schools' Carol Concert at High Street Methodist Church.

Collection for Christian Aid. 425311
7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall.
7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.
Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Continued on next page

Diary Continued

Wednesday 4

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

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

2pm Bideford Library Readers' Group. 476075

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

7.30pm Bideford Music Club at Bideford Methodist Church Hall. Tom Poster & Tamsin Waley-Cohen.

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Late-night shopping until 8pm

Thursday 5th

10.15am Northam Men's Forum, Christmas Lunch. 478123

2-4pm See Hear on Wheels (SHoW) bus at Pill Car Park. Mobile service with wide range of sensory equipment to try/borrow. 01271 373236

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall. Peter Kirk with guitar.

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

Friday 6th

Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter's Church, Fremington. 01271 372572

7pm Westward Ho! Youth Theatre presents 'A Musical Misadventure' at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! £4

7.30pm Northam Choral Society Concert at St Mary's Church, Bideford.

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Palladium Club – Spaced Invaders £3

Saturday 7th

Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter's Church, Fremington. 01271 372572

9am-1pm Big Sheep – Farmers' Market

10.30am Christmas Coffee Morning for David Rundle Trust (Help for Rwanda) at 5 Francis Drive, Westward Ho!

11am Christmas Market at Buckland Brewer

11am-2pm Signing of the Lease Ceremony at Bideford Pannier Market.

12-3.30pm Northam Lodge Christmas Fair at Northam Hall.

12-3pm Christmas Fayre at St Mary's School

2-4pm Scouts - Mince Pie and Cream Tea at 1 Daneshay, Northam. £2

2pm Westward Ho! Youth Theatre presents 'A Musical Misadventure' at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! £4

3pm Bideford AFC v Cambridge City

7.30pm Film 'Alpha Papa' at Littleham Village Hall. 420372

Palladium Club – Boom Boom Room £3

Sunday 8th

Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter's Church, Fremington. 01271 372572

12.30pm Torridge Ramblers walk. 01805 622183

2pm Westward Ho! Youth Theatre presents 'A Musical Misadventure' at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! £4

2-3.30pm Bideford Band – Carols at Atlantic Village

Monday 9th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

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

Tuesday 10th

10am Macular Society meets at Burton Art Gallery. 474128

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches.

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

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

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 11th

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Late-night shopping until 8pm

Thursday 12th

10am-4pm Christmas Tree Festival & Crafts at Lavington UR Church.

10.30am Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Carol Concert with St Margaret's School.

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall. Carol Service.

6pm Bideford Band – Carols at Asda

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

Friday 13th

10am-4pm Christmas Tree Festival & Crafts at Lavington UR Church.

1pm Happy Café Christmas Lunch Club, Westward Ho! (then closed for winter.).

2pm Devonshire Association at Burton Art Gallery. 459224

7.30pm Abbotsham WI meets at Abbotsham Village Hall. 474711

7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho!

01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall 476632

Palladium Club – ifunk £3

Saturday 14th

9am-1pm Big Sheep - Farmers' Market

9-11.30am Christmas Coffee Morning at Bideford Bowling Club, Chingswell St.

10am-4pm Christmas Tree Festival & Crafts at Lavington UR Church.

11am-2pm Christmas Celebration at Bideford Pannier Market. 421347

3pm-8pm Christmas fayre outside Orange Tree cafe

8pm Christmas Barn Dance at Pollyfield Centre with Bursledon Village Band & John Blackburn. 476632

Palladium Club – the rivals £3

Sunday 15th

10am Scouts – Table Top Sale at Bideford Football Club. £5 a table. 472131

10am-1pm Antiques & Collectors Fair at Instow Parish Hall supporting RNIB. Admission 20p. 01271 812711

2-3.30pm Bideford Band – Carols at

Atlantic Village

2.30pm Charity Christmas Concert by Appledore Singers at Northam Hall. £5

3pm Candlelight Christmas Concert with Appledore Band at Holy Trinity Church, Westward Ho!

Monday 16th

6pm Bideford Band – Carols at Tesco

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 424982

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

Palladium Club – return to the sun £3

Tuesday 17th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 18th

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Late-night shopping until 8pm

Thursday 19th

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Church Hall. Local artist Pete Ward 'Bideford Paint Mines'.

478123

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

Friday 20th

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

7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho!

01769 540309

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Palladium Club – roughnecks £3

Saturday 21st

9am-1pm Big Sheep – Farmers' Market

11am-2pm Entertainment at Bideford Pannier Market. 421347

3pm Bideford AFC v Hitchin Town

Palladium Club – auction for the promise club £3

Monday 23rd

6pm Bideford Band – Carols at Asda

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

Tuesday 24th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

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

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 25th - CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday 26th

3pm Bideford AFC v Truro City

Friday 27th

7.45pm Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho!

