

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

October 2019 - Issue 331

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Carkeel Congestion will Continue Until Roundabout is Improved

The traffic congestion that newly opened businesses at Carkeel claim threatens their livelihoods will continue until further changes are made to the construction of the Carkeel roundabout. This was the conclusion reached at a meeting organised by Saltash Town Council, as referred to in your last "Observer". Concerned traders and residents met with Town and Cornwall Councillors, Sheryl Murray MP, and the Cormac Highways and Environmental Manager and Project Manager/Engineer. They expressed their concerns over traffic taking up to twenty minutes or longer to exit the new retail and catering complex, many drivers vowing not to return.

A local taxi operator reported to the Observer that his cabs collecting fares from Carkeel regularly have to stand in traffic for twenty minutes on weekday afternoons, extended to thirty minutes at weekends and up to forty-five minutes on bank holiday weekends.

Asked whether Cormac had carried out any surveys or observations on traffic flow out of Gilston Road recently, Cormac replied that there had been one observation only for around an hour at lunchtime. This, it was noted, is not when build-up generally occurs. The problems result at certain times of day during the week and longer at weekends when traffic queuing to enter Carkeel roundabout backs up to the Pillmere roundabout and sometimes back towards Burraton traffic lights as well as

along Burraton Road. This makes it impossible for traffic exiting Gilston Road to turn right towards Carkeel into a solid block of stationary or slow-moving traffic.

The solution suggested by Cornwall Council of traffic having to turn left out of Gilston Road met with little favour from those present. Vehicles would then have to make a full circle turn at Pillmere roundabout and try to force its way into the traffic flow. Goods vehicles would need to be in the left-hand lane to force their way around the roundabout. Alternatively, it was contemplated, traffic heading eastbound towards Plymouth would simply continue to Burraton and follow New Road to the Tamar Bridge, increasing traffic flow in a residential area.

Suggestions were put to the

meeting including traffic lights or a mini roundabout by Gilston Road, or an exit from the retail park direct into Pillmere Drive. A one-way system in the Lidl car park, as suggested at the Saltash Town Council meeting was considered positively by Lidl's management.

The most favoured option was to widen the junction of Gilston Road to allow for two lanes, dedicated to left and right turning traffic. This would require amendment to the proposed cycle and walking route along Callington Road, with a cycle/pedestrian crossing further up Gilston Road.

While various remedies might help ease the problem it was recognised that it would not be resolved until work was carried out to modify Carkeel roundabout and eliminate the

queues along the northbound carriageway of the A38. Such work is due to commence later this year.

Accordingly, Sheryl Murray MP has written to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government asking that the time limit for funding of the proposed Carkeel to Tamar Bridge cycle and walk way be extended so that the Carkeel roundabout improvement work can be completed before the scheme is advanced.

Walkers and Cyclists to Bus Over Bridge

The south cantilever of the Tamar Bridge has been closed to walkers and cyclists until next spring with a shuttle bus laid on as an alternative. The closure had been anticipated to take place earlier this summer, but it was found possible to continue major renovation work to the bridge while allowing use of the lane.

Now however, with work taking place on the north cantilever, the lane dedicated to traffic coming from Saltash, it is necessary to use the south cantilever for vehicular traffic to ensure that four lanes are kept open.

The free shuttle bus will operate from the foot of Fore Street to the car park adjacent to the Tamar Bridge. It will be a 24-hour service, running approximately every fifteen minutes by day, twenty minutes at night. Cyclists are recommended to put their bicycles on the bus rather than use the traffic lanes. A similar scheme of shuttle bus transport operated while the cantilevers were being installed and the main deck replaced.

While four lanes will remain open to traffic for the present, traffic restrictions are expected to come into effect during the winter months but have not yet been disclosed.

The work on re-waterproofing the deck and on the bolts which hold the outer kerbs in place is due to be completed by next April after which a further six-month traffic disruption is anticipated as the renovated deck is resurfaced.

Ex-Waterside Inn Clean Up

Following numerous complaints from local residents and visitors the building that was once the 'Wheatsheaf Inn', then the 'Waterside', standing in a prestigious position on the Saltash Waterside, has been cleaned and boarded up ready for redevelopment.

The historic inn was one of three on the Waterside until its final closure in 2009. Since then there have been various applications for its conversion to high quality apartments. Meanwhile the fabric has deteriorated, reportedly attracting rats as well as trespassers who endangered themselves as well as the building. It has now been fully secured.

Last year the most recent redevelopment plans included a small shop, suitable for coffee and Ice Creams, as well as four two-bedroom flats. These would be spread over three storeys with suitable parking below. A more ambitious plan for a higher

building with more accommodation met with widespread opposition and was rejected.

The state of the building is such that much demolition and replacement of the original fabric will be required though the general design, including the semi-circular frontage, will be replicated. This, the former lounge area to the inn, was added to a building of uncertain date, though it has played a role in local history. A former landlord Henry Goodman between 1876-1882 led a fight by local fishermen to retain their ancient rights to fish oysters, against Saltash Borough Council who

sought to deprive them on these rights. Their case went all the way to the House of Lords where the fishermen were successful and set a legal precedent. A plaque commemorating this was placed on the 'Wheatsheaf' and is currently held in the museum by Saltash Heritage. It is understood that the developers may seek to have this re-placed on the reconstructed building.

Community Enterprises Seeks to Acquire Premises

Saltash's Community Enterprise PL12 Company is seeking to give security to its tenants in its Belle Vue Road premises by acquiring the freehold.

Current tenants who would benefit from security of tenure include the Foodbank and the Citizens Advice Bureau. There are also commercial tenants including one business which moved in this September, locally run IT consultancy Carbon Pixel.

The Belle Vue Road building, adjacent to the car park and just off Fore Street, is owned by Cornwall Council who leased it to the Community Enterprises PL12 Company. It has since been utilised to benefit small businesses setting up in the town as well as charities and those that aid the community. The current lease expires in November this year and a formal proposal for transfer of the building has been submitted to Cornwall Council.

Town Rejects "Two Hours for Price of One" Parking

The Town Council has rejected the proposal that there should be an experimental period of five months during which car parks in the town would allow two hours parking for the price of one.

They were being asked to recommend to the Section 106 committee that £12,542 of Section 106 money be put to subsidising this. The money would go largely to Cornwall Council, which owns the car parks. It would cover loss of revenue during this five-month period as well as the cost of reprogramming the car park machines, payment for new signs in the car park, and leaflets and advertisements to promote the scheme.

The application for funding was put forward by Saltash Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as highlighted in the Chamber's column in the September "Observer". It was hoped that by encouraging longer stay in the town it might boost footfall in and around Fore Street and assist trade for local businesses.

Town Councillors noted a letter from Cornwall Council confirming that between 2011 - 16 there has been £40,000 of Section 106 money from Waitrose used for various parking initiatives in the town. These included free Saturday parking and a refund scheme whereby shoppers in some local businesses would get a parking refund on their purchases. Town Councillors queried whether these had been a benefit to the town traders from these schemes, though it was commented by Councillor Jean Dent that it is hard to produce evidence of success or lack of it.

