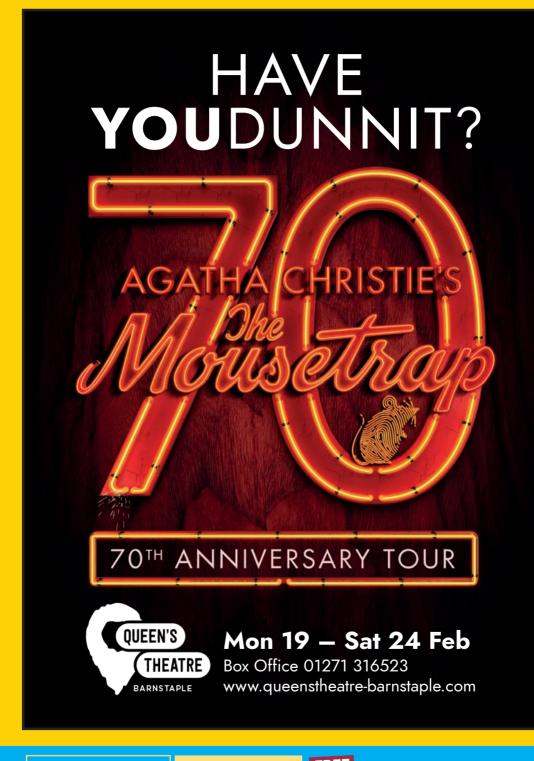
# THE ILFRACOMBE Magazine February 2024

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# THIS MONTH...

### New Year's Honour

P8 - Local volunteer receives high commendation for community work

### **Top Writer in Town**

P10 - Ann Cleaves to hold Ilfracombe event for RNLI anniversary





#### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret."

#### **Patience Strong**

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





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# **A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**



Hell all and welcome to the February edition of The Ilfracombe Magazine - your local business directory and news source. Quite how we've got to February already is beyond me, I'm still revelling in the joys of a new year! As well as our usual lineup of the best local services, this week we bring you news of a local volunteer and fundraiser who has been awarded one of the country's top honours. To those who

know Ann Doody, this news will come as no surprise. As well as being a stalwart member of Ilfracombe Rotary Club, Ann has also been instrumental in Ilfracombe In Bloom and the local tourism association. In fact, some of you might be guestioning why this esteemed recognition has taken so long! Full story on page 8. Another esteemed lady will be visiting Ilfracombe next month none other than bestselling

author Ann Cleaves. Best known for her Shetland and Vera novels, Ann's latest series - featuring detective Matthew Venn - is set right here in Ilfracombe, which is what inspired her to host a launch event for the book's paperback release at the Landmark. It's also raising funds for the RNLI in its 200th year. Full story on page 10. Happy reading!

Leo The Ilfracombe Magazine

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## **8** ILFRACOMBE VOLUNTEER RECEIVES BEM HONOUR

A local volunteer in Ilfracombe has received a BEM for her work in the community. Ann Doody works tirelessly for the community and has been and is involved with so many aspects of the town. She will probably be best known for being seen on her hands and knees around the town weeding pavements and planting up flower tubs on the streets of llfracombe. She helped with the llfracombe In Bloom volunteers for years doing this work alongside other projects and good works. Ann was involved with the Hotelier Association many years ago when she ran a hotel in the town. She is always willing to help when something needs doing and this is evident in her work for Ilfracombe Rotary Club which she has been a member of since 2005. In 2011 she became the first female President of that club and is the current President having been recycled to do it all again. She continues to organise the running of St Nicholas Chapel for Ilfracombe Rotary as well as being involved with all other aspects of the club and its own community work. Other involvement has included Chair of the Tourism Association,



organising the annual Ilfracombe catering exhibition, helping individuals when needed and getting involved in countless other volunteering activities around the town. Ann never asks for praise and is always keeping herself out of the limelight but has now been recognised in a well deserved Honour Award.

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### **10** TOP AUTHOR VISITS ILFRACOMBE FOR RNLI CELEBRATION



Number one bestselling author, Ann Cleeves, will return to Ilfracombe's Landmark Theatre next month for a special 200-year RNLI anniversary event, and to mark the paperback publication of The Raging Storm, the latest book in her Devon series. Ann last visited the theatre in February 2022 for an event on stage with Angie Daniels, producer for The Long Call ITV series filmed in North Devon. For this year's event; The Raging Storm, Stories From the Sea, Ann will be joined on stage by Ilfracombe RNLI crew members to share their rescue stories from the sea. Ann will also talk about the RNLI rescue of her late

husband Tim, which inspired the new book. Ann said: "I'm delighted to be returning to Ilfracombe's beautiful Landmark Theatre to celebrate the wonderful work done by the RNLI. The new Matthew Venn book, The Raging Storm, features a lifeboat rescue and I have a very personal reason for being grateful to the Institute. When we were first married, my husband was rescued after an accident at sea, and the lifeboat volunteers and crew gave us another 40 years together." Joining Ann on stage will be Stuart Carpenter and Gillian Cole, two very experienced members of lfracombe's lifeboat crew. Stuart joined

RNLI Ilfracombe as a volunteer when he was just 16 years old. He started as a member of the shore crew. helping the boats to launch and recovery as efficiently and safely as possible. Over the past three decades, he has progressed to being a mechanic, Systems Technician and then coxswain on the all-weather lifeboat, The Barry and Peggy High Foundation. Last year he was appointed as a full-time Coxswain Mechanic at the station and featured on Saving Lives at Sea. Gillian Cole, a community physiotherapist, has been a volunteer with RNLI Ilfracombe for around 12 years. She has trained up to the level of helm of the inshore boat, navigator on the all-weather lifeboat and also is now the volunteer training co-ordinator. Gillian also provides care for rescued casualties who may be injured.

The event takes place at the Landmark Theatre on Sunday March 17th at 2pm. Tickets cost £15 to include a signed copy of the Raging Storm and a £2 donation to the RNLI. For details visit www. queenstheatre-barnstaple.com/event/anncleeves-the-raging-stormstories-from-the-sea/





# WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Ilfracombe Rotary are now recruiting new members

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Ann Doody - Tel 01271 865324 Paul Williams Tel 01271 865997









www.ilfracomberotary.org.uk email: enquiries@ilfracomberotary.org.uk





### THE VEW With Combebird



Each month we share a beautiful image from local photography blogger Combebird. This month, a chilly winter's morning on Woolacombe Beach.



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