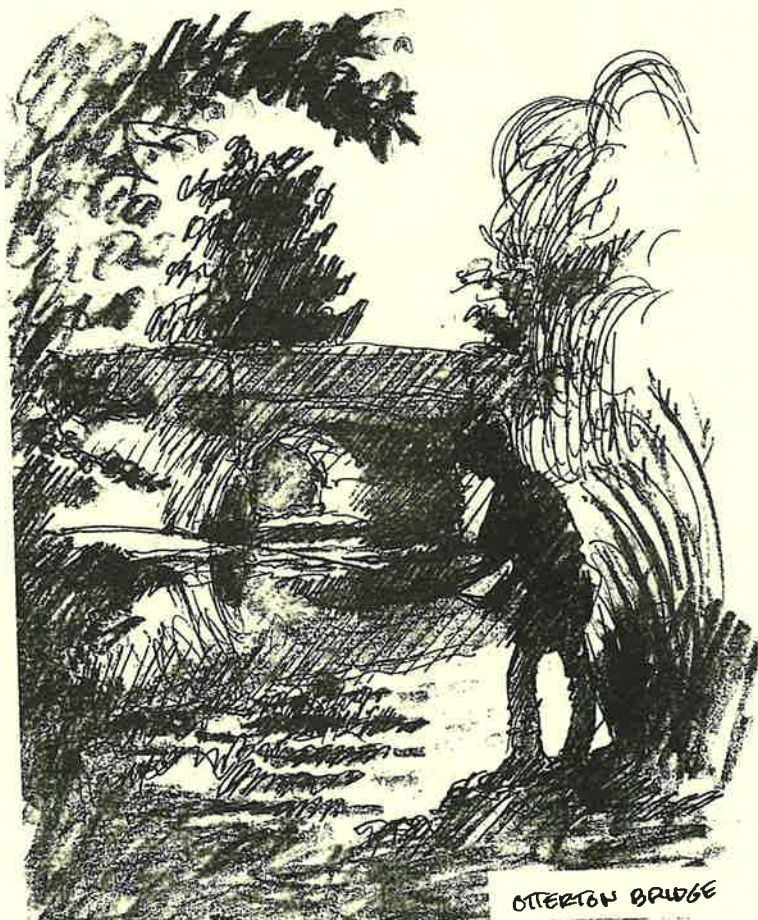


OTTER VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity no. 278266
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OTTERTON BRIDGE

VOLUME 25/3 JULY 2004

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
O.V.A. WALKS, JULY TO EARLY OCTOBER 2004

JULY 10th, SATURDAY 10 a.m. HAYES LANE CAR PARK, EAST BUDLEIGH, G.R.065849. 5 MILES, 2½ HOURS, EASY. RALEIGH COUNTRY, THE BELVEDERE, BAKERS BRAKE, HAYES WOOD, YETTINGTON, COLATON RALEIGH, GREEN LANES, LOCAL HISTORY.

Walk leader: STAN HERBERT, 01395-445648.

JULY 10th, SAT. 2 p.m. LIVONIA ROAD, SIDMOUTH, G.R.130887. GUIDED WALK ROUND SIDMOUTH MEADOWS, WITH BRIAN CALLOWAY. 2 HOURS EASY. BOOK WITH NICKY DANIEL ON 01395-445960.

JULY 21st, WEDNESDAY 10 a.m. COLATON RALEIGH CHURCH, G.R.082872. 6 MILES, 3 HOURS, ENERGETIC. RIVERSIDE, COASTAL, FINE VIEWS. *Walk leader:* BRIAN TURNBULL, 01395-567339.

AUGUST 7th, SATURDAY 10 a.m. WHITE BRIDGE, BUDLEIGH SALTERTON. G.R.076830. 2½ HOURS, EASY. ARTISTS' WALK; SHORT STOPS FOR QUICK SKETCHES AND LOCAL HISTORY. FINISH OTTERTON. *Walk leader:* JED FALBY, 01395-445455.

