

30th Anniversary

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

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Summer Special 2022 - Issue 364

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SALTASH Regatta
WATERSIDE FESTIVAL

3RD & 4TH SEPTEMBER 2022
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Students from Saltash Community School celebrate in style after finishing their GCSE exams.

Summer Sand in Saltash

Each year, the Saltash Regatta Committee organises the logistics and funding to move 27 tonnes of Padstow sand and create a small beach alongside Ashtorre Rock in Saltash, creating a summery venue for Regatta activities like the Cardboard Boat Race. The Regatta will be in the first weekend of September this year, but the committee didn't want the children to miss out on a summer of beach fun, so arranged to have the sand delivered just in time for the school holidays.

Once again John Lawler from Waterways Drainage Specialists Ltd. generously agreed to fund the 'pop up beach', and CBL Saltash sent a digger to distribute the sand free of charge as a gesture to the children of the town.

Chair of Regatta, Karen Lilley, said: "The actions by local businesses really show the strength of community spirit in our wonderful town. We hope to have a top up of sand for the pop up beach just before Regatta weekend,

which is 3rd and 4th September. We also have plans for live music across two stages, plenty of stalls and water-based activities. See you there!"



Photos: Lauren Spinks Photography




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Observer Contact Details
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E: maryecrawford@hotmail.com

Town Messenger

Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council
Konsel an dre Essa



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@cornwallimited.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
Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email: roadstransportandparking@cornwall.gov.uk

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

Cormac Solutions
Telephone: 01872 323 313
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
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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

It has been another busy and enjoyable month with numerous visits and opportunities to meet some of you. I hope you have been able to enjoy the good weather. We have had so many pleasant evenings walking the Waterside over recent weeks.

This month I would like to spend a little time explaining what Saltash Town Council is doing to support young people in our community.

This year sees the 30th anniversary of the Saltash Youth Council. Established in 1992 to bring more relevant support and to give a voice to the young people in Saltash. Although the Youth Council is not run by Saltash Town Council, the involvement of Town Councillors over the years, either current or former councillors has been pivotal in its running. Saltash Town Council have been the primary funder over all this time, and have budgeted £4000 this year to provide them with further support. Saltash Town Council allows the Youth Council free reign on how it manages and distributes those funds, although we do ask for an annual report.

Saltash Town Council also greatly values the three main Youth venues around the town. Between them, The Core, Livewire and Junkyard Skatepark support hundreds of



young people across a wide range of ages. They provide wonderfully run, safe places for meeting and having fun, maybe learning some new skills, and most importantly a place where they can ask for help or support whenever they need it.

Saltash Town Council have for a number of years been providing key funding support, replacing in part funding withdrawn from Cornwall Council, to enable them to provide professional qualified youth support for any young person who needs it. This year we have budgeted £50,000 which has in previous years been split between the three organisations. The Town Council have a dedicated Team for Youth who continually re-evaluate our goals and run a competitive tender process to

choose the recipients of the grants and evaluate the impact.

For the younger children in our community Saltash Town Council are working hard to ensure that the play areas that remain in Saltash are properly maintained. Most areas are owned by Cornwall Council, who have cut their budget for maintaining playparks across Cornwall to almost nothing. It is a very sad state, and one it would be difficult for the Town Council to resolve as it would massively impact on our own budget. We do however have plans to do what we can, firstly, we all need to be vigilant and report minor issues to the

relevant owner (Saltash Town Council ones are clearly marked) before they turn into major ones. I would very much love to see more groups like the 'Friends of Summerfields Park', groups formed to show community support and help preserve their local play parks. The friends group have a long way to go to bring Summerfields back from its derelict state, and are working incredibly hard to do so, but we don't want playparks to get to that state in the first place. I believe it will need a few people to come forward to show everyone that these parks are cared about.

To support playparks across Saltash, the Town Council have budgeted £39,560 which we want to use fairly across the town. We are looking at this strategically, but I want us to start to spend this money wisely as soon as we possibly can.

So far that is some £93,560 that we have budgeted to spend on supporting young people this year, but there are other ways in which we do that too. The Town Council runs a Community Chest fund that any local organisation can apply for funds from, (See application form on the Town Council website for all the

terms and conditions). We get a huge variety of applicants, with many of those focused on supporting young people through sports clubs and groups. If you are interested in this funding, I urge you to take a look.

I hope that gives you a flavour for the current strategy that Saltash Town Council uses to support our young people. I am sure the councillors in your wards would love to hear your views and suggestions. Their contact details are elsewhere on this page.

*Cllr. Richard Bickford
Mayor of Saltash 2022-23*

Your Town Council & Wards

Saltash Essa:

1. Cllr Richard Bickford
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4. Cllr Matt Griffiths
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5. Cllr Jon Foster
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d.yates@saltash.gov.uk

Mayor:

Cllr Richard Bickford

Deputy Mayor:

Cllr Julia Peggs

Town Clerk:

Sinead Burrows
T: 844846
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Councillors' Telephone Numbers can be obtained at The Guildhall.

**Saltash Town Council, The Guildhall 12 Lower Fore Street
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Facebook: [SaltashTownCouncilOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/SaltashTownCouncilOfficial)
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Meet Your Councillor

*Cllr. Rachel Bullock
Essa Ward*

A little bit about me...

My family relocated from Hemerdon, Devon to Saltash when I was 1 years old, I have lived in Saltash ever since. I attended Longstone Infants, Saltash Junior School and then Saltash Comprehensive School.

I worked for Finance and Revenues Department of Plymouth City Council for 17 years and took voluntary redundancy several years ago.

I live near the town centre with my husband, two boys and two cats. In my spare time I enjoy walking and running around the beautiful surroundings that Saltash has to offer as well as family time on a beach or Dartmoor.

