

StopPress

The LAL Torbay Students' Magazine

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Beauty is a beast

We review the 2011 LAL
Torbay Pantomime



Cracker jokes

Are the old ones the best?

A is for...

Alphabet: our Christmas ABC



Teignmouth
Bozera Gaye
Alton Towers
Simon Nelson
English Howlers
South Hams
Charles Darwin
Bog Snorkelling
Frank Mercer
Christmas Carols
History of English
Book Reviews
Trago Mills
Pancakes
News
BST
Babbarcombe
Father Christmas
Christmas
Agatha Christie
GMT
Antony Gormley
Berry Pomeroy
Haunted Organ
Red Nose Day
Suspenders
Archers
Ninety-Nine Flake
Blue Flag
Shortbread
Balloons
Lundy Safety
Exe

All in five years.

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Dartmouth
Cockington
Alex Perkins
Grammar Spod
East Devon
Apple Days
Bridgewater Carnival
Rudyard Kipling
Dingles Fairground
CELTA & DELTA
Teacher Training
Museum
Charles Babbage
Lorraine Myrie
Hot Fox Buns
Pint Cross
Fur Fox Books
Power Boats
Christmas pudding
Casanova
Buckfast Abbey
Christmas Trees
The Big Midnight Walk
Riviera
How to be an Alien
Hogmanay
Cheese Rolling
Burke and Wills
General Election
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Torquay Museum
Cracker jokes
Paignton Zoo
Valentine's Day
Rocky Horror Show
South Devon Railway
WasSailing
Trago Mills
Across the Pond
Tintagel
Kimbar
Films
Red Arrows
St Patrick
Stupid Complaints
Mansion
Fin Mines
Plymouth
Occombe Farm
South West Coast path
Operation Tiger
Thailand
Guy Fawkes
St George
Orchestras
Wreck of the Napoli
Stonehenge
Football
Prague
Istanbul
Remembrance Day
Salisbury
Looe and Polperro
Great Bell of Peking
Tothes
Dartington
Tea
Cinema
British Icon
Coleton Fishacre



StopPress

Edward Elgar
Films
Bath
Wookey
Greenway
Kerstin Doerfler
Devon authors
Tea
Ghosts
Dave Hughes
Dartmoor Prison
Royal Albert
James Bond
Pantomime
Dean Jones
Boscastle
Cardiff
Argentina
Sherlock Holmes
Film music
Rosamunde Pilcher
Bygones
Comic Relief
Cream
Dartington
Tea
Cinema
British Icon
Coleton Fishacre

Welcome to StopPress



It's been another very busy year at LAL Torbay, but Christmas is nearly here and this is our annual Christmas edition, packed with seasonal treats. Like every Christmas, there's mix of old and new: in the case of cracker jokes, very old indeed; while this year's pantomime was both traditional and completely different thanks to

a great script (if I say so myself) and a sterling cast.

We couldn't leave out a language theme, so we've found 26 words associated with Christmas for our ABC.

Have a great Christmas!



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It's behind you!

LAL Torbay's super pantomime performed by staff and students.

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How does Father Christmas weed his garden?

With a ho, ho, hoe!

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A Christmas ABC

26 words and customs associated with Christmas in Britain.

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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

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News

LAL pantomime - the best ever?

It's traditional at this time of the year to perform comic plays, and LAL Torbay has been putting on 'pantomimes' for four years.

16 students and one member of staff took to the stage on Thursday, 8th December for this year's pantomime, Beauty is a Beast, which followed the adventures of two sisters in their quest to marry a handsome prince.

These were two sisters with a difference, as they were played as pantomime 'dames' by two men: Princess Grace was played beautifully by Khalid Abdulaziz Ali Al-Emadi, and Princess Beauty was played by Fernando T Martinez Jorge who filled his role - and the best supporting dress - to perfection in high camp style.

Magical assistance, and instruction in the Macarena, was provided by three fairies: Alicia Zaragoza Viguer as Fairy Liquid, Silvia Martin as Fairy Cake and Majo Montiel as Fairy 'Cross the Mersey.