AUGUST 18TH, WEDNESDAY 10 a.m. HAYES LANE CAR PARK, EAST BUDLEIGH. G.R.065849. 5 MILES, 2½ HOURS, EASY. TOWN WALK AROUND THE ANCIENT VILLAGE OF EAST BUDLEIGH. LOCAL HISTORY. *Walk leader:* STAN HERBERT, 01395-445648.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Even a forward-looking association like ours should celebrate its past achievements - and with pride!

In March 1979, Charles Snow and Dr Anita Jennings first conceived the idea of an amenity society for the area. Within a month, the local press reported the launch of the Otter Valley Association at a public meeting attended by 125 people. This year we celebrate the vision of our founders, and gratefully recognise the contribution and achievements of hundreds of others who have freely and generously given their time and expertise to the Association during the last 25 years.

1979 was the year that Margaret Thatcher became our first woman Prime Minister. A lot of water has flowed under White Bridge since then. At the last count, over 10 per cent of the population of the Lower Otter Valley were OVA members. The OVA has organised, so far, over 400 walks introducing people to the outstanding network of footpaths and bridleways, which we also help to maintain. There have been nearly 200 OVA talks on everything from Smuggling to Stained Glass. We publish a selection of books and leaflets which are deservedly popular with members and visitors.

The OVA continues to interest and educate people in the flora and fauna of the area. Have you heard the nightjars on Woodbury Common? Here too we have

been an instrument for change, for example by supporting the building of the fish pass at Otterton Weir.

Successive OVA sub-committees have reviewed thousands of planning applications, written hundreds of thoughtful and constructive letters, and given evidence at planning enquiries. Although the powers-that-be do not always follow our recommendations, we have had our share of success. Perhaps even more important, they know we are watching!

So there is much to celebrate. By the time you read this the OVA 25th Anniversary Party at Bicton College will itself be history. Even if you weren't there, it's not too late to raise a glass and drink to the continuing health of the OVA!

Brian Turnbull

* * * * *

**MINUTES OF THE 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 13 MAY 2004 IN THE PETER HALL,
BUDLEIGH SALTERTON, AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Alan Ford (Chairman), Robert Sellin (Vice-Chairman, Brian Ludlow (Hon.Treasurer), John Saul (Hon Secretary), six Executive Committee Members and 48 members of the Association

1. Apologies for Absence: Frank Burton, Marjorie Burton, Jed Falby, Mo and Clive Bowman.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 May 2003 having been circulated (July 2003 Newsletter) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters Arising: there were none.

4. Chairman's Report

Following his report in the April Newsletter, the Chairman stressed two important matters which had occurred during the year.

One was the finalising of the AONB Management report which would strengthen the efforts of the Built and Natural Environment Sub-Committees.

The second was the final draft of the Budleigh Salterton Design Statement, which would be on display on June 12 and 13 for public inspection and, he hoped, approval.

He concluded by thanking all Committee members and others who had assisted him, in particular Rowan

Turnbull, Belinda Mountain and Alan Collier. He added that the post of Hon. Secretary had not as yet been filled.

5. Hon. Treasurer's Report

5.1 Copies of the Independent Examiner's report, the income and expenditure statement and the balance sheet were circulated in the Hall.

5.2 His comments included: the surplus was down on the previous year which had seen the sale of the Mark Rolle books in some quantity. A credit from the deferred income account was made each time a book was sold.

5.3 A total of 1021 publications had been sold, the efforts of Alan Collier in distributing these to outlets being a key factor.

5.4 EXPENDITURE Donations made included £1400 towards the Budleigh Salterton Design Statement. Two new publications had been produced: 'Lower Otter Riverside Walk' and a 'Walk Around East Budleigh'. These cost £900 and a grant from EDDC of £300 towards their production was much appreciated.

Increased costs from newsletter production and subscriptions to the Civic Trust had arisen.

5.5 There were no questions to the Hon Treasurer and approval of the Accounts was proposed by Brian Turnbull, seconded by Brian Hawkes and carried without dissent.

6. Vice-Chairman's Report

Robert Sellin congratulated the Chairman on his

period of office and thanked him for his 18 years involvement with the management of the OVA. His comments were received by members with acclamation.

The Chairman thanked the Vice-Chairman for his kind words and indicated that whilst he was moving to West Hill, Ottery St Mary, he hoped to remain as a member of the History Section.

