

DEPRESSED - ME - NO WAY

As I look out of the window it is raining – like when Noah was building his ark. It is the second week in February (we have to write our copy for the Royal Mail to deliver) we have had our twenty years worth of snow and the garden is waterlogged and would appear to be in a condition never to be mown again!

Am I depressed - well maybe just a little, for now, but there is so much to look forward to.

By the time you receive this, the days will have lengthened, the sun will be stronger (and warmer) and we will be in the run up to Easter. We hope, and believe, that bookings will be looking good for Easter and the summer. I also hope that the weather will be a great improvement on the last couple of years.

We also hope that the economic downturn will “be kind” to Newquay and mean that more people will take their holidays here, and indeed leave a good deal of their money behind.

To that end the Town Council in general, and the Economic Development and General Purposes

Committee in particular, have spent some of your money on the two fountains in town and the ‘end of season’ illuminations, in an attempt to make the town more attractive to not only visitors but to locals as well. We also want to make people safer, which is why we spend over £30,000 a year on the C.C.T.V. system in town which has helped the crime figures to be decreased over the past year, - and, incidentally, our thanks to the Police for all their efforts in the reduced crime figures. By the time you read this, the new C.C.T.V. system in upper Trenance should be installed - another innovative move designed to improve safety even further.

Finally, we are thinking of the upgrade to the ‘end of season’ illuminations. We intend to go for more animated displays which people seemed to have particularly liked. They do cost more, but as the advert (so annoyingly) says “Because they’re worth it!” Do you have any ideas for the lighting upgrade, if so, then write to the Council Offices? We look forward to your ideas.

Best wishes,
Cllr. Patrick J. H. Lamshead
 Chairman, Economic Development & General Purposes Committee

A SENSE OF THE TIMES
 With a sense of rhyme

*Is it 82 or 123, - the number of Councillors for the Unitary?
 Will it be June or late October?
 The election in question will soon be all over
 Restormel's passing is a sad demise
 Some O they Councillors will be wiping their eyes
 On Newquay Town Council there's 9 for the chop
 Who knows with the boredom they may take to 'the pop'
 Your 'Criers' still free, delivered straight to your door
 You'll disappoint us for sure, if it stays on the floor!
 Please don't commit the cardinal sin,
 by consigning our efforts to the waste paper bin*

Cllr. Derek Walker
 Chairman Quality Council Status Committee

P.S. Poetry is not my forte, hope you agree!

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The Crier

By Newquay Town Council
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FREE COPY



The New Year was welcomed in with a bang with fireworks over Newquay harbour.



A family enjoys the unusual spectacle of snowfall over Towan beach. February 2009



The February snowfall graces the memorial on Fistral headland



Newquay AFC's Under 13's celebrate a famous series of victories.

Photos courtesy of Phil Bunt & Chrissie Lanning

THE MAYOR'S REPORT

It has been a very busy year thus far - I have opened shops, attended parties for people celebrating their one hundredth birthdays. There have been dinner engagements to go to and functions to attend. As you will see from the featured photograph, it was a special moment when our Town Clerk and myself, were presented with a plaque giving our Town Council the earned award of Quality Council Status. As Chairman of the Tourism & Leisure Committee there is a lot to look forward to in 2009. We will have the Lions Carnival, which is sponsored by the Town Council and then the Summer Festival at the end of August on the Killacourt. Please see local

news and The Crier for firm dates of these events. In addition, I will look forward to seeing as many people as possible each Sunday throughout the summer at the Killacourt Bandstand to listen to the free Band Concert arranged by this Committee for the benefit of the townsfolk and visitors to Newquay.



The Mayor Cllr. Mrs. Lynda Cherry
 Chairman of the Tourism & Leisure Committee

NEW KEY TO SUCCESS - UPDATE

Last week a number of public meetings were held around Newquay to discuss the Town Plan. With a great turnout, local people discussed and put forward their ideas for the future of Newquay, in effect a “wish list” of things we would like to see happen. As a result, volunteers were recruited for the steering group, and a draft questionnaire for every household was produced. The Town Council is sponsoring the project but it is entirely in the hands of Newquay residents, as the Town Council believe this will be a more effective way of engaging with everyone's views, in an informal and creative way.

The plan will provide strategy for the area, influence policies, highlight issues and attract funding for local projects. The success of creating a good Town Plan, by the people, will be a solid background on which to make things happen for Newquay's future. If you are willing to be a part of this, please contact:
Cllr. Kevin Towill
 Telephone: 01637 876813
 Email: Kevin.towill@sky.com
Or:
Cllr. John Rainbow
 Telephone/fax: 01637 875774

NEWQUAY AFC UNDER 13'S VICTORIOUS!



