



Great Torrington Community School Sports College

*Year 7 have been writing Creation Tales.
I love these, very inventive.*

How the crocodile became Green

Long ago in the deep dark jungle there was a crocodile called Colin. Colin could get very angry very easily. He was just a normal crocodile. He ate, then slept, then ate, then slept, then ate some more and, yes you guessed it, slept. There was only one unusual thing about Colin: his colour. A lot of the animals said he was as white as chalk. Every time he got near his prey they saw him straight away, so it was very hard to hunt without being seen.

One day Colin got extremely hungry because he hadn't had anything to eat all day. He then decided to visit Coyote. Coyote was the wisest animal on Earth, and could for sure help Colin with his problem. Colin set off towards Coyote's home. He felt nervous, but also excited because he thought that all his troubles would soon be over.

When Colin reached Coyote's territory it was already dark. Suddenly it was flooded with a bright light and the great shape of Coyote could be seen among the shadows.

"Coyote!" Called Colin nervously as he walked forward into the light.

"You are troubled," said Coyote. "May I

be of assistance?"

"Could you do anything about my colour?" Colin asked. "If you don't mind," he added.

Coyote bowed his head and said quietly in a hushed voice, "You are what you are. I cannot do anything about it."

Colin sighed and walked out sulkily. He felt as though a happy balloon inside him had just been deflated.

As Colin walked through the forest he stopped and thought, 'Why couldn't Coyote change his colour?' He hit a tree with his tail angrily. Why? Why? Why? He hit it again. Why? Why? Why? He raised his tail again but he overbalanced and fell straight into a muddy bog. The water in the bog was so sticky it was impossible to swim upwards so he stayed still and poked his nose out to breathe. There was only one thought on his mind. How long would the animals take to find him?

Ellie the elephant was walking past the bog. Colin thought hard, how could he get her attention? "I've got it," he said, though no-one could hear him under all the sludge. He blew through his nose hard, and a lot of mud went straight up into the air. Ellie jumped, but then looked closer at the two holes which were Colin's nose.

"Colin. Is that you?" said Ellie. "Oh my word, you're stuck. Don't worry, I'll go and get the animals," and she hurried off as fast as she could.

Five minutes later the animals arrived. They decided to make a chain so they could reach him. Monkey, who was at the end, got a firm grip on Colin and pulled. Colin slid onto dry land and the animals gasped. The sludge in the bog had stained his skin green.

"You're exactly the same colour as the

bushes," Ellie cried. Colin walked behind a bush.

"Wow," they all said, Colin was completely camouflaged. You would have thought he had just vanished.

Colin came back out again and said, "Thanks," then walked off grinning.

From then on, crocodiles are always green.

Matthew Bradley, Year 7.

How the Mouse Became Small and Scared the Elephants

Long ago in a jungle there lived a mouse. He loved to play tricks on the other animals, but the mouse was so big you could see him far away and the animals just ran away. The mouse wished he could be smaller to scare the other animals.

One day the mouse had just finished trying to scare the elephants, but as usual, he could not scare the elephants or any other animals. Mouse decided he had had enough and went home.

When Mouse was nearly home he tried to scare one more animal. He was ready to jump and scare Monkey. Then Coyote scared Monkey by jumping near him, and Monkey ran away.

"You were about to scare Monkey," said Coyote.

"Yes, I was about to, but you jumped out and scared him first," said Mouse.

"Ok, you think you are the best," said Coyote.

"Yeah I do, I think I'm the best," said Mouse.

"Ok, then I challenge you to a scaring match. You have to scare one animal today; if you do scare an animal you win. If you don't, I win, but I also have to scare

an animal," said Coyote.

"I accept the challenge," said Mouse.

"May the best Coyote win," said Coyote jokingly.

Mouse scuttled quickly back to where the elephants were. Mouse thought that would be the best place to go. The elephants looked very happy, they were eating grass and drinking water from the lake.

"Boo!" Said Mouse loudly.

One of the elephants turned around and said, "Hi Mouse." And turned back around. The elephants didn't react; they kept eating and drinking like nothing had happened.

Mouse knew he couldn't win this challenge, so he went up a path, deciding to go home. But then Mouse and the elephants heard this massive BOO! All the elephants suddenly stopped eating and drinking and ran up the path as quickly as they could. Mouse scuttled away quickly as well, but he was not fast enough. The elephants were so close to Mouse, they could step on him at any moment. Eventually one did step on Mouse and he became as flat as a pancake. All the elephants kept running, not realising they had stepped on Mouse.

Mouse saw that Coyote was there laughing. Mouse thought Coyote must have said boo to scare the elephants, and Mouse also realised that Coyote had won the challenge. Mouse felt depressed because Coyote would be known as the scariest animal in the jungle and Mouse would be known as Mouse - the animal who could not scare a fly. Coyote walked near Mouse.

"Ooh!" Said Mouse miserable.

"Ah, Mouse, you gave me a fright there," said Coyote. "Are you ok?"

"I feel as if an elephant has stepped on

me," said Mouse getting back to his feet. He looked at Coyote and said, "Have you grown or have I shrunk because I don't feel the same size as I was before I got stepped on."

"You have shrunk Mouse," said Coyote. "You know what, I think I will not allow that scare because you got stepped on by an elephant.

"Yeah! I won! I won!" Said Mouse.

"You won? You have not scared an animal!" said Coyote.

"Yes I have," Said Mouse.

"No you have not," said Coyote.

"Yes I have. I scared you!" Said Mouse furious.

"When?" Said Coyote.

"A few minutes ago. You came up to me not realising I was there, and I said, 'Ooh!' And you said 'Ah, Mouse, you gave me a fright,'" said Mouse.

"Oh. Ok, you win. You are the scariest animal in the jungle," said Coyote annoyed. In fact, Coyote was so annoyed he decided to go home.

"Yes! Yes! I am the scariest animal in the jungle. I might just put that phrase on a stone in front of my house. 'This house belongs to the scariest animal in the jungle, beware!'" said Mouse delighted.

Mouse decided he WAS going to get a stone and write that down, then go home and put that stone in front of his house. But today he didn't feel like it. He would go home and do it tomorrow. So he went home.

Mouse arrived home feeling very proud because he had won the challenge. Then he noticed there was a stone the right size with writing on it outside his house. It said: 'This house belongs to the scariest animal in the jungle. Beware!' Mouse thought, 'Who would have put that there?'

Then Coyote came out of the bushes and said, "Surprise! The stone is a present for winning the challenge. Hey Mouse, the elephants are just over there, give them a scare, just for me."

Mouse walked slowly over to the elephants and said, "BOO!" The elephants ran quicker than ever.

"That was a better scare than mine," said Coyote, "They ran quicker. A very good scare scary Mouse."

From then on that is why Mouse is known as the scariest little animal in the world.

Megan Saunders, Year 7.

Finally, Leah's poem. Look at the superb use of alliteration and sibilance.

You are

You are my shining summer's day
Where the sun is blinding and
The soft summer silence flies around.

You are my warm winter coffee
Every sip makes me dream and
It's soothing right to the top
Where the marshmallow melts.

You are my soft silent snow
Shining in the gleaming moon
Shimmering as we dream,
Falling soundlessly as we sleep.

You are my friends and family
Always sticking by my side
Always forgiving, always loving
Never forgetting the memories we have.

You are my world.

Leah Nudds, Year 7

Dr Nicholas Lamb

Dr Nick Lamb retired on 30th June 2011 after more than 28 years working as a GP in Torrington, at Castle Gardens Surgery. Dr Lamb has had a long and distinguished career and will be greatly missed by both his patients and colleagues.

All patients registered with Dr Lamb will automatically be transferred to the care of Dr Alisha Kaliciak on 1st July 2011. If you wish to register with another doctor at the Practice please write to Mrs Sue Allin, Office Manager.

We are sure that everyone would like to wish Nick, Sian, Charlie, Henry and George all the best for the future and to extend a warm welcome to Dr Alisha Kaliciak.

*From all the doctors,
staff and patients
at Castle Gardens Surgery*



Torrington Church Fête

In past years the Church Fete has always been on a Saturday afternoon in June or July in the Vicarage garden. This year will be different. The institution of the new Rector, Fr Lawrence MacLean takes place on Monday 5th September at 7.30 pm in St Michael and All Angels Church. He is looking forward to getting to know people from the town and as the fete is a great opportunity to do this, it will, this year, take place on the afternoon of Saturday 24th September, in the

Vicarage Garden. It is hoped that as many people as possible will take this opportunity of meeting the MacLean family and to enjoy all the usual stalls and sideshows of this annual event.

First Thursday Writers' Group

A healthy attendance and an entertaining evening was opened by Robin making us consider the 'disappearing train'. Times certainly have changed. Bill echoed that theme with an article about the evacuation during WW11. Both took us back to a time when the railways were very much part of the national psyche.

Steff's 'Runaway Train' was the epitome of style and pathos and the denouement was strangely logically surprising and satisfying.

Roy's 'Orient Express' was a celebration of rhythm and rhyme and bore favourable comparison with Auden's 'Night Mail', a well thought out and crafted poem. Elizabeth reminded us of the richness and variety of our wonderful language by considering the various interpretations of our topic, train/trains.

