

*We start this month with a gripping short story by Mollie and finish with two poems.*

### **Childhood: expired**

Technically I was moving skywards, but sitting in the damp, mangy lift, breathing in the musty smell of stale smoke with nothing to look at but the ugly patterns adorning the walls left by smokers, it felt quite the opposite. Returning to our stuffy top floor flat always made my insides drop, like a penny from a rooftop. It felt like defeat, as if I'd lost the battle, but had to sit around and wait to lose the war. The numbered buttons hesitantly lit up as I shuttled from one floor to the next, then stopped suddenly at floor 7. I waited for the silvery-grey doors to part. They didn't. Suddenly, the bare light bulb hanging limply from the ceiling spluttered, flickered, and failed, and I was plunged into darkness. I sighed, this wasn't the first time the electrics had broken in this run-down building, so I figured I should sit it out.

Darkness had never scared me anyway, I spent most of my childhood in the dark; Mum never got around to opening the increasing pile of white envelopes, ordained with formal, yet angry red writing. We had to make do with the stark, bleak light the sun provided, and then go to bed before it could get too cold. I would pull my pillow tightly over my head and imagine I

couldn't hear the muffled cries, or feel the nervous shaking. I'd pretend the sound of a chinking glass, and the acidic stench of gin were from our neighbours. This wasn't entirely unfeasible, as everyone here knew everyone else's business due to the thin, flimsy walls. The woman living in number 4 always had fresh bruises and snarling cuts that looked like she'd had a case of watercolors splashed on her face. When she'd answered the door to me that morning, when I was sent to ask for milk, she had given me a weak smile that made me want to cry. One eye had swollen up, giving her a fish-like appearance. In my childish naiveté, I had enquired.

"Don't worry" she'd said, in an accent I didn't recognize. "It might seem terrible and ugly now, but soon it will clear up, it always does. Take this milk back to your Mamma, and tell her Janine said hi."

She closed the door and I heard her footsteps fading away.

Mum would be wondering where I was by now, waiting for her morning cup of coffee. And something about 'better make it Irish, doll, I've got a headache coming on.' The night before we had argued because she noticed I had been wearing my pumps to school, not my regular school shoes. I told her I'd lost one.

"How can you be so careless? I work day-in day-out to buy you nice things, like all the other kids, and this is how you repay me? I don't know why you do all this nasty stuff! God, to think I raised you to be some kind of street-urchin!" It never occurred to her that I hadn't purposefully lost the shoe. Later on, when I walked out of our neighborhood, I

would find that shoe, damp with spit and urine, poking grimly out of a bin.

School starts soon. I glanced at my battered watch, and tried to make out the time. Eight twenty three. I had exactly one hour and seventeen minutes before I had to leave for school. I'd always been good at maths, because numbers are something you can be certain of. Two plus three is always five, two times two is always four. What will be waiting for me when I open the school door? Will this be the day I don't get chased around the corridors? I didn't know. I knew kids at school whose Mums were always there at the gates on time, who were always seen adjusting their kids' duffle coats. Kids who would go home to a mum, a dad, and maybe a brother or sister. I buried my head in my knees.

My dad. My dad was a dentist somewhere 'up country', I wasn't told any more than that, and I never asked. There was no point in being a catalyst. Anyway, Mum had recently started encouraging me to call Ron 'Dad', Ron, a man who visited once or twice a week, and who was always gathering his things and leaving as I arrived home from school. I often bumped into him while he waited for the elevator, looking uncomfortable and dirty in his greasy black jacket and matching hair. He never spoke, or even looked at me, just stood there sucking on a hand-rolled cigarette. I guess he thought he looked cool, well, I knew he wasn't, I knew that the top floor wasn't the only one he 'visited.' I didn't mention this to Mum though. I was hiding a lot from her these days, like my ripped up schoolbooks, my hair, matted with other kids' lunch.

I picked at a hole in the bottom of my

pyjamas, and ran my hands through my lank, dishwater hair. It was knotted and tangled, and I tried to comb out the worst with my fingers. They caught on a clump, and yanked a few strands out. I gritted my teeth together in pain. If I had a Dad, or even a proper Mum, they'd make sure my hair was washed and brushed neatly every day, and I got new clothes when mine were torn. I wondered if my Dad had children of his own, and if they'd look like me, but cleaner. I imagined a little girl, my age, with long, honey coloured locks, clear skin and shiny new shoes, with matching shiny buttons on her coat. My dad would drive her to school, and watch fondly as she ambled confidently over to her friends. He'd beep at her as he drove off, and she would turn to him and wave, a vibrant smile on her face. I could have that, too.

Forced violently back to reality, I was drenched in artificial light and the strange sensation of electrical movement. The buttons on the wall lit up one by one as I ascended the building. I stood up, and the lift doors wrenched open with a metal clang, to reveal a dank hallway, with one door at the end. I stalled on my way, checking I had the milk, and wiping my filthy feet on the carpet. When I arrived in the flat, the rusty tap was dripping, the door to the bedroom ajar; everything was the way I left it. The lump under the duvet hadn't moved, and I was surrounded by silence. Not the lovely, peaceful silence I imagined the countryside to have, but the humming, industrial silence accompanied by lifeless faces and dirty washing. Things that don't move or change by themselves. I grimaced at the sight of the two rooms we could hardly

call our own; a grubby, brown sofa in front of where the television used to stand; now facing pointlessly at nothing. A large, rotting dresser standing in the far corner, loaded with our few possessions. The kitchen area damp and off-white, the main feature a bare table with the Formica peeling off, and a single chair with my ratty, tea-stained dressing gown draped loosely over it.

Putting the milk on the side, I saw the corner of a passport-sized photo, carefully concealed by an old magazine. I picked it up and looked at the couple encased in the small print. I was staring at the face of my mother, a happy looking twenty-something, with glowing skin and a wide smile, a far cry from her current state. Next to her was a man I recognized straight away. Brown, catlike eyes that I saw everyday in the mirror, a mouth that was slightly off balance, and the same straight nose that was constantly blocked. I glanced into the bedroom and saw my mother was still asleep, oblivious to my discovery. I turned the photo over, hoping to find a name, a date, anything. I found a number. A phone number, scribbled hastily under the word 'Tony', and a little star. I bounced over to the phone, an old, boxy thing, and prayed we had electricity. As I put it to my ear and heard the dialling tone, I let out a deep breath. This is it, I thought. I dialled the number.

In the bedroom, my mother stirred, she squinted at the bright light seeping through the gaps in the blinds, groggily felt around for her slippers. Shivered as the duvet slipped off and cold engulfed her. Stopped, and listened, as she heard a voice, tentatively asking as to whether 'Tony's there? Can I speak to him? Tell

him it's important'. She slumped against the bedpost and a rogue tear escaped her red, dry eyes. This is it, she thought.

*Molly Wolfe, Year 11*

### **Exploding Colours**

Exploding colours of  
Crimson, emerald and gold.  
The vast wasteland  
Being praised  
By the setting sun.  
It shrouds the flora  
Bringing out their true beauty.

*Tyler Claydon, Year 8*

### **Sonnet 155**

Shall I compare thee to the luscious  
landscape?  
Thy face caressed in the sun's golden  
light.  
The grass is your emerald, shining green  
cape  
When you wear it, I cannot forget the  
sight.  
I feel blessed that you are mine; it's as if  
Landscape offers me divine deity  
As beautiful as the rose; the gift  
Of the lily with its pure white frailty.  
And, just as the landscape, your beauty  
grows  
But does not fade in Autumn or fall victim  
To Winter's icy cold, to the chill he  
knows.  
You strive against all that is tortuous;  
grim.  
Winter is beaten; Spring moves in with  
grace  
And embraces you with sun's golden  
face.

*Edward Gist, Year 8*

## **Essential Gas Mains Improvement Work in Torrington**

Wales & West Utilities is planning to carry out gas mains replacement work in Torrington which involves upgrading over 1000 metres of pipework. This essential scheme will bring improved safety and security of supply to homes and businesses in the town.

The work is planned to commence on 4 April 2011 and will take approximately 22 weeks to complete.

We have liaised with Devon County Council in preparation for the works and it has been agreed that a traffic management plan will be in place for the duration of the scheme.

The scheme will consist of four stages, with the first two and the last phase requiring traffic light management. During the third phase a road closure will be required between Stonemans Lane and Whites Lane.

Businesses will be open as usual and access will be maintained to shops, businesses and car parks. At the request of Devon County Council work will not take place during the Easter period, Royal wedding, bank holiday nor during the local carnival in May.

At all other times we are planning on utilising two teams to work 7 days a week so that the scheme can be completed as quickly as possible.

We would like to thank local residents and businesses for bearing with us whilst this essential work is carried out.

The work forms part of our multi-

million pound 30-year replacement programme across Wales and the south west of England where we are replacing old metal pipes within 30 metres of buildings with highly durable, non-corroding plastic pipes with a lifespan of more than 80 years and reinforcing the existing infrastructure.

## **Great Torrington Mayfair & Carnival**

### **Mayfair Thursday 5 May Wheelchair Users**

Any wheelchair user/disabled person who wishes to come and see the Mayfair celebrations is advised to be in the Square by no later than 10.15am.

We do try to keep seats for disabled persons outside the Green Lantern, which are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Due to Health & Safety Regulations it is very difficult to get wheelchair users/disabled persons into the Square after 10.15am.

Following the celebrations on Mayfair Day, help is required to put away the chairs that have been used during the day. Anyone prepared to help should meet in the Square at about 4.30/5.00pm. All assistance will be greatly appreciated.

