



Poland in the first week of March. Community Enterprises has taken donations, including baby formula, first aid kits and blankets to the Romanian Orthodox Church in Exeter, where the priest's wife, Michaela, was overwhelmed by the generosity of Saltash residents and spoke emotionally of the acute need Romania welcomes as refugees from its neighbour Ukraine. Community Enterprise's final collection of donations was taken to the Devon Ukraine Support Fund distribution warehouse on Burrington Way in Plymouth.

All the volunteers involved have spoken warmly of the breathtaking generosity of people bringing in donations. But it is the notes and messages nestling in the donations that have brought tears to their eyes. Notes like the one written in a child's hand that says: 'You're in our thoughts.'

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he blue and yellow flag flying high

over Saltash Guildhall is a blazing symbol of the town's solidarity with the people of Ukraine. "The attack on innocent people is beyond comprehension, and as a Town Council we condemn this," said Mayor Cllr. Pete Samuels. "We stand by all those in Ukraine, and our thoughts are with those who are worried about loved

ones back home. We stand ready to support in any way we can."

The support for people in crisis in Ukraine was echoed and amplified by nearly 500 residents of Saltash and Plymouth who took part in a Solidarity Walk on the Tamar Bridge on the first Sunday in March, calling for freedom and peace to be restored in Ukraine. The support is clear if you look up and down Fore Street where there are Ukrainian flags on pubs, Ukrainian sunflowers on shop windows and even shop dummies dressed in blue and yellow clothes. And inside shops, places like Saltash News have put out collection boxes for customers to donate their spare coins.

It is in the hearts of Saltash residents that the town's compassion shines its strongest. From the children and their families at St. Stephens Primary School who came together and managed to



raise over £8,000 in their sponsored walk, to the young people at The Core making sunflower packs to sell in aid of Ukrainian appeals. From Saltash Scrapstore assembling boxes of donated crayons, colouring books and cuddly toys for refugee children in Poland, to the constant stream of people who have been bringing in donations of much-needed items like sleeping bags, nappies and warm clothes to collection points at Wainwrights and Community Enterprises at 4 Fore Street.

Some of the Saltash donations have been taken to Darren's Cars in St Anne's Chapel, who led a convoy of nine minibuses to



www.rpbvehiclesolutions.co.uk



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@cormacllimited .co.uk

Transport Department

(Schools Transport) Telephone: 0300 1234 101 (Bus Pass) Telephone: 0300 1234 222 Fmail

schooltransport@cornwall.gov.uk **Roads, Transport and Parking** Telephone: 0300 1234 222 Fmail

roadstransportandparking@cornwall .gov.uk

Waste Department

Telephone: 0300 1234 141 Email: via contact form on website

only. **Cormac Solutions**

Telephone: 01872 323 313 . Fmail[.] customerrelations@cormacltd.co.uk

Fly Tipping: Telephone: 0300 1234 141 Email:

refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

Town Messenger news is supplied by the Town Council

Cornwall Councillors/ Wards

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

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

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

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

here is a saying that 'a week is a long time in politics' and whilst I do not see myself as a politician, it would be fair to say that a month is a long time between Mayor

When I wrote in the Observer last month, the most important topics were the Saltash Neighbourhood Plan Referendum, the co-option of a new Councillor and the Rotary Citizen Awards. The item that we might have heard in news bulletins, about

Cllr.Jon Foster

importance

honest in myself, with others

and all the things I participate

in. It is of great importance to

me to try and improve Saltash

as a town, as a community and

be a part of the team that can do

teamwork is of great

importance too. By working as

a team we will be able to

achieve many great things in

the community that we all love

Saltash Town Council for long

so my achievement here has

been limited. However, one of

my biggest achievements is

Coombe Woods. I have spent

the last 15 years transforming

the woods from an overgrown

and uninviting place into a

place where everyone; families,

or on their own, can walk and

employment prospects where they live.

Young people in Saltash,

the future generation, are an

energetic, creative asset to

our town. They are

increasingly, and rightly,

raising important issues

regarding the barriers and

inequalities they face and it is

important that we respond

positivelv

We're pleased to have

increased the budget for the

tendering of professional

youth work in the 2022 / 23

financial year by 25% to

£50,000. Alongside this,

we're refreshing the tender

document to ensure that

support from Saltash Town

Council is targeted in areas of

greatest need to achieve

Our plans for next year

expanding the

maximum impact.

include

to

both

strategically

concerns.

I have not been a member of

I also believe that

honesty.

Essa Ward

this.

and live in.

Columns.

From the Mayor of Saltash

Russian troops amassed on

Meet Your Councillor

is

main item of

То be



enjoy all the nature that the

I want to continue to work

improvement of Saltash with

various things they are

involved in. I also want to

continue working with the

schools in Saltash; students,

teachers and parents with

allowing them to participate in

helping around the town with

different activities and events to

we would be delighted to hear

from you. My email is

Cllr Matt Griffiths

m.griffiths@saltash.gov.uk.

bring the community together.

Saltash Team for Youth

A altash Team for Youth is a town council working group

youth organisations. Its purpose is to ensure the views and

participation of young people are better represented in the work of

Saltash Town Council. This is even more important in these

challenging times, which particularly impact on the lives of young

people, their mental health and wellbeing, educational progress and

and

these

comprising of both town councillors and representatives from

further

my knowledge of how the

with the team at Saltash Town

Council with continuing the

council works and the many

woods have to offer.

the border near Ukraine, explained away by Putin as

just a military exercise, was perhaps not at the forefront of people's minds.

At the time of writing, however, Vlad the Invader has shown his true colours, with the invasion of the Ukraine and with the slaughter of innocent civilians continuing unabated, in what can only be described as war crimes.

