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Summer 2022 - Issue 365

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Ukrainian Independence Day Friendship and Freedom

On 24th August, the Community Kitchen on Fore Street hosted an inspirational event celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day, friendship and freedom. Speaking at the event, Mayor Councillor Richard Bickford said: "It has been a privilege to mark this Independence Day with Ukrainians living in Saltash and to get a taste of your rich culture and heritage. Over the past six months, you have inspired the world with your extraordinary courage, and today is not only a celebration of your past, but a resounding affirmation that we will stand with you and support you as an independent nation going forward."

A Great Start to the Regatta Despite the Weather



In these drought-stricken days, we had all been hoping for rain. Just not at Regatta. But the Saltash community did not let a bit of Cornish mizzle

dampen their spirits and still came out in force to enjoy the music, stalls and fun of this much-loved waterside festival. Crowds gathered to cheer on the brave participants in the



'Board Masters' paddleboard relay, where Team Killands triumphed over 'Navy Boys' to win the coveted Golden Board. "A huge thank you to everyone who has

supported us," said Karen Lilley, lead organiser of the Regatta. "You created sunshine on a grey weekend and happy memories for the community."

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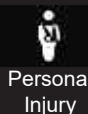
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Town Messenger

Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council
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Education Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
Email: schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk

Education Welfare:
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk

Housing Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 161
Email: info@cornwallhousing.org.uk
Social Services Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
Email: children@cornwall.gov.uk

Social Services Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 131
adultcare@cornwall.gov.uk

Highways Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email: customerrelations@cornwalllimited.co.uk

Transport Department
(Schools Transport)
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
(Bus Pass) Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email: schooltransport@cornwall.gov.uk

Roads, Transport and Parking
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Email: roadstransportandparking@cornwall.gov.uk

Waste Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 141
Email: via contact form on website only.

Cormac Solutions
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Email: customerrelations@cormacitd.co.uk

Fly Tipping:
Telephone: 0300 1234 141
Email: refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

*Town Messenger
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**Cornwall
Councillors/
Wards**

Saltash Essa ED
Cllr Hilary Frank
cldr.hilary.frank@cornwall.gov.uk

Saltash Tamar ED
Cllr Sheila Lennox-Boyd
cldr.sheila.lennox-boyd@cornwall.gov.uk

**Saltash Trematon
& Landrake ED**
Cllr Martin Worth
cldr.martin.worth@cornwall.gov.uk

**Cornwall Councillors
Cover such services as:**
Housing – Education
Social Services
Highways
Waste & Recycling
Tamar Bridge

From the Mayor of Saltash

I do hope you have had a good summer, avoiding the extreme heat during the hottest times. Who thought we would welcome a few days of drizzle!

This month I wanted to give you all an idea of what our Service Delivery Team undertake on our behalf. The small team operate primarily from our base in Longstone Park, but operate across a number of sites around the town.

One of the main roles is keeping our town toilets open and clean. Since Cornwall Council stopped this service, Saltash Town Council have stepped up to keep many of them open. We now operate and maintain the toilets in Longstone Park, Belle Vue Road, Alexandra Square and at the Waterside. We also allow members of the public to use the toilet in the Guildhall during opening hours. The public toilets are all free to use and are open until 7pm in the summer, leaving them open any longer has led to antisocial behaviour and vandalism, something we



cannot unfortunately prevent completely. The toilets are cleaned regularly, but if you find an issue, please report it on 01722 844846.

The team are also responsible for the maintenance and cutting at the Churchtown Cemetery, as well as a fair amount of Pilmere public open spaces. Some areas have been left to become more 'wild' but certainly not all, and we strive to find a balance that is acceptable to all. We are not responsible for Carkeel roundabout, since the major

works to reposition it broke up the town councils original 'Cross' scheme. I would love to see it improved with a better low maintenance planting scheme, and I am sure the town council will continue to pursue improvements with those responsible. We do however look after a number of other smaller roundabouts all with smaller 'Cross' schemes.

The town council do look after a small number of play parks as I mentioned last month, carrying out regular safety checks and maintenance.

The team also carry out safety checks and general maintenance and support across our buildings, that include the Guildhall, Library and Isambard House, setting up for bookings and ensuring they are in a good state.

During the summer they have been busy keeping the lovely hanging baskets and planters throughout the town looking so wonderful.

If you meet the team, I am sure they will be pleased to talk you through their work, and would really appreciate a kind word.

We are keen as a town council team to keep costs down, even more so at this time, and I know we are all mindful of costs and will approach our annual budget setting period over the next few months with thoughts of the additional costs we are all baring with care and due diligence. Our budget setting is an open and transparent exercise with members of the public welcome to attend. We would definitely like to see more of you at our meetings, when you can.



Your Town Council & Wards

Saltash Essa:

1. Cllr Richard Bickford
r.bickford@saltash.gov.uk
2. Cllr Rachel Bullock
r.bullock@saltash.gov.uk
3. Cllr Gloria Challen
g.challen@saltash.gov.uk
4. Cllr Matt Griffiths
m.griffiths@saltash.gov.uk
5. Cllr Jon Foster
jon.foster@saltash.gov.uk
6. Cllr Sheila Lennox-Boyd
s.lennox-boyd@saltash.gov.uk

Saltash Tamar:

1. Cllr Lewis Challen
l.challen@saltash.gov.uk
2. Cllr Sarah Gillies
s.gillies@saltash.gov.uk
3. Cllr Sarah Martin
s.martin@saltash.gov.uk
4. Cllr Julia Peggs
j.peggs@saltash.gov.uk
5. Cllr Pete Samuels
p.samuels@saltash.gov.uk
6. Cllr Jean Dent
j.dent@saltash.gov.uk

Saltash Trematon:

1. Cllr Steve Miller
s.miller@saltash.gov.uk
2. Cllr Brenda Samuels
b.samuels@saltash.gov.uk
3. Cllr Brian Stoyel
b.stoyel@saltash.gov.uk
4. Cllr Yates
d.yates@saltash.gov.uk

Mayor:

Cllr Richard Bickford

Deputy Mayor:

Cllr Julia Peggs

Town Clerk:

Sinead Burrows
T: 844846
E: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk

**Councillors' Telephone
Numbers can be obtained
at The Guildhall.**

**Saltash Town Council, The Guildhall 12 Lower Fore Street
Saltash PL12 6JX Tel: 01752 844846
E: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk W: www.saltash.gov.uk
Facebook: SaltashTownCouncilOfficial
Twitter: SaltashTC**

Saltash Library Hub

The annual children's Summer Reading Challenge that started in July has seen a higher number of children participating this year. This summer it is all about becoming a 'Gadgeteer' and winning that Gold medal for reading six books. We hope you enjoyed reading your books. September is our Autumn activity month with loads of environmental fun events during the month for everyone to enjoy and learn from. Check out our Library Facebook page and Saltash Town Council website page for details or look at the posters in the town

At the end of September is our Virtual Fun Palace. One of the amazing events that is free to all is a 'Silent Disco' at the Library Hub on Saturday 1st October in the morning. Monday October 3rd starts National Libraries Week and we are celebrating with our own Literary Festival where authors will come and read followed by Q&A's. Watch this space! October 22nd will see another Antiques Fake or Fortune event where you can bring those possible treasures in to be valued free, just in case you missed the last one.

Opening Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am to 5pm
Saturday 10am to 1pm

Contact Details:

Social media [saltashlibraryhub](https://www.facebook.com/saltashlibraryhub)
Website www.saltash.gov.uk
Email saltash.library@liscornwall.org.uk
Telephone 01752 844846

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Murals

Saltash Town Council are delighted to accept the gift of two handcrafted murals in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The murals were made using Tresors Kernow funding to commemorate the Jubilee and were designed to be donated to the town.

They were created by children in each of the four Saltash-based primary schools, who collected pieces of Dock Dung china from Churchtown Farm and allotments.

The murals will be officially unveiled by the Mayor Councillor Richard Bickford in September. The murals will be permanently displayed at the Saltash Library Hub for the whole community to enjoy for many years to come.

Don't forget to visit us to view the beautiful handcrafted murals.

maryecrawford@hotmail.com
www.saltash-observer.co.uk

Saltash Town Council Grants Scheme

If you are a community group who needs new equipment or part of a committee that is organising an event why not apply for a grant to support your project?

Saltash Town Council is accepting grant applications from local organisations and community groups in Saltash.

The Community Chest grant supports small scale projects for example Mary Newman's Cottage received a grant to replace garden furniture in their café which helps them raise funds to run the cottage, Saltash Sailing Club received a grant to replace sailing dinghy trolleys which are used by their cadets.

The Festival Fund grant supports free events for the community for example Tincombe Tea Party received a grant to support their tea party event and Saltash Regatta have received funding to support the cost of running the event.

Applications are received at the Policy and Finance Committee held bi-monthly. All applicants are encouraged to attend the meeting to hear their application being discussed and answer any questions that may arise.

Applications are encouraged as early as possible however the deadline for submissions to be received at the committee meetings are below

● Application to be received no later than Friday 16 December for committee meeting on 10 January

● Application to be received no later than Friday 17 February for committee meeting on 14 March

● A copy of the grant application form and policy can be found on the Saltash Town Council website.
<https://www.saltash.gov.uk/forms.php>

● For further help or information contact the Guildhall on 01752 844846 or email enquiries@saltash.gov.uk

Thanks to Saltash Rotary Club

Saltash Town Council would like to thank Saltash Rotary Club for all their work in the community. In particular for their ongoing efforts to install defibrillators in the town.

The fundraising undertaken by the volunteers resulted in the defibrillator installed outside Blooms Hearing Centre and one that was outside Appleby Westward which is now going to be relocated. Both of these

have no doubt saved lives.

They haven't stopped there, they are now working on installing a new defibrillator outside Isambard House, the railway station building. A telephone box is being restored to house the defibrillator which will be a great addition to Saltash.

Saltash Christmas Light Switch On!

Saltash Town Council are delighted to announce the Christmas lights switch on will take place on Friday 18th November 2022

Santa has pencilled the date in his diary and will invite the Mayor of Saltash Councillor Richard Bickford to accompany him on Saltash Rotary's Santa sleigh up Fore Street to switch on the Christmas tree and festive lights! Local schools will be invited to sing carols to our residents and those who visit. More details to follow nearer the time.

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Chamber Chairman Sarah Martin Keeping us Updated...

It's been really uplifting to see the number of new businesses who have come on board to sponsor this two-day Saltash Regatta, which is such a popular event in the Saltash diary. You don't need me to tell you how difficult things are for businesses at the moment - not only are we struggling with the increased costs associated with escalating energy prices but also with the difficulties facing the labour market at the moment. So it is encouraging that local companies still see the benefit of sponsoring the Regatta as a way to promote their businesses. It would be really great, this year especially, if all those attending the Regatta take notice of those businesses and remember their names for future reference.

Our Chamber stage trailer will once again take centre stage at the event, as it does with most other Saltash events including May Fair and the Tincombe Tea Party. The stage trailer is available to any event in Saltash at a very reasonable fee and can be delivered with the town or surrounding area, so please get in touch if you think it could be helpful to your festival or event by contacting info@SaltashChamber.co.uk.



As a Chamber we always take a break in August to recharge our batteries. Cornwall Chamber of Commerce, however, is still very busy with a great package of networking opportunities available to all its members including a Planet C conference in September which is urging Cornish businesses to 'Take Action Now' with a whole series of thought-provoking and interesting sessions to put businesses on the right track with their sustainability agenda.

Any Saltash Chamber member has the added value of affiliated membership of the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce. Not only will any new members get a chance to network with local, like-minded businesses but they will also have a say in helping to shape the future of Saltash itself as active members get involved in decisions directly related to reinvigorating the town centre, including the

search for the location of an event space.

The Chamber starts up again in September with our first event on Tuesday 6th rather than the usual first Monday of the month. We look forward to seeing as many of our members there in person as possible - although we do offer an online connection for those who need it. Wishing you all a great, and dare I say it, slightly wetter end to your summer.

Sarah Martin
Chair of Saltash Chamber
of Commerce

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Reader

With kind thanks for the help two gentlemen gave me when I had a nasty fall in the co-op car park in Saltash. Not only did they help me into my car and get my first aid kit out, they put my wheelchair back in the car and properly secured it, raised the ramp and secured the back door, all on their own without instructions, as well as making sure I was alright.