Jean used a missed train to give us a personal reminiscence with precise rhyme, rhythm and nous, some might say all sex and Scouse - but I would not dare. Again it reminded us of bygone days, in more ways than one.

Charles deviated from the topic and presented us with a mysterious poem inspired by the news of the proposed sale of the wartime aerodrome of Winkleigh. This was a thought

provoking and eerie composition made all the more so by the coincidence of a work by Mr. David Cargill, a friend of the first Thursday Group, which is a ghost story set in Winkleigh air strip in the sixties. This could run.

Iain also deviated and played around with North Devon place names.

The topic for the next meeting is to be 'Fox'.

A Message from the Mayor

On Tuesday 17 May I was elected by Torrington Town Council to be your Mayor for 2011/12. I would like to thank our councillors for their confidence in me, I will work hard for the good of the community in Torrington and will be proud to represent the town in the various civic events throughout Devon during my time in Office. My wife Helen, who is also involved with various organisations in the town, will support me during the coming months. I am also delighted Mrs Margaret Brown will be my deputy. We welcome a number of new councillors, Joyce Martin, Zoe Fordham-Moore, Richard Phillips, John Pledger and Kiz Angell who I know will make a valuable contribution over the next four years.

My first duty was to open Lidl supermarket and I arrived at 7.30 am to look around the store before the official opening at 8am! Later we attended a Christian Aid concert at the Baptist Church. 22 May was a special day for Ron Sussex, his 80th Birthday and it was obvious the affection and admiration people have for Ron and



The Crier Team is looking for interested members of our community to become part of a new Crier Committee to take overall responsibility for The Crier and to establish a constitution.

We are also looking for enthusiastic and committed volunteers to take over Torrington Library's present role and involvement in producing the Crier, which includes advertising, editorial and print-ready layout.

The Crier Team are dedicated to producing 10 editions of our community newsletter annually.

If you believe you have the skills, versatility and the time to commit to this enterprise and join the team, please contact Kate Greaves at Torrington Library on 01805 622107; torrington.library@devon.gov.uk or call into the library.

the work he does for the senior citizens in great Torrington. Thanks for the birthday cake Betty it was lovely!

Our first official engagement out of the Town was to the Mayor of Barnstaple's inauguration (his second term). We were delighted to meet old friends, the Mayor of Lynton and Lynmouth and the Mayor of Illfracombe and his wife who were Mayors in 2006 when I was previously elected so we are looking forward to all the events with "The Chain Gang" as we are known.

We supported Project Okurase Family Day; money raised will help towards improving the standard of life of children in Ghana. Torrington Vale Social Club proved to be a warm and welcoming venue for this fundraiser after the rain poured down. Well done Jude Keohane and all the helpers and thank you for inviting us.

We also attended Mayor Making for the new Mayor of Bideford. Each town has its own unique way of marking the ceremony and it is a privilege to be a part of this continuing tradition. I must also mention our amazing youngsters who have recently completed the Ten Tours Challenge. Our own pupils at the senior school did us proud and I look forward to going to the ceremony celebrating their success. Many teachers and volunteers gave up their own time to make this happen so well done to everybody who took part.

Finally please let me know if there are any special events or celebrations you would like me to get involved with by ringing our secretary Pauline on

626135 or me direct on 625662. Helen and I look forward to talking to you over the coming months

Richard Rumbold, Town Mayor

Rolle Canal Guided Walk

The Rolle Canal Society's next guided walk will be on Sunday, 10 July, starting at 2:30pm from Loxdown Cross, off the A386, Bideford road. Loxdown Cross is now a picnic site, about half a mile north of the entrance to Beam House PGL centre. 200 years ago it was just a pack horse trail leading down from Monkleigh to ford the Torridge to reach Weare Giffard, but in the 1820s the Rolle Canal and the Bideford-Torrington turnpike road were built forming the first viable transport route north-south along the Torridge valley.

The guided walk, partially on the Tarka Trail, takes in half-a-mile of riverbank meadow from the ford to the aqueduct, and passes close by the birthplace of Tarka the Otter. With a mill leat, weir, carriage drive and roving bridge it uniquely combines history, wildlife, agriculture and literature in under two miles of walking.

The start is at 2:30pm at the picnic site which is sign posted beside the A386 at Map Ref: SS 475 216. A donation of £2 towards the work of the Rolle Canal Society will be appreciated.

Non-members are welcome, but no dogs please as we mustn't frighten the bull! (We can avoid the meadow if the bull frightens us).

Just turn up, or phone/e-mail for

more details. 01237 425357
hassallc@gmail.com



First of all Thanks to Auntie Lynne for rescuing me back in January of this year, I was shipped across from Ireland after being in kennels for 10 months, I'm not sure of my age, I've been told approx 2yrs.

I came over with others, but I fell in love with another German Shepherd named Cooper. Mmm he was lovely. I hope he is happy in his new home. We both went to the same kennels for rehoming. I was there for about 10 days when two people came to see me. They took me for a short walk and a run in a field. I was thinking what's going to happen next.. there was lots of talking going on!

Days later those people came back and the next thing I know I'm getting comfy on the back seat of a car with someone sitting next to me and I'm looking through the window taking in the view. After a while the car stopped and I was led toward a house and through the front door. I was left to look around my new home. I was shown my lovely soft bed - I just sink into it - I might just like it here.

My new owner has decided that my birthday will be on the day I came to them. I have met many other four legged friends some not so sure of me and visa versa but I only want to play and say hello.

TorrAGE **Helping Older People in the** **Community**

Can you spare an hour of your time to make a big difference to someone's life?

Can you offer support and friendship to an older person in their own home, or be able to provide practical support such as shopping, collecting prescriptions, form filling, or just call round with a friendly smile and have a cup of tea and a chat?

If you can help please contact Louise or Linda on 01805 622666



Great Torrington **Senior Council for Devon**

The meeting held on Wednesday 11th May was

again on a very interesting subject, that of transport for the people that do not have any transport of their

own. The speaker was Duncan Goodman of Torrington Community Transport. The ways in which they can help anyone are numerous and cannot be described in this article. However if you need help to visit the hospital, go shopping or would like a daytrip out somewhere give them a call but with a few days notice. That is what one of our member couples, Ray and Nora did and they gave a good report on the services that were on offer. Make that telephone call now and see what



Torrington Community Transport can do for you.

Torrington Community Transport
01237 423232

Memory Cafe

The Mayor of Great Torrington for the last two years Councillor Sue Mills, who has now handed the position of Mayor over to Councillor Richard Rumbold, nominated the Memory Cafe as one of her chosen charities. On Tuesday 17th May a cheque for £690.50 was presented to Graham Bowen Chairman of the Great Torrington Senior Council for Devon, on behalf of the Torrington Memory Café. Everyone involved with the Memory Cafe would like to thank Councillor Sue Mills for her generosity and support.

What is the purpose of a memory café?

A memory café is somewhere where people with dementia/memory loss and their families/friends can visit to support each other and share information and experiences. Health, Social Care and Carer Support professionals are also on hand to answer any questions and provide support as well as signpost to other services. If required telephone contact numbers are as follows:-

Taw and Torrington Voluntary Services
01237 420136
Community Health Team
01237 473049
Secretary Brian Coleshill
01805 622464
Chairman Graham Bowen
01805 625801

The memory café meets the second Thursday of each month in the Gallery room at the Plough Arts Centre Fore Street Great Torrington from 10.00am until 12.00 noon.

Come along and have a break from routine and a friendly chat.
News Flash

Great Torrington Memory café along with others in North Devon now have a web site:

www.northdevonmemorycafes.org.uk with links to facebook and twitter. All courtesy of Tim Pryor, Occupational Therapist with the NHS, who in his own time has set up the site so that younger persons can research the illness and find sources of help and guidance on line.

Graham Bowen
Chairman of Great Torrington SCfD

Swimming Academy **Open Day**



The Laura Bennett Academy of Swimming will be holding an Open Day on Monday 25th July between 9am-12pm at Orford Mill, Torrington EX38 8PH.

Come along during this time, see the pool, meet Laura and book your swimming lessons for the new term. Swimming is a great way to keep fit and learn the important life saving skill. See you there.

See my advert in this Crier

Laura Bennett



New Street Car Park

As a condition of the planning permission for the Lidl store, a public car park had to be provided. It was originally agreed that the Town Council would be given the freehold of the car park. Owing to a change in Lidl policy the freehold is no longer available. The 40 year lease offered as a substitute would require the Town Council to be responsible for any repairs and maintenance to the car park but not actually own it. Members felt this posed a future financial risk for the community and decided not to accept the offer of a lease. The following letter was sent to Lidl.

12 April 2011

Mr James Mitchell,
Development Executive
Lidl
Locking Castle Business Park,
West Wick
Weston Super Mare
Somerset, BS24 7TG

Dear James

New Street Car Park

As you are aware, your company was required to provide a public car park as part of your planning permission. Something you readily did

following local consultations and as part of your planning application.

Prior to you applying for planning consent your company made a presentation to the Town Council and inter alia offered the freehold of the public car park to the Town Council. An offer that was subsequently reiterated in writing from your company.

