

StopPress

The LAL Torbay Students' Magazine

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Full steam ahead on the South Devon Railway



“The beach was too sandy”

Twenty really stupid complaints

Sex, bribery and tea

George Mikes's view of England



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Welcome to StopPress



If you had thought of complaining that there just aren't enough pirates in Torbay, or that StopPress has failed to talk about one of Devon's top attractions, or that we haven't explained the delights of Cadbury's Creme Eggs, this is the issue for you, as we correct all those errors this month. Alternatively, you might want to consider the twenty most stupid complaints sent to British travel companies, which would be unbelievable if they were not all true.

By the time that this StopPress reaches your hands, LAL Torbay

will be busy with students for the Easter holidays. As I write this, spring is definitely in the air and we hope that the sunshine and warm weather will continue for you all as you discover Torbay.

In this edition we also note the introduction of Premium courses - which have already attracted interest. Plus we introduce Steve Johnson as General Manager of LAL USA. We wish him every success in his new job, and you every success with your studies.



StopPress is published by LAL Torbay, edited by Andy Tyrrell and typeset by Tristram Grevatt.

Cinema by Kevin Ryland. Grammar Spod by Ariane Meier. Additional articles in this edition were submitted by Andy Tyrrell, Tristram Grevatt, Intersport and Kevin Ryland. Thanks to Kevin Ryland and Ariane Meier for proof-reading.

We welcome submissions: 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.

Front cover courtesy South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt.

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News

Changes to UK Visa Regulations

From 31 March 2009, all students from outside the European Economic Area must apply for UK visas either as an adult student or a child student (under tier 4 of the points-based system).

LAL Torbay (including LAL Summer Schools in England) has been licensed by the UK Border Agency to enrol international students under Tier 4 of the Points Based System. We are A-rated and our sponsorship licence number is J4UOU37K5. More information and links to application forms are available on our website at www.lalschools.com.

New arrangements also apply for students wishing to extend their visa for the UK. While we cannot help students to fill in application forms, we are happy to explain the regulations and guidance notes to any student who needs help with these official documents. Please ask to speak to our Reservations department.

New General Manager at LAL USA

LAL is pleased to announce the appointment of Steve Johnson as the new General Manager of LAL USA from 13th April 2009.

Mr Johnson was raised in Boston,



Steve Johnson

Massachusetts and graduated from Lawrence University with a B.A. in History. He spent several years in San Diego, California as a high school English instructor and tennis coach, and completed a Master of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences from San Diego State University, with ESL Certification.

Steve has extensive experience in curriculum development, education administration and ESL, ESOL and Business English instruction. He has held posts with Readak International, International Center for American English (La Jolla, California) and Asociación Escuelas Lincoln (Buenos Aires, Argentina).

Mr. Johnson spent the last nine years working at Nokia, where he managed Sales Operations and Sales and Marketing channels in the USA and Brazil.

He says, "I am happy to be joining the LAL team, and look forward to building relationships and delivering a truly exceptional experience for students and staff alike. Our goal will be to deliver quality and excellence and establish LAL USA as a leader in language development and cultural interchange."

Steve lives in Boca Raton, Florida and his interests include the Spanish and Portuguese languages, international travel, swimming, snowboarding and tennis.

New Premium Courses



...With a free 'netbook' for courses of 12 weeks and more.

If you need English to succeed in higher education or your career, we can help. Our new premium courses provide you with all the tools needed to achieve your aims.



Lorraine Myrie, Kevin Ryland and Frank Mercer with their quiz trophies

Group lessons with a maximum of eight students take place in the mornings or you can extend these to the afternoons as well. These lessons are complemented each week by two private lessons designed in discussion with you for your particular needs.

If you need to pass an IELTS exam, publish in English or do business, your tutor will provide guidance and support. Also, in order to make your studies easier, not only do we collect you at the airport and organise your accommodation and any excursions, we will give you a netbook computer to Skype home, search the internet or complete your homework.

You can find out full information at www.lalschools.com/ples

Pub Quiz Victors

LAL Torbay's staff quiz team, which plays at Torquay Rugby Club, has been the champion team four times over the last twelve years - and this year have won the title again!