I still have to go to the surgery for treatment, but I want to say how grateful I am for all the help I received.

Thank you all
Carl Langdon
Saltash

Digital Inclusion

Do you remember the days when a telephone was attached to the wall, or you had to walk to a telephone box and put coins in in order to talk to someone?

Nowadays a mobile phone goes everywhere with you, it can also be your camera, radio, television, wallet, video recorder, calculator - and there's an app for almost everything!

Nowadays mobile phones are needed in so many different ways: to pay for parking, banking, booking cinema tickets and restaurants to name but a few.

Whilst mobile phones can make our life easier, helping us to keep in touch with family and friends, they are only a blessing if we know how to use them! Sometimes they can make life really complicated, problems connecting to the internet and trying to work out what to do are commonplace.

It's not only mobile phones, nowadays our world is filled with technology: iPads, laptops, smart televisions - all of them can take hours getting to know how to use them properly.

Have you ever been frustrated trying to work something out and eventually given up in despair? Getting on line can be life enhancing, and even life changing, but only if you can use it.

Our digital Inclusion Enterprise has been set up to ensure that benefits of the internet and digital technologies are available to everyone, it isn't just about whether people can access the internet but also about using it safely.

We want to reach out to

anyone that feels digitally excluded, primarily the elderly, in the PL12 area to teach you the basic skills to get online and use the internet safely. You might want to learn how to face time, order shopping, prescriptions or even get an appointment to speak with the doctor - whatever it is, we're here to help.

At the moment we have a 'drop in' session in our Community Kitchen on a Monday afternoon when you can pop in to chat to us about how we might be able to help you, it's always best to ring us up in advance to arrange a time to meet (we will always do our best to find a time to suit you.)

To help us achieve all of this, we are also looking for people who are confident in using digital technologies, and have some time to spare, to train as trainers. We can arrange free training via Cornwall Council for those who would like to help us and have a small budget with which we can supply some suitable hardware but would welcome donations of IT equipment.

Please contact hub@cepl12.co.uk or call in at the Community Shop or Kitchen if you would like to know more or think you could be of assistance to us.

At the moment, we are also having issues with our own technology, if you have been trying to contact us by telephone, we have a fault on the line that means calls are not getting through. This is outside our control, but we apologise if this has caused any problems for you. (Hopefully, the problem will be fixed by the time you read this!)

Conundrum Corner

It's back to the Cornish name place now - so taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to find the place?

1 Framboise is a Brandy traditionally made from which Berry? (9)

2 What name is given to a person who has entered a Religious Order but has not yet taken Vows? (6)

3 In which Northern Ireland County is the Giant's Causeway found? (6)

4 Which creatures in Greek Mythology were half Eagle and half Lion? (8)

5 Anemophily is the term for pollination by what means or method? (4)

6 Edmonton is the Capital of which Canadian Province? (7)

7 What is the name of the flap of cartilage that prevents food from entering the Windpipe? (10)

8 What is the waxy substance derived mainly from the Wool of Sheep? (8)

9 The Pindus Mountains run North to South through which Country? (6)

Answers on Page 7

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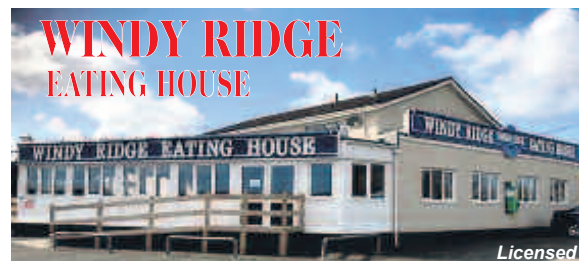
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Free Business Support in Saltash from the Springboard Programme

Would you like to take a positive step towards earning money from a hobby or passion whilst being your own boss? Have you got a fantastic (big or small) business idea that you want to test out? Would you like tailored support to focus on your goals? Maybe you have a great idea for a project that will improve Saltash community, or you have an undiscovered entrepreneurial streak waiting to emerge? Have you been considering self-employment or setting up a new business that you can manage around spending time with your children? If you were thinking 'yes' to any of these questions, the Springboard Programme (run by the School for Social Entrepreneurs in Cornwall) is here for you. Offering 12 hours of free support, Springboard can help you to build your confidence and understand what you need to do to set up a new financially sustainable business or community project.

Springboard recently helped Saltash participant, Sharon Howell, to develop her venture 'Ebbing Tides - Therapy in Nature'. Sharon started on the programme with a small enterprise making and selling soaps locally, and ended the programme with a meaningful mission linked to her personal connection with the sea. Alongside making high-quality natural seaweed-infused soaps (which are sent to devoted customers as far away as North Wales!),



Ebbing Tides supports people with bereavement through guided activities in cold water.

Sharon says of the Springboard programme:

"I found it inspirational... I came with the idea of soap-making, and my facilitator intuitively managed to ask the right questions to enable me to explore what else mattered to me and what my motivations were. The whole process was like 'peeling an onion', taking a layer off and then another until I got to the heart of what my business was fundamentally about. Having identified my 'higher purpose', the layers were then put back as I was skilfully supported to achieve my goal of linking soaps, seaweed, bereavement and nature'.

School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE) in Cornwall are part of a national charity that help thousands of people develop the skills, strengths and networks they need to tackle society's biggest problems. In turn, they help millions of people in need.

SSE run courses that equip people to start, scale and strengthen organisations that make a positive difference. But they are not a traditional school. Learning with SSE is inspiring, action-based and accessible.

The Springboard programme offers over-18s:

- unique, tailored support to individuals needs in a safe and welcoming environment
- exploring new ways to create an income whilst also making a difference to people's lives
- support with confidence from a committed and friendly team
- step-by-step guidance to start a new business or community offer
- face-to-face or online courses.

No idea is too small or too large, and we put the person at the heart of our support so you can move and grow at the pace they feel comfortable. Contact SSE for an initial chat about the Springboard programme and eligibility criteria by calling/texting 07725 834527 or emailing springboard@sse.org.uk or going to this link to learn more and register interest <https://www.the-sse.org/courses/springboard-the-ideas-greenhouse/>.

