



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



# Christian

# SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER DON'T MISS THE MAGICAL LANTERN PARADE AT 6PM OR THE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND STILT WALKERS AND REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS

Established 30 years

# Mayor of Saltash Pays Tribute to the Debonair and Much Loved Saltash Figure

October/November 2022 - Issue 367

A same without Brian Whipp, who gave a welcome splash of colour and character to the town," said Councillor Richard Bickford, Mayor of Saltash, paying tribute to the debonair and much-loved Saltash figure. Brian was often seen flamboy-

antly dressed as the sea dog Sir Francis Drake sipping a coffee al fresco at a Fore Street café, leading plucky pirates at Saltash Regatta, or simply boarding a bus or a train. All his period costumes were meticulously hand-crafted by his late wife, Monica – his Lady Drake. Following Monica's death in 2015, Brian donated her Lady Drake dress to the Saltash Heritage museum, where it is now on permanent display.

A Londoner born in 1936, 99 Brian moved with Monica to Saltash in the 1970s and soon became actively involved in the life of the town, serving a term as councillor. As well as appearing as Sir Francis and Lady Drake at events across the Westcountry, the couple spent 20 years working at Buckland Abbey, giving visitors an insight into life in

children the intricacies of Elizabethan dancing. In 2007, Brian became the first person in 900 years to act as Saltash Town Crier after the Town Council decided to reinstate the post. He became an active member of the Town Criers' Guild, and together with Monica travelled widely promoting Saltash at a diverse range of Town Crier contests.

Although retired, Brian was that we now

honoured to be asked by the Town Council to reprise his role as Town Crier and give the official proclamation marking the start of the town's celebrations for the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Brian often used to regale people with his memories of meeting Queen Elizabeth. She had, apparently, asked him why he dressed as Drake. "Well, your Majesty," he had replied. "We cannot have a Queen Elizabeth on the throne without a Sir Francis Drake." It is deeply saddening to think that we now have neither.

Great Christmas Stocking Filler A Quality of Life Christmas Walks...Meet the Family for a great Boxing Day walk... Shake off those extra calories while enjoying our fabulous surroundings. A Local Book of walks & strolls for your leisure time £4.99 Available at The Bookshelf Fore St Saltash





# **Town Messenger** Working for the People of Saltash

News from Saltash Town Council Konsel an dre Essa



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

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

# **Housing Department** Telephone: 0300 1234 161 Email: info@cornwallhousing.org.uk

**Social Services Department** Telephone: 0300 1234 101 Email children@cornwall.gov.uk

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

# **Highways Department**

Telephone: 0300 1234 222 Email customerrelations@cormacllimited .co.uk

# **Transport Department**

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

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

.gov.uk

## **Waste Department**

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

## **Cormac Solutions** Telephone: 01872 323 313

. Fmail<sup>.</sup> customerrelations@cormacltd.co.uk

Fly Tipping: Telephone: 0300 1234 141

Email: refuseandrecycling@cornwall.gov.uk

Town Messenger news is supplied by the Town Council

# Cornwall Councillors/ Wards

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

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

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

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

passing of Brian Whipp in the last few weeks. Brian was a real character, or many characters, and will be missed around our town and beyond. Brian was the Town Council's Town Crier for a number of years, and I was pleased that we asked him to reprise his role for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations. He jumped at the chance and was perfect for the role of reading the proclamation.

was sad to learn of the

The highlight of the past month was our revival of the traditional 'Beating the bounds', where we walked a section of the boundary of Saltash bumping people on the boundary stones as we went. I would like to thank all who joined us, with special thanks to Martin Lister for leading the walk, Barry Brooking for reading the proclamation, Reverend Tim Parkman and Reverend Richard Magrath for their blessings, Peter Clements for his guidance, Rotary members for their marshalling skills, as well as Councillor Rachel Bullock and her team for their organisational work. It was a great success, and I am sure we will do it again, do try to come, and keep your fingers crossed the weather is equally good.



In the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, we have had many meetings trying to catch up on a back log following the death of the Oueen. It might not impress many, but I am always thankful that our town councillors volunteer their time to come to so many meetings and make decisions on your behalf, night after night. It is no easy feat, and often tough choices have to be made. You can catch up on all that happens by reviewing the minutes that are published on the Town Council's website. Sarah and I hope to see

some of you at the various Remembrance events around the town in November. Councillor Richard Bickford Mayor of Saltash 2022-23

**Town Council Messenger News** Update

launching a competition to raise awareness on the issues of dog fouling.

The Town Council are asking the youth of Saltash to assist by creating the artwork for the signs. The Town Council hope by raising awareness it will encourage all dog walkers to clean up after their pet. Can vou create something 1.20pm - 1.50pm in order to be

eye-catching and informative to The Remembrance parade spread awareness that dog will leave the church at fouling in our Saltash approximately 3pm to march community is unacceptable? down Fore Street to the war The winners will be chosen

memorial outside St Nicholas from a variety of age ranges and St Faith Church where with a closing date of the 30th wreaths will be laid. Saltash November. For mor details please Town Council encourage all visit www.saltash.gov.uk/latestnews residents and visitors to attend

#### .php Christmas Craft Fair

There are still a few spaces available for stalls at our Christmas Fair that will take place on Saturday 3rd December (the same date as the Christmas Festival event in the Town Centre). Tables are £10. Contact

enquiries@saltash.gov.uk for more details

# Email your news to... maryecrawford@hotmail.com Tel: 01579 345699 Mob: 07971 484872

# Community

# **Chest Awards** Saltash Town Council have funding available for local

community organisations to support community projects in the town that strengthen the community fabric or economy of the town. Organisers can apply for up to £1000. Saltash Sailing Club Cadets applied for £1000 to replace worn equipment. The grant was awarded and used to purchase two RS Feva Trollies and 2 RS Vision Trollies. Both pieces of equipment will be used to transport dinghies in and out of the water safely. The replacing of the equipment enabled more young people to access the sailing club and learn to sail in a safe environment at a local club. For an application form,

guidelines on how and when to apply and support to apply email enquiries@saltash.gov.uk or visit the Town Council websitehttps:// www.saltash.gov.uk/edit/ stuploads/8193 435536206.pdf or call 01752 844846.

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

# **Saltash Town Pledge to Become Dementia Friendly**

t the Full Town Council meeting held on 6th October 2022 Saltash Town Council resolved to formally adopt a proposal and plan to work towards being a dementia friendly Town Council. Research from the National Association of Local Councils shows that where local councils proactively engage in providing

Saltash Town Council

# **Supports Youth Organisations**

At the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 28 September 2022 it was resolved to thank Livewire, The Core and Junkyard Skatepark for their ongoing commitment and support to the community. The three organisations have jointly received funding of over £50,000 from Saltash Town Council to enable them to deliver services in Saltash.

