

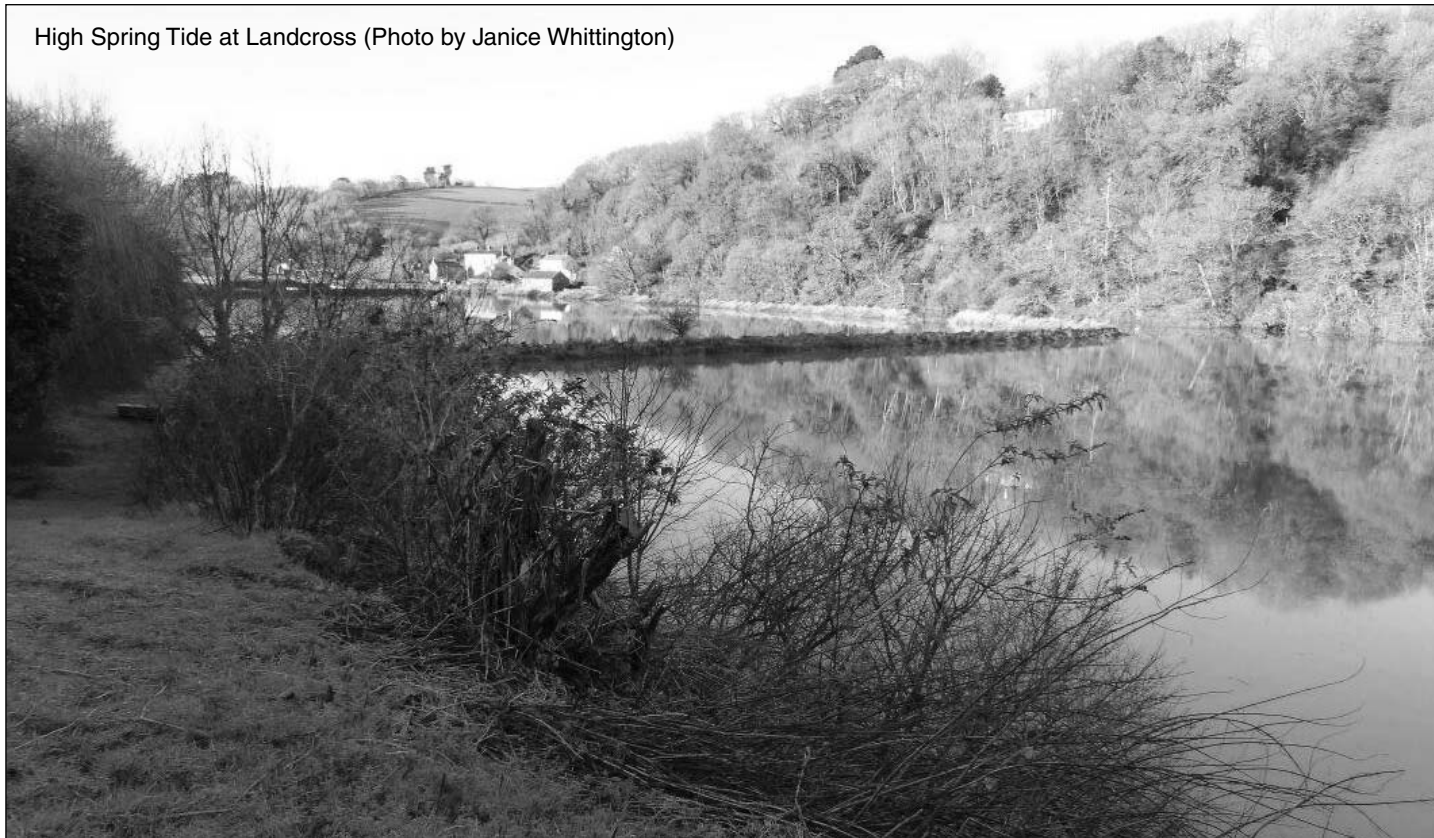


BIDEFORD BUZZ



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

High Spring Tide at Landcross (Photo by Janice Whittington)



Dear Buzz Readers,

With the promise of Spring and warmer days! I am appealing to all those 'bees' out there with something to share.

I am hoping that you will all fly into action to gather lots of lovely stories for me over the next few months. I don't need to remind the worker bees amongst you – you know who you are – who regularly send us tasty offerings, but there are lots of other bees in the hive who I'm sure have delights to share with us.

The editorial team is waiting to hear from you, so don't be shy!

*Happy Buzzing, **Queen Bee.***

Send your items to the Editor, Bideford Buzz, address below.

Want to be sure of receiving your copy or live away? Why not subscribe to the Buzz?
More details in next month's edition.

**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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Bideford Town Council

Miscellany

North Devon Maritime Museum

Do you have some free time and enjoy helping people? Are you interested in ships and seafarers and how the oceans have shaped our history, the future of the sea, or simply in museums? Would you like to become part of our dedicated team of volunteers? As a volunteer you will become an important part of the Museum, supporting our work and enhancing the experience of our many visitors.

Our crew of volunteers are highly valued members of the Museum team, they are essential to its success. We are extremely grateful for all the support our volunteers provide but we are always keen to encourage others to join us and you can help in a variety of ways.

Full support and training will be given, so don't worry if you have little or no previous experience of volunteering.

If you would like to know more about volunteering with the museum please contact:

info@northdevonmaritimemuseum.co.uk or phone 01237 477836

Villages About To Be Dazzled!

A sparkling entertainment group is raising funds for charities and village halls in North Devon.