### **Carnival Saturday 7 May**

Please note that entry forms for the Torrington Carnival are available from Xanadu, South Street, Torrington and Melissa Baker, 36 Burwood Road, Torrington.

All towing vehicles **must carry the**

**appropriate insurance – but the actual float is covered by Mayfair & Carnival Committee Insurance**

Would all road users please note that various roads and streets in Torrington will be closed for a short time between 6.00 and 8.00pm whilst the Carnival is processing through the town.

Please bear with us but do expect some delay if your journey takes you through Torrington at this time.

**Please do not throw coins at the floats.**

*Melissa Baker, Secretary  
Mayfair & Carnival Committee*

## **Memory Café on the move again**

The Torrington Memory Cafe is moving location; from 14 April the Cafe will be held in the lovely, bright gallery room at The Plough Arts Centre on the second Thursday of every month, from 10am -12pm.

The Memory Cafe is a free amenity for people experiencing memory problems and their families, and provides a friendly, informal and relaxed atmosphere for visitors to drop by, enjoy a cup of tea and some cake, and meet other people in similar circumstances to themselves. Above all else the cafe offers a listening ear and a couple of hours break from the regular day's routine. Visitors have the opportunity to talk with members from the healthcare team, and to get advice, information and support.

If you would like to find out more about the Memory Cafe, please contact Emma on 01237 420136, email:

## New Crier Advertising Rates

**For the first time in ten years we have to increase advert prices to cover production costs.**

The new prices will be:

**£22.50 for a small 9cm x 5cm advert**

**£45 for a large 19cm x 5cm advert**

**10% discount will still apply to all runs of 5 adverts**

The new rate will apply to all new adverts and renewals from the May Crier onwards.

*As ever, we thank all of our advertisers for their continued support.*

ebaldwin@torridgecvs.org.uk or drop by at the next cafe – a warm welcome awaits!

Remember café dates always fall on the second Thursday of the month from 10 – 12 noon.

On the 19 April there will be an entertainments programme for the older person from 2.30pm until 5pm with a break for refreshments. At 5pm the Youth Theatre will be presenting a sketch based on the old Trades and Professions of Torrington. Information for this will have come from a meeting with the people from Torrington who will be talking to the Youth Theatre about them. Anyone who would like to support this meeting, from 2pm on the 19<sup>th</sup>, will be very welcome and also welcome to stay for the entertainments. There will be a small charge of £2.50 payable on entry or tickets can be bought from Torrage.

### **The Rotary Club of Torrington Focus on the Crocus**

The Crocuses now in flower in the Rack Park Garden were planted in recognition of Rotary International's worldwide campaign to eradicate Polio.

Since the launch of the Polio Plus campaign in 1985, Rotary Clubs throughout the world have donated close to One Billion dollars to this project and the incidence of Polio has been reduced by 98%, it is now endemic in only four countries.

The Ruby Giant 'purple' crocus planted here represents the dye colour dabbed on children's little 'pinkie' finger

to indicate they have been immunised against polio.

### **Torrington in Bloom**



### **2011 Competition**

It's time to take a long, hard look at your garden and think: 'hmm, I reckon I could enter my little plot into the Torrington in Bloom 'Best Garden' competition this year'.

Everyone who enters will gain a bronze, silver or gold certificate and the best will win a trophy; your garden is not judged against another, only on its individual merits.

The entry form is enclosed in this issue of the Crier; all you have to do is decide which category you want to enter, complete the tear-off strip at the bottom of the form and take it into either Whiskers Pet Shop or Ferry's Home Hardware. The guidelines supplied are not set in concrete (apart from no artificial flowers!) and any measurements are approximations only. If you have any queries, please contact the Secretary on the number given on the form.

We hope that by including the entry form in the Crier, we can reach a wider audience of keen gardeners, be it

individual efforts, or neighbours getting together, or scouts, clubs, businesses, etc. Let's do it!

On a slightly different note, did you see the lovely display of crocuses in Rack Park – a sight that will only improve year on year? The planting was undertaken by the Rotary Club and each crocus bloom represents one person inoculated against polio in those countries where this awful disease is still rife.

*Cherry Hammon  
Secretary, Torrington in Bloom  
'Flowers are nature's smiles'*

### **Great Torrington Town Council Notice of Annual Meeting of the Town Council**

Notice is hereby given that:

The Annual Meeting and Inauguration of the Mayor of the above named Town Council will be held at the Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington on Tuesday 17th May 2011 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting is open to the public who are most welcome.

*Michael Tighe  
Town Clerk*

### **Torrington Silver Band**

The band would like to thank Nigel, Sonia & Kirsty for all their hard work and commitment to the band over the past 11 years.

*Nick Megson  
Bandmaster*

## Community Notice Board

We have a new community notice board outside the Café@1646 for the advertising of goods and services needed by local community groups. If your group needs a particular service, or indeed you are in a position to offer goods or services to local community groups then please see Kate in the Café@1646.

Please note that this is a free service. We would like to thank Councillor Andy Boyd for sponsoring this board.

## Megadraw 2011

Do you want to raise funds for your club or organisation at no cost to yourselves? Then Megadraw 2011 may be just what you need.

Torrington Rotary Club offers voluntary organisations in the Torrington area the opportunity to take part in Megadraw, 2011. This is a North Devon draw with major prizes which will be drawn next November. By selling Megadraw tickets, you can raise funds for your own organisation. All the funds raised by the sale of Megadraw tickets are kept by your own organisation for its own purposes.

Torrington Rotary Club simply provides the tickets and the paperwork. Barnstaple Link Rotary Club has printed the tickets, obtained the lottery licence, arranged the prizes and will organise a spectacular draw night in November.

There is no catch. All that is asked is that you register the receipt of tickets provided, return the counterfoils of sold

tickets and return unsold tickets. You keep the proceeds for the benefit of your organisation.

Megadraw is organised by Rotary as a service to voluntary organisations in the local community. If you are a leader, secretary or treasurer of a local organisation and are interested in this opportunity, then contact David Nainby (Torrington Rotary Club) on 01271 379016 or 07817 000586 or by e-mail at david.nainby@btinternet.com. He will be pleased to provide you with more details and arrange for the handing over of Megadraw tickets.

## Great Torrington Town Hall Project

Work continues on determining what can be achieved at the Town Hall with the £440,000 we currently have available to us. This seems quite a lot, but to render the building capable of supporting itself financially much work needs to be done and, in addition, we need to finance the various professional fees which will be incurred and provide furnishing and equipment for the project. It is likely that we will still need substantial funding from other sources to ensure a successful outcome.

The Viper's 100<sup>th</sup> £1 coin arrived on 14.2.11 with the message :-

"I've popped over to Alderney,  
It's in the Channel Isles!  
The Island is quite 'Aldernary'!  
(I hope that makes you smile.)

*The Viper*

We are so grateful to the Viper for his

loyal support and hope very much that he will be able to attend the opening ceremony which surely must happen one day.

It was sad to hear that the Cavalier Entertainers, who have given so much pleasure and joy to the town over many years, are winding up. But every cloud has a silver lining and the Town Hall Project has benefited from the distribution of their assets to the tune of £75. We thank them for all they have done and for thinking of us as they cease operations.

*Harry Cramp  
Chairman*



## Great Torrington Heritage Museum and Archive

We announce the most important date on the calendar - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011 - when we will be opening the Museum door for the first time for 5 years.

Make sure you have the date down as we are only open until September. Times to be announced in the May Crier. Just remember if you miss seeing the heritage of Torrington this time and supporting your Museum it may be a long time before you see the Museum open again.

*Val Morris  
Chairman*



# Torrington In Bloom 2011 Competition Entry Form

## CATEGORIES

1. Best floral display by a business
2. Best floral display by a public house
3. Best floral display by an individual (best garden)\*
4. Best floral display by a group, ie, scouts, school, neighbourhood\*\*
5. Best back garden (photograph only)\*\*\*
6. Best allotment or vegetable garden\*\*\*\*
7. Best floral display outside a public building (ie, fire station, council offices, etc)
8. Best floral display by a young person (aged under 16)
9. Best floral display small garden (less than 20ft x 10ft), balcony or courtyard.

**The closing date for ALL categories is:  
28 May 2011**

Completed forms may be left at the following addresses:

Whiskers Pet Shop  
Ferry's Home Hardware

Judging will take place on:  
**20 June 2011**

## GUIDELINES / RULES

'Floral display' can include containers, hanging baskets, window boxes, ornaments. Plants need not be bedding but can include fruit, vegetables, herbs, perennials, shrubs. Artificial flowers are not allowed!

\* category 3 must be able to be viewed from the road or pavement, ie, front garden.

\*\*'A group' must consist of a minimum of two people (of any age).

\*\*\* category 5 photographic must be a photograph of your own garden, please ensure your name and address is on back of photo (2 photos are allowed)

\*\*\*\*category 6 can be a public allotment or a private garden and can contain vegetables and fruit. It cannot be a commercial enterprise but can be a group or individual effort. It must be your own allotment/garden, or group allotment /garden of which you are an active participant.

Please cut off your entry details and hand in to the addresses supplied. Make sure you keep a note of which categories you have entered!

If you have any queries, please contact Cherry Hammon, Secretary, Torrington in Bloom Association, on 01805 625788.



I/we wish to enter the Torrington in Bloom 2011 Competition:

Name/Group: .....Category(ies): .....

Address: .....

.....Post Code:.....

Contact telephone number: .....

### **Torrington Writers' Group**

The Torrington Writers' group meeting was cancelled for March. The group apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused. The planned topic, 'Sailing' with cruise through to the next meeting on 7th April.



