

10. Graylings, Bridge Cottages, The Old Post Office, The Cider House and Rose Cottage. The 3 thatched terraced cottages were originally one room plan and once the homes of farm workers. In the 19th century the cottage at the east end was a wheelwrights and coach builders with the Old Post Office as the barn and smithy. In the 1920's the barn was converted to a Post Office. The Cider House was a beer retailer. Most of the farmers used to make their own cider, as did the monks who owned extensive orchards around East Budleigh in medieval times.

11. The Pound is a shady, grass-covered recreational area, so-called because it is the place where stray animals were once impounded and kept until their owners reclaimed them on payment of a fine.

12. Brick Cottages in Middle Street were built by Mark Rolle in 1874. He was a public-spirited predecessor of Lord Clinton and he and his land agent were responsible for many of the existing farm buildings and cottages. Opposite No.4 was the first village school sponsored by the Drake Charity, founded by Robert Drake, who died in 1628. All that remains of it are the steps leading up to a field.

13. An old standpipe opposite 4 Middle Street was one of ten established in the village in the 19th century to provide piped water (see also the Jubilee memorial at 15).

14. Drake's School was built in 1860. Full-time education came to East Budleigh in 1852 with the appointment of two teachers by the Drake Charity and the first school was at the top of the steps that can be seen in Middle Street (see 12).

15. The first piped water supply was presented to the village and turned on by Lady Gertrude Rolle in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The water came from Budleigh Brook and the hills behind Wynard's farm and was obtained from standpipes (see 13).

16 & 17. The War Memorial is situated by the side of the Budleigh Brook and in front of The Village Hall. The Budleigh Brook has its source on Woodbury Common. It runs through the village, alongside the High Street to Lower Budleigh and via an aqueduct to the River Otter.

During WWII many soldiers and Royal Marines trained on nearby Woodbury Common and some of these were quartered in the village. Dances were organised in the Village Institute to help entertain them. The ageing Nissen hut proved very cramped for this purpose and so there was a demand for a more modern facility. Eventually, in 1955, the new village hall was opened with the help of a donation of land by Lord Clinton.

18. Wynard's House, at the start of High Street, is one of a number of listed buildings which line the street as it rises to All Saints Church. The present building was probably built in the 1770s. The terrace of thatched cottages next to Wynards were originally a farmhouse called Higher Batstones, probably built in the late 16th century. The south end had a five-sided extension built in the 19th century, known as the Round House. In the 1960's its name was changed to The Toll House (though it was never used for this purpose) and in 1977 it collapsed, beyond repair.

19 & 20. Stores Cottage, on the opposite side of the road, is now a private house. It was once a thriving grocery and paper shop. Other buildings of note in the High Street are **Budleigh House**, built in the early 19th century as the residence of the Rolle Estate Agent, John Daw; **Churchstile**, formerly a 16th century farmhouse, **Angle Cottage** (No. 40) which together with No. 38 was also part of a 16th century farmhouse. **The Old Bakery** was a thriving business in the 19th and 20th centuries until 1956.

21. The Sir Walter Raleigh public house was once known as the King's Arms. It is an intriguing building which dates from the early 16th century, rearranged and refurbished in the late 18th century and converted to a public house in early 19th century.

Visit www.ovapedia.org.uk for more information on local history and buildings.

Booklet "Twelve Walks in the Otter Valley", Otter Valley Association 2012, available for purchase locally.

