

# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

*Your only truly "local" newspaper ...*

July 2018 - Issue 316

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## New Cinema, Cafe and Pier are among Plans for Waterside

**A**mbitious plans for the future of Saltash's historic waterside area, which could include a new cinema, theatre, a new pier, and a cafe/bar with outside seating area were on display at the Livewire youth club over the regatta weekend and drew mixed comments.

The plans, put forward by the coastal community team, Saltash, in co-operation with the Saltash Neighbourhood plan steering group, include four alternatives. The first option is simply to leave the area as it is.

The others include reducing the present town pier to a groyne and creating a new and longer pier opposite the 'Union Inn'. Floodgates by the ferry slipway should alleviate occasional flooding risk and a raised boardwalk is proposed for the full length of Waterside from Ashtorre Rock to the Sailing Club.

The three alternative plans for redeveloping the area include a public performance area by the new pier with a temporary structure or tent on the river's edge. One suggestion is for a cinema / theatre in front of the Livewire club and a cafe restaurant alongside with flats on the site of the former 'Wheatshaf Inn'. Alternatively the Livewire site would be redeveloped with a cinema/theatre on that site and a new Livewire built alongside adjacent to the new apartment block which would have underground parking.

'The survey of all Saltash residents conducted in 2015 found that after the railway station the Waterside was the single most popular area voted for improvement in the town', visitors to the exhibition of 'Thoughts and Ideas for the Waterside'. Saltash resident's views are still invited and the Plan 4 Saltash web site gives details on other opportunities to see and comment upon the various proposals.

"The Waterside development plans are a private consortium initiative and not, the Town Council seeks to emphasise, a council based initiative"

## Spotlight on Cornwall Council in SE Cornwall...

### Working Together to Make Cornwall Safer

**C**ornwall Fire, Rescue and Community Safety Service, administered by Cornwall Council, are the proud winners of a national award as Fire and Rescue Service of the Year 2018. "The scale and volume of our work to help vulnerable people, and to keep communities safe is a credit to the professionalism and dedication of our staff", said Paul Walker, Chief Fire Officer, who himself was awarded the Queens Fire Service medal in the New Year's Honours List earlier this year. "I'm very proud to be part of Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service, who are my second family and who all work hard for our local communities," he continued.

There are 31 community fire stations throughout Cornwall. Two of these are crewed day and night, five are day-crewed, and the remainder, including the station in Saltash, are crewed by retained firefighters who live near to their fire station and can arrive there within five minutes of a call being received. These on-call firefighters do an incredible job, but there is a shortage of

people willing to take on the role and help in an emergency - currently over 80% of our community fire stations in Cornwall are currently trying to recruit on-call firefighters. Saltash is no exception, and needs 'ordinary women and men to do an extraordinary job'. The crew at Saltash responded to 177 incidents in the year 2016/17. Of these, 62 were false alarms but our firefighters were called to a wide range of incidents such as floods, fires, road traffic collisions and chemical spills. If you're interested in being a

part of the dedicated Saltash crew and helping to keep our community safe, go to Cornwall Council's website ([www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)) and search for 'on-call firefighter' for more information, or call the Service's Resourcing Team on 01872 323800.

The crew at Saltash Community Fire Station are also active in promoting fire safety, and will carry out free home fire safety checks and fit smoke alarms free of charge. Saltash has a unique resource developed by Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service called Early Learning Fire Safety (elfs), which is a fun-filled box with tools to educate children between two and five years old about safety. It can be borrowed free of charge by nurseries, pre-schools and childminders.

Keen to continue to make sure the right resources are in the right place at the right time, Cornwall Fire, Rescue and Community Service is in the middle of developing an Integrated Risk Management Plan, which will shape the way the Service looks in the 3-year period covering 2019-2022. Support your firefighters by giving your feedback and taking the Integrated Risk Management Engagement Survey, either online by visiting [www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk) or by ringing 0300 1234 100 and asking for a paper copy. The survey closes at the end of July.



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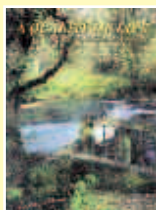
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See Regatta article/captions on page 4/5 and 8



# Town Messenger

Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council  
Konsel an dre Essa



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Email: [info@cornwallhousing.org.uk](mailto:info@cornwallhousing.org.uk)

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## Localising Services ... *A Sea Change for Saltash*

Saltash is already well into its programme of ‘devolution’, taking on an increasing number of powers and responsibilities from Truro based Cornwall Council and seeking to ensure that local services are locally run for the benefit of the local community.

The concept of devolution emerged in 2014 when the newly formed Cornwall Council realised that its funding levels were not sufficient to maintain all of the services it inherited from Caradon and the five other district councils.

Cornwall Council, as a

first tier authority has a statutory duty to provide certain services, which include social services, education, transport/highways, waste disposal and housing.