Saltash Town Council has shown support and solidarity with the people of the Ukraine, by flying the Ukrainian flag from the Guildhall, the Library and at the Brunel Bust. We have supported The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) who joined the Local Government Association (LGA) in endorsing a statement from the political

leadership of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), which strongly condemns the multiple attacks and

violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. As a Town Council we can

only do so much, but as individuals, every single member of our community can do their bit to show support and solidarity. We can boycott those companies that continue to trade in Russia, it is easy enough to see who they are by doing a little online research. Every word and deed that we can all muster in our own way, will form part of the wider picture and help to stop the occupation of a sovereign

saltash.gov.uk

2. Cllr Sarah Gillies

saltash.gov.uk

3. Cllr Sarah Martin

saltash.gov.uk

4. Cllr Julia Peggs

J.dent@

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s.martin@

s.gillies@

Your Town Council & Wards

- Saltash Tamar: Saltash Essa: 1. Cllr Lewis Challen 1. Cllr Richard Bickford I.challen@ r bickford@
- saltash.gov.uk 2. Cllr Rachel Bullock r.bullock@
- saltash.gov.uk 3. Cllr Gloria Challen g.challen@ saltash.gov.uk
- 4. Cllr Matt Griffiths m.griffiths@
- j.peggs@ saltash.gov.uk saltash.gov.uk 5. Cllr Pete Samuels 5. Cllr Jon Foster p.samuels@ jon.foster@ saltash.gov.uk
- saltash.gov.uk 6 Cllr Jean Dent 6. Cllr Sheila Lennox-Boyd s.lennox-boyd@ saltash.gov.uk

Support for Ukraine

s Cornwall continues to be shocked and saddened by the harrowing stories of war in Ukraine, Saltash Town Council has shown strong support by endorsing a statement issued by the National Association of Local Councils that condemns the multiple attacks and violations of territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. Cornwall Council has committed to working proactively with government to see how to best provide support and homes for people in Ukraine in crisis, and has set up a dedicated page on its website that will be updated as information comes in.

Shops in Saltash town centre that use Payzone for card payments can offer customers the option of making a donation to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal using their debit card, and anyone wishing to make a financial contribution online is encouraged to use one of the charities detailed in this graphic.



European state. Let us all reflect on the peace and security that we all enjoy, that we have enjoyed since the end of the Second World War, but let us also show compassion to those who are suffering in the various conflicts that occur around the world.

It may or may not be, that by the time you read this column, the situation in Ukraine has altered, either for better or for worse, but the fact will remain that for a peaceful country, things will never be the same again, with communities destroyed and innocent lives lost.

On a very different subject, as I have mentioned in previous columns, it is soon time for me to hand over to

Saltash Trematon:

1 Cllr Steve Miller

saltash.gov.uk

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3. Cllr Brian Stoyel

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b.stoyel@

4. Cllr Yates

d.vates@

s.miller@

the next Mayor of Saltash and at the time of writing, the election process is underway. One or more of our sixteen Members will have put themselves forward, either for the role of Mayor or of Deputy Mayor, with full Council voting for their choice of Council Chairman and Vice Chairman, on a simple majority vote basis. I wish the next Mayor and Deputy every success in what can be a challenging but enjoyable role.

I'll be back again next month with my final Mayors Column, but in the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Warmest Regards

Pete Samuels, Mayor of Saltash 2021-22

Mavor: Cllr Pete Samuels Deputy Mayor. Cllr Richard Bickford 2. Cllr Brenda Samuels Town Clerk: Ray Lane T: 844846 E: enquiries@ Saltash.gov.uk Councillors'Telephone

Numbers can be obtained at The Guildhall.

Saltash Town Council, The Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6JX Tel.: 01752 844846 Email: enguiries@saltash .gov.uk Website: www.saltash .gov.uk

Russia's invasion of Ukraine

altash Town Council are standing in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, following the invasion of the country by Russia. The Mayor of Saltash, Councillor Pete Samuels says "I, along with my fellow Saltash Town Councillors are horrified by recent events in Ukraine.

The attacks on innocent people is bevond comprehension and as a Town Council we condemn this.

We stand by all those in Ukraine and our thoughts are with those who are worried about loved ones back home and we stand ready to support in any way we can.

We will be showing our support by lighting of the Cornish Cross yellow and Brunel bust blue and we will be flying the Ukrainian flag on Town Council buildings.

Observer Telephone **Numbers** 07971484872 or 01579 345699

Christened with Curry

With the refurbishment complete, volunteers christened the new Community Kitchen at 8 Fore Street with a Feast Night, enjoying curries cooked by the Notter Bridge Curry Queen and Chair of Community Enterprises PL12, Jo Baskott. The Community Kitchen has been set up by Community Enterprises in response to the needs of the community, and will be open to the public in April, becoming the home of the Community Fridge and Mobile Larder, as well as the host location for Digital Inclusion and Dementia Voice activities. Ian Robinson



Chamber Chairman Sarah Martin Keeping us Updated...

The Bridge saga continues...

As this goes to print we are expecting a meeting of the Joint Committee of the Bridge and Ferry Crossing which comprises councillors of both Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council. The councillors will vote on whether to increase the tag prices by decreasing the amount of discount to tag holders. This was approved by Plymouth City Council before Christmas and now by Cornwall Council in their last full council meeting. which by all accounts was heated. Despite animated discussion around the injustice of this situation facing local businesses and users who rely on the bridge daily or multiple times during the day - the vote was carried to allow the increases to be introduced, with authority being given to the Joint Committee to decide on the details.

For me, the most shocking thing in all of this is the complete lack of foresight which has now led to such a large increase being pushed through. The results of the public consultation haven't even been published, but both councils are still pushing ahead with the changes with the cost to tag users set to rise by April. That is not what public engagement and consultation is about.

It's completely inappropriate that the bridge is used to subsidise the ferry by 80 percent. It's also inappropriate that the bridge

is used by National Highways to run a road across it without paying a penny. So much of the organisation of this needs addressing and it's high time this happens. It may not be simple or quick, but finding sustainable ways of maintaining the bridge which are equitable and fair has to be the main focus for the committee, the management team and the MPs over the next months. Traffic volumes are unlikely ever to return to their pre-Covid levels, so

tolls and tags. Councillor Martin Worth, the Cornwall Councillor for bridge matters as Joint Chair insists that all MPs either side of the bridge are supporting the request to Government and National Highways for additional funding to sustain the two crossings, and that the committee is looking at their assets and organisation to find solutions. As a Chamber we feel a wholesale revision of how the crossings are funded is long overdue. Piecemeal increases are not going to address the elephant in the room: local businesses and residents should not be the main contributors in

maintained. Truly sad loss to the town It was with great sadness that I learned that one of the most well-loved shops in Saltash is closing. Since before I joined Chamber, Danielle Frith from Truly Scrumptious was busy in the

the

bridge

keeping

shop business and getting involved in community events with a kind of energy and dynamism which is hard to match. Whatever she put her hand to - from sweet bouquets to children's workshops, to holiday clubs for 5-11 year olds, she did it with an exuberance that was Unfortunately Covid, and the Bridge works last year seem to have sealed the fate of her business in Lower Fore Street and I'm sure I speak on behalf of many Saltash families when I say how much our children will miss her little shop and all she did for us as parents -I wish her all the very best in her next venture, and wish her every success in the future.