### **Parkinson's UK Torrige Branch**

**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup>**  
CHANGE ATTITUDES.  
FIND A CURE.  
JOIN US.

Every year Parkinson's UK run an awareness week, to expand the understanding of Parkinson's. This year the Torrige Branch, based in Bideford but covering the whole of Torrige, is running a major Spring Fayre and Coffee morning at Weare Giffard on 16 April from 10 – 1pm, during this awareness week. We will have a large range of stalls; comprehensive information on Parkinson's, and lovely coffee, tea, cakes and biscuits. Above all it will be a very social gathering, where you can sit and chat and meet folk.

Please support this event. We are on the number 70 bus route – 10.45am from Torrington.

### **Torrington Bluecoat Infant and Nursery School Success**

There was, as always, an air of excitement on return from the Christmas break at Bluecoat C of E Infant and Nursery School, with

everyone pleased to be back and eager to start the new term. There were recent changes to end of day and lunchtime procedures to embed, the school's new science curriculum focus to introduce, and the new January intake to settle in. Memories of Christmas were just beginning to fade when they had an unexpected call. Ofsted were on their way.



Staff and Governors took a collective sigh and began the necessary preparations ready for the arrival of the team. They arrived on Wednesday 12 January 2011 and spent two days observing lessons, analysing data, reviewing assessments, scrutinising children's work, checking procedures, and generally witnessing overall provision of the school. Inspectors also spent time talking to pupils and parents, and analysing 139 completed parent questionnaires.

The inspectors found out quite a lot about Torrington from the Year Two pupils, who told them how much they had enjoyed learning about the civil war. They also enjoyed an imaginary aeroplane ride to India, together with Indian music, pictures sounds and spices; these all helped to create a vibrant atmosphere and engage the children in their learning. Health and hygiene is an important aspect for inspectors to consider and one of the inspectors was particularly amused, and impressed, by the Nursery child

who reminded a friend that he couldn't have his snack until he had washed his hands. However, the highlight of the whole visit for the lead inspector was when she was supplied with a pair of wellies, and taken down to observe an outstanding session with a class of Y1 children in the Forest School.

The School is delighted to have received an overall grade of 'Good' with inspectors judging the school to have 'Good' capacity for further improvement. Inspectors identified that "...pupils are exceptionally well cared for and are happy, work hard and achieve well." The report also contained several outstanding elements including 'The effectiveness of care, guidance and support' and, 'The extent to which pupils feel safe'. Inspectors stated that "Pupils' good academic progress and personal qualities prepare them well for later learning at their junior schools."

The inspection was closely followed by a SIAS Inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools) in which the school was judged to be an 'Outstanding' Church School. The full Ofsted report is available on the School's website at [www.torrington-infants.devon.gov.uk](http://www.torrington-infants.devon.gov.uk)

### **Great Torrington Town Council**

#### **Dear Editor**

My members were somewhat hurt by the comments of Mr Collingham, the Chairman of the Commons Conservators, in the March edition and his reference to District Councillors not

taking responsibility.

As Mr Collingham is aware, your three local District Councillors have been active in the matter of trying to persuade South West Water to improve the sewerage system. As a direct result of this Council and the local District Councillors, the Conservators and the Environment Agency working together, work has been undertaken to remedy the flooding of Rolle Road by sewage.

Following that work a group composed of the Conservators, this Council, South West Water and the Environment Agency has been established to monitor the quality of the river Torridge, particularly alongside Rolle Road as the diluted sewage has been diverted into the river at times of high rainfall. This relief has been approved by the Environment Agency, otherwise homes would probably be flooded instead.

In addition a drainage study is being undertaken in cooperation with the Environment Agency, Devon County Council, South West Water, Torridge District Council and this Council. The object is to establish where surface water can be removed from the sewerage system and therefore minimise the need for the emergency overflows. Our town is one of about four towns in Devon and both the first and the smallest town to benefit from the study.

Your local District Councillors have been active in trying to find a solution to the sewerage problems.

The matter of approving planning

applications whilst we still have problems has not been resolved as South West Water advice to Torridge District Council is that the sewerage system has sufficient capacity for the small amount of development being proposed. Your local District Councillors, being only three of thirty six, have not been able to get an embargo on development to the east of the town centre (from where the problem emanates) in the light of the advice from South West Water.

*Michael Tighe, Town Clerk  
Great Torrington Town Council*



### **Green Recycling Access Problem at Warren Close**

Due to cars parking near and just past the sub-station at Warren Close, the Green-recycling Lorry has been unable to access the above properties to empty the wheelie bins on several occasions. The council have issued notices to the parked cars, to make those aware of the collection day, hopefully avoiding this from keep occurring.

To help residents, here is a reminder of when the Green Recycling Lorry is due to make a collection at Warren Close. April 14th and 28th and every fortnight after this date, if you require any help or information



please contact the recycling team at Torridge District Council on 01237 428734

### **Torrington Tennis Club**

Torrington tennis club is just beginning a new season and will welcome new members. The courts are situated behind the Scout Hut in Gas Lane (just to the left of the Fire Station). One court has the benefit of having floodlights. The club has men's and ladies' teams



entered in the North Devon league. The club also runs weekly informal club nights and has singles and doubles tournaments. For further information contact John Norman on 01805623937.

*John Norman*

### **Why Not Give Blood and Save a Life?**

Your child. Your Mum. Someone you know. You could save their life by giving just an hour of your time.

Only 5% of us give blood, yet it couldn't be easier. It's quick, simple and safe and all that most people feel is the satisfaction that they are helping to save lives.

Most people can give blood. You need to be in general good health, between the ages of 17 and 59 and weigh at least 7st 12lbs (50kg).

To find your nearest donor session call 0845 7 711 711, open 24hrs or visit online at [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)



# Diary

A Listing of  
Community, Social  
and Fundraising Events in the  
Torrington and Surrounding  
District Areas.

## APR 2011

### Fri 1

**Pannier Bric-a-Brac Market** every  
Friday 10am-4pm

**Christian Aid Lent Lunch** 12-1.45pm at  
Baptist Church. (See article & posters)

**Prayer and reflection** every weekday  
12.30-1pm all welcome at Panamart

**Allsorts** Childrens' Club at Bluecoat  
Infants School every Friday 6.30-8pm -  
School years 1-6, Morag 01805 625510

**Allsorts Plus** Young Persons' Club at  
Bluecoat School every Friday 8-9pm  
years 6-9, Morag 01805 625510

**Project Dance** every Friday 7.30pm @  
TVSC, Latin, Ballroom, Jive, Salsa, all  
welcome any level 01271-346384 or  
07795 201249

**PTFA Infant & Junior School Prize  
Bingo** eyes down 7.30pm @ Junior  
School Hall, doors open 6.30pm

**Music** 'The Real Thing' plus 70's Disco  
with Wendy May 8pm @The Plough

### Sat 2

**Pannier General Market** every Saturday  
10am-4pm

**Millinery Workshop** with Jilly Collins  
10am-4pm @ The Plough

**Comedy** Jenny Eclair 8pm @ The  
Plough

### Sun 3

**Catholic Church** of the Holy Family -  
Mass every Sunday 9.15am

**Baptist Church** Services every Sunday  
10.30am

**St. Michael's Church** Sung Mass &  
Sermon every Sunday 10am

**Torrington Community Church**  
Bluecoat Infants School every Sunday  
11am Karen 01805 622866

**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30  
Mothers' Day Service led by Mrs Sheila  
Babb - 6.30pm Rev Graham Slingo no  
Holy Communion today

### Mon 4

**Stretch & Tone Class** every Monday at  
The Plough 10.30-11.30am.

Samina 01837 682811 or 07974433156

**Torrington Pre-School** sessions Monday  
-Friday 8:45am-3:45pm during term time  
now next to the Scout Hall, Gas Lane,  
Torrington, 07870509674

**Torrington Tots Little Tadpoles** stay &  
play session (only £1.00) every Monday  
during term time 9.30-11.30am now  
operating at Scout Hall, Gas Lane  
Torrington. 07870509674

**Panamart Community Information  
Centre** Support group every Monday  
1.30-3pm tired, in pain, anxious,  
depressed come for tea and a chat, all  
welcome, group supported by N Devon  
Link service

**1st Torrington Rainbows** at Torrington  
Rugby Club every Monday during term  
time 6.15-7.15pm Linda Searle 01237  
451302

**1st Torrington Brownies** at Torrington  
Baptist Hall, New Street every Monday  
during term time 6pm-7.30pm Leanne  
Wade 01805 - 625846

**1st Torrington Guides** at Torrington  
Junior School every Monday during term

time 7.00-8.30pm Linda Masterson  
01805 623212

**Torrington Seniors**, at Torrington Rugby  
Club every Monday during term time  
7.30pm-9pm Sandra Nevard 07729  
065556

**1st Torrington Cubs** at Scout Hall Gas  
Lane every Monday during term time  
5.45-7.15pm Cilla 01805 625856

**1st Torrington Scout Group** at Scout  
Hall Gas Lane every Monday during  
Term Time 7.30-9.00pm Peter 01409  
281246

**Hatha Yoga** at the Plough every Monday  
6.30-8pm

**Slimming World** Bluecoat Infant School  
every Monday at 6.30pm Bev Roberts  
01805 624955

**Cash Bingo** Torrington Vale Social Club  
eyes down 7.30pm every Monday

### Tue 5

**Story time** 10 - 10.30am in Library on 1<sup>st</sup>  
Tuesday of every month

**Torrington Walk & Talk** Torrington details  
01237 479060

**Spiritual Healing** every Tues (but 26th)  
3pm-4.30pm & 7-9pm. Frithelstockstone  
01805 622883

**Bingo** Taddipport Village Hall every  
Tuesday, eyes down 7.30pm

### Wed 6

**Sensory Bus** 11am-3pm at South Street  
Car Park

**Torrington Tots Little Tadpoles** stay &  
play session (only £1.00) every  
Wednesday afternoon during term time  
1.30-3.30pm now operating at Scout Hall,  
Gas Lane Torrington. 07870509674

