

Stop Press

Issue 24
September 2008

the lal torbay students' magazine

Dartington

Historic hall and gardens

FUNNY HA-HA

The Comedy
Film Festival

THE BBC PROMS

Iconic, popular,
and very British

PLUS... AGATHA CHRISTIE WEEK...

WHAT'S ON... EXCURSIONS...

PUZZLES... AND MORE!



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hello

A warm welcome to the twenty-fourth issue of StopPress, the LAL Torbay Students' Magazine.

Hi there and welcome to September's issue of StopPress, as the school building breathes a sigh of relief and settles down after another busy summer season.

As you will read in this issue, we are pleased to announce another series of events linked to the Agatha Christie Week festival this month, we hope you'll come along and participate.

We'd like to say good luck to those students starting the Cambridge Exam course this month as well as to those trainee teachers who will be attending our highly successful CELTA course.



win a souvenir pen!

If you would like to tell us about your home country, strange customs, your experiences here in England, or you just want to tell us a funny story, we want to hear from you. If we print your submissions in StopPress, we'll give you a fabulous LAL Torbay pen. Carefully machined in luxurious stainless steel, these pens carry the LAL Torbay logo and are a really useful reminder of your time in Torbay.

If a group of you want to get together to write an article, we'll give each of you an LAL Torbay key-ring if we publish your work.

See below for details of how to send in submissions, then get writing!



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We welcome submissions from students and staff: Please hand any items you would like considered for publication to Andy Tyrrell in Room 1.01, or e-mail stoppress@laltorbay.co.uk

Articles in this magazine are contributed and do not necessarily reflect the views or policy of LAL Torbay.

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this month at lal

summer schools gain separate accreditation

We are pleased to announce that LAL's Summer Schools operations in England have been awarded separate accreditation by the British Council.

LAL's Summer Schools at Taunton School and Kelly College – plus a new centre at St Swithuns, in Winchester – have been examined by Accreditation UK and found to meet the criteria required for British Council accreditation.

Mark Cook, General Manager of Summer Schools in England, said "Having this accreditation is extremely important for future business and gives us the profile we need to sell and market the centres as well as enabling us to receive students from areas of the world which need an entrance visa."

There is full information about our summer schools at www.lalschools.com



From top: Kelly College; Taunton School; St Swithuns

bumper month of events

This month sees a bumper crop of events in Torbay.

First is the Agatha Christie Festival, which takes place throughout Torbay from 14th to 21st September. LAL Torbay will be joining in the fun with a special programme of events at the school (see opposite) and excursions to places associated with the Queen of Crime.

Later in the month is the English Riviera International Comedy Film Festival. This is an exceptional opportunity to see comedy films from around the world in venues which are not normally cinemas. For example, you can see classic British Comedy "Carry on Screaming" deep in the Kents Cavern caves! Or you can enjoy "Goodbye Lenin!" in the historic Spanish Barn next to Torre Abbey.

Full Programme on page 10.

new fast ferry for torbay

Stagecoach is to trial a new fast ferry service in Torbay. A 138-seat catamaran will carry passengers between Torquay and Brixham in Devon from 29 August to 29 September to test the potential for a permanent link.

The £200,000 trial is being organised in partnership with Torbay Council, which is also the local harbour authority. The Bayfast-branded venture will provide up to 15 return trips a day, with services also operating at the weekend.

Stagecoach's 12/12a bus service, which carries 4.5 million passengers a

year, is currently the only public transport link between the two locations. However, due to road congestion, the journey time between Torquay and Brixham is normally 42 minutes and up to 90 minutes in the summer tourist season.

Fares for the ferry service will be £4 single and £6 return. Prices for senior citizens will be £3 and £5, while child fares will be £2.50 and £4.50. Stagecoach Dayrider bus ticket holders can also use the ferry for a supplement of £2.

Bayfast will be timetabled to provide early and late services to cater for Torbay's commuters, as well as shoppers and tourists. The first weekday service will be at 0650 from Brixham, with the last ferry from Torquay as late as 1950 based on demand.





*15 minutes
to cross the bay!!*

agatha christie week

Following the success of last year's Agatha Christie Week, the English Riviera Tourist Board are putting on another series of events to celebrate the world-famous author's birthday.

The English Riviera – Torquay, Paignton and Brixham – was the birthplace of Christie and the setting of her youth and later life. Each year the bay hosts an exciting Agatha Christie Festival to celebrate this famous author.

Organised by the Torbay Cultural and Environment Partnership, the festival has gained popularity in leaps and bounds since its conception four years ago. Katie Lusty, Professional Services Librarian, said "It's been very satisfying working with the wide range of partners who make up the Agatha Christie Group, part of the Cultural and Environment Partnership, and watching the festival go from strength to strength."

This year's festival commences on Monday 15th September, the date of the author's birth in 1890, and tickets are now available to participate in a myriad of murder and mystery-fuelled events over the course of seven days. Highlights include open-air cinema, theatre, a tea dance, a murder mystery dinner, cruises, workshops and a classic car treasure hunt. In addition, Christie's grandson Mathew Prichard will be making a special appearance this year as a guest at Torquay Museum, where he will present an insightful talk on 'The World of Agatha Christie'.



LAL Torbay are also joining in the celebrations with our own series of events in the school and excursions after lessons to enable our students to get closer to the lady, her stories and characters.

