

10 Radio presenter speaks out

DIARY DATES



'It was great to see the community coming together'

I FIRST became involved in 10 radio because I thought it would be a good medium to promote the Wiveliscombe Live Music Association (WLMA), of which I am chairperson.

I also wanted to broadcast the jamming nights that we hold in the Bear Inn; we have a lot of very talented musicians in and around Wiveliscombe.

After going to some of the radio training sessions that were provided for presenters, I realised that there was a lot more to this radio lark than first meets the eye, and rapidly became drawn down the exciting road of planning a radio programme.

I knew that I wanted to have a hunting debate that shows both sides of the story in an unbiased way, but my brain found the workings of a mini disc recorder nearly impossible.

Somehow I was talked into being a morning show presenter; I had no idea what I was doing, or whether I would be any good at it, and even if I would manage to wake up at 6am (an unheard of hour of the day for me).

But after the first show, with the help of Phillip Knighton, I was hooked, completely and utterly hooked, what a fun job, do people actually get paid for this much fun?

I was only one of the morning presenters - there was also the rocking Rev (Andrew Norris) the vicar from Milverton, Nigel Parkin and Laura Laker, and of course the fantastic Ralph Matcham. Ralph and I hit it

off immediately on the morning shows, working together bouncing jokes off each other (and the aardvark of course).

I did manage to fit in my hunting debate, on the last night, I tried really hard to show both sides of the story in an equal way, but I think some people were still unclear about what I was trying to achieve by the way I was confronted when I left the studio (say no more).

I was shocked when we opened the phone lines as to the vast amount of anti-hunt people that phoned in - I really thought that the pros would be the majority in this area.

I really enjoyed my time as a radio presenter and learnt a lot along the way (despite all my mistakes). It was great to see the community coming together, all ages and walks of life, as people became informed of things going on in the area.

We learned that community groups and clubs had new members joining after we had mentioned them on air. What a great facility it was, and everyone I have spoken to is missing it greatly.

Talking of next year, I think 10 radio will be coming back next year, for one month in September again, it will be a great opportunity for all those people who didn't manage to get involved this time, but beware it is addictive! You have been warned!

Kate Whitfield



Sir David Stewart leading the Remembrance Day Parade

Standard laid up at St Andrews

THE Women's Division of the Royal British Legion in Wiveliscombe laid up its standard in St Andrew's Church, Wiveliscombe, on Sunday 27th November.

Mrs Catherine Sparks, RBL County Secretary, and Mrs Monica Summers, Group Chairman of the Women's Division of the RBL in Taunton Deane, were present, along with seven members of the Wiveliscombe Division. The Revd Graham Owen, Rector of St Andrew's, combined the laying up ceremony within the Advent Sunday morning service.

Gadget shopping this Christmas

IT'S that time of year again. That's right, when you feel entirely justified in splashing out some cash on yourself in compensation for all the junk you'll be buying everyone else!

Or perhaps, there is a special someone who has a special hankering, and you know they'll like something shiny and new this Christmas.

I thought I'd recap on some of my gadget predictions from last year, as well as introduce some new.

Broadband

Last year's number one, and now with more reasons than ever. Most ISPs are now offering up to 2mb of bandwidth as standard, and there are some very good, effectively uncapped deals for around the £15 per month mark.

Speeds are likely to increase again next year, although that might be very dependant on the distance from the exchange. ISPs are now effectively penalising dial-up users, at least with poor service in a number of cases, as they try and encourage you to switch to broadband.

iPod

The iPod has continued to be

refined, and new models added to the range. The iPod mini was last year's highly desirable gadget, and now there is the 'Nano' and 'iPod Video' to tempt your wallet.

If only Apple would get over the 'appleness' of their products and give us something that played well with Microsoft formats, we'd all be happy (I say this as I'm converting 20Gb of music to Apple AAC format as we speak - which will take about a week).

400Gb Hard Disk

Bigger disks are still the most desirable of objects, especially if you're into music and video playback as I am. Last year the 250gb disk was the 'biggie', and now we are up to 400gb, and prices are down to 40p per Gb. Writeable DVD and hard disk based video recorders have now all but replaced VHS recorders, and with the right recorder you can copy the content to your PC for editing and storage. Recording TV via Freeview or a Sky receiver and play back when you want to is the current revolution.

Media Centre PC

The complete solution for storing recorded TV, music, home video, digital pictures, and playback of DVDs, Microsoft's Windows-based Media

Centre PCs have largely stolen the market.

There are plenty of alternatives, depending on how much fiddling you want to do, but this is a rapidly changing market.

Also, media extenders have developed plenty over the last year to bridge the gap between your PC and TV. Low cost LCD panels and projectors are now also meaning that people can have that true 'home cinema' setup they've always hankered after. No more listening to other people popcorn crunching when you watch a film!

Playstation Portable (PSP)

A very sexy little box, its becoming most alarming what you can fit in the palm of your hand these days.

I just don't understand why the built-in storage is so poor, but I think market pressure will solve that very soon, and it'll only require a software upgrade to solve.

The display quality is impressive, and the graphics quality of the some of the games will blow your socks off. This will be handy because you can hang the socks on the end of the bed and wish hard that Santa brings you a PSP this Christmas.

DM

December

Friday 2nd: Wivey Primary School Christmas Fair, Primary School, 6-8pm

Saturday 3rd: Civic Society and History Society: Supper talk, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Sunday 4th: Christmas Bazaar, Brompton Ralph Village Hall, 3-5pm

Tuesday 6th: Garden Club AGM and talk, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Wednesday 7th: Santa arrives in Wivey. Christmas lights. The Square, 3.00pm. See article about Santa's other visits

Friday 9th: Dance for VSO, Fitzhead Tithe Barn, 7.30pm. See article

Monday 12th: Langley Marsh Social Club Christmas Dinner, Three Horseshoes, 7.30. Members only

Tuesday 13th: Wivey Folk Dance Club Xmas Dance, Community Centre, 8.00pm. Sue Soloman 01984 623495

Thursday 15th: Christmas Revue, Brompton Ralph Village Hall, 7.30pm. Continues on 16th and 17th

Sunday 18th: Jim Laker Fund Quiz, The Bear, 8.00pm

Wednesday 21st: Langley Marsh Social Club Carols, Langley Marsh, 7.00pm. Bring a torch

Monday 26th: Dance and Disco, Rugby Club, 7.30pm. Tickets from Wilkies

January

Tuesday 3rd: Garden Club Talk on herbaceous plants, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Monday 9th: History Society talk about Bessie Langdon, Community Centre, 7.30pm

Tuesday 10th: Wivey Folk Dance Club Birthday Dance, Community Centre, 8.00pm. Sue Soloman 01984 623495

Thursday 19th: Pluck in Concert, Waterrow Village Hall, 7pm. Call 01984 623441

Tuesday 24th: Wivey Folk Dance Club, Community Centre, 8.00pm. Sue Soloman 01984 623495

February

Friday 3rd: Auction of Promises, Brompton Ralph Village Hall, 7.30pm

If you are organising an event please email: messenger@wiveliscombe.com. See also "What's On" www.wiveliscombe.com

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