Each of the three organisations offer outstanding support to the youth of the town through various clubs and initiatives. Saltash Town Council is proud to be supporting them to offer these services through funding.

Christmas in Saltash!

IGHTS SWITCH ON

#### support, isolation, loneliness and despair experienced by people living with dementia reduces. Saltash Town Council is committed to working with local organisations, carers and

those with dementia to ensure Saltash is a safe and friendly place to live and work Further information can be found at https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/

**Saltash Town Public** 

# Conveniences Vandalism

Saltash Town Council managed public conveniences are experiencing higher volumes of vandalism in recent months. Unfortunately this vandalism leads to the facilities being closed to the public whilst repairs are undertaken. If anyone spots any vandalism at any of the public conveniences please report it to Saltash Town Council Service Delivery Department by email services@saltash.gov.uk or phone 01752 844846.

All instances of vandalism are report to the police by the Service Delivery Team to enable them to build up a log of issues in the town.

SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL PRESENTS

**Transforms** into a Warm Hub From 31st October throughout the winter, Saltash Library will

provide a welcoming venue for all to relax in the warmth. This will continue through normal library opening hours, with Saltash Wesley Church offering alternative venue on Wednesdays when the library is closed.

**Saltash Library** 

Part of a range of initiatives to support Saltash residents in keeping well over the winter months, the mezzanine floor is being converted to include a games table as well a comfortable seating area with hot drinks on offer, courtesy of Saltash Foodbank. There are also plans for an afternoon Film Fridav event from November

onwards The library will continue to be the hub of events for all ages throughout November Children's Book Week will be celebrated between 7th and 13th November, followed by Nursery Rhymes Week from 14th to 18th of the month. For adults, there will be an International Games Week based on the format of television's popular 'House of Games.'

For further information on the wide variety of activities in Saltash Library, call in or visit the website on saltash.gov.uk/library or facebook.com/saltashlibraryhub

Color And COL

Pharoah's Curse IT'S BEGINNING TO FEEL A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS hosted by Murder by Midnight The Mayor of Saltash Councillor Richard Bickford will be switching on the Christmas Lights at 430 PM on Saturday 10 December 2022 Friday 18th November 2022 in Victoria Gardens 7pm, Isambard House, Saltash nied by school choirs singing Christmas Carols With guest appearance from Father Christmas traveiling on Saltash Rotary Club's sleight Can you solve the crime and identify the murderer? Tickets fire, can be purchased at the Saltash Library Hub or the Guildball, Booking in advance essential. Bring your own food and drink. Tea and coffee will be . available for a donation to Mayor's Charity • 10

# Your Town Council & Wards

Saltash Essa: 1. Cllr Richard Bickford r.bickford@

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- saltash.gov.uk 2. Cllr Rachel Bullock
- r.bullock@ saltash.gov.uk
- 3. Cllr Gloria Challen g.challen@ saltash.gov.uk
- 4. Cllr Matt Griffiths m.griffiths@ saltash.gov.uk
- 5. Cllr Jon Foster jon.foster@ saltash.gov.uk
- 6. Cllr Sheila Lennox-Boyd s.lennox-boyd@ saltash.gov.uk

- Saltash Tamar: 1. Cllr Lewis Challen I.challen@ saltash.gov.uk 2. Cllr Sarah Gillies
- s.gillies@ saltash.gov.uk 3. Cllr Sarah Martin
- s.martin@ saltash.gov.uk 4. Cllr Julia Peggs j.peggs@
- saltash.gov.uk 5. Cllr Pete Samuels p.samuels@
- saltash.gov.uk 6. Cllr Jean Dent
  - J.dent@ saltash.gov.uk

- Saltash Trematon: 1. Cllr Steve Miller s.miller@ saltash.gov.uk
- 2. Cllr Brenda Samuels b.samuels@
- saltash.gov.uk 3. Cllr Brian Stoyel b.stoyel@
- saltash.gov.uk 4. Cllr Yates d.vates@
- saltash.gov.uk

Mavor: Cllr Richard Bickford

Deputy Mayor. Cllr Julia Peggs

Town Clerk: Sinead Burrows 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 E: enquiries@saltash.gov.uk W: www.saltash.gov.uk Facebook: SaltashTownCouncilOfficial Twitter: SaltashTC

#### **Remembrance Day** The Annual Remembrance Day Service in Saltash will be held on Sunday 13th November 2022 at 2pm at the Saltash Wesley Methodist Church. Members of the public are invited to attend the service and will be seated in order of arrival until the church is at full capacity. Please arrive between

the parade and join Councillors,

local guests and uniformed

organisations in paying their

On Friday the 18th we will

switch on our Christmas Lights,

please see the poster elsewhere on this page. We do this a bit

earlier than the main Christmas

Festival event in order to give

maximum benefit to the

businesses and residents during

the run up to Christmas. It is a

fairly short event, but you are

In a bid to try and encourage

greater responsibility amongst a

minority of dog owners, we are

all welcome to come along.

No one likes Dog Poop

seated.

respects.

Switch on

Christmas Lights -

# Essa Voices



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

ou may not have heard of the Local Government Chronicle. A weekly for magazine local government officers, its readership is pretty darned niche. But it has been going since 1855, and has managed to foster some great 'sources' within the world of local government over that time. In the middle of October it ran a story that the 'Devolution Deal' that is currently being negotiated by the leadership of Cornwall Council with government the will amount to control of £12m year of investment funding over 30 years.

I'm impressed with the LGC's investigative journalism the within administration

Cornwall Council has been utterly uncommunicative about the details of the Deal. So uncommunicative that for the overwhelming majority of councillors the LGC article is the first clue we have had of the content of the Deal, even though we are all expected to vote on it at our November meeting of Cornwall Council.

I'm not impressed with a figure of £12 million, though. It is less than 1% of Cornwall Council's annual budget. It does not feel like it is enough to justify the sort of additional spending power implied by the word 'devolution'. What's more: it apparently comes with conditions attached that Cornwall Council will not be allowed to spend the money on services, such as adult social

#### From Prime Ministerial to Presidential

The 'Devolution Deal' also comes with the condition that Cornwall must change the way the council is governed away from the current 'Prime Ministerial' model, where elected councillors choose a Leader from among their councillors. fellow to a 'Presidential' model, where one person who is not a councillor will be elected directly by the general public to the position of Mayor. The Presidential model will mean less influence for local councillors, while the 'first past the post' voting system used in the mayoral election seems to give an advantage to political parties, bigger increasing the opportunity that national parties could gain

Cornwall control of irrespective of the outcome of elections for Cornwall Council.

