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June 2017 - Issue 303

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A Reminder of the Steam Age

Last Saturday, May 27, a reminder of the steam age crossed the Royal Albert Bridge in the shape of recently built A1 steam locomotive Tornado, the first mainline example built since Evening Star in 1960. Filled to capacity, en route from London, crowds packed Saltash station and lined the route to Penzance. The famous locomotive remained in the county and spent a further sell-out week on the Bodmin and Wenford Railway. Photo Ian Robinson

Jean is Mayor Again After Close Contest

Saltash's new mayor and deputy mayor for 2017/18 were elected by the newly elected Town Council after a close vote. Both of the successful candidates have previous mayoral experience, the Mayor Councillor Jean Dent previously served as first citizen in 2014/15 and the new Deputy Mayor David Yates was mayor in 2013/14.

They were elected under a newly introduced system whereby both candidates as well as those who had proposed and seconded them, were invited to address fellow councillors in support of their candidature. The new mayor electoral procedure was introduced following controversy last year when there was a second vote for deputy mayor and the unsuccessful candidate subsequently proposed a vote of no confidence in the then presiding mayor and made official complaint against the Town Clerk.

This year the retiring Mayor Councillor Hilary Frank announced that there were two nominations for each role, Councillor John Brady having been put forward for both mayor and deputy mayor.

Putting herself forward for Mayor the successful candidate Councillor Dent invited councillors to look at her past record of attending numerous civic events as councillor, and numerous mayoral visits during her previous term of office. Meanwhile behind the scenes she had been active in various committees and working parties. Her aims were many and varied including continuing to work on devolution so that Saltash is in charge of its own future. She would ask Saltash what the town wanted, in particular support retail and businesses and the future of the hospital and station building. 'I can bring experience and continuity. There is a need to work together in exciting and challenging times,' she concluded. In proposing her, Councillor David Yates had spoken of a 'broad spectrum'

and a councillor who 'represents and works for all of us.' Seconding her, Councillor Bill Phillips, who had previously served as her Deputy Mayor, commented that with the Council equally split between experienced and new Councillors there was a need for someone who had done it before to guide the council through its first year.

'Councillor Brady would head a fresh start for the new council' argued Councillor Aves Pinckney in proposing him as Mayor. She spoke of his management and administrative experience in the Royal Navy, commercial and civil service. 'He has shown skill to move things forward' she said. Councillor Gloria Challen, seconding him, reminded that he had already served four years; he was now retired and could attend 100% for Saltash. 'Saltash has a new Council, now we should have a new start' she believed.

For himself Councillor Brady said the key word for council members was 'collaborate' and

that townfolk went and voted for teamwork. The council must honour this request. He spoke of acrimony over the past fifteen months that should be cast aside and that he would hold a duty to the whole of Saltash and its residents.

After all sixteen new councillors had voted Councillor Dent was acclaimed as Mayor by 9 votes to 7.

Proposing Councillor David Yates as Deputy Mayor, Councillor Julie Rance spoke of his longstanding experience as

continued on page 2

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- 12.45pm. Landrake Brass Band**
- 1.30pm. Maypole Dancing in the Village Square**
- 2.00pm. Live Music - 'Lost Cousins'**
- 2.30pm. The Reel Academy Irish Dancers**
- 3.00pm. Live Music - 'Lost Cousins'**
- 4.00pm. Raffle Prize Draw & Results of the Childrens' Competition in the Geffery Hall**
- 5.00pm. Live Music from 'Dr Thuds Remedy'**



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 - Growing...** Any Flower, vegetable or greenery...must be grown in small pot at school or at home
- There are 3 age groups for each class:**
Up to 5 years, 5-8 years & 9-11 years

Each entry cost 50p

All entries must arrive at the Geffery Hall by 11am on the day

Winners will be announced at 4.00pm

The Carnival is kindly sponsored by DUNCHAUL LTD

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Mayor's Consort Should Not Wear Mayoress' Chain

The Town Council should 'respect the historic integrity of the Mayoress' chain of office' and not let it be worn by a male consort of a female mayor, requests the former consort of a female Mayor.

Last year Town Councillors agreed that there might be a break with tradition and Councillor Hilary Frank's husband could wear the Mayoress' chain. It was pointed out that when this was acquired in the 1920's there were only male mayors and the prospect of there ever being a male consort would not have been envisaged.

However, Mr. John Hooper, who was four times consort to Mrs Sue Hooper MBE pleaded that in future as consort should wear the consort's medallion presented to the town by Mr. Ben Schikowsky when he was consort to his wife Marjorie. 'Last year was the first time in over a hundred years that the chain was worn by a male consort', said Mr. Hooper, though accepting that Shojiro Frank had served well during his year as consort.

It was agreed that the new Council would refer the question to the Council's policy and resources committee.

Further Views Sought on Mayoress' Chain

The issue of whether or not a male consort should be permitted to wear the historic Mayoress' Chain of office when the Mayor of Saltash is female, aroused angry correspondence between Councillors and a forty-five minute debate at Town Council.

The issue was raised at a previous meeting, as reported elsewhere in your Observer, by John Hooper, four times consort to his wife Sue Hooper MBE. He was upset that the Town Council last year agreed that an incoming female mayor should have the choice as to whether to invest her male consort with the century old Mayoress' Chain of office, or the consort's medallion presented to the town in the 1970's.

When the change was made last year the Mayor Councillor Hilary Frank had pointed out that when the Mayoress Chain was presented nobody would have foreseen the possibility that one day there might be a female Mayor and a male consort and that it was a shame for the attractive chain of office to be unworn for a year.

