

most famous daughter. The garden makes intriguing connections between Agatha's interest in poisonous plants and the medicinal plants that the medieval Canons of Torre Abbey might have used.

#### WEDNESDAY 10th

##### **How to Drive an Aircraft Carrier**

Jonathan Tod spent 38 years in the Royal Navy, rising to the rank of Vice Admiral and serving as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet. In this talk he explains what he did when he commanded that ultimate boy's toy, HMS *Illustrious*.

#### TUESDAY 16th

##### **The Unnatural Death of Dr Kelly**

David Kelly had been a United Nations weapons inspector in Iraq. The weapons of mass destruction controversy led to his appearance before a Parliamentary Select Committee. Two days later, Dr Kelly was dead. David Halpin explores the story.

#### WEDNESDAY 17th

##### **Shipwrecks of Torbay**

Herald Express columnist, Nick Pannell, discusses the numerous shipwrecks that Torbay has witnessed, from the wreck of HMS *Savage* on Roundham Head in 1762 to the *Santa Anna*, the Panamanian-registered tanker that ran aground on Thatcher Rock in 1998.

#### TUESDAY 23rd

##### **Mary Shelley's lost Torquay Novel**

This work by *Frankenstein* creator, Mary Shelley, lay unpublished and forgotten for 175 years. Emma Seaman, a Gothic Literature specialist and award-winning author of adult short fiction, tells the remarkable story of this long-lost text.

#### WEDNESDAY 24th

##### **Kayaking Around New Caledonia**

In 2016 former winner of the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year, Duncan Murrell, explored New Caledonia in a kayak and on foot, recording the unique plant life of these South Pacific islands which have the highest rate of plant endemism in the world.

#### TUESDAY 30th

##### **Mining in the Bovey Basin in the 19th and 20th Centuries**

Darrin Hewings, manager of the Sebelco Clay mine at Bovey Tracey, traces the history of mining in the Bovey Valley from the backbreaking manual labour of the 19th century to the mechanised methods of the 20th century.

#### WEDNESDAY 31st

##### **The Extraordinary Trees of South Devon**

Silvicultural surveyor, Pip Howard, takes us on a visually stunning tour of the extremely rare and internationally important trees of South Devon.