We would like to invite all of the students to have fun with Quizzes, Puzzles, Games, Drama and Interactive Mystery Solving whilst developing language skills with authentic English (Listening, reading, writing and speaking).

Friday 12th September
14.15 – Introduction, Word Search and Treasure Hunt

Monday 15th September
14.15 – Introduction and Meet the Detectives (interactive experience)

Tuesday 16th September
14.15 – Agatha Christie life story Part 1 (in her own words)

16.00 – Tour of honeymoon suite at the Grand Hotel where Archie and Agatha Stayed followed by Cream Tea (£6.00)
19.00 – ABC Murders film show

Wednesday 17th September
14.15 – Her life story Part 2 (Solve the mysteries: What was her alias..? What happened when she disappeared..?)

16.15 Greenway Gardens

A short but scenic drive to the edge of the River Dart brings us to the magnificent former home of crime writer Agatha Christie for a leisurely stroll around the extensive gardens, once personally cared for by Agatha herself. Includes garden admission fee, guided tour. (£10.00)

Thursday 18th September
14.30 – Play, starring students and staff from LAL Torbay, your chance to solve the mystery!

16.30 – Peril at End House film show

Friday 19th September
14.15 – Agatha Christie Tour
A very special tour to commemorate the 32nd anniversary year of the death of the world's greatest crime writer, seeing the best of Torquay's Agatha Christie Mile'. Includes the Agatha Christie Gallery at Torquay Museum. Includes guided tour, museum entrance. (£10.00)

Saturday 20th September
14.15 – Agatha Christie's South Hams
Do not miss the chance to explore this very special area of South Devon, including the yachting port of Salcombe, the splendid Burgh Island. This was the setting for two of Agatha Christie's novels and the film location for Evil under the Sun. She also used the hotel on the island as a regular retreat. (£20.00)

the history of the english language part 2

By the end of the 8th century the English nation had started to take shape. With the influence of Scandinavian, German and, to a smaller degree, Latin from the days of Roman occupation, the population were communicating in a language that we know as Old English, sometimes referred to as Anglo-Saxon after the collective name for the people of England.

Recently made into a successful CGI film, 'Beowulf' is a cinematic recreation of one of the earliest known examples of Old English poetry.

In 793, our Scandinavian neighbours decided that they wanted to come over for a bit of a holiday, drink lots of ale and then attack the religious island of Lindisfarne. This signalled the start of the annual Norse 'booze-cruises', raids and mass migration of Scandinavians from Sweden and Norway.

By the middle of the 9th century, almost half the country was in the hands of the Norse-speaking Vikings. This 'Danelaw' region had its own Danish rules and laws and was ruled by its own kings. You were more likely to hear Danish being spoken in the north of England than Old English.

It wasn't until King Alfred the Great fought a hard and bloody campaign of uprisings against the invaders and finally managed to unite the two nations, that the English language became the means of uniting the forces and creating the Kingdom of England.

By this time the Danish influence had already changed the language of England. Over 1,000 new words entered everyday speech for the people of

England – both, same, get and give are examples of very common words that originally came from Scandinavia. If you travel around the north of England today you will find many of the places have Danish names. Over 600 places end in the letters 'by', the Scandinavian word for 'farm' or 'town' (Derby, Grimsby, Naseby). Many more end in 'thorp' meaning 'village' (Althorp, Astonthorpe, and Linthorpe).

If you'd been asked to do a spelling test with the new language of England, you'd probably find that a lot of the words were wrong. Old English was a mix of ancient runic letters with the Roman alphabet, and some letters we know today didn't even exist j, v, x and z did not appear until later in English history and there was a letter 'þ' that represented the sound 'th'.

This meant that the alphabet of Old English looked like this:

a, æ, b, c, d, e, f, g h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, þ, ð, u, w, y

If you thought that English grammar was confusing now, just think yourself lucky that you weren't learning it in those days. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns and articles all took different forms depending on the tense and the subject – and, to make it even more complicated, nouns were either masculine, feminine or neuter. The modern words of 'a' or 'an' hadn't been introduced into English yet.

Until the year 1000 most new words in English came from the influence of Christianity, as the missionaries slowly converted the population and educated them. The Anglo-Saxons knew some Latin as a result of the Roman influence, but the missionaries introduced hundreds of new words.

After 1000 the vocabulary came from classical written sources with the creation of new vocabulary by taking Latin words and adding Old English endings to them.

Some Latin you would have heard and understood in the Old English language...

Marshmallow, angel, scorpion, sock, tiger, lobster, fever, chest, psalm, master, anchor, cancer, abbot, history, ginger, pope, plaster, purple, temple.



the alfred jewel

King Alfred the Great fought off the Viking invaders, but he was also keen to bring reading and writing to the English people. He ordered many books to be translated from Latin to English for the first time, and had the books sent around the country.

One of the most mysterious objects to survive from his time is known as the Alfred Jewel. This is a teardrop-shaped ornament which shows a man painted on enamel, covered by a crystal. The jewel is held together by a detailed gold frame, which has the old English words AELFRED MEC HEHT GEWYRCAN – 'which translates as Alfred ordered me to be made' in modern English.

For years no-one really understood why the jewel seemed to be upside down, but it is now thought that the jewel might have been ordered by King Alfred as a pointer to help people mark out the lines in books.