At the June council meeting former Mayors Eric Distin and Baz Gregory suggested a working party be selected calling upon a broad base of people to obtain a positive solution, Baz Gregory adding that the council was seeking to change heritage and the history of the gold chain, part of the

history of Saltash and its community.

Several councillors argued vociferously that they were elected to do as the people of Saltash wanted and the people of Saltash clearly wanted the Mayor's consort not to wear the Mayoress' Chain. Other councillors queried whether there was in fact any public interest in the matter.

The council's agreement to a change in tradition was reported in your Saltash Observer in May 2016. Councillor Julie Rance told the June council meeting that probably 99% of the population were unconcerned on the issue.

It was agreed that there should be a proper review and all views taken on the issue. Meanwhile the council agreed a proposal of Councillor Challen, seconded by Councillor Brady, to temporarily rescind the decision of the last council so that the forthcoming Mayor Making ceremony Councillor Jean Dent would invest her husband and consort Bill with the consort's badge.

Waterfront Warden Gains Base

The newly appointed Waterfront Warden whose duties include 'policing' the Waterside area of the town and collecting mooring fees and other revenue, is to be given a base from which to operate.

Jeff Diamond, who is already becoming a familiar figure in the Waterside community, identified two possible units which could be set up on a chosen site in the Jubilee Green car park.

The Town Council agreed to acquire the cheaper of these 24 foot x 9 foot units at a cost of £30 per week with a possible option to purchase.

Jean is Mayor Again After Close Contest

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deputy and mayor making him a good support for the incoming Mayor. Councillor Richard Bickford spoke of his numerous qualities including his absolute commitment to leading on the vital neighbourhood plan for Saltash.

'There will be times when the Mayor needs assistance and this is especially true of a new council', said Councillor Yates. 'The Deputy is there to support the Mayor, discuss issues and bring issues to the Mayor's notice.'

Councillor Brady was proposed as Deputy by Councillor Pinckney who relied upon what she had said when putting him forward as Mayor, and was seconded by Councillor Challen who by then had left the meeting. Councillor Brady added to his previous words his concern that a new council cast aside acrimony and put aside individual differences for the common aim.

Peter Ryland Chamber Chairman keeping us Updated...

The local elections are over and we have many new councillors. As a Chamber, we hope that there is within the Town Council a united voice to support the efforts of all in taking Saltash forward and invigorate the drive that is in the town.

There are initiatives around but these need to be nurtured to bring them to fruition to benefit the people of Saltash. So often in the past ideas have been brought forward but not pursued due to

1. Petty Politics
2. Negativity from some elements or
3. Lack of time available to the promoter to do further research/reporting

Indeed reports/research have been done on behalf of the Town Council which have then been ignored in deciding on strategy. Councillors must remember that, although they represent their wards and can make decisions based on the mandate they are given, they cannot always speak on behalf of their whole electorate and therefore the whole community should have a say. But this is not only the people of Saltash but also the businesses within the town. Too often people have been told what they want rather than be asked if they want it. This is not a criticism of any particular person but making a point that the process does not work. There is a lot of red tape in the system and let's hope that Saltash Town Council can work with the retail/business community in producing, in the town, an environment to attract the PL12 community to shop here/to do business here and to be proud of their town.

Chamber members have previously supported the idea of a town square, a new town centre public toilet building, a link between the Waterfront and the town centre. All have been set aside for, amongst other reasons, the cost of provision but should they not have been investigated further to see what funding sources were available and what other alternatives to design/location etc. could be achieved and whether the public/business community thought the concepts were a good idea.

Saltash Town Council is not the only avenue for ideas that

may benefit the town. Some of the ideas that Chamber members have had recently are:-

1. The provision by way of gazebos for a small trading area outside the Coral Bookmakers
2. A fund to provide grants to shopkeepers to improve their shop fronts.
3. Additional hanging baskets in Fore Street
4. The re-instigation of the Children's Cinema.
5. Further eateries/coffee shops in the town.
6. The provision of more pop-up shops.
7. More festivals in the town.
8. The provision of a play area in the town centre.

You can, through this paper, or on the Chamber website let us know of any ideas you have and evaluate them further.

Let us hope that with a new Town Council in place we can work together to the benefit of all.

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CORNWALL COUNCIL



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For Observer readers

Derek Holley

Cornwall Councillor, Saltash East.

dholley@cornwall.gov.uk

By the time you read this both elections will be over, thank goodness. These things more than others wind up some people and organisations, and sadly one of these is the media. Why? Sadly! How do I know? Because as a re-elected member of Cornwall Council I was actually there in some of the critical meetings at the time when general confusion reigned about who would form an administration - all because of the three-way split in the votes. This is the sad bit - and this is my opinion and I accept others will differ in theirs - the media reporting on these affairs simply did not portray the events accurately and too much emphasis was given to hearsay and politically - biased interviews. Real people on the street who I talked too reflected these incorrect conclusions, and that I found disappointing. On the other hand over the years the local town papers, such as this one, seem much better at getting it right so I suppose we should be grateful for small mercies! However as for the wider media take it with some good quality salt.