Having obtained planning permission, your company decided to withdraw the offer of the freehold and substitute it with a 40 year lease. You will know from our recent telephone conversation that my members were to discuss at the recent council meeting, the circumstances concerning the car park, and decide upon any future involvement. I have been asked to inform your company that in view of it having reneged on its original offer this Council is not prepared to continue discussions concerning the offer of a lease.

If your company wishes to reconsider the freehold please let me know.

Yours sincerely,
M.A. Tighe, Town Clerk
Great Torrington Town Council

Great Torrington Town Council Local Application for Grant Aid

Great Torrington Town Council administers a charity called the Commons Allotment Charity. Each year the charity allocates its small

amount of funds to mostly locally based community groups.

As usual, application forms for grant aid during the year 2012/13 are available from the Town Clerk's Secretary. You may obtain an application form by telephoning 01805 626135 or calling into the Council Offices at Castle Hill, South Street, Great Torrington.

Any application to be considered must be returned by noon on Thursday 9th September 2011

M.A. Tighe, Town Clerk
Great Torrington Town Council
Castle Hill
Great Torrington
Devon. EX38 8AA
Tel: 01805 626135
E-mail: gtowncouncil@lineone.net

Great Torrington Town Council

Great Torrington Town Council is pleased to announce the investiture of Councillor Richard Rumbold as the Town Mayor for 2011/12. Councillor Mrs Margaret Brown was elected as Deputy Mayor.

The retiring Mayor's Good Citizen Award was presented to the Torrington Town Traders in recognition of the excellent work that organisation has undertaken for the community of Great Torrington.

The Howe Plate was presented to Mrs Cilla Symons for the excellent work she has undertaken for the youth of Great Torrington over many years.

Windy Cross Singers at Methodist Church

The Windy Cross Singers invite you to come to Torrington Methodist Church on Sunday 10 July at 6.30pm to hear a new musical by Roger Jones called 'Two Sisters and a Funeral', based on the story of the raising of Lazarus.

Offertory will be for church funds and all will be followed by refreshments.

Dementia Awareness Day

Taw & Torridge Caring invite you to a Dementia Awareness Day – a light-

hearted but information packed day. Come along to take part in workshops, try new activities and meet other people living with dementia, carers and professionals over lunch.

The day will include workshops and a presentation from Steve Milton of Innovations in Dementia about living positively with dementia. There will be information stands to browse and the chance to try out Wii. After lunch there will be the opportunity to sample a range of complementary therapies or try some fun, stimulating activities.

Venue: The Barnstaple Hotel, Braunton Road, Barnstaple, EX31 1LE

Date: 8th July 2011

Time: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Numbers are strictly limited – please ring 01237 459337 for more details and/or email TTC@torridgecvts.org.uk to reserve your place.



Project Okurase
A LIMITED LINK FOR BETTER LIVES

Create a Difference

The Create a Difference family day team wish to thank the Mayor of Torrington and his wife and everyone who joined in and got creative at the fund raiser on the 28th May at Torridge Vale Social Club in Torrington.

Our aim was for local people to enjoy themselves while raising funds for medical treatment for children in Ghana.

We raised over £500. This will help fund a team of 11 medical doctors from America to treat children, like Francis, whom we met in the village of Okurase on a cultural trip to Ghana earlier this year. Francis is 6 years old and can see only what is immediately in front of him. His young friend Kweko is his eyes.

Because of his difficulties, Francis could not go to school. An eye specialist was shown a video and believes Francis' sight problems may be caused by a vitamin deficiency. The specialist will be travelling with the other doctors and hopes to be able to treat him and all the children suffering low vision due to vitamin deficiency. There are 1,400 children in the village.

Dr Cindy Swenson, Professor at South Carolina University and member of the Project Okurase team, along with Dr Samuel Yeboah of Totnes, Devon, who is from Ghana, say, " This will be a Village Health Outreach to

remember, thank you and please let all there know how grateful we are." She says, "This is a great example of multi country collaboration among new friends."

People from Ghana provided a natural dye from a local tree for the textile workshop and Sam himself provided beads for the jewellery, as well as education and enjoyment through his West African Drumming workshops, making the day special.

Local businesses also played a very important part and in particular the Create a Difference team would like to thank: Torridge Vale Social Club for providing the space for the event and their support, the Blue Gallery, Barnstaple for supplying art materials and raffle prize, along with all those who donated prizes for the raffle, including: Lundy Shore Office, RHS Rosemoor, Eden Project, the Big Sheep, Cosmetics Plus, The Body Shop, Nomads Clothing, SoundPad, Pots'n'Paints and too many to mention. Thank you all for your part in a story of creativity changing lives.

Monthly Boot Fair in Town

The Torrington Town Traders will be holding a boot fair in South Street Car part on the 1st Saturday of the month from June to September, starting at 12:30pm.

Stallholders from 12:00 - £5.00 per pitch. No food stalls.

Parking is free in this car park every Saturday from 12:00

For more details please call Kate on 01805 626146

BVNA National Veterinary Nursing Week

The British Veterinary Nursing Association is holding a National Veterinary Nursing Week from Sunday 17- Saturday 23 July 2011. Registered veterinary nurses across the country are being urged to promote their profession and educate the public about their job. Vet nurses work alongside veterinary surgeons to help to provide a high standard of care for animals. They usually work within a veterinary surgery or veterinary hospital and are involved in a wide range of care and treatment and provide skilled supportive care for sick animals as well as monitoring animals during anaesthesia, administering medical treatments and carrying out diagnostic tests under veterinary supervision.

Veterinary nurses also play an important role in the education of owners on good standards of animal care. Your local vet nurse can offer free advice about your pets diet, dental care, worming regime and flea/tick control and Your local vet nursing staff also provide free weight clinics and dental checks along with regular Puppy Parties and Junior Clinics. They are also available to help administer any prescribed medicines to your pet.

For more details about how your registered veterinary nurse can help you care for your pet please call into your local veterinary



Merton Vintage Rally & Summer Fayre

Saturday 16 July 11am – 5pm

Following the success of previous years, The Friends of the Clinton School, in association with The Clinton Hall, are holding our 4th Vintage Rally & Summer Fayre at The Clinton Hall. We hope that this year we can equal or even better the turnout from last year, with people coming to Merton from all over Devon.

We are expecting about 100 vintage/ classic vehicles, including cars, tractors, commercial vehicles, motorcycles, stationary engines and a display of vintage prams. We are also able to offer rides in a 1927 Phantom 1 Rolls Royce, in its day used at 'The White House' and ridden in by Sir Winston Churchill!

Other attractions on the day include a birds of prey display and a display by the Fire Service, fairground rides, a bouncy castle and a 'Bumps-a-Daisy' trailer ride, together with a science show especially for the children. Torrington Silver Band will be providing musical entertainment, together with a local folk band. There will be an art exhibition, craft and trade stalls, a barbecue, cream teas and a licensed bar.

Come along to this great family day out.

Entrance: £2 adults, £1 children, under 5s free. Find us on the A386 between Torrington and Hatherleigh. EX20 3EQ. Plenty of free parking.

For more information or to book a stall call Janette Newell 01805 603604.

Girlguiding Torrington

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the unit leaders, guiders, unit helpers, young leaders and anyone who helps with our units in any way for all their hard work and commitment to the hundred plus girls in Rainbows, Brownies Guides and senior section in Torrington.

Without the long hours the Leaders put in (without any payment), it would be impossible to run such fantastic activities and opportunities for the girls and give them such a good starting point for their futures— they gain confidence, self esteem and friendship, plus lots more !

If any adults are interested in volunteering for one of our units, we would love to hear from you. It is very challenging but rewarding and most importantly lots of fun!



*Thank you
Shirley Lee,
District commissioner
01805-625965*

Bideford Heritage Day July 2nd

Bideford 500 will present a free Elizabethan Pageant in Bideford on Saturday July 2nd 11am-4pm.

A procession will set off from the Quay at 11am and throughout the day there will be performers, demonstrations and living history in and around Mill Street.

For a full programme of events please visit the website on www.bidefordheritage.co.uk

Diary

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

JUL 2011

Fri 1

Pannier Bric-a-Brac Mkt Fridays 10am-4pm

Allsorts Children's Club Bluecoat Inf Sch Fridays 6.30-8pm sch yrs 1-6 Morag 01805 625510

Allsorts Plus Young Person's Club Bluecoat Sch Fridays 8-9pm sch yrs 6-9 Morag 01805 625510

Project Dance Fridays 7.30pm @ TVSC, Latin, Ballroom, Jive, Salsa, any level 01271 346384 or 07795 201249

Torrington Junior School + PTFA Summer Fair & Fun Run, 5.30-8pm Bar BBQ, Stalls, dancing etc.

Film 'Pirates of the Caribbean' (12A) 7pm The Plough

Sat 2

Pannier General Market Saturdays 10am-4pm

Chulmleigh Grand Summer Fete, 1pm-4.30pm Pavillion playing fields, Leigh Rd, Bideford Silver Band, bar, BBQ, games & stalls & attractions, prize draw

Boot Fair Sydney House Car Park, Torrington, £5 Sellers from 12noon, Buyers from 12.30pm. Kate 01805 626146

Farmers Market Gdns of Torrington 1646 10am-4pm. Andy 01805-624430

Music 'The Blues Band' 8pm The Plough
Torrington RFC Rugby 7's Fun Day (see

article)

Torrington Silver Band Concert 7.30 start, £4 adults, £3.50 under 16's & OAPs
Elizabethan Pageant Bideford Heritage Day 11am-4pm, see article.

