

# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

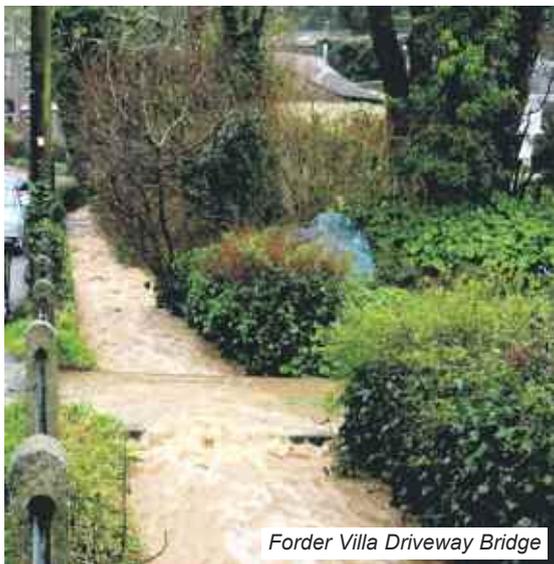
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April 2016 - Issue 289

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## Climate Change and Building Plans Add to Flood Risk Councillor Claims

Major building schemes should be challenged, Councillor Hooper believes, citing Pillmere and Latchbrook estates as examples of inadequate infrastructure and amenities. She asked that anyone who had a report of local flooding within the past few years make her aware of it. A flood risk working group, set up by the Town Council and including Councillors and residents from vulnerable areas should be set up to keep the Town Council and other stakeholders informed of ongoing problems, Councillor Hooper proposed.

Other Councillors suggested that there were already local bodies considering flooding issues, which were being covered in the Neighbourhood Plan currently under preparation. This however, Councillor

Hooper pointed out, is a general plan for the next twenty years, the flooding issue requires more immediate action.

Town Councillors after discussion voted down Councillor Hooper's, proposal of a working group, with only Councillor John Brady supporting her. They did however agree to invite a representative from the Environment Agency to address the issue of local flood risk.

Local concern over flooding issues, likely to be exacerbated by the building of new estates including a thousand homes at Broadmoor, were discussed during an extraordinary meeting of Saltash Town Council.

How the town will cope in future with weather and climate change and unprecedented increases recorded in torrential rainfall was the subject of a report by Councillor Mrs Sue Hooper MBE who had called the meeting.

Forder and Burraton Coombe villages had suffered badly in the past and more so recently, she reported. Forder villagers felt very vulnerable and believed that their voices were not being heard when they reported flooding issues to appropriate agencies. Recently water flowing under the bridge was virtually at road level and has reached the cottages on the banks of the leat and gushed alarmingly into the paths of houses. Burraton Coombe has two streams running into the village converging into one which test its capacity at times. Homes and gardens have already been overcome by flash flood.

The Waterside area too Mrs. Hooper submitted, which has long been inundated with swollen river floods at high spring tides now experiences waves sweeping in and deluging buildings, footpaths and open spaces as may be seen on You Tube.



## Belle Vue Road Building Opened as an Asset to Community

Saltash community based organisations are now sharing a new home with commercial tenants who will pay for the building's overheads in a recently opened community asset at the heart of the town. When the former Citizens Information Bureau building in Belle Vue Road was clearly underused Cornwall County Council decided to sell the premises. Saltash Town Council persuaded them to postpone the sale with the intention that the building could be an ideal home for the Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company. A business plan was prepared and it was soon obvious that part of the building would need to be let to commercial tenants in order to finance the outgoings.

Following total refurbishment leader of Cornwall Council John Pollard attended the official opening of the CIC building and praised Saltash as 'lucky to have a CIC with ambition' He described big changes happening in Cornwall with towns taking more control of their own assets. Cornwall Council is determined to transfer such assets and to promote enterprise run by Saltash and serving Saltash.

The newly renovated building is far better in its new guise, confirmed CIC Chair Peter Thistlethwaite. In providing a home for both the Citizens Advice Bureau and Saltash Food Bank it links services offered to the more vulnerable members of the community.

Mr Thistlethwaite also noted that much of the renovations had been carried out by young offenders on community service and thanked probation department officer John Brownlow for co-ordinating this work.

As well as commercial enterprises the building provides also office space for Groundwork South, Cornwall Council and British Rowing.

The opening tape was cut, in the presence of Mayor Councillor Bill Phillips, by Michael Lavelle, who had been born in the property on the site, been present when it was destroyed in the Saltash blitz, and lived in it when it was rebuilt in 1947 and remained a family home until sold to Caradon Council in 1990.