So at the end this is how it all turned out. Cornwall council will be administered by a joint Liberal Democrat and Independent administration with the tacit support of other smaller groups. The Conservatives will form an opposition. The last administration had to cope with £190 million of government cuts and this new administration will similarly have to cope with a further £100 million of government cuts. That takes the rate support grant down to practically zero, except for some ring-fenced grants such as school support. So don't expect any easing of the local county austerity. Your councillors, like myself, will again find it difficult to get most things done - difficult to get road repairs or pavements surfaced, difficult to get broken play equipment in Longstone Park repaired, difficult to get leases organised for local sports groups like the Bowls club, difficult to get roads swept more regularly...

The new town councillors look like a pretty good bunch and will bring new ideas and perspectives to the council. It is good to see the Fore Street traders there and good too to see other small businesses represented. It is useful when a council broadly represents the people. I suppose the important thing is to see each other's strengths, pull together as a team and realise that to work together is better for us all.

There are good things going on, if slowly. One example is the devolution of the Waterside to Saltash Town Council, which is grinding through. The repaired pontoon will soon be in place, financed jointly by Cornwall Council and the

Town Council. Cornwall Council can no longer manage the Waterside in the way the town needs so the necessary take-over will be good.

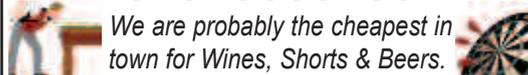
In the same way effectively Saltash Town Council will have to take a major share in the running of the library as the government cuts force Cornwall to provide much less of a service. The town just cannot sit back and watch our excellent library service wither so will probably have to help out in a big way. The bottom line however is that it will cost money. Cornwall Council is not allowed to raise council tax to keep libraries going properly but Saltash Council is allowed to do so. Yes, I know, it's double taxation and basically a crummy set-up but it's all we've got.

More good news! Fingers crossed and wood touched it seems my apple blossom escaped that last frost! A cunning little late cold snap had a go at the tops of my potatoes but overlooked the fruit - whizzo! However and just to balance things out I am going to make a prediction based on the little rotters at work on my strawberries in the polytunnel... here it is... this is going to be the Year of the Woodlice!

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Former Mayor of Saltash is Vice Chair of Cornwall Council

At its meeting on 23rd May, councillors at Cornwall Council elected their colleague Hilary Frank as Vice Chair of Cornwall Council. The former Mayor of Saltash will support the new Chair, Councillor Mary May, in acting as the civic and ceremonial head of Cornwall Council. The high-profile role will see Hilary assisting the Chair in presiding over meetings of Full Council, when all 123 councillors gather to debate issues.

She will also act as an ambassador for Cornwall, promoting the interests and reputation of the council and Cornwall. "It's similar to being Deputy Mayor of Cornwall", says Hilary, "So it is a massive honour. And I'm particularly pleased that the vote was unanimous. I'm also delighted that the role will give me a platform to raise the profile of Saltash and South-East Cornwall."

The new Vice Chair went on to say: "Cornwall has a long and distinguished history, and enjoys the particular benefits of tolerance, fairness and freedom. The Cornish motto is 'One and All', and there is no better description of the sense of unity and common purpose that I will strive to foster during my term of office."

The Chair and Vice Chair are non-political roles. At the same meeting on 23rd May, councillors also elected their political leaders, with Councillor Adam Paynter chosen as Leader, and Councillor Julian German as Deputy Leader. Adam, who represents Launceston North, studied agriculture at degree level and works on his family's farm, diversifying the farm into renewable energy ventures. Julian represents Roseland and comes from a private sector background. He is a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedh. The Leader and Deputy Leader are the equivalent, at local level, of Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, and over the coming weeks Adam and Julian will be appointing 8 of their fellow councillors to Cabinet positions.



New Mayor is West Country Maid

Our newly chosen Mayor, Councillor Jean Dent, is entering her second term as First Citizen, having previously served as First Citizen in 2014, 2015. Born in Plymouth she and her husband Bill have lived in Saltash for over a quarter of a century. Both of their adult children attended local schools and Jean taught in infant schools locally and in Plymouth.



Jean Dent as Mayor 2014

Jean and Bill are best known locally for their devotion to supporting ex service persons. Bill has served as President of the Saltash branch of the Royal British Legion and Chair of the Cornwall branch while Jean has been Vice-Chair of the Cornwall branch and Chair of the Welfare Committee for Cornwall. They are also both highly involved in the Royal Navy Association.

Jean was co-opted on to the Town Council in 2012 and subsequently retained her seat at election. She was elected Deputy Mayor within eighteen months of joining the council and served her first term as Mayor a year later, since when she has been actively involved with the Town Council's various committees. She will be formally taking on the Mayoral robes and chain at an official Mayor Making Ceremony in late June or July.

Chamber of Commerce Bids to Bring Christmas Cheer to Town

The traditional and much loved Saltash Christmas celebration on the first Saturday of December will go ahead this year under the organisation of Saltash Chamber of Commerce, subject to funding being agreed.

The Chamber has been in consultation with the incoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is now eager to discover what traders and townspeople want to see as Saltash welcomes in the festive season in style.

At the Chamber's monthly meeting it was agreed that a working party of Chamber members, with the Chamber's full support, would seek to put together a funding package to ensure that the event lives up to the standards set in previous years for this much anticipated event.

Pontoon Repair Costs Increase

The pontoon off Jubilee Green, which has been removed for renovation, was in worse condition than anticipated and the cost of repair increased accordingly.

Saltash Town Council were angered to discover that Cornwall Council is asking the town to pay a further £4,000 from its Section 106 funding towards what is now anticipated to cost £68,000.

It was anticipated that the pontoon, which is a vital facility during the popular Saltash Regatta, should be returned in time for that event.