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A walk around East Budleigh

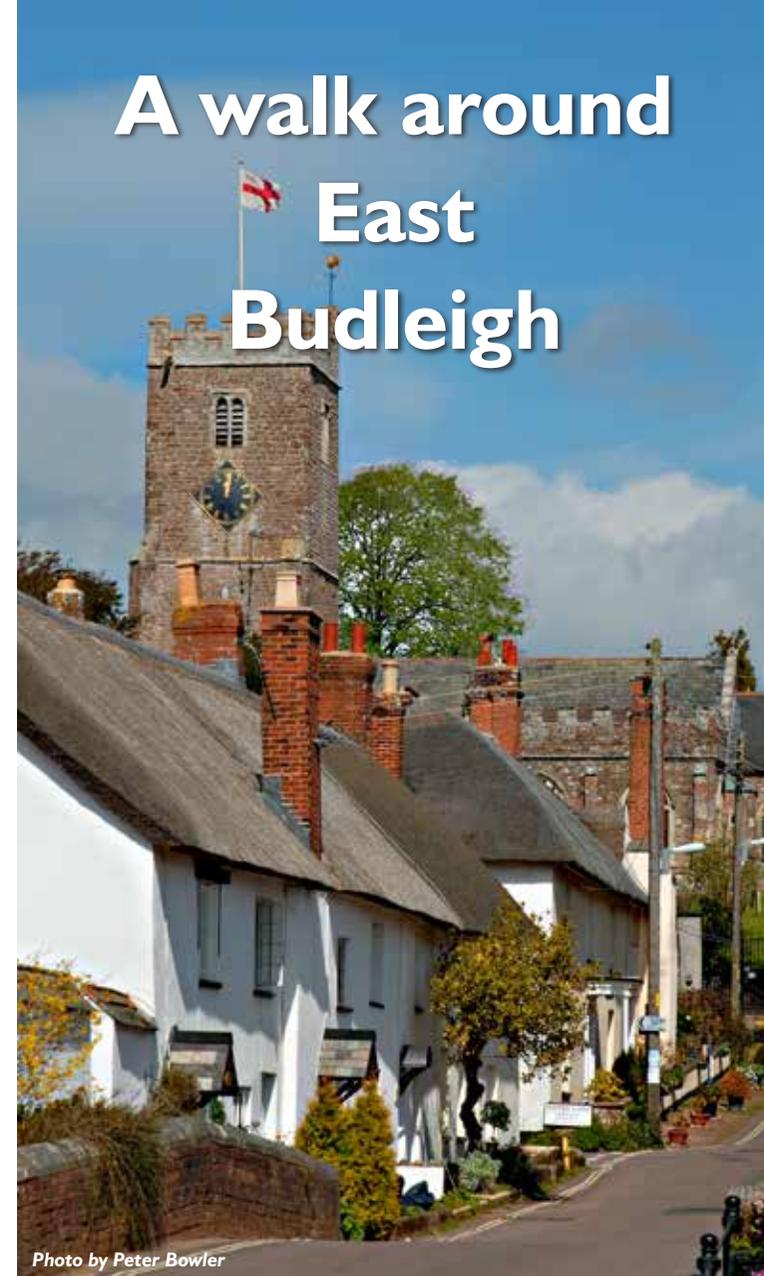


Photo by Peter Bowler



Otter Valley Association
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East Budleigh is an ancient village, well-established by the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066 and called Bodelie in the Domesday Book. It was probably settled by invading Saxons during the late 7th or early 8th century. In the Domesday Survey of 1086 a substantial Royal Manor was described with boundaries approximating those of the present parish. It most probably had a church in Saxon times, standing in the prominent position where the present church now stands. In this leaflet many of the old buildings of East Budleigh are briefly described together with some notes on the history of the village. The walk is about 2 miles long and takes a circular route through some of the surrounding countryside as well as ancient parts of the village.

The birth place of **Sir Walter Raleigh**, now known as Hayes Barton, built in 1485, is in Hayes Lane about one mile outside the village. It is most easily accessed by car. The Raleigh family settled in East Budleigh around 1537 and leased Hayes Barton from the Duke family, who owned it for 400 years. Sir Walter Raleigh was born there in 1552.

Roger Conant, founding father of the city of Salem, Massachusetts, was also born in East Budleigh. He sailed for America in 1623 and, together with a band of courageous followers, established a new settlement at a place called Nahum Keike, an Indian name, later changed to Salem, "city of peace". A bronze statue of Roger Conant now stands outside the Witch Museum in Salem.

1. Vicar's Mead, earliest date 1513, was the Vicarage used by successive vicars until the 19th century. The young Walter Raleigh was educated here. A secret passage leading to a cellar was probably used for smuggling brandy and other contraband in the 19th century. At that time East Budleigh was a centre for the distribution of smuggled goods. Vicar's Mead, the church and its environs were used to hide the contraband. The Reverend Ambrose Stapleton was vicar for 58 years and resident in Vicar's Mead until his death in 1852. He was a vigorous, kindly man who preached tremendous sermons but who was also involved in the lucrative trade of smuggling.