Saltash Chamber of Commerce Tel. 07717442879

Saltash Souper Troopers...

ar new Community Kitchen is opening in April! The remises and equipment were kindly donated by local businesses including Wolferstans Solicitors and Friary Mill Bakery, and the refurbishment bill has been picked up by award-winning Weatherhead Shop Designers, who have done an amazing job refurbishing the building. It will be the base for community led groups & activities, including the Dementia Voice cafe, the Community Fridge, Digital Inclusion, Mobile Larder, wellbeing groups & creative cooking lessons. Local volunteers run all the activities - and the new kitchen has already attracted a queue of cooks keen to pass on their skills.

growers & suppliers -, both as

collection sessions with the

Community Fridge 3 times a

week, and through the Mobile

Larder at distribution stops

throughout Saltash. It is very

important to be clear that

using this food is not

"charity" and it is available to

anyone who will use it and

stop it being wasted. This is

food for sharing, not for

wasting. Whether you take a

Danish pastry for your coffee

break, supplies for an older

housebound person, or food

for meals that may help get

you through to the next

payday, you are helping

reduce food waste and

fighting climate change. Pay-

as-You-Feel donations are

optional and are used to help

cover our overheads. Why not

join in - become an eco-

Leisure Centre Café Seeks

The Community Fridge warrior simply by eating well! helps to reduce food waste. by re-distributing rescued The Community Kitchen food from supermarkets,

will be using some of this rescued food to cook healthy nutritious meals for & customers attending activities & clubs on the premises, as well as homemade soup made by our volunteer souper available troopers, to

will open at the beginning of April for organised activities. The Community Fridge opening hours are; Tuesday & Friday 3 - 5pm, Saturday 10.30am - 12.30pm, plus some Wednesdays if we collect enough rescued food. The Mobile Larder operates every Monday, following alternating routes around Saltash.

We've been operating a community transport scheme for several years, running day trips & using our two mini buses to benefit the PL12 community. Sadly, post-Covid, we have struggled to fill the buses on our regular day trips, & it will now be a case of "Use It or Lose It" for our day trips. We have some great trips organised for April and May, so please support our Community Transport trips. If these trips aren't supported, we will be using our future resources & volunteer time for other community - led activities. See our website

facebook page https://www.facebook.com/C



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Serving the Community for 50

Telephone

Cotton's Mini Coaches

Community Fridge users The Community Kitchen

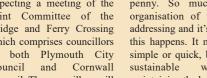
Community Transport

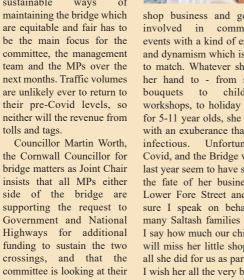
www.CEPL12.co.uk or

EPL12/ for news & info



hub@cepll2.co.uk 01752.848348 www.cepll2.co.ul Community Enterprises PLI2 | 4 Fore Street | Saltash | PLI2 GJL





Sarah Martin , Chair of 'Here to Help - Shop Locally'

Saltash Leisure Centre has

been saved from closure

following a prolonged public

campaign, and there are now

plans to reopen the once

The café was regarded by

popular café facilities.

to Reopen ideal venue to relax, refresh and socialise following a swim or work-out session. It was also used by visitors to the nearby library and Saltash Health Centre, but it closed permanently before Covid

lockdowns. The not-for-profit leisure organisation GLL, which manages the centre, has invited expressions of interest to run the café as a profitbusiness. If an based acceptable offer is put forward it may be open this Spring.



Essa Voices Slow down – you move too fast!

Most of you reading this will agree that inappropriate speed is one of the most serious road safety problems on Britain's roads, but perhaps you didn't realise that about two-thirds of crashes in which people are killed or injured happen on roads with a speed limit of 30mph or less. And while dismay at the high number of fatalities and injuries caused by speeding is at the core of the problem, speeding also has an impact on quality of life, with the issue of feeling safe when using roads featuring high in surveys of residents concerns.

At the same time, anyone caught speeding by the police or a roadside camera and presented with a fine or points on their license will probably feel a degree of resentment towards the randomness of the speed enforcement regime.

A recognition of all these factors was the starting point for Community Speedwatch (CSW) activities, with volunteers across the country getting trained to record details of speeding vehicles, building up a picture of habitual speeders, and creating a system that allows a little more leniency towards 'occasional' speeders.

The repetition of small efforts accomplishes more than the occasional use of great talents, and as increasing numbers of people started volunteering CSW started delivering emphatic results. Activity was sometimes a little haphazard, though, and the response from local police wasn't always consistent. So two volunteers in Sussex started working on a bespoke web-based platform to assist police and volunteers with every conceivable aspect of managing CSW activities, from observing through to



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

reporting and sending out letters. The consistent, nationwide approach and innovation of CSW Online have elevated CSW activity to new heights, an achievement that was recognised when the founders won a European Road Safety Award in 2018.

What happens with Speedwatch ?

When hand-held radar equipment records a vehicle exceeding the local speed limit, the registration number and make of the vehicle are recorded on the CSW Online database. The driver is sent a warning letter requesting that they slow down and observe the speed limit. Thanks to CSW Online, these letters can be tailored to the situation. Perhaps the driver was in a taxi with passengers, for example, or a parent on the school run. Recognising that delivery companies often put pressure on their drivers with tight delivery schedules, letters can also be sent to employers.

If the same vehicle is caught a second time by any CSW team anywhere in the country, a follow-up letter is issued. If that vehicle is caught speeding for a third time within 12 months, information will then be passed to the local policing team, who will then visit the keeper of the vehicle.

What doesn't happen?

COMMUNITY

SCHEME

SPEEDWATCH

FIND YOUR

NEXT CAR

Speedwatch activity is not about interfering with neighbours' behaviour. Vigilantism is not tolerated

and the benefit of doubt is always on the side of drivers. Speedwatch activity under the national initiative is synonymous with the highest possible level of integrity and

quality of observational data.

The results

Less than 10% of drivers blatantly ignore communities concerns and the safety of other road users by speeding. So the CSW approach of awareness first, followed by enforcement focused on habitual offenders is far more effective than time-limited speed campaigns or on-thespot checks. It makes economic sense, too, as the police can focus their efforts on pursuing the 10% of drivers who ignore the speed limit, saving them resources that would otherwise be spent on policing roads and prosecuting one-time

Speedwatch in Saltash

offenders.