It is planned that following its return its ownership will be devolved from Cornwall to Saltash Town Council. The town will be responsible for any future costs but will also have the benefit of an estimated £10,000 - £12,000 projected income each year from users of the pontoon.

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Madam
I refer to the Letter to the Editor, penned by Denise Watkins, who has been involved in fundraising for St Barnabas Hospital. Ms Watkins raises the question of what will happen to the equipment, which was donated via the St. Barnabas League of Friends and by the people of Saltash, to the inpatient wards at St Barnabas.

Ms Watkins, and the League of Friends, may be interested to know that much of the equipment was transferred to Willow Ward at Liskeard Hospital at the same time as the St B were 'temporarily' relocated there - mid February
Kind regards
Pam Giles RGN
ex St Barnabas

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Year 11 Students Unwind at Celebration Event



Year 11 students at saltash.net marked their time at the school with a day of fun and celebration on Friday 12 May.

The day has become a tradition at saltash.net, celebrating the students' time and achievements at the school in a fitting way that those involved will remember for years to come.

With exams approaching, students were provided with a final opportunity to unwind, attending school in fancy dress and receiving a lunchtime banquet. Costumes worn included Harry Potter, groovy hippies, Super Mario, Gru from Despicable Me and a pair of terrifying Tyrannosaurus Rex's.

Each student received an autograph book to record good luck wishes, and many spent the day getting friends and teachers to sign.

The farewell assembly included a number of outstanding performances. There were musical offerings from the duo of Molly Banks and Megan Kelly, as well as solo performers Matt Calder and Tyler Stapleton, whilst Brad Sweet performed the entire dance routine of Beyonce's 'Single Ladies' video.

The students also watched leavers' videos,



compiled by Assistant Head of Year, Mrs Sloggett, chronicling their time at the school. Shrieks of laughter emanated from the main school hall, when memories were re-lived, some moving, that left many a damp eye and others squirming with embarrassment!

Head of Year, Mr. Feldwick had the final word, wishing the students all the best in their exams and delivering his all important piece of advice - 'Always be true to yourself, and do what makes you genuinely happy.'

The next time the students come together as a year group will be at their end of year prom at Boringdon Hall on Friday 30 June.



ROAD CLOSURES FOR SALTASH REGATTA
 Sat 17th & Sun 18th June
 06:00 - 21:00
 The following roads will be closed to vehicles:
 Old Ferry Road
 (Pounds Park East : Lower Fore St)
 Tamar Street
 (Lower Fore St : Albert Road)
 Lower Fore Street
 (Silver St : Old Ferry Road / Tamar St)
 On Saturday 17th June at 10:25 Fore Street will also be closed for approximately 15 minutes for a parade from Victoria Gardens to the regatta site.

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SALTASH Regatta WATERSIDE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 17th & SUNDAY 18th JUNE

SATURDAY

ON WATER

THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP GIG ROWING TEAMS WILL BE BATTLING IT OUT ON THE WATER FOR THEIR ANNUAL ONE-DAY REGATTA - run by Caradon Gig Club

SALTASH SAILING CLUB WILL BE SHOWCASING DINGHY PURSUIT RACING

ON LAND

10.30AM 'UNDER THE SEA' CIVIC PARADE

Led by the Mayor, the civic parade this year has the theme of "Under the Sea", with local schools, groups and children dressing up for the occasion. A Special Cup will be awarded to the most creatively dressed organisation for their DIY efforts, which will be at the end of the Parade. Enjoy the sights and sounds of Samba Kernow, Wreckers Morris and the Saltash Town Band! Everyone is welcome to come and watch this colourful procession make its way down Fore Street to the Waterside.
Meet 10am at Victoria Gardens for a 10.30am start.

12-5PM LIVE MUSIC ON WATERSIDE GREEN

Throughout the day there'll be live music hosted by the talented Andy Quick, who will also be taking centre stage with his latest outfit, The Andy Quick Band, later on in the day.

Other bands included in this year's line-up are

The Big Sets, blues and funk from down the road in Newquay, Alex Hart, a Devon born and bred singer-songwriter as well as real live roots reggae provided by the Lionhat Collective.

You can also look forward to soul, funk and jazz outfit Soul Stroke, indie rockers from Plymouth, Double Denim, and jive, swing and latin from The Sultans, as well as loads more!

10-4PM LIVEWIRE YOUTH MUSIC PROJECT

Step inside the Livewire building to hear some young band talent - from rock to funk to metal to folk - they've got it all covered.

12-5PM JUBILEE GREEN & STREET ENTERTAINMENT

Be captivated by Billy Wizz and his children's magic shows from 12.30pm to 2.30pm. Look out for the bumble-bee-hued Wreckers Morris dancing (as well as loitering with their silver tankards) in various locations. Revel in bouncy castles, circus skills, a feast of food and other eclectic stalls, live owls from Caspar the Owl and Friends.



FREE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT and a variety of stalls and activities ALL WEEKEND

SUNDAY

ON WATER

SALTASH ROWING CLUB WILL BE RUNNING THEIR ONE-DAY REGATTA

SALTASH SAILING CLUB HAVE A "TRY A SAILING YACHT" EVENT FROM THE CLUB

APPROX 12.30PM WILD SWIM

Wild Swim will set off just after high water from the beach

APPROX 1.30PM CARDBOARD BOAT RACE

ON LAND

10:30AM MORNING SERVICE

A morning service with all of the Saltash Churches Together on the Waterside Green.