## St Stephen's School Traffic Survey

Recently we welcomed our local police to school to support the children in a traffic enforcement survey. We set ourselves up along Long Park Road and proceeded to use the speed gun to measure the speed of cars as they passed the school. When they were above 24 miles per hour the Police officer flagged them down and the children asked them questions such as "How would you feel if you knocked me over?" The drivers were all very remorseful and spoke to the children rather than to be issued a ticket. It seems many people were unaware that the area is actually a 20 mile an hour zone, most seemed to believe that the area was a 30 mile an hour limit. As a result, the constables will contact Cornwall Highways to see if there needs to be more warning signs. It was a very useful exercise and one we are going to repeat at regular intervals and at different times of the day. The children were great and loved using the speed gun, I think they all want a career in the Police Force now.

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## Essa Files

A few days before I wrote this column the Microsoft 'chatbot' Tay was in the news. As an idea it sounded rather clever as it could chat with anyone online and as people talked to it was designed to pick up new language and learn to respond in new ways. Unfortunately one of the Tay's settings meant that she would, if anyone said "repeat after me," retweet anything.

It took less than 24 hours before this was being used to have Tay tweet some pretty unpleasant things against, amongst others, Jewish people, feminists and immigrants. Once this flaw became clear Microsoft immediately took the programme down.

Some have seen this as an example of the dangers of artificial intelligence; others as a cautionary tale for the power of the internet; others as a symbol of general human hatred and intolerance; and some as simply poor programming by Microsoft. I see it as something a little different: it is a reminder of the power of education, for both good and bad. Children, not unlike Tay, often pick up their early opinions from what they hear from others. The more they hear them, the more they repeat them.

Of course people can, unlike Tay, challenge these views and rebel against them, but if they hear them often enough then this becomes very hard. Nelson Mandela famously said "No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion.

People must learn to hate"

Equally, as Mandela noted, the reverse is also true "if people can learn to hate, they can be taught to love". I have seen this in my time as a teacher - in only eleven years I have noted a clear shift towards a more generally tolerant approach by young people towards things like sexuality, gender and lifestyle choices - much of which is a result of teaching. Some of this is formal - through lessons in Citizenship and Social Education - and some less formal through the attitudes they hear from the media, popular culture, friends and relatives.

This does mean that we have to try to see the best in each other, not the worst, and work for the positive reinforcement not the negative. Recent events in Saltash Town Council, as reported in the last Observer, perhaps provide a good example of this - the more people repeat negative comments about each other the most negativity feeds off itself and threatens to prevent people working together for the good of the town.

## Free Family History Day Welcomes One and All

Famous and infamous ancestors and perhaps a few skeletons emerging from cupboards could be discovered at a Grand Family History Discovery Day in Liskeard on 21st May.

For those yet to involve themselves in the fascinating study of genealogy as well as those who have already begun to discover their family trees but need experienced help in furthering their research, help will be at hand.

Saltash Heritage, who themselves hold a substantial number of local parish records and deeds of properties among their substantial local archival material, will be joining members of Cornwall and Devon Family History Societies, Plymouth and West Devon as well as Cornwall Record Offices, and many other local museums and local history groups to help those interested in digging out the roots of their family trees. There will be plenty of online assistance and advice for those inexperienced in accessing the vast amount of information available online for family history researchers.

Admission is free for the event which will be held in Liskeard Public Hall, West Street, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday 21st May.

## Sailors Alarmed at Mooring Fees Hike

Those who moor boats off Saltash on moorings formerly owned by Saltash Borough Council are facing a hike in mooring fees of up to 140%, local sailors are complaining.

The Borough Council passed over mooring rights off the town to Plymouth in 1950 and Plymouth City Council are now seeking to impose increases including from £95 to £230 for a tidal mooring.

Plymouth City Council claims that the costs are to cover improvements to facilities for boat-owners and simply bring the fees into line with others charged in the region.

Saltash Town Councillors were among those attending an angry meeting of local boat owners at Saltash Sailing Club.

At a subsequent council meeting it was suggested that if the Sailing Club wished, the Town Council might seek to intervene and possibly take back the moorings from Plymouth.

Other local moorings at Forder and off Cargreen are leased directly from the Duchy of Cornwall, it was noted.

Saltash Sailing Club Vice Commodore Nina Lillee was hopeful that a solution could be agreed and if not the issue should be raised with the Duchy of Cornwall.



