

Inside
This Issue
Full Programme for
Saltash Christmas Festival
Saturday 1st December

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

November 2012 - Issue 244

Incessant trumpet of trade; armoury of fearless truth without fear or favour ...



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CARRIAGE OPERATORS

Saltash Shopkeepers Urged To Combine Against Crime

A Plymouth based campaign against shop lifting and anti-social behaviour in the city centre has proved so successful that offenders have moved out to target towns around the city. Now those involved in 'Plymouth Against Retail Crime' (PARC) are urging businesses in Saltash to come together in a similar initiative to reduce offences in shops around the town.

Since the scheme was launched in Plymouth in 2001 over six hundred and fifty members have joined and in just 2009/10, serious acquisitive crime in the city fell by 29%, PARC Chairman Ian Warmington told a meeting of Saltash traders, held in the Guildhall and organised by the towns Chamber of Commerce and Saltash Town Centre

Improvement Group (STIG) Saltash traders were told how by combining into an East Cornwall Business Against Crime Group they each could display a membership sticker allowing them to ban any known culprit and to call upon police to eject such persons if necessary.

Banning orders against convicted criminals save local

businesses millions of pounds and send a strong message to them that they can be identified and will not be made welcome in a shopping area such as Saltash. Members of such an organisation can also be provided with radio contacts to advise fellow members of the local presence of convicted shoplifters and, if necessary, to communicate directly with the Police. The Saltash Chamber of Commerce and Industry will ask its members whether they wish to take up such a scheme.

Saltash traders were also told of the 'Safe Places' scheme whereby local businesses are encouraged to display stickers confirming that vulnerable people, especially those with learning difficulties, can be assured of a helpful welcome in their premises. Nine out of ten such people experience bullying at times, Magi Omlo-Coad told traders, they are four

times more likely than the general public to be robbed through violence or threats, and one in four have been assaulted. Involvement in the 'safe places' scheme shows that businesses care about the community and it was in fact noted that a visit to Fore Street businesses had already produced a number of businesses happy to participate in the scheme and to ensure that those who showed staff their 'safe places' card can be referred to a friendly and familiar contact or, if necessary, the Police.



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Christmas Festivities in Saltash

The summer – such as it was, the Cornish sunshine having been a little damp this year – is fast fading from memory. There are good memories, the weather did not dampen the Saltash spirit as we celebrated our Olympic flame passing through the town, and the Royal Diamond Jubilee – Now the town is busy preparing for another special event, the traditional pre-Christmas Saltash celebrations but better than ever before. We are also celebrating ourselves, our twenty-first year of being your community newspaper and we plan more features for you as the anniversary year progresses, looking back over the changes and happenings since we first set out to promote and publicise the town, its events, its happenings and its businesses. We have in particular been sharing and reporting upon the Saltash Christmas festivities over the last two decades. From our first special Christmas edition twenty years ago our feature 'Christmas comes to Saltash' outlined what we described as a 'full programme of seasonal activities and fun

promised for the special Sunday Shopping day'. This year it falls on a Saturday, 1st December, when Fore Street will be closed to traffic but packed with fun and entertainment culminating in a grand lantern parade, even better than last year. This will be followed by our traditional open air carol service and switching on of our famous lights. For a taster of what is in store see elsewhere in the paper. We know that our friendly, mostly locally owned businesses, have long been planning out their Christmas display, and ordering more stock eager to ensure that as ever your seasonal shopping needs can be met within our friendly local community, and while other towns have been losing shops, Saltash has actually been gaining even more independent locally run businesses with their own special array of exciting Christmas produce. Please support these shops and – in order to help ensure that your Observer continues to support and promote local businesses for another twenty-one years or more, we would invite and encourage these local

businesses to support your Saltash Observer – your truly locally run community newspaper produced for and read by the Saltash and surrounding community.

**Saturday 1st
December, bring the
family for a
fun day out**

It's our 21st Anniversary

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Bus Bay Signs Could Show Bus Times

The bus shelter in the new bus bays at the foot of Fore Street can accept digital displays, Councillor Bob Austin told the town's industry commerce transport and tourism committee.

This allows them to show updated real arrival time for buses due, constantly updated, as is available in Royal Parade, St. Budeaux and other well used stops in Plymouth. They could also be used to advertising and to supply local information. Further details are to be sought on providing these facilities.

Following completion of the new bus bays complaints have been received from shop owners concerning fumes from buses penetrating their premises. Environmental health officers will be investigating.

A new shelter in Liskeard Road opposite the veterinary

Celtic Cross Woodland Working Party Move Stones

Landscaping of the Elwell Woods, adjacent to the projected Celtic Cross north of the Tamar Bridge, proceeded apace thanks to a section of our teenage Air Force Cadets. The cadets joined with local residents in clearing stones from the woodlands where it is intended to plant out native bulbs to enhance the wooded area, some of which is to be restored to its former use as an orchard.

The stones were to be utilised for two open classes in dry stone walling, the walls being planned as further aspects of the restored public woodland feature.

clinic has been requested. Further from town it was reported that 'Greyhound' bus drivers are reluctant to stop at Notter Bridge due to the dangerous positioning of the bus stop and suggested that they should be relocated.

The necessity of continuing to encourage the use of local Hopper services by residents and organisations, in order to ensure their continuing services, was stressed by committee Chairman and Deputy Mayor David Yates.

The Celtic Cross itself is nearing completion on its Newquay airport construction site. The sixty two foot high sculpture is now due to be moved into position in early January 2013, with a formal opening in March, appropriately on St. Piran's Day. The gold, silver and copper finish, to be illuminated at night will reflect Cornwall's rich mining heritage.

Reminder to Vote!!!!

This is your last chance to make sure you use your democratic right to vote for the New Police Crime Com-missioner, on 15th Nov 12.

The Print date is very close to the voting date, some of you might not receive this last reminder, and we make no apologies as we have reported on this subject for the last 3 months.

Conundrum Answers

Answers: 1 Pink 2 Milk 3 Lifejacket 4 Cork 5 Two 6 Iona 7 Arthur 8 Natural 9 Other Nine-letter word: Complaint

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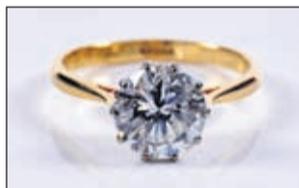
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Essa Files

Even as a self-confessed elections buff I am finding it a bit tricky to muster up enthusiasm for the Police Commissioner Elections on 15th November.

For one thing whose bright idea was it to hold an election in November? For another thing I am uncertain about the whole idea of elected Police Commissioners – firstly because it's an awfully big job for one person (it is currently done by a whole committee): can one person really master all the subjects they need to know about? Secondly I am uncomfortable about politicising policing – of course there needs to be democratic control but that already existed, and its a short road from directly elected commissioners to directly elected Chief Constables and even Judges focused not on the law but on the opinion polls: a very dangerous road for law enforcement to take. Finally I can't get enthused about any election that makes one person responsible for such a vast area, lumping Devon and Cornwall together (a subject that I have 'views' about).

Having said all of that I would not dream of doing anything other than turning out to vote on 15th November for three simple reasons. One: if even if the job is a dumb idea, the person holding it is going to have a lot of influence over our lives so let's pick the best person. Two: if you don't vote then you can't complain (and we all love to do that!). Three: a lot of people went through a lot and still do around the world, to get the right to vote and to me it's disrespectful to them not to use it: if they ever decide to elect the local dog catcher I'll probably vote just for that reason alone.

So even though the weather will be dreadful, please, no matter who you vote for, or even if you just spoil your vote on principle, please do at least vote. Especially those of you, and I teach a few, whom have the vote for the first time.

Adam Kiley

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TO DEAL WITH CRIME AND POLICING IN SALTASH - VOTE FOR - WILLIAM MORRIS Independent Candidate

Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall
Thursday 15th November 2012

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CORNWALL COUNCIL



and our PL12 community

For Observer readers

From Councillor Derek Holley

Pill Ward Saltash

After all the shenanigans at Cornwall Council over the last two weeks the two questions should be, "How will it affect Cornwall?" and "How will it affect me?". Actually the shenanigans can be divided into two parts. The first part was an extraordinary debate on whether the leader of the council should be removed. Now I have to say that I was partly responsible for this because I signed the motion calling for the debate, and the vote which followed. I did this because I had become convinced that the leader of the council had accumulated too big a democratic deficit to be allowed to continue – for example he should have brought to full council issues so important to Cornwall that they should not have been decided by the small ruling Cabinet but by all of the councillors. It is worth remembering that Cornwall Council is a huge enterprise with nearly 20,000 employees of one type or other, it handles more money than some small countries and it affects many areas of your life. Anyway to cut a strange story short we now have (and this is all without political comment but to show what strange times we live in) a Tory leader of the council who was elected almost exclusively by Liberal Democrats, and a deputy leader, an Independent, who was elected mainly by Tories. I am still trying to get my head around it but I think the whole council is now more representative of the people in that the Cabinet and Leader will not dare again to ignore the councillors in making big decisions. That is how that will affect you ; when big decisions are going to be made, get at us and tell us what you think.