#### A Devolution Deal without a Mayor?

All this debate comes at a time spiralling costs and tempestuous political upheaval at the heart of central government. In my personal view, it feels like it isn't the right time to introduce such a major change in the governance of Cornwall, so with together fellow councillors I have been

pressing for a devolution package without the upheaval of change to a directly elected Mayor. Councillors were pleased to hear at September's meeting of

Full Council that the 6 Cornish MPs and Cornwall Council had requested a pause in the negotiations with central government and would be lobbying to secure Devolution Deal without the requirement to change to a directly elected Mayor. We have repeatedly asked the Leader for updates, but we have not been told of any although developments, Cornwall Council apparently received a letter from Liz Truss saying that a Devolution Deal without a directly elected Mayor was not an option.

Will there be a referendum? Under the current proposals, the decision on the Devolution Deal will be made in a vote by 87 councillors of Cornwall Council. But as we stand at this 'trouser-leg' of choice between the current model of

governance and a directly elected Mayor, there are many who feel it would be better to have a referendum so the whole of the Cornish electorate can have the chance to directly give their say. So far, almost 6,000 people have signed a petition calling for a referendum, and 34 of Cornwall's 212 town and parish councils have voted in favour of allowing all voters in Cornwall to have their say directly.

# Ironic timing

The timing of this swirling debate around a directly elected Mayor is sublimely ironic as it comes at a time when, in this Parliamentary democracy of ours, the Conservatives are insisting there is no need for a general election. This is not a presidential democracy, they say, and the nation elects a party, not an individual. And vet that same government is adamant that it wants Cornwall to be ruled in presidential style.

As things currently stand, it seems that before the next issue of the Observer comes out 87 Cornwall Councillors will be asked to vote on the Devolution Deal, and on a Presidentialstyle shift. At the moment, I don't have enough information on the Deal to help me make an informed decision on the package. And at the moment, my feeling is that powers should be devolved to Cornwall without the need for a change in governance. If you have strong feelings either way please contact me so I can at least vote confident in the knowledge that I will be reflecting the views of Saltash residents

# **Tamar Toll Action Group** Update

The Tamar Toll Action Group has had an eventful time since our last update in the Observer. We have much to report, including the launch of our new website (as below) and the milestone of 2000 members joining our Facebook group: welcome to you all. Both Chair and Vice-chair of the group, Mel Priston and Scott Slavin, have been interviewed for local radio and newspaper, and some of you may have seen our new banner on the A38 – watch out for more of these in coming weeks as we are hoping to be displaying these in various locations, including manned banner sessions close to the Tamar Bridge. Please stop and say hello if you see us!

We have started public meet-up sessions for anyone wanting to become more involved with the group or wishing to find out more about what we are doing. These will be held monthly - details to be given on our website and Facebook page. All are welcome, and we hope to meet some more of you soon. We have also been meeting

with Cornwall and Plymouth councillors to ask for their support and investigate how we can work together towards our aim of abolishing the tolls. We have continued to question the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee on transparency, public com-munication and their plans for future funding, including green initiative subsidies. The 30% cash toll increase due from January 1st 2023 has once again highlighted the huge financial burden the toll is to local businesses and users who have cross the bridge and ferry both ways, often multiple times per day, as there is no other viable route. The message from our 2000 members is that something needs to change - the burden on regular users is too great. Please join us - we need to show our Councillors and MPs how much public support there is for this campaign Contact us via our Facebook page or via our website: www.tamartollactiongroup.org.

# Congratulations

"I would like to congratulate Rishi Sunak on becoming the Leader of the Conservative Party and Prime Minister. Its no secret that he was not my first choice but I do wish him well in his new role and will work with him to get the best for South East Cornwall and will continue to push the government for improvements to the area. Sheryll Murray MP

# **Read your Observer** Online Visit our Website: www.saltash-observer.co.uk See us on Social Media f Saltash Observer

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TRADE PRICES

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# Heather Strikes Gold with Regatta Raffle Ticket

Border Morris 'side', in distinctive black and gold tatter cloaks with 'gurt staves' for stick clashing. She was dancing with the side at the

Heather from Gunnislake dances with the Wreckers colourful event. She promptly her with her winning bought a book of tickets, and to her great delight won the top prize of £250. "I have a significant birthday coming up," said Heather, "and with Saltash Regatta when she saw this prize money I'll be able to



#### **HOPPER TRIPS - NOVEMBER 2022**

Monday 7th November Visit Cornwall Gold (Tolgus Mill) Award winning family fun & food venue in 18 acres of Cornish landscape a very interesting place to visit with a large jewellery shop Cornwall Pearl a restaurant & an award winning Cornish Pantry Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.00 - Travel only £14

Sunday 13th November St Elizabeth's House, Plympton Lunch at this top restaurant is a must followed by a visit to Saltram for afternoon tea or just a walk Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.00 - Travel only £5

Friday 18th November **Truro Christmas Lights - Christmas Shopping** Enjoy the Christmas Lights & fit in some Christmas Shopping plenty of choices for you to enjoy a nice meal as well Leave Saltash 14.00 Return 21.00 - Travel only £14

# **Tuesday 22nd November**

A Visit to IKEA Exeter If you have been to Ikea before you will know what to expect if this is your first visit enjoy the experience to shop & then maybe eat in the restaurant Leave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.00 - Travel only £13

# Sunday 27th November

Lunch at The Borough Arms/ Visit to Trelawney Garden Centre A Great day out starting with a Sunday lunch at the 4.5 star family friendly pub followed by a visit to the well-known garden centre

Leave Saltash 10.00 Return 18.00 - Travel only £10

## \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*

## **HOPPER TRIPS - DECEMBER 2022**

Thursday 1st December **Exeter Cathedral & Christmas Market** Enjoy a festive day out with a visit to this amazing Cathedral then visit the excellent Christmas Market with plenty of time to fit in lunch

\_eave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.30 - Hopper fare £13 Friday 2nd December

Tavistock Dickension Evening A magical late night shopping event which takes you back in time with street entertainers. a lantern parade and gift stalls Leave Saltash 15.00 Return 21.00 - Hopper fare £7

#### Sunday 4th December Strawberry Fields Sunday Lunch

One of our most popular venues enjoy an excellent Sunday lunch followed by a shopping experience in the large retail area

Leave Saltash 11.00 Return 16.00 - Hopper fare £7

#### **Thursday 8th December** Trago Mills & Newton Abbot

A trip where you can choose to spend your day at Trago Mills large site at Newton Abbot or travel onto spend your day in the centre of the town. \_eave Saltash 10.30 Return 16.30 - Hopper fare £11

# Thursday 15th December

National Trust Cotehele House & Gardens A visit to Cotehele at Christmas - see the famous garland in the main hall visit the shops a walk in the gardens enjoy lunch in the Barn Restaurant \_eave Saltash 11.00 Return 15.00 - Hopper fare £5

hub@cepli2.co.uk 01752 848348 www.cepli2.co.uk Community Enterprises PL12 | 4 Fore Street | Saltash | PL12 6.JL

Karen Lilley, Chair of the Regatta team said: "We are so grateful to people like Heather for buying raffle tickets. By the time we've paid for items like road closures and musicians it costs us £20,000 to stage the Regatta. The team spends a lot of time fundraising, but with spiraling costs we were facing a funding gap. Thanks to the local companies who sponsored the cash prizes, and thanks to the magnificent efforts of the Saltash squadron of the Air Cadets who sold tickets so enthusiastically, the raffle managed to raise over £1,200 and fill in the funding gap."