I am passionate about local history and I am on the committee for Saltash Heritage. During lockdown I also became a volunteer for Community Enterprises which includes many roles from helping out with the community fridge and kitchen, working in their gift shop and shopping for vulnerable people during lockdown. I was also a volunteer during lockdown at the Plymouth Pavilions, China Fleet and Saltash Football Club vaccine clinics. I was co-opted to Saltash Town Council in February 2021 and I am enjoying my role as a town



councillor.

I am a friendly, helpful person who loves being part of this community. I am passionate about Saltash and want to help improve this wonderful town for generations to come. It is an honour to be serving the community I love.

Saltash Town Council Rewards Staff

At the Saltash Town Council Personnel Committee meeting held on 26 May it was resolved to recommend creating a budget of £200 to recognise staff exemplary performance and support shown to the Town Council.

The award will be in the form of £25 vouchers.

The first award was made to congratulate the Administration Officer on passing Introduction to Local Council Administration (ILCA) qualification.

Report Issues to Saltash Town Council

Saltash Town Council are encouraging residents to report issues directly to the Service Delivery Team via the Saltash Town Council website. Residents who have issues such as blocked or broken public toilets or fallen debris on pathways can report this directly to the team. Jobs are then allocated to staff on a priority basis.

Workloads for the team can vary and often tasks are allocated weeks ahead unless it is a health and safety emergency, but residents can be assured every job reported will be investigated and actioned if required. Residents can report issues using this link https://www.saltash.gov.uk/service_delivery.php

Where jobs are the responsibility of Cornwall Council such as weeding, abandoned vehicles or overgrown hedges this will be passed to Cornwall Council.

If you wish to report directly to Cornwall Council you can do so using this link <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-something/>

Saltash Leisure Centre Still Needs Support

The fight to keep Saltash Leisure Centre open has been won but the facility still needs community support! GLL who run the facility on behalf of Cornwall Council are investing in the leisure centre in the following ways

Installing new AC system in the studio and gym Upgrading the poolside showers Improving the front of the building by installing new signage and cleaning the front and right hand side of the building

The centre is also investing in its staff to ensure they are qualified to deliver the latest trends in fitness such as Power Pump which started in May 2022. Demand for swimming lessons and classes is high with 11 schools regularly using the swimming pool and an increase in demand for swimming lessons.

The new leisure centre café has opened and is proving to be popular with members and visitors. Anyone is welcome to pop in for a coffee whether using the leisure centre facilities or not.

Membership is key to ensuring the longevity and investment in the facility for the town. If you are considering joining or want to visit to see how the leisure centre can support you to be active pop along and speak to a member of staff.

Burial Authority Committee Membership

At the Saltash Town Council meeting held on 9 June it was resolved to reduce the membership level of the Town Council Burial Authority Committee to membership levels of six councillors with four required to be quorate. The Town Council Burial Authority has a remit to manage and operate Churchtown Cemetery and to work within the individual delegated authority budget.

Details of the membership can be located on the Town Council website <https://www.saltash.gov.uk/council.php> and individual Committee membership is also listed on the Summon sheet of each issued agenda.

The schedule of meetings

calendar can be located on the Town Council website <https://www.saltash.gov.uk/council.php> and notice boards around the Town.

The Town Council encourages everyone to attend Town Council meetings, listen to the debate and decisions made about the Town. Agendas are published on the Town Council website, notice boards and social media three clear working days prior to the Committee meeting date, not including the day the agenda is issued, and the day of the Committee meeting.

If there is an agenda item you wish to put a question to the Town Council please email enquiries@saltash.gov.uk 24 hours prior to the Committee meeting with your question. enquiries@saltash.gov.uk 01752 844846 @Saltash Town Official @SaltashTC <https://www.saltash.gov.uk/newsandevents.php>

Seagull Proof Bags

Seagulls are an issue in Saltash at the moment so do consider purchasing a seagull proof bag to prevent your rubbish bags being split open. Seagull proof bags are available to purchase from Saltash Town Council for £3.50 per bag and hold two average sized bin bags. Please call 01752 844846 or pop into the Guildhall to make payment. If seagulls do rip open your bags please pick up the waste and re-bag it, residents are responsible for their own waste until it is collected by Cornwall Council.

Chamber Chairman Sarah Martin Keeping us Updated...

This year is proving a busy time for Chamber members as we get on with what is pretty much business as normal compared to the last two years. It's a testament to Mary Crawford, Editor of the Saltash and District Observer, as she looks to celebrate the 30th anniversary of her paper, that despite two difficult trading years, the paper is still very much alive and kicking, where others are flailing.

The Observer is a Saltash institution, and has always been a staunch and welcome ally to the Saltash Chamber of Commerce, supporting and promoting the Chamber and Saltash businesses through many years, including those of the pandemic. We understand and appreciate the value of her paper which drops through the letterbox of pretty much every household in Saltash come rain or shine each and every month of the year. So thank you to Mary for her unstinting support, and we look forward to celebrating your 30 years with you later in the year.

And looking ahead to the very end of the year: we made a resolution at our recent Chamber meeting to keep the organisation of the Christmas Festival in-house for a further year, despite the fact that it's getting increasingly difficult each year to stage it. The hugely popular event brings the community together and boosts footfall in to the town centre at an important time of the year for trading, but it takes thousands of pounds to put on such a great



event and we always struggle to raise the funds. This year is no exception. But what would Saltash be without its Christmas Festival?! So, as we enter into the school summer holidays, here is a plea to all our local businesses, whatever your size: we would love to talk to you about sponsorship opportunities or any financial contributions you might be willing to make to help us deliver the Christmas community event we all deserve. Please get in contact on chair@SaltashChamber.co.uk and let's have a chat.

Chamber has a break now for August. We can all recharge our batteries and get ready for the work ahead as we reconvene in September with plans to once again push out the Totally Locally FiverFest which has proven so popular since its inception. With a vastly improved traffic flow on Fore Street now that the road has been resurfaced, shopfitting being undertaken and new shops popping up there is a buzz in the town centre and lots to look forward to. Have a great summer!

