

**A Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year**

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

December 2014 - Issue 269 Established 22 years

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Saltash Council Will Move Back Towards 'Borough' Status

Saltash is aiming to take on as many properties and services as it can from Cornwall Council and, as one Councillor put it, move back towards its former 'borough' status. This was the unanimous decision of all councillors who voted on the two alternatives put forward regarding devolved power.

The council's devolution options group (DOG) had been considering how to react to Cornwall's cost cutting, which includes encouraging Parish and Town Councils to take over the funding of services previously administered by the County. One alternative put forward by 'DOG' was to take on only which services it found it forced to. The other was to take on as much as possible to bring back localism to the

town and ensure that decisions were made within the town and not in Truro. After debate all four County Councillors who serve on the Town Council abstained from voting as, according to usual practice, did the Mayor. The remaining eight Town Councillors voted unanimously in favour of the town actively negotiating to take on anything that Cornwall Council would release to them. Councillor John Brady proposed this,

seconded by Councillor David Yates.

While it is hoped that the town would benefit from its services being administered from within the town, it would definitely mean an increase in the Town Council's percent share of the council tax. A hike in the town's precept of between 30% and 50% is possible, which might raise a further £120,000 a year with which to run services. This could add another £20 per year to pay for a Band D property, in addition to Cornwall Council's

anticipated increase of 1.97%. While some services that it might take on, such as car parking, would be revenue earning, most would not. There would also be likely to be an increase in town hall staffing to be paid for.

The Devolution Options Group will now negotiate with Cornwall Council as to which properties they can acquire, possibly to include land on the Waterside, and which powers they can take over. The group will then refer the package back to the Town Council for approval.

'This is probably the most important issue, and the most influential decision this Council will be making and will have for reaching and, we hope, long lasting beneficial influence on Saltash', the Chair of Devolution Options Group Councillor Adam Killeya told the Observer.



Sue and Flo (pictured) were presented with a basket of flowers prepared by RNLI committee member Sylvia Caldwell.

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Susie and Flo Entertain at the Sailing Club

Grand-daughter and Grand-mother were guest artists at the Saltash Branch of RNLI fundraising Ladies evening at the Saltash Sailing Club. Sue Hooper and her grand-daughter Florence Bonner entertained to a full capacity and appreciative audience.

Flo sang beautifully to the delight of the ladies, songs from her large repertoire of light music from the shows and films and Sue gave a talk on her series of amazing women and reflected upon the late Maya Angelou and her remarkable life against all the odds of racism and sexism in her growing up years in Arkansas.

Sue and Flo were delighted to be the special guests of Mave Hall one of, and on behalf of the Saltash RNLI committee.

The RNLI committee team held a raffle and an auction and sold cards and RNLI items, and were delighted to announce that they had raised £385.06 for the RNLI funds on the evening.

Speed Watch Resumes

A replacement speed camera has been collected by Saltash Police following the disappearance of the last one. Speed watch sessions would be resumed, with public involvement, at various points in and around the town where excessive speeding has been reported as a problem.

Oklahoma!

Tickets are now on sale for the production of
Oklahoma! at saltash.net

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A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

Phil Sends Christmas Greetings

The run up to Christmas is always a busy time for everyone, so may I start by wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year. In my professional life, as a senior Social worker, I know how tough Christmas can be for some, be it remembering the loss of a loved one, family discourse, loneliness or poverty. Not everyone is counting the days to Christmas.

But what I will say is, that for me, the real magic of Christmas, is how many people take the time to help those who are struggling during the festivities.

People who make sure their neighbours are seen during the holidays, Foster carers who open their homes to troubled children, carers who spend that extra time with clients and someone who gives to charities, even though money is tight.

In a world full of so many bad things, I am thankful for the good. So to those of you who put others first a simple "thank you" from me.

Phil Hutty
 PPC Lib Dems

Announcement

Brewer Nelly
 1912-2014
 Aged 102 years
 Passed away peacefully
 8th Nov 2014
 at Rowan House
 Thanks to all who attended the Funeral
 Aunt Nell will be sadly missed
 By all the family



CORNWALL COUNCIL



and our PL12 community
 For Observer readers
 Derek Holley, Cornwall Councillor,
 Saltash East

I was truly heartened this week by two separate residents, one from Essa Road and one from Alamein, who told me they now did occasional cleaning of street litter outside their houses. At last the message is getting through that our streets are not going to be swept, as often as they used to be, and if we want a clean town then we must do a bit ourselves. I know some people will say, "that's what I pay my council tax for and why should I do it?" All I can say is that times have changed, directly due to government cuts, and that is that. Either we sit in front of our tellies whingeing or we help to keep our town tidy, tough talk, and controversial. The funny thing is that years ago most householders did just that, brushing and sweeping to help keep the streets tidy.

