

Sat 5th December  
Saltash Christmas Festival  
Special Edition

# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...



November 2015 - Issue 280

Established 23 years

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## Full Parking Refund for Shoppers

Saltash shoppers, who can currently obtain a fifty pence refund on their parking tickets from local shops should be able to have their parking costs refunded in full. This is the suggestion of the Saltash Town Improvement Group (STIG) who have found that few shopkeepers have troubled to claim back from the Town Council the fifty pence refunds that they have given to customers, presumably because few customers have bothered to seek the refunds.

A more realistic refund of £1.60 being the full cost of two hours parking in the town, might be a better draw and encourage more shoppers to spend time and money in the town centre shops STIG members believe. There would still be a minimum spend of £5 and the shopkeepers would be refunded by the Town Council from 'Section 106 money', that is money given by major developers as a planning condition and intended to boost the local economy. The suggestion was put to the Town Council for full consideration.

## New Chairman and President for Chamber of Commerce



Saltash and District Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which represents the town's traders and business people, has elected a new Chairman, while electing its previous Chairman as

President in recognition of his many years of service to business in the town.

At the annual general meeting Mr. William Cotton stood down as Chairman to enable his successor, Peter Ryland, to be elected unopposed. Ms Danielle Frith continues to serve as Secretary while Mr. Douglas Bond is the new treasurer.

In his final report as Chairman, a position that he had held for twelve years, Mr Cotton thanked Peter Dickerson for his support as treasurer over the past decade, he also spoke of a successful year which had seen the Chamber's membership doubled, largely as a result of the effort of Secretary Ms. Frith who had also boosted the Chamber's profile in organising a variety of events including a highly successful wedding fair, to be repeated next year.

He wished the new Chairman and committee well and was deeply conscious of the honour of them proposing and electing himself as President, a position that had been in abeyance for many years.

The new Chairman Peter Ryland has lived with his wife in Saltash for most of their married life and he has had an active involvement in various businesses and properties in the town. He is joint Chairman of Saltash Town Improvement Group and a Director of Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company. He has served as Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce for three years and says that he now takes over at Chairman 'with trepidation'!

'I have always believed that Saltash has a good future despite being at the end of the County of Cornwall and having the City of Plymouth on its doorstep' he says.

He sees a bright future for the Chamber which has an increasing membership and he looks to increase this further to be a stronger representation of businesses in Saltash at a time of change 'The Chamber has an active involvement in the various forums that are dealing with the future for Saltash and the more members we have the stronger our voice will be', he believes.

He paid tribute to his predecessor, 'William Cotton has been a stalwart supporter of the Chamber and throughout his twelve years as Chairman has seen various peaks and troughs but has always been there to represent the Chamber and its members'. He added, 'It is a great pleasure that he has accepted the role of President so that he can continue to be involved in the Chamber and we can still benefit from his knowledge'.

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## Christmas at... THE PLOUGHBOY

### Traditional Christmas Day Lunch

2 Course Carvery + Coffee & Mince Pie £35.00  
(3 courses available ask for details)

Special Christmas Optional Menu Available  
£25.00 per child 12years & under

Book Your Office, Family & Friends Christmas Parties Now!

### Christmas Party Menu

2 Courses £13.95 3 Courses only £17.50  
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.

**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!

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Check your Observer for further details of  
Events & Entertainment, during the Festive Season  
Liskeard Rd, Saltash Cornwall



CORNWALL COUNCIL

and our PL12 community

For Observer readers

Derek Holley, Cornwall Councillor,

Saltash East

dholley@cornwall.gov.uk.



When a constituent telephones or emails me they quite rightly expect some sort of action. These days about 5% of the time (all rough estimates coming up, just to give you the idea) I can give an easy, quick

answer or get something done. About 25% of the time I say that either the request is impossible to answer or I will not do it for a variety of reasons, usually because it is a private issue between householders. About 50% of the time I think I

can help, but - and this is where times have changed - finance or lack of finance slows things down. This might be a lack of housing, often a shortage of council officer staff to organise something or very often simply pruned budgets stopping a repair or purchase. The interesting question is... what about the other 20% of the time?