Mohammed Jamal Musairy made an excellent, handsome Prince Alex, with Hussam al Ghamdi thoroughly regal as the King.

Frank Mercer performed his swan song at LAL Torbay in the role of evil Mr Cook, whose plans to trap Grace and Fairy Cake were foiled by a troublesome flat-pack box.

Kwang Won Ahn played an obstructive Guard who despatched the 'so boring' Professor, Yu-Na Lee. The Vicar, Hyun-June Jeon, had to separate Beauty and the Prince who got a little too friendly at the wedding. A whole village of orphans were played by Anne Gauthier-Jaques, Seon Young Yang, Tiana Hoch, Gi-yeong Lee, Giulia Toscanelli and Sung Hee Kim.

The performance was agreed my many to have been the best so far, with good acting and plenty of comic moments: and even the audience deserve praise for their brave attempt at the Macarena!

Many thanks to all the cast for their excellent performances, to Andy Tyrrell for adapting the script, to Lorraine Myrie and Nicola White, who directed the play - and without whom we would not have a pantomime at all - and to Avril Pratt and Tristram Grevatt for the scenery.

» You can see more photos and watch the pantomime on video at www.facebook.com/laltorbay



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Christmas closing

Don't forget that LAL Torbay closes at the end of Friday, 16th December and is closed for two weeks over Christmas. The school will open again on Monday, 2nd January 2012.

A spot of Christmas humbug

Feeling jaded by the prospect of the Christmas season? Worried about the pressure of finding the perfect presents? You're not the only one!

Now's the time the city thrills
To the jingle of the tills,
And we think of all the things that yuletides bring.
All those gifts for him and her,
Lots of tack to dress your fir,
And the slushy songs that minor popstars sing.

There are special Christmas socks,
Advent calendars with chocs,
There are tiny bulbs that will not fit your lights.
There's fruit punch from plastic barrels,
There are children singing carols,
Or awaiting Father Christmas through the nights.

It's when all the town delights
In the usual Christmas lights,
And they visit Santa's Grotty now and then.
It's soon over; but remember
It will quickly be September,
When the whole lot goes and starts off once again.





BABBACOMBE MODEL VILLAGE

5 things to do in December



ELENI SHOJETA'S

Totnes Late Night Shopping

Every Tuesday until Christmas the historic town of Totnes, a short bus ride from Paignton, opens its doors late into the evening for last-minute shopping. As well as the town's unique shops – few chain stores and plenty of quirky things to buy – there are open-air stalls and a market, food, drink and entertainment in the streets. It's a great chance to find an unusual present and a great way to experience Totnes's 'vibe'.

» 13 & 20 December, from 6pm

By public transport on 22 December, take First bus service X80 or X81 from Paignton bus station to Totnes. Buses to Totnes leave at 1750, 1820, 1926 and return from Totnes Royal Seven stars at 2040 and 2215.

Winter Wonderland at the Model Village, Torquay

Experience the real magic of winter!

Amazingly realistic snow effects, as used by the makers of TV and Hollywood films, cover the model landscapes, picturesque thatched villages and gardens. A beautiful winter wonderland landscape stretches out before you and picture-postcard snow scenes evoke nostalgic charm.

Enchanting illuminations and animated lights transform the winter scene from dusk into a magical wonderland. Deep in the snow covered gardens you will discover 'Santa's Icy World' - wander in to the ice cave, walk through the snow, and discover Santa's snowbound log cabin. Our Alpine ski area gives young children the chance to try on real skis and experience the fun of alpine skiing!

» Babbacombe Model Village, Torquay
Open 13.00 to 20.00
Admission £8.90

www.babbacombemodelvillage.co.uk

Ice Skating in Torquay

Take the chance to slip and slide on Torbay's only Artificial Ice Rink this Christmas at the Riviera International Conference Centre. The Ice Rink will be open to the public from the 17th December - 2nd January and two fully qualified instructors will be available for group and private lessons at some of the sessions. For more information, please contact the event organiser Richard Lambert on 07981 839897.