The second shenanigan followed a week later when a crucial debate took place on whether we should go into a joint partnership with BT to run a large range of vital support services. These would include libraries, payroll, procurement (the buying in of goods), some existing health services and some new health services called Telehealth and Telecare. I was initially opposed to this arrangement but my fears for the county are gradually being allayed, as have the fears of many councillors, it has to be said. The officers dealing with this contract have been as hard as nails on our behalf and are tying down BT very well indeed, it seems. To be

fair BT do have considerable experience over many years of running services for councils. I have been personally assured by BT, in the presence of our senior negotiating officer, that the Library and One Stop Shop services will not be branded "BT" and any changes to them at all will have to go through full council in Truro before being permitted. BT have been tied down to actual savings per year and to a net gain in jobs of over a thousand. Staff terms and conditions are protected. As part of the deal they will bring into Cornwall a nationwide procurement centre and create another nationwide centre here for the Telehealth and Telecare markets; these are in their infancy but with lucrative futures. Telecare is a system of remote monitoring equipment in homes, a much improved "red button around the neck" system; Telehealth is a system where people remotely take their own biomedical measurements to provide early warnings. Our kickback apart from jobs and savings of scale will be a share of the profits when these services are sold across the country. My mind has been concentrated by the certainty of another massive government grant cut of £100 to £130 million in two years time, or less, and the need to make still more savings across the county – this BT thing perhaps being one of them. However I am still waiting for the business case to be assessed before making my mind up. So, if successful, this all would affect us by keeping our council tax down and people in jobs

What do you think? Few of us like the idea of county services being put out to private firms , even joint ventures like this, particularly in the light of some of the scary stories seen on the TV. But if these people can genuinely (and that is the question) run services more cheaply....what then....

Do you know, I have just bought a new motor mower? It came with three cover nuts completely missing and leaks petrol (make supplied). Is that a Saltash record? Now I can't cut my still-growing lawn. I also have to report that tomato blight has done for the toms. Cabbages still look good though; final score: large white butterflies 0: Derek 1.

Derek Holley
Town and Cornwall Councillor

From The Mayor's Parlour...

Greetings,
I hope you all had a safe and happy Bonfire night. During the end of October the town was inundated with people making lanterns, angels, crosses a lighthouse and even, a miniature Brunel Bridge for the Victorian fair and switching-on of the Christmas lights on Saturday December 1st. All the details of this exciting and fabulous day are enclosed in this Observer.

Cornwall Council has still not produced any of the legal processes mentioned in last month's Mayor letter, more delays and less service. One silver lining to the dark clouds from the west was a visit by a Council officer responsible for contracts. After discussion with the Town Clerk and a tour of our town, she was unhappy that the work done by Cory, the Cornwall Council contractors was not up to the required standard; steps are now being taken to improve matters. Hoorah! At last! There has also been some additional weed clearing in Fore Street. The closing of the waterfront toilets still remains an issue!

I am horrified that the Cornwall Councilors have given themselves a 20% increase in pay at a time of austerity and that there are over 15 members of Cornwall staff who earn over £100,000 a year. No wonder there is no money to provide good services such as the provision of toilets, street cleaning regularly, waste bin emptying and grass-cutting. No wonder any contract or communication between the Town Council seems to be met by Cornwall as though we are at war and not two sovereign councils of local Government working together to benefit

Saltash. The officers are defending their colossal salaries by appearing to be efficient. Newquay airport is supported by the equivalent of £8 per person in Cornwall. Perhaps the change of leadership at Truro County hall will improve things but I suspect it will be still Truro centric.

Saltash Council has held one of the few hustings of candidates for the election of a Police Commissioner for Cornwall and Devon.

Around the Town more good things continue to happen. Our very successful Saltash Ladies Choir and Burraton Male Voice choir had been invited to participate in national combined choir festival in the Albert Hall on Friday 2nd November. Well done.

The process for the Local Plan for Saltash started at the beginning of November with a sub-committee of the Town Council. Press releases will be released soon to invite all interested parties to an opening event and training.

I would like to advertise the Saltash Music, Speech and Drama Festival from 28th January to 10th February 2013. People wishing to compete in these events should contact -Vocal K. Bunkum 01579 350338 -Instrumental S. Davies 01752 843646 - Speech M. Frantom 01752847517 by 19th November.

The Town Council welcomes our new Finance Officer Anna Pearce to her post.

Best wishes to you all for a successful and fun Christmas Fair.

Martin Gee
Mayor of Saltash

Young Footballers Meet Mayor and Council

Two members of Saltash Youth Football Club which had received financial support from the Council joined club officials in being welcomed to Saltash Town Council's monthly meeting by Mayor Martin Gee.

Life President Michael Collins of Saltash Youth Football Club told councillors how he had set up the youth football club in 1993, through its roots, through the Boys' Club and a church football club before go back over a century.

There are now around Two Hundred and Fifty young members aged six to eighteen, with ten boy's teams plus three girl's teams playing in Devon and Cornwall leagues. Between them they occupy Salt Mill pitches, all the public pitches, and the school pitches each weekend. Any child who is interested will be welcomed and coached in an age appropriate group. Coaching continues through the year, on outdoor pitches in fine weather and indoors in winter. Last year the club

took seven trophies including those for "Fair Play", an issue that Saltash Youth are anxious to emphasise.

Saltash Youth Football Club train young people alongside Saltash United Youth, Michael Collins told the council, and there were enough football enthusiasts aged six and upwards to fill the two clubs.

The Saltash United Youth, he said, were currently re-grouping and seeking to attract enough adult volunteers to train all the young people eager to join. Anyone willing to involve themselves in youth football and in particular to help as an adult volunteer is asked to contact Kevin Roberts on 07775 572339 for Saltash Youth Football Club or Sarah Holter on 07795 681849 for Saltash United.

Town Wins Award for Floral Display

Saltash has the best floral arrangements in South East Cornwall, and there is a plaque in the Guildhall to prove it.

The Mayor, Cllr Martin Gee, told the Town Council that he was invited to a lunch in Liskeard at which he was surprised and delighted to be presented with the plaque for 'Best Town from Caradon in Bloom'.

The display that welcomes visitors to the town approached from the Tamar Bridge especially impressed the judges.

They were also struck by the originality of the 'Veg in the Beds' scheme promoted by Saltash Environmental Action. For the second year they have planted vegetables among the flower beds in Fore Street and this year have also obtained permission to plant out a vegetable bed in Victoria Gardens to promote the environmentally friendly idea of 'grow your own'. The improved hanging baskets that line Fore Street were also approved of by the judges and the town's 'STIG' group that mounts them, plan to improve upon them further next year. The Town Council agreed that in achieving the award they should commend Saltash Environmental Action, the STIG group, and Hine Brothers who are responsible for the town's floral layouts.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Readers

Welcome to our new readers this month, I hope you enjoy reading The Observer, and will visit us here in Saltash to enjoy our Christmas Festivities and a new shopping experience.

If you enjoy our paper you can find us online every month by visiting: www.saltash-observer.co.uk.

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Christmas at the Ploughboy



Mike and Joan Say a Big Thank You

A huge 'thank you' to locals, regulars and the whole community for making them so welcome over their first year in the 'Ploughboy Inn' is offered through your Observer by Joan and Mike.

It is just twelve months since we reported upon them moving into the well established pub and restaurant ready for Christmas 2011 and we promoted their opening party. The pub was packed for the party, regulars and newcomers thronged to share the Christmas festivities and feasting, and Mike and Joan have not looked back since. Now almost unbelievably it seems to them, they are busy preparing for their second Christmas at the 'Ploughboy'.

Between running the busy restaurant and tendering the finest of ales, wines and spirits Mike and Joan have been busy helping to support the Saltash community of which they are so much a part. As well as sponsoring and supporting local sports teams, adults and children, they have enabled the elderly and disabled members of St. George's to establish an official meeting place at the 'Ploughboy' where they welcome the group and serve them nourishing hot meals three times a week.

