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Westward Ho!

Northam
and
Appledore

Official Guide

Second Edition

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Northam Urban District Council

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tioned in this handbook should write to: THE
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FORWARD

“DEVON IN MINIATURE”—no corner of the county merits the title more truly than the tiny peninsula which lies between the Torridge Estuary and Bideford Bay. Here are breezy, bracken-covered cliffs, with grassy paths, gorse grown slopes, rushy streams meandering through green meadows, and shady lanes leading down to golden sands, all characteristic of the Devonian scene, and its three little towns, Appledore, Northam and Westward Ho! possess a rich share of the historical and literary heritage of the West Country.

Appledore, Kingsley's “little white fishing village”, is a paradise for artists, with its picturesque cottages, cobbled streets and quaint ivy-clad tower, known as “Chanter's Folly.” Northam has an ancient parish church but is best known for the “Burrows”, a great expanse of common and sandhills, reaching westwards to the “pebble ridge thundering far below, as it thundered years ago”. In return for their pasture rights, the “potwallopers” of Northam used to hold a yearly gathering to pile up the stones scattered by stormy waves.

Many famous tales have been told of this district, the oldest being one of those great “battles long ago” between the Saxons and the Danes, but most of its legends belong to the days of Drake, Raleigh and Grenville. *Westward Ho!*, Charles Kingsley's story of the Spanish Main, has Appledore and Northam for its setting. “Burrough,” the house of the Leighs, was at Northam, and it was “off Appledore” that the *Vengeance* dropped anchor for the last time, bringing home the blind Amyas and the body of Salvation Yeo.

When Kingsley knew that a seaside resort was being built on Bideford Bay, he feared “railways and villa projections”, but visitors to Westward Ho!—named after his famous novel—will find that far from “spoiling that beautiful place”, a quiet, compact little town has grown up. The magnificent beach is noted for surf riding, and in the background is the course of the Royal North Devon Golf Club, of which King George VI is Patron. Westward Ho! has acquired another literary distinction as the scene of *Stalky & Co.*, Kipling's story of his schooldays.



Photo: Fox Photos

THE MAGNIFICENT SANDS OF THE WESTWARD HO! DISTRICT ARE IDEAL FOR THE THRILLING SPORT OF SAND YACHTING. YACHTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE.

Westward Ho! Northam and Appledore

THREE thousand five hundred years ago, Appledore was inhabited by people of the Bronze Age, as is proved by the discovery, during excavation, of axe heads belonging to that period. Its recorded history goes back over 1,000 years, the name being derived from the Saxon apuldor, an apple tree.

Northam has a long and varied history, being as old as Barnstaple (the oldest borough in the kingdom). The name Northam suggests that the town was the centre of one of the three areas into which Devon appears to have been divided in Saxon times.

The story of the Northam district may be said to start in the year 878, when King Hubba the Dane, after ravaging and burning South Wales, landed with a fleet of 33 ships near where Chanter's Folly now stands. He advanced through Northam until he reached the earthwork known as Kenwith Castle, in which was a Saxon garrison under the command of Odun, Earl of Devon. After a great battle, the Danes were driven back and finally defeated at Bloody Corner, and Hubba and about 1,000 of his men being killed, but not before he had slain Odun's wife, who followed her husband into battle and threw herself in front of Odun to save him from Hubba's double-handed battle axe. The Danes' raven banner, woven by the daughters of Ragnor Lodbrog, was taken by the Saxons. King Hubba was buried under a cairn on the Hubbastone near the water's edge, but the cairn has been long since washed away, and two cottages now stand on the site. A tablet at Bloody Corner commemorates the battle in the following words:—

“Stop, Stranger, Stop,
Near this spot lies buried
King Hubba the Dane.
Who was slain by

King Alfred the Great
In a bloody retreat."

At Bonehill (north of the Parish Church) were buried the Saxon and Danish warriors slain in the battle.

In 1066 the Manor of Northam was given by William the Conqueror to the Abbey of St. Stephen in Normandy, and this, with several other grants, was renewed by Henry I, and finally confirmed by Edward III.

At the time of the Spanish Armada, in 1588, the North Devon Fleet sailed from Appledore "Pool," and Appledore, with Northam, can claim to have built some of the ships which took part in this great conflict which made England Mistress of the Seas.

ON THE OLD QUAY AT APPLIEDORE

Photo: Fox Photos



APPLIEDORE

APPLIEDORE is a small old-fashioned seaport—Kingsley's "Little White Fishing Village"—situated on the southern headland of the creek where the estuaries of the Torridge and the Taw meet to flow out into Bideford Bay. It is a charming place of narrow cobbled streets, huddled fisher-cottages, and odd nooks and corners that are encountered at every turn. The quay, always a centre of interest, presents a lively scene: at one end a coasting vessel may be discharging her load; at the other end a ferryman pushing off his small craft. Dotted here and there in Appledore "Pool" may be seen sailing yachts and vessels of all kinds, while on the quayside blue-jerseyed seamen rub shoulders with sightseers and tourists, and an occasional artist with easel and palette adds a touch of local colour to the scene.