While most customers had no issue with paying fifty pence for an hour's parking,

many complained at paying over three times this sum, £1.60 for two hours, said Councillor Mike Parker who until recently ran a retail business adjacent to a car park. He agreed that the variation between one- and two-hours parking cost was inappropriate but suggest that it would be better to seek that Cornwall Council lower their fees. Deputy Mayor Peter Samuels agreed the variation was 'ridiculous' and that Cornwall Council should be asked to explain the hike from 50 pence to £1.60. However, no councillors voted in support of the Section 106 money s being utilised to lower fees for the second hour.



community enterprises



November 2019

Sat 2nd 2pm - 12pm (£25.00)

Bridgewater Carnival

Fri 8th 11am - 4pm (£6.00)

Buckland Abbey
Christmas Craft and Food fair

Sun 10th 11am - 3pm (£6.00)

Endsleigh Garden Centre

Sun 17th 11:30am - 4pm (£6.00)

Lunch @ The Vault, Whitsand Bay Fort

Wed 20th 4.30pm - 11pm (£15.00)

Truro City of Lights

Thurs 21st 11am - 3pm (£5.00)

Shopping @ Kernow Mill

Sun 24th 11am-3pm (£7.00)

Lunch @ Hotel Endsleigh

Fri 29th 10am - 6pm (£15.00)

Christmas Fayre at Westpoint



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HOPPER LINK

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Every Wednesday Morning. Please check our website for the timetable or collect a copy from our office @ 4 Fore Street, Saltash

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Town Messenger

Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council
Konsel an dre Essa



Education Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
Email:
schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk

Education Welfare:
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk

Housing Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 161
Email: info@cornwallhousing.org.uk
Social Services Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
Email:
children@cornwall.gov.uk

Social Services Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 131
adultcare@cornwall.gov.uk

Highways Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email:
customerrelations@cornwallimited.co.uk

Transport Department
(Schools Transport)
Telephone: 0300 1234 101
(Bus Pass) Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email:
schooltransport@cornwall.gov.uk

Roads, Transport and Parking
Telephone: 0300 1234 222
Email:
roadstransportandparking@cornwall.gov.uk

Waste Department
Telephone: 0300 1234 141
Email: [via contact form on website only](mailto:viacontactformonwebsiteonly).

Cornac Solutions
Telephone: 01872 323 313
Email:
customerrelations@cornacitd.co.uk
Fly Tipping:
Telephone: 0300 1234 141
Email:
refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

World War 1

The Saltash World War 1 Committee are asking for donations of Daffodils, Snow Drops and Blue Bells, to be planted in the grounds of St Stephens Church, Saltash, in memory of those who lost their lives. Your kind donations are much appreciated.

Your Cornwall Councillors

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

Saltash South
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Saltash East
Derek Holley
derek.holley@cornwallcouncillor.org.uk

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

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

Meet Your Councillor



Councillor Steve Miller West Ward Saltash

Steve Miller has lived in Saltash since 1994, moving across the river with wife Debbie and 2 daughters from Plymouth. One daughter still lives in the Town with her family, the other having moved “far down West” and now with her own business. After commuting back across the bridge for nearly 10 years to the Dockyard, Steve realised there was life outside those walls, and fortunately had the opportunity to be paid to leave!

Having spent over 15 years there in IT, Steve fell into becoming self-employed in his former skills as an electrician which developed into wider property maintenance.

Steve also started becoming more involved in community events and initiatives, which culminated in him standing for Town Council in 2017 for Saltash West ward and he is currently Vice Chairman of the Services Committee of the Town Council. Steve says, “There is much to be done to enhance the town’s environment, but I see devolution of property and assets from Cornwall as an opportunity to regain control of its destiny”.

West Ward residents can contact Steve via the Town Council website.

Chains Sparkle at Civic Service

A spectacular array of chains bedecked Saltash Baptist Church as visiting Mayors joined the Mayor and Councillors of Saltash together with Sheryll Murray MP and representatives of local organisations for the Town Council’s Civic Service.

Youth organisations too were well represented together with their standards. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor each read a Bible lesson and the address was given by Captain Andy Toby, Salvation Army Officer in charge at Devonport Morice Town Corps. He took as his theme, St. Michael the Archangel, whose feast day it was.

Saltash Fire Cadets took the collection and over refreshments in the Guildhall later Mayor Gloria Challen divided it, giving £127.00 each to the Fire Cadets and the Salvation Army. The Fire Cadets were to put this towards the expenses of their annual Remembrance Day pilgrimage to Belgium and to the service at Ypres’ Menin Gate.

From the Mayor of Saltash

Greetings Residents

A meeting was held at the Guildhall with businesses and Town Councillors, Member of Parliament, and Cormac concerning the Gilston Road area to talk about the consultation on a change to traffic coming out of Gilston Road with an advisory sign indicating for traffic to turn left towards Pillmere Roundabout.

Public Consultation will be taking place for members of the public to have their say about the left-hand turn.

I was accompanied by the Deputy Mayor to the Unveiling of the MERCHANT NAVY and Fishing Fleet Monument on Plymouth Hoe. This was most poignant and

Community Bunting Project

Saltash Council agreed and were unanimous in supporting the idea of a community bunting project in Fore Street.

The Aim:

To help brighten up Fore Street, ensure we are not using Single use Plastic, only use recycled materials, and encourage people to come to Fore St to admire everyone’s efforts. Most

importantly to get the community working together on a shared project.

We need organizations, clubs, community groups, Schools etc to collect old unwanted uniforms, Brownies /Cubs uniforms, Football/rugby, running Kit, your members favourite old shirt/blouse, all to make one width (or half a width depending on demand) of Fore St with uniform size, and

width of bunting.

You will need, some old curtains, duvet covers to make the “Ribbon” also someone who has a sewing machine who can do basic sewing to put your width together.

We would also like to encourage some volunteers to help if you have time and a sewing machine.

There will be some workshops in October, run by Saltash’s Mrs Marvellous, to ensure every sewer has a

template and instructions that need to be adhered to for safety reasons.

It will be fantastic and exciting to see all of Saltash displayed from the top of Fore St to the Guildhall from January 2020, and to be an example to show other towns of how Saltash can work together as a community.

If you are interested in your club, school, organization being part of the bunting E: j.peggs@saltash.gov.uk

Your Town Council

Saltash North
Sarah Gillies
s.gillies@saltash.gov.uk

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Jean Dent
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Steve Miller
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David Yates
d.yates@saltash.gov.uk

Mayor:
Gloria Challen

Deputy Mayor:
Pete Samuels

Town Clerk:
Ray Lane
T: 844846
E: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk

Councillors telephone numbers can be obtained at the guildhall.

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

held at Saltash Library which was organised by the Library staff. What an amazing service the Macmillan nurses give to those in need of care. I applaud them most sincerely.