Sun 3

Gt Torrington Commons Car Boot Sale 7-11am Old Bowling Green Sundays until 25th September

Catholic Church of the Holy Family Mass Sundays 9.15am

Baptist Church Svcs Sundays 10.30am

St. Michael's Church Sung Mass & Sermon Sundays 10am

Torrington Community Church Bluecoat Inf Sch Sundays 11am. Karen 01805 622866

Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am Rev Peter Whatton, 6.30pm Mr David Watson

Film 'Pirates of the Caribbean' (12A) 4pm & 7pm The Plough

Victorian Cricket Match Buckland Brewer Playing Field 3pm. Bar, BBQ, kids activities, entrance free. 01237 451193

Mon 4

Stretch & Tone Class Mondays at The Plough 10.30-11.30am. Samina 01837 682811 or 07974 433 156

Little Frogs sessions Mon-Fri 8.45am-3.45pm term time. Next to the Scout Hall, Gas Lane. 07870 509 674

Little Tadpoles stay & play £1.50 Mondays term time 9.30-11.30am Scout Hall, Gas Lane. 07870 509 674

Panamart Community Information Centre Support group Mondays 1.30-3pm, all welcome, group supported by N Devon Link service.

1st Torrington Rainbows at TRFC Mondays term time 6.15-7.15pm Linda Searle 01237 451302

1st Torrington Brownies The Baptist Hall, New St Mondays term time 6pm-7.30pm. Leanne Wade 01805 - 625846
Torrington Seniors, TRFC Mondays term time 7.30pm-9pm. Sandra Nevard 07729-065 556

Hatha Yoga at the Plough Mondays 6.30-8pm

1st Torrington Cubs Scout Hall, Gas Lane, Mondays term time 5.45-7.15pm Cilla 01805 625856

1st Torrington Scout Group at Scout Hall Gas Lane Mondays term time 7.30-9pm. Peter 01409 281246

Slimming World Bluecoat Inf Sch Mondays 6.30pm Bev Roberts 01805 624955

Cash Bingo TVSC Mondays 7.30pm

Torrington Silver Band practice 8-9.30pm Nick 01805 622150 new players welcome

Tue 5

Story time 10-10.30am in Library on 1st Tues of every month

Beaver Group Tuesdays for boys & girls between 6-8yrs Scout Hut, Gas Lane 4.30-5.45pm. Anne Lewis 01805 601580

1st Torrington Guides TRFC Tuesdays 7.00-8.30pm Linda Masterson 01805 623212

Spiritual Healing Tues. 3-4.30pm & 7-9pm. Friithelstockstone 01805 622883

Bingo Taddipport Vge Hall Tuesdays 7.30pm

Rugby Training Donnacroft Tuesdays 7pm.

Theatre 'Me and the Sea' 11am and 1.30pm The Plough

Film 'Source Code' (12A) 8pm The Plough

Wed 6

Little Tadpoles stay & play £1.50 Wednesdays term time 1.30-3.30pm

Scout Hall, Gas Lane. 07870 509 674

3rd Torrington Brownies Torrington Baptist Hall, Weds term time 6.30-8pm. Shirley Lee 01805 625965

Weight Watchers The Conservative Club 6.30-7.30pm Berni 01837 811172
Free English Course for Adults GTS Weds 7pm-9pm excl school hols. Learn the basics or aim towards L2(GCSE=) qualification. Jayne Doyle 0797 687 7985 or 01237 472462

Langtree Unites Netball Club Weds excl half term (Juniors 7-8pm and Seniors 8-9.30pm) Torrington sports hall. Tessa 07971 083 510

Torrington Silver Band practice 8-9.30pm Nick 01805-622150

Film '13 Assassins' (15) 8pm The Plough

Thu 7

Pannier Gen Mkt Thursdays 10am-4pm

Little Fishes Toddler Group Baptist Church Thurs term time 9.30-11.30am £1.50 per family. Wendy 01805 623214

Rosemary Conley Diet & Exercise Class Bluecoat Early Yrs Ctr 6.30-7.45pm Wendy 01237 424787

Rugby Training Donnacroft Thurs 7pm club open 8pm

Writers Poets and Listeners 7.30pm The Plough

Film 'Win Win' (15) 8pm The Plough

Fri 8

Open Mediumistic Development Circle Torrington and Taddiport Spiritual Awareness Group 7.15-9.30pm at Taddiport Vge Hall £4 01805 62283

Torrington Junior School + PTFA

Bingo 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Talk & Film 'Rorke's Drift & Zulu Dawn' 7.30pm The Plough

Sat 9

'Opening to Spirit' Spirit Link Course

10am-4pm at Frithelstockstone £4 01805 622883

Torrington Silver Band coffee morning 10-12pm. Howe Concert Hall 50p entry
Taddiport Tea Dance 2pm-4pm Doug 622648 or Beryl 624294

Torrige Ramblers Day Walk 8 miles 01237 429080

Concert 'Russell Watson' Castle Hill 7pm

Sun 10

Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am Mr Roy Harris, 6.30pm Rev Peter Bolt (see article)

Concert 'Sunday Funday' Castle Hill with Rebecca Ferguson, Aiden Grimshaw, Chris and Wes, 3pm

Rolle Canal Society walk (see article)

Mon 11

Workshop Print Club 9.30-2.30pm The Plough

Historical Society visit to Bideford meet 7pm opp Burton Art Gallery

Torrington Bowling Club open evening 7pm all welcome info 01805 601200

Cash Bingo TVSC 7.30pm Mondays

Tue 12

Little Torrington W.I History of Yoghurt making at 'Stapleton' by Peter Duncan visitors welcome. Vge Hall

Wed 13

Gt.Torrington Care Forum at the Early Yrs Ctr: Lunch 11.45am-12.25pm Forum 12.30-1.30pm

Torrington W.I 'Garden Bees and the threat they are under' talk by Ruth Neal bee keeper.7.30pm Methodist Hall, all welcome (females only)

Thu 14

Memory Cafe 10am at Plough Centre
Film 'Attack the Block' (15) 8pm The Plough

CRIER COPY DEADLINE for the 'AUG -SEP 2011' Issue to the Library by 12noon today latest please

Fri 15

Dance 'Inspire' 7.30pm @The Plough

Sat 16

Music 'The South African Gospel Singers' 8pm The Plough

Nearly New Fashion Sale Weare Giffard Vge Hall 7.30pm £2 entry. Bar & refreshments. Proceeds to new kitchen fund. 01237 470118

Sun 17

Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am Mrs Sheila Babb, 6.30pm Rev Graham Slingo

Torrige Ramblers afternoon walk 4 miles 01237 451508

Film 'The Way' (15) 8pm The Plough

Tue 19

Parkinson's UK Torrige Branch morning 3rd Tuesday of the month 10.30am-12.30pm, The Pill, Bideford

Thu 21

Theatre 'What a Night' by Plough Youth Theatre 7pm The Plough and Fri 22nd

Fri 22

Torrington and Taddiport Spiritual Awareness Group 'How Mediumship Works' with Janet Gay 7.30-9.30pm Taddiport Vge Hall, £4 01805 622883

Sat 23

Taddiport Church Flower Festival 10am-6pm. Draw and refreshments etc. Theme: 'The Beauty of Flowers' Also 24th.

Theatre 'Treasure Island' by Plough Youth Theatre, 7.30pm the Plough

Sun 24

Taddipport Church Flower Festival
Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am
Jim Wood, 4pm Gammaton Closing Svc
Theatre 'Treasure Island' by Plough
Youth Theatre, 2.30 & 6.30pm the
Plough

Tue 26

Music Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra
8pm The Plough

Wed 27

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

Workshop The Plough Cow - 10am-4pm

Film 'King Fu Panda 2' (PG) 5pm The
Plough

Film 'Love Like Poison' (15) 8pm The
Plough

Thu 28

Workshop The Plough Cow 10am- 4pm

Probus Club The Black Horse 10.15am

Film 'King Fu Panda 2' (PG) 5pm The
Plough

Film 'Water for Elephants' (12A) 8pm
The Plough

Fri 29

Coffee Morning 10am-12noon Parish
Church

Comedy & Music Phil Jupitus + Wendy
May's Disco 8pm The Plough

Sat 30

Film 'King Fu Panda 2' (PG) 2pm The
Plough

Film 'Sweetgrass' 8pm (n/c) The Plough

Sun 31

Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am
Mr Barry Searle, 6.30pm Bideford
Farewell Service Rev Paul Martin

Merton Open Gardens proceeds to

Friends of All Saints Church & bell fund
1pm-6pm, 8 gardens + cream teas,
Programmes £5, 01805-603621

AUG 2011

Mon 1

Stretch & Tone Class Mondays The
Plough 10.30-11.30am. Samina 01837
682811 or 07974 433 156

Little Frogs sessions Mon-Fri 8.45am-
3.45pm term time next to the Scout Hall,
07870 509 674