"Bradazzle" comprises some members of The Torridge Male Voice Choir, Mishmash and Peculiar Folk, all of which are singing groups from the area, plus guests. Their show called "For One Night Only" has music, song and recitals with voices and musicians on keyboard, guitars, flute, saxophone and banjo. The project started as a fund-raiser for Bradworthy (hence the name), and the group have now had requests from other local village hall committees. Their debut show is on **Saturday 15th March at Bradworthy Memorial Hall at 7.30pm** to support Children's Hospice South West, Devon Air Ambulance and the village hall itself. Tickets are £6 each including a ploughman's supper, from Shirleyann on 01409 241119. Any village hall wanting a show (at no cost) to raise hall funds and help charities should contact Andy on 01237 440055 and "Bradazzle" will see what they can do.



Quiz Evening

Lions Club Bideford will be holding a Quiz Evening at the Conservative Club, Bridgeland St on **Friday 21st March at 7.30 pm**

Teams of four, £20 including light supper.
Phone **01237 422890**

All profits to local charities.

Northam Lodge

Our annual Jazz Cruise on the MS Oldenburg will be taking place on **Friday 30th May 2014**, sailing from Bideford Quay at 6.30pm for a 2 hour estuary cruise. The Alan Lewis All Stars Jazz Band will be providing some lively entertainment, and you are welcome to bring along a picnic to enjoy whilst taking in the views. Bring your own bottle or there is a bar available on the boat.

Tickets cost £15.00 per person and to reserve a place please contact Fiona White on 01237 477238 or email fionawhite@northamlodge.co.uk.

Local clarinettist to perform for Bideford Music Club

John Slack was a pupil at Park School, Barnstaple and he went on to study the clarinet at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He is a passionate chamber musician and was a founding member of the Berkeley Ensemble when it was formed in 2008 by members of the Southbank Sinfonia. The ensemble aims to promote British music and unfairly neglected works alongside the standard chamber repertory. It enjoys a busy concert schedule both in the U.K. and abroad, recently touring China for the first time. The concert will be held at Bideford Methodist Church, High Street, on Wednesday, March 12th at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and are £12.50 (students free). For any other information please telephone 01237 423112.

Bideford Inner Wheel

In April between, 1st and 18th, I will be walking 200 miles around Devon in aid of School in a Bag. School in a bag gives hope to the future of poor, vulnerable, orphan and disaster affected children by providing them with a lovely bright red backpack containing stationery equipment, resources and utensils that will enable a child to write, draw, colour, calculate, express themselves and above all learn. Each of the bags costs £15. I will be doing the walk on my own but hope that members of the Inner Wheel will be supporting me by walking various stages and providing accommodation on the route round. The founder of the charity will be coming to Bideford in March to speak to both the Rotary Club of Bideford and the Inner Wheel.

Bideford Library

Reminiscence Session – Take a trip down memory lane

Wednesday March 12th 2:00-3:30 pm

For anyone aged 60+

Refreshments provided

Meditation and Relaxation Group

Wednesday March 19th 2:15- 3:00 pm

Guided meditation and relaxation group for adults with Nicola MacDonald

Situated at the end of the Pill on the corner opposite the Kingsley Statue is a stone which commemorates the restoration of the status of the title Port to the town in 1928. The following is an explanation of the symbolic meaning of the stone in relation to the ship's prow on it and will doubtless be of interest (*From Bideford Gazette June 11th 1929 – sent to us by Mike Davy*)



- (The Port Memorial is currently being transferred to the Town Council from TDC. The monument itself does not really justify the fine words of the author of this article, so perhaps this is an opportunity for a new one which better reflects our heritage.Ed)*

Would you like to influence what the Town Council does?

[illegible]

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone No

Mobile No...... **Email**.....

Signature: _____

Guest's Full Name:

3

Book News

Events at Bideford Library

Free Fridays

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.

Feel Better with a Book.

Every Wednesday 10:30-12:00 am

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

For children 0-5 with their carers ;**Story time for under fives.**

Every Thursday. 9:30-10:00 am (except school holidays) Storytime with Music & Rhymes. **With stories, musical instruments and songs**



'Night Music' by JoJo Moyes, *discussed by Bideford Library Readers' group.*

Few in the group had previously read anything by this prolific author who has had eleven books published since 2008. Eight of the ten of us enjoyed this story and were keen to read more by this author. This tale about how a family, recovering from the loss of the husband/father, adapt to living in the semi-derelict 'Spanish House'. After a sheltered life in London they have to cope without many of the accompaniments of modern life – they have no fridge, no bathroom and no money. The close knit village has its own 'standards' and some inhabitants are helpful, whilst others, particularly local builder, Matt, certainly aren't. Some felt that Matt came over as 'too horrible to be true', almost as a cartoon villain.

The mother, Isabel, is a musician who plays her violin, often at night, for solace, as an escape from everyday life. She loses herself in the playing to avoid having to deal with reality. Much of the family's decision making initially falls to fifteen year old Kitty whilst the younger brother hasn't come to terms with the death of his father a year previously. However, all three family members change as the story unfolds.

Themes of the story include obsession, dealing with change, possession and loss and how these are dealt with in different ways.

The group found a few discrepancies in the story line but these didn't detract from what most agreed was a good read, ideal to take on the beach, to bed or on a journey – just a read to be enjoyed. It was fairly undemanding, certainly not life-changing, but, as one member described, 'a rollicking good read'. Another described it as 'a tale full of satisfying mythologies which make it suitable for a holiday read.'

It stimulated discussion on other books where 'a house' was central to the story and 'Howard's End' by E.M. Forster and 'Rebecca' by Daphne du Maurier were mentioned while it was suggested that 'Music and Silence' by Rose Tremain gives an insight into the ties between a musician and the music he/she plays.

Bideford Library Readers' Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Bideford Library at 2pm. Next month we are discussing 'Kisses on a postcard' by Terence Frisby (copies available from the library)

Friends of Appledore Library Spring Talks

This year's Spring talks all take place in the recently refurbished upstairs room at the Appledore Library, The Quay, on the last Monday of each month through to April - commencing at 7.30pm. Next up, on Monday 31st March is Peter Christie (who surely needs no introduction) with 'Sin, Sex, Scandal and Vicars' - which – very intriguingly – will also be illustrated – and is described as 'spilling the beans on what got our naughty Elizabethan ancestors hot under the ruff'!