Saltash Town Council Civic Service at Saltash Baptist Church was filled with visiting dignitaries, with a lovely reading from Captain Andy Toby from St Maurice Town and Saltash Town Council Deputy Mayor Cllr P Samuels. The collection from the Civic Service raised £127 for the Salvation Army and £127 for the Saltash Fire Cadets, thank you to all those that contributed.

My thanks go to Rev Preb Brian Anderson and Rev Timothy Parkman for assisting in the wonderful service; and indeed, to all those that kindly attended.

Auditions were held for a Town Crier, Judging the applicants were Callington Town Crier Mr Tony Steniford and Hannah Spry the Mayors Cadet.

Mrs Veronica Jones was appointed; it will be welcoming to see Veronica representing Saltash.

Saltash Town Council annual Health and Safety Audit was carried out on all buildings and I am pleased to confirm that Saltash Town Council are 96% compliant with Health and Safety regulations with only six pick up points all of low risk. Thank you to the Service Delivery General Assistants for their continued hard work within the community.



Just a reminder of some of the services that Saltash Town Council have started to operate or are in the process of taking over:

Waterfront Pontoon, Public Toilets, Youth Projects, Saltash Library, Refurbishment of The Maurice Huggins Rooms, Fore St hanging baskets, local planting schemes around the town including the Saltash Memorial Peace Garden. The Council also contributes to the many town festivities in Saltash, like the Mayfair, Regatta, Apple Festival, Christmas Festival of lights and many more.

Saltash Town Council strives to support its residents and to supply services where Cornwall Council can no longer continue to do so. The Council recognises that such services will benefit a large number of the town’s community and as a Town Council we will continue to do our best in delivering the services to a high standard.

*Yours Sincerely
Councillor Gloria Challen
Saltash Mayor*

Chamber Chairman Peter Ryland - Keeping us Updated

The proposed BOGOF (as per my article last month) may be OFF but I am still trying to find the funding to pursue two hours parking for 50p since this has been identified by traders and customers as a way of attracting shoppers to dwell in the town, and hopefully spend more money. There have been various initiatives tried in the past but, as per the postscript to last month the Town Council would not support the application for S.106 funding.

The Town Council along with the Chamber, Cornwall Councillors, Community Enterprises, traders and other business representatives are jointly pursuing the proposals to have more leisure and possibly markets in the town to give you, the people of Saltash, a reason to come to the town centre. We hope you will support the activities/events which we come up with and will recognise the benefit of the town centre.

By the time this article is published we will have had the Chamber's AGM and, if all goes according to plan (but I doubt it!) then I will have been able to step down as Chairman, as I promised my wife last year, but hopefully still involved in all the positive things that are starting to happen in the town.

The mention of AGM reminds me that we had the AGM of Community Enterprises on the 25th September and to those members present our Chairman's report only showed how many things we are involved in and how these benefit the PL12 community.

Finally, turning to the Chamber monthly meeting in September. Can I thank Sam Tamlin, Cornwall Councillor and Jt. Chairman of the Tamar Crossings Committee for his presentation regarding the

bridge. I know members found it useful and although raising some additional concerns, particularly relating to the cost of crossing and Sam was going to investigate the possibility of reducing the cost re. electric cars and providing a charging point in the car park at the eastern end of the bridge. We look forward to his response.

Stop Press
The 106 Panel
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BOGOF
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Scouts Need You

We are looking for people to join us to help bring the scouting experience to young people aged from six to eighteen. Are you aged over eighteen do you live in Cornwall, have you a skill or a hobby you could pass on to our young people so they can go on to do great things, over the years our scouts have become doctors, vets, joined the police service, the arm forces, marine engineers and many other jobs in Cornwall and beyond.

Even if you only want to make the tea or clean the scout hut we would love to hear from you. To run a scout group it is like running a business we need people to run the accounts, maintain the buildings, run events to raise funds, sit on committees. There is no age limit we welcome anyone who is willing to support Scouting.

East Cornwall District has thirteen groups including Saltash, if you live in or near the area you could help make a difference to young people lives.

For more information please contact Nick Hinchliff, Tel: 01579 349933
Email: nick_2008@btinternet.com

Community Speedwatch

Why we do it. Road safety in Saltash is something for all of us whether you are a pedestrian or passenger or a driver or a rider, we are all affected by the need for it no matter who or where we are.

That is why, as if you do not know, there are speed limits designed to create a safe road system, especially in built up areas where the risks to people and property, especially people are at their greatest. But even with speed limits, it is always the unexpected that catches us out, the stray dog, the loose football, the badly lit bicycle, the wandering pedestrian, the exuberant child in the worst case.

Though many complain of the restrictions that speed limits put on busy lives, they are better in the long run but the technical advances in road vehicle design mean excessive speed often catches us out if we are honest with ourselves, so we have to be vigilant. It is acknowledged at the highest level in our police service that excessive speed accounts for the greater proportion of the 4000 plus annual accidental deaths in Great Britain. Thus, in Saltash we do our bit to help reduce those grim figures with the Devon and Cornwall Citizens in Policing scheme with the title Community Speedwatch run by unpaid volunteers.

How we do it. The team you see in the photo are George, Paul, Pauline and



Saltash Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance

To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of D Day and the 80th Anniversary of the start of WW2, in addition to all the other various memorial dates in military history, Saltash & District Royal British Legion are once again hosting the Annual Festival of Remembrance. This will launch the 2019/2020 Poppy Appeal. It is being held at the Wesley Church on Saturday 26th October 2019. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start.

This year will see the return of St Stephens School Choir and rWindband who will be joined by the Burraton Male Voice Choir. It should prove to be an entertaining evening.

There will be a chance to partake in the Raffle to win a host of prizes and the Poppy Merchandise table will be available for you to get that extra special gift.

Tickets are £5 and will be available from Piglets in Fore Street from 1st October onwards or can be purchased on the night.

Last year's Poppy Appeal for Saltash achieved circa £27K, so let's start this year's Appeal by supporting us at this year's event.

Jane with myself as coordinator and we are to be seen regularly at H & S approved sites around the Saltash where the speed limit is either 20 mph, 30 mph or 40 mph. The registered owners of these vehicles exceeding these speed limits are notified by post and the driver is identified as a part of a process of education of the need to comply. Repeated breaches though of the speed limits noted can lead to penalty points on a driver's licence.

There will be plenty of advance warning that monitoring is taking place with large 1.2 X 0.75-meter signs and with a tripod mounted radar device we register the speed of all passing vehicles noting those that do not comply.

Help us do it. Although we are few in number, we do put on a useful service that improves road safety in our borough. Safety could improve even further with a larger team so if people would like to sign up then the person to contact is PCSO Mary Wells or PCSO Tom Cornwell at Saltash Police Station. There will be a course of training to complete before any sessions monitoring traffic so why not consider coming to join us and help improve road safety.