Cornwall therefore chose to examine all other services that it provides and decide whether it was viable to maintain them and if not whether to hand them back to the parishes such as Saltash or close them down.

It was on this basis that in 2014 Saltash Town Council embarked on a programme to take back certain services from Cornwall Council so as

to improve them, offer what the townspeople wanted, and get value for money for local ratepayers.

Among the first such services to come back into local management were public toilets. Longstone Park, Belle Vue, Alexandra Square and Waterside are all currently being cleaned and maintained by the Town Council’s locally employed staff.

The Town Council’s next target is local open spaces.

Negotiations are currently underway between Saltash and Cornwall Council concerning green spaces, grass cutting and verge maintenance. Currently Cormac is contracted to do work to standards specified by Cornwall Council. Saltash Councillors do not consider these standards locally acceptable – so the town council is embarking on a programme to cost out for taking these services in house and is currently working with

Cornwall Council officers to ensure that either Cornwall raise its standards to the level that Saltash require or these services come back under Saltash’s control.

At the same time Saltash is looking to take on assets on our historic Waterfront. Those who have been to the Waterside recently should have already noted a vast improvement since the town’s own Waterfront Wardens assumed the role of maintaining and building

upon the attraction of the water frontage.

The Council is united in its approach to taking over services which it believes will be better run locally for local residents. Councillors are aware that negotiations and important decisions will take time and ask that residents will give them this time as well as their support in what our elected representatives believe will be an absolute sea change for Saltash.

## Your Cornwall Councillors

*Saltash North*  
Sheila Lennox-Boyd

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*Saltash West*

Sam Tamlin  
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## Cornwall Councillors – Cover such services as:

Housing - Education –  
Social Services  
Highways –  
Waste and Recycling –  
Tamar Bridge

## Toilet Vandalism is Costing Council Tax Payers

Since Saltash’s public toilets have come under the Town Council’s management its staff have been working hard to ensure that they are cleaned and maintained to a proper standard.

Unfortunately they are hindered in this by constant vandalism. This is costing the town, and thus all local council tax payers, several hundred pounds each week. Were it not for the Town Council employing its own staff to remedy the damage it would cost considerably more.

The Town Council is growing increasingly concerned at this waste of public money and at the temporary closures that are being enforced. Anyone witnessing such damage is asked to immediately report it to the police.

Anyone discovering the result of such damage is asked to call the Guildhall on 844846 and ask to speak to the ground and premises Warden, to ensure speedy action.

Automatic overnight locking and opening systems already installed at Bellevue and Alexandra Square are being considered for elsewhere and will, it is hoped, reduce the cost of repairing wanton damage.

The toilet and premises cleaners were formally thanked by the Chairman, at a recent meeting of the Town Council Services Committee, for their hard work in maintaining the public toilets to a high standard.

The Council’s own cleaner and caretaker was similarly thanked for all of her hard work in taking on and maintaining Alexandra Square public toilet to a high standard.

## Your Town Council

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**Mayor:**  
John Brady

**Deputy Mayor:**  
Gloria Challen

**Town Clerk:**  
Ray Lane  
T: 844846  
E: [enquiries@saltash.gov.uk](mailto: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 Email: [enquiries@saltash.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@saltash.gov.uk) Website: [www.saltash.gov.uk](http://www.saltash.gov.uk)**

## The Cutting Edge for Green Spaces

*Grass cutting continues to be a contentious issue.*

There have been various criticisms voiced recently, specifically at the Pillmere Residents Association’s annual meeting, as to the standards and frequency of grass cutting in and around the town centre and residential estates.

Prior to the regatta, which attracted thousands of visitors down to the Waterside, the Town Council elected to have its Waterside Wardens spend much time bringing the three green spaces there up to a proper standard. It was considered that Cormac had not done a satisfactory job in so doing.

Town Councillors are now giving much of their time to working out a strategy based on devolution to ensure that the standards that they consider acceptable are achieved in various parts of the town.

## Library Next Service Set for Localisation

As has been reported recently in your ‘Observer’ and elsewhere Saltash Council has been actively engaged in seeking as to how it might take over the provision of local library services from Cornwall Council while maintaining and hopefully improving the service for local library users.

The Town Council has formed its own Library Working Group which recently held a highly productive meeting with Cornwall Council Officers.

This informal meeting was reported as having proceeded extremely well with a number of action points discussed. It has been agreed to hold such meetings on a regular basis in order to bring forward the transfer of the library and its assets to Saltash Town Council.

It is hoped that an agreement may be signed within the next few months with the library being owned and managed by the Town Council early next year. Your Observer will continue to keep readers updated on progress.

**Tell your friends & family to visit us at...  
[www.saltash-observer.co.uk](http://www.saltash-observer.co.uk)**

## Mayoral Points of View...

*Dear Residents,*

This is my first article for the Observer as your Mayor for 2018-2019.