You may not like the council system (I don't like quite a lot of it) or feel your councillors are useless (sadly there are some of these about the county) but the one thing that you should treasure and protect is this system of democracy which does give you some representation and usually a sporting chance of getting some action - at least at a local level, if not a national one. This is where the 20% comes in - there are some crucially important organisations that I know I can influence very little on your behalf - realistically I don't stand a dog's chance. Which are these? Two examples, one, Network Rail and two (which should interest you more), Highways England (HE), formerly the Highways Agency and recently rebranded at considerable expense, paid for by you and me. Why can't I help with these? Because they are above local democracy and only answerable to the Secretary of State in London - this is wrong in principle and practice - in fact some years ago when I was criticising

them at a meeting I was reminded of this quite firmly by one of their officers. The trouble is HE run the two trunk roads in Cornwall, the A38 here in Saltash and A30 in the north. They call all the shots and effectively they do what they like. So they run the Saltash bypass and the Carkeel roundabout and control and decide everything. True, Cormac often does work for them and Cornwall has found funding for and drawn up the upcoming phase two of the roundabout works, but the final decisions are HE's to make. We do try and influence them (recently about the lane fiasco when coming from the north) but we can only request. We also tried to get both phases of the work done at one time - failed - we tried to get a decent slip lane from Saltash to the west - failed - tried to get the new footbridge linked with the existing footpath down the Travis Perkins road - failed.

So many, many people have complained about aspects of the A38 works and most of it is justified. The few changes we have made are mainly through the influence of senior council officers in county hall. I hope this helps you understand why in about 20% of the time I fail to help!

One last thing... I represented Saltash Council and the Area Road Safety Committee at a meeting organised by the parish councils between here and Callington. They have started a process to improve and make safer the cycle route along the A388. Good for them. It will take a long time but it is a really worthwhile undertaking and I sense it will succeed.

Final score: apples - A, strawberries - A, courgettes - B, carrots - B, sweet corn - B, Brussel sprouts D, slugs and snails A++ again, no slacking there - Michael Gove would be proud of them!

Derek Holley  
Cornwall and Town  
Councillor  
Saltash East

## New War Memorial and Peace Garden for Saltash

A new and innovative Saltash Town Council War Memorial and Peace Garden is to be opened in Alexandra Square on Sunday 22nd November 2015 at 3.00pm.

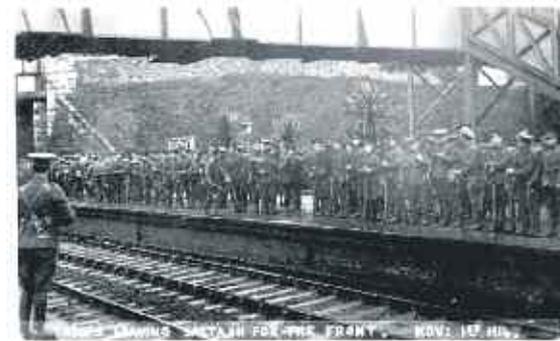
It is believed to be the first of its kind in the South West.

The Memorial commemorates both First and Second World Wars and is also dedicated to all those from Saltash who have lost their lives in war and conflict.

The Garden will be situated on Alexandra Green, close to Saltash Guildhall and St. Nicholas & Faith Church.

Invited guests will attend a short outdoor Memorial Service and a flock of doves will be released as a symbol of peace.

The Memorial is to be opened by Mr Barry Brooking as a representative of the families of Saltash who lost relatives. Barry served in the



Royal Navy and Royal Marines Commando, and completed 3 operational tours of duty in Northern Ireland between 1969 and 1972. He is the grandson of Francis Brooking, one of six Saltash firemen killed in the blitz in Plymouth in 1941.

Mr Brooking said:

"It is an honour to be asked to open this War Memorial and Peace Garden. In my experience such a combined memorial is unique. In spite of all the commemorations over the last couple of years there is still a need to be reminded of the effects of war and conflict, and to remember all those who died. In a survey this year 1 out of 8 people did not even know the years when the Second World War started and finished".

Councillor Mrs Sue Hooper, who initiated the project and leads the Working Party on behalf of the Saltash Town Council said:

"Saltash has always had a strong sense of community and history. In the last few years we have celebrated our Cornish identity with the Cornish Cross, and talking sculpture of Ann Glanville, one of our famous daughters, and even a representation of a First World War trench from a passage way at the Saltash Heritage Museum. This project will help ensure we do not forget those who made the supreme sacrifice and we can remember them and hope for peace in the future in a quiet and pleasant environment".

### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

ST NICHOLAS & FAITH CHURCH

Alexandria Square SALTASH PL12 6AN

Opening 10am on Saturday 28th November

Closing 6pm Friday 11th December

Over 60 brightly lit and decorated Christmas trees to admire

Adults £1.50 - accompanied children free

On Saturday 29th November & Saturday 5th December there will be refreshments served in the church rooms, plus sales tables and raffle.

Also on Saturday 28th November the Plymouth Clarion Choir will perform in the evening

At various times during the festival the Saltash Handbell Ringers and the Brunel Harmony Chorus will be performing.

On Saturday 5th December the church will be open until 8pm where mulled wine and mince pies will be served.

