

OTTER VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PO Box 70 Budleigh Salterton EX9 6WN
www.ova.org.uk



Looking towards the 'bald' High Peak

Autumn Edition

Volume 33/4

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September 2012

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The cover photo, and many others in this edition, were supplied by Mo Bowman. Other photos of walks by Haylor Lass.

The editor welcomes photos from members, particularly of walks, preferably by email in jpg format. And he would love more write-ups of the walks and events, as this also helps create the archive and public face of our active organisation.

The next issue will be published early in the new year: copy needs to be with the editor by Christmas, please.

# Chairman's Message

We are so lucky, living in this lovely part of Devon, with the River Otter running through our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Unfortunately, with the wettest summer for one hundred years, the river has flooded affecting many of our members. There is now a general consensus that something “needs to be done”. Clinton Devon Estates have commissioned the Haycock Report which can be viewed on their website. The OVA has a wealth of hidden talent and two of our active members, a retired professor of hydrology and a water engineer, have offered their expertise to the association in any review of options for the future. Your Executive Committee is also concerned at the water quality of Ladram Bay and Budleigh Salterton beaches, this, of course, is associated with the excessive runoff of water from the fields and the overflow of “grey” water from the combined sewage and storm water systems into the various brooks. In the next few years the bathing water quality standards are to be made twice as stringent. We will keep the members posted.

I think you may be interested in an important, but little publicized, aspect of the OVA. Past members of the OVA have published many books and leaflets, now distributed to local Tourist Information Centres, libraries and some retail outlets so efficiently by Janet Lee. This part of the OVA's activities has taken place in accordance with our constitution to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit. The free leaflets have been reprinted many times and are now mainly taken by visitors to the area and make a vital contribution to the promotion of local tourism; very few are taken as hard copy by our own members who can view them online from our website.

We now find that ‘The East Budleigh Town Walk’ and ‘The Budleigh Salterton Town Walk’ leaflets will need yet another reprint before the next tourist season and we have just printed 2000 Riverside Walks leaflets. The Executive Committee feels a responsibility to seek a contribution from the communities that benefit from this expenditure on tourism to fund this venture and not rely solely on OVA membership funding. However, the committee wish to continue the OVA's impartiality by not seeking direct commercial sponsorship. There appears to be no funding set aside for promoting tourism in this way, surprisingly when nearly 50% of the workforce is employed in the tourism sector. We thank our County Councillor who has secured us part funding from her discretionary fund for the two leaflets. We have also approached the local parish councils and hope for a positive response.

**Nicky Daniel**

# Events

Firstly, a couple of events which were advertised in the Summer Edition of the OVA News and for which a response was required. The summaries are repeated here mostly as a reminder to those who have booked, but there may still be room for others, if you get your skates on!

## **Compass and Map Reading Course Revisited & Continued ~ Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October East Budleigh Church Hall and Woodbury Common**

We have asked Tony Burges to give us a revision course on land navigation, taking compass bearings, planning routes and recognizing land forms from maps. The morning will be spent in the classroom, followed by an early lunch. Then, sharing transport, we shall drive up to Woodbury Common, to practice our skills. This is where Tony will set us various challenges – and we will try to prove that we know exactly where we are! Each participant needs to bring their own Silva type compass and the Ordnance Survey Map Explorer 115. Please also bring a picnic lunch and have suitable clothing and sturdy shoes for the afternoon. Start at 9.30am in the Church Hall at East Budleigh, where tea and coffee will be provided; the afternoon field trip will finish at about 4.00pm. The cost is £10 each.

## **EaRTH ~Environmental & Renewable Technologies Hub**

10.30am on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Bicton College has invested a lot thought, time and effort into building EaRTH, a unique venue for demonstrating vocational skills and renewable technology training techniques via conferences, seminars, events and lectures bringing together education, employers and local communities. It threw its doors open to the public on 29<sup>th</sup> February. The centre has been created through renovation of two redundant farm buildings which have been transformed by beautiful fresh cob walls, wooden shuttered windows and slate flooring from which to demonstrate EaRTH's kinaesthetic education strategies (that means 'hands on know-how' to you and me!)