However a fair question to ask is this: why do people drop litter? Are they just irresponsible or is it something to do with the attitude that seems to have been prevalent since the eighties that we just look after ourselves and it doesn't matter about anything else? Teachers, do you do anything to educate the litter-droppers? Parents with younger children reading this...do you? You both should.

Something different. I seem to have stirred up a minor hornet's nest at the grand budget debate in Truro this week, when we all had to decide about the council finances until 2019. I spoke about what I thought was self-evident - that we should not

spend money on frippery when important officer posts were being lost. It was going well until I gave an example that we should spend no more on Cornish Studies, promoting the Cornish language and Cornish translations if we were going to make five road safety officers redundant ...just about all the team in fact. I said I just could not square the two things in my mind. It would be exaggerating to say a deathly hush ran around the chamber but you know what I mean. The one thing you must not say in Cornwall Council is anything negative about the Cornish language. Two Mebyon Kernow members, a group whose aims I have a lot of sympathy with and respect for, despite my independent stance, had a go at me, and a cabinet member was clearly not impressed when he spoke to me afterwards! Apparently I am unlikely to receive any more cultural-type invitations, so it must be true what they say about a silver lining to every cloud! After all this I did vote for the drastic budget because we have no choice. We have been forced into a corner by central government - but I will continue to fight to keep these road safety officers.

I have a really soggy garden but the grass keeps growing, a good sprout crop but very active snails, patio plants still going but with horrible vine weevils. ... Don't forget gardeners are allowed to whinge. Happy Christmas and a pest-free New Year!

Drug Related Arrests Follow Raids

A local operation targeting drug users, suppliers and those cultivating cannabis has been hailed as a success, Sergeant Chris Chilcott told the Town Council.

Operation Concave, as it is known, began in September when a misuse of drugs act warrant was executed in the Alamein Road area and resulted in two arrests and charges of supplying drugs and possession of a weapon. Both suspects were on police bail while further enquiries were conducted.

High visibility police patrols were then conducted around Saltash with police officers, traffic officers and police community support officers working together and twenty persons being stopped and searched for drugs. As well as eleven arrests being made for motoring offences from using a mobile phone to having no insurance, a van was stopped and the driver found to have heroin in his wallet and to be using commercial red diesel. He was arrested and his van seized.

Another vehicle was stopped in the Babis Farm area, two males arrested, and during a search white powder fell out of the underwear of one. Both were arrested for supplying drugs. Another vehicle and two addresses were later searched and more drugs recovered.

In the country around Saltash another drug warrant

was executed at Elmgate resulting in the seizure of a large quantity of cannabis and an arrest for producing cannabis.

"This was not a fishing expedition. Targets were as a result of information received" said Sergeant Chilcott. "We hope this serves as a reminder to those who live in and around Saltash and are involved in the possession and supply of illicit drugs. The Courts will assist the police in obtaining search warrants to allow us to enter a person's property and the police will continue to target those involved in the drugs scene."

Operation Concave is continuing and residents concerned about those involved with drugs are encouraged to speak to local officers or call the police on their 101 number. Alternatively they can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

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Sailing Club Extension Enhances Activities Afloat and Ashore



Champagne flowed ashore as the Plymouth Life Boat moored off Saltash Sailing Club and the Cox, David Milford came ashore to cut the ribbon and officially open an extension to the clubhouse, greatly enhancing its facilities.

The lifeboat crewman had been invited, Club Commodore Bill Pym explained, since when the original clubhouse had been opened in 1988 the ceremony had been performed by current Cox John Dare. Mr Milford confirmed that he was delighted to keep up the tradition.

The Mayor Councillor Mrs Jean Dent had previously been giving out a considerable number of commemorative awards to many of those involved in the projects. The improvements, which include an extended area for teaching the club cadets as well as

enhanced changing room facilities, including those for the disabled, benefitted from a substantial grant by Sport England.

'The extension was badly needed as the increasing popularity of the club meant that there was an increasing lack of space for social functions and for teaching our growing number of young cadets', Vice - Commodore Nina Lillie told the Observer, 'We continue to welcome new sailing and social membership and are continuing to provide fresh activities afloat and ashore. We are also pleased to support our cadets, aged eleven to eighteen, up to fifty of whom may be on the river on Friday evenings enjoying supervised sailing - we look on them as the club's future'.