CORNWALL COUNCIL

and our PL12 community  
For Observer readers  
From Councillor Hilary Frank  
Saltash South

## There are more slaves now than at any time in history.

That was the startling, depressing fact that was thrown at Cornwall Councillors during a briefing about safeguarding in County Hall the other day. I had blithely hoped slavery was a thing of the past, but in fact it has become so prevalent that we even need a piece of legislation aimed at tackling the issues: the Modern Slavery Act, which became law last year in March. Here in Cornwall, we have significant employment in the agriculture, tourism and fishing industries - all of which rely on migrant and temporary workers. The opportunity for exploitation exists in all three sectors.

The next presentation in the briefing delivered a stark message about the alarming prevalence of domestic abuse. And another depressing fact was hurled at us: £81 million was spent last year in Cornwall responding to domestic abuse. There is such a lot of misery hiding behind that figure... Abuse isn't just physical: it can also be emotional, financial or psychological.

## Keeping people safe is everyone's responsibility

I sat there, glumly. And I wanted to know what I could do to help. Then the next presenter in this bleak array started saying that a consistent message from cases involving harm to children is the importance of identifying problems at an early stage. She stressed the need to address issues before they get worse, before needs turn to crises. She stressed the importance of reporting concerns. In the next breath, though, she told us that a recent poll showed that more than 40% of people in the South West said they would put off reporting concerns about a child's welfare in case they were wrong. Many people find it difficult to report concerns about child

abuse, but all children have the right to be safe and should be protected from all forms of abuse and neglect.

So here I am, asking you to report your concerns. At the end of this article, I'll give you some phone numbers. Please do ring the national Modern Slavery Helpline if you're worried, for example, that one of your employees doesn't have a passport. Ring REACH, based in Truro, for free and confidential advice about domestic abuse. And if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, contact MARU - the Multi-Agency Referral Unit set up in 2012 by Cornwall Council. Based in Truro, MARU is the single point of contact for all concerns about the welfare or safety of children or young people. At the heart of MARU is a multi-agency advice team, comprising specialist social workers, a police sergeant and professionals with experience in teaching and child health care. This multi-agency approach has enabled information to be shared more effectively and has led to improvements in wider partnership working. MARU deals with between 850 and 1000 referrals every month. This is an alarmingly high number, but it is at least comforting to know that people who contact MARU are receiving effective support.

## Together we can tackle it!

The 4 councillors representing Saltash on Cornwall Council have regular meetings with the Saltash neighbourhood police team, town councillors and professionals to discuss anti-social behaviour within the town. Recent topics have been disturbing: doorbells are being stolen from Saltash homes; vandals have damaged Churchtown Farm and the public toilets in Belle Vue; and graffiti is defacing walls in our town. This anti-social behaviour affects us all. Agencies such as Cornwall Council and the police rely on the community to report any incidents or information, so please use the phone numbers below to make a report.

## Love where you live

Another form of anti-social behaviour is littering. Cornwall Council's contractor cleans Fore Street on a daily basis, and areas outside Fore Street on a 6-8 week rota. This used to be fine, but recently the litter has been building up in the middle of those 6-8 week cleans - the dedicated volunteers on our monthly

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litter picks are clearing away increasing amounts of rubbish. If an area gets badly littered in between the scheduled cleans, then under the terms of the contract, Cornwall Council's contractor must get it cleaned at no extra cost. The contractor won't know where the grot spots are unless you report them, so if the litter is piling up please report the mess by ringing the number below or by sending an email to [refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk)

Together we can tackle these issues - but it is vital that they are reported. So here are those all-important telephone numbers for you. Don't forget, though, that if it is an emergency you need to be contacting the police on 999, and that a wide variety of problems can also be reported online at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-it](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-it)

Modern Slavery Helpline 0800 0121 700  
Domestic abuse (REACH) 0300 7774 777  
A child's safety (MARU) 0300 1231 116  
Litter 0300 1234 141  
Dog mess 0300 1234 212  
Anti-social behaviour 0300 1234 232  
Saltash neighbourhood police team 101

## Public Notice

### Forder Town or Village Green

In February 2008, Application 2714 under Section 15.2 of the Commons Act 2006, accompanied by 144 Evidence Questionnaires completed by Saltash residents was submitted to Cornwall Council to register a small & neglected area of scrub and abandoned quay on Forder Creek as a Town or Village Green. It was resolved by the Council in 2010 that a non-statutory Public Inquiry should be held but this, although eventually scheduled for November 2014, was postponed after a complaint from the new landowners. However, Cornwall Council are now, in March 2016, aiming to simply cancel that Public Inquiry & to reject the Application on the basis that Saltash residents used it by 'permission' and not 'as of right'.