Little Tadpoles stay & play session
£1.50 Mondays term time 9.30-11.30am
Scout Hall. 07870 509 674

**Panamart Community Information
Centre** Support group Mondays 1.30-
3pm all welcome, group supported by N
Devon Link service

1st Torrington Rainbows at TRFC
Mondays term time 6.15-7.15pm Linda
Searle 01237 451302

1st Torrington Brownies Baptist Hall,
Mondays term time 6pm-7.30pm.
Leanne Wade 01805 625846

Torrington Seniors TRFC Mondays
term time 7.30pm-9pm Sandra Nevard
07729 065 556

1st Torrington Cubs Scout Hall
Mondays term time 5.45-7.15pm Cilla
01805 625856

1st Torrington Scout Group Scout Hall
Mondays term time 7.30-9.00pm
Peter 01409 281246

Hatha Yoga the Plough Mondays 6.30-
8pm

Slimming World Bluecoat Inf Sch
Mondays 6.30pm Bev Roberts 01805
624955

Cash Bingo TVSC Mondays 7.30pm
Torrington Silver Band practice 8-
9.30pm Nick 01805 622150

Tue 2

Story time 10-10.30am Library on 1st
Tues of every month

1st Torrington Guides TRFC Tuesdays
7-8.30pm Linda 01805 623212

Spiritual Healing every Tues. 3-4.30pm
& 7-9pm Frithelstockstone 01805622883

Bingo Taddipport Vge Hall Tuesdays eyes
down 7.30pm

Rugby Training Donnacraft Tuesdays
7pm.

Wed 3

Sensory Bus 11am-3pm South Street
Car Park

Little Tadpoles stay & play £1.50
Wednesdays term time 1.30-3.30pm,
Scout Hall. 07870 509 674

3rd Torrington Brownies Baptist Hall,
Wednesdays term time 6.30-8.00pm
Shirley Lee 01805 625965

Weight Watchers The Conservative
Club Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm.
Berni 01837 811172

Free English Course for Adults GTS
Weds 7pm-9pm excl sch hols. Learn the
basics or aim towards L2(GCSE=)
qualification. Jayne Doyle 07976 877 985
or 01237 472462

Langtree Unites Netball Club Weds
excl half term (Juniors 7-8pm and
Seniors 8-9.30pm). Torrington sports
hall. Tessa 07971 083 510

Torrington Silver Band practice 8-
9.30pm Nick 01805 622150

Thu 4

Pannier Gen Mkt Thursdays 10am-4pm

Little Fishes Toddler Group Baptist Ch
Thurs term time 9.30-11.30am. £1.50
per family Wendy 01805 623214

**Sanctuary Carr-Gomm Tenancy &
Housing advice** by appointment
Panamart Community Information Centre

Rosemary Conley Diet & Exercise
Class Bluecoat Early Yrs Ctr 6.30-
7.45pm Thursdays. 01237 424787
Rugby Training Donnacroft 7pm club
open 8pm

Fri 5

Pannier Bric-a-Brac Mkt Fridays 10am-
4pm

Allsorts Childrens' Club Bluecoat Inf
Sch Fridays 6.30-8pm. Sch yrs 1-6
Morag 01805 625510

Allsorts Plus Young Persons' Club
Bluecoat Sch Fridays 8-9pm years 6-9
Morag 01805 625510

Project Dance Fridays 7.30pm TVSC,
Latin, Ballroom, Jive, Salsa, any level
01271 346384 or 07795 201249

Sat 6

Pannier Gen Mkt Saturdays 10am-4pm

'Spirit and Us' Spirit Link Course 10am-
12.30pm at Frithelstockstone £10.
01805-622883

'Meditation' Spirit Link Course 1.30-4pm
Frithelstockstone £10 01805 622883

Sun 7

Gt Torrington Commons Car Boot Sale
7-11am Old Bowling Green Sundays until
25th September

Catholic Church of the Holy Family
Mass Sundays 9.15am

Baptist Church Services Sundays
10.30am

St. Michael's Church Sung Mass &
Sermon Sundays 10am

Torrington Community Church
Bluecoat Inf Sch Sundays 11am
Karen 01805 622866

Torrington Methodist Church 10.30am
Rev Graham Slingo, 6.30pm Rev David
Morris

NGS Open Gardens Little Torrington (2
gardens) teas, plants for sale 2-5pm

Great Torrington's New Mayor's Cadet

16 year-old Torrington Army Cadet
Lance Corporal Connie Harris has
been appointed Mayor's Cadet for
2011.

Connie took over the role from
Sergeant James Robinson (18) who
handed over the Cane of Office and
Town Crest during the investiture of the
Town Mayor Councillor R.L.Rumbold
on May 17th.

Retiring Mayor Councillor Sue Mills
presented James with a certificate of
appreciation and praised him for the
exemplary manner in which he had
carried out his duties.

Connie will hold the appointment for
a year during which time she will escort
the Mayor on public duties beginning
with the Mayor's Parade on Sunday 19
June.

Dame Joan Sutherland (7th Dec 1926 – 10th Oct 2010)

Part 4

In 1965 Joan Sutherland toured
Australia with the Sutherland-
Williamson Opera Company.
Accompanied by a young Luciano
Pavorotti.

During the 70s Joan strove to
improve her often-criticised diction, and
increase the expressiveness of her
interpretations, continuing to add
dramatic bel canto roles to her
repertoire, such as Donizetti's Maria
Stuarda, Lucrezia Borgia and
Massenet's extremely difficult
Esclarmonde. With Pavorotti she made
a very successful studio recording of

Turandot in 1972.

Early recordings show her crystal
clear voice and excellent diction.
However, by the early 1960s her voice
lost some of its clarity in the middle
register, and she often came under fire
for having unclear diction. Some have
attributed this to sinus surgery, though
this was in 1959, after her
breakthrough Lucia at Covent Garden.

Her commercial recording of the first
and final scene of Lucia reveals her
voice and diction to be just as clear as
before the procedure. Her husband,
Richard Bonyngue stated that her
"mushy diction" occurred while striving
to achieve perfect legato. According to
him, it was because she earlier had a
very Germanic "un-legato" way of
singing. Within a few years, her diction
improved markedly and she continued
to thrill audiences throughout the world.

In the final part I will write about her
retirement and her subsequent death.

Until then good listening.

Bob Dymond

We have won a Trophy!

Pawn-shaped and engraved "St
Austell Brewery Devonshire, Chess
Challenge" 2011 Royal Exchange. The
first for the chess club!

The competition is 4 teams of 4
players, all play all, home and away.

We play every Monday 8pm to 11pm.
Very occasionally I win a game, but I
still enjoy playing, win or lose, we
desperately need more players: come
along, we may even give you back
your Queen, unless you win too often.

B.B.

Fairtrade Needs You!

Every two years the Fairtrade Group has to renew the Fairtrade Town Status for Torrington, and that time is now. The group has to prove that Fairtrade is continuing to develop and thrive in Torrington's shops, businesses, cafes, churches, schools and the wider community. And, it is!



Writing this, I am fairly sure that there are a lot of people who drink Fairtrade tea and coffee in their workplace or at their club. This is actually a key element of the Fairtrade Town criteria, and the Fairtrade Group really needs this information if we are to maintain our Fairtrade Town Status for another 2 years. We can do this, but we need your help; we cannot possibly contact everyone individually to ask the magic question!

Therefore, Torrington Fairtrade Group are asking you to let us know where you use Fairtrade. All you need to do is pick up the phone, dial 01805 622143 and leave a message stating the name of your organisation, business or workplace, and which Fairtrade Marked products you use, eg. tea, coffee, cookies... Please help us!

This brings me to a second plea... a plea for new members to the Fairtrade Steering Group. We need people to help us organise and put on events throughout the year, to offer ideas and enthusiasm to the campaign. Your contribution, however much or little you can manage, would be greatly

appreciated. We meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7:30pm in The Plough Arts Centre café. Please, if you are interested in fair trade, and want to further support fair trade locally in Torrington as the momentum for fair trade nationally continues to go from strength to strength, please come along and join us. We look forward to welcoming you aboard.

Contact Torrington Fairtrade Group on 01805 622143, or just turn up to a meeting or event.

Torrington W.I.

After our trip to Coldharbour Mill in June, Torrington WI will be back in the Methodist Church Hall for the next monthly meeting. On Wednesday 13 July Ruth Neal will be telling us what inspired her to take up Beekeeping and all that it involves. The meeting starts at 7pm as usual.

Half way through the year already! Looking back I see we have covered a very wide range of topics at our meetings so far. The Children's Hospice Southwest inspired members to make bunting for their display at the North Devon Show,

A cookery demonstration sent us all back to the kitchen with new ideas and Ros Flack opened our eyes to the wide range of effects Autism can have on people's lives, from imperceptible to very debilitating. An energetic Exmoor Ranger amazed us at the scope of her work and delighted us with wonderful

slides and more sedentarily, we heard the story of the end of the Romanov dynasty in Russia.

There is plenty more in the months ahead. After a break in August we can look forward to hearing about the wonderful work of Rapid UK, having a painting ceramics workshop, Bob Brewer on The Cavaliers and enjoying our 82nd 'Birthday'.