There are four members of the team and three are from the school: Kevin Ryland (Captain), Lorraine Myrie and Frank Mercer are the school players. Between us we cover a wide range of Knowledge from literature to science and music to history. Our weak areas are popular television and pop music!

Football school comes to Torbay

Level
B2
Intermediate

Europe's biggest and most successful football school, the "INTERSPORT kicker Fußballcamps", and Germany's number one among the language camp companies LAL Sprachreisen (the sister company of LAL Language Centres), are co-operating to present the ultimate highlight in 2009 – language and football camps by the beaches of the English Riviera.

From 5 April to 19 April 2009 boys and girls aged 12 to 17 can see their dreams come true. They

will dribble and score like their heroes Toni, Diego or Schweinsteiger. At the same time they will improve their English skills while they are playing. Many other activities, like a tour of the stadium in Plymouth or a friendly match, complete the programme.

Fun and enthusiasm during football practice and the advancement of the English language are the most important centre points during the INTERSPORT kicker football camps. All participants

attend the language courses at LAL Torbay in the morning, in order to develop their vocabulary and to improve their speaking fluency. In the afternoon they experience first-class football practice with numerous football-specific exercises with focus on co-ordination, dribbling and scoring.

The head coaches of the camps – all holders of a DFB license (German Football Association) – are specialists in interacting with children and have the

reputation of belonging to the best in Germany. They also show the tricks of Messi, Ribery and other world class players to the participants.

25,000 children have experienced the fascination of a camp that lasts several days at numerous locations in Germany and throughout Europe in the last two years. If you would like further information with regard to the INTERSPORT kicker football camps, please visit www.fussballcamps.de.



Stupid complaints

Level
Intermediate

B2

“No-one told us there would be fish in the sea - the children were startled”



H Berends

Here at LAL we try to make sure that you have a great time and learn lots of English. Occasionally, things go wrong: and then we will do everything we can to sort them out. Sometimes, however, complaints can be a little bit difficult to solve. We thought you might like to consider how you would respond to the following genuine complaints compiled by travel agent Thompsons and the Association of British Travel agents, and printed in the Daily Telegraph on 17th March 2009.

A tourist at a top African game lodge overlooking a waterhole, who spotted a visibly aroused elephant, complained that the sight of this rampant beast ruined his honeymoon by making him feel “inadequate”.

A woman threatened to call police after claiming that she'd been locked in by staff. When, in fact, she had mistaken the “do not disturb” sign on the back of the door as a warning to remain in the room.

“The beach was too sandy.”

A guest at a Novotel in Australia complained his soup was too thick and strong. He was inadvertently slurping the gravy at the time.

“Topless sunbathing on the beach should be banned. The

holiday was ruined as my husband spent all day looking at other women.”

“We bought ‘Ray-Ban’ sunglasses for five Euros (£3.50) from a street trader, only to find out they were fake.”

“No-one told us there would be fish in the sea. The children were startled.”

“It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England it only took the Americans three hours to get home.”

“My fiancé and I booked a twin-bedded room but we were placed in a double-bedded room. We now hold you responsible for the fact that I find myself pregnant. This would not have happened if you had put us in the room that we booked.”

“I compared the size of our one-bedroom apartment to our friends’ three-bedroom apartment and ours was significantly smaller.”

“The brochure stated: ‘No hairdressers at the accommodation’. We’re trainee hairdressers - will we be OK staying here?”

“There are too many Spanish people. The

30%

of LAL Torbay students have written a letter of complaint (but not about LAL!), according to our recent survey.

receptionist speaks Spanish. The food is Spanish. Too many foreigners."

"We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as yellow but it was white."

"We had to queue outside with no air conditioning."

"It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy or unruly guests before we travel."

"I was bitten by a mosquito - no-one said they could bite."

"I think it should be explained in the brochure that the local store does not sell proper biscuits like custard creams or ginger nuts."

"It's lazy of the local shopkeepers to close in the afternoons. I often needed to buy things during 'siesta' time - this should be banned."