In addition, as visitors and passers-by will have noted, they have found time to decorate the outside of the historic hostelry. Indeed they have done so successfully that they are proud to have been awarded the prize for Pub in Bloom 2012, regional winners. Now they are eagerly waiting for the national results to be announced.

A Family Friendly Atmosphere with Quality Cuisine

A reputation for the finest of home cooked foods at reasonable prices has ensured that the restaurant at the 'Ploughboy' has been increasingly busy over the past twelve months. The separate dining area and popular children's menu makes the 'Ploughboy' especially family friendly and young diners can enjoy indoor

and outdoor play areas. The early opening, with food served from 5pm to 8.30pm on weekdays (extended until 9pm on Fridays & Saturdays) makes it especially attractive to families calling in for early meals after school. Lunches are served on weekdays from noon until 2.30 and on weekends meals continue from midday to 9pm

Saturdays, midday to 8.30pm on Sunday.

Chef John is rightly becoming renowned in the area for the quality of his cuisine, all home cooked to order from fresh food sourced as far as possible from Cornwall and Devon. So busy is the Ploughboy kitchen that it is being refurbished to help speed service.



Joan & Mike along with Staff are preparing to give you a Magical Christmas

Pictured Chef John (left) and Phil in the newly streamlined kitchen

THE PLOUGHBOY

Liskeard Rd Saltash

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Entertainment at the Ploughboy

Saturday 17th November

Steph & Mark of Crossfire

Friday 30th November

CODE RED - Classic Rock Band

Saturday 1st December

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Saturdays from 12noon-9pm

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Clubs, Organisations & Coaches Welcome

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and all enquires...book early to avoid disappointment!

-- Bookings advisable --



Sunday Carvery

Especially popular is the Sunday carvery for which booking is highly advisable. Fast becoming similarly in demand are there Monday to Thursday 'Two for £11' meals as selected from the home made special menu. In addition on Tuesdays only, special steak day offers two rump steaks with chips and peas for just £12.

A good selection of wines is available to accompany the meal by the glass or the chilled bottle, all of which are

also enjoyed in the bar. Here they range along the selection of beers which Mike ensures are always poured to perfection. Real ale fans can choose between such Cornish ales as Tribute and Doom Bar as well as Courage Best, while lager drinkers are especially attracted to the chilled San Miguel or Kronenbourg beers. There is also a wide range of bottled beers as well as cider and spirits to be enjoyed with a meal or while relaxing in the comfort of the spacious lounge bar.

A Seasonal Magic All of its Own

Following last years' spectacular seasonal success, when the 'Ploughboy' appeared to disappear behind its array of decorations the highlight being its much acclaimed tree, Mike and Joan are gearing up for their second, and they anticipate even better Christmas at the 'Ploughboy'.

Whether one wishes to enjoy a seasonal celebration as a couple, a family or a large party the 'Ploughboy' promises the finest of food and a true seasonal spirit. Already bookings are coming in for pre-Christmas lunches and dinners which can range from the traditional 'turkey and trimmings' to a full alternative menu with vegetarian choices ever available. With its spacious restaurant

area and two function rooms available at no charge the Ploughboy is the ideal venue for Christmas meals out with full family, friends or workmates. Joan and her staff will be delighted to discuss arrangements for private parties to enjoy sit-down meals or a sumptuous buffet.

Christmas day will once again, it is anticipated, take on a seasonal magic of its own as those who have booked in advance sit down to enjoy the finest of traditional Christmas dinners in friendly company - and with no cooking or washing up. Joan in particular looks forward to welcoming friends old and new to share, at the 'Ploughboy' her favourite season of the year.

A Perfect Venue for the Festive Season

With its two function rooms in addition to a spacious lounge are a separate dining area the 'Ploughboy' is well suited to provide a wide variety of entertainment over the Christmas season and throughout the year. Regulars keenly watch out for the appearance of popular DeeJay Laurie who enjoys playing favourites and audience requests of varied musical styles and eras. Now, following numerous requests Mike is busy organising a programme of live music to suit most tastes - watch for more details. Meanwhile Yvette's bingo nights each Tuesday always guarantee a near full house with many coming early to take advantage of the 5 p.m. restaurant opening and enjoy a good meal before 'eyes down'.

The two function rooms can also be made available for local organisations to use for private parties or perhaps their fund raising activities such as a quiz or bingo, with buffet food available as required. Mike and Joan are pleased to provide use of the rooms at no extra charge for these purposes. Whether wishing to enjoy a good evening out or organise one's own, the 'Ploughboy' is proving a popular local venue.

Note: Cancellation of events is not advertised on the Ploughboy website or any social network if such a notice of cancellation appears please contact the, Ploughboy to confirm.

Christmas at...

THE PLOUGHBOY

Traditional Christmas Day Lunch

2 Course Carvery £35.00

4 Course Carvery £42.50

£25.00 per child 12years & under

Book Your Office, Family & Friends Christmas Parties Now!

Christmas Party Menu

2 Courses £12.95 3 courses only £16.95

Available 1st to 24th December

Starters:

HOMEMADE SOUP - Broccoli and stilton served with a granary roll

SMOKED SALMON AND DILL CREAM MOUSSE - a creamy lemon, dill and smoked salmon mousse, finished with a layer of chopped smoked salmon and dill, served with a salad garnish and melba toast.

BREADED BRIE WEDGES (V) - two deep fried, melt in the mouth breaded brie wedges, served with a cranberry dip and salad garnish.

SOMERSET ASPARAGUS CHEESECAKE (V) - a savoury cheese, leek and spring onion base topped with brie and served with salad garnish

Mains:

ROAST TURKEY - traditional succulent Turkey, served with four seasonal vegetables and roast and new potatoes.

ROAST BEEF - Cornish topside beef, served with four seasonal vegetables, roast and new potatoes and a Yorkshire pudding.

HADDOCK FLORENTINE - a fillet of prime haddock, served on a bed of spinach, in a rich cheese sauce and accompanied with carrot and green bean bundles and new potatoes.

MUSHROOM AND WALNUT HOTPOT - a crisp pastry case surrounding rich, braised mushrooms and onions and topped with slices of potatoes and finished with chopped walnuts. Served with seasonal vegetables and new potatoes.

Desserts:

CHRISTMAS PUDDING - traditional Christmas pudding, served with brandy sauce or Cornish clotted cream (must be stated on pre-order)

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND RASPBERRY CHEESECAKE - an individual white chocolate cheesecake on a crumble biscuit base, marbled with raspberry sauce.

ICED HAZELNUT AND HONEY PARFAIT - this frozen dessert is flavoured with honey and finished with chopped, caramelised hazelnuts and served with Cornish clotted cream.

CHOCOLATE BOX - an all butter shortbread base, topped with an indulgent dark chocolate mousse, surrounding a caramel centre... naughty but nice!

Tea or Coffee, & Mince Pie.

Tel: for a Party menu/planner to be sent out

Call 01752 842861 for bookings

And all enquires...book early to avoid disappointment!

Normal menu also available throughout the festive period Bookings advisable

Watch your Observer for further details of

Events & Entertainment, during the Festive Season

Liskeard Rd Saltash Cornwall

Darts Tournament Raised £1,340 for Leukaemia Ward

Those who enjoy outdoor sporting activities, indoor games or simply watching top class sporting events in comfort are all able to enjoy the benefit of the 'Ploughboy's' sporting support.

As part of their commitment to the community Mike and Joan have been pleased to sponsor and support a wide range of local outdoor activities. These vary from sponsoring the mid match meals enjoyed by local cricketers to providing the kit worn by the renowned Caradon Gig rowers. The Ploughboy is also pleased to sponsor Saltash Borough and St. Dominic football teams, as well as a number of keen youth teams aged between under 11's and under 15's.

Mike's enthusiasm has ensured that eager darts, pool and euchre teams have represented the 'Ploughboy' at local level. Most recently a darts tournament, organised in support of the Leukaemia ward at Derriford Hospital, chosen as several friends from Saltash have suffered the condition, has been an outstanding success. Darts players from all over Saltash ensured that this became a two-nightly event including play-offs raising a grand total of £1,340.

Meanwhile those who prefer to relax and enjoy sport on the big screen can do so in the Ploughboy lounge, where all major football and other matches are broadcast, while enjoying their favourite drink in friendly company.



