

# TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARY FORUM

NEWSLETTER UPDATE – 29th. May, 2007



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## TAW TORRIDGE ESTUARIES: GEOMORPHOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT: DRAFT REPORT – MAY 2007: PROFESSOR J. PETHICK:

At a meeting of representatives from interested stakeholder groups last Friday, Professor John Pethick outlined his draft Study on the Taw Torridge Estuary and its adjacent coast. The aim of the Study is to provide a detailed explanation of the components and function of this complex geomorphological system, upon which future management decisions may be based.

The study relies upon two distinct modelling approaches:

- Development of a conceptual model - an interpretation of the form and function of the Taw Torridge system, based upon available knowledge compiled from maps, charts, aerial photos, site visits, previous studies, and a specially-commissioned bathymetric survey
- Application of a series of computer-based models – a top-down modelling procedure that defines the theoretical equilibrium form of the estuary under a number of different scenarios, and compares this with the actual morphology. This allows, for example, the impact of future sea-level changes or of managed realignment to be assessed in a quantitative manner

The Study covers the whole of the Taw Torridge Estuary, with particular reference to areas such as Braunton Burrows and Saunton Beach, Northam Burrows and the Westward Ho! Pebble Ridge, Instow Beach, and the channels in both the Taw and the Torridge.

As this information will form the basis of an ongoing public consultation leading up to the forthcoming first review of the Shoreline Management Plan, **Professor Pethick is to be invited to speak to a meeting of all TTEF member organisations and others in the near future.**

In due course, I shall be in a position to send out a copy of the Executive Summary of the Study to all TTEF member organisations, and also to place a copy of the Summary on the TTEF website:

[www.ttef.org.uk](http://www.ttef.org.uk)

For your information, there will also be a Public Meeting held at Edgehill College, Bideford at 7.00 p.m.

on

**Wednesday, 13th. June, 2007**

## A STRATEGY FOR INTERPRETATION: SO WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT NORTH DEVON?

The Interpretation Strategy for the whole of North Devon has now been finalised, and copies can be found on the UNESCO International Biosphere Reserve and the Northern Devon Coast & Countryside Service websites:

[www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk](http://www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk)  
<http://www.devon.gov.uk/ndccs.htm/>

Both of these websites can also be accessed through our TTEF website:

[www.ttef.org.uk](http://www.ttef.org.uk)

using the links to our members' websites.

## NORTH DEVON AONB PARTNERSHIP:

At the meeting of the North Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership held at the Hallsannery Field Centre last Wednesday, Richard Butler (UK Man & the Biosphere Committee) was duly elected Chairman of the North Devon AONB Partnership for the forthcoming two years. Our congratulations go to Richard, who has previously served for two years as Vice-Chairman of the Partnership.

You will also be interested to know that I have, as your representative on the North Devon AONB Partnership, been elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for the next two years.

It was agreed at the meeting that Richard Butler should now represent the North Devon AONB at TTEF meetings, in addition to representing UK MAB, thereby releasing the AONB officers, Linda Blanchard and Dave Edgcombe, to report to us as and when necessary.

At this meeting, it was also confirmed that the TTEF letter, requesting Natural England to extend the AONB boundary around Braunton Burrows to include Braunton Marsh and Braunton Great Field, had been passed to the relevant department for consideration.

## BARNSTAPLE WESTERN BYPASS:

Following the Charity Fun Day on Sunday, 13th. May 2007 and the Grand Opening of the Bypass on Wednesday, 23rd. May, 2007, the only milestone now left for the final completion of all works on this bridge and new road system for Barnstaple is the minor work on landscaping, fencing and the Station Car Park that will continue on until the Summer of 2007.

The latest Barnstaple Western Bypass Newsletter 18 and details of the project can be found on the Edmund Nuttall Ltd. website set up specifically for this project:

[www.barnstaplebypass.com](http://www.barnstaplebypass.com)

Our thanks to Edmund Nuttall Ltd. and to Devon County Council for coming to talk to the TTEF at the beginning of this project, and for keeping us so well informed.

#### **BIDEFORD LONGBRIDGE:**

Following the TTEF meeting in April, I have been in touch with Chris Miller, the Team Leader for Bridges at Devon County Council on two occasions. You will also have seen the article in the North Devon Journal on 10th. May 2007 stating that, because the revised cost of renovating the Longbridge will be £9 million, DCC has been forced to review its plans. No upstream bridge option is being considered.

There is at present an Internal Technical Review being carried out, and this will examine all of the data collected and check that all available avenues have been properly explored with regard to value for money. There is no additional consultation being undertaken as part of this process.

#### **WESTCOUNTRY RIVERS TRUST: SUMMER RIVER COURSE:**

The WRT is running an extended degree-level summer course, costing £200 and including all course material, refreshments (not lunch), access to Duchy College and the University of Plymouth libraries, and a river expert pack (consisting of ID guides, a net and a tray). The course is based at the WRT offices in Launceston (10, Exeter Street, Launceston, Cornwall. PL15 9EQ).

The structure of the course is:

- Session 1: 2nd. and 3rd. June – The river ecosystem
- Session 2: 16th. and 17th. June – River Biology
- Session 3: 7th. and 8th. July – General River Management
- Session 4: 4th. and 5th. August – Specific River Management
- Session 5: varied dates – Individual visit by tutor

Application forms can be obtained from the Westcountry Rivers Trust at the address above, or from Dr. Laurence Couldrick at:

[laurence@wrt.org.uk](mailto:laurence@wrt.org.uk)

For your information, the new 2007 brochure for the Angling 2000 scheme is now available, along with the 2007 fishing tokens. Both are available from the Angling 2000 website, and tokens can also be purchased from the WRT at the address above, either by post, in person or by telephone on (08707) 740704 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)

WRT newsletters are available from:

[newsletter@wrt.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@wrt.org.uk)

#### **NEWSLETTERS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**North Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty:  
State of the Environment: Project News – June 2007**  
[www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk](http://www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk)

**National Trust: North Devon Coast – Events 2007:**  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)  
or Telephone: (01271) 850887

**Woodfair South West:  
Taunton Racecourse  
Saturday, 30th. June and Sunday, 1st. July**  
[www.woodfairsouthwest.co.uk](http://www.woodfairsouthwest.co.uk)  
Ticket Hotline: 08700 115 007: Event Enquiries: 01409 221896

**Biosphere Reserve Field Seminars 2007:  
Hallsannery Field Centre**  
Sand Dune: Sunday, 24th. June: 10am to 5pm  
Westward Ho! Coastal Management:  
Sunday, 29th. July: 10am to 4pm  
[www.hallannery.co.uk](http://www.hallannery.co.uk)  
[info@hallannery.co.uk](mailto:info@hallannery.co.uk)  
Telephone: (01237) 472135

**South West Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme:  
Plymouth Coastal Observatory News:**  
[mhutchings@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:mhutchings@teignbridge.gov.uk)  
[Roy.russell@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Roy.russell@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
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[coastal.observatory@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:coastal.observatory@plymouth.ac.uk)

**Environment Agency: River Basin Planning Newsletter:**  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd)

**NDDC Planning: Gliddon & Squire Site:**  
Application No: 44196: Rolle Quay/Mill Rd., Barnstaple  
156 Flats, Landscaping and Related Infrastructure:  
Officer: Mr. D.J. Heard – Telephone: (01271) 388329  
Any comments through TTEF to me, please, by return  
and

**NDDC Barnstaple Conservation Area Appraisal:  
Historic developments and documents**  
If you would like to contribute, please let me know  
Officer: Mr. Richard Bland – Telephone: (01271) 388352  
[www.northdevon.gov.uk/planning](http://www.northdevon.gov.uk/planning)

#### **DATES OF FORTHCOMING TTEF MEETINGS:**

Monday, 16th July 2007 at Bideford Town Hall  
Monday, 15th October 2007 at Barnstaple Civic Centre  
Monday, 21st January 2008 at Bideford Town Hall  
All meetings to commence at 7.00 p.m



**Rose Day  
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