Grey Cells Triumph In Town Quiz

What is a barouche ? Which creatures collect in a Clowder ? And what was the name of the marmalade cat in Kathleen Hale's children's books? These were some of the questions in the ten rounds put to contestants in the annual town quiz.

The winners by half a point were 'Little Grey Cells' followed by New Horizons. Third equal were Saltash Heritage Ancients (last year's winners) and Beer Hunters.

And the answers to the above are a carriage, cats and Orlando.

From The Mayor's Parlour...

Well here it is, half way through the civic year already, and what a busy year it has been so far! Many thanks to all the people who have asked us to come and visit them. Saltash is full of lovely people who are a joy talk to.

The planning for Broadmoor Farm has moved on. It will be some time before we see any houses being built, but the town council are working hard to make sure we keep a careful watch on what is happening. Soon the work on the Carkeel roundabout and the pedestrian/cycle bridge should begin. Doubtless this will cause traffic problems but hopefully it will be worth it to improve the traffic flow. A larger roundabout, slip roads at the sides of the access roads and even some traffic lights... time will tell!

The Maurice Huggins room is now back up and running. If you would like to hire it for a meeting, a workshop, in fact any community use please get in touch with the Community Interest Company who are to be found in No 4 Fore St and they will be able to help you. In the same vein the CIC are beginning to look into using the CAB building in Belle Vue road. Do you know anyone who needs an office, workshop or similar near the centre of our town? If so please point them towards No 4 Fore St, Peter Thistlethwaite is your man.

I hope you enjoyed our Christmas event on Saturday 6th. The FROST committee has put in a great deal of hard work into putting together all the elements of a day of such fun, everything from Santa's on bikes in the morning to the firework finale. Bill and I watched the lanterns being made in several different places, what skill and dedication!

Finally I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

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Dec: Sun 21st Children's Christmas Party & Christmas Draw in the evening
Dec: Wed 24th Christmas Eve
Mike Haywood's Festive Disco (MH)
(Members Guest £5)
Dec: Fri 26th Boxing Day
2pm - 5pm **Low Profile (MH)**
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6pm till late **Karaoke (Bar)**
Dec: Sat 27th Free Duke Box in the Bar
Dec: Sun 28th Shane Karaoke (Bar)
Dec: Wed 31st New Years Eve
Paul Kay (MH) (Members Guest £5)
Jan: 2015...
Jan: Sat 3rd Free Juke Box Night in the Bar
Jan: Sat 10th Black Diamonds (Bar)
Jan: Sat 17th Lipstick & Lashes (Bar)
Jan: Sat 24th Opium (Bar)
Jan: Sat 31st Orangutang Wheelbar (MH)
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New Tamar Bridge Building Given Go –Ahead
 A new office building for the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry authority alongside the Plymouth end of the bridge looks likely to be given the go ahead.
 Cornwall Council's cabinet voted in favour of the structure to replace the existing offices, which date back fifty years or more and have been added to as and when required. Cornwall Council shares responsibility with Plymouth City Council which has already voted in favour.
 Presuming full council endorses the cabinet vote planning permission will be sought early next year and construction of the building commence later in 2015. The cost, in excess of £3 million will be borrowed and repaid through bridge and ferry tolls.

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 Seasonal Greetings

A Message from the Editor



By the time you read this, the town will have taken on its own special seasonal magic. The Christmas festival and parade will have passed, our celebrated lights will be glistening and our shops will be filled with traditional and unusual Christmas fare and ideas for gifts.
 Once again our town will be able to offer all that is needed to make Christmas special.
 As we build up the excitement that Christmas always brings to the young and those of all ages who are young at heart we should perhaps spare more than a moments thought for those less fortunate.
 Whether it be those whose lives have been devastated by war in the middle east, by natural disaster in the far east or just those local families who will be dependent for Christmas cheer on the charity and goodwill of others, we should remember that Christmas is a time of giving – and not only to kith and kin.
 In this season of goodwill for the twenty third time we on the Observer are once again happy to send the seasons; compliments to all of our advertisers, many of whom have supported us throughout the decades, and to all of our readers and friends in Saltash and district and indeed worldwide who enjoy their monthly Saltash Observer through our website.
 May you all be filled with the joys of the festive season!
 Your Editor Mary Crawford

