

May 2020 - Issue 338

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Coronavirus

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* Collecting your pension

magazines



No Springtime Sailing as Yachts **Stay Shore Bound**

of yachts that over winter at the Saltash Sailing Club. In a normal spring they would be on the water and keenly competing in weekly races

This year lockdown came before many members had completed their winter maintainance and they were

When we spoke to the club Commodore Bill Pym in midbeen given to allow members back in to work on their boats, all

The Commodore was still awaiting clarification as to whether the boats could go back in the water and if the club could commence at least some of its summer programme. Young sailing enthusiasts will be especially anxious to get on the water as the sailing club has a highly enthusiastic and active cadets' group.



COLLECTION

220 Cattedown Road, Cattedown, Plymouth PL4 0RW 01752 252627

n eagerly anticipated sign of spring for Saltash's yachting fraternity is the annual craning in of the flotilla

organised by the club.

forbidden access to their craft.

May official permission had just still stranded ashore as the picture



Building at Broadmoor Housing Rejected

ornwall planners have turned down new homes proposed for the Broadmoor development at Carkeel as being out of keeping with the Cornish scene.

Outline permission for a large housing estate west of the A388 at Carkeel, to be known as Treleden, has previously been agreed. This is to include around a thousand homes together with shops, surgery, light industry together with open spaces and footpaths.

Plans for the first 430 houses of the new estate, however, were unacceptable to Cornwall planning officers who considered them characterless, and that they were too densely packed and constitute overdevelopment. The brown and red appearance with a preponderance of brickwork was unsuited to the Cornish environment where grey stone and slate roofs or white walls are the native design for homes, planners considered.

The affordable housing, to be provided as a planning condition, was also criticised as being in marked contrast to the more up-market properties adjacent, being in areas likely to be overshadowed and with tiny garden space.

The plans for the first of the three-phased development of the area are likely to be redrawn before being resubmitted for approval and to include a more 'Cornish' element.

initial The planning summary for the development described a vision to create 'a locally distinctive, sustainable and thriving community, well connected to the surrounding area providing new housing, diverse quality employment opportunities. community facilities and an excellent network of green infrastructure that emanates from the sites 'intrusive qualities.'



'Need help or advice?' Call Melanie Cotterill on 07592 532091 for practical professional advice available throughout the lockdown period and beyond...



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Community Enterprises PL12 | 4 Fore Street | Saltash | PL12 6JL

Town Messenger

Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council Konsel an dre Essa





Education Department

Telephone: 0300 1234 101 Email

Education Welfare:

Telephone: 0300 1234 101

Housing Department

Telephone: 0300 1234 161

Social Services Department Telephone: 0300 1234 101 Email:

Social Services Department

Telephone: 0300 1234 131 **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

Waste Department

Telephone: 0300 1234 141

Cormac Solutions

Telephone: 01872 323 313 Email:

customerrelations@cormacltd.co.uk

Fly Tipping:

Telephone: 0300 1234 141 Email:

refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

Town Messenger news is supplied by the Town Council

Your Cornwall Councillors

Saltash North Sheila Lennox-Boyd s lennoxboyd@cornwallcouncillor.org.uk

Saltash South

Hilary Frank hilary.frank@cornwallcouncillor.org.uk Saltash East

Derek Holley derek.holley@cornwallcouncillor.org.uk

Saltash West Sam Tamlin sam.tamlin@cornwallcouncillor.org.uk

Cornwall Councillors -Cover such services as:

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

From the Mayor of Saltash

friends neighbours, local organisations. local groups, volunteers, businesses providers service individuals.

Firstly, I must applaud many of you for keeping the social distancing measures in place while you're out and about in our town, this I have personally seen. This is so very important to safeguard our NHS and Caring community and indeed one and other. We should only go out on essential business in line with Government restrictions. Our community is doing this remarkably well.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all so warmly for the wonderful welcome support that you have given me over the past year during my role as Mayor of Saltash.

Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, I have not been able to continue to meet many of vou, but you will know that my thanks and warm appreciation goes out to you all.

Many residents. organisations, groups, and small businesses have all come together in these difficult

Saltash Town Band playing in honour of Captain Tom while the clapping was taking place for our NHS.

Saltash Age Concern has been out delivering hot meals to our community.

Enterprise Community PL12 taking telephone calls, providing emergency food parcels and weekly shopping.

addition, scrumptious Sweet Shop, Fruiters, Livewire, Tamar Martin Holmes fruit and veg, Saltash Food bank, Saltash Office, Police. Sorting Ambulance Station, Kernow Pet Supplies, Farm Pizza, Apple Jack Barn, Blue Moon, Asian Bowls, Cornish Veg Box, Waitrose, Saltash Iceland, Mills Milk, The Railway Hotel, The Ploughboy, Bakers, Essa Taxi and Churches are just a few of the amazing



providers that are providing a service through these difficult

Many thanks must go to all the teachers of local schools that have remained open and have provided some great artwork on social media for all

In addition, I must just add the usefulness of our local Facebook help pages that keep members of the public in tune with the help and support needed and on offer at a click of a key; and if you don't use a computer, the users will find you somehow I feel certain.

Back in March just before the lock down, Saltash Town Council held its annual Civic Service, giving thanks to the life of Saltash and its lovely people across the board. Awards were given to various members of the public who have worked tirelessly and resourcefully for the Saltash community, very often behind the scenes, and I salute them for their well-deserved town's recognition.....

These commendations were awarded toMrs Sue Hooper MBE, Citizen of the Georgina Caro. Environmental Citizen of the year, Miss Zennor Mitchell, Young Citizen of the year, RWindband for Musicality Performance Cup.

Gideon Barrett delightfully sang sole "Cornwall My Home" at Saltash Town Council annual Civic Service. It was a lovely ending to the service. Thank you Gideon.

During my year in office, I have been able to celebrate all that is good in Saltash, and I

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have to say, that at Saltash Town Council I have had outstanding support from our staff at all levels of which I am truly thankful, and most

Saltash Town Council are undertaking a programme of works in Saltash to help maintain community infrastructure. These areas include St Stephens Churchtown Churchvard. Cemetery, and Saltash Town Council play areas and grassed areas at Pilmere.

