

# OTTER VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PO Box 70 Budleigh Salterton EX9 6WN  
[www.ova.org.uk](http://www.ova.org.uk)



Celebrate the Anniversaries  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty ~ 50 years  
South West Coast Path ~ 40 years

## Spring Newsletter

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# Contents

	Page
Editor's Jottings	3
Members. past, present, & absent	4
Events - and response slip	
Colyton Town Walk	5, 6
Midsummer Buffet	7
Local Voices	8
Himalayan Balsam	9
AONB 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	10 - 12
Activities, April - June	11, 12
Trustees Report and AGM Agenda	15 - 18
Activities, July - September	19, 20
Reports	
3,000 Years of History from the Sea	21
Environmental Aspects of the River Otter	22 - 25
Marine Treasure of Lyme Bay	26
Beach Care	27
In the footsteps of Peter Orlando Hutchinson	28, 29
World Events and the Weather	30
Publications, inside back cover	31
Committee & Contacts	32

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The cover photo, and most others in this edition,  
were supplied by Mo Bowman. Thank you, Mo.

The next issue will be published in July:  
copy needs to be with the editor by **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July**, please.

# Editor's Jottings

**T**HERE are lots of reports in this issue of the interesting events and walks that the OVA has been involved in over the last few months - I am always grateful to our contributors. And the usual list of events to come and the calendar listing of activities. Please note the events which need a response from you – you need to make applications in good time if you're not to be disappointed: the majority of our events are a sell-out.

Firstly, I must draw your attention to the **AGM**. It will be at **7.30pm on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May** in the Peter Hall at Budleigh Salterton (and we'd love it to be a sell-out!). The Agenda and the Trustees Report are included as the pull-out centre pages of this Newsletter. Full reports and minutes of the previous AGM will be available at the meeting, or on the website ova.org.uk. Do come, and think about the chairman's plea for volunteers – incidentally, I am still only **acting** editor!

The business part of the meeting will be followed by wine and nibbles and then a talk called: "Weird and Wonderful events in the history of the Otter Valley". A short illustrated talk by David Daniel, our OVApedia moderator, describing some of the interesting things he has learned about the history of the valley and its people. In the course of compiling OVApedia he and Robin Holt, OVA archivist, have read every article.

**A formal reminder:**– nominations for Officers and Executive Committee must be lodged with the Secretary (list on back cover) fourteen days before the meeting, so get your skates on! We particularly need village reps for Otterton and Colaton Raleigh. If you feel you could help in a small way, but don't want to make a full commitment, have a word with any of the committee members about sharing the work of one of the interest groups.

Two countryside anniversaries this year – the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is 50 years old and the South West Coast Path is celebrating 40 years of its 630-mile long distance way. I trust you will get out and enjoy them both many times during the year – get a map, pack a picnic and go – there are plenty of guide books and leaflets available in the tourist offices. But if you want a more organised approach with a leader/guide, look at our activities listing (also in handy pull-out form, after the AGM). Plenty there for everyone, and I'll be 'Taking the Bus for a Walk' to respond to the AONB's suggestion of walking the East Devon Way, Exmouth to Lyme Regis. Will you join me? **Haylor Lass**

# Keep in Touch ~ a plea from Clive Bowman

Have you moved house, or are you moving? Have you lost touch with friends within the OVA? If so, please remember to let the Membership Secretary know your new address. Just because you have moved, even out of the area, it doesn't mean you have to leave the OVA, and not keep up-to-date with what the OVA is doing.

By letting the Membership Secretary know your new address, they can either change the distributor to the one that delivers in your area, or arrange for the newsletter to be posted, even at today's increased postal charges.

There are members of the OVA not just locally, but all over the UK, people who want to know what is happening in our valley. It is also a good way to keep in touch with people, come and join a walk or talk, we will always make you welcome.

If you know someone who enjoys our valley but is not a member, you can always make membership a gift, something they can appreciate through the newsletter and your kind thought. We have several members who pay subscriptions as an ongoing gift, and our membership charges are very low in comparison to the benefits members enjoy.

Okay, sales pitch over, but please remember to keep the Membership Secretary updated with changes, especially for some of our longer standing members. It's very easy, either through the post box, OVA, PO Box 70, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6WN or email [info1@ova.org.uk](mailto:info1@ova.org.uk).

**\*\*\*\*\* Wanted \*\*\*\*\***

We have lost touch with Miss CE Steen, who lived in Station Road in Sidmouth. If anyone knows her new address, or can put us in touch with her, please let us know, either through the website or by post.

We have been told she moved in December 2004, but her membership payment is still up-to-date.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Cyril Shere

We note with regret the death of Cyril Shere. He gave three memorable talks to the association "Farming in Devonshire", "The Hebrides" and "A Devon Farmer Looks Back". In the nineties he also was a walks leader. We send our condolences to his widow. He will be a character who will be very much missed in the OVA and the community.

# “The Most Rebellious Town in Devon”

Colyton Town Tour and Country Walk

with Tony Burges

10.30 am Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Yes, it is time to venture once more into ‘*they foreign parts*’ with our favourite guide Tony Burges. This year Tony will lead us on a tour around the rich and ancient sites of the 8<sup>th</sup> century Saxon settlement Colyton Town before setting off on a 5 mile circular country walk along the river Coly Valley over the hills and far away to partake of an al fresco picnic lunch. We then plan to return via the Umborne Brook Valley to Colyton for a cream tea as only the WI can bake!

Well behaved dogs are welcome to join in if kept under control on a lead! We will ‘car share’ and meet at the Colyton Town car park, Dolphin St. (just below Lloyds Bank) for a 10.30 am start, clad in stout footwear and dressed for the vagaries of an English summer.

*continued overleaf*



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## **Colyton Town Tour and Country Walk** **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013 10.30am**

Please send me ..... tickets

Name(s) .....

Address .....

and postcode .....

tel: ....., email .....

I/we can offer ..... seats in our car / I/we would like a lift with others.....

I am willing to allow my email address/telephone number to be disclosed to other OVA members for the purposes of car sharing. *Tick box*

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... (£10.00 per person) payable to OVA and a **Stamped Addressed Envelope (reply address overleaf)**

We may have to be a little flexible with the itinerary depending on the weather conditions or footpath closures etc. but for those on a time table we anticipate returning for our cream tea by 3.30pm and setting off for home before 4.30pm

Price of the walk to include the homemade WI scones, jam and cream tea is £10.00 per person, with Tony kindly donating his fee for the day to the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.