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December 14
 Tues 16th Louise
 Tues 23rd Blue Trane
 Tues 30th Jazz Messengers
Christmas Eve
 Wednesday 24th Wireless
 Fri 12th Organisation
 Fri 19th Penguins
Boxing Day Friday 26th TBA
 Sat 13th Banana Thieves
 Sat 20th Vince Lee Big Combo
 Sat 27th Back in Blues
New Years Eve Wednesday 31st TBA
 THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
 OPEN MIC NIGHT
SUNDAY LUNCHTIME: OPEN THE BOX: A CHANCE TO WIN CASH PRIZES
SUNDAY NIGHT - QUIZ - Winner 2 Bottles of wine
 Runner Up 1 bottle of wine : Everyone Welcome
 Seasonal Greetings

The Superheroes from Bloom and NHS Hearing



The Superheroes of the Bloom Hearing and NHS Hearing staff were in costume to add to the fun while fundraising on BBC Children in Need Day. Several Supermen (and Women) joined Batman, not to mention Joan of Arc and other Heroes and heroines of fact and fiction serving coffee and home-made cakes to Saltash shoppers while adding to the colour and character of our cheerful shopping street. They raised a total of £189.34. Thank you to all who so generously donated and supported the event.

Saltash Hoppers Social Group

The newly formed Saltash Hoppers social group is keen to introduce new members to its day-tripping itinerary, designed to enable people who mostly live alone and have transport difficulties to get out and about and meet new people.
 They use the community bus, the Saltash Hopper, for outings to places which are often hard to reach by public transport. The bus is equipped with a tail-lift and can accommodate two wheelchairs.
 The Hoppers have already enjoyed a trip to Tavistock Goose Fair and a lunchtime meal out at the Weary Friar. To get in the festive spirit the late November trip was a visit to a local Christmas Fair. Carnglaze Caverns and Trago Mills are planned in January, just in time for the sales.
 If you are interested in taking part in these trips, or know someone who might benefit from a day out among friends, drop in to 4 Fore Street or call 01752 848348 for more information. All seats must be booked and paid for in advance.

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The Lights Are On - The Shops Glitter With Christmas Cheer

The festive lights are sparkling once more, the trees are decorated and reminding one and all that Saltash is again filled with festive cheer.
 And our friendly local shops are again looking forward to welcoming one and all to view the wide range of ideas for Christmas that they have been arranging since the Summer.
 There is something especially festive about going Christmas shopping in a friendly small town atmosphere where the shopkeepers are eager to greet you and welcome you, knowing all about their stock and able to make helpful suggestions. Away from the busy superstores, traffic chaos and expensive car parks, a world away from the soulless pressing of buttons for computer shopping of unseen items, Saltash preserves the seasonal shopping traditions of a more friendly peaceful and leisurely age. Shopping locally is hassle free, with free or cheap parking, or frequent buses. It offers a wide and eclectic choice of present ideas, food and drink, and all that it is needed to make a real Christmas, and by putting money back into the community it helps ensure that our friendly community centre of Fore Street and the shops

Council Meeting May Go Live

Saltash residents may be able to watch Town Council meetings live from their own homes following a proposal that meetings be broadcast on line.
 The suggestion was put forward by Councillor Adam Killeya following a recommendation at a training day for Council staff that this would add a greater openness of local government procedure.
 It was agreed that the Town Council should use its existing facebook page to ask how many people would want to watch this, and proceed according to demand.

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 Christmas Eve
 Wednesday 24th December: Disco
 Christmas Day
 Open Lunchtime
 Boxing Day Friday 26th December
 Normal Opening Hours
 Sunday 28th December: Jazz Evening
 Jazz Night last Sunday in every month
 New Year's Eve
 Wednesday 31st December: Disco

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Letter to the Editor

Clarification on the article published in October issue under the title

Concerns Over Carwash Safety

As the owner of the car wash in Brunel Road, I would like to assure all the residents in Cornwall County and our customers in particular that the safety of our customers and employees are the main concern in our business.

Due to the miscommunication between the Councillor Bill Philips and the Cornwall Council, It was believed that the carwash roof was built without the acknowledgement of the council. However, the roof was designed by a structural engineer and built according to their recommendations. The application for both planning permission and building control have taken place and approved by Cornwall council.

The structure has been inspected by, both a structural engineer and a building control engineer and it has been considered to be very safe. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please visit us and speak to one of our friendly staff. Goran Mahmud

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Grieving Grandchildren Raise Fantastic Funds for Cancer Charity



Saddened by the loss of their grandfather two Saltash children decided to do something positive to try and save others from suffering the same fate through prostate cancer.