**If you used the land without ever being given such 'permission' or if you need further information, please contact the Registration Group at:**  
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[marye.crawford@virgin.net](mailto:marye.crawford@virgin.net)

## Chamber Chairman Peter Ryland Keeping us updated...

I have become Chairman of Saltash Chamber of Commerce at a time when there is so much happening in the town.

1. Devolution from Cornwall Council of various properties and functions has resulted in the Town Council and Community Enterprises PL12 being involved, with the latter having recently taken over 18 Belle Vue Road which now has full occupancy.

2. The Neighbourhood Plan is being evolved at present which will form a plan for Saltash (based on the county wide parameters set by Cornwall Council) to ensure the future prosperity of the town.

3. Saltash Town Centre Improvement Group (STIG) is developing ideas which will continue to assist in maintaining footfall in the town centre.

4. Community Enterprises PL12 which runs the Hopper Bus, Saltash Card and the Market at No. 4 is also looking to take on empty shop units to create Pop up Shops.

5. The Chamber is running its second Wedding Fayre in April and the Love Saltash Festival in August.

I heard somebody the other day referring to Saltash as a 'dormant' town. It is not, with so much going on, but it is a dormitory town to Plymouth and as such the business community needs to act together to try and ensure that trade remains in the town and does not transgress the Tamar. But at the same time we have to ensure that the businesses in Saltash have easy access to the wider customer base.

Saltash has an historic

waterfront, a wealth of talent in its community, a very varied town centre, good road/rail connections but is often forgotten about within Cornwall because of its proximity to Plymouth. Councillors represent the population of the town but the Chamber is here to represent businesses, at all levels from the large employers to the one-man business from retail to manufacturing and including the service and catering businesses.

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## Residents Urged to Report Litter Problems

If you see a serious litter problem in or around Saltash, report it to Cornwall Council for prompt action to be taken. This was the message from Saltash Town Council which is anxious to clean up in particular the residential areas of the town.

Cornwall Council currently concentrates on cleaning 'Zone One' which consists of the town's commercial centre. However there is a 'Reactive Team' which can target areas of need. 'The more people complain the better we are able to deploy the team', County Councillor Bob Austin told the Council. Currently Cornwall Council contractors aim to clean each road in the town on a six to eight week rotational basis though they are somewhat behind schedule at present. However if a particular area falls to what is regarded as 'Grade C' or below then the contractors must get it back to 'Grade A' within twenty four hours.

Ideally there should be no need for so much litter sweeping and the Town Council discussed spending money on advertising posters against litter dropping. They also planned addressing school assemblies to educate young children against littering, though it was agreed that children are not the prime litter droppers.

Anyone wishing to report a particular litter problem can contact Gina Varcoe at Cornwall Council on gvarcoe@cornwall.gov.uk Alternatively the Town Council has its own litter picking equipment which residents may borrow free of charge.

## Leap Year Baby has Middle Name of Mayoral Grandfather



Proud Nonna (Maggie) with Sebastian Martin

A leap year baby born in Saltash will carry the name of his Grandfather, a District and Town Councillor and former Mayor of Saltash who sadly lost his battle with cancer before he could see his first grandchild.

Sebastian Martin Bate was born in Saltash to parents Christopher and Melissa thus ensuring that he would be a proper Cornish boy. He arrived late evening on February 29th and so will have his birthday celebrated on February 28th with a 'proper' birthday every four years.

As soon as they knew that their first child was to be a boy the proud parents decided that his middle name should be Martin after his grandfather Martin Gee who was active in many spheres of the Saltash community and Mayor in 2012/13 with his widow Maggie as Mayoress. Diagnosed with cancer in 2014 it was of great joy to him that he was in remission that December so that he

could lead his only daughter Melissa up the aisle of St. Stephens Church at her wedding to Christopher. It was another joy to him to be told of the forthcoming grandson whom he realised that he might never see.

Christopher is a Royal Navy Officer currently serving in Scotland but was granted leave to be at the home birth of his son, alongside Melissa who is head of mathematics at Stoke Damerel College, Plymouth.

Christopher and Melissa were uncertain as to which of several first names they were to choose. As soon as they looked upon their 8 pound 2 ounce leap year baby however they decided that he was to be Sebastian Martin Bate.