Since being elected it has been a bit of a whirlwind for myself and Jackie, the Mayoress, and 2 months since taking office has flown by.

Fortunately, Deputy Mayor Councillor Gloria Challen and her Consort Neil have stepped in and shared the ceremonial workload.

However, in this article it is not the ceremonial part of the role I want to share with you. When elected you accept a dual role, as Mayor and as Chairman of Saltash Town Council. This is the ‘working’ part of the role, tasked with supporting the Town Clerk in managing the business of the Council.

The Council is made up of 16 elected Councillors, 4 to each Ward which are North, South, East and West. Each Councillor is duly elected within their Ward and serve a term of 4 years. Councillors are NOT paid but are entitled to a Taxable allowance of £200 pa. This allowance is to help with postage, telephone and travel costs to attend meetings.

This Council, of which I am proud to Chair, has unanimously supported the purchase of the Station Building, introduced Town and Waterfront Wardens and our own dedicated Public Toilet Cleaners. We as a Council are now dedicated to and have

agreed on taking the Library under the control from Cornwall Council to Saltash Town Council. We are also actively seeking to take from Cornwall Council, under the guise of devolution, green spaces such as grass verge maintenance, sports fields and amenity areas.

This is a huge undertaking, and we are currently working on a strategy to provide first class amenities at value for money.

It is my view, shared by Members of the Council, that we must run as a business.

My expectation is, Saltash will once again, be the Town that is clean, safe, friendly, aspirational and a place where provision is made for all to enjoy, from whatever age group.

Saltash has a great deal going for it, help your Council to achieve it. Over the coming months Jackie and I look forward to meeting with many of you.

Councillor John Brady  
Mayor of Saltash

## Press Secretaries & Correspondents

Email your news to...  
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## Sign Points the Way for Saltash Shoppers

A new and more vibrant sign pointing the way into Saltash and listing some of its shopping facilities is planned to replace that which has faced traffic emerging from the Tamar Bridge for a number of years.

The current sign was subject to controversy several years ago when a member of the public challenged the council to change '30 Metres' to yards.

The current Mayor Councillor John Brady has obtained a design for an eye catching sign saying 'Welcome to Saltash' with an arrow pointing 'This way to Fore Street Shops and parking'. Below that some of the variety of shops in the town are listed.

One Councillor suggested the sign might point to 'town centre'. The Mayor responded that the geographical centre is nearer to Burraton Cross.

The new sign would be fully illuminated, it is proposed, with long lasting and eco-friendly solar lighting. The Mayor has discussed with developers of the Carkeel shopping complex and agreed that the Tamar Bridge sign would have a corporate design with one due to be erected pointing to the town from Carkeel.

It was unanimously agreed to recommend the spending of £5,396 of Section 106 money on the Tamar Bridge based illuminated sign.

## Scrap Store Will Aid Environment and Encourage Creativity

A town centre Scrap Store, which will enable the reuse and recycling of materials that would otherwise go to landfill and heighten awareness of environmental issues should be part funded by 'Section 106' money from Waitrose, the Town Council agreed.

The town's Community Enterprise PL12 organisation will, it is anticipated, initially host the Scrap Store in its base at 4 Fore Street. However it cannot be held full time there due to other users needing the premises and an empty 'pop up' shop to house the scrap store on a more permanent basis will be sought.

An application for Section 106 funding to convert the former toilet block in Belle Vue car park into premises usable as a scrap store was rejected by the Town Council. Councillors considered the £8,750 sought for the conversion excessive and expressed concern that the premises might in due course become another vacant property, preferring that an empty shop be used. They did however recommend that £8,900 be allocated for setting up the store.

There is currently £45,559 held from monies paid by Waitrose as a condition of their planning permission to expand. This must be spent on enhancement of the town centre by next June 2019 or returned to Waitrose.

The Scrap Store money will be used to recruit a project manager and organise

collection of scraps and membership schemes. Then the off cuts, surplus stock, unwanted packaging and other card, fabric, plaster or wood that local firms discard every day can be collected for reuse in creative projects. Together with the Saltash Chamber of Commerce, the retail community and Saltash Hopper Bus it is planned to collect and sort these items, then sell on at minimal costs to schools, community groups and the general public.

Craft sessions and repair workshops should encourage creativity and encourage community cohesion as well as environmental awareness. They will also give local entrepreneurs the chance to showcase their businesses.

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

"It was resolved that Saltash Town Council refuse the S.106 Application" was the news that I got when I returned from holiday. The Chamber had made an application for funding to put on again this year the same type of Christmas Festival that we did last year.

Last year we were asked by Saltash Town Council to take on the running of the festival, following the demise of the body that was going to take on the mantle of organisation, and we were proud to do so. Thanks to the efforts of some of the Chamber members we were able to produce a festival that was well received by the community and was a major fundraiser for many of the local organisations/ charities.