We used to have a superb team of CSW volunteers in Saltash, led by the excellent Adrian Foss. Sadly, Adrian's untimely death, compounded by issues brought on by Covid, has sapped its energy and now there are just two volunteers. Partly in Adrian's memory, but also because I'm concerned at the speed of vehicles here, I've taken training to act as CSW Coordinator in Saltash. If you've read this far, I'm hoping you might have an interest in helping us out as a CSW volunteer. I'm hoping you might step forward to take some training (it's only a couple of hours - we can do it together over a cup of coffee) and then become part of this proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in our local community.

Please get in touch

Observer Telephone Numbers 07971484872 or 01579 345699 Email your copy to:

maryecrawford@hotmail.com

Health Centre Updates Via **PPG** Newsletter

more about the service on offer and how to get the best out of their medical practice now have what is intended to be a regular newsletter.

The newsletter is being produced by patients for patients through the health centre's Patient Participation Group (PPG), a group of people who are patients of the surgery and want to help it work as well as it can for patients, doctors and staff. The NHS requires every

practice to have a PPG. The first newsletter gives full information on the various means of obtaining medical advice, and introduces LIVI, a new video GP service which offers advice, prescriptions and referrals by video with

Patients at Saltash Health Centre who wish to learn same day appointments,

including at weekends. The newsletter also gives information on the many different clinicians whose expertise is available at the health centre, in addition to the regular GPs.

Patients interested in joining Saltash Health Centre PPG or Port View Surgery PPG should go online to view the PPG leaflet and complete the online form. Get in touch with your PPG by putting your contact details in the PPG mailbox in the waiting room.

Ashtorre Anniversary Celebrated on St Piran's Day

▼ t Piran's Day is a special mark in the calendar for all Cornish folk, but especially for the busy people who Keep the Ashtorre Rock social centre going, since St Piran's Day 31 years ago was its opening date.

To commemorate the anniversary of the opening by Cornish folk singer Brenda Wooton, there was free tea and coffee for One and All, as well as delicious home-made cake for early arrivals. The building was specially decorated for the event and some helpers proudly wore their Cornish tartan.

Although refreshments were complementary, Lynn Marsh, Chair of Ashtorre Rock, was surprised and delighted at the amount of donations received. "I am thrilled that so many came to commemorate our 31 years of playing a role in the Waterside community," Lynn told the Observer. "Ashtorre Rock continues to be a unique venue to relax and enjoy hot and cold drinks while taking in unmatched river views from the lounge and balcony.



Saltash Town Council Festival Fund

altash Town Council have funding available for local community organisations to support events in the town. Organisers can apply for up to £1,500 per day for a maximum of two days.

Friends of Tincombe applied for funding to hold The Tincombe Tea Party in 2021, they were awarded money from the Festival Fund budget to hold a tea party for the community on Tincombe Green.

The free event involved live music, activities for children and stalls with local crafts.

The community group requested funding to pay for the live music, toilet facilities, road closure fees and health and safety requirements of staging such an event. Further matched funding was sought and sponsorship received from

local companies

Cornwall Council's Street works team supported the group in assisting with risk assessments and event management plans. This really was a community effort!

The event was a great success with approx. 1,000 people enjoying the day. For an application form,

guidelines on how and when to apply and support to apply email: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk or

visit the Town Council website

https://www.saltash.gov.uk/ed it/stuploads/8193_435536206. pdf or call 01752 844846.

Saltash Town Council Professional Development

t is with great pleasure that we announce that the Acting Town Clerk of Saltash Town Council Sinead Burrows has achieved the local Certificate in Local Council Administration known as CiLCA.

The CiLCA qualification means that Sinead now has all pre-requisite qualifications required to be a fully-fledged Town Clerk and we are very proud of her this notable gaining achievement in local government administration.

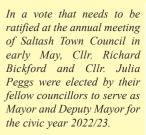
She completed the training in her own time during a period of significant change for Saltash Town Council with the change of administration in 2021 and the the pressures of



pandemic. We commend he on her success

The Personnel Committee at Saltash Town Council actively encourages the professional continuous development of its officers to the meet professional standards required to lead a progressive council.





Email your copy to: maryecrawford@hotmail.com





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Saturday 7th May - Fore Street & **Longstone Park Shop Local**

Spend some time picking up a special something at the outdoor market on Fore Street, open between 10am and 4pm. Local groups and charities will be setting up stalls, too, and our 'bricks and mortar' shops will be open for business, so grab the opportunity to support our economy local and organisations by shopping local.

Treat your taste buds to a culinary tour

Our established town centre cafes and restaurants will be selling their delicious fare. Food vendors on Longstone Park will add their German, Thai, Turkish, Latin American and English food to the menu, giving you the chance to give your taste buds a real treat.

Enter the Youth Village

Visit the Youth Village in Victoria Gardens to check out the opportunities for young people in Saltash. Set up by Saltash Town Youth Council, the Youth Village will showcase a range of organisations and offer a range of challenges and prizes. There will also be plenty of cake being served from the Maurice Huggins Room

The Return of Saltash May Fair

The Parade of Youth leaving from Victoria Gardens at 10am on Saturday 7th May will herald the start of May Fair, our 2-day town centre festival, back again after an absence of two years, bigger and even more colourful. And there are plenty of ways to get involved!

Enter the Essa Platinum Pudding Competition

And talking of cake... You may have missed the closing date for the nationwide Platinum Pudding Competition, but you still have time to have your concoction crowned as the Essa Pudding! The rules are the same as the nationwide competiton: your pudding can be steamed or baked, layered or rolled, a pie or a crumble, a cake or a tart, but it must be sweet. If in doubt, just imagine your pudding being served for afternoon tea or after a main course. Bring your pudding to the Community Kitchen at 8 Fore Street by 2pm on Saturday 7th May. Winning puddings will take centre stage at the Jubilee Big Lunch Street Party on 5th June.

Chill Out Listening to Music

The Fore Street and Longstone Park stages have something to suit all tastes, featuring musicians from Livewire as well as Grace Notes Acapella and popular local bands like Lost in Space, All About Iris and Riptide. You will also be treated to the world premiere of the song composed by students at Saltash Community School to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Dance the Night Away

The May Fair team is bringing some SaltFest vibes to the event and introducing an evening festival concert featuring The Shrine, who have established themselves as one of the most in-demand bands in the South West. Headlining at festivals across the U.K. and tearing up dance floors at weddings, these guys are not to be missed. So bring along a picnic mat and your dancing shoes.