And finally, on Monday 28th April, local author Nick Arnold will treat us to some true tales from Appledore's gory past – including the cosy seaside village's own headless saint and its very own revolting peasants - in a talk titled 'The Horrible History of Appledore'.

Tickets for each talk are £2.00 and are now on sale at Appledore Library, The Quay, Appledore, EX39 1QS – Telephone: 01237 477422. These talks have in past years proved very popular so it's recommended that book your places quickly before they sell out!



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852.

Emailing Bideford Buzz ? Address on front page.

Flood of evidence for Climate Change

The signs of climate change happening have been clear to some for many years now, others still seem to be able to avoid seeing the obvious. Even though all the statistical models built by the world's most prestigious academic centres fail to predict current trends in the climate without including human influence, there are many who still refuse to accept the overwhelming evidence. The winter storms and flooding are far more typical of an altered climate than they are of one unaffected by mankind. The warming influence of Greenhouse gasses, the most common being Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), result in much higher levels of evaporation at the equator and so the air just carries more water to drop upon us. Higher levels of precipitation are not the only cause of flooding, but manmade climate change makes heavier, longer periods of rain much more frequent. Some climate sceptics have argued that the global surface temperatures have stabilised in recent years, and therefore manmade climate change does not exist. This would be a reasonable argument, but for 3 key important facts that they fail to mention – that is even if they know what they are.

- ☞ We are currently near the solar minima i.e. the energy from the sun is near the bottom of its short cycle of 11 years and almost certain to be near to the long cycle minimum that occurs approximately every 100 years give or take 10. These impacts have been massive in the past causing the mini ice age of the middle ages, we haven't seen an ice age because greenhouse gases have more than offset the cooling impact of less sunlight.
- ☞ Deep Sea temperatures have risen sharply, even while the temperature of the shallow waters has remained more or less stable over the last decade. There is increasing evidence that more heat than expected is being sub-ducted into the deep oceans making sea level rise higher than initially thought, not so good for those living next to Northam Burrows.
- ☞ Higher wind speeds near the equator have cooled the region by increasing the rate of evaporation from tropical seas. The greater power of weather systems starting in the tropics results in tropical storms, the seeds of winter storms in Britain, starting stronger. So while tropical waters are cooled by 0.1 -0.2 C, and the global mean temperatures are held back, the winter storms we have to prepare for are much stronger than in the past.

Climate change caused by manmade factors is rightly very frightening. The last time the climate changed at anywhere near this rate was 55 million years ago, when the temperature rose 6 C over 20,000 years and resulted in over 90% of species in that period becoming extinct. Based on the best science there is available the human race is due to cause 4-6 C increase in temperatures in less than 100 years. The rate of extinction could easily exceed 99% as only bacteria and viruses can adapt to changes in their environment so quickly.

James Craigie

Bideford Sustainability Group The March Blacksmith's Arms get-together is on Tuesday (4/03/14). Join us to find out more, catch up with our news, share ideas, network, socialise etc. All welcome. Drop in any time between 19:30 & 21:00 and say hello. (We're always there on the first Tuesday of the month.) Hope to see you there, Jane

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Join us on Sunday 9th March for our second Mantrek event, again kindly sponsored by Applegate Marketplace.

A men-only sponsored walk along the Tarka Trail, culminating in the England v Wales Six Nations match on big screens at your chosen finish point of either Barnstaple or Bideford Rugby Club.

- Register online at www.mantrek.co.uk

- Call 01271 347224 for a paper entry form

- Email gerardfawcitt@northdevonhospice.org.uk for a form

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING
YOU AT MAN TREK 2014!**

Young Buzz

Should we dress to impress ?

First impressions count, don't they? In fact, what you wear makes all the difference and can actually determine the outcome of future prospects and as a result, eventual success. For many, University interviews are dawning, and we wrack our brains endlessly over the question of 'what to wear' as we count down the days to that all important date.

The attire we wear on the day communicates our personality and eligibility, putting pressure on us to get it right first time. Smart, however, is one's secret weapon to guaranteed success. As I trawl the internet, I come to realise that blazers, blouses and buttoned shirts appear to win in the eye of the interviewer and that anything resembling 'too casual' is a complete write off. The real challenge though? Knowing how far to go with it.

Attention to detail is important. As we all know, our local schools over emphasise neatness and ensure that we obey by the 'dress code'; this in hindsight is beneficial to us all. Establishing the border between smart and comfortable is essential for any interview, particularly a university one. Maintaining eye contact, a smile, as well as a little self-confidence will allow you to go a long way. If you are looking and feeling great, this will naturally reflect in your posture and demeanour. Ultimately, what you wear will not make or break you in terms of university offers and placements. The thing to remember is to be yourself at all times and enjoy the experience which will be worth immense value that may only come once. Opt for ties, not tank tops; loafers, not leotards; shirts, not sandals and dresses, not dungarees. Be polished and make sure you don't go over board and morph into a corporate clone; otherwise you may run the risk of looking like you have perhaps tried too hard.

In the words of Dizzee Rascal, you need to 'fix up, look sharp'; not saunter in sporting a sweatshirt and matching sweatpants to tally.

Kelly Gumbley



(Cartoon by Michael Darling)

Got something to say? Send your thoughts to Young Buzz editor@bidefordbuzz.org.uk. Follow us on Twitter and facebook.

Prom marks 100th anniversary of the Brownies

The Prom took place on Saturday January 25th at Durrant Hotel with afternoon tea, ice cream sundaes and a disco.