However, in order to finance all the activities it was necessary to find funds. We applied again for funds this

year to try and improve further on what we achieved last year but had the above response from the Town Council.

However, the Chamber does not give up easily and so we are trying to find a way forward and are considering other avenues of funding and if anybody knows of anybody who would be prepared to sponsor part of whole of the event then please get them to contact me.

Turning to other matters, the end has now come to the car park rebate scheme. The Chamber is willing to pursue another proposal to ensure that car parking is not a deterrent to shopping in Fore Street but we need to know what works for the businesses and the shoppers. Free parking in total, is not an option (when it was tried on Saturdays, previously, it only resulted in shoppers leaving their cars in the car park and then catching the bus into Plymouth) but will some other basis of encouraging shoppers into town work? Let me know what you think on the Chamber website or have a word with any of the Chamber members.

Finally, wearing my CIC hat, we are keen to have more volunteers to help run our many enterprises and if you can find an hour or two to help in whatever way then please pop into No. 4 Fore Street and have a word with Rosie or Al.

### Letter to the Editor...

Dear Mary

Rose Teanby's 'Brunel through a lens - The Royal Albert Bridge' talk recently at the Ashtorre was brilliant... some lovely insights into the work of the great man. She began with his 1828 diary quote '...went to Saltash. Much too wide to be worth having a bridge.' She showed some fabulous, rare and historic pictures of our iconic bridge, plus both the SS Great Eastern and SS Great Britain in rare locations... the rest is civil and marine engineering legend. Afterwards we joked that my talk last week featured a Mongolian bridge that collapsed, with me on it. Great evening, well done Rose, The Ashtorre and, of course, the inimitable IKB.

Ian Robinson, Saltash Waterside



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## Ann Again Surveys the Waterside Scene

Saltash's renowned nineteenth century oarswomen, who used to regale passersby in Fore Street with her memories of Victorian Saltash, is now down the hill and looking out over the waters that she rowed two centuries ago.

The replica of Ann Glanville was created for a 'talking bench' in Fore Street. It was based upon old photographs of the 'Saltash Maid' born in 1796 and who made Saltash famous by taking her team of local oarswomen to regattas throughout Britain and France, supposedly never beaten by a women's team and seldom by men. She met many eminent Victorians before her peaceful death in Saltash aged 84. She is buried at St. Stephens's churchyard and Saltash Heritage have erected a blue plaque on the side of her waterside home.

Now her replica gazes out over the river just yards from her old home and close to the statue of Brunel whose mighty bridge she must have watched being built. We are told that there is no reason why batteries cannot be fitted to ensure that she can once again speak and talk to visitors about her memories of Waterside long ago.

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Sat 21st **Rockaholics** (Bar)  
Sat 28th **The Frame** (Bar)  
**August 2018**  
Sat 4th **Gone South** (*Another Newby*) (Bar)  
Sat 11th **Whisky Falls** (Bar)  
Sat 18th **Three's Company** (Bar)  
**Bank Holiday Weekend**  
Sat 25th **Firebird** (*1st Time @ Club*)  
Sun 26th **Toby Graham** (5-8pm)  
followed by...Vince/Kaz Disco/Karaoke  
**September 2018**  
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Sat 8th **Hi Jack**  
Sat 15th **Trena Marie**  
Sat 22nd **Switch**  
Fri 28th **Abba Duo + Double Soul** (MH)  
Members £5.00 Non Members £10.00  
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## The Sun Shone on Fun Afloat and Ashore for Regatta Weekend



The Tall Ship Pegasus

The Saltash Town Band struck up 'We do like to be beside the seaside' as it led local school groups and other excited children dressed in the theme 'beside the sea' down Fore Street to a Waterside already packed with colourful stalls. Saltash Regatta 2018 was underway. The Mayor Councillor John Brady declared the regatta open welcoming Cornwall Council Chair Mrs Mary May and the crowd that had followed the parade to a Waterfront which, as he said 'looks really beautiful today!' He awarded the prize for the best dressed children's group to St. Nicholas and St. Faith pre-school children.

Two full days of almost nonstop sunshine continued to attract the crowds down to the Waterside.

The regatta was already under way with pilot gig rowing teams from across the south west flashing along the Tamar while the sails were hoisted for the Saltash sailing club's pursuit races.

A highlight for many visitors was boarding the tall ship 'Pegasus' moored on the sailing club pontoon, to taste the experience which she offers to disadvantaged young people who sail her through the Island Trust.

Meanwhile the thousands who flocked to the foreshore over the two days had a wide

variety of entertainment to enjoy both on the Waterside Green and Jubilee -Green. Those who came for the day could eat and drink at the many food stalls lining Old Ferry Road, as well as visit a wide variety of other stalls along the waterfront.