Sunday 8th May **Longstone Park**

Inflatables and food vendors from Saturday will remain on Longstone Park for more fun on Sunday as the May Fair introduces Wellness Day, full of activities designed to get people active.



It wouldn't be a May Fair without dancing around the maypole, would it? So join with Geraldine Lamb School of Dance, but be careful not to get twisted in the ribbons.

Be in it for the long run

Thanks to a great collaborative partnership with the Tamar Trotters, running races are back as part of the May Fair weekend. The Half Marathon, 5K and Fun Run will all start and finish in Longstone Park. Contact Trotters submit Tamar to vour www.tamartrotters.co.uk

Buy Some Raffle Tickets

It costs over £12,000 to stage the May Fair. The sale of pitches at the street market generates some income, and the volunteer team of organisers is extremely grateful to sponsors like Saltash Town Council and Cornwall Council for their financial support. But a whole bundle of cash still needs to be raised to break even. Chapple Property Management, Eclectic Interiors and The Bookshelf have kindly agreed to sponsor prizes in the cash raffle. The event attracts about 5,000 people so all we need is for everyone who comes to May Fair to buy £2 or £3 worth of raffle tickets! Tickets will, of course, be available on the day. but they are already on sale in:

The Bookshelf and at number 4 Fore Street.



SUN 5TH JUNE 2022 10:30 - 17:00 St Stephens Road (Essa Road TO Fore Street) King Edward Road (Wesley Lane TO Fore Street) Callington Road (Fore Street TO Glebe Avenue) Glebe Avenue (Callington Road TO North Road)



Get a Taste of **Fitnesss**

100 silent disco sets have been hired and instructors in activities ranging from yoga to dance to workouts are preparing to deliver taster sessions. The sessions will be bookable in advance - visit the Saltash May Fair Facebook page or drop in to The Bookshelf for more information.

Scale Heights

An 8-metre mobile wall will be brought into Longstone Park for people of any age to have a go at climbing. The wall has four different climbing faces with a range of hold sizes allowing for both simple and complex routes. And if you get caught by the climbing bug talk to The Core Youth and Community Centre, who have an indoor climbing wall.



Celebrate *Community*

Most importantly: celebrate community. The May Fair is a great place to be together and celebrate being together.

Saltash & District Observer - March 2022 - Page 5

Modelling Marathon

embers of the Saltash Model Club are Members of the Sanash model planning a 24-hour 'model athon' to raise funds for charity.

Eight club members will start to create a perfect replica of a tank, plane, ship or car of their choice at exactly midday on Saturday 30th April at the Ashtorre Centre on Waterside. They will finish at exactly midday the following day, when the Mayor of Saltash will judge the best completed model. The models will then be put on display in the station building. Members of the public are

welcome to watch the work in progress on the Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Donations made by spectators and online will be given to the Royal British Legion for the benefit of exservicemen. It is hoped to raise up to £1000 over the weekend. Saltash Model Club wishes to thank Lynn Marsh and the

Ashtorre team for their support and for the use of the upper floor of the centre for the 24-hour period.

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12th June – Mid Wales and the Vale of Rheidol Railway Hotel Commodore Llandrindod Wells 5 Days £394pp

11th July - Land of Constable & Suffolk's Great Halls Otley Hall, Bury St Edmunds, Flatford Mill included 5 Days £384pp

18th Aug. - Southport Flower Show & the Peak District Cresta Court Hotel Altrincham 4 Days £289pp The Hairy Bikers are booked to appear at the flower show

26th Sept. - Eastbourne & the Bluebell Railway Seafront Hotel Three excursions included 5 Days £364pp

9th Oct. - Lancashire Hot Pot, Yorkshire Dales & Illuminations Staying at Morecambe 5 Days £374pp Visiting Settle, Hawes, Blackpool Illuminations, Hotpot lunch on the Lancaster Canal

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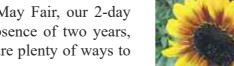
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How Poor Nutrition Can Impact Us All

id you know 14th March was the start of Nutrition and Hydration Week this month? This is a worthwhile campaign and most of us could benefit from advice on eating better.

Nutrition and poverty

For some, poor nutrition is a choice. Others, though, including many of those who seek help from Christians Against Poverty (CAP), feel they have no choice but to skip meals and are not getting a nutritious diet - not through choice, but because of necessity. 6% of CAP clients say that debt meant they had to sacrifice meals on a daily basis. Over one in three (37%) report skipping meals at least once a month. In many cases, parents will ensure their children eat first, even if they themselves then have to go without.

The spiral of poor nutrition

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The NHS website says that a lack of proper nutrition can lead to someone feeling tired, weak, getting ill more often and taking longer to recover from illness. This can then make it difficult to go to work, or work productively, which can lead to not being able to earn and falling further into debt. particularly if their work hours are unpredictable.

necessary to give our bodies

Some of these are well

known to us all, but it's good to

Eat enough fruit and vegetables

Try to eat foods which are high

Include dairy products or

A balanced diet

what they need.

be reminded:

in fibre

More generally for all of us, good nutrition is so important for how we live, work, play and, hopefully, thrive. We should ensure that our diet is balanced intake and regularly includes at least Drink plenty of fluids some of the food groups

Help is at hand

our habits, but there are lots of trustworthy resources to help. The NHS Eatwell Guide tells us how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy. balanced diet. Take a look at nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well.

healthy recipes, for example, at bbc.co.uk/food. Why not try something new this month? Finally, if you are struggling

the Community Fridge and Larder or you are welcome to contact me confidentially to look at help available, whether it's accessing a Foodbank voucher or help with your finances.

(CAP) is a UK charity that guidance, support to find work, capuk.org to find out more.



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

alternatives that provide protein, calcium and vitamins Watch our sugar, salt and fat

It can be a struggle to change There are also some great,

and need help, make the most of

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Sustainable Saltash

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

realthy meadows are crucibles of biodiversity. They can host as many as 40 types of plant per square metre, producing several kilos of nectar yearly, supporting 1400 invertebrate species and storing carbon. During the 20th century, however, 97% of Britain's meadows were lost. 21st century Cornwall's landscape would be unfamiliar to even our Edwardian ancestors, who had seen comparatively little change for centuries.

Landowners are working to help, but the situation won't change overnight, especially because policy support and financial incentive are still inadequate. Gardens, parkland and verges are therefore crucial to sustaining species through a crisis of extinction, creating a patchwork of liveable landscape. With such incredible species density, even a small area will have impact.