7. Election of Officers

The Chairman announced the nominations (one per post) which had been formally proposed and seconded. All three Officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

Chairman	Brian Turnbull
Vice-Chairman	Robert Sellin
Hon. Treasurer	Brian Ludlow
(Hon. Secretary	No nomination)

8. Election of Executive Committee

Alan Ford announced the nominations which had been formally proposed and seconded. These were within the numbers specified in the Association's Rules and those nominated were duly elected. They are:

Brian Brown, Alan Jones, Clive Bowman
Nick Speare, Norman Crossland, Haylor Lass,
Philip Greenhow, Brian Hawkes (Membership),
Mo Bowman (Publicity).

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Brian Leveridge agreed to act in this capacity for a further year and was thanked for his work on the Accounts.

Brian Turnbull then took the Chair.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 He thanked those concerned with the evening's refreshments and reminded Members of the Cockington visit on 15 May, the choice of walks on 10 July and the 25th Anniversary Party at Bicton on 22 June (tickets from Rowan Turnbull).

10.2 Derek Rowland reminded members of the contribution made by Charles Snow (first Chairman of the OVA) and a founder member. He suggested that a visit should be made to Mr Snow to mark the anniversary of the Association that he had helped to found.

11. The date of the next AGM was fixed for Thursday 12 May 2005 at 7.30 p.m. in the Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.05 p.m., with refreshments and a talk by Cyril Shere on the Hebrides to follow.

* * * * *

OVA SUBSCRIPTIONS 2004-05

Subscriptions were due by 1 April. If you do not receive your membership card with this issue it means that you are not recorded as having paid for 2004-05. Please send your subscription (£3 individual, £5 family/household) to the Hon. Treasurer, Brian Ludlow at: Luttrell House, Harpford, Newton Poppleford, Sidmouth EX10 0NJ, or you will not receive any more newsletters.

Built Environment



The last three months have witnessed a lessening of pressure on the planning system as a result of a reduction in the number of controversial planning applications. However, one area of particular concern to this committee has been a steady increase in applications for new individual dwellings in the gardens of larger properties, especially in the West Hill area of Budleigh Salterton. In part, this has been the result of leafletting by major estate agents from outside the area encouraging owners of generous garden space to cash in on the local shortage of building sites, thereby putting at risk the special character of the town which brought many people to Budleigh Salterton in the first place.

Unfortunately, East Devon District Council has done little to discourage this kind of speculative development by discounting the protection once provided by the designation of areas such as West Hill as 'Residential Areas of Special Character'. The East Devon Local Plan 1995-2011 (First Deposit - Jan.2002) clearly identified residential areas in Beer, Budleigh Salterton, Exmouth, Ottery St Mary, Seaton, Sidmouth and Woodbury under Policy EN19 (Residential Areas of Special Character) which stated that permission would only be granted for developments which would not detract from their character and identity. They should not involve the removal of significant numbers of mature trees and

boundary hedges, nor damage the spacious character of the area or involve the sub-division of gardens in a manner out of keeping with the remainder of the area. This policy specifically defined the West Hill area and Coastguard Road / Boucher Road / Boucher Way as settlements to be protected from 'town-cramming'.

A subsequent decision by a planning inspector in respect of an application in the protected Avenues area of Exmouth suggested that this policy may not be sustainable. When the Revised Deposit Version of the East Devon Local Plan was produced in September 2003 it became clear that Policy EN19 was to be deleted in its entirety. This would mean that the special character of the specified areas of Budleigh Salterton would be under threat, protected only by the AONB status of the rest of the town, which seems to have counted for little in recent planning decisions.

The reason for raising this matter at this time is the forthcoming Public Enquiry of the Devon Local Plan. This will take place in Exmouth commencing on 7th September. It is now too late to raise any new objections to the plan but many members of the OVA, and members of this sub-committee in particular, have already submitted formal written objections. Our own objections were directed specifically at the omission of Policy EN19, and to reinforce our viewpoint the executive committee has agreed that the OVA should be represented at the Enquiry. The brief will be to try and establish how and why, and by whom, the decision was taken to delete Policy EN19. Any evidence you may be able to give in support of this questioning would be welcomed and should be addressed to your local representative.