Saltash Town council are also refurbishing the benches in Fore Street as well as repainting the bollards and the Waterfront toilet block.

Saltash Town Council Service Delivery General Assistants will be wearing PPE and adhering to Government social distancing rules at all times. The areas of work will be cordoned off and we

politely ask that members of the public respect all cordoned areas for the safety of themselves and members of Saltash Town council staff.

With the Government closing libraries at the start of lockdown to avoid the spread of COVID 19 Virus it was with regret that Saltash Town Council had no option but to follow the Government guidelines for the safety of our staff and community.

I am pleased to see that the online stats show that the service has been in high demand and that our customers have continued to use the online library service www.cornwall.gov.uk from the comfort of their home. Library members that have books or other materials on loan should keep them at home. They can be renewed as many times as needed online or on the 24-hour telephone

line 0845 607 6119. Overdue charges will be waived during this period.

Library staff continue to engage with the community with lots of social media posts https://www.facebook.com/sal tashlibraryhub/ and are also available to answer your questions or concerns by email saltash.library@liscornwall.go v.uk We look forward to seeing all our customers soon.

During these most difficult and unprecedented times that we are all experiencing, and in response to the COVID 19 Virus, Saltash Town Council wish to ensure that effective decision making continues as appropriate, and when and where necessary for critical decisions that affect our town.

In that respect therefore, to maintain stability continuity it has been resolved by Council, that Saltash Town Council's current Chairs and

Vice Chairs of committees and sub committees will remain in position.

Furthermore, Cllr Gloria Challen will remain as Mayor of Saltash and Cllr Pete Samuels as Deputy Mayor until either May 2021 or at rescheduled Saltash Town Council Annual Meeting, whichever is the sooner.

Every day I know that this shocking Coronavirus brings new sadness and mourning to households across the land, and social distancing measures are still necessary at the

Therefore, I say to you all, if you can, keep going in the way that you have so valiantly been doing, in the knowledge that such selflessness is helping to

Till we meet again, keep safe and well

Councillor Gloria Challen Mayor of Saltash

Saltash West

Gloria Challen

saltash .gov.uk

saltash .gov.uk

Steve Miller

saltash .gov.uk

s.miller@

a.challen@

Jean Dent

i.dent@

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Julie Rance j.rance@ saltash .gov.uk

> Pete Samuels David Yates p.samuels@ d.yates@ saltash .gov.uk saltash .gov.uk

Mayor: Gloria Challen

Deputy Mayor: Pete 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: enquiries@saltash .gov.uk Website: www.saltash .gov.uk

Inkjet Recycling for Environment

mall environmental projects in and around Saltash are to benefit from money raised by recycling. Inkjets sent off to date have already raised over £100 for the fund supported by Community Enterprises PL12. Inkjet cartridge recycling boxes have been placed in Saltash Town Council offices and in some of the office-based businesses in Saltash All are encouraged to save their inkjets and pass them on for recycling when it is

practicalto so do

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> The Silver Line 0800 4 70 80 90

The Silver Line operates the only confidential, free helpline for older people across the UK that's open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year

Meet Your Councillor

Councillor Mark Fox South Ward Saltash

Mark joined Saltash Town Council in December 2018 and says he is very proud to serve this fantastic town where he has lived since 1987, moving from just across the water Ernesettle.

Mark is married to Sonia. one of our local Posties, they have one son Christopher.

For almost 25 years Mark has worked in Adult Social Care in Plymouth, starting as driver but progressing to Support Worker, Team Leader, Team Co-Ordinator and Manager.

Mark is Secretary and Past President of Saltash Lions Club which he joined in 2012, mainly to help run Mayfair, taking the event to Warfelton and holding four successful Mayfair's, which enabled lots of organisations the chance to increase their profiles and earn much needed funds for their businesses or

Mark is Group Scout Leader of 2nd Saltash Scout Group as well as an Assistant Leader of 2nd Saltash Brunel Beavers. He Council website.



states "This is a real challenge to progress us as a Scout Group, finish the building at Latchbrook and trying to recruit new leaders to join us."

In these unprecedented times of Covid19. Mark says he has found it strange not to be able to rally around and offer his physical support to help in these testing times, but for his own health he is subject to at least 12 weeks of shielding.

Mark enjoys listening to many different types of music and loves watching Cricket and Rugby, in his younger years having played for Plymouth Albion Colts Team.

Mark is one of four Councillors serving the Saltash South Ward and is Vice Chair of the Planning and Licensing Committee. He can be contacted via the Saltash Town

The times post Covid 19 are going to be difficult for all businesses as it seems that social distancing restrictions will be inevitable for some considerable time. The health of everybody is the most important factor, but ways will need to be found to bring some life into the economy.

Although the Chamber has not been able to meet in person, many of our members have been putting thought to how we can help the business community. We acknowledge that it is the role of Town and Cornwall councillors to take action to support the population but are aware that businesses will find it very difficult to adapt to the restrictions and may face additional financial difficulties in adapting to ensure the safety of their staff and clients.

Various pundits are of the opinion that the country could be heading for a recession, but the Chamber believes that by working together as a community we can help to minimise the impact of any difficulties that may be on the way.

Unlike previous recessions,

Unlike previous recessions, this one will have the additional issue of health-engendered restrictions which will diminish the ability to create the feel-good factor.

As customers and staff you need to know that it is safe to work and to go out. So, already Chamber members have been thinking of ways to protect shoppers and staff in the retail sector so that, when the green light is given nationally, we can adopt principles to help with that protection.

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of the economy as they make up 60% of the workforce and, as I have mentioned previously, consumerism amounts to 80% of the economy. We need to do all we can to help the local economy by trading locally so that those workers who are furloughed at the moment can start trading again thereby increasing family income which, if spent locally, will create further money to spend locally. I am aware that shopping habits have changed for many people during the crisis, but why not look to use local retailers and crafters for those gifts rather than go to national sites? It may cost a little more but by shopping locally you are doing your bit to help locally.

Different businesses have different criteria but we all have a social responsibility, and over 50% of the business people that I have spoken to, or have been in email contact with over the last few weeks are of the opinion that to keep going in the long term their business methodology will have to change before normality can be achieved, but most are saying they have no idea what that normality will be.