» Riviera International Centre, Torquay
17th December - 2nd January (except Christmas day)
From £5
www.christmasskatingrink.co.uk



Dick Whittington

It's Pantomime time - oh yes it is! The Palace Theatre in Paignton is producing Dick Whittington, the classic tale of rags to riches and features all the traditional pantomime ingredients; a gripping story, sensational songs, a live band, fabulous costumes, dazzling dance routines, slapstick comedy and bags of audience participation. You want to go. Oh yes, you do!

» Palace Theatre, Paignton
22nd December to 13th January 19.30
Adults £11.50
01803 665800
www.palacetheatrepaignton.co.uk

Carols by Candlelight

Enjoy a traditional Christmas Carol service at Paignton Parish Church, with singing, readings and Christian worship in the Anglican tradition.

» Paignton Parish Church, Church Street, Paignton
16th December
18.00
Free - but donations usually expected during final carol
www.paigntonparishchurch.co.uk



A Christmas ABC

Level
B1
Intermediate

Here are 26 English words and customs associated with Christmas.

A is for Advent

Advent is the period from the fourth Sunday before Christmas - 27 November in 2011 - and ends on Christmas Eve.

B is for Bauble

We don't hang balls on our Christmas trees, we hang baubles: the glass or plastic decorations which add sparkle to the tree.



C is for Cake



Christmas Cake is a particularly rich fruit cake. This is traditionally made several weeks before Christmas and 'fed' with brandy until it covered in almond paste and icing.

D is for Dickens

No-one has formed the English idea of Christmas more than Charles Dickens, whose 'Christmas Carol' is a classic tale of redemption. Dickens was a writer in the 19th century, and his writings have given us the image of the traditional Christmas with snow and goodwill to all men.

E is for Elves

The magical helpers of Father Christmas, who help him to make all the toys that go into the stockings of boys and girls all over the world on Christmas Eve.

F is for Father Christmas

Father Christmas is the British name for Santa Claus. He visits homes all over the country on Christmas Eve, enters the house down the chimney (or by magic if the house has central heating!) and leaves presents for the children.



G is for Goose

The traditional meat served at Christmas, roasted in the oven and served with vegetables and potatoes.

H is for Holly

Holly is used to decorate British houses at Christmas-time. Its dark green, spiky leaves and bright red berries give us the traditional colours for Christmas. However, it has nothing to do with Christian symbolism: Holly



was one of the plants used in the Roman festival of Saturnalia, which hapened in the middle of the winter and was eventually replaced by Christmas.

I is for Ivy

Used with holly for Christmas decorations. It is one of only a few plants that are native to Britain which keep their leaves in winter, and was also used in the Romans' Saturnalia.

J is for Jesus

Whose birth is celebrated by Christians. He is know to Christians as 'Christ', and it is from this that "Christ's Mass" became Christmas.

K is for Kissing...

...under the mistletoe. Mistletoe was a sacred plant for the Druids who used to inhabit Britain, and an ancient tradition held that kissing under mistletoe would help fertility. The custom was rediscovered in the 19th Century, and is now a good excuse for a quick snog with anyone who happens to be standing under some mistletoe.

L is for Lights

Electricity brought coloured 'fairy lights' to our Christmas trees in the 1880s, and now whole houses are decked out with lights at Christmas. It all comes at a price: one estimate is that the average household spends 6% of its annual electricity costs on Christmas lights!

M is for Mince meat



Mince meat is a sticky mix of raisins, currants, citrus peel and fruit juice, and use to fill mince pies. It doesn't contain meat. It should not be confused with minced meat or plain mince, both of which are meat.

O is for Oranges

Until relatively recently, oranges were expensive or unavailable for most of the year. Christmas falls in their 'season' and the orange became a



traditional Christmas fruit, particularly placed in children's stockings by Father Christmas. They are also used to make 'Christingle' decorations for children's Advent church services.

P is for Presents

Giving gifts to family and friends as a token of our affection is an old tradition. Nowadays many people go all-out to impress with their gifts and give everyone everything they want: it is reported that this year each child in Britain will receive around £180 of presents, on average.