Brian Brown

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



A CRUISE ALONG THE JURASSIC COAST

In October 2002, Prince Charles unveiled the 'Geoneedle' at Orcombe Point, which marks the western boundary of the Jurassic Coast. Extending from Orcombe Point, 95 miles east to Old Harry Rocks in Dorset, this is England's first and only World Heritage Site. As such, it joins a select group of globally important sites such as the Grand Canyon, the Great Barrier Reef, the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China. Clearly, this coastline is something special and, as a relative newcomer to the area (July 2002), I wanted to find out more. The opportunity soon came when I read about a cruise organised by the Institute of Biology (IoB) in September 2003, departing from Exmouth and cruising along the coast to Lyme Regis.

The weather at the start (9.00 a.m.) was rainy and cool. Despite the cloud and drizzle, I elected to stay on the upper deck, a decision I did not regret because the weather improved through the day and we enjoyed some wonderful views of the coast as we cruised slowly along a few miles out at sea. This is a very fine way to see and to appreciate the varied rock formations and the unique geological strata of the East Devon coastline, especially with the help of the informed and entertaining commentary of an expert geologist.

From Exmouth to Lyme Regis the red rock formations are mainly Triassic (250-200 million years old (myo)), rather than Jurassic (200-140 myo). The colour of the rocks is caused by the weathering of iron minerals, deposited when East Devon was a desert landscape in the middle of a continental land mass. The Budleigh Salterton pebble beds have a much more ancient origin. The pebbles are composed of hard quartzite and are identical with rocks found in Brittany and which are 440 myo. The pebbles were formed in a giant river that flowed through a desert in Triassic times when all the continents were joined together in one super-continent called Pangea. Further along the coast between Sidmouth and Branscombe the Triassic Sandstone is replaced by mudstone which at various cliff tops is capped by yellow and white chalky deposits of Cretaceous origin (140-65 myo). Off the coast of Beer and Seaton we saw evidence of the famous landslides at Hooken and Bindon and finally, at Lyme Regis, Jurassic rocks with fossils of ammonites, belemnites and ichthyosaurs.

After an interesting couple of hours at Lyme Regis, including a break for lunch, we sailed back to Exmouth Docks. The cruise is well worthwhile for anyone with an interest in the natural environment of East Devon.

Norman Crossland

NB You too can cruise along the Jurassic Coast. Please see page 11 for full details.

JURASSIC COAST CRUISE - 11 SEPTEMBER

The OVA has been allotted some places on this year's Institute of Biology cruise, which will take place on **Saturday 11 September**. There will be commentary from an expert geologist and time ashore in Lyme Regis. Numbers are limited so book early to make sure of a place! Tickets cost £12 each and are available from Rowan Turnbull, Hayes, Church Road, Colaton Raleigh, Sidmouth EX10 0LH.
Tel. (01395)-567339.
Please enclose an s.a.e with your cheque made out to Otter Valley Association.