"On my holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don't like spicy food at all."

"We booked an excursion to a water park but no-one told us we had to bring our swimming costumes and towels." @ TG



English Riviera Tourist Board

The Cadbury Creme Egg

Every year an iconic chocolate treat arrives for a limited time only: the chocolate and fondant wonder which is the Cadbury Creme Egg.

The Creme Egg is a chocolate egg filled with white and yellow fondant, to look like the white and yolk of a hen's egg. The eggs are made in two halves and stuck together in Cadbury's factory in Bourneville, near Birmingham.

Creme Eggs are only available from New Year until Easter each year. Despite its limited availability, the Cadbury Creme Egg is remarkably popular in Britain: every year more Creme Eggs are sold than any other chocolate in the months the egg is on sale, and Cadbury sells three eggs for every person in the UK - that's enough to stretch from the UK to Australia if you laid them end to end.

Cadbury have

advertised Creme Eggs with many slogans, the most famous being "How do you eat yours?" They claim that the most popular way to eat a Creme Egg is to bite off the top of the egg and lick out the fondant filling; apparently 53% of people claim to eat Creme Eggs that way!

Cadbury launched cream-filled eggs in 1923, but the Creme Egg that is sold today was not invented until 1971.

Now you can eat your Cadbury Creme Egg in English-speaking countries around the world, including the USA, Canada, Australia & New Zealand. @ TG





Full steam ahead: The South Devon Railway

Level
B2
Intermediate

Sixty years ago Britain had railway lines running all over the country to small towns and villages. As the motor car became more popular, however, the railways began to close as fewer and fewer people used the trains. Many railway lines closed forever; but a few were bought by people who thought that they might be able to run their own trains. The oldest private line in the Westcountry - the South Devon Railway - celebrates its 40th year this month.

The line from Ashburton to Totnes was always a very pretty line, running

through the River Dart valley. But it was never very popular: none of the towns on the line had many people to use the trains. The last passenger train left Ashburton in 1958 on its way to Totnes, and the last delivery train ran in 1962.

At the same time British Railways were replacing their old steam trains with faster, more efficient diesel and electric trains. A group of businessmen thought that they could buy some of the old steam engines and run them on the disused railway line as a 'heritage' railway. Without being paid to do it, they began to repair the railway track and stations on the line, and found

trains and carriages.

In 1969 the Dart Valley Railway company finally managed to buy the line from Buckfastleigh to Totnes. On 5th April 1969 the first heritage train left Buckfastleigh for Totnes. The line was re-opened by Dr Richard Beeching - a man famous in Britain for starting the closure of nearly a third of the country's railways.

It wasn't easy for the Dart Valley Railway: after the initial excitement it was difficult to attract visitors. In 1991 the company decided to end its use of the Buckfastleigh-Totnes line and concentrate on the trains from Paignton



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

The Stationmaster (left), Signalmen (right) and the engine drivers on the locomotives (below) are all volunteers.



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

to Kingswear. The volunteers stepped in to save the line again: this time they had to lease the track and trains from the Dart Valley Railway until they could buy their own trains and, eventually, buy the track back.

The eighteen years since 1991 have seen remarkable change: the South Devon Railway, as the line is now known, has transformed the line into a popular attraction. The line runs almost all year round with a mix of steam and diesel trains, and about 100,000 passengers travel on the line each year.

Those visitors find a railway line which is like stepping back in time. The stations at Buckfastleigh and Staverton have been carefully restored to the way they looked when owned by the famous Great Western Railway, complete with antique luggage and goods wagons, open fires in the waiting rooms and historic advertising signs. The station »

Doctor Beeching

Dr Richard Beeching, who opened the Dart Valley Railway in 1969, was the chairman of British Rail in the early 1960s. He realised that much of Britain's rail network was losing money and proposed the closure of over 30% of Britain's railways. The loss of trains devastated towns and villages but he probably saved Britain's rail network from total collapse. Now that our roads are crowded with cars, people wonder if the lines which he closed might have been useful again.

Where do you buy a train?