Wreckers Morris also raise funds themselves their chosen charity this year is SUDEP Action, dedicated to tackling epilepsy deaths. The earliest known written mention of Morris dancing is dated to 1448, but it wasn't until the mid 17th century that it became popular at local fairs. The black and gold Wreckers Border

Morris side has had a thriving membership since 2000, when they started up in a pub in Saltash with the help of Plymouth Morris Men and Morris Maids. There are six styles of Morris dancing, and this local side chose the 'Border' style for

# **15th Christmas Tree Festival** at SS Nicholas and Faith Church Saltash

Alexandra Square PL12 6AN Opening 10am - 4pm on Sat 26th Nov Sunday 27th Nov 2pm - 6pm Mon 28th - Fri 2nd 2pm - 6pm Sat 3rd - 10am - 8pm & Sun 4th - 2pm - 6pm Mon 5th Dec - Fri 9th Dec 2pm - 6pm Sat 10th Dec -10am - 4pm Sun 11th 2pm - 6pm Admission Free - Donations are very welcome

Wheelchairs Welcome - Easy disabled access



(secretary) via their website



# SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

JUIN THE GATHERING OF SANTAS ON SHES AT 1996 ON TODE STREE AND CHEER ON SANTAS IN THE FUN RUN AT 291 DON'T MISS THE MAGICAL LANTERN PARADE AT 6P1 OR THE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND STILT WALKERS AND REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL THIS CURISTIAS



# **Repair Café brings Economic** and Environmental Benefits

ncreasingly, we have become a throw-away society, replacing each household item when a fault is found rather than repairing Lit. All too often this has been due to the difficulty in finding anyone to carry out a repair at a reasonable charge. As we become increasingly

there may be a charge for

replacement parts. It is hoped to

extend the service to include

repairs, and any seamstress willing to offer help is asked to

contact SEA through their online

This is a real 'café' with tea,

coffee and cakes available, to be

enjoyed while the work is being

carried out. Refreshment costs

will be used to help cover the

costs of the repair service,

although people will also be

asked to pay a contribution,

according to means. This is

believed to be only the second

such Repair Café in Cornwall,

following one in St. Austell. The

opening event in October proved

highly popular, and it is planned

As a member of the RNA.

vou'll have access to social and

welfare advice, involvement in

social or fundraising events,

or you can simply contact Jim

Virgo on 07813 855024 or email

him on jimvirgo55@gmail.com

and come along for a quiet drink

and chat. We would be delighted

to host you as a guest to our next

Our aim is to make the branch

member can enjoy being around

Contact us now and have a

chat and we look forward to

welcoming you to the Saltash

grow into one where each

fellow Matelots, sharing dits,

pulling up bollards and

our many

branch meeting.

swinging lamps.

RNA Branch

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concerned at the rising cost of iving, it makes economic as well as environmental sense to retain and repair electrical and tool sharpening and clothes other items whenever possible. Saltash Environmental Action group (SEA) is keen to encourage this, and has set up what is intended to become a monthly Repair Café in in the St. Nicholas Church Rooms by Alexandra Square.

Les Dixon is one of the specialist team offering his services, and says that the Café will offer repairs on all manner of electrical appliances as well as on a variety of general items, including toys. Mobile phones can also be repaired, though

# **Royal Naval Association** Saltash

Association is the biggest collective and serving

its liveliness and noise, but also

because their practice and dance

venues lie on the border between

Heather said: "Wreckers

Morris feels like a family having

lots of fun." If you are interested

in going along to a practice

session or becoming a part of the

Wreckers Morris family, pick up

contact with their 'Bagman

Cornwall and England.



The Saltash branch is one of those 270 branches and is looking for new members to join our growing band of serving and ex RN personnel. We meet on the second

Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm for an 8pm start at Kimberly Stadium, (Saltash Football Club) Callington Road, Saltash, PL12 6DX. Grab a drink at the bar and come along and see what goes on.

# SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER You'd better watch out! You'd better not cry!

DON'T MISS THE MAGICAL LANTERN PARADE AT 6PM OR THE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND STILT WALKERS AND REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS

e'll tell you why: there will be hundreds of Santas coming to town to take part in the annual Saltash Christmas Festival on Saturday 3rd December. At 1pm, over 100 Santas on bikes will park up on a Fore Street brimming with market stalls for a short break before completing the final leg of their journey to spread festive cheer in Little Harbour, the hospice in Porthpean providing care for terminally ill children and their families. At 2pm, collaboration with the Tamar Trotters will see the return of the Santa Fun Run that proved so popular last year, and more than 100 Santas will set off from Victoria Gardens to run down Fore Street, across the Tamar Bridge and back again, a distance of just under two miles. Entry is Saltash Lantern Parade £10, which includes a Santa suit and medal. See the Christmas Festival Facebook page or contact the Tamar Trotters Running Club for an entry form to join in the fun. Both the Heritage Museum and Elliott's Shop on Lower Fore Street will open their doors on the Saturday of the Christmas Festival, while the Guildhall opposite will be the venue for a Christmas Craft Fair. The Church of St Nicholas and Faith will remain open until 8pm that day for people to visit the glorious Christmas Tree Festival. A full menu of refreshments will be on offer in the Church rooms until 4pm, and mulled wine and shortbread will be served in the evening. Saltash Chamber of Commerce, which organises the Christmas Festival, is pleased to be collaborating with Redeemer Church to introduce Pop-Up Carols at 5pm, before the much-loved Lantern Parade makes its way up Fore Street and the event closes with a firework display. With plenty of stalls, stilt walkers and other merriment, the festival looks set to be a welcome herald to the season of good cheer and a reminder of the importance of community and shopping local.

