

CELEBRATING DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE



Devonshire Association
For the Advancement
of Science, Literature
and the Arts



Supported by



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Devonshire Association is very grateful to everyone who has helped with the production of this booklet. The text has been compiled from information provided by UNESCO UK, the six UNESCO site teams in Devon, and Association members. We are particularly grateful to Susan Andrew, Andy Bell, Melanie Border, James Bridge, Bridget Gillard, Malcolm Hart, John Haslam, Liv Hooper, Andy Jones, Delphine Jones, Charlie Kennedy, Emma Laws, Anna Cohn Orchard, Nick Powe, Sam Scriven, Cheryl Tachon, Simon Timms, Adam Watt and Sally Weston for their help with different aspects of this booklet. We have also drawn on the knowledge of many other members of the Devonshire Association, past and present. Text in this booklet is based on information available in January 2025.

This booklet forms part of the Association's *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage* project which is supported by a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. So thanks go also to National Lottery players.

To obtain further copies of this booklet please contact the Executive Secretary at exec.sec@devonassoc.org.uk

For further information about the Devonshire Association's 'Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage' projects please scan the QR code below.

- ◀ Braunton Burrows, the core site in the UNESCO North Devon Biosphere Reserve. Image courtesy of and © North Devon Unesco Biosphere.
- ▶ The Exeter Book, one of Devon's six UNESCO-designated assets. Image courtesy of and copyright the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral.

The Devonshire Association welcomes new members interested in joining in its activities.

See devonassoc.org.uk/about-us/membership/ for details.



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The spectacular East Devon coastline, given World Heritage Site status by UNESCO in 2001. Image by Red Zeppelin on Unsplash.

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CELEBRATING DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE

AN INTRODUCTION TO DEVON'S
UNESCO SITES



Devonshire Association

For the Advancement of Science, Literature and the Arts

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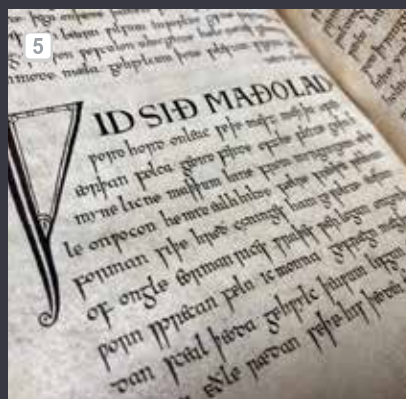
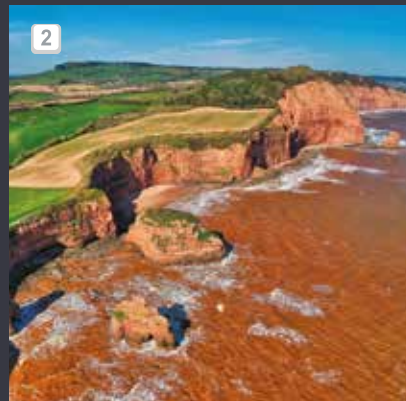
2025



unesco designations in Devon

Key

- 1** Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (*Devon area*)
- 2** Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site (*Devon section*)
- 3** English Riviera Global Geopark
- 4** Exeter City of Literature (*Designation sextends across the whole of Devon*)
- 5** Exeter Book (*Memory of the World Register designation*)
- 6** North Devon Biosphere Reserve (*Transition Zone*)



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▲ **Simon Timms**
President of the Devonshire
Association for 2024/25

INTRODUCTION

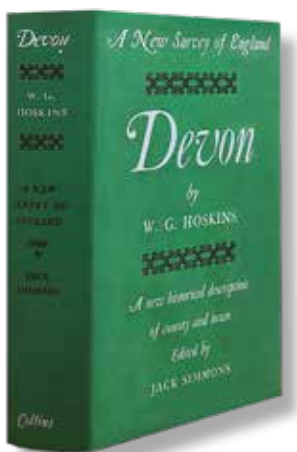
Devon stands out among historic English counties as being home to no less than six cultural and environmental assets that have been recognised by UNESCO for their outstanding universal significance.

In the north of our county a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve extends across a broad zone of land and sea, and a UNESCO Global Geopark covers the whole of the Torbay area on our south coast. Two designations – a UNESCO City of Literature and a UNESCO Memory of the World Register entry – are centred on Exeter, and parts of two UNESCO World Heritage Sites are to be found in West Devon and along the East Devon coast.

◀ Christopher Saxton's 1575 Map of Devon, the first printed map of the county.
Image Public Domain



▲ W. G. Hoskins CBE FBA (1908–1992).
Image courtesy of and © Peter Jones



▲ W. G. Hoskins *Devon*, a pioneering survey of the county first published in 1954
Image courtesy of and © Chris Chapman

Some of these sites – for example the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site – have become much better known in recent years thanks to the work of the local teams who look after them. But many people – both residents and visitors – remain unaware of just how significant these UNESCO designations are and the full extent of the benefits that they bring, not just in terms of today's quality of life in Devon but also for the future health of our planet.

This booklet is being published by the Devonshire Association to shine a spotlight on Devon's six UNESCO designations and to encourage readers to discover for themselves their special qualities. It forms part of the Association's project, *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage*, which is supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. During 2025 the Association is hosting a series of Discovery Days, organising conferences on Devon's UNESCO sites and on Exeter Cathedral, and offering bursaries for young people to explore our county's world-class heritage. The programme concludes in November 2025 with a public lecture on 'Climate Change and Devon's World-Class Environment'.

This is the first National Lottery project that the Devonshire Association has undertaken and we are very grateful to all who have offered advice and encouragement as we put our programme together. They include UNESCO UK, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the local teams who manage each of Devon's UNESCO sites, Beaford, Devon County Council, Exeter Cathedral, the International Agatha Christie Festival and the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter.

It is fitting that our *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage* project is happening in 2025 as this year marks the 70th anniversary of the publication of W.G. Hoskins' seminal book, *The Making of the English Landscape* in 1955. This book, still in print today, has transformed our understanding of the time-deep landscapes in which we live and work. Professor Hoskins, a Devonian through and through and our Association's President in 1978, demonstrated the enduring links between people and place, between human lives and natural landforms. He showed us that even the most unassuming slice of countryside can be full of meaning, that the lives of ordinary people are as much worthy of our attention as those of 'the great and good', and that there is so much more still to be discovered –if only we have the eyes and enthusiasm to search it out.

Devon was also home for 35 years to James Lovelock, creator of the Gaia theory. His visionary theory has revolutionised the way we think about our world. From his base in an old mill, deep in the West Devon countryside, Professor Lovelock tirelessly proclaimed his vision of humankind living in close harmony with the planet. He inspired leading scientists and politicians to view through fresh eyes their responsibilities not just for the good of society today but also for charting the path for future generations to follow.

I was fortunate to meet both Professor Hoskins and Professor Lovelock. Each man brought home to me the simple fact that, even in this complex modern world, an individual person can make a real difference. Hopefully this booklet will help readers appreciate just how special the world around us is and reflect on how we can each play a part in creating a more sustainable and more peaceful future for everyone.

Simon Timms President of the Devonshire Association for 2024/25

A Message from

JAMES BRIDGE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UK NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO



I am delighted to support the Devonshire Association in its celebration of the County's world-class heritage in 2025.

It is wholly appropriate that the Association is recognising the relationship between Devon and UNESCO. To coin a mining phrase, the county has a rich seam of UNESCO running through it!