11:30AM TAMAR VALLEY MG OWNERS CLUB

MG Classic cars will be conveying along Old Ferry Road, making their way to the Sailing Club, where they'll be showcased.

1.30PM CARDBOARD BOAT RACE

Come and watch the teams put their cardboard boats to the test on the waves of the River Tamar. Setting off from Ashtorre Slipway, local organisations will launch their home-made cardboard creations in a race to stay afloat! Blessed in advance by Brian Anderson

2.30PM PAINT PARTY

A brand new event joins the Regatta this year! Using non-toxic, environmentally friendly coloured corn starch, this is your chance to get your own back and paint bomb your peers! Old clothing highly recommended, with bags of powder available to purchase for a small donation of 50p.

ALL WEEKEND

* JUNKYARD SKATEPARK CIC MICRO RAMP

Bring your children along with scooters, skateboards and helmets to enjoy free taster sessions on Saltash skatepark's micro ramp in front of Livewire. Find out about their regular sessions at this Community Interest Company by chatting to owners Martyn and Steph. There will be equipment available if you do not have what you need to use the skate ramp.

* SALTASH SAILING CLUB

Saltash Sailing Club will be open to the public with food, drinks and cream teas available all weekend.

* EATS AND TREATS

Culinary delights throughout the weekend include a wide range of speciality coffees; Latin American street food, hog roast, doughnuts, ice creams, burgers, steak baguettes, Mexican, Italian and Cuban tastes to suit all palettes and diets.

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be served from Shelley's open air bar, The Union, Two Bridges, Saltash Sailing Club and Just Be, all on the Waterfront. Saltash Fore Street has a wide range of local shops, pubs and eateries which are well worth a visit.

This event has been running since 1835 - be part of it! We can not wait to see you!

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Forder's Fiftieth Famous Fabulous Fete

The 'phenomenally fabulous and famous Forder fete', as Mrs Sue Hooper MBE described it in her opening speech, is now in its fiftieth fantastic year.

That this small community at the head of a creek had been able to maintain such a prestigious event over half a century, and keep the crowds coming back for more, is an achievement in itself. Mrs. Hooper ascribed it to Forder being 'a magical place that has inspired its community for decades' and whose folk work hard to keep the spirit of the community alive.

This year the fete day dawned damp and dismal but as the Saltash town band assembled to play in the afternoon the sun was breaking through.

Sales of plants, cakes and produce, and white elephant and books proceeded well.

Colour was added to the afternoon with a parade of sails as the Sailing Club Cadets raced up the creek and leapt ashore to join the queue for burgers and ice cream. First to Forder in the Topper Class was Joe Marsh followed by Harry Asplin and Kate Saxby.

The winning boat in the Picot Class was crewed by Cameron McFarlane and Max Robins, second Tristan Hills and Alex Way and third James Hills and Finly Hatch.

Your Observer correspondent joined Sue and John Hooper in being unsuccessful in attempts to 'splat the rat'. I moved on to the unpronounceable Dutch game of sliding wooden counters presided over by

Hilary Frank where I found every child present to be far more successful than myself.

However while relaxing over a cream tea (cream on jam - proper Cornish) listening to the Town Band and watching the tidal waters lapping against the foreshore lined with happy fete goers there seemed to be few pleasanter ways to spend a sunny June Sunday afternoon.

Cemetery Land Needed

A strip of land on the Churchtown cemetery site, owned by the town, is crucial to a developer's concept of how to develop a neighbouring site.

In support of his application to purchase the land Chris Speed, Director of Project Management South West explained that planning permission had already been given to build housing on a site by the former Churchtown Farm behind the 'Cecil Arms'.

However his company was now planning a revised scheme, reducing the number of houses and seeking to make it more attractive and less intrusive on the neighbourhood.

Councillors decided to defer a discussion on the proposed purchase, in respect of which a planning application for the revised housing scheme is awaited.

St Barnabas League of Friends



Members of the League of Friends of St Barnabas Hospital recently greeted customers in Saltash Coop. As one of three newly chosen local charities for their Community Fund they were explaining where their share of the funds would go. The Acute Care at Home Nurses who are based at St Barnabas needs a new portable ECG machine. Some of the nurses also came along to explain about their work the need for the machine and were also able to check blood pressure. Although the beds are temporarily closed the hospital remains open for clinics and physiotherapy. It is assured of a future with hopefully more day care provision for patients in Saltash and district.

Police Offer Cash Towards CCTV Cameras

Saltash has been invited to participate in the police and crime plan to increase CCTV capacity across the Devon and Cornwall police force region. Up to £200,000 has been pledged towards this by police and crime commissioner Alison Hernandez.

'I believe high quality and interconnected CCTV can play a major role in helping to keep people safe', she has informed local councils. 'It is also an invaluable resource for the police to investigate crime and enable emergency services to find and help vulnerable people'.

While £200,000 may appear a large sum, spread across the entire force area it would leave little for each community, Saltash Town

Council considered. While CCTV in the town centre might be desirable full consideration would have to be given as to what it might achieve in comparison with cost. While cameras are now of the highest quality and able to identify individuals at a distance, each one could cost about £3000. It was noted that Helston currently pays £12,000 per year to maintain its seven cameras, including monitoring them. The Council will fully consider what scheme if any would be suitable for Saltash.