Between 1700 and 1750 Appledore did a flourishing tobacco trade with the Colonies, and owing to its position near the mouth of the river estuary and to the depth of water, the port was used by the biggest ships of the time.

The Parish Church, though only 102 years old, is well worth a visit. It contains some splendid and valuable stained glass windows. The large and attractive wooden screen has been fashioned out of the famous old windjammer and sailing ship, the "Marco Polo". The foundation stone of the church was laid in 1836 and the church was dedicated in June, 1838. The present Vicar is the Rev. H. C. A. S. Muller, M.A., Retired Royal Naval Chaplain.

Nonconformity in Appledore dates from the middle of the 17th century, when religious services were held in a barn. The present church in Meeting Street was built in the middle of last century.

Prince Charles is said to have landed at Appledore when fleeing to Cornwall, and to have stayed at Docton House. This building, which is now a workshop, has the Docton coat of arms on the outside. It was once a monastery and was later used as a rest house by pilgrims to Hartland Abbey.

Prior to the Napoleonic Wars, Appledore did a considerable coasting trade, and its ships were a prey to press gangs. One of the Appledore manned ships was stopped off the Longships (Land's End) and boarded by His Majesty's officials, and amongst the crew was young Daniel Jenkins, who was famous for his exceptional eyesight. He was placed on board Nelson's ship the "Victory", and became one of the principal signalmen on the ship. His descendants claim that he was one of the signalmen who hoisted the famous signal at the battle of Trafalgar.

The Victory's Coxswain was also an Appledore man named Cox, and Nelson nicknamed him "Warrior". At one time after a long period of service afloat with Nelson, he deserted the ship, but Nelson happened to meet him at Milford, and being rather fond of "Warrior", gave him the choice of returning at once to the "Victory", or being hanged at the yard arm. Needless to say, "Warrior" chose the former alternative!

Two of Cox's direct descendants were coxswains of the famous lifeboat "Hope", which was stationed on the Burrows. Their names were Nathaniel Cox and Joseph Cox, and they were bemedalled by grateful foreign countries for saving men of foreign ships.

A descendant of Daniel Jenkins is represented at Appledore by Mr. John Jenkins, retired Senior Trinity Pilot, who resides on the Quay, whilst Captain William Cox, in Market Street, is descended from Nelson's coxswain. The Jenkins' and the Cox's are now united by marriage.

When the graceful full rigged sailing ships traded between England and Australia, Appledore men, as usual, took an active part, and anyone who walks on Appledore Quay to-day will find at least one old master mariner who can tell tales of those good old days when sails were set to the music of the sea shanty.

In 1936, Appledore played her part when R.M.S. *Queen Mary* recovered for Britain the blue riband of the Atlantic from the *Normandie*, as three of her officers and crew hailed from Appledore.



Photo : R. L. Knight Ltd.

THE QUAY AT
APPLEDORE

Although Appledore attracts many visitors, its old-world charm has not been spoiled by the passing years. The town was chosen for the "shooting" of the film *Westward Ho!*, and its quaint old buildings, quay and inhabitants figure largely in the film. The location of the scene where Captain John Oxenham and Salvation Yeo recruited volunteers to sail the Spanish Main was outside some cottages south of the Prince of Wales Hotel; whilst the slip upon which blind Sir Amyas Leigh landed with the body of Salvation Yeo (after driving Don Guzman's Spanish Galleon on to the rocks at Lundy Island) was at the north end of the quay, opposite the Sailors' Rest.

Charles Garvice, the world famous novelist, lived for many years at "Boathyde near Appledore." J. Wearie Gifford chose Appledore for the scene of his novel of smuggling days—*Lure of Contraband*—based, no doubt, upon the activities of Thomas Benson, the smuggling M.P., who lived at Knapp House, Northam, in 1748.

APPLEDORE FROM INSTOW

Photo: Frith



APPLEDORE

AN EVENING
YACHT RACE

Photo: Garbett

BATHING AT
WESTERN HILLBOATING ON THE
TORRIDGE

Photo: Parry





LOOKING DOWN ON APPLIEDORE

Photo : Pan Aero Pictures Ltd.



FORE STREET, NORTHAM

Photo : Parry



Copyright : Frith

NORTHAM—
CROWNED WITH THE GRACE OF YEARS

NORTHAM

BETWEEN Appledore, and Westward Ho! and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from each, is Northam, the governing centre for the Urban District, and mostly a residential area. It is situated on high ground, from which commanding views of Westward Ho!, Appledore, the bay, the Vale of the Torridge, Dartmoor and Exmoor can be obtained.