In the 1960s British Rail sent thousands of steam trains to be cut up for scrap metal. A scrap yard in Wales received over 200 trains, but found that cutting up rails and wagons was easier than cutting up locomotives. Enthusiasts started to visit the yard to buy trains for restoration. When the last steam engine was sold in 1990, only three had been cut up by the yard since 1969 and 213 sold for preservation.



Floyd Nello

Cider barrels at Staverton Station recall the days of freight traffic on the line



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

« at Totnes, by contrast, is not original: The original station at Totnes is still used by main-line trains, so a new station has been built just outside the town using buildings from other stations which had been closed.

Several steam locomotives have been restored to perfect condition by the railway, and pull carriages refurbished and repainted in the style of years gone by. The railway is proud to own a carriage from Queen Victoria's royal train, and two of the Great Western Railway's Ocean Saloon carriages, with wood panelling, table lamps and comfortable armchairs.

The railway runs right beside the River Dart and through beautiful woods and fields, and the trains run slowly enough for you to enjoy the view. At Buckfastleigh there is a small museum with items from the railway's history, including the last surviving broad-gauge locomotive from the GWR. There are also engine

Engineering

As well as running tourist trains, the South Devon Railway also runs a successful engineering workshop. They repair and restore their own trains, and also carry out work for other companies. They do a roaring trade in the metal 'tyres' for trains, for example, and spare parts for locomotives and carriages.



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

workshops, a model railway, a café and gift shop. Staverton offers walks through the countryside to the nearby village with its traditional pub and church. At Totnes there is an award-winning farm attraction with rare breeds of animals right next to the station, and the historic town of Totnes is a short walk away.

The South Devon Railway won the award for Heritage Railway of the Year in 2007: why not find out for yourself why it deserved to win that prestigious award? The South Devon Railway is a great day out where you can discover a beautiful part of Devon and experience rail travel as it used to be.

Between 5th and 13th April the railway is running a special timetable to celebrate the 40th Anniversary, with more trains than usual. Over the weekend of 11th April up to eight steam locomotives will be in use. It will be a great opportunity to see the South Devon Railway at its best. **Ⓜ TG**



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

The last surviving broad gauge locomotive in the SDR museum at Buckfastleigh.



South Devon Railway/Tim Grevatt

Services on the South Devon Railway

The South Devon Railway runs trains every day until 31st October. A return ticket for Adults between Totnes Littlehempston and Buckfastleigh is £9.90; on most days this allows you to travel all day on the railway.

Between 5th and 9th April a day rover costs £15; on 11th, 12th & 13th April a day rover will be £17.

For more information, see www.southdevonrailway.co.uk.

Getting to the South Devon Railway

It is easiest to start your journey at Totnes Littlehempston station: take First bus X80 or X81 from Paignton bus station to Totnes mainline railway station (£4.60 return).

From there it is a short walk (500 yards/450 metres) to the South Devon Railway station, past the National Rail booking office and over a footbridge across the river Dart to Totnes Littlehempston.

Grammar Spod: Past perfect



Dear friends of English grammar, I am delighted to share with you the undeniable secrets of the lovely English language once again this month.

Having had a closer look at the Present Perfect tense in last month's StopPress, this time we will look at the Past Perfect tense.

The Past Perfect

Let's turn to the ever so useful Cambridge Advanced Learners' Dictionary for the definition of the Past Perfect tense:

'The grammatical tense used to describe an action that had already finished when another action happened. It is made with had and a past participle.'

We use the Past Perfect simple tense for the following:

- **We use the Past Perfect simple tense for the 'earlier past' or the 'completed past'.**

A common use is to 'go back' when we are already

talking about the past, so as to make it clear that something has already happened at the time we are talking about:

- I realised we had met before.
- NOT: I realised we met before.
- When I arrived at the party the teachers had already gone home.

- **The Past Perfect is common after verbs of saying and thinking, to talk about things that had happened before the saying or thinking took place:**

I told her that I had finished my lesson plan.

- **We use the Past Perfect continuous tense to talk about longer actions or situations which had continued up to the past moment that we are thinking about , or shortly before:**

When I found my friend, I could see she had been crying.

