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Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

April 2012 - Issue 237

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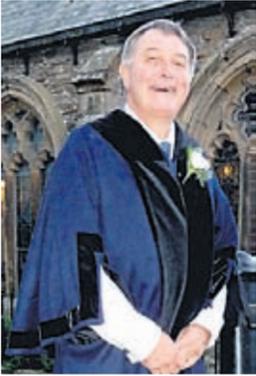
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It's Martin for Mayor! and David for Deputy!

Next year's Mayor of Saltash will be Councillor Martin Gee. Having served as this year's Deputy Mayor he has already been broken in to the duties of the Town's first citizen, has met many of the Town's citizens and become involved in local organisations, and is greatly looking forward to meeting many more.



The Deputy Mayor is Councillor David Yates with wife Stephanie as Deputy Mayoress.

Hailing from Newcastle under Lyme in the Potteries area of Staffordshire our Mayor Elect Martin read geography at the "other" Newcastle (upon Tyne). After studying accountancy he worked for North Cornwall District Council before taking a short service army commission and eventually

coming to work at DML Devonport in 1988. While serving in Germany he met Maggie, who was working with the British forces Education Services, and they married in 1982. Maggie is now eagerly looking forward to serving as Mayoress. They have one daughter, Melissa, aged 25.

Martin and Maggie have lived in Saltash for 23 years. He has served on Saltash Town Council for nine years and for four of them also on Caradon District Council.

Our Deputy Mayor Elect is a Kentish man, born in Bromley. David Yates was serving in the Royal Navy when he asked for a transfer to the west country and while looking for a home chanced to pull up outside the Forder property in which he now lives. He has lived in Cornwall since the 1980's with his wife Stephanie, the Deputy Mayoress Elect. They have three adult children,

Sophie, Emily and Matthew, all of whom attended local schools.

David is employed by Babcock Marine in Devonport as Submarine Skills Manager. He has long been a active in local affairs, in particular Saltash Twinners and the Burraton Players, and joined the Town Council six years ago.

Martin and David will be formally 'chosen' and accept their chains of office in May. We are delighted that Martin has confirmed that he will thereafter follow the tradition of every Mayor in the two decades that we have been serving the Town with your community newspaper by continuing to update Saltash with a monthly column 'From the Mayor's Parlour.'

Fore Street Changes Await Gas Works

Changes in Fore Street, including the painting of double yellow lines, are ready to go ahead but are awaiting the completion of the current works on the gas main through the Town. Cornwall Council is anxious to ensure that newly painted markings are not immediately dug up.

The moving of bus shelters also planned for Fore Street is similarly being delayed but is intended to occur as soon as works on the gas main are completed.

Save Latchbrook! Leaflet Criticises consultation on proposed new housing

Were it not for the front page feature in your "Saltash Observer" local Latchbrook residents would have been unaware of plans which included 1,600 new home, plus industrial units, in the green fields facing their homes.

So claimed concerned residents who packed the public gallery during the Town's Annual Meeting and criticised the Town Council's lack of publicity concerning Cornwall's Core Strategy planning for the Town.

One resident who had spent his own money on printing a thousand leaflets and had personally arranged their distribution throughout the estate queried why the Council had not carried out their own leaflet drop throughout the Town to ensure that all residents were aware of plans and had the chance to comment upon them.

The Town Council had itself only been given very short notice of the presentation of the plans in the Guildhall and had deemed it impractical to print and distribute leaflets within the limited time available, was the reply. The Council had relied upon the local press including the "Saltash Observer" which gave the proposals front page publicity, as well as coverage in the County Councillors' column and is distributed free throughout the Town.

Residents were somewhat reassured to hear that the Council had made its own position clear. This was that the lesser option of one thousand new homes for Saltash over twenty years, as against the alternative of 3,500

should be the target and these should be dependent upon there being more than one job available in the area for each home built.

The Town Council had also, in its response, opposed suggested further development between Burraton Coombe and the A38 because of its great landscape value in relation to the Latchbrook Leat valley. The area, the response told the Town Council, forms a natural boundary of scenic value and because of the steepness and depth of the Valley would have poor access to the Town Centre and could create flooding problems in Forder.

The Town Council also opposed suggested development on the bank of the Lynher close to the community academy due to its sensitive nature close to an area of outstanding natural beauty. The area of North Pill, close to the Tamar and Salt Mill Park should be protected from development due to its scenic value on the Tamar bank and due to poor communication via the narrow and winding Glanville Terrace.

This left the Broadmoor Farm area West of Carkeel as

the likely site of any expansion of the Town. Improvements to the A38 and a safe pedestrian crossing would be sought by the Town were such a development to proceed.

Latchbrook residents were urged by Town Councillors to set up their own Residents' Association to protect their interests and were promised the Council's help with this.

The crowds who had filed the rows of the public gallery to express their concern were already formulating plans for an initial meeting to set up such an organisation as they left the meeting.

"Are we to become another Ivybridge or Plymstock, just a bland and faceless dormitory town for Plymouth," one resident asked the town meeting appearing to sum up the views of Latchbrook and other Saltash residents. "I want Saltash to remain the tight community that I have come to love."

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The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Address to Parliament



Pictured: Sheryll attends the occasion with neighbouring MP Oliver Colville.

Following today's speech Sheryll Murray said, "It was a great privilege to attend the Address given by our Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, to both Houses of Parliament as part of the celebration of her Diamond Jubilee. It was an honour to represent the people of South East Cornwall in Parliament today in particular.

"Firstly a stained glass window was unveiled, paid for by parliamentarians, in the fantastic Westminster Hall where the speech took place. The window, celebrating the Diamond Jubilee, replaces a plain window which was installed after the original window was destroyed by an IRA bomb almost 40 years ago.

"It was good to see her majesty looking so well and speaking so eloquently. Her dedication to our country is unmatched and unwavering and I thank her majesty for this. It was good to hear her speak of the 'constant strength' her husband Philip has given her and how she hopes we use the opportunity of her Diamond Jubilee 'to come together in a spirit of neighbourliness and celebration'".

Oliver Colville, MP for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport added "This was history in the making and it was a real privilege to have an opportunity to pay tribute to our Sovereign"

Council Has Local Property For Sale

The Toc H building at Warraton is one of various Cornwall County owned properties likely to be sold off at auction.

Following the dissolution of the organisation locally and nationally the site of the hut has become redundant. The banner and other property has been passed to Saltash Heritage who were also offered the building. Heritage declined with thanks as although they need extra space for their expanding collection the hut was deemed unsuitable.

The Burraton Coombe quarry was also being considered for selling off.

Cornwall Council are also seeking to pass some of their assets, such as toilets, car parks and recreation areas, over to town councils to administer and this was separately considered by the Town Council.

Essa Files

I don't often write about national issues in this column but it was budget day yesterday and I actually felt a bit sorry for the Chancellor of the Exchequer - nothing to do with his politics, which are certainly not mine - but he had a fairly impossible task. When you are doing a budget you are inevitably going to make some people better off and some worse, but the reality of politics these days seems to be that no-one who's better off is pleased, and everyone who is worse off is very upset and blames the man in charge. What's more they tend to assume he did it on purpose to get at them! In the same way people often feel that the issue bothering them at that particular moment should automatically be the number one priority for everyone in power, although many other people feel the same way about their issues.