THE PARISH CHURCH

No records are known to exist as to the date of its foundation, but in 1261 there was definitely a church on the present site. During the vicariate of the former incumbent (Rev. H. P. D. Pinhey, M.A.), there was found a Kyrie, written in the XIV-century, which was sung in Northam Church at the time of the battle of Crecy. This Kyrie was found round a book of churchwardens' accounts used during the days of Queen Elizabeth and the Spanish Armada. The tombs of the Leighs of Burrough (immortalised by Kingsley in his thrilling story of the Spanish Main, *Westward Ho!*) with their ancestors the Burroughs, and their descendants, are still in the chancel of the church. The grave of the character of "Salvation Yeo" is to the west of the church tower, whilst that of Benjamin Rogers—guard of honour to Napoleon at St. Helena—is to the south, between two black and white headstones.

SOME FAMOUS FAMILIES

Most towns would consider themselves fortunate if they could claim association with one famous figure in history, but Northam can lay claim to half a dozen such figures, all of whom were descendants of the same family, their history extending from before the time when Columbus discovered America in 1492 to the battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

As early as the year 1300, the Burrough family lived at Burrough House (now rebuilt), and as far back as their activities can be traced, they led a sea life. In 1553, Stephen Burrough, in a cockleshell of a vessel drawing only four feet of water,

went in search of a north-east passage to China, on which occasion he visited Russia and established a high latitude record which remained unbroken for over 300 years. In recognition of his services, he was made Chief Pilot of England and one of the Four Masters of the Queen's Navy.

Stephen's brother William was also a great seaman. His ship was the "Golden Lion", and he was Vice-Admiral of Drake's fleet which went to Cadiz to "sing the King of Spain's beard" the year before the defeat of the Spanish Armada. As a result of a disagreement with Drake, Burrough was sentenced to death, but not only was he pardoned, but also appointed Controller of Queen Elizabeth's Navy. He married the grand-daughter of the Lord Mayor of London.

Christopher Burrough, a nephew of William, was a Merchant-Adventurer who went trading in Persia for silk and carpets.

Burrough House then passed to the Leighs, who figure in Kingsley's *Westward Ho!* or the *Voyages and Adventures of Sir Amyas Leigh, Knight, of Burrough, in the county of Devon, in the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth*. The story of Amyas Leigh and his brother Frank is well known to all, but although the tombs of the Leighs are in Northam Church, no record of these brothers has yet been found.

Two hundred years later the Barton family inherited Burrough House. The career of Admiral Barton—the Frenchmen's Terror—is written in naval history. At Anguilla in the West Indies, he destroyed two French warships, with the loss of only one man killed and seven wounded, and in the following year he captured eight French vessels.

His son, Captain Barton, was a midshipman on Nelson's ship, the "Victory" at the battle of Trafalgar. Coming to more recent times, two sons of Northam were on the "Exeter" during the glorious action of the River Plate.

A more disreputable relative of the Leighs of Burrough was Thomas Benson, the smuggling M.P., who lived at Knapp House, 200 years ago. Although he inherited £40,000 from his parents, Benson preferred an adventurous life. In

BLOODY CORNER
AND
SALVATION
YEO'S GRAVE



THE WAR MEMORIAL
AND
THE OLD PARISH
CHURCH



1748, he leased Lundy Island from Lord Gower, and then contracted with the government to ship convicts from Apple-dore to Maryland and Virginia, taking them to Lundy instead! Benson used the caves of Lundy for his tobacco and other contraband goods, which at last the government seized, along with the paternal estate at Knapp, which they held for the rest of Benson's life. He then heavily insured a ship's cargo, consigned to Maryland, unloaded it at Lundy, and then had the ship scuttled and burned some leagues to the westward. For this, the chief officers of the ship were executed, but Benson escaped to Portugal, where he ultimately died. Benson considered himself to be King of Lundy, and he would fire at any ship which did not hoist her flag in salute when passing the island.

BESIDE THE RIVER AT NORTHAM

Photo: Parry*Photo: Fox Photos*

NORTHAM—Where Devon at its best combines with river and sea to provide the perfect holiday playground.





Photo: R. L. Knight Ltd.

WESTWARD HO!—Looking across the illimitable happy sands

WESTWARD HO!

WESTWARD HO! has a name well suited to its past: for centuries, across the waters of the bay, the ancient mariners of North Devon have sailed westwards on voyages of adventure and discovery.

The town nestles under the green and yellow furze hills immortalised by Kipling, from which the ground slopes gently to the sea, providing wonderful views of the great bay.

To the left the noble curve of the bay ends at Hartland Point, with its lonely lighthouse perched on a narrow ledge half-way down the face of a beetling cliff. Nearer home is unique little Clovelly, an enchanting village famous for its beauty, after which come Bucks Mills, Peppercombe, Cornborough Cliffs and Westward Ho! Cliffs, with Kipling Tors behind and the raised beach below.