**66** S adly, our Grandfather lantern has had to be retired - his arthritis was getting too much set to finish with a bang as the traditional firework display lights up the night sky. There is still a funding gap, though, and for him," said Hilary Frank, lead organiser organisers are urging people to buy tickets of the Saltash Lantern Parade, an integral in the cash raffle, kindly sponsored by All element of the Saltash Christmas Festival. Home Improvements, Carlton Plastics and "But thanks to generous funding from The Bookshelf. Tickets will be on sale on Saltash Scrapstore, we are able to hold the day of the Festival as well Saitash Scrapstore workshops in schools and in the as at the Scrapstore Christmas

community for new lanterns." Fair at Studio 79 (next to Fresh One of the workshops will see young Fox) on 3rd, 4th and 5th people from Saltash and Ukraine make a November, which will offer a lantern of the Dove of Peace in the Youth fabulous selection of Club at the Wesley Church. And with everything Christmas, funding from Saltash Town Council, the including decorations, gift Lantern Parade and Christmas Festival look wrap and trees at low prices

# Community Hopper Bus Christmas Trips Special

EPL12's Hopper Bus trips have also launched their winter programs this month with a range of festive trips around Devon and Cornwall. "We've got lots of great trips planned," says CEPL12 Marketing Director Melanie Cowie. "From a trip to Truro in November to see the Christmas lights, Exeter in December to the cathedral and Christmas Market, a visit to Tavistock's Dickensian Evening and also a trip to Cotehele to visit the gardens and see the famous flower garland. The Hopper Bus volunteers have all worked hard to source lots of interesting festive trips and we're so excited to launch them."

to open the Repair Café there Interested people are encouraged to make bookings directly at the Community Kitchen again on Saturday 5th at 4 Fore Street. "The future for this valuable community facility will grow with the November and 17th December support of the community it serves," adds Melanie "We can't wait to welcome everyone from 10am to 1pm, with a view onboard and see familiar faces and some new ones too. to opening on the second Saturday of each month in 2023.

altash's Community Enterprise PL12 launch a new season of special events and Solution a new season of special events and activities this month adding to their growing list of What's On and services for the local community.

"We're delighted with the new events we have planned," said CEPL12 Marketing Director Melanie Cowie. "The teams have pulled out all the stops to create a full diary of events from Christmas craft workshops throughout November, Santa's Grotto 3rd December, Community Bus Trips and a fantastic Children's Book Launch by author Emily Thuysbaert 12th November and lots more." Events are planned to take place in the Community Shop at No.4 Fore Street,

new Winter Opening Hours for the Community Larder: Kitchen or see our Facebook pages.'



# **Community Enterprise Launch** Winter Season of Events

Community Kitchen at No.8 Fore Street and their Hopper Buses too.

In addition to the special events planned for the community, CEPL12 also launch their

"New Larder hours are Tues 2pm - 3.30pm, Fri 10am - 12pm and Sat 10.30am -12.30pm" adds Melanie. "For details of our events, people can pop into the Shop or



hub@ cepl12.co.uk. 01752 848 www.cepl12.co.uk Community Enterprises PL12| 8 Fore Street| Saltash| PL12 6JL



# Saltash Christmas Past

From such humble beginnings, the Saltash Christmas festivities have developed rom such numble ocgninings, the balacian companies received into all-encompassing and breathtaking community celebrations.

## First Christmas processions

I remember so well, the first Saltash Christmas processions initiated by the late and very popular Councillor Ken Hodge who was the principal organiser during his first Mayor ship in 1968, and continued to do so for many following years. The late Councillo



Hodge's idea of marching brass bands from three corners of Saltash led by three separate marching bands was delightful, and the sound as they merged was breathtaking.

The leading marching bands led the walking communities from points of St Stephens, Burraton - and the Civic procession from the Saltash Guildhall. The three marching bands with their community procession of adults, children and pet dogs, converged a Victoria Gardens for a Civic Carol Service conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain and other clerics of Saltash. There was the most welcoming huge Christmas tree all splendidly dressed and lit up with colourful Christmas lights. That feeling of simple community kinship and simplicity will always remain with me. Every Christmas, I and my family joined in from the St Stephen's procession, and I recall vividly the excitement of all the children and their families; and I can still hear the reverberation and resonance of their excitement that Christmas was on its way! We could also admire all the seasonal lights and decorations of the houses as we passed by. Our principal marching band was always the colourful and splendiferous Saltash Town Band, our town band is just as magnificent now as it was then, and continues to lead our Civic processions. The visiting brass marching bands were also very colourful and wonderfully musical too. The Saltash Community was very supportive, and huge attendances were always most welcoming Victoria Gardens was always full to the brim with people and the celebrations went ahead every Christmas, sometimes in the most inclement weather. I remember only too well, during rain storms the brass instruments getting so wet and thus unplayable! And the people getting very muddy shoes, but it never stopped the Christmas spirit and community celebrations. Hot chestnuts were on sale nearby, much to the enjoyment of the community; and the beautifully lit up and themed decorated local shops and business folks opened their doors to the community with welcoming warmth and ligh refreshments. A jov! First Dickensian Christmas

#### In 1991, Saltash Town Council moved the Christmas Festival to the High Street; thus to give the businesses increased opportunities to welcome the people into their premises, and indeed, to sample their generous hospitality and to mutually share the compliments of the season! The first ever theme was 'A Dickensian Christmas'. Such vivid memories of Saltash Christmas past; and a warm welcome to Saltash Christmas present and future! And we still have our Victoria Gardens tree at Christmas! Ho! Ho! Ho! Sue Hooper MBE

Former Mayor and Christmas events coordinator

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# repare Early for Christmas Festivities.

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Please call in or Contact the Scrapstore & Too 66 & 89 Fore Street Saltash or Visit our Facebook Page Saltash Scrapstore Recycling for our future Charity No 1108300 Saltash & District Observer - October/November 2022 - Page 6

# **Talking Money Debt and** Povertv th Talk Money

Week 2022 in November, there's opportunity to talk openly about all things financial. From pensions to ISAs, there's a lot of jargon that comes with talking about money - as well as plenty of hesitation. Despite this, there are some good reasons to talk about finances.

#### Stay informed

At a time when news sources are filled with talk about interest rates and inflation, it can all begin to sound like another language. If you don't understand, have a conversation about it. Talking with others is the beginning of learning some

worst, you'll have a laugh when you realise your friends might not fully understand what inflation is either! **Build relationships** The strongest relationships are built on a solid foundation of trust. If money is getting tight or you're contemplating a risky financial decision, speak to a loved one who you can trust to be fair and honest and they will likely keep you grounded. There might be solutions you haven't explored yet. Visit

moneysavingexpert.com for some really helpful resources on managing your money. Lead the way It's one thing to receive good

advice, but talking about money can also put you in the driver's

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seat. Particularly with children, really useful financial skills and giving a transparent look at tools - like where your money money can pave the way to works best and how to get the financial independence in the most out of your accounts. At future. A really useful, practical skill to give a child is how to budget. Talk to them and show them how it works. What

#### money comes in? Where does it go?

Put your mind at ease Whether you talk to a friend, a loved one or an accredited organisation, you can reduce anxiety and worry by sharing financial difficulties you might have. Having financial worries can be a driver of loneliness and isolation, negatively impacting mental and physical health. It doesn't have to be that way.

# You're not alone

Helpful resources for Talk Money Week and beyond are at maps.org.uk/talk-money-week. If things are proving difficult for you, please talk to someone. If you want to talk confidentially to me, you're welcome.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity working with over 800 affiliated churches to deliver debt help, budgeting guidance, support to find work, life skills groups and more. Visit capuk.org to find out more.