Mia aged eight and young brother Jack aged six came up with their own idea, to raise money for Grandad Pete's Charity, the Chestnut Appeal. They decided to set up a stall outside their other grandparents' home to sell cookies, drinks and Loom band bracelets.

They decided to continue through the summer holidays setting themselves a target of £49.00. However following donations from friends and those undertaking the ice bucket challenge Mia and Jack soon smashed their target and made a

fantastic total of £155.00...with money still coming in.

The proudest mum in the world, as mother Tracey Rhodes describes herself is eager not only to publicise her childrens' achievements but also highlight the work that the trust appeal, based at Derriford hospital, does in the South West.

She also hopes, with her childrens help to encourage more men to be aware of their prostate and to take early action in case of problems to avoid waiting, as her father did, until the cancer had spread. My mission is to prevent this sadness for as many others as possible; awareness is the key to this Tracey told the Observer.

SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



I am really looking forward to Christmas with my family at home this year and I hope that all readers enjoy the festive season. My thoughts at this time of year are with all those who have to work over the period especially those who have to be away overseas.

Since being elected as the Member of Parliament, I have knocked on many doors to hear the concerns of my constituents and recently visited Saltash with my team. Some people have mentioned their concerns to me and I have taken these on board.

I am pleased to report that the highways funding for improvements to the roundabout at Carkeel should be completed by March 2015.

As a doctors receptionist for over twenty years I know what a problem this is each year. Influenza is a highly infectious disease and it is important that as many people as possible get vaccinated each year especially those at risk.

I was pleased to go and see for myself last month the fantastic display of poppies at the Tower of London. It really was a poignant reminder of the great sacrifice so many made during the great war. I would like to thank all those who did so much for this year's poppy appeal and I was pleased to be able to join Saltash this year on Remembrance Sunday for the service.

I was pleased to join Caradon Ramblers for one of their regular walks on Friday in the old Caradon area. The leisurely walk of about four and half miles covered some of the most beautiful areas at the edge of Bodmin Moor including Henwood and the Phoenix United Mine.

I would really like to thank the Caradon Ramblers group for contacting me and inviting me to join them. I was really surprised to find out that one of the group was actually an old school friend from Torpoint school. I really enjoyed the walk and meeting so many interesting people. I have taken on board the concerns they raised with me about access to the countryside and will bear these in mind in Parliament.

I was also pleased to join the Saltash Sailing Club at the end of November for their Annual Dinner. It is always a fantastic evening and we are so lucky to have the fantastic China Fleet Club as a venue right on our doorstep.

I would like to wish all of my Constituents in the Tamar Valley a very happy, healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Tell your friends & family to visit us at... www.saltash-observer.co.uk

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Letters to the Editor



Village Green Public Inquiry "Shameful Waste of Local Taxpayers' Money"

A public Inquiry set to take place at Saltash Guildhall on Tuesday 18th November 2014 to hear an application to register land at Forder, Saltash as a village green was cancelled by Cornwall Council just 5 days before it was due to start when papers were lodged with the High Court in London identifying serious concerns in relation to the application.

An injunction application on Friday at the High Court in London was adjourned at the last moment when Cornwall Council agreed to cancel the Inquiry. The Council is now being required to urgently review the village green registration application ahead of a full judicial review hearing in London which is expected to start in early 2015.

The High Court application revealed that the Village Green Application had been "subject to unprecedented delay" "inadequate notice" and was "very seriously flawed". The application to register the land as a village green was made nearly 7 years ago, in February 2008.

Court papers also revealed that the owners of the land, Ruth & James Ramsden, had offered a long lease of the whole of the land in question at a peppercorn rent. The papers showed that the offer was "dismissed" by the Applicants, the Forder Village Green Registration Group, a decision described as "inexplicable". The application was also criticised because it alleged the registration was necessary because the land was threatened by development, a

claim described in the court papers as "simply untrue". The resulting need for a full public Inquiry was branded "a shameful waste of local taxpayers' money at a time when vital services are being cut and public service jobs lost to the community across East Cornwall". If the Inquiry had gone ahead its total costs could have been as much as £60,000.

The papers however disclosed that the judge will be asked at a future hearing to order that the costs of the High Court proceedings should be paid by the Applicants' Group "so that they are not met from scarce public funds". Under High Court rules, a Judge may order third parties to meet legal costs if they have "supported or encouraged" a claim and it is "just and fair in all the circumstances" that they should pay those costs.

The High Court papers alleged that rejection of the rent free long lease of the land, made it "inevitably fair" that the Applicants should pay the costs "rather than local taxpayers."