I hope you enjoyed this introduction to the use of the Past Perfect tense. Please let me know if there is a tense or a grammatical concept you would like to read about in particular in one of the following editions of StopPress. I would be delighted to hear from you at stoppress@laltorbay.co.uk.

Until next month – yours sincerely,
Countess Grammar 📧 AM

Want to be a world-record holder?

Shiver me timbers! Brixham is trying to set a world record for the most pirates in one place!

Every year Brixham is home to fun 'Pirate nights' where people dress in pirate costumes and get involved in fun and games around Brixham harbour. This year the Brixham Pirate and Shanty Festival is being held on the first weekend of May, and includes an attempt on Sunday 2nd May to win the Guinness World Record for the most people in pirate costume in one place. If you would like to take part you will need to register on the day and have the following as part of your costume:

- Pirate hat or bandana/kerchief
- An eye patch
- A sword or cutlass
- Appropriate trousers and shirt/waistcoat or dress.



Book review: How to be an Alien

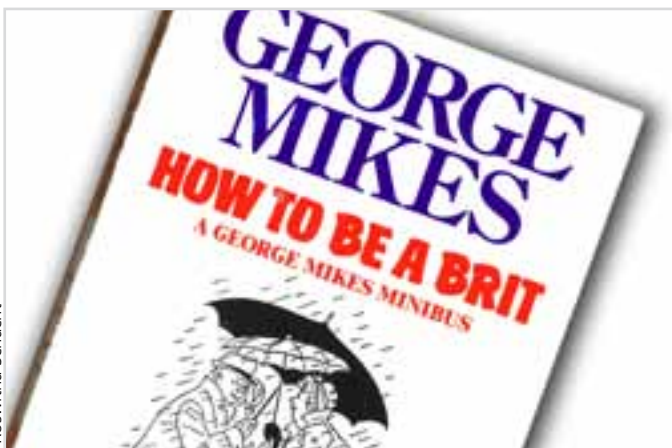
George Mikes' shortest chapter is also his most famous: "Continental people have sex life; the English have hot-water bottles."

When George Mikes published "How to be an Alien" in 1946, he fully expected to face the anger of the British people: the book was full of very rude things about Britain and her people. Instead his book was an instant success in the UK, and it is easy to see why.

"How to be an Alien" was written as a guide for 'foreigners' (anyone who is not British, even in their own country) to behaving in a British way. It covers everything from introductions (do not click your heels, do not bow) to dealing with Civil Servants (don't bother bribing them: they won't do what you want no matter who you are or how much money you have) through housing ("search for 'Seven Oaks' and find a house with three apple-trees") and, of course, tea (never refuse a cup).

Above all, "How to be an Alien" is a very funny book which offers some genuine insights into the British. True, we are not the same as we were in 1946, but we are not very different: we still like to queue and drink tea, and preferably both at the same time; our buses still play games with their passengers; and, although the police no longer have to advertise their presence to speeding drivers with brightly-painted police cars, the same sense of fair play which Mikes identified in 1946 means that our speed cameras have to be painted bright yellow to give the speeding motorist time to slow down.

Should you wish to explore further, Mikes wrote two further books about England, and all three books are available in the 'minibus' "How to be a Brit", which is advertised as "a complete guide to the British Way of Life". Both books are available in Penguin paperbacks from good bookshops.



Roswitha Schacht

Light and shadow

Germany in 1919 was a demoralized and traumatised country after five years of war, and the stage was set for the coming struggle between Communists and the prototype of the Nazi party.

Out of this disturbed atmosphere there grew the extraordinary golden age of German cinema. Throughout the 1920s German films were unmistakably individual with their dark, psychological themes, brooding photography full of shadows and fog, elaborately unrealistic sets and intense acting style. Expressionist cinema was born with "The Cabinet of Dr Caligari" (1919) and its nightmare world of eerie and unhinged characters became symbolic of a Germany in deep trauma. Robert Wiene was the director, and it featured brilliantly subversive designs and sets with a somnambulist murderer under the control of a demonic doctor. Dr Caligari himself could be seen as a proto-Hitler sending citizens out to murder in trance-like obedience.

