



### **VILLAGE HALL TALK**

Back in February we were delighted to welcome to the village the well-known Torquay based historian, Kevin Dixon. He gave his talk on 'Local Legends' to an appreciative audience who enjoyed his wit and the depth of his local knowledge. Topics covered included pixies, fairies, elves and the devil and places referenced included St. Michael's Chapel, Kent's Cavern and Berry Pomeroy. The Talk was well attended which is heartening to those of us who give up a lot of their time to organise and promote these events.

### **THE VILLAGE TRAIL**

As mentioned in the previous magazine plans are under way to organise some other events later this year. We are looking to arrange a visit to Shilstone Manor, near Modbury, in May or June. Shilstone Manor and Gardens are interesting in their own right but the site is also the home of the Devon Rural Archive. If you love old pictures of Devon and information about many of our small villages and a way of life that is passing, it is well worth a visit.

We are also updating our Village Trail with an aim to make it more available to residents. Those with an interest in local history or those who are newcomers to the village might make use of this information as you enjoy your perambulations around the village. Here are several tasters from our current document.

**Brooke House, North Street.** When you reach North Street at the bottom of Paternoster Lane you will be opposite Brooke House which dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In medieval times the stream or brook which passes underground now would have crossed the road at this point. It is called the Creedy and comes out in Torbryan eventually joining the Hems and then the Dart. Behind the fence opposite Brooke House is the site of the old village duck pond.

**Bridge Street.** This road used to be much narrower with houses on either side and for many hundreds of years it was cobbled. A brook used to run down the middle of the street which supplied drinking water and an outlet for sewage (people never drank water neat, it was boiled up to make ale). Several of the houses on Bridge Street used to be shops and at the foot of the hill a garage stood until relatively recently. On the left hand side where the new houses are there used to be a meadow and then more recently the site of a Roman Catholic Church. Tremlett Grove through which the River Creedy flowed used to be farmland. You can see Stevens Farm on the left-hand side.

**John Marsh**