NEWQUAY AFC Under 13s are celebrating a famous series of victories which have given them the league title and seen them score a record 151 goals without any side beating them - in fact they have won every single match. During February they played Hayle, a talented team which also had league title ambitions, but the Newquay boys prevailed in an entertaining match, winning by 5-3 thanks to goals by Sam Fearon (2), Michael Pearce, Olly Downing and Carl Wogan. But the potential spoils from the season have not ended yet as the team are still in with a shot at the league cup if they beat Truro in the semi-finals as well as being in

the regional heats of the nationwide Tesco Cup still. Manager and coach Richard Burton said “my boys deserve a big mention as this is a great achievement and they have worked hard for Newquay Football Club to get such results. “I would like to thank the club but most of all the boys and the parents for letting me get on with my job”. Richard's association with youth football in Newquay goes back almost ten years and he used to coach a number of the players who now play senior football in the town when they were just 11 years old. “It's great to see them getting on so well” he said. “If they work hard at the game they will succeed”.
Phil Bunt - www.cornwall-photos.com

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WEBSITE UPDATE:

Have you seen our improved website?
www.newquaytowncouncilcornwall.co.uk
 More improvements coming soon!



KEEPING YOU INFORMED - BY THE POLICE

The police service sees a high turnover of staff as officers move on to new locations or new jobs. It is a disappointment to many to see well known faces moving on. This year we will see two of our PCSO's, Emma Blackburn and Mark Pearce, leave the Neighbourhood Team office after 2 years

excellent work. The good news however is that both will be returning as Police Officers following training, and bringing back with them all the knowledge and experiences they have gained here for us to benefit, no doubt at an early stage, and I say - **Good Luck to them!**

Sgt. Bob Murray

FOOTPATHS, BRIDLEWAYS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Footpaths Committee have been busy over the last few months. The introduction of the 'seagull proof' sacks has proved to be a success, and there are some thoughts and issues that have come to light from the returned questionnaires that residents were asked to complete. Some residents felt that they are too big for smaller households and that they do have a tendency to blow away if they are not well secured!

There are still a large number of the sacks to be given away, so **don't get left out - collect a free 'seagull proof' sack from the Newquay Town Council Offices at Marcus Hill. Please remember: you will need to take proof of your address.** If you are not able to visit our offices in person, then give the Town Clerk a ring and we will do our best to get a bag to you.

In addition to the above, a great deal of work has been done at the Wooden Waves Skate Park. Nearly all the ramps have been re-surfaced, and as a result raising the standards to a much higher level for the public's use. The Users Group has started up again and they are presently in the final stages of rebuilding one of the ramps in order to make it a little more interesting. This group give their time for

free and it is much appreciated. The Gannel Users Group have been busy during late February on what they term "a clean up" in the area of the Gannel Estuary. This is a regular event and if you wish to lend a hand to help, you would be so welcome. The Group meet at the boatyard at 10am on a pre-arranged date.

There are ongoing issues regarding the Council owned area of the Gannel. These include problems with dog fouling, dogs disturbing resting birds on the mud flats and the driving of unauthorised vehicles onto the foreshore. All these matters are regularly discussed at our monthly meetings.

If you have some views, why not let us know or come along to meet with us at our Gannel Users Group meetings, normally held on the last Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm at the Council Offices. Please contact **Cllr. Jill Bunt, Vice-Chair of the Footpaths, Bridleways & Open Spaces Committee - see the back page of this Crier for a contact telephone number.**

A WORD FROM THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

Well I can't believe we are in the middle of February already - I thought it was time to give an update on some of the Town Management issues.

The biggest challenge for so many people in the economic downturn and Newquay is experiencing the same as most towns. One of my priorities this year is to find ways to support local businesses in the town centre, to weather the storm.

To that end I am working on a number of projects. I organised a Business Rate Review clinic on 5th February which afforded businesses the opportunity to discuss their rates with the Review Officers to see if there was scope to reduce the level of rates paid. The guidelines for reducing business rates are set by Central Government and believe it or not economic downturn is not a reason it its own right! However, it

is possible that individual circumstances have changed since the last review and so it gave businesses a chance to talk things through face to face. We had a full clinic all day and each case will be looked at. If there is chance I will look to do the same in March.

I am working with Newquay for Excellence and NCCT and Tourism Newquay to introduce a locals Loyalty Card Scheme. This will be going out to every household in town and we will be looking to see if traders are willing to offer certain discounts to encourage local spend and footfall back into town. The scheme will run for at least a year and businesses will have the autonomy to change the discounts they offer, etc. The scheme will be live in the early spring and there will be more information to follow.

The Woolworth site is clearly a major

factor in the dynamics of the town centre. I am in contact now with the Agent who represents the freeholder and will be working with them wherever possible to find a tenant. I have mentioned previously that we would prefer it to retain its use as a retail outlet and not change use into a licensed bar or nightclub, given the location of the premises. I think it is essential that the retail offer is strengthened rather than depleted further.

I am also working with the Police and different agencies to run the Exodus Scheme again this year. I ran that scheme in 2008 to help deal with the influx of 16 year olds after their GCSE's, and it will hopefully run again this summer with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour.

I am looking at how we can have a complete ban on Peddlers in the town

centre. The scheme introduced by Police two years ago has been very successful in reducing their presence, but I would like to see a zero tolerance on this if possible. This has also been the feedback from many traders, understandably.

I am also planning another spring clean concentrating on areas of graffiti in the town centre in the next few weeks, working closely with the Police and Protection teams.