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June/July/Aug 2017

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Round Robin River Cruise from Totnes to Dartmouth, Train from Kingswear to Paignton and Bus back to Totnes
Times to confirm £11.00

Monday 26th June

Bude and Boscastle
10.00 am - 17.00 pm £ 12.00

Sunday 2nd July

Sunday Lunch at Lifton Farm Shop
11.00 am £5.50 Plus cost of Lunch

Monday 3rd July

Walk or Stroll to NT Bedruthan Steps
10.00 am - 17.00 pm £10.00

Thursday 6th July

Kingsbridge & Salcombe
10.00 am - 18.00 pm £10.00

Saturday 8th July

Liskeard Agricultural Show
10.00 am - 16.00 pm £5.00

Thursday 13th July

Bicton Botanical Gardens & Exmouth
09.30 am - 18.30 pm £10.00

Sunday 23rd July

Sunday Lunch at Smugglers Inn Seaton
11.30 am - 16.00 pm

Thursday 27th July

Seaton & Lyme Regis
09.30 am - 19.00 pm £14.00

Wednesday 2nd August

Newton Abbot & Trago
10.00 am - 16.00 pm £6.00

Sunday 6th August

Sunday Lunch at Carriages Exeter
Then on to Teignmouth
10.45 am - 17.30 pm £10.00

Friday 18th August

RHS Rosemoor
8.30 am - 19.00 pm £12.00

Tuesday 22nd August

Newton Abbot Races Ladies Evening
15.00 pm 22.00 pm £6.00

Sunday 27th August

Sunday Lunch at Whitsand Bay Hotel
11.30 am - 16.00 pm £5.00

All prices listed above do not include admission charges or meals

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Sat 15th Swampdogs (Bar)

Sat 22nd Restless Heads

(formerly Silverback) (Bar)

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Tickets on sale now: Members £5

Non Members £10

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Aug 17

Sat 5th Electronics...80s Synths Band (Bar)

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Subject to change

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Conundrum

Corner
 Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following eight questions can you re-arrange them to make a Cornish place name?
 1 Which of the famous Bronte sisters wrote the novels The Tenant of Wild Fell Hall and Agnes Gray? (4)
 2 The Ports of Grimsby and Immingham are on the estuary of which River? (6)
 3 What was Spike Milligan's real Christian name? (8)
 4 Muscat is a variety of which fruit? (5)
 5 Which Country did the Allies invade in Operation Avalanche? (5)
 6 How is the Arctic Whale with a long spiral tusk better known? (7)
 7 Seen mainly in the Countryside, Smock, Post and Tower are types of what sort of structure? (8)
 8 Which Geographical feature is a narrow strip of land linking two larger areas of land? (7)
 Answers on Page 7

Safe

Passageway for Cyclists and Pedestrians
 Between Callington and Saltash Many thanks to all our readers who answered the on-line survey about safety on the A388 between Callington and Saltash. The good news is that Cornwall Council and CORMAC have started a feasibility study for a safe passageway for cyclists and pedestrians with a report and recommended actions expected by September 2017. St Mellion Parish Council is sponsoring the work and will arrange a public event to share findings from the study once it is finished. Details will be published in [the Observer] nearer the time.
 For further information, please contact the St Mellion Parish Clerk on 07539 480310 or clerk@stmellion-pc.gov.uk.

Hundreds Helped to Uproot Their Family Tree

Discovering one's family history is a fascinating if addictive pastime, almost two hundred would-be genealogists came to learn how to set about it at a Family History Day held in Liskeard by Saltash Heritage and other members of the South East Cornwall Museums Federation.
 Saltash U3A and the Tamar Protection Society joined with museums, heritage organisations and family history societies from across East Cornwall and West Devon and volunteers were kept busy tendering advice on every aspect of family history research. Visitors were from all over the South West and beyond with one visitor from London delighted at discovering from the Callington Museum members about his family roots in the North Hill area. Kresen Kernow, the Cornwall record office currently establishing a new centre in the former Redruth Brewery also were kept busy with queries about Cornish family records. Questions about military family history were dealt with at the Cornwall Regimental Museum stall.
 This was the second successful family history day in South East Cornwall and it is already planned to make it an annual event.

Observer Telephone numbers
 07971484872
 or
 01579 345699
 maryecrawford@hotmail.com

Steel Sail Over Carkeel

A unique opportunity for Saltash to have 'a gateway to Cornwall on its doorstep' was how designer Chris Wells described his proposed sculpture intended to be mounted on the enlarged Carkeel roundabout.
 Several proposals have been put forward as to what form such a structure should take. His latest plan is based on a design of sails at a regatta, though he added that it could also be seen as an organic form relating to Cornish gardens at Eden, Heligan and elsewhere. It would be of stainless steel, around ten metres tall, designed to withstand winds of up to 90 mph and with an intended lifespan of over a century.
 Mr Wells has been in discussion with Highways England and Cormac, the contractors, are currently drawing up plans for a plinth on an eighteen metre space in the middle of the new roundabout where it will not interfere with drivers' vision. Once the plinth is completed funding could be located for the sculpture.
 'We should grab this chance or, if we let it slip away, once it has been lost and the roundabout built the chance will be lost for a long time'. Mr. Wells told the Town Council.