In the centre are flat, firm, golden sands, three miles long and quarter of a mile broad, washed by ocean rollers that advance nine deep, and divided from the Royal North Devon Golf Course by the famous pebble ridge—a natural rampart set up by the sea.

Round the right horn of the bay are Appledore, Braunton Lighthouse, Saunton and finally Baggy Point—scene of many shipwrecks.

Twenty miles out to sea is Lundy Island, set like a great jewel of changing colour in the blue, green and purple waters of the Atlantic.

“STALKY & Co.”

Although Westward Ho! has no ancient buildings, it possesses one which is of great literary interest. This is the Old United Services College (now divided up into boarding houses and flats and known as Kingsley Terrace), where Rudyard Kipling received his education, and as editor of the

Westward Ho! Holiday Centre

THE WESTWARD HO! HOLIDAY CENTRE was built in 1939, and as the aerial photograph shows, is beautifully situated overlooking the sea, with magnificent views. Its 12 acre site gives ample opportunity for endless activity, while indoor amusement is amply catered for, and in addition there are many opportunities for exploring the lovely countryside of Devon. The Centre is ideal for a family holiday. Enquiries should be made direct.

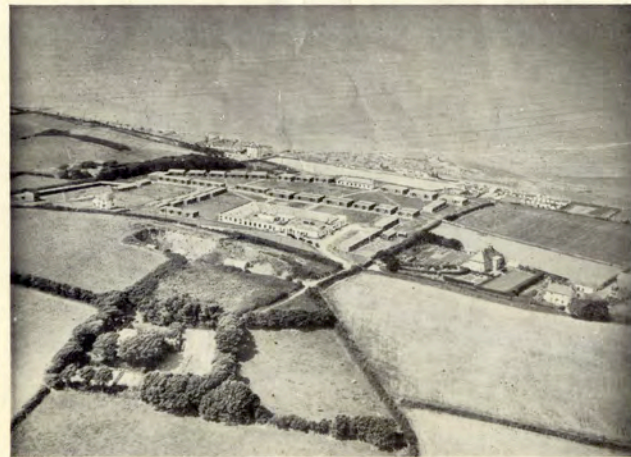


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A bit of fun at Westward Ho!



An aerial view, showing the whole camp site overlooking the sea.

WESTWARD HO! HOLIDAY CENTRE LTD., WESTWARD HO!, BIDEFORD, DEVON.

school *Chronicle* he first embarked on his career as a world famous writer. His well-known novel *Stalky & Co.* is based on his schooldays at Westward Ho!

Readers of *Stalky & Co.*, will be interested to know the location of "Study No. 5" and other matters relating to the college, and the following reliable information is from notes specially prepared by "M'Turk" (the late Mr. G. C. Beresford) himself, author of *Schooldays with Kipling*.

The Terrace of houses is now numbered 1 to 12 consecutively from the sea end, and during the time of *Stalky & Co.* the layout of the college was as follows:

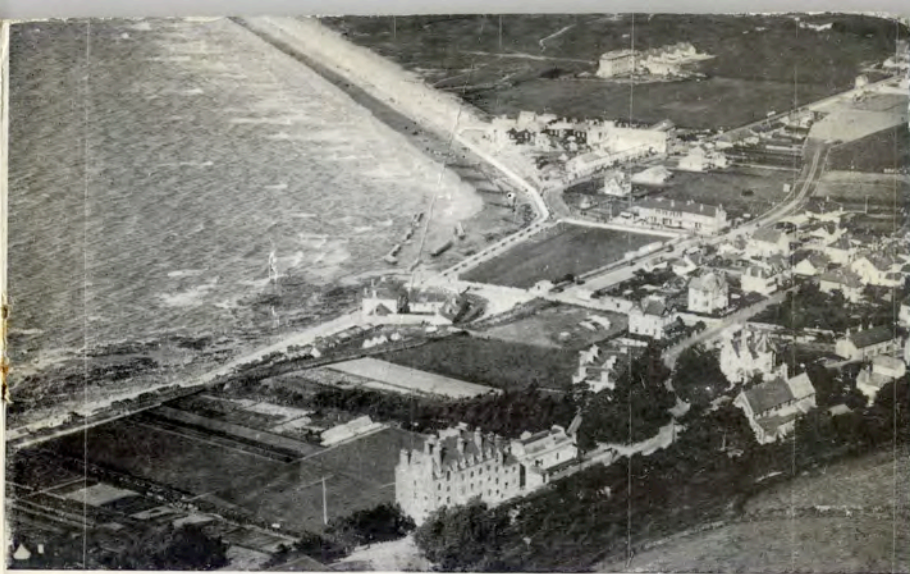
The whole top floor of the terrace was used for dormitories, the basement consisted almost entirely of service rooms and servants' quarters, and the three intervening floors were used for form rooms, studies, dining halls, etc. On the first floor of the south side of house No. 3 was "Study No. 5"—a small L-shaped room which in Kipling's day had walls stencilled by "M'Turk." The bay windowed room on the north side of the same floor was used for the production of the pantomime *Aladdin*—the bay window being used as the stage. Houses Nos. 5 and 6 constituted "King's" House, around which the most humorous incidents in the story—namely the dead cat episode—were written. "King's" form rooms were the two ground floor bay windowed rooms on the north side of Nos. 5 and 6.