Town Cannot Take on Car Parks

The town's car parks are potholed, badly maintained, and make a poor first and last impression on visitors who come by car to Saltash. The Chairman of Saltash Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Peter Ryland, to the Town Council, put this description. He was asking if the Town Council could negotiate to acquire the car parks from Cornwall Council and carry out a programme of renovation while obtaining the revenue of parking charges.

In reply the Mayor, Councillor Gloria Challen, said that she had asked Cornwall Council if one or more Saltash car parks could be transferred to the Town Council. She had been told that this could not be done, even though other towns had acquired their car parks. No reason had been given.

Town Councillors agreed about the appalling state of the car parks which had been brought to Cornwall Council's attention. It was said that a motorist had been 'ticketed' for improper parking in the Alexandra Square car park and not using the bays, even though the marking out of the bays had been unclear. The Mayor promise to continue to pursue the issue of ownership and maintenance of car parks and to keep the Chamber of Commerce informed.

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 **community enterprises**
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What's on at the Community Shop, 4 Fore St...
Local Produce Market
1st & 3rd Friday every month
Craft Market
every Saturday through November & December
Markets open 9am - 2pm To book a stall contact
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I have thought a bit about Councillor Sam Tamlin's September article about household waste and recycling, and so I have listened to people's views about the whole business. Radio Cornwall has been highlighting it as well. Warning - if you don't recycle and just put out waste, stop reading here as you won't like the next bit. Not one bit.

As Sam said it is all driven by the need for a new contract (all gone to pot at the moment but being frantically worked upon) and the need to increase recycling (pretty awful when compared nationally - Cornwall is manfully holding up the rest of the results table from near the bottom). But what has really got up my Cornwall Council nose is a seemingly commoner-than-I-thought-view among too many people that goes like this...(a) recycling.....well yes, we do but it's a right hassle - all those bags



CORNWALL COUNCIL and our PL12 community For Observer readers
Derek Holley
Cornwall Councillor, Saltash East.
dholley@cornwall.gov.uk

and (b) why on earth waste collection only once a week? The reason we're in this mess is because too many people just are not recycling (unbelievable) and too many people are bone idle and can't be bothered to put the bits in the right bags (believable - we can all be very lazy).

Too late now for the bone idle as it is extremely unlikely we will go back to weekly waste. In my view it's just a terrible shame we didn't adopt the common system nationally where most recycling is just chucked in one big bin - even the lazy will do that and we wouldn't be in the position we're in now. Watch this space but please

keep dancing - sorry - keep recycling (getting into Strictly!).

Spent a very pleasant afternoon yesterday down at Tamara estate, mostly just talking to people - catching up with folk I hadn't seen for ages, enjoying some of the best views in Saltash and just listening. It was actually all about the fact that it is quite likely some government funds on a fairly large scale will be available to do some regeneration of some of the housing stock down there. Because this opportunity so rarely arises these days Cornwall Council are rightly asking the people about it and asking what they would want done. Gone are the days thank goodness when councils just told people! As expected there was a lot of interest and so officers will continue to visit once or twice a week to continue to listen. When I started approaching these officers (actually the predecessors of some of them!) about four years ago, maybe longer, I had no idea it was a real possibility, I just wanted to get it up there in case money came along, which to be honest I never thought it would. Well it has and so I was really pleased to be there. After it is over in a few weeks the responses will be looked at carefully to see what people really want and then, and only then may somebody be commissioned to develop the idea. I just can't tell you how pleased I am that the opportunity to substantially improve people's lives is there.

When we came to Saltash from Ludlow 44 years ago we were intent on a short stay of about three years, then I would chase promotion around the country. Ha! We met so many nice people, joined a great church and liked the town so much we decided to stay for the quality of life, not the promotion and don't regret it one bit. Well, yesterday at Tamara two different residents said more or less exactly the same thing which gave me one of those warm glows - great! That's what Saltash is like. We've got our scallywags but they are few, we've got some areas that need sorting out - but it's a great place to live.

Sadly Mr Slug has also decided it's a great place to live so my lazy practice of leaving my early potatoes in the ground till I want them has been coming back to bite me - and quite rightly my good wife has advised me carefully about the holes. Sometimes it's just tough in the garden!

Recent Content Evoked Great Interest... From what we hear we are aware that the Saltash Observer is always, thoroughly read by our residents who take keen interest in its contents. Recent contents of your truly local newspaper have evoked such interest that there has been a flood of correspondence so much that we have set aside a space this month for readers to air their views.

We are always pleased to publish readers views and comments on issues of local and national interest and we endeavour to achieve a balanced selection of views on all subjects - which of course are not necessarily the views of the editor or her colleagues.

We stress this as over time we are sometimes accused of bias towards one or other political or other viewpoint. The fact that we seem to be accused equally of bias towards the locally leading parties would appear good evidence of our actual impartiality!

While we endeavour to open up all points of view, we cannot please all of our readers with our choice of what goes to print at all times.

We welcome letters to the Editor and enjoy reading them. We will try to use them, provided they are of appropriate length, (not more than 200 words) and not libellous or unnecessarily offensive - so please keep them coming.

Meanwhile a selection of what has entered our mail and e-mail boxes over the past few weeks...

Letter to the Editor

A Reassuring Result...in Response to our Advert for a Responsible Person

It was really nice to receive an email from a young citizen in our readership area, who in these days of social media, whereby we consider younger people to be interested in nothing but their phones and technology, who still believes it possible to enjoy both technology and reading the local paper to keep in touch with what is going on in the local area? Not only to read the paper but also to think it would be a pleasure to help distribute it for others to enjoy...

Hello!
I am a 17 year old in my second year of sixth form who is largely interested in this opportunity.

I live in Hatt but I attend school and spend a large portion of my time in Saltash, thus I have a good knowledge of both locations.

As it said on the advertisement, I do love walking and fresh air. As I live in Hatt I find I have to walk quite often which I very much enjoy. I also have a pet dog whom I walk around both areas daily if I can.

Every time this paper comes through the letterbox I ensure that I sit down and read it in order to keep up to date with what's happening in our local area thus delivering it would be a great pleasure!

Yours sincerely
Isobel Treise.
Hatt

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mary
I read the "letter to the editor" with horror. It seems that somebody is stealing slate/quarry stones from all over Saltash!

I live in Pillmere and noticed, many months ago, that the stone walls had lots of stones missing, as this became more apparent, I suspected that they had been purposely removed or stolen!

Do you have any suggestions on how to report this?

Thank you
Hilary Winsor
Saltash
Concerned Resident

If any reader has any further information regarding the stones which are apparently being removed please feel free to contact us as well as advise the police.

Letter to the Editor...