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Toc H Members Sought to Help 'Raise the Standard'

Saltash and Burraton each for many years had a branch of Toc H, which did much for the local community, and though they are gone they are far from forgotten.
 Their banners have been passed to Saltash Heritage, the local history group which runs over town's museum, and they are currently being conserved and restored to condition prior to being put on display. This work is being carried out under the 'Raising the Standard' campaign supported by the Heritage Lottery fund.
 Once the banners are returned Saltash Heritage are anxious to invite former Toc H members to a tea party in the museum and to view the banners as part of an exhibition featuring the history of Saltash and Burraton Toc H. Former members are especially invited to provide memories, photographs and stories to add to those which Heritage has already required and which could feature in the display. Any former members who would like to be involved and can offer any such memories is asked to contract the secretary @ saltash-heritage-org.uk or on 01752 847800

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Essa Files

This column is not going to be about the General Election result for three reasons. Firstly, because as I write we don't know the result yet, and I wish to avoid looking even more stupid than usual. Secondly, because after several months of local elections and several weeks of the general election, you're probably thoroughly fed up of elections. Thirdly, because two things happened this month which reminded us that, regardless of who runs the country, certain values remain important to all of us, in particular community, mutual respect, and tolerance.

The Manchester bombings and London bridge attacks were particularly awful not only because they took so many lives, but because they also threatened those values: the perpetrators killed innocent people and in doing so hurt communities, but they also tried, in some ways successfully, to damage our mutual respect and tolerance. In the days following the attacks some people used it to attack those who happen to share a religion or colour with the terrorists, or who happen to have been born overseas or be the children of people who were. We even had one prominent commentator call, horribly, for a 'final solution'. This is wrong on a number of levels, but for two reasons in particular.

Firstly, we don't thank goodness, convict whole groups of people for crimes committed by someone with whom they happen to have something in common. A lot

of crimes, including many terror attacks, have been committed by white men aged between 18 and 50 but I don't generally get blamed for them - perhaps because I don't happen to belong to many minority or oppressed groups.

Secondly this kind of blame game allows extremists - who thrive of disharmony and division - to gain something from their attack. If we don't want them to win then we must fight fire with water, and meet hatred with love and division with unity.

I'm sure many of us will have taken time after the attacks to mourn the dead, feel empathy for their families, and be grateful for the people we have in our lives. I hope that we can all also find the time to move forwards in the way that best responds to this horror - by being excellent to each other. *Adam Killeya*

Neighbourhood Sergeant Not to be Replaced

Local policing services are to be reviewed following the recent retirement from the force of Sergeant Angela Crow, the neighbourhood team leader for Saltash and Torpoint.

There are no short term plans for her to be replaced, state Devon and Cornwall Police, who as a result of budget cuts over the last seven years now employ a thousand fewer personnel, including six hundred fewer police officers, than seven years ago.

Sergeant Jo Williams who formerly covered just Liskeard and Looe now also will act as neighbourhood team leader for the extended area to include Saltash and Torpoint. The sector is led by Inspector Julian Morris.

Saltash will however

retain four PCSO's, Councillor Julie Rance has been assured, and informed the Town Council. PC Mark Rothwell will be retained as the only full time officer based in the town.

A full review of local neighbourhood policing is under way with a report due in the Autumn. Saltash Town Council has been invited to submit any concerns or feedback to the review.

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Navy History Revealed in Old Cornwall Church Visit

For their first summer visit of the year Saltash Old Cornwall Society ventured to Devon yet the church that they visited, at Stoke Damerel, has a longstanding Cornish connection through the St. Aubyn family as patron of the church.

A Norman foundation, the present church dated largely from the 18th century expansion of 'Plymouth Dock' as Devonport was known, but retains some 15th century features.

Churchwarden John Steere and historian Tony Barnard pointed out many features including the wooden columns, supposedly ships masts and other ships timbering, the pulpit featured in the Great Exhibition of 1851, and the bells, replacing those which first rang out as George III passed by on his 1798 visit to Dock - as a poem below them commemorates.

The church and churchyard are filled with memorials telling tales of past soldiers and sailors. The churchyard too has a grimmer history with tales of body-snatching, murder and a gallows close by its wall.

Over the past millennium the church has adapted to changes in the neighbourhood and has recently been adapted again for modern worship and hopefully many more years of service to an ever evolving Devonport.

Meanwhile the Saltash visitors warmly thanked their guides, as well as ladies of the church choir who prepared for them a sumptuous tea with homemade cakes.

Age Concern Given Special Treat



Saltash Age concern members were given a special treat when Sue Hooper former Mayor and a Saltash Freeman of the town visited and gave the members a talk on the Tudor period and Queen Elizabeth I of England (born September 7 1533).

Sue said that Queen Elizabeth I is considered by many to be the greatest monarch in English History.

Daughter of Henry V111 and Anne Boleyn Elizabeth inherited a bankrupt nation and torn between religious discord.

Queen Elizabeth I was only the third queen to rule England in her own right; the other two examples were Lady Jane Grey and half sister Mary I and their reigns proved to be disastrous.

Queen Elizabeth I reigned

for 45 years. During her reign Elizabeth survived plots against her and Court gossip of her supposedly numerous love affairs.

Elizabeth held the country together in relative peace for 45 years and united Scotland and England. She settled the religious discord of the previous decades; and gave the

generations that followed her example of courage education and intelligence.

Indeed Elizabeth proved, that after all her father Henry V111 and strived and killed his Queens for, she did not have to be a son to rule her beloved Country.

Queen Elizabeth I died in 1603

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saltash.net's U18s Make Cup History



Back row (left to right) Mr. Budd, Will Bunning, Ben Holter, Mason Long, Mike Hambly, Alex Easson, Jay Bartlett, James Green, Ryan Winfield. Front row (left to right) Reece Kyffin, Ben Reynolds, Joseph Gill, George Soper, Will Hind, Sam Morcom, Kieran Jolley

Saltash.net's U18 football team have made history by becoming the first Saltash team to ever win the U18 county cup, following their victory against Helston College earlier on this month.