Some Scandinavian words you would've understood in the Old English language...

Fog, husband, sister, egg, window, silver, leg, knife, die, bank, cake, law, neck, tight, want, flat, skirt, smile, steak, odd, ill. AT



the bbc proms



André Engels

Do people in continental Europe, who watch “The Last Night of the Proms” every September on television, think that all those funny hats and costumes, flags and banners, strange noises and rhythmic chanting are typical of this London music festival, and show the eccentric English up to their usual crazy tricks?

In fact, the BBC Proms are a serious business, the concerts contributing to the greatest and longest music festival in the world. The concerts reach the highest standards of performance and cover the whole history of western classical music (with occasional visits to the Orient, jazz and musicals). The mainstay of the eight-week concert schedule are the five BBC orchestras but there are visits from orchestras from Europe and America, too. Last year, for instance, which was a vintage year, we enjoyed visits from the superb orchestras of Boston, San Francisco, Vienna, Berlin and Lucerne as well as leading international instrumentalists and singers (last year we had the top Russian soprano, Anna Netrebko, for example).

The Proms were founded in 1895 by Robert Newman who called them ‘promenade concerts’. The name alludes to the fact that people used to promenade (or walk about) while the music was playing. This tradition of a relaxed party atmosphere continued in Boston where the Symphony Orchestra’s

summer concerts were given by the Promenade Orchestra (now the “Pops” orchestra) and the audience would sit at tables consuming tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes, something rather hard to imagine in our more serious attitude to classical music.

Newman chose a young conductor named Henry Wood for his summer concerts. They were held in the Queen’s Hall, and consisted of popular classics, well-known arias from operas and operettas, light music medleys and what were known as “novelties”. In 1927, the BBC took over the running of the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts and has continued to do so ever since. The BBC’s greater sources of funding has enabled the Proms to get expensive orchestras and soloists, to extend the concert season and to pay for commissions from leading composers.

The huge Royal Albert Hall (dedicated to the memory of Queen Victoria’s husband, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha) can hold up to 6,000 people but its circular, domed construction, whilst memorable architecturally, has given it a difficult acoustic. Various experiments have been tried to improve the sound throughout the years, the latest being acoustic “flying saucers” or “mushrooms” hanging from the ceiling. These reflectors, or diffusers, have definitely improved the sound, making it clearer and warmer. I can remember as a student sitting up in the very top of the hall, under the ceiling, before the reflectors were installed and

experiencing the sensation of hearing a soloist’s instrument reverberating from the curved dome, giving a kind of fuzzy echo or double aural image.

If you are a poor student you can stand in the central arena – what stamina these “fans” must have, to do this week after week! In the old days there used to be a fountain here, trickling away throughout the concert, surrounded by potted palms and other exotic plants.

Next time you are in London between mid-July and mid-September, try to experience an evening at the Proms so as to get the real flavour of the special, electric atmosphere. These days there are concerts in other venues around London for smaller ensembles and late-night concerts of jazz, oriental and avant-garde music, and on the Last Night TV link-ups enable music lovers in far-flung places such as Belfast, Liverpool and Glasgow to join in the festivities with their own celebrations.

On the Last Night the conductor of the evening traditionally makes a speech and as they are generally Anglophone they have no difficulty with English idioms and humour, but last year the new chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Jiří Belohlávek, gave a speech from memory in excellent English which charmed everyone. The Proms are truly an international occasion these days and provide us with remarkable music-making listened to attentively by an enthusiastic audience. KR



dartington hall

Situated near Totnes, this mediaeval 'pile' was originally built back in the late 14th century for John Holand, Earl of Huntingdon, the half-brother of King Richard II. Life in mediaeval England was unpredictable and if you were a member of the royal family you might as well have carried a sign saying "kill me". Needless to say John, like his half-brother, met an early end and was beheaded. It wasn't until the times of Elizabeth I that the fate of the house was secured when it came into the ownership of Sir Arthur Champernowne, Vice-Admiral to the Queen's navy.

As with many stately homes in Britain the house finally fell into disrepair and was eventually bought by Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirst in 1925. They spent a fortune renovating the buildings, replacing the hammerbeam roof in the Great Hall, and, having completed the repairs, set about creating the Dartington Hall Trust, a registered charity which has run the estate ever since.

Along with the renovations to the mediaeval buildings, the 1920s saw the creation of Dartington Hall School. When it started the pupils' timetable was a mixture of formal classroom activities mixed with involvement in



estate activities. At its peak over 300 pupils attended the establishment which gained itself a reputation for having 'colourful activities' and a much more progressive attitude to education than other private schools. British artist Lucien Freud was a pupil at the school for two years though it is hard to say if he actually ever attended lessons as he spent most of the time playing truant. Following a scandal involving the





Clockwise from above: the statue of Flora; the summerhouse; sculpture in the gardens.



headmaster and his wife, the school saw a dramatic reduction in admissions and finally closed in 1987.

Sadly 2007 saw the beginning of the end of another educational establishment at Dartington. As a result of increasing costs and pressure from external sources the world-famous Dartington College of Arts announced that it would be closing down and relocating to Falmouth. This decision is a bitter blow to the nearby town of Totnes, as a large amount of revenue is generated from students of the college.