This was the first of many wonderful festivities planned for the 100th anniversary. Thanks to all the local businesses who supported the event. It brought together 194 girls from all three districts, Fremington, Torridge and Torrington)

Carole Jenkins

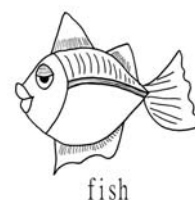
(Division commissioner, Taw and Torridge)

Food News

Felicity's Fish Cookery through the seasons

There is a new opportunity for people of all ages in Bideford and surrounding villages to learn more about preparing, cooking and tasting the great range of local fish caught through the seasons.

Petroc College is running courses at Bideford College and demonstrations in the Pannier Market and at events in the surrounding areas throughout 2014 (**see also Burton News on page 11**). The project called "Tipping the scales" started on the 27th February and I will be running my second session at Bideford College called "Spring into Healthy fish" on **27th March 6.30-9.00pm**.



The healthy recipes that you can try at the March course will include some from Jack Munro, a new cook who has some great seasonal fish recipes for you to try.

Devonshire Fish Pie- An old traditional recipes combining smoked winter fish with eggs

1 small Finnan haddock and or 1 fillet Smoked Pollack/Whiting with skin removed

4g/1oz grated parmesan or cheddar cheese,grated.

1 teaspoon chopped parsley

2 eggs

4g/1oz homemade breadcrumbs

Tabasco sauce and tomatoes puree

1. Boil Finnan Haddock for 7 minutes, cool and separate bones and skin, or poach smoked Pollack fillet. Cool. Separate into flakes with a fork.
2. Place flaked fish in mixing bowl and add tomato puree, drops of tabasco sauce to taste and chopped parsley.
3. Beat the eggs and add to fish with black pepper.
4. Put in a well greased casserole dish and sprinkle the breadcrumbs and cheese on top with a dab of butter.
5. Bake for about 25mins in oven 200C or gas mark 6 or centre of Rayburn/Aga!

Smoked fish can be ordered from www.brilliantfishonline.co.uk or tel 07918 779 060

See Petroc website for details of courses-www.petroc.ac.uk/adults.tel 01271 338125

Next Month we will be have Fish recipes 4 Easter

And pancakes!

Join in the celebration of a wonderfully unique tradition at Clovelly for Shrove Tuesday on **4th March**. 'Lentsherd'(pronounced "Lanshard") is said to rid Clovelly of all the bad things from the previous year, chasing bad spirits away and banishing the Devil into the sea with a perfect riot before Lent begins.

Tin cans (and just about anything else that makes a suitable racket) are tied to strings and dragged down the famous cobbled street, right to the end of the harbour wall. There, the strings are tied together and the metal objects are thrown into the sea; it is said to take the evil spirits with them. Having served their purpose the cans are retrieved from the water and recycled!

The ancient custom has recently evolved to include tags bearing the names of children from all over the world which are sent via the 'Clovelly Village' Facebook and Twitter pages. The tags are tied to a string of tin cans, then dragged down the cobbles on their behalf!

Children, accompanied by an adult, are invited to meet at 4:45 p.m. for a 5:00 p.m. start at the Victoria Fountain on the cobbles, bringing with them tin cans tied to string. There will be free entry for visitors to Clovelly after 4:30 p.m. The custom is most certainly not a race and all participants are encouraged to head safely down the cobbled street at a pace that suits them.

Following the riotous fun, delicious pancakes will be available for all to buy at The Red Lion. Each participating child will receive one free pancake from the Red Lion and will be able to decorate them with various toppings and sprinkles.

FLAG.

The 'Seafood & Festivals' support fund is available to local businesses and communities for any new activity that promotes, uses and celebrates our local catch, or helps to strengthen our local market and supply chain for locally landed fish. This could include marketing a new local seafood product, starting a community fish box scheme, or establishing a marine themed festival, but we are open to all ideas. The fund can provide a 50% contribution as well as practical support from the Support Officer. Contact seafood@northdevonplus.co.uk for more information.

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News from the Burton Art Gallery & Museum

If you haven't yet managed to visit the Gallery and see the **Children's Annual Exhibition**, make it a priority. The talent for art and craft within our area is, without question, some of the best you will find anywhere. The exhibition ends on 10th March, don't miss it

'Pots, Fish and Ships' is the title of an exhibition which continues until 24th March. Potters were invited to show any work inspired by North Devon's historic trade with North America. Hundreds of cargoes of slipware from our potteries at Fremington and Bideford (the Fishleigh and Phillips families respectively) were shipped to the settlements in Virginia, New England, Maryland and Newfoundland, as well as many other goods of practical use. (*Day Courses with Sgraffito work: 1st March with Taz Pollard, and 15th March with Harry Juniper – phone 01237 471455 to book.*)

Felicity (see page 9) will be giving a fish cookery demonstration on **Thursday 20th March from 10.30-12.45 pm** so this will be a drop in with talks at **10.30, 11.00, 11.30 and 12.00 noon**. The fish recipes will be made with Salt Cod that is traditionally sold around Easter. There will be free tastings and a selection of simple recipes to keep.

There is a new addition to the Museum, recently launched by Bideford's Mayor, Simon Inch, to celebrate another piece of Bideford's history. This is Bideford Black a very soft coal, not suitable for burning, but an excellent pigment for painting the bottom of boats, and in the 20th century, used for eye-makeup and kohl pencils, and was sent all round the world. Artists have found it an interesting media for painting, and local school children have had a lot of fun making patterns and pictures with it at the Saturday Workshops. So now 'Biddiblack', as it was known locally, has its own display cabinet, complete with video and audio information, maps and photographs, not to mention a shovel and a pickaxe.. Funding came partly from the legacy of Miss Peggy Lines, (late Friend of the Burton) and partly from the Heritage Lottery Fund. You will find this display in the Museum on the first floor of the Gallery, it's well worth a visit.

* Judith Westcott helps you with Creative Linocut Printmaking on 29th March, 10-4. Phone to book.