**Devon Air Ambulance Trust**



For booking details see the application form overleaf, and send it with your cheque to Caroline Allen at the address below:  
tel: 01395 446726 email:  
[trinesandsextiles@btinternet.com](mailto:trinesandsextiles@btinternet.com)

Please indicate on the booking form if you have seats to offer in your car, or if you wish to be given a lift. And don't forget to bring a picnic lunch!



Ticket application for the **Colyton Town Tour and Country Walk**

**Caroline Allen  
Pebbles Edge  
2 Marine Parade  
Budleigh Salterton  
EX9 6NS**

and don't forget the **SAE**

# OVA Midsummer Buffet

Once again we are holding an evening midsummer buffet at East Devon Golf Club on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm for 7.00pm. The price will include a welcome drink and a fabulous cold buffet. The setting is beautiful with a terrace looking out towards the cliffs and sea. We hope that we are having all the bad weather now and this year the summer weather will be better than last and we will be able to enjoy drinks on the terrace! Please come and join us indicating who you would like to sit with. Vegetarian food will be available. The Golf Club have kindly kept the price to that of last year - £26.00 - and it is very reasonable for such food in such a setting with such good company.



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**The OVA Midsummer Buffet**  
**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2013 – 6.30pm**  
**East Devon Golf Club**

Please send me ..... tickets (*includes welcome drink and dinner*)

Name(s) .....

.....

Address .....

and postcode .....

tel: ..... email .....

I/We wish to sit with: .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... (£26 per person) payable to OVA  
and a **Stamped Addressed Envelope**

Numbers limited so reply early **to address overleaf**

# Local Voices 2013 ~ Exe Poets

Following the success of last September's Local Voices, writers will once again have an opportunity to read their stories and poetry at an evening performance during Budleigh's Gala Week in May. It will be the second time that the OVA has sponsored such an event and shows their commitment to support the wealth of local literary talent.

Poets and authors from Budleigh Salterton and neighbouring communities within the Otter Valley area will be gathering together in Budleigh to read and perform their work which will include a wide range of prose and poetry. Writers' groups represented will be the Budleigh Writers' Circle, the East Devon Writers' Group, the Salem Players and the Exmouth Writers. The evening promises to be a literary treat and will be hosted by the OVA's David Daniel.

The performances will start at 6.00pm on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May in the Church on the Green, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton. Entrance is free with refreshments available during the interval.

Do come along to support our local wordsmiths.



Ticket application for the **OVA Midsummer Buffet**

**Mo Bowman  
OVA  
PO Box 70  
Budleigh Salterton  
EX9 6WN**

and don't forget the **SAE**



# The Himalayan Balsam Project

**A** YEAR AGO I wrote of a possible Himalayan Balsam (HB) project in the Otter Valley, to be sponsored by the Environment Agency (EA) and DEFRA. I made a call for volunteers. Our OVA aim was the clearance of this invasive species from the tributaries from Newton Poppleford to the sea. Since then a lot has happened, as those who attended St Peter's Church on 16<sup>th</sup> February will know. In the event, there was only partial funding from DEFRA in 2012. Nonetheless the EA commissioned the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG; Roland Stonex) to lead the project and this they did, focussing in that first year, on "our patch". They arranged work parties with the Probation Service to work in tandem with OVA volunteers, as well as producing digital maps of the distribution of HB throughout the catchment. The RSPB and Bickton College also assisted. I have placed an illustrated report of the year's activities online at the OVA website ([www.ovapedia.org.uk](http://www.ovapedia.org.uk); click "Himalayan Balsam Project"; then "HB 2012 Report"). In brief, HB was almost cleared from three of the tributaries: the **Colaton Raleigh brook** (by the OVA and Probation Service), the **Knowle Brook** (by "Budleigh in Bloom" under Bob Wiltshire); and the **Back Brook** into Newton Poppleford by Ted Swan and NP parish council (in the village), Rob Jones (an OVA member; Hawkerland) and the RSPB (Aylesbeare). The two untouched tributaries are the Otterton brook (probably clear) and the Budleigh brook where, sadly, a badly infested area was found late in the season in Yettington.

The plan for 2013 is to consolidate on these gains while FWAG move to the headwater areas. Complete removal is almost impossible, but our hope is to emulate the Tale Valley Trust which has achieved admirable control as a result of 8 years of careful activity (see their website).

## **Volunteers**

The probation service team will be operating with FWAG in the headwaters this year so the cry is for more volunteers from the OVA! As last year, there will be maximum flexibility as some cannot work on weekdays while others can. If 30 volunteers were to put in one morning or afternoon once a month for 5 months (from June), we would comfortably meet our aims. If you think that you can help, even if only once, please contact me at 01395-445351 or [pat@bishopdams.f2s.com](mailto:pat@bishopdams.f2s.com). **Please also see our website for dates and times** as the summer progresses.

Patrick Hamilton, Natural Environment Committee

# AONB ~ 50 not out!

The First Fifty Years of the  
East Devon Area of  
Outstanding Natural Beauty

by Donald Campbell

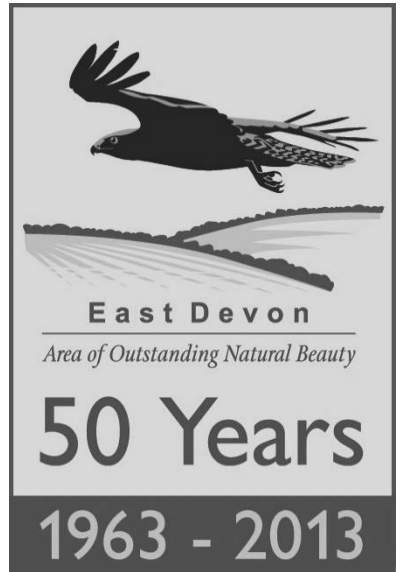
Part One - Designation and the  
start of management

## *Our lot is cast in a pleasant land*

This, the first of two articles on the AONB, is largely based on a 'Designation History' compiled by Ray Woolmoor on behalf of Natural England in 2009.

This history begins with surprise that there had been no mention of Devon landscapes when the National Parks or 'Addison' Committee reported to the first Labour government in 1931. However, a 1932 CPRE report did indicate that some people felt strongly about Devon: "Our lot is cast in a pleasant land. We have a godly heritage. It is for us and for those visitors who love it only less dearly than ourselves to pass it on unspotted to those who come after us."