Q is for Queen's Speech

Her Majesty the Queen, as Head of State and head of the Christian Church of England, broadcasts a Christmas message to Britain and the Commonwealth just after 3pm on Christmas Day every year. She reflects on the past year and wishes 'a happy Christmas to you all'.

R is for Reindeer

The animals with huge antlers who pull Father Christmas's sleigh through the sky.



S is for Stockings

British children hang large socks, known by their old name of stockings, on their fireplaces or the end of their beds on Christmas Eve. By the morning they will have been magically filled with gifts by Father Christmas.



T is for Tree

We have to thank Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, for bringing Christmas trees to Britain from Germany. Every year the country of Norway sends London a large tree for Trafalgar Square, to thank the UK for our help in the Second World war.

U is for Uneaten food

...about £46 million of food is thrown away each year as people buy far too much at Christmas!

V is for the Victorians

Almost all the things we associate with the celebration of Christmas in Britain - cards, crackers, trees, carols decorations and games - have their origin during the reign of Queen Victoria (1819 - 1901).



W is for White Christmas

Not the song by Irving Berlin, but a Christmas Day which is white with snow. White Christmases are rare in England, particularly down here in Devon, but there was heavy snow at Christmas last year. The official definition of a White Christmas in England is for a single flake of snow to fall on the roof of Buckingham Palace on Christmas Day.


X is for Xmas

A surprising old abbreviation for Christmas. The 'X' is a mutation of the Greek letter X (chi), which was the first letter of Χριστος, Christ.

Y is for Yule Log

Traditionally a huge wooden log that would burn for the whole of Christmas. It is named after the pagan winter festival of Yule. Nowadays a Yule Log is more likely to be a chocolate cake shaped like a log.

Z is for Zest

...the tangiest part of the skin of oranges and lemons, much used to give 'zing' to Christmas foods. 

It's a cracker

Traditional, bad, jokes from Christmas crackers.

Why was a turkey in the pop group?
He was the only one with drum-sticks!

What's Tarzan's favourite Christmas song?
Jungle Bells!

What happens to you at Christmas?
Yule be happy!

What do you get if you hang from Father Christmas' roof?
Tired arms!

What did the fireman's wife get for Christmas?
A ladder in her stocking!

What was the tortoise doing on the motorway?
About 1 mph.

What do you call a man wearing ear-muffs?
Anything you like - he can't hear you!

Did you hear about the stupid turkey?
It was looking forward to Christmas!

What are small, brown and creep around the house?
Mince spies!

How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?
Deep pan, crisp and even!

What do you get if you cross Father Christmas with a duck?
A Christmas Quacker!

How do sheep greet each other at Christmas?
A Merry Christmas to ewe!



A musical asteroid

In my year of writing about great composers, I have dealt with male musicians simply because most have been men. However, I wish to rectify this by choosing a French woman composer to finish my set of articles with.

Lili Boulanger (1893-1918) was a remarkable musician of great sensitivity but a sadly short life. Her older sister, Nadia, was a famous and outstanding teacher and conductor of composers as varied as Stravinsky and Monteverdi. Lili Boulanger's works are, for me, totally memorable, both deeply moving and poetic.

She was of mixed French and Russian parentage (her mother was a Russian princess who married her teacher at the Paris Conservatoire, Ernest Boulanger.) She was a student of the great French composer, Gabriel Fauré, who was the master of the lyrical line. Her father was already 77 when she was born and she was deeply affected by his death when she was six. Most of her music concerns itself with loss, sadness and death and is of singular power.

All of her life she was troubled by illness (first bronchial pneumonia, which weakened her immune system, and then by intestinal tuberculosis – Crohn's Disease) which eventually killed her at the age of 24.

In 1913, at the age of 20, she won first prize in the Prix de Rome with her cantata, "Fauste et Hélène", and in the five short years remaining to her wrote some remarkable orchestral and vocal pieces, such as "Psalm 24" (1916) for tenor, choir, organ



and orchestra with its vigorous and vivid quality, all the more remarkable, considering her fragile health.

"Psalm 130" is one of her finest works and it took her seven years to complete and it was not finished until the year before her death.