World Book Day Thursday March 6th 10.00 – 3.00 To celebrate World Book Day this year Bideford Library have teamed up with the Burton and will be holding a special story and crafty bonanza for children at the gallery. Starting at 10.00 with their usual Thursday Storytime, then continuing until 3.00 with drop-in story sessions and craft activities aimed at pre-school children

Diana Warmington,

Friends of the Burton Art Gallery & Museum.

100 Years ago

Not much seems to have changed with the weather over the past 100 years. On Sunday 15th March 1914 a heavy gale passed over the region. Vessels in both Appledore and Bideford, although double moored, were swamped and one barge had a mast carried away. The Burrows were under water and the river Torridge was a mass of waves and seething foam. The slipway at the Royal George in Appledore was washed away as well as a large portion of the roadway.

The Blacksmith's Arms at East-the-Water was sold for £800 at an auction to Messrs S W Arnold & Sons. Ivydean in Abbotsham Road was for sale and also Roborough House (formerly 1 Westcroft Terrace) – both from Bazeley Barnes and Bazeley.

On the front page of the Gazette were adverts for J Sanguine & Sons in Grenville Street who were holding their annual sale of boots and shoes – strictly cash only. William C Talbot in the High Street recommended Oatmeal stout for invalids and persons of a weak digestion - price 2/6d for twelve one pint bottles. Walter H Chope proudly advertised Warner's Rust proof corsets!

Nothing much seems to have changed in other areas as well – the reservoirs were overflowing due to increased rainfall and Bideford Council had received several complaints about the state of Alverdiscott Road due to lorries hauling timber away from Webbery. A manhole collapsed outside Queens Anne's Buildings in the High Street precipitating a young lady into the coal cellar below. Fortunately she was unhurt.

Bideford Hospital (privately run – no NHS) held its Annual General Meeting where it was reported that 639 cases were treated during the year, of these 269 were operations requiring overnight admission. The daily cost of food to these patients was 6.44d per head – about 2½p in today's values.

These and many more items of local interest are available to read at the Bideford Community Archive at the Council offices, Windmill Lane, Northam. Tel: 01237 471714





Bideford Film Society

Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 March **American Hustle** (15) 138 minutes at Kingsley School
 Friday 7 and Saturday 8 March at 7.30pm at Kingsley School - **The Invisible Woman** (12A) Oscar nominated. At the height of his career, Charles Dickens meets a younger woman who becomes his secret lover until his death.

Friday 14 and Saturday 15 March at 7.30pm at Bideford College - **The Monuments Men** (12A) An unlikely World War 2 platoon are tasked to rescue art masterpieces from Nazi thieves and return them to their owners.

Friday 21 and Saturday 22 March at 7.30pm at Bideford College - **Cuban Fury** (15) A former salsa prodigy attempts a comeback years after his career was ruined.

Friday 28 and Saturday 29 March at 7.30pm at Kingsley School – **12 Years a Slave** (12A) Nominated for ten Oscars. In the antebellum United States, Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York, is abducted and sold into slavery.

Doors open 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm.

THE BLACK DEATH – if it didn't get you great days were coming

In 1348 the Black Death arrived in England. It isn't clear exactly where it landed, some reports pinpoint Bristol others Dorset, but no matter where it arrived it swept through the country at lightning speed with fatal and far reaching consequences.



It may have been brought to Bideford by a travelling pedlar or by someone from the town who visited an infected area or more likely it arrived by sea. Ships from Bideford would have been fishing and trading in the Bristol Channel and Celtic Sea and some would have been in contact with people from infected areas. The contact would have infected crews who would then have taken the disease to the town.

People would have known that the "Pestilence" was incurable, indiscriminate and struck rich and poor, young and old, men women and children. So when they knew that it was in the town panic would have spread.

Seeking a place of sanctuary people flocked to St Mary's to pray for mercy and protection. Others believing that it was the start of the Apocalypse, or the end of time, saw each day as their last, abandoning moral and sexual codes, others turned to public acts of penitence. The mass loss of partners led to a boom in the marriage market!

The Black Death raged for a little over two years and records show that it killed almost 40% of the population, the country's worst ever demographic disaster. By 1351 Bideford's population would have been a few hundred. Some villages and hamlets around the town would have been deserted, some lost forever It led to a saying common at the time that "there's hardly enough living to bury the dead".

The effects of the Black Death were devastating, the biggest social groups lost the most people, these were the craftsmen, labourers and the peasantry. The greatly reduced labour force meant that the very nature of the economy had to change. The massive shortage of craftsmen, labourers and peasants to work the fields led to an immediate rise in wages and the workers took full advantage.

Workers found that they had more employment opportunities with higher wages so they began to move to where they could command the best wages. Society became more mobile.

In the fields around Bideford there was not enough labour to work the land, landlords lost the rents from abandoned farms, the price of land fell and peasants earned higher wages. Labour intensive arable farming gave way to stock rearing and sheep were soon seen in most of the fields around the Torridge. At the same time the now better off peasants began to buy land, the "Yeoman" had arrived. Trading in wool soon began to be important for Bideford and wool traders, some of them ex-peasants, began to prosper. Bideford's first boom was underway!

In 1351 the Government passed the Labourers' Act in an attempt to bring wages back to pre-plague levels. Employers chasing the reduced workforce ignored the Act and continued to offer higher wages; some began to offer other inducements such as accommodation and food. Craftsmen, labours and peasants had never had it so good; the good times lasted for 100years

David Howell



THE SHIPPING NEWS



Bideford Shipping 109

No ships Loaded /Discharged at Yelland or at Bideford in last month.