Freedom, Life And Growth on Independence Day

On August 24 1991, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian Parliament adopted the Act of Independence of Ukraine, and a yellow and blue flag was flown proudly on the neo-classical parliament building in Kyiv. The annual Independence Day celebrations every August since then have held a special meaning for Ukrainians, allowing them to express their affection for a country run by and for them.

This August, over 15 of the Ukrainians living here in Saltash spent days cooking and making preparations with their hosts and volunteers at the Community Kitchen to offer Saltash the chance to share in the celebrations of Ukrainian Independence Day. The event was an outstanding success with over 40 litres of bortsch soup and 450 veranyky dumplings being eaten. The diners were accompanied by one of the Community Enterprise volunteers, Beccy, who played authentic Ukraine music on her harp throughout the afternoon. The sale of hand-crafted keepsakes together with donations meant that over £700 was raised for the not-for-profit organisation Outreach Paramedics to purchase neonatal medical supplies for Ukraine.

Stephanie Hurrell, one of the lead organisers of the Independence Day event and host of Chief Dumpling Chef



Oksana, said "It has been a privilege to be involved in this inspirational event and welcome Oksana into my home. We have learned a huge amount from each other, especially about the importance of independence and freedom." A book at the event gave people the opportunity to write their thoughts about independence. Many of the touching quotes talk about how it means freedom, life and growth.

Six months after the invasion of Ukraine, the fight for independence goes on, and many more women and children are having to flee. The UK is gaining a reputation for providing welcome and safety, and the visa application and support systems are working well, but there is an urgent need for more hosts. Anyone with a spare room and a willingness to help is urged to consider hosting. Places like the Sanctuary Foundation are offering webinars and information evenings on how to welcome Ukrainian



refugees, and there are support networks in Saltash to help hosts and their Ukrainian guests. Stephanie has set up a dedicated email address for

anyone who is considering hosting, so if you would like to know more, please contact her on stephhurrell@gmx.com.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mary,
I sent an email to Sheryll Murray, our local M.P. asking her directly what SHE was doing regarding the massive building programme that has recently started in Saltash, a programme that will witness a huge increase in the population set against a lamentable withering of public services.

I pointed out that Saltash has no police station, no

proper police presence, no regular NHS dentist, just two NHS surgeries with almost no doctors, and schools that are already bursting at the seams. I stressed that Saltash has access only to a threadbare ambulance service, and that residents bear an intolerable cost to cross the Tamar. I reminded her that in 1969 permission was granted for hundreds of houses on the Lynher Drive development, and that despite Stratheden Homes promising shops and a pub none were forthcoming and the Council had taken no action. I went on to remind

her of the hundreds of houses called the Latchbrook Estate, and highlighted the failure of the Council to maintain the centre there, which has fallen into disrepair, or invest in the playgrounds, which have all gone.

I talked about how, unable to learn from their mistakes, the Council then gave permission for hundreds of houses on what is now the Pillmere Estate. More promised shops and a school that never materialised. Streets so narrow that a bus can't navigate them.

I stressed how concerned I

am that the Council has granted permission for hundreds more homes on Treledan, which will mean thousands more people without any provision for their welfare. Still no doctors, no dentist, no new schools, nothing, absolutely nothing.

I asked her what SHE is doing about all this? I asked her not to reply with referrals to other people or departments, saying that all I wanted was for her to outline the actions SHE has taken to redress the population to services imbalance.

I quite expected, rather foolishly it now seems, to receive a constructive reply demonstrating that she had at least shown some interest. All I got was a dismissive response that said only: Any building falls within the planning system, which comes under Cornwall Council.

Given that my email to Mrs. Murray represents not only my frustration with the situation in Saltash but also the frustration of many, many local people, I wonder if you might publish this in your paper in an effort to show that nothing is being done by the very person we elected to take care of our area.

Kind regards,
Mr. Jeff Way
Saltash



community enterprises
Together We Can, Together We Do

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Saltash Giants Stand Tall and Proud

Cornwall's tallest tales are about giants - colossal beings who could shape the land with their brute strength and bare hands. Many of these mighty earth-tremblers reigned in the western fringes or north coast of Cornwall, but thanks to the colossal creativity of students in local schools who were inspired by the towering talent of professional artist Annie Millar Saltash now has a cast of its own giants, all much more colourful than their ancestors.

The 'Giant Draw' was led by Saltash Scrapstore as part of the Saltash Green Dragon Festival, delivered thanks to funding from the Treasuries Kernow project. Students from schools in the Saltash area were regaled with tales of Cornish giants and then presented with materials that had been donated to Saltash Scrapstore along with huge blank sheets of paper, more than double the height of an average adult. In teams they moved around the paper, adding and embellishing as they went, and creating such enduring characters as Stevie Steve the Boxing Giant (St Stephens Community Primary School) with his crooked smile and hairy chest and Essamarelda (Saltash Community School).

The giants were exhibited in Isambard House, their heads just fitting in under the rafters. Named after Isambard Brunel, the refurbished station building was a supreme venue

for the giants, enabling the youngsters to 'stand tall' as family, friends and members of the public admired their work. The giant Bruno's dog Isambark (brought to life by children from Brunel Primary Academy) seemed particularly at home.

Maria Dawes, from Saltash Scrapstore, said: "We hope the experience of being immersed in the rich culture of Cornish giant tales and creating their own giants will have an impact on the children. We want them to gain an interest in being creative and in the folklore of their county at the same time as learning about how things can be done with a low environmental impact. It's a project that could be expanded with further creative activities, such as storytelling or drama sessions, so I'm really hoping the children have been inspired enough for these new giants to live on and thrive in Saltash folklore!"



The Boardmasters Festival has become a firmly established feature of Cornish tradition, even becoming a rite of passage for young people in Cornwall. My generation had the Cornwall Coliseum. Today, Cornwall's youth join with the thousands who come from around the world to celebrate five summer days of sun, surf and music in a pop-up township holding 50,000 eager revellers on a cliff above Newquay.