Who dreams up these ridiculous schemes that seem only to benefit the people installing them? Surely Saltash Council would be better attempting to sort the shambles known as Carkeel roundabout and Gilston Road junction before another waste of Council taxpayers money? Do they not know that there is already a little used cycle lane that goes along North Road and goes to the bottom of Fore Street? Maybe not, due to the infrequency it is used! Do they not see that younger people who are the main users of cycles will enjoy the fast downhill route through Fore Street whilst leaping the speed ramps (better than Saltmill!!). I noticed that the crossing would be strategically placed near Brunel school, this would allow the crossing lady time to start looking for alternative employment. Something that would improve life for everyone would be making all roads in Saltash made a 20mph speed limit except Callington Road and North Road/New Road. Sort out the long running problems before creating another one please!
Bill Kennington
Maybrook Drive, Saltash

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Editor,
I refer to Saltash Chamber of Commerce Chairman's article September 2019 re BOGOF, and the subsequent notation on the page, STOP PRESS: Saltash Town Council voted not to recommend the BOGOF parking scheme to the 106 Panel. WHY?
The Chamber Chairman's article appears to be one of desperation. It is abundantly clear that there is no 'vision' within our Town to regenerate. Is this because the Town Council have a personality problem with the Chamber and are unable to work with outside bodies?
For the six years I served on Saltash Town Council I proposed numerous ideas gained from my experience as a Shopping Centre Manager. I have continuously urged the use of Victoria Gardens be used as a market space, outdoor theatre and the Maurice Huggins room be used as a meeting place and cafeteria, all to no avail.
The use of S106 monies to regenerate the Town Centre has to be carefully managed and not frittered away. The £258,000 recently received from the Qoura site for use in the Town Centre is not

enough to regenerate, but can be used effectively to market the Town therefore increasing footfall and spend.

Saltash Town Council are not the landlord of any properties in Fore Street/lower Fore Street except for the Heritage Centre. Therefore STC cannot influence or offer prospective tenants to come to Fore Street. If STC were the landlord they would be able to 'choose' the mix of Tenant and offer support.

Currently, of approx 140 businesses in Fore Street, there are arguably no real national retail names

The onus is on STC, Saltash Chamber and Fore Street businesses to come together to provide a visionary programme to revitalise and improve the fortunes of Saltash Town. Do we have the capability?
John Brady, Carkeel

Letter to the Editor
Have your say!
Please send as Word Document & proof read
Include name
(& address for office purpose only)
Email
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Newly Refurbished Members Bar

Now in Use

New Members Always Welcome

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October 2019

Sat 19th River Roots (Vibrant Acoustic Folk)

Friday 25th HELLS BELLS (AC/DC Tribute)

Members £5 Visitors £10

Sat 26th Ashes to Ashes (The 89's Band)

November 2019

Sat 2nd Whiskey Falls

Friday 8th Totally Tina (Fab Tina Turner Tribute)

Members £5 Visitors £10

This lady comes with a huge reputation as one of the very best around

Sat 9th Vicious Kitten (Pop/Rock Covers)

Sat 16th Gone South (Get Comfortable Numb)

Sat 23rd XLR (2nd visit by this popular

Rock Cover outfit - **be there**)

Sat 30th Banana Thieves (Say no more!)

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All Information correct at the time of going to Press

Subject to change

Just Be Christmas Party Menu December 2019

Starters
Sticky honey prawns with charred greens
Chicken liver parfait, toast & chutney
Caramelised Jerusalem, artichoke, pear, & walnut soup

Main Course
Stuffed turkey breast wrapped in pancetta, roast potatoes & seasonal veg
Confit duck leg, celeriac mash, tomato & butterbean compote
Bacon wrapped monkfish, lemon mash & black olive sauce
Roast baby squash, stuffed with leek & pomegranate risotto

Desserts
Chocolate ganache torte, wild cherry sorbet
Coconut mousse, passion fruit, lime, & roasted pineapple
White chocolate & cranberry bread & butter pudding
Gelato
Local Cheese board (£3 supplement)

2 Course Option £25
3 Course Option £30

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Letter to the Editor...

The Plaque

"In 1976 Dean Saunders a 10yr old pupil of St Stephen's School Saltash passed away after fighting Leukaemia. Such was his steadfastness and cheerful bravery, it was decided by the then Headmaster Mr M Hassill to recognise this by raising funds to stock and build a new Library and name it after Dean. A huge fundraising effort on behalf of the Teachers, Parents, children and the community included notable donations from The Round Table and Prince Charles. Volunteers helped in the build and the Library was officially opened by Mr Kingsley Cruise Cornwall's Education Sect in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Saltash, Robert Hicks MP, Mr J Hickish Land Agent for The Duke of Cornwall, Dean's Parents and Mr K Hodge Chairman of School Governors. The Plaque (donated by Manuscript Ltd of Liskeard) including an engraved portrait of Dean was duly unveiled.

It now transpires that the Library is required for other purposes and that the present Headmistress, Heather Landers, has allowed the Memorial Plaque to Dean to be removed, as it was "no longer relevant to today's school." Since when does ANY memorial plaque become irrelevant, particularly to a past pupil, its removal demonstrates a somewhat callous disregard, even disrespect for feelings generally and particularly to the Saunders family? As this Plaque was delivered by hand back to Mr Saunders without an apology or even a letter of explanation from the School

speaks volumes for the attitude of the current incumbent. I would hope that this matter can be resolved and the Plaque can be returned to a site at the



school for which it was intended, thus restoring at least a modicum of respect."

Chris Cansfield
(family friend of Trevor Saunders)
Landrake

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Editor,
I normally enjoy reading the Observer as it brings me up to date with local news and events. It also includes some good articles such as Essa Files which are interesting and non-controversial. Unfortunately, my pleasure was ruined abruptly when I saw the letter you had published from Richard Sowman. It was nothing but a vitriolic left wing diatribe directed our local MP and any Tory voter who was so ill informed and stupid as to vote leave in the biggest democratic turn out that I can remember.

I have had the cherished privilege of being able to exercise my vote in elections for over sixty years now and

Letter to the Editor...

Dear Editor
Saltash War Memorials: The Missing

In November we shall, quite properly, commemorate and honour those killed in war with an Armistice Day ceremony, Civic Service of Remembrance and laying of wreaths.

But something will be missing. Our WW1 Memorials list 96 men, but 44 are not - an error rate of almost 50%! Our WW2 Memorials have at least 20 omissions.

The War Memorials Trust confirms there are mistakes and omissions on Memorials throughout the country. There are many reasons for this, including:

No central guidance over criteria
Limited information and

along with millions of other voters have accepted the outcome of them because that is democracy.

Sowman's idea of democracy is that if enough MP's disagree with the result and mobs gather outside Westminster then it is fine to disenfranchise millions of voters. People are sick and tired of the antics of some MP's and how they have brought the Judiciary into politics and it is ill befitting for a local paper to take sides. In the next addition I would like to see an explanation of why such inflammatory drivel got published in our local paper.

FW Saltash Name & address supplied

** In response to the final paragraph of this letter please see our introductory paragraphs above.

communication
Sometimes names would only be listed if families could pay...

Commissioning committees in less affluent towns like Saltash often found it difficult to even pay for the memorial, let alone include all the names proposed.

I believe we have a solemn duty of care to put this right, and properly remember and honour all those who lost their lives serving our country but are not listed. Their loss is surely no less than those which are.