01769 540309

Diary Continued

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall.
476632

Saturday 28th

Palladium Club – chiggy pig – free entry.

Monday 30th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

Tuesday 31st – New Year's Eve

JANUARY

Thursday 2nd

2-4pm See Hear on Wheels (SHoW) bus at Pill Car Park. Mobile service with wide range of sensory equipment to try/borrow. 01271 373236

Friday 3rd

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Saturday 4th

9am-2pm Farmers' Market at Atlantic Village

3pm Bideford AFC v Hungerford

Monday 6th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Tuesday 7th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 8th

10.30am Parkinson's UK meets at Ethelwynne Brown Close. Room 2 478128

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

7.30pm Bideford Music Club at Bideford Methodist Church Hall.

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Thursday 9th

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall. Peter Kirk with guitar.

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

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Friday 10th

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Saturday 11th

10am-1pm Lions Club Table Top & Rummage Sale at Northam Hall. 50p.

3pm Bideford AFC v Hemel Hempstead

Monday 13th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club, Old

School Room, rear of Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 472101

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at The Beaver, Appledore. Steve Buckley Quartet. 421065

Tuesday 14th

10am Macular Society meets at Burton Art Gallery. 474128

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 15th

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Thursday 16th

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Philip Marlow 'Birds of Taw & Torridge'. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.

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

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Friday 17th

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

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Saturday 18th

9am-2pm Farmers' Market at Atlantic Village

Sunday 19th

1.30pm Torridge Ramblers Walk. 451370

Monday 20th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

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

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Tuesday 21st

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 22nd

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

7.30pm The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble

Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room 01271 860061

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Thursday 23rd

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Jocelyn Glossop, Principal of Route 39. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.

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

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Friday 24th

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Monday 27th

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club at The Beaver, Appledore. Christine Tobin.

Tuesday 28th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

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

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall

7.30-9pm Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome.

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 29th

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Pollyfield Centre. 07817976053

7.30pm Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554

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

8pm Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798

Thursday 30th

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Dr Erika Palin 'Climate Change: Facts & Fiction'. 478123

2.15pm Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.

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

7.45-9.30pm Bideford Band rehearses

Friday 31st

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

A very Happy Christmas and New year to all our readers.

Bideford's Winter Fair at the Pannier Market

Bideford Town Council's Tourism Committee is introducing a new fun packed experience in the lead up to Christmas. It is going to be the "Bideford Winter Fair" which will be based in the Pannier Market covering the four Saturdays leading up to Christmas, **which incidentally are also the free parking Saturdays** (from 10am in designated car parks), starting on 30th November. A programme of entertainment has been put together for the four Saturdays with a host of different acts. The entertainment will start at 11am and run through until around 2pm.

The Council have also agreed a special package of charges for "first time" traders in the Market Hall. The charge for a stall on a single Saturday between **30 November and 21 December** will be £5, for all four £20 and if all four Saturdays and Tuesdays are booked £30.

December Events

07 December - Signing the Lease Ceremony

The Town Mayor and Council will be there for the signing of the Pannier Lease, Bideford Town Band will start the day with a lively selection from their outstanding repertoire and Bideford 500 will present their Victorian Entertainment with Steve Manning, tale teller of renowned, the Petroc Players and their visitors

14 December – Christmas celebration

Balloonatic will show amazing skill and dexterity as he creates and entertains, Steve Manning with more of his tales and Captain Coconut's incredible Bubble Machine will entertain the whole family.

21 December – Christmas Greetings

Appledore Silver Band will showcase their repertoire, Entertainingly Deferent will premier their **Special Christmas Show**, Bideford 500 will present their Christmas Tales with Steve Manning and the Petroc Players and an appearance by a special guest - Father Christmas.

A vintage coach, a 1950 Bedford OB, will take people to and from the Pannier Market:-
07 December 10:00 – 13.30; 14 December 11:00 – 13.30; 21 December 10.30 - 14:00

Great News

We are very pleased to announce that Bideford Pannier Market is open on Fridays as well as Tuesdays and Saturdays. As well as your favourite stallholders we would like to say a big hello to some new faces on Fridays : - Paula and Joe from Lajoni's Place selling decoupage and wooden gifts, Fifty shades of Scarves-uk and Baz's fab bags.

If you are interested in having a stall on a Friday for just £5.00 then come and talk to Ahmet at the market. Come and say hello to all of us Tuesday and Saturdays 8am – 3pm and Fridays 9.30am – 3pm

24th December Our last Market of the year

The Pannier Market and Butchers Row would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year . we look forward to seeing you in 2014