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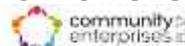
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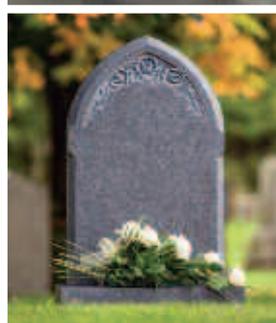
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## A Hundred Years in Forty Minutes

A Saltash centenarian was the surprised and delighted subject when Sue Hooper MBE assumed the role of Eamonn Andrews as Saltash Second Forum hosted 'This is your life - Amy Farnworth'. Amy, who was to be a hundred years old the following week, left her home at 'The Elms' for Wesley Church thinking only that she must take some cash for the Second Forum Table Top Sale. Instead she was greeted with a round of applause as forum members, with guests including Mayor and Mayoress Bill and Jean Phillips prepared to celebrate the hundredth birthday of their much loved founder member.

Amy's full and fascinating life was then outlined by Mrs Sue Hooper who read from the 'This is your Life' book that she had prepared. Amy was born in 1916 in what was then the Lancashire cotton manufacturing town of Rawtenstall. Her family moved when she was very young and for twelve years kept a theatrical boarding house in Manchester. Here the young Amy was to meet many leading artistes of the day and to see them on stage, thus acquiring the love in particular of music that has played a large role in her life.

Aged sixteen she was to leave the big city when her parents acquired a boarding house in deepest Devon, a total contrast, but Amy was soon to feel at home and joined a choir as well as the local Methodist Church. Here she started to train the voice that has

delighted family, friends and wider audiences over the years. After a wartime experience in an aircraft factory she was to train at Rolle College as a teacher before spending a career teaching at the West of England School for the Partially Sighted, specialising in music.

Amy's sister Lucy had come to live in Saltash to be close to her son and daughter in law Bob and Jackie Austin, and following retirement Amy was to follow her. Here, on finding that the Saltash First Forum was full she helped found Saltash Second Forum of which she is still a proud member, and has served as Chair and Secretary. She also joined the Womens' Institute as well as the Wesley Church. Her many interests have included painting, embroidery, knitting as well as singing, and she is still



renowned for playing a mean game of scrabble!

Mrs Hooper was delighted to present Amy with the book of her life before the birthday cake was cut and some of her many friends and family members shared a buffet and birthday cake.

Saltash Second Forum continues to flourish and welcomes new members. Any retired person is welcome to attend the meetings held on Fridays at 10 a.m. in Wesley Church and to share the mixture of talks, social events and fellowship.



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## Stage Weave Musical Magic - Remembering Rhiannon

"A tale as old as time - Beauty and the Beast", the title song declares, but this ancient tale of love and redemption had a youthful joy and vivacity when brought to the Saltash Stage by the young people of Page 2 Stage.

For their fourth show the thirty plus talented cast aged seven to eighteen threw themselves into their acting, singing and dancing and succeeded in sharing their delight with an enchanted audience. Heather Walsh and Charlie Angel-Craven harmoniously complemented each other in the title roles, each with a fine singing voice, while Robert Walsh was equally ideal as the bumptious would-be lover of Belle, Gaston. Matt Calder was especially excellent in the difficult role of portraying an older man, Belle's bumbling father. Within the enchanted castle the loyal servants who were transforming into such domestic appliances as clock, light and teapot, Megan Walsh, Lucy Kevern, Alisha Percy, Emma Chowings, Jemima Budd and Elise Walsh, brought humour as well as dramatic skill to their roles as they endeavoured to advance the romantic feelings of their Lord the Beast and so end the spell under which they had all been cast.

All of those involved in the production felt the presence of a seventeen year old star who had supported the troupe from the start but sadly lost her brave battle with cancer while the show was in rehearsal. Rhiannon Percy, whom we on the 'Observer' knew and loved, attended a rehearsal in her wheelchair, still showing the zest for life and enthusiasm for the troupe for which she was renowned. Following her passing it was unanimously agreed that the production, in which her sisters Alisha and Grace performed and her parents Louise and Martin

worked backstage, should be dedicated to Rhiannon. And a special production was staged for Rhiannon when family friend Michael Wallis, Charity Manager at Derriford Children's Cancer Service made a surprise appearance on the Saltash.netschool stage, to present a Pride of Plymouth award to Rhiannon's parents on her behalf.

She had been selected as a Plymouth Herald Young Hero of the Year in 2014, following her raising of over £1,000 for charity, while herself undergoing chemotherapy, but she had been reluctant to

accept it, modestly claiming that she had done nothing special. Michael Wallis had arranged for the well-earned tribute to be presented posthumously to Rhiannon's proud parents in the presence of her Page 2 Stage friends whose undoubted success in their fourth production would have delighted her.