The Town Council initiated the GWCC. Perhaps they could lead a Council/community project by commissioning a new memorial for the Memorial Peace Garden listing the missing names to ensure that "The Missing" are not forgotten.

Barry Brooking, Saltash

League of Friends of St Barnabas Hospital

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 19th Nov 2019
2pm at
St. Barnabas Hospital
Day Care Centre
Saltash

Civic Service Agreed

At last week's Saltash Town Council meeting it was approved that a Civic Service could be held on the Sunday of the VE75 celebrations and commemorations being held over the weekend of the 8th May -10th May 2020.

This will be the conclusion of events planned for the weekend including a street party on the Saturday to be held in Fore Street and a model exhibition in the Saltash Guildhall, A40's music concert in the Saltash Social Club for the Saturday night. Plans are also being discussed to include the bringing back of Beating the Bounds, which subject to tide times, might be able to happen on Saturday 9th May 2020. More information will be available in the next few weeks as detailed plans are confirmed.

Please put the date in your diary or contact the committee by email: Saltshve75committee@gmail.com
Brenda Samuels VE75
Committee Chairman

Crying Out for Saltash



Saltash has once again acquired a Town Crier to publicise our public events and bring colour and tradition to the town. An open-air audition was held on the Waterside with Callington's long serving town crier Tony Stentiford, together with Saltash Mayor's cadet Hannah Spry doing the judging.

Following a "Cry Off" both of the two contestants were asked their reason for seeking the post. Dennis Northey, formerly of Saltash, ex-serviceman living in Plymouth pronounced that "I like tradition, I like history, it is a part of England - let's keep it going".

The other contestant, Veronica Jones stated, "I love Saltash, I moved here a year ago from Kent to be near my family and I want to be a legend for the kids when I go. The kind of aunt who was town crier is the kind of legend that I'd like to be".

Both contestants had excellent projection and clarity, the judges agreed, and they had a hard decision to make. However, after conferring they announced Veronica as Saltash's first female town crier.

The Callington crier gave

her advice on her new role, largely ceremonial and with some charity work involved. She can join the Guild and enter national competition if she so wishes. Meanwhile she was invited to the town crier contest at Callington's Honey Fair to observe and to participate if she felt so inclined.

She will replace well known local character Brian Whipp, a familiar figure with his late wife Monica, and who is still often seen around Saltash and Plymouth in his persona as Sir Francis Drake or in pirate costume. He stood down as town crier several years ago and the post has been vacant since.

Veronica Jones as current crier is expected to be seen and heard about the town as soon as her official costume has been made up.

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Burraton Community Centre on Wednesday afternoons from 1.15 - 2.45pm (all welcome)

Performance: St Stephens Church
Fri & Sat, 22nd & 23rd Nov 6.30 pm - £5.00

Further information & Tickets

Sue Hooper - 01752 843073 suehcf@msn.com

Julian Barnicoat - info@stillvoices.co.uk

Lynn Marsh - 01752 844255 - lynmarsh@aol.com

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Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letters to the one-word answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make a Cornish place name?
 1 Which Scottish town is generally recognised as "The Capital of the Highlands"? (9)
 2 How many strings are there usually on a Mandolin? (5)
 3 Where was Abraham Lincoln assassinated? (10)
 4 What type of creature is the semi-aquatic Coypu? (6)
 5 What name is given to the Gizzard, Liver and Neck of a Fowl? (7)
 6 What colour appears in the titles of 7 Elvis Presley hit songs? (4)
 7 The Gambling Mecca of Las Vegas is found in which U.S. State? (6)
 8 The tournament seen as a warm-up for Wimbledon is played at the Devonshire Park Club in which Town? (9)
 9 What was the pet hate of David Copperfield's great-aunt? (7)
 Answers on Page 7

Dental Waiting List Rise

A dedicated helpline to enable residents in Devon and Cornwall to find an NHS Dentist or access emergency treatment has been set up.
 This follows a report that in the twelve months up to March 2019 the number of people on a waiting list in Cornwall increased by 4015 from 18,047 to 22,062. The waiting list in South East Cornwall, the former Caradon district which includes Saltash, is 3,169. Dental practices are being encouraged to direct prospective patients whom they cannot accept immediately to the new helpline. This will mean them being added to a central waiting list and being taken on in batches as places become available. Priority will go to those waiting longest but those willing to travel a distance to a dentist might be placed sooner.
 The younger generation of newly qualified dentists, Cornwall Council has noted, tend to favour larger cities with better transport links and further training opportunities linked to the big teaching hospitals. Truro and Plymouth both benefit from successful and prestigious dental schools.

Community Fun Evening Goes the Whole Hog

As a row of fluffy pink pigs lined up at the starting gate, tails quiver, squeals of excitement from pigs and punters awaiting the oink off. The occasion was the fun social evening organised by community enterprises PL12 at Landulph Memorial Hall to which everyone was welcome, provided they showed the Saltash card recently issued to help encourage use of local businesses.



Photo: Ian Robinson

The pig races generated fun and excitements such dead certs as Elvis Pigsley, Hogzilla, Hogwarts and Sir Oinksalot were wound up and pounded their trotters to the finishing line. The porcine theme was contained with a splendid hog roast, with veggie alternatives.
 More relaxing entertainment was provided by Becky on the harp and later by Gracenotes Acapella. Entertainment was organised by Dementia Voice PL12 to whom all profits were to go. There was also a grand raffle.
 The pigs were not the only entrants who were pink, there was a 'pink' theme and your Observer correspondent, who had just cleaned up by a successful bet on the nose from The Baconator, selected Beryl to win the prize as prettiest in pink.

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SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



I recently joined local Councillor Sheila Lennox-Boyd, members of the public and other Councillors at the display by Barratt homes and David Wilson Homes to look at the first phase plans for the Treledan Site. I raised a number of questions including the impact this housing would have on the already busy Carkeel roundabout.
 You can see the plans at www.barrattexterplanning.co.uk
 I also visited the Tamar Friendship Club at St Nicholas and St Faith Church in Saltash. It was so good to join adults with learning disabilities for a game of Bowls. It was fun and I would like to congratulate all those who proved to have a better skill at bowling than me. I would also like to pay tribute to Alastair and his team of helpers who run the club each fortnight. This Club relies on a small subscription to cover the cost of hiring the hall and providing refreshment and certainly deserve a thought if you wish to make a small contribution to a local charity. It was also to catch up with my former colleague from Cornwall County Council and Caradon District Council, Tony Nettle who ran the bowling event.
 I met with local farmers and the local National Farmers Union just off the road from Saltash to Callington. I was pleased to hear their views and concerns and they certainly gave me a wide range of matters to bring forward when Parliament returns. Matters ranging from beef prices through to environmental matters were discussed. I will be looking to bring some of the matters to the attention of the Minister and also raising

