





THIS MONTH...

FESTIVE LIGHTS

P8 - Christmas illuminations to raise money for charity

HAPPY READING

P10 - New scheme connects care home residents with love of reading



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas."

Peg Bracken



P5: A Word From The Editor P8 & 10: Local News P14: The View







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A WORD FROM THE EDITOR



It's Christmas! Well, nearly - close enough for me to bellow "It's Christmas" to anyone who will listen. I concede that it hasn't been snowing (at the time of going to print, anyway) so no, the photo above isn't technically contemporaneous - but I just love displaying snowy festive shots at this time of year. Frankly, given how weird and unpredictable the weather has been lately, it wouldn't surprise me at all if we witness scenes such as those above at some point over the next couple of months, This month, we are delighted to bring news of how a local Christmas enthusiast is lighting up the town with his very own homegrown illuminations. Aaron Lane of Furze Hill Road has been bringing festive cheer to his treet for several years now with phenomenal light displays - often with a musical soundtrack. But this year his offering looks set

to be the biggest and best yet - turn to page 8 for full details. We also bring news of a wonderful scheme at a local nursing home which gives residents access to unlimited books through a partnership with the town's library. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year - see you in 2024!

Leo The Ilfracombe Magazine

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BE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY TO BE BIGGER THAN EVER



One of the town's best loved private Christmas light displays is back with a bang for 2023. Aaron Lane of 16 Furze Hill Road has long been known for his extravagent festive illuminations - but promises that his latest display will be the biggest and best yet. The display is raising money for the Ilfracombe and District Lions Club and will even be turned on by town mayor

Daniel Turton at their very own Christmas Switch-On event, which takes place at 6pm on Friday, December 1st. Aaron said: "This year's display will feature more lights, more fun and possibly the best countdown of all time with a secret added surprise for you all." Aaron also added a plea for any disused lights. He said: "If you have any disused lights, rope lights, festive

figures or blow moulds, please let me know. I'd like to say a massive thank you to the Mayor Daniel Turton for agreeing to switch the lights on again this year and also to everyone who has said they are coming. It's you lovely lot that makes me want to do the lights every year. Let's WOW our town and amaze people by showing them what we've got. Happy holidays!"

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10 NEW SERVICE SHARES LOVE OF READING WITH RESIDENTS





Residents at a local nursing home have partnered with Ilfracombe library to provide residents with a bespoke book delivery service. Residents at Edenmore can access the new Home Library Service which sees books delivered straight to their doors. Volunteer led, books are picked based on the reader's interests and hand delivered every four weeks, giving those who receive them enough time to read through what they have chosen and then exchange

them for new ones. As the weeks pass, volunteers can befriend family members and bond over the joy of reading. The service offers audiobooks and also makes tablets available to borrow. making the service accessible for those with sight loss and granting access to a wide range of books, newspapers, and magazines online. A spokesman for the home said: "It is widely known that reading can be a great brain exercise, as well as a relaxing

outlet to relieve stress levels. Stimulating stories with captivating illustrations can ignite feelings of joy, curiosity, and nostalgia, especially if a person has been an avid reader in the past. The service exemplifies the importance of such communal gatherings in promoting a sense of belonging and shared experiences. The team remain dedicated to crafting more heartwarming experiences that enrich the lives of residents & brings the community closer."





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For more fantastic photos from Combebird, check out her online blog by visiting www.facebook.com/combebird



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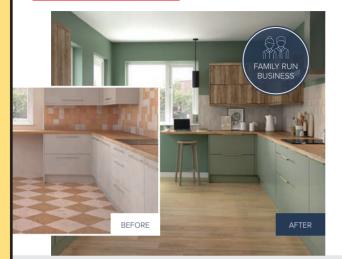
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