Sarah
Chair of Saltash
Chamber of Commerce



What's on in Saltash CEPL12

Light Lunch/Afternoon Tea

Every Tues & Fri 12-5pm Sat 12-3pm
Tasty, homemade meals made with delicious surplus food

Creative Workshops

Every Wednesday 6.30pm-8.30pm
Learn new skills & make new friends. See our Facebook page for info.

Fridge & Larder

Every Tues & Fri 3-5pm Sat 10.30am-12.30pm
Help stop food waste. Fruit, veg, cakes, pasties & more. Free, but donation welcome.

Chatter & Natter Cafe

Every Wednesday 10am-1pm
For anyone who wants a chat - refreshments included - no charge but donations welcome.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Community Shop 4 Fore St Saltash
Community Kitchen 6 Fore St
Saltash

Email: hub@CEPL12.co.uk
Tel: 01752 848348



Matthew is Flying High

Former Saltash Observer delivery person Matthew Getson who is learning to fly was recently awarded a bursary by Pooleys (a flight equipment store and one of the most well-known names in the Aviation Industry) to go towards his flying lessons after he was awarded the top UK under 25 navigator.

Matthew entered the Royal Institute of Navigation Topnav competition, where he and a friend who is a Pilot had a series of waypoints to fly to and to take photos to prove they had reached the relevant point. The pair also had a tracker to show their flight path.

Comprehensively, they came first out of the Bodmin entries and second all in all in the UK, Matthew collected his award last month in London.

Matthew was a former Saltash.net student before completing a two year Travel and Tourism course at City College Plymouth where he achieved a Distinction Star grade. He has since secured a summer job at Cornwall Airport Newquay, additionally he also continues to work three evenings a week at Waitrose.



Matthew is a very enthusiastic and ambitious young man who will do well with his undeniable work ethic.

All the team at the Saltash Observer send their sincere congratulations to Matthew, and wish him continued success in the future.

TTAG Campaign Update

The Saltash and District Observer is pleased to be supporting the Tamar Toll Action Group's campaign for a fairer deal to cross the Tamar, and will be featuring regular updates from its Chair, Dr. Mel Priston.

Hello. For those of you who don't already know us, we are a newly formed group campaigning for a fairer deal on the Tamar Crossings for local businesses and regular users. After our first public meeting last month, we have been working to build up our member base and raise awareness. I'm pleased to say that we have set up a bank account and are now able to accept donations. A big thanks to all who have donated so far as it has given us funding to produce publicity materials such as the car stickers that are available from Nicky's Glow Beads on Fore Street.

Another important strand to our activities is reviewing documents such as minutes and proposals from Plymouth and Cornwall Council meetings, and submitting pertinent questions to the councils. We are working closely with as many of the stakeholders as possible to try and ensure that all decisions regarding the Tamar Crossings have full public scrutiny, and that we the public can have an opportunity to help shape future decisions. Our members have already submitted questions to the recent meetings of the Bridge and Ferry Joint Committee and Cornwall Council.

Visit our Tamar Toll Action Group on Facebook for more details, and come and meet us in person at the Saltash Regatta on September 3rd! We need to show our councillors and MPs how much public support there is for a fairer deal for us all. We can't do it without you!

You can join the Tamar Toll Action Group on Facebook or by sending an email to tamartollactiongroup@gmail.com

Saltash Joins Global Solution to Help Reduce Plastic Bags

Saltash is about to become even greener this month as the local Community Enterprises PL12 launches a Morsbag 'Pod'.

Morsbags is a network of people located all over the world with the aim of reducing plastic bags and stopping waste material going to landfill by making reusable bags from second-hand fabric. All bags are made through Morsbags 'Pods'

Saltash Community Enterprises (CEPL12) Marketing Director Melanie Cowie-Smith explains, "Morsbags replace plastic bags which in themselves, are a danger to sea life and other creatures and are difficult to dispose of," said Melanie. "Morsbags are eco-friendly as we use fabric which is at the end of its current life and recycle it to become a new functional item. They are made by volunteers and given away free of charge. Apparently, even Prince Charles has made one!"

Over 469,000 bags have been made worldwide replacing 244,179,000 plastic bags.

"In Saltash our volunteers have created our Morsbag Pod," added Melanie. "We've just started making the bags with around 30 so far. We hope to make these a couple of times a week at various workshops at our Community Kitchen in Fore Street, Saltash. We'd welcome anyone to come along and help, or, please donate any material for future bags."

CEPL12 operates a range of projects and enterprises in the PL12 area. From their Community Fridge and Larder, giving away surplus food, to their Community Kitchen, where they make meals from surplus or gleaned food. Since its inception, the Community Fridge and Larder has saved over 20 tonnes of food from being wasted and served over 11,000 people in its first year alone.

"We look forward to making lots of eco-bags using recycled fabric," added Melanie. "Whether that's scraps from a sewing project, a colourful but worn-out duvet or even a beloved but tired tea towel. The dimensions and style of the bag is ultimately up to our makers, all it takes to make it an official Morsbag is the Morsbag label!"

See CEPL12 Facebook Page for information and how to participate.

missed, former Plymouth Argyle, head of communication Rick Cowdery will be at the Library on Friday 27th August kicking off at 11.30 am, to discuss his years with the Greens and the books he has written with anecdotes about his experiences with the club.

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Saltash and District Observer 1992-2022

Three Decades of Local News, Views and Community Engagement

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Tamar Reflections

My monthly column of Tamar Reflections mirrors the 30th Anniversary of this very newspaper, the Saltash and District Observer.

Editor-in-chief, Mary Crawford, of our outstanding monthly independent newspaper, the Saltash and District Observer for the past 30 years and I am delighted to echo the past three decades, having been closely associated with this historic paper for the whole of that duration, as a personal friend and colleague of Mary and the first Mayor to contribute to the 'Message from the Mayor' column 30 years ago.