**3rd Torrington Brownies** at Torrington  
Baptist Hall, New Street every  
Wednesday during term time 6.30-  
8.00pm Shirley Lee 01805 625965

**Weight Watchers** The Conservative

Club every Wednesday 6.30-7.30pm  
Berni 01837 811172  
**Free English Course for Adults** Great  
Torrington School on Weds 7pm-9pm  
excluding school holidays. Learn the  
basics or aim towards L2(GCSE=)  
qualification. Jayne Doyle 0797 687 7985  
or 01237 472462

**Langtree Unites Netball Club**  
Welcomes anyone interested every  
Weds evening apart from half term  
(Juniors 7-8pm and Seniors 8-9.30pm) @  
Torrington sports hall, Tessa on 0797  
1083510

**Music** ' Poetic Fire & Song' 8pm @ The  
Plough

**Thu 7**  
**Pannier General Market** every Thursday  
10am-4pm

**Little Fishes** Toddler Group at  
Torrington Baptist Church every  
Thursday during term time 9.30am -  
11.30am – play, stories, craft, music &  
healthy snacks - cost £1.50 per family  
Wendy 01805 623214

**Rugby Training** at Donnacroft every  
Thursday 7pm start clubhouse open 8pm  
**Writers Poets and Listeners** 7.30pm at  
the Plough

**Fri 8**  
**Christian Aid Lent Lunch** 12noon –  
1.45pm at Methodist Church. (See article  
& posters)

**Open Mediumistic Development Circle**  
Torrington and Taddipport Spiritual  
Awareness Group 7.15-9.30pm at  
Taddipport Village Hall entry £4 01805  
622883

**Wine & Wisdom** at Petersmarland Hall.  
7pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of 6, £4 per  
head. Entries by 6th April to Trish Ward  
01805 601245.

**Sat 9**  
**Coffee Morning** 10am-12noon in Parish  
Church  
**Music** Planet of Sound 7pm @ The  
Plough

**Sun 10**  
**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30  
Rev Graham Slingo - 4pm Mrs Nancy  
Hall -Tomkin  
**Daffodil Day** @ Smytham Manor with  
cream Teas. For Torrington Rotary Club  
Charities account  
**Film** 'Tangled' (PG) 3pm @ The Plough  
**Film** 'True Grit' (15) 8pm @ The Plough

**Mon 11**  
**Historical Society** 25th Anniversary  
Meeting – Short talks by members on  
Fishleigh Barton & past Torrington  
Doctors also AGM. 7pm for 7.30 @ The  
Methodist Hal  
**Film** 'True Grit' (15) 8pm @ The Plough

**Tue 12**  
**Little Torrington W.I** "Secrets" by  
Deborah Pateman visitors welcome @  
village hall  
**Film** 'Tangled' (PG) 2pm @ The Plough  
**Film** 'Rabbit Hole' (12A) 8pm @ The  
Plough

**Wed 13**  
**Gt.Torrington Care Forum** at the Early  
Years Centre: Lunch 11.45am-12.25pm:  
Forum 12.30pm-1.30pm

**Royal British Legion** Meeting at the  
Green Lantern 7pm  
**Free English Course for Adults** Great  
Torrington School on Weds 7pm-9pm  
excluding school holidays. Learn the  
basics or aim towards L2(GCSE=)  
qualification. Jayne Doyle 0797 687 7985  
or 01237 472462

**Torrington W.I** Imagine walking on

Exmoor with an Exmoor Ranger, The  
next best thing is listening to him!! 7pm at  
Methodist Church Hall

**Film** 'Tangled' (PG) 3pm @ The Plough  
**Film** 'The Desert of Forbidden Art' 8pm  
@ The Plough

**Thu 14**  
**Memory Cafe** 10am at Abbeyfield  
**Music** Chloe Bix 8pm @ The Plough

**CRIER COPY DEADLINE**  
**for the 'MAY 2011' Issue to**  
**the Library by 12noon today**  
**latest please**

**Fri 15**  
**Christian Aid Lent Lunch** 12noon –  
1.45pm at St Michaels Church. (See  
article & posters)  
**Film** 'Gnomeo & Juliet' (U) 5pm @ The  
Plough  
**Film** 'Animal Kingdom' (15) 8pm @ The  
Plough

**Sat 16**  
**Taddipport Tea Dance** 2-4pm for details  
ring Doug 01805 622648 or Beryl 624294  
**Spring Fair & Coffee Morning** in aid of  
Parkinsons Disease 10am-1pm at Weare  
Giffard Village Hall.  
**Music** 'The Christians' (standing gig)  
8pm @ The Plough

**Sun 17**  
**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30 Mr  
Roy Harris - 6.30pm Mr H Cosway with  
Exeter Male Voice Choir  
**Torrridge Ramblers** Afternoon Walk 5  
miles for info ring 01805 625485  
**Film** 'Gnomeo & Juliet' (U) 3pm @ The  
Plough  
**Film** 'African Queen' (U) 5pm @ The  
Plough

**Film** 'Inside Job' (12A) 8pm @ The Plough

**Tue 19**

**Torridge Walk & Talk** Torrington Puffing Billy for details 01237 479060

**Torrington Tales & Entertainment**

2.30-5.15pm

**Theatre** 'Memory Cafe Play in Half a Day' (8yrs+) 2-5.30pm @ The Plough

**Film** 'Howl' (15) 8pm @ The Plough

**Wed 20**

**Film** 'African Queen' (U) 8pm @ The Plough

**Gallery** 'Moustache le Mac' 8pm @ The Plough

**Thu 21**

**Torrington Methodist Church** 7.30 Rev Graham Slingo

**Easter Bingo** at Burrington Parish Hall eyes down 8pm

**Theatre** 'Look Back in Anger' 8pm @ The Plough

**Fri 22**

**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30 Rev Graham Slingo. The church will be open for private prayer between 2-4pm

**Sat 23**

**Music** 'The Hamsters' (standing gig) 8pm @ The Plough

**Sun 24**

**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30 Rev Graham Slingo Holy Communion, 7pm Inspire

**Trains! at Little Torrington** Modern & Vintage Layouts & Displays –admission free, refreshments (possibly cream teas for a small charge) donation box for hall funds.11am-5pm also on tomorrow (Monday)

**Mon 25**

**Trains** (see 24th above)

**Tue 26**

**Film** 'NEDS' (18) 8pm @ The Plough

**Wed 27**

**Gt Torrington** Heritage Museum & Archive. AGM in Council Chambers 2.30pm

**North Devon Humanists** meeting at Fremington Parish Hall (Annex) 7.30pm Barry 01237 474225 or David on 01237 477851

**Film** 'Norwegian Wood' (15) 8pm @ The Plough

**Thu 28**

**Big Hymn Practice** 7pm @ Parish Church

**Film** 'Archipelago' (15) 8pm @The Plough

**Fri 29**

**Torrington and Taddiport Spiritual Awareness Group** 'An evening of Tarot' with Anne McKeever 7.30-9.30pm at Taddiport Village Hall, entry £4pp info 01805 625245

**Sat 30**

**Music** 'The Vocal Ensemble of Africa' 8pm @ The Plough

## MAY 2011

**Sun 1**

**Catholic Church** of the Holy Family – Mass every Sunday 9.15am

**Baptist Church** Services every Sunday 10.30am

**St. Michael's Church** Sung Mass & Sermon every Sunday 10am

**Torrington Community Church** Bluecoat Infants School every Sunday 11am. Karen 01805 622866

**Torrington Methodist Church** 10.30 Mr John Dennis - 6.30pm Rev Graham Slingo Holy Communion  
**The Big Hymn** 3pm @ Torrington Parish Church

**Mon 2**

**Stretch & Tone Class** every Monday at The Plough 10.30-11.30am. Samina 01837 682811 or 07974433156

**Torridge Pre-School** sessions Monday –Friday 8.45am-3.45pm during term time now next to the Scout Hall, Gas Lane, Torrington, 07870509674

**Torridge Tots Little Tadpoles** stay & play session (only £1.00) every Monday during term time 9.30-11.30am now operating at Scout Hall, Gas Lane Torrington. 07870509674

**Panamart Community Information**

**Centre** Support group every Monday 1.30-3pm tired, in pain, anxious, depressed come for tea and a chat, all welcome, group supported by N Devon Link service

**1st Torrington Rainbows** at Torrington Rugby Club every Monday during term time 6.15-7.15pm Linda Searle 01237 451302

**1st Torrington Brownies** at Torrington Baptist Hall, New Street every Monday during term time 6-7.30pm Leanne Wade 01805 625846

**1st Torrington Guides** at Torrington Junior School every Monday during term time 7.00-8.30pm Linda Masterson 01805 623212

**Torrington Seniors**, at Torrington Rugby Club every Monday during term time 7.30pm-9pm Sandra Nevard 07729 065556

**1st Torrington Cubs** at Scout Hall Gas Lane every Monday during term time 5.45-7.15pm 01805 625856

**1st Torrington Scout Group** at Scout Hall Gas Lane every Monday during Term Time 7.30-9.00pm Peter 01409 281246

**Hatha Yoga** at the Plough every Monday 6.30-8pm

**Slimming World** Join us at Bluecoat Infant School every Monday at 6.30pm Bev Roberts 01805-624955

**Cash Bingo** Torridge Vale Social Club eyes down 7.30pm every Monday

### Tue 3

**Story time** 10-10.30am in Library on 1<sup>st</sup> Tues of every month

**Spiritual Healing** every Tues. 3-4.30pm & 7-9pm. Frithelstockstone Torrington for info 01805 622883

**Bingo** Taddipport Village Hall every Tuesday 7.30pm

### Wed 4

**Torridge Tots Little Tadpoles** stay & play session (only £1.00) every Wednesday afternoon during term time 1.30-3.30pm now operating at Scout Hall, Gas Lane Torrington. 07870509674