Sunday 6th December at 4pm the Saltash Ladies Choir will sing carols among the trees and serve warm mince pies and tea. Cost £2.50

Easy parking and disabled friendly access

For further details see our website [www.saltashparishchurches.org](http://www.saltashparishchurches.org)



## THE PLOUGHBOY

### Christmas Day Menu

2 Course £35.00 3 Course £42.50

Child 2 Course £25.00

#### Starters:

Homemade Broccoli and Stilton soup served with a Granary roll.

Pork, Chicken Liver Pate with a Cranberry topping, served with Toast and Salad garnish.

Prawn Cocktail - Fresh Prawns in Seafood Sauce sat on a bed of leaves and served with brown bread & butter.

#### Mains:

Roast Turkey Beef or Pork - Carvery Style with seasonal trimmings.

Vegetarian Turkey Style Roast with Wensleydale, Cranberry & Orange Centre, a meat free soya based, coated in a tasty crumb filled with cheese, cranberries & orange served with seasonal vegetables and vegetable gravy. Smoked Haddock and Spring Onion Fishcakes on a bed of oriental stir-fry vegetables and new potatoes.

#### Desserts:

Christmas Pudding - Traditional Christmas pudding served with Brandy Sauce or Clotted Cream

Three Layered Chocolate Mousse, (White, Milk & Dark Chocolate) served with Raspberry Coulis & Clotted Cream.

Banoffee Pie - Digestive base banana slices and sweet toffee sauce topped with Fresh Cream

After your meals you will be served with Tea & Coffee and a Mince Pie

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## Once More, This Year Saltash Shops Bring Christmas Cheer

Christmas comes but once a year, and every year our friendly local businesses in and around Fore Street are busy ensuring that shopping locally can bring good cheer, as well as a great and often unusual selection of seasonal produce and presents. As we walked down the town's busy street in mid October some of our friends who in many cases own their own businesses told us of how they are preparing for that special season.

Debbie of Saltash Bookshelf has arranged for a very important visitor during Saltash's Christmas Saturday celebrations on 5th December. Father Christmas will be coming to breakfast and lunch with local children and parents are invited to book in advance to ensure that Santa has that special suitable gift for each child. Throughout the Christmas build up a large array of traditional toys on offer includes the Ever Earth range, purchasers of which are invited to register on line to ensure that a tree is planted in the name of the child receiving the gift. Children and adults can benefit from 'buy one get one free' books, and through December all can relax from the shopping experience over tea with homemade mince pies and cream in the 'Bookshelf

Café'.

Fine seasonal fare will also be enjoyed at Jennifer's Deli, where fresh Cornish produce can also be guaranteed to be a favourite treat to take home. Individual Christmas cakes will be on sale and bumper Christmas hampers can be made up to order.

Our local shops always pride themselves in offering unique and highly acceptable gifts and none more so than 'Driftwood' in Keast Mews, under new ownership this season. Joy has in particular a new range of scented soap, hand cut and individually wrapped, as well as a new range of candles for the Christmas season. For budding artists she has also recently acquired a franchise for top quality Winsor and Newton acrylic and tube paints. For those unable to visit during normal hours she will be opening late up to 7pm each Monday in December.

Also under new ownership this year is our local shoe shop 'Steps Ahead' who are constantly acquiring new stock and will have a special winter range of mens' and ladies footwear including top designer names ready for the season.

The special Saltash pre Christmas Festival on 5th December as described

elsewhere in your 'Observer' promise as always to bring an extra special sparkle to the town. Newell's Travel Agents are among the local businesses remaining open late into the evening and will be offering their many loyal local customers refreshment as well as, if desired, the opportunity to consider holiday plans for the New Year that will all too soon be upon us.

We are fortunate in Saltash to have such an array of shops, largely locally owned, all geared up to providing a friendly welcome and specially good personal service to townfolk and visitors. With plentiful cheap parking, and full parking refunds to customers of local businesses, it as always makes sense to rediscover the pleasure of Christmas shopping in a cheerful local community where the shopkeeper knows his stock and where satisfying the customer remains a priority.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GET INVOLVED in the SALTASH CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL!

**COMMUNITY SHOWCASE**  
In a celebration of Christmas and Community the Town Council is inviting local community groups and charities to set up a stall on Fore Street. It's an ideal chance to raise funds and raise awareness. Completely free!

### LANTERN PARADE *Why not make your very own lantern?*

There is a lantern workshop open to the general public on Saturday 28th November from 14:00 in the Guildhall. Donations, please, of £3 per lantern.

Or how about being a marshal at the Lantern Parade?

The Parade has increased in size and glory over the years and the team needs all the help it can get to guide the Parade safely down and up Fore Street.

**COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
Join Page 2 Stage and the massed voices of the choir of Saltash Churches Together and sing your heart out at the Carol Service gathered around the Christmas tree in Victoria Gardens. Just one rehearsal in

the evening of 27th November.