Ploughboy Pub Players Throw with a Pro

Eager darts players matched their skills on the oche with a world champion when Scott Waites invited all comers to challenge him in the 'Ploughboy Inn'. Familiar to most from his television appearances Scott is a Yorkshireman who played for his county for eight years before becoming semi-pro. Since then he has won the Grand Slam on television, and then the World Masters as well as becoming the current World Cup Singles Champion.

He was touring pubs and clubs in Cornwall prior to a trip to Turkey and the European finals. 'Do the locals in the pubs where you take on these challenges ever beat you?' the Observer asked him, 'Sometimes, it depends how much beer they get down me' he replied.

One Ploughboy local did achieve the final double of an 801 game while we watched, but only after Scott had allowed him to wipe the "hundreds" figure off the score. An award was given to the 'Ploughboy' player whom Scott and his agent David Jago, a half Cornishman, judged to be the best, and the signed dartboard was auctioned off at the end of the evening.

Jennifer's Delicatessen is a Haven for Food Lovers

The finest of foods from the Tamar Valley and the lush farmlands of Devon and Cornwall blend with more exotic produce from Europe and beyond to offer a gourmet's paradise in Saltash Fore Street.

Since Jennifer opened her delicatessen earlier this year an ever increasing number of food lovers from Saltash and beyond have been regularly coming to check out on her changing array of foods to tempt the taste buds. To cater for demand she has expanded into opening a coffee shop and will soon be offering an outside catering service. However, the delicatessen itself remains at the heart of her expanding business.

The aroma of fresh baked bread each morning is an appetiser for the popular French artisan breads baked fresh on the premises each day, as fresh as the hand made cakes and gateaux to be enjoyed in the shop or taken home. Cornish saffron cake and divine chocolate tarts are



equally popular as is the range of Cornish 'Kernow' chocolate, dark, milk, white and mint. There is even a chocolate Cornish pasty made in St. Ives.

Cheese lovers can sample the finest of Cornish Crumbly, from Bude, Cornish Blue from Pensilva or Westcountry Brie near

Newquay as well as Sharpham's Rustic from over the Devon border. This is all in addition to the best known and some lesser known cheeses from throughout Britain and Europe.

Similarly local cured hams and patés as well as the delicious Deli-farm Charcuterie Black Olive

Salami from Delabole are set out alongside the finest of traditional meats imported from Italy and Spain.

Jennifer now has her 'own label' fudge as well as real ale chutney which add flavour to home produced baguettes as well as being sold as 'Jennifer's Own' to take away in the jar.

A Hub of the Community

Already fast becoming a hub of the community and a popular addition to the town's popular "Coffee Culture". Jennifer's Delicatessen is now gaining a good reputation as a coffee shop as it has already acquired for its feast of takeaway delights.

As well as shoppers, local business people and others passing along Fore Street and in need of rest and refreshments, some gourmets are making a special journey to town to sample the wide and ever changing selection of freshly prepared products guaranteed to please every palate.

From when she opens at

8.30 each weekday, when discerning customers call in for coffee and fresh croissants to have in or to take to work, Jennifer and her team are kept busy serving everything from a variety of coffees and teas including herbal teas, to full meals. With winter coming on her special hot chocolates are becoming a firm favourite, as are her all day hot soups. These are freshly made from what is in season, her Autumnal specials have included such tasty delights as lentil and roasted pepper or cream of celeriac with apple, and the winter warmers promise to be equally original and special.

Teas and coffees can be accompanied by cake, home baked by Jennifer and colleague Sue each day, or by scone with jam and cream.

For a more substantial meal the specials board is well worth checking out, as is the regular menu which has been developed according to customer request. The casserole of the day, homemade and served with a warm baguette, is becoming increasingly popular as the days grow colder, while the quiche, egg and bacon pie and ploughmans platter remain firm favourites. Filled fresh baguettes can be prepared to order and warmed in the oven if so wished, while the savoury cheese scones served with choice of paté or stilton is a savoury favourite.

With Christmas specials, including homemade mince pies, soon to put in an appearance, Jennifer's Delicatessen will be an ideal venue to pause and refresh, on the outside pavement in continental style on warmer winter days, or in the warm and welcoming coffee shop interior.

Festive Delights to Order

The many loyal customers who have been enjoying the wide selection of sweets and savouries that Jennifer has been tempting them with since opening earlier this year will not be disappointed with the festive array of foods available for Christmas.

Those who have enjoyed her selection of home baked cakes will be delighted to know that Jennifer's own recipe Christmas cakes, puddings and mince pies will be baked specially to order, Jennifer will also cook ham to order, you will need to place your orders for these items by 25th November to avoid disappointment

With Christmas especially in mind a joint of home cured baked ham or a variety of cheeses enhanced as a presentation pack can be

enjoyed by customers at home or make an ideal and individual Christmas gift. These will be just some of the wide selection of special food gift ideas prepared to order or suggestions on the shelves to satisfy all from the stocking fillers for the eager child to a rare delight for a gourmet's special repast.

Christmas Hampers can be tailor-made to your own requirements to enhance your festivities, or they can be made as the perfect gift for friends or family.



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Open for late night Shopping

Outside Catering Service to Suit any Social Gathering

There have been increasing requests from satisfied and happy customers for the home prepared gastronomic delights that have been available at Jennifer's since opening this year, to be offered to guests at a variety of parties and functions.

To meet this demand from early next year Jennifer will be offering an outside catering service. This will include anything from a cheese and wine evening (featuring some of the special cheeses sourced locally and beyond) to a full buffet lunch or supper. Already orders taken for 2013 have included a wedding and a ninetieth birthday.

The large quiches made to order in increasing demand will certainly feature in the selection of buffet foods, which will be among those on the outside catering menu. It will also feature a less usual choice of

foods such as a "Cheese Wedding Cake", increasingly selected by brides as an alternative to traditional Cake and featuring rounds of whole cheese decked in apples and grapes. Jennifer will be delighted to design a personal selection of traditional or more unusual buffet foods to ensure the success of any social gatherings.

Lastly, don't forget that you can order special occasion cakes from Jennifer's from a simple Victoria sandwich to a magnificent tiered wedding cake....

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In addition, over 30 Town Centre shops will be open late to 7 or 7:30 on Saturday 1st & Friday 7th, 14th & 21st December.
Take advantage of FREE CHRISTMAS PARKING & LATE NIGHT OPENING
And support our Town Centre

Celebrate the Christmas Festivities in Saltash...

Saturday December 1st
Bring your family and friends for a fabulous day of fun and entertainment

With our Christmas celebrations special edition of your Saltash and District Observer we would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new readers. Your Saltash local community newspaper is this month going out to hundreds of new families in order to show them how much is happening in Saltash this Christmas, as indeed throughout the year. We hope that our many new readers as well as our numerous longstanding supporters will all come together in Saltash to help share the festive fun organised by a hard working committee over the past few months. It will all be happening on Saturday December 1st, which promises to be one of those days, like our Summer's Olympic Flame day, of which one and all should be able to say proudly 'I was there'.

This is the twenty-first year in which your Saltash Observer has enjoyed promoting the town's special Christmas events. Our Editor Mary, as well as being on the Rotary committee involved in community activities, has this year been pleased and proud to be a member of FROST, 'Festive Representatives of Saltash Town' the group that has worked with Saltash Town Council to organise the Christmas celebrations this year for your delight.

Please one and all, share the fun, visit our local shops and see what they have to offer by way of special Christmas gifts and produce. They work hard throughout the year and are the heart of our friendly community. Read in this Observer, what there will be going on during the fun-filled day, on December 1st, and be prepared for a few extra surprises

Join in the Community Sing-a-Long

Victorian Christmas, such as will be celebrated in Saltash on 1st December, will forever be associated with the immortal Charles Dickens, and in true Dickensian spirit at 3 p.m. that afternoon, a host of young urchins led by Oliver and the Artful Dodger will leap into Fore Street and wend their way down the town singing that firm favourite 'Consider Yourself'.

All those in the street at the time should consider themselves invited to join in with the fun, sing along if they know the words (which can be downloaded from www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk) as a fitting opening to the 'Pedestrian Haven' afternoon. The community sing-a-long will coincide with the 3 o'clock closure of Fore Street to traffic and signal the start of the festive fun. Please contact the Guildhall if you have any barrels who can lend to enhance the look of Fore Street. It is hoped that many of those out to enjoy the afternoon will themselves enter into the

spirit of the occasion by dressing in Victorian attire. As the singing and dancing members of our own Youngstagers, in their 'Oliver' costumery, reach the foot of Fore Street, this will lead into the judging of the Victorian fancy dress competition. All of those who have chosen to add to the seasonal themed fun by dressing up in Victorian costume are invited to assemble there. The Judges include the Mayor and Lizzy Sharpe-Asprey of Saltash Heritage, who will be awarding a number of prizes in categories for adults and children.