Prospective members are always welcome at our meetings and can be sure of finding us a friendly bunch.

Any queries about Torrington W.I. ring President, Joyce Ridgwell on 01805 623588. To find out about the Women's Institute nationwide, past, present and future, visit: www.theWI.org.uk

Great Torrington Mayfair Thursday 5th May 2011

Torrington Mayfair & Carnival Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who donated a prize for this year's Grand Mayfair Draw. The continued involvement of local businesses is very much appreciated.

Great Torrington Carnival Saturday 7th May 2011

This year £1443.00 was raised on Carnival Day. On behalf of the Committee, may I thank everyone concerned for their kind generosity.

Melissa Baker
Secretary

Mayfair & Carnival Committee

Common News

You may have read about two diseases of trees that are causing concern throughout the country.

Sudden Oak Death (Phytophthora ramorum) was first introduced to England from America in 2002 through an infected viburnum plant in a garden centre. It has quickly mutated and spread to many areas, particularly in the South West. As yet it has had little effect on our native oaks, but is devastating to rhododendrons



and is now attacking the commercially important Japanese Larch. There is no known treatment and felling of large areas is used to try and limit its spread. This has occurred on the nearby Tarka Trail.

The second threat is Acute Oak Decline, and it does infect both species of British Oak. It is more a syndrome than a disease as the causing agent is not known.

Only recognised about three years ago, it attacks mature trees. The main symptom is bleeding from several lesions on the trunk followed by death in a very few years. It is most prevalent in The Midlands, but its spread is causing alarm. It will be devastating to both The Common and the whole of Britain if control methods are not quickly found.

Michael Collingham

Pause for Thought

I have never made comments in my thoughts on things that are published in the newspapers, but I felt on this one I should.

You may recall it being reported during May, a Pastor of a fellowship in the USA claimed that on a given date there was going to be a massive earthquake that would shake the whole earth, well! I don't know about you but I have not felt anything, and he goes on to make a statement that the world will come to an end in October. All I can say is that he and others before him are very foolish people, not only making themselves a laughing stock but also bringing their fellowships into disrepute.

If we turn to our bibles we have all the information on the end times that God is prepared to give us, it states that He is the only one that knows when His son Jesus will return to earth, not even the Angels or Jesus Himself and it is He who is coming (Mark 13: 32 'but of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the son, but only the Father'). We are told to 'take heed, watch and pray' (Mark 13:33) NKJ.

Current situations taking place like natural disasters, wars, the world economy, those who deny God as Father and have established their own gods, living as in Sodom and Gomorrah times, these are all mentioned in the scriptures relating to the end time, these various things together leaves me in no doubt that we are living in what we may call 'the end

times'.

My advice is, do not get hung up on these statements; the bible says there will be many false prophets. Jesus is the answer to all of our life's needs; Repent, put your trust in Him, and get to know Him, follow Him and love Him. When the end times do come you will be ready, no need for worry or fear, enjoy your journey with Him into Eternity.

*Vernon Andrew,
Torrington*

Rural "Retreat"

It may have been "Cold Comfort" but Torrington Players were certainly not given "the cold shoulder" judging by the audience reaction from those attending the production of "Cold Comfort Farm" which the society staged at the Plough Arts Centre at the beginning of May, and both the director and the cast were delighted by the full houses achieved.

A raffle took place over the four nights which totalled £273 which has been divided between the Royal British Legion and the North Devon Hospice in memory of John Tattersall, our late President, and Ray Ridgwell, a past Chairman of the society.

But with the fresh paintwork barely dry on Aunt Ada's "woodshed," the Players are contemplating their next production planned for the end of November, but as yet no particular play has been selected.....it could be a "mystery"..... to all of us!!!



The Rotary Club of Torrington - A busy month -

The month of May was a very busy time for the Rotary Club in Torrington; firstly we all celebrated May Fair and our President Gordon Wiseman and his wife Liz were invited to join the festivities and take part in the civic procession.

On 11 May we treated a group of 35 of our local senior citizens to a night out at The Plough for the first night of The Torrington Players production of "Cold Comfort Farm". Rotary Club members provided the transport and laid on refreshments etc. and being the summer, we extended our invitation to include residents of local residential homes. We thank the staff of The Plough and members of The Players for helping to make this a very enjoyable night out for everyone.

On Saturday 14 May we held a collection in the Square in aid of "Polio Plus"; this is a long term campaign by Rotary International to totally eradicate polio from the World. 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. We collected £241.00 and give our thanks to everyone that contributed.

From Monday 16 to 21 May we hosted a Rotary Group Study Exchange team from the Caribbean islands of St Martin and Anguilla, the team consisted of four team members and a group leader and they are all

employed in tourism.

The Group Study Exchange programme provides a cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for business people and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers and it allows team members to experience the host country's culture and observe how their vocations are practiced abroad.

The team enjoyed a hectic week of visits, all tourism based, that included: Dartington Crystal, Rosemoor, Clovelly, North Devon College, Brend Hotels, North Devon Plus etc.etc, capped off with a day out at the Devon County Show and an evening at The Green Dragon.

I don't know how they managed but we were worn out!

Rotn Rick Smale

The Torrington Town Traders



Farmers Market to Celebrate our Local Produce

The Torrington Town Traders Farmers Market will be launched on Saturday 2 July 2011. This is a community initiative which encourages people to buy local, seasonal food while supporting local farmers and producers.

Located in the gardens of Torrington 1646 the market will feature fresh local

produce to tempt your taste buds. In addition to the market the local Independent shops and cafés will be open while the market is in progress, offering a fantastic day out for all the family.

It will run on the 1st Saturday of the month up to September between 10am and 4pm, with free car parking from 12 noon in the Sydney House car park.

Pitches are priced at £10 and need to be booked in advance.

For more information or to book a pitch please contact: Andy Oliver, 01805 624430

Bluecoat Children's Centre Going for Gold!

Are you wondering what to do this summer with the children? Why not take part in Torrington's very own Mini Olympics. There are three categories of entry; 0-2, 3-4 and 5-8. Activities will take place in a number of locations, with a joint Celebration and Awards Ceremony taking place on Friday 26 August at Bluecoat Children's Centre.

There will also be a Creative Connections session where the children will create their own Olympic medals out of clay.

Also starting this month is our exciting "Fit mums". If you have recently had a baby and would like to meet other mums with their babies, go on a healthy stroll together, join in with Pilates or tai chi, you may want to join us at Bluecoat Children's Centre.



The new programme of activities for July – September is now out and can be found on our website, or you can pick up a copy from Bluecoat Children's Centre. There are lots of activities for you and your child.

Also starting soon, and building on our very successful counselling service, will be Saturday morning sessions. If you feel you would benefit from a confidential, listening ear and would like to arrange to see a Counsellor please call the number below and arrange a convenient appointment.

Viv Jones, Bluecoat Children's Centre Leader said, "The summer months are a great time to get out and about. Children are looking forward to school holidays, but by the second week, you may want to find activities to enjoy with your child. We have a wide range of activities and sessions on offer, so please come down to the Centre and enjoy some of our activities together. The Mini Olympics will be a great event and get everyone in the mood for next year's main Olympics. We look forward to you joining us"

If you would like to participate in these really exciting summer activities, please contact June on reception at Bluecoat Children's Centre on 01805 625830 to book your places.
www.bluecoat.childrencentre.org

Torrington Silver Band

The band is pleased to announce that Howe Concert Hall is now open for bookings again. The essential work on the front of the building has now been

completed. The band would like to thank Woodbury Stonemasons for the repairs that they carried out.

If anyone would like further details about hiring the hall, please contact Emma or Nick via the band's website.
www.torringtonsilverband.co.uk

The band is hoping to have a concert on Saturday 2 July at 7.30pm. Look out for the posters around the town!

The band is also looking for players, from complete beginners to those who have many playing years of experience. We can provide instruments, tuition, uniform and music. If you are interested, please contact myself on the number below or send me an email via the band's website.



*Nick Megson,
Chairman & Bandmaster.
01805 622150*

Auction of Promises and Prizes

On Thursday 4 August at 7.30 for 8pm we are holding an auction with buffet and entertainment at Langtree Village Hall for £10 a ticket.



The evening is in aid of 'Shelterbox' and 'Panamart's Children Sponsorship Team' who are raising money to take a teenager to Panama with them to meet the children with disabilities and their families that 'Panamart' sponsor there and to

experience a different way of life in this disadvantaged and poor community.

Fabulous auction promises and prizes are on offer including dinner and a night in a luxurious seaside hotel with breakfast the next morning, a golf game, a day with a North Devon Journal journalist, adventure park family tickets, apple juice and cider making, a decorator for the day and many other interesting and exciting items for you to bid for.

Please drop into 'Panamart' to buy your tickets or email kizangell@talktalk.net.

Thank you for your support.

Fashion Show

Following the great success of our first fashion show last year 'Panamart' is hosting another show, but this time in collaboration with 'Dragonfly Fashion' and 'Devine Designs', for a larger event.