All Enquiries to Richard Belfield - Fulcrum TV Richard@fulcrumtv.com

World War Remembered in Music and Verse at Ashtorre

Ashtorre Rock, adjacent to the ferry ramp from which thousands of young men departed to the battlefields of World War 1 was a fitting venue for the debut of the Ashtorre Rock Players, a moving tribute to the war's centenary.

The rock also looks down to Devonport dockyard from which troopships sailed with men bound for Gallipoli. That abortive campaign with its blend of bravery by those doing the fighting and disorganisation by those in command was the theme of 'The Gift of Years', a collection of songs, poems and readings depicting four disparate volunteers from around the world meeting on that blood-soaked peninsula. It told of the families they left behind and also the post war experiences of those who survived.

The music by Eric Bogle was adapted into the performance by writers and producers Martin and Jill Crawford who well deserved the presentations to them made by Mayor Mrs. Jean Dent after what she described as 'a very powerful performance'. The near full house used the descriptions 'poignant', 'pathos' and 'deeply moving' while talking over tea and Anzac biscuits in the interval.

The cast, made up of the Ashtorre Rock volunteers were about to take the performance on an 'international tour' of village halls in Cornwall and over to England. They were also contemplating a repeat performance at Ashtorre on 22nd November by popular

demand. 'It has been a hard endeavour involving total dedication', concluded organiser Lynn Marsh of Ashtorre. 'We enjoyed every minute of it.'

Essa Files

As I write this column I have just returned from my half term travels to Marrakech in Morocco, which is the first time I have been to North Africa. For someone who has done most of their travels in Europe it is a little different - motorbikes whizzing through the markets, the call to prayer sounding through the streets at 5am, and the need to barter to buy almost anything except food being a few of the more obvious examples.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the potential for culture shock I liked the place - certainly some of the pushiness of stall-owners made me feel uncomfortable at times, and the smells in the market ran from the sublime (the spice market) to the less than delightful (the leather tanneries) but if you don't want to see anything different from what you know then best to stay at home.

Permanently staying at home can of course be tremendously tempting, particular when you are fortunate to live in Saltash in Cornwall, but to me it is important that we try and experience some of what else is out there, and remember that there are other ways of living life than are own which are not so much 'better' or 'worse' than different. This is one aspect of being inclusive, tolerant and understanding towards others, something I also try to put across in my day job as a teacher. So hurray for Saltash (as ever) and hurray for Cornwall (likewise) but also hurray for occasionally getting away and seeing what else is out there. *By Adam Killea*

Proud Platinum Winner!

For Year 10 student, Faith Rogers, the new school year at saltash.net got off to an excellent start. In recognition of her outstanding effort, achievement and commitment throughout 2013-14, Faith was presented with a Platinum Commendation Certificate



by Deputy Head teacher, Linda Griffin, during an assembly on the 1st October.

The Platinum Award is given to students who receive two Gold Commendation Awards in the space of 12 months.

Faith's Platinum Award recognises that she was given 200 individual com-

mendations over a one year period - a superb achievement.

Faith has just embarked upon her Key Stage 4 GCSE courses. She is studying English, Maths, Separate Sciences, Drama, French, Design and Technology and Religious Education.

Deputy Head, Mrs Griffin,

on presenting her with the Platinum Award, said, "I was honoured to present this award to Faith. Achieving a platinum award is something to be very proud of.

Faith has shown an outstanding commitment to her studies and made a valuable contribution to the saltash.net community."

Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the one word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make the name of a Town or Village in our locality?

- 1 Two Gilbert and Sullivan operettas are set in Cornwall - Pirates of Penzance is one - which is the other? (7)
- 2 What is the alternative name for Australia's Ayers Rock? (5)
- 3 What name is given to an Italian dish of Rice cooked in Stock with Meat, Onions and Tomatoes? (7)
- 4 What was the first name of the American Civil War General Custer? (5)
- 5 In the books by Kathleen Hale what is the name of the Marmalade Cat? (7)
- 6 Which Buckinghamshire market town is famous for its Pancake Race? (5)
- 7 What was left in Pandora's Box? (4)
- 8 What term is commonly used for the introduction to a musical such as an Opera? (8)
- 9 What type of creature is a Chafer? (6)

Answers on Page 8

Observer Telephone Numbers
07971484872
or 01579 345699

Responsible Persons Required

If you are a responsible person and you enjoy walking for health or for pleasure or need a little push to go for that all important walk, why not deliver a few papers on route. I need an active person/persons in the **Landrake area** Also an area of **Latchbrook in January** If you are interested please call **Mary Crawford** on 07971 484872 or 01579 345699

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Saturday 27th Dec	
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New Years Day (1st Jan 2015)	
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Leisure Centre Secure Until 2017

A recent report in the local media that Saltash Leisure Centre was to be disposed of by Cornwall Council, together with other such centres, caused considerable panic, not least among the staff there who feared for their jobs.