All through the twenties, Germany produced numerous masterpieces. Amongst the key directors was the Viennese Fritz Lang, who made "Dr Mabuse, the Gambler" (1924), a story of a super-criminal, "The Nibelungen" German myth poetically realised with a remarkable dragon and extraordinary studio-created forests and "Metropolis" (1927) a remarkable, science-fiction fantasy. Paul Leni directed the creepy "Waxworks" (1924).

F.W. Murnan created one of the greatest vampire films of all, "Nosferatu" (1922), "The Last Laugh", a social document about modern Berlin, and "Faust" (1926) which was a truly memorable interpretation of Goethe. G.W. Pabst made "The Joyless Street" (1926), "Secrets of a Soul", an early film to show the influence of Freud and "Pandora's box" (1928) which dealt with themes psychological and sexual.

These films brought a new maturity to the cinema and had a later influence on American films, in visual style and subject matter, in the horror and crime genres. The "Films noir" of the 1940s and early 1950s extended the German expressionist themes of alienation and psycho-emotional conflict in a remarkable way.

France developed as a major cinematic force at this time and Carl Dreyer's "The Passion of Joan of Arc" (1928) and Abel Gance's epic "Napoleon" (1927) are, perhaps, the finest example of French filmmaking from the period. "Napoleon" pioneered a revolutionary three-strip film projection process called "Polyvision" which audiences saw on a giant screen

rather like the later American "Cinerama" system. It cost 17 million Francs and was a financial disaster, ruining the great visionary director's career. Like Griffith, with "Intolerance," Gance's ideas and ambitions were too ahead of their time.

Sweden had pioneered films made on actual locations as early as 1917 and Victor Sjöström's "The Outlaw and his Wife" and Mauritz Stiller's "Herr Arne's Treasure" (1919) showed a remarkable power and almost mystical feeling for nature, all the more noteworthy for being made under difficult conditions.

Soviet Russia, after the revolution of 1917, began using cinema as a powerful propaganda tool (later used similarly by Hitler's government) and the most important film-makers were Sergei Eisenstein, Vsevolod Pudovkin and Alexander Dovzhenko. "Eisenstein's "Strike" (1924) and "The Battleship Potemkin" (1925) became internationally known because of their brilliant filmic techniques (such as montage, the creative cutting and juxtaposition of images) although historical truth was sometimes lost in the fervour to create effective propaganda for the new, revolutionary state. Douzhenko's "Earth" (1930) was a poetic hymn to Ukrainian country life and was one of the last great silent films. He, like many Soviet artists, was severely criticised by the government as "Counter-revolutionary" and, as we shall see, even the great Eisenstein was not safe.

The American studio and star system developed

through the twenties. The big stars were Douglas Fairbanks (all charming athleticism and good humour), Mary Pickford (girlish innocence or tomboyishness), John Gilbert (romanticism) and Rudolph Valentino (fantasy eroticism). The popular comics were Charlie Chaplin (sentimental), Buster Keaton (stoical) and Harold Lloyd (innocent).

Imported European talent, both in front of and behind the camera, were significant in Hollywood. The Swedes Greta Garbo and Victor Seastrom (Sjöström), whose "The Wind" (1928) is one of the finest late silents, the Austrian-born Erich (von) Stroheim, whose "Greed" (1923), a monument to brilliant but obsessive detail, originally ran for nine and a half hours, and the German actor Emil Jennings and director Leni and Murnau, all enriched American cinema. Murnau went from a brilliant European career to make perhaps the greatest late American silent film, "Sunrise" (1927).

This film cost the Fox company a fortune with its huge, German-designed sets and complex filmic demands. It, too, sadly lost money but it represented an extraordinary wedding of German expressionist themes and style to American technical skill and still has a remarkable power eighty years on.