### RUN IN THE PANTOMIME HORSE RACE

Be one of the stars of the show and race for the coveted Trophy. You'll be decked out in one of the 5 horse head costumes that have been lovingly crafted in community workshops under the guidance of the talented artists at Saltash Creative Space.

### HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SOUTHWEST

Money generated by the Christmas Festival will go to Little Harbour, run by Children's Hospice Southwest. Little Harbour is down by the sea near St. Austell and is a haven for children with life-limiting conditions and their families. There are plenty of ways you could help raise funds for them on the night: sell the Hospice Christmas Raffle tickets, help run the information stall or walk around with charity buckets encouraging people to give some coins.

Contact Saltash Guildhall (Lower Fore Street) for details on any of these ways to get involved. 01752 848486



## Petit Pain Bake to Bring Snow Back To Saltash

Seasonal snow will once again be falling as Saltash celebrates its Christmas Festival on the first Saturday of December. That at least is the aim of Geoff and Sue of 'Petit Pain' Café who have started full time fund raising to bring back the ever-popular snow cannon on that day.

Sue and Geoff certainly have an impressive track record of fund raising for good causes. They have already raised over £110.00 for the Marc Anthony Memorial Fund in aid of Childrens wards in Derriford Hospital through stalls at many events in the area, street collections and appeals to businesses. They are well known for their active support for the life-prolonging visits of children from Chernobyl to Saltash. We on the 'Observer' will always be grateful for their massive support towards our grand charity quiz night earlier this year.

Now 'Petit Pain's' efforts are going towards baking and selling of delicious home made cakes and other tasty delights in support of the snow machine. They are also launching a grand

raffle with a super food hamper prepared by their staff as one of many prizes - though further prize contributions would be welcome.

Geoff and Sue know they can rely on staff and regular customers for regular support but also hope that the Saltash public will also get behind them in their fund raising for this as well as other regular causes.



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**Saltash Christmas Festival**



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**SALTASH CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**  
 Saturday 5th December 2015 4pm to 7:30  
 A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS AND COMMUNITY

**Saltash Christmas Festival**



*Add extra sparkle and warmth to your Christmas celebrations this year by joining in with the Saltash Christmas Festival.*

Brought to you by Saltash Town Council and town centre traders, the Festival will see Fore Street transformed into a Pedestrian Haven with snow in the air and stilt walkers on the ground. Shopkeepers will be taking their inside out with stalls on Fore Street showing you the fabulous range of Christmas gifts you can buy right here in Saltash! A wide range of community groups will be showcasing their activities, too. Saltash has a vibrant heart – it beats even louder at Christmas.

After the mayhem of the Pantomime Horse Race, our friends at Rotary have arranged a sleigh for Father Christmas to lead the Civic Parade up Fore Street. He will be followed by Saltash Town Band, bringing you musical tidings of comfort and joy. The music doesn't stop once the Town Band has marched past, though, because Tamar Sounds will be bringing you Christmas melodies the whole evening from the stage on Fore Street with guest appearances from Livewire musicians.

The ceremony to switch on the Christmas lights will be held in Victoria Gardens this year, which will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland with softly glowing trees and sparkly tinsel. Join in with Page2Stage and the massed voices of Saltash Churches Together as the Saltash Town Band leads the Carol Service right by the resplendent Christmas tree in Victoria Gardens.

The Burraton Community Players are busy preparing for their annual pantomime, called The Sleeping Beauty of Saltash, to be held in January. They are promising us an extra-special show as it will be their 25th anniversary performance, but they are taking time out of their rehearsal schedule to come along to Victoria Gardens and present their popular 10-minute pantomime. You'll get the chance to see some of our local dancing talent in Victoria Gardens, too, with performances from the Geraldine Lamb Dance School.

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 Supporting The Saltash Christmas Festival



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**Breakfast or Lunch with Father Christmas**  
 Sat 5th Dec – Booking Essential  
 Please state child's name & age  
 58 Fore St Saltash Tel: 01752 845804

**SALTASH CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**  
 Saturday 5th December 2015



**THE FUN STARTS IN THE MORNING...**

**SANTAS ON BIKES**  
 Wear or wave something purple to support the Santas on bikes as they zoom up Fore Street in the morning of 5th December on their charity ride to Little Harbour, the wondrous Children's Hospice near St. Austell. Some Santas will be on foot with collecting buckets for 'Little Harbour', do give generously - it's all in a good cause!

**HUNT the PANTOMIME CHARACTER**  
 Shops will be displaying pictures of much-loved Panto characters. Pick up an entry form from The Bookshelf, hunt the pantomime characters and you could be in with a chance of winning a couple of tickets to Cinderella at the Theatre Royal.