This thought got me thinking more widely about communities, and wondering how deep this problem goes. Certainly as a councillor you often feel that people only find you to complain and few people actually thank you for doing anything right (albeit this makes it even more appreciated when they do). I'm sure this is true in a lot of other voluntary organisations too - that those who give up their time to run them often feel they get more criticism than praise or help.

This then made me think about society in general: are we all a bit too willing to complain about the things that don't go our way, without recognising those that do and the efforts of others than make them do so? I'm sure I'm guilty of this sometimes as I often complain in this column about the bad bits of Cornwall Council, but talk less about the good.

Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make a nine-letter word?

- 1 What name is given to the lamp used for signalling Morse Code? (5)
- 2 Which dessert is obtained from the starch in a Palm tree? (4)
- 3 In the musical Fiddler on the Roof what was the occupation of the main character Tevye? (7)
- 4 Which of the Canary Islands is noted for its "Mountains of Fire"? (9)
- 5 Sanday, Stronsay and Westray are three of the twenty-one inhabited islands of which group? (7)
- 6 What name was given to the supporters of the Red Rose party in the Wars of the Roses? (12)
- 7 What type of animal was Beatrix Potter's Mrs. Tigglywinkle? (9)
- 8 Of which modern instrument was the Sackbut a forerunner? (8)
- 9 Which bird is known for its booming call and lives in reed beds? (7)

answers on page 7

SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



We recently attended a debate in Westminster Hall on the issue of help for first time buyers which I know is affecting many people in South East Cornwall.

First time buyer numbers nationally have tumbled to levels not seen since 1974, with only 200,000 recorded first time buyers in 2011 compared with 400,000 in 2005. People trying to get onto the property ladder are struggling to do so due to the increase in house prices. The average UK property price has increased to just under £165,000. This correlates with the rising prices of deposits, with many people needing to save for years to cover the cost. This is not an issue purely affecting young people; the average age of a first time buyer is now 35. The house price to borrower's income ratio has also been gradually rising since 2007, making it much harder for first time buyers. Another issue is that the number of mortgage approvals have remained generally flat since early 2010, at below half pre-recession levels. Housing starts have increased since the recession but still remain well below pre-recession levels.

This is an issue that the Government has recognised and it has pledged to alleviate the struggle for first time buyers, and I congratulate the Government on this. The Get Britain Building Fund will help get builders back on housing sites with planning permission that have been shut down because of difficulties in accessing development finance. This move will help towards getting the homes the country needs built and create hundreds of thousands of jobs. Over the next two years, this £420 million fund is expected to unlock up to 16,000 homes on sites that are currently stalled, and help create up to 30,000 jobs in construction and related industries.

I also congratulate the Government on the two new initiatives that were launched this week which will be a crucial aid for first time buyers. The NewBuy scheme makes it possible for first time buyers and existing

home owners to get a mortgage on a new-build property with only a 5 per cent deposit, as opposed to the 15-20% we are used to seeing. This deal means that where buyers have been typically required to save a deposit of between £30,000 and £40,000 they will now need only £10,000. The other scheme is the reinvigorated Right to Buy scheme, which will enable council tenants to buy their home at a discount, increasing the maximum discount cap for tenants to £75,000. This will provide tenants who have the Right to Buy or Preserved Right to Buy with a real incentive to buy their home.

These schemes will make a big difference to the lives of my constituents in South East Cornwall as it is particularly hard for first time buyers in this part of the country. Cornwall is a popular tourist destination, attracting more than 5 million visitors each year. This has artificially raised the house prices in my constituency, as it is becoming attractive for affluent people from all over the country to buy holiday homes here. The average house price in Cornwall is £216,000, according to the Land registry for England and Wales. This is very high when you compare this to the average wage in my constituency. Average earnings in Cornwall are around £21,000 which is well below the South West and British average. This makes it very hard for first time buyers to come up with the deposit for a house or a flat, as they are competing with wealthier holiday-makers who can afford property in South East Cornwall. This is where the NewBuy scheme will have such a positive impact.

However, the story was very different 20 years ago. When I moved back to my home village from a short time living in Stoke-on-Trent, I was able to buy a property that needed renovating. Although there was a massive difference in property prices even then, I had the opportunity to buy a house of my own. Sadly, young people in South East Cornwall do not have this option as most of the older properties have already been sold and renovated. The situation is very different to how it was when I was purchasing property in the 1980s. As a Government, we are doing what we can to help first time buyers, and I am confident that the figures will start to be more encouraging after these fantastic Government initiatives.

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CORNWALL COUNCIL

 and our PL12 community
 For Observer readers
 From Councillor Colin Riches
 St Stephens Ward

Saltash has been experiencing quite a lot of disruption for a considerable time now due to the renewal of the gas mains. This is the latest news as far as I can ascertain.

As we go to press the big hole at the top of Fore St should have been filled in and the team will be embarking on connecting a number shops and businesses to the main running down the main thoroughfare. There should not be need for a large trench for this work but will necessitate several smaller excavations to be undertaken. I have not been given a timescale for this but the next scheduled phase of work is due to begin on 16th April at Burraton traffic lights. My guess then is for a fortnight of work carrying on in Fore Street. Perhaps this is optimistic in view of the many difficulties that have been encountered over the last year - badly drawn plans from yesteryear resulting in location problems being just one. Another is the coincidence of Cornwall being switched over to superfast broadband which has meant that excavating teams have been in great demand and have been hired from all over the country with varying degrees of success. The present team,

STD Services, is local being Plymouth based and are, to my mind, one of the best that have been employed to date.

As stated, work is due to begin at Burraton on 16th April and a four-way temporary control system will be instituted. This is necessary due to the narrowness of Callington Road north of the lights and the width reduction caused by the work trench. I have been told that this phase should take about ten days.

Further areas to be worked on will be Fairmead Road which will be currently scheduled to have work commencing at the end of July so that Burraton School will be on holiday and the traffic engaged on the 'school run' will not get locked up any more than it is at the moment. There is a knock-on effect with this plan as the planned resurfacing of Fairmead is to be delayed until the gas mains work has been completed, a sensible decision to my mind.

There are something like four kilometres (two and a half miles) of mains to be attended to and to date about one and a half to two kilometres have been worked on so it looks like there is still a good deal of disruption in the pipeline. We will pass on any further information on areas to be effected.

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From The Mayor's Parlour...

As most of you will know by now, Marilyn and I come out of office on May 8th and our successors as Mayor and Mayoress for 2012/2013 will be Councillor Martin and Maggie Gee with Councillor David and Stephanie Yates as their Deputies. I would like to take this opportunity of wishing them all the best for their year in office.

Since my last column we have attended the Saltash Scouts presentation evening at Ashtorre for the Duke of Edinburgh and Chief Scout awards. Scouting has always been of particular interest to me, having been with the movement since I was eight years of age. Our three sons also joined at the first possible opportunity and enjoyed every bit of their Scouting years, making new friends and learning new skills. It is always a delight to see young people achieving their aims and the amount of effort that is put into gaining awards, such as these, is incredible.