Pledge

'Incessant trumpet of trade: armory of fearless truth without fear or favour' has been the motto and sincere pledge of our indefatigable Editor-in-chief, Mary Crawford, of our outstanding monthly independent newspaper, the Saltash and District Observer for the past 30 years and 364 issues of this superb publication.

Truly Independent

The residents, the business sector of Saltash and its hinterland have had delivered

to their doors and outlets this "Only truly local newspaper" (since Bob Hallett's Saltash Journal) complimentary by loyal and steadfast delivery personnel, some of whom, have delivered since the Saltash Observer was first launched back in 1992, my husband John being one of them. Mary continued with the tradition of an Independent local newspaper, following in Bob's footsteps, with a pledge to keep her publication independent and impartial, and she has succeeded magnificently in doing so; and thus fiercely defends its

independence.

Our Saltash and District Observer, is arguably the only independent newspaper in the UK and is an outstanding example of reputed impartiality on all matters, and a true Community voice for the populace of Saltash and beyond, together with a quintessential platform for our local organisations, local authorities, families, charities and advertisers alike.

Award Winning

Founding editor of this award winning independent newspaper, Mary, who herself has had many decades of experience within the newspaper industry at various levels, has resolutely kept to her original promise of "Exclusively Yours", with unbiased and impartial news,

views and advertising, serving Saltash this District area of South East Cornwall, and indeed putting Saltash in particular on the international map with the newspaper also featuring on Facebook and on global websites.

Mayoral Platform

Further, the Saltash Observer, for three decades, has given a sound voice and platform to over 30 Saltash Mayors with the facility "Message from the Mayor", thus giving the incumbent Mayor and often the Deputy Mayor an opportunity to communicate with the local people and inform them of local issues, events and updates on what the Saltash Town Council is providing for its residents; this is a rare and most welcomed facility that every Mayor and Deputy have welcomed, embraced and contributed to. I was so privileged (1991-1992) together with Barbara Spring (1992-1993) to have been in Mayoral office during the beginning, and indeed to use this ground breaking facility, and continued to do so for four occasions as Mayor of Saltash over the past three decades; our current Mayor has continued with this tradition.

News, Views And Information

The Saltash Observer has also facilitated news, views and other vital information from our

local authorities of Saltash and Cornwall over the past 30 years, which has been of great benefit to the readers; so too, informative business news via Saltash Chamber of Commerce.

Well-Loved And Respected

Over the past three decades, the Saltash Observer has evolved and adapted to the ever changing climate of our Town, it has become a faithful and active part of the Saltash way of life, which is why it is such a well-loved and well respected publication for the people.

Hundreds Of Pictorial Events

Editor-in-chief, Mary has published incredible pictorials and stories of hundreds of



Saltash Ladies Win the 2016 World Gig Championship on the Isle of Scilly



The arrival of the Anne Glanville talking bench in Fore Street



Mayor & Mayoress Colin & Marilyn Oakes

events organised by such tireless volunteers over the past 30 years, such as civic events, music and community festivals, environmental projects, fetes, regattas, Mayfair, pageants, Church and hospital fetes, concerts, recitals, Christmas festivities, parties, remembrance and conflict commemorations, celebrations, anniversaries, Olympics, jubilees, sports events and activities, regattas, demonstrations, exhibitions, schools and youth clubs events and events for Senior Citizens' clubs, forums and associations. In addition, featuring family announcements, special features and leaflet distributions.

Historic Reflections And Tributes

Moreover, the Saltash Observer accommodates spaces for impartial current affairs and environment issues together with historic reflections in abundance. There have also been spaces for personal tributes and accolades

for those who have given outstanding voluntary and community service; further, obituaries for such upstanding people that had served Saltash unstintingly for decades, and have left legacies in print and in our hearts and minds.

Business News And Services

Mary has offered platforms to local businesses through advertising, advertorials and the Saltash Chamber of Commerce. Loyalty there are some businesses currently that have featured in the Saltash Observer from the very beginning, including Cotton Taxis and Cotton's Mini Buses.

Covid-19 Pandemic

What was exemplary of the

I know that Mary has felt very proud to have been able to give these young folk their first reference with genuine



Jack Phelan receives Young Citizen of the Year Award



Mia & Jack Rhodes receive Young Citizens of the Year Award
Jack has now joined the Observer delivery team.

confidence knowing that they were hardworking young achievers coupled with enthusiasm, loyalty and endeavours that have taken them into proud adulthood, such as Jack Phelan, and amongst many of his achievements is that he went on to become a well-respected Paramedic.

Also, Mia Rhodes and what Mia has achieved over the years making her little jam jars for charity and selling them at the garden gate and local fairs and from a very young age, delivering papers over many years and now going on to secure a position of employment as Administrator Apprenticeship...being selected from a very large group of applications for the position.

Furthermore, another former Saltash Observer delivery person Matthew Getson who is learning to fly was recently awarded a bursary by Pooleys (a flight equipment store and one of the most well-known names in the aviation industry) to go towards his flying lessons after he was awarded the top UK under 25 navigator (read more about Matthew's award on page 3).



Matthew awarded the top UK under 25 navigator

Anniversaries

Fundraising Events

Reflectively, during the 25th Anniversary of the paper, Mary worked tirelessly to raise funds for various local and worthy charities. Mary brought much of the Saltash Community together to help with the community fund raising events which I recall as a participant, were major successes and great fun too!

Over the past 30 years, Mary has carried out charitable events for each of the paper's celebratory

years from 5th anniversary through to 25th year; including one of the best attended local quizzes and fun nights arguably ever seen in the area. Amusingly, I recall at one such fund-raising event Mary had to stop at 310 people as the venue had run out of usable space and seating; yet despite that, dozens more people were queuing to come in, hoping to acquire a last seat in the house. People wanted so much to support Mary's fund raising efforts! A joy to behold! Pleasingly, all the paper's Anniversaries have been



Saltash Observer helped Launch Sailing Day for Disabled



The famous Charity Quiz Night



... what a night it was!