**ELVES' WORKSHOP**  
 Members of Saltash Environmental Action Group are teaming up with their equally green friends, Santa's Elves, to bring you a whole day of Christmas craft-making. They'll be taking over one of the shops on Fore Street and opening up their workshop from 10am.

**WINDOW DRESSING COMPETITION**  
 Marvel at the decorations in the shop windows as our shopkeepers compete for the Best Dressed Window trophy. This year's theme is Snow and Ice.

**AND CONTINUES THROUGH TO THE EVENING...**

**WINTER WONDERLAND in VICTORIA GARDENS (4pm - 6pm)**  
 Victoria Gardens will be the backdrop for the ceremony to switch on the lights and the civic carol service. Plenty of icy entertainment, too.

**SLEIGH BELLS & CHRISTMAS MUSIC on FORE STREET**  
 Tamar Sounds will be bringing you non-stop Christmas music from the stage on Fore Street, with guest appearances from Livewire musicians.

**SANTA'S GROTTTO in the COMMUNITY MARKET**  
 The Community Market at 4 Fore Street will be welcoming a special visitor between 5pm and 7pm. All proceeds will go to the Mayor's Charity, the Children's Hospice Southwest.

**Road Closures for Christmas Festival on Saturday 5th December 2015**

Sorry, but we will need to close off Fore Street for the Christmas Festival. This means that public transport will be diverted from Fore Street down Glebe Avenue, and the following restrictions will be in place between 14:30 and 21:30:

- There will be no vehicular access to Fore Street
- There will be no vehicular access to King Edward Road from Essa Road
- There will be no parking on either side of Glebe Avenue from the morning of

finish with a bang as fireworks light up the skies over Fore Street.

The Mayor has chosen the Children's Hospice Southwest as his charity for this year and any money you donate on the night will go directly to adding extra sparkle and cheer to the children and their families who are spending Christmas in the Little Harbour hospice near St. Austell. So come along on 5th December and help create some magical memories for your family and for the families celebrating Christmas in the hospice.

Also, please be aware that Victoria Gardens will be closed to the public from 6pm to ensure safety during the Firework Display.

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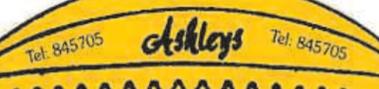


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**Saltash Community Market**  
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**Christmas Lights Festival**  
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**Santa's Grotto 5 - 7pm**  
 Free Mulled Cider and Mince Pies  
 All proceeds to Little Harbour Childrens' Hospice  
**Your Community Market**  
 Will be open as usual from 9.30am to 3pm  
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**FESTIVE FUN ON FORE STREET**  
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 Pedestrian Haven & Community Showcase

4:30	Pantomime Horse Race
5:15	Civic Parade
7pm	Lantern Parade
7:30	Firework Display



**WINTER WONDERLAND IN VICTORIA GARDENS**  
 4pm – 6pm  
 Snow Cannon and Icy Entertainment

4pm	10-minute Pantomime
4:30	Dance Performance
5pm	10-minute Pantomime
5:30	Ceremony to switch on Christmas lights
5:35	Carol Service



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 Wednesday 18th Open Mic  
 Friday's - Fri 13th Andy (from land of Giants) Duo Fri 20th Dodgers Fri 27th Wireless  
 Saturday's - Sat 14th Midnight Blues Train Sat 21st Blu Soule  
 Sat 28th Penguins  
**December 15**  
 Tuesday's - Tues 1st Martin Dale Tues 8th Trio Tues 15th Louise  
 Tues 22nd Blue Trane Tues 29th Jazz Messengers Wednesday 16th Open Mic  
 Christmas Eve Thurs 24th Wireless  
 Friday's - Fri 4th Black Top Fri 11th Roosters Fri 18th Papa Lima  
 Friday 25th Christmas Day  
 Saturday's - Sat 5th The Jack Sat 12th Big Sets Sat 19th Banana Thieves  
 Boxing Day Sat 26th The Braikes  
 New Years Eve Thurs 31st Duo (Banana Thieves Acoustic Duo)  
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**SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...**  
 I recently spoke in the Armed Forces Bill in Parliament. This Bill is passed every 5 years by Parliament allows our armed forces to be recruited and maintained as disciplined bodies. I have a special interest in this service because my daughter is a serving Royal Navy officer. My interest goes further than that with HMS Raleigh, the Royal Navy premier initial sea training establishment, is based at Torpoint in South East Cornwall. It provides considerable employment for the area along with Devonport naval base and dockyard where many people from towns of Saltash and Torpoint work. There is also the Thanckes oil fuel depot at Wilcove. The Royal Navy is at the very heart of the east of our constituency. The Armed Forces Act updated the 2006 Act to ensure that our armed forces are appropriate for modern times. It is important to pass the Bill to ensure that we recruit and maintain disciplined armed forces who will be able to operate professionally in our services. I particularly want to ensure that we man our Vanguard submarines, and I am delighted that the Secretary of State has confirmed that four new Successor submarines will be introduced. The Armed Forces Bill will ensure that the manpower is available for them to remain fully operational.