some matters as topics for future enquiries in the EFRA Select Committee. I would like to thank Mike Hamley and his wife for their kind hospitality, the NFU and the farmers who gave up their valuable time to come and meet me.
 I also met with the Member of the Youth Parliament for East Cornwall and answered questions she had for me. It was also good to share some of my experience with her about life as a Member of Parliament and hear about what she has been doing since her election. I would like to thank her for visiting my office from her home near Bude.
 I was also able to support for the Long Live the Local Campaign to help pubs in South East Cornwall keep their doors open. 223 people in South East Cornwall signed a petition calling on the Government to cut beer tax at the Budget. According to figures brewing and pubs in South East Cornwall supports 1260 jobs. Pubs are at the heart of communities across South East Cornwall.
 In Parliament I was pleased to be able to show my support for everyone affected by breast cancer and I encourage people to take part in the wear it pink fundraising day on 18 October. Wear it pink has raised over £33 million in the last 17 years, thanks to friends, colleagues and communities coming together to wear pink and raise vital funds for groundbreaking breast cancer research.
 I will be continuing to knock on doors around the constituency. If you would like to contact me you can email me at Sheryll@sheryllmurray.com or call my Liskeard office on 01579 344428.

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Join Our Delivery Team

The success of the Saltash Observer over the last 27 years has been due in no small part to the excellent and reliable team that every month seeks to ensure that each home in Saltash receives its copy.

Some of our deliverers have been with us for over 26 years. Others have moved on. Many of our most valued delivery team have been school students who of course will expect eventually to leave the area for university or other further education or employment, leaving a vacancy.

We currently have vacancies in Saltash, which the rest of the team are seeking to cover temporarily.

If you would enjoy healthy walking once a month for financial reward, and would like to be considered please contact the Editor on 07971 484872 or

E:maryecrawford@hotmail.com

The work is suitable for anyone from young teen up to a fit senior citizen, indeed anybody who has a few hours a month to spare and enjoys the fresh air.

Conundrum Answers:

1 Inverness 2 Eight 3 Washington 4 Rodent 5 Gibles 6 Blue 7 Nevada 8 Eastbourne 9 Donkeys. Re-arranged the letters spell Newbridge

Caradon Gig Ladies are Champions Once Again

Saltash based Caradon gig club are Ladies County Champions after retaking the title at Newquay over the weekend. One hundred and twelve crews took part in the Ladies County Championships recently held at Newquay. Fresh northerly winds on Saturday halted the competition after round one. Lighter winds provided more favourable racing conditions on Sunday enabling the competition to recommence with the six fastest crews making it through to the final. Caradon A crew were joined in the final by reigning World Champions, Falmouth A, along with Falmouth B and crews from Charlestown, Fowey and Helford. The Caradon ladies crew put in a lot of hard training over the summer in a determined effort to regain the County title they lost last year and were keen to take on Falmouth ladies to whom they narrowly lost the World Championship title in May after a photo finish.

The County Championship final took place at 5p.m. on Sunday evening following the completion of round two, quarter finals and the semi finals. Rowing in Merthen, the Caradon crew got off to a fantastic start, managing to power to an early lead, which they continued to extend, eventually finishing seven lengths clear of Falmouth



A in second. Fowey took the Bronze medal ahead of Helford, Charlestown and Falmouth B crews.

Caradon Ladies A rower Leanne Woodward said 'It's a fantastic feeling to regain the title after losing it last year. We made a couple of changes to the crew after the World Championships in May and have worked really hard over the summer to give ourselves the best possible chance to win. We always believed we could win it again but thought we would have a close fought battle with Falmouth to do so. We had a brilliant start, managed to get

into a great rhythm, which we have been working really hard on in training, and kept pulling away. It's a win that dreams are made of and makes all the hard work worthwhile!'

Caradon results:
Ladies A - Champions,
Ladies B - 14th, Ladies C - 16th, Ladies D - Knocked out in round 2 & Ladies E - knocked out in round 1

Fifty Years of Football Celebrated by Club

It is just fifty years ago since a notice inserted in a local newspaper resulted in twenty-eight rugby enthusiasts attending a meeting in the 'Wheatshaf Inn' on Saltash Waterside.

This was to be the first meeting of The Saltash Rugby Football Club which is currently celebrating its fiftieth season. That newspaper notice was inserted by W.T. 'Bill' Ryan who is now the club's president and who has continued to play an active role while witnessing the club's various fortunes, including playing upon the hallowed turf of Twickenham two seasons ago.

During that fifty years many hundreds, if not thousands of local boys, and more recently girls, have been encouraged to share the spirit of rugby football, not a few of them having subsequently gone on to play at county level and beyond.

During this fiftieth anniversary season, we on the

Observer will be looking back at some of the highlights of the past half century on and off the field.

Following that inaugural meeting the first committee was formed with Major E.J. Jackett, as Chairman, Bill Ryan as Secretary, Viscount Boyd accepting an invitation to become Patron and Mr. L.W. Cox becoming President.

An offer of a playing field at Carkeel was put forward by Mr. Charles Henwood and eagerly accepted. Pending it being available matches were to be played at Cross Park School, using the school changing rooms. Blue or white coloured shirts were chosen as club strip, purchased from Plymouth's Civil Service Store. Committee meetings and post-match gatherings would be held at the Railway Hotel, courtesy of landlord Colin Wadge. A fixture list for the

1969/70 season was put together, pre-season training was organised and the first game was played away to Plymouth Argaum Floaters. Dave Green made club history as the first scorer, his try leading to a 14 - 8 win for the new formed club. The first home game at Cross Park was lost 19-3 against St. Ives Reserves, Bill Ryan scoring the three points.

The opening season could be counted a success for the fledgling club, with 17 wins, 13 losses and 4 draws. 388 points were scored, 48 more than those conceded. The first trophy won however was off the field, in the Saltash Town Regatta tug of war. Saltash Rugby Football Club was already a power in the land.

Essa Files

As you'll no doubt be aware the UN recently held its annual climate change summit. This got more coverage than usual this year due to the combination of a climate change denying US President and a 16 year old Swedish student, Greta Thunberg, who started her own school strike for climate change and has since become an international spokesperson on the issue.

To coincide with this summit school held a Climate and Environment Day, and in the Sixth Form we did a mock United Nations where students represented a variety of different countries and attempted to negotiate an agreement on tackling the issue. It was a great day with students really getting into character, and it did produce an agreement that all nations should increase their use of renewable energy significantly. At the same time it reinforced the scale of what we're facing, because every nation has their own priorities and interests to protect and too often these win out over the global interest.

The start of the day was also very instructive, as our guest speaker from the Green Party gave a very informed and passionate speech about the need for action, followed by me (someone who actually totally agrees with him) arguing the other side to

stimulate debate. It was depressingly easy to put a plausible sounding case against action - I was light on facts and strong on 'common sense rhetoric' and it was all too easy to see why this works: it's so much more tempting to people to hear why it's 'scaremongering' and they don't need to change than to face the harsh, and very well evidenced, reality.