There will be no changes for at least two and a half years, Cornwall Councillor Hilary Frank reassured the Town Council. The centre is currently operated by Tempus Leisure, an 'arm's length' business of Cornwall Council, and will continue to be so until at least March 2017 when the contract is up for renewal.

At that stage the Council will consider the future of the leisure centres which are very expensive to run, and decide whether to renew the contract or seek an alternative solution. This might include passing the running of them to private contractors, or voluntary or other local organisations which might run them more efficiently.

While Cornwall Council has no specific obligation to provide leisure services including swimming pools it is obligated to provide 'healthy living facilities'. It also has to provide teaching facilities for swimming for primary school children, so it is highly unlikely that closure would be considered, Councillor Frank concluded.

Incinerator is Burning Issue for Saltash

A wood burning incinerator with a forty-five metre high chimney immediately facing Saltash could be a health risk to the Town as well as an eye-sore, Town Councillors agreed.

They agreed also to lodge an objection to the proposed structure at Emesettle, close to and clearly visible from the Tamar Valley area of outstanding natural beauty. The treated wood which it would burn could be highly toxic, Councillors, feared. Councillor Joe Ellison added that the inversion fogs which frequently hang low in the Tamar valley would be worsened by the emissions from the incinerator which would operate twenty four hours a day.

Alamein 'Murder' Was Natural Causes

A death on the Alamein estate was reported in the regional press as 'murder' with a suspect supposedly held in custody, causing widespread concern in the local neighbourhood.

The death of a lady in her fifties was in fact held to be non suspicious and of natural causes, the police have confirmed Nobody is being sought or charged in connection with it.

There were however 85 crimes reported in the Saltash area in the month up to 5th November. This was an increase on 74 for the equivalent period last year.

Police Check

Young people from Plymouth and Saltash have been congregating on Saltash Waterside causing anti-social behaviour, Sergeant Chris Chilcott of Saltash police told the Town Council.

This has been of special concern while the town's youth club Livewire has been open and people outside unrelated to the club have been drinking alcohol and using drugs. The local police team is working with Livewire and Cornwall Council's anti-social behaviour team to deal with the issue.

After a period during which crime has been consistently falling police ascribed the higher figure in part to the warm weather during which more people had been out and about.

The police advised the Town Council that there is 94% satisfaction with the Non-emergency '101' telephone service in Devon and Cornwall and that 90% of such calls are answered within thirty seconds. Councillor Joe Ellison queried the result of this survey, stating that nobody to whom he had spoken was happy and that many reported having hung up when their 101 call was unanswered. The police reminded all that if a crime is being committed or a perpetrator on the scene, then the '999' number should be used. A new system to be introduced for lost or stolen items to be reported on line should reduce pressure on the '101' number. Around a million calls a year are made to Devon and Cornwall police by telephone and the force website.

Bus Wars Could Lead to Loss of Services

While the doubling of buses on local routes should have resulted in better services and greater frequency in fact it brings little benefit to passengers, a Callington Road resident has told the Town Council.

The service along her road has long been every twenty minutes. Now there are both First National and Citybus services but instead of being timed so as to provide a service every ten minutes they are scheduled to arrive together, then leave a twenty minute gap. This results usually in one bus being full and the other empty. It also results in considerable congestion in Fore Street when four buses, two in each direction, arrive together. 'I am afraid that the result of these bus wars will be that one or both companies will pull out and the users will be the losers', the resident complained.

Town Councillors agreed though County Councillor Bob Austin added that Citybus planned a new timetable for November when hopefully this issue might be addressed.

It was noted that a local operator was considering running a service from Saltash to Derriford Hospital starting early next year.

Conundrum answers...

Rudrigore 2 Uturn 3
Ristoto 4 George 5 Orlando
6 Olnpe 7 Hope 8 Over 9
Beatte Re-arranged the letters
of the Village of
Roberough

Saltash Leisure Centre

The Festive Season at Saltash Leisure Centre

There are lots of fun things on offer during the festive season at Saltash Leisure Centre.



We have a Christmas Raffle run by the girls in the Café with brilliant prizes to win.