Visit Father Christmas in his Grotto

We have it on good authority that Father Christmas himself will be taking time out of his busy pre-Christmas schedule to share in the celebrations here in Saltash. Before leading the grand Civic and Lantern Parade down Fore Street he will be in his own decorated grotto in the former Maurice Huggins Rest Room, Victoria Gardens, between midday and 4.30. Here he will be pleased to meet any children of primary school age, discuss their Christmas wishes, and give a small present.

There will be no charge for entry to the Grotto but parents are asked to make a food donation to the newly-established Saltash Food Bank to help ensure a happier Christmas and New Year for local people in need.

Details of requests for the Food Bank are listed elsewhere in this 'Observer'

Standing in for Father Christmas's elves, who will be busy elsewhere, are his 'little' helpers from Saltash.net who will be decorating the Grotto.



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Christmas Festivities

Programme of Events - Saturday December 1st

10am -8pm Christmas Tree Fair in St. Nicholas & St. Faith Church
12 noon -7pm Craft Fairs in Victoria Gardens & Keast Mews
12 noon - 4:30 Santa's Grotto in the Maurice Huggins Room
(Bring a donation for the Saltash Foodbank as entry)

3pm - 7:30 Pedestrian Haven in Fore Street
3pm Join Oliver in a Community Sing-a-long of 'Consider Yourself' Leaves Victoria Gardens and goes down Fore Street

3:30 Victorian Fancy Dress Competition at the bottom of Fore Street Open to all ages - plenty of prizes

4:15 Saltash Mayor welcomes lanterns from Victoria Road Primary School on the Tamar Bridge

4:45 Lantern Parade goes up Fore Street

5pm Civic Parade leaves Victoria Gardens, Goes down Fore Street followed by lanterns

5:15 Switch-on of the Christmas lights and Nativity Play On the outdoor stage at the bottom of Fore Street

6:15 - 7:15 Yuletide Youth Concert On the outdoor stage at the bottom of Fore Street

Visit www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk for up-to-date information.

A Victorian Theme to Enhance our Pedestrian Haven

Each year Christmas in Saltash has been welcomed in with a special magic as the town centre is closed to traffic but filled with a throng of townsfolk and visitors enjoying the seasonal delights of their friendly local shops until late in the evening. This year promises better than ever from 3pm onward with many shopkeepers and staff promising to join in the Victorian theme with their displays and some dressing in period costume. A treasure hunt of 'spot the odd one out' in shop windows will add to the fun, and there will be tasty seasonal treats to enjoy in some of the shops, many of which will be adding to the atmosphere with their own outside stalls. This year's hotly contested window dressing competition will be judged by the children of St. Stephens School.

Younger children can once again have fun in the Drake's Den bus play zone, this year in Keast Mews. Children of all ages can try to make their own hand crafted gifts at a Saltash Environmental Action Group stall set up in the Brunel Inn. And all can enjoy a special Christmas magic by stepping over to the Christmas Tree Festival lighting up St. Nicholas Church, until 8pm with live music some of this time.

Back in Fore Street there will be extra excitement in the Victorian theme with the appearance of a genuine restored Victorian horse-drawn omnibus and a Victorian barrel organ.

And to complete the seasonal splendour ladies and gentlemen of the Essa Drama Group in appropriate costume will be reading excerpts of Christmas prose and poetry at various shops along the street. Look out for the Nativity Crib Scene on kind loan from St. Barnabas Hospital and listen out for carols being sung by members of U3A. Over 30 shops will remain open until 7:30pm giving the opportunity to continue looking for that special individual gift or seasonal food and drink in a street bright with illuminations after the main celebrations are completed. There will be yet further opportunities for late-night shopping on each following Friday evening up until Christmas when many shops will be remaining open until 7.30pm, bringing the Christmas spirit again to the heart of Saltash.



Christmas Craft Fair Under Cover at...

Victoria Gardens & Keast Mews

For those who seek to select that special and individually crafted Christmas present, or who just wish to wonder at the skills of others, the Craft Fair will be back this year as part of the town's Christmas festivities on 1st December.

Following last year's keen support by stall-holders and public this year's Craft Fair is to be spread over the town in two key locations. As the Mayor, Cllr Martin Gee opens the Craft Fair in Victoria Gardens promptly at noon, the Mayoress Mrs Maggie Gee will be opening the equally excellent Craft Fair in Keast Mews, between Fore Street and the Co-op car park.

The Craft Fairs will continue until 7 p.m. and will be seasonally lit during the evening. Both will be under cover of marquees, and as an added attraction Saltash-based entertainers will perform a selection of Christmas tunes, symphonic concert music and tunes from Oliver during the afternoon in Victoria Gardens. Featured entertainers include RWindband and the Youngstagers as well as Mike Nottage and Ruth Ballantyne. Look out, too, for a living statue of Brunel and a genuine Victorian 'gondola' swingboat.

Merry Christmas from... The Saltash Gateway CIC

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Visit www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk For up-to-date information



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Bigger and Better than Ever Before... Lantern Parade Followed by Civic Parade

The colourful creativity of last year's Lantern Parade was truly memorable and has inspired even more children and adults to join in this year's extended programme of lantern workshops, funded by Saltash Town Council. Over 300 lanterns have been made for this year's Parade. Look out for the lighthouse created by ladies from Saltash Sailing Club, the ship being carried by Saltash Rugby Club and the giant snowman made by parents and children at Bishop Cornish Primary School.

This year, schools outside Saltash including Sir Robert Geffery's in Landrake and Victoria Road Primary School in St. Budeaux hosted lantern workshops, and the Parade will begin as the Head of Victoria Road, Mr. Kevin Duggan, leads over 60 schoolchildren from Victoria Road across the Tamar Bridge to be met half way by our Mayor and a procession of Saltash 'lanterners' escorting them to our Guildhall.

From there, the bright and colourful lanterns parade will depart, escorted by our valiant Air Cadets. At 4.45 p.m., as darkness falls through the town, the lanterns will wend their way to Victoria Gardens. Here, they will meet the Civic Parade, together with Joseph, Mary and Poppy the donkey (from Tamar Donkey Sanctuary), later to perform in the open-air nativity play. The grand Christmas Parade having assembled it will be led off by Father Christmas himself greeting all from the Rotary Club sleigh, followed by Saltash Town Band in seasonal music mood, the Mayor, Mayoress, other civic leaders (some at least in Victorian costume) and the family of Andrew Ball, who will carry the Olympic Torch that Andrew proudly carried over the Tamar Bridge on the day the Torch Relay came to our town. Behind them will be the Community Parade of adults and children bearing their beautiful hand-crafted lanterns. As they reach the foot of Fore Street by the outdoor stage the atmosphere will be ready for the climax of the celebrations to commence.



Visit www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk For up-to-date information

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Exotic Handmade Christmas Decorations from Egypt



Twelve months after having commenced refurbishment of the Fore Street florist business that he had just taken over Michael is delighted with the reception that he has received from customers old and new at Acorns Florist. While enhancing the appearance of the floral displays and introducing a wide new range of exotic and attractive flora he has continued to maintain the established favourite flowers and to ensure that the extended range covers affordable bouquets for every pocket. Michael now is eager to enter his second year of business in the premises, established as a florist around fifty years ago, and to commence year two of his refurbishment programme that will see still further changes and enhancement of stock at every price range.

Among the more exotic flora in his constantly changing choice are amaryllis, protea and strelitzia (bird of paradise flower) which, together with roses, chrysanthemums and other seasonal favourites are delivered freshly four times a week. Indeed any preferred flowers can be obtained to order within a maximum of three days.

Michael's expertise

Increasingly over his first year in Saltash customers have been calling upon Michael's expertise in selecting and making up bouquets for every occasion, in advance to order or while one waits. He and his assistant Rachael, who has been five years in the Fore Street business, are always pleased to advise when asked as to the ideal bouquet for such events as birthdays, anniversaries, births, get well, or simply 'thank you' - delivery can be arranged locally, or nationally and internationally through Interflora.

Weddings and funerals are not surprisingly a speciality. Acorns Florists will be delighted to quote for organising an entire wedding display from bridal bouquet and men's buttonholes to decorations for the reception. Rachael specialises in particular in tasteful and suitable arrangements for funerals.