**3rd Torrington Brownies** at Torrington Baptist Hall, New Street every Wednesday during term time 6.30-8.00pm Shirley Lee 01805 625965

**Weight Watchers** @ The Conservative Club every Wednesday 6.30-7.30pm Berni 01837 811172

**Free English Course for Adults** Great Torrington School on Weds 7pm-9pm excluding school holidays. Learn the basics or aim towards L2(GCSE=) qualification. Jayne Doyle 0797 687 7985 or 01237 472462

**Langtree Unites Netball Club** Welcomes anyone interested every Weds evening apart from half term (Juniors 7-8pm and Seniors 8-9.30pm)@ Torrington sports hall Tessa 0797 1083510

**Torridge Ramblers** Evening Walk 3 miles

01237 451643

### Thu 5

#### Gt Torrington Mayfair

Mayfair Flower Festival in Parish Church  
**Pannier General Market** every Thursday 10am-4pm

**Little Fishes** Toddler Group at Torrington Baptist Church every Thursday during term time 9.30am -11.30am – play, stories, craft, music & healthy snacks - cost £1.50 per family. Wendy 01805 623214

**Rugby Training** at Donnacroft every Thursday 7pm start clubhouse open 8pm

**Writers Poets and Listeners** 7.30pm at the Plough

### Fri 6

**Pannier Bric-a-Brac Market** every Friday 10am-4pm

**Allsorts** Childrens' Club at Bluecoat Infants School every Friday 6.30-8pm – School years 1-6. Morag 01805 625510

**Allsorts Plus** Young Persons' Club at Bluecoat School every Friday 8-9pm years 6-9. Morag 01805 625510

**Project Dance** every Friday 7.30pm @ TVSC, Latin, Ballroom, Jive, Salsa, all welcome any level 01271 346384 or 07795 201249

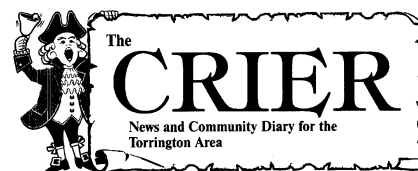
**Mayfair Flower Festival** in Parish Church  
**Round the Tree Race**

### Sat 7

#### Gt Torrington Carnival

**Mayfair Flower Festival** in Parish Church  
**Pannier General Market** every Saturday 10am-4pm

**Music** Chloe Bix 8pm @ The Plough



### Treasurer Stands Down

Tony Woodman, The Crier's long standing treasurer is standing down after years of dedicated service to this our local Newsletter.

Tony retired and then undertook what seemed to be full time volunteering for the community, The Crier being just one of the many projects he has supported and helped over the years.

Aside from the position of Honorary Treasurer, Tony brought The Crier production up to date, we moved from cut and paste to computer based layout.

The Crier Team would like to thank Tony for all his hard work, dedication and community spirit, for his tremendous efforts and ideas on behalf of the Crier and his continuing interest in all things Crier.

*Kate and the Team*

### Storytime at the Library

Why not bring your under 5s along to storytime at Torrington Library on the first Tuesday of the month at 10-10.30am? Everyone is welcome!



## Torrington W.I.

Expectations are high for our next Monthly Meeting on Wednesday 13th April when our speaker will be Ione Wilcock, telling us about the work of an Exmoor Ranger. It's not just donning a



hat and a pair of hefty boots and driving about in a Land Rover as we will discover. The meeting, as usual, starts at 7pm in the Methodist Church Hall, at the top of Mill Street. Prospective members, as always, are welcome to come along. You can be sure of a very friendly greeting and we'll soon make you feel at home.

The following week most of us will be off to Shebbear Village Hall where Newton St Petrock WI is hosting a Group Meeting. This is an annual get together of local WIs to share what each Institute has been up to in the last 12 months, to hear an excellent speaker (or watch a demonstrator), have a jolly good chinwag and munch our way through an extensive homemade buffet supper. I wouldn't dare say that the supper is the main reason for some people going - No, of course it isn't!

Our walkers should be well limbered up by then after the limitations of the Winter and the Craft Club continues to meet. Last year they made 'Memory Bags' for Chicks Charity which provides holidays for underprivileged children and our new venture is making

bunting for the Children's Hospice Southwest alongside more traditional knitting and embroidery etc. for personal pleasure.

Any queries about Torrington W.I. ring President, Joyce Ridgwell on 01805 623588.

To find out all about the Women's Institute countrywide, past, present and future, visit [www.theWI.org.uk](http://www.theWI.org.uk)

## Common News

Now that Spring is here, we have increased activity on The Common. The trees break out of their winter dormancy and over 300 species of wild flowers bloom to support our 25 different butterflies. Squirrels have been seen throughout the winter, even in the cold days of December, but these and other animals become more active as the temperature and food sources rise. Adders were first recorded in the middle of February. They like to lie in sunny areas along the paths, and dog owners should be careful not to let their pets disturb them.

The Conservators work hard to maintain and improve the environment to support this diversity of living things.

We also try to enhance the wonderful views and walks. On Castle Hill we have removed some trees (mainly sycamore) to make the river more visible, especially from the seat at Sliding Rock. On the area above Reeds Field in the region of the old fallen oak tree, we have cut a path into this old woodland to pass through mature willows into the sunny bank where the rabbits play. A perfect place for a picnic if we have any summer days.

Our wildflower meadow next to Taddipport Bridge will be further extended. The topsoil from another half acre has already been removed and as soon as Spring is firmly established we will be sowing with a suitable seed mixture.

Can you help please? Over the past few months 'persons unknown' have been felling trees on The Common, and later cutting them up and removing them for sale as firewood. We have an idea who these people are, but need to catch them in the act. If you see or hear any such activity will you please let us know immediately by phoning me or Roger Dymond on 623128. The registration number of any associated vehicle would also be useful.

*Michael Collingham*

## Alcoholics Anonymous New meetings



Meetings will be starting on Monday 4 April in Torrington.

For more info please contact Mike 07964 435 422 or Sharon

07760 199 742

## The Big Hymn

What better way to start Mayfair Week than to gather in the Parish Church on the Sunday afternoon, the 1st May at 3.00 p.m., and participate in the Big Hymn, a service for all the family.



We will be delighted to welcome once again the Archdeacon of Barnstaple, Father David Gun-Johnson who will co-ordinate the event along with our local ministers, Graham Petridge from the Baptist Church and Graham Slingo of the Methodist Church and we also hope to have with us Father O'Donovan from the Catholic Church should his commitments permit. Four part harmony, so to speak!

On this very subject Ben Armstrong, Choirmaster at St Michaels, would like to invite anyone who can read music, and is used to singing in harmony, to come along and augment the choir for the occasion. However those who wish to join the choir will need to be available to attend a practice on Thursday 28 April at 7.00 p.m. in the church.

The Big Hymn will contain popular and traditional hymns which have been selected from the various suggestions which have been put forward and, of course, Barry Darch's "Hymn for Torrington" will be sung once again to the tune of "Onward Christian

Soldiers." John Downing will accompany us on the majestic Father Willis organ.

There will be a retiring collection and refreshments will be available after the service.

We would love to have the church full of joy and song on this special afternoon – so to quote from our own special hymn "Come you folk of Torrington/Answer to His call."

Anyone wishing to take part in the choir is asked to contact Stephanie Easton on 01805 622688.

## Torrington Players - Cold Comfort Farm

The Starkadder clan is gathering at Cold Comfort Farm for the annual "Counting," a ritual presided over by matriarch Aunt Ada Doom for, as she says, "none o' you mun leave the family!"

Torrington Players patrons will recognise many of the "family" including Aunt Ada herself, (Jo Fallaize). Then there's Judith and Amos Starkadder (Christine Keeley and Bill Grainger), Reuben (Richard Pitt), Rennet (Victoria Kimber) and cousin Flora Poste (Hannah Wells). Other well known faces include Pauline Allen, Glenda Barnett, James Loud, Tony and Stephanie Easton, Christine Spry and Jean Tyler.

The chance to take part in Paul Doust's adaptation of this classic book

has tempted many new members to join a large and talented cast and we are sure our audience will welcome them to the Plough. For instance, there's Seth, (Stuart Thompson), the Starkadder who aspires to become a matinee idol, and handy Hollywood film producer Earl Neck (Colin Mackey). And it wouldn't be a farm without the livestock; the four cows, Feckless, Aimless and Pointless, not to mention Graceless the one with the wooden leg, all cared for by Adam Lambsbreath (Frank Allman). With this steamy mix of silage, who can fail to have an entertaining evening?!

"Cold Comfort Farm" directed by Lynda McLaughlin, will be staged at the Plough Arts Centre from Wednesday 11 to Saturday 14 May at 7.30 p.m.

## Nightwalk Returns to Torrington

Nightwalk is a women's moonlit walk along the Tarka Trail to raise money for North Devon Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support.

It is on Saturday 21st May from 7pm until late and you can register online at [www.nightwalk.co.uk](http://www.nightwalk.co.uk), by visiting the Hospice shop on Well Street, or call 01271 347224 or 347204.

Women 16 years and over are welcome, fancy dress is optional!