"Pie Jesu" was her last, profoundly moving piece, and as one critic said, is beyond criticism as it

was dictated on her deathbed. She was buried with her sister, Nadia, at Montmartre Cemetery.

There are astronomical associations with Lili Boulanger as the asteroid, 1181 Lilith, was named in her honour. Perhaps like an asteroid, her neglected music will dazzle and explode into the public consciousness in the future. **KR**

Giant

Christmas Word Search

G	R	S	V	Y	M	H	D	N	I	R	N	L	C	K	H	B	R	E	A	D	S	A	U	C	E	N	A	I	N	T	S
H	E	O	E	E	N	P	T	U	R	K	E	Y	T	E	T	E	I	L	U	B	E	L	Y	D	N	H	S	O	R	P	B
I	S	T	U	O	R	P	S	I	E	C	S	G	O	C	H	E	S	T	N	T	O	N	T	H	E	S	H	F	F	A	I
K	T	H	N	D	L	E	R	E	N	I	W	D	E	L	L	U	M	R	C	H	E	G	C	A	N	L	E	R	T	N	P
C	A	R	N	A	R	D	U	M	A	R	Y	H	Q	I	D	D	S	S	L	R	O	L	S	G	I	E	P	E	H	T	R
O	M	E	U	L	L	O	R	T	N	S	S	U	I	E	A	D	B	T	I	H	E	D	B	Y	W	S	H	I	R	O	E
T	A	E	R	F	R	N	T	I	D	L	E	F	L	P	G	O	O	S	U	N	H	R	U	U	D	C	E	B	E	M	S
S	U	W	T	A	P	H	A	N	P	A	I	O	I	E	R	B	X	L	R	N	E	L	W	L	A	H	R	D	E	I	E
E	A	I	S	I	R	E	C	S	A	P	U	N	C	H	L	N	I	K	O	C	T	S	D	R	T	B	D	G	W	M	N
T	A	S	A	R	N	Y	G	E	P	Q	H	B	E	N	M	O	N	I	I	V	N	S	D	C	A	S	N	E	I	H	T
I	E	E	S	Y	B	H	I	L	E	D	U	R	E	L	R	R	G	E	P	A	D	S	E	U	I	A	S	B	S	U	C
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U	H	K	H	I	D	S	R	A	C	A	R	V	Y	U	L	A	L	Q	G	T	H	S	R	H	O	R	J	S	R	E	N
B	O	I	P	A	N	T	O	M	I	M	E	A	L	C	H	B	S	T	N	U	E	S	T	A	O	A	O	T	D	E	G
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B	I	R	R	B	R	P	I	R	O	R	N	G	V	I	I	T	R	G	A	H	E	I	R	G	O	O	S	E	R	Q	S
D	R	A	L	K	M	G	L	A	O	T	S	O	N	M	P	E	P	E	H	T	E	D	A	N	E	U	Q	E	H	O	C
C	E	R	C	A	E	S	T	T	G	E	R	V	I	C	H	L	S	E	E	C	U	R	P	S	Y	A	W	R	O	N	N
I	A	A	X	T	P	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	G	L	E	P	T	O	R	Q	T	H	C	H	R	I	N	G	L	E
G	S	E	R	E	N	S	R	O	C	P	A	R	T	K	H	E	M	A	N	G	E	R	I	R	P	O	A	S	N	E	H

- Angel
- Baby
- Bauble
- Boxing day
- Brandy butter
- Bread sauce
- Cards
- Carols
- Chestnuts
- Christingle
- Crackers

- Fairy
- Gifts
- Goose
- Gravy
- Holly
- Ivy
- Joseph
- Manger
- Mary
- Mince pies
- Mistletoe

- Mulled wine
- Norway spruce
- Pantomime
- Paper chains
- Party
- Plum pudding
- Punch
- Queen's speech
- Robin
- Sack
- Shepherd

- Sprouts
- Stable
- Star
- Stocking
- Stuffing
- Tangerines
- Three wise men
- Tinsel
- Turkey
- Wreath
- Yule log



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!