A visit to Dartington is not complete unless you walk around the gardens created by Dorothy Elmhirst with the assistance of the landscape gardeners Beatrix Farrand and Percy Cane. One of the most striking aspects of the garden

is the 'tiltyard'. Although it is not an original area for jousting, it is thought that this part of the garden was once an Elizabethan water-garden. The gardens also proudly boast an ancient yew tree thought to be over 2,000 years old and sculptures by Henry Moore and Peter Randall-Page.

At the edge of the grounds you can find the picturesque, gate-keeper's cottage as well as a footpath that will take you on a leisurely walk along the banks of the river Dart.

Dartington continues its close links with all things artistic by hosting many outdoor and indoor theatre companies, showing films from around the world at the cinema and providing an outlet for local craftsmen at the Dartington Cider Press Centre.

fifty years ago. The Cider Press Centre sells a range of craft work, books, fine foods, Dartington Crystal, garden plants and other objects for the home. On site there is also a Cranks wholefood vegetarian, restaurant and a shop selling children's toys.

The Cider Press Centre is open all year round:

Monday - Saturday
9.30am - 5.30pm
Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm



► The next LAL excursion to Dartington is on Wednesday, 1st October, price £10 including entrance to the gardens and a guided tour.

► Dartington Hall Gardens are open to the public from dawn until dusk every day. The Hall requests a donation of at least £2 from each visitor.

► You can take First bus X80 from Paignton towards Plymouth, alighting at Shiners Bridge by Dartington Cider Press Centre. From there you can walk to Dartington Hall and Gardens. A return ticket from Paignton to Shiners Bridge costs £4.80.

the cider press centre

In the mid seventies the Dartington Hall Trustees, decided to open a retail centre on a site alongside the Bidwell Brook where Bernard Leach had constructed a pottery and written: 'A Potter's Book'. The trust used to make apple juice and cider here, which is why it is called the Cider Press Centre even though actual cider making ceased here



September 25th – 28th sees the launch of the first ever International Comedy Film Festival in Torquay.

“Why Torquay?” I hear you ask. Well, Torquay is known as the spiritual birthplace of such British classics as Monty Python and Fawlty Towers. Peter Cook, one of comedy’s greatest writers, was born and lived in Torquay and was a huge Torquay United fan, and you can’t mention Torquay without paying tribute to John Cleese, who starred in Monty Python’s Flying Circus and played the outrageous Torquay hotel owner Basil Fawlty - “Don’t mention the war!”

For those ‘Python’ fans reading this article, you may be interested to know that scenes from the ‘Flying Circus’ programme were filmed at Spitchwick on Dartmoor and on top of an open-top bus travelling from Paignton to Torquay. The python link continues with the filming of certain scenes from ‘Monty Python and The Holy Grail’ in Occombe Woods.

John Cleese said: “I’m delighted to learn that Torquay is launching its International Comedy Film Festival. I

think of Torquay as being the home of British comedy. The first time I saw Bruce Forsyth was in the Babbacombe Pavilion in the mid 50s; we had a very successful Monty Python shoot there in 1970; it was then that I met the famous Donald Sinclair, the model for Basil Fawlty; and I for many years followed the hilarious antics of Torquay United at Plainmoor. I wish the Festival every success and hope I can attend it before I die.”

At cinemas and other venues around the bay you will have the opportunity to see national and internationally acclaimed filmmakers showcase their latest work to the public, whilst also commemorating comedy film classics. Films featured will not only be future blockbusters from large studios, but also the best of student and independent productions keen to find an audience.

There are also several foreign-language films, such as the German hit comedy “Goodbye Lenin!” and French classic “Mr Hulot’s Holiday”.

The full timetable for the film festival is on the right, and you can find more information on all the films at www.icff.co.uk

Tuesday 23rd September
10.00am Oska Bright South Devon College

Wednesday 24th September
10.00am Oska Bright South Devon College

Thursday 25th September
10.30am Jour De Fete (15) Blue Walnut Café
11.00am Primary School Special (U) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
2.00pm Primary School Special (U) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
3.00pm Straight 8 (PG) Blue Walnut Café
6.45pm Comedy Favs & Mark Thomas Live (15) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
7.00pm Director’s Cut with Peter Richardson (15) Spanish Barn
7.30pm Carry On Screaming (U) Kents Cavern
7.30pm Manhattan Shorts (PG) Blue Walnut Café
9.30pm Three Miles North of Molkom (15) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema

Friday 26th September
10.00am Comedy Film Workshops Spanish Barn
10.30am Les Vacances de M. Hulot (U) Blue Walnut Café
11.00am Secondary School Special (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
2.00pm Secondary School Special (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
2.00pm Comedy Film workshops Spanish Barn.
3.00pm Straight 8 (PG) Blue Walnut Café
7.00pm Drive-In Austin Powers (15) Broadlands
7.00pm Top 5 Screening (tba) Spanish Barn
7.00pm Tales of The Riverbank (U) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
7.30pm Manhattan Shorts (PG) Blue Walnut Café
9.00pm Free Jimmy (18) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema

Saturday 27th September
10.30am Ice Age 2 (U) Torquay Museum
10.00am Top 5 Screening (tba) Spanish Barn
10.30am Mon Uncle (U) Blue Walnut Café
12.00pm Animations For All Ages (U)
2.00pm Eat My Shorts (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
2.00pm The Cottage with Q&A (18) Spanish Barn
3.00pm Straight 8 (PG) Blue Walnut Café
4.00pm Eat My Shorts (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
7.00pm Black Cat White Cat (15) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
7.30pm Goodbye Lenin! (15) Spanish Barn
7.30pm Manhattan Shorts (PG) Blue Walnut Café
7.30pm Birds Eye View (U) Palace Theatre
7.30pm It’s A Wrap Gala Party Riviera Centre
9.00pm The Hattie Hatstar Video Cabaret (15) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema

Sunday 28th September
10.30am Play Time (U) Blue Walnut Café
12.00pm Animations For All Ages (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
1.30pm Straight 8 (PG) Blue Walnut Café
2.00pm Propeller TV Comedy Shorts (PG) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
2.00pm Birds Eye View (U) Palace Theatre
3pm One of our Dinosaurs is Missing (U) Torquay Museum
4.00pm Junk TV Quick Flicks Film Fest (12) Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
4.00pm Top 5 Screening (tba) Spanish Barn
4.30pm Manhattan Shorts (PG) Blue Walnut Café
7.30pm Birds Eye View (U) Palace Theatre
7.30pm Snappers VIP first screening Apollo Cinema
8.00pm The Hattie Hatstar Video Cabaret Groovy Movie Solar Cinema
9.00pm Winner: top 5 Screenings Spanish Barn
10.00pm Snappers + After Party Spinning Wheel

float like a butterfly

– sting like a bee



Janusz Gawron

British boxers won a gold and two bronze medals at the Beijing Olympics – the UK's first for about 30 years: this is perhaps surprising, as the modern sport of boxing was "born" in Britain.

Of course, fist fighting is probably as old as the human race, and a form of it, called 'pankration' (total strength), was part of the original Olympic programme. It was much more violent, and all tactics except biting and use of weapons were allowed. Romans also enjoyed a good fight, until in about AD500 Christian rulers banned it. This was because it damaged the human face, made in the image of God.

Modern boxing began before 1700 in England, and by 1720 there was a national championship. In 1743 the holder, Jack Broughton, helped to lay down the London Prize Ring rules (the size of the "ring", a roped square 7.3

metres long and wide, has remained the same ever since.) Though Broughton introduced gloves, they were mostly used for training, and serious contests were fought with bare knuckles. Boxing became a popular sport for gamblers, and all social classes were fans, though the fighters were usually working men with hard jobs, such as miners & smiths.

Boxing gave English several expressions. To "throw your hat in the ring" is to join a contest: to "throw in the towel" is to give up the fight: to "hit below the belt" is to cheat. Even Big Ben, the nickname of the Great Bell in London's Houses of Parliament clocktower, is possibly named after heavyweight champion Ben Caunt, a Londoner. While it was enormously popular, prize-fighting was against the law, so big fights had to be held far out in the country. With no police force before 1829, it was very difficult to stop.

The last great bare-knuckle prize fight,

and one of the first "internationals" took place in 1860. The English champion Tom Cribb fought American John C. Heenan over 60 three-minute rounds until Heenan retired. It was found that Cribb had been fighting for hours with one arm broken!

In 1867, 12 new rules, the Queensberry code, were introduced, making the wearing of gloves compulsory and defensive fighting more common. The style changed a great deal as a result. In 1882 a court decision outlawed bare-knuckle fighting as the crime of assault, and modern boxing really began. By now the USA had taken the sport up, and from the 1890s most world champions were American – and many were black, like Jack Johnson in the 1900s, Joe Louis in the '20s and '30s, and perhaps the greatest ever, Muhammad Ali (born Cassius M. Clay the 6th) in the '60s and '70s. It was he who described his style and art with the title of this piece. FM

a fur-fox's-eye view

One of our students, Sarah, has sent us this thought-provoking essay, in which she imagines that she is a fox being kept for the fur trade.

There are bars all around me and not enough space to move. I'm going crazy here inside, just like every day.

The bars under my feet hurt me all the time. I can see all the other foxes in their small cages. A few of them hurt themselves. Every day I have to sit here outside. Rain, sun and, in the winter, the cold snow. There's no warm place to hide. I am sitting each day in front of unreachable freedom, there are only bars between me and the forest – my home!

One man comes. He brings this disgusting mush, like every day. There are the others barking too loudly for my ears, like every day.

But then one thing is different: no-one comes to give me something to eat. All



Mila Jerkovic

the other foxes can feel it too.

There is something coming! Something dangerous!

And then there are two men in front of my cage. They are coming to fetch me...

Like this story? Think that it's unfair? Tell us by writing to stoppress@laltorbay.co.uk.

We're always keen to get your stories, jokes and photographs, such as impressions of your time here, your life at home or any topical subject that you think might interest your fellow students. So don't be shy: get writing today and send us your work to stoppress@laltorbay.co.uk, or hand it to Andy Tyrrell in room 1.01.

idioms of the month: words

Idioms are an important part of the English language, and when used correctly can make you sound more English. Have a look at these 'word' related idioms ...

To be lost for words – to be speechless with shock or surprise
Example: - "I was lost for words when she told me she was getting married".

To be the last word in – to be the very best and most up-to-date
Example: - "My new phone is the last word in communication design".

To have words with someone – to speak to someone seriously / to reprimand.
Example: - "I had to have words with my neighbour about his barking dog". AT

anniversaries

70 years ago on September 27th the 'Queen Elizabeth', then the largest passenger ship liner since 'The Titanic' was launched.