This month has been a little different for us with new experiences and outdoor activities. It must be something to do with the days getting longer and the weather improving!

We were invited to open the new Bridal shop, Heaven Sent in Keast Mews with its wonderful array of bridal gowns and I am sure the business will do well. There were certainly a lot of interested people at the opening and the other shops in the Mews are also well worth a visit.

Murray House Care Home in Saltash hosted a Greek evening to celebrate a Golden Wedding and also showcase some Greek food cooked for us by a Greek TV Chef. It was a wonderful evening and the food was delicious. The residents enjoyed sampling the delights on offer and what a fantastic choice there was! It was our third visit to Murray House and we had the opportunity, once again, to visit some of the residents in their rooms, which is always a pleasure.

The Lord Mayor of Plymouth's Chaplain held a service at Emmanuel Church, which we both attended and I was also invited to the memorial service at the Tamar Bridge, for those who lost their lives in the building of the Bridge, fifty years ago. It was a moving occasion and there is now a memorial in place for all to see.

The League of Friends of St. Barnabas Hospital held their Craft Fair at Saltash Wesley Church and we were invited to open it. The event was well attended with a good variety of craft stalls to interest everyone and it was a pleasure to be there as this has been one of my charities this year. Mrs Joyce Mepstead and the committee work hard to raise funds for much needed equipment for the hospital and the events are always good fun and very enjoyable. The next big event for the committee will be the Summer Fete on 7th July so do go along to St Barnabas if you are able and support this very worthwhile charity.

If you are visiting the Guildhall at any time in the near future, you will notice that there is shortly to be work underway, to improve the reception area, create more office space and make the space more welcoming and user friendly. Please bear with us whilst this work is being carried out. It should be completed by the end of April.

Finally for this month, excitement mounts within the town, as we now have the details of the Olympic Torch route through Saltash. It is going to be a great day for Saltash and the Town Council will keep you informed of details for 19th May so do look out for them.



WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 1st March, staff at saltash.net used World Book Day as an excellent opportunity to show themselves to be reading role models! Students at the school were delighted to be taught by a wide array of literary characters throughout the day, including Professor Snape, Dorian Gray and Peter Rabbit. Where's Wally was spotted lurking in a number of classrooms and whilst Prince Caspian searched the corridors for his Dawn

Treader (aided by a very well-read Reepicheep), a Lion, a Witch and a Wardrobe were able to escape from Narnia. The Maths Department put on a fantastic 'Harry Potter' theme and Modern Foreign Languages were ably represented by Quasimodo and Esmeralda.

The day was a great success and with such a wide range of departments and support staff taking part, the importance and fun of reading was certainly highlighted to the students.

Now visit... www.saltash-observer.co.uk

Children Endangered in Carkeel Crossing

Children alighting from buses at Carkeel and having to cross the main Callington Road are endangered by a dense volume of fast moving traffic. The risk to local children was discussed at the Town's Industry Commerce Transportation and Tourism Committee having been raised by Cllr Mrs Sue Hooper. It was agreed to take the matter up with Cornwall Highways and Committee Chairman Cllr David Yates also agreed to speak to school authorities at saltash.net academy.

A speed advisor, a flashing light reminding motorists of the limit such as is employed at St Mellion, is being considered, the Town Council was later advised.

A Feast for Food Lovers



A feast for the eyes awaits local food lovers who enter Fore Street's newly opened Jennifer's Delicatessen to the aroma of fresh roasted coffee and home baked bread. The South West is fast gaining a fine reputation among gourmets and now Saltash residents may discover what recently led a national Sunday paper to describe the region as 'the nation's larder.' Jennifer is eager to promote local produce ranging from Tamar Valley apple juice to superb Deli-Farm charcuterie coppa ham salami from Delabole.

Local Cheeses

Tempting local cheeses include Cornish Crumbly from Bude, Cornish Brie (especially popular) from Pensilva and Sharpam Rustic from Totnes as well as a wide range from the world beyond. Local home cured hams and pates, range alongside world renowned hams from Italy and Spain.

Those with a taste for the sweeter things in life will love the choice of patisserie including local Cornish

saffron cake and divine chocolate tarts alongside the day's selection of freshly baked cakes and gateaux. Fresh artisan breads are baked on the premises while croissants are imported fresh from France. This is beside the range of foreign exotica including Vegemite from Australia and Hershey bars from the USA. Gluten free products are also a speciality. Cornish born Jennifer is delighted at the appreciation her range of local and foreign delicacies has received from those who enjoy taking home something special and from those who work or shop in Town and are already bringing in a busy lunchtime business sampling an expanding range of baguettes prepared to order.

Local free range honey roast ham is especially popular in a baguette with freshly ground coffee. Indeed so popular is Jennifer's Delicatessen proving that her staff of four, with extra Saturday help, are already kept fully occupied satisfying the needs of local gourmets and lovers of good food.

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Run the Race

To celebrate the Nationwide Music Day for the Olympic Year celebrations the congregation at Burraton Methodist Church had a wonderful morning service. It began with a short film presentation of 'Christians in Sport'.

We were delighted to have it attendance the RWindband playing 'The Lone Arranger' which included snatches of over 50 pieces, 'Pilatus' and 'Shannon Falls' a wonderful new piece of music celebrating Cornwall and the

beauty around us.

Rev Robert Hurley gave an address on our need to 'Run the Race' to the best of our ability and stay true to the path and remain faithful in all our efforts, and to make the best use of our talents.

The family of Burraton Methodist Church felt blessed to be able to appreciate the wonderful music played by the dedicated and very talented musicians of the RWindband and their conductor Ruth Ballantyne.

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Olympic Flame is Final Feature in Packed Day of Family Fun



A fun filled day focussing on sport and music for all the family will reach its exciting climax as the eyes of Britain and beyond focus on Saltash while the Olympic Torch is proudly borne through the Town.

The Torch begins its epic journey from Lands End to London on Saturday May 19th and will travel up through Cornwall that day, largely by truck. However, a few fortunate towns will witness it being carried aloft through the streets and Saltash has been selected to be the last of these as the torch travels from Burraton Cross down Callington Road and Fore Street, over the bridge to the slip road and across the Tamar Bridge to Plymouth for the night. Five torch-bearers will bring it through the Town including Andrew Ball aged 19 from Saltash, Peter Heywood aged 66 from Looe, Andy Lloyd aged 55, Kirsten Norsworthy aged 32 and Poppy Mills aged 15, all three from Plymouth.

Since the Torch will be arriving at around seven in the evening on a Saturday when children and adults will mostly

be free to share the fun, a packed programme of activities is planned from 7 am until late into the evening to make this a day to remember for Saltash and for all of those from other towns not so fortunate as to have the Torch passing through, and who are expected to converge on Saltash that day.

Those not selected for the official torch bearing are invited to participate in our very own twelve hour Salt Torch relay. Saltash.net Saltash has been designing the Town's very own Olympic torch for all of any age to carry around Saltmill Park in an all day relay starting at 7 am and concluding at 7 pm. Children and adults are invited to take part and in doing so to obtain a stamp in Saltash's very own one day Passport to Sport.