Having believed my festival-going days ended at least four decades ago, I was offered a VIP ticket this August and eagerly accompanied friends to sample the heights of hedonism. I travelled there a little nervous about how I would feel mixing with the beautiful people of another generation. Instead, I found I was far from being the only oldie, and everyone had just one thing in common: the desire to chill in the summer heat and enjoy the laid-back atmosphere and festival music.

During the day, many took the free buses to share the surfing action at Fistral. Others strolled down to relax on the golden sands of Watergate just below the 'Boardies' site. For us, the entertainment opened with Comedy Club in the Keg and Pasty, a retro Cornish pub whose unmatched views from its beer garden made up for its lack of authenticity. From here, we wandered in the sunshine to where soloists sang slow songs on stages above the cliffs. We were fortunate that our VIP tickets enabled us to retreat periodically to our special enclosure, with its spacious sea view bar, its own DJ and the opportunity to spot the celebrities who shared the area.

The first artist I watched in the main arena was Joy Crookes, a super-cool, strong-voiced vocalist described as one of UK's most exciting new artists. The stage in the main arena was astounding: an overwhelming structure that tempted many festival goers to climb its scaffolding. It takes around 4,000 people to run the festival, from security staff to performers. Many of them are the carpenters, electricians and others who create the stage superstructures.

With dusk falling, a new vibrancy was felt and the crowds grew more intense. We wandered between the ten stages, each with its own oeuvre. Land of the Saints entertained with independent local artists, while such stages as 'The View' and 'The Point' enjoyed locales that spoke for

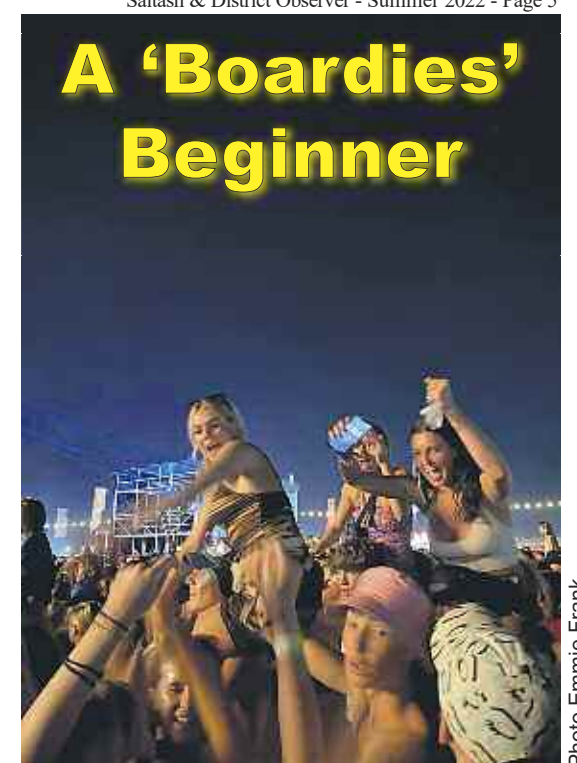


Photo Emmie Frank

themselves. We were pleased to see Plymouth-based 'Land of the Giants' sharing a stage with internationally renowned artists. Within 'Unleashed' there was, as the poet Byron described, 'a sound of revelry by night' as 'music arose with its voluptuous swell.' But even Byron's poetic powers would have struggled to depict the atmosphere as 1,000 or more revellers celebrated youth, summer nights and music.

And though we wandered on again below the sparkling lights, it was back to the main arena that most of us were drawn for the headline band that was all the way from Tennessee: Kings of Leon. The band entranced thousands of revellers with their unique genre, which has been variously described as

Southern Rock, Indie, Garage, and Grunge. When they reached their final and best-known number 'Sex on Fire' the whole festival was fired with frenzied fervour.

We joined many others vacating the site at around midnight but were then faced with three hours of sitting in the car park as a broken-down bus blocked the entrance. Gradually we emerged from our cars in the still balmy night, and as music continued to play, we watched the lights and shared experience of festivals past as well as stories of what most maintained was 'the best Boardies ever.' Arriving back in Saltash at 4am, I was still buzzing with the experience and will be for some time to come, maybe until Boardmasters 2023. *Martin Lister*

A Second Memorial Bench at St Stephens Churchyard is Blessed

A second bench within the grounds of St Stephens Church has been blessed, along with a Rose. Both benches are memorial tributes on behalf of 'Eva's Little Stars Foundation' set up by Averil Pinckney in memory of her little granddaughter Eva; Eva was born sleeping some years ago.

The blessings of the bench and Rose were conducted by the Reverend Richard Magrath in a small touching ceremony organised by Averil.

Invited guests were Councillors Gloria Challen and Jean Dent, also in attendance were Mr Bill Dent and Saltash Lions 1st Vice President Dee Foster.

The special guests were invited to acknowledge the ongoing help and support given to Averil and 'Eva's Little Stars'.

Averil said: "These lovely benches and Rose in the grounds of the Church means so much to the families who have lost their babies due to 'Stillbirth'.

"The beautiful Church grounds give the families a lovely area to sit and ponder with reflective thoughts of their tiny loved ones.

"In addition, the water feature makes such a

peaceful environment.

"The second bench is at the start of where the babies are sleeping and the first bench and memory garden is situated at the end; a tiny wreath is donated and placed there on Remembrance Day 11/11 each year in memory of babies lost during World Wars."

In thanking Reverend Magrath and her special guests, Averil quotes a short extract from a most touching poem 'An Angel Never Dies' written by Emma Jane Rae:

"Believe me when I say to you, that I am always there. "There will come a time I promise you, when you will hold my hand, stroke my face, and kiss my lips and you'll understand. "Although I've never breathed your air, or gazed into your eyes, that doesn't mean I never was, An Angel Never Dies".

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Tuesday 20th Cornwall at War Museum Davidstow
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Sunday 25th Lunch at Trethorne Golf Club, Launceston
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Cost of Living Crisis: On the Edge?

I can't believe I started writing this column exactly one year ago! So much has changed in those 12 months and the need for financial help in our community has increased exponentially.

CAP's Saltash Debt Centre is a team effort I lead from Saltash Baptist Church in Culver Road. I am so grateful for the support of this willing band of volunteers as we try and help anyone struggling with their finances and, particularly at the moment, ever rising costs.