80 years ago on September 1st king Zog became the ruler of Albania. He abolished serfdom, started an education system, and reformed the military. In 1931, when he was attacked, he took out his gun and became the only head of state to return fire on an assassin. One of his regular sources of income was a gentleman's outfitter in Tirana. Hotel guests were told that the king wanted to meet them and that formal clothes were obligatory. The only shop in the city that sold the formal clothes just happened to be owned by the King.

40 years ago in September 1968 Britain's post was divided into first and second class – the former being 5d (just over 2p) the latter 4d (just under 2p). Many people thought that this was the point at which the British postal service started going down hill.

coffee break

giant sudoku

Fill in the squares of the grid with the numbers 1 to 16, so that each row, each column and each smaller 4x4 block contains all the numbers from 1 to 16.

4			3	16		11	5		13	10		8			9
			1	14	10				3	6		4	13		
	13	14					9		4	16			6		
6	1			7							11				16
			7			16	11	10				13		12	15
13	11	4			15	2	3			14				1	
1	14	9								11	16			6	10
				5						2	13		9		11
14		3		6	4					10					
15	9			2	8								3	10	12
	4				10			15	9	3			5	13	14
16	10		6				1	13	8			11			
5				13						3				14	2
		13			5	1		11					7	9	
		1	2		16	3			10	7	8				
3			4		7	14		5	2		15	10			1

- Explore Heritage and Fishing Boats for Free - Including The Vigilance
 - Children's Activities including
 - Cooking Demonstration with "Manna from Devon"
 - Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust Art Competition
 - Cosmo the Clown
 - Unicyclist
 - Balloon Artist
 - Magician
 - Juggler
 - Face painter
 - Bouncy Castles
 - "Bucking Bronco" - Rodeo Fun
 - China Blue - Pottery Painting
- This is a ticketed event of which we are waiting confirmation of the admission prices - but it is looking like £7.50 for all day, £5.00 for evening admittance after 18.30

Heritage open days 13 Sep 2008 - 14 Sep 2008

The fight to save the slipways in Torquay which were used by servicemen as they left for the D-Day landings has been stepped up, with 16,000 war veterans signing a petition. The petition has been raised by the Normandy Veterans Association, and has the backing of members on both sides of the Atlantic. The embarkation ramps were used by thousands of servicemen for the D-Day landings in June, 1944. Many never came back. Beacon Quay, Torquay

Early Autumn Hedgerow Harvest 14 Sep 2008
Come and sample some of Cockington's bountiful blackberries, hazelnuts, sloes and other seasonal wild food specialities on a gentle nature ramble around some of the more secluded spots of the Country Park. We will also find out more about 'Nature's Calendar' and how you can add your sightings to this national project.

13:00 - 15:00

Adults £3.50, children free

Car Park at rear of Cockington Court, Cockington, Torquay

Nature Inside Out Exhibition 15 Sep 2008 - 22 Oct 2008

An amazing new exhibition placing conventional portraits of Paignton Zoo animals alongside striking thermal images of the same animals to give you a unique view of nature inside and out. Free to view.

Paignton Zoo, Totnes Road, Paignton

Brixham Heritage Autumn Fayre 4 Oct 2008
Autumn Fayre in the Museum (Bolton Cross, Brixham). Home-made cakes, assorted bric-a-brac, tombola, serving teas and coffees, free entry.

Saturday 10:00 - 13:00

Free Entry for All

Brixham Heritage Museum, New Road, Brixham

Tel: 01803 856267

Winter Warmer Walk 5 Oct 2008
Circular Walk as part of the South Devon AONB walking festival. A walk from Broadsands Beach through Elberry Cove, Marrison Woods the Grove returning through Churston Village. Walk approximately 3 miles, some steep slopes and rough terrain.

Sunday 10:00 - 12:30

Charge: £3.50 adults, children free

Broadsands Car Park, Paignton

Tel: 01803 606035

word grid

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in this grid? There is at least one nine-letter word, and at least 90 words in total. Suggested answers below.

V	E	N
A	D	T
E	U	R

what's on

Fishstock Festival 13 Sep 2008

The urban seafood and music festival In aid of the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. Bringing you the very best that South Devon has to offer with cooking demonstrations by Mitch Tonks, live music, fresh seafood, food and drink stalls, kids entertainment.

Mad Dog Mcreea and other bands

- Cooking Masterclasses by Mitch Tonks

- South Devon College Cooking Demonstrations

- The Plymouth Morris Men Dancers

- Celtic Heritage Trust Mobile Cinema

- Shoal of Brixham Artists including Nutty

Noah and John Christian

- Beats of Polynesia Dance Troupe

solutions

Word Grid: 3-letter words
eel, els, ice, ils, lee, lei, let,
lie, see, set, sic, sit, tee, tic,
tie, tit

4-letter words

celt, cess, cist, cite, eels,
elbe, ices, ile, lees, leis,
less, lest, lets, lice, lies, list,
sect, sees, sets, sett, sift,
site, sits, slit, stet, tees,
test, tics, ties, tile, tilt, tits

5-letter words

celts, cists, cites, elect, elite,
isles, islet, lists, sects, setts,
sifts, sites, sheet, slice, slits,
steel, stets, sties, stile, stilt,
tests, tiles, tilts, tittle