Devonport dockyard in Plymouth is the sole nuclear repair and refuelling facility for the Royal Navy. I am pleased the Secretary of State has said he will write to me to reply to my request that he confirm as soon as possible that the continuing refuelling programme for the ballistic submarines will continue at Devonport as the new submarines are integrated into the fleet. The Government is committed to two new aircraft carriers. The Secretary of State has already told me through a reply to my Parliamentary Question that they will be manned by a crew whose numbers will be similar to those on HMS Invincible, despite being three times its size. He has also told me that the Royal Navy is planning to ensure that it has the suitably trained and qualified people it needs, and that that will include training on HMS Raleigh in Devonport. I have asked if he is confident that we have enough suitably qualified and experienced personnel who are ready when they are needed to develop the operational capability of both ships. Finally, I am pleased that clause 14 of the Act is being amended to recognise the brave firefighters in our armed forces, and to give them the same authority as our civilian firemen and women. I thank them for their brave work in keeping our military safe.

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**Concern at Capacity of Surgeries to Cope with More Residents**

Neither of the two surgeries in Saltash has adequate space to care for a significant increase in population, a letter from the Saltash Health Centre to Town Councillor John Brady has confirmed. This causes concern regarding the thousand new homes anticipated to be built on the edge of town at Broadmoor.

**Conundrum Corner**

Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make the name of a Bird?  
 1 Sherlock Holmes's landlady and the Butler in the TV series Upstairs, Downstairs shared the same Surname - what was it? (6)  
 2 What is the capital City of Pakistan? (9)  
 3 What is the chief ingredient of the sauce Lyonnaise? (5)  
 4 At which Spanish port did Francis Drake burn the ships of Philip II in 1587? (5)  
 5 What was the name of the Raven that accompanied Barnaby Rudge in Charles Dickens's Novel? (4)  
 6 In which City is the oldest Anglican Cathedral found? (9)  
 7 Which is the most abundant element in the Earth's atmosphere? (8)  
 8 For every 7 white keys on a Piano how many black keys are there? (4)  
 9 What type of Plant is the Larkspur? (10)  
 Answers on Page 7

The Saltash Health Centre is already only half the size required to cope with their current list of 13,000 patients and while they believe that Port View Surgery might take another five hundred patients this is doubtful as they are also limited in capacity.

With an average occupancy of a modern home of 2/3 persons, were there to be an extra thousand homes, with the average list size for a GP in Cornwall being 1,800 one or preferably two more full time practitioners would be required.

Councillor Brady expressed concern to the Town Council as to full infrastructure being required to be in place if proposed development goes ahead and this includes in particular medical facilities.

Neither of the two existing surgeries are keen to open new premises at Broadmoor, believes Councillor David Yates.

The town should press for surgery facility at Broadmoor, urged Councillor Derek Holley. 'The proposed affordable homes are likely to house young families and it would be a long way for them to travel to either of the existing surgeries', he concluded.

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**Youth Must  
Play A Role  
In Forum For  
Town's  
Future**

Students at local schools and members of youth organisations should all play a part in a proposed forum to consider how the town centre should develop.

This was the proposal of Councillor John Brady who expressed concern as to how few young people had responded to the recent neighbourhood plan questionnaire.

Retail in Fore Street as in other towns is on the decline, he claimed, with the increase in internet as well as supermarket shopping. It is vital to take on board the views of young people in the town as to how to counter this. A demand for more of a night time economy has already been put forward.

Councillor Brady has agreed to prepare terms of reference and a mission statement for such a forum which would be tasked with reporting back its proposals within a twelve month framework.

**Churchtown Food Forage  
Concludes with Palatable Potage**'Excellent herbs had our fathers of old,'  
wrote Rudyard Kipling.

Anything green that grew out of the mould was an excellent herb to our fathers of old' and our ancestors knew a use for almost every one of our often evocatively named wild plants. The ancient lore of the myriad plant life discovered on Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve was described to a fascinated group of adults and children as they foraged for edible foodstuff around the reserve before enjoying a healthy and satisfying potage from the fruits of their labours.

Herb Robert known to the Romans as a cure for wounds, Mugwort, a wild tarragon used as herbal medicine, Rose Hips rich in vitamin C and Lady's Bedstraw used to stuff bedding were among the traditional uses of plants discovered on the walk.