Not only is Devon blessed with more UNESCO Designated Sites than any

other county in the UK and, uniquely, has at least one of each land-based Designation type (Biosphere Reserve, Creative City, Global Geopark, and World Heritage Site), one of the county's major events (the International Agatha Christie Festival) was awarded UNESCO Patronage through the National Commission last year. And of course we mustn't forget that the Codex Exoniensis (Exeter Book), held within Exeter Cathedral, is inscribed in the UNESCO Memory of the World programme for documentary heritage.

As the UK National Commission for UNESCO, my colleagues and I work closely with Designations through our programmes *Local to Global* and *Climate Change and UNESCO Heritage* to help them achieve their aims and ensure that the 'UNESCO in the UK' network is a strong and resilient one.

The work of the Commission stretches far beyond designated sites. Alongside the Permanent Delegation, led by the UK Ambassador for UNESCO Anna Nsubuga, we advise the UK and devolved governments on policy relating to UNESCO's core programmes of Education (a key focus for the UK is gender equality and women's and girls' education), the Sciences, Culture and Communication & Information. For this, we call on our exceptional 'Expert Network' of thought-leaders and academics

across the UK. These include the UNESCO Chair in Geoscience and Society at the University of Plymouth, led by Professor Iain Stewart MBE.

The Commission has global reach too. We are part of a network of almost 200 National Commissions across the world that work together to facilitate change and ensure that the work of UNESCO is an effective UN organisation, contributing to the attainment of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

As UNESCO celebrates its 80th anniversary year since its founding in the UK just after World War II, and the myriad achievements made both locally and globally, it is important to recall the striking words from its founding Constitution:

"That since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed".

Wishing you a happy and peaceful celebratory year.

James Bridge

Chief Executive and Secretary-General of the UK National Commission for UNESCO.



Photo courtesy of UNESCO UK



UNESCO AND THE UK'S HERITAGE

The movement to establish UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) was born in November 1945 when representatives from 44 countries met together in London in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War. Its first Constitution was formally ratified by 26 countries in 1946. Among its founding principles was the belief that *“since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed”*.

Over the past 80 years UNESCO has grown to a membership of more than 190 countries working together to draw attention to the significance of cultural and environmental assets around the world. The designation of sites such as World Heritage Sites as places of “outstanding universal value” is one of the main ways in which UNESCO champions the significance of our natural and human world. Today much of UNESCO’s work is directly related to the Sustainable Development Goals that the United Nations adopted in 2015 with the aim of bringing peace and prosperity to the people of this planet.

The UK National Commission for UNESCO (known as UNESCO UK) is the voice of UNESCO in this country. It was founded in 1946 and will be celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2026. Working with the UK government and drawing on the commitment and energy of a wide network of more than 1,300 UK partners UNESCO UK champions the world-class heritage of this country and of its Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories. The richness of this heritage is demonstrated by the UK being home to some 60 sites that have been formally designated by UNESCO for their universal value. These include Biosphere Reserves, Creative Cities, Global Geoparks and World Heritage Sites.

UNESCO UK, which is currently chaired by Professor Anne Anderson, coordinates a number of

projects to advance our understanding of the UK’s world-class heritage and to raise awareness of its cultural, social and environmental benefits – not just for society today but also for the quality of life of future generations.

Three current UNESCO UK projects that are of particular relevance to Devon are

- Its Government-funded *Climate Change and UNESCO Heritage* programme which is testing and developing models for improved joint working across UK designated sites. The North Devon Biosphere Reserve is one of UNESCO UK’s three pilot sites for this project.
- Its Local to Global programme, supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, is seeking to demonstrate the potential of the UK’s globally significant UNESCO sites to inspire change and empower communities at regional and local levels. The Devonshire Association’s *Celebrating Devon’s World-Class Heritage* project provides just such a focus on these local benefits.
- Its new initiative to support the UK Government in implementing the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage by launching a new UK Inventory of Living Heritage.

In 2023 UNESCO UK published an attractive “Discover the UK’s UNESCO Sites Map” illustrating the land-based sites in the UK that had been formally designated by UNESCO.

◀ Braunton Burrows, the core site in the North Devon Biosphere Reserve. Image courtesy of and © Mary Breeds

UNESCO DESIGNATIONS IN THE UK



The **UNESCO** designations relevant to Devon are:

Biosphere Reserves

The principal purpose of Biosphere Reserves is to connect people to nature and provide a harmonious environment for sustainable development. This means that they are not just areas of outstanding landscape and seascape. They also serve as centres of excellence for innovative research to test solutions to the global challenges that we are all facing. By combining the natural and social sciences this research helps promote future change in ways that are socially and culturally appropriate as well as being environmentally sustainable.

To date UNESCO has designated seven Biosphere Reserves in the UK. Braunton Burrows on the North Devon coast was first recognised by

UNESCO under its Man and the Biosphere programme in 1976 but it was in 2002 that the present much more extensive zone was designated by UNESCO as the first of the UK's 'new style' Biosphere Reserves.

Creative Cities

UNESCO launched its new Creative Cities programme in 2004 with the aim of promoting cooperation among cities that are committed to placing creativity and cultural industries at the core of their future growth and development. Today more than 350 cities in over 100 countries are members of UNESCO's

▲ The Devon and Exeter Institution, one of the historic libraries recognised by Exeter's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature. Image courtesy of and © the Devon and Exeter Institution

Creative Cities Network. Cities can be designated under seven different categories: Craft and Folk Art; Design; Film; Gastronomy; Literature; Media Arts; and Music.

There are currently 13 UNESCO Creative Cities in the UK. They include Exeter which was designated as a UNESCO City of Literature in 2019.

Global Geoparks

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed through an integrated approach to conservation, education and sustainable development.

UNESCO established its Global Geopark Network in 2004 and it now recognises more than 200 Global Geoparks in over 45 countries. What makes Geoparks special is that they are identified and managed by local community-led partnerships that promote public awareness of our natural and cultural heritage through, for example, a focus on eco-tourism.

There are currently nine UNESCO Global Geoparks in the UK. The English Riviera Global Geopark was designated by UNESCO in 2007.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

In 2003 UNESCO adopted a new Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. This identified five categories for defining this form of heritage: (i) oral traditions and expressions such as folklore or sea shanties; (ii) performing arts such as bagpipes or pantomime; (iii) social practices, rituals or festive events such as carnivals and wassailing; (iv) knowledge and practices relating to nature and the universe such as thatching or dry-stone walling; and (v) traditional craftsmanship such as boat building or pottery.

The UK Government ratified this Convention in 2024 and is now working with UNESCO UK on implementing it. A key action will be the introduction of a new "UK Inventory of Living Heritage". This will give official recognition to our country's extraordinary intangible heritage ranging from the local traditions that are celebrated in small communities to large popular events that are appreciated by the public at large. Further details of how this new UK Inventory will operate are expected to be announced during the coming year.

Memory of the World Register

The UNESCO Memory of the World Programme is a global initiative to safeguard the heritage of the world's written records in libraries and archives against collective amnesia, the ravages of war, decay and deterioration. Cultural artefacts designated under the programme are included on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register which has both an international and a national section.

The programme was established after a United Nations committee met in 1993 to address the need to preserve significant documentary heritage from around the globe by cataloguing and protecting historical archives for future generations to enjoy and learn from. Its mission is to focus world attention on the need to safeguard unique library and archive collections and make them accessible to everyone.

There are currently 81 UK items designated on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. These include the Exeter Book which was added to the Register in 2016.

World Heritage Sites

UNESCO established its World Heritage Sites List in 1972 following its adoption of the International Convention concerning the Protection of the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage. UNESCO's World Heritage Committee's key criterion for designating a new World Heritage Site is that it displays "outstanding universal value" for either its natural or cultural heritage (or a combination of both). This means that the site is judged to possess a cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.