We meet at 10.30 when Graham Waddell, the Head of the EaRTH Programme at Bicton, will take us on a conducted tour of the building explaining EaRTH's projects, aims and sustainability credentials. Maximum numbers are 20 per visit and price per person is £3.00 to include coffee. There is a large car park adjacent to the building.

# Mini Avocet cruise on the Exe Estuary

A few years ago, you would have been lucky to spot avocets anywhere, but today they are a conservation success. Every winter, flocks of up to 500 of these stylish black and white birds with slender curved bills join over 40,000 birds, including hundreds of black-tailed godwits, Brent geese and red-breasted mergansers, flocking to the Exe Estuary from as far afield as Siberia and Greenland.

On the 1-1.5 hour cruise from Topsham, expert commentary ensures you will get to see the diversity within these incredible flocks. Fantastic for beginners and experienced birdwatchers alike.

As the Exe can be a very cold place in winter, please bring extra warm clothing and waterproofs. Telescopes can be used, but only on monopods – no tripods are allowed, for safety reasons. The boat is partially covered and has a toilet. No drinks are available on board so you are advised to bring your own if required.

*continued overleaf*



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**Mini Avocet cruise on the Exe Estuary.  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 12.30pm from Topsham.**

Please send me ..... tickets

Name(s) .....

Address .....

.....

and postcode .....

tel: .....

email .....

Tick if assistance with boarding required

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... (£11.00 per person) payable to OVA  
and a **Stamped Addressed Envelope (reply address overleaf)**

Access from the jetty to/from the boat can present difficulties. The boat owners/skippers welcome passengers with restricted mobility but the safety of all our passengers is of paramount importance. Therefore a degree of mobility (assisted if necessary) is required when boarding or moving around the boat.

The cruise starts from Trout's Boatyard, Ferry Road, Topsham at 1.00pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2013 but you are required to be at the boatyard by **12.30pm**.

Passengers are limited to 37 so book your place early to avoid disappointment.

Application form below, to be returned by **17<sup>th</sup> November**. Please indicate if assistance is required boarding the boat.

✂



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Ticket application for the **Mini Avocet cruise on the Exe Estuary**.

**Gill Spear  
Pine Rise  
7A Bedlands Lane  
Budleigh Salterton  
EX9 6QH**

and don't forget the **SAE**

# Anyone for More Dowsing?

Last year if you remember, several of us picked up the rudiments of water divining, map dowsing and finding lost objects, by courtesy of Aaron Bray when, after being fortified by a hearty soup 'n' ploughman's lunch in the East Budleigh Church Hall, we were led on a field trip in the surrounding countryside to demonstrate (with outstanding results) our newly discovered skills of 'Dowsing'.

There have been three requests for a 'follow up', but in order to make it worthwhile for Aaron we need to know if we can muster around 25 members. So if you would be at all interested in a 'refresher day' early next spring (which would indeed be suitable for absolute beginners) then please could you let me know via email and I will arrange it.

**Caroline Allen**

email: [trinesandsextiles@btinternet.com](mailto:trinesandsextiles@btinternet.com)

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## Help Wanted

Thanks to all our distributors and deliverers – you do a wonderful job!

We now need a deliverer in Upper Stoneborough Lane, Budleigh Salterton, and EX4 Exmouth.


Please would anyone come forward who would like to do a delivery when we are short.

We also need another 'stand in' person for Colaton Raleigh as Christine Hayes is moving to Ottery St Mary. We do have Barry Papworth there who is excellent, but no understudy.

As encouragement, note that this is only an hour's job once every three months – and you get your own newsletter first!

Please contact Jenny Young, 01395 444090 or Chris Haggard, 01395 442631.

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[www.o.v.a.org.uk](http://www.o.v.a.org.uk)



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Registered Charity No 278266      © Otter Valley Association 2012

# A Bronze Age Settlement Walk

Farway, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013 ~ 10.45am-1pm

For your 2013 Diaries!