Welsh Piper 20/1/14 only exception discharged at Yelland

Oldenburg has been to Sharpness **12/11/13** for drydocking, returns to service March/April ; she has only a few cargo runs during the winter. Returned to Bideford **3/12/13**

Arco Dart at Appledore **29/1/14**

The Irish patrol vessel **LE Samuel Beckett** being built at Appledore is still due to go on trials mid February

According to the Journal website the cruise ship **Prisendam** is due off Ilfracombe **26th July** for a visit; has been here before. Visit subject to weather conditions

The tug **Goliath** alongside Bideford Quay **31/1/14/14/2/14** to tow the barge **Southern Beaver** from Yelland oil jetty to Southampton. This is the second visit to the river since she was built in 1956 as the **MSC Smititar** at Appledore. At the time of going to press she was still alongside the Quay.

Bristol Channel Observations

16/1/14 at 08.24 vehicle carrier **Electra** 28127 tons d.w, owners Wallenius Wilhelmsen Norway & Sweden, inward bound for Portbury. At 10.45 container ship **D.S Agility** 13856 tons d.w, owners DS Activity UND DS Agility Germany, inward bound for Portbury. At 10.55 cargo vessel **Hunteborg** 6100 tons d.w, owners Wagenborg Shipping BV Netherlands, inward bound for Swansea.

18/1/14 At 11.58 container ship **Endeavour** 9618 tons d.w owners J.R. Shipping Netherlands inward bound for Avonmouth.

19/1/14 at 09.25 bulk carrier **N.S Energy** 74518 tons d.w owners SCF Novoship J/S Co (Novorossiysk Shipping Co) Russia, outward bound from Port Talbot having sailed **17/1** at 04.50 hrs. She had been anchored off Lundy for two days possibly for engines repairs. Spotted by one of our ardent readers ship spotter Josh Hulse passing Ilfracombe about 11.15 and passed Lundy at 12.35 the bulk carrier **Redhead** 37192 tons d.w, owners Pretty Rainbow Shipping SA Hong Kong, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 07.21. At 16.40 cargo vessel **Inge** 4140 tons d.w owners Dankern Hermann Lohmann Germany, inward bound for Portbury. At 16.50 vehicle carrier **Sapphire Ace** tons d.w owners Mitsui OSK Lines Japan, inward bound for Portbury. Seen again at 14.28 **20/1/14** outward bound, having sailed from Portbury at 11.49

21/1/14 at 15.25 cargo vessel **Vronedijk** 4450 tons d.w, owners Navigia Shipmanagement BV Netherlands. At 16.32 vehicle carrier **Grande Portugallo** 12594 tons d.w owners Grimaldi Line of Italy, outward bound from Portbury, having sailed at 13.46 ; .at 12.46 vehicle carrier **Emerald Leader**, owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha of Japan, inward bound for Portbury.

2/2/14 At 14.50 container ship **Endeavour** 9168 tons d.w, owners J.R. Shipping Netherlands inward bound for Avonmouth 24 hrs late -usually arrives on a Saturday could have been delayed by bad weather

4/2/14 at 10.50 cargo vessel **Arklow Rambler** 4400 tons d.w, owners Arklow Shipping Nederland B.V Holland inward bound for Sharpness.

7/2/14 at 16.40 vehicle carrier **Grande Europe** 18461 tons d.w, owners Grimaldi Line of Italy inward bound for Portbury

8/2/14 anchored off Clovelly sheltering from the weather conditions the cargo vessel **Pascal** outward bound and the **Klaipeda** ; this vessel returned further up the Bristol Channel to shelter off Minehead

10.2.14 at 08.09 cargo vessel **Bounder** 3202 tons d.w, owners Reederei Erwin Strahlmann Germany, outward bound from Newport having sailed at 0015.. At 08.33 cargo vessel **Kliftrans** 3132 tons d.w, owners Wagenborg Shipping BV Netherlands, outward bound from Newport having sailed at 03.44. . At 10.32 container vessel **Endeavour** 9168 tons d.w, owners J.R Shipping Netherlands, inward bound for Avonmouth - 2 days late on her original schedule. At 13.03 vehicle carrier **Opal Leader** 12200 tons d.w, owners Nippon Yusen Kaisha Japan, inward bound for Portbury.

Regards *Norman*.

Buzz Word

Send us your Buzzes. (Address on front page).

Logs to Burn

Hi Chris (Hassall) I enjoyed your article. Having been for some years in the firewood trade, I can give you this reference to how logs burn. 'Elm burns like smouldering flax, no flame to be seen.'
(from poem 'Logs to burn'.)

We enjoyed two of your canal walks last year and look forward to starting again on May 11th
Peter Blackab

Thanks also to **Margaret Young** who has sent in the following article relating to the merits of wood. 'Elm must be cut when felled and kept dry for at least two years to burn well. It is cheery enough then, though inclined to smoke if damp it requires a good fire base and if rotten is of no use at all' *From The Countryman*, 1934

The Wood Poem by Celia Congreve

Beech-wood fires are bright and clear

If the logs are kept a year,

Chestnut's only good, they say,

If the logs 'tis laid away

Make a fire of elder tree,

Death within your house will be,

But ash new or ash old

Is fit for a Queen with crown of gold

Birch and fir logs burn too fast,

Blaze up bright and do not last.

It is by the Irish said,

"Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread."

Elm-wood burns like church-yard mould:

E'en the very flames are cold,

But ash green or ash brown

Is fit for a Queen with golden crown.

Poplar gives a bitter smoke,

Fills your eyes, and makes you choke.

Apple-wood will scent your room,

Pear-wood smells like flowers in bloom.

Oaken logs, if dry and old

Keep away the winter's cold,

But ash wet or ash dry

A King shall warm his slippers by.

(sent in by **Jenny Jones**)

Lucy's diary

The copy I bought from Amazon is now available in Bideford Library as I donated it. I hope other people read it.

David Glahom

I was great to see the follow-up of Lucy's Diary. I had already filed my research as completed.