Throughout the 30s groups of leisure enthusiasts lobbied the Government for measures to protect and allow access to the countryside, and the war promoted further idealism and a desire for a 'Better Britain'. In John Dower's 1945 Report, National Parks in England and Wales', the fine landscape of East Devon was recognised as part of a proposed Blackdown Hills Amenity Area and later in the year the new Labour Government established its National Parks Committee. The renamed Sidmouth Bay Conservation Area was extended to include coastlines east of Seaton and west of Sidmouth. With National Parks the priority, it was not until 1953 that the Sidmouth Bay area came up as a possible AONB. As Committees sat, deliberated and went, North and South Devon emerged as more important, until Brigadier P B Acland (there is now an AONB Acland Award), expressed his belief that the scenic value of the East Devon coast and its hinterland was as great, if not greater, than that of North and South Devon.



## ***Boundary discussions***

Field meetings and discussions about boundaries followed but both Somerset and Devon County Councils feared that too large an area of potential landscape would devalue any designation and a Council map in 1959 proposed a reduced, largely coastal, AONB of 61 rather than 184 square miles. In 1960 Field Officer L J Watson wrote in detail about the potential boundaries and after comments about ‘undistinguished and characterless Seaton’ wrote that there would be something to be said for including Beer in the AONB were it not for the ‘shocking disfigurement of the caravan camp sprawled out over the cliffs’. After considering Watson’s report the National Parks Commissioners again examined the area and concluded that much enclosed agricultural land in the Blackdown Hills was neither natural nor up to the required standard. Later the County Planning Committee suggested the exclusion of Sidmouth but the inclusion of Budleigh Salterton and the coast immediately west.

A designation map was agreed in 1961 and after further consultation Axminster RDC were successful in their wish to include the Axe Valley and an area around Uplyme, while the Nature Conservancy used the biological value of Venn Ottery Common as a reason for its inclusion. Finally, on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1963 Sir Keith Joseph, Minister of Housing and Local Government, confirmed that East Devon should become the 14<sup>th</sup> AONB with, finally, an area of 103 square miles.

## ***Heritage Coast and East Devon Way***

It wasn’t until 1984 that any special management service was introduced. It was then that the Lyme Bay coast was among the 34 chosen by the Countryside Commission as a Heritage Coast. The success of the East Devon Heritage Coast Service encouraged the County and District Councils to establish an AONB-wide service and, working with landowners, farmers and, particularly, the Ramblers’ Association, established the East Devon Way and adopted the foxglove logo. Our then President, Norman Barnes, on behalf of EDDC, wrote a guide to the 40-mile route between Exmouth and Lyme Regis, which was produced in April 1993.

Soon after Nicky and I moved to Devon I was working with Norman on the Undercliffs before suddenly finding myself Chairman of AVDCS. Among my first actions were meetings with Geoff Jones, Rural affairs



Officer and now one of our Vice-Presidents, and Nic Butler, Heritage Coast Officer, to begin to plan ways forward. They, like the authors of a Countryside Commission publication 'The East Devon Landscape' (1993), were well aware of problems within the beautiful landscape, with many parishes without a shop, a school, a medical practice or a daily bus service suitable for travel to and from work.

### ***Issues and a Management Plan***

On 29<sup>th</sup> January 1993 the first meeting of a Joint Advisory Group (JAG), with 13 organisations represented, supported the production of a Management Plan and consultation began that summer when Geoff and Nic took an exhibition 'Making the Landscape Work' around towns and villages throughout the district. 1500 attended the exhibitions and evening discussions at 19 locations, with running debates providing entertainment as well as informed comment. Agriculture inevitably raised many important issues with the question: "Can farming move forward whilst at the same time conserving the protected landscape?", frequently asked, whilst the farmers were disappointed by the poor public understanding of their industry.

Examples of other issues in the JAG report were:

- Forestry: Problems with the lack of management in small broadleaved woodlands and with the conifers on traditionally heathland hilltops.
- Natural Environment: Feeling of a lack of monitoring and appropriate management together with a continued loss of semi-natural habitats.
- Water and Coastal Resources: Here there were issues with noise and caravans and expressions of the need for conservation of marine wildlife.
- Built Environment: Stricter planning controls were needed as there was too much development.
- Tourism and Recreation: There was a shortage of traffic-free cycleways and underuse of public transport.
- Rural Economy: The shortage of shops, schools and bus services cropped up again, and there was support for small businesses and the provision of local foodstuffs.
- Transport: The poor provision for cyclists was repeated and problems of increased traffic on unsuitable country lanes was raised.

**Many of these issues remain today (!)**, but to varying degrees others have been helped by money from the Sustainable Development Fund and Making it Local, as will be described in the next Newsletter.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April – 10.30am. WALK (Moderate)**

Lyme Regis CP, SY338921 (top of hill on west side - X53 bus arrives at 10.19am). An interesting urban literary walk in the lovely coastal town of Lyme Regis. Margaret will explore the town and seek out the inspiration that Jane Austen found for her last completed novel “Persuasion”. Not suitable for dogs. If using the bus return times are at 12.54 and 14.54pm. Walk will not take place in the rain, contact Margaret Read 01392 759332.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic)**

East Budleigh CP, SY065849. 9 miles, 4½ hours. A varied walk giving an ever changing perspective using the coast path, local roads and tracks. Visiting Ladram Bay, High Peak and Windgate then returning inland via Otterton and Bicton. Some hilly sections, could be muddy.

*Walk leader:* Mike Paddison 01395 446550

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May - 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Castle Lane (limited parking, share cars if possible), SY043823. 4½ miles, 2½ to 3 hours. Walk to Littleham church via the golf course and cliff path for a short conducted tour of the church and churchyard including a look at Lady Nelson’s grave. Return along disused railway track, may be muddy.

*Walk leader:* Hazel Harland 01395 445665

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May – 2.00pm - Bluebell Walk**

The Norman Lockyer Observatory car park (SY 139 883)

Guides from the Sid Vale Association will lead us up to Soldier’s Hill Wood to view the display of bluebells which are usually at their best at this time of year. Approx 1½ miles, 2 hours.

Note: The path to the wood is quite steep with rough steps.

Contact: Graham Knapton 01395 445872

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – 7.30pm. OVA AGM**

Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton ~ *see centre pull-out pages*

Followed by “Weird and Wonderful events in the history of the Otter Valley”. A short illustrated talk by David Daniel

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic/Optional Lunch)**

The Exeter Green Circle Revisited, meet at Exeter Crematorium on Topsham Road – two walks in May and June revisiting Exeter’s Green Circle followed by an optional pub lunch. See a side of the city that will surprise and delight, some rough paths and gradients.