To be selected, a World Heritage Site has to be a unique landmark which is geographically and historically identifiable and to be managed under an effective system of legal protection.

There are currently 31 World Heritage Sites in the UK. The Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site was designated in 2001 and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site in 2006.



THE DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE

Since the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature and the Arts was founded in 1862 its members have been playing a leading role in advancing understanding of Devon's world-class environmental and cultural heritage. UNESCO recognised the first of its six currently designated sites in Devon in 2001.

For nearly 140 years before that date research and advocacy by Devonshire Association members had been helping to demonstrate that Devon's heritage was of international, not just local or national importance.

Much of the evidence for this research is recorded in over 2,500 articles that have been published in the annual *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*. The first volume dates back to 1863 and Volume 157 is due to appear at the end of 2025. Together these volumes make up an unrivalled store of information about Devon, a body of evidence that is being added to with each passing year.

Devon's geology is one of the fields of study in which past and present members of the Association have made a long-lasting impact. The idea of creating the Association arose during a geological outing to Plymouth in October 1861. One of those present was William Pengelly who, as well as being a founder of the Association, made his name among Victorian scientists as a pioneering geologist. He is particularly remembered for his 'Great Excavation', the systematic exploration of Kents Cavern in Torbay over the years 1864 to 1880. His Presidential Address on 'The Present Position of Opinion Respecting the Geology of Devonshire' appeared in the 1867 *Transactions*, only eight years after the publication of Darwin's ground-breaking *On the Origin of Species*.

◀ Exploring Kents Cavern in the English Riviera Global Geopark. Image courtesy of and © Kents Cavern

In this important paper Pengelly directly addressed the then novel conclusion that 'man was the contemporary of animals no longer existing anywhere in the world'. To read Pengelly's words today gives us a vivid picture of the key role Devon was playing in advancing the thinking of geologists in the UK more than 150 years ago. It also reminds us of just how far the study of geology has come since then.

MR. PENGELLY'S PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

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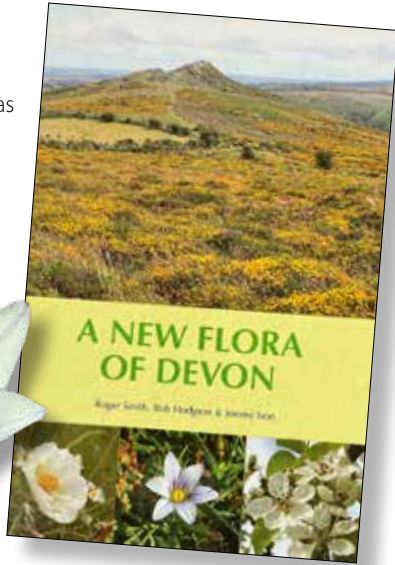
It cannot be needful to inform those interested in the Natural History of Devonshire, that our county is rich in geological phenomena. It includes numerous varieties of Aqueous, Volcanic, Metamorphic, and Plutonic rocks; Silicious, Argillaceous, Calcareous, and Carbonaceous rocks; Chemical, Mechanical, and Organic rocks; and Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenzoic rocks. Some of its aqueous deposits, like the limestones of South Devon, are little more than aggregates of animal remains; whilst others, like the red sandstones and associated strata, covering hundreds of square miles, contain no remnant of contemporary organic existence. Nowhere, probably, can the phenomena of contortions, jointage, cleavage, and mineral veins be studied with greater advantage; the numerous ossiferous caverns in our limestones are celebrated throughout the world; our cliffs abound in raised beaches and other evidences of a general upheaval; and the retreating tide lays bare submerged forests on our strands.

In the explication of phenomena so varied, the interpreters, as might have been expected, have in several instances differed so widely, that Devonshire has been the field of many a hard-fought geological battle; and, unless the omens have been misunderstood, future severe contests may be expected.

▲ Extract from William Pengelly's Presidential Address published in the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association* in 1867.

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▶ Running to nearly 850 pages, the 2016 landmark publication *A New Flora of Devon* was compiled by members of the Devonshire Association's Botany Section.



Geology remains at the forefront of the Association's activities today – as the titles of articles in recent volumes of the *Transactions* indicate. Members of its Geology Section provided expert advice to support UNESCO's designations of both the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site and the English Riviera Global Geopark. Nick Powe,

the Association's President for 2025/26, is the former owner of Kents Cavern and the current Chair of the Geopark Partnership.

Association members have also taken a leading role in advancing knowledge of the history and industrial archaeology of the Tavistock area and the Tamar Valley, now part of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site. Although Industrial Archaeology was not firmly established as a discipline in its own right until the mid 1960s, an influential article on Devon Great Consols, once the richest copper mine in Europe, appeared in the 1964 *Transactions*. Subsequent articles have covered the Tamar river ports of Morwellham and New Quay, the Duke of Bedford's Tavistock estate and the Tavistock Canal – all outstanding features in the World Heritage Site. Another article, published in 2013, focussed on how the artist, designer, and social activist William Morris benefited from owning shares in Devon Great Consols during the nineteenth-century mining boom.

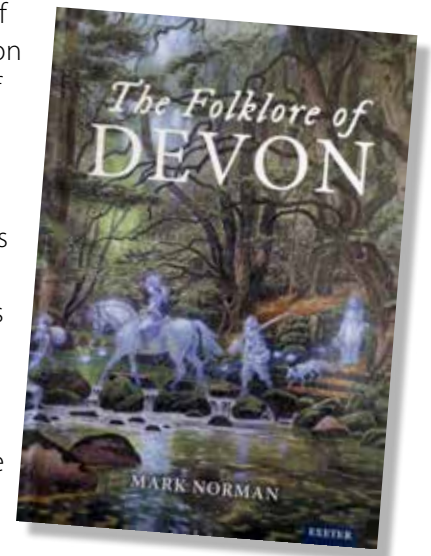


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In numerous other articles in the *Transactions* researchers, many of them Association members, have helped to raise the profile of what is now recognised as Devon's world-class heritage. For example the 1893 *Transactions* contained an article of more than 130 pages on 'Devon Literary Works and their Authors'. This drew early attention to the county's rich literary heritage and practice, a significance recognised by UNESCO's designation of Exeter as a City of Literature 126 years later. Another article, published in the 1899 *Transactions*, asserted that the 'chief treasure' of the Exeter Cathedral Library was 'the book known through[out] the world of literature as the Exeter Book'. This was recognised by UNESCO in 2016 to be 'the foundation volume of English literature'.

Association members will continue to research Devon's world-class heritage and share their knowledge and enthusiasm with others in the years to come. As well as focussing on the six Devon sites that have already been designated by UNESCO they are well-placed to contribute to the

UK's implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Folklore, one example of this intangible heritage, has been a topic of special interest to its members for the past 150 years. Over that period no less than 115 reports on Devon folklore have been published in the *Transactions*.



devonassoc.org.uk

▲ *The Folklore of Devon* by Mark Norman, the Devonshire Association's Recorder of Folklore, published in 2023.

▼ Devonshire Association members on a guided tour of Exeter during its History of Exe Island conference in 2022. Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew





THE CORNWALL AND WEST DEVON MINING LANDSCAPE WORLD HERITAGE SITE (DEVON AREA)



Commonly known as the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, this World Heritage Site is testimony to one of the most intense periods of economic development and technological invention that the UK has ever known. Inscribed by UNESCO in 2006, its surviving network of dramatic well-preserved landscapes makes up the largest industrial World Heritage Site in the country, stretching from St Just in West Cornwall to the Tamar Valley and Tavistock in Devon.