Meanwhile the group gathered Wild Carrot, Wild Pea, Sea Beet - a derivative beetroot, Sorrel, Hawkbit, Orris (a form of spinach) and Jack -by-the-hedge, a garlic mustard. All were for the pot or for a side salad.

The plants were identified and their ancient usage described by Andy Pearson who with his partner Alison, as the sun went down on a late September afternoon,

made a fire on the beach to prepare a superb soup of nourishing freshly gathered ingredients.

As darkness fell we all cooked Damper Bread on twizzling sticks over the fire before Andy's ten year old son Rian led a successful expedition to discover cockles, mussels and oysters to be heated over the embers.

Andy, a professional Tree Surgeon who describes himself as an 'outdoorsman' specialises in organising bushcraft and other activities to bring all ages back to nature. 'Our heritage and our birthright include sitting around an open fire sharing in freshly gathered natural foods and this is as important as ever in a digital age', he believes. He is keen to include more local residents in showing what Churchtown Farm and the natural world have to offer and can be contacted on 07985 239132. The event was organised through the Friends of Churchtown Farm.

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tim@cornerstonevision.com**The Essa Files**

I'm not quite writing this column from another country, but only because I'm arriving late this evening, am not sure about the wi-fi situation, and wouldn't dare to miss the editor's deadline; but in spirit at least this dispatch is written from Belfast, where I am spending half-term.

Northern Ireland is the one major part of the British Isles to which I have never previously ventured: in my formative years it was unsafe, and more recently I have been more preoccupied by adding to my country count than by exploring closer to home. My loss.

Northern Ireland's particular interest to me is both fantastical and political - the former because of its major role in the shooting of the TV Series 'Game of Thrones', and the latter because of its near complete transformation in such a short space of time from the politics of the gun and bomb to those of the ballot box and meeting table. When former sworn and violent enemies can, occasional blips aside, shake hands and work together in this way it gives some hope for other conflict torn areas of the world: Israel &amp; Palestine, Syria, the Ukraine.

Equally though this success makes me lose

patience with politics in areas where we are blessed by peace and democracy but spend more time bickering or point scoring than working together and cracking on. If Northern Ireland's politicians can put decades of conflict behind them then we should be able to spend less time in petty squabbles, bureaucratic in-fighting and personality based mud-slinging. These have become too big a feature of local as well as national politics and get in the way of what we should actually be doing: constructively discussing including where we disagree, reaching a decision and then all cracking on with it.

By Adam Killeya

**Conundrum Answers**Goldfrinch  
arranged the letters form  
9 Delphinium. When re-  
Liverpool 7 Nitrogen 8 Five  
Onton 4 Cadz 5 Gnp 6  
1 Hudson 2 Islamabad 3**From The  
Mayor's  
Parlour...**

This month was reasonably quiet as far as official events go, but still found time for a few events, starting with the opening of Jacks Gym in Moorlands lane, this being a new venture for Lee Russell and his brother.

We were also invited to the dedication of the new organ at St Nicholas and faith, which was backed by the town band with songs of praise.

Sunday the 11th found us at the Torpoint civic service, a very well organised and attended event a credit to the Mayor Mike Pearn.

We as a council have a great deal of dialogue going on at the moment regarding services being devolved from Cornwall council, toilets, being one.

We are also in a new era for us as we are now a burial authority with the running of the new Saltash Cemetery part of our business.

Our final event this month was being invited to Trafalgar night a celebration by the Saltash Royal Naval Association, which was well attended

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## Whether To Inscribe Two Names

Saltash Town Council is considering whether to inscribe two names on the Saltash St. Stephens War Memorial, which were left off during the 1939-1945 WW2 honours list for those killed in action; albeit they were not Military Servicemen at that time.

The names of Bernard Jasper and Leslie G Tibbs have been omitted for the past 74 years, and this has only recently come to light, brought to the attention of Saltash Town Council by Barry Brooking (grandson of Francis J Brooking), and Saltash Town Councillor, Sue Hooper, who is leading a Peace Memorial garden project for the Town.

The Saltash Auxiliary Fire-fighters names that are currently inscribed on the St. Stephens War Memorial WW2 are; Francis J Brooking, Stanley R Crabb, Alfred J Crapp, John R H Stanlake and Donald Cummings (who was a Scout).

All seven names are inscribed on the St. Nicholas and St. Faith War Memorial, and their names are also recorded at St. Andrews Minster Church in Plymouth.

Together, along with Bernard Jasper and Leslie J Tibbs, they all lost their lives on their way to Plymouth during an air-raid in 1941.

It is not known why the names, of Bernard Jasper and Leslie J Tibbs, were not included. It has been speculated that it may be due to the fact of the separation of Parishes Saltash from St. Stephens.

However the two Parishes merged in 1934 (before the WW2), so that may not have been the case. There is no record of any other reason.