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## Ashtorre Anniversary Marked with Music and Family Fun

“Don't say 'no' to a Watersider!” This was the principle upon which former ferryman Gerald Truscott and his fellow “tidewatchers” accepted the challenge of the seemingly impossible, building a community centre overlooking the Tamar where former Watersiders, fellow Saltash residents and visitors could socialise, enjoy entertainment and other activities, or simply relax enjoying hot or cold refreshment and superb views.

Twenty five years on and Gerald Truscott's daughter Lynn Marsh, with husband Tony, helped to host a celebration to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Ashtorre Rock Community Centre.

The celebrations began with music and laughter yet with a touch of sadness as the ever popular Larrick Lads performed their last ever concert of shanties and other songs after delighting so many audiences over the decade.

On Saturday, St. Piran's

Day, the actual anniversary of the opening by the late Cornish folk singer Brenda Wootton, there was music again as the crowd gathered and sand along to Jim and Maureen on guitar and accordion.

Then it was time to cut the Ashtorre Birthday Cake.

The old ferry bell rang out as glasses of sherry were charged and raised to the memory of those Watersiders who had worked with endeavour and determination to create Ashtorre and had

since passed on. Then Lynn Marsh invited to help cut the cake Rosemary Derrick, daughter of the Mayor and Consort who had attended the opening, the late Marjorie and Ben Schikowsky, Cake, Sherry, and many memories were shared by the throng who packed the Ashtorre Rock Community Centre twenty-five years on.

The following day, Sunday, the celebrations continued with the focus on family and the rising generations of future users of the Ashtorre facilities. A packed programme of face painting, art and craft activities and story telling and music attracted children from all over Saltash. The highlight however, for the children as well as the parents and your Saltash Observer reporter had to be the magic mystery and zany humour of ‘Nutty Noah’

who held his audience entranced (how did he get that table to levitate?)

The anniversary celebrations concluded with the welcome return of a long term friend of Ashtorre, Chris Batters. His ‘Nostalgia Evening’ took a full house of supporters back to the ‘50’s’, ‘60’s’, and ‘70’s’ to a world of wagon wheels and Wagon Train, and when Friday night was Amami Night. We stretched our memories to answer as to why the ‘don't forget the Fruit Gums’ advert had to be changed and who

were the lady doctor, blonde bombshell and the bald and the grumpy old man panellists on ‘What's My Line.’

Throughout the last twenty-five years the Ashtorre Rock has been at the forefront of so many of the town's celebrations and commemorations.

We were delighted to see its own anniversary commemorated in fitting style and given the support indicating that it will continue to be a popular part of our Saltash community for at least another quarter of a century.



### St. Patricks Day at the Ashtorre

Music at the Ashtorre is becoming increasingly popular. Following a packed house celebrating St. Patricks Day, a programme of spring Sunday afternoon music by the riverside will include Latin American guitar music & sounds of Brass. Observer editor Mary Crawford and Frank Hopper got into the St. Patricks day celebratory mood.

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- 1 What name is given to a large heated box used for hatching eggs? (9)
- 2 What is the only Country in the World to have a Flag that is neither rectangular nor square? (5)
- 3 Which musical features the songs Summer Nights and Hopelessly Devoted To You? (6)
- 4 In which Country would you find the Masai Mara National Game Reserve? (5)
- 5 What was the occupation of Alfred Dolittle in the musical My Fair Lady? (7)
- 6 In the poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge which bird was killed by the Ancient Mariner? (9)
- 7 How many gallons of Beer are there in a Firkin? (4)
- 8 From which British port did the Titanic sail on her maiden voyage? (11)

Answers on page 8

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There has been much talk about the Budget which was delivered by the Chancellor last month. There were some very positive announcements for Cornwall in the Budget. I was delighted to hear the announcement of £5 million to develop options to safeguard the resilience of the rail line between Exeter and Newton Abbot, via Dawlish and the trialling of fuel price signs on the M5 between Exeter and Bristol.

I was also pleased to hear that £8.4 million will be available to fill 159,000 potholes in the South West next year. I do hope that this will be welcome news for Cornwall Council and that their contractors can step up to the mark and get our roads repaired during periods of dry weather.

I was pleased at the announcement of a new Enterprise Zone for Cornwall and I hope the announcement of a £4.5 million boost for ultrafast broadband coverage across the South West will help to relieve some of the problems

that my Constituents have been experiencing with broadband connection. Rest assured, I will continue to follow up any problems I am contacted about with BT Openreach.