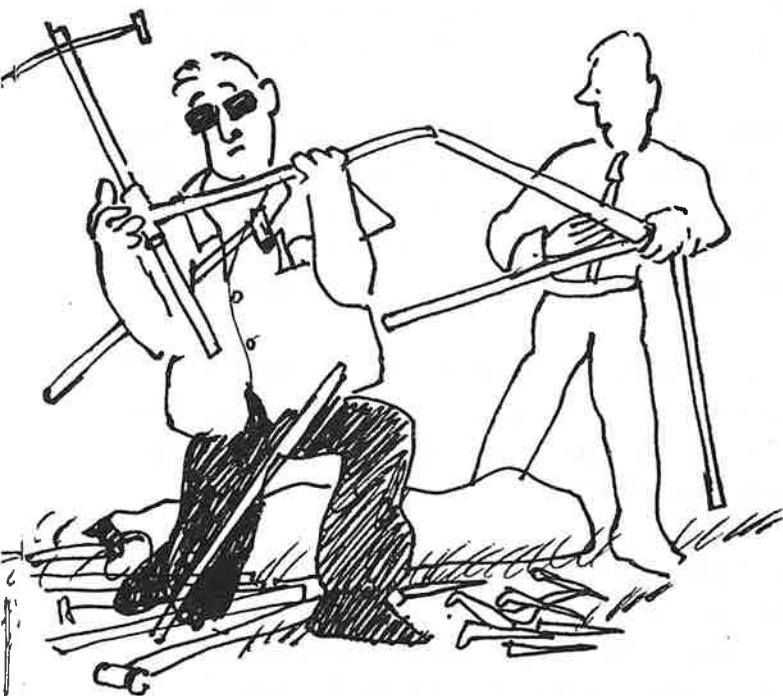
BUDLEIGH SALTERTON GALA DAY

This year's OVA Gala Day Quiz was provided by the Natural Environment Sub-Committee. Sixteen photographs of wild flowers of spring and early summer in the Otter Valley had to be identified, and also 15 photographs of common garden or coastal birds. The flowers quiz was won by Jenefer Slater with 13 correct answers, while the bird quiz was won by Mo Bowman who named all 15 correctly. Well done, Jenefer and Mo, and thanks to all who participated.

Robert Sellin



Left to right: Robert Sellin, Brian Hawkes, Alan Jones,
Jed Falby, Brian Turnbull



SETTING UP THE OVA 'GAZEBO'

GALA WEEK 29 MAY 04



The great threat to our commons at this time of year is fire. Fire can be used to regenerate the commons, but uncontrolled fires can do a great deal of damage. In early summer they can kill nesting birds and small mammals. A fierce fire destroys the roots of the heather and gorse so that only bracken and brambles grow back. Posters have been around the commons - 'Operation Hawkeye' - warning of the dangers of fire.

If you smoke, be very careful that your rejected cigarette stub is really out. Never build fires on the common, and avoid dropping glass or plastic which could start a fire. If you see a fire on the common, ring 999; be prepared to describe exactly where the fire is.

Some fires are started mischievously by vandals. If you believe someone is starting a fire, again ring 999. If you have information about someone who starts fires, ring Crimestoppers on 0800-555111.

One of the most popular paths in Colaton Raleigh is the one behind Drupe Farm. This is not in fact a right-of-way. Many years ago, Clinton Devon reached an agreement with the county by which Clinton Devon agreed to maintain the path as a permissive way in return for a grant which I suspect never covered the cost of maintenance. The agreement ran out some time ago. Clinton Devon sought renewal of the agreement

with the support of the OVA but the county was not willing to agree to this. I sought permission from the county to use the parish P3 funds to clear the path, which has become almost impassable, but I was told this was illegal. Now Clinton Devon has agreed to clear the path twice a year. Given that there is no right-of-way here, and that Clinton Devon is receiving no financial help, this is very public spirited.

The path is used mostly by dog-walkers and is badly soiled by dog droppings. When the path is strimmed the s... literally hits the fan, a disgusting experience for whoever is using the strimmer. When the path is opened again could dog users please collect their dogs' droppings?

The volunteers who set out recently to clear a path in Newton Poppleford took on a mammoth task. Part of the path runs along an ancient lane which we could only just penetrate to start the work. There were trees growing in the middle of the lane with growth up to three or four metres. I would like to be able to report that we left the path in perfect order. In fact, seven volunteers working for three hours just was not enough to finish the job to our usual high standard, even with the help of the strimmer which Colin Campbell brought along. We could have found further volunteers, but we were warned that there wasn't enough parking space. There are still stumps to trip over and vegetation on the ground which can hook your feet. But the path is now open for the reasonably active who are wearing boots.

Not all our work on paths is as difficult as this. We need help from those who can only do light clearance and even from people who can only monitor paths. If you can help, please ring Colin Campbell (01395-568343) about work in Newton Poppelford or Robin Holt (01395-567560) about work in any part of the valley.