Last summer we took the plunge and stopped mowing our front lawn after a couple of initial cuts. Our previous attempts to create a wildflower meadow had failed, mainly because the grass was too strong, despite lots of scarifying to thin the grass, and trying to grow Yellow Rattle to weaken it so that wildflower seeds could take hold.

At first, we just had long grass, but gradually flowers appeared. We'd probably have called these "weeds" before, but they were actually very pretty. As well as daisies, buttercups and dandelions we saw such plants as Fox and Cub and Self Heal, a pretty plant with purple flowers. Fox and Cub is similar to a small dandelion but has two flowers on each stalk, one taller, the Fox, and the shorter one is the Cub. We also saw various clovers and some small blue flowers which we've yet to identify. I think that the flowers were successful

because they chose to grow here rather than us trying to "force" what we wanted to grow. The fact that we hadn't treated our lawn for some years probably helped. I also noticed insects appearing - crickets and grasshoppers, for example, which I hadn't seen for a long time. We cut the grass late in the summer, after the plants had had time to go to seed.

We realised that not all our neighbours would appreciate our "scruffy" grass, so I wrote a message on a slate: "we are leaving the grass to grow for the insects", and left it at the front of the garden.

Sadly, many front gardens are being paved for car parking. As well as reducing habitat for insects, this increases flooding, as rain cannot soak away slowly into the grass. Not everyone is lucky enough to have a garden, but if those who do could leave an area wild and available for insects to use, our collective efforts could make a big difference.

Maureen Kemp

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

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content, please do get in touch at sustainable.saltash@proton

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Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make a Cornish place name? 1 What name was given to the

supporters of the Red Rose Party in the Wars of the Roses? (12)2 In the Bible who was the

Father of Enoch? (4) 3 What are the whiskers of

Catfish called? (7) 4 In Gulliver's Travels what was Gulliver's occupation before he was shipwrecked?

(7)5 In Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf which instrument represents the Duck? (4)

6 What is the main ingredient of the Mexican dish Huevos Rancheros? (4) 7 Which is Great Britain's

longest River? (6) 8 Of what was Chronos the Greek God? (4)

9 What mountain range extends down the length of the Italian Peninsula? (9) Answers Page 7

Sang in Berkely Square. The concert was carefully synchronised with the Cornwall-wide Trelawney Shout, so that at 9pm, One and All stood to sing out the Cornish anthem. Following a finale of 'Cornwall my Home'

everyone socialised over tea, pasties and saffron cake to complete a truly Cornish celebration.

Celebration ur proud Cornish heritage was celebrated in style as an audience, many wearing Cornish tartan, gathered for a St Piran's Day concert given by

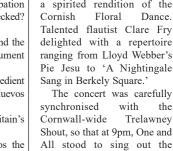
Songs and

Pasties in St.

Piran's Day

Saltash's own Burraton Boys. Burraton Methodist Chapel was nearly full, as the singer led off with 'Celtic Homeland' in a concert of mostly Cornish music, though there were some sea shanties in reminder of our maritime heritage. The Cornish diaspora was particularly remembered with songs of Cornish miners who supposedly could be found

down any mine around the world. The choir took several breaks while soloists entertained. Phil Taylor gave a dramatic organ rendering of Handel's Zadok the Priest before leading the audience in a spirited rendition of the Floral Dance. Talented flautist Clare Frv delighted with a repertoire ranging from Lloyd Webber's





Tamar Reflections **Captain Henry** Jackson R.N.

ver the past two Centuries. many hundreds of Saltash families and visitors alike must have walked down the steep and winding lanes to Wearde Quay to breathe in the fresh air and to capture the extraordinary tranquility of the River Lynher; enhanced by its panoramic views to Jupiter Point across (Torpoint), and the Hamoaze, stretching down to Plymouth.

But I wonder how many of us know that Wearde Quay and the Lynher estuary is steeped in quite remarkable history that has been recorded in history books, yet I am not sure how much is known locally of the pioneering work undertaken there near the end of the 19th Century.

For it was during that time, in the estuary that a remarkable achievement by a great man Captain Henry Jackson R.N. took place. Indeed, it was the first of two historic events in the development of radio communication that occurred in the County of Cornwall. The transmission signals from Mullion, Poldhu. near masterminded by Guglielmo Marconi in 1901, were the second.

Captain Henry Jackson operated his experiments on board HMS Defiance, which was attached to the Devonport naval base

HMS Defiance (the 12th British Navy ship to bear the name) although a 5,000 tons warship and completed in 1861, by the time she was completed her uses were already obsolete, so she was never armed

In the early 1880's the decided Admiralty that Devonport should have its own torpedo-training establishment similar to Portsmouth. With that in mind. Defiance was converted into a 'School Ship' and commissioned as such in December 1884 but remained at the Dockyard for another two

In 1886 Defiance was towed into the Lynher and permanently moored on the north side of the deep-water channel, off Wearde Quay. To the west, a mine-laying practice area and a torpedo range were laid out.

Over the years there were numerous supporting hulks that were assigned to Defiance to increase the extent of the training, so the estuary at Wearde Quay was a very busy place and packed with supporting hulks hosting trainees, eventually exceeding 1,000 personnel by 1920. So-much-so, that better transport was needed for the recruits to transport them by train on their various journeys,

especially on their days off. In 1905 Defiance Halt was created on the main railway line above Wearde Quay, and arrangements were made for the Railway's Western Great Plymouth-Saltash suburban service introduced in 1904 to be extended to it, which was quite a sight to see all the young sailors on the Defiance Halt Station and moreover, walking up the lanes to St Stephens, into Saltash.

By 1930 the principal vessel of HMS Defiance was almost 70 years old and her

wooden hull was beginning to decay, so a replacement had to be found. The vessel chosen was an 11,000-ton which cruiser needed a deeper birth than existed at Wearde Quay at low water. The Admiralty decided to close down the Wearde Quay establishment and relocate the training base at an anchorage in the Hamoaze. just north of Wilcove. So on 13th October 1930, Defiance was towed away by tugs, ending almost 45 years of service at Weade Quay

During those years Defiance had become part of the business, social and sporting life of St Stephens and Saltash, and was missed when the sorely establishment was moved.

Whenever John and I occasionally walk down to Wearde Quay we find it exhilarating and enthralling; as we can almost hear the echo of the voices of the deep past of those decades of all those young trainees on HMS Defiance, and indeed, of Captain Henry Jackson, the Victorian ship-toship communications pioneer, that we acknowledge with great pride and admiration. Space in this Tamar

Reflections, does now allow me to tell you more of Captain Henry Jackson at Wearde, Saltash 1896.