Fortunately I'm lucky to have a lot of bright students who can think for themselves and who appreciate the danger the planet is in, but even those of us who are genuinely worried about climate change can fall into the trap of expecting others to fix it. I include myself in that, and Greta Thunberg too - although I admire her work my one criticism of her is that she tends to put the blame squarely onto 'the politicians' (a very common thing). In reality it's everyone's fault and everyone's responsibility - politicians do need to take tough central action to save our planet and businesses need to do their part too but just as importantly, maybe more so, every single one of us needs to do our bit. Although it may be less convenient to take public transport, or more expensive to eat local seasonal produce, or just less pleasant to use a paper straw we can't go on as we are. If we are going to tackle climate change effectively, and to leave a planet worth living on, we all need to except some inconvenience and take some responsibility.

Adam Killeya

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Concern for Community Centre on Waterside Expressed at Packed Public Meeting

Widespread concern over the abuse and intimidation suffered by volunteer workers at Ashtorre Rock community centre resulted in over a hundred people packing out the hall for a public meeting called, as mentioned in your last 'Observer'.

As we reported there has been a long-term problem of youths trespassing and 'tombstoning', jumping into the river from the balconies after hours. This has escalated during the summer as young people have forced their way into the building during opening hours to access the balconies or the pillar of the railway bridge. The kitchen volunteers, mostly elderly, who try to dissuade them meet with so much abuse that the building, used as a community hub for the Waterside, was forced to close temporarily.

At the public meeting Saltash Town Councillor and Rotarian Brenda Samuels who chaired it said the purpose was to support Ashtorre Rock in dealing with the problem. It was emphasised that most of the youths who enjoy swimming at Waterside and jumping off the pier are well behaved and following local tradition in pursuing these activities, it is a minority who cause problems.

Mrs Samuel invited other Waterside organisations to contribute, noting that 'Just Be', Saltash Sailing Club and local residents had also suffered problems. A local Police Community Support Officer added that with just two PCSO's it was difficult

to respond to calls in time, but that she was liaising with regular police. Representations from Network Rail said that they have photographed the railway bridge pillar with a view to making it more difficult to access, and they promised to keep Ashtorre Rock management committee advised as to this. British Transport Police officers said that they would come on to Waterside during their irregular visits to Saltash station.

Deputy Head of Saltash Community School Matt Oakes attended the meeting on behalf of the school, emphasising that such behaviour from any of his school's students would not be tolerated. It has however been stated that much of the trouble comes from boys coming across from Plymouth.

Suggestions included injunctions issued to those youths already identified, involving the Ministry of Defence Police boats who patrol the river, and appealing for more people to attend Ashtorre Rock during vulnerable times of high tide, good weather and no school.

Subsequently Mrs Lynn Marsh, Chair of the Ashtorre Rock Management

Committee has met with Cornwall anti-social behaviour team including representatives from the police. Matt Oakes from Saltash School also attended.

The information that, an offer to supply CCTV free of charge has been made, was welcomed.

"Additional support was offered for this season, with a view to resolving a long-term solution so that we can keep Ashtorre Rock as a safe and pleasant place for the community to share and enjoy, just as it has been for the past 28 years", Mrs Marsh told the Observer.

Volunteers Required

Sat 19th & Sun 20th October 11am - 3pm both days

The Saltash Great War Commemorative Events Committee will be at St Stephens Church Yard to plant 100's of bulbs in honour of the Saltash fallen during the Great War 1914-1918.

This Committee project is being led by two of our devoted members (Jane Scantlebury and Averil Pinkney) who are also looking for community volunteers who



may kindly consider one or both days according to their availability.

Volunteers please do feel free to bring bulbs with you. The Committee had in mind Cornish daffs (miniature), and snowdrops. English Bluebells most welcome too. In addition, to remember the millions of animals killed during WW1 the Committee would also welcome purple crocus bulbs which is widely recognised as a remembrance crocus.

We should meet at the new wall entrance up Farm Lane up from the Cecil Inn at 11.00 am on either or both days.

The committee would welcome volunteers to help plant many hundreds of bulbs, therefore, it would be most helpful if volunteers would let me know if/when they are coming if possible please. Folk should bring gloves and trowels.

Saltash Great War Commemorative Events Committee, aim to pay a lasting tribute to all those killed in the Great War of 1914-1918 the display will be a lasting tribute to them all (in particular the 140 men from Saltash or associated with Saltash).

We look forward to hearing from you and if your organisation would also kindly consider making a donation to the bulbs (we would welcome bulb funding) we would be most grateful! Thank you once again. Kindest Sue Hooper

We are now taking Advertising for Christmas 2019

For further details Contact: Mary on
M: 07971 484872
Tel: 01579 345699
E: maryecrawford@hotmail.com

Town Will Not Adopt Phone Box

Saltash has been offered the opportunity to 'Adopt' the telephone box in Alamein Road. As mentioned in the September Observer British Telecom otherwise intend to remove it due to lack of use.

However, it became apparent that the town would simply be offered an empty box for adoption, the phone being removed prior to this. This is not a traditional red box but a modern glass and steel structure of no historic or visual interest and the council unanimously decided there was no point in acquiring it. They did however agree again to oppose removal of the telephone on the basis that it is in an area of social housing, with a low percentage of owner occupiers, many on low income, and many without landlines or mobile. Last year 38 call were recorded from it.

British Telecom also intend to remove a kiosk in Wesley Road near the post sorting

office. They do not need to undergo consultation for this as there is another box remaining within four hundred metres.

There is also a warning that all the payphones in Saltash have recorded little use in this mobile phone era and there will almost certainly be proposal to remove others in the future. At present there is a categorisation system whereby British Telecom prefer to retain kiosks that are close to water, close to cliff tops, that are in zones with no mobile signal, and for other social reasons. British Telecom warn however that this categorisation may change in the future.

Rebellion Declaration Read Out to the Town

Around twenty concerned campaigners against climate change marched through the town and read out a Declaration of Rebellion.

As Extinction Rebellion mounted major public protests in London and other cities including Plymouth, local citizen fearful of the consequences of unregulated rises in global temperatures, gathered in Victoria Gardens on a Saturday morning. They walked through the street busy with shoppers to highlight the need for governments and for individuals to take urgent action to reduce use of fossil fuels and to accelerate the government target to reach zero carbon emission by 2050. This is too little too late, campaigners claim, with a serious risk of humanity becoming extinct if

more urgent action is not taken immediately.

Protesters parading down Fore Street passed out wild flower seeds and cakes to passing shoppers. At the Guildhall, where Mayor Gloria Challen was attending a Saltash Town Council Showcase promoting local clubs and groups, they delivered the Declaration which was now adhered to a copy of the door to 10 Downing Street. The Mayor joined others in listening to the reading of the Declaration.

Saltash Town Council had previously declined to follow Cornwall Council in declaring a climate emergency, having agreed by five votes to four, that the local Saltash Environmental Action group was already active in pursuing issues relating to climate change.

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North Road School Reunion

Burraton Community Centre

Sat 7th Dec 2019

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