With best wishes

Guy

Guy Thomas
Newquay Town Centre Manager
Restormel Borough Council

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE - A FINANCIAL UPDATE

Well it has certainly been cold, but I can assure you that your Town Council has not invested Newquay's reserves in Iceland! Instead your F&P Committee have, during the last month, made recommendations to Full Council that funding of six thousand pounds be made to the Newquay Football Club for urgent work to the changing room area.

Twenty seven thousand pounds should be made available in grant form to assist in the setting up of a new Tourist Information Centre. At our February meeting it was decided to make recommendations to the March Full Council that twenty thousand pounds should be given to Newquay Boxing Club, subject to two provisos. There was also a recommendation that two hundred and fifty pounds be made available to the Newquay Surf Appeal.

Our policy is that wherever possible, we should use the money at our disposal to invest in Newquay's future, while also supporting our past history.

With only one month to go to the new Unitary Council, your F&P Committee is watching events carefully to ensure that no unexpected charges get passed on to make a charge against your town precept. Our aim is to have a fair and just working relationship with 'One Cornwall', based on mutual trust and respect and I am confident that this is possible to achieve for the benefit of all.

Cllr. John Fitter
Chairman of the Finance & Policy Committee

'THE RECESSION' - THE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Is the recession affecting the number of planning applications? It is difficult to say. The numbers considered by the Planning Committee at its' twice monthly meetings were as follows:

Month	Year	No. App's	Month	Year	No. App's	Month	Year	No. App's
January	2008	37	February	2008	37	March	2008	42
April	2008	40	May	2008	43	June	2008	30
July	2008	32	August	2008	27	September	2008	32
October	2008	15	November	2008	36	December	2008	35
January	2009	20	February	2009	20			

As you can see, things peaked in May and October was the low point, - although November and December recovered. The telling figure is that January 2009 was only 20 applications, compared to 32 last year. February remains static at 20.

Will it recover? We simply don't know. Some recent 'big' applications have been quite futuristic, in that approval has been given by Restormel but the developers have 5 years from the date of approval to start their project without having to re-apply. Time enough for the recession to have 'blown over'. At the moment we are sailing, economically speaking, into uncharted territory!

Cllr. John Rainbow - Chairman of the Planning Committee



Some Insight On The Reason Behind The Crier

After the production of seven issues of the Crier, it occurs to me that I may myself have some editorial contribution to make. I am primarily responsible for editing and piecing together this information sheet every quarter and I have to report what a thoroughly enjoyable task I have found it to be.

Initially, on joining the Quality Council Status working party at the beginning of this new Council's term in 2007, we had to take on board the necessary criteria that could lead us to qualify and gain Quality Parish Council Status for Newquay. The challenge appealed to all working party members and there was a long list of criteria to fulfil in order to gain this for Newquay.

One condition to fulfil was to make contact in the written form to the community of Newquay, with at least one 'door to door' delivery per year, i.e. over nine thousand households, in order to keep you informed

of the progress and achievements of the various committees serving the Town..

The various reports contained in The Crier will give you an insight into what we do, how we try and help in the upkeep and activities of the town and Yes - as you can see by the extreme right hand photo on the front cover - our Mayor Cllr. Mrs. Lynda Cherry and our Town Clerk Mrs. Val Penny - attended a ceremony to receive our plaque of Quality Council Status. So - well done to all the Councillors & Clerks - in what is a combined conscious effort on everyone's part to realise the first prize toward our ambition to improve Newquay Town Council.

Cllr. Jacqui Fair
Vice Chair - Quality Council Status Committee

FULL COUNCIL	July 2 nd	Aug 6 th	Sept 3 rd	Oct 1 st	Nov 5 th	Dec 3 rd	Jan 7 th	Feb 4 th	FULL COUNCIL	July 2 nd	Aug 6 th	Sept 3 rd	Oct 1 st	Nov 5 th	Dec 3 rd	Jan 7 th	Feb 4 th
Mayor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cllr. H Heywood	S	✓	✓	✓	S	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. Mrs L Cherry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cllr. Miss J Kenny	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	LA	H	H
Dep. Mayor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cllr. P. Lambshead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. J Fitter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cllr. A Leverton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. Mrs J Bunt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cllr. Mrs M Moffatt	✓	✓	✓	S	S	S	S	S
Cllr. Mrs J Crocker	✓	S	✓	S	S	S	S	✓	Cllr. J Rainbow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. D Dent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	LA	✓	✓	Cllr. G Redman	✓	✓	AR	✓	H	✓	H	✓
Cllr. G Edwards	✓	AR	S	✓	✓	✓	LA	AR	Cllr. N Thompson	✓	✓	AR	✓	✓	✓	LA	✓
Cllr. Mrs J Fair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S	✓	Cllr. K Towill	✓	AR	✓	✓	AR	✓	AR	AR
Cllr. M Farrell	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	H	✓	Cllr. D Walker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. A Hannan	✓	✓	✓	AR	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Cllr. L Harrison	✓	AR	AR	✓	✓	✓	✓	AR									

KEY: LA - Late Arrival, FC - Family Commitment H - Holiday, S - Sickness, ED - Early Departure, AR - Apologies Received