I would be delighted to continue his story in the next issue of the Saltash Observer! Ship Ahoy Sue Hooper MBE

In grateful association with my husband, John Hooper, author of 'Captain Jackson of HMS Defiance



Waterside Audience Hears of Anti-Establishment Artist

any homes in Saltash have a print of the self portrait by Robert Lenkiewicz, said Peter Wilden during a talk on the artist. And many more, including one of those present for that talk in the Ashtorre Rock Centre, have a period portrait carried out for ten shillings during his early impoverished days. But it was on more esoteric art, for which Lenkiewicz became famed as the "anti-establishment artist" and the "professional irritant", that Mr Wilden concentrated his talk.

Born to Jewish refugees Lenkiewicz grew up in a Jewish hostel in London where he mixed with philosophers, the elderly and the mentally ill, all of whom were to have an effect upon his artistic career. He associated with and painted those on the edge of society, and over fifteen years is believed to have helped over five hundred homeless men. His projects included one on death when he faked his own demise and notoriously embalmed the body of a

vagrant he named Diogenes. During this time he fathered eleven children, forming relationships with at least sixteen women. While never critically acclaimed, his pictures came to be valued and he was able to purchase around 24,000 antiquarian books, many relating to his interest in witchcraft.

Sadly, following Lenkiewicz' death aged 60 the sale of his valuable proved collection insufficient to cover debts. All that remain of a truly unique artist are the memories of the various murals with which he decorated Plymouth walls

and the original art work which now claim increasingly high prices.

A packed house at the Ashtorre Centre clearly appreciated the talk and made a generous donation to St Luke's Hospice, a charity of which Lenkiewicz would surely have approved.

Conundrum Answers:

letters spell Boscastle. Apennines. Re-arranged the 6 Eggs 7 Severn 8 Time 9 Barbels 4 Surgeon 5 Oboe 1 Lancastrians 2 Cain 3

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Calling All Ex **Service People**

fter two years of standing easy, the Saltash branch of the Royal Naval Association is back on board and anticipating being on action stations.

All those who have served in any of the armed services at any rank are invited to join the current members for a social evening and discover activities what anticipated. There has previously been programme of visits, mainly to service bases and places associated with our defence forces and it is hoped to resume these.

Meanwhile Members meet at 8pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Sapphire club , by Kimberly Football Stadium, to socialise over a drink in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Anvone interested is limited to turn up on one such Wednesday or to contact Jim Virgo on 078138 55024

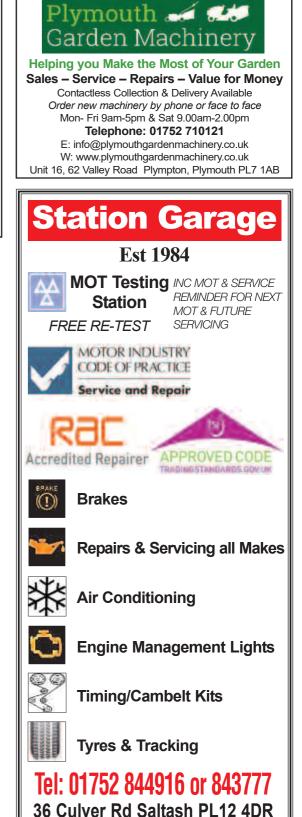
Course Starts in April The Money Course is a revolutionary money management course produced by Christians Against Poverty. It teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. The course will help anyone to get

Free Budgeting

more in control of their finances, whether they want to save more, give more or prevent debt

The next course starts on Tuesday 26th April at 7.30pm and runs once a week over 3 evenings.

For more information, email moneycourse@saltashbaptist.c o.uk or you can register by entering your postcode at capmoneycourse.org.







CSG are specialists in off-mains waste services and carry out sewage clearances at hundreds of properties every day. Our other localised services include oil and water collections, interceptor emptying and forecourt cleansing. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce CSG, our services and our one-off promotion to new and existing customers in and around the Cornwall area.

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Tamar Toll Increase from May

decision taken by members of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee on 18th March will lead to the cost to tag holders using the Tamar Bridge or Torpoint Ferry increasing to £1.30 from as early as May. Tolls for drivers paying by cash are set to rise to £2.60, but this increase is not likely to come into effect until January next year as changes to cash tolls require authorisation from the Department for Transport.

Between them the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry carry around 18 million vehicles a year (16 million on the bridge and 2 million on the ferries), with the two crossings recognised as uniquely important to the economy of the region. The Tamar Crossings are almost entirely funded by toll income, which is used to operate, maintain and improve the bridge and ferries.

However, traffic levels at both crossings remain significantly below those recorded prior to the pandemic, and a Press Release from the Joint Committee states that without a toll increase the Tamar Crossing's reserves would be completely depleted during 2022, with their latest figures forecasting an annual funding gap of £3.2m by March 2024. "The income needed to operate the crossings relies on traffic numbers, and even now, two years after the first lockdown, our traffic levels are only about 90% of prepandemic levels" said Joint Chairs of the Committee. Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth and Plymouth City Councillor Jonathan Drean. The decision to increase tolls follows the Committee's consideration of feedback from users of the crossings and key stakeholders. "We received almost 4,000 responses to the consultation, with a number of people arguing that the crossings should be funded by the Government," said Councillors Worth and Drean. "We support this view and have been lobbying the Government to provide more funding for these vital crossings. Unfortunately, so far, the Government has turned down our request for

support." The announcement has caused anger among local councillors, with Sarah Martin, who is also Chair of Saltash Chamber of Commerce, saying "1000's travel across the Tamar every day for work. This is yet another example of Cornwall being failed by central government and hardworking residents being left to pick up the bill."

"People in South East Cornwall have no choice but to use the bridge to access emergency, maternity and



"The reluctant decision to

increase tolls had to be

made to secure the future of

the two crossings," said the

Joint Chairs. "We have kept

the proposed increase as low

ensuring the quality and

sustainability of the service

into the future. Even with the

increase the crossings are still

amongst the cheapest self-

financed major tolled crossings in the UK."

Loud Cries for

Peace in Tamar

Bridge Walk

n a chill wind that seemed

to blow straight from the

in the

Russian Steppes, the blue

and yellow banner of Ukraine

unaccustomed air of Saltash.

Organisers had anticipated

around fifty might attend to

walk the Tamar Bridge in

support of Ukraine. In fact,

around 500 or more gathered

in the Peace Gardens on a

chilly March Sunday before

setting off towards the bridge,

passing the Ukrainian flag

flying proudly on the flagpole

There were many other

similar flags carried by those

who walked, and many more

of all ages from children to

senior citizens wore blue and

yellow clothing and rosettes.