The same year, the first sound film arrived and cinema would never be the same again. Just as silent film had reached its apogee, it was swept away by new technology, as ever. 🎬 KR



Coffee Break

Sudoku

Fill in the grid on the right so that every row, column and 3 x 3 grid contains the numbers from 1 to 9 once only.

		2					3	
3						4		
	1	6	4	5		2		9
				2		6		
		5	1		4	7		
		9		3				
8		1		6	7	3	4	
		4						6
	9					1		

Word finder

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in this grid? There are at least 110 words, including one nine letter word.

P	N	A
S	H	E
I	S	P

Brain teaser

Sweet treat

For being good at the party, four children were given two sweets. Jack had an orange sweet. The child who had the red one also had a blue one. No child had two sweets of the same colour. The child who had a green sweet also had a red one. Jim didn't

have a red sweet and Joe had a green one. James didn't have an orange one and Jack had no blue sweets. Knowing that there were two sweets of each colour, can you tell the colours of the sweets each child had?

Answer on page 15!

What's on

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

Craft Exhibition - Making a Lasting Impression 16 Mar 2009 - 28 Jun 2009
A major exhibition of local arts and crafts from some of Devon's very best artists. The exhibition will feature the work of 10 local artists and craft producers and will include basket weaving, jewellery, earthenware, and stoneware ceramics, sculptural work and furniture. Much of the work on exhibition is directly inspired by the medieval Torre Abbey, its surroundings and its history.
Torre Abbey Historic House and Gallery
The King's Drive, Torquay
Tel: 01803 293593

Coastal Courtship 16 Mar 2009 - 30 Apr 2009
Dancing terns, singing penguins...find out what it's all about this spring at Living Coasts!
This spring Living Coasts will be hosting a

number of events and activities that will explore the fascinating world of courtship among our wonderful species.
Living Coasts, Beacon Quay, Torquay
Tel: 01803 202470

In Search of Neanderthals 8 Apr 2009
Dr Paul Pettitt and Dr Mark White, Directors of the first archaeological excavation at Kents Cavern prehistoric caves in over 80 years, will talk about progress so far as they search for further evidence of Neanderthal occupation at one of the UK's most important prehistoric sites.
Tickets £5 - reserve your seats by contacting 01803 296975
Wednesday 19:30 - 21:00
Torquay Museum, Babbacombe Road, Torquay
Tel: 01803 293975

Anderton and Rowland Fair 9 Apr 2009 -

What's on

19 Apr 2009
All the fun of the fair arrives on Paignton Green!
Paignton Green, The Esplanade, Paignton

Easter Walk 10 Apr 2009
This religious procession, lead by a large wooden cross starts from Central Church in Torquay on good Friday and works its way through Torquay town ending up at the harbourside. Here a service will take place accompanied by a live band; a wonderful event not to be missed.
Friday 10:00 - 12:00