I hope all parties can work together to help the Saltash/PL12 community.

Finally, I was sad to hear of the death of Mike Wolford formerly of Treasure Island in Fore Street. He and I had several differences of opinion, but I had great respect for his alternative views on the priorities on various matters.

eter

News from No.4

The reputation of a strong community spirit drew me to Saltash some 3+ years ago, downsizing from 20 years on 10 Dartmoor acres. In these unprecedented times, I couldn't have come to a better place, I've discovered.

I occasionally drive the Hopper bus and was already aware that 6000 virus advice leaflets had gone out to the elderly, much reproduced in the Observer's pages also. 20 new appeared volunteers Community Enterprises PL12, (among them a teacher, a chef, a care worker, a university lecturer and a town councillor). smoothly enabling tasks like shopping assistance, collecting prescriptions, attaining priority supermarket slots, responding to grateful relatives calling in from long distance, and countless other pandemic worries. Special mentions should also go to Waitrose for their extensive varied donation input, and the invaluable cash funding from Cornwall Community Foundation enabling PPE provision for the Hub volunteer crew; both the Food Bank and Railway deserve Kitchen big recognition too.

Today, as some of the confines of lockdown are eased, with the national death toll currently sitting at 33,186, I sought an update from the Community Enterprises Hub in Fore Street (presently dubbed the War Office, I'm told!) Back came the uplifting reply... "It's been a total team effort, everybody's doing a fantastic job, a really cohesive group, so good that we've got more people than roles to be filled! As we slowly emerge from lockdown, we're looking at

Social Distan-sing

hildren from Cornwall's County Choirs have collaborated online to create a recording of the evocative song 'Cornwall my Home', celebrating Cornwall and celebrating the joy of singing together even in a time of social distancing.

Organised by the Cornwall Music Education Hub, which a partnership of organisations led Cornwall Council and funded by Arts Council England, singers from the Cornwall Youth Choir, Cornwall Boys' Choir and Cornwall Girls' Choir started working on the piece during the first week of lockdown after getting permission from composer Harry Glasson.

Johan Carvell is a young singer from Saltash who took part. He said: "Lockdown has been a really weird time for everyone and I miss doing the things I enjoy. One thing I miss is singing with the Cornwall Boy's Choir. We practised online a few times and then we had to record the song at home and send in our recording. It was really exciting when the song premiered on YouTube.

how, for the future, we can adapt what we're doing now, to continue helping people in whatever way is needed things like assisting the over 80s, who are stepping out to a very different way of life, giving them the reassurances to get their confidence back. More details are viewable on the Observer front page and we're here Monday and Thursday for Food Bank donations etc."

To conclude, a member of Hub staff seriously contracted the virus back in March and is now in the latter stages of recovery back at home. Thank you Derriford. Thank you NHS.

Ian Robinson



We've had thousands of views from around the world and I am really proud about that. I can't wait to sing with my friends from across Cornwall again, soon."

Margaret Swingler commented: "I listen to this every day to help me get through this lockdown on my own. I love to see the younger ones being introduced to the Cornish heritage – it fills my heart with joy."

The recording has been beautifully edited along with scenes of the Cornish countryside and can be viewed on YouTube. As a thank you to the NHS for their wonderful work, the County Choirs are encouraging everyone who enjoys the performance to donate to the Royal Cornwall's Hospital Charity via their JustGiving page: www.justgving.com/royalcor nwallhospitals

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Saltash Town Council are here to support our residents and we ask those that require assistance to contact us on 01752 844846 or enquiries@saltash.gov.uk and we will do our upmost to help.
Other Support

FACEBOOK: Landrake and St Erney Community info & covid 19 Support

19 Support https://www.facebook.com/groups/1273931912773278/

STAY ALERT

CONTROL

THE VIRUS

SAVE LIVES

FACEBOOK: Saltash Community Help Page

https://www.facebook.com/groups/506443003355319/

LIVEWIRE: – telephone support for young people: 07398 091595 SALTASH BAPTIST CHURCH: (Call if needing support): 01752 849948

SALTASH FOODBANK: 0800 328 2124

LANDRAKE CARE: (volunteers willing to help in Landrake): 07811 373780

PL12 Community Enterprises (Team of volunteers):

01752 848348

CECILY BAKER: 07855 628154

SALTASH BAPTIST CHURCH: 01752 849948 food parcels/foodbank vouchers and can deliver food.

IN SALTASH COMMUNITY GROUP:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/341610343062615/

ELECTRICITY KEYS: can be topped up by phone if you are self-isolating Tel Nos for help are:

BRITISH GAS: 0333 202 9800 **EDF**: 0333 200 5100 **EON**: 0345 052 000 **NPOWER**: 0800 073 3000

SCOTTISH: 0800 027 0072

Letter to the Editor...

"I have recently learnt that the Planning Application for 740 houses on the Broadmoor Farm site has been turned down (This was in the National Press). Notwithstanding that was good news, why should they be building on Farm Land anyway in these troubled times, the reasons are quite amusing, apparently the proposed colour chosen was considered un-Cornish! The other reason given was that not sufficient space was given over to gardens and too many houses had been crammed in. Well surprise, surprise, what did the Planning Authority expect? Barratt homes and AN Other are to meet with the Planners to try and resolve this vexing question. I for one would be quite happy if they either ran out of money or forgot the whole thing or at the very least built affordable houses for local people. But we all know that Developers don't make any money from that, so don't hold your breath. But for the time being that

beautiful stretch of country-

side and its wildlife has got a

reprieve", Chris Cansfield

Landrake



Saltash Chamber of Commerce

"Well Done to Mary and the Team for continuing to publish during this difficult time"

Chamber is here to Support it's Members

During these difficult times

New Members always welcome Please contact the Chairman Peter Ryland on <u>peter@hilllane.co.uk</u>

Saltash Scrapstore

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Village Green Status Refused for Forder

n 5th March 2020 Douglas Edwards QC published his report from the public enquiry regarding the village green application in Forder. The original application was submitted by Mr Colin Brown which had remained undetermined by Cornwall Council since February 2008.