We know that everyone's feeling the impact of the cost of living crisis right now, but if you're already on a low income,

the strain is relentless - plus there's the added anxiety over future rises in living costs.

A CAP report released this summer exposed the growing impact that this crisis is having on low income households across the nation, trapping them into debt. CAP's To The Edge report reveals that:

- New CAP clients in the South West have a peak debt of over £15,680.

- Without free debt help, it would take on average 29 years for a South West household to repay their debts.

This report shows the reality of the situation for many people. The cost of living crisis is leaving many families on unsustainable budgets, with little or nothing left over after covering their basic living costs. People are aware that they could suddenly be plunged into large amounts of debt, and they're scared.



Tim Squires Debt Centre Manager
Christians Against Poverty Saltash
Book an appointment with him by calling 0800 328 0006 or email timsquires@capuk.org

One and All invited to Beat the Bounds

A Saltash tradition, the 'Beating of the Bounds' during a royal jubilee year, is to be revived on Saturday 8th October, and all are invited to participate.

Beating the Bounds is an ancient practice where residents walk around the parish boundaries to ensure that all are aware of them. It takes place in many parishes around the country, and in some places young boys are 'bumped' on the boundary markers to impress them on the youngsters' memories. In Saltash it is the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and other civic dignitaries who are 'bumped,' though other children and adults are welcome to volunteer for this experience.

The walk will set off from Carkeel at the Waitrose end of the footbridge at 10.30am on 8th October, to start by marking the lanes and footpaths to Notter Bridge. On the past two occasions, the southern boundary of the parish has been beaten by river steamer but due to river silting this is no longer possible, so the return to Saltash will be by train.

As in Her Majesty's Golden and Diamond anniversary years, the walk will be led by Observer journalist Martin Lister. Tickets are available in advance from Saltash Library and the Guildhall at

The detrimental impact that these kinds of debts have are significant. CAP's report shows that, unsurprisingly, 71% more people are suffering from depression compared to last year, and those experiencing anxiety or panic attacks have risen by 80%. Most concerning, the number of people who tell us they've attempted or considered suicide, as a way out of their debt, has risen by almost 30% from last year. This is heartbreaking, and doesn't have to be the case - help is available. Please answer these questions honestly:

- Are you getting into arrears with your finances?
- Are you struggling due to the cost of living crisis?

If either answer is yes, get in touch now and we will do everything we can to help you move forward and find solutions.

For debt help, book in an appointment using the freephone number. If it's general cost of living financial help, message or email me directly.

I promise we will do everything we can to help.

Roasting in my front room after another day of heat, I admit to a sense of powerlessness. We've tried hard in our family to change what we can in our own lives, yet worldwide, emissions are skyrocketing, extreme weather is causing havoc and change sometimes feels like it won't come in time. How do we find hope?

We can only safeguard the future if we approach climate breakdown from all angles. Individual changes add up, they influence the choices of others, build momentum and make new ways of living feel normal. They are important. That said, individuals can only go so far. This challenge needs adapted infrastructure, changes to legislation and finance, and a just transition that doesn't leave

a cost of £5 per adult (free to children under 16). This includes a special bus from Notter Bridge to St Germans and a celebratory cream tea in Isambard House (the Saltash station building) at the end. Participants will need to purchase their own train tickets for the short ride from St. Germans to Saltash.

All are recommended to bring their own refreshments for the walk and to wear clothing and footwear suitable for footpaths that may well be muddy. It promises to be an enjoyable day out with a difference and hopefully a fun social event for all the family.

Sustainable Saltash

A regular column on changes Saltash residents are making to confront climate and ecological breakdown.

already struggling people behind. Those things are impossible without government and big business.

There are promising changes. A landmark bill is about to pass Congress in the US that could slash their emissions 40% by 2030, whilst extreme weather is driving huge shifts in government policy across Europe, Australia and South America. This is to be celebrated. Even 5 years ago such things were unimaginable, but we won't inherit a safe world off the back of promises. The only thing that planetary heating responds to is falling levels of greenhouse gases, that is the opposite of our current reality.

Systemic change is not born of thin air. Damaging and frightening extreme weather gets the attention of governments and businesses in the short term, but on its own is soon forgotten. As much as anything, the attitudes of the public drive change. No government wants to lose voters. No business wants to make itself unpopular. If our current trajectory scares you like it scares me, we must tell those who need to know that it matters to us. People can and do nudge the system.

I have written in this piece before about green money. Taking current accounts or investments to financial organisations that back change has impact. Swapping your utility supplier for one who doesn't buy polluting energy

does likewise. There are many 'green' providers and with plummeting renewable costs, they are often not more expensive. It's voting with your feet.

Groups and organisations are lobbying for change. Some a little edgy, but others very moderate and supported by established bodies like the National Trust and the WI. All need support. Signing a petition, or writing a heartfelt letter to an MP, councillor or a media organisation will all change the agenda. Such actions make us reach outside our own groups and into wider society. It's hard to find hope alone, but if we all grasp for it, we can find it together - and life on Earth will be better for it.

Marc Bramham
This column is a conversation starter for our whole community. If you have comments on the subject, ideas of your own or suggestions for future content, please do get in touch at sustainable.saltash@protonmail.com

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Tamar Reflections

Saltash-to-Plymouth

Passenger Ferry

The history of Saltash Ferries operating across the river from Saltash to Saltash Passage (the Devon side of the Tamar) has been well documented in one form or another for approximately 700 years; whether in books past and present, newspapers and periodicals, recordings, radio, television and websites.

The fascinating history of Saltash Ferries is therefore; forever embedded in our hearts and minds from all aspects of historic, informed and knowledgeable communication streams.

The last Ferry to leave Saltash took place on 23rd October 1961, and there were fascinating events that took place commemorating the 60th Anniversary since the ending of the ferry service, principally held at Ashtorpe Rock, the centre which abuts the historic ferry slip which hosted thousands of launches and landings over the

past decades and centuries. I was honoured to have attended many of them, and wholeheartedly compliment the organising team of volunteers and supporters led by Lynn Marsh and Gloria Challen for such outstanding events and projects put on for the whole community; which included a re-enactment of the last sailing of the ferry, with a magnificent mini version of the retiring ferry accompanied by a beautiful mourning floral wreath both tributes sailed away into the Tamar, with not a dry eye to be seen of those waving goodbye on the ferry slip.