Sunday saw the return of the popular paint party, with many young visitors being in Technicolor for the rest of the day. An undoubted highlight of the afternoon was the Cardboard Boat Race with a record fourteen boats entering, many brilliantly created. The former High Sheriff of Cornwall, Mrs Sarah Coryton, awarded prizes with the winner being HMS Ginger Prince.

The prize for the most spectacular sinking went to the

'Jolly Robtom' which went down in style, the most creative design was 'Bathy McBathface', while the best engineered was 'Noahs Ark' which might have sailed proudly home had not other entrants kept alive the Cornish tradition of wrecking.

Sixty entrants also volunteered to enter the water for the Wild Swim, a mile crossing the current (safety boat to hand) to England and back.

The weather remained sunny and hot all day Saturday, dry and slightly cooler on Sunday, the crowds came in their thousands and the hard working organising committee members were delighted to be told a number of times that this was 'the best regatta ever'.



Jacob and Aidan both aged five on 'Pegasus'

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## Exhibition at Ashtorre Raised £200

A Year in the life of photojournalist Ian Robinson  
An exhibition and slide presentation raised £200.64p to be divided equally between the RNLI and St. Luke's Hospice.

As a relative newcomer to the town, may I say 'Thank you, Saltash,' but, more important, highlight the warmth of all those at Ashtorre Rock centre who made it possible, a buzzing, valuable community resource beneath the bridges down on the Tamar waterfront.

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Lunch @ Charlies Boathouse then Porthpean

**Fri 3rd Aug 9.30 – 6pm (£12)**  
Sidmouth Folk Festival  
**Sun 5 Aug 11am - 4pm (£10)**  
Lunch at Carriages, Exeter  
**Wed 7th 10am - 4pm (£6)**  
Trago - Newton Abbot  
**Sun 12th Aug 11am-4.30 £6)**  
St Lukes Gardens.  
Bere Alston & Village Gardens  
**Wed 15th Aug 10.30-4pm(£6)**  
Tavistock (Market Day)  
**Sun 19th Aug 11-4pm (£7)**  
Sun Lunch at Rose & Crown  
Yealmpton  
**Wed 22nd Aug 10.30-4.30 (£7)**  
Bygones @ Babbacombe  
**Wed 29 Aug 10.30-5pm (£11)**  
Bickleigh Fisherman's Cot & Tiverton & museum  
**Fri 31st Aug 11 – 5pm (£11)**  
Bicton Gardens  
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For Observer readers

Adam Paynter

Gives an exclusive interview on  
his first year as Leader



### Adam Paynter Leader of Cornwall Council

In May 2017, I had the privilege to be elected as Leader of Cornwall Council. My focus has been on the issues that matter most to residents, including homes, jobs and the environment. A year on, I believe we can be proud of what this Council has achieved for the people of Cornwall.

I will continue to crack down on poor performance where needed, but I'm delighted to say that in many areas Cornwall Council is out-performing a lot of local councils in the country. In fact, a recent independent review has shown that Cornwall is a national leader in some areas, such as the delivery of children's services and affordable homes. My own children are at primary school so I am particularly thrilled with our record on children's services, but another couple of achievements where I take particular pride are the introduction of improved domiciliary care contracts paying our hard-working care workers the foundation living wage, and a 33% reduction in the number of rough sleepers in Cornwall.

The four Cornwall councillors in Saltash are playing pivotal roles in all of this, and each of them have taken on additional commitments over and above their regular council work: Derek Holley chairs both the Pensions Committee and the Saltash Area Road Safety Committee, where he has been vocal in campaigning for improvements to the A38; Hilary Frank's focus

continues to be on children, but she has taken on additional roles as Vice Chair of Cornwall Council, representing the Council and the Chair at civic and ceremonial occasions; Sheila Lennox-Boyd has been active in her work with licensing, and has recently joined the committee managing the Mount Edgumbe estate; and Sam Tamlin has thrown his energies in to planning issues and the committee managing the Tamar Bridge.

One area where our work will bring significant benefit to the residents of Saltash is the investment we've made in rail infrastructure. In combination with great partnership work, I'm pleased to say this will mean that from December there will be two trains per hour between Plymouth and Penzance stopping at local stations, including Saltash. This is just one element of the fully integrated transport system we will be introducing, with common ticketing and joined-up timetables across rail, bus and ferry services - a first for a rural area in the UK.

We are working hard at a national level, too. Cornwall was one of the regions that gained the most benefit from European funding, and recognising that the impact of Brexit could be severe, we are working closely and proactively with national government to ensure that Cornwall will not lose out on funding in a post-Brexit UK.

We are facing challenging times at home and abroad, but Cornwall Council is trying to do its best for the people of Saltash and Cornwall - one and all.