Chloe benefits from Rugby Race & Observer Charity



Mary had the pleasure of presenting cheques to various charities



Saltash & District Observer - Summer Special 2022 - Page 5
Business Woman Of The Year
Mary's steadfast, meaningful and purposeful work in running a successful newspaper was recognised some time ago when she was awarded the well-deserved Westcountry Business Woman of the Year. This outstanding accolade took in the areas of Devon and Cornwall through to Bristol and Bath

And long may the Incessant Trumpet blow!

Freeman and former Mayor of Saltash during the 20th and 21st Centuries; and a colleague of Mary within the Newspaper Industry for over 40 years

Sue Hooper MBE

Freeman and former Mayor of Saltash during the 20th and 21st Centuries; and a colleague of Mary within the Newspaper Industry for over 40 years

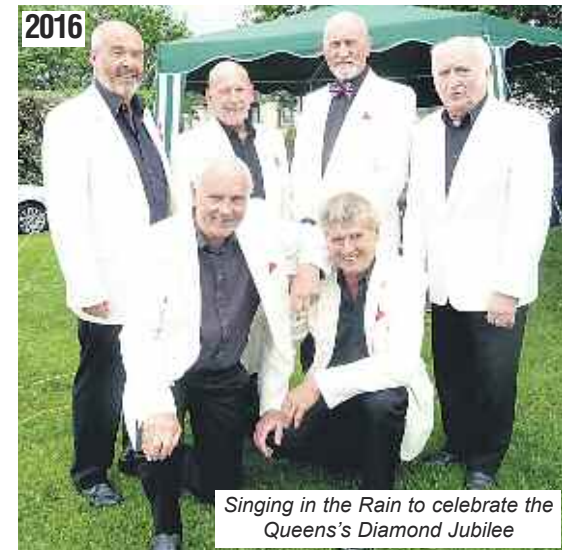
Added Thanks

Mary, our Editor-in-chief of the Saltash and District Observer would be the first to say that the paper would not be the great success it is without the support of her editorial and delivery teams, plus her advertisers, contributors and other volunteers, and I know that Mary would also give a special mention to one of her loyal team members, Martin Lister, whose support and allegiance over the past 30 years has been very much appreciated.

I feel sure that all Mary's readers (you) of the Saltash Observer will join me in congratulating her and the paper on the past 30 years of producing an outstanding Independent, impartial and award winning publication, and continue to wish her and the Observer all the very best for the next 30 years and beyond.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

A very proud moment as I recall, was when Mary received a package in the post,



Singing in the Rain to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Mary On The March

There have been times in the past and more recently, when for various reasons Mary has been short of available people to deliver the Saltash Observer, and it has been so bountiful during those times to see Mary and supporting friends out and about delivering the papers, making sure her discerning readers did not miss out on their complimentary copies.

Antony's Help

I know that Mary would not mind me offering a very special bouquet to Antony, a long-standing friend of the paper, who has also worked endlessly, more recently, to fill the gaps and helping to deliver papers when Mary was awaiting a delivery team to take up available positions.

Mary The Participant

So too, Mary is not one for sitting all day in the office, she gets out and about to local events, taking photos and mingling with the people that she has met and helped over the past 30 years; moreover, singing and dancing with the audience and performers even faithfully playing the bass drum with the Fire and Rescue Service Ceremonial Unit Band at one particular event at

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Mary
Many congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the Saltash & District Observer, it has been a remarkable journey. I am old enough to remember your first issue coming through the door. I could not believe it was free, and still cannot especially as it is delivered to almost every household in Saltash and the immediate area.

Your newspaper is unique containing stories about our town, present and past, supported by useful advertising of local services.

In the longer term you provide a record, which is invaluable for any future research. 'The Observer' is a real 'Jewel in the Saltash Crown'. You should be very proud of the service you give. Long may you continue?

Barry Brooking
Saltash



Thank you John for contributing Conundrum Corner to the Observer for many years

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Together we can, together we do.
HOPPER TRIPS – AUGUST 2022
Friday 5th August
Tour of St Austell Brewery
Travel to St Austell Brewery have some lunch in the brewery Hicks bar then join a tour of the brewery which includes a tasting & a free voucher for a pint at the bar or take home a bottle
Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.30 - Travel only £9
Sunday 7th August
Lunch at the Darbridge Inn Buckfastleigh
Lunch at this excellent 4 star rated Inn beside the River Dart followed by a visit to Buckfast Abbey site to enjoy a look around the shop or an afternoon Cream Tea
Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.00 - Travel only £7
Monday 15th August
Budleigh Salterton/Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary
Visit Budleigh Salterton then enjoy a visit to the Donkey Sanctuary this is a 5 star site with an award winning restaurant for your lunch or afternoon tea
Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 17.00 -Travel only £15
Thursday 18th August
Ashburton & Moretonhampstead via the Moor
A relaxing day with a visit to Ashburton for a look around & morning coffee with a drive across the moor to Moretonhampstead with a choice of 5 and 4 star rated cafes for lunch/afternoon teas
Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 17.00 - Travel only £11
Sunday 21st August
Lunch at St Elizabeth's Plympton
This is always a very popular location for Sunday Lunch a 4 star hotel in lovely settings followed by a visit to Saltram House for an afternoon walk or a cream tea.
Leave Saltash 11.30 Return 16.30 - Travel only £5
Tuesday 30th August
World of Country Life Exmouth
A 5 star family attraction with something for everyone to enjoy with a visit to Farmer Lee's Food Barn for your lunch and afternoon tea
Leave Saltash 10.00 Return 18.00 - Travel only £13
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A massive thanks to all our sponsors and supporters who make this event possible, more information will be on our programme - available soon!

Conundrum Corner

This Month's Column features questions covering the 30 years of the Observer's publications.