Cynthia Snowden

Citizen's Award

Do you know someone whose activities help to enrich the lives of the residents of Bideford?

Bideford Town Council presents an award annually to a person or organisation either living in or outside Bideford who make a significant contribution to the community and a real difference to the lives of Bideford residents.

If the person nominated performs the tasks as part of their paid employment then in order to qualify their contribution must be well above and beyond that normally expected as part of their employment.

Nomination forms are available from the Town Clerk's Office or can be downloaded from the Town Council website. **Submissions must be received by 17 March 2014.**

Bideford keyboard and Organ club

We have a multi-keyboard player from Exeter, Chris Magrath playing in concert on 18th March also at the Methodist Church Hall commencing at 7.30 pm. This is also a long established club approaching 45 years of operation and bringing top class entertainers to the town with very modest admission charges of £5.00 and a membership fee of just £14.00 which then gives a reduction to £3.00 for admissions and a Club night on the 1st Tuesday of each month. For the April Concert on 15th April we are combining with the Bideford Methodist Church to put on a superb concert of light entertainment on organ and piano music with a real master Dr Kevin Morgan from Lytham St Annes. Similar admission charges and times.

Bideford Cacti and pot plant club

Our next meeting which starts the new season is on 11th March when we have Roger Chapple from Hartland with an illustrated talk on Lundy Island. The Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30pm. It is now in its 55th year but many people don't realise we even exist. It may be that the name is a bit off-putting and gives the impression we only talk about Cacti and Pot Plants. Nothing is further from the truth with a wide range of subjects covered and trips to gardens and interesting places. Members are being invited to give suggestions for a new name. We also host the last Flower Show in the Town but this is now nationally known as a superb show for Begonias, with the many classes being the National Begonia Society South West Show, which this year will be on Sunday 17th August at The Pannier Market. It brings exhibitors and visitors from all over the South West and Wales putting Bideford on the map and bringing hotel bookings and trade to the town.

Mike Avis (Contact number for both groups, 01237 475914) or email michael.avis@virgin.net

Vacancies

St Helen's Primary School in Abbotsham, has a vacancy for a replacement **Clerk to Governors**. No previous experience is necessary as training will be supplied. We are looking for an organised and methodical individual who can type, use e-mail and generally keep the governors in order. The role is paid at 3 hours per week, term time only. Most of the role can be done from home to fit around other commitments although attendance at approx 15 meetings per year is required. Meetings are held during the daytime usually on either Tuesdays 15.45pm, Thursdays 8.00am or Thursdays 13.45pm and last approx 2 hours.

To apply please contact : Mrs Lucy Meardon including CV and contact telephone number via the e-mail address clerk@ash-sch.org

Staff wanted

The Conservative Club requires a Steward/Stewardess with partner to assist. Accommodation Provided.

Please contact the Secretary on 01237470913

or E.Mail pjpester@btinternet.com for more details.

March Diary

Saturday 1st

9am-2pm Farmers' Market at Atlantic Village

10am-12pm Families for Children Adoption Info Meeting at Buckfast. 01364 645480

7.30pm Film 'Captain Phillips' at Littleham Village Hall. 473707
Palladium – Boom Boom Room £3

Sunday 2nd

2.30pm Folk Dance at Northam Hall with Bideford Folk Dance Club. Bring & share cakes. Proceeds to Brain Tumour Charity. £3 Info - 423554

Monday 3rd

1.30pm Headlands Art Group, Westward Ho! Baptist Church Hall. 478223

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

7.45pm Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653

Tuesday 4th

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches

10.30am Walking for Health – rotation of 5 walks in Northam, Torrington & Westward Ho!. 421528

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

5pm 'Lentsherd' aka 'Tin Night' at Clovelly. Shrove Tuesday

6.30pm Bideford Band Beginner's Group at Band Room. 475653

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall.

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre on the Pill. 479462

7.30-9pm Bideford Sustainability Group informal meeting at The Blacksmiths Arms. 07783384982

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

Wednesday 5th

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

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

11am-1pm Creative (Memory) Café at Quay Meeting Rm, 5 Danver Court, Clovelly Rd Ind. Estate. 07817976053
2pm Bideford Library Readers' Group. 476075

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
Palladium – HQ 4-piece jazz combo £3

Thursday 6th

10.15am-12pm Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Stuart Dowle 'Quicke's Cheese' 478123

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

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.

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

7.45pm Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653

Friday 7th

11am Women's World Day of Prayer service at Sacred Heart Church 472357

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

8pm Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632

Palladium – Head over Feet £3

Saturday 8th

9.30am Torridge Ramblers Day Walk 01805 625485

3pm Bideford AFC v Arlesey Town

Palladium – The Sum Of £4

Monday 10th

1.30pm Headlands Art Group, Westward Ho! Baptist Church Hall. 478223

7.15pm Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652

7.30pm Bideford Stamp Club, Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 'Orchids of the Commonwealth' 472101

7.45pm Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653

8.30pm North Devon Jazz Club – Laura Jurd Quartet. 421065

Tuesday 11th

10am Macular Society meets at Burton Art Gallery. 474128

10am-1pm Lavington Church coffee and lunches.

10.30am Walking for Health – rotation of 5 walks in Northam, Torrington & Westward Ho!. 421528

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

6.30pm Bideford Band Beginner's Group at Band Room. 475653

7.30pm Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall.