The public inquiry was held between 10th /12th December 2019, the Inspector heard from a number of witnesses, including the applicant. The objectors who are the owners of the land, were represented by Mr Pinwell of Ashfords Solicitors.

The inspector's report "Although stated: the application land had been used by a significant number of the inhabitants of Saltash between 1988 & 2008, it has not been demonstrated on the balance of probabilities that, that use was for lawful sports & pastimes but rather was a use which accords with the expected use of a public right of way. Moreover, that part of the application land which comprises the copse and the land above mean high-water to the south was not used as of right between February 1994 & 2005. For each of these reasons, it has not been demonstrated that the relevant

statutory requirements for registration have been met." Mr Douglas Edwards QC concluded by writing "I therefore recommend that the application be rejected.

Cornwall Council stated that "The Inspector's recommendation and rationale are clear and officers are aware of no reasonable or rational reason why the application should determined other than in accordance with that recommendation. subsequently for that reason Cornwall Council rejected Mr Brown's application on 18th March.

> Observer Telephone Numbers 07971484872 or 01579 345699

Thank You, One and All

From the onset of the Coronavirus, Cornwall Council has remained connected online with a wide range of people in Saltash. The resilience and dedicated care of the people of Saltash, professionals and volunteers, have shone through all these online meetings.

The police have praised residents for sticking to government guidelines and staying at home. "From young to old, the residents of Saltash have been brilliant' said PCSO Debra Smith "We haven't had to issue a single ticket." Saltash schools have given unwavering support to families, caring for children of key workers and delivering care packages and food as well as online education.

As councillors, we have also been heartened and humbled by the selfless dedication of care workers in the public and private sectors; the commitment shown by staff in our local supermarkets and Saltash shops; the dedication of refuse collectors and postal workers; and of course the care shown by the Saltash community and its wonderful volunteers. As we move into the recovery and renewal phases of our response to the Coronavirus, we will be looking to strengthen the links that have been forged.

Our heartfelt thanks, too, to the Editor and delivery team of this Observer newspaper, our local newspaper, working to make sure that information reaches as many Saltash residents as possible, helping to ensure that people who are not online can still feel connected and supported. Thank you. One and All

Care Equipment

quipment that helps people live independently and safely in their own ✓ homes is even more important in these times, and gives loved ones the peace of mind of knowing help is at hand.

Visit the AskSARA website for impartial advice about equipment to make daily living easier: https://asksara.livingmadeeasy.org.uk

For enquiries about equipment that can be loaned from Cornwall Council please call 01208 269716.

We have the excellent Cecily Baker Trust in Saltash, a charity that can supply medical equipment such as wheelchairs (but not mobility scooters) and commodes on a short-term basis. Please ring 07855 628154to speak to the on-call volunteer at the Trust. Visit Cornwall Council's Cornwall Care and Support Directory for details of local companies supplying equipment: www.supportincornwall.org.uk

Or ring 01872 224521 to discuss the personal alarms, fall detectors and other support available through Lifeline, Cornwall Council's in-house Telecare Service Provider.

Business Support

ornwall Council's speed and efficiency in implementing the business grants from central government was recognised by Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Local Government, at one of the government's daily press briefings when he said that "Cornwall Council is one of the best in the country for getting those grants out to the businesses that really need them. They've already paid out over £202 million worth of grants to 17,789 firms, which is one of the highest in England and I pay tribute to the officers of Cornwall Council."

More than £210 million was paid out by Cornwall Council in the first round of funding, but there are businesses in Cornwall (such as B&Bs who pay council tax rather than business rates and market traders) who were not eligible. Cornwall Council lobbied government and Cornwall's MPs, and was delighted that the need was recognised with a second round of funding.

For the latest information about financial support that is available, please ring the Growth Hub on 01209 visit Cornwall Council's website: www.cornwallgov.uk

For support and advice on employment, training and skills, please call the new service set up by Cornwall Council called the People Hub on 0333 0150699.

Bereavement Support

new network has been set up in Cornwall to support people affected by bereavement. The Cornwall Bereavement Network brings together around 85 organisations from across Cornwall, including Penhaligon's Friends, CLIC Sargeant, Cornwall Hospice Care, funeral services, faith groups, legal services, the NHS and Cornwall Council. It is designed to help people find information, guidance and support following the death of a loved one.

Losing someone is difficult at any time, but at a time when social distancing rules may mean people are unable to visit their loved ones in hospital or draw on their usual sources of support following a bereavement, this Network will play a vital role in reassuring people they don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

To access practical information immediately following a bereavement contact 01872 252713. Lines are open 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

For signposting to emotional support services contact 01726 829874. Lines are open 10am to

You can also access a range of local bereavement support on the Cornwall Bereavement Network's website:www.cornwallbereavementnetwork.org

Planning

ornwall Council is working hard to keep its Planning Service operating effectively during the crisis. Planning officers are working remotely from their homes, all site visits are suspended, and Cornwall Council's Planning offices are closed, so the Service faces various challenges, especially as many planning officers are balancing work with caring responsibilities.

Cornwall Council's focus is on determining applications where a site visit has already been made. Not all applications will require a site visit as there may be enough information on Cornwall Council's systems to allow an application to be properly considered. An emergencydecision making structure has been set up to allow planning decisions to be progressed in consultation with Saltash Town Councillors and Cornwall Councillors. This structure has meant that 1075 planning decisions were taken across Cornwall in the first weeks of lockdown, only slightly down compared to the 1,137 decisions that were taken during a similar period in 2019.

As part of its Covid-19 measures, central government introduced regulations to allow planning committee meetings to be held remotely, so virtual meetings between Cornwall Councillors, Planning officers and the public will start up in the first week of June. Ultimately, if a site visit

is necessary Cornwall Council will work with the applicant to agree an extension of time for the application.

Planning applications are being advertised in the local press and are available as usual online: http://planning.cornwall. gov.uk/online-applications It is possible to ring 01872 323984, but the best way to submit comments on a planning application is either online or by sending an email to planning@cornwall.gov.uk.

COVID-19 isolation may cause tensions to rise and domestic abuse to increase. Help is available. help me ALONE YOU NOT

Connection in Isolation

As the world moves rapidly online, changes are also happening to the way Cornwall Council is conducting its meetings and its dayto-day activities.