Tim Squires Debt Centre Manager Christians Against Poverty Saltash Book an appointment with him by calling 0800 328 0006 or

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# **Inaugural Literary** Festival is a **Spellbinding Success**

Writers of national renown from throughout the South West region spoke, entertained and informed at the inaugural Saltash Literary Festival. As the town's contribution to

national Library Week, Saltash librarian David Orton decided to invite some acclaimed writers, and was delighted at the number who agreed to attend, including Patrick Gale, who spoke with great authority of 'Mother's Boy,' his fictionalised tale of Cornish poet Charles Causley.

American-born Liz Fenwick gave a fascinating account of her powerful romantic novels, set in Cornwall, and Saltash-based author Annalisa Crawford spoke of her locally influenced writings. She hopes to launch her book of short stories in Saltash Library next year.

author Tom Children's McLaughlin held his young audience spellbound as he told an enthralled group of Year 4 and 5 children about how he draws characters and 'thinks' stories, while Simon James, also well loved by youngsters, held fun workshops with the aid of a flip chart showing how works such as 'Mr Scruff' came into being. It is hoped to build on the success of these author-led workshops and hold further 'meet the author' sessions this winter, with plans already well progressed for the second Saltash Literary Festival next

# Sustainable Saltash

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

are incredibly fortunate here in Saltash. We have a well provisioned and varied high street, with numerous small businesses dotted around the town. Many of them are independent.

Our family uses these wherever possible, with out of town trips only when needed. There are many reasons why this is worthwhile. Smaller food shops pride themselves on supporting local producers, many of whom would have no outlet otherwise. Their produce will always have a smaller supply chain and be less resource intensive. Many of our independent shops sell without packaging, or with much less than a supermarket. Other outlets specialise in second hand items. I can just buy what I need without waste or excess spending. Our bills haven't gone down, but they are unchanged and goods never go unused.

The benefits don't stop there. Money spent locally acts locally. Spend £10 in Fore Street and more than half that value will remain in the local economy, benefitting Saltash and its people. Our shops flourishing and meeting our needs builds community, provides us with fulfilling jobs, connects us to nearby resources and make us resilient if national and international chains are disrupted by extreme weather, conflict or global market pressures. In a changing world, this gives us greater security. Many of our independent

retailers worked hard in the lockdowns to ensure the town's people had their needs met in a way that online and national chains just couldn't. Many will do so again as the cost of living crisis bites. Global heating will bring similar shocks and we

must be able to face them. Shopkeepers and business owners are first responders to the needs of those they serve. Just look what has been achieved by our flourishing Community Kitchen and Community Larder.

Until two generations ago, local living was a day to day reality. Research shows that to reduce our impact on climate and environment, we must once more be able to meet our basic needs within a walkable distance. For many of us this is fast becoming a necessity due to cost. We are fortunate in Saltash that our community assets are still so intact. We must ensure that remains the case and help grow them.

Returning home with supplies, spares, something repaired or a present for a loved one I am nearly always smiling. Frequently I will have a piece of news or information about a local event I was unaware of. I look forward to seeing the shopkeepers I have got to know over the last few years and meeting friends. Our town centre is a flourishing neighbourhood hub, part of what gives our town it's resilience for the future.

Marc Bramham This column is a conversation starter for our whole

If you have comments on the subject, ideas of your own or suggestions for future content. please do get in touch at sustainable.saltash @protonmail.com

# Conundrum Corner

1 To which Country does the holiday island of Ibiza belong? (5)

2 Which ancient Calculator used a Frame and Beads? (6) 3 Which word describes someone in the age group 90-99? (12)

4 What part of the Body is affected by Cirrhosis? (5) 5 What is the name of the fictional island that is home to Thomas the Tank Engine? (5)

6 The Great Orme is a Mountain overlooking which Welsh resort? (9) 7 What is the title of the opening song in the Musical Hair? (7) 8 Through which European capital does the River Tagus reach the Sea? (6) 9 In which sport did Welshman Iwan Thomas make his name? (9) Answers on Page 7



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# Tamar Reflections Saltash Victoria Gardens

Now In Its 125th Year Since the Opening In 1897

sometimes sit and ponder a while in the beautiful and well established Victoria Gardens situated at the top of Saltash Fore Street, and give thanks for such a wonderful community facility. Over the past 125 years, Victoria Gardens has been used for so many community events, Jubilees and Festivities and moreover, it is the 'Jewel in Saltash's Crown'. In addition it is a place that folks can meet and talk and rest within

#### In celebration

Victoria Gardens was built to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our late and beloved Queen Victoria's long reign; and was officially opened 21st June 1897. Hundreds of people attended and crowded the gardens, marking this momentous occasion of Saltash's history and



indeed, the jubilant celebrations, acknowledging Queen Victoria's dedication to her subjects for six long decades. Initiation

In accordance with historic periodicals and books that I have read, and in places refer to; it all began with a public meeting to consider numerous suggestions. A Committee was formed, and when all the public



ideas were discussed the preferred site was a piece of waste land at the top of the Town. The Mayor at that time Mr. Wm Dusting headed the project, together with a distinguished Committee to include – P.E.B. Porter and W.H. Mathew Fund raising

The Committee went about raising the much needed funds from many sources, to include the locals of the fast growing Borough of Saltash, Donations were also received from around the District and overseas - and in a considerably short time a huge £300 was raised for the project. Thus, plans were drawn up and approved. The very grand opening was on June 21<sup>st</sup> 1897. Grand Opening and celebrations

Accordingly, the weather was kind and fine, and the Town was gloriously bedecked in all its finery with flags, evergreen, banners. Chinese lanterns and other celebratory decorations fittingly; also, paintings, and displays of the Corporation's Arms and Seals. Arches were

erected throughout the High Street, streets and also at the Waterside in recognition of fishing industry. Tamar Street looked grand.

There were boats and nets and crossed oars on display. The residents of the Waterside were also praised for all their efforts of the celebrations

#### Procession and dignified guests

The opening started with a peal of St Nicholas bells at 2.30, a procession was formed at Port View of Yeomanry, 100's of School children from the

Volunteers, Band of I.T.S. (Mount Edgcumbe Training ship), School Board Members and the Mayor and Corporation, together with town officials and ministers, they all marched to the park. When the Procession arrived in the park, and all were properly assembled - "God the Queen" Save was enthusiastically sung with gusto!