The detached house at the east end of the terrace was the school gymnasium, where "Foxy," the school sergeant, drilled Kipling and his colleagues. "Keyte's" tuckshop was on the south corner of Nelson Road at its junction with Youngaton Road.

It was whilst he was at the college that Kipling wrote *Schoolboy Lyrics*.

On the south wall of the Westward Ho! Church is a stained glass window in memory of Kipling's headmaster, Cormell Price, and underneath is a brass with these lines of Kipling's after the inscription:—

"Who with toil of his To-day,
Bought for us To-morrow."



LOOKING DOWN ON WESTWARD HO! FROM KIPLING TORS

Photo: Parry

THE CLIFFS OF WESTWARD HO!



The Kipling Tors have already been acquired and handed over to the National Trust, to keep for ever as a public open space. The Northam U.D.C. gave £250 towards the cost. Kipling worshippers from all parts of the world may enjoy the great writer's works in a true Kipling atmosphere, and within sight of the old college, the Tors and the great Atlantic rollers which were so dear to the hearts of *Stalky & Co.*

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Westward Ho! is a centre to which day schools from various parts of the county, as far north as Lancashire, come to spend Educational Holidays and study the district.

The pupils prepare plans of Westward Ho!, Northam and Appledore, and study the submerged forest which is partly buried in the sands and from which flints and bones of prehistoric man and animals have been found. They learn that the boulders forming the pebble ridge have been rolled along the bed of the ocean from Clovelly and Hartland on the opposite side of the bay. The frequencies of the flashes of the Hartland, Braunton and Lundy Island light-houses are learnt, and the various types of buoy in Appledore "Pool" are drawn. Visits are paid to the lifeboat, old fort and quaint narrow streets of Appledore; Bloody Corner, Bonehill; the earthwork known as Kenwith Castle in Northam; Northam Church, with its "tall, grey, windswept tower"; and Burrough House, home of half a dozen sea heroes.

Cine-cameras are now used by some schools, with which moving pictures of the various features of interest are "shot," the film later being shown to parents of the scholars.

SAND YACHTING

The thrilling sport of Sand Yachting is in full swing on the magnificent sands at Westward Ho! These yachts have attained speeds of 35-40 miles per hour, according to wind,



Photo: R. L. Knight Ltd.

WESTWARD HO! IS IDEAL
FOR SAND YACHTING

and the B.B.C. reported and televised races that took place in August, 1949.

The sport officially recognised by the Northam Urban District Council, is under the auspices of the Westward Ho! Sand Yacht Club. but yachts are available for any visitor who would like to hire them or enjoy a run with a competent helmsman in charge.

BATHING, BOATING AND FISHING

BATHING. Excellent facilities for bathing are afforded at Westward Ho! Northwards from the town stretch three miles of level, golden sands forming a firm, safe bathing beach. Behind them, as a natural rampart, rises the pebble ridge, ideal for sun-bathing. In addition to the usual sea bathing, a free swimming pool on the raised beach has been provided by the Council. The water is changed twice daily by the natural action of the tides, and bathers may store their personal belongings in the Patio bath adjoining, on payment of a small charge.

At Appledore there is also a free sea-water bathing pool north of the Quay and sea bathing is popular, too, at Western Hill, near the old Armad Fort and lifeboat slipway.

SURF RIDING. The unique flow of the tide in the bay at Westward Ho! resulting in giant rollers often flowing nine deep, has made surf riding a popular sport. Surf boards may be bought or hired from shops near the sea front.

BOATING. Canoes, rowing and motor boats can be hired at Appledore, which is a popular boating centre, and on a flowing tide visitors can sail with the minimum of effort for a distance of about six miles up the beautiful river Torridge to Weare Giffard, famous for its strawberries and cream, passing under the many arched bridge of Bideford on the way. After picnicing on the river bank amid glorious woodland scenery, the return journey can be made on the ebb tide.

The enchanting scenery of the Vale of Torridge is viewed at its best from the river. The little white houses of Appledore can be seen climbing up the wooded hillside, sheltered from the prevailing winds, and watched by the crumbling tower known as Chanter's Folly—so named after the merchant who had it built to watch his ships come in over the bar, and then found that it was not high enough! Higher up the river are the lovely slopes of Northam, opposite which are often moored ocean going vessels waiting for a commission, whilst across the ferry from Appledore sits sleepy little Instow.