There was a constant honking

in support from traffic passing

in the adjacent carriageways.

halted to meet fellow

demonstrators proceeding

including Plymouth's Lord

Mayor, Councillor Terri Beer.

Here, the Reverend Tim

Parkman of Saltash Baptist

Church uttered a short prayer

for peace. Then, instead of

two minutes silence, he called

for two minutes of noise and

the hundreds assembled on

the bridge clapped and

As they turned back.

Reverend Parkman advised

one and all to "go back to

your houses and continue to

shouted for "no more war."

At midday the procession

the Devon side,

by the flyover.

from

wildly

blew

as

possible while still

medical services in Derriford Hospital," added Cornwall Councillor Hilary Frank. 'When this proposal was debated at Cornwall Council, we tabled an amendment that if the tolls had to rise, the increase for drivers paying by tag should at least come into effect at the same time as the increase for drivers paying by cash. But the administration refused to accept the amendment. Why can't the government speed up the Department for Transport authorisation process and introduce cash tolls before the summer holidays so that it isn't just people who live here who are getting penalised?"

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING A CAFE IN SALTASH?

Saltash Town Council are seeking expressions of interest from parties interested in running a café at Isambard House, the newly refurbished building at Saltash Railway Station. The building has undergone extensive renovations and is now open for bookings. The Saltash community are very keen to see the café and waiting area facility open.

The opening of the café at the building has been on hold until recently due to the uncertainties created by the pandemic. The partner would run the facility through a sub-letting agreement and would not be an employee of Saltash Town Council. Saltash Town Council are holding two open events for those interested to look at the space and talk to Councillors involved.

The dates for the open events are 31st March and 2 April 2022. To book a slot at one of the events please email enquiries@saltash.gov.uk or phone 01752 844846.

If you are interested in this opportunity please contact Saltash Town Council for the expressions of interest form or visit our website https://www.saltash.gov.uk/tenders.php. Please email enquiries@saltash.gov.uk, phone 01752 844846 or visit the Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street Saltash PL12 6LW. Deadline for completed expression of interest forms is Friday 8 April 2022.

> SaltashTownCouncilOfficial 🈏 @SaltashTC

It's a Yes From Saltash

altash residents gave resounding support for \sim the Saltash Neighbourhood Plan at the referendum on 17th March, with over 92% of voters saying they wanted the Plan to be used in deciding future planning applications within the Saltash boundaries. The Plan will now have legal weight to enable residents to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built. and to have more of a say on how new buildings should look Cllr. David Yates, who

chaired the Steering Group of local volunteers who wrote the plan on behalf of Saltash Town Council, said the Plan was an accurate reflection of the views expressed by residents in looking to shape the development of Saltash through to 2030, and that he was delighted with the result.



Community Comes Together to Restore Play Park

Saltash community with no outdoor facilities for its children has come together to restore what was once a popular and attractive play park.

raised nearly £1200.

The Summerfields play

area slopes down to an

attractive woodland and the

Friends hope to build bug

houses and attract butterflies

and other wildlife for all age

groups to enjoy. Meanwhile,

working parties have been set

up to clear the area of its

undergrowth. Deputy Mayor

Richard Bickford and young

Freva Bennison were among

undergrowth and sweeping at

one of the first clearance

For more information.

including details of future

clearance and fundraising

events, visit the Friends of

Summerfields Park Facebook

those

events.

cutting

back

Summerfields at St Stephens once had a large recreational area on the hill behind the houses boasting a variety of children's facilities. "My children are now 18 and 20, but when they were younger they would spend almost all their time playing there," Chair of Friends of Summerfields Park, Lisa Mortimore, told the Observer. It still looked well equipped in the Google maps taken in 2010. Then a swing was removed by Cornwall Council. A replacement was promised but instead other equipment disappeared. The last piece, a bank slide, was removed during lockdown, and now brambles have grown across the play area.

Last autumn, a group of concerned residents met with Cornwall Council, who said the play area was not a priority. They suggested residents form a committee to raise funds for equipment, and the Friends of Summerfields Park was born. Some money will be forthcoming from the builders of the Churchtown Farm housing development, but meanwhile the Friends are actively seeking grant funding and raising money. A coffee morning held at Saltash Leisure Centre on 11th March





altash Wesley Church organised a hugely successful Green Show in March, inspiring the 100 or so guests to consider the human and environmental impact of fast fashion. The thought-provoking event, a first of its kind for Saltash, was organised by volunteers of a Wesley Church House Group. It featured the showing of a powerful documentary called 'Fast Fashion : The True Cost' from Waterbear, a unique streaming platform that empowers viewers to take action to safeguard the future of our planet. Filmed in countries all over the world, from the brightest fashion runways to the darkest slums, and featuring interviews with the world's leading fashion influencers including Stella McCartney, The True Cost is an inspirational documentary that shines a light on the destructive environmental impact and human misery caused by the fast fashion industry.

Green Show hosts Fiona Budd and Hazel Cartledge were glamorous guides through the evening, leading the audience in a fun Blanketv Blank competition, and interviewing eco-fashion expert Hannah Fox in an engaging One Show format. Hannah, who is from a Saltash family, works at Makers HO, a fashion and textiles sampling studio in Plymouth. She spoke

eloquently about the need to develop a culture where we cherish garments, and of how her Christian faith has had an impact on her choice of career environmentally in sustainable fashion.

"The garment industry is one of the biggest threats to our global environment," said Fiona, a member of the Wesley Church House Group who organised the event. Fiona highlighted UN figures that show it takes almost 8000 gallons of water to make one pair of jeans. "That's the same amount that one person drinks in seven years. And when those jeans are discarded, they join the 21 billion tons of textiles that end up in landfills each year. The figures are shocking, and the True Cost was a real eye-opener for many, including me.'

Alongside the documentary and interview, the Green Show hosted a range of stall holders from the fair-trade company Traidcraft through to local charity shops, Debbie the Dressmaker and All 4 Smalls, a shop opposite Saltash Guildhall specialising in ethically sourced children's clothes and toys.

"All in all, making clothing is a dirty business," said Fiona, "But armed with the facts we can make considered choices together, and the amazing support from stallholders and guests has given me hope. A big thank you to everyone who supported this community event, either by organising or attending. I hope we've been able to inspire people to make ethical choices when they shop, use vintage clothing and develop a 'make-do-and-mend' attitude."

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