This passport is designed to encourage young and old

to sample exciting "taster" sessions into a variety of activities throughout the Town. The activities are still expanding as more local organisations come on board but those confirmed to date include canoeing and sailing at the Waterside, trampolining at Zero Gravity, the climbing wall at K3 and bowls at Saltash Bowling Club. The China Fleet Club, Saltash Leisure Centre and the Air Cadets are all keen to involve themselves. For the latest update on this and all the other exciting activities planned visit the special events website shown at the end of this feature. And as a special incentive the first fifty participants to complete their Passport to Sports stamps will qualify for an Olympic award, a limited issue Olympic medallion commissioned by the Royal Mint.

Salt Mill

To ensure that those of any age and any ability can participate in the day's event a football tournament for under eleven year olds from Cornwall will be running at Salt Mill's Pilgrim pitch. And the very youngest pre-schoolers can enjoy various fun activities and games based on Ashtorre at Saltash Waterside from 10 am to 4pm with podium finishes on the hour every hour. Meanwhile, an Alternative Games for those of limited ability will be running in Saltash Wesley Church.

Those wishing to take a break from sport can enjoy a

music festival running non-stop in Longstone Park from 10am to 6.30pm.

This is intended to showcase local musical talent of every description while also including some novelty sessions to reflect the cultural diversity of the Olympics. All will be able not only to enjoy such diverse events as Japanese drumming and South American Tango dancing but to participate in training workshops in such skills.

Ashtorre

In the Olympic spirit, the spirit of past Olympics can be recaptured in a series of archive films planned for Ashtorre and a small Olympic exhibition in the Heritage museum at Lower Fore Street.

Many local residents, adults and children, have already involved themselves in creating colourful batik flags, to line the Olympic route, these having been made in a series of workshop sessions in the Town. However, there is still time to exercise the creative spirit by designing a torch for Saltash. This can be of any medium, its size between fifty and a hundred centimetres and for safety reasons should not carry a naked flame.

Tamar Bridge

It should be suitable to be hung on a wall for display. Such torches should be taken to Saltash Library by Monday April 30th and there will be separate prizes for children of primary school age, secondary school age and adults. They will be displayed in the library and on the Torch Relay day, in St Nicholas Church where refreshments will be served.

Once the Torch has passed over the Tamar Bridge to rest in Plymouth before continuing its winding route to London, Saltash's focus of fun for the evening will be the Waterside. Kernocopia theatre is providing performances at various locations on the relay route and again Saltash is lucky to be one venue so selected. For details of this and up date on other planned events including a possible super-choir concert on Waterside, again visit the website, or just turn up and see what is happening.

Refreshments

Saltash has come together to celebrate a number of momentous events over recent years and each has proved an occasion to remember. With the once in a lifetime opportunity for the town to be seen by the world as involved in a world class sporting event this promises to be among the best ever community events shared by Saltash and enjoyed by those from far around.

Various refreshment facilities will be open and a park and ride service with shuttle buses is planned for the day.

And that all important website set up by Saltash Town Council to give continual updates on the day's events is www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk

U3A

The meeting opened with the usual welcome to all members and visitors by our Chairman Mike Scott.

Our membership has increased since we moved to Wesley Church and have taken on an extra hall where we can display notices and have refreshments without a crush. It also allows us space for tables where books and plants can be sold to raise funds for the U3A. Our current rent is 4 times what we paid in the Guildhall, and Mike warned that fees will have to increase next year—raising the cost from 29 pence per week to 33pence.

A site has been booked for a stall at the May Fair, and a request was made for more helpers—we plan to sell books, plants and craft work.

Mike and Shirley Scott have to retire as Chairman and Secretary in July when they will have completed their four years in office, and anybody interested in taking up one of the positions should contact them and perhaps shadow them to see what is entailed.

The new Geology Group held its first meeting recently when Pat Fitzsimmons, the leader held a discussion on our recent trip to Geevor Tin Mine.

In May the Olympic torch will be coming to Saltash, and all kinds of events are planned for the town. Members have been invited to join in the flag painting workshops, and volunteers are requested to add their name and contact numbers to the list provided.

Our speaker this month was Dean Evans, who gave a most interesting talk about the Passmore Edwards Legacy. Mr. Evans has done an in depth study of John Passmore Edwards, a Cornishman from a modest background who, in spite of leaving school at the age of twelve, worked his way up to become a very wealthy publisher. He used most of his money to provide libraries, schools and hospitals in many places across the south of England, from Cornwall to London, and was a great Victorian philanthropist. Last year was the centenary of his death.

Observer Telephone Nos
07971484872 or
01579 345699

Watch speed on your Street

Crime figures for Saltash rose by a hundred and ten over the last year. Up until the end of February there were 864 crimes reported as against 754 over the previous year.

These figures were reported by PCSO Natalie Hodges to the annual Town meeting.

The previous month had seen sixty reported crimes. These included seven assaults and nine burglaries as well as eleven thefts, four thefts from vehicles and three of fraud or false representation.

The new 'Speedwatch' Scheme is going well, PCSO Hodges reported, but more volunteer members of the public would be welcome. During the first four weeks of operation twelve warning letters were sent to speeding motorists, so far eleven areas for speed checks have been identified.

Four public volunteers are already involved, with police co-operation, in monitoring speeding in areas where it has proved a problem. Two more would be welcome. Volunteers, or those wishing to suggest an area where speeding is a problem, are invited to contact the police on their new 101 number or may leave their contact details at the Guildhall reception.

The further cuts in the police budget will effect the Town, the Council was warned, with at least one police officer likely to be withdrawn.

Early Prayers

A tradition stretching back as far as anyone can recall was broken when Town Councillors did not include prayers as the opening item on their agenda at their March monthly meeting.

Instead councillors were invited to attend prayers, led by the Mayor's Chaplain, the Rev. Nicki Slateford, shortly before the seven pm start of the official meeting.

This follows a well publicised legal case brought by a former Bideford Town councillor at which it was found by the High Court that prayers forming a part of the Council's agenda were an infringement on the rights of non-believers and those of other faiths. Many local authorities, including Saltash, have subsequently decided to hold informal prayers prior to the meeting with attendance being voluntary.

It is anticipated that legislation may be forthcoming which will allow the Council to resume the time-honoured tradition of holding prayers as part of their meeting. No local Councillors have ever publicly objected to doing so.

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Town Car Park and Toilet takeover

Saltash Town Council is proposing to take over from Cornwall Council the running of the Town's car parks and public toilets.

Three sets of public toilets in the Town were closed by Caradon Council in the 1980's, those at St Stephens, Alexandra Square and Callington Road. Of the three remaining those at Waterside have been threatened with closure, those at Longstone Park and Belle Vue Road seem secure.

A sum of £25,000 was set aside by Caradon Council for the refurbishment of Belle Vue toilets, Town Councillors recalled, but this sum seemed to have disappeared together with Caradon Council.