APPLEDORE REGATTA. In August Bank Holiday week,



A YACHT RACE AT APPLEDORE

Photos - Parry

THE LOVELY BATHING POOL AT WESTWARD HO!



one day is set aside for Appledore's annual regatta, which is an extremely popular event. There is something going on from morning to night, and every kind of river sport is indulged in. A dance at night concludes the festivities.

FISHING. At Westward Ho! rod and line fishing can be enjoyed from the rocks of the raised beach, or prawn fishing (a very popular pastime), may be indulged in in the innumerable pools amongst the rocks. Prawn nets and fishing tackle may be obtained locally.

Next to boat building, the chief occupation of Appledore is salmon fishing, and visitors so inclined may follow this pastime to their hearts' content. Fishing for bass, between the "pool" and the bar, is also a popular sport.

YACHT RACING. Born to a sea life, the sons of Appledore are never happier than when skimming over the billows in their sailing boats, engaged in the friendly rivalry of yacht racing. Twice a week throughout the season, this exciting sport gives added interest to the fascinating life of the river. It is thrilling to see the forty or so yachts of the Appledore Sailing Club, after the firing of the starting gun, straining to gain and maintain the lead from one another. Every square inch of the twenty-two yards of sail is used to capture every ounce of wind, and great skill is required when rounding the various buoys—an unexpected puff of wind and a "Lee O" at the wrong time may easily result in a yacht's sinking under her crew. Visitors who like a thrill and are good swimmers, might feel inclined to take part in such races. A skipper is usually agreeable to taking one visitor amongst his crew, but such a visitor must not mind getting splashed nor must he be easily scared, as by inattention to his small duties he might cause his yacht to lose the race. Information regarding yacht racing may be obtained from Sladers, Ship Chandlers, The Quay.

CRICKET, GOLF AND TENNIS

CRICKET. Throughout the summer season, amateur cricket club matches are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays on the Council's cricket ground, which is situated between the Westward Ho! tennis courts and the golf course. Visitors



Photo - Sport & General

WESTWARD HO! ON THE FIFTH GREEN
DURING AN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING

wishing to participate in matches may do so by arrangement with the club secretary.

GOLF. In the North Devon Golf Course, Westward Ho! possesses a course which has been on the championship rota for a quarter of a century, and is not only universally acknowledged to be the finest in Devon, but it is also one of the greatest and best known in the world. His Majesty King George VI is Patron of the Club, and amongst famous golfers the course has produced must be included Mr. J. H. Taylor and Mr. Horace Hutchinson. As the course stretches all the way to Appledore, it is as equally convenient of access from there and from Northam as from Westward Ho!

The course is set in superb surroundings, and the natural hazards include dykes, and bushes of great sea rushes the height of a man, whilst the mobile hazards are the sheep of the "Potwallopers" (the commoners) which keep the turf so short that it does not need mowing. The "Potwallopers" also keep the great pebble ridge in good shape,

and thus protect the golf course from the action of the Atlantic breakers.

Further particulars and terms can be obtained from the Secretary, The Royal North Devon Golf Club, Westward Ho!, N. Devon.

PUTTING. Two 18-hole putting greens have been provided for the use of visitors to Westward Ho! One adjoins the tennis courts and the other is on the promenade. The charge is 3d. per round, with free use of club and ball.

TENNIS. Three tennis courts have been provided by the Local Authority, and are situated on Golf Links Road, in sight of the sea. These hard courts have been laid out by experts, and are complete with pavilion and ladies' and gentlemen's rooms. The charges are 2/- per hour for singles, and 3/- per hour for doubles.