For over a year, work had been progressing to equip Cornwall Council with a robust, user-friendly digital capability. This work took on extra urgency with the onset of Coronavirus. With just under 6,000 employees in various departments, the implementation of an online meeting platform presented huge challenges, but by the beginning of May the digital tool Microsoft Teams had been rolled out across the authority.

This has proved to be a vital resource in days of social distancing. Social workers, for example, have been able to use Microsoft Teams to continue 'meeting' with vulnerable families, providing much-needed support. And without the need to travel to Council meeting rooms in places like County Hall it has become easier to set up meetings, with the result that even in lockdown a large number of meetings have been held with a diverse range of professionals – all without polluting the environment.

Tricky issues still existed, though, around setting up meetings where councillors vote. The law states that councillors must be physically present in a building to take a vote, for example. This legal requirement has now been temporarily removed by Government as part of measures to cope in the Coronavirus crisis, but with 123 Cornwall councillors spread across Cornwall from Saltash to Land's End there are huge challenges in trying to ensure all councillors are able to vote online, that voting is transparent, and that the system cannot be hacked. It took weeks of intense work and training, but Cornwall Council managed to resolve these issues, and the first online committee meetings with public participation started up in May. The aim is to build up to holding the first ever online meeting of Full Council in July.

So in some ways, isolation has actually led to greater

Waste

ornwall Council 'h a s managed continue with regular collections

CIIr Hilary Frank:



household waste and recycling throughout the Coronavirus crisis. Residents are also able to subscribe to Cornwall Council's garden waste collection service for rubbish like grass clippings and leaves. The Household Waste Recycling Centre in Saltash is currently closed but safety measures to protect Cornwall Council staff and the public are being finalised, and we are aiming to reopen the HWRC by the end of May.

Security staff will be engaged to marshal the traffic, and there will be restrictions on when people can visit depending on the registration of their vehicle. If the last digit of the car's number plate is an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 or 9) then the driver may only visit the HWRC on an odd date of the month, e.g. 27, or 29 May. If the last digit of the vehicle number plate is an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 or 8) then the driver may only visit on an even date of the month, e.g.

After re-opening, the Saltash HWRC will be open from 9am to 4pm, seven days a week.



Clir Derek Holley: derek.holley@cornwallcouncillors. hilary.frank@cornwallcouncillors



Cllr Sam Tamlin: sam.tamlin@cornwallcouncillors.







Bundles of Joy

ornwall is one of the few areas in the country where frontline Health Visitors have continued with home visiting during the lockdown.

Welcoming a newborn should be a time of joy, but according to research from leading mental health charities, between 10-20% of mothers experience some form of mental health problem during the perinatal period. With the additional strains on the whole family of being in lockdown, there were concerns that the situation could become overwhelming, so Cornwall Council's health visitors have been working hard to maintain a high level of contact.

Assessments by phone or video call were introduced, but 42% of new parents have chosen to have a visit at home. As a result, 94% of families had contact with a health visitor in the first 2 weeks of the baby's birth. Breastfeeding support is also being delivered by phone and virtual contacts by the breastfeeding volunteers who work with the Health Visitors. Cornwall Council's school nurses are working with schools to support them with children still in school and children they have concerns about.

If you have a question about the health of your baby or child, speak to a wonderful Health Visitor by ringing 01872 322779.



Cllr Sheila Lennox-Boyd: boyd@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

Cornwall Council Useful Contacts

The following links provide useful, factual and regularly updated information and support around

- Cornwall Council's COVID-19 information page: www.cornwall.gov.uk/coronavirus
- Queries relating to Coronavirus: covid19@cornwall.gov.uk
- Cornwall Council's Helpline for advice on employment: 0333 0150699
- For guidance for businesses www.ciosgrowthhub.com
- For community safety: www.safercornwall.co.uk
- For people affected by domestic abuse: www.saferfutures.org.uk or 01872 225629
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- If you see someone sleeping rough: www.streelink.org.uk or 0300 500 0914
- For help with alcohol or drugs issues www.addaction.org.uk or 0333 2000 325
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- To report a water leak, ring South West Water: 0800 230 0561
- To report a power cut, ring Western Power: 105 or 0800 6783 105

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CORNWALL COUNCIL

and our PL12 community COUNCIL For Observer readers

Sam Tamlin
Cornwall Councillor for Saltash West
E: sam.tamlin@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk

ovid-19 and the lockdown have 'caused unprecedented disruption to everyone's lives and we are only just starting to see the effects. I'm writing this as the news that capacity on public transport could be reduced by as much as 90% and the government is going to encourage walking and cycling by creating new routes on roads with some becoming bus only or pedestrianised. There is no doubt that once the lockdown is over restrictions will remain for many months affecting all of our daily lives. Organisations

businesses have also seen huge disruption or a complete loss of income. The Tamar Bridge & Torpoint Ferry has been affected in a similar way. The number of vehicles using the two crossings fell by almost 85% during the first days of the lockdown. We were also unable to safely collect cash tolls at either crossing without exposing both the staff and possibly hundreds of members of the public, including keyworkers, to the deadly virus. As a result, as Joint-Chair representing Cornwall Council I was asked along with my felllow Joint-Chair representing Plymouth City Council to stop the tolls on both crossings. Even though we knew the effect this would have on the finances we felt the risk to life was too high and agreed to stop tolling.

This situation is obviously temporary, and with government advice starting to ease the lockdown and staff at the Bridge & Ferry having had time to find ways to toll safely without risking staff or users tolling will start again soon.

Act of Parliament

100% of toll income at the Bridge & Ferry is used to operate and maintain the crossings with no subsidy from either the owners (Cornwall Council and Plymouth City Council) or Highways England, who operate the whole A38 apart from the section across the Tamar Bridge. Before the lockdown, the Bridge & Ferry held around £2.8m in emergency reserves. We had alwavs assumed an would be emergency something like a fuel tanker fire on the Bridge where the money would be used to repair the structure and the road surface, but it's now being used during this crisis. With the complete loss of income, the Bridge & Ferry is losing around £800k per month; on current levels the undertaking will run out of money in the first few days of June. Resumption of tolling will change this, but traffic levels are still roughly 50% of normal and the reserves will not last.