All proceeds go to Cornwall Air Ambulance (which is a brilliant cause)

To enter: Pick up your £1 ticket from the café today.

The Festive Season

As the festive season is upon us why not book your Work, Club, Groups or Committees Christmas Lunch with us.

A 4 Course Delight at £16.95 PP

From the 1st to the 23rd December book quickly to reserve your space

We will also be putting on our...**Annual Christmas Mince Pie & Wine** morning on **Thursday 18th December 11am onwards** come along and enjoy a friendly festive atmosphere with us.

Seasonal Greetings from all of us!

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Wednesday 24th Dec	9.00am – 2.00pm	Monday 29th Dec	7.00am – 6.00pm
Thursday 25th Dec	CLOSED	Tuesday 30th Dec	7.00am – 6.00pm
Friday 26th Dec	CLOSED	Wednesday 31st Dec	9.00am – 2.00pm
Saturday 27th Dec	7.00am – 6.00pm	Thursday 1st Jan	CLOSED
Sunday 28th Dec	7.00am – 6.00pm	Friday 2nd Jan	BACK TO NORMAL

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THE PLOUGHBOY

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Vegetarian Turkey Style Roast with Wensleydale, Cranberry & Orange Centre, a meat free soya based, coated in a tasty crumb filled with cheese, cranberries & orange served with seasonal vegetables and vegetable gravy.
Smoked Haddock and Spring Onion Fishcakes on a bed of oriental stir-fry vegetables and new potatoes.

Desserts:

Christmas Pudding – Traditional Christmas pudding served with Brandy Sauce or Clotted Cream

Three Layered Chocolate Mousse, (White, Milk & Dark Chocolate) served with Raspberry Coulis & Clotted Cream.

Banoffee Pie – Digestive base banana slices and sweet toffee sauce topped with Fresh Cream

After your meals you will be served with Tea & Coffee and a Mince Pie

Pre-orders Required

Call 01752 842861 for booking
And all enquires...book early to avoid disappointment!

Liskeard Rd Saltash Cornwall

Christmas at...

THE PLOUGHBOY

Traditional Christmas Day Lunch
2 Course Carvery + Coffee & Mince Pie **£35.00**
(3 courses available ask for details)

Special Christmas Optional Menu Available
£25.00 per child 12years & under

Book Your Office, Family & Friends Christmas Parties Now!

Christmas Party Menu
2 Courses **£13.50** 3 Courses only **£17.50**

Available 1st to 24th December

Starters:

HOMEMADE SOUP - Broccoli and Stilton served with a granary roll
SMOKED SALMON AND DILL CREAM MOUSSE - a creamy lemon, dill and smoked salmon mousse, finished with a layer of chopped smoked salmon and dill, served with a salad garnish and Melba toast.
BREADED BRIE WEDGES (V) - two deep fried, melt in the mouth breaded brie wedges, served with a cranberry dip and salad garnish.

Mains:

ROAST TURKEY - traditional succulent Turkey, served with four seasonal vegetables and roast and new potatoes.
ROAST BEEF - Cornish topside beef, served with four seasonal vegetables, roast and new potatoes and a Yorkshire pudding.
HADDOCK FLORENTINE - a fillet of prime haddock, served on a bed of spinach, in a rich cheese sauce and accompanied with carrot and green bean bundles and new potatoes.

MUSHROOM AND WALNUT HOTPOT - a crisp pastry case surrounding rich, braised mushrooms and onions and topped with slices of potatoes and finished with chopped walnuts. Served with seasonal vegetables and new potatoes.

Desserts:

CHRISTMAS PUDDING - traditional Christmas pudding, served with brandy sauce or Cornish clotted cream (must be stated on pre-order)

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND RASPBERRY CHEESECAKE - an individual white chocolate cheesecake on a crumble biscuit base, marbled with raspberry sauce.

ICED HAZELNUT AND HONEY PARFAIT - this frozen dessert is flavoured with honey and finished with chopped, caramelised hazelnuts and served with Cornish clotted cream.

CHOCOLATE BOX - an all butter shortbread base, topped with an indulgent dark chocolate mousse, surrounding a caramel centre...naughty but nice!

Tea or Coffee, & Mince Pie.

Tel: for a Party menu/planner to be sent out

Call 01752 842861 for booking

And all enquires...book early to avoid disappointment!
Normal menu also available throughout the festive period

Bookings advisable

Check your Observer for further details of
Events & Entertainment, during the Festive Season
Liskeard Rd, Saltash Cornwall

Seasonal Greetings