

Willem Montagne

Jan Reynolds and the Devil at Widecombe-in-the-Moor.

And this is the moment when the Devil has his chance and he peers into the church, snatches up Jan Reynolds and carries him off, meanwhile leaving a great sulphurous smell and a huge bang and a lot of mayhem in Widecombe Church as the pinnacle that his horse is tethered to crashes through the roof of the church. Anyway, slung over the Devil's horse he rides across the hills towards where is now the Birch Tor, Vitifer area, not that far, near the Warren House Inn where, I'm afraid Jan Reynolds was never seen again but he did drop the cards that he was playing with and one ace landed here, and another ace landed there, and another ace landed there, and another ace landed across this hillside, and actually, if you look carefully, its amazing, but there are four little fields, enclosures on the hillside and one has a distinct shape of a heart, the other one has a distinct shape of a spade, the ace of spades, ace of clubs and of course the ace of diamonds and the four figures are left marked in the landscape where the cards fell on that fateful day for Jan Reynolds.