## Memorial Could Be 'Listed' Building'

Consideration is being given as to whether the war memorial outside St. Nicholas Church is of special architectural or historic interest. The Historic England Listing Team (West) has written to the Town Council advising that the memorial is being considered for listing and inviting Town Councillors to comment before a consultation report on proposed listing be submitted to the Secretary of State.

The memorial was erected following World War I to commemorate those lost in the war who had connections with the borough of Saltash. A separate memorial was erected at St. Stephens Church, then a separate parish council. Further names were added to each following World War II.

## Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make a Cornish place name?

- 1 To which section of an Orchestra do Tubular Bells, the Xylophone and the Glockenspiel belong? (10)
- 2 Which is the World's largest Peninsula, covering 1.25 million square miles? (7)
- 3 What was the Christian name of Mrs. Shelley's maid in the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin? (5)
- 4 What type of Bird is the emblem of the RSPB
- 5 What was the nickname of the US General Thomas Jackson? (9)
- 6 What name is given to the petals forming the inner envelope of a flower? (7)
- 7 As applied to Wine, what does "Brut" mean? (3)
- 8 In the Children's TV programme in what type of building did Portland Bill live? (10)
- 9 In which English County will you find the Nature Reserve area of Blakeney Point? (7)

Answers on Page 7

## SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



It was good to hear from the Minister for Defence Procurement, Guto Bebb MP, as he confirmed, "that HMS Albion and HMS Bulwark are safe until 2033 and 2034, which is the current situation. Those are the decommissioning dates for both vessels." He went on to outline a positive future for Devonport when he said, "The situation in Plymouth and Devonport is still a significant success story. I acknowledge that there are challenges, but the activities taking place there—the flag officer sea training, Royal Marines Tamar and the commitment for the new oil jetty that has been built at Thanckes—are commitments and expenditure that highlight the fact that there is a very positive future for the base at Devonport. That positive future is not because we owe anything other than the right decision for the people of Plymouth, but that right decision will reflect the history of service and support that has been offered to the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Navy by the people of Plymouth and the people involved in the bases in Plymouth. We should be very proud of the fact that it is a key component of our defence infrastructure. The continued added investment made by the Ministry of Defence highlights the fact that there is a bright future for the base in Devonport." This is good news for my constituents in South East Cornwall who work at Thanckes near Torpoint and Devonport.

I was delighted to hear the Prime Minister announce an extra £20billion investment into the NHS in order to facilitate the 10 year plan. It was also good to hear that the way this money is spent will be determined by the Health service themselves rather than a top down dictate from the politicians. I was also pleased to hear her say that it will be focused on patient services rather than back office administration.

Last week was a busy week in Parliament as we saw the European Union (Withdrawal)

Bill finally go through Parliament. I am disappointed that a Bill, which is necessary to bring about Brexit, did not have an easier passage through Parliament. There seem to be some that are arguing for what they call a people's vote. We have already had a people's vote on the 23rd June 2016 when South East Cornwall, Cornwall and the UK as a whole voted to leave the European Union. That people's vote on the Referendum on the 23rd June 2016 must be respected. Many in this campaign are wearing slogans like 'Exit from Brexit' – it is clear they do not respect the will of the British people.

I was pleased to join the Secretary of State for Transport with a number of local Councillors from differing political parties to present him with a document entitled "The A38 – A case for action". I chaired a group which involved a cross party group of Councillors, Cornwall Council, Plymouth City Council, the Highways England, the SAFE38 group, the Local Enterprise Group and local business groups. We also received the backing of Devon County Council, Torbay Council and West Devon Borough Council for the A38 Case for Action document. As well as the much needed safety improvements the A38 Case for Action outlines the wider economic case which estimates that nearly £900 million increase in productivity growth and induced investment could be gained through improving the A38 between Bodmin and Exeter. This includes the reduction in congestion which is currently suffered along this road. This road is dangerous. Hardly a week goes by when there is not an accident often with loss of life. Recently it was reported that we saw four die in one month. Recently I had a lady in my office who had comforted a lady who died on the roadside. Action needs to be taken. I am grateful to the local authorities, Highways England and the Local Enterprise Partnership for the funding of this study.

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## Silent Soldier's Unveiling Opens War Centenary Commemoration

A striking silhouette of 'The Silent Soldier' is to be erected in the Memorial Peace Garden, Alexandra Square, on the August anniversary of the commencement of World War I. It is intended as a tribute to the 140 or so Saltash men who gave their lives during that conflict as well as the many hundreds of troops who trained in Saltash's Wearde Camp and left the town for the front line, many never to return.

The official unveiling is part of a series of commemorations chaired by former Mayor Mrs. Sue Hooper MBE. These will continue between August and November, the centenary of the date when at last the great guns fell silent.

On 4th August at midday various guests representing the armed services and civic dignitaries together with our own young cadets will be invited to be present as Mayor Councillor John Brady unveils 'The Silent Soldier' and it is dedicated by Reverend Jonathan Budd, president of Saltash Churches Together. There will also be a piper and bugler before the doves of peace are released to the music of the pipes.