Alan Jones

* * * * *

Sonnet to the River Otter

Dear native Brook! wild Streamlet of the West!
How many various-fated years have past,
What happy and what mournful hours, since last
I skimmed the smooth thin stone along thy breast,
Numbering its light leaps! Yet so deep imprest
Sink the sweet scenes of childhood, that mine eyes
I never shut amid the sunny ray,
But straight with all their tints thy waters rise
Thy crossing plank, thy marge with willows grey,
And beaded sand that veined with various dyes
Gleamed through thy bright transparence! On my way
Visions of Childhood oft have ye Beguiled
Lone manhood's cares, yet waking fondest sighs.
Ah! That once more I were a careless child!

(Samuel Taylor Coleridge ... aged 21 years)



Aylesbeare Common and Hawkerland Valley, 24 March

Despite the sealed car-park at Joney's Cross (due to Travellers on the move from Westpoint), a dozen or so cars managed to park along the country lane verges, and 24 walkers and three dogs emerged for the morning's walk. The day was bright with a bracing breeze.

Having negotiated the busy A3052, we enjoyed 360 degrees of splendid views: the Haldon Hills and Exe Estuary, Woodbury Common, East Hill, Bulverton Hill and across the coast to the horizon. Wonderful! Leaving this magical kaleidoscope of topography, we descended alongside Harpford Common through woodlands which in a month or so would have a carpet of bluebells. Thankfully, we were now out of the biting wind. A gate at the bottom of the wood took us into meadowland and, with dogs on leads, we were able to rejoice at the sight of ewes and their new-born lambs.

Back across the A3052 at Goosemoor - having arrived at the road when unbelievably there was no traffic - we trundled along a lane, passing pretty cottages with primroses, celandine and daffodils in their Devon banks. The lane narrowed to a footpath once more, and wound its way through a somewhat boggy Hawkerland Valley, necessitating a small detour. Out of the wind, the sun was strong and many of us were removing hats and gloves in the final pull out of the valley, back to the straggle of cars.

Lin Ford

Offwell Woodland Education Centre, 24 April

A beautiful spring morning greeted us at Offwell on 24 April. We were met by Gillian Graham, the Secretary, and by Stephen Lawson, the founder and Director. Stephen also guided us round.

He first explained how the 50 acres of woodland had been smothered in Victorian-planted rhododendrons. These were so thick and tall they had virtually sterilised the natural habitat. They also made the woodland unworkable. He had accordingly been allowed to take it over, and had waged a costly and vengeful war against this alien species, opening up the wood and clearing the Victorian lakes and ponds as he did so. It is now an internationally known woodland education centre, visited by thousands of school-children each year, many of them never having experienced the countryside, woods, or nature before.

We started our day by climbing up through reclaimed heathland to the bridleway which runs beside the Forestry Commission woods, renowned for their bluebells. We then dropped down through the wet woodlands - an important habitat - to the Kingfisher pond, and on down the valley, passing a glade of rare and beautiful wood anemones.

At the Beech Walk we saw damage done by another introduced alien - the grey squirrel. Few of the carefully planted beech had survived bark stripping by these animals. Someone (nameless) suggested that if grey squirrels could be persuaded to attack rhododendrons, which in turn could be engineered to sterilise grey squirrels, nirvana might be attainable.

We then climbed through a stand of towering Douglas Fir up to the beautifully constructed log cabin, the timber for which was felled on site. There we were introduced to Offwell's comprehensive website. From this, students worldwide can learn a wide range of subjects, from tree identification to the internal working of a beehive, fitted with a webcam. (Try it and see.)



Space prevents a full description of all the projects we saw. The centre does vital educational and conservation work and merits all the help it can get. You can join the Offwell Environment Link for £5 per annum, which includes an excellent Newsletter. (Telephone Gillian Graham on 01404-831375 or write to her at Lavender Cottage, Offwell, Honiton EX14 9SA.) What value - and you're helping a charity as well.

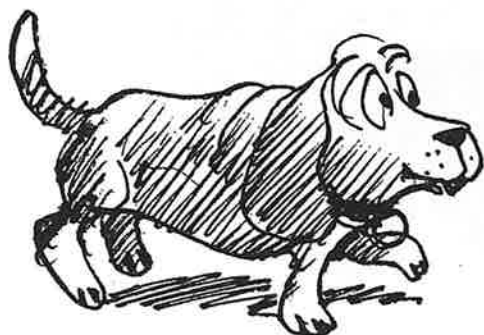
Our thanks to Stephen and Gillian for all their time and effort.