*Walk leader:* Bettina Wilson 01395 578450

**Activities Diary****May – June 2013****Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Joney's Cross CP SY057898 off A3052. 5 miles, 2½ hours. Including Aylesbere and Hawkerland. Footpaths and tracks over Nature Reserve and through woodland, some gradients and rough ground.

*Walk leader:* John Jones 01395 443651

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May – 6.00pm. Local Voices ~ Exe Poets - see page 8**

Church on the Green, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton.

Read and perform prose and poetry. Hosted by OVA's David Daniel. Entrance free with refreshments available during the interval.

**Activities Diary****May – June 2013****Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Crookes Plantation, Stowford, SY 057866. 5 miles, 2½ hours. This is a popular local walk over Woodbury and Bicton commons giving lovely views over surrounding countryside.

*Walk leader:* George Norman 01395 442307

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June – 10.30am – Colyton Town Tour and Country Walk**

Colyton Town car park, Dolphin St. (just below Lloyds Bank)

Tony Burges will lead us on a tour around the rich and ancient sites of the 8<sup>th</sup> century Saxon settlement Colyton Town before setting off on a 5 mile circular country walk. *Details and application form, page 5*

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic)**

Newton Poppleford CP, SY086897. 7 miles, 4 hours. Circular walk on green lanes and commons visiting Venn Ottery, Metcombe and North Hill, returning via Venn Ottery Common and Benchams. There will be a stop for a sociable picnic lunch (bring your own packed lunch).

*Walk leader:* Jan Stuart 01395 568235

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic/Optional Lunch)**

The Exeter Green Circle Revisited, meet at **Exeter Bus Station** – the second of two walks revisiting Exeter's Green Circle followed by an optional pub lunch. See a side of the city that will surprise and delight, some rough paths and gradients.

*Walk leader:* Bettina Wilson 01395 578450

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June – 6.30pm. Midsummer Buffet**

East Devon Golf Club – enjoy summer drinks on the terrace and a full buffet supper together. *Details and application form is on page 7*

# Trustees Report of Activities

## Chairman's Introduction

I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all those who have contributed to make this a very rewarding year in these difficult times. I would like to especially thank the Executive Committee members who have helped me in so many ways. We also have approximately 70 members who help the OVA in some role, be it big or small; the walks leaders, newsletter editor, the newsletter co-ordinators and distributors, talks organiser, technical equipment organiser, events organisers, web-site monitor, wild life monitors, village representatives, monthly posters producer and distributors in the villages, etc. etc. We find however that, like a lot of organisations a few people are having to double up their jobs. We need more enthusiastic volunteers so I ask members again, to come forward and help, in a small, large, job-sharing capacity or any other way that they can contribute to maintain our success.

I feel I must address two major concerns of the Executive Committee (EC) which are interconnected. Firstly, the potential impact the new planning policies at both national and local level will have and are having now in our area of benefit. The EC has always felt we had protection living in the East Devon AONB with a World Heritage coastline, but it is deeply disturbed at the way events are unfolding. We get advice from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, of which the OVA is a member, and from Civic Voice, the Civic Trust replacement. The EC have been very complimentary of some planning applications which have taken the setting and effect on the local environment into account, but has had to object to many which have not. Budleigh Salterton and Otterton have town and village design statements, the area is in the AONB and the applicants and indeed the planning committee of EDDC have ignored these policies.

We would very much like anyone with an interest in planning and conservation to help the committee with the avalanche of planning applications. The Otter Valley Association is an organisation which has an important role to play in this beautiful part of the world.

The other great concern of the EC is that of the water quality of both the River Otter and the Budleigh Salterton and Ladram Bay beaches. The European Union will have tougher regulations in place in 2015 and there is the possibility that Budleigh Salterton will become one of the south west's

20 failed beaches. The problem has, of course, been accentuated by the wet weather but the EC are very aware that building more houses in all the communities from Ottery St Mary to the Otter-mouth with more water drain-off plus the intensification of farming can only make the water quality situation worse with accompanying flooding problems.

This year the OVA initiated a project to install Interpretation Panels with information on the World Heritage Coast, the River Otter and the town of Budleigh Salterton in the revamped Jubilee Shelter on Budleigh Salterton seafront. I must thank the Project Manager Helen Tickle who secured funding from several agencies and Clinton Devon Estates and supervised the layout of the panels. These panels have proved very successful with visitors studying them intently in the summer months.

The OVA were very pleased to receive a legacy from Barbara Primmer and the EC have used some of this money to help fund 2 Interpretation Panels at the Ottermouth. The panels are illustrated with beautiful pictures of birds. This is very apt as Barbara did illustrations for the OVA in the past.

The EC agreed to combine with Colaton Raleigh Parish Council to fund and install a plaque in memory of Alan Jones on the new bridge over the Otter near Colaton Raleigh. Alan served on the EC and the Parish Council for many years and was active on Footpath committees.

The OVA, after representation from members, sponsored a very successful day before the Literary festival focusing on local amateur writing talent.

## Events

The Events Committee have put together a very varied programme which has been well supported. I must thank John Jones for all his hard work in organising the local walks programme. He has carried out this task for over 4 years and has put together an interesting mix of walks, suitable for all ages and fitness levels. He will pass on the baton to Chris Buckland and Mike Paddison, both keen walkers. This year has been particularly difficult for walks leaders with the rainfall making the footpaths so wet and sometimes impassable.

Out of our area Tony Burges led a walk, this time to Abbotsbury and Lyme Regis with the customary cream tea, organised by Mo Bowman. Haylor Lass bravely explored the Exe estuary twice by public transport and did manage to get everyone safely home. Caroline Allen and Rosemary Jerrard organised a Bronze Age walk led by Phil Planel.



Walks in our area but slightly different to our usual programme have included a Walk with Words, taken by Michael Downes around Budleigh Salterton, in conjunction with Fairlynch Museum; the Boxing day Walk with pub lunch; a tour of Littleham Church and Churchyard with Hazel Harland; Robin Harford led a group of foragers along the banks of the Otter, organised by Caroline Allen; a Budleigh Salterton Town Walk in conjunction with Active Budleigh Festival led by David Daniel. Lizzie Everett-Wright repeated the Map and Compass course with Tony Burges but this time nearer home on Woodbury Common. The East Devon Golf Club was the venue for the Midsummer Buffet, a superb buffet but unfortunately dreadful weather.