With these memorable and historic records in mind, I wanted to highlight another and more recent ferry service that also ran from the Saltash Waterside, inaugurated in 2003, which I felt would be an ideal opportunity to reflect upon within 'Tamar Reflections'.

Saltash-to-Plymouth Ferry Service

The service that I mirror is the Saltash-to-Plymouth service which was launched in April 2003.

The ferry service was the brain-child of Mike Bettinson, at that time of the Plymouth Boat Cruises of Millbrook. Mike

spoke to me about this unique idea of running a return service from Plymouth to Saltash for passengers to embark on the Saltash Pier on the Saltash Waterside, and disembark at Phoenix Wharf between the Plymouth Barbican and Plymouth Hoe. The service got off to a remarkable start and was initially a great success.

Leisure time

This unique service, gave passengers a wonderful opportunity to spend some leisure time in and around the Plymouth Barbican and Plymouth Hoe, and to experience a most enjoyable and leisurely boat trip at affordable prices.

Further, the service gave an opportunity for visitors to take the ferry from Phoenix Wharf to come to Saltash which was hoped would help boost our local economy.

Consultation

I must say that there were several months of consultations, negotiations and planning, which I was very proud to have led on behalf of Mr Bettinson liaising with Saltash Town Council, Caradon District Council (Jerry Masters) and Saltash Partnership, which was at that time Saltash's Regeneration Forum. The service eventually set sail on April 5th 2003 at 10am from Saltash Pier filled with enthusiastic passengers from Saltash.

There were other consultees such as the Queen's Harbour Master, Saltash Town Council, Saltash Town Regatta Committee, Ashtorpe Rock, and the Tamar Valley Services, Caradon District Council's coastal officer, Saltash Sailing Club, Public Houses, residents and Waterside organisations and they were all very supportive and enthusiastic for the ferry service to succeed.

Guest Passengers

The late Sir Vernon Seccombe a resident of Saltash and former Mayor of the town was one of the passengers on the last civic voyage of the old Saltash Ferry in 1961.

Sir Vernon cut the ribbon for the official launch of the new service. There were other passengers on the first sailing who were also on the last voyage

of the old ferry, such as George Blake, a Saltash ferryman who went on to work on the newly built Tamar Road Bridge in 1961.

The new service ran every day from Saltash to Plymouth from 10am every 90 minutes (45 minutes each way) throughout the day, with the last journey from Saltash at 4.15pm – the service ran from April until October.

I can remember at the time that such a ferry was a desirable within the Saltash Area Integrated Plan. It was hoped that such a ferry service would broaden to other hamlets on the Tamar and Lynher rivers. The magnificent view of the Warships at Devonport Dockyard was a spectacle on the passage across to Plymouth and back.

Other guest passengers on the inaugural trip included Councillor Joyce Mepsted Mayor of Saltash, and Joan Truscott whose late husband Gerald Truscott served for many years on the Saltash Ferry and was also working on the last ferry crossing in 1961.

Over 70 enthusiastic passengers were welcomed aboard the Plymouth Belle by the owner of the Plymouth Boat Cruises Ltd, Mike Bettinson, who had been operating in the Tamar for some years.

Tickets

Tickets for the Saltash-to-Plymouth Ferry were sold from Ashtorpe Rock, and were priced at £5 return for adults and £2.50 for children, with special concessions for students and families.

Launch receptions for the guest passengers were hosted by Dutton's of Phoenix Wharf and Ashtorpe Rock at Saltash Waterside.

The end of the service

So sadly, for various reasons, including less demand and limited opportunities for more stopping stations; after some wonderful momentous ferry journeys the Saltash-to-Plymouth service ceased after two seasons.

The passenger Tamar ferries have been and still are magnificent vessels for folks to leisurely enjoy 'Messing about on the River' and to breath in the fresh air and admire all the views and most wonderful river wildlife and flotilla of boats, yachts and Establishment crafts.

Long may such wonderful cruise ferries be a source of passenger delight and fulfilment for our hearts and minds, wherever they sail!

All aboard! - Full steam ahead!

Sue Hooper MBE

Email: suehcf@msn.com –
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Newell's Travel Open Up World to Children

Newell's Travel Agency on Fore Street has a wealth of experience opening up the world to its many satisfied customers. So when staff members learned of an appeal for atlases for Brunel School, they decided to donate them to help children discover the world through the fascinating study of maps. Pictured are Faye and Sarah of Newell's Travel together with three pupils of Brunel School receiving the presentation on behalf of fellow students.



Plaque is Tribute to Community Centre Management

A plaque has been unveiled on the wall of the Burraton Community Centre to commemorate over 30 years of service to the community and the building by well-known local resident John White.

John worked as manager of the Centre for much of this time, and his successor in this role, Mike Nottage, told the Observer: "Only since taking over have I fully realised how hard and how successfully John worked over the three decades."

"He always kept the Burraton Community Centre affordable and welcoming for all manner of community groups," added Mike. These groups varied vastly as the Centre was host to choirs, bands and drama groups as well as to schools offering classes ranging from karate through to Cornish language and various styles of dancing. The centre also hosts the immensely popular Age Concern lunches.

Another achievement for John White was keeping finances so well in order that when he handed over the management it came with a healthy bank balance. The balance was so healthy, in fact, that Mike was able to use the enforced Covid closure as an opportunity to carry out a complete renovation, ensuring that the future of the community centre into which John has dedicated so much time and care will be a vibrant community hub for at least another 30 years.

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Essa Voices

Ah. The Sweet Sounds of Summer

Drinks poured over ice, waves breaking on a beach, and robots spraying cars.

I speak Japanese, you see, and I've spent some time this summer interpreting for Toyota at their factory in Derby where Japanese technicians have installed shiny new robots to spray car bodies on the assembly line. It was fascinating, especially learning how the new robots will reduce the amount of materials wasted during the spraying process.