Corporate flowers is a growing business, and many local businesses are coming to enhance their own premises by arranging for Acorns to provide and change floral displays in public areas on a contractual basis.

The Acorns expertise has been built up during a lifetime of providing floral arrangements for all including the most famous. Michael has worked in London providing flowers for the royal family and has prepared the settings for parties in Claridges and the Savoy attended by the stars. He then moved to Tokyo where, while

studying the different disciplines of floral design including Ikenobo and Sogetsu he wrote seven books on design in Japanese, demonstrated on television, and made up arrangements for the Emperor of Japan. Having returned to Britain, after a spell as wedding designer in Plymouth he was delighted when the chance to return to his Cornish roots arose as the long established Saltash Florists became available.

TV Screens

Having enjoyed, since his grand opening last November, introducing his floral skills to a Saltash based clientele he is already well into planning out his second year's refurbishment. This includes the launching of his new website which will run alongside the new instore TV Screens utilising the latest technology to bring the world of flowers to Fore Street. More immediately Acorns will be re-introducing the courses, and fun days, so popular before last Christmas, including the creating of home-made individualistic Christmas wreaths and table arrangements. Details of the days are on the website and available by calling in.

With Christmas also in mind Acorns will introduce to Saltash an exclusive exotic range of decorations from Egypt hand made in gold and silver yet at affordable prices. The Christmas display in Acorns will be well worth seeking out during the town's special Christmas events day and evening on December 1st and up until Christmas day. There will be a range of pot plants, flowers and flower related gifts including the special Acorns Christmas Hampers, created by design at personal request and which may include flowers, fruits and plants, all to order. It has become very popular in recent years for customers to put money by in advance to save for their Christmas purchases.

Greatly encouraged by last year's enthusiastic support from Saltash, Michael and the Acorns team are already preparing to take Christmas orders and to arrange deliveries up to and including Christmas Eve.

Pictured below Rachel & Michael...they look forward to the refurbishment being completed in time for the Saltash Christmas Festival Sat 1st December



Festival Trees will Fill the Church



The magic of Christmas will be enjoyed once more as the ancient church of St. Nicholas and St. Faith is bedecked with beautifully decorated trees during its sixth Christmas Tree Festival.

It is now a much loved tradition as local organisations vie to create the best dressed tree among the fifty or so to be wondered at by visitors to the church during Saltash's special Christmas celebrations day Saturday December 1st, and the days that follow. On that special day the church will be open from 10am to 8pm and there will be a variety of seasonal entertainment throughout the day to include hand bell ringers and the ladies choir. The following Saturday the church will be open from 10am until 6pm and on other days up until 12th December from 3 pm to 6 pm. Refreshments will be available on both Saturday, and on December 1st the Christmas Bazaar will be in the adjacent Church rooms from 10 am until 2 pm.

Entry to the festival is £1.50 per adult, accompanied children free, and there is easy access for the disabled.

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OR
01579 345699

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marye.crawford@virgin.net

CECILY BAKER CHARITY
Registered No 280830
Contact number
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Diary Date...

Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 1st Dec - Wed 12th Dec

St Nicholas & Faith Church

Open Sat 1st...10am-8pm,

Sat 8th 10am-6pm

All other days...3pm-6pm

Sat 1st Dec Christmas Bazaar

10am-2pm

Both Saturdays

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Saltash Christmas Festival Saturday December 1st...

Rotary...Out and About with Santa

Projected routes and statics for the sleigh this year

The sound of Santa's bell ringing about traditional carols, is in Saltash, a sure sign that Father Christmas is on his way. It is a well-loved local tradition that Saltash Rotarians provide a Santa, together with sleigh, to bring the festive spirit to our streets and venues during the weeks prior to Christmas. So much so, in fact, that Rotary have in recent years had to build Santa a new sleigh.

He will be touring the town as well as stopping outside stores, including in Fore Street, as shown above. Please return Father Christmas's greeting, and he will be especially pleased if you are able to place in the tin of his helpers a generous contribution towards the Saltash Rotary Club's deserving local causes.

Santas Route

Dec 3 Latchbrook Mobile	Dec 15 Waitrose Static
Dec 4 Pilmere Mobile	Dec 17 Latchbrook Mobile
Dec 5 Fore Street Static	Dec 18 Lynher Drive Mobile
Dec 6 Maybrook Mobile	Dec 19 Garden centre Static
Dec 7 Fore Street Static	Dec 20 Lidl Static
Late Night Shopping	Dec 21 Waitrose Static
Dec 8 Fore Street Static	Late Shift 2-8
Dec 10 Pollards Way Mobile	Dec 22 Fore Street Static
Dec 11 Latchbrook Mobile	Dec 23 Tesco Centre Static
Dec 12 Garden Centre Static	Dec 24 Waitrose Static
Dec 13 Fore Street Static	
Dec 14 Lidl Static	



Food Donations to Santa's Grotto

The Saltash Foodbank is a small charity established by a small group of volunteers to help local people who are temporarily short of food and who are referred to us by social services and other professional agencies. An increasing number of people find themselves unable to buy food, often as a result of a specific problem, such as loss of employment, mounting debt or death of a spouse. The Saltash Foodbank provides boxed food that will last for a period of 3 days. We also provide practical advice and help if required. Thanks to the support of local people and businesses such as the Co-op and Waitrose we have been able to donate our 100th box

this summer but need to keep our stock levels replenished so please, if you are able, support Saltash Foodbank this Christmas by bringing a donation from the following list to the Santa's Grotto at The Maurice Huggins Room on 1st December or to one of the various collections points at Churches through the town.

Items to donate

Tinned Meat, Fish & Fruit, Milk (UHT or Powdered) Sugar 500g Fruit Juice (Long Life) Soup, Pasta Sauces, Sponge Pudding (Tinned) Tomatoes (Tinned) Cereals, Rice Pudding (Tinned), Tea Bags/Instant Coffee, Instant Mashed Potato, Rice/Pasta Jam, Biscuits or Snack Bars & Vegetables (Tinned)

Road Closures Saturday 1st December 2012

Fore Street will be closed to traffic from 14:15 until 19:45. Diversions will be signed along North Road (B3271), Glebe Avenue and Callington Road. King Edward Road will be one-way heading North (towards the roundabout) from the junction with Victoria Road to Fore Street, and one-way heading South (away from the roundabout) from the junction with Victoria Road to Essa Road.

This is to ease congestion at the roundabout at the top of Fore Street. These road closures will be in place at the same time as Fore Street.

Wesley Road will be shut completely from 14:15 until 19:45.

Anyone wishing to take a taxi or be dropped off, please go to the bottom of Fore Street, where there will be a designated

drop-off/pickup zone. Vehicles will be moved on within 5 minutes.

A no-stopping zone will be enforced at the roundabout at the top of Fore Street. Public transport will still be in operation on the day, but be diverted onto North Road, where services will use stops along North Road.

Parking will be available in all town centre car parks, though the following roads will have a no parking zone enforced all day: Callington Road (between Fore Street and Longstone Park), Glebe Avenue (entirety), Belle Vue Road (east side of the road), North Road

(east side of road), Essa Road (north side of road) and King Edward Road (entirety). We strongly recommend using public transport, or getting to the event early.

Please be aware that spaces in the car park behind the Co-op will be limited due to the Craft Fair taking place in Keast Mews.

Any issues or queries on the day, feel free to ask a member of the Air Training Corps who will be overseeing the operation and will be wearing high visibility vests. All information can be found by visiting <http://www.335.org.uk/index.php/events>

Christmas Lights Switch On and Nativity Play

As the crowd counts down and the strings of lights and lit-up trees flicker up to illuminate the heart of our town, Saltash knows that Christmas is really on its way. This year the honour of switching on the lights falls to our Citizen and Junior Citizen of the Year, Hazel Greaves and Hannah Birtwell. The lights will be switched on at 5.15 p.m. to the usual gasps as the town takes on its Christmas magic once more.

This will be followed by a variation in our town's Christmas tradition. Joseph

and Mary, who have made their way down Fore Street with Poppy the donkey, will take the stage together with shepherds, wise men, and angels, as the innkeeper and his wife narrate the ancient but ever-loved story of the Nativity. Members of our Youngstagers will perform the roles and all present will be invited to join in singing the carols which this year will be an integral part of the Nativity Play. Children will be asked to sing 'Away in a Manger', and one and all to raise their voices in the traditional Christmas favourites.