The commemoration committee's plans also include pictorial memorials at Saltash railway station and the former ferry slipway to the many troops who departed from there.

Poppies, forever associated with the fallen of World War I, have already been planted throughout the town and should be in full bloom by late summer. Busy hands at Ashtorre community centre, Saltash Scouts and the library 'Knit and Natter' group have also been busy creating a 'carpet of poppies' to be placed outside St. Nicholas Church. A World War I community drama will be performed on 17th November in Wesley Church. Local children are invited to become involved in creating their own war poetry for a public recital. Also especially welcomed would be any centenarians born during or immediately after the Great War and they are invited to contact Sue Hooper on 01752 843073

## Bridge Building Exhibited at New Learning Centre

Exhibition space alongside classroom facilities will come together to educate and inform visitors of all ages how two engineering icons, of their respective eras, the Royal Albert Bridge and the Tamar road bridge, came to be built.

Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Manager David List informed an audience at Ashtorre Rock as to how £272,700 from Heritage Lottery Fund supplemented by £90,000 from the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry was to help create a Learning Centre alongside the new Tamar Bridge control centre, home to an active Science, Technology, Engineering Art and Mathematics (STEAM) hub welcoming school students from throughout the area. As well as hosting annual events for local residents and visitors the exhibition space will contain a mock up of the control centre, from which traffic on Britain's fifth busiest estuarial toll crossing is monitored. The main feature will be a large

glass panel containing a display of both bridges.

Students will also be able to attend an outdoor classroom with views of the two bridges and there will be an area where youth groups can make model bridges under supervision.

Work should be largely completed by the end of August and the Learning Centre fully opened by early next year, by which time a substantial number of volunteers will be required to enable local residents and passing visitors to fully appreciate the amazing feats of 19th and 20th century engineering that link Saltash to the outside world.

## Pillmere Regains Green Space

The former play park at Pillmere is to be reinstated as a green space, the town's Services Committee has agreed.

The area has long been abandoned, the play equipment being deemed unsafe and therefore unused.

Various options as to how the area may best be restored to be enjoyed by all residents as a community asset are to be considered by the Town Council's Grounds and Premises Warden together with local councillor Bill Phillips and Glendale. Money will be made available from the Pillmere Estate (Capital Works) EMF budget for the work.



## Seal of Approval from Toby

"Wow. That looks way better!" said Toby, a child in Year 3 at St Stephens Primary School, who was admiring the results of the weeding and planting he and his fellow classmates had carried out.

In a collaborative project bringing together children from St Stephens Primary School with volunteers from Saltash Environmental Action (SEA) and the newly-formed Crosspark Residents' Association, the patch of overgrown brambles and self-seeded ash saplings on the corner of St Stephens Road and Beatrice Avenue has been transformed with heather, sage, rosemary and TLC.

"We were fortunate to get funding from Cornwall Council and the use of CORMAC's toolkit trailer", said Adrian White, the SEA volunteer who led the project,

"But the biggest boost has been the encouraging comments from passers-by. One kind resident of Beatrice Avenue even brought us cups of tea and Jammie Dodgers."

The CORMAC toolkit trailer is free of charge to community groups, and comes with everything from secateurs to shovels, bin bags to wheelbarrows. Hilary Frank, the Cornwall Councillor who helped set the project up, said: "It was such a collaborative, positive experience. Here's hoping the heather and the community spirit will continue to grow!"

## Essa Files

This week I have mostly been empathising with PE teachers. You see it was Sixth Form Induction at saltash.net, when we ask the students who plan to join our Sixth Form in September to come in for three days to learn a bit more about Sixth Form life, get to know the other students they haven't met before etc.

On the middle day we go off to Mount Edgecumbe to do team-building activities around the grounds, and this year the weather was absolutely glorious. Cue lots of people telling me in tones of mild to moderate envy 'Oh I wish I was spending today out in the sunshine'. Given how warm it's been I fully understand these feelings, but what everybody forgets is that the last two years we've done it it's been belting it down with rain and we've all got quite damp.

Which brings me to the link to PE teachers, since almost every day in this weather they get people commenting on how lucky they are to be out in the sunshine, entirely overlooking the scores of cold, damp or generally grey days where said PE teacher is also outside, but they are in the nice comfortable classroom.

My point is that we're often rather better at seeing the

advantages that other people enjoy over us, but less good at spotting where they have it harder. This is a point I often make to teenagers when we're studying parenting – they always tend to notice anything where other people's parents are 'nice' or 'easier' but not the reverse, and from this they see their parents as 'meaner' and thus struggle to ever see their parents' point of view. Equally parents can be better at noticing what they see as 'moodiness' and disrespect that at remembering their own teenage years and the struggles of coming of age.