As well as doing their bit for the environment, robots in Japan are also helping the nation curtail the spread of Covid. The government has paid for hotel rooms and staffed them entirely with robots, and after someone tests positive they are able to stay in one of these hotels, free of charge. In Tokyo alone, over 100,000 people have stayed at a 'robot hotel' to isolate. It's an approach that offers respite for the health care system as well as reducing the risk of transmission in a country where many families live in inter-generational households.

The use of hotels as pandemic control also provides a lifeline to tourism. Other Japanese programmes to boost the travel industry include the 'Go To Travel' scheme, where the government subsidises holidays by up to ¥20,000 (around £150) per day with discount vouchers for use in independent retailers as well as the hospitality sector; schemes for farmers to transport their fresh produce by train and sell them at train stations (which has the added bonus of a lesser environmental impact than road freight); and the 'Prefectural Discount', where the



Councillor Hilary Frank
cllr.hilary.frank@cornwall.gov.uk

prefectures (Japan's equivalent to county councils) offer subsidies for travel in their own and neighbouring prefectures.

The funding stream coming into Cornwall from tourism helps to sustain employment and businesses, but while it is one pillar holding up Cornwall's economy the tourism industry also puts a strain on public services, from health services to waste collection and roads. One idea that is often tossed around at Cornwall Council is the introduction of a 'tourism tax', which would see visitors paying a levy towards the provision of local services.

After years of chronic underfunding, Cornwall Council could certainly benefit from a tourism tax. There are concerns, though, that it would make Cornwall a 'playground for the rich,' and the boss of Visit Cornwall has gone on record saying he considers the idea to be flawed, suggesting it would be better to pass on money raised through VAT.

Perhaps, then, some of the money raised through VAT could be used to introduce incentive schemes similar to the ones being rolled out in Japan? Independent retailers, train operators, cafes and pubs were beginning to recover after being laid low by Covid, but they are being kicked down again by rising energy prices. We need more creative use of funding to prevent howls of discontent from becoming the hallmark sounds of winter this year.

Crowds Came to Tea Party

Tincombe Green, usually a peaceful oasis, was transformed for one balmy August afternoon into a bustle of merriment, as crowds flocked to enjoy the second Tincombe Tea Party. Organised by the Friends of Tincombe, it proved to be a hugely popular community event with plenty for all ages to enjoy, while highlighting one of the largest and most attractive but lesser-known open spaces in the town.

Live music flowed throughout the afternoon, from the mellow tones of the Sunset Swing Band, through to the equally mellow crooner Peter Mancini and the Mayflower A Cappella Chorus. Stalls encircled the green, offering home-made refreshments and locally produced crafts. Deputy Mayor Councillor Mrs Julia Peggs commented on the amazing number of talented craftspeople working from home in and around Saltash. Children had their own



2022 to the Foreseeable Future...

Just Thinking Aloud...

I hope and pray that our world is not moving towards another world war. Surely we could not even begin to contemplate such an outcome to our current horrors?

I hope and pray that – even at this late stage – our world rescues itself from the cataclysmic results of ongoing climate change. However, that would require the whole world coming together to embrace solar and wind sooner rather than later. Surely a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Energy from these two sources alone would be enough to provide the entire world with more than fifty times what it needs – for ever. Put simply, all of us in every part of our world would have more than enough access to energy to fulfil our every need. So, what's stopping us? We are, my friends, we are....

And I fear for my grandchildren and any subsequent generations if my hopes and prayers remain unanswered.

In the meantime, after more years than I care to enumerate of an increasingly splintered and fractured Conservative and Unionist Party which is now allowing itself to be led by a right-wing nationalistic populist government, we are where we are. The main party of opposition has a difficult prospect ahead of it – that of convincing the electorate that it is a credible government in waiting. The most the other minor parties can hope for is a general election which results in them having a say in the composition of a new government. That said, I would be unsurprised if that Liberal Democrats did not pick up the

opportunity to enjoy arts and crafts at the Friends marquee. There were prizes for the best pom-pom bug, made from items donated by Saltash Scrapstore. First prize went to Harry for his amazing caterpillar. The prizes were awarded by Brian Stoyel of Saltash Scrapstore and Thomas Tingcombe, transported from the 18th century thanks to local historic performer Adrian Chapman from Blast from the Past. It was Thomas who magnanimously bequeathed

the Tincombe land to the town of Saltash. A copy of his will in the Friends marquee showed that he also left £1 to the poor of St Stephens parish. The environment is very much to the fore in the work of the Friends of Tincombe, who are volunteers working alongside Cornwall Council in effecting a management plan for the park, and visitors to the Tea Party had the opportunity to build their own bug hotel as well as to explore the surrounding habitats. The

Friends have already planted more than 200 trees and shrubs, and funds raised at the Tea Party will enable them to drive forward with more environmental projects, adding to the growing collection of bug hotels, bird boxes and willow domes they have already installed. James Jenkins, Chair of the Friends of Tincombe, was highly pleased with the funds and community spirit generated by the tea party, and says the Friends are hoping to make it an annual event.

Children Aim High in Charity Challenge

Seeking a challenge for charity fund raising, ten year old Zachary Watts decided that the only way was up, and decided to climb England's highest mountain together with his eight year old sister Elisabeth.

Last year we reported on how Zachary and a friend did a sponsored run, across the Tamar Bridge and back every day of Lent. This year he was vertically challenged and set off with his sister across the scree, to ascend 3210 foot high Scafell Pike. Mother Sarah accompanied them. It was a bright August morning when they started off but a misty midday, with temperature down to 5 degrees Celsius when they reached the summit. They followed the Brown Tongue Hollow stone route and got up and back in 7 hours 43 minutes, after which they 'recovered' by a dive into a "freezing" Lake Windermere!

Zachary of Bishop Cornish School and Elisabeth of St. Stephens School were thrilled to reach their target of raising £500. This is to be split equally between Shekinah



Plymouth based charity helping the homeless and the Catholic Children's Society of Plymouth. Their mother works for this organisation which provides grants for families in need of any or no religious affiliation, anywhere in the South West.

They are already planning

out their next challenge for charity. Elisabeth has her sights set on ascending Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain, while Zachary is considering something different, perhaps based around baking in which he is highly proficient, says his proud mother Sarah.

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