- 1 Who was the Town Mayor in 1992?
- 2 Who lit the Beacon on Brunel Green to celebrate the New Millennium?
- 3 Who officially re-opened the Tamar Bridge in April, 2002 following the addition of the Cantilevers?
- 4 What is the name of the Building that replaced the old Burraton Chapel on Liskeard Road in 2007?
- 5 Which celebrities opened the Cornish Cross in Elwell Woods in May, 2013?
- 6 In which year was the Peace Garden in Alexandra Square created?
- 7 Who became the 19th Freeman of Saltash in 2007?
- 8 Where did the Mayor of Saltash plant a Darley Oak Sapling in April to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee?
- 9 Kimberley Stadium was re-named in a Sponsored Deal in March, 2022 – how is it now known?
- 10 Who is the current Town Mayor?

Answers on Page 7

Six Steps to a Savvier Six-Week Holiday

Amidst the rising cost of living affecting us all, those with parental responsibilities notice everything gets more expensive when you have children to entertain for six weeks. But there are things we can do to help...

- Free days out**
Outdoors in the park or countryside and indoors in a free museum or exhibition, there are always free places on offer, so go and explore this summer!
- Clear out**
Having a clear out is a great way to teach children valuable lessons of charity and recycling, while making more room. You might even find your next family project when you go to the charity shop to donate...
- Get the kids involved**
Whether it's a project in the garden or maybe upcycling, try and involve the kids and make the hours fly. By the end of the holidays, you might have achieved something amazing – together!



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

Learn
Holiday time is the perfect opportunity for them to learn something they actually want to! That could be a new game, activity or skill. Who knows – maybe someone you know has an old instrument you could borrow? Then, check out some free online tutorials and watch them become a pro!

Play!
Kids don't need a screen to have fun – particularly younger children. Your child's boredom might go just as quickly with a fun game and a little imagination, whether that's a board game you haven't played for a while or a game of hide and seek. The sky's the limit!

Connect with family and friends
School holidays are a great time to connect with those you haven't seen for a while and company is good for all of us. Give yourself an hour to meet another parent in the park while the kids run around.

Finding things difficult?
At Christians Against Poverty (CAP), we see the balance

that people have to strike between providing for their families and keeping sustainable finances. If you or someone you know is struggling with finances, please know you're not alone. CAP is only a phone call or click away. Our services are open and free to everyone. If you're ready to take the first step, you can reach us on 0800 328 0006 or find us online at capuk.org/i-want-help/our-services/cap-debt-help.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity working with over 800 affiliated churches to deliver debt help, budgeting guidance, support to find work, life skills groups and more. Visit capuk.org to find out more.

Sustainable Saltash

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

Early Summer is peak time for enjoying wildflowers and grasses, and we see highlights even in our urban environment. Each year brings conditions that suit different species, this year the cow parsley family have been prominent, standing like sentinels on our verges. Oxeye daisies brighten Carkeel roundabout like electric lights, and the yellow trefoil has cheered the shorter grasses by the roadside. The flower we all look for is the poppy, and in Saltash the occasional thrilling flash of scarlet is as rare as it's welcome.

We see more flowers on our verges and open spaces nowadays, with reduced mowing. The wake-up call came in 2019 when an international report gathered the evidence on the damage that humans were doing to the natural environment. This shocked our consciences. Habitats were being obliterated by intensive agriculture, with its monocultures, weedkillers and

pesticides; and by modern development, with its concreting over, intensive grooming and plastic grass. There was no room left for Nature. The interconnected chain of insects, mammals, reptiles and birds was disappearing.

We were particularly stunned to learn that the UK was one of the most Nature deficient countries in the world. Particularly in the rural South West, numbers had crashed. This is devastating for Nature – which includes humans, remember! – but critically risks our food supply, which relies on pollinating insects. Cornwall has nationally important populations of bumblebees, yet nearly a third of traditional Cornish bumblebees have become extinct. Three quarters of our butterflies are in long-term decline. Our vital meadows, in which wildlife has evolved over centuries, have been reduced to just 3% in the last 50 years.

Many people are now looking at Nature and wildlife anew, and doing something, however small and symbolic, to help preserve it. People are replacing concrete and chemicals with wildflowers and wilderness. We have no-mow May, bug hotels, a growing

tolerance of native plants (previously known as 'weeds'), and corners in the garden left untended. Most significantly, there has been a change in our expectations: grassy areas don't always need to be kept mown! Nature needs space, a little untidiness is inevitable, even welcome.

Saltash Environmental Action has teamed up with residents and the Town Council to manage two areas of public land as meadows, Pillmere Meadow and St Stephens Cemetery. This year we have conducted flower surveys through May and June: we identified 47 different flowers at Pillmere, including the magnificent bee orchid for the second year. We found 86 different flowers around the borders of St Stephens Cemetery.

These wildflower and wildlife projects may be small, but they show that we are learning: we can make progress, but we must respect and include Nature, not destroy it.

Adrian White
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

Old Cornwall Society

For the first of their Summer visits Saltash Old Cornwall Society members travelled just a few miles to the beautifully set and historic church of Landulph.

Here they were fortunate to have as their guide Andrew Barrett who has dedicated himself to the history of the parish in which his ancestors have lived since at least the seventeenth century and has published a book describing the results of his research into the history of the parish and its church.

The name Landulph derives from 'the Holy place of St Dillp,' a Welsh saint who travelled to Cornwall around the sixth century and to whom the land around the church has been dedicated ever since. The first known church on the site was Norman and a few fragments remain but the present church dates largely, from when Landulph became a flourishing port in around 1420, sending warships to the French wars and

pilgrims to Spain.

Mr Barrett took his audience through the varying fortunes of the church over the centuries and also described some of the more colourful rectors. In particular he explained why this remote parish church holds the tomb of Theodore Paleologus, descendant of the Emperors of Byzantium.

Society president Mrs Sue Hooper warmly thanked Mr Barrett, for sharing his wealth of knowledge with society members, before they dispersed to examine for themselves the gems of this church which dates to the founding of Celtic Christianity and still plays an active role in the rural community which it was built to serve.