7.30pm Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre on the Pill. 479462

7.30pm Bideford & Dist. Cacti & Pot Plant Club at Bideford Meth. Church Hall. Roger Chapple 'Lundy Island'. 475914

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

Palladium Club *Jam Night*

Wednesday 12th

CHSW 'Making a Will' - discounted Will

10.15am Probus Club at Royal Hotel

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

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

March Diary 2014 *continued*

- 7.30pm** Bideford Music Club at Bideford rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall. Methodist Church Hall 423112
- 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 13th**
- 10.15am-12pm** Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. Glenys Laws 'Tax, Care & Toyboys' 478123
- 10.30am** Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Meet Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528
- 2.15pm** Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.
- 7pm** Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.
- 7.45pm** Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653
- Friday 14th**
- 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 – Chiggy Pig £3
- Saturday 15th**
- 9am-2pm** Farmers' Market at Atlantic Village
- 7.30pm** 'For One Night Only' musical/comedy revue at Bradworthy Memorial Hall. £6 inc. ploughman's supper in aid of CHSW/Devon Air Ambulance. 01409 241119
- Palladium – Hells Bells £12
- Sunday 16th**
- 10am-1pm** Antiques & Collectors Fair at Instow Parish Hall supporting RNIB. Admission 20p. 01271 812711
- 11am-4pm** Hartland Abbey Daffodil Day
- 1.30pm** Torridge Ramblers walk. 01805 622183
- Monday 17th**
- 1.30pm** Headlands Art Group, Westward Ho! Baptist Church Hall. 478223
- 7.15pm** Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652
- 7.30pm** Appledore Amateur Radio Club at Appledore Football Social Club. 473251
- 7.45pm** Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653
- Tuesday 18th**
- 10am-1pm** Lavington Church coffee and lunches
- 10.30am** Walking for Health – rotation of 5 walks in Northam, Torrington & Westward Ho!. 421528
- 2-3.30pm** Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Church Upper Hall.
- 3pm** Grief & Loss Group at St Mary's Church. 475765
- 6.30pm** Bideford Band Beginner's Group at Band Room. 475653
- 7.30pm** Northam Choral Society
- 7.30pm** Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre on the Pill. 479462
- 7.30pm** Bideford Keyboard & Organ Club at Bideford Meth. Church Hall. Chris Magrath from Exeter. 475914
- 7.30-9pm** Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome. Palladium Club *Jam Night*
- Wednesday 19th**
- 10.30am** Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528
- 11am-1pm** Creative (Memory) Café at Quay Meeting Rm, 5 Danver Court, Clovelly Rd Ind Estate. 07817976053
- 7.30pm** Bideford Folk Dance Club meets at Northam Hall. 423554
- 7.30pm** 'The Artist, David Bomberg, in N Devon' illustrated by David Booth at the Burton Art Gallery. £5 on door
- 7.30pm** The Two Rivers Wind Ensemble Rehearsal at Bideford Band Room.
- 8pm** Bideford Phoenix Morris rehearse at Baptist Church, Mill St. 473798
- Thursday 20th**
- 10.15am-12pm** Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Church Hall. Forum Members' 'Life Experiences' 478123
- 10.30am** Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Meet Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528
- 2.15pm** Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.
- 7pm** Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.
- 7.45pm** Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653
- Friday 21st**
- 10am-12pm** Northam Reminiscence cafe at Northam Hall. 459337
- 7.30pm** Lions Club Quiz Evening at Conservative Club, Bridgeland St. 422890
- 7.45pm** Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309
- 8pm** Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632
- Palladium – 9 Yards £3
- Saturday 22nd**
- Palladium – Auction for the Promise Club £4
- Sunday 23rd**
- 10am-2pm** 1st Edgehill & Torridge Scout Group - Table Top Sale at Robin's Nest.
- Monday 24th**
- 1.30pm** Headlands Art Group, Westward Ho! Baptist Church Hall. 478223
- 7.15pm** Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652
- 7.45pm** Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653
- Tuesday 25th**
- 10am-1pm** Lavington Church coffee and lunches
- 10.30am** Walking for Health – rotation of 5 walks in Northam, Torrington & Westward Ho!. 421528
- 2-3.30pm** Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Church Upper Hall.
- 6.30pm** Bideford Band Beginner's Group at Band Room. 475653
- 7.30pm** Northam Choral Society
- 2-3.30pm** Salvation Army 'Fun & Fellowship' Club meets at Baptist Church Upper Hall.
- 6.30pm** Bideford Band Beginner's Group at Band Room. 475653
- 7.30pm** Northam Choral Society rehearses at Northam Methodist Hall.
- 7.30pm** Bideford Camera Club at Youth Centre on the Pill. 479462
- 7.30-9pm** Samba Baia Rehearsal at Community Arts Network, 13 Rope Walk. New members welcome. Palladium Club *Jam Night*
- Wednesday 26th**
- 10.15am** Probus Club at Royal Hotel
- 10.30am** Walking for Health in Victoria Park. Meet at Cafe du Parc. 421528
- 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
- Palladium – The Reckoners £2
- Thursday 27th**
- 10.30am-12pm** Northam Men's Forum, Northam Methodist Hall. 'Any Questions' - Revd I Lovett, Cllr A Eastman & Jane Hayman. 478123
- 10.30am** Walking for Health along Tarka Trail. Meet Clarence Wharf Car Park. 421528
- 2.15pm** Thursday Fellowship, Northam Methodist Hall.
- 7pm** Hartland Aikido Club for over 18s at Bucks Cross Village Hall.
- 7.45pm** Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653
- Friday 28th**
- 10am-1pm** Lundy Art Group at St Mary's Church Hall, Appledore. 472158
- 7.45pm** Modern Sequence Dancing, Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho! 01769 540309
- 8pm** Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall. 476632
- Palladium – Limehouse Lizzy £13
- Saturday 29th**
- 10am-12pm** Coffee Morning at Victoria Park Bowling Club in aid of British Heart Foundation. £1.25 476841
- Palladium – The Fallen State £3
- Monday 31st**
- 1.30pm** Headlands Art Group, Westward Ho! Baptist Church Hall. 478223
- 7.15pm** Appledore Singers rehearse at Appledore Primary School. 420652
- 7.30pm** Appledore Library. 'Sin, Sex 477422' *Sin, Sex Scandals & Vicars* – Peter Christie. £27.45pm Bideford Band rehearses at Band Room nr Victoria Park. 475653