The venue will be the same, Torrridge Vale Social Club with the event to be held on Friday 26 August at 7.30pm. There will be finger food available and a raffle. Tickets are £10, with proceeds going towards the air fare for a young person from Torrington to travel to Panama with Kiz from 'Panamart', Karen from 'Dragonfly Fashion' and Anjie from 'Devine Designs' to meet the children with disabilities that we sponsor there. Please drop into 'Panamart' or 'Dragonfly Fashion' to purchase your tickets and for any further information. Thank you for your support.

Kiz Angell

Torrington RFC

Rugby 7s Fun-Day – 2 July 2011.

We look to start the new season with a fun day 7s tournament, for rugby and non-rugby players, followed by a BBQ & Cocktail disco in the evening. You can have a maximum of 3 regular 1st team rugby players per team, £1 per player to register, with a maximum of 10 in a team.

Teams preferably to be registered before the day, so that some organisation can take place beforehand, but otherwise 1pm start for registration. Please call the number below. Qualified referees will be in charge, with all jurisdictions to be held with the organisers – final!

2011-2012 Season – Training.

We start normal rugby training on Thursday, 7 July at 7pm, at Donnacroft playing fields. Training will take place on Mondays and Thursdays, at 7pm. Our Colts have already started training, being young & keen, so if you fit into this age group please call James Kendrew 01805 804396 for further details.

2011 Dinner & Dance

Our Annual event was held at Langtree Village Hall. A great evening was had by all where a 3-course meal was enjoyed and very well washed down, followed by presentations of the year's awards:-

1st Team Players' Player award - Craig Hooper

1st Team 'Gerald Harland' supporters player of the year - Luke Bament

1st Team Most Improved player of the year - Adam Thorne

2nd Team Players' Player - Carlton Cockwill

2nd Team 'Fred Farmer' Legend award - Phil Arnold

2nd Team Emerging Player - Gavin Mitchell

Torrington Training Trophy - Gavin Mitchell

The infamous 'Dick of the Year' award - Chris Beer

TRFC Clubman of the Year - Kevin Ware

Congratulations to all.

The previous year was seen as a great consolidation year for the Rugby club as a whole, not least on the pitch, where we introduced some exciting new youngsters and remained in the Devon & Cornwall league.

A huge thanks is owed to all of our helpers, supporters and sponsors throughout the past season, who without their ongoing support would make this achievement impossible – thank you.

If anyone else would like to become involved on or off the pitch of your very local Rugby club, please contact me on the details below. You can hire our facilities for various purposes or sponsor us in a variety of ways, all help is, as always, greatly appreciated.

C'mon Torrie.

Rob Bewes,

1st Team Manager

07976 066 440

Red Button Helpline

Being able to press the a red button on your wrist band or pendant can give you peace of mind

If you, or someone you know, want to carry on living at home, safe in the knowledge that someone can be called to help you at any time of the day or night; then the red button from Tarka Housing is the answer.

Red button provides 24-hour support from our Call Centre and simply plugs in beside your telephone. Get security and independence; try a red button from Tarka. It means someone can be called to help at any time of the day or night!

Find independence, confidence, and security, for a small weekly cost and no installation fee. It's peace of mind for you, and the people you care for!

To find out more read the Red Button Emergency Helpline leaflet, call Tarka on 01237 428094 or email helpline@tarkahousing.org.uk.

Great Torrington Town Hall Project

Since the last report events have moved on swiftly but in an unfortunate manner rendering obsolete the information then described. Dry rot has hit us again!

As we were meeting to decide to go ahead with parts of the project using the money we have already have available but omitting the roof to reduce costs, heavy rain brought to light another roof leak adding to the main problem affecting the front end of the auditorium and picture room



resulting from a fault in the roof. The extent of the dry rot infection is more widespread than originally thought. Consequently a lot of wood panelling, a doorway and parts of the ceiling have had to be removed together with a lot of plastering. This has exposed a serious problem with one of the A-frames supporting the main roof. This has rotted at one end and the supporting brickwork has crumbled. In time that part of the roof would have collapsed. This is currently being repaired and is propped up with heavy duty jacks from the base of the frame to the undercroft below. When this is completed the whole area will be expertly treated for dry rot and then restored to its original state.

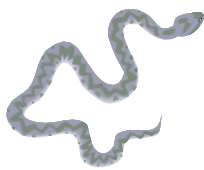
It has now clearly become urgent to renovate the whole roof before the onset of winter. So it is now likely that some of the £419,000 Project Money held by The Town Trust will be used for this purpose. After this it is hoped to use the remainder of the money to undertake other parts of the original project until the funds run out. We hope there will be sufficient to include the lift, strengthening the auditorium floor and hopefully the toilet block. This will result in a building useable by the community but not in the condition we have been intending for so long. Other improvements which we have regarded as essential, such as the undercroft enhancement, will just have to wait. The plan at present is to undertake this work in close co-operation with the Town Trust.

Please be aware that things are now

developing very rapidly and by the time this is published the information will be 3 weeks old and may no longer be relevant. However, we do hope to get on with this urgently as soon as formalities such as tendering have been completed. So at last there will be some evidence of physical activity at the Town Hall, though not in the way we had hoped

I would again like to sincerely commiserate with Val Morris and her museum team for the great disappointment they have suffered. The BPT team greatly admires their magnificent efforts.

And finally a word for The Viper whose untimely retirement notice in verse appears



so grateful for all the support and loyalty he has shown this Project. Starting 3 years ago and now 104 worldwide letters later we are going to miss him a lot. We hope he has a long and happy retirement in Towcester where perhaps he will dream up another unique and exciting scheme. All the letters have been carefully preserved and will eventually be on display in the Town Hall or the new Museum. He will be most welcome to 'snake' up to Torrington and 'slither' into whatever opening ceremony we may be able to hold.

Three cheers for The Viper!

*Harry Cramp
Chairman*

Received by the Library through the post

The Viper Donations

Will you please publish the attached 'retirement' poem from the mysterious benefactor to Torrington Town Hall's preservation trust, The Viper.

I fell that the poem speaks for itself, but if you need more information the Preservation Trust Chairman, Dr Cramp, might be able to help.

Thanksssss

Retirement Time

I feel the time has come at last
For me to pack my bags
And snake off to retirement
And to think up some new gags.

I've packed my fangs and shedded skins
And polished up my scales
And to Towcester I will slither now
As I take my final bow.

I send you all my kind regards
My love and admiration
And I know that you will all stay strong
Throughout the whole duration.

And so I leave the Town Hall Trust
With a chuckle and a smile.
And hope that I've amused you all
- Three years? That's quite a while!

I think I've done all that I can,
And sense some mild applause.
And who knows? One day I might
come back,
To support another cause.

The Viper

Torrington in Bloom

Not long to go now to the judging of the 'best garden' competition – 22 June. Sarah Chesters is going to be the judge for this year's entries.



The next date to remember is probably (but not yet confirmed) going to be the 11 July when the judges from the

RHS Britain in Bloom will be visiting Torrington and inspecting the town, so we need to work hard for the next few weeks keeping the weeds at bay and planting up gaps. As I write this article, the baskets are going up in the Pannier Market, the churchyard and more planting is to be carried out in South Street car park. Hopefully, Torridge Council contractors will treat the churchyard footpaths for weeds and also plant up the beds that they are responsible for.

Please can Torrington in Bloom ask that you all do your bit to make the town look really spick and span for the judges – we can only do our best.

Thanks also to the BP garage, Londis and Ron Sussex (Methodist Church) for allowing us to use their water for the flowerbeds in Rack Park and outside S&G, it is much appreciated. At least now we've had a drop of rain, which might save our backs a bit!

Good luck to all of you and thank you for all your assistance.

*Cherry Hammon
Secretary, Torrington in Bloom*

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 August/September edition of the Crier your entry must be in by Wednesday 13th July.



During July the Tower will be lit on 9th Happy Birthday Erin Rice-Smith, love you David & Megan.

11th David & Megan wish Ann Croxford a very Happy Birthday.

19th Bernice Finnermore - Happy Birthday to my Great Grandson William Moore.

21st, 22nd, 23rd Vera & Albert Darch - To our dear and loving parents on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary with much love from Adrian, Stephen & Patricia wishing you both a Very Happy Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations on achieving many years of happy marriage.

21st, 22nd, 23rd Vera & Albert Darch - From all your friends in Cornwall, many congratulations on your Diamond Wedding Anniversary - wishing you a lovely day.

23rd Bernice Finnermore - In memory of my dear husband Tom Finnermore on his Birthday.

31st Richard Dudley (Judd) Bond -

Miss you deeply. Always in our thoughts. Love from Mother, Jean & John.

Christian Aid

Torrington Committee have sent £590.25 to Christian Aid raised during the annual national week (16 - 22 May). Thanks to those who stood in the Square with a box collecting £239.72. The Celebration Evening at the Baptist Church raised £177.40, many thanks to everyone who took part and provided food. A coffee morning held in St. Michael's Church by the committee raised £89.30, the collection from the United Service at the Baptist Church on Sunday 22nd May was £69.00 and the contents of a collecting tin returned by Mrs Hummerstone was £14.83.

*Barbara Down
Treasurer*

Torrington Twins, Triplets and More Group

Based at Torrington's Bluecoat Children's Centre. Meet us there every Monday from 10 am - 12 pm (except Bank hols) including school holidays.