Churches, the Volunteer Band,

Other principal guests were, Surgeon-Captain R.T. Meadows and Lieutenant G.S. Meadows. The children led by Mr. D.E. Hawke, sang a special Jubilee hymn, followed by "Three Cheers" for the Queen led by the Mayor, who then preceded by the Volunteer Band and Yeomanry, proceeded to officially open the Victoria Gardens acquired as a memorial of the Jubilee. Celebrations continued for the rest of the day within the Borough, including festivities on the Waterside with a carnival, bands and a closing display of fireworks and a bonfire attended by thousands of people with ships in the harbour all taking part in the overall celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria and the celebrations which brought about the attractive gardens named in her honour; indeed the gardens that Saltash still values immensely 125 years on!

Penn Symons Monument During the 125 years, other outstanding memorable structures have been added to Victoria Gardens. On the 18th September 1901, there was the unveiling of the granite monument in memory of Major-General Sir William Penn Symons K.C.B. of Hatt. unveiled by Lord Mount Edgcumbe. The Major-General, whose late father had been a recorder in Saltash, was tragically killed in the Boer War on October 20th 1899. The monument was erected in memory of this gallant soldier, whose family had long been connected to Saltash. The project received National and Global recognition and support. The funding appeal letter penned by the Mayor F.A. Rawlings and Committee to the Nation featured in the 'Times' reiterated how Sir William had given his life for Queen and Country, and that his body lay, like other heroes, far away from home and kindred; therefore, such a monument to his memory would be most fitting, within Victoria Gardens. Money came in locally, Nationally and

from Natal, Australia, Asia, Alaska, Canada, India, Siam, Burma, and from almost every English speaking community in the World. This stunning stands monument as majestically within Victoria Gardens now as it did when it was erected 121 years ago.

**Maurice Huggins Room** Also within Victoria Gardens is the Maurice Huggins building. It was built using public funds, as a rest room and opened in 1967, and was the original brainchild of former Saltash Mayor, the late Alderman Maurice Huggins, whose vision was for the room to be used as a resting place for older people making their way to the top of the town with their shopping, and taking a rest and to have a cup of tea and a chat. Over the years, the room has seen many improvements and refurbish-

# "Tired" **Phone Box Given New** Life

station building. he restored to its former Great Western glory, is at last offset with a handsome. period-style red telephone box, also lovingly restored and making an additional attractive feature in a heritage area.

The restoration, painstakingly carried out using the original shade of red paint, has been carried out by Saltash Rotary Club, who have also installed a life-saving potentially defibrillator in the box.

The restored phone box was unveiled by Mayor Richard Bickford, who thanked Rotarians for ensuring that it "looks the part" as well as providing a useful facility at this Saltash transport interchange. Rotary President Peter Samuels thanked Saltash Town Council for the vast amount of work carried out in overcoming bureaucracy to acquire the square metres of land on which the box stands, as

# Marathon Mike Helps Improve Cancer Survival Rates

s Saltash resident Mike Wilton ran up the Mall towards Buckingham Palace, with Mr. Blobby to his left, he met his first target of completing the London Marathon. But he needs your support to meet his second target: raising  $\pounds 2500$ to help improve cancer survival rates in the UK.

"I only started running in 2017, and this was my first ever Marathon," said Mike. "But cancer is happening right now, and I was determined to finish the course of in memory Grandma Edie, Auntie Eileen and all my dear friends who I have sadly lost to cancer."

Mike was running for Cancer Research UK, a charity that funds the work of 4,000 researchers, over doctors and nurses throughout the UK, studying cancer and cancer risk in over a million Ground-breaking people. research like theirs has meant that cancer survival rates have doubled over the past 40 years. Every step Mike took along the 26.2 miles helped to raise funds that will be invested into researching new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer, and improve

ments. Sadly, however, the wonderful volunteers that ran building the became diminished, moreover, people visiting the room becan and less. In July 2012 the building closed and is now owned and run by our local authorities and only opens on special occasions; and can be hired out. Jewel In Saltash's Crown

I started Tamar Reflection by declaring that Victoria Gardens is Saltash's 'Jewel in the Crown' and I reiterate that Victoria Gardens is one of Saltash's greatest the accomplishments of Victorian age, and has modernised and developed into a community facility and an outstanding achievement to be proud of over the past 125 years. We have our forefathers to thank for these, and long may we remember and pay them homage!

Hip Hip Hurrah!! – Three cheers for 'One and All' Sue Hooper MBE Email: suehcf@msn.com

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well as for funding the work. Among Rotarians present at the opening was Phil Shannon, from Takapuna North Rotary Club, near Auckland in New Zealand. He and Peter Samuels exchanged Rotary banners in recognition of the worldwide brotherhood of service that Rotarians are proud to offer

their local communities

**Conundrum Answers:** 

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over £1.500 so far. Please make a donation and help me reach my target of £2,500. Together, we can help Cancer Research UK make the world of difference to people living with cancer? Details of how to donate are

on the Observer's Facebook page. Please give generously.

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# This is a New Experience for Me Just Thinking Aloud

ever before have I sat in my study, staring incredulously at my computer screen, shouting and swearing at a politician. Unbelievably for me not at just one politician and not from just one party. Indeed, such was the noise I made on one occasion recently that my beloved rushed in wondered and (innocently?) whether or not she should send for an ambulance....

(Don't worry, I shan't continue this rant for long - I just need to get it off my chest before getting back to what passes for normal service in this column.)

If I hear one politician just once more trotting out the phrase "I want to be clear about this" or variations on that theme, I shall lose my will to carry on living. What they actually mean is that they not answering the are question they have been asked and want to lead you down

has always been the case, but I fear that there is currently much more of it. though, Occasionally whoever writes their speeches for them produces an accidental rib-tickler that tells us more about the speaker than they would wish us to know. For example: "I want to be honest. This is difficult".

some irrelevant pathway. This

reported recent and brief press conference. On occasion, if I find sleep hard to come by in the middle of the night, I switch on the BBC World Service. It is usually thoughtful and searching, which means that it does not help you return to the land of nod. For example, one night not so long ago, a group of economics experts were going on about growth, which seems to be a topic exercising governments worldwide just now. The trouble is, it seems to me, that growth is not certain to benefit folk from all sections of society. If they left

it to me, I would be focussing

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(Y)

start locally here in fair Esse. We expect those we elect Tears of laughter rolled down hereabouts to represent us my cheeks at this point in the but what percentage of us middle of a certain wellactually do the local electing? Rarely does that percentage go much above thirty. Shameful.

Are you one of the many in Saltash who complain (just for example) about the dangerous surface Alexandra Square Carpark for pedestrians? Spoken to a councillor? I guess not. If you have a problem that is more likely to fall within

these three issues.