Philip Greenhow

Country Walk with Flowers and Butterflies, 8 May

This is really a story about Waffle. Sixteen of us started the walk at Kersbrook without Waffle, but at Tidwell Farm this soon changed. Farmer Peter Wastenage had given us permission to cross his farmyard to avoid that dangerous bit of road at Tidwell. (Thank you, Peter.) The day was dry but the farmyard was very wet and in this mud Waffle joined us.

Waffle is a Basset-hound of friendly temperament - so friendly in fact we could not convince her to leave us. So as we climbed Shortwood Common Waffle's short legs worked hard to keep up.



WAFFLE
AT START OF
OUR WALK

The Common was a blaze of bluebells, mixed with pinks and whites. Unfortunately, this leader is short on flower knowledge, but Marion Nolder leapt in to point out the White Stitchwort, the Pink Campion, Bulbous Buttercups, Cornflowers and Poppies - a whole palette of spring colours.

The walk had promised butterflies and in Dunce's Lane from East Budleigh they were very much in sight. Sadly, this leader is also short on butterfly knowledge, but Marion (again!) identified them and showed us the Orange-tip butterfly with its small orange eggs laid on



SHORT CUT ACROSS
THE FARMYARD

8 MAY '04

the underneath of its own special wild garlic plant. So, by green lanes back to Kersbrook, with Waffle now on a lead to help her keep up.



Waffle
AFTER
OUR WALK

As we disbanded, Clive and Mo Bowman volunteered to walk Waffle home to Tidwell - 16 happy walkers and one exhausted dog.

Jed Falby

* * * * *

OVA VISIT TO COCKINGTON, 15 MAY

The day in Cockington was very much enjoyed by the 34 participants. From Budleigh Salterton Public Hall Otter Coaches took us as near to the Cockington Estate as the perilously narrow lanes would permit. We walked down into the little valley into what seemed a rural time warp. Torquay was a stone's throw away, but here we were in a medieval village of rustic cob and thatched cottages in the quiet of the countryside. The Great House up the valley had a cricket match tock-tocking in front of it, with fine woods, gardens and lakes all around. Horses clopped along the lanes pulling carriages for the weary walker and higher up meadows of buttercups looked down over the sea. The sun shone, the birds sang, the air was scented with flowers, the cream teas were delicious. What more could one ask?

Our thanks to Nicky Daniel and Belinda Mountain for organising the visit.

Rowan Turnbull

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON – TODAY AND YESTERDAY

The Budleigh Salterton town design statement project reached another milestone over the weekend of 12 to 13 June. Some 430 people attended a special exhibition in the Public Hall, including a small number of residents from nearby towns, eager to learn from Budleigh's experience of preparing a town design statement. Copies of the 48-page draft statement were available and residents had the opportunity to make their own comments. The revised statement will be submitted to East Devon District Council in the hope that it will be accepted as supplementary planning guidance for all future planning applications in the town.

Extract from Ward Lock Guide, 12th edition, late 1940s (?)

There are many temptations to absolute idleness – that kind of conscious idleness which to a tired brain-worker is restful and recuperative; but there are means by which the more actively inclined may make the hours pass pleasantly and healthfully. All – or almost all – Budleigh Salterton pleasures are enjoyed in the open air... (The extract then goes on to describe the bathing, boating, fishing, lawn and hard-court tennis, croquet, bowls and golfing facilities.) To these attractions add walks and motoring or cycling in the lovely district that can be reached from Salterton.

Local history note from Harry Lane

FROM THE EDITOR

A history of Dotton

Early on in my editorship of the Newsletter I was delighted to receive from Harry Lane a number of interesting 'snippets' of local history, many of which I have used in different issues. So it's good to report the recent publication of Harry's history of Dotton, entitled *The Story of Dotton, a Hamlet Lost in the Passage of Time*. The 'time' in question goes back to Domesday although there is no visual evidence remaining to link Dotton back to the eleventh century. The book has been four years in the making and Harry talked to ten families who have links with Dotton. Look out for *The Story of Dotton...* in local bookshops and libraries.