6-letter words

elects, elites, islets, select,
settle, sheets, slices, sheet,
steels, stiles, stiffs, testes,
testis, titles, tsetse

7-letter words

iceless, selects, settles,
tileless

8-letter words

testicle

9-letter words

testicles

THE AGATHA CHRISTIE FESTIVAL

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Sunday 14th September

09:45	Christie Cream Tea and Tour	Grand Hotel, TQ2 6NF	£22	01903 296677
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Monday 15th September

09:45	Christie Cream Tea and Tour	Grand Hotel, TQ2 6NF	£22	01903 296677
10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:00	Murder Mystery Party	Broham Community College, TQ5 9AF	Free	01903 653302
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
16:30	Agatha Christie Talk	Flaggon Library, TQ3 3AB	£1	01903 209321
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120

Tuesday 16th September

09:45	Christie Cream Tea and Tour	Grand Hotel, TQ2 6NF	£22	01903 296677
10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:00	Agatha Christie Coach Tour	Torquay Railway Station, TQ2 6WJ	£5	07760 991420
10:30	Agatha Christie Mile	Torquay Tourist Information, TQ2 5JG	£3	01903 211211
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:00	An Audience with Simon Hall	Torquay Library, TQ1 3DT	Free	01903 209300
19:30	Murder Mystery Dinner	Isopak Hotel, TQ2 5HG	£25	01903 211211
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995

Wednesday 17th September

10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:30	Agatha Christie Mile	Torquay Tourist Information, TQ2 5JG	£3	01903 211211
11:00/11:30	Greenway by Sea and River with High Tea	Toy Harbour/Bish Harbour, TQ1 2BG/TQ5 8AJ	From £20	01903 844010
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
15:30	Tea Dance	Oldway Mansions, TQ3 2TE	£7.50	01903 209300
19:00	Agatha Christie Talk	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG	£7	01903 293975
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995

Thursday 16th September

10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:00-16:00	Agatha's Churches	St Mary the Virgin Church, TQ5 8LZ	Free	01903 211211
10:00-17:00	Agatha's Churches	All Saints Church, TQ2 5AR	Free	01903 614080
10:30	Agatha Christie Mile	Torquay Tourist Information, TQ2 5JG	£3	01903 211211
11:00/11:30	Greenway by River and Sea with Cream Tea	Toy Harbour/Bish Harbour, TQ1 2BG/TQ5 8AJ	From £12	01903 844010
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:00	Murder Mystery Boat Trip	Dartmouth, TQ6 9BH	£37.50	01903 833033
19:15	Agatha Christie Talk	Broham Library, TQ5 9CU	£1	01903 653670
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995

Friday 19th September

10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:00-16:00	Agatha's Churches	St Mary the Virgin Church, TQ5 8LZ	Free	01903 211211
10:00-17:00	Agatha's Churches	All Saints Church, TQ2 5AR	Free	01903 614080
11:00/11:30	Greenway by Sea and River with Cream Tea	Toy Harbour/Bish Harbour, TQ1 2BG/TQ5 8AJ	From £12	01903 844010
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:00	Write Here! Write There!	AS&L & Community Learning Centre, TQ3 3QZ	Free	01903 403007
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:40	Open Air Cinema	Oldway Mansions, TQ3 2TE	£5	01903 211211

Saturday 20th September

10:00	Agatha Christie Book Sale	Torquay Museum, TQ1 1HG		01903 293975
10:00-16:00	Agatha's Churches	St Mary the Virgin Church, TQ5 8LZ	Free	01903 211211
11:00/11:30	Greenway by River and Sea with Cream Tea	Toy Harbour/Bish Harbour, TQ1 2BG/TQ5 8AJ	From £12	01903 844010
14:00	Agatha - A Life in Pictures	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995
19:00	Evening Boat Cruise	Torquay Harbour, TQ1 2RG	From £7	01903 844010
19:30	And Then There Were None	Princess Theatre, TQ2 5E2	From £11	08702 414120
19:30	Agatha Christie Film Season	Blue Walnut Cinema, TQ2 6HS	Free	01903 605995

Sunday 21st September

10:00-16:00	Agatha's Churches	St Mary the Virgin Church, TQ5 8LZ	Free	01903 211211
11:00	Classic Car Treasure Hunt	Various locations throughout Torbay	£10	01903 211211
14:00-19:00	Greenway Mystery Tour	Greenway, TQ5 0ES	£30	01903 942362

what's on

princess theatre, torquay

10 September 19:30
The New Squadronaires Orchestra
11 September 19:30
John Hylton - "Real Diamond"
12 September 19:30
Jane McDonald - Live In Concert
13 September 19:00
Ken Dodd
15 September 19:30
And Then There Were None
16 September 19:30
And Then There Were None
17 September 14:30 & 19:30
And Then There Were None
18 September 14:30 & 19:30
And Then There Were None
19 September 19:30
And Then There Were None
20 September 14:30 & 19:30
And Then There Were None
23 September 19:45
TOPS Oliver!
24 September 19:45
TOPS Oliver!
25 September 19:45
TOPS Oliver!
26 September 19:45
TOPS Oliver!
27 September 14:30 & 19:45
TOPS Oliver!
28 September 19:30
A Night to Remember - Variety Night
2 October 19:30
Sing-A-Long Abba
3 October 19:30
Colin Fry - an Evening of Clairvoyance
4 October 19:30
Rob Kingsley - A Vision of Elvis
5 October 20:00
Over The Rainbow - The Eva Cassidy Story
7 October 19:30
The Drifters
8 October 19:30
Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance - A Magical Night at
The Musicals

Box Office Numbers:

Ticketmaster: 08702 414 120
Groups (10+ tickets): 01803 380 842
Box Office Hours:
Monday - Saturday: 10:00 - 18:00

bike nights

Paignton Bike Night has been running since 2003 and has become the largest social gathering of bikers in the South West of England on a regular basis. We have a mile of bikes parked side by side every Wednesday evening from June to Sept each year on Paignton Seafront.