A walk through the intriguing and overlooked Bronze Age landscape, including burial mounds and Farway Castle enclosure, first identified and mapped in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by Orlando Hutchinson and recently cleared of vegetation by local landowners and project volunteers.

The walk will be led by Phil Planel, Heritage Projects Officer for the East Devon AONB Partnership.

Full details will be in the next Newsletter.

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## OVA Jubilee Midsummer Buffet

Was Xmas held early this year or perhaps late from last year?  
Who knows?

Due to falling attendance your Events Committee, with some support from their friends, decided to hold a grand summer buffet and dance at no grander a place than the East Devon Golf Club. After all, there is no progress without change.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July last, 50 hardy souls braved the summer storms to attend. We dressed in the loose theme of the Jubilee year and the 1950's.

Clive Bowman held an original competition in that we were asked to identify the location of some photographs from Mo's vast portfolio, and answer some questions of the same.

The compulsory lucky draw was held and finally we danced, bobbed and preened or whatever, to the music of Perry Como, Bill Haley, and Louis Armstrong, who unfortunately couldn't be there in person, but we had a very fair rendering from a passing CD.

Oh yes, what about the food you may ask? Well, we all enjoyed an excellent buffet with a selection to suit everybody's taste.

The evening was judged to be a great success and it was decided to hold a midsummer buffet next year with the same format. Particular thanks to organizers Nicola Daniel and Caroline Allen.

**Bob Wiltshire**



**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – 7.30pm TALK**

East Budleigh Village Hall. “Restoration of Castle Drogo”.

A detailed description, from the Clerk of Works, of the work involved in this important project to save the castle .

*Speaker:* Wesley Key, stonemason (*grandfather helped build the castle*)

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate) Opt. Pub Lunch**

East Budleigh CP, SY065849. 4 miles, 2½ hours. Very interesting town walk which includes a visit to the historic East Budleigh church. Stan will share his vast local knowledge of the people and places of bygone East Budleigh. Optional lunch at the Sir Walter Raleigh.

*Walk leader:* Stan Herbert, 01395 445113

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2012 ~ 9.30am – 4.00pm Compass and Map Reading Course: Must be booked – see application in Summer edition****Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

White Bridge SY076830. 5 miles, 2½ hours. Coast and river walk; coast path to Crab Ledge, inland to Colliver Cross then via Clamour Bridge to finish along the river path. May be muddy in places and could be windy on the coast path. *In association with Active Budleigh Festival*

*Walk leader:* John Jones, 01395 443651

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October - 10.30am. TOWN WALK (Easy)  
(please note day and later start time)**

The Rolle car park, Fore Street, Budleigh Salterton.

With his expert local knowledge and interest in the town’s history David Daniel will guide you round the town pointing out interesting features and significant buildings to give you a personal appreciation of Budleigh’s history through its people and places. *In association with Active Budleigh Festival.* – donation OVA and Active Budleigh Festival.

*Walk leader:* David Daniel, 01395 445960

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 7.00 pm TALK**

Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton "Outdoor Survival"

Joint talk in conjunction with the Friends of Fairlynch Museum

*Speaker:* David Pearce

**Thursday/Friday 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> October – 10.30am VISIT Earth Centre,  
Must be booked – see application in Summer edition**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November – 10.00am. WALK (Easy)**

Newton Poppleford Sports Ground CP, SY087900. An easy walk looking for and identifying fungi including waxcaps. If you can bring along a magnifying glass to better see the detail of the samples spotted on the walk (there will be one available to share if not). If you come across any fungi before the walk you would like identified bring a sample for Marion to examine and share with the group, she is a member of the Devon Fungi Group and has an excellent knowledge of the subject.

*Walk leader:* Marion Nalder, 01395 442176

**Tuesday 13 November – 7.30pm TALK.**

Otterton Village Hall. “3000 Years of History from the Sea”.

Divers from the South West Maritime Archaeological Group have discovered numerous shipwrecks off the south Devon coast including a Bronze Age trading vessel dated 1000BC. *Speaker:* Ron Howell

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic)**

East Budleigh CP, SY065849. 9 miles, 4½ hours.