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Voice of Saltash Patients

Column written by Patient Participation Group (PPG) members at the Health Centre and Port View Surgery

Scores of patients have told us of difficulties in getting GP appointments, and we have put this to the Practices on your behalf. The problem is not being ignored in the Practices and no patient will ultimately be refused a GP consultation. However, Practices say that not every medical problem is urgent and not every problem needs a medical response. They want to give good advice at the first point of contact, which may mean it will be quicker or better to see a clinician other than a GP.

You may have noticed that when contacting your surgery, a trained Patient Advisor or Coordinator asks some initial questions regarding your problem or query. We urge fellow patients to be positive about this. The responses to these questions enable the Practice to "signpost" you to the right place for the best assistance. Options include GP, Nurse, Pharmacy and Social Prescriber, all of which have the option of referring to each other as necessary. For more complex cases, a quick onward referral to Secondary Care specialists is another option.

Even if a patient is not initially given a face-to-face appointment, this can change following a phone call from a doctor or nurse. The method of 'phone triage' (assessment) enables the clinician to make the best use of surgery time for



A Place Terry Loved

There's a new bench to rest on and drink deep of the views at Churchtown Farm. Installed by the Friends of Churchtown Farm and Cornwall Wildlife Trust, who manage the Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve, the bench is in memory of Terry Aire, in a location chosen by his wife, Dorothy, and two daughters, Louise and Marie, as a spot Terry loved.

A keen photographer, Terry took great delight in the beauty of Saltash, and took myriad photos of the views from Churchtown Farm. Armed with cameras, he also attended as many Saltash town events as he could to document them, once staying up all night to video the installation of the town's Cornish Cross. He

those who need to be seen personally.

Please keep telling us your experiences. Look for contact details for the PPG on your Practice website. There is also a fuller article about all this written by Natasha, a new Adviser, in the News section of the Port View website. Well worth a read!

Observer Telephone Numbers
07971484872
or **01579 345699**

particularly loved May Fair and Regatta.

A war baby, Terry was born in 1940 at Rose Cottage in Burraton Combe, and joined the Army as a boy soldier at the tender age of 15. He described his time at Chepstow Army Apprentice School as 'the making of me', but left the army to come home, settle and start a family with Dorothy, who he met on a Plymouth night out resulting in an early morning trip to the bakers for Hot Cross Buns - no kebabs in those days.

Terry and Dorothy were married on Winter Solstice in 1968, and not long after they moved into Warraton Cottage in Saltash, where Dorothy remains today. After leaving the Army, Terry worked in Devonport Dockyard for 41 years, finishing as a mechanical fitter on the

nuclear submarines there. He always used his bicycle to go to the dockyard, whatever the weather, cutting a distinctive figure cycling on Fore Street with his bobble hat, waving to folk as he passed.

Family and neighbours played a pivotal role in Terry's life - a sympathy card after his death from thyroid cancer described him as 'top scoring best neighbour ever'. There were many children in the neighbourhood who called him Granddad Terry. He loved them all in return, but his most profound love was for his three actual grandchildren, their mothers and their grandmother, Dorothy.

So when you rest on Terry's bench, breathe in deeply, and take a photograph home in your heart of the power of love and the beauty of nature.

Choir's Open Evening Encourages Singing for Pleasure

With their programme of concerts locally and nationally building back to pre-covid level, Burraton Male Voice choir is eager to introduce new members to the pleasures of choral singing. An open night held at their regular practice home of Burraton Methodist Church, attracted several potential new choir members but more would still be welcome.

At the open night, choir master and conductor Phil Taylor, welcomed visitors and invited them to join in renditions of well known songs, that form part of the choir's repertoire. He explained that concert programmes are adjusted to fit the preferences of the hosts and accordingly, the choir is equally adept at singing rousing patriotic songs such as 'Cornwall is my Homeland,' sacred songs such as 'The Silver Trumpet' and songs from shows ranging from 'Carousel' to 'Les Miserables,' all of which were performed with gusto by choir members and visitors.

Burraton Choir was one of the founder members of the Cornwall Federation of Male Voice Choirs, around thirty years ago and Mr Taylor took the opportunity to present one of the federation certificates, awarded to those who have been singing in a choir for twenty five years or more, sometimes for sixty years service.

The choir meets to practice in Burraton Chapel each Monday at 7.15pm and anyone who has previously

sung in a choir, or who has never sung but is considering giving it a go, is assured of a friendly welcome on any Monday, with no obligation to join. No experience is necessary and the ability to read music is an advantage but by no means essential.

As well as performing in concert in and around Saltash, the Burraton Choir often goes further afield, such as a Summer concert in Looe lifeboat house, together with the Pelynt Male voice choir. There are also very special occasions when choir members enjoy the unique experience, of joining with hundreds of other singers in such venues as the Royal Albert Hall. This September they will be among two hundred male voices from Cornwall, singing in the Birmingham Symphony Hall. "Give it a go," urged Phil Taylor, before choir members and visitors joined in a sumptuous Cornish supper, organised by the lady supporters. "Choral singing is friendly, stimulating, good for your health, entertaining and fun.

Tincombe Tea Party

2pm - 6pm,
Saturday 6th
August

Join Thomas Tingcombe and the Friends of Tincombe in the afternoon of 6th August at Tincombe Green (PL12 4PY) for a tremendous Tincombe Tea Party, celebrating community and nature.

Bring a picnic and a blanket and visit the craft stalls. Take part in the children's activities, which include a nature hunt and a bug pom-pom competition that anyone can enter. Live music from the Sunset Swing Band and the barber shop quartet 'Note-Ability' will add rhythm and rhyme to the event.

There will be a blast from the past in the guise of Thomas Tingcombe, who joins the party from the 18th century and will add merriment throughout the afternoon.