The Town Council is suggesting that if it takes over all three public toilets then it should also take over Belle Vue car park and use its revenue of around £30,000 per year to pay for the

maintenance of the toilets. It would also be a condition that prior to the takeover all toilets should be upgraded with their underground services brought up to standard.

It was also suggested that the Town Council take over all four of the Town's car parks giving them the opportunity to fully manage, fix charges, and offer free parking times.

The revenue from some, but not all, of the car parks would be refunded to the County.

Millbrook, reportedly has already taken over its car park from Cornwall County

The proposals regarding the taking over of the toilets and some, or all of the car parks is being submitted to Cornwall Council.

Hospital Helped by Coffee Morning

A coffee morning held in St Barnabas Hospital by its League of Friends raised an impressive £311 towards our much loved cottage hospital.

The funds are used by the Friends to provide a wide variety of medical equipment as well as comforts for patients and out-patients which would not otherwise be funded by the health authorities.

The coffee morning saw a continuous crowd of visitors patronising stalls selling home-made produce, plants and bric-a-brac, (the latter stall manned by Mayor and Mayoress Colin and Marilyn Oakes, both keen supporters of the League of Friends).

The League of Friends' next event will be the Summer Fete at the hospital on Saturday 7th July.



The glamour and thrill of a wonderful wedding came to Heaven Sent Bridal Boutique as Saltash's latest business enjoyed its celebrity opening.

The Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Colin and Mrs Marilyn Oakes were present to be welcomed by proud proprietor Jane Lloyd at her champagne reception, and were among the many admiring the elegantly displayed array of bridal wear beautifully set in a spacious and comfortable boutique in the heart of

Saltash.

Heaven Sent Bridal Boutique is conveniently situated at the entry to Keast Meadows

adjacent to the spacious Culver Road car park and just yards from Fore Street.

Once inside the bride to be and her friends and family are transported to a friendly and welcoming environment where Jane, who has enjoyed a career in ladies fashion and general retail experience, has utilised her

A Stylish Opening for Heaven Sent Bridal Boutique



acquired skills and love of beautiful dresses, to showcase a fantastic range of gowns, bridesmaid's dresses and full accessories. She is already enjoying helping excited brides to be to select from among the constantly arriving stock which

features international designer wear as well as beautiful but more moderately priced models for the bride on a budget. All are welcome to call in and admire what is currently in stock, or to telephone and book a private showing by appointment.

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Pub Quiz... Come & Enjoy this Fund Raising Event

Proceeds to Local Scouts & Guides

Fri 27th April...

Caradon Junior Rowing Club... Fund raising event

Sat 28th April

Come & Dance to your favourite DJ Laurie

Thurs 10th May

A Great Night with the Wreckers-Morris Dancing

Fri 18th May

Mike & Joan will be hosting an evening for

the French Football Team

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Inner Wheel Report

Inner Wheel Day is January 10th, normally celebrated by some service to the community. This year members donated food items, tinned and dried goods which were later taken to by President Nancy to The Shekinah Mission in Plymouth, who have written to the club expressing their thanks.

The speaker at our February meeting was Julia Peggs, a director of Specsavers. Specsavers was founded by Dame Mary Perkins, the world's sixth richest woman. To-day they produce 12million spectacle frames per year. They employ 30,000 staff. Their pride is "They have never closed a store or had any debts". Their aim is to provide spectacles at a reasonable price and to make everything as comfortable for the patient. The vote of thanks was given by Evelyn Dwell.

The snowdrops came early this year! Undaunted by this and very bad weather, a member opened her garden on January 10th to a party of Galanthophiles, who were in Plymouth for a Gala Weekend. Sixty two people enjoyed a vista of snowdrops and other early spring flowers. People had travelled from all over England and Scotland. A coach with thirty three Germans, as well as some other visitors from Germany and Belgium who had actually driven, were among the guests. They really enjoyed the presentation of the garden, the Snowdrop Theatre, and other touches. They had never seen a Snowdrop Theatre! Members provided Coffee and Cream Teas with Saffron Cake. The following week the sun shone and the garden was on view again for two days, this time for local people. The club very much appreciate our member allowing all these people to share and enjoy her garden. The work and preparation involved to open the garden to visitors is massive.

March was busy. Two members attended a Fashion Show at The Hannafore Point Hotel, Looe, run by Liskeard

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and Looe Inner Wheel Club. At the District Meeting our club was represented by President Nancy and one member. The Overseas Rally at East Taphouse was attended by President Nancy, Our Overseas Chairman Ann Potter and two members. The Speaker was Paul Brocklebank, President of Wadebridge Rotary who spoke about Polio Eradication in India.

At our March meeting we were entertained by fourteen year old Alex Robbins, who recently won The Mayors Cup

at The Saltash Speech, Music and Drama Festival. He has been awarded a place at The Youth Music Theatre, to take part in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles". He was thanked by Barbara Reid.

Officers elected for the coming year; President June Davey Hon Sec...Sandra Lamb, Hon Treas Linda Oakes, Club Correspondent Mairead Lavelle Overseas Chairman Linda Davies Attendance Officer Jean Willcocks Committee Mary Brown, Linda Durbin

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The Observer team would like to offer its congratulations to Paula on her first Anniversary, and wish her success in the future.

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Your New Rubbish Collection Has Started

Don't forget that Cornwall's rubbish, recycling and garden waste collection has changed from Monday 2 April 2012.

For you this potentially includes changes to collection days, changes to how the recycling is collected and changes to the cost and collection of garden waste. Rubbish will continue to be collected weekly, with recycling and garden waste being collected fortnightly.

In preparation for the changes, new recycling containers are being delivered across Cornwall. This will continue over the next few weeks. Over 250,000 households are due to receive a least one new piece of recycling equipment, this is a huge operation. We expect that we will finish all of the deliveries at the end of April. Residents can carry on using their old equipment until we deliver the new ones. Look inside your new equipment for a leaflet explaining what to do

A new recycling calendar is being delivered to all households with details of the new services and collection days.

There is also a postcode look-up system on Cornwall Council's website www.cornwall.gov.uk where residents can check if their collection day will change under the new arrangements. We hope that you will help your friends, family and neighbours by telling them about the changes.

Councillor Julian German,



Cabinet Member and Chair of the waste development advisory panel, said: "By standardising the way we collect rubbish and recycling into a single collection contract, we will save around £3 million each year over the next 8 years. We also hope that people will take the opportunity to use the new kerbside recycling system, which will in turn help protect the environment and reduce cost further."

Everyone who currently uses disposable bags to recycle will receive three reusable bags for plastic bottles and cans, paper and cardboard. Residents will also be given a black box for glass and textiles and a leaflet explaining how to use the new system.

We have taken into account that not all residents will actually have all of the equipment that

should have been issued to them by the former districts. We have ordered sufficient to deliver the additional bags and boxes on request.

For any queries or questions, or if you don't have all of the previous containment as detailed above, either refer to the leaflet you will receive in your containers, call 0300 1234 141 or visit our website www.cornwall.gov.uk/talkin-grubbish

Town Car Park and Toilet Takeover

Saltash Town Council is proposing to take over from Cornwall Council the running of the Town's car parks and public toilets.