Graham Knapton has organised a stimulating programme of talks varying in subject from the Restoration of Castle Drogo to 3000 years of History from the Sea. The Migratory Birds on the Exe Estuary talk was arranged in conjunction with a boat trip on the estuary looking at the birds with a RSPB guide. The Beach Care talk was organised to take place a couple of weeks before the Litter Pick. Graham again arranged a Saturday morning series of 3 Talks on the Environmental Aspects of the River Otter with speakers from Clinton Devon Estates and other agencies. The St. Peter Church accommodated the large audience. The OVA has joined with Friends of Fairlynch Museum to have a series of talks which would interest members from both our charities and this has proved very successful with sharing costs and increasing audiences.

I thank all the committee members and regretfully say goodbye to Gill Speare who has worked so hard for 11 years on the committee. We would welcome new members with new ideas. It is a very enjoyable committee, very informal with tea and cakes at the meetings.

Nicola Daniel

## Natural Environment

Spring 2012 saw the initiation of the Otter Valley Himalayan Balsam (HB) Project, managed by the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG-SW) for the Environment Agency. They focussed this year on “our patch” and OVA volunteers put in 234 man-hours of pulling, along with groups from the Probation Service and Bicton College in a largely successful attempt to clear the Colaton Raleigh brook.

Our Minutes Secretary, Bob Wiltshire did likewise with volunteers from “Budleigh in Bloom” on the Knowle Brook, while Rob Jones and Ted

Swan (OVA members) attacked the Hawkerland and lower reaches (respectively) of Newton Poppleford's Back Brook, with the RSPB working on the Aylesbeare reach of the tributary. In 2013 the aim will be to consolidate while FWAG move on to the headwater zone of the Otter. Volunteers are again needed so that last year's efforts are not wasted! Progress will be reported on the OVA website, as last year.

Contacts made during this activity came together in the OVA meeting focusing on the Otter's ecology, held in St Peter's church in February. Discussion was lively (*see report on pages 22-25*).

In early February a new Ecology group was set up by Scott West and representatives of environmental groups throughout the valley, including the OVA.

The Natural Environment Committee has lost two members this year and would welcome anyone with an interest in environmental issues.

Patrick Hamilton

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The Trustees Report incorporating the audited Accounts, together with the minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting will be available at the AGM

## **Otter Valley Association**

**The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm  
on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in the Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton.**

### **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 2 May 2012**
- 3. Matters arising**
- 4. Annual Report including Trustees Report and Accounts**
- 5. Election of Officers**
- 6. Election of Executive Committee Members**
- 7. Appointment of Independent Examiner**
- 8. Any Other Business**
- 9. Date of next AGM**

The meeting will be followed by refreshments and a short illustrated talk by David Daniel, "Weird and Wonderful events in the history of the Otter Valley".

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

White Bridge, SY076830. 5 miles, 2½ hours. Pleasant walk covering both coast and river to Otterton and return. Coast path (exposed), Monks Wall, Otterton and Park Lane.

*Walk leader:* George Norman, 01395 442307

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – 2.00pm. WALK (Moderate)****Take the Bus for a Walk\* ~ The East Devon Way**

Celebrate the AONB's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by walking it end to end in five weekly stages, using the bus to get to the start/home from the finish\*.

Certificate from the AONB for all who complete the whole length.

**Stage 1 – Exmouth and the Estuary.** A gentle start with a two-hour 4 mile afternoon walk along the estuary to Lypstone then inland via A La Ronde to Brixington. Start Exmouth Bus Station at 2.00pm (Bus 157 13.01 at Newton Poppleford, 13.29 from Budleigh Salterton). Walk to Brixington Dinan Way/Jubilee Drive, SY016835. Return bus 57 and 157, arrive back in Budleigh 17.25, Newton Poppleford 17.49

*Walk leader:* Haylor Lass, 01395 568786

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July – 10.00am.**

Otter Inn CP, SY078874. 6 miles, 3 hours. Circular walk through Back Lane, Stowford and on to the Commons incl. a visit to Woodbury Castle.

*Walk leader:* John Jones, 01395 443651

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August – 11.00am. WALK All Day (Energetic+picnic)  
The East Devon Way\* ~ Stage 2 – Brixington to Newton Poppleford.**

Start at Brixington Dinan Way/Jubilee Drive, SY016835 at 11.00am (bus 157 10.01 at Newton Poppleford, 10.29 from Budleigh Salterton, bus 57 to Dinan Way/Jubilee Drive). Walk, 10 miles across the Pebblebed Heaths, with a picnic lunch stop, to the Playing Field at Newton Poppleford, SY089899. Return bus 157 arrives back in Budleigh 17.44.

*Walk leader:* Haylor Lass, 01395 568786

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August – 9.30am. WALK All Day (Energetic+picnic)  
The East Devon Way\* ~ Stage 3 – Newton Poppleford to Hare & Hounds (Putts Corner).**

Start walk at the Playing Field at Newton Poppleford, SY089899 at 9.30am. (Bus 157 09.00 from Budleigh Salterton arrives NP 9.25). Walk, 10 miles over Beacon Hill to Sidbury lunch stop, then Buckton Hill and Roncombe to Hare & Hounds at Putts Corner, SY145962.

Return bus 52 16.38 at Hare & Hounds, arrives Newton Poppleford 17.24, change Exeter Cross, Sidmouth to arrive back in Budleigh 17.44.

*Walk leader:* Haylor Lass, 01395 568786

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

East Budleigh CP, SY065849. 5 miles, 2½ hours. Local walk up Hayes Lane, through the woods and over the commons returning via Yettington.

*Walk leader:* Stan Herbert, 01395 445113

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August – 10.00am. WALK All Day (Energetic+picnic)**

**The East Devon Way\* ~ Stage 4 – Hare & Hounds to Colyford.**

Start at Hare & Hounds, SY145962 at 10.12 (bus 52 from NP at 09.28).

Walk, 9½ miles via Northleigh, Farway and Colyton to Colyford (tram stop) SY254927. Return bus X53 17.08 at Colyford, arrive NP 17.52

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August – 10.00am. WALK All Day (Energetic+picnic)**

**The East Devon Way\* Stage 5 (final) – Colyford to Lyme Regis.**

(Bus X53 from Newton Poppleford at 09.11), walk from Colyford

SY254927 at 09.57, 8½ miles via Musbury and Uplyme to Lyme Regis.

Celebratory cream tea at Lyme Regis?! Return bus X53 16.53 as before.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Crook Plantation, Stowford SY 057866 5½ miles 3 hours

Commons, Kingsell Lane, Canterbury Green Plantation and Hawkerland.