A varied walk using the coast path, local roads and tracks. Visiting Ladram Bay, High Peak and Windgate and then returning inland via Otterton and Bicton. Some hilly sections, could be muddy.

*Walk leader:* Mike Paddison, 01395 446550

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December – 10.00am. WALK (Easy)**

Wheathill Plantation SY041847. 3 miles, 2 hours.

A short and sociable walk on the commons to relieve those growing pre - Christmas pressures.

*Walk leader:* David Daniel, 01395 445960

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate) Opt. Pub lunch**

Colaton Raleigh Church, SY082872. 5 miles, 2½ hours.

Down green lanes and over the commons, visiting Dotton, Hawkerland and Naps Lane. Optional lunch at the Otter Inn.

*Walk leader:* Brian Turnbull, 01395 567339

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> December – 10.30am. WALK (Easy)/Pub Lunch**

East Budleigh CP SY065849. Gentle Boxing Day walk across the common with optional pub lunch at the Sir Walter Raleigh at this time of good cheer – **Please ring Walk Leader by 5 December to book lunch.**

*Walk Leader:* David Daniel, 01395 445960

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate) / Pub lunch**

Knowle Village Hall CP, SY052827. 5½ miles, 2½ hours. A circular undulating walk over the commons to Bystock Fishponds with varied topography including woodland and heathland. May be muddy.

Optional lunch at the Dog and Donkey.

*Walk leader:* Steve Hagger, 01395 442631

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Kersbrook (under railway bridge), SY069830. 5½ miles, 2½ hours.

A pleasant walk at this time of year which will include part of the old railway track and some of the coast path between Budleigh and Exmouth.

*Walk leader:* Shane Badham, 01395 567531

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – 7.30pm. TALK**

**“Migratory Birds on the Exe Estuary” Peter Hall**, Budleigh Salterton.

This talk gives an insight into identification, why the birds come, where they come from and some of their general behaviour. Supported by superb pictures and bird song/calls.

*Speakers:* John Allan and Steve Henry of the RSPB.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Peak Hill CP, SY109872 5-6 Miles, 2½ - 3 hours. Details to be advised.

*Walk leader:* Bettina Wilson, 01395 578450

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February – 10.00am. WALK, (Moderate)**

Four Firs CP, SY032864 5 Miles, 2½ hours. A circular walk visiting Woodbury Castle then turning east to Woodbury and returning via the golf course. Includes tracks, paths and some wooded areas.

*Walk leader:* Graham Knapton, 01395 445872

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February – 10.00am – 12.30pm. “The River Otter”**

Two talks and an informal exhibition at the **Peter Hall**, Budleigh Salterton.

**David Jannaway** – steers us back to the present, illustrating the Otter as a wildlife sanctuary, especially for wintering birds.

**Patrick Hamilton** – talks about environmental aspects affecting the river including mink and water quality.

**OVA artists and photographers** – bring your paintings and photographs of the river Otter for an informal collective exhibition.

Please label with Name, Title and price (if you wish to sell).

Deliver to Peter Hall at 9.30am and collect at end.

Refreshments available. Volunteers appreciated.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February – 2.30pm Joint OVA/Fairlynch TALK**

Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton. ‘Marine Treasures of Lyme Bay’

*Speaker:* R. White of the Devon Wildlife Trust

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Knowle Village Hall CP, SY052827. 5 miles, 2½ hours

Shortwood Common, Hayes Barton and Squabmoor.

*Walk leader:* Brian Turnbull, 01395 567339

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic)**

Otter Inn CP, SY078874 Colaton Raleigh. 7.3 miles 3½ hours.

A flat circular walk mostly on local tracks. Crossing the commons to Canterbury Green and then returning via Stowford.

*Walk leader:* Mike Paddison 01395 446550

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March - 10.00am WALK (Easy)/Pub Lunch**

Otter Inn CP, SY078874 Colaton Raleigh. 3 miles, 2 hours.