Three sets of public toilets in the Town were closed by Caradon Council in the 1980's, those at St Stephens, Alexandra Square and Callington Road. Of the three remaining those at Waterside have been threatened with closure, those at Longstone Park and Belle Vue Road seem secure. A sum of £25,000 was set aside by Caradon Council for the refurbishment of Belle Vue toilets, Town Councillors recalled, but this sum seemed to have disappeared together with Caradon Council.

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It was also suggested that the Town Council take over all four of the Town's car parks giving them the opportunity to fully manage, fix charges, and offer free parking times.

The revenue from some, but not all, of the car parks would be refunded to the County. Millbrook, reportedly has already taken over its car park from Cornwall County

The proposals regarding the taking over of the toilets and some, or all of the car parks is being submitted to Cornwall Council.



Talking rubbish – Check Out Your Bin Day Online

Residents can find out about changes to their waste and recycling collection dates with the click of a mouse.

Cornwall Council's website, www.cornwall.gov.uk, now has a 'postcode look up' facility, meaning web users can type in their postcode to find out what day of the week their waste and recycling will be collected from April.

Collection dates will change for some people from Monday 2 April, when a new household waste and recycling service comes into effect. The new service, which follows consultation with local residents, will see household waste collected weekly and recycling collected fortnightly.

You can find the 'postcode look up' on the home page of the Cornwall Council website.

For more information about the waste and recycling collection service call 0300 1234 141 or visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/talkingrubbish

St Piran's Day Tales of Cornish Spirited Novelist

An internationally best selling novelist who immortalised her adopted County of Cornwall led a life which could itself have formed the base of a romantic novel. In her talk to Saltash Old Cornwall Society on 'Daphne du Maurier's Cornwall' Lynn Goold emphasised how this London society girl came to settle on the Fowey estuary and how Cornwall came to calm her own restless spirit.

Fowey and the villages around are vividly described in her first book 'The Loving Spirit' but are blended together so as to make identification of locations a challenge. Her later novels make more simple the discovery of scenes that are idyllically described many of which remain little changed as Mrs Goold's illustrations emphasised.

She told of Daphne's fascination with the derelict manor of Menabilly the location of which was to be immortalised as Manderley, though the house described in 'Rebecca' is one seen near Peterborough. Mrs Goold's tales of a shipwreck that Daphne watched, her voyage down the river and stroll to her own wedding at Lanteglos and her honeymoon sail to Frenchman's Creek all contained the drama of Daphne's own vivid novels, as did the wander with Foy Quiller-Couch across a mist shrouded Bodmin Moor to discover Jamaica Inn and dine there with the Vicar of Altarnun.

It being St Piran's Day, Old Cornwall Society members also enjoyed a St Piran's feast of tea and saffron buns. There was also a short talk on St Piran, the life and the legend, by Cornish Bard Wella Brown who also thanked Mrs Goold for a most informative talk about a world famous novelist who encapsulated the spirit of Cornwall.

Bridge Mosaics Must Go

The mosaics prepared by local school children and community groups placed on the overbridge between Fore Street and North Road have been judged as beyond repair. They have been crumbling for some time and sadly will have to be removed.

The glue used to attach the fragments of mosaic to the backing has proved unable to survive the weather on this exposed site. More suitable and permanent fixative was, at the time of making the mosaics, considered unsafe for children to use. The mosaic in the passageway alongside the Co-op, being undercover, is still in good condition.

The mosaics, once removed, will be offered back to the schools that participated in the project and whose past pupils created them.

The blank spaces on the bridge that crosses the Saltash by-pass near the tunnel mouth will be replaced by pictures of mosaics. It has been suggested that they might have a sporting theme to mark the passing of the Olympic flame through Saltash on 19th May.

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International Sports Stars Host an Oscar Style Awards Evening!!

Young people from Callington and Saltash were recently invited to an exciting awards evening which was being hosted in their honour to recognise the positive difference they have made to their community as a result of volunteering their time to a range of different organisations and projects. The Awards ceremony took place at St Mellion International and had all the glitz and glamour of a first class awards evening.

Over 180 young people from Callington and Saltash were presented with CATS (Community Action Awarded Through Sport) awards by five sporting stars one of whom was Olympic gold medallist Ed Coode. Other sporting stars included Matt Fiddes former body guard to Michael Jackson and martial arts expert, Mark Ormrod former para-trooper, Jamie Burchell - Plymouth Raiders and Naomi Kent, Netballer and Gig Rower.

The CATS volunteer of the year award was presented to volunteer Adam Riglar who has in the opinion of the judging panel has made a significant contribution to his local community. Adam has been involved in supporting many events at Saltash.net and supports many community organisations including a local cubs group.

Volunteer awards

The Young CATS of the year Volunteer award was this year presented to two young volunteers who have also given up a lot of their own time to volunteer. Jonathan Burnard from Callington Community College received his award for his commitment to fund raising for a school in India. Jonathan has carried out many sponsored walks and is due to go to Guipeva in France in early April. Mark Ormrod presented

Jonathan with his award, which has further inspired Jonathan to continue with his volunteering. Caitlin Marshall from Saltash.net also received Young Volunteer of the year award in recognition of her volunteering for 'Flash' in St Budeuax where her time and efforts have made a real difference to her local community.

Postive community action

The aim of the CATS scheme is to promote, encourage, recognise and award positive community action by rewarding the young people with sports based awards. These have been supported by local sports providers including, Saltash Leisure Centre, Lusty Glaze, Plymouth ski centre and many other local providers. There are 5 levels within the award scheme and these are based on the level of commitment, responsibility and participation time, shown by the young volunteer. This year for the first time we will be awarded a level 5 award which is the top level!!

The evening was also supported by Cornwall Councillors, Devon and Cornwall Police, Saltash.net, Callington Community College and Ginsters.

The CATS presentation rewarded young people who had been nominated by both the

school and local community for their contribution in volunteering in after school and community based projects, clubs and local organisations. Nominations came from the Callington Community College, Callington Police, K3 Saltash, Callington Youth Project, local sports clubs, Livewire and a variety of other local organisations. Michelle Roberts secretary of Callington and Saltash CATS stated 'The Awards evening was an amazing evening and paid tribute to the fantastic young people we have volunteering both at schools and within their local community, the presenters were first class and gave the evening a real buzz by inspiring the young people with their own personal stories and achievements'.

Strength to strength

CATS in Callington and Saltash has gone from strength to strength with two major highlights for this year. The first of these is that young people were involved in designing cards for Mother's Day which were on sale with Hallmark this year helping to raise money for cancer research which was great national recognition. The Friday night project has also recently received a funding boost to help develop this project in the town of Callington.

The CATS scheme was launched in Callington and Saltash in April 2007 and has proven to be very successful in providing positive activities and opportunities for young people within the areas of Callington and Saltash. CATS has worked closely with a range of partners including Callington Community College, Saltash.Net, Devon and Cornwall Police and Youth Cornwall to promote the scheme and develop a positive activities programme and volunteering opportunities in both towns.

The scheme was originally founded in Bude in 2005 and has now received national recognition. CATS UK has national funding from the Big Lottery to roll out the scheme across Devon and Cornwall and beyond.

