

Hallsands disaster recalled in radio play

Local performers star in a radio play broadcast on BBC Radio Devon in January 2007, it tells the story of Hallsands, the South Devon village swept away by the sea 90 years before. It tells the story of life in the South Devon fishing village before it was destroyed by the sea in 1917.

The play is set in the years between the two great storms of 1904 and 1917.

All of the characters are based on the people who lived and worked in the village during those years, until they were forced to leave when the sea swept away their homes. It's been written by local writer Richard Clark, the former head of performing arts at South Devon College. Richard spent many months researching the story of Hallsands, before writing the original play as a piece for his students to perform. It was after this that the BBC asked him to consider adapting the play for radio.

Auditions for Hallsands were held over three sessions at The Flavel Arts Centre, Dartmouth, in the first week of November 2006. Dozens of hopefuls took part, and 20 successful applicants were selected for the roles.