If you are expecting, or are already a multiple mummy (or daddy!) in the North Devon area - congratulations!

A friendly group run by two mummies of multiples, we understand what it's like. So why not meet us in Torrington for a friendly chat, a bit of moral support or even a sympathetic ear or



shoulder to lean on (because we know what it's like). A safe play area for the babies and children indoors and outdoors, with organized trips out in the local area - (it can be done with more than one!)



Visual Arts at The Plough

Throughout July The Plough Gallery is being taken over by an exhibition of near life-size figurative constructions in stainless steel by local artist, Bob Waters. Also on show will be his constructed maquettes and some of the recent 'widescreen' series of colourful abstract paintings.

Bob studied architecture briefly at Bristol University before changing courses to 3D design at Brighton College of Art, with a B.A. in 1978.

The figurative work began in the mid-1990's, following several cycling trips to the Andean regions of South America, and was initially based on sculptures of heads and faces seen at different places and times. He works with industrial scrap metal, experimenting and developing different techniques and working to the limits of what can be achieved through cold bending, which gives a limited but very direct characterization, expressed

through body language and gesture.

Preview Friday 1 July 7pm, all welcome.

We also have an exhibition of recent landscape paintings in the Café by Bert Bruins.

On Friday 1 July we have another chance to try some felt making with the expert felt-maker, Jill Denton. This workshop is suitable for both beginners and those who have done it before and might have an idea for a specific felt project. Call 01805 624624 to book.

Torrige Walk and Talk

Torrige walk and talk is offering an exciting range of walks in and around



your local area. All walks are led by trained volunteer walk

leaders and are graded from level 1 to level 3. Our aim is to cater for all ages and abilities and we hope that you will discover a walk suited to you.

Level 1 - Approximately 15-30 minutes, up to 1 mile. The walk uses flat, level, hard surfaced paths and pavements with no steep hills or steps and is suitable for wheelchairs and buggies.

Level 2 - Approximately 30-60 minutes, up to 2 miles. The walk uses footpaths and pavements with some gradients, steps and uneven pathways.

We walk in all weathers, so if you want to walk there will always be someone there to lead (some walks may be cancelled at the discretion of the walk leader but they will always be

there to share a coffee—whatever the weather!). In hot weather conditions it is advisable to bring something to drink and sun protection.

We try to encourage walking in your local area without the need to travel first. However, for some of you travelling may be the only option. Before jumping in the car why not consider using public transport or car sharing to help reduce the traffic on our roads!

Carsharedevon.com / 08700 111199 or Traveline 08712002233

Planned walks in the Torrington area:
Tuesdays, 12 & 26 July, 10.30am, Torrington Puffing Billy – Level 2 walk
Thursdays, every week 10.30am, Level 2 walk – Landcross Viaduct
Friday 1, 15 & 29 July, 10.30am, Level 1 walk – Torrington Town Tour
For more information please contact: Torrige walk and Talk 01237 420130.

Plough Photo Competition

A reminder that entries to the 9th annual Plough Photographic Competition must be in by 27 August

The Categories are:

Trees, Devon Events, and Family.

Further details available from The Plough on 01805 624624.



Supported by The Town Lands Trust, we have £200 to give in prizes.

Horticultural Society

Our Summer Show is on Saturday 20 August. Schedules are available from the Show Secretary on 10805 623152 or from Ferry's in Torrington.

The Show includes flowers, fruit and vegetables and also cakes, jams, craftwork, floral art and photography; so something for everyone, and only 10p per entry.

Appropriately on Tuesday 5 July Brian Carlson will be sharing his winning techniques for fuchsias and pelargonium.

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 Torrridge Vale Social Club.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Sally Ramsden

The Appledore Singers

The Appledore Singers have been entertaining for 26 years. The choir now has over 40 members, including a specialist group of seven ladies, and performs a range of music including pop, romantic, music from the shows, swing, gospel, classical and jazz, and has helped raise thousands of pounds for a wide variety of charities.



The Singers present a Summer Concert at 7.00pm on Thursday 7 July at Kingsley Hall, Westward Ho, with a wide selection from their repertoire. They will be joined by The Appledore Band for what promises to be a cracking evening's entertainment. Tickets are £5 on the door and include light refreshments.

Find out more about what the Singers are up to by visiting their stand at The Woolsey Show on Monday 25 July, or contact MD Pam Beechey on 01769 560034 for more information. www.theappledoresingers.co.uk

Transforming Depression

Torrington based charity Penwethers Holistic Healing, has received a National Lottery grant from the Big Lottery Fund to produce a CD called Transforming Depression to support people suffering with depression. The CD has been written and recorded by former NHS GP Dr Lynette Bowden. Dr Bowden, who is also trained in holistic therapies, has donated her professional expertise and time.

The content of the CD comprises a mixture of advice, breathing exercises, mindfulness and activities to help people experiencing depression to feel better. It enables the user to take some control over their own recovery, and is designed to be used independently or alongside other treatments or medication. The CD has been piloted in three GP surgeries in North Devon, and the final CD modified to contain the tracks that people found most helpful.

Satish Kumar, North Devon based Editor of Resurgence Magazine, officially launched the Transforming Depression CD on 30 May at the Plough Arts Centre. Satish described the CD as, "a tool in the hands of those who are looking for one, to help you get going in the gardening of life."

When someone seeks help for depression it is often a time when things are really difficult and they need support quickly. The treatments GPs are usually able to offer frequently involve a delay before they start to help. Antidepressants may take a couple of weeks to start to work, and referrals for talking therapies may involve a long waiting list. The Transforming Depression CD gives people the chance to start helping themselves straight away.

Through the Transforming Depression Project grant, the charity now has 2000 CDs to be distributed free of charge via participating local GPs, mental health resources, charities and direct to those in need. Once the initial 2000 CDs have been distributed, further copies will also be available for sale as well as Transforming Depression CD2 and CD3, which develop the techniques in the first CD.

If you or someone you know is depressed, ask your GP if they have a copy available, look out for it in public information areas, or contact the Charity directly to request the CD, either through the website www.transformingdepression.org.uk or by phone on 08454 860126.

Torrington Friends' 100 Mile Charity Challenge

Torrington friends, Helen Marchant and Paula Bolt have set themselves a challenge to walk 100 miles of coastal path over five days in August to raise money for The British Heart Foundation and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

Helen's sister was diagnosed with Leukaemia five years ago and says, 'My sister, a non-smoker and only an occasional drinker of alcohol, was leading a healthy life prior to her diagnosis. Unfortunately leukaemia is not selective and can strike anyone at any age'. Helen, who has been tested as a bone marrow donor adds, 'Although I am a perfect match, thanks to this wonderful charity and all the new treatments that they are developing I may never have to donate my bone marrow but I wanted to give something back for all the help and support they have given to my sister'.

Paula's father died of a heart attack aged 43 when she was just 15 and her brother died four years ago aged 36 after suffering from cardiomyopathy for several years, during which time he received enormous support from the British Heart Foundation. Paula says, 'The work they do is second to none and the support my brother received during his illness was amazing. This is a great way for me to give something back to such a great charity and the work they do will motivate me to complete the 100 mile walk'

Paula and Helen will start their walk on 20 August from Padstow to

Portgaverne and day two will see them walking from Portgaverne to Tintagel. Day three will take them from Tintagel to Widemouth Bay and the following day from Widemouth Bay to Clovelly. Day five will see them completing the walk from Clovelly to Barnstaple.

The friends who work at Torrington Dental Practice are grateful to the practice who have sponsored their t-shirts and will be using some of their annual leave to do their challenge. They will be organising fundraising events and the first event will be a massive cake and produce sale in Torrington town square on Saturday 2nd July from 9.30 to 12 noon. There will also be a Grand Draw in the square on Saturday 7 August and Helen and Paula would love to hear from anyone who can help by way of donation.

Torridge Volunteer Garden Service

With the lovely spring weather, our volunteers in the Torrington, Bideford and Holsworthy area have been busy getting 'out and about' helping those aged over 60 years old, who require help with their gardens and who meet our service criteria (ie: those who can't undertake their own gardening, have no friends or family who can offer assistance and who find it difficult to afford to pay for a commercial gardener).

Since Easter we have helped at least 40 people throughout Torridge including Northam, Westward Ho! and

Buckland Brewer with their gardens – all of whom have been grateful for our assistance.

As we now have a dozen garden volunteers, we are more than capable of being able to assist more people and therefore we would welcome more referrals – so please visit our office (Tuesday or Thursday mornings) or give us a call on 01805 622666 when we will be happy to have a chat with you to explain our service in more detail, whether it be for your own garden or for your friend or neighbour – we will endeavour to assist where/when we can.



New Beaver Group

The colony opened on the 3 May and we join the Cub Pack and Scout group already operating at the Scout hut in Gas Lane, Torrington. We run on a Tuesday afternoon at 4.30pm until 5.45pm and we offer a range of activities and outings. We have our next intake forecast for later in the year, as we are currently full; however we take boys and girls aged between 6 and 8 years. *Anna Lewis*

Beaver Leader

1st Torrington Scout Group

Home: 01805 601580

Mobile: 07979 498336