The event is free entry, thanks to generous support from Saltash Town Council, Cornwall Council, Saltash Scrapstore and members of the community, and is a great chance to bring people together while raising funds for amenities and features at Tincombe Park. Last year's inaugural tea party enabled the Friends of Tincombe to install benches, wildlife homes, notice boards and much more! So come along on 6th August, for tea, community and biodiversity.



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Essa Voices An Excellent Community Voice for 30 Years

The traditional gift for a 30th anniversary is the pearl - a symbol of beautiful excellence cultivated over time as it grows within its oyster. For 30 years, Mary and her team at the Observer have cultivated, with oyster-like commitment and patience, the newspaper that plays such a key role in binding our community together, informing and reporting, supporting us and giving us a platform.

Sky Lanterns

A platform, for example, to urge people to sign the petition that the National Farmers' Union has recently launched calling on the government to ban the use of sky lanterns. These paper lanterns have a fuel cell filled with paraffin wax suspended inside a wire frame. When lit, they float upwards reaching up to 1,000m in height and drift away, landing when the fuel has run out, sometimes after several miles. Certainly, they look pretty, but you wouldn't leave a flame in your home unattended, so why send one into the sky with no idea whose home or habitat it could destroy? These lanterns kill farm animals, wildlife and marine life, and litter our beautiful countryside. They cause devastating fires and destroy food growing in fields. Yet 200,000 are sold in the UK every year.

The global community is recognising the dangers of sky lanterns, and countries as far apart as Australia and Germany already have national bans. In Brazil, launching sky lanterns is an



Councillor Hilary Frank
c1r.hilary.frank@cornwall.gov.uk

environmental crime, punishable by up to three years in jail. But although the release of sky lanterns is illegal on public land in Wales, there's no such law in England yet. In 2015 we voted in Cornwall Council to ban the release of sky lanterns on council land in Cornwall, but with no national legislation the countryside and our farms remain unprotected.

"Sky lanterns are aerial litter on fire and are a serious danger here, especially in these days of scorching heat when the grass is parched," said Stuart Mathieson of Cornwall Wildlife Trust, who is Manager of Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve in Saltash. "Aside from the fire hazard, sharp parts of the frame can tear or puncture an animal's throat or stomach, leading to a painful death. The danger to night creatures like owls and bats is particularly acute."

A single bat can eat thousands of insects each night, I'm told, including mosquitoes and crop-destroying pests like cornborer moths. Apparently, it means bats prevent millions of pounds in pest damage to corn every year across the world. Find out more about these fascinating creatures in the Bat Walk that Stuart is leading on Churchtown Farm in the evening of 13th August. The cost is £2, but it's free to members of the Friends of Churchtown Farm, a group of volunteers who support Cornwall Wildlife Trust in managing the wonderful Nature Reserve that is on our

doorsteps.

Family membership of the Friends is just £8. Take a look at the Churchtown Farm Friends website or their page on Facebook for details, or contact Bob, Chair of the Friends, on bobjack@hotmail.co.uk or 01752 844666. He'd be delighted to hear from you, especially if you are interested in helping out with planting trees, recording butterflies and birds, pulling ragwort or planning events.

'Pearls of Wisdom'

So, in this short(ish!) article, I've been able to urge you to sign the NFU petition, warn of the dangers of sky lanterns, and get you better acquainted with Churchtown Farm and bats. That's one article in one paper in one year. Just think how many 'pearls of wisdom' have been delivered over 30 years of monthly issues of the Observer! So: a heartfelt thanks, Mary, for your excellent commitment to journalism and community over the last 30 years. Thanks for giving Saltash and district a vibrant voice. Here's to the next 30 years!

REGATTA AHOY!



Children wait excitedly as the sand arrives for the Summer Beach

Photos: Lauren Spinks Photography

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th September

The much-loved Regatta and Waterside Festival will launch on the first weekend of September,

with two full days of water-based activities, live music across two stages, and plenty of stalls and entertainment.

The Fun Starts at 10am on Saturday 3rd Sept

Families and schools are warmly invited to join the Civic and Children's Parade, which will leave Victoria Gardens at 10am to process down Fore Street to Saltash Waterside. The Parade's theme this year is Water Wonderland and fancy dress is actively encouraged!

Saltash Sailing Club

On Saturday, Saltash Sailing Club will be hosting dinghy racing for all abilities. The Club will be open to the public all weekend, selling food, drinks and cream teas.

Cardboard and Canines

Sunday sees the thrills and spills of the Cardboard Boat Race, organised by Saltash Redeemer Church on behalf of the Regatta Committee, with intrepid sailors competing for coveted titles including the

Most Impressive Sinking and the Brunel Award for the Best Eco-creative Design. Visit the Regatta Cardboard Boat Race page on Facebook for your entry form.

Other Sunday activities include the Churches

Together outdoor service, the Paint Party and Gables Dog Show. More details at www.saltashregatta.co.uk

Souvenir Edition

Look out for later editions of the Saltash Observer; proposals are under discussion for a special 'Souvenir' edition in celebration of its 30th Anniversary.

More details of special contributions of news, views and pictorials will be published in following issues.

In addition, the Saltash Observer will be looking for kind sponsorship to hopefully stage an Anniversary charitable musical event in Saltash at the end of the year.



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Safer Cycling and Walking to School

Draft plans to improve safety as well as walking and cycling routes to St Stephens Community Primary School and Saltash Community School were put out to public consultation by Cornwall Council in June.

Philip Desmonde, Cornwall Council's Portfolio Holder for transport, said: "Anyone who either lives by a school or has been on school 'pick up' duties will know how congested roads become. Our proposals aim to create a better environment for everyone - tackling congestion and improving air quality, as well as making it easier and safer for people to walk and cycle to school."

The plans include a proposal to make the section of Long Park Road in front of St. Stephens School one way heading towards the town centre. Cornwall Council is now in the process of amending the draft designs to address comments from residents, including concerns about a reduction in parking.

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