It is also good news that that the National Infrastructure Commission will use the South West as a case study to see how the UK can become a world-leader on 5G rollout. This is important for rural areas and I will do my best to make sure that I press the needs of South East Cornwall and Cornwall as a whole in this study.

I am also pleased that there will be no vote on changes in Personal Independence Payments which caused so many disabled people concern and I am personally pleased that representations have been listened to. Many of my constituents seem to have been confused about the changes to the Employment Support Allowance which were debated and voted on prior to the Budget. The proposals re-aligned payments for those people in a WRAG (work related activity group) to the Job Seekers Allowance. This measure will only apply to new claimants and most importantly, ESA for those

**SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...**



I was also pleased that the South West Coast Path Association received an extra £132,543 extra funding which supplemented an earlier grant from the fund of over £1 million.

The next round of bidding will commence in the summer of 2016. I hope the report will inspire more groups from South East Cornwall to submit a bid. The enterprise, passion and hard work shown by the projects showcased in the report make me proud that this Conservative Government is determined to support our Coastal Communities.

I have also received a letter from Mark Francois MP, the Minister for Communities and Resilience informing me that the Department has published the second Annual Progress Report on the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF).

I am really pleased Coastal Community Teams in England, three are located in South East Cornwall at Torpoint and Rame, Saltash Waterside and Looe. These teams were awarded £10,000 to kickstart their projects.

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## Land Gift to Saltash

A piece of land in Culver Road opposite Mary Newman's Cottage and overlooking the Tamar, has been offered to the town as a community asset transfer.

The land could be used to create a community garden or possibly site a small building, Councillors considered.

It was agreed that as the land was a gift it should be accepted

subject to the uplift being 5% or less. This means that should the Council sell it on at some future date they would not have to refund Cornwall Council more than 5% of its value.

## Awards for Dedication

Six Saltash children who won awards and Easter eggs from Clean Cornwall, Stella and Esme Hatch, Emmie and Aya Frank (together with Oliver and Emelia Newton, who are not pictured) were in the running to receive a top award because of their dedication and enthusiastic contribution to the litter picks in Saltash: between the six of them they have been to every single litter pick that has been organised over the last year.



Saltash School Children Clean for the Queen



Over two hundred Saltash School children 'Cleaned for The Queen' led by the town's Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The following day around twenty adults, some with young children, followed their lead in helping tidy up the town.

They were participating in a nationwide campaign to Clean up Britain prior to the ninetieth birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Mayor and Deputy Mayor Councillors Bill Phillips and Hilary Frank spend a Friday morning with around 120 children from year three to six from Bishop Cornish School, cleaning the streets and open spaces around that area. In the afternoon they joined around ninety St. Stephens school children and cleaned in particular the 'cinder path' between St. Stephens Road and the Alamein estate.

On the Saturday adults and children gathered on Waterside to be issued with pickers and plastic sacks before working their way via Elwell Woods to Longstone

Park. They concluded with coffee and cakes in the Wesley Church.

Organised by Saltash Town Council and Saltash Environmental Action this was just one of the regular monthly litterpicks they carry out in different part of the town. They normally take place on a Sunday afternoon at the end of the month and the next one however is planned for Saturday 30th April, meeting at 2 pm at the Leisure Centre car park in Callington Road. Further information on the litterpicks is on the Town Council website.

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## Our Sesqui-Centenary Anniversary

Our Freemason's lodge is celebrating 150 years in Saltash this year & as part of our yearlong celebrations, we are opening the lodge in Dunheved Road to the public on Saturday 30th April 2016, which is of course the same day as Saltash Mayfair. We will also have a stall at the Mayfair & will invite any interested people to come along to the lodge & have a look around. We are inviting charities or causes who we have donated to since 2000 to come along to the lodge & have a small stall or put up a display advertising their particular charity or cause. The lodge will be open at 10.00am & run till about 2ish. We have also invited the Mayor & local MP to come along too.

Since 2000 our lodge has given over £9,000 to local non masonic charities in the Saltash area. This is in addition to any monies donated in the area by the other 4 Craft lodges in Saltash, the Province of Cornwall or the United Grand Lodge of England. Only on Saturday 2 April 2016, Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall presented Macmillan Cove Appeal with a cheque for £75,792 in Newquay. All these monies were raised internally by freemason's.

We hope to see as many people as possible come to the temple, have a look around & ask any questions they wish. This is a rare & unique opportunity to see inside a masonic lodge.