Most of us like to think we get better at empathy when we get out of the hormonal teenage phase but even so we tend to consistently underestimate the struggles that other people face. Many people for example object to the payments of unemployment benefits as 'cash for nothing' without considering the health, relationship or employment struggles that might have led to that person being unable to work (or indeed the hardship that life on benefits often brings). Similarly people scream at those who seek safety and shelter in our country as taking our jobs, and totally disregard the often difficult, sometimes horrific, situations they have escaped from.

My point is not that we should ignore our own struggles because 'there's always someone worse off', but rather that our own struggles should remind us to try to understand and emphasise with the struggles of others on all scales.

When we see a PE teacher, or postal worker, or gardener experiencing the rare joy of working in the sunshine we should remember how much mizzle and cold they put up with in the average year. When we see a person surviving (often only just) off of money from the state to remember how much hardship has probably led them to that situation and will follow on from it.

Adam Killea

## Commemorative Events

More information on commemorative events up to and including the centenary of the ending of the "Great War to end all wars" will be publicised over the next few months.

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## No Grant for Christmas Festival

While agreeing that the town's annual pre Christmas celebration is an excellent event attracting people into the town in seasonal spirit, town councillors queried whether £8,225 of community money should be spent upon it. 'I find it offensive to spend over £8000 on a festival just for a few hours', said Councillor Julie Rance, and others agreed.

'The event does encourage people into the town where they spend in local businesses and hopefully will draw them back', believed Councillor Casey Warrington who however added that she queried the total costs.

After debate the Town Council agreed not to recommend the application by the town's Chamber of Commerce for Section 106 monies towards the running of this year's event. Eight votes were against, none for, with three abstentions.

### Regatta 2018 Photo Captions

**Page 1**  
Having fun Prior to the Famous Cardboard Boat Race  
**Page 4/5**  
Last minute Briefing  
Saltash Glamour Girls  
And there Off! Or not!  
Wild Water Swimmers  
Preparing to cross the Tamar to England & Back  
Totally Wrecked...  
Tammy Keighery who comes each year from Reading to dance with the Wreckers seen with Amanda Wells  
Organiser Karen Lilley  
Getting involved in more ways than one!  
**Page 8**  
Winners of Best Dressed Trophy  
Zillah Robertson of Fathoms Free (Deep Sea Divers working to clear the seas around Cornwall)  
Ashtorre say a big thank you to Saltash Rotarians seen here busy in their kitchen.  
Young Citizen of the Year & friend litter picking after the Regatta  
First Swimmer to return  
Michelle Pearce

## SUE HOOPER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (SHCF)



### Votes For Women and end of The Great War 1918 Community Commemorative events 2018

The Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation is in advanced stages of organising Community Workshops to commemorate and celebrate the end of The Great War 1918, and acknowledging 'The People Representation Act' of 1918 that gave Women over 30 and with property the vote.

Plans are being developed for the Trust to visit local organisations, and organise venues to deliver music and drama workshops reflecting what happened during that time 100 years ago.

Women from Cornwall played a significant role in the success of the Suffragette's eventual outcome of Women receiving the vote.

### Great Suffrage Pilgrimage

In 1913 women from Cornwall, under the banner of National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, took part in the Great Suffrage Pilgrimage from Land's End (passing through St Germans, Saltash) to London; which was one of eight marches from different corners of the country setting out in June and July of that year, taking six weeks to eventually arrive at Hyde Park, London.

The women did receive some resistance, but overwhelming support along the way and eventually around 50,000 people attended the rally in London.

### Great War 1914 - 1918

In addition to the Women's success, a significant part of the themed workshops will be the Commemoration of the end of The Great War 1914-1918.

Thousands of Troops left Saltash from the Saltash Railway Station and Saltash Ferry slip at the Waterside to bravely fight for their Country on the Western Front.

140 men associated with Saltash lost their lives, and many of those that did return to a rapturous flag waving, Church Bell ringing welcome, continued to suffer greatly and several convalesced at Wearde Camp (Saltash).

Therefore the workshops will create a tense atmosphere, and at the same time pay tribute to all those that had lost their lives or had suffered due to The Great War; as well as celebrating Peace after four years of shocking hostilities and conflict.

Following the community performing arts workshops, there will be the finale of a concert titled "Blood Red Rose", to platform all the works delivered by professional artistic director Julian Barnicoat.

Julian delivered the last community event some years ago, which at that time was Cornish themed with Cornish language songs, dance and the spoken word.

Julian will work with the Trust and with as many groups within the Saltash Community as possible.

The Trust has also commissioned Julian to write a themed overture, score and script characteristic of the period, which will be staged at the Saltash Wesley Church, Saturday November 17th 6.00pm

**The Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation is grateful for the generous sponsorship given for this 100th Anniversary project to the following....**



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