FOR THE WALKER

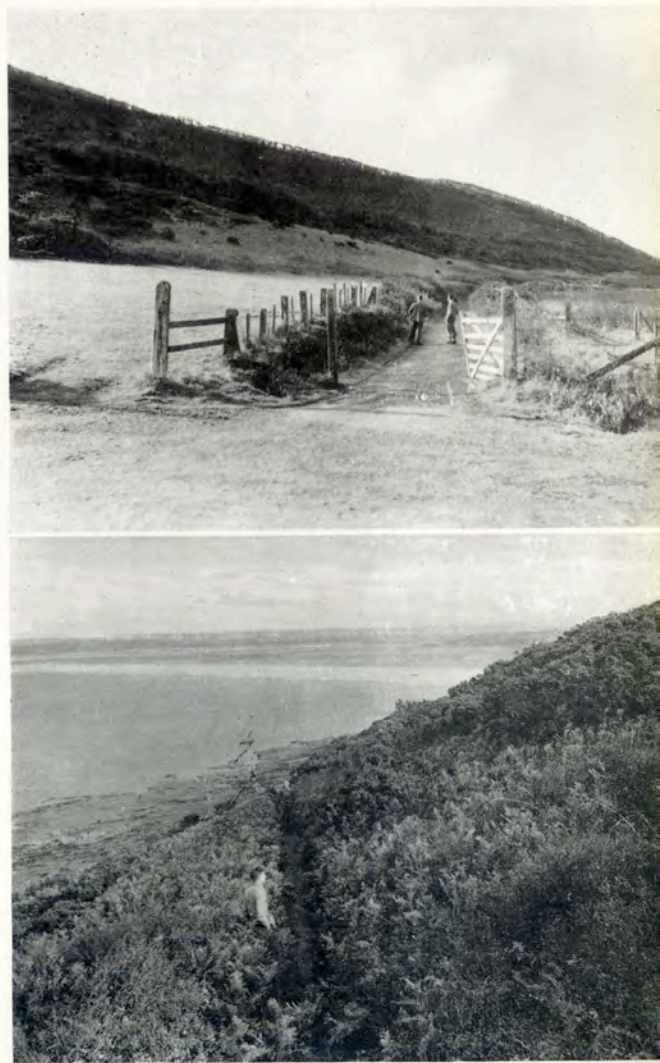
The whole district is ideal for walking, and although set routes are rarely followed, the holidaymaker usually preferring to wander as inclination takes him the following suggestions may be helpful. Additional places within walking distance are included among the excursions (page 49).

FROM WESTWARD HO! One of the most lovely cliff walks is that from beyond the Patio bath westwards towards Clovelly. For three or four miles one can walk on springy turf among the colourful heather and gorse, with the sea in sight all the way and with Hartland Point, Lundy Island and Baggy Point in the distance.

Interesting variations of this walk are as follows:—

- (1) Go through Kipling Tors top gate, turn right and follow the lane, keeping to the right all the time. Pass signpost "No through road" and turn right at notice saying "To the Cliffs". Take left stile at bottom and walk over grassy slopes at Cornborough Cliffs. Return along cliff edge to Westward Ho!

Photos:
R. L. Knight Ltd.



AT KIPLING TORS

- (2) Take road opposite Kipling Tors top gate and follow winding road to Abbotsham Church. Turn right at Greencliff signpost, ignore minor crossroads and junction, and continue past duckpond until a "private road" sign is reached. At the tree beyond is an arrow pointing to the cliffs.

A pleasant easy walk, full of interest, is eastward along Golf Links Road, turning to the left at the end, and then across the golf course to the pebble ridge at Sandy Mere, from where fine views of the surrounding hills, bay and river, are obtained.

Another interesting walk, which is almost a circular tour of the urban district, is across the golf course and burrows to Appledore, with its quaint narrow streets and curved quay, then along the river side path to leafy Windmill Lane, continuing along through Northam to the war memorial, along Bay View Road to Orme Lodge, turning to the right into Kipling Tors and then down to the sea front at Westward Ho!

FROM APPLIEDORE AND NORTHAM. Numerous walks may be taken from Appledore, and the visitors who owns a camera will not regret bringing it on holiday.

The walks from West Appledore include one across the golf links to Westward Ho!—a distance of two miles— or one can branch off to Northam on the left.

From East Appledore is a lovely riverside path past Boathyde—the former home of Charles Garvice, the famous novelist—up Leafy Windmill Lane (so called because a windmill belonging to the Leighs of Burrough once stood near the summit) and on to the centre of Northam, or one can turn left and continue along the river bank, through Cleave Houses (a cosy Northam riverside retreat) and on to Bideford, famous for its long bridge of 24 unequal arches.

Similar routes can be taken in the opposite direction from Northam.

Excursions from Westward Ho!

Northam and Appledore

AS a centre for touring, any part of the Urban District is ideal. The coasts of both North Devon and Cornwall are easily accessible by car and the whole of Devon can be toured by those who are able to make full day trips. Many places are also easily accessible by bus or train or by bicycle, though Devon is full of hills. Some of the following places are even within walking distance.

ABBOTSHAM. A well-signposted, delightful $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles walk south from Stanwell Hill brings one to the village of Abbotsham, which possesses what has been described as the prettiest little church between the Torridge and Hartland. The 16th and 17th-century bench-ends in the nave are magnificently carved, and each being different, deserve individual attention. Return via Bideford and Northam, or turn west and then north to return via Cornborough Cliffs.

BARNSTAPLE was a Royal Borough in the days of William the Conqueror. Places of interest are:—Queen Anne's Walk; Castle Mound; Market (Friday); Parish Church; St. Anne's Chapel; Church Lane Almshouses; Pottery, Penrose Almshouses; Rock Park; Atheneum. There are frequent bus and rail services.

BIDEFORD. $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles south of Northam is the town of Bideford, famous for its ancient bridge of 24 unequal arches. The church has a brass plate to Sir Richard Grenville, who was killed in his ship, the "Revenge" in 1591, which alone and for 24 hours, continuously held out against a complete ring of Spanish galleons. There is also a monument to John Strange, who died of the plague in 1646 after accepting the mayoralty whilst others were fleeing from the town.