If you don't walk much or want to start walking this gives you the perfect opportunity with a short mainly level walk along local lanes and banks of the Otter. Optional lunch at the Otter Inn.

*Walk leader:* George Norman 01395 442307

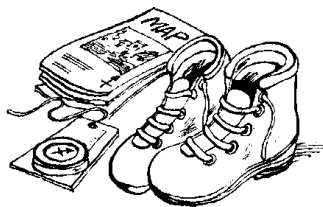
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The following information is provided as a reminder for walkers :

**HOW TO INTERPRET WALK DESCRIPTIONS**

Short stops and any picnic lunches are included in the time given for a walk and will therefore have a bearing on the actual walking pace.

Including stops, OVA walks will normally be around 2mph, but times may be adjusted to allow for more difficult parts. Below is a

general guide but factors such as conditions underfoot, the weather, and the number of gates/stiles can all affect progress.



**EASY** Up to 4 miles.

Level ground or may be gentle gradients.

**MODERATE** Between 4 & 6 miles.

May be gradients, rough, stony or uneven ground.

**ENERGETIC** Over 6 miles.

May be steep sections or very rough terrain.

# Peak Hill Views

If you go up to the woods today, you are in for a big surprise. They are not there anymore !

Instead, the hill has assumed a Silbury-like appearance.



From the top, you can see views which have been obscured for years by plantation, and on the top, there is a compass point beacon.

Negotiate the debris, and hitch a line to someone like I did if the climb is daunting. Enjoy that dog's eye view!



**Mo Bowman**

# Peak Hill Diggings

You may be interested in the archaeological dig taking place on the crown of Higher Peak, which has been recently designated as a protected monument.

This picture shows the team getting established, 3 days in.

Much of High Peak, a Neolithic Causewayed enclosure and Post Roman fortification site has been lost due



to continuous coastal erosion. This year's excavation has been established as part of the 'Unlocking Our Coastal Heritage Project', and takes advantage of the recent tree felling. Investigations and excavations at High Peak are being carried out by AC Archaeology in conjunction with English Heritage, East Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Trust, South West Coast Path and Devon County Council Historic Environment Service in order to investigate key areas before the site becomes fully eroded. The project consists of an earthwork survey, geophysical survey and targeted excavation and these combined will aim to examine and record the visible earthworks as well as significant areas of archaeological interest.

Previous excavations carried out by Sheila Pollard (1961-1964) revealed two occupation phases. Early Neolithic settlement comes in the form of occupation levels along the terraces to the west of the later rampart. Features uncovered during these excavations were indicative of Neolithic domestic occupation. Hearths and shallow pits were uncovered, two of which were lined with flints and were probably used for storage facilities. There is no concrete evidence for Neolithic 'house' structures but evidence for building activities is indicated due to quarrying of the underlying chert during this period.

There is also evidence of Neolithic trade in the form of stone axe fragments, these stone axes originated from many places including Balstone Down in Cornwall, the Preseli Mountains in Wales and an axe fragment made of jadeite is likely to have originated in Europe and was probably brought to High Peak via Brittany. Other finds from the site included 797 flints, 138 pieces of Neolithic Pottery and pieces of worked chert which are characteristic of a Western Neolithic type. Based on the finds from High Peak, Pollard made the conclusion that the site may have originated as a Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure, similar to the likes of Windmill Hill and Hembury.

The hill top was re-fortified during the 5th and 6th Centuries AD. During this Post Roman period a single earthwork fortification was built in an oval shape to enclose an area of approximately 2.5 hectares. The monument itself has not produced any evidence, as of yet, to support these dates, however coins of a Roman date have been reported to be found on the beach after cliff slippage. In 1961 Sheila Pollard undertook emergency, small scale excavation of the fort in advance of afforestation. Pottery discovered during these excavations comprised of an assemblage of imported Mediterranean amphorae sherds which mainly dated from the 5th and 6th Centuries, thereby confirming the date. The dates of the amphora sherds were supported by dates gained through radio carbon dating of charcoal associated with the amphorae found in the ditch fill and hearth features - the charcoal was dated to 498 AD

Those who were 'on the ball' with the local AONB news were able to visit the dig during an interesting open day on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

On the second week of digging, with the weather still perfect, Simon the archaeologist said that neolithic remains such as flints and arrowheads dominated.