Tennis Centre AGM

"In his address to the members of Saltash Tennis Centre at the well attended AGM held recently, the Chairman Chris Cansfield stated that the year had been one of consolidation, with an encouraging uplift in membership. Of the three Men's Teams playing in the Wilson P & D League, two had maintained their positions in Div 4 and 6 respectively with only the 'B' Team being relegated. The Ladies lead by Heather Gynn missed out on Promotion by only one point, their best result in some time. Our Juniors continued their upward path finishing second. The Ivybridge Social Tennis evening in December gave everyone the chance to get some exercise prior to the Mince Pies, this event goes from strength to strength with thanks being due to Jill Cansfield who undertakes the organisation. The equivalent Summer event in July was played in glorious sunshine, on our own grasscourts at Saltash, thanks to Phil Tucker who arranged the order of play. The strawberries supplied by Cornish Farm supplies went down a treat! Saturday morning Mini Tennis for the 5-12 year olds commences 21st April coaching being split between Dan Pengelly and Phil Tucker. The Club enjoys a firm financial footing and was currently funding the refurbishment of the two hard courts, the two grass courts maintained by the Council are looking superb and everyone was looking forward to the new Season. The Chairman concluded by thanking Committee members and all the volunteers who make the Club such a success

Answers: 1 Aldis 2 Sago 3 Milkman 4 Lanzarote 5 Orkneys 6 Lancasterians 7 Heddehog 8 Trombone 9 Bittern Nine-letter word: Motballs

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Zetland Lodge Charities



(from left Jim O'Hara (Zetland) - Shirley Evans (Saltash Blind and Partially Sighted Club) - Sue Hooper (Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation) - Graham Mills (Zetland) - Jackie Ashton (Saltash Handicapped and Disabled Organisation)

Three Saltash Charities were delighted to learn that they had shared the proceeds of £1,000 raised by Saltash based Zetland Lodge over the past year. On Tuesday 6th March the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation, Saltash Blind and Partially Sighted Club and Saltash Handicapped and Disabled Organisation all received £250 each - another £250 was donated to Saltash man Ed Buckingham who was

the first Cornish man to climb Mount Everest recently in aid of the British Heart Foundation. Zetland Lodge representatives Jim O'Hara (Charity Steward) and Graham Mills (Director of Ceremonies) and the three organisations were treated to a cream tea provided by the Saltash Blind and Partially Sighted Club and in addition, Sue Hooper provided the entertainment by giving an interesting talk on the all British Women

Team who had trekked both the North and South Poles as part of her series commemorating Scott 100 - the 100th Anniversary of the ill-fated 1912 expedition to the Antarctic.

"A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by all and the presentations by Jim and Graham representing the Lodge marked a warm and memorable occasion for all the beneficiaries." Sue said in her vote of thanks to Zetland Lodge.

Kick Start for Saltash Foodbank Collections

Customers shopping at the Saltash Co-op on a Friday in February were asked to buy an extra tin of food and donate it to the Saltash Foodbank.

The Saltash Foodbank is a new charity, formed to help local people who are temporarily short of food. Established by a group of local volunteers, the foodbank is working with various professional agencies such as the Saltash Citizens Advice Bureau. People in need are identified by these agencies and referred to the foodbank who will provide an emergency supply of tinned or boxed food that will last for a period of three days.

Mark Hawker, Saltash Foodbank joint project co-ordinator, said, "There are an increasing number of people in our area who find themselves unable to buy food, often as a result of a specific problem, such as loss of employment or mounting debt. Often this impacts children or an extended family. The Saltash Foodbank hopes to help these people by providing essential support in the form of a food parcel, that will help them through a difficult period until longer term support is arranged."

The Saltash Foodbank started operating from the middle of March 2012, and needs donations of food and

Was Disputed Footpath a Highway?

The hotly contested issue of an alleged right of way forming a footpath link at Antony Passage has been further complicated by a claim that part of the route is a lost public highway. The dispute between walkers and local landowners has already been disputed for three days in a public enquiry involving a specialist London barrister and is due to run for another two days next September.

Two undisputed rights of way converge from Shillingham and a county road and join to run onto the foreshore at Antony Passage. About fifty metres away a public road terminates by what was a former ferry landing and public house. A modification order confirming a right of way between the two points was granted last year by Cornwall Council following a dispute that has been ongoing since

2007. Now property owners 'Moorland 3' have challenged this, resulting in a public enquiry held at St Germans.

In September last year the enquiry opened and Inspector Helen Sparks, heard that Cornwall Council had recently discovered what purported to be a map dated 1929 showing that a public highway open to motor vehicles ran beyond the ferry quay in front of the lime kiln, where 'The Boat House' is now situated, to link in with the acknowledged footpath.

funds to set up a food warehouse and start providing food parcels.

Co-op store manager Adam Fritzsche said, "We are pleased to be able to support the Saltash Foodbank as they establish a vital service for people in need in our area. Our customers are always generous in their support for local charities, and we hope they will continue this tradition today by buying an extra item of food and donating it to the Foodbank."

To make a donation to the Foodbank, contact the Saltash Foodbank directly on 07580-665785.

At the adjourned enquiry barrister Stephen Whale for the property owners argued vehemently against this. User evidence of those who stated that they had continued using the route in front of the Boat House above the beach for the requisite twenty years of usage up until 2007 or 2003 (the cut off date also being in dispute) was countered by residents and former residents who alleged that the route was impassable for much of this time.

The public enquiry is due to recommence in Saltash Guildhall on 12th September.

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Did You Miss It?

Seventy five members and friends didn't forget to turn up for a celebration of everything Cornish at a St Piran's evening at Burraton Chapel. Under the engaging and funny guidance of Julian Langston ably assisted by Mr John Pearn, we enjoyed jokes and sketches from this erstwhile pair. An additional delight were musical items given by a select group from the Burraton Male Voice Choir. Mrs Dorothy Pidcock gave a rendition of a poem written by Radio Cornwall broadcaster Jeanette Eathorne in her gentle way and after a supper of pasties, splits, jam and cream and saffron cake, we all joined in with the community singing and a few more comedy items and singing by the gentlemen. The happy and much enjoyed evening closed with a rousing rendition of the Cornish anthem "Trelawney". Everyone left smiling and asking Julian, "When are you going to do another evening like this?"

Diary Date...

Murder Mystery and Charity Donations! Friday 18th May 7.30pm

Following their recent successful production of "Goody Two Shoes", Burraton Community Players are now hard at work on their next venture. Friday May 18th, not May 11th as originally planned, will see the Players reunite for their original murder mystery, Murder on the Burraton Belle! Devised and scripted by Jill Price, this drama brings together a motley assortment of disparate characters (amongst whom are a Spanish opera singer, an American newspaper magnate, an aspiring music hall soubrette, a suffragette, and a German nobleman) who find themselves at the centre of a gruesome murder for which all have a plausible motive. The year is 1912, the Titanic has sunk and everybody is looking forward to the forthcoming Olympics!