In the Town Hall, east of the church, is a small museum which is worth a visit. On the hill behind the railway station is the site of Chudleigh Fort, which was surrendered by the Roundheads to the Royalists in 1643, and from which good

views of the district can be obtained. In the Victoria Park (north of the Kingsley Statue) are guns of the Armada period. These guns were formerly at Appledore. Return from the park, along the river path to Northam or Appledore.

BUCK MILLS. A beautiful little fishing village in a wooded combe between Westward Ho! and Clovelly. Buses pass Bucks Cross. Good walkers can alight at Hoops Inn or Hobby Lodge and walk across country. Half to one day's outing.

CLOVELLY. A unique little beauty-spot in the cleft of a steep cliff, with its quaint cobbled and stepped street struggling up between picturesque cottages, panier donkeys being the only means of transport. The home of Salvation Yeo is now incorporated in the north west corner of the Red Lion Hotel adjoining the Quay. Gallantry Bower, a cliff about 400 feet high, is worth a visit, as also is Clovelly Church, the names on many of the tombs being reminiscent of the characters in Kingsley's *Westward Ho!* Visitors can either go direct to Clovelly by bus or they can alight at Hobby Lodge and walk for a glorious three miles along the winding Hobby Drive (toll road).

HARTLAND is to the west of Clovelly, in the midst of rugged cliff scenery. On the way to Hartland Quay is the beautiful church of St. Nectan. A cliff walk leads to the Coastguard Station and Lighthouse. The return walk completes a circular route to Hartland Point. A whole day's outing.

ILFRACOMBE is reached by means of a half-hourly through bus service from Westward Ho! and Northam. The pleasant journey through Bideford, Instow, Fremington and Barnstaple, and the diversity of interests in Ilfracombe itself, provide a good day's outing.

INSTOW is reached by ferry from Appledore. Its ancient church is on the hillside above the cross roads.

LITTLEHAM can be reached via Abbotsham or Bideford. Its church, situated in a wooded hollow, contains the most beautiful rood screen in Devon.

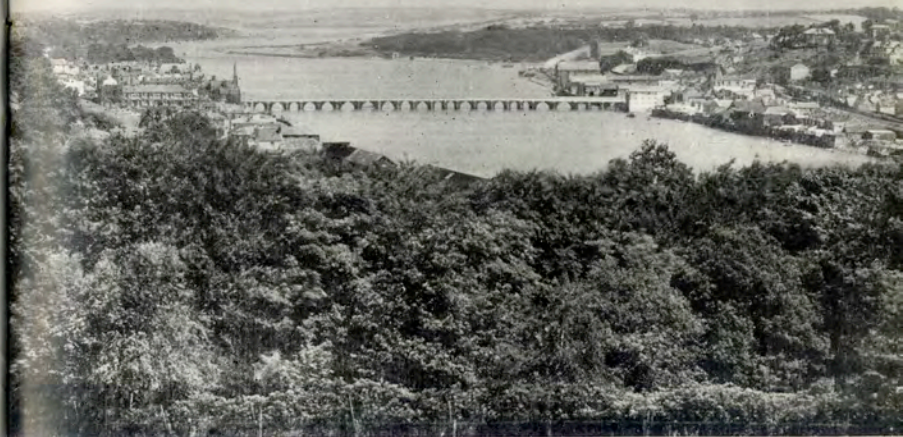


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LUNDY ISLAND is about 12 miles from Hartland and 23 from Appledore. The history of the island goes back to about the 4th century, and for 2½ centuries from about the year 1100 it was owned by the de Marisco family, who lived by piracy. Until about 200 years ago the island was almost continuously in the possession of pirates, and later, Thomas Benson, the smuggling M.P. of Northam, used it for the storage of his contraband goods. The island at present has about 40 inhabitants, and the postage stamps are valued in "puffins," but not valued on the mainland.

TORRINGTON is an ancient borough, whose manor lands were seized by William the Conqueror at the instigation of his vindictive wife, Matilda.

Said to be the most beautiful inland town in Devon, Torrington's chief items of interest are:—Parish Church (blown up during Civil War), Castle Hill Grounds (overlooking the Torridge Valley), Ancient Bowling Green, Glove Factories, Taddipport Bridge and Church. Bus and rail services. Half to one day's outing.

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NORTHAM: Cross Street. Hours of business, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Deliveries and despatches as for Appledore.

WESTWARD HO!: Hours of business, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Deliveries and despatches as for Appledore and Northam.

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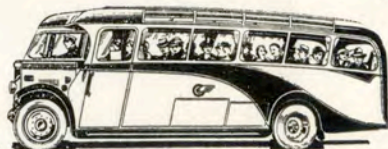
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