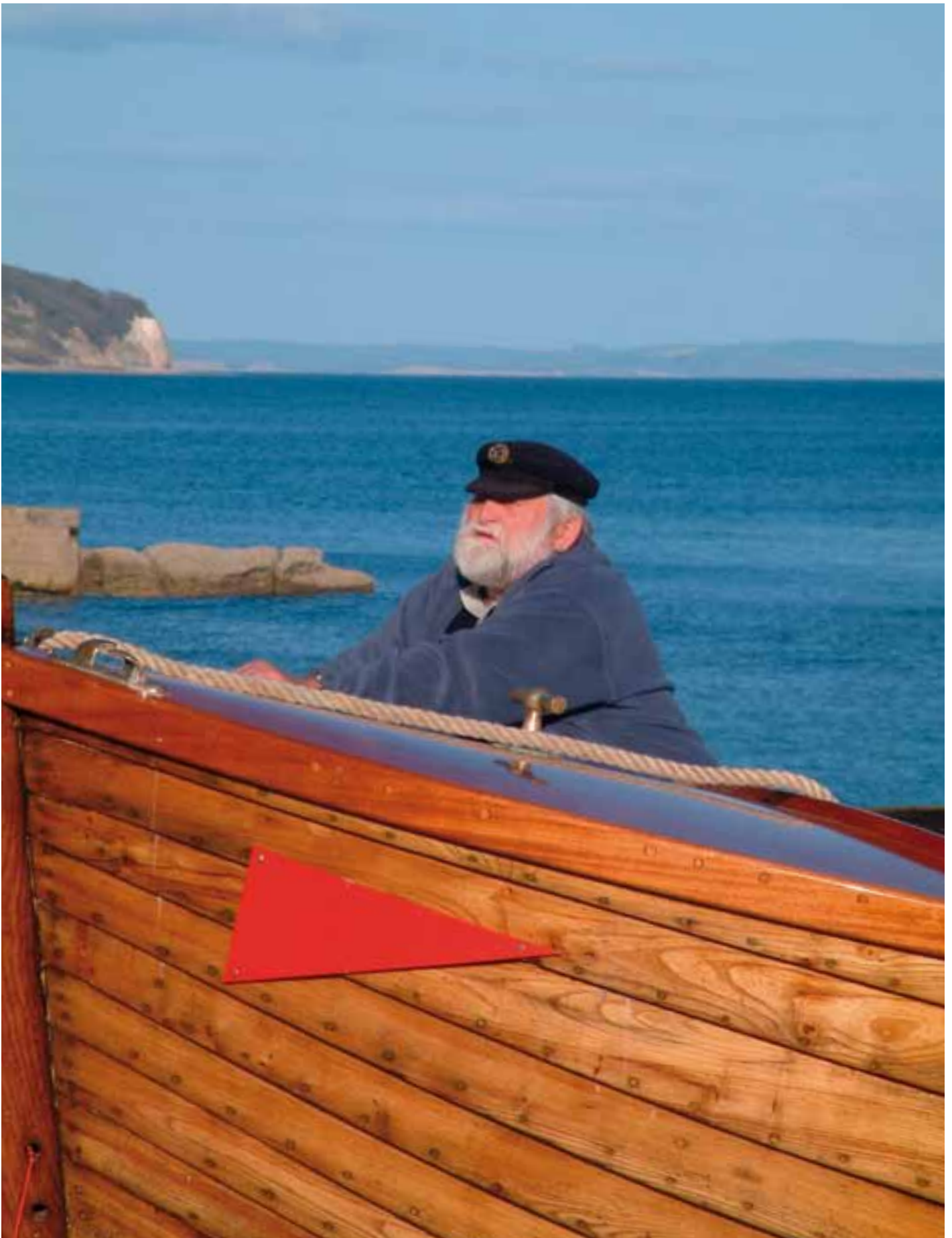
Torquay United V Crawley Town 11 Apr 2009
Blue Square Premier.
Carlsberg Popside Terrace Adults: £15
All Other Areas Adults: £16
Saturday 15:00 - 17:00
Torquay United Football Club, Plainmoor, Torquay
Tel: 01803 328666

Torquay United V Burton 25 Apr 2009
Blue Square Premier.
Carlsberg Popside Terrace
Adults: £15
Concessions: £12
Under 16s: £6
All Other Areas:
Adults: £16
Concessions: £13
Under 16s: £6
Torquay United Football Club, Plainmoor, Torquay
Tel: 01803 328666

Saturn's Rings, Mercury and the Moon 26 Apr 2009
A rare chance to see the innermost planet Mercury and the ringed planet Saturn through a telescope with expert Chris Proctor. We will also explore the craters of a crescent moon and see the subtle but beautiful earthshine on the moon's dark side with a hot drink in hand! If cloudy we will explore the Occombe nature trail on a dusk nature safari with bat detectors.
Meet: Entrance to Occombe Farm Cafe
Cost: Adults £3.50, Children £2.50 - includes a tea, coffee or hot chocolate.
Booking: Essential on 01803 606035
Sunday 19:45 - 21:30
Occombe Farm Shop, Preston Down Road, Preston, Paignton
Tel: 01803 606035

Brixham Pirate and Shanty Festival (Pirates Weekend)
Pirate Day 2 May 2009
Fun and music throughout the weekend

Rear **Window**



A fisherman minds his boat at Beer, East Devon. (South West RDA)