There is an Act of

Parliament written specifically for the Tamar Bridge & Torpoint Ferry that spells out how the crossings must be run. It says that the crossings should be operated on a "user pays principle" which prevents Cornwall Council & Plymouth City Council from giving grants to the Bridge & Ferry, even though Cornwall Council has already done exactly this other crossings Cornwall and Plymouth could help with a loan, but this would increase costs at a time when they must be drastically reduced as traffic volumes and therefore income is much lower than had been forecast. Income will not recover quickly not only because restrictions are going to take months to be completely lifted, but also because many people have discovered they don't need to commute and can instead work from home.

This leaves two options; increase tolls again or ask for help from the government. Obviously, we chose the latter. Cornwall Council and Plymouth City Council jointly wrote to the government about the crossings in March asking for support. Three weeks later the government responded, stating their support for vital public transport services, but also saying there was no funding to support the crossings. We have now written a second letter explaining in detail the issues the Bridge & Ferry face which has been sent to every MP in Cornwall and Plymouth, as well as to the Secretary of State for Transport and to the Maritime Minister. The letter was sent on 29th April, at the time of writing we are still waiting for a response, but hopefully this will have changed by the time The Observer is printed.

If the costs are not covered by the government, loans will have to be secured, and unfortunately costs will go up while income goes down. We have been attempting to cut costs and will continue to review expenditure, but we do not want to risk the safety of the crossings so this situation will mean redundancies and delaying maintenance. The only other option will be to increase revenue reducing the discount for tag ultimately users or increasing tolls, which I could not have believed we would be even thinking about again. I'm sure all members of the Joint Committee will be trying to

avoid that at all costs.

We are Still Here Despite the Difficulties

that, despite the difficulties of the current situation, we were able to put together and fully distribute your April's 'Saltash and District Observer'.

We were even more delighted to receive so many lovely comments from you, our readers, thanking us for our efforts and showing appreciation, especially for the helpful information and advice concerning how to get through and, if needed, get help in this period of social isolation.

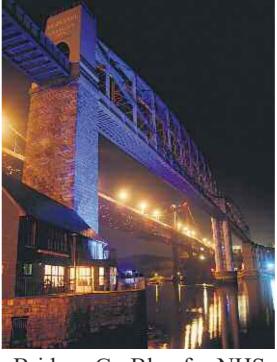
With as much support from our friends promised once more, we are pleased to be able to distribute your May 'Observer' to each door. Once again, we include information and advice to help through the current crisis, as well as some lighter reading as a reminder of good times past and promise of better times to come.

My Sincere Apologies

I am truly sorry if your copy has not made the pages of the Observer this month

We are continuing to publish as a Community Service, Covid 19 has to take priority

Editor Mary Crawford
Stay Alert



Bridges Go Blue for NHS

s Saltash turns out each Thursday night, with other communities across Britain, to show support for NHS and other key workers our two iconic bridges have paid their own special tribute.

The Royal Albert bridge has been illuminated in blue at 8pm on a Thursday evenings, the colour of the NHS. Lynn and Tony Marsh of Ashtorre Rock decided to place the community centre's blue Christmas lights on the building's balcony. With the help and support of Richard and Sarah Bickford and Network Rail they were able to illuminate the historic bridge as well as their building. They especially wish to thank Paul Westaway for photographs.

Lynn and Tony say that they are reluctant to make this a

weekly event as this might encourage social gathering but might be able to repeat it as part of a coming out of lockdown celebrations. The Tamar Road bridge toll plaza simultaneously was floodlit but from 8 pm until 9.30 pm. The NHS logo was meanwhile projected onto the newly opened Tamar Crossing offices and visitor centre on the Devon side of the bridge. The Torpoint ferries too displayed blue lights around the control houses and switched on the emergency blue lights.

All About The Shoes

Paul Westaway

Richard & Theresa Wish you all well & Hope to be seeing you all Very Soon Take Care & Stay Safe

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Carkeel To Trerulefoot Improvement Promised

he single carriageway section of the A38 west of Carkeel, claimed to be the most dangerous road in Cornwall and all too frequently closed due to serious, sometimes fatal, accidents, featured in this March's budget as being promised a safety upgrade. The road passes through the villages of Landrake and Tideford, the latter being infamous for its dangerously high level of air pollution and the danger for residents, children in particular, crossing the main road through the village.

The less good news is that although this has the benefit of being the first Cornish road safety improvement plan to fall within the government's road improvement strategy 3, this round of funding will not be released until the period 2025 – 2030, so there will be at least five more years before work can even commence to improve safety for local residents and drivers travelling into Cornwall from Saltash

Dementia Voice Active in Isolation

s we progress our isolating Covid 19 journey, Dementia Voice have been very active supporting community users, and ex-military too via the British Legion and HMS Drake, recognising how additionally hard it is for those among us with cognitive impairment. Twice-weekly general knowledge and military-based quizzes are currently getting massive appreciation from over 120 participants during these lockdown times, when it is doubly important to keep the brain active. Quizzes, puzzle books, word searches, reading and colouring books and jigsaw puzzles all help with stimulation and passing the time. Board games are fun too, plus Lego and Meccano, which give a sense of pride in something made or built.

With so many Veterans among us, the quiz questions are often igniting memories of tours served overseas, prompting digging out old photos in uniform, or of locations stationed in, inviting thoughts happy and sad of days gone by, and a proudness by all of your service to the Nation. In these days of Google, lively time-travelling becomes on-screen reality also.

Finally, Carol and Rose remind us about the recently launched Do You Mind if I Sing sessions of music and popular songs which quickly have everyone on their feet, clapping and joining in. Continue at home in these confinement days, suggests Carol, by clearing a space and digging out some 45s or 78s, or better still, tune into Cornwall's Goldmine FM, and dance like you just don't care, reliving the 50s 60s and 70s, remembering when you were courting, just married, kids were young etc. No matter how far your dementia journey has taken you, music will light up those memories; dig out old photographs, remember the clothes you wore and the excitement of going out to a dance, or let the TV guide transport you back to those Golden Cinema Days when it was Pathe News, the B Movie then the Main Feature (I'm there already, at Exmouth Savoy! IR).