# Exe Estuary Explore

Two identical walks were planned on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> August, to traverse the tidal part of the Exe Estuary from north to south, using bus, walk & ferry. The first took place in glorious sunshine, but with a big hiccup at the start when the X53 bus did not turn up on time at Newton Poppleford. The alternative buses into the city and out again meant that the whole walk ran an hour behind schedule, but as nobody was in a hurry to get home this wasn't a problem. Fortunately the half of the party who'd arrived at the Tally Ho Inn by a different route were still patiently waiting!



The second walk started very differently: heavy overnight rain was continuing as we set out. The Newton Poppleford group was joined by two of the 'Wednesday Wanderers', one of whom contributes our report.

"First was the X53 to Countess Wear – Countess Isabella built a weir to stop shipping getting through to Exeter to enable Topsham to benefit from the ships trading. At this point three more walkers joined the group making a total of eight in all and the walk continued through the older part of Exeter on the Lower Weir Road which led to a footpath, past the sewage works, eventually on to a narrow gravel path lined with shoulder high reeds. This path had to be carefully negotiated as there were plenty of quite slippery, muddy puddles due to the heavy rain a couple of hours previously. It was interesting to pass the backs of some houses which had a gate from their gardens leading to individual slipways down to the river.



A brisk walk to reach Topsham (with the hum of the M5 in the background) for a quick coffee break, then on to the ferry from where various birds; godwits, curlews, a black swan and some cormorants, could be seen on the mudflats.

Alighting the ferry at the Turf Inn, there was another puddly path with the railway line on one side and the river Exe on the other, and this eventually led to a road, passing Powderham church then a little further on it was a climb towards the Castle. Roe deer with giant antlers were clearly visible in Powderham Park.



Now was the time for a welcome break for an excellent bite to eat in the restaurant and a browse in the Farm Shop after which it was back through the Estate and along The Strand footpath/cycle way by the railway line to Starcross. To the amusement of the walkers, a huge green Hawk moth caterpillar was crossing the Estate road when a van came along and there was concern it would be run over but the observant driver managed to carefully miss it and all was well!

The plan was to catch the ferry back to Exmouth but the gates were shut and a phone call revealed that the afternoon's crossings had been cancelled. So, Plan 'B' and a retracing of steps to the bus stop in Starcross village to board a bus to Exeter then another bus back to Newton Poppleford.

Thank you, Haylor, for such an interesting, well planned and varied walk that was greatly enjoyed by all in spite of the wet morning which turned into a lovely sunny afternoon."

*Footnote:* I wrote to both the bus company and the ferry firm concerning the lack of service. I had a return-of-post and considerate response from the ferry operator, but a reply from First Bus is still awaited (a month on)!

# Wet spring ideal for invasive insects

The Chief Medical Officer has warned that warmer, wetter conditions may result in Malaria being endemic in Britain again.

Insects are biting back. NHS Direct has reported a 20% rise in the number of bites and stings it deals with since 2010, leading to speculation about invasive new species and mutant super-fleas.

However, the real reason for the increase probably has more to do with the weather. Fleas, both adults and larvae, thrive in mild, damp conditions. They need a humidity of more than 30% and are killed off by cold snaps, so the wet spring was ideal for them. No wonder that sales of flea control products are up by a quarter this year.

It has also been a good year for ticks. A summer day with temperature above 32C can kill ticks; when it's dry, they will dehydrate at lower temperatures and can die in a few days. Without either of these checks, the tick population has soared. The weather has also produced plenty of long grass, where unwitting hosts pick up ticks as they pass. It's no surprise that Lyme disease, carried by ticks, is on the increase.