For over 200 years from the start of the 18th century, mining in Cornwall and Devon played an increasingly vital role in transforming our country's technological processes, providing the raw materials

◀ Aerial view of the historic river port of Morwellham on the Devon bank of the Tamar. Image courtesy of and © Barry Gamble

▲ Devon Great Consols, once the most profitable copper mine in Europe. Image courtesy of and © Barry Gamble

to feed the Industrial Revolution across Britain. Much of the landscape of Cornwall and West Devon was transformed during these centuries as a result of the spectacular growth of copper and tin mining. This transformation included advances in deep underground mines, engine houses, foundries, miners' housing, ports and harbours, and even town centres.





▲ Tavistock Town Hall erected by the Duke of Bedford. Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew

This mining boom also brought rapid population growth, changing areas of Cornwall and West Devon from quiet agricultural landscapes into busy industrial communities and making a few mine owners and investors very rich in the process. At one time the region was producing two-thirds of the whole world's supply of copper. As recently as the early 20th century the Tamar Valley was a leading source for the arsenic that the United States imported to fight insect damage to its cotton crops.

Such was the impact of these developments that mining know-how was widely exported around the world as skilled mineworkers from Cornwall and Devon emigrated to distant lands, taking their designs for engines, engine houses, mining equipment and their family traditions with them. Cornwall and West Devon formed a heartland from which a global mining revolution sprung, a fact that is recognised by UNESCO's designation.

Nine of the World Heritage Site's ten designated areas are located in Cornwall but the sites that it includes on the Devon side of the Tamar Valley and in the ancient Dartmoor stannary town of Tavistock are among the most significant in the whole World Heritage Site. Among them is the historic river port of Morwellham that served to transport the voluminous outputs from the mines for over 20 miles down the Tamar to Plymouth. These mines included Devon Great Consols, at one time the most profitable copper mine in Europe (the artist, designer and social activist William Morris was fortunate enough to inherit shares in this mine when it was at its peak).

◀ Tavistock Canal tunnel exit near Morwellham. Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew

Morwellham was connected to the town of Tavistock in 1817 by a new canal, designed by local engineer John Taylor. Like the historic remains of Morwellham and Devon Great Consols, the Tavistock Canal has survived in a remarkable state of preservation and can be visited by the public.

One of the principal landowners to benefit from the West Devon mining boom was the Duke of Bedford who owned extensive parts of Tavistock town centre. Drawing on profits from the mines, he transformed the town centre, erecting the Town Hall and other public buildings in the distinctive Hurdwick stone and workers' housing in brick, granite and rubble stone. Today Tavistock is one of the World Heritage Site's official 'key centres' and a new visitor centre has been created in its historic Guildhall with the support of the The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The campaign to create this World Heritage Site was led by Cornwall Council in partnership with Devon County Council. Today the team that manages it is hosted by Cornwall Council. 2026 will see the 20th anniversary of its designation in 2006.

cornishmining.org.uk

The Devonshire Association and the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site. Members of the Association's Tavistock & West Devon Branch and its Buildings, History, and Industrial Archaeology Sections have particular interest in and knowledge of this World Heritage Site.



THE DORSET AND EAST DEVON COAST WORLD HERITAGE SITE (DEVON SECTION)

The Dorset and East Devon Coast was the first of Devon's world-class sites to be recognised by UNESCO when it was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 2001. Commonly known as the 'Jurassic Coast', it extends for over 95 miles (150 km) from Orcombe Point overlooking Devon's Exe Estuary to Old Harry Rocks in Dorset. It bears spectacular witness to 185 million years of geological time.

The Dorset and East Devon Coast is the UK's only natural World Heritage Site. Its rocks, fossils and landforms span the entire Mesozoic era and it represents a near complete rock record of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods of our Earth's history. In these rocks, large numbers of animal (marine and terrestrial) and plant fossils have been discovered. Geomorphological fields of study include a great variety of landslides and beach formation and the evolution of a retreating coastline. Today the Dorset and East Devon Coast is globally important for the study and teaching of palaeontology, stratigraphy, geology and geomorphology. It also forms a coastline of stunning beauty.

The area's unrivalled potential for expanding knowledge has attracted scientists for more than 300 years. Among the most famous of them was the "fossilist", Mary Anning (1799–1847). From her home in Lyme Regis she was one of the first people to collect local fossil specimens and some of her finest specimens are on show today in local and national museums. They include her discovery of the first complete plesiosaur in 1823, now in the Natural History Museum in London.

The larger stretch of the World Heritage Site lies in Dorset and it is there that the evidence of the Jurassic period is to be found. The cliffs of the East Devon section, which runs for over 20 miles (35 km) to the Dorset border, form the oldest rocks in the World Heritage Site, dating from the Triassic period



(c. 250 to 200 million years ago). Their rich red colour makes a striking visual contrast with the white chalk of the coastline further east.

Locations along the East Devon coast give both residents and visitors to Devon opportunity

▲ The pioneering palaeontologist Mary Anning who lived in Lyme Regis. Image Public Domain

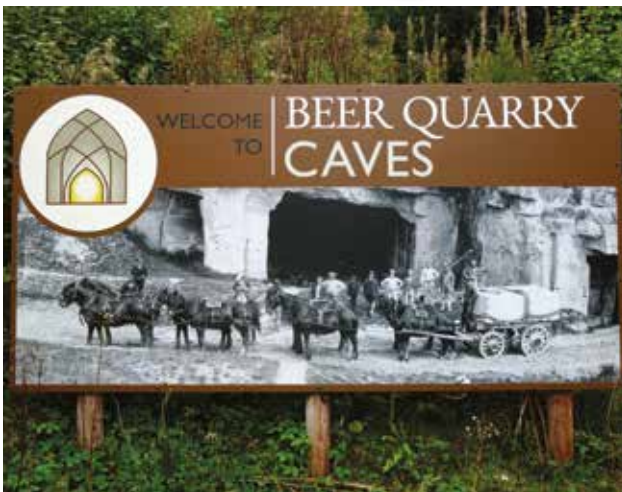
◀ The East Devon coastline near Ladram Bay. Image by Red Zeppelin on Unsplash

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to see for themselves the rich variety of the World Heritage Site's landforms. They include the majestic rock stacks at Ladram Bay, the pebble beach at Budleigh Salterton, and Beer Quarry Caves, an important source of heritage stone used in buildings since Roman times. Heritage centres open to the public can be found at Seaton and at Beer.



▲ Inside Beer Quarry Caves.
Image by John Scott.
Creative Commons



▲ Beer Quarry Caves, an important source of stone since Roman times
Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew

The South West Coast Path runs the full length of the World Heritage Site. One of the most spectacular Devon sites close to the Path is the National Nature Reserve at Bindon near Axmouth, the site of a massive landslide on Christmas Day 1839. A recent series of sudden landslips around Sidmouth has served as a reminder that our coastlines are forever evolving.