## **- The Poo Fighters - Community Action on Dog Poo**

The Poo Fighters are a group of parents and dog owners who are seeking to address Torrington's dog poo problem via community action - please help by signing our petition. We believe that the Torrington community can tackle this problem by influencing friends, family and neighbours who are dog owners - pick up that poo!



A small number of irresponsible dog owners are ruining our beautiful town and countryside for locals and visitors, and creating a serious health hazard for our children who walk and play on our streets and paths. It's just plain grim for everybody.

We have put copies of a petition at various locations in Torrington including: Londis – Whiskers Pet Centre – The Plough Arts Centre – Red Cross Charity Shop – The Library Foyer – The Bluecoat Centre – Molly & Jacks Trading Co. – Torbridge Veterinary Hospital – Hatchmoor Veterinary Centre – Panamart - Claire's Country Nursery.

We will approach local media, local government and our MP to seek support on behalf of the community to raise awareness of this issue.

If you know of any areas in town that are particularly affected, please let us know at [thepoofighters@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thepoofighters@hotmail.co.uk) or leave a note with the petitions - the

council have agreed to clean and monitor these areas.

Please sign the petition and add your voice to the community in saying that this habit is unacceptable.

## **Torrington and District Historical Society 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

1986 must have been a very fertile year for at least two thriving Torrington organisations were born. The first was Torrington & District Care Forum which celebrated its Silver Anniversary in February and the second was TADHiS which celebrates this month. Both were formed when Keith Hughes was Community Tutor based at the Eric Palmer Centre. Along with several other enthusiasts he was instrumental in setting up both groups and remains an active member of both.

For all those years the Historical Society has provided a talk or a field visit on the second Monday of every month for a very modest membership fee. The talks now take place in The Methodist Church Hall from September to April commencing at 7pm with a cup of tea ready for a 7.30pm start. They are usually given by a visitor but sometimes by a member with a special historical interest. They last for an hour and are always followed by a 10 minute presentation by a member on a Great Torrington historical subject. The field visits take place from May through to August, usually in the evenings, with a car-sharing arrangement to reach a place of historical interest within a 30

minute journey from Torrington.

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting will be on Monday 11 April and will be celebrated with a special cake prepared by a member. It is also the AGM so instead of the hour-long talk there will be 2 half-hour talks by members on: 'Fisleigh Barton and its History' and 'Some Torrington Doctors of the Past'. We would be delighted to welcome visitors and new members so please don't be put off by the AGM - it won't last long!

We currently have about 45 members but could do with some more. So, if you are interested in doing historical research of any kind, or just want to have an interesting evening with like-minded friends, please come along. The membership fee is about to go up to £10 each but, for 12 events a year, this is an absolute bargain.

We are also appealing for two volunteers to take on the posts of secretary and treasurer. Our current secretary, Ken Egan, has done it superbly for many years and has earned a rest. Without a new secretary the whole Society, worthwhile though it is, could easily fall apart. Our Treasurer fell ill a couple of years ago so I have been filling in during that time so I can confirm it is certainly not an arduous task!

I very much look forward to seeing some new faces on the 11<sup>th</sup> but if you require any more information before then please contact me on 01805-622343.

*Harry Cramp  
President*



Midsummer Music at Castle Hill, Filleigh with Russell Watson and the National Symphony Orchestra, musical director Robert Emery and special guest Natasha Marsh

Saturday 9 July, Gates open at 5pm, Performance: 7:30pm

The Plough Arts Centre is delighted to be involved with Lord & Lady Arran of Castle Hill in organising a summer concert in the magnificent gardens of their country home near South Molton.

The voice of a generation is back with a new album 'La Voce' in the charts. Recorded in June 2010 Russell Watson's voice has never sounded better. The multi-platinum selling tenor will be performing his only outdoor concert in the southwest at Castle Hill. Also performing with Russell will be the 48 piece National Symphony Orchestra and 16 piece choir. The conductor is internationally acclaimed recitalist, Robert Emery. Special guest for the evening is the wonderful soprano, Natasha Marsh.

The Plough Arts Centre will be handling ticket sales for this prestigious event so please call our Box Office (01805 624624) to purchase tickets or for any further information for this exciting event please call me.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to experience an unforgettable summer concert in the beautiful gardens of

Castle Hill. Arrive early and soak up the ambience, enjoy the gardens and either bring a picnic and a rug or buy a covered seat and enjoy the on-site hospitality, champagne, wine and Pimms bars. The evening will be supporting the Devon Air Ambulance

I hope you will be able to join us.  
[www.theploughartscentre.org.uk](http://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk)

*Julie Cooke*

### **From The Mayor**

At last we have been having some better weather, time to do a spot of gardening I think....

First I would like to send my thoughts and prayers to the families of; Mr & Mrs H Oswin, Mr J Gilbert (gentleman Jim) John Tattersall, (a lovely neighbour) Mrs P Davies, (friend and Cavalier entertainer) Mrs D Darch (past May Queen) and Mrs M Popham, (a wonderful piano teacher) our thoughts are with you all. God Bless.

February 17<sup>th</sup> was a exciting day for many children at the Junior School; choosing the May Queen and her attendants. It is a delight to read out the names, their faces are all a picture, and sums up what Mayfair means to them. Well done, all of you and many thanks to the school, to Ian Bartlett, and Jean Jones for all their help.

Around this time all the Mayors are holding their charity evenings, and we all support one another. The 18<sup>th</sup> February was the date for Bideford's Mayor Phil Pester, 4<sup>th</sup> March we

travelled to Okehampton, and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> we joined Cllr Ian Roome at Barnstaple, (where we all had our photo taken for a keepsake) we are all great friends, and I wish them all well.

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April for my Mayor's Charity, I am having a traditional 3 course Sunday Lunch at Langtree Village Hall, with entertainment provided by the organist Ashley Withey; please phone the office or myself for details, I would love to see you there.

Well done to Anne Tattersall who held a "nearly new sale" at her house on 6<sup>th</sup> March, I believe well over £600 was raised, just that Sky Dive to go Anne, all for monies raised for the North Devon Hospice. Good Luck

On 5<sup>th</sup> March Margaret Brown and I, joined Emma and friends in the Plough and the Co Op store for Fairtrade Fortnight, and well done Emma for giving an excellent talk at Kizzy's Fashion show. You all do a tremendous job in promoting Fairtrade in the town.

And finally I must thank Kate (1646) and everyone who helped with the 1646 Commemorative March on 19<sup>th</sup> February, and a special mention to Tom Hayes, from Marland school, who carried the wreath for me. Another wonderful event that must continue in Great Torrington.

Please contact me at our Office 626135, or my home 622779 if I can help in any way.

*Best Wishes to you all.*  
*Sue Mills,*  
*Mayor of Great Torrington.*

## Church Tower Floodlighting

If you would like to light up the Church Tower to give a greeting to someone or remember a loved one on an anniversary please telephone 01805 623169 or send it to the Crier, cheques to be made payable to "PCC Great Torrington Parish". One day £2, any 3 days (not necessarily consecutive) £5. N.B. To be printed in the May edition of the Crier your entry must be in by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

During April the Tower will be lit on:

1<sup>st</sup> Happy Birthday Harald and God Bless Sally & Harald on your Wedding Anniversary, love Dave & Meg.

13<sup>th</sup> Bernice Fynamore - Happy Birthday to my brother Jack Kinsman.

15<sup>th</sup> God Bless Henry & Gwen on your Golden Anniversary, David & Megan.

21<sup>st</sup> Vera Darch - To a much loved wife and dear mother on your special day with all our love, Happy Birthday from Albert, Adrian, Stephen and Patricia.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday's March Meeting

Despite a cancellation of the meeting four dedicated members did turn up at the Plough.

Ray gave us a Hai Que about his dog Jasper and followed up with "Sea Glimpse" which was full of images of the "Never Ever" change of sea in all its moods.

Charles didn't do anything to do with "Sailing" but as is usual provided us with an image of how precious life is

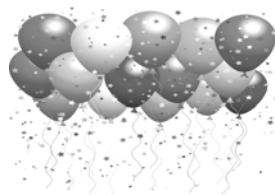
and how the lost ones remain with us.

New member Jill overcame her diffidence and read her first offering to the group. This was on sailing and developed from a pleasurable cruise to a very dark disposal of a relative.

We all miss John Tattersall and his quiet humour.

Subject for April is "Missing"

*M Reed*



## Jack and Molly's 1st Birthday

We had our 1<sup>st</sup> birthday during March. Can you believe a year already? Once again we would like to thank everyone for their support. Sue Mills & Keeley kindly came along to support our birthday tea party.

The year has flown past and we look forward to the future. As well as being busy in the shop you can find us on various websites including our own, [www.Jackandmollystradingco.co.uk](http://www.Jackandmollystradingco.co.uk), eBay, Amazon, Facebook, ABEbooks and Ukworlbooks.

We are thrilled to now offer free book search and free book sourcing, a great extension of our bookshop. Don't forget if you've unusual or interesting books we buy books as well.

We are now selling sugar-free and gluten-free 'treats' alongside our British

made Montezuma's chocolate and Willie's Famous Cacao. We are always looking to expand this range; pop in and let us know which items you would like to see in Torrington.

Over the past year we have raised money for Children in Need, Breast Cancer and Marie Curie, supported Torrington in Bloom and are members of The Torrington Town Traders. We also gave numerous 'raffle prizes' to local events in and around Torrington, and we went out and about participating in many fairs and fetes, It's great being part of the local community.

Over the next 12 months hopefully you will see the ranges in the shop develop further; it's a very exciting time. Please don't hesitate to pop in and see us.

See our advert in this edition.