I have responsibilities too!

the area of responsibility of your MP, have you contacted her? It's not right to have a go at Mrs Murray if you haven't even given her a chance.

of

Nearly finished now, if you haven't given up on me yet. Do you support Saltash Foodbank in any way? My firm conviction is that food banks are an obscene necessity. No democratic country worth the name should need such organisations, hence my previous sentence. But we are where we are. I do hope that nobody reading this believes that foodbanks are taken advantage of by idlers and scroungers. Those of us who spend much of our lives supporting those whose lives would be impossible without foodbanks and the like know how essential they are. Yes, it is especially difficult just now to offer help, when even those who used to offer it now need it themselves, but it is all the more important that those who can, do. Have another look at your charitable giving. See what more you can squeeze out of your diminishing savings. You will feel so much better for doing

**Bob Munro** 

so!



#### on health, wellbeing and **New EV Charging** safeguarding the natural **Points in Saltash** world, including growth only if it predominantly features

Road traffic generates 875,000 tonnes of greenhouse I wonder to what extent the gases per year in Cornwall, opinions and actions of representing 23% of Saltash's county and town Cornwall's total carbon councillors coincide with emissions. Changing the car mine. Leaving things to dependency culture and Westminster, Europe and the encouraging more people to United Nations is a copout. use public transport will be Ordinary folk such as you and key in tackling the climate emergency, but making the Yes, such responsibilities switch to an electric vehicle is another way to make a difference.

To help Cornish residents transition to electric vehicles, funding from the European Regional Development Fund is paying for 150 new charging points in car parks owned by Cornwall It has been Council. confirmed that seven of these will be in Saltash car parks. The three in Belle Vue West car park will be installed by the end of December this year, with another four in the car park behind the Co-op to be installed by the end of March 2023. Two of these will be 50kW while the remaining five will be 7kW.

Cornwall Council's public charging points are available GeniePoint via the application, and a detailed map of public and private charging points is available at ZapMap.co.uk.

# **Comments on Political Crisis**

The Observer invited comment from the three major parties on the political turmoil facing the country. We received responses from Labour & Liberal Democrat.

#### Kate Ewert, Cornwall Councillor for Rame & St Germans (Labour)

By the time this goes to press, we will have yet another Conservative Prime Minister, again not voted in by the people of this country but by a select few. We will have more chaos at the heart of our government and more pain and struggle for the people of Cornwall.

I sincerely hope that our new PM does the right thing and makes sure that their first order of business is a visit to the King to seek permission

#### Colin Martin, Cornwall Councillor for Lostwithiel & Lanreath (Liberal Democrat)

'Stability' is the promise from every politician, but who could actually deliver it? The Conservative party is split four ways

Truss followers believe in trickle-down economics: borrow money to give tax cuts to the rich and they'll be inspired to expand their businesses, making everyone richer.

Braverman and the ERG believe in 'economic nationalism': reduce immigration and buy British, stop wasting money on benefits and foreign aid and we'll all have everything we need.

Johnson practiced economic populism: solve every problem by throwing money at it but don't have a plan to pay for it so end up running up massive debts.



# **Previously 'Inadequate' School** Now 'Good' with 'Outstanding' Areas

runel Primary and Nursery Academy has recently received a glowing Ofsted report, with judgements of 'Good' in all areas, and 'Outstanding' in Early Years provision and Personal Development.

The school is part of 'Bridge Schools' multi academy trust and the support of the trust has been recognised as a key factor in the significant

improvements to the quality of provision for all pupils. The report states that; 'With the support of the trust, school leaders and staff have worked hard to transform the quality of education. They have a shared

for the General Election that

we desperately need. The

damage we have faced has

been 12 years in the making

and we need change. My

Party Leader, Keir Starmer,

has clearly set out an

alternative to the chaos: a

Labour Government of

stability and security. We are

ready and willing for a

general election, and to fight

for the people of Cornwall

And finally Jeremy Hunt

spending

By the time you read this,

we'll have a new Prime Minister and a new "Medium

Term Financial Plan", but

whatever that plan contains,

three factions of the

Conservative party will hate

it. Whatever twisted, battered

version of that plan actually

Parliament, it will be torn up

by whoever wins the next

general election. So the only

way we can really achieve

stability is to call a general

election now. Let the parties

present their plans to the

voters, and let the public

decide which plan should be

given five years to be put into

voted

and

through

wants to take us back to

austerity: reduce the debt by

cutting

gets

practice.

increasing taxes.

and the wider country.

vision of excellence. Together, leaders and staff have raised aspirations and expectations of all pupils.'

"I am thoroughly delighted that the hard work of the staff Brunel has at been recognised." said Suzanne Cooper, headteacher. "It is an exceptionally positive report and refers not only to the high expectations. high-quality curriculum and high standards of work achieved, but also acknowledges the emphasis and importance we place on developing and nurturing the whole child including their character development and mental and physical wellbeing. The strong foundations for successful academic and personal development are built in the Early Years and it is gratifying that the outstanding start we provide for children in our nursery and reception classes has been recognised. The report also acknowledges the invaluable support we receive from Bridge Schools Trust and I sincerely thank the trust, our own Brunel teachers. TAs, local governing body, parents and carers for their support, commitment and hard work over the past few years. This is a huge achievement particularly following two years of Covid disruption well done everyone!"

Finding the Early Years provision to be 'Outstanding', inspectors spoke of the way in which the curriculum has been 'expertly planned ... to ignite learning' and how it nurtures

curiosity 'exceptionally well'. 'Children in Nursery and Reception thrive.' Also 'Outstanding' is the

'very strong personal, social health education and curriculum. The development of pupils' characters is exemplary.' In addition, 'Staff have high expectations of pupils' behaviour. There is a calm orderly atmosphere in lessons and around the school.

When Ofsted spoke to pupils, the strengths of the school were reinforced through their individual voices and as the report details; 'One pupil's comments reflected those of many, 'I would 'double yes' recommend this school.'

Adrian Massey, Chief Executive of Bridge Schools said; "Everyone in Bridge Schools is delighted that the hard work of staff at Brunel has been recognised in this inspection. It has been a long journey, but it has been worthwhile to achieve such a fantastic result. We are thrilled that the personal development of children, and the Early Years in Preschool, Nursery and Reception Classes is seen as providing outstanding educational provision. The care and attention that all staff put into the children at Brunel goes above and beyond. Brunel also had another great vear of results, with children making extraordinarily good progress, particularly our highfliers! Great news for the staff and the wider trust in Bridge Schools."

# **Funding Could Deliver a** Tamar Water Taxi

he introduction of a water taxi service linking Saltash with Torpoint and beyond moved one step closer as Torpoint Town Council submitted a bid for Shared Prosperity funding to deliver its Integrated Transport Plan.

The Plan would see Torpoint's Lower Fore Street area reconfigured to include a new square and a pedestrian bridge link over the ferry lanes. The Plan also includes the construction of a jetty at Torpoint, which would enable the introduction of a waterbased transport service, linking

Torpoint with destinations between Plymouth and Saltash, including Mount Edgecumbe.

Saltash Town Council is also giving consideration to making a bid for Shared Prosperity funding, and at its October meeting discussed setting aside money to engage a consultant to assist in the process.

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