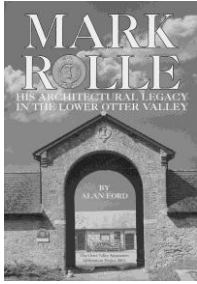
The map alongside is from the British Veterinary Association on the presence of the European meadow tick in 2011 – adding to evidence that this tick is becoming established in Britain.

Mosquitoes are doing similarly well. Their eggs and larvae require standing water, and the high rainfall has provided plenty of breeding grounds and a population boom.

Malaria used to be common in Britain when it was known as ague. Warmer, wetter conditions may result in malaria being endemic again by 2050. If that happens those increasing insect bites could change from an annoyance into a real health hazard.



# OVA Publications



## **Mark Rolle**

### **His Architectural Legacy in the Lower Otter Valley**

Ever wondered about the many improved farm buildings and cottages in this area? This lavishly illustrated book gives a very readable picture of how a large landed estate was managed in the last 40 years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

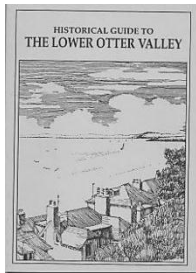
£4.95 from your village rep (or plus £1.50 P&P)



## **Twelve Walks in the Otter Valley.**

The area of the Lower Otter Valley is covered by a network of footpaths, mostly waymarked and in good condition. OVA members have compiled these walks, each with clear directions and illustrated with a sketch map. They range from 4 mile easy walks to a more energetic 9½ miler. There are notes on places of interest to whet your appetite for further exploration.

£2.50 from your village rep (or plus £1.00 P&P)



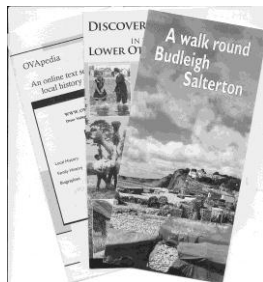
## **Historical Guide to the Lower Otter Valley**

Want to know more about the area you live in or are visiting? This book is packed with detailed information about the places, buildings, people and natural history of this beautiful area, from the very earliest times to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

£3.50 from your village rep (or plus £1.50 P&P)

See our website [ova.org.uk](http://ova.org.uk) or from

Booksales, OVA, PO Box 70, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6WN



## **Leaflets**

The OVA also publish a number of (free) leaflets about the history, flora & fauna and walking the villages of our area of interest in the lower Otter Valley. They can usually be found in the Tourist Information Centre and in other outlets around the valley.

# The Otter Valley Association

## Executive Committee (01395)

|                        |                |        |
|------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Chairman (acting)      | Nicola Daniel  | 445960 |
| Vice-chairman          | Haylor Lass    | 568786 |
| Hon Secretary (acting) | David Daniel   | 445960 |
| Treasurer              | Roger Saunders | 443248 |

### *Committee Chairmen*

|                     |                  |        |
|---------------------|------------------|--------|
| Natural Environment | Patrick Hamilton | 445351 |
| Events              | Nicola Daniel    | 445960 |
| History             | David Daniel     | 445960 |

### *Parish Representatives (to whom queries should be addressed initially)*

|                    |                  |        |
|--------------------|------------------|--------|
| Budleigh Salterton | John Jones       | 443651 |
|                    | George Maddaford | 446077 |
| East Budleigh      | Christine Hadley | 443607 |
| Otterton           | <i>Vacancy</i>   | 568274 |
| Colaton Raleigh    | <i>Vacancy</i>   |        |
| Newton Poppleford  | Haylor Lass      | 568786 |

### *Other EC Members*

|                             |                  |        |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------|
| Assistant Minutes Secretary | Robert Wiltshire | 444395 |
| Membership Secretary        | Clive Bowman     | 446892 |
| Publicity Secretary         | Lynne Wright     | 442703 |

### *Other contacts*

|                         |                |        |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Webmaster               | Alan Huddart   | 446761 |
| Talks Organiser         | Graham Knapton | 445872 |
| Walks Organiser         | John Jones     | 443651 |
| Newsletter Distributors | Jenny Young    | 444090 |
|                         | Chris Hagger   | 442631 |

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