An unusual route including some rewarding but rarely visited parts of the Commons. Can be muddy in places.

*Walk leader:* Brian Turnbull, 01395 567339

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September – 10.00am. WALK (Energetic/picnic)**

East Budleigh CP, SY065849. 8 miles, 4 hours. A three lake walk at this season of mellow fruitfulness visiting the local beauty spots of Bystock Ponds, Squabmoor Reservoir and Black Hill Quarry with a stop for a sociable picnic lunch (bring your own packed lunch).

*Walk leader:* Jan Stuart, 01395 568235

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September – 10.00am. WALK (Moderate)**

Local walk, details to be advised

*Walk leader:* Mike Paddison, 01395 446550

**\*NB** Bus times are subject to new timetables due out in April – **check next newsletter**. It is possible to take your car to the finish points of these walks and get the bus to the start, but fix your own parking and timetable.

# From One Collection of Old Wrecks to Another '3,000 Years of History from the Sea'

Otterton 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012

**T**HIS TALK attracted one of our best turn-outs in recent times, drawing 63 persons from their regular viewing of Coronation Street.

The Event proved to be a fascinating account of Marine Archaeology mainly in the South West. What made it all the more interesting was that two of the divers', namely Ron Howel and Andy Elliot, were actually giving us the interactive lecture, "Please feel free to ask questions as I go along!" We took them at their word.

They put a whole new meaning to 'The Riches of the Sea'. No longer were we thinking fish and such other slippery customers. The riches were now gold coins, gold artifacts, and tin ingots of great purity, ancient cannon and other weapons used by 'men of fight'. Such objects dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century back to the Bronze Age (3,800 – 3,000).

We heard how their discoveries had to be reported to the Receiver of Wrecks and the process of bidding by the various museums. Also how they were obliged to by-pass private collectors and offer their finds to National Organizations at a greatly reduced return. However, the group was not disheartened as they only sought to cover their own costs.

The South West Maritime Archaeology Group is made up of divers who have developed a passion for history from the sea.



They have been successful and their efforts have been recognized internationally. They have attended award receiving visits to Buckingham Palace and frequently attend at the British Museum. Some of the history of Great Britain has been rewritten as a result of their findings.

Our thanks to Talks Organizer Graham Knapton and to Clive Bowman for setting up the Audio Visual.

Bob Wiltshire

# Environmental Aspects of the River Otter

**O**N SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> February 134 people came to a meeting at St Peter's Church arranged by the OVA Natural Environment Committee on four different yet connected subjects:

- Devon Wildlife Trust involvement with the Environment Agency;
- The Otter Valley Water Vole Project spearheaded by the East Devon District Council (EDDC) Countryside Services;
- Otter Valley Himalayan Balsam Project tackling the ever-more-serious problem that FWAG are involved in (a charitable organisation that farmers set up to promote environmental dimension of farming)
- Clinton Devon Estates (CDE) latest news on the Lower River Otter long term options for drainage and flood management.

Scott West spoke first from The Devon Wild Life Trust (DWT) regarding the strict environmental controls set by the EU. The River Otter starts at the Blackdown Hills and ends out to sea at Budleigh Salterton with several tributaries on the way. There is a short steep flooding catchment. We are fortunate that there are regular sightings of kingfishers, otters, water voles and fish. The Directive from the EU is to improve river quality and wild life and the aim for this area is to have a good ecological status by 2027.

DWT's objectives are to monitor, highlight failings and identify potential means of addressing them. For instance, DWT are committed to improve fish habitat in the River Otter and the need to address excess phosphates in the water due to agriculture pollution which will require long term advice for farmers and alteration in practice. DWT believes that some monies allocated by the British government are being spent in the wrong areas and that there is scope to reduce some duplication of effort with other organisations. Questions have also been raised about funding for some of these important targets if Britain were actually to leave the EU – who will pay? During the final question and answer part of the meeting there was the optimistic thought that salmon may one day be back in the River Otter with the help of forethought and weir fish ladders.



The second speaker was Jim Hunter from EDDC Countryside Services. He is a nature Reserve Ranger and part of the SWW Water Vole project. In 2006/7 there were no water voles in the River Otter, however with reintroduction re-colonised water voles are now back. Mink have had devastating effect on not just voles but also fish, and birds in this area. For monitoring purposes research clay rafts are now being used on the river. These have “tunnels” situated on the top of the raft so that when an animal goes through, the prints are taken to give evidence of voles or mink. Recently a volunteer co-ordinator has been employed by EDDC and it is hoped that more volunteers will be able to check the rafts and glean information from the evidence collected. In the second half of the meeting it was confirmed that mink were a definite pest to the river over a wide area, taking eggs as well as voles and often killing as much as they can at one time.



The third speaker was Roland Stonex from FWAG which is an advisory group set up to help farmers’ balance profitable farming with environmental responsibility. It is well respected and offers practical advice. The Environment Agency has been in discussion with FWAG regarding Himalayan Balsam. This invasive weed was introduced to this country via Kew Gardens as an ornamental plant. It thrives on river banks and quickly spreads and seeds are water borne, with early germination out-competing much natural flora, but then dying back in the winter without a root mass, leaving the river bank susceptible to erosion. All tributaries of the Otter have been walked and balsam areas mapped. The areas worst affected are from Colaton to the lower Otter.

Some significant contributions to eradication were noted from the OVA, Environment Agency staff, CDE and the probation service. 700 ‘man’ hours have been put in for the Colaton Raleigh area alone. The speaker gave advice on how to hand pull the balsam by breaking stems in two and hanging these to dry or by forming piles to compost (as long as flood plain is avoided!) If strimmed or scythed this must be done at the base or it will simply regrow. It is estimated that it will take several years to eradicate the same local areas and the programme is reliant on people coming back and clearing repeatedly. It requires the upper river bank areas to be fully cleared or the seeds will simply float down the river and grow again. Overall there is need for a local awareness campaign and for farmers and landowners to take responsibility as well as linking up with other organisations. In the later ‘questions and answers’ part of the meeting it was noted that Himalyan Balsam seed is viable for 2/3 years and is a problem for years to come unless managed effectively. It has been noticed that this weed is not only spreading along the river banks but farm ditch clearance and building work disturbs the plants and spreads the seed in mud on vehicle tyres.