Dementia Voice PL12 are here for you all, in good times and in bad. If you would like one of our quizzes, jigsaws, books, DVDs, or just a chat, please ring our Community Action Group Helpline 07956 814598 between 10am & 4pm. Already, Carol is hearing what a gap there is with no meetings. Hopefully, not long before we'll all be back at No.4 again, just 2 metres apart!

Ian Robinson.

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Good Citizens are Recognised at Civic Service

wards for good citizenship made at the Mayor's Civic Service went to a former Mayor whose tireless work for the town includes founding a charity to support young people talented in the arts. An equally well-deserved award went to a sixyear-old girl who has faced her own challenges while looking to find others in hardship to help and support.

Four-time Mayor Mrs. Sue Hooper MBE needed no introduction to most of those who filled St. Nicholas Church for the Mayor's Civic Service. Mayor Gloria Challen invited President of Saltash Rotary Gerry Stevenson to present her with the Citizen of the Year award as one who "has worked hard for local people with so much enthusiasm and love for Saltash". Mrs Hooper has been involved in countless projects in

Saltash, most recently The Great War Celebrations Over the years she has been renowned for organising many charity concerts, some in support of her own project, the Hooper Charitable Foundation for young people with interest and talent in the performing arts.

The award Environmental Citizen of the Year went to Georgina Coral who has actively engaged with

many local businesses, schools and organisations.

The Mayor's award for Best Performance went to R Windband and was accepted by Ruth Ballantyne, who had conducted the band in concert the previous evening, with Mike

The Young Citizen of the Year is aged six but in her short life has already done far more for those in need than most of her seniors. Zennor Mitchell earlier this year had her hair cut off to raise funds for cancer research while donating the hair to the Little Princesses Trust. She has completed a walk for MS, collected boxes of toys to raise funds for the homeless through the Salvation Army, and was currently collecting Easter Eggs to support the Food Bank and planning to enter the Race for Life in June.

In welcoming all, including Mayors, visiting

dignitaries, and Sheryll Murray MP, Mayor Gloria Challen spoke of a "busy and challenging year for the town council" in which she had seen them rise to the challenge and had also "witnessed a tremendous spirit of goodwill in the town"

The service conducted by Reverend Cathy Sigrist concluded with a stirring rendition of "Cornwall My Home" led by Gideon Barrett.





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Local Virus Victims – **Though Below** National **Average**

Thiles figures for coronavirus infection and the death rate are well below the national average in our area the disease is present proving the ongoing need for preventive measures.

As of early May we were advised of about one case per thousand of population in Devon and Cornwall, a third of the national average, though this was not given as an official figure.

Up until 12th April there were three recorded deaths from the disease related to Saltash, two from the town centre and Pillmere area, one for the Latchbrook and St. Stephens area. People who die in hospital could however be registered to another area.

These have been a number of cases, of which we are aware, of local residents suffering the disease, some requiring hospital treatment. and subsequently, we are thankful to say, recovering.

The South West having suffered lightly in comparison with much of the country the region faces a dilemma. Should the region seek to maintain the comparative safety of its residents by discouraging visitors for the future, this foreseeable dealing a deathblow to many of the local small businesses on which the South West economy depends? Or should it seek to open up to visitors as soon as possible to bring in some much-needed income to those suffering the lockdown, with the risk of visitors bringing with them the virus, causing a late surge of local infection as the rest of the country is recovering? There is no easy answer.



SHERYLL **MURRAY MP** WRITES...

we are going to be Lliving with this virus for some time and that we need to get back to work where we can to keep the economy going. This must be done safely and the strong advice is to work from home if at all possible. If you do need to go into work avoid public transport and to ensure appropriate safety measures, such as social distancing, are in place. Unfortunately it does not mean everyone will be able to return to work. Where we get together in groups such as in restaurants, pubs and venues it is clear these businesses will need to stay closed for a longer period.

We must now use our

common sense. We are being allowed to do more exercise but it must be that. It is not an excuse to play sports where we cannot be two metres apart. We are allowed to see family one at a time but it must be at a safe distance. We must continue to stay apart from people we do not live with. We cannot risk spreading this disease again. If we do not obey these rules the infection rate will go up and the Prime Minister has made it very clear that the brakes will go back on and the virus will spread further putting pressure on the NHS and costing lives. We must STAY ALERT to where this virus may be. We must think about the vectors involved be it through physical contact or on droplets in the air. We must do all we can to STAY SAFE and avoid situations where it is likely we will have to be in close proximity to others or in contact with surfaces where others have recently been. In this way we can continue to SAVE LIVES.

I was pleased to take part in the VE Day celebrations including to meet virtually with Saltash Rotary to celebrate the event with



them and thank them for all they are doing. I would like to thank everyone who is doing so much for others during this difficult time and it is always incredible to hear the support when I go out to clap every Thursday evening.

I am still undertaking

many meetings both locally and much further afield. I am meeting twice weekly with the Council and I would like to thank them for all they are doing. I am also having a weekly catch up with our Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez and the police to get an update from them on what is a very difficult job in the circumstances. having many meetings with colleagues from Parliament including my roles on the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, 1922 Backbench Committee and as Chairman Party ofthe All Parliamentary Group on Fisheries. I have also had meetings with Ministers and with Association my including Councillor Sheila Lennox-Boyd.

Whilst my physical office is shut my virtual office with staff working from home is very much still open and I am in contact with them regularly. Please do contact me on Sheryll@sheryllmurray.com . Please do ensure you spell my name correctly with one 'r' and two 'l's otherwise I will not receive this email. Please include your physical address as I can only deal with constituents. You can also write to me at The Office of Sheryll Murray MP, The Parade, Liskeard PL14 6AF but please be aware that this is only being picked up once a week. I ask that all constituents please continue to follow advice to stay alert to the virus so vou can stav safe during your day and

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And the Band Played -"We'll Meet Again"

Members of Saltash Town have performing each Thursday to coincide with the NHS clap. Those who are able, play outside to their neighbours. Their tune on the day when national treasure Captain Tom Moore reached his 100th birthday, the Band played 'We'll Meet Again'.