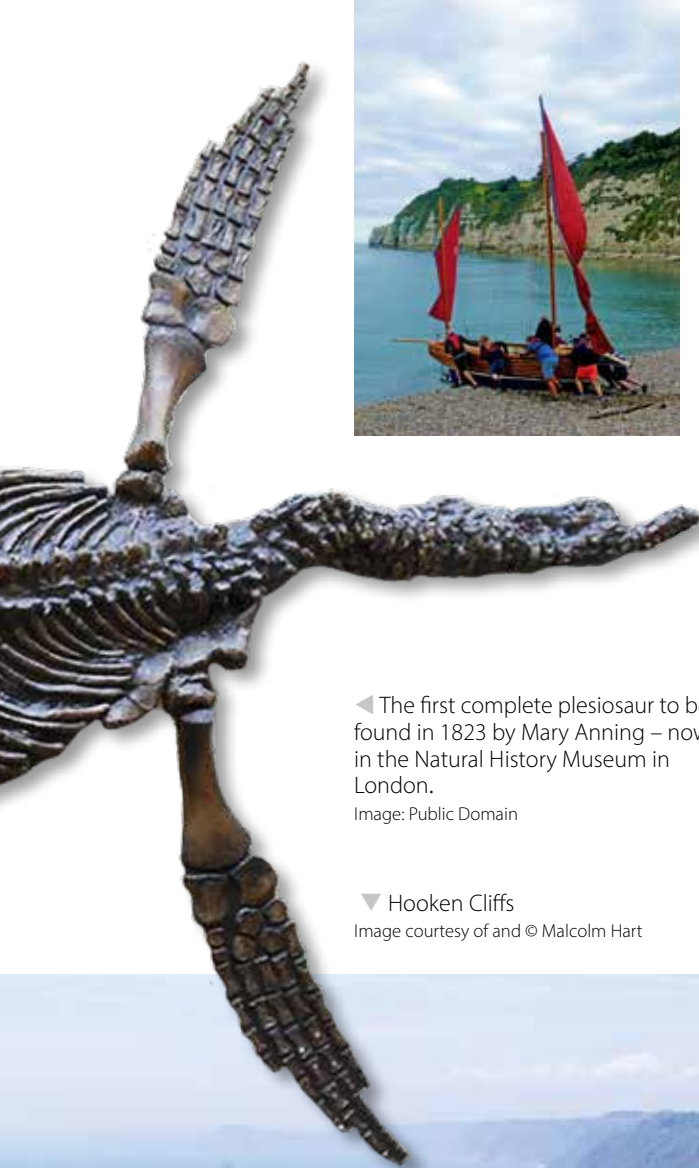
Fossils and rock specimens from the World Heritage Site can be seen in local museums in Plymouth, Torquay, Exeter, Sidmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Lyme Regis and Dorchester. The Etches Collection, a new museum opened at Kimmeridge in Dorset in 2016 with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, brings together an unparalleled personal collection of over 2,000 specimens discovered by Dr Steve Etches MBE over more than 40 years of collecting and research.



▲ Fossil specimens from the World Heritage Site include well-preserved ammonites.
Image by Ruben Gregori on Unsplash



▲ An example of medieval window tracery of Beer stone from Colyton church, still to be seen in Beer Quarry Caves.
Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew



CELEBRATING DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE

◀ A Beer Luggar being launched from the beach at Beer.
Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew

The campaign to have the Dorset and East Devon Coast inscribed as a World Heritage Site was led in 2001 by Dorset and Devon County Councils working with the Dorset Coast Forum. This year the two councils took back the management of the World Heritage Site programme from the Jurassic Coast Trust. 2026 will mark the 25th anniversary of the designation of this World Heritage Site.

jurassiccoast.org

◀ The first complete plesiosaur to be found in 1823 by Mary Anning – now in the Natural History Museum in London.

Image: Public Domain

▼ Hooken Cliffs

Image courtesy of and © Malcolm Hart

The Devonshire Association and the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site

Members of the Association's East Devon Branch and its Geology Section have particular interest in and knowledge of this World Heritage Site.





THE ENGLISH RIVIERA GLOBAL GEOPARK

As the name ‘English Riviera’ indicates, Torbay has long been established as a popular seaside resort but it may come as a surprise to many visitors to discover that it is also an area of outstanding geological interest. It was recognised as a Global Geopark in 2007 and later, in 2015, it became a UNESCO Global Geopark at the introduction of the UNESCO International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme. This designation covers the whole of the Torbay Council area.

The Global Geopark encompasses an area of 104 sq. km. and has an intricate coastline extending for some 22 miles (35 km.). Spanning over 400 million years of geological time it is home to one of the richest concentrations of geological, landform and marine designations in the country. National Nature Reserves, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and a Marine Conservation Zone (covering all of Tor Bay) are among the mix of protected areas scattered around the urban centres of Brixham, Paignton and Torquay.

The Geopark connects us with the far distant past of our planet—stretching back across geological periods to when the shifting locations of the continents meant that Torbay lay south of the Equator, to a time when desert conditions prevailed, and to another time when the area was deep under water. The Hope’s Nose Site of Special Scientific Interest with its famous raised beach is striking evidence that sea levels were once significantly higher than they are today.

The Torbay area has drawn the attention of scientists for over 200 years. Indeed such was its attraction to Victorian geologists that their research in the area led them in 1839/1840 to name “the

Devonian era” as one of the principal periods of geological time – terminology that is still recognised to this day. Devon can boast to being the only English county that has a geological era named after it!

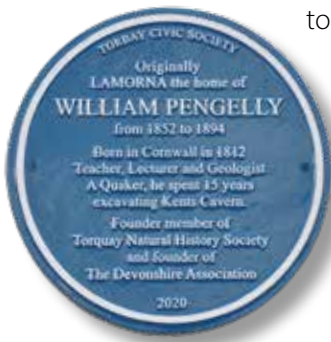
Kents Cavern, with its compelling evidence of providing shelter to prehistoric animals and early humans, formed a particular focus of early exploration. William Pengelly, one of the founders of the Devonshire Association in 1862, devoted many years of his life to advancing understanding of its natural and human history. Later investigations led



◀ Sandstone cliffs at Maidencombe on the Geopark’s coastline.
Image by Red Zeppelin on Unsplash

▶ Torbay’s limestone is recognised as a rich botanical habitat.
Image courtesy of and © Malcolm Hart

CELEBRATING DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE



to the discovery of a human jawbone which scientific analysis has shown to be some 41,000 years old. Now on display in Torquay Museum, it is still the earliest evidence of modern Man known in this country.

Torbay's geological significance is enhanced by the richness of the area's biodiversity and cultural history. Both of these assets form a significant element of the Global Geopark designation. The local limestone is carpeted with wild flowers in spring and early summer, and the International Agatha Christie Festival carries forward the legacy of its most famous local resident who is still one of the most widely read authors in the world.

Torbay's position as a popular tourist destination provides a wonderful opportunity for visitors to see for themselves something of the special qualities of the Geopark. Kents Cavern is open to the public as a show cave and is one of Devon's 'must see' attractions. The Berry Head National Nature Reserve displays evidence of both natural and military history and offers stunning views across the Bay and along the South Devon coast. Much of this coastline is accessible from the South West Coast

◀ Blue plaque to William Pengelly, geologist and co-founder of the Devonshire Association.

Image courtesy of and © Malcolm Hart



▲ William Pengelly. (1812–1894).

Image Public domain

◀ Agatha Christie's home. Greenway House.

Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew



Path. Medieval Torre Abbey and Greenway, Agatha Christie's home, are among the outstanding heritage sites open to the public.

Today the Global Geopark is managed by the English Riviera Geopark Organisation working with a range of partners to promote awareness of its significance and to ensure that its special qualities are celebrated and safeguarded for the future.

englishrivierageopark.org.uk

The Devonshire Association and the English Riviera Global Geopark

Members of the Association's South Devon Branch and its Botany, Geology and History Sections have particular interest in and knowledge of this Geopark.