Many Attractions to look out for...

Including:

Christmas Tree Fair
St. Nicholas & St. Faith Church

Santa's Grotto

The Maurice Huggins Room

Live Music at the Craft Fair

Victoria Gardens

Drake's Den Playbus

Keast Mews

Christmas Craft Table

Inside Brunel Inn

Victorian Gondola

Victoria Gardens

Living Statue of Brunel

Fore Street

Victorian Horse-Drawn Omnibus

Fore Street

Book Readings by Characters in Costume

Various shops

Victorian Barrel Organ

Fore Street

Yuletide Youth Concert

Live Christmas entertainment for all will continue following the conclusion of the Nativity Play Carol Service. The festive spirit will be kept alive by a special Yuletide Youth Concert commencing at 6.15 p.m. on the outdoor stage at the foot of pedestrianised Fore Street.

Confirmed acts to date include a new performing arts group in Saltash called Page 2 Stage; the local duo Rosina and Beulah who played to much acclaim at this year's Port Elliot Festival; Jamie Pullen, who won the senior section of this year's Who's Got Talent despite being only

16; and Western Approach Close Harmony Singers (who are young at heart) who put in a performance 'as smooth as melted butter' to take overall victory at this year's Who's Got Talent. The hour-long concert will resonate the length of Fore Street thanks to a sound system kindly provided by Livewire. With shops still open till late, Fore Street once again filled with Christmas light and the town redolent with music, fun and seasonal spirit there will be every reason to stay on until late into the evening and make the most of a day filled with pre-Christmas magic.

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Saltash Christmas Lights Festival Sat 1st Dec
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December
Christmas Eve Monday 24th The Roosters
Tues 4th Martin Dale Tues 11th Jazz Trio
Tues 18th Louise Fri 7th Five & Dime
Fri 14th Blue on Black Fri 21st TBA
Fri 28th The Cuckoo Collective
Sat 1st The Wireless Sat 8th Banana Thieves
Sat 15th Free & Co Sat 22nd XLR
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'saltash.net Supports National Charities'



The month of October has provided students and staff at saltash.net with two national charitable causes to support: Jeans for Genes Day, supporting young people with genetic disorders and genetic research, and Wear it Pink Day, which highlights the Breakthrough Breast Cancer campaign. On Friday 5th October, a non uniform day was held where students and staff were encouraged to wear a combination of pink and denim. A superb total of £676 was raised on that day.

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SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



In September I wrote about the Police and Crime Commissioner elections due to take place on 15 November.

I would like to take the opportunity to urge everyone to make sure you cast your vote in these very important elections. The position of Police and Crime Commissioner will replace the Police Authority and will make the role of scrutiny more transparent and accountable.

Last Friday was very busy for me. It began with the second reading of my Marine Navigation (No 2) Bill. A Private Members Bill allows a back bench MP to create a law.

Whilst my Bill has a Maritime theme, many people will be surprised that it does not involve the fishing industry. If passed into law, my Bill introduces measures to reduce burdens on the ports and shipping industry and improve safety for vessels in harbours and the seas around the United Kingdom. It includes provisions governing pilotage, the management of harbours and the powers and duties applicable to harbour authorities, port constables and the General Lighthouse Authorities.

Six harbours in England have their own port police forces. However officers in those forces are limited to carrying out their duties within the port and within one mile of the port. This unnecessarily limits their ability to protect maritime businesses from crime. This Bill would extend the Power of port police forces and allow them to operate beyond one mile.

The three General Lighthouse Authorities for the UK and Ireland are

restricted in the extent to which they could reduce their operating costs by engaging in commercial operations where they have surplus capacity. This reduces the opportunity to earn income that could help keep down the level of Light Dues charged on ships using UK ports. For many years I have heard arguments about the level of Light Dues imposed on shipping including many of the UK fishing vessels. I hope my Bill will ease the financial burden on an industry that is seeing ever increasing running costs on items such as fuel prices.

It is also necessary to provide the General Lighthouse Authorities with clear powers to provide essential aids to navigation outside UK territorial waters and to use modern, cost-effective electronic methods of lights and buoys. Most vessels now use electronic charts and I hope safety will be enhanced by including the use of electronic warnings to mark wrecks.

There is no straightforward legal process to enable a port to close should it become uneconomic to operate. Closure could be achieved only by promoting a private Act of Parliament, which is both time-consuming and costly for the harbour authority as well as Parliament and the Government. Similarly, there is no process for relieving a Competent Harbour Authority (as defined in the 1987 Pilotage Act) of its legal duties to provide pilotage where activity at the port no longer warrants the provision of pilotage services.

My Bill amends the Harbours Act 1964 and inserts new sections which provide the appropriate national authority with the power to make a closure order so that a harbour authority will stop maintaining its harbour which is no longer commercially viable or necessary.

I hope that my Marine Navigation (No 2) Bill will go some way to contributing to Marine Safety and also help ships that are already navigating further below the water line due to the increasing economic load they are having to carry.

My Bill will now progress to the Committee stage where each clause will be scrutinised and amendments may be proposed.

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Celtic Cross will be Lit Up

Floodlighting for the Celtic Cross to be placed adjacent to the Tamar Bridge, will help boost the Town's 'evening economy', it was claimed as additional funding was sought for this from monies paid by Waitrose for community projects in the town

It has been calculated that the twenty metre high cross should bring added footfall into the town with Fifty Thousand additional visitors anticipated. This is based on the similarly situated 'Angel of the North' figure on Tyneside. This should benefit the town shops and illumination should similarly benefit cafes and bars during the evening.

The Council has also been asked to release monies for the unanticipated costs. These include a retaining wall in neighbouring woodland, found to be in need of replacement, and a fibre glass hood to the plinth, allowing access for maintenance to the cross. The Council after discussion agreed to release the extra monies. Already the foundations for the massive cross are being dug out to the north of the approach to the Tamar Bridge.

It is now anticipated that the cross will be erected in either November or December. A delay has been caused by the need to obtain permission to close the A38 trunk road for around thirty minutes as the cross arrives over the bridge

and is manoeuvred across, the road into position. An official launch date is planned for between January and March next year.

Trees Are Dangerous, Claim North Road Resident

Tall trees that overshadow their homes wave in high winds, shed branches on cars below, and could endanger life and property in an especially fierce gale. This was the concern put to Saltash Town Council by residents of North Road concerning trees by Elwell Lane. The relevant authority, Cornwall Council, has been made aware of concerns, County Councillor Derek Holley confirmed, and a survey of those trees was on the 'to do' list. He promised to follow the matter up.

Grass left uncut and cuttings not collected was another concern of the same North Road residents. They were told that it is no longer the County's policy to pick up grass cuttings following mowing.

Gas showroom Empty for Twenty Years

Will now be available to Local People, to develop their Entrepreneurial Skills.

A shop in a key town centre position that has stood empty for twenty years will be made available for local people to develop their retail and entrepreneurial skills. As well as providing a venue for a weekly crafts and arts producers markets with capacity for up to seven stalls the former gas showrooms at the foot of Fore Street could

be used to promote the town generally and showcase the Gateway community interest company that has negotiated a three year leased for the premises free of charge. This is conditional upon the group refurbishing the premises and making good twenty years of neglect. The Town Council agreed to allocate £27,000 of monies give by the town's supermarket for community use towards this refurbishment.

Saltash Mobility and Saltash Hopper bus will be just two of the organisations that could then utilise the premises that will be disabled friendly enabling all sections of the community to make use of a lively and vibrant retail and community focus for the town.

The small and affordable stalls in the heart of the town will serve for an un-catered market, The Gateway group believes, and should not impact considerably on any other established town business.

Our Very Own Calendar Girls Support 'Breakthrough'

For those wishing to keep abreast of the passing days in 2013 a variety of prominent and professional Saltash Ladies have agreed to be exposed in photographs taken for the town's own calendar sold in support appropriately of 'Breakthrough' This is a pioneering charity dedicated to detecting the causes of breast cancer. Mike and Joan at the 'Ploughboy Inn' are sponsoring the calendar in support in particular of Joan's daughter Shirley Thompson who will be walking the Great Wall of China in 2013 raising money to help detect the disease from which she has suffered. Ploughboy landlady Joan will herself be 'Miss June' and she is grateful to all the other local ladies who have agreed to take part. The calendar will be available in the 'Ploughboy' and other local outlets later this year. Watch your Observer for further details.

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saltash.net - Bring Your Grown-Up To School!