*Adrian and Amanda  
Jack and Molly's Trading Co.*

## Lent Lunches

Please continue to support the work of Christian Aid by attending the Lent Lunches between 12 & 1.45 pm on

Friday 1st, 8th, 15th April (see Crier diary or posters for venues). As usual a choice of home-made soup will be available along with rolls, butter, cheese, chutney and a cup of tea or coffee for £3.



*Barbara Down  
Treasurer*

## **Dame Joan Sutherland OM, AC DBE**

(7<sup>th</sup> December 1926 –  
10<sup>th</sup> October 2010)

Dame Joan Sutherland was an Australian dramatic coloratura soprano noted for her contribution to the renaissance of the bel canto repertoire from the late 1950s through to the 1960s

One of the remarkable female singers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, she was dubbed La Stupenda by a La Fenice audience in 1960 after a performance of the title role in Handel's Alcina. She possessed a voice of beauty and power, combining extraordinary agility, accurate intonation, pinpoint staccatos, a splendid trill and tremendous upper register, although music critics often complained about the imprecision of her diction. Her great friend Luciano Pavarotti once called Sutherland the "Voice of the Century", while Montserrat Caballe described the Australian's voice as being like "heaven". Her highest note was a high F-sharp in altissimo.

### **Early Life and Career**

Joan Sutherland was born to Scottish parents in Sydney, New South Wales and attended St. Catherine's School in Waverly. As a child she listened to and imitated her mother's singing exercises. Her mother a mezzo-soprano had taken voice lessons but never considered making a career as a professional singer. Joan Sutherland was 18 years old when she began studying voice with John and Aida Dickens. She made her concert

debut in Sydney, as Dido in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas in 1947. In 1951, she made her stage debut in Eugene Goossens' Judith, also in 1951. After winning Australia's most important competition, The Sun Aria, she went to London to further her studies at the Opera School the Royal College of Music. She was engaged by the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, as a utility soprano, and made her debut there in October 1952, as the first lady in The Magic Flute. Followed in November by a few performances as Clotilde in Vincenzo Bellini's Norma, with Maria Callas as Norma.

In the next issue I shall tell you how she trained to be a Wagnerian dramatic soprano and many other roles.

Until then good listening

*Bob Dymond*

### **Four Seasons**

*Spring.* We love to gather their sticky buds,

To decorate and please the eye.

*Summer's* Glory the branches quiver, ballerinas dance on high.

Adorned, their dresses pink, white and green

Artists delight and lovers dream

*Autumn.* Carpets, red-brown-gold,

A garden mulch, blanket mould.

From youth to maturity solid are found

Their fruits brown and glistening fall to the ground,

Collected by children hardened and strung,

They call them conkers, give hours of fun.

Squirrels love them, conceal them  
'neath trees,  
Burrowed by insects even bees:  
Stored, sheltered through winter and snow,  
Provision for wildlife when sources are low.  
*Winter* Chills, gown old, bare,  
Hard to believe such beauty grew there.  
Yet all is preserved, rested, restored,  
These lofty giants to the heavens soar;  
Our landscape windbreak, revered to be,  
God's miracle, majestic horse chestnut tree.

*Doris Peel*

### **Home Is Where The Hurt Is**

For one in four households it's not 'home sweet home'. Behind closed doors there is torment, agony and suffering. Domestic violence and abuse must stop.

Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence and abuse. It is most often experienced by women but men are also affected, as well as partners in same sex relationships and in other close family relationships. It cuts across all boundaries of social group, class, age, race, religion, culture, disability, sexuality and lifestyle.

For help and advice contact the number below, or go to website [www.adva.org.uk](http://www.adva.org.uk).



Contact ADVA:

**01392 38 2233**

**9am to 5pm Mon - Fri**

## Hatherleigh Festival Comedy Club

Comedy comes to Hatherleigh this April with a special event to herald this summer's Hatherleigh Festival.

Festival organisers, and Just The Tonic present an evening of comedy at the Hatherleigh Community Centre, EX20 3HB on Saturday 16 April.

Headlining this year's event will be Wil Hodgson. Wil is a Stand Up Comedian (but not the kind that does puns or banter) serial misfit, collector of 80s girl toys and general retro obsessive, ex skinhead now punk, brief stint as a wrestler, hater of townies and lad mags, admirer of big women (now only armchair enthusiast due to being engaged and in love).

Support acts this year are Joey Page and a mystery comedian!. Joey is eccentric. He is somewhat of an undiscovered sparkling gem; magical swirling surreal comedy. An antidote to the woes of the world, Joey takes you through the tangled joy of his charmingly childlike logic, creating a world of uniquely offbeat characters and tall tales of fancy.

Tickets cost £10 (over 18's only) and are available at Hatherleigh Pottery, The Paper Shop and the Box Office number is 01837 810624.

For more details of the festival, go to [www.hatherleighfestival.co.uk](http://www.hatherleighfestival.co.uk) or you can follow us on Facebook - 'Hatherleigh Festival 2011' or Twitter @HathFest



# k9focus

Sir Duke here again – wow how quickly a month goes by! Well Spring has definitely sprung and I have been having a wonderful time jumping around in the daffodils. Did you know though, that just like grapes and chocolate, daffodils are quite dangerous to us canines. Even the water that the cut flowers have been standing in is dangerous if drunk and can lead to vomiting and diarrhoea - in severe cases hypothermia can also occur.

The rescue has been as busy as ever with 5 new dogs being taken in who were due to be put to sleep – I don't really know why as they are lovely and very friendly – they even like children! I also have a new friend Kaila who has joined 'Duke's Gang' and will remain with the rescue for the rest of her life. Kaila is an older lady and has hip dysplasia and so will need medication, but she still managed to chase us guys around the field and put us in our place. Kaila is now living with her 'forever fosterer' and is hoping that someone will become her sponsor. All the details of sponsoring one of my gang are on the website – [www.k9focus.co.uk](http://www.k9focus.co.uk). If you would like a dog but don't have the time or space then this is a lovely way of helping one of our dogs and ensuring they have a home for the rest of their life. They all

promise to write to you and they now even have their own email addresses – by the way you can also write to me at [duke@k9focus.co.uk](mailto:duke@k9focus.co.uk) – I promise to reply.

I did promise last month to give you some tips about introducing a new friend into your home but I think I will have to leave that until next month as I have been chatting for far too long! I haven't forgotten the recipe for some nice doggie treats though!

### **Bacon Treats**

2 Eggs, 1 cup Milk, ½ Cup Water  
10 tablespoon bacon fat,  
5 cups whole wheat flour

Directions: First, preheat your oven to 350 degrees and grease your cookie (or baking ) sheet.

In a good size bowl, beat the 2 eggs. Stir in the water, bacon fat and milk until everything's well blended. Slowly stir in the flour until you have a nice, stiff dough.

Using your hands, roll the dough into 2 inch balls. Place the balls on the lightly greased cookie sheet and bake for 35-40 minutes. Makes about 25

Cool & Serve to your dribbling friend!

*See you all next month.  
Woofs from Sir Duke*

## **Information for Patients in the e-generation**

Comprehensive information on Devon's 21 community hospitals is now available online for the first time.

NHS Devon has published patient leaflets for each community hospital on its website.

The leaflets include handy tips for patients arriving at their local hospital, such as what they need to bring, facilities available, parking arrangements, contact details and visiting times.

Jan Ingram, who is responsible for health and social care for NHS Devon, said: "It is good news that patients and visitors are now able to access information about our 21 community hospitals on the web as it will help them to prepare for their visit or stay."

Leaflets are available for all 21 of NHS Devon's community hospitals and can be downloaded from the NHS Devon website [www.devonpct.nhs.uk](http://www.devonpct.nhs.uk) and by clicking through to the individual community hospital pages.



Leaflets will also be available in printed form at each community hospital for those who prefer this format.

### Horticultural Society

I am looking out onto our early rhododendrons. A few weeks ago it was a picture of pale pink flowers with darker pink buds, but a recent frost has turned it to a nasty brown mush. My iris unguicularia, "stylosa" to you and me, has been trying to flower but more often than not the bud turns to ice and then flops as it thaws. However the daffodils and hellibores just shrug off the cold.



My tulips are making good progress so I hope to have something decent to show at the Spring Show. Fingers crossed.

Mike Lawrence was our speaker in March. "I could have listened to him all night" said one member. There can be no higher accolade. I hope we can keep up this high standard for the rest of the year.

On Tuesday 5 April we have a break from speakers. We shall be hosting our fellow societies in a Horticultural Quiz. There will be prizes for the top teams and also for the highest scoring member of the audience. It is always a close run thing, a fun evening and there is food. So do come along if the mood takes you.

On Tuesday 3 May we return to the normal format when we shall be welcoming Marigold Badcock from Kings Nympton. She is a clematis expert and has written books on the subject. She will be donating one of her books to our draw! Her task for the evening will be to convince us that we can have clematis flowering every month of the year. She claims there is no difficulty in achieving this ambition.....

For more about the society follow the links from the Crier website. Alternatively ring Sally Ramsden, on 01805 623152 or just turn up to a meeting at 7.30pm at Torrington Vale Social Club.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

*Sally Ramsden*



### Torrington Volunteer Garden Service

Our Volunteer gardeners will be having their update day and hope to then be available from April to assist those that have requested our help. Should you require any help with your basic gardening (weeding, mowing grass and pruning) and you do not have anyone to help you (ie - no family/friends or neighbours) please give us a ring in the office and speak to either Linda or Jane on 01805 622666. Please remember that we can only offer our assistance with gardening if we have a suitable volunteer in your area and so if anyone would like to volunteer .....please also



give us a ring for an informal chat. We look forward to hearing from you.

