



## **BBC AGM Chair report October 6th 2015**

**Committee** – Sadie Green Chair; Clive Simpson Sec; Bert Bruins Treasurer; Dave Green; Janis Glover; Gillie Jackson; Duncan Hopkins web master

**Funding received** – Grants from Bideford Bridge Trust £1,500; Bideford Town Council £2,000; £950 from TDC Cllrs Peter Christie (£200), David Fulford (£500) and Tony Inch (£250)

**Facebook and Twitter –#BidefordBayCreatives** Twitter site is live with 254 followers; FB page has 458 likes (268 last year) First Friday FB page has 296 likes (271 last year). All BBC members need to like these two FB pages and invite their friends to do so to build numbers.

**Marketing and promotion** – website, FB page, Twitter, local papers What's on, Bideford Buzz to promote Culture Show and Tales of the Riverbank, My Bideford article.

**Website** - has been updated and developed by Duncan Hopkins. Same domain name bbcdevon.org, new look, new functions. Road tested for Culture Show and Tales of the Riverbank for content and functionality. Further content needs to be added. Dave Green, Sadie and Duncan are currently administrators and can add content

## **Projects and Events 2015**

**Group show at the Wharf in Tavistock February** – Bert Bruins, Duncan Hopkins, Janis Glover and Dave Green. Paintings and photography

**ASDA Community award** and cream tea with the Mayor

**Big Lunch Extras** residential weekend at the Eden Project end of February

**Tales of the Riverbank June to September** – A series of community participatory and educational activities set around the river Torridge in the Bideford and Bay Area. The activities focussed on and explored the local history, heritage and the natural environment. These included walks, talks, visual art, public and artists' responses to history and the environment.

20 workshops, walks and talks plus 2 associated events

Attended by 280 people. Income from Eventbrite bookings and on the day = **£471.87**

Comments = "A really interesting and relaxing talk that gave me insight into an important period of Bideford social and commercial history" "Thanks for developing an engaging series of events" "fantastic and informative talk and experience" "highly recommend it" "loved hearing the descriptions of the beloved Torridge"

**Culture Show – August and September** 9 artists (including 1 from Norfolk and 2 from Manteo) in 11 spaces and venues in Bideford. A mix of indoor exhibition plus outdoor public art pieces

Comments on public art – "It brightens up the town, just what we need" "Brilliant well done" "I'll be back tomorrow and show everyone the new collage, it's brilliant" "its nice to see something other than blank walls" "Bideford comes alive" See also BBC FB page comments

and twitter comments such as No.89 Vegetarian B&B "We are very much enjoying the murals brightening up the town and Ned Morgan's striking sculptures on the boat".

### **Future plans 2016:**

#### **Projects confirmed to date:**

**Way of the Wharf – Community project for Brunswick Wharf. Peoples Health Trust grant £19,024.** BBC have been awarded a grant from the People's Health Trust to deliver a community led project centred around Brunswick Wharf. This will enable us to work with funded neighbourhoods in East the Water and Bideford

### **Project plans 2016 – 2018**

1. Develop Tales of the Riverbank year 2 - Bideford Bridge Trust grant application rejected but is included in application to Bideford Town Council. Could be conversations, creative responses outdoors/on site, performances, demonstrations and exhibitions. Could also link into Brunswick Wharf project
2. Develop Culture Show – Awaiting outcome of grant application from Bideford Town Council. Open up to local, Regional and National artists. Theme to be agreed; continuing this partnership with local businesses to deliver more publicly visible temporary and permanent creative works to enhance the town centre; to instill a sense of pride and encourage visitors
3. Deliver a Summer programme of live music and performance on Jubilee Square
4. Bideford Festival/weekender – working with schools, youth groups, residents and the local community to tell stories celebrating history, heritage and the natural environment through the power of music, performance, art, demonstrations and community workshops.
5. Heritage project to put old photos of buildings on the outside of them to show what a street / space / building used to look like
6. Wall painting – a community arts project to produce a mural on the 500ft long by 6ft high football ground wall (opposite Morrisons)
7. Work in partnership with the Devonshire Association's Devon Newfoundland project April 2017 which celebrates the relationship between these two places and in particular Bideford's pottery and fish trade. Plans are for a 1 or 2 day event in Bideford to include talks, demonstrations, music and live performance, workshops, historical information working with The Burton, Maritime Museum, local schools, Devon Family History society, Learn Devon, Records office and Community archive
8. Network and connect more with Bristol, Plymouth and Exeter – Sadie and Dave attended 'Beyond Resilience' workshop at Exeter library September; Plymouth Weekender in September. Made contacts and gained inspiration
9. Early project idea started with Director of the Phoenix in Exeter about a North South Tarka line project connecting Exeter to Bideford

### **Future plans:**

- encourage associations and partnerships – supporting and working with creative practitioners (including young people and emerging artists), groups, arts and cultural organisations primarily in Bideford town and Bideford Bay, and also throughout Devon, the South West Region and Internationally
- Continue to develop projects that emerge out of collective ideas, excitement, enthusiasm and passion such as developing skills, creating audience for the arts, creating and showcasing artworks of all media and practices.
- Have a 'can do' attitude that also celebrates and encourages art for arts sake and art and culture for health and well being; recognising the value of the arts and culture in all our everyday lives.
- Initiate and manage Projects that are physical or virtual, local or global, ideas based or production of new work based, educational or just inspirational.

**Other ideas** - develop a programme of projects that are web based and social media based to create International creative dialogue and audience

### **Other things to consider/opportunities:**

Fund raising ideas needed- Grant money amount and breadth of options is being reduced TDC Cllr grants 2016?

Crowd funding

Connecting to new Bideford Town Centre Partnership – plans for a town centre events co-ordinator being discussed, approval from the Town Council but not funded as yet

Bideford and District Chamber – continue to work towards their 'Vision of Bideford'

Involvement in Devonshire Association's plans for a Devon Newfoundland project – Sadie is on the steering group

Use Gazebo to have a public face at cultural events and festivals

Other projects that evolve and emerge