Find out what's going on at
www.englishriviera.co.uk

little theatre, torquay

Wed 3rd - Sat 13th Sept 2008 at 7.30pm*
*(no performance on Sunday)
South West AMATEUR PREMIERE of this famous
Ealing Comedy!
The Ladykillers
Directed by Anna Reynolds
This production of The Ladykillers is staged by
arrangement with Charles Vance, acting on
behalf of the film rights-holders and the adaptor
Charles Croft who created the stage play from
the original comedy film.

Tickets: £9.50 Concessions: £8.50

Bookings:

*The box office is open every morning, Monday to
Friday between 10.30am and 1.30pm. During
the run of all plays the box office is also open
from 6.30pm - 8.00pm.*
By Phone: 01803 299330

babbacombe theatre

Fri Sep 19
Torbay's Got Talent (Heat 1) 7:00pm
date listings View All Dates »
Adults £10.00 Children £6.00 Seniors £8.00

Fri Sep 26
Torbay's Got Talent (Heat 2) 7:00pm
Adults £10.00 Children £6.00 Seniors £8.00

Sat Sep 27
Alvin Stardust 8:00pm
Adults £15.00 Children £14.00 Seniors £14.00

Fri Oct 03
Torbay's Got Talent (The Final) 7:00pm
Adults £10.00 Children £6.00 Seniors £8.00

Sat Oct 04
The Big Ballet 8:00pm
Adults £17.50 Children £14.50 Seniors £16.50

Sat Oct 11
Joey The Lips 8:00pm
Adults £11.00 Children £11.00 Seniors £11.00

Babbacombe Theatre, Babbacombe, Torquay
Box Office 01803 328 385

palace theatre, paignton

27 & 28 September
Birds Eye View Presents Clowning Glories (part of
the International Comedy Film Festival)
Times: 2pm & 7:30pm

2nd October
An Evening with Christopher Biggins - Just
Biggins.
Time 7:30pm

summary of lal excursions

Descriptions of all Excursions are in
the *LAL Torbay Guide*

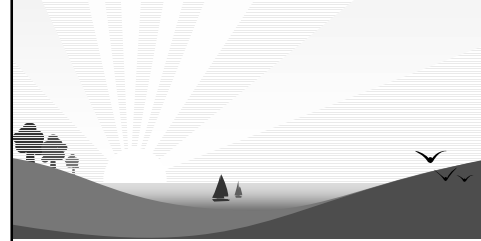
- 09/09 Brixham & Berry Head
Jazz night
10/09 Dartington Hall
Country Pub
11/09 Exeter Walk/Shops
12/09 Dartmoor Highlights
13/09 Portland Bill & Weymouth

16/09 Totnes Walk/Shops
Dartmoor by Dusk
17/09 Greenway Gardens
Kents Cavern
Country Pub
18/09 Plymouth
19/09 South Hams
20/09 South-east Cornwall

23/09 Dartmouth & Kingswear
Mystery Pub Tour
24/09 Cockington & Torquay
Country Pub
25/09 Exeter Walk/Shops
Ghost Night or Model Village
26/09 Dartmoor Highlights
27/09 Bath & Wells

30/09 Totnes Walk/Shops
01/10 Dartington Hall Gardens
Country Pub
02/10 Plymouth Barbican & Hoe
03/10 Coast Drive
04/10 North Cornwall

(all excursions may be subject to change)



Adult Excursions

sports

Football
6th Torquay Utd v Northwich Victoria
- 3pm
20th Torquay Utd v Eastbourne - 3pm
Rugby
6th Torquay v Plymouth Warriors
13th Torquay v Sidmouth
27th Torquay v Newton Abbot
27th Paignton v Clevedon



GO BACK TO YOUR ROOTS!

WITH OUR MEDIEVAL FUN DAY

Come to the ancient heart of Torquay and get a taste of how life would have been in medieval times.

Meet the Torbay falconers with their birds of prey, help the medieval cook prepare food and drink, join in with the strolling minstrels and learn early dances, meet the Brixham Berzerkers in their medieval encampment for some fun and games, have a go in the stocks, and although they were a couple of hundred years later, the Newton Bushell Morris Men will be on site in the morning to get everybody going!

Don't miss our home baked refreshments!

WHEN: SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 10AM TO 3PM

WHERE: TORRE CHURCHYARD, CNR LUCIUS ST AND ST EFRIDES ROAD, TQ2 5SQ

WHO: THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCHYARD

www.friendsofthechurchoyard.org.uk

Ph 01803 389288

HOW: BUS, CAR OR FOOT. LEVEL ACCESS