There is a special plot at St. Stephens Church Yard, where these men have been interred following their deaths in action in 1941.

Councillor Sue Hooper stressed: "Before the final decision is made whether to include Bernard Jasper and Leslie J Tibbs, the Saltash Town Council is asking if any local historian, or living relatives of the two men, can throw any light on why these two brave men's names have been omitted.

"They can contact the Town Clerk (Mr Ray Lane) by telephone, 01752 844846 or email townclerk@saltash.gov.uk

"It would be very helpful and interesting to gain such historic information and knowledge, after 74 years, to enable the Saltash Town Council to find a respectable solution."

## Good Response to Neighbourhood Plan

Around a quarter of the questionnaires distributed around Saltash seeking views for a prospective local neighbourhood plan have been completed and returned. This amounts to 1420 in total and is double the national average.

This was the good news, reported Councillor David Yates. The more disappointing news is that despite all efforts to engage the younger generation the amount of forms completed plummets in respect of those aged under forty. There will be further attempts to include that population and discover what they want from their town.

Meanwhile a small team is beginning to analyse results in preparation for a first draft of the plan. Questions involving a straight yes or no answer are easily assessed, more difficulty lies with collating the 'free range' replies concerning what people want. Many of these include requests for facilities that the town already possesses indicating that more publicity as to what Saltash has to offer is needed.

There will now be a series of workshops before a plan is drawn up which will form a blueprint for the town's development over the next to fifty years, making it essential that younger generations who may be around that long should get involved.

# Annie

THE MUSICAL

8th-11th December  
7.00pm



Full Price: £6

Concessions: £3

Tel: 01752 843715

Email: enquiries@saltashcloud.net

saltash.net

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# Saltash Leisure Centre

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Everything you need to know about your Leisure Centre

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The all over body workout!

**Saltash Leisure Centre Christmas & New Year**

Opening hours 2015-2016

Thurs 24th Dec 9.00am-2.00pm	Tues 29th Dec 8.00-5.00pm
Fri 25th Dec CLOSED	Weds 30th Dec 8.00-5.00pm
Sat 26th Dec CLOSED	Thurs 31st Dec 09.00-14.00
Sun 27th Dec 9.00am-4.00pm	Fri 1st Jan CLOSED
Mon 28th Dec 9.00am-4.00pm	Sat 2nd Jan BACK TO NORMAL

Normal Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 6.30am-10pm  
Sat-6.30am-8pm \* Sun-7.30am-7pm

CONTACT US: Tel: 01752 840940

Callington Road, Saltash, PL12 6DJ  
saltash@tempusleisure.org.uk  
www.tempusleisure.org.uk



### Christmas Events!

**Tuesday 15th December**  
Wine & Mince Pie morning  
With Christmas Raffle 11.30am onwards  
**Friday 18th December**  
Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2015  
7.00 pm Start  
Bring a bottle £4 per person



### Observer Telephone Numbers

07971484872 or  
01579 345699

Email your copy to:  
marye.crawford@virgin.net

## Big Quiz Night for Parkinson's at Ploughboy

The Ploughboy pub quizzes are fast gaining a reputation as a fun night out for all. Those who have been before are likely therefore to be at the Ploughboy on Wednesday 25th November, and those who have not can find out what they have been missing.

The big quiz night will be in aid of Parkinson's Disease Research and will commence at 7 p.m. for 7.30p.m. Advance booking is recommended for what is hoped will be a busy quiz, though participants are welcome to just turn up on the night. Teams of four can enter but individuals will be able to be placed in teams for the mind bending questions on a wide variety of topics.

There will be a raffle with fine prizes and of course a special award for the quiz winners.

## THE PLOUGHBOY

Liskeard Rd Saltash

Mike & Joan welcome you to join them, for great food and congenial company

Don't forget to book early for our very popular

**Sunday Carvery £7.50**

Children 12yrs & under **£5.25**

Enjoy a Sunday Lunch with family and friends

\*\*\*\*\*

The Ploughboy is available as a Venue for Quiz Nights & Charity Events

(See Mike & Joan for further details)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Celebrate at The Ploughboy

Wednesday 25th November

Big Charity Quiz Night 7 for 7.30pm

In Aid of Parkinson's Disease Research

Private function rooms available

Book now for your office & family Parties Weddings, Christenings & Funerals

Groups & Organisations welcome for regular or One off events. Tel: 01752 842861 for more details

\*\*\*\*\*

Look Out for details of our...

Entertainment at the Ploughboy

Sunday 22th November: Jazz Evening  
Jazz Night last Sunday in every month

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Eve

Thursday 24th December **Disco**

New Year's Eve

Thursday 31st December **Whiskey Falls**

\*\*\*\*\*

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