2. All Saints is an exceptionally fine church, largely 15th century and built on a lofty eminence overlooking the village. The list of vicars goes back to Stephen, 1261. Sir Walter Raleigh's father was church warden here in 1561 and the Raleigh pew (1537) is the second on the north side of the nave. There is much of interest to be seen, including many carved pew ends of the 16th century.

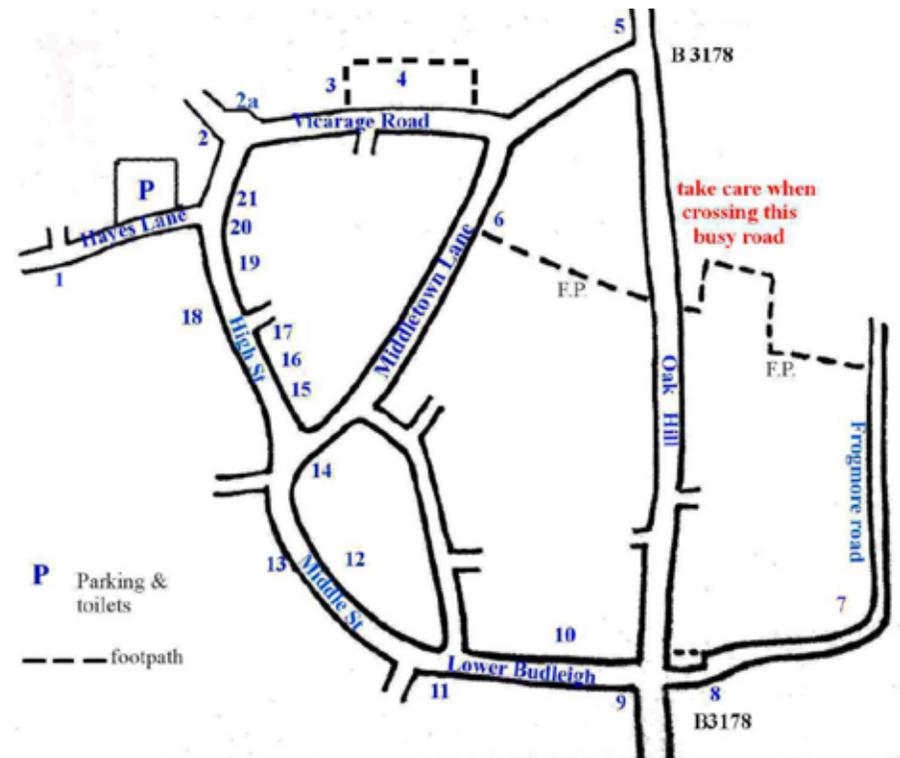
2a. This life size statue of **Sir Walter Raleigh**, by Vivien Mallock, was unveiled by the Duke of Kent on 9th February 2006.

3. The Old Vicarage was built in 1856 to replace Vicar's Mead after the death of Reverend Stapleton. This building stands adjacent to the Recreation Field. The present vicarage was built in its grounds.

4. The Recreation Field is just a short walk along a public footpath leading off Vicarage Road. It is well worth the detour here to get a view of the surrounding countryside.

5. Salem Chapel was built in 1719 by Presbyterians from stone brought in flat-bottomed boats up the River Otter. In 1836 its seating capacity was increased by galleries on three sides, including one designed for the orchestra. It is said that at one time the non-conformist minister was in league with the vicar of All Saints to assist in smuggling brandy. Hiding it in the unique bucket roof. It was repaired and restored by The Historic Chapels Trust in 2005/2006.

6. The public footpath in Middletown Lane leads across a field to the B3178. This is a very busy road so walkers are advised to exercise great care when crossing it. Almost directly opposite is the start of another footpath leading to Frogmore Road. Offering good views of Otterton and the Otter Valley.



7. Thornmill Farm was once the site of one of three mills in East Budleigh that were driven by water from The Budleigh Brook. A weir at Lower Budleigh, in front of Myrtle Cottage, was built to direct water down to Thorn Mill.

8. The Old Gospel Hall, now a private residence, marks the site of a non-conformist chapel built in the 19th century by Dr. William Christopher. The thatched house where he lived and which bears his name today, was part of a thriving tannery from 1601 to 1831. It supplied leather buckets to the Navy in Tudor times.

9. The Rolle Arms was built on the site of a workshop and barn, which was a malting by 1841. It opened as an inn in 1845 and was called "The Rolle Arms" to commemorate Lord Rolle who died in 1842.