## From The Mayor's Parlour...

Well as we move into my last few weeks as the Mayor, so probably time to look back at the last 12 months and on reflection I find it hard to believe what we have been a part of. Totting up the year and looking a few weeks forward we will have by the end of the month attended, 15 Civic services, 15 Concerts, 15 fund raisers and lunches, 22 anniversaries and presentations and 17 openings as well as the normal run of meetings.

The last year has been a massive learning curve and to say I'm massively impressed by the people of our town is an understatement, I have met some of the most dedicated individuals you could imagine. The amount of organisations in our town is staggering and we probably only met a small! proportion over the year all thanks to the army of volunteers they keep going. Trying to come up with events that stand out, that would be difficult but one thing that has started this year is a forum of the mayors of Cornwall meeting 4 times a year to share ideas and problems and hopefully with a collective voice can change things. We as a council are moving into our final year before the elections next May and I intend to carry on with our programme of delivering a better place to live. Our neighbourhood plan is ongoing as is the take over of public toilets, open space in Pilmere! as well as ongoing discussions over play parks and the waterfront.

*Cllr Bill Philips Town Mayor*

## A Fitting Feature for Cornwall's Gateway – Suggestions Sought

Carkeel roundabout should be created as a welcoming gateway to Cornwall and local views are sought as to how this might best be affected.

The Saltash Neighbourhood Plan team which is concentrating on transport issues is keen that visitors and returning residents to Cornwall should, at the first roundabout in the County, encounter a feature symbolic of Saltash or of Cornwall as a whole. The reconfiguration of the roundabout, due to begin later this year offers the opportunity to place upon it a major and eye catching feature that will draw visitors to Saltash and to what lies beyond.

Any suggestions would be welcomed from those of any age and will be given consideration as the final version of the Saltash Neighbourhood Plan is drawn up. Such suggestions can be put to Councillor Bob Austin through the Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash, PL12 6JX or [baustin@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:baustin@cornwall.gov.uk)

## Tamar House Residents Sing Out for Easter

Spring was serenaded in at Tamar House Saltash by a choir of ten residents aged between 72 and 97, who entertained at the home's Easter Party and delighted their audience of fellow residents, family and staff aged from 3 to around.

The choir was organised by activities organiser Pat Bartlett who has worked at Tamar House for many years encouraging residents to enjoy a variety of indoor pastimes. 'But when I started to get them to sing it was wonderful', said Pat. 'Last Christmas when we had a party they sang as a choir and it was loved by all'. Two members had experience of singing in church, to the others it was a new and pleasant experience.

The repertoire ranged through wartime favourites and songs from the shows to those especially fitting for Easter and the audience joined in such suitable classics as 'Morning has Broken'. 'All things bright and beautiful' and 'Bless this house'.

## Conundrum Answers:

Answers: 1 Incubator 2 Nepal 3 Grease 4 Kenya 5 Dustman 6 Albatross 7 Nine 8 Southampton. Re-arranged the letters spell the Village of Kingsand

## William Morris to Stand Again for Police and Crime Commissioner

Regular readers may remember William Morris from the last time he stood as an independent candidate for Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall and launched his campaign with a public meeting in Saltash. He is speaking again, and as before the venue will be the extension of the Ploughboy Inn at 7.30pm on Monday 18th April.

William says that Saltash, like much of Devon and Cornwall, has poor figures for violent crime. He points to the latest crime statistics which show Saltash as having increased levels of violence. They make grim reading. In the year to 29 February 2016 (the latest period for which crime statistics are

available) there were 91 incidents of crime resulting in injury (as opposed to 89 the previous year); and 11 rapes (4 the previous year). William insists he can and will reverse these trends both in Saltash and throughout Devon and Cornwall. He wants to bring in targeted zero tolerance policing in areas where violent crime rates are not falling. This should be done, he says, in conjunction with community payback schemes which have proven to reduce numbers of youngsters going through the criminal justice system.

For more on this and on all William's policies he suggests you come along to the public meeting at the Ploughboy on 18th April evening. All are welcome.

## Press Secretaries & Correspondents

Email your news to... [marye.crawford@virgin.net](mailto:marye.crawford@virgin.net)

Tel: 01579 345699  
Mob: 07971 484872

## Public Meeting

On the forthcoming  
**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER VOTE**

With  
**INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE**  
**William Morris**

[www.williammorris.org](http://www.williammorris.org)  
<https://twitter.com/SouthWestMorris>

7:30pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
at  
**Saltash**

**The Ploughboy Inn, Liskeard Road PL12 4HG**

Promoted by Mark G. Hambley, election agent for William Morris, Angwinack Cottage, Ludgvan, Penzance TR20 8BN



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