A maths teacher wrapped up in a curtain for a cloak? A dad on his hands and knees as Bishop Trelawny's horse (with Bishop Trelawny riding!)? Scale models of an RNLI lifeboat and a Sea King helicopter made of sugar paper and paint? Six Year 7s dressed up as the pilchards in stargazy pie? It can only be Bring Your Grown-Up To School Morning at saltash.net community school!

Following on from the success of last year, Bring Your Grown-Up To School looks to be a fixture of Year 7 at saltash.net. Over 100 Grown-Ups belonging to members of Year 7 came in to school on Wednesday 17th October to join in with school life for a morning and to get an insight into what Year 7 really is all about.

12 Cornish Heroes were picked, but the question was: which one is the best and most heroic? 12 groups of Year 7s and their Grown-Ups were challenged to convince the judges that their hero was "the one". The only rule was that the convincing could not exceed 3 minutes. An exciting mixture of craft materials and new technologies were presented to each group... and they had 2 hours to come up with the most amazing presentation.

We had a classic Cornish folk song turned into a rap, a human reconstruction of the Eden Project biomes, an edge-of-your-seat movie trailer, a St Piran puppet show, numerous amazing disguises, costumes and theatre props all made of cardboard...oh yes, and paint and tissue paper everywhere! This is what Integrated Learning looks like when a challenge is set and the Grown-Ups are invited to join in.

For the students this was an opportunity to show off their skills of independent learning, group collaboration and creativity developed in their new Integrated Learning lessons. For their Grown-Ups it was a chance to rediscover glue, poster paint and play-acting. As one Grown-Up said; "I enjoyed making time to work with my daughter." Another commented that they

Observer Telephone Numbers
07971484872
or 01579 345699

Disabled Drivers may be Ticketed

Disabled drivers are continuing to park at the foot of Fore Street where there is a total parking ban. They have been warned by Police and Councillors that the ban applies to them and they will receive tickets and be fined if they persist.

While those vehicles that display a disabled badge may generally park on yellow lines, where there are yellow markings on the kerb, as there are adjacent to Fore Street bus bays, the parking regulations apply to them too.



had had "an extremely fun time and learned something new. Who would have thought school could be like this?"

The aim of Bring Your Grown-Up To School Morning is to welcome parents and carers into their children's school life more, now that they have reached secondary school. "It was fantastic to see so many parents joining in with the activities and the parents had a great taster of how saltash.net works," said event organiser and Assistant Head of Year 7,

Emma Metters. The Grown-Ups brought along ranged from mums, dads and carers, to sisters and cousins, and even a good number of grandparents. One commented that this was "the best day they'd had at school for 65 years!"

The winning hero was Tom Bawcock (of The Mousehole Cat fame). Well done to Miss Childs' group and the Grown-Ups belonging to Molly Banks, Abi Baker, Devon Bennett-Murray, Sharna Braddon, Freddie Brasher and Emma Doney!

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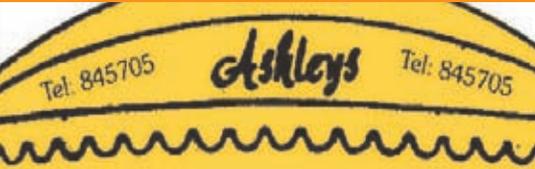
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Ashley's Celebrate 25 Years in Saltash

Having enjoyed offering the finest of hair care to an appreciative clientele for a quarter of a century, Mary of 'Ashley's' wishes to thank all of those who have helped her to combine an efficient and professional service with a friendly and sociable atmosphere enjoyed by all.

'It's not just a hairdressers', more like a family' said one contented customer as we visited Mary. This is borne out by the number of her clientele who have been visiting Ashley's on a regular basis for most if not all of the 25 years since Mary established the salon.

It would not be so successful without such a brilliant and supportive clientele and staff', added Mary. She has always enjoyed an excellent relationship with qualified and trainee staff, including at present Charlotte who trains under Mary's supervision when not attending studies at City College, another Charlotte who helps on busy Saturdays, and above all Sue, a familiar mainstay at Ashley's over the years.

Mary herself also passes on her skills to teenage trainee hairdressers on two days a week, but also has, over the decades constantly updated her own skills on ongoing courses.

Over the past 25 years Ashley's has raised thousands of pounds for various charities in particular through their renowned fun celebrations at Christmas including in particular her famous 'sweet wrapper sculpture' competition - this year's theme being pastimes and hobbies. Many charities have been supported by Ashley's over the years with 'Winston's Wish' helping bereaved children, being one of Mary's favourites.

As she prepares herself for a busy season helping her clients, long established and relative newcomers look their very best for the festive season and its social gatherings. Mary wishes once more to thank all of her clients as well as past and present staff for their loyal support. In particular she also wishes to thank husband Paul and her children, tiny when she first opened her business, Tom now a teacher and Victoria, currently training as a barrister.

Ashley's continue to welcome clients old and new on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays (with late evening opening) and all day Saturdays, and Mary is always pleased to offer individual consultations and advice.

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Thank you to all our loyal Clients & to our hard working staff Over the past 25 Years

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Seasonal Greetings



Police Community Summer Success

The summer events organised by local police were well received within the community, PCSO Mary Wells reported to the Town Council.

Canoeing proved particularly popular as local police officers assisted nine local children in achieving their 'Street Paddler Certificates'. This followed them learning a variety of skills during six practice sessions on the water.

The community reaped the benefit of a clean up organised by the police in the area of the town's leisure centre as well as the well used 'cinder path' between the Alemein estate and Long Park Road. Meanwhile children on the Pillmere Estate enjoyed a fun day of games and eating pizza provided by local officers. They are reported as already looking forward to next year's events.

Community involvement is still being sought for the 'Speed Watch' campaign in which residents work alongside police in reading speeds of passing vehicles in roads known for fast driving. Appropriate jackets are now available and volunteers are urged to contact local police. Crime continues to fall locally, against the trend of the force area generally, sixty-five offences were reported in the Saltash area the previous month as against seventy-four in the same month last year. These included one burglary from a dwelling, two other burglaries, thirteen other thefts and eleven assaults. There were seven thefts from vehicles, and six criminal damage offences to vehicles.

Festival Hopes for Extra Entries

Preparations for the 23rd Saltash Music Festival to be held from 28th January - 10th February 2013 are under way and the organisers are hoping for an increase in the entries from last year which was down slightly on the previous year. This festival is still one of the biggest in the region. The speech adjudicator is Patricia Hammond who has a vast experience and has established her own theatre school. She has worked in this country and abroad and is Drama Officer for Bromley Council.

The vocal adjudicator Ann Lampard has won many national and international awards for singing and has worked with Wayne Sleep. Elizabeth Brazier the instrumental adjudicator lives in Truro and is mainly a cellist and cello teacher. She is also an examiner with the Associated Board of Music. The committee hope to see all previous performers and look forward to meeting new ones. The closing date for the festival is Monday 26th November 2012.

Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make a nine-letter word?

- 1 On a Scrabble Board what colour are the Double Word Score Squares? (4)
- 2 What is the favourite drink of a Galactophagist? (4)
- 3 What piece of life-saving equipment was known as a Mae West in World War 11? (10)
- 4 Which is the largest County in the Republic of Ireland? (4)
- 5 Since 1066 how many Queen Mary's have ruled England? (3)
- 6 What name is given to the small Island in the Inner Hebrides which is the site of St. Columba's Monastery, founded in 563? (4)
- 7 The Tennyson poem The Idylls of a King is about which legendary Monarch? (6)
- 8 What word describes a musical note that is neither Flat nor Sharp? (7)
- 9 Which animal lives in a Holt? (5)

Answers on Page 2

Scarecrow Sighted



Numerous reports of the Scarecrow missing from the 'Ploughboy's' floral display as advised in your last month's Observer, have been passed on to Mike and Joan as they pour the pints behind the busy bar.

'Investigations inconclusive', however, they have to inform us, though rumoured sightings have come from both sides of the Tamar. The Scarecrow is, it seems, becoming well travelled. He is still sorely missed and one line of enquiry is being particularly closely followed up, look for further information in your next Observer.

'It is surprising how much interest in his whereabouts has been raised since last month's Observer went out', Mike tells us.

If he suddenly appeared back in his spot outside the Ploughboy for all to enjoy no questions would be asked, if you are spotted returning him you will earn yourself a pint on the house.

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I will deliver your copy locally free of charge, or you can purchase one from **The Bookshelf in Fore Street Saltash.**

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