Essa Files

Tummd and arred a bit this month about whether to write about Covid and lockdown again: on the one hand it continues to dominate our lives, and the news. On the other hand precisely because of that I figured people might like a change. So instead I'll going to tell you about some of my favourite walks from my daily exercise over the last few weeks. In recent days, with the slight easing of lockdown, I've started to go further afield: driving to Landrake to walk to Tideford, or Botus to walk to Landulph, but up until then I've basically been sticking to Saltash and surrounds. These are, in no particular order, six of the best.

St Stephen's Church to Anthony Passage: start at the church, head down into Forder taking in the lovely creek, and head out towards Anthony passage - beautiful river views, a viaduct, shaded country lanes. Particularly delightful in sunny weather.

One cross, two bridges: walk down Old Ferry Road, with views over the river, to the Waterside, under the two bridges and back, then head up and under the road bridge into Elwell woods and emerge at the Celtic cross.

Churchtown Farm: start at the cemetery entrance and head down towards the river and the small railway bridge, with lovely views over to Saltash Passage and Anthony Passage. Head back up to emerge on Wearde Road near the school.

Moditonham Quay: head north from Waitrose then turn off at Carkeel and go out through the country lanes to Moditonham Quay - worth seeing at both low tide (beautiful flats) and high tides (glistening water and great reflections from the trees).

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Burraton Coombe to Ince Castle: a long one this - head through Burraton Coombe out passed Trehan to Elmgate, then turn towards the river. Some lovely hedge flora and delightful buildings along the way.

Coombe Woods and the mud flats: only to be attempted by the sure of foot and only at low tide (check the times first) head down Trelawney Road, through Coombe Woods, across Vincent Way and down onto the mud flats. You can stop there with great views of the viaduct and out across the river, or if feeling particularly sure footed walk around the mud and emerge near the sailing club.

It's worth taking your camera or cameraphone on all of these walks and, safety permitting, trying them in different light. Obviously all walks undertaken at your own risk and judgement, and please do social distance, but we have a beautiful town and this is a time when many of us have more opportunity to enjoy it.

Adam Killeya

PUBLIC NOTICE

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

AMP Biomass Fuel Ltd trading as AMP Clean Energy of, Okehampton Business Centre, Higher Stockley Mead Okehampton. Devon. EX20 1FJ is applying to change an existing licence as follows. To keep an extra 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at the operating centre at The Coach House. Bake. Trerulefoot. Saltash, PL12 5BW.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected. should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic

Commissioner's Office.

Town Centre Gaming Centre Gets Go Ahead

☐ lectric gaming machines to include electronic bingo with a range of slot machines are to be permitted within the shopping area of Saltash and on the border of a conservation area

The former betting shop facing up Fore Street by the Tamar Bridge access road has been given permission to change its use to an amusement arcade. This is against the wishes of Saltash Town Council which considered that the change of use was 'not in keeping with the ethos' of the Fore Street Lower conservation area. It also considered that the use marked a degeneration of standards and would 'lower the tone' of

Cornwall considered these objections but ruled that the adult gaming and amusement centre would support the vitality and viability of the town centre and increase the mix of uses within the main shopping area. It would bring people into the town to improve the evening and night time economy of the

There will also be a food and drink service to include hot and cold drinks and hot food.

The town council were however successful defeating the application for the premises to remain open twenty-four hours each day. Permission for change of use is conditional on the premises being open from 8.30 am to 11.30 pm, extended to 1 am on Saturday night.

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Quirky Figures Bring Fun to Country Walking

he villages around Saltash are suddenly full of fun characters bringing a smile to those enjoying a country walk in our now unlimited exercise.

Trematon in particular appears to have a 'scarecrow' like figure in a majority of gardens, many of which give a hint of the residents' preferred pastimes. Among them are a horse rider, ballerina, and a sailor, with opposite a pirate on board his ship. Further down the lane a family of four stuffed figures include a fisherman father and footie fan boy. The village bench is occupied by a cheery looking giant rabbit.

Other local villages also have their characters, one of our favourites being a canine 'Hound of Botusville' in Botus Fleming.

And of course, the houses in the country as in Saltash are brightly coloured with rainbows created by children for family members and friends - thank you to Joseph and Evie for those in Observer reporter Martin's window.

As well as scarecrow spotting in the villages a walk along the footpaths and the (almost) traffic free lanes gives an opportunity to listen to skylarks and to newly returned migrant birds celebrating the nest building season.

And a flower identification book adds interest to the floral banked lanes as spring turns to summer. The cuckooflower (or lady's smock) dyer's alkanet, navelwort, knapweed, garlic mustard (Jack by the hedge) and wild carrot are just a few of the flowers we have noted brightening our Saltash countryside. Our travel opportunities may be limited but this may itself offer an opportunity to discover the magic of the field paths and Cornish lanes within easy walking distance of Saltash.



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naryecrawford@hotmail.com



Letters of Kindess

hildren from Burraton Community Primary School have been reaching out to members of their local community throughout this school year. In the Autumn term, the school's Pupil Parliament decided to instigate a Postcards of Kindness campaign, reaching out to members of the local community and sharing news. The children's intention was to promote wellbeing and to make inter-generational links.

When the school was closed, the Postcards of Kindness campaign was put on pause, but the school was contacted by the Saltash Live at Home scheme asking if the children could write letters to some of their elderly members who are isolating and shielded due to the Coronavirus. The staff and children at Burraton stepped up and were happy to participate. Letters, cards, jokes and poems have been passed over to the Saltash Live at Home Coordinator, Sarah Clook Sarah said, 'On behalf of all Saltash Live at Home members we would like to say a massive thank you to the children and staff at Burraton Primary School for the letters. They are very much appreciated by the older members of our community, and we look forward to a time when we can all meet up again.'

The school community was proud to participate in helping to bring cheer during this time of uncertainty and loneliness. Nicki Carvell, Assistant Headteacher said, 'If we cannot see family members, Grandparents or neighbours, we can at least feel we have played a small part in helping someone to smile and let them know that we are thinking of them.

Coming out of Lockdown

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