But while providing dramatic entertainment for the local community is one of the Players' Principal aims, another is the raising of funds for local charities and the Players are pleased to announce that, during the performance on May 18th they will also be handing over cheques to two local charities: the local branch of the RNLI and the teenage wards of Derriford Hospital. As with the previous murder mystery evenings, a pasty supper will be included in the ticket price of £5.00 and tickets will be available from "Piglets" (Fore Street, Saltash)

Leigh Hughes on 842109 or On the door at: Burraton Community Centre, Grenfell Avenue
A splendid time is guaranteed for all

New Car Parking Charges

Cornwall Council will be introducing new parking charges throughout Cornwall from 15 March.

Developed following consultation with residents, town and parish councils and local Members, the new charges aim to meet the issues people felt were most important for their towns and villages.

Key changes include lower charges for one hour and/or two hour stays in some towns and villages, the introduction of lower rate evening charges from 4 pm in some areas and free or reduced rate parking in the winter in some coastal towns. Some charges have also been increased to accommodate a 3% increase in total income to support transport services, including highway maintenance.

Blue badge holders who currently have to pay for parking will benefit from an additional hour of free parking each time they park.

Councillor Graeme Hicks, the Council's portfolio holder for Transportation and Highways, said: "We recognise that those people with mobility issues may require more time to carry out their business and hope this concession will help."

Additional changes made as a result of the consultation include:

- premium day rates have been introduced in certain car parks (mainly short stay) where local people felt there was the need for the opportunity to park all day;
- coaches will be permitted to park in a couple of car parks in order to help the tourist industry; and
- an experimental lower day rate has been introduced in a number of car parks.

"It is hoped that the key tariffs will help to support the town centre economy," added Councillor Hicks. "We are also working in partnership with others to develop further initiatives. However we must not lose sight that parking provides an important income stream that helps to support services provided by the Council."

More information about the changes to charges in Council car parks available on Cornwall Council's website

www.cornwall.gov.uk/parking

Over £1 Million from European Fisheries Fund Welcomed



Recently Sheryll Murray MP welcomed the news that £1.13 Million from the European Fisheries Fund would be made available for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Fishing Communities. In a statement following the announcement in Looe she said:

"This is superb news for Cornwall and Looe and I look forward to it going from strength to strength."

"I think it's absolutely

brilliant that the whole community will be working together for the good of the town of Looe. The fishing fleet has declined over the last two decades and I hope now the FLAG will take the example from places like Brittany were fishing has a place that enhances the economy of the whole community."

New Signs for Saltash

Town boundary signs for the Town are to be replaced with a new sign for welcoming visitors to the Town from the Tamar Bridge.

Land adjacent to Lower Fore Street is being acquired for this sign, the Town Council anticipates.

The Town's historic Cornish name 'Essa' will not appear on the signs as the Highways Agency does not permit any title other than that by which a town is generally known. This is despite other towns including Callington and Liskeard having their Cornish names in addition to their current designations.

The Highways Agency is also reluctant to agree the mounting of signs on granite, as had been considered, metal posts being accepted as safer. The signs, which will be paid for by monies given to the council be developers as a condition of planning approvals ("Section 106" money) will be on the Town boundaries except at Notter where placement on the actual bridge is considered unsafe.

Cemetery Wall in Dangerous Condition

The wall of St Stephens cemetery presents a health and safety hazard and a section has been taped and cordoned off.

After discussion with Cornwall Council it was decided that it was Saltash Town Council's responsibility to effect the necessary repairs. A sum of up to £5,000 from general reserves has been allocated for this.

Tamar Bridge Builders Who Died are Remembered

The mighty engineering structure that spans the Tamar and was the longest single span suspension bridge of its time was not built without cost. In financial terms £1,800.00 was the total cost, but in human terms sadly it cost seven lives lost during construction.

Fifty years on a memorial has been dedicated to those who died during the course of construction.

The Mayor of Saltash Cllr Colin Oakes joined with the Lord Mayor of Plymouth other distinguished guests, and relatives of the deceased to dedicate a poignant memorial on the Devon bank of the bridge naming the seven dead whose ages range from 21 to 56. The memorial is of stainless steel in the shape of a bridge tower.

Five of the dead were lost together on 24th April 1960 when a works boat below the bridge sank. The others died in 1961 and 1962.

During the Fifty year anniversary celebrations in 2011 it was decided that the Tamar Bridge Committee should fund a belated tribute to those who died in its construction while there were still those alive who remembered them.

Observer Telephone Numbers
07971484872
or 01579 345699

CRASH Card launched

Cornwall Council's Road Safety unit has teamed up with South West Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust to introduce the CRASH Card to Cornwall.

Scores of motorcyclists attended the launch at Damerell's Motorcycles in Indian Queens on Saturday. Designed by paramedics who are passionate about motorcycles, the card provides

vital medical information for ambulance crews at the scene of a crash. Riders who carry the card fix a small green dot to the right hand side of their helmet in order to alert crews to its presence.

Cornwall Council's Road Safety Project Co-ordinator, John Macneil said "In the run up to possibly the biggest biking weekend of the year, we're delighted to join this national scheme which not only raises awareness among bikers, but could save lives in Cornwall."

The CRASH Card was designed and created by the Ambulance Motorcycle Club, in 2009 and since its introduction in Essex over 3 years ago it has been recognised as the leading medical alert for motorcyclists in the UK.

The CRASH Card programme is available in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, America and last week it launched in Sweden. To date many motorcyclists across the world have been assisted after an accident by the scheme

You can pick up a CRASH card in person at Damerell's Motorcycles or send an email to bikers@cornwall.gov.uk to have one posted to you

Saltash Leisure Centre

into fitness

Welcome to a great way of keeping fit, staying healthy & most importantly,

Holiday Activities Children's Activity Programme

- Mon 2nd April.....9am-4pm Activity Day
- Tues 3rd Apri11am-12pm Inflatable Session1pm-2:30pm Dance Mats
- Weds 4th Apri.....9am-4pm Rookie Lifeguard Day
- Thurs 5th April.....10am-12pm Easter Pool Party.....1pm-3pm Art Attack
- Tues 10th April.....11am-12pm Inflatable Session1pm-3pm Snorkelling
- Weds 11th April.....10am-3pm Activity Day
- Thurs 12th April.....10am-12pm Easter Pool Party.....1pm-2:30pm Dance Mats
- Fri 13th April9am-4pm Activity Day

Telephone or call in for further details

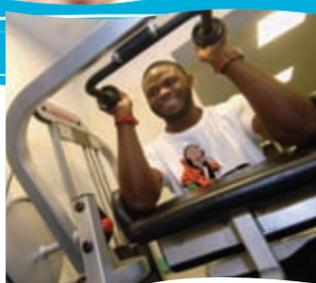
Relax in the Coffee Shop while the children are having fun...
We have lots of meals on offer, including daily specials, healthy and vegetarian options.



New To Saltash Leisure Centre...

dream 4 X-Dream bikes are the newest pieces of equipment to enter the Fitness Suite. They are without a doubt the most attractive products providing the 'wow' factor for both our adult and junior members, allowing them to interact with the gaming experience whilst at the same time providing a great fun workout.
Lee Russell

Visit your local leisure centre



Tel: 01752 840940 www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisurecentres

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