The fourth speaker was John Wilding who is Head of Forestry and Environment at CDE. His topic was long term drainage and flood management of the River Otter. He referred to the Haycock report commissioned by CDE in 2009 and updated in 2010. He stated that the river was moving towards its more natural habitat and trying to get back to its original run. It has been 20 years since deep dredging which previously helped counteract the various man made obstructions such as the old land fill site in the middle area. But other contributing factors such as a dysfunctional drainage channel, rising sea levels and rising beach height have all contributed to the flooding problems. There has been significant erosion to the existing banks since 2005, attributed to Himalayan Balsam as discussed earlier and “dog runs”. The cricket club and some surrounding houses have experienced floods in July and twice in November 2012. A local farmer has tried to keep open the outflow into the sea but it is unclear how much longer this can be viable. The Haycock report highlights the fact that in this area there is a legacy of flood bank proximity to cliff face such that water is forced down across the old railway line and the river bed is building up. The existing flood plain is then overwhelmed and the cricket pitch area flooded. Several options have been discussed – including building a causeway

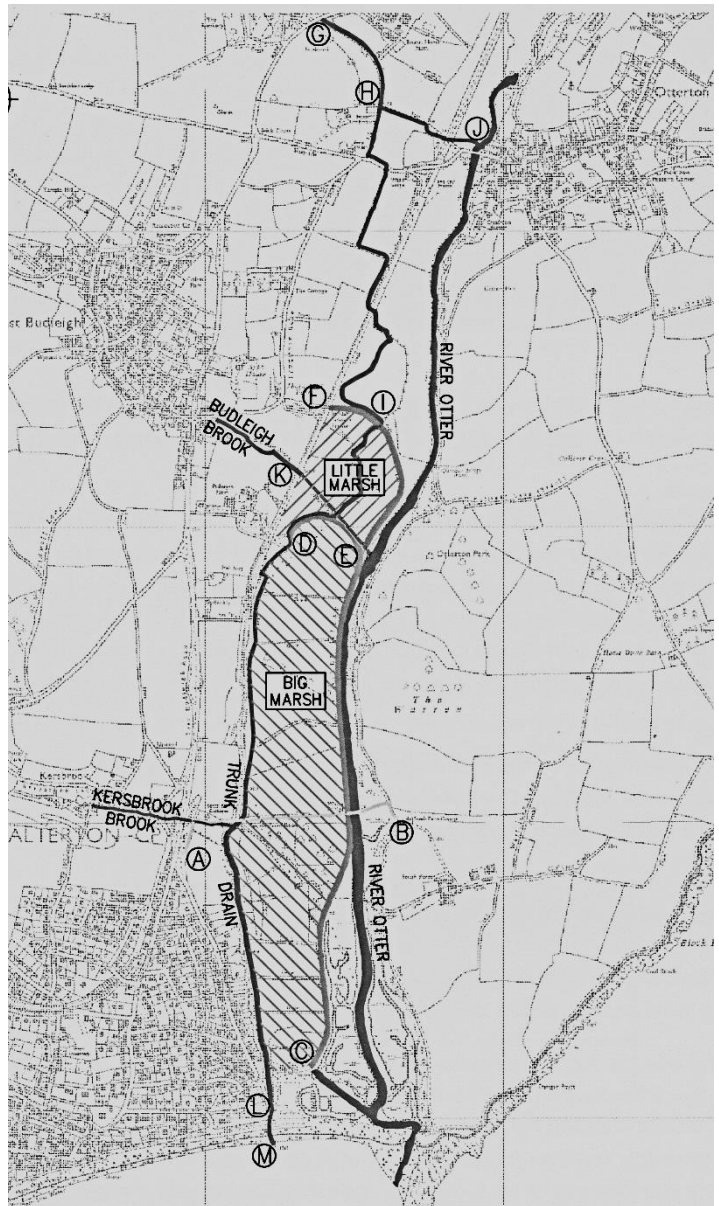


to South Farm by raising the level of the road, creating a fresh water lake in lower marsh and redressing the height of estuary and surrounding land. The Environment Agency is keen to see some of the Haycock report recommendations acted on; however it has implications for the most well used footpath in East Devon and information is still being gathered. The OVA hope to continue to be part of the planning group, representing the most interested users of the area.

After a welcome break for refreshment there was a question and answer session.

The questions were mainly aimed at the flooding problem and how we as a community can get involved and have our say regarding the planning of the management of the River Otter. The Cricket Club was aiming to continue using the ground for the present.

Sue Griffin



# Marine Treasures of Lyme Bay

Joint OVA/ Fairlynch Museum Lecture, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2013

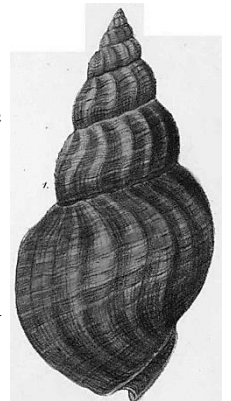
**T**HIS LECTURE by Richard White, Marine Advocacy Officer, attracted an audience of 64 persons. Richard has worked for the Devon Wildlife Trust for more than 17 years. As a diver he has an encyclopaedic knowledge of Lyme Bay particularly, but also north Devon. All his photos were taken by himself. Richard made particular mention of Henry John Carter, a mid 19<sup>th</sup> century resident of Budleigh Salterton, who was a geologist and naturalist. He had written books on the subjects, particularly about sponges. Perhaps this is why Marine Conservation Areas has become so evident in Lyme Bay. We were treated to pictures and descriptions of a plethora of birds, mammals, fish, molluscs, echiderms, bryozones and many other creatures and plant life. If you prefer, anything living above or below the waves. Some fish like the colourful Cuckoo Wrass, which would have looked more at home in a tropical lagoon, and of course the seahorse which lives in our waters. Also sunfish up to 500kgs in weight and basking sharks. Lyme Bay is a kaleidoscope of colour and marine life.

One of the greatest problems in these waters is the fishing for scallops, by dragging a plough like collecting basket along the seabed. The sea bottom in Lyme Bay is largely soft sedimentary rock, which soon becomes a flat barren waste where all marine life is destroyed, including rare and colourful sponges and corals. To save the seabed, marine conservation zones have been established, where scallop fishing is prohibited. Apart from Lyme Bay, other zones are found around Lundy Island.

Some interesting snippets for you, dear readers. Queen Scallops remain on the surface of the seabed, whilst King Scallops bury themselves in the sand. 2000 tonnes of whelks were harvested in this area in 2010. Of the value of fish caught in this area in 2010, of £44m, the value attributed to scallops was £10m. This is very much a growth market.

This was a most informative and interesting lecture, it attracted many questions from the floor, from a fascinated audience.