Autumn Diary Dates

Two talks have been arranged for the autumn, one at Colaton Raleigh and one at Budleigh Salterton. On Thursday 14 October, Alan Bruford will be speaking on 'The Restoration of the River Tale' (7.30 p.m. at the Colaton Raleigh Village Hall) and on Monday 15 November Tom Coleman will give an illustrated talk on 'The History of the Devon Farmhouses'. Please reserve these dates in your diary now.

New Technology

I feel slightly ashamed that this issue of the Newsletter has not been produced on my new laptop computer. However, classes at Exeter College have increased my confidence, so maybe I'll take up the challenge in October ...

PQ

SEPTEMBER 1st, WED. 10 a.m. NEWTON POPPLEFORD CAR PARK. G.R.086897. CAR SHARING A MUST. PROCEED TO SHIP INN, MORCOMBELAKE. 7 MILES, ENERGETIC. COASTAL WALK VIA GOLDEN CAP TO WEST BAY. STUNNING VIEWS. RETURN ON 15.30 BUS TO MORCOMBELAKE OR CONTINUE IN BUS TO SIDFORD/NEWTON POPPLEFORD. PUB LUNCH OR PICNIC AT SEATOWN OR EYPE. *Walk leader:* PETER HILLS, 01395-568576.

SEPTEMBER 11th, SATURDAY 10 a.m. PEAK HILL CAR PARK. G.R.109872. 2 HOURS, EASY. ANCIENT LANDSCAPES IN AN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY. HIGH PEAK, SEVEN STONES LANE, MUTTERS MOOR. FINE VIEWS. *Walk leader:* DAVID JANNAWAY, 01395-567159.

SEPTEMBER 22nd, WEDNESDAY 10 a.m. WHITE CROSS PICNIC AREA. G.R.065849. 10 MILES, ENERGETIC. EAST HILL STRIPS TO OTTERY ST MARY FOR LUNCH OR PICNIC. RETURN VIA KNIGHTSTONE AND WAXWAY. *Walk leader:* DAVID JANNAWAY, 01395-567159.

OCTOBER 9th, SATURDAY 10 a.m. FOUR FIRS CAR PARK, WOODBURY COMMON. G.R.031863. 2½ HOURS, MODERATE. COMMONS WALK; EAST DEVON WAY; COLATON RALEIGH COMMON; WOODBURY CASTLE. ROUGH GROUND, COULD BE MUDDY. *Walk leader:* KEN WATSON, 01395-445859.

*Further walk dates on 23 October (Broadhembury)
and 10 November (looking at fungi)*

OVA COMMITTEE AND OFFICE-HOLDERS 2004/5

Chairman:	Brian Turnbull	567339
Vice-Chairman:	Robert Sellin	443283
Hon. Secretary:	Christopher Briscoe	568111
Hon. Treasurer:	Brian Ludlow	568501

Executive Committee

Representing the Parish of

Budleigh Salterton	Clive Bowman	446892
	Nick Speare	443944
East Budleigh	Norman Crossland	445129
Colaton Raleigh	Alan Jones	568339
Newton Poppelford	Haylor Lass	568786
Otterton	Philip Greenhow	567996

Sub-Committee Chairmen

Footpaths	Alan Jones	568339
Natural Environment	Robert Sellin	443283
Built Environment	Brian Brown	446013

History Section Alan Ford (01404)-812375

Membership Secretary Brian Hawkes 442017

Social Secretary Rowan Turnbull 567339

Talks Secretary Belinda Mountain 446042

Publicity Secretary Maureen Bowman 446892

Newsletter Editor Patricia Quaife, 1 North St.,

Topsham, Exeter EX3 0AP. Tel.: (01392)-873251

Newsletter Distributor Gill Speare 443944

The Association was founded in 1979, is registered with the Civic Trust and the Charity Commissioners and is a member of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers. It is also affiliated to the CPRE. It cares for the environment and queries should be put to your Parish Rep.

We thank Jed Falby for the cover and other illustrations. Contributions for the next issue should be received by 10 September.