**LOTTERY FUNDED**

### New 4 You Sale

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 10 – 12pm at Infant School Hall & Children's Centre

Sellers Tables only £4.50 or come along browse and buy.

Sorry no electrical items.

To book a table or for more information please contact the centre on 01805 625830

## Fairtrade Fortnight

At the time of writing, Fairtrade Fortnight is in full fling!



Kicking off with a Panamart Fashion Show on the 26 February, the Fortnight continued with an afternoon of circle

dancing with local band Balamouk. Saturday 5 March saw members of the Fairtrade Group out and about in Torrington. Customers in the Co-Op were offered free samples of Fairtrade Marked goodies, donated by the Co-Op. In the Plough there was a blind tasting of 3 different Fairtrade Chocolates. 61 people took part, and the winner, by one vote, was Divine Milk Chocolate, closely followed by Dairy Milk, which happily now meets Fairtrade standards for its cocoa. Well done Divine! Meanwhile, customers were able to browse some new lines on the monthly Traidcraft stall, including Fairtrade Easter eggs.

At 11am the Mayor and Councillor Margaret Brown joined in the Fairtrade celebrations to launch the new Fairtrade Guide to Torrington, listing all the shops and cafes where you can buy and eat/drink Fairtrade products in Torrington. Please look out for the Guide or contact the Fairtrade Steering Group for a copy (details below).

The day ended with a Wine and Wisdom. Fuelled by Fairtrade wine and nibbles, 7 teams battled it out in

a general knowledge quiz to win a Fairtrade hamper. Well done the winning team!

So far, over 100 Fairtrade cotton bunting triangles have been created, contributing to a national world record attempt by the Fairtrade Foundation for the world's longest string of bunting. More next time... Meanwhile.

For more information about the Fairtrade Group or to get involved, please contact Emma on 01805 622143. The group meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday in the Plough at 7:30, and new people are always very welcome. Happy Fairtrade Fortnight!



## Community Information Centre

The Community Information Centre (CiC) is located behind 'Panamart', the fairtrade shop in the town centre, (the Stones Solicitors building). The shop and back rooms were initially rented knowing that the building was up for sale, but in the hope that it may be sold with the shop as a 'going concern'. The ground floor was too big just to be used as a shop and so we decided, with Stones' blessing, to turn the back room over for community use – a Community Information Centre (CiC). The CiC opened in December 2010, following fundraising for basic essentials. It slowly developed, through

advertising in the local papers and shops, until a few basic services were in place and a real need for a Centre established.

**Phase One** – Dec 2010 – Feb 2011 - To date, the CiC has been used as follows: Weekday prayer and reflection time; Weekly mental health support group; Fortnightly African Drumming for adults and children; Fortnightly free legal advice; Monthly Logo NHS LINK Devon group; Monthly meet and greet with the minister of Torrington Methodist Church; Individual meetings; Breastfeeding facility; Support for local charities abroad; Emergency place of safety for victims of domestic abuse.

**Phase Two** - March 2011 until building sold: Monthly Saturday afternoon children's fun with songs, bible stories and puppets; 'Inspire' music group; Float at the Torrington Carnival; Summer school holiday 'bible based' club proposed for summer holiday; Makaton 2 day basic sign language course; Didgeridoo lessons; Spanish lessons; Working towards setting up group for children who are 'Carewise' carers in Torrington; Support for group of pre-school leavers to start a small business; Future plan when building secure, for internet access/free wi fi/games for use for teenagers; Recycling craft group for children 5 -10yrs.

**Phase Three** - We currently use just the ground floor as until now, we have been unable to afford to rent the whole building. The ground floor in its total comprises the front shop, a small hallway used for sub-sales leading to a

large changing room which also provides an area for children to be entertained with board games and colouring while parents change, as well as a fridge and refreshment making facilities. Behind there is a washroom and then the CiC on two levels, comprising a comfortable lounge area and an information area with large tables for practical use, information boards on the charities that Torrington supports abroad and also a piano.

With the developing interest in the use of the building and its proximity to the centre of town (overlooking the whole town square), we believe we could fully use the upper floors. These consist of a large front room which would be converted to the comfortable room, with the comfortable room downstairs then being fitted out as a youth area. There are three offices which could be used for private consultation and study rooms, another very large IT room from where the youngsters could run their business, a kitchenette and washroom. On the top floor is another large room which would be ideal as a training room, although access to the second and third floors is currently just by two staircases and therefore not accessible to the disabled.

As mentioned above, we were aware when we first rented the building that it was up for sale and Stones Solicitors are hoping (as are we) that any buyer will buy with the shop and Centre as a 'going concern'. But we cannot guarantee this. The insecurity of the future of the CiC means that

some of the projects in 'Phase Two' will be unlikely to happen until the future of the building is known, for instance, the internet access for which we will need to contract for at least a year. However, some of the projects need to continue to move forward for the development of community support, and if we sadly did lose the building, what we currently do here is transferable to any suitable premises, although it would be unlikely to be in such a prime position in the town.

And so, how can you help? I am looking for someone who knows how to set up a cooperative or has any other ideas about how to keep this little treasure alive. Please drop in and have a look around.

*Kiz Angell. 'Panamart'*  
*Community Information Centre.*  
kizangell@talktalk.net



### **The Torrington Town Traders - TTTT Royal Wedding Street Party**

Please note: we have had to change the time of our celebration to the afternoon from 12-4pm.

We had originally wanted to set up a big screen to watch the wedding together in the town centre but practicalities have made that

impossible, so now we will be celebrating after you have all watched the wedding, with a bouncy castle for the children, entertainment and stalls in the Town Square. If you would like a £5 stall, which must be royally decorated, please drop into Love Lea's to book.

Don't forget that we are also looking for our own Kate and William in Torrington- Write in no more than 100 words why you should win your very own 'Royal Portrait' by Jayne Poole Photography and drop into either Jayne Poole Photography or 'Panamart' by 10 April.

Now children, start thinking about your royal wedding fancy dress! There will be lots of prizes on the day for the most imaginative wedding costumes! Please keep up to date with the loyalty scheme and what's going on in the town shops by logging on to [www.torringtontowntraders.org.uk](http://www.torringtontowntraders.org.uk)

### **Pop Up Clothes Boutique Ladies Clothes, Shoes, Bags & Accessories**

At Umberleigh Village Hall 9 April from 2pm. Sellers buy a pitch for £5. Bring your own rail, table provided. Hall open from 1pm. Sell your quality, clean ladies clothes, shoes, bags, accessories. All Shoppers Welcome - the more the merrier!

Tea, coffee, cake sales and raffle in aid of FiG (Families in Grief.) For more detail and to book a pitch call Sarah 01769 560191

# The Crier, Torrington Library Tel: 01805 622107

## Email: [torrington.library@devon.gov.uk](mailto:torrington.library@devon.gov.uk)

All copy and enquiries to Torrington Library please.

'The Crier' online: [www.great-torringtoncrier.co.uk](http://www.great-torringtoncrier.co.uk). There are no adverts in this version

### Articles

All articles, handwritten or emailed, to be submitted FAO The Crier and/or Crier Diary, please.

Emailed articles as attachments please format in MS Word, heading in small case bold, Arial font size 11.5 and centred; body text in Arial font size 9.5 with the text justified. No block capitals, please.

Please add a name and contact details to all submitted material, and a word count.

All articles are subject to editing but especially those over 300 words.

Early copy is very much appreciated.

**The Crier Diary** is for community and fundraising events only. It is on the library counter and if possible you are requested to enter details yourself. Please include event, venue, time and a brief description if required.

### Advertising

We would be grateful if advertisements are supplied in a digital format ready to print.

#### Costs & sizes:

Small advert: 9cm wide x 5cm deep, £22.50 per issue

Large advert: 19cm wide x 5cm deep, £45.00 per issue

10% discount for a run of five adverts. We prefer payment in advance for single issue adverts please.

All advertisements are accepted in good faith.

#### Deadlines

All copy by **12 noon** on the **second Thursday of the month** before publication.

**If assistance with your advert is required, please supply copy by the 1st Thursday of the month.**

We print 10 issues a year; August/September and December/January are double issues.

### Castle Hill Opening Hours

Library Book Renewals	622107 0845 155 1001	Mon 9.30am-1pm, Tues 9.30am-1pm & 2-7pm, Thurs & Fri 9.30am-1pm & 2-5pm, Sat 9.30-1pm
Torrington 1646, Café & garden	626146	Please call for opening hours
Tourist Information	626140	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 10am-1pm
Pathfinder Thomas Fowler Centre	626120	Mon & Thurs 9.30am-1pm, 2-5pm, Wed 2-8.30pm, Fri 9.30am-12 noon English & Maths, Mon 6-8pm
Torrige District Council	626130	Thurs 9.30am-2.30pm, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm
Torrington Town Council	626135	Tues, Wed & Thurs 9am-1pm
Citizens' Advice Bureau	01237 473161	Tues 9.30am-12.30pm drop in Thurs 9.30am-12.30pm appt only
Community Development Trust	626100	Tues, Wed, Thurs morning
Genesis/Pannier Market Admin	626110	Tues, Wed, Thurs morning
Volunteer Centre	625614	Tues & Thurs 10am-12.30pm
Heritage Museum & Archive		Contact Sue Scrutton 622391 or Val Morris 622306

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<b>DIARY</b>	Ray Fuller
<b>ONLINE</b>	Tony Woodman

### Great Torrington Churches

Torrington Baptist Church, New Street:  
01805 622043

Methodist Church, Top of Mill Street:  
01805 623172

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Family,  
Gas Lane: 01237 472519

Saint Michael's & All Angels, New Street:  
01805 622166

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Crier 'Team'