Bob Wiltshire



# Beach care and a Litter free coast

OVA Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> March at the Masonic Hall.

**U**NFORTUNATELY this important meeting clashed with another highly relevant one on the Penlee Lifeboat Disaster. Nevertheless the interested and informative audience derived a high degree of satisfaction from taking in all the useful information and the cross flow of ideas and suggestions on how Budleigh can take on board and act upon the views of Neil Hembrow and Matilda Bark who were giving this talk from Dorset Coast Forum and Keep Britain Tidy.org.

Suggestions of using local educational establishments in helping with beach cleaning is highly relevant, to back up what local residents are, and have been doing for years seems a sensible idea.

Involving the National Trust, East Devon District Council, Beach care and the Jurassic Coast World Heritage in a joint workable coalition surely is the way forward. Matilda's idea of achieving in this world of ours a "Low Carbon Heaven" rather than preaching the gloom of climate change is a positive one; putting stickers on litter bins thanking one for picking up their rubbish could be helpful in gaining support for the campaign.

Special days for local litter picking involving the whole community is one answer and this could be expanded to all areas of the country.

Budleigh Salterton has been leading the way – note our annual estuary litter pick, this year on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

John Payne

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## History Group

Thanks to a dedicated group of researchers, the OVApedia archive continues to expand and comprises well over 150 articles and nearly as many images. It has now become a significant research tool as well as archive. The text searching facility makes it possible to make connections, especially between local family names and events. A recent addition is an article on the history of the RM Commando camp at Dalditch. It has been written from mainly Royal Marine archive sources and it would be interesting to collect any local recollections before it is too late.

# In the footsteps of Orlando Hutchinson

19<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Brilliant, interesting, muddy! Just some of the words used by OVA members who were led in the footsteps of Peter Orlando Hutchinson by Phil Planel, the Heritage Projects Officers for the East Devon AONB Partnership. Phil led us through the intriguing Bronze Age landscape in Farway where we visited a number of burial mounds only recently cleared, thanks to the efforts of both land owners and volunteers.

He fascinated us explaining the history and archaeology of the area. At one point we stood on top of a mound and speculated on the occupants of the three burial mounds in a row. We were intrigued by stories of the Ring in the Mire, Victorian vandals and



grave robbing by American GIs (allegedly!!)

The terrain was pretty tough even for seasoned OVA walkers and we were all glad when following our assault onto the Farway Castle enclosure the going became a little easier. As we yomped towards our final goal, the Hare and Hounds, the sky clouded over but it wasn't until we reached our cars that the rain started. A brilliantly led and timed walk.

**Steve Hagger**

Phil also explained that the area was much more open in Peter Orlando's time, and *POH* had recorded it pictorially in watercolours – we are very grateful to be able to reproduce one on the next page ...

– although black & white printing doesn't really do it justice:



Hunter's Lodge, Putts Corner 1855 (now Hare & Hounds)  
with kind permission of the Devon Record Office and the POH Project

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## Bat Detectors *see what is flying in your garden!*

The OVA have purchased two bat detectors that are available for members to borrow. If you would like to use one please contact Roger Saunders by email ([rsrbioventures@aol.com](mailto:rsrbioventures@aol.com)). When picking up the detector you will need to provide a £60 cheque as a security deposit and a form of ID. Initially the loan period is limited to one week/loan. We will lend you the detector, with instructions for use and bat identification leaflets from the Bat Conservation Trust. We will also give you a log form to record bat sightings (or should it be hearings?). Filling out the form is entirely voluntary, but will help the OVA to keep a record of bat contacts in the area. The two detectors available are the Magenta Bat4.

# World Events and the Weather

Joint OVA/Fairlynych Museum talk at Peter Hall, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

The lecture was given by Nick Ricketts, retired meteorologist from the Meteorological Office.

**T**HIS WAS no gallop through the garden of global warming, nor was it a climb up the cliff of climate change. Such phenomena that we mistakenly believed, was the only thing that weather-men could talk about. This was a refreshingly new ball-game. The lecture turned out to be a fascinating history lesson, the aim of which was to show that the weather has influenced some of the biggest events in history. Either totally controlling the outcome or being a contributory factor.

The Norman Invasion. 1066. The weather delayed the invading Norman fleet for so long, that the defending army who were only contracted to fight for 40 days, ran out of time and went home.

The Mongol invasion of Japan. 1281. The invading fleet was destroyed by a typhoon, called a 'kamikaze' or 'divine wind': this name of course has modern day connotations. The plans were abandoned.

The Battle of Agincourt. 1415. The battlefield which had recently been ploughed, became a sea of mud, after heavy rain. The result was a victory for the English who were outnumbered 3 to 1. The French army became bogged down in the mud.

The Spanish Armada. 1588. Failed as the fleet was wind dependent and failed to make landfall. Eventually after circumnavigating the British Isles they returned to Spain, having lost half their fleet shipwrecked.

The Battle of Plassey. 1759. Rain wetted the gunpowder of the opposing side, enabling the British troops to win the battle.

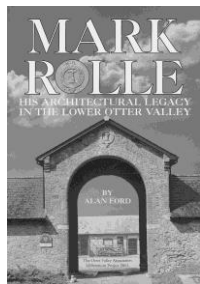
The French Revolution. 1789. Crop failure, due to the weather, was one of the contributory causes of this whole event.

The evacuation at Dunkirk. 1940. The good weather assisted the German advance, however the associated mist helped the evacuation to take place without too much interference by the German air force. 338,266 soldiers were evacuated which was a big boost to morale in UK.

In all these examples, Nick gave an extensive background to further clarify historic scenarios. Many of the facts he showed on the screen were quite unknown to the average person, which made it particularly interesting.

**Bob Wiltshire**

# 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.

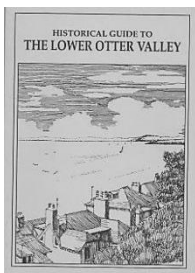
£4.95 from your village rep (or plus £2.00 P&P)



## **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 £2.00 P&P)



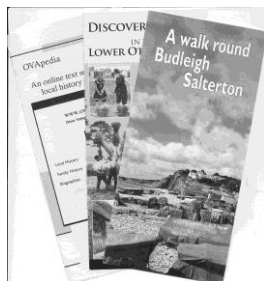
## **Historical Guide to the Lower Otter Valley**

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 £2.00 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 Popleford	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

Interim Newsletter Editor

Haylor Lass, tel 568786

**[haylor@lasses.me.uk](mailto:haylor@lasses.me.uk)**