The final, which took place at Bodmin, saw saltash.net run out dominant 6-1 winners and claim the trophy for the first time. Goals came from Reece Kyffin (2), Ben Holter, George Soper and Ben Reynolds (2), with each member of the team representing the school fantastically throughout the tournament.

Mr. Budd, who coached the team this season, said, 'The cup win was very well deserved. This is a truly special crop of players and young men. They are so proud to have represented the school for so many years and it's very fitting that they end

their career as county champions. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with them this year.'

The squad has been led brilliantly not only this season, but throughout their entire time at the school, by captain Ryan Winfield, who was agonisingly ruled out of the final due to an ankle injury just four days earlier when he was helping Saltash Youth to victory in the U18s Rathbone cup final. A number of other saltash.net team members were part of that Saltash Youth victory, so it was an incredibly sweet week for them.

The match capped off a fantastic competition for the

team, who dominated en route to the final, beating Callington 6-0, Launceston 8-0 and Torpoint 7-2.

The win builds on an extremely strong year of sporting performances at saltash.net, particularly from our football teams, who have already claimed the U16 girls' Cornwall cup and the U13 boys' Cornwall cup.

Press Secretaries & Correspondents

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Bishop May Bless the Cornish Cross

The Bishop of St. Germans could be invited to bless the Cornish Cross alongside the Tamar Bridge when he comes to Bishop Cornish School to confirm some of the students on 30th June.

The Town Council was told of the projected blessing of the cross and asked to give approval.

While Deputy Mayor David Yates, who chaired the council meeting, spoke in favour, other councillors were less enthusiastic. Councillor John Brady spoke of what was originally described as a Celtic Cross being a work of art, not a religious symbol, and a blessing being inappropriate.

The project for the cross was originally an initiative of Saltash Churches Together to mark the millennium, though it was not until 2013 that it was erected and officially unveiled by television presenters Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan.

After discussion Town Councillors agreed that while they had no objection to a formal blessing by the Bishop it would not be an official town event.

SEA Celebrate Ten Years of Making Saltash Greener

Trying to help make the world a better place by thinking globally while acting within the town, Saltash Environmental Action (SEA) has now been active for ten years. Before listening to a member promoting veganism and then sharing some vegan snacks, members were reminded of how the group came into being and what it has achieved over the last decade.

It was when Modbury in Devon became the first plastic bag free environment in Europe that some Saltash residents concerned at the alarming effect of plastic waste on our oceans, convened a public meeting. Ten people attended 'but what ten people', one of the remaining founder members Marianne recalled. Soon the group was busy manning stalls to raise awareness and was active in energy and waste reduction. Since then they have planted 'veg in beds' in Fore Street and Victoria Gardens, and fruit trees in public land and schools. Members have lobbied, attended marches in London, and notably held a two week festival in 2010 'Making Saltash Greener' culminating in a grand picnic on Waterside. Regular activities include film shows and monthly local litter picks, all while aiming to have as much fun as possible picnicking, partying, and laying on live music.

We may not be Totnes but we still want to do our bit' concluded Marianne.

The annual general meeting saw the committee re-elected, followed by a film featuring a Los Angeles apartment dweller who sought to reduce her trash to zero for a month.

Animal farming according to one study is responsible for up to 51% of greenhouse gases, member Rebecca announced during her talk promoting veganism, though other studies put the figure lower.

Following her talk members were offered a wide range of homemade vegan products, which they evidently enjoyed, while members of Cornwall Vegans who had attended the meeting sought to convert to their cause with missionary zeal. They produced strong arguments on both ecological and animal welfare grounds but whether members could live exclusively on the vegan foods as offered occasioned lively discussion.

Former Inn is Dangerous Claims Ex Mayor

Is the 'Waterside Inn' previously the 'Wheatheaf' going to become another 'station building' situation, being left to decay and becoming an eyesore in the heart of our town, former Mayor of Saltash Baz Gregory asked the Town Council.

As one who used to enjoy drinking there when it was a popular and attractive feature of the waterside scene, Mr. Gregory has become increasingly concerned at its deterioration. Although planning permission was granted for dwellings on the site it still stands by the river with plants growing out of it and parts of the structure falling off. It is also prone to vandalism and, Mr. Gregory believes is now a dangerous structure.

Councillor Richard Bickford re-assured Mr. Gregory that the Town Council is liaising with Cornwall's enforcement officer regarding the building.



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BOTUS FLEMING THE PARISH HOSTS...

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PRESS NOTICE

LICENSING ACT 2003

We Robert Social Club (previously) have applied to Cornwall Council as
Licensing Authority for the grant of a Club Premises Certificate in respect of Saltash
Social Club, Fore Street, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 6LL.

The application is to:

Provide supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or to the order of, a member of
the club and regulated entertainment.

A responsible authority or other person wishing to make representations to this
application may do so by writing to Licensing Team (East), Cornwall Council, City
Treat, Beacon Technology Park, Bodelyn, Cornwall, PL31 2FR, or email
licensing@cornwall.gov.uk not later than 20 June 2017.

A copy of this application can be viewed at the Licensing Authority's offices Monday
to Friday (except Bank Holidays) during normal office hours. Alternatively please
telephone the Licensing office on 0300 1234 212.

If in an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with
this application, the fine on summary conviction being unlimited.

Signed: *Alun Jones*
Applicant, on behalf of the applicant

Dated: 23 May 2016