▲ Field trip examining the geology of the Geopark's coastline.
Image courtesy of and © Malcolm Hart

▼ Aerial view of the Berry Head National Nature Reserve near Brixham.
Image courtesy of and © English Riviera UNESCO Global Geo Park



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... forþon perculon ahscegðre hælo wæstf gnum
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ID SIÐ MAÐO



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THE EXETER BOOK

The Exeter Book, a collection of poems and riddles written in Old English, is the earliest book of English Literature surviving anywhere in the world. Exeter has been its home for some 1,000 years and it forms the star exhibit in the new Treasures Gallery that Exeter Cathedral is opening this year with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

In 2016 UNESCO inscribed the Exeter Book in its Memory of the World Register where it is recognised alongside some 500 artefacts from around the world that are considered to be of outstanding cultural significance. It is currently listed in the Register's national section.

The origins of the Exeter Book are shrouded in mystery. We know that Leofric, the first Bishop of Exeter, established a library at Exeter Cathedral after King Edward the Confessor issued its foundation charter in 1050. The surviving inventory from that time records that he donated over sixty books to it.

Only one of his books, the Exeter Book, survives in the cathedral today. In Leofric's list it was simply described as 'a large English book on various subjects composed in verse'. Today it is the largest and best preserved of only four surviving Anglo-Saxon books of poetry in the world (the other three are in London, Oxford and Vercelli in Italy).

The Exeter Book is made up of 123 sheets of parchment containing some 40 poems and nearly 100 riddles. Neatly written in Old English by a single scribe, probably a monk, it is thought to date to around AD 970, making it over 1,050 years old. We do not know the scribe's name but one of the

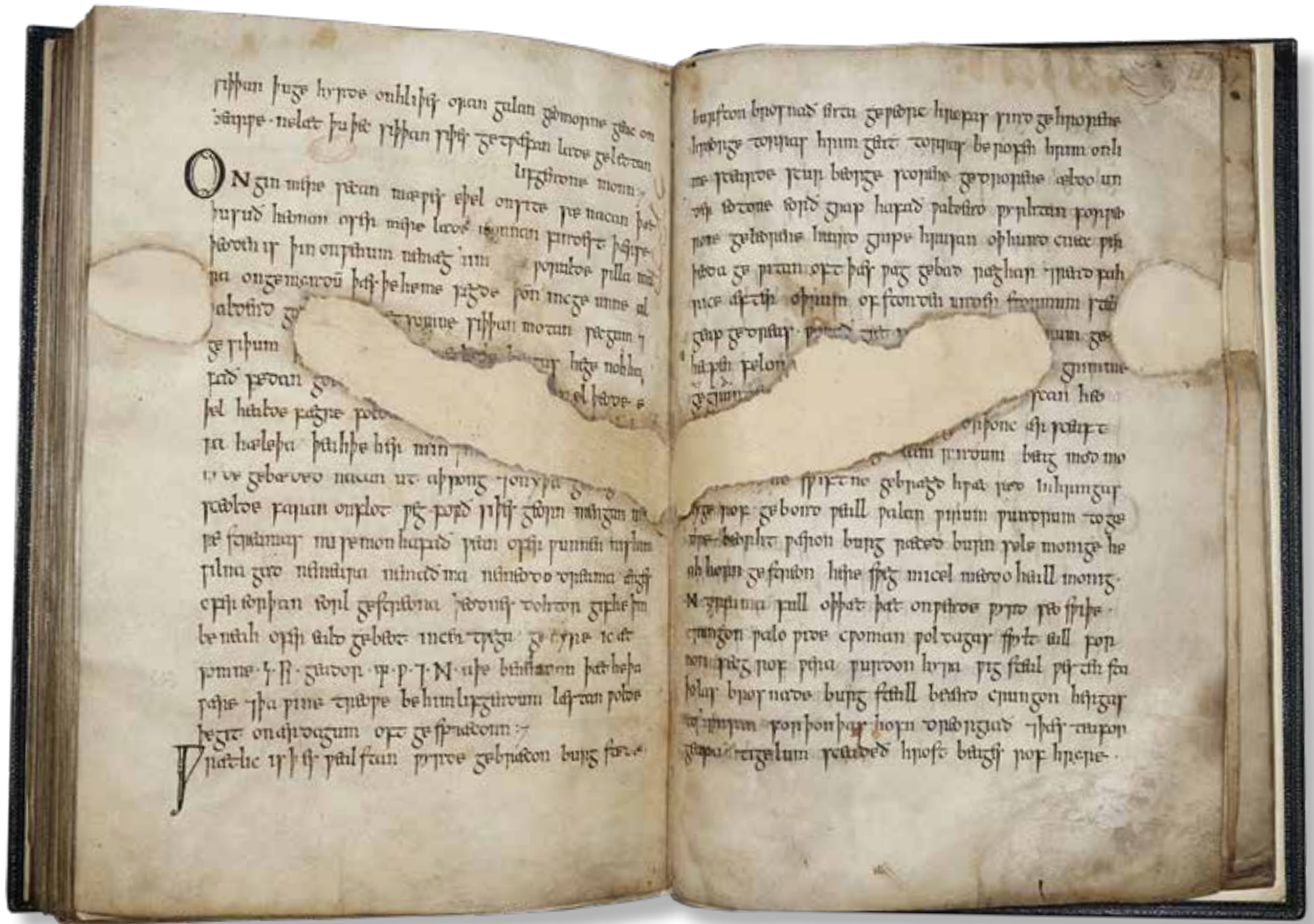
poems bears the signature of the Anglo-Saxon poet, Cynewulf. It has been kept in Exeter since at least 1072. While it does not have any illuminations its letters have many embellishments and some rough drawings of figures such as angels are etched in the margins.

The poetry of the Exeter Book has inspired countless writers and poets including Ezra Pound and J. R. R. Tolkien (who would discover the term 'Middle Earth' in its pages). *The Wanderer* and *The Seafarer*, powerful meditations on loneliness and the passage of time, are two of its most famous poems.



◀ A page from The Exeter Book, "the foundation volume of English Literature".
Image courtesy of and © of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral

▲ Exeter Cathedral, home to The Exeter Book for over 950 years.
Image courtesy of and © Anthony T Buller



▲ The Exeter Book open at the poem *The Ruin*.

Image reproduced with permission of the University of Exeter, Digital Humanities and the Dean & Chapter, Exeter Cathedral

But it is its 'Exeter Riddles' which capture people's attention today. Much ink has been spilt by scholars, writers and the wider public debating the solution to these riddles, some of which have a bawdy tone not normally associated with life in a cathedral. The answers to many of them remain a mystery just as the origin of the Book itself does.

In the care of Exeter Cathedral's Library and Archive, the Exeter Book survives in a remarkable state of preservation despite some evident signs of ancient wear and tear. These include a burn mark, a spill from a glue pot and signs that it was once used as a chopping board. That it has survived to this day is to a large extent due to it being such an ordinary looking document.

This year the Exeter Book is taking pride of place in the Cathedral's new Treasures Gallery, which joins the list of Devon's 'must see' experiences for residents and visitors alike. For those who cannot travel to Exeter the Cathedral and the University of Exeter have put a digitised version of the full manuscript on the web – giving world-wide access to a world-class book, one that has been described by UNESCO as "the foundation volume of English literature, one of the world's principal cultural artefacts".

exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Mec on þissum dagum deadne ofgeafun
 fæder on modor; ne wæs me feorh þa gen,
 ealdor in innan. Ða mec an ongon,
 welhold mege, wedum þeccan,

5 heold ond freoþode, hleosceorpe wrah
 swa arlice swa hire agen bearn,
 oþþæt ic under sceate, swa min gesceapu wæron,
 ungesibbum wearð eacen gæste.

Mec seo friþe mæg fedde siþþan,

10 oþþæt ic aweox, widdor meahte
 siþas asettan. Heo hæfde swæsra þy læs
 suna ond dohtra, þy heo swa dyde.



In these days my father and mother
 gave me up for dead. There was no spirit in me yet
 and no life within. Then someone began
 to cover me with clothing;

5 a very loyal kinswoman protected and cherished me,
 and she wrapped me with a protective garment,
 just as generously as for her own children,
 until under that covering, in accordance with my nature,
 I was endowed with life amongst those unrelated to me.
 10 The protective lady then fed me
 until I grew up and could set out on wider journeys.
 She had fewer dear sons and daughters because she did so.

◀ Riddle 9 in *The Exeter Book*:
 the original Old English text
 (above) with a modern translation
 (below) by Jennifer Neville.

Courtesy of theriddleages.bham.ac.uk

*See inside back cover for possible
 answer to the riddle.*

**The Devonshire
 Association and the
 Exeter Book**

Members of the
 Association's Exeter
 Branch and its History
 and Literature &
 Art Sections have
 particular interest in
 and knowledge of this
 Book.



PENGUIN
BOOKS

EXETER CITY OF LITERATURE

Exeter, the capital of Devon with city walls dating back to Roman times, is well recognised for the richness of its literary heritage and the vibrancy of its contemporary literary scene. In 2019 it became a member of UNESCO's Creative Cities Network through its designation as a City of Literature. While this designation centres on the city it also recognises literary excellence across the whole of Devon, extending its influence to over one million residents.

As a City of Literature Exeter fosters an inclusive, dynamic culture, celebrating its literary heritage while inspiring new generations of readers, writers and performers. It is committed to promoting the power of the spoken and written word in all its forms – including publishing, theatre, filmmaking, bookselling, community events and live performance. It particularly champions community engagement through storytelling, taking inspiration from the world-famous Exeter Book which is held in the Cathedral Library.

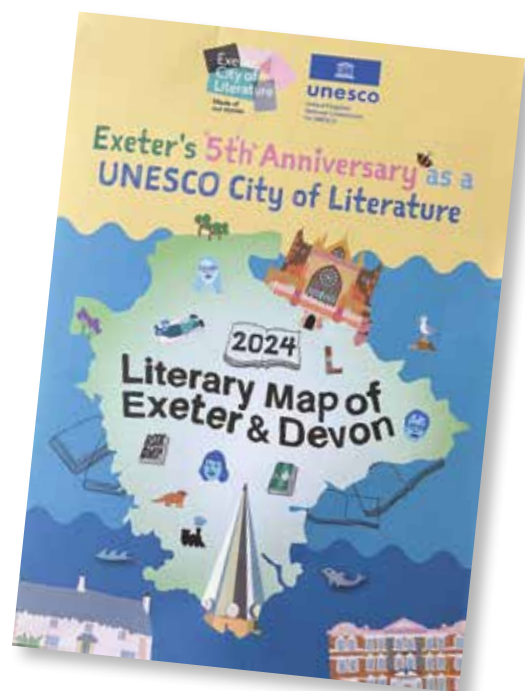
The University of Exeter is renowned for its excellence as an academic hub for literary research and creative writing. Its Centre for Literature and Archives houses priceless archives of such famous writers as Ted Hughes, Agatha Christie, Daphne du Maurier and William Golding. Exeter's public library, under the innovative management of the charity, Libraries Unlimited, has ranked among the 20 most visited libraries in the country. In 2022 the charity welcomed over 2.2 million visitors to its Devon libraries, underscoring the local community's deep commitment to cultural engagement.

Other Exeter libraries and archives of outstanding significance include Exeter Cathedral's Library and Archive, the Devon and Exeter Institution Library (founded in 1813), the Met Office Library and Archive and the South West Heritage Trust's Devon Archives. Exeter's medieval records rank among the finest municipal archives in the country.

In 2019 the Exeter Canal and Quay Trust launched 'Quay Words', a year-round programme of literary events curated by the Literature Works charity, in Exeter's historic Custom House on the Quay. Developments following City of Literature designation that year included the opening of

◀ Clare Morpurgo, daughter of Allen Lane (founder of Penguin Books) and the bestselling children's author, Michael Morpurgo, cutting the Exeter City of Literature cake at the launch of the new Penguin Books vending machine at Exeter St Davids Station in 2023

Image courtesy of and © Exeter city of Literature





The Devon & Exeter
Institution Library.
Image courtesy of and
©Devon and Exeter
Institution



▲ Allen Lane taking a book from the original 'Penguincubator' vending machine outside Collet's bookshop in London in 1937
Image courtesy of and © Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND 2.0



▲ The new Penguin Books vending machine installed as an Exeter City of Literature initiative at Exeter St Davids Station in 2023. Image courtesy of and © Jim Wileman

Bookbag, a new independent bookshop in the city centre in 2020. Beyond the city, Devon is home to almost 50 independent bookshops spanning the county from Ilfracombe to Kingsbridge, with many supporting Devon's rural communities like Dogberry & Finch, Gnash Comics, and Astor's Bookshop spread around Dartmoor. The Bookery, the community-owned bookshop in Crediton, won both the Independent Bookshop of the Year Award and the Children's Bookseller of the Year Award in the 2022 British Books Awards.

The wide reach of Exeter's contribution to literature over many years is illustrated by the fact that, alongside a host of writers who have made their home in the city, it was the birthplace of Sir Thomas Bodley who founded Oxford's Bodleian Library in 1602. Exeter can also claim to be the birthplace of the world-famous Penguin Books. It was while waiting for a train on Exeter St Davids station in 1934 that the publisher Allen Lane came up with the idea of launching his new imprint of affordable quality paperbacks.

With the support of partners such as Arts Council England, Exeter College, Exeter City Council and the University of Exeter, Exeter City of Literature now operates as an independent charity dedicated to fostering both local and global connections. At the local level its programme is creating accessible spaces for literary exploration and cultivating a love for reading across the region. For example in 2023 it launched the innovative Bibliotherapy project to harness the benefits of reading and writing for people's health and well-being. At the international level recent City of Literature links have connected Exeter with overseas cities such as Barcelona, Jakarta, Lviv, Melbourne, Prague, Quebec City and Reykjavik.

[exetercityofliterature.com](https://www.exetercityofliterature.com)

The Devonshire Association and Exeter City of Literature

Members of the Association's Exeter Branch and its Literature & Art Section have particular interest in and knowledge of this City of Literature.



THE NORTH DEVON BIOSPHERE RESERVE

UNESCO's designation of the North Devon Biosphere Reserve recognises the outstanding significance of an extensive series of ecosystems spanning both the terrestrial and marine environment. It also highlights the importance of this area as an outdoor laboratory for demonstrating how humankind and the planet can live in harmony.

The Biosphere Reserve demonstrates the history of climate stretching back over half a million years and it is currently one of UNESCO UK's three pilot sites for its *Climate Change and the UNESCO Heritage* demonstration project.

At the heart of the Biosphere Reserve is Braunton Burrows on the North Devon coast. Covering an area 6 km long and up to 2 km wide, this is the largest sand dune system in Europe and indeed one of the most iconic dune systems in the Northern Hemisphere. Its outstanding importance was recognised by UNESCO as long ago as 1976. Then in 2002 UNESCO extended its Biosphere designation to include a much larger area of North Devon and the Atlantic Ocean as the first of the UK's 'new style' Reserves.

Today the Biosphere Reserve covers an ecosystem of nearly 1,500 square miles and is home to over 150,000 residents. Its core site of Braunton Burrows is surrounded by the buffer zone of the



▲ Map showing the full extent of the Biosphere Reserve. Image courtesy of the North Devon Biosphere Reserve

◀ Braunton Burrows, the core site in the Biosphere Reserve. Image courtesy of and © Mary Breeds

▼ The landing stage at Lundy, the UK's first Marine Conservation Zone. Image courtesy of and © Sue Andrew





▲ Salmon fishermen mending nets at Bideford 1974 Photograph by James Ravilious.
Copyright Beaford Arts digitally scanned from a Beaford Archive negative.

Taw-Torridge estuary and a much larger 'transition area', extending out to sea and taking in the whole of the Taw-Torridge river catchment area. The Biosphere includes Lundy, the site of the UK's first Marine Conservation Zone established in 2010, and the North Devon Coast National Landscape which extends along the coast from Hartland and the Cornish border to Lynmouth and Exmoor. Further inland the Biosphere Reserve stretches from the edge of Holsworthy in the west across Mid Devon towards Tiverton in the east. Its southern limits take in Okehampton and the northern heights of Dartmoor where the Taw and Torridge have their sources.

The Biosphere Reserve includes an astonishing range of habitats and species of flora and fauna. It is home to important endemic species such as the Lundy Cabbage. Thousands of wildfowl overwinter in the Taw-Torridge estuary which lies on key migration routes to western Europe. The uplands of Exmoor and Dartmoor form the largest peat bogs in southern England, a resource of growing importance as we adapt to the changes in climate. Woodlands such as those along the North Devon coast towards Clovelly and Hartland are gaining increasing attention for their importance as Atlantic temperate rainforest, and the unimproved culm grasslands of rural north-

west Devon are home to the largest surviving remnants of purple moor grass and rush pasture in western Europe. The raised beach at Saunton Sands and the submerged forest at Westward Ho! are key locations for studying coastal morphology.

The cultural history of North Devon is also a key part of the Biosphere Reserve's story. It shows us how countless generations have lived on the land before us and points to how we can best act as its stewards for handing it on to future generations. One important cultural resource is the Beaford Archive, a unique collection of photographs of life in North Devon dating back to the late 19th century. The Archive, which is maintained by the Beaford Arts charity, includes an extensive portfolio of photographs taken by the Oscar-winning cinematographer Roger Deakins and by the late James Ravilious in the 1970s and 1980s.

The North Devon coast, with its fine sandy surfing beaches, is one of the Westcountry's premier holiday destinations. Through the coordination of the Devon County Council team who manage the Biosphere Reserve programme this affords excellent opportunities for an increasing number of visitors to discover the special nature of the Reserve for themselves.

northdevonbiosphere.org.uk



▲ Sea Stock,
Braunton Burrows.
Image courtesy of and © Mary Breeds



▲ Sand Pansies,
Braunton Burrows.
Image courtesy of and © Mary Breeds

The Devonshire Association and the North Devon Biosphere Reserve

Members of the Association's Bideford & North Devon Branch and its Botany, Entomology, Geology and History Sections have particular interest in and knowledge of this Biosphere.

The North Devon coastline near the Valley of the Rocks

Image by gregoire-jeanneau on Unsplash

ABOUT THE DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION



The Devonshire Association was established in 1862 'for the Advancement of Science, Literature and Art'. Today, 163 years on, its members still hold fast to its founders' vision of promoting understanding across a broad range of interests relating to our county. This is summed up in the Association's strapline 'Devon: our past, our present, our passion'.

At the heart of the Association's activities is the year-round programme of talks and tours that are organised by its local Branches and Sections. Currently there are six Branches: Bideford & North Devon, East Devon, Exeter, Plymouth & District, South Devon, and Tavistock & West Devon. The seven Sections cover the subjects of: Botany, Buildings, Entomology, Geology, History, Industrial Archaeology, and Literature & Art. Music, Folklore and Devonshire Dialect are also among its long-established subjects of special interest. All members are welcome to join in the activities of a Branch or Section and most of their events are open to the public for a small charge.

The business of the Association, which is a registered charity, is overseen by its Executive Committee whose chair and members are elected at its Annual Meeting held each September. A new President is installed each year at the Annual Meeting. He or she hosts a President's Symposium in May each year on a theme of their own choosing.

The Association's flagship publication is its annual *Transactions*, a peer-reviewed journal that dates back to 1863. These volumes, typically running to 300–500 pages, present papers by both members and non-members on a wide range of topics relating to Devon. Volume 157 is due to be published at the end of 2025. Links to a large number of papers published in past issues can be found on the Association's website.

The Association also publishes a members' magazine, *DA News*, twice each year. This illustrated magazine contains shorter articles and information on upcoming events. Back copies of *DA News* can be found on its website. Other regular events include a seasonal programme of monthly Zoom talks, open to all, on a wide range of topics relating to Devon.

In autumn 2024 the Association was very pleased to receive its first ever grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund for its *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage* project. This is allowing

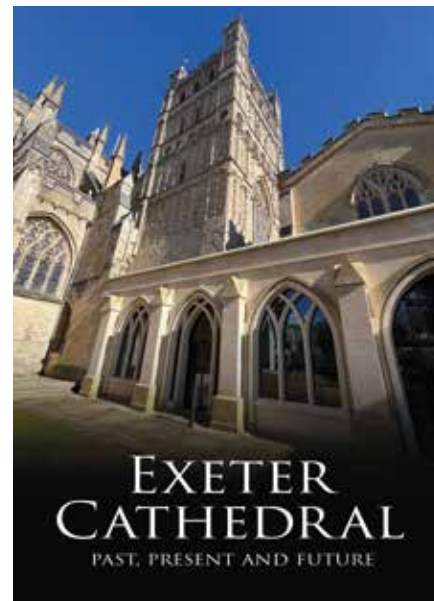


CELEBRATING DEVON'S WORLD-CLASS HERITAGE

◀ The badge of office worn by the President of the Devonshire Association.

the Association to present a programme of public events during 2025 to highlight the significance of Devon's six UNESCO sites. The key elements of this programme are:

- a series of free Discovery Days of talks and tours across the six UNESCO sites between April and October
- the President's Symposium on the theme of *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage* at Tiverton in May
- a Conference on *Exeter Cathedral – Past, Present and Future* in Exeter also in May
- a public lecture on *Climate Change and Devon's World-Class Environment* at Plymouth in November
- two bursary awards for young people to explore the wonders of Devon's UNESCO sites
- two new booklets relating to the themes of the President's Symposium and the Exeter Cathedral Conference



Possible answer to Riddle 9 of The Exeter Book (see page 33): geac – the cuckoo

devonassoc.org.uk



Publications
by the
Devonshire
Association.

Full details of this programme, which is open to the general public, can be found on this webpage: devonassoc.org.uk/wch



The centenary meeting of the Devonshire Association in 1962.
Photograph taken in the Bishop of Exeter's garden.



Devon stands out among English counties as being home to no less than six heritage sites that have been designated by UNESCO as being of outstanding significance.

These six UNESCO designations are made up of two World Heritage Sites, a Global Geopark, a Biosphere Reserve, a City of Literature and a Memory of the World Register entry.

The Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature and the Arts has been championing Devon's natural and historic heritage ever since it was first founded in 1862. Today its members remain active in discovering more about this special heritage and sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with the people of Devon.

In 2025, with the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Devonshire Association launched its *Celebrating Devon's World-Class Heritage* project. This booklet serves as part of the legacy of that project.

▲ The English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark. Image by Red Zeppelin on Unsplash

▼ The Devonshire Association has been advancing the study of Devon's world-class geology for over 160 years
Image courtesy of Birmingham Museum on Unsplash



DEVON: OUR PAST